

Transhumance flows through Kaduna and Katsina states to intended regions of destination



This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown, and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the International Organization for Migration.

The tensions between farmers and herders in Kaduna and Katsina states, Northwest Nigeria, have been compounded by multiple factors including desertification, climate change, and insufficient rainfall, among others. The situation is exacerbated by rapid and exponential population growth, leading to an attendant increase in the demand for natural resources, including suitable land for both farming and transhumance activities. Consequently, these factors intensify the competition for the already scarce natural resources, often resulting in conflicts that can escalate into violent confrontations between farming and herding communities.

IOM, through its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) developed and implemented the Transhumance Tracking Tool (TTT) which employs four major components, one of which is Transhumance Flow Monitoring. Transhumance Flow Monitoring tool collects data on migration flows and trends, countries of origin and destinations of herders, offering a comprehensive overview of the livestock movements.

As transhumance remains integral to the way of life for many communities, understanding and managing these movements is vital for sustainable coexistence. Transhumance Flow Monitoring tool serves as a valuable resource in navigating the complexities of transhumance, offering data-driven insights to support the development of effective interventions and transhumance policies in Kaduna and Katsina states of the Northwest region of Nigeria.

This report presents the data collected between October and December 2023, through direct interviews and direct observation by DTM enumerators and triangulated via a network of key informants. It highlights the number of herders and their herds identified at 45 counting points. Notably, this enumeration included areas within the Kachia, Kaura, Kaita, and Faskari Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Kaduna and Katsina states, under the auspices of the Peacebuilding Fund, and extended to Batsari, Jibia, Kankara, and Dansuma LGAs of Katsina state, which were supported by the European Union Fund. As illustrated on the map, movements were captured from Kaduna and Katsina states to their intended destinations.

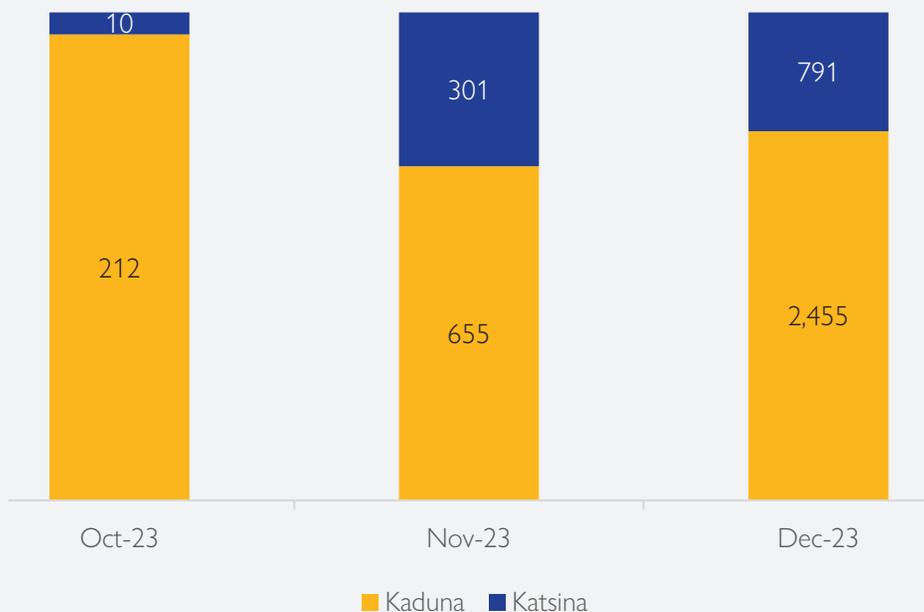
Between October and December 2023, Transhumance Flow Monitoring tool identified 3,322 herders in Kaduna State and 1,102 herders in Katsina State. The animal count was estimated at 58,836 for Kaduna State and 29,752 for Katsina State. Notably, 80 per cent of the total number of herders departed from states within Nigeria, while the remaining 20 per cent departed from Niger.

DEMOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN AND COUNT OF HERDERS AND ANIMALS PER REPORTING MONTH

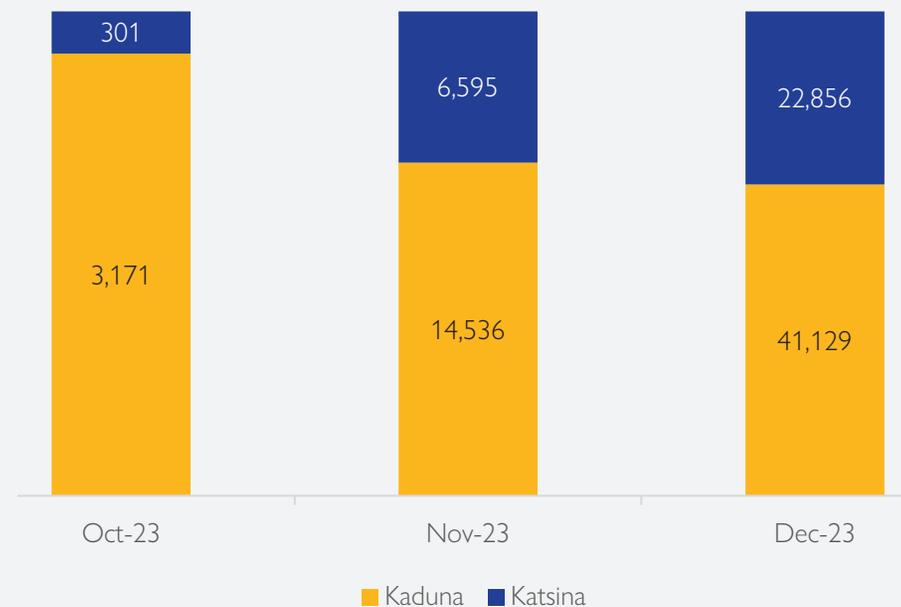
Herders population: sex, age and disaggregated data

Reporting Month	Male (<18y)	Female (<18y)	Male (>18y)	Female (>18y)
Oct-23	49	46	67	60
Nov-23	188	147	387	234
Dec-23	972	441	1,189	644
Grand Total	1,209	634	1,643	938

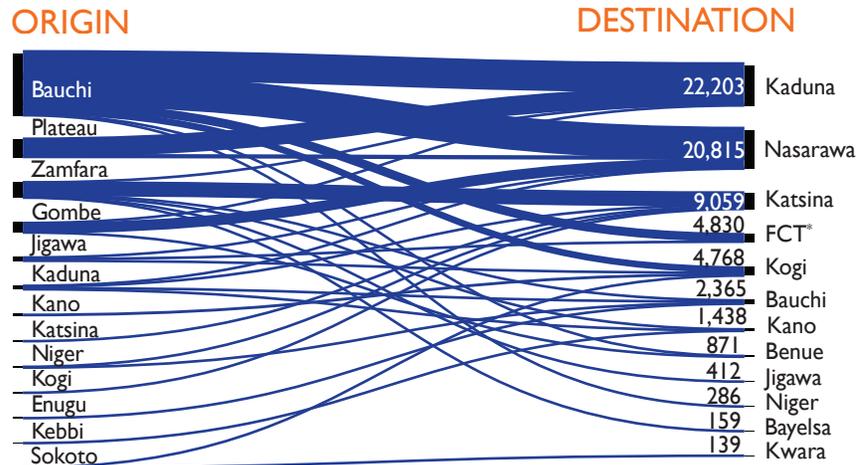
Number of herders per reporting month



Number of animals per reporting month



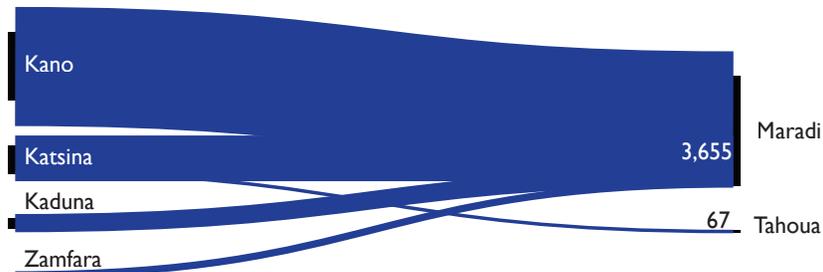
COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND REGIONS OF DESTINATION OF ANIMAL FLOWS



Eighty per cent of the animal movements originated within Nigeria while the remaining 20 per cent originated from Niger. Ninety-five per cent of the observed movements destined for the states within the country; conversely, 5 per cent indicated movements from Nigeria to Niger.

Nasarawa State emerged as the primary destination for the movement of animals with 24,522 herds identified. Nasarawa was closely followed by Kaduna State recording 22,852 animals and Katsina State with 15,704 animals recorded. This represents 71 per cent of the total animal movements recorded within the reporting period.

Animal flows within Nigeria



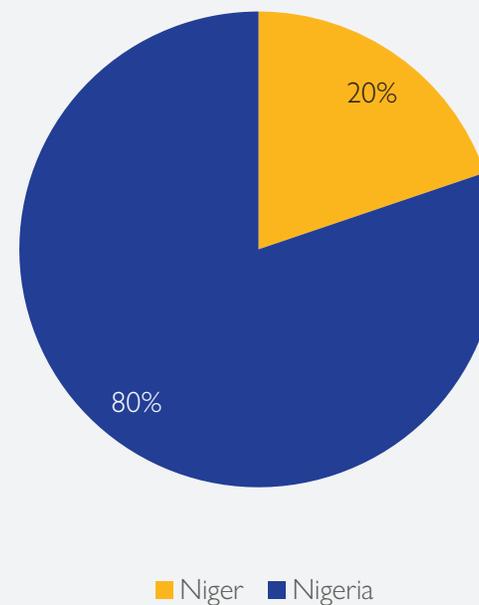
Animal flows from Nigeria to Niger



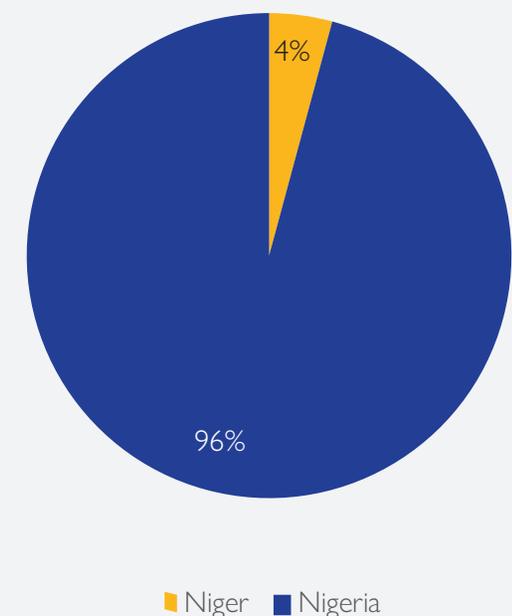
Animal flows from Niger to Nigeria

Animal flows

Country of origin of animal flows

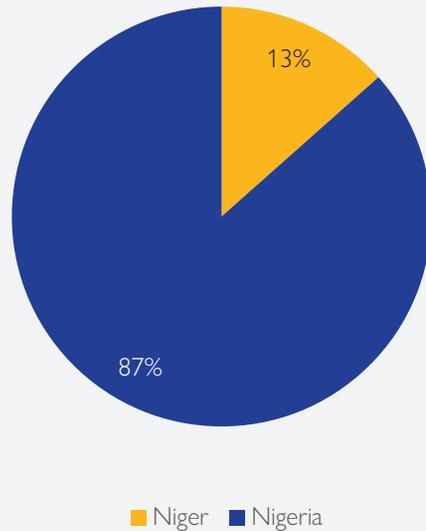


Destination country of animal flows

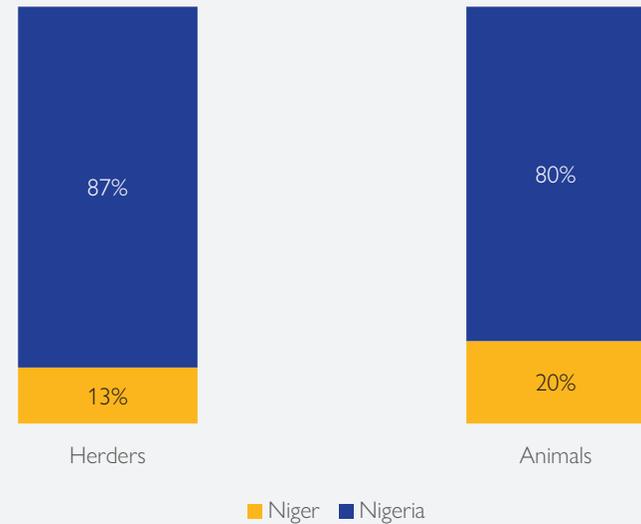


*Federal Capital Territory

Country of origin of transhumant herders



Transhumance breakdown by country of origin



CHARACTERISTICS OF CROSS-BORDER MOVEMENTS

Cross-border transhumance stands out as a significant herding practice in West Africa and has been an integral part of Nigeria's agro-pastoral systems for centuries. Between October and December 2023, 795 herders and 21,243 livestock were counted in cross-border movements across Niger and Nigeria transhumance corridors.

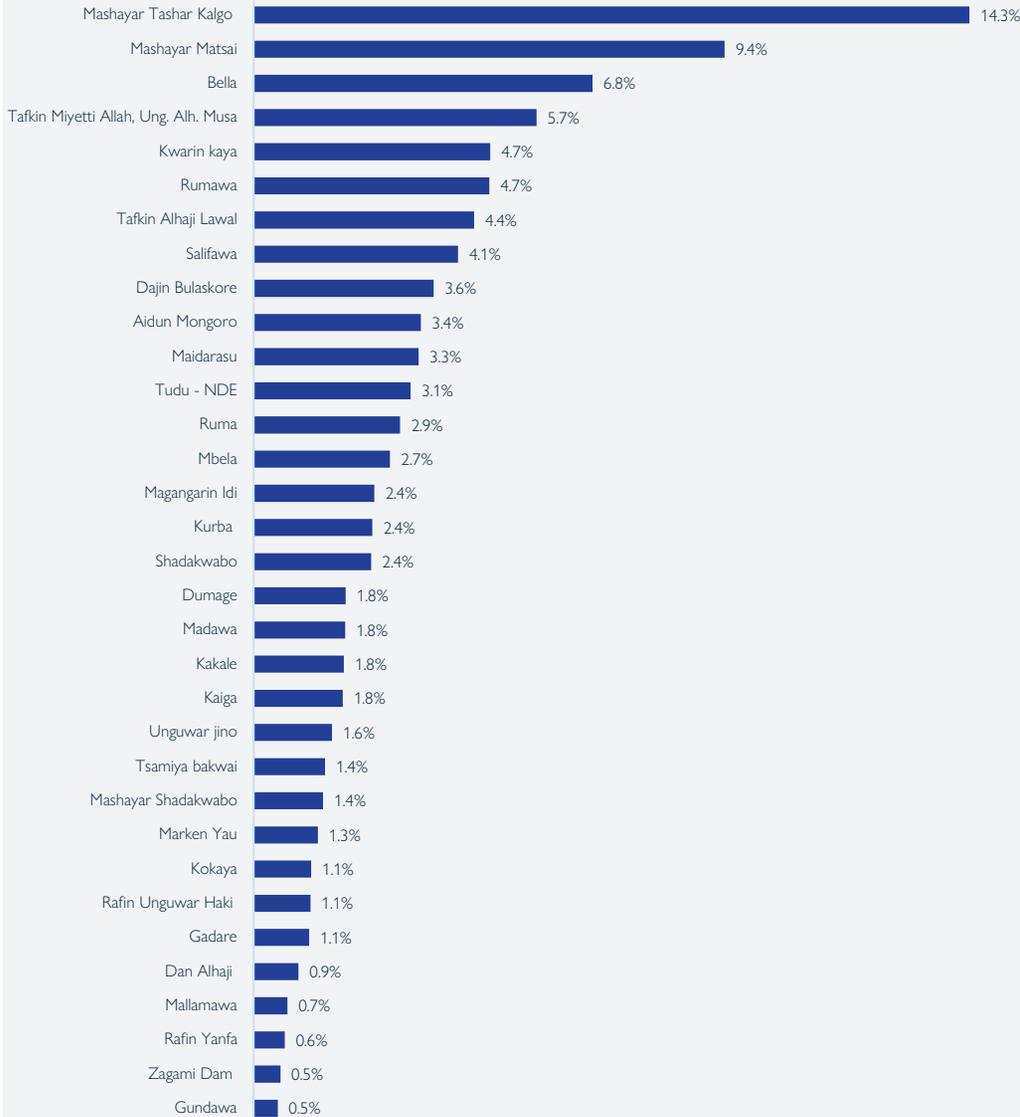
The predominant cross-border herd movement identified was from Niger to Nigeria, involving a total of 17,521 animals, while movements from Nigeria to Niger comprised of 3,722 animals.

Cross-border herd movements in percentages

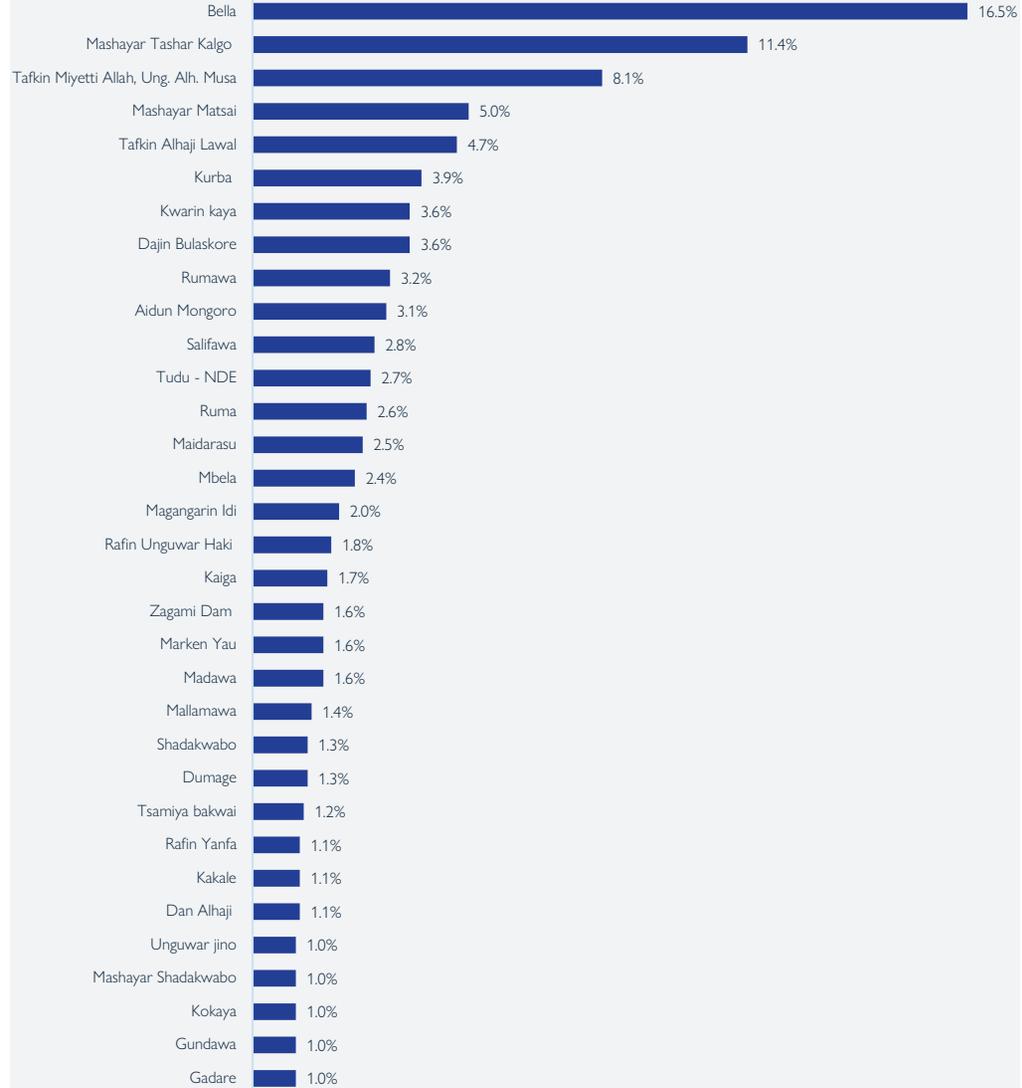


COUNT OF ANIMALS AND HERDERS PER COUNTING POINT - Katsina State

Percentage of animals counted between October and December 2023

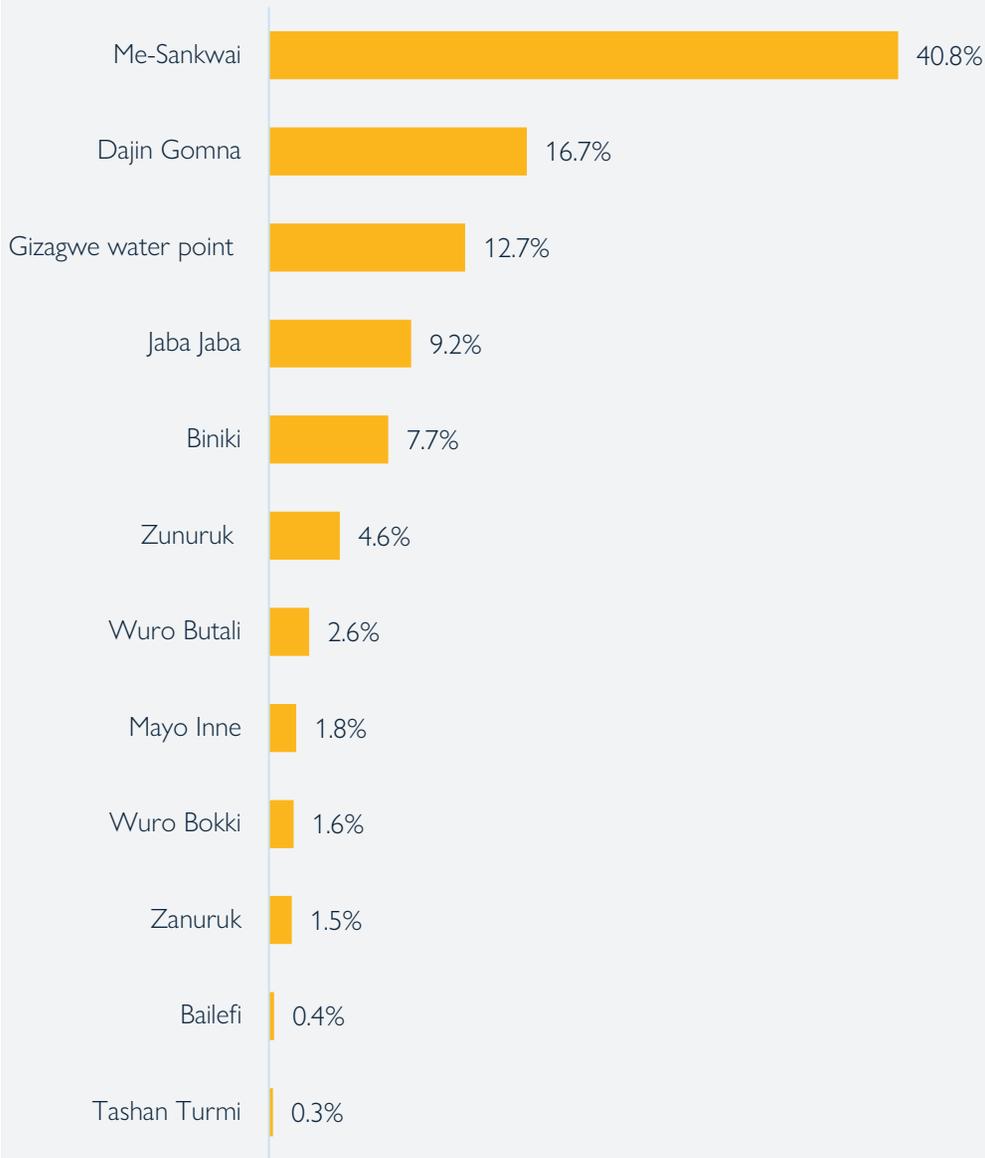


Percentage of herders counted between October and December 2023

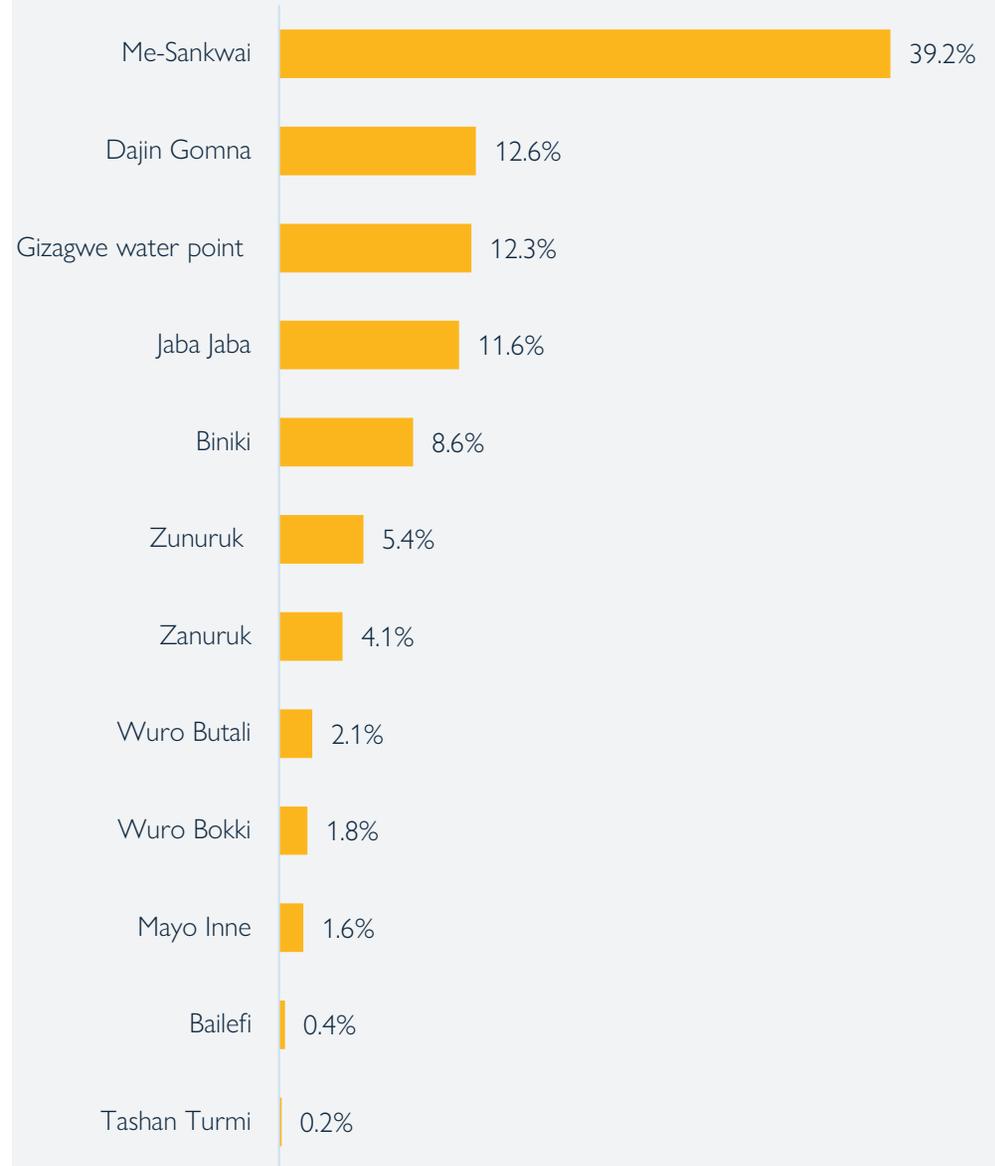


COUNT OF ANIMALS AND HERDERS PER COUNTING POINT - Kaduna State

Percentage of animals counted between October and December 2023



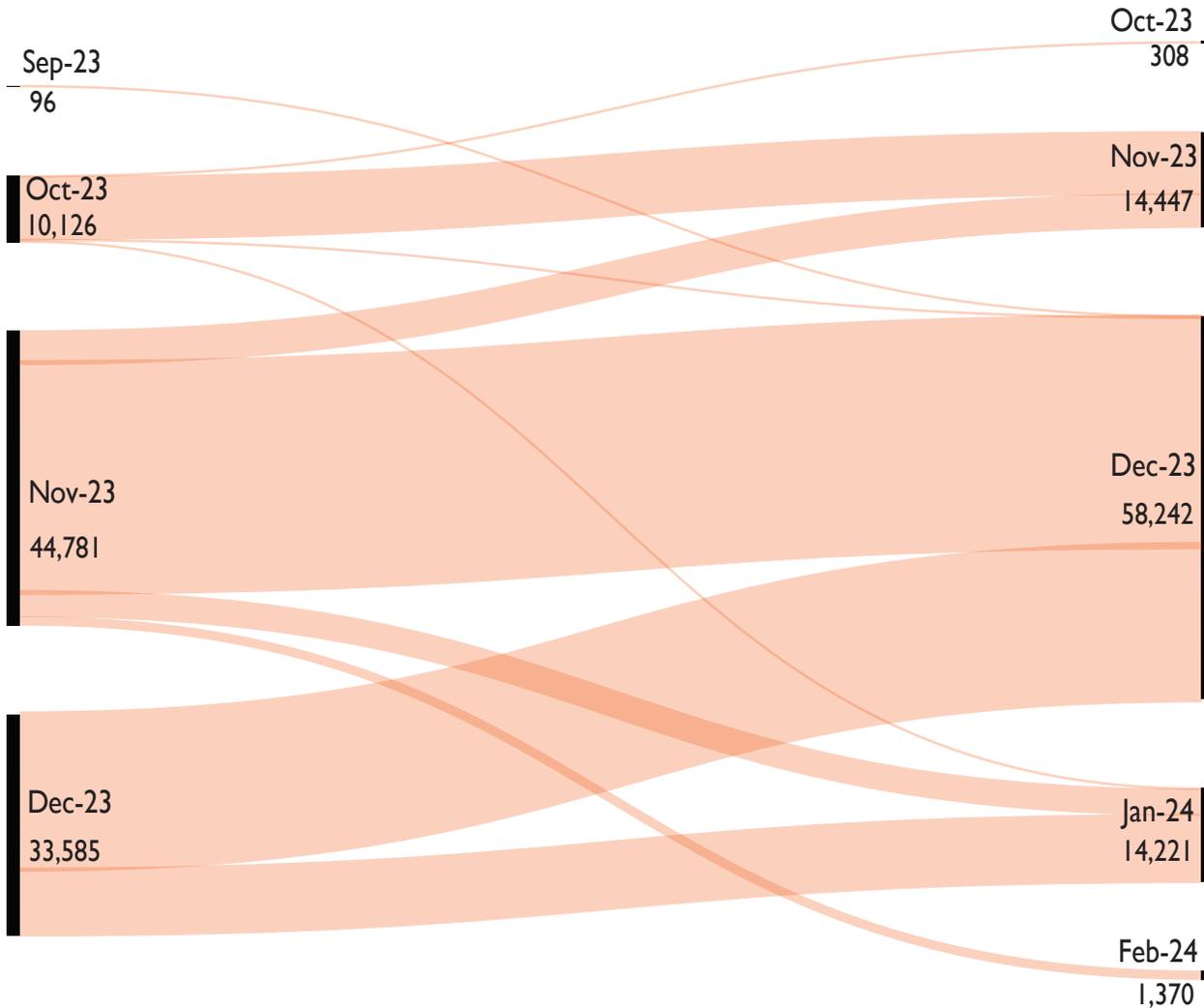
Percentage of herders counted between October and December 2023



ANIMAL COUNTS BY MONTH OF DEPARTURE AND ARRIVAL

Months of departure*

Months of arrival



Fifty per cent of the animal movements commenced in November 2023, 38 per cent began their journey in December 2023, 11 per cent in October 2023, while less than 1 per cent began in September 2023.

The majority of movements (66 per cent) indicated December 2023 as their estimated date of arrival, followed by 16 per cent in November 2023, 16 per cent in January 2024, 1 per cent in February 2024 and less than 1 per cent in October 2023.

*The captured dates represent only one segment of the transhumance journey, not its start or end date

METHODOLOGY

Source of information: Data was collected through direct interviews and direct observation by DTM enumerators and triangulated via a network of key informants selected from members of the Community Response Networks (CRNs) and LGA-based team leads.

Steps: Following the transhumance baseline and infrastructure mapping, 45 counting points (33 in Katsina and 12 in Kaduna states) were identified, making it possible to capture the flow of transhumant herders and their animals.

Data was collected on transhumants herders on their country and region of departure, intended destination, date of departure, estimated date of arrival, count of herders, types and number of animal species, and the number of animals present at the various counting points.

The collated data was analyzed to quantify movements of transhumance and interpret the findings, identifying trends, patterns, and key insights regarding transhumance activities in the region.

Subsequently, the results were compiled into a comprehensive report, providing evidence-based insights into transhumance movements.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- ✎ Establish and strengthen collaborative and inclusive platforms involving all stakeholders, including farmers, herders, and relevant authorities. These platforms should facilitate cross-border consultations, raise awareness, and mobilize support for peaceful transhumance.
- ✎ Extend the current data collection system to cover additional states in Nigeria, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of transhumance dynamics.
- ✎ Implement continuous capacity-building programs to keep stakeholders updated on the evolving nature of transhumance and counting methodologies. This will empower them to adapt and respond effectively to emerging challenges.