

IOM works with national and local authorities and local partners to identify and understand migration movements in West and Central Africa. Flow monitoring is an activity that quantifies and qualifies flows, migrant profiles, trends and migration routes at a given point of entry, transit or exit. Since February 2016, IOM Niger has been monitoring migration flows at two points in the Agadez region of Niger. Flow monitoring points (FMPs) are found at two points in the region of Agadez in Niger, Séguédine and Arlit.

The data collected provides an overview of migration in the region. The information is collected from primary sources. However, this monitoring of migration flows does not replace border surveillance. Similarly, the results presented in this report do not reflect the total flow of migrants through the Agadez region due to the size of the Sahara Desert, which covers more than 700,000 km² and has a large number of roads crisscrossing the region.

FLOW MONITORING AND INFORMATION POINTS



The average number of individuals observed daily at the two flow monitoring points in Niger increased by 161% compared to June, with a significant increase in flows at the Seguedine FMP in particular.

During this month, **Agadez, Assamaka, Arlit (Niger), Sebha, Tripoli, Awbari Mourzouk and Misrata (Libya)** were the main departure cities of the individuals transiting through the two FMPs located in Niger; while **Agadez, Arlit, Assamaka (Niger), Sebha, Tripoli and Benghazi** were the main destination cities.

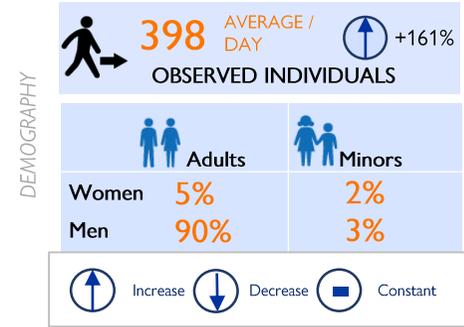
Individuals transiting through the FMPs travelled mainly by car (85%), as well as by truck (8%) or by bus (7%). **Nigeriens, Libyans and Nigerians** were the main nationalities observed during this month

METHODOLOGY : Flow monitoring is an investigative work that aims to highlight internal, cross-border and intraregional areas of migration. Areas of high mobility are identified across the country. DTM teams then conduct assessments at the local level to identify strategic transit points. Enumerators collect data from key informants at the flow monitoring point; they may be staff at bus stations, police or customs officials, bus or truck drivers or migrants themselves. A basic questionnaire mixed with direct observations makes it possible to collect disaggregated data by sex and nationality. In Niger, the flow monitoring points were chosen after consultation with national and local stakeholders involved in migration management and according to the locations and characteristics of the flows transiting through the Sahara Desert. The data collection is done at times when the flows are the most frequent.

LIMITS : The data used in this analysis is an estimate and represents only a part of the existing flows on these axes : Agadez - Arlit - Assamaka, and Agadez - Séguédine - Sebha. The spatial and temporal coverage of these surveys is partial, although the collection is done daily and during periods when flows are significant. Finally, no information is collected on existing flows outside the time slots covered. Vulnerability data is based on direct observations by the enumerators and should be understood only as an indication.

PROFILE OF MIGRANTS

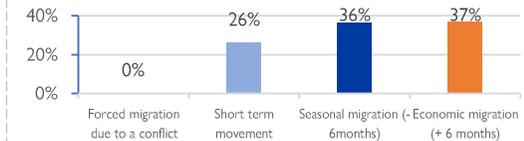
(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)



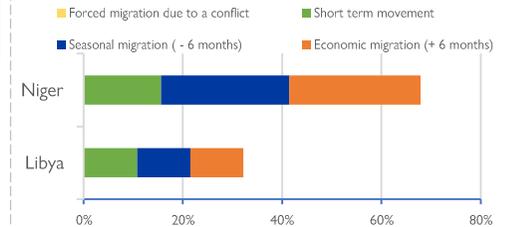
Origin of vehicles	%	Variation (%)
NIGER	68	-8
LIBYA	32	+23
ALGERIA	0	0

Destination of vehicles	%	Variation (%)
NIGER	54	-30
LIBYA	46	+100
ALGERIA	0	0

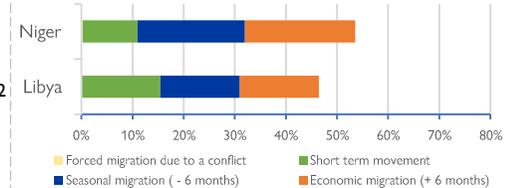
MAIN TYPES OF OBSERVED MOVEMENTS



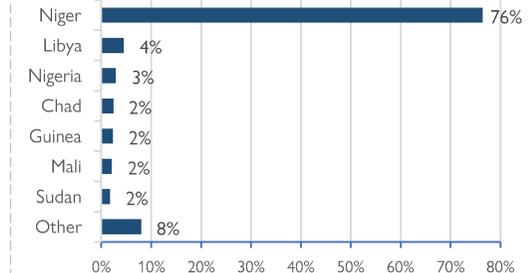
COUNTRY OF DEPARTURE OF OBSERVED FLOWS



COUNTRY OF DESTINATION OF OBSERVED FLOWS



MAIN NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



MIGRATORY TRENDS (2017-2018)

The data presented in the graph below presents the total number of migrants identified at the two Flow Monitoring Points (FMP) for the period January 2017 – July 2018. The month of June 2018 had the lowest overall number of individuals observed at the FMPs thus far in 2018. In contrast, the month of May 2018 recorded the highest number of observed individuals in the year. The 166% increase in flows in Niger in July 2018 can be linked to the continued repatriation of Nigeriens and third country nationals from Algeria. The increase can also be related to the resumption of travel after the celebration of Ramadan, a period where Nigerien migrants mainly engaged in seasonal migration and / or a short-term local movement usually coming back home to celebrate the Ramadan feast with their families. Finally, during the reporting period, migrants continue to come back to Niger from new origin points along the Libyan coast, including cities such as **Benghazi, Misrata and Tripoli**.

Analysis of the data shows a general trend of more migrants coming into Niger rather than leaving Niger from January to August 2017. Two key peaks were observed: in February 2017, 27,239 individuals were observed entering Niger, and in August 2017, 12,082 individuals were recorded entering Niger. This increase in inflows may be attributed to three phenomena: a stricter control of migration, the criminalization of persons involved in irregular migration and the deterioration of the security situation in Libya, as well as the repatriation efforts of Nigerien nationals from Algeria. However, the trend reverses with more outgoing flows than incoming flows from September 2017 until April 2018. Then in May 2018, the trend reversed again with the most number of migrants recorded entering Niger in 2018, which may be explained by an increase in the number of Nigeriens repatriated around this timeframe.

Comparing the data for the first 7 months of 2017 to those of the same period in 2018, there was a decrease in incoming flows of 55% or 40,072 individuals and a decrease of 11% or 4,387 individuals in the outgoing flows observed. Indeed, since January 2017, the incoming and outgoing flows both saw their biggest drop in June 2018.

During the month of July 2018, the incoming and outgoing flows increased significantly compared to June 2018: a 217% increase in the incoming flows and a 118% increase in the outgoing flows were observed. Additionally, more outgoing flows were observed than incoming flows, which may be linked to movements back to Libya after the celebration of Ramadan. Movements towards Niger are linked to the repatriation of Nigeriens and refolement of migrants across the border. These migrants are usually left at the border, around Assamaka, and then travel on foot to Dune. IOM organizes search and rescue operations to rescue these people and those lost in the desert.

- 2 Active FMPs in Niger
- 9 Information focal points

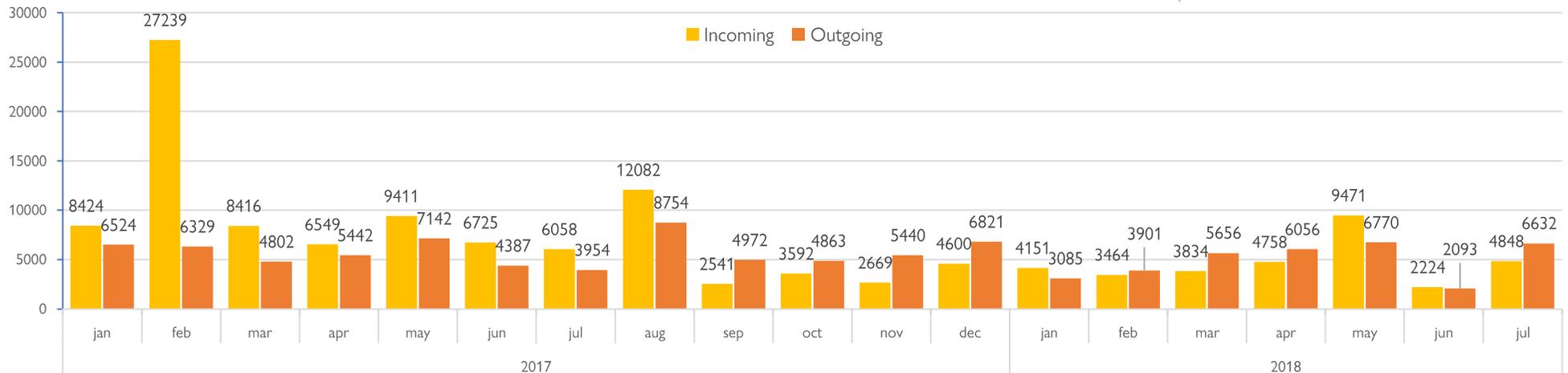
4,848 Individuals entering Niger

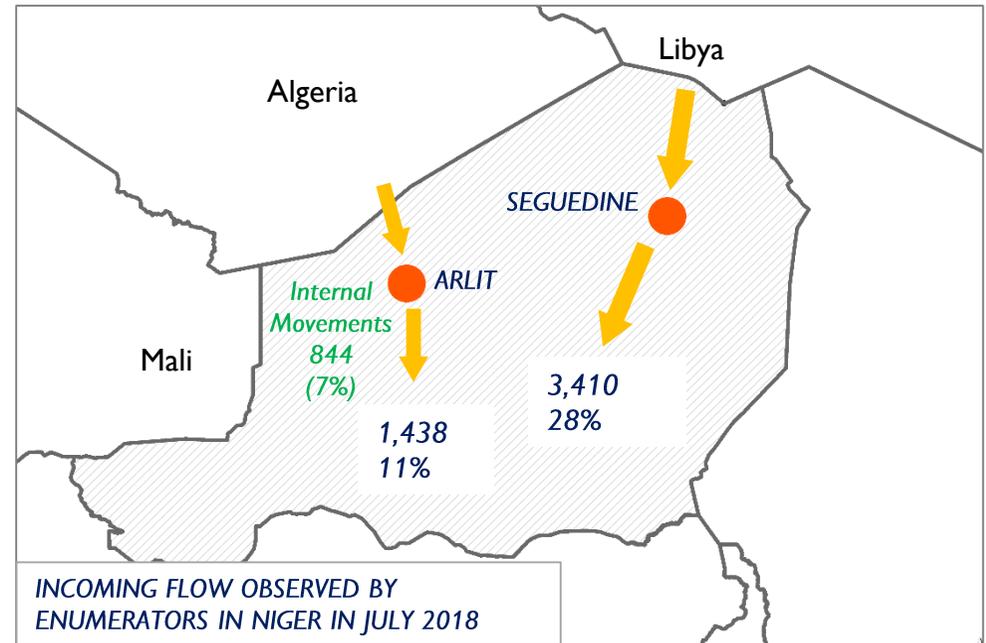
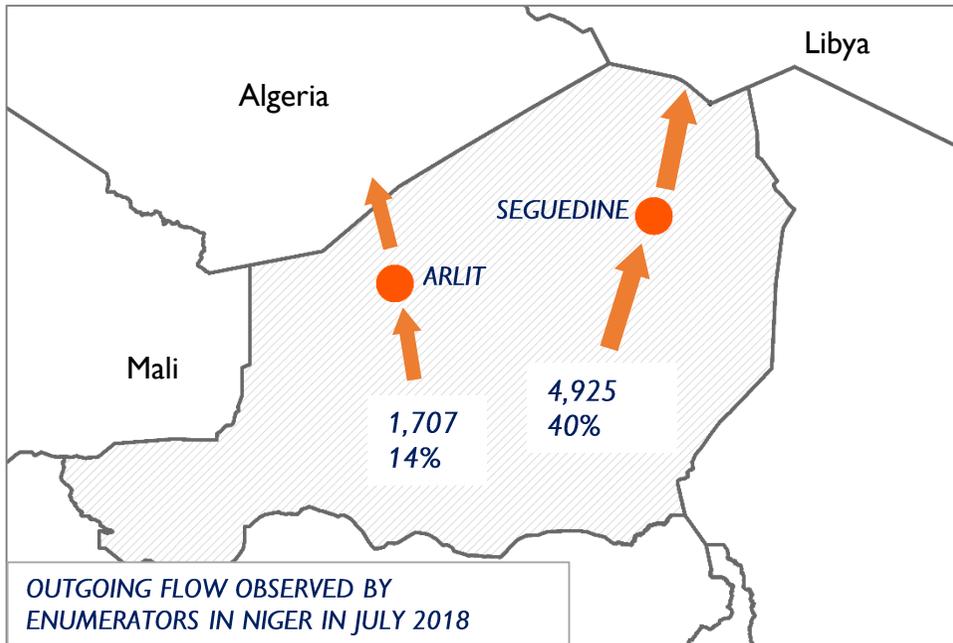
6,632 Individuals leaving Niger

844 Individuals observed moving internally

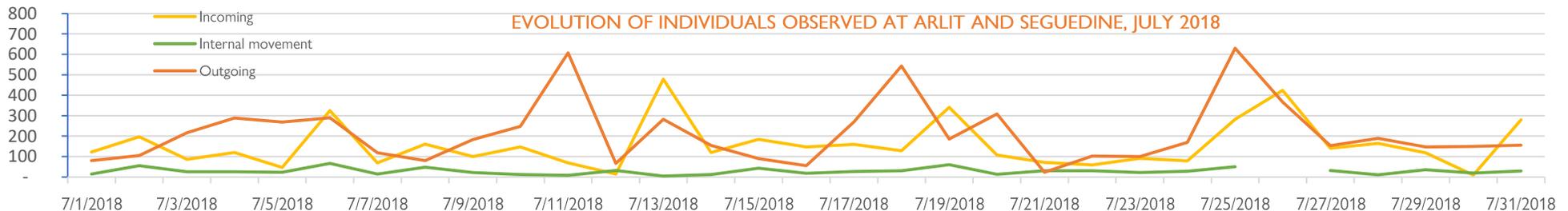
12,324 Number of individuals observed at the FMPs

NUMBER OF MIGRANTS OBSERVED IN THE OUTGOING AND INCOMING FLOWS AT THE TWO FLOW MONITORING POINTS (2017 - 2018)

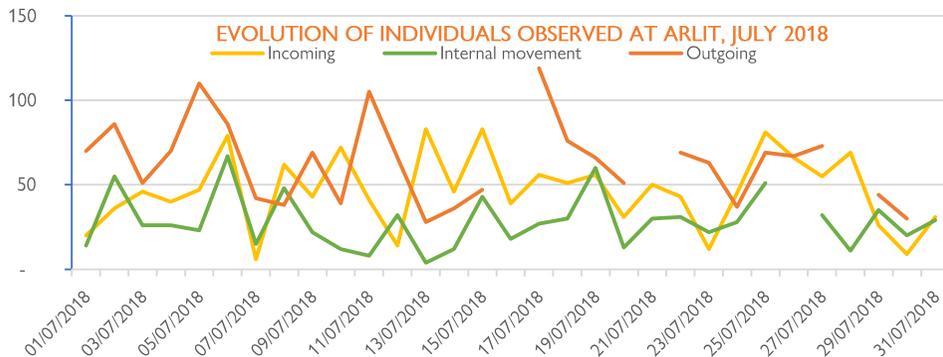




- The data in the graph below shows the evolution of the flows observed in Niger in July 2018 at the two FMPs. An average of 398 individuals per day passed through the FMPs during the month of July. The outgoing flows were larger than the incoming flows, **slightly more people left Niger than those who entered the country.**
- The number of individuals observed **moving internally were entirely observed at the FMP of Arlit**, and its trend was quite similar throughout the month of July 2018, with an average of 27 individuals observed each day in Arlit. No internal movements were observed on July 26th 2018 and the most important peak was observed on July 6th when 67 individuals were observed moving internally.
- The number of **outgoing and incoming flows** observed shows that more individuals left Niger than those who entered the country. Thus the average of the outgoing flows observed daily was 214 individuals while that of the incoming flows was on average 156 individuals.
- Three important peaks ranging from 540 to 630 individuals were observed in the number of individuals leaving Niger. The most important was observed on July 25th when 630 individuals left Niger, then on July 11th 607 individuals, and finally on July 18th 543 individuals.
- Three peaks of more than 340 individuals were observed entering Niger, the largest was observed on July 13th (478 individuals), July 19th (341 individuals) and July 26th (424 individuals).



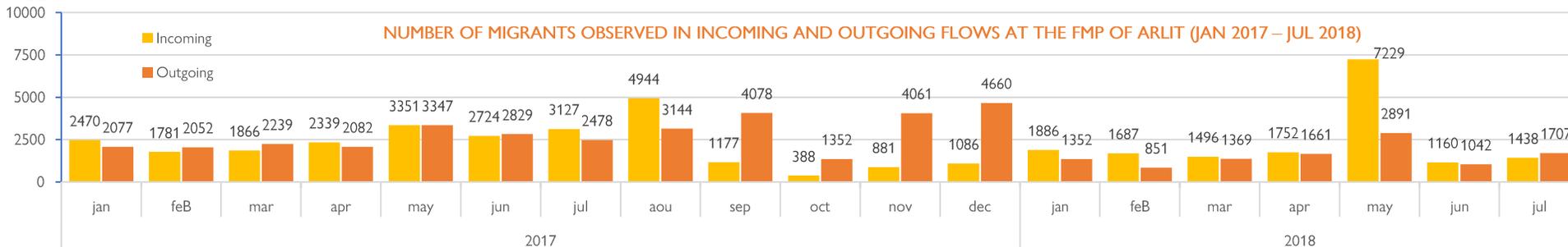
During the month of July 2018, there was a significant increase in internal movements observed at the Arlit FMP, with 844 individuals observed compared to 398 during the previous month, which represents a daily average of 27 individuals. The trend of internal movements in July are shown in the graph below.



Outgoing flows: Since January 2017, a larger number of individuals leaving Niger than individuals entering Niger was observed. The highest outflow was observed in December 2017 (4,660 individuals). The number of migrants passing through this FMP during the first seven months of 2018 (10,873) shows a decrease of 36% when compared to the same period the previous year (17,104).

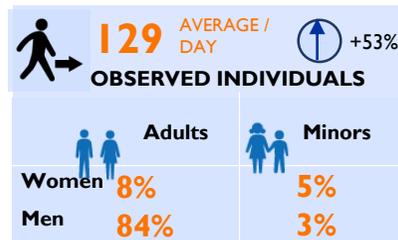
Incoming flows: The highest inflow was observed May 2018 (7,229 individuals). The number of individuals entering Niger is trending downwards with 16,648 individuals observed entering during the first seven months of 2018, compared to the 17,658 for the same period in 2017, which represents a 6% decrease.

Internal flows: From January to July 2018, 9,793 people were observed transiting through the Arlit FMP, of whom 844 were observed in July (9% of the total internal flows since the beginning of the year).



PROFILE OF PERSONS OBSERVED AT THE FLOW MONITORING POINT

Variations calculated are based on data from the previous month



DEMOGRAPHY

The demographic profile of migrants crossing through the Arlit FMP is mainly men (84%) aged 18 to 40 years while women represent only 8% of all flows.

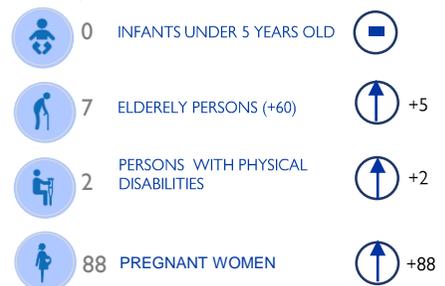
In addition, 2,815 minors were observed at the Arlit FMP in the first seven months of 2018, including 558 unaccompanied children. 258 children under 5 were observed in 2018.

No infants under 5 years of age were observed in July 2018 at the Arlit FMP compared to the previous month when 17 infants under 5 years of age were recorded.

7 elderly people were observed during the month of July, which represents an increase of 5 individuals, while 2 individuals living with a disability and/or lactating women were observed during the month of July 2018. None of these vulnerabilities were observed the previous month.



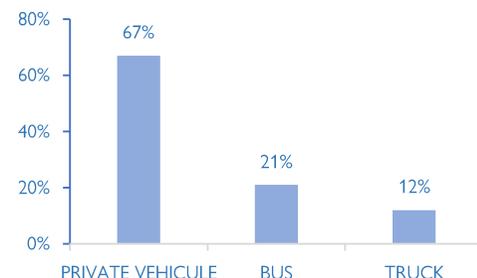
Variations computed in number of individuals compared to the previous month's data



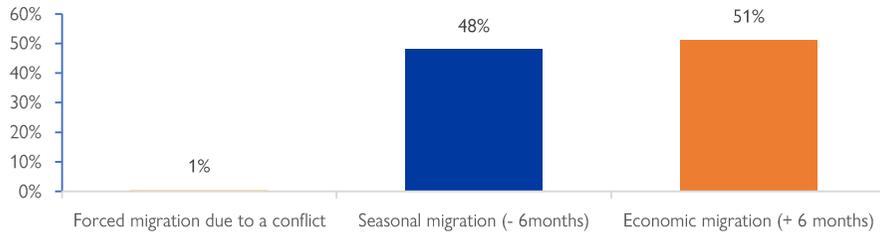
VULNERABILITIES

At the Arlit FMP, 67% of the migrants travelled by 4x4 vehicles, 21% by bus and 12% by truck.

MAIN MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION

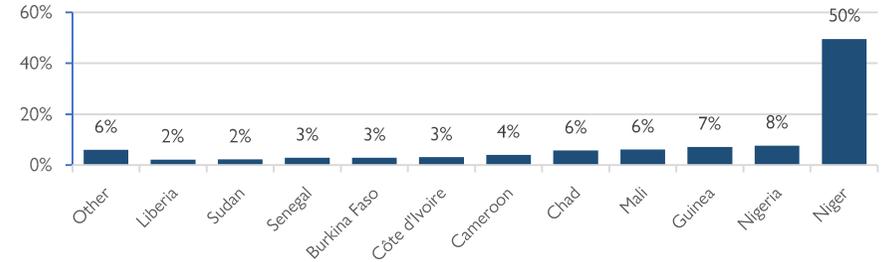


MAIN TYPE OF MOVEMENT OBSERVED



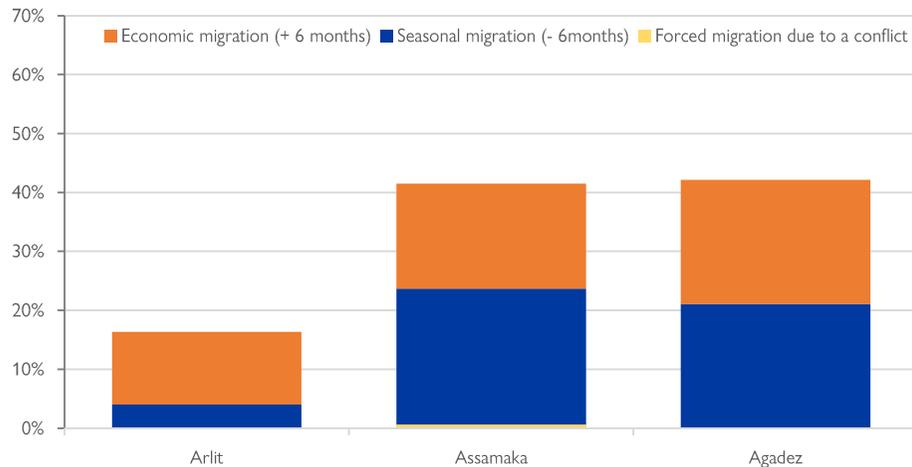
Economic migration (51%) was the primary motive for migration for the individuals passing through the Arlit FMP. Seasonal migration (48%) was cited as the second most important reason for migration and finally 1% of migrants observed in July were forced to travel due to conflict.

MAIN NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



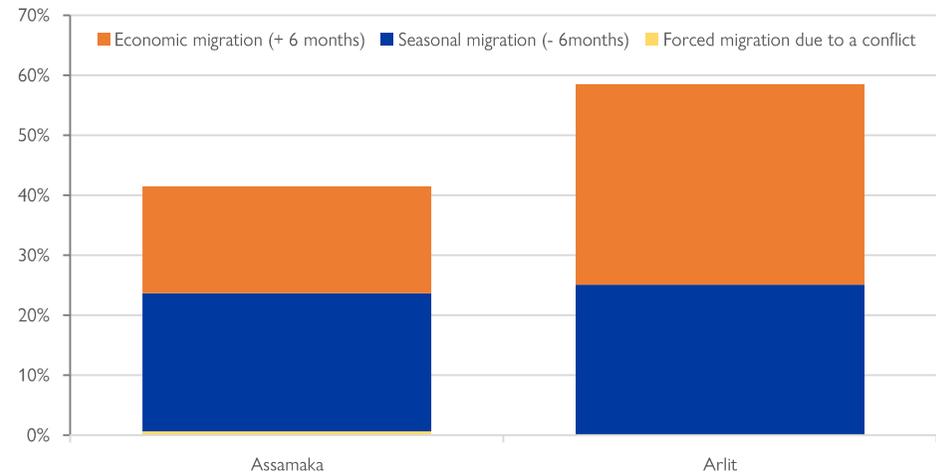
The main nationalities observed at the Arlit FMP in July 2018 were Nigerien nationals (50% of flows through the Arlit FMP), followed by Nigerian nationals (8%), Guinean nationals (7%), Chadian nationals and Malian nationals represented each 6% followed by Cameroonian nationals, (4%). Ivorian, Burkinabe and Senegalese nationals represent 3% each of the total number while Sudanese and Liberian nationals represent 2% each. Other nationalities include Sierra Leoneans, Ghanaians, Ghanaians and Central Africans who were 1% of the total number of people observed at this flow monitoring point. The remaining nationalities include Congolese, Bissau Guinean and other (1%).

AREA OF ORIGIN FOR VARIOUS MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



The majority of individuals transiting through the Arlit FMP came from Assamaka (42%) and their travel was motivated by the repatriation of persons residing illegally in Algeria. Others came from Agadez (41%) and Arlit (16%).

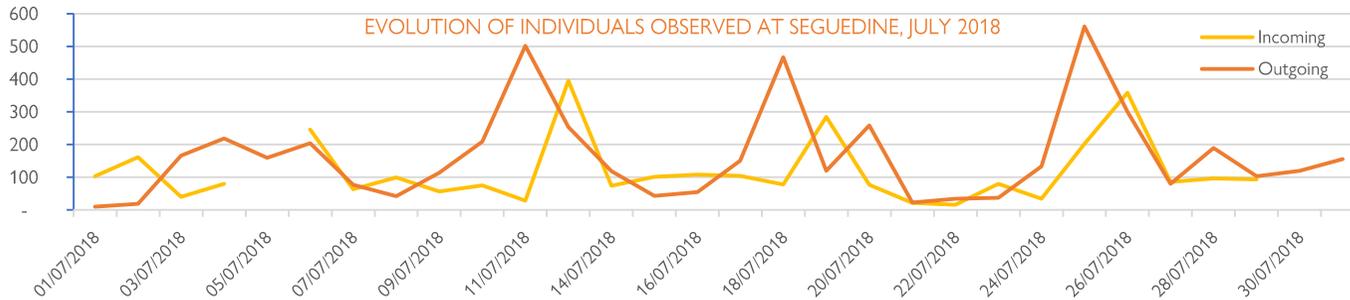
DESTINATION OF VARIOUS MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



The main destination cities reported by migrants transiting through the Arlit FMP were the cities of Arlit (59%) and Assamaka (41%). Please note that the majority of migrants passing through the Arlit FMP choose not to disclose their final destination given the sensitivities. In reality, most migrants are transiting through Assamaka and intend to travel to cities within Algeria including Inguezzam.

The month of July 2018 saw a significant increase in both incoming and outgoing flows at the Séguédine FMP, where, on average, 269 individuals were observed transiting each day compared to an average of 71 individuals per day the month prior. The volume of flows at the Séguédine FMP is typically lower than those observed at the Arlit FMP, however, this month the trend reversed with 68% of the flows recorded at Séguédine.

At the Séguédine FMP, 4,925 individuals were observed leaving Niger while 3,410 individuals were observed entering Niger. Both types of flows experienced three significant peaks. For outgoing flows, the three most important peaks were observed on 11 July (502 individuals), 18 July (467 individuals) and the largest observed on 25 July (561 individuals); while for incoming flows, the peaks were observed on 13 July (395 individuals), 19 July (285 individuals) and 26 July (358 individuals).



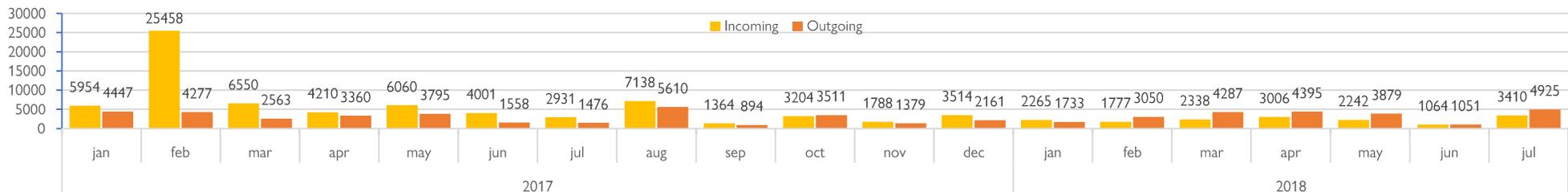
Incoming flows: Although the number of people entering Niger has been declining since January 2017, it witnessed an anomalous increase in February 2017, during which 25,458 migrants were observed.

Outgoing flows: Starting in February 2018, the number of people leaving Niger increased from 3,050 in February to 4,287 in March 2018, 4,395 in April and decreased to 3,879 in May 2018 and 1,051 in June. These trends are more or less equivalent to the averages of the first months of 2017. In addition 4,925 individuals left Niger through the FMP of Séguédine in July 2018, which is the highest number recorded for outgoing flows in 2018.

Internal flows: The internal flows observed at the Séguédine FMP are generally very low compared to other types of flows throughout the year. For the month of July 2018, no individuals were reported to be migrating internally.

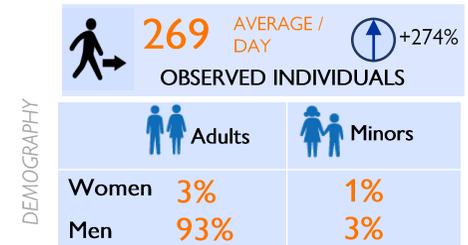
This month saw a 294% increase for both incoming (220%) and outgoing flows (369%). The increase in outgoing flows may be linked to the return of migrants to Libya following the end of Ramadan as part of a seasonal migration pattern. The majority of migrants returning are Nigerien.

TOTAL NUMBER OF MIGRANTS OBSERVED IN THE OUTGOING AND INCOMING FLOW AT THE FLOW MONITORING POINT OF SEGUÉDINE (2017 - 2018)

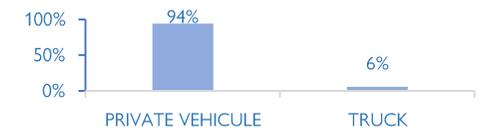


PROFILE OF PERSONS OBSERVED AT FLOW MONITORING POINTS

Variations calculated are based on data from the previous month



MAIN MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION



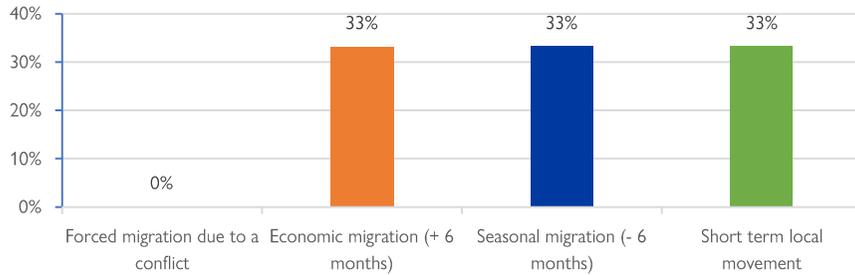
The demographic profile of individuals transiting through the Séguédine FMP was mainly young men aged 18-45 years; only 4% of the individuals observed were girls and women.

In addition, from Jan to July 2018, only 7 unaccompanied minors were observed in Séguédine, out of the 1,270 minors who passed through this FMP.

During the month of July 2018, 74 pregnant/lactating women and 17 infants under 5 years of age passed through this FMP.

Migrants travelled mainly by private 4x4 all terrain vehicles (94%) and by trucks (6%).

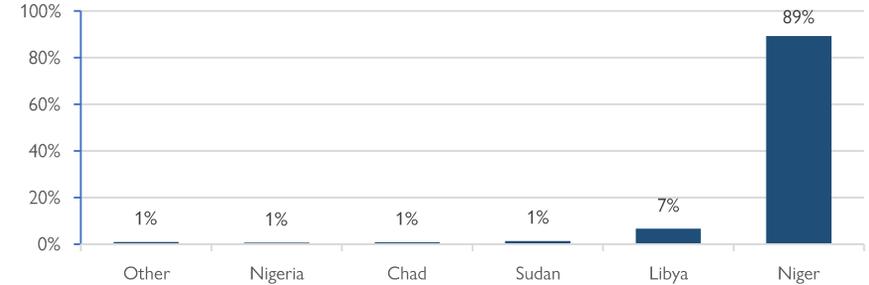
MAIN TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



Short term local movement, seasonal migration and economic migration represent the three main triggers of migration of people observed at the Séguédine FMP. Each trigger represents 33% of the observed flows.

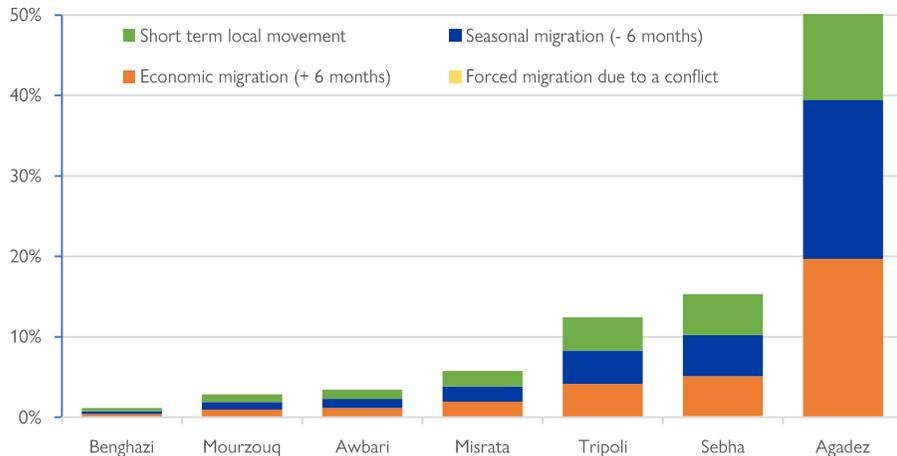
Each year, youth workers from Niger leave to seek jobs in Algeria and Libya and then return to Niger at the beginning of the rainy season, which usually starts in June. After the harvest, the youth return to Niger.

MAIN NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



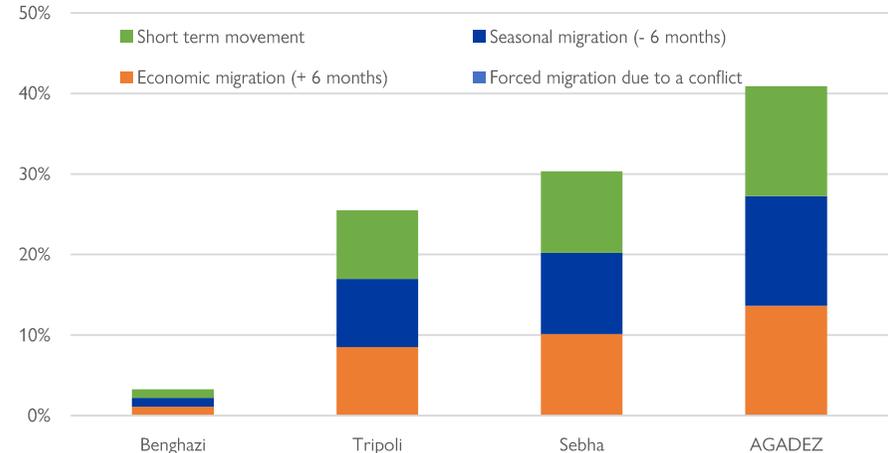
Nigerien nationals account for 89% of the individuals observed at the Séguédine FMP followed by Libyan nationals (7%). Nationals from Sudan, Chad and Nigeria represent 1% each. Nationals from other countries represented 1% of the observed migrants.

AREA OF ORIGIN OF THE VARIOUS MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



59% of the observed persons came from Agadez in Niger, while 15% came from Sebha in Libya, 12% from Tripoli in Libya and 6% from Misrata in Libya. Individuals coming from other Libyan cities include 3% each from Awbari and Mourzouk, while those coming from Benghazi represented 1%.

DESTINATION OF THE VARIOUS MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



The destinations envisaged by the migrants observed at the Séguédine FMP were Agadez (41%), Sebha in Libya (30%), Tripoli (26%) and Benghazi (3%).