



IOM LIBYA

MIGRANT REPORT ROUND 52

MARCH - MAY 2024

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Cover photo: Children participating in a recreational activity organised by IOM Libya at the French and Sudanese schools. Mothers and teachers also benefited from positive parenting awareness sessions.

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KEY FINDINGS

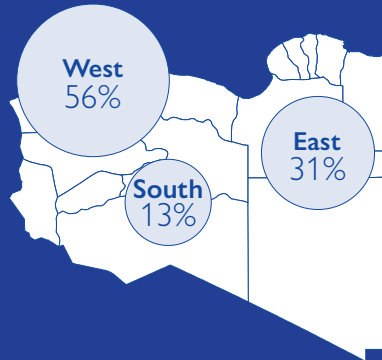
ROUND 52 (MARCH - MAY 2024)

DTM DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX

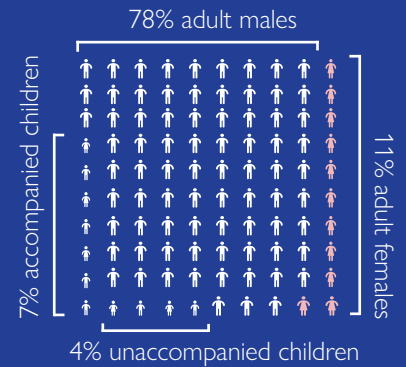
725,304

migrants were identified by DTM Libya during round 52 of data collection (March - May 2024). Around eight in ten (78%) were adult males, 11 per cent adult females, and 11 per cent were children (among whom 4% were unaccompanied).

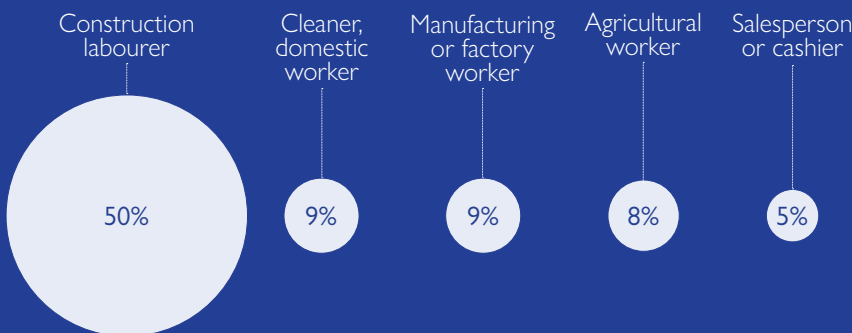
LOCATION



SEX & AGE



TOP 5 JOBS OF MIGRANTS IN LIBYA



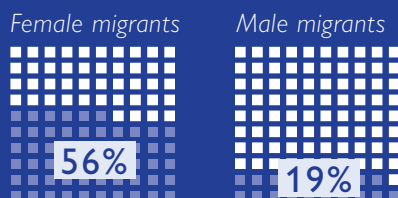
TOP 5 NATIONALITIES



UNEMPLOYMENT

(by sex)

21% of migrants were unemployed and actively seeking work



COST OF JOURNEY

(average (USD), by region of origin)



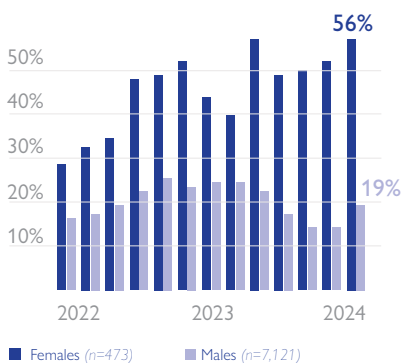
OVERVIEW

IOM Libya's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) programme identified a total of 725,304 migrants from 44 nationalities in the 100 Libyan municipalities during round 52 of data collection (March - May 2024).

The number of migrants in Libya has continued to [increase](#) slightly (+1%) compared to the previous round of data collection in line with a trend that started in December 2023. The number of migrants identified by DTM Libya in May 2024 is the highest since DTM started collecting data in 2016 but remains lower than prior to the onset of conflict in 2011 when it was [estimated to be around 2.5 million](#).

Sudanese nationals have continued arriving in Alkufra and other locations in eastern Libya because of the [ongoing conflict](#) in their country of origin. DTM Libya has also continued observing an increase in the number of migrants, particularly in eastern coastal areas and western Libya as a result of greater livelihood opportunities, including in the sectors of construction, oil, trade, and agriculture, and in parts due to the relatively stable security situation in some municipalities.

Fig 1: Percentage of migrants unemployed and actively seeking work by sex (2022 - 2024)



Unemployment

For the first time since [October 2022](#), the unemployment rate among migrants in Libya has increased and stood at 19 per cent among males and 56 per cent among females in May 2024 (Fig 1). In addition, and in line with findings from a previous [study](#), data collected by DTM between March and May points to female migrants requiring more time to secure employment in Libya compared to males (see 'labour market' section for more details).

Overall, the unemployment rate has increased among migrants regardless of sex, age or region of origin but is particularly high among female migrants, those who are aged less than 20 or over 60 as well as among nationals from sub-Saharan or North Africa.

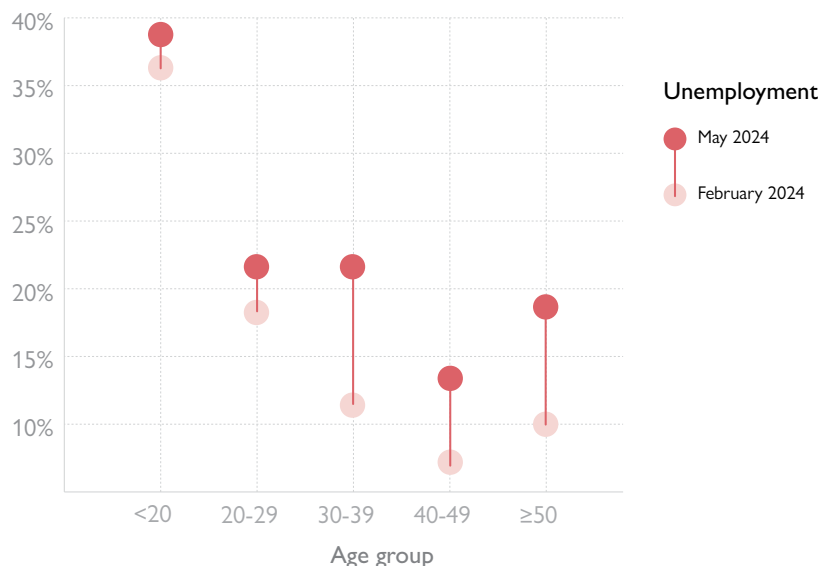
While the unemployment rate remains highest among those who are 20 years of age or less, it has increased the most for those aged 30 and over (+10%) compared to the last round of data collection (Fig 2).

▲ 39%

of migrants interviewed by DTM Libya between March and May 2024 who were **aged 20 or less** were **unemployed and actively seeking employment** compared to 37 per cent during the preceding round of data collection.

A greater proportion of migrants without a work permit (23%) reported being unemployed and actively seeking employment compared to those who possessed a work permit (6%). A recent [DTM Libya study](#) found that migrants without travel documents (e.g. passport, work permit) are more likely to face compound vulnerabilities, such as financial and safety issues, food insecurity and a lack of clean drinking water while at the same time experience greater difficulty accessing essential services, such as healthcare, education (for migrant children), civil registration (e.g. following the birth of a child) than migrants with a work permit.

Fig 2: Percentage of migrants unemployed and actively seeking work by age group (May - February 2024)



The majority of migrants from Asia (66%) and the Middle East (58%) reported holding a work permit compared to a minority of those from North Africa (32%) or sub-Saharan Africa (2%).

Overall, the unemployment rate during the reporting period was highest among migrants interviewed in Ubari (75%), Zwara (56%), Alkufra (53%) and Murzuq (50%) (Fig 3).

Migration drivers

The majority of migrants (85%) cited economic reasons as the main reason for having left their country of origin. This held true regardless of sex, age group or region of origin (except in the case of those from the Middle East) (Fig 4). Around half of migrants (53%) reported having been unemployed when they left their home country. War and conflict in the country of origin continue to be the primary migration driver reported by those from the Middle East (59%) and a large share of those from North Africa (19%) (primarily driven by Sudanese nationals).

Fig 3: Percentage of migrants unemployed and actively seeking work (by location of survey)

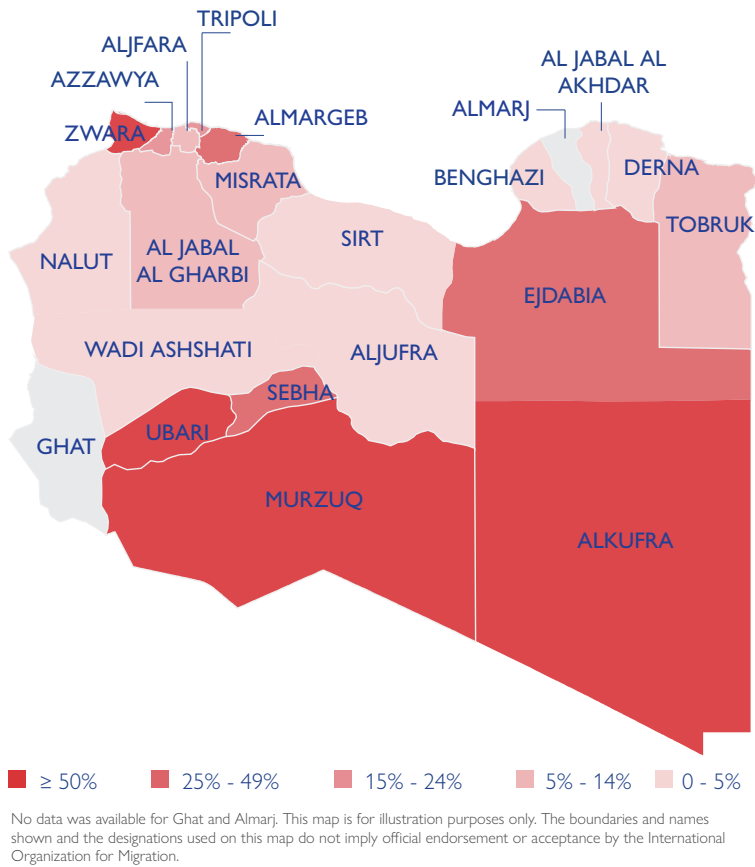
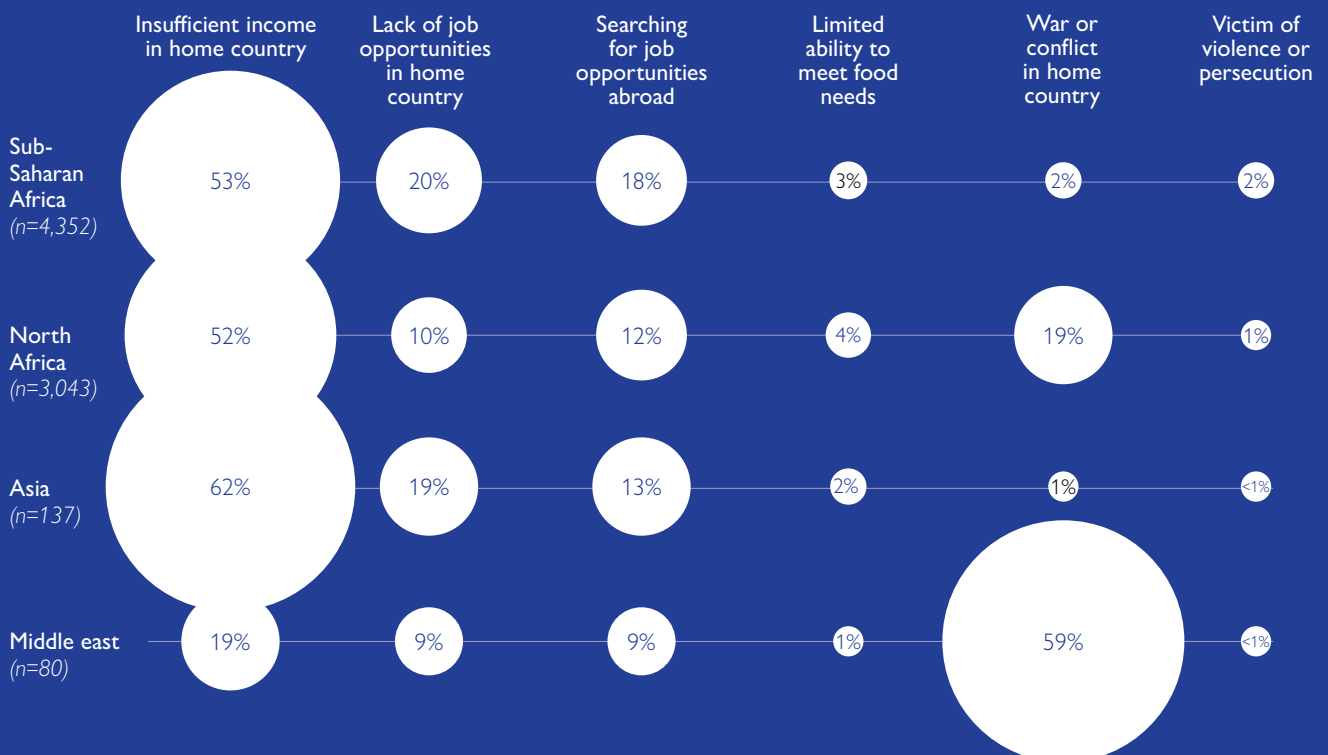


Fig 4: Top six reasons for having left their home country (by region of origin)



Geographical patterns and trends

In line with previous reports, and highlighting the influence of geographical proximity and diasporic ties, eight in ten migrants in Libya (80%) were nationals from four neighbouring countries: Niger (25%), Egypt (22%), Sudan (20%) and Chad (11%) with a minority from Tunisia (1%) or Algeria (<1%) (Fig 5).

The majority of migrants identified by DTM Libya during round 52 (March - May 2024) were from sub-Saharan Africa (48%) or North Africa (44%) while a minority were from the Middle East (4%) or Asia (4%) (Fig 6).

The largest migrant populations identified by DTM during round 52 of data collection were located in the coastal regions of Tripoli (16%), Benghazi (11%), Misrata (11%), Almargeb (7%), Ejdabia (7%) and Azzawya (7%) (Fig 7).

The Libyan coastal area is home to the [majority of urban settlements and crop land](#), while the rest of the country ([more than 95% of the total area](#)) is mainly desertic or arid areas.

Fig 5: Number and proportion of migrants by nationality

| Nationality | Number of migrants | % migrants |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Niger | 184,284 | 25% |
| Egypt | 161,901 | 22% |
| Sudan | 148,107 | 20% |
| Chad | 77,272 | 11% |
| Nigeria | 30,391 | 4% |
| Syrian Arab Rep. | 25,675 | 4% |
| Bangladesh | 21,134 | 3% |
| Mali | 13,618 | 2% |
| Ghana | 13,034 | 2% |
| Palestine | 6,509 | 1% |
| Pakistan | 6,012 | 1% |
| Tunisia | 5,121 | 1% |
| Other | 4,823 | 1% |
| Burkina Faso | 4,021 | 1% |
| South Sudan | 3,416 | 0.5% |
| Senegal | 3,088 | 0.4% |
| Eritrea | 3,027 | 0.4% |
| Mauritania | 2,358 | 0.3% |
| Côte d'Ivoire | 2,084 | 0.3% |
| Morocco | 2,001 | 0.3% |
| Somalia | 1,699 | 0.2% |
| Unknown | 1,465 | 0.2% |
| Guinea | 1,112 | 0.2% |
| Cameroon | 1,085 | 0.1% |
| Algeria | 1,055 | 0.1% |
| Ethiopia | 1,012 | 0.1% |
| Total for Libya | 725,304 | 100% |

Fig 6: Countries and regions of origin of migrants in Libya and percentage of migrants from each region

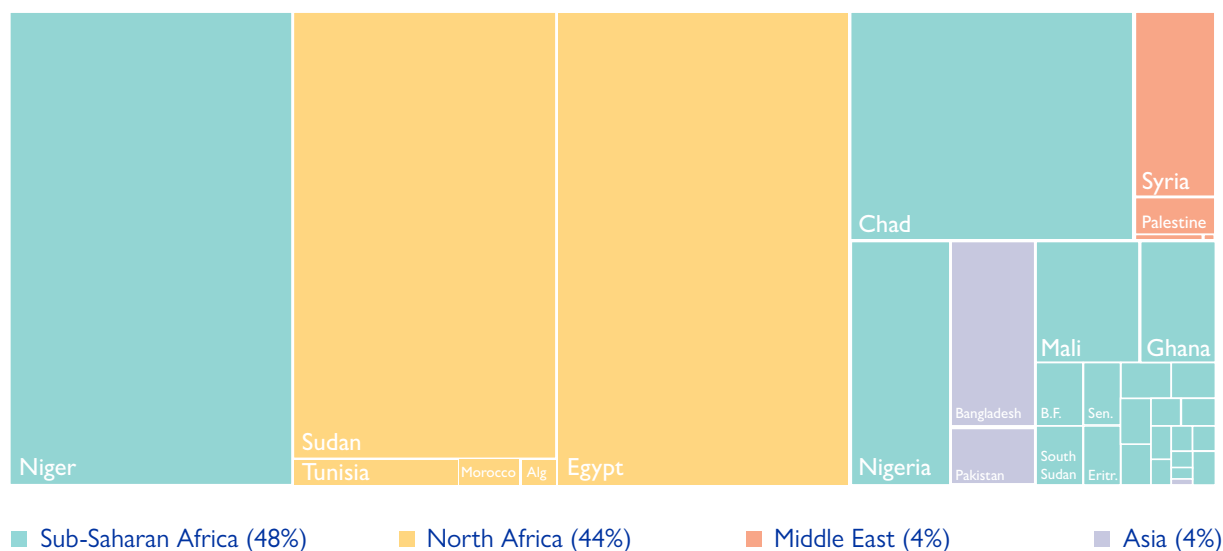
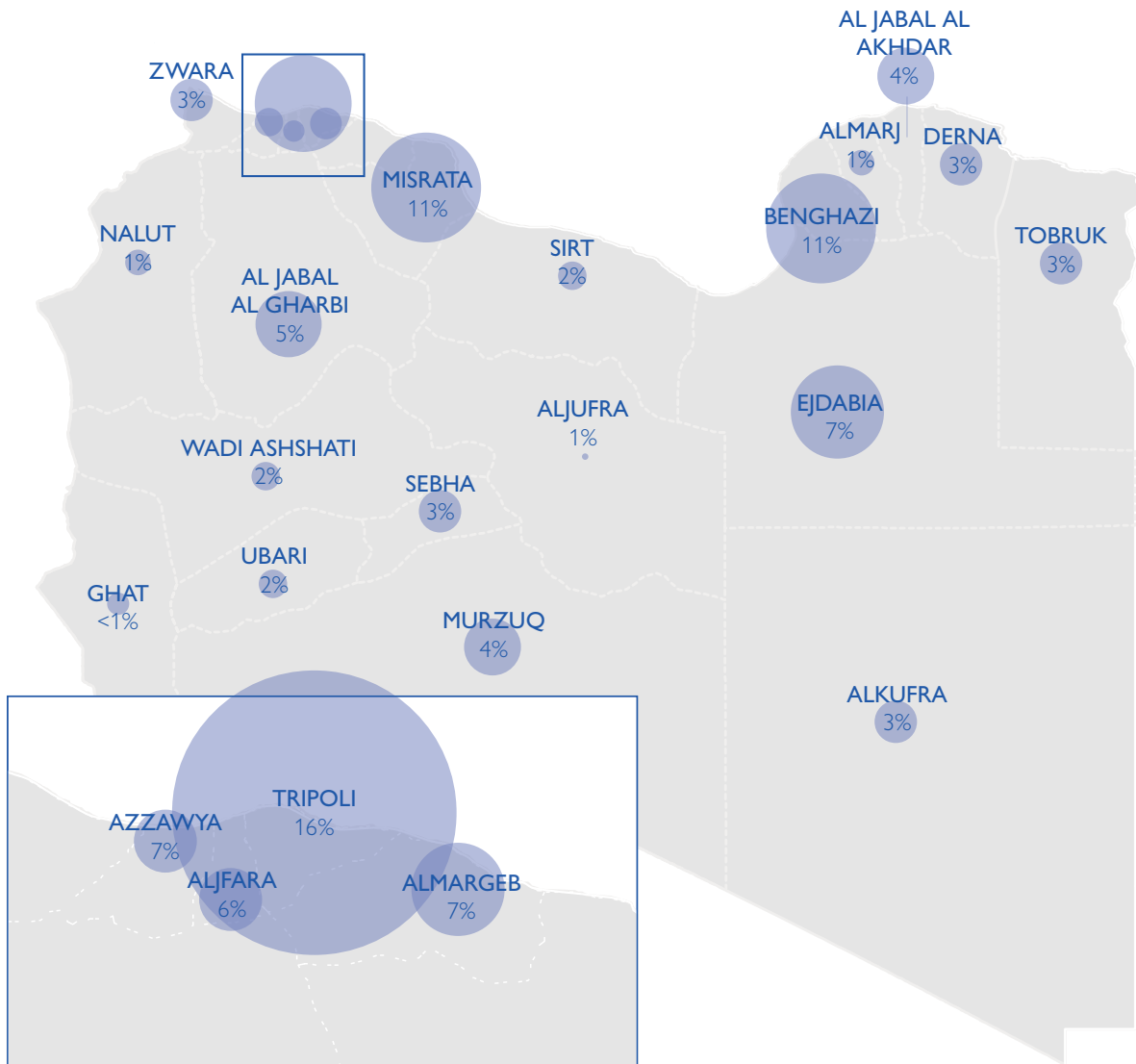


Fig 7: Percentage of migrants per region (mantika) during DTM round 52 of data collection



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HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Access to sufficient drinking water continues to be more limited among female migrants (37%) than males (15%) (Fig 8) as well as among those from the Middle East (41%) and Asia (23%) compared to those from North (14%) and sub-Saharan Africa (17%) (Fig 9). Based on key informants, in addition to the lack of access to the water network the unaffordability of safe drinking water was one of the main issues faced by migrants. In line with these findings, a greater proportion of unemployed migrants (28%) mentioned lacking access to clean drinking water compared to those who were employed (13%).

Fig 8: Migrants with insufficient access to drinking water (by sex)

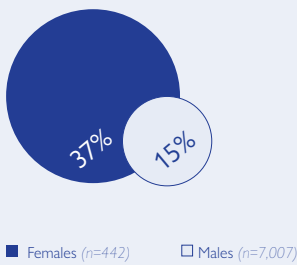
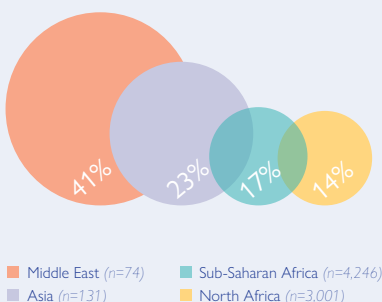


Fig 9: Migrants with insufficient access to drinking water (by region of origin)



EDUCATION

Consistent with previous reports, only a minority of migrants (9%) interviewed by DTM between March and May 2024 reported having family members aged between 5 and 18 in Libya.

Among them, more than half (55%) reported that their children lacked access to education in Libya. The lack of access to education was an issue for a greater proportion of migrants from sub-Saharan (75%) and North Africa (43%) compared to those from the Middle East (9%) (Fig 10) and for migrants in western (63%) and southern Libya (63%) compared to the east (17%) (Fig 11).

Fig 10: Migrant children without access to school in Libya (by region of origin)

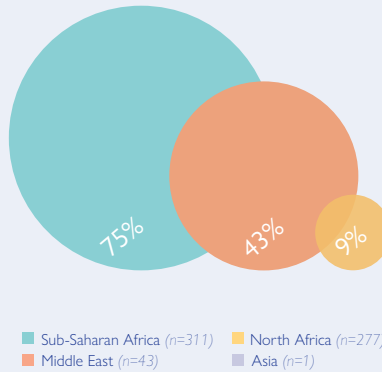
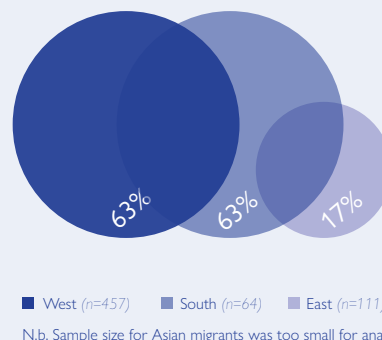


Fig 11: Migrant children without access to school in Libya (by location of survey)



HEALTHCARE

Over seven in ten migrants (74%) in Libya mentioned having limited or no access to healthcare. More females (24%) than males (8%) mentioned having no access (Fig 12).

The main barrier to obtaining health services in Libya remains the unaffordability of care in the case of both male and female migrants (Fig 13). Other obstacles migrants reported facing in accessing healthcare in Libya included the irregular supply of medicines (28%), the distance to reach services (25%), the inadequate quality of care (25%) and the inability to reach services safely (20%).

Fig 12: Access to healthcare in Libya (by sex)

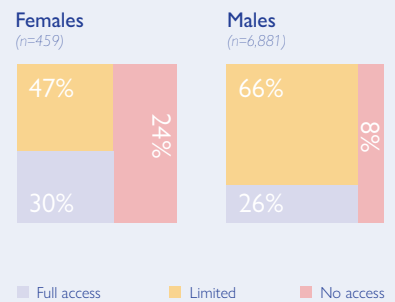
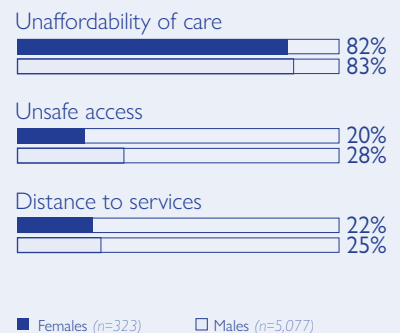


Fig 13: Top 3 barriers to accessing healthcare (by sex)

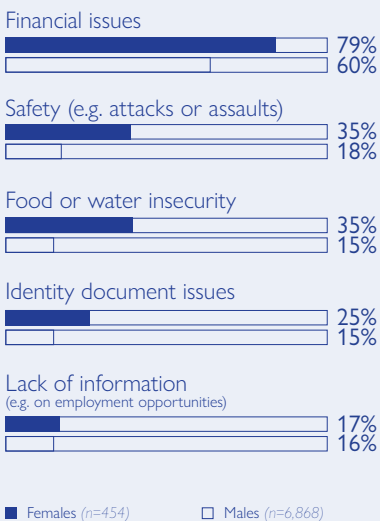


HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

TOP DIFFICULTIES

Financial difficulties continue to be the main issue affecting more than half of migrants regardless of sex, age or employment status. However, a greater proportion of unemployed migrants and those more likely to be unemployed (i.e. females (Fig 14), those aged less than 39 and individuals from sub-Saharan and North Africa) reported facing financial difficulties compared to those who were employed. According to WFP, the cost of essential (food and non-food) items has been on the rise since the beginning of the year and increased by six per cent between February and March 2024. Prices of essential items stood highest in southern Libya. The hike in prices and the sharp depreciation of the Libyan dinar has affected migrants' purchasing power according to DTM field observers.

Fig 14: Three main difficulties faced by migrants in Libya (by sex, multiple-choice question)



ACCOMMODATION

Overall, a total of three per cent of migrants interviewed by DTM Libya between March and May 2024 reported having been evicted (1%) or threatened with eviction in the past three months (2%) mainly because of their inability to pay rent (56%) (Fig 15).

A greater proportion of female migrants stated having been evicted or threatened with eviction (5% and 4%, respectively) compared to males (1 and 1%, respectively) (Fig 16), which is likely to be at least partially related to the higher unemployment rate among female migrants (56%) compared to males (19%) as well as the additional challenges they may face while navigating the rental housing market.

Fig 15: Top 4 reasons for having been evicted or threatened thereof (by sex)

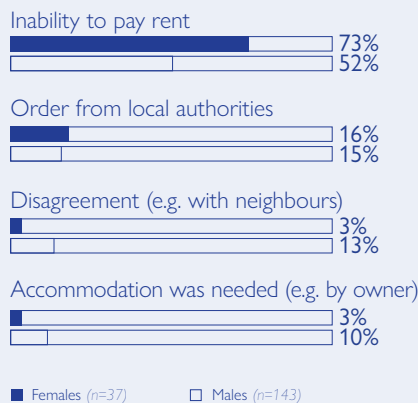


Fig 16: Migrants who have been evicted or threatened thereof (by sex)



ACCESS TO DOCUMENTATION

Nearly nine in ten migrants (88%) in Libya mentioned not possessing a work permit. A greater proportion of migrants from Asia (40%) and the Middle East (40%) stated holding a work permit compared to those from North (19%) or sub-Saharan Africa (5%) (Fig 17).

The unemployment rate among migrants without a work permit was significantly higher, particularly for female migrants, compared to those with a work permit (Fig 18).

While migrants do not always need documentation to secure employment in Libya, the data points to the impact of not having a work permit as a factor relegating migrants to the informal economy.

Fig 17: Possession of a work permit in Libya (by region of origin)

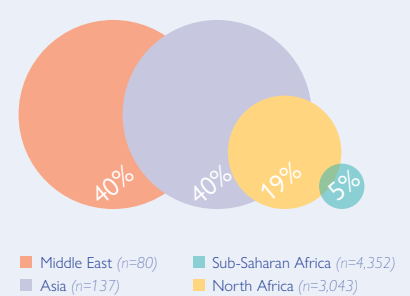


Fig 18: Unemployment (by sex and whether migrant are in possession of a work permit)

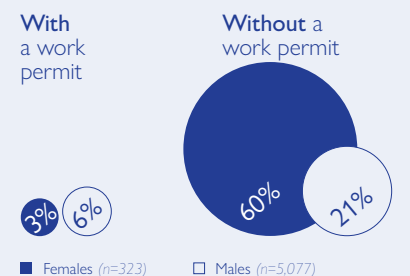
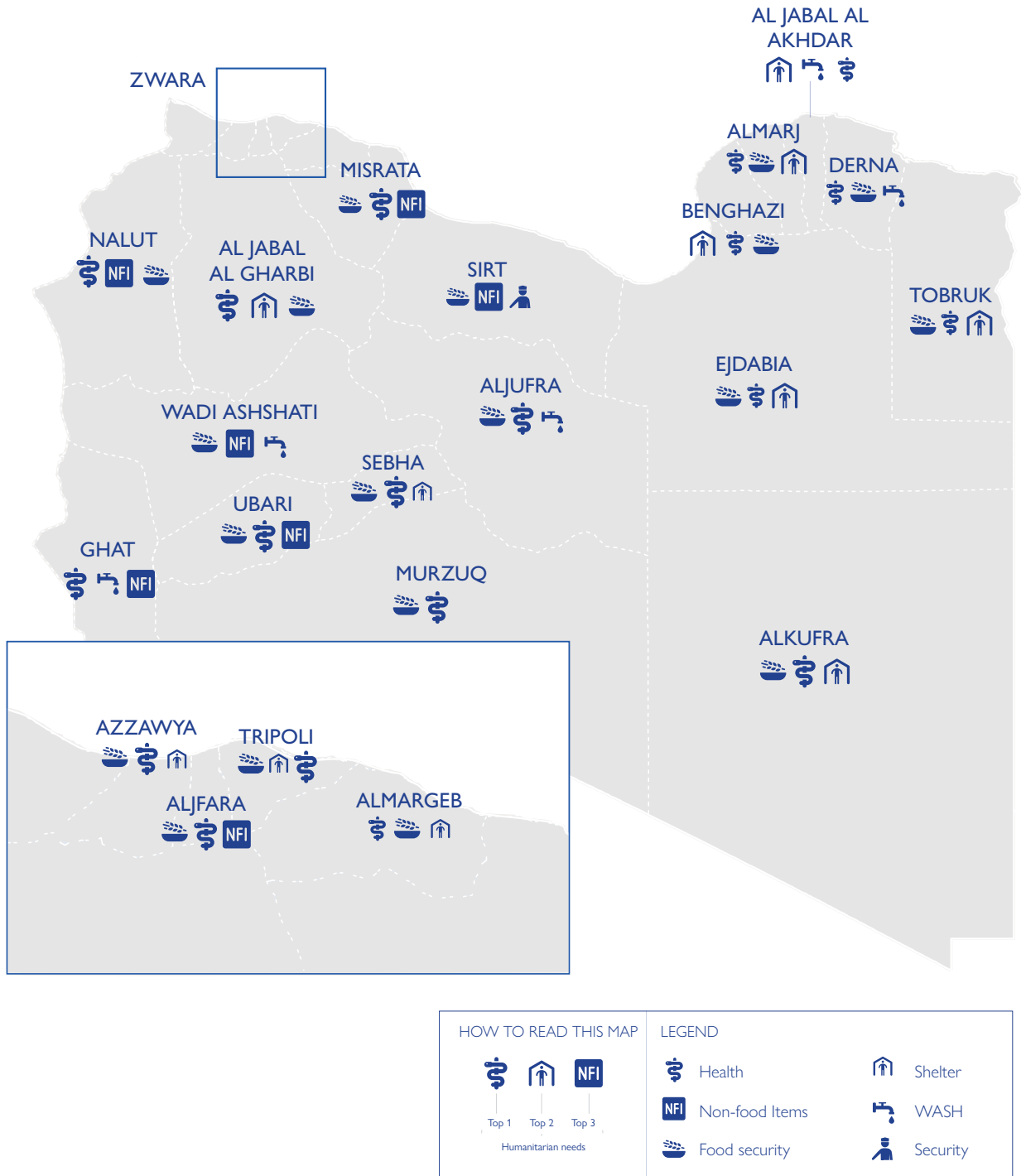


Fig 19: Humanitarian priority needs of migrants per region (mantika)



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SITUATION BEFORE MIGRATING

Over a third of migrants (35%) reported having experienced at least one shock, which the majority (84%) deemed as having had a severe impact on their life, in the year prior to migrating to Libya. Among them, around a third mentioned having experienced three or more compounding shocks.

The main shocks cited were economic in nature (e.g. low or decreased wages, rise in food or agricultural input prices) (Fig 20). For a large share of migrants from North Africa (e.g. Sudan) as well as those from the Middle East the main shocks cited were also related to conflict and violence.

Unemployment or the inability to find work in the 12 months prior to migrating to Libya was cited by 55 per cent of migrants who reported having experienced a shock. A greater proportion of migrants from sub-Saharan Africa (60%) and North Africa (50%) compared to those from the Middle East (44%).

The high costs of agricultural inputs (e.g. fertilizer, pesticides, seeds) were an issue among a greater proportion of migrants from Asia (37%), sub-Saharan Africa (29%) and North Africa (22%) compared to those from the Middle East (8%).

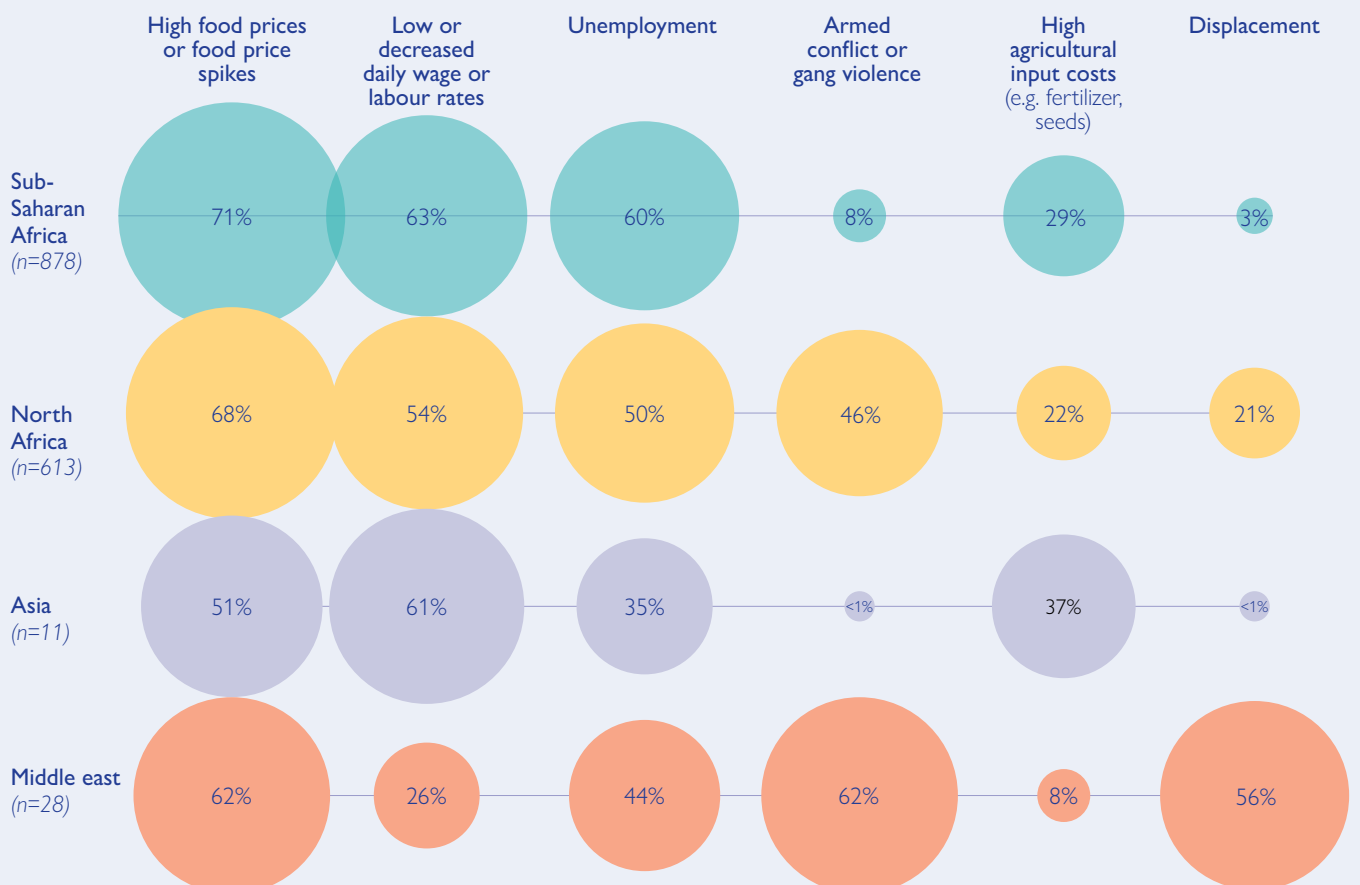
35%

of migrants reported having **experienced at least one shock** in the year prior to migrating to Libya.

29%

of migrants who were working in the agricultural sector in their home country reported having experienced a **loss of agricultural production or livestock due to environmental factors** such as sudden disasters or slow-onset degradation (e.g. droughts, floods).

Fig 20: Top shocks experienced in the 12 months prior to migrating to Libya (by region of origin)



LABOUR MARKET

WORK CONDITIONS

More than three quarters of the 7,597 migrants (78%) surveyed between March and May 2024 mentioned being currently employed in Libya. The majority of employed migrants (52%) stated having secured their employment through their social networks (e.g. other migrants, family connections). A minority (11%) were directly recruited for their specific skills by an employer and around a third (32%) found work at recruitment points.

The main risk faced at work identified by the largest share of migrants was related to a lack of job security, regardless of sex or whether they held a work permit. On average, 52 per cent of migrants reported lacking job security, a proportion which was higher among females (70%) than males (54%), those aged 20 - 39 (58%) or over 50 (54%) as well as those from sub-Saharan Africa (58%) compared to those from other regions of origin. In general, a greater proportion of female migrants reported facing issues at work compared to males (Fig 21) except that a larger share of males (42%) mentioned being paid less than agreed compared to females (34%).

Fig 21: Top risks faced at work (by sex, multiple-choice question)

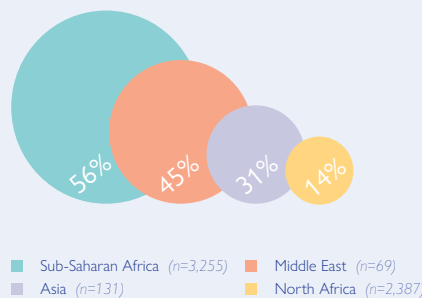


CONTRACT TYPES

Migrants working conditions continue to be characterized by non-standard or temporary work agreements. More than half (51%) of migrants interviewed between March and May were employed on a short-term or casual basis (e.g. employed on a very short term or on an occasional and intermittent basis such as daily wage workers). Only a minority (2%) stated being in possession of a written and signed contract.

A greater proportion of migrants from sub-Saharan Africa (56%) and the Middle East (45%) compared to those from Asia (31%) or North Africa (14%) mentioned being employed on a short term or casual basis.

Fig 22: Percentage of migrants who were employed on a short-term or casual basis (e.g. very short-term or on an occasional and intermittent basis) (by region of origin)

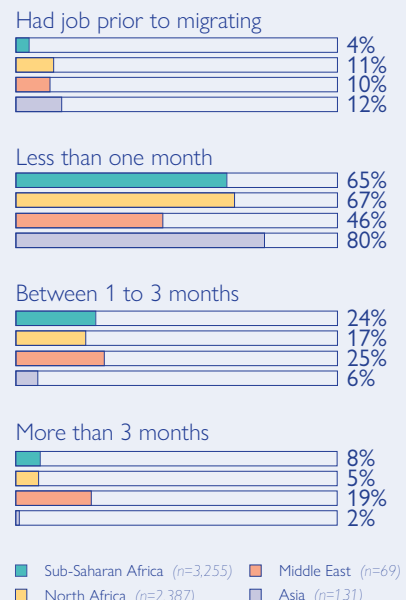


FINDING EMPLOYMENT

A minority of migrants (7%) reported having secured employment prior to leaving their home country. Two thirds (66%) mentioned having found employment within a month after arriving in Libya. A greater proportion of female migrants (11%) had secured employment prior to leaving their home country compared to males (7%). On the contrary, more than half of females (52%) compared to around a quarter of males (27%) took more than two months to find a job.

More migrants from Asia (12%), North Africa (11%) and the Middle East (10%) stated having had secured employment prior to leaving their home country compared to those from sub-Saharan Africa (4%). Migrants from the Middle East however were on average taking longest to secure employment — a fifth took more than three months, compared to eight per cent or less of those from other regions of origin.

Fig 23: Time required to find employment upon arriving in Libya (by region of origin)



MIGRATION ROUTES: TRANSIT COUNTRIES

The largest shares of the 12,813 migrants who were interviewed by DTM Libya between January and May 2024 had transited through (or came from) Niger (46%), Egypt (20%), Sudan (14%) or Chad (13%) before arriving in Libya. A minority had transited through or came from Tunisia (4%), Algeria (1%) or a combination of other countries (2%). Among the migrants interviewed over the period January - May 2024, around two thirds of

migrants (65%) mentioned having been in Libya for at least one year while slightly more than a third (35%) reported having arrived more recently.

Since March, the Ras Jedir official border crossing point between Tunisia and Libya, located around 170 kilometres from Tripoli, has been closed and only remains open for urgent medical and diplomatic passage.

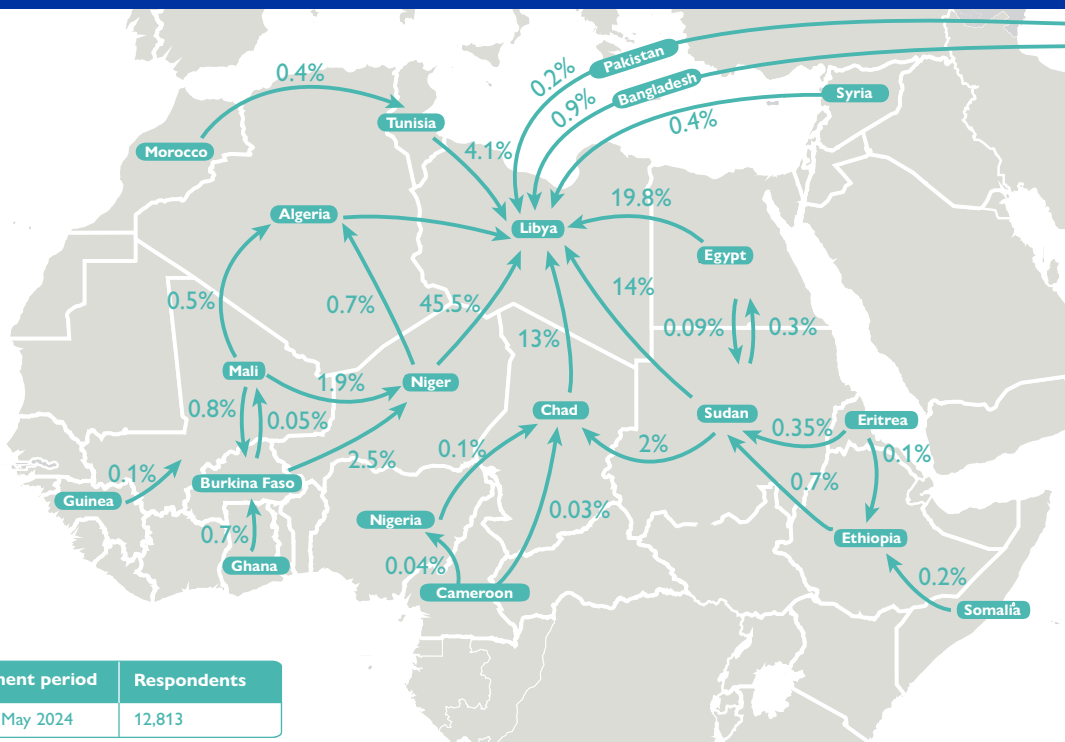
46%

of migrants surveyed between January and May 2024 reported having traveled through (or coming from) Niger.

Fig 24: Major migration routes reported by migrants interviewed via DTM Flow Monitoring Surveys (FMS)

HOW TO READ THIS MAP

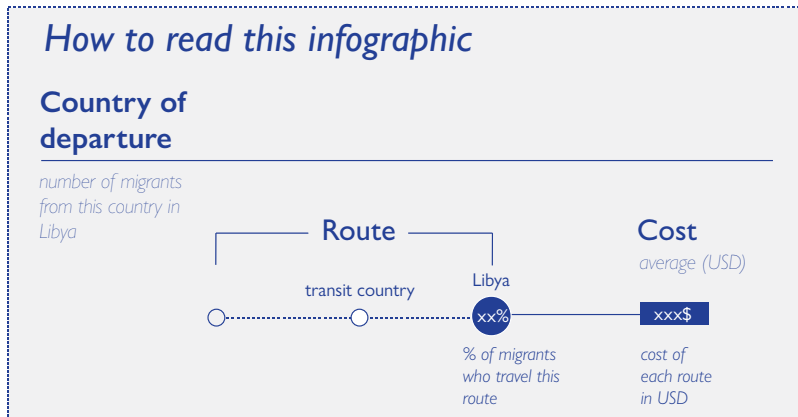
The percentages shown along each route segment on the map below represent the percentage of migrants who reported having travelled along each route. For example, nearly half of migrants in Libya reported having arrived directly from or transited through Niger, including almost all migrants from Niger and those from Burkina Faso, Ghana, and Nigeria.



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MIGRATION ROUTES: ANALYSIS AND TRENDS

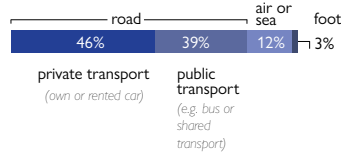
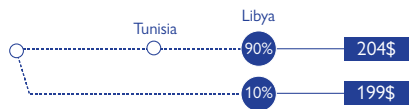
This section outlines the different routes taken by migrants and the percentage of migrants who use these routes by country of origin drawing on data collected by DTM Libya over the period January - May 2024. This table also includes the average cost of each route, the means of transportation migrants use and the total number of migrants from each country as well as the location where individual interviews occurred.



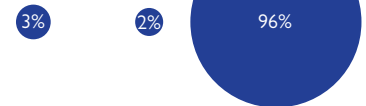
| ROUTES | COST average (USD) | MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION | PRESENCE IN LIBYA BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS |
|--------|--------------------|-------------------------|---|
|--------|--------------------|-------------------------|---|

Algeria

1,055 migrants

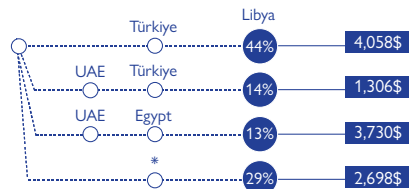


East South West

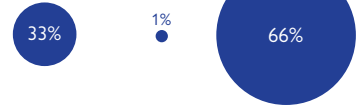
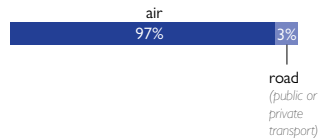


Bangladesh

21,134 migrants

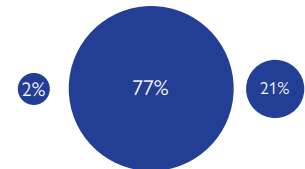
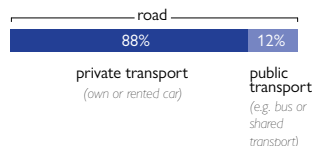
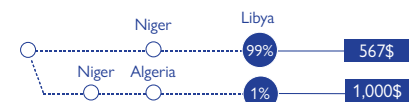


*Multiple routes used that included one or a combination of the following countries: Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and/or United Arab Emirates.



Burkina Faso

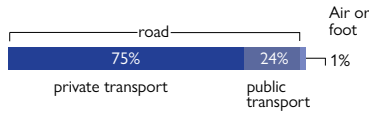
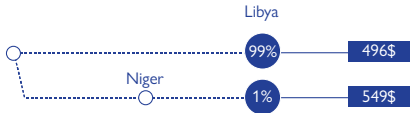
4,021 migrants



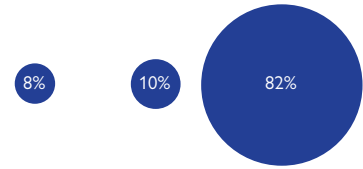
| ROUTES | COST average (USD) | MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION | PRESENCE IN LIBYA BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS |
|--------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--|
|--------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--|

Chad

77,272 migrants

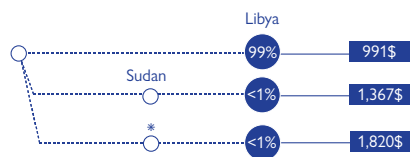


East South West

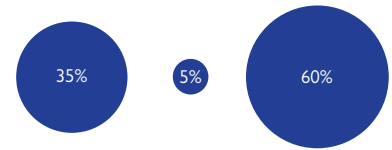
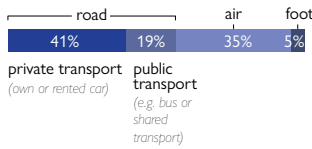


Egypt

161,901 migrants

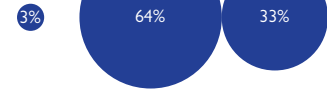
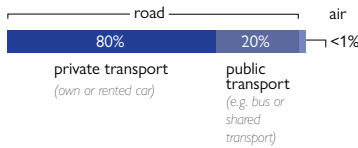
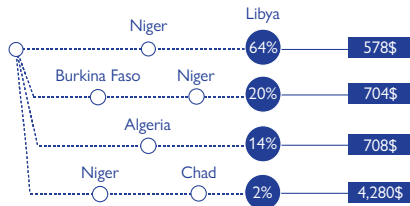


*Multiple routes used that included one or a combination of the following countries: United Arab Emirates, Sudan, Tunisia and/or Türkiye.



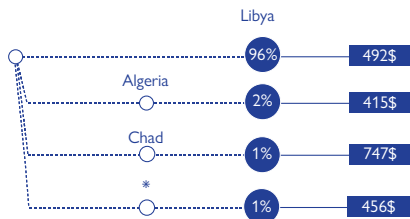
Mali

13,618 migrants

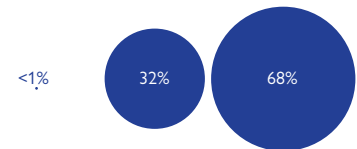
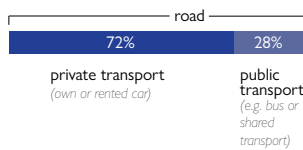


Niger

184,284 migrants



*Multiple routes used including via one or a combination of the following countries: Chad, Egypt, Mali, Nigeria, Sudan and/or Tunisia.

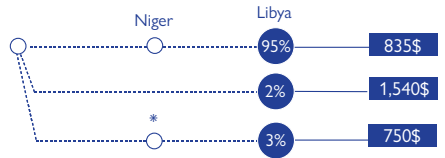


| ROUTES | COST average (USD) | MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION | PRESENCE IN LIBYA BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS |
|--------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--|
|--------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--|

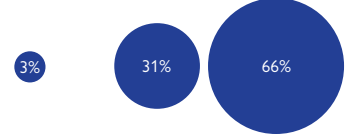
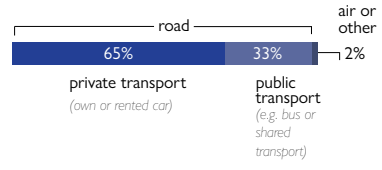
Nigeria

East South West

30,391 migrants

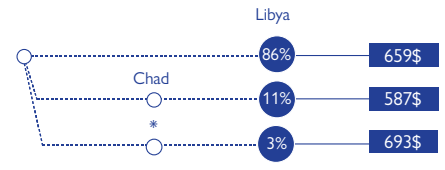


*Multiple routes used that included one or a combination of the following countries: Chad, Egypt, Niger, Türkiye and/or Sudan.

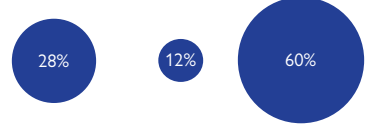
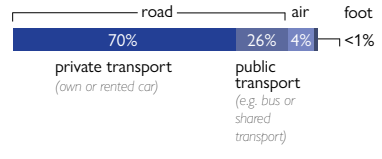


Sudan

148,107 migrants

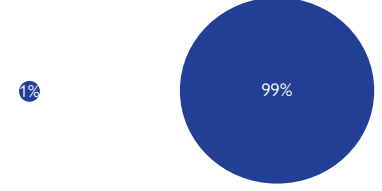
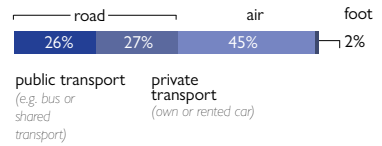


*Multiple routes used that included one or more of the following countries: Chad, Egypt, Niger and/or Jordan.



Tunisia

5,121 migrants



REGIONAL ANALYSIS: DISTRIBUTION

In line with the previous round of data collection, key informant interviews conducted by DTM Libya between March and May 2024 revealed that over half of migrants were located in the west (56% or 403,201 individuals), while a minority were in the east (31% or 226,611 individuals) or the south (13% or 95,492 individuals).

Consistent with previous reports, the majority of migrants (57%) were located in the coastal regions of Tripoli (16%), Benghazi (11%), Misrata (11%), Almargeb (7%), Ejdabia (7%) and Azzawya (7%) (Fig 25).

Based on key informants interviewed between March and May 2024 over three quarters of migrants (78%) lived in urban settings while less than a quarter (22%) resided in rural areas. Similarly, it is estimated that the majority of the Libyan population (81%) [lives in urban areas](#), mainly [concentrated](#) in the major urban centres along the Mediterranean, such as Tripoli, Misrata and Benghazi.

Fig 25: Migrants in Libya by region (mantika) (based on mobility tracking data)

| Mantika (region) | Number of migrants | % by region |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Tripoli | 113,384 | 16% |
| Benghazi | 80,346 | 11% |
| Misrata | 79,218 | 11% |
| Almargeb | 48,623 | 7% |
| Ejdabia | 47,830 | 7% |
| Azzawya | 47,192 | 7% |
| Aljara | 41,825 | 6% |
| Al Jabal Al Gharbi | 32,973 | 5% |
| Murzuq | 27,708 | 4% |
| Al Jabal Al Akhdar | 27,630 | 4% |
| Zwara | 22,930 | 4% |
| Sebha | 22,715 | 3% |
| Tobruk | 22,530 | 3% |
| Alkufra | 22,085 | 3% |
| Derna | 19,415 | 3% |
| Ubari | 16,150 | 2% |
| Wadi Ashshati | 14,548 | 2% |
| Sirt | 12,505 | 2% |
| Aljufra | 10,800 | 1% |
| Almarj | 6,775 | 1% |
| Nalut | 4,551 | 1% |
| Ghat | 3,571 | <1% |
| Total for Libya | 725,304 | 100% |

Children participating in a resilience-building recreational activity at the Sudanese School in Benghazi organized by IOM Libya. © IOM 2024

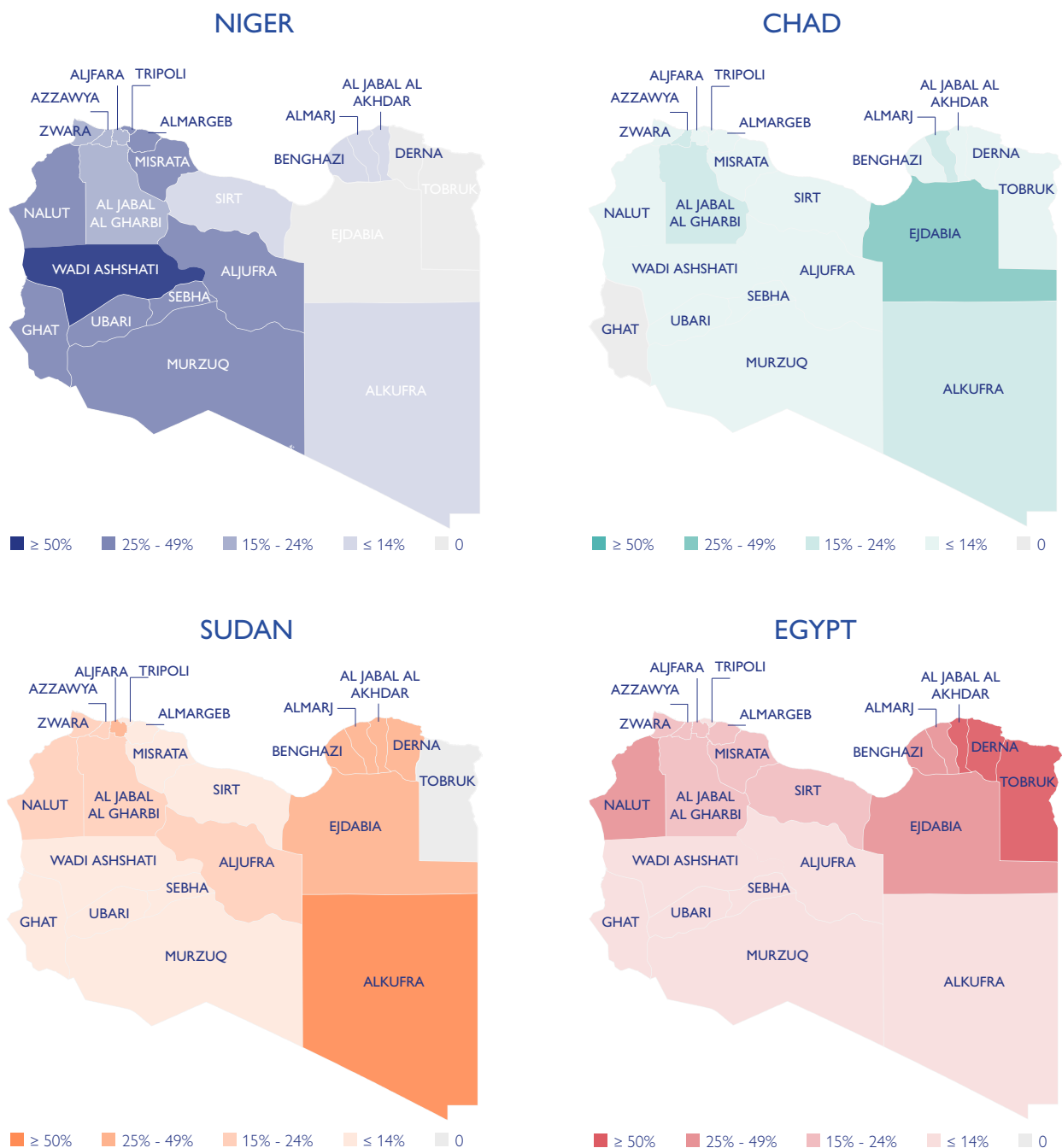


REGIONAL ANALYSIS: NATIONALITIES OF MIGRANTS

This section outlines the percentage that migrants from each of the top eight nationalities represent in Libya in each region. For example, migrants from neighbouring Niger are among the most-represented nationalities in the southern and western regions of Libya. Sudanese nationals represent the largest share of migrants in the eastern regions of

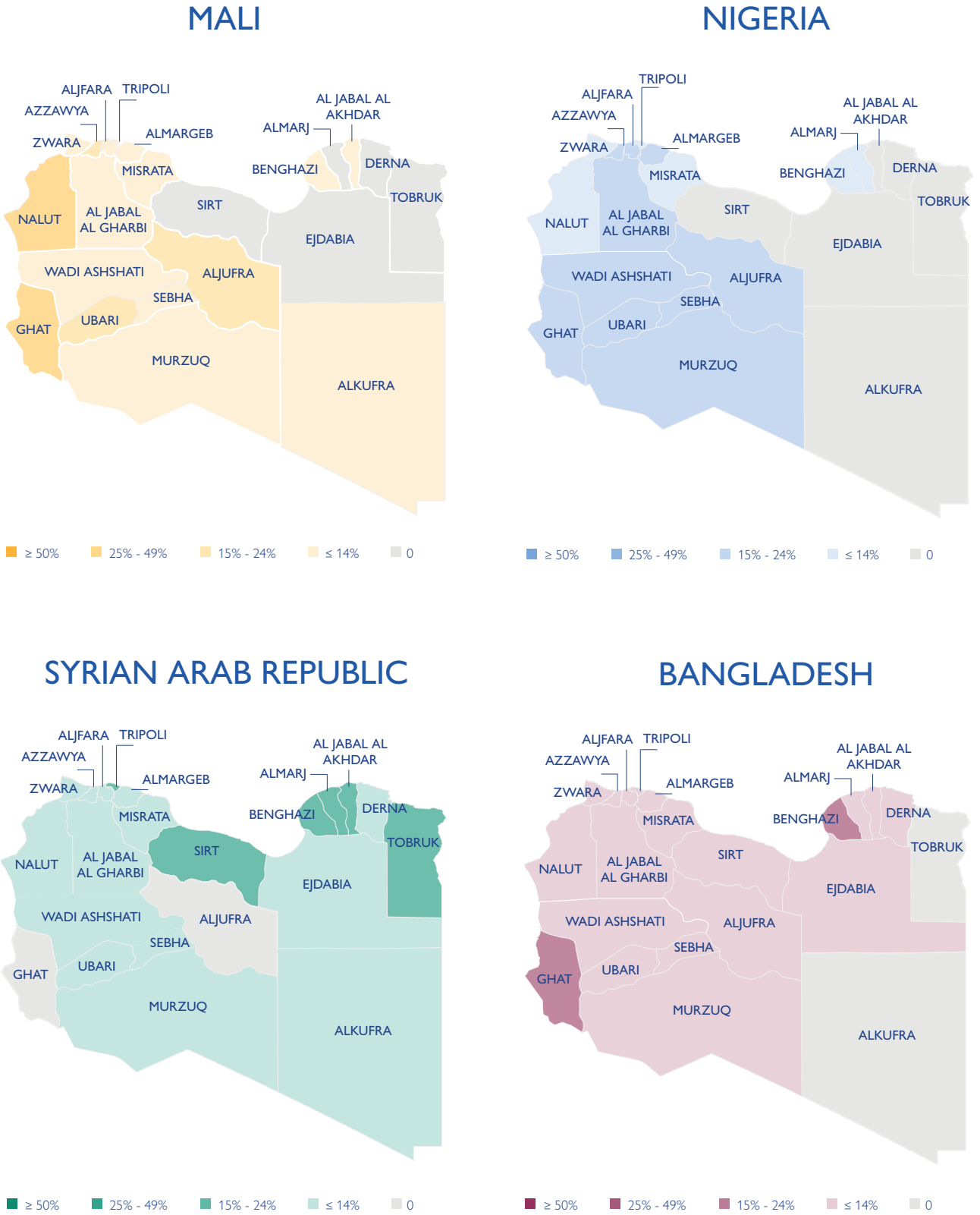
Libya, particularly in Alkufra, which is the [main entry point](#) for migrants traveling to Libya particularly those coming from or transiting through Chad and Sudan. Migrants from Egypt constitute the largest shares of migrants in the eastern coastal regions of Libya, such as Al Jabal Al Akhdar, Derna, Ejdabia, Tobruk and Benghazi.

Fig 26: Percentage that migrants represent in each region of Libya by country of origin



These maps are for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on the maps do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

Fig 27: Percentage that migrants from Mali, Nigeria, the Syrian Arab Republic and Bangladesh represent in each region of Libya



These maps are for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on the maps do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

REGION OF ORIGIN: GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS

Based on key informant interviews conducted between March and May 2024 and in line with previous reports, migrants from North African countries (e.g. Egypt and Sudan) continue to account for over two thirds of migrants in eastern Libya (70%) while migrants from sub-Saharan African countries (such as

Niger and Chad) represent the bulk of migrants in southern and western Libya (82% and 57%, respectively). These trends highlights the influence of historical, socioeconomic, ethnic and cultural ties that developed through the [circular migration](#) of populations from bordering countries, particularly Niger, Egypt,

Sudan and Chad. The complete disaggregation of migrants' region of origins by regional location (mantika) in Libya is shown in the table below (Fig 28).

Fig 28: Migrants' region of origin by region in Libya

| Region (mantika) | Migrants from Asia & Middle East | Migrants from sub-Saharan Africa | Migrants from North Africa | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------|----------------|------------|-----|
| EAST | Al Jabal Al Akhdar | 2,035 | 7% | 2,200 | 6% | 23,395 | 15% |
| | Alkufra | 248 | 1% | 5,892 | 15% | 15,945 | 10% |
| | Almarj | 565 | 2% | 1,421 | 4% | 4,789 | 3% |
| | Benghazi | 19,533 | 67% | 14,289 | 37% | 46,524 | 29% |
| | Derna | 200 | 1% | 745 | 2% | 18,470 | 12% |
| | Ejdabia | 3,441 | 12% | 13,608 | 35% | 30,781 | 19% |
| | Tobruk | 3,040 | 10% | 710 | 2% | 18,780 | 12% |
| Eastern Libya total | 29,062 | 13% | 38,865 | 17% | 158,684 | 70% | |
| SOUTH | Aljufra | - | - | 7,320 | 9% | 3,480 | 22% |
| | Ghat | - | - | 2,571 | 3% | 1,000 | 6% |
| | Murzuq | 286 | 21% | 23,840 | 30% | 3,582 | 23% |
| | Sebha | 649 | 48% | 19,783 | 25% | 2,283 | 15% |
| | Ubari | 219 | 16% | 12,403 | 16% | 3,523 | 22% |
| | Wadi Ashshati | 210 | 15% | 12,473 | 16% | 1,865 | 12% |
| Southern Libya total | 1,364 | 1% | 78,390 | 82% | 15,733 | 16% | |
| WEST | Al Jabal al Gharbi | 1,005 | 3% | 16,608 | 7% | 15,342 | 11% |
| | Aljfara | 660 | 2% | 18,272 | 8% | 22,842 | 16% |
| | Almargeb | 1,917 | 6% | 29,290 | 13% | 17,416 | 12% |
| | Azzawya | 1,419 | 5% | 26,644 | 12% | 19,129 | 13% |
| | Misrata | 6,854 | 23% | 47,091 | 21% | 25,273 | 18% |
| | Nalut | 168 | 1% | 2,144 | 1% | 2,226 | 2% |
| | Sirt | 4,210 | 14% | 3,930 | 2% | 4,315 | 3% |
| | Tripoli | 13,028 | 44% | 71,290 | 31% | 27,738 | 19% |
| | Zwara | 631 | 2% | 12,812 | 6% | 9,487 | 7% |
| Western Libya total | 29,892 | 7% | 228,081 | 57% | 143,768 | 36% | |
| Total for Libya | 60,318 | 8% | 345,336 | 48% | 318,185 | 44% | |

Note: 1,465 migrants from other minority nationalities (including those whose nationalities could not be established) are not included in the table above.

REGION OF ORIGIN: SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Around one in two migrants (48%) identified by DTM in Libya between March and May 2024 were from sub-Saharan Africa. Niger and Chad are the first and second most represented nationality from sub-Saharan Africa in Libya (53% and 22%, respectively) (Fig 29 and 30). The number of migrants from sub-Saharan Africa (345,336 individuals) is on par with that of the corresponding reporting period in 2023 (345,580 individuals, [round 47](#), March - April 2023).

In [March](#) and [April](#), DTM Niger observed an increase compared to February 2024 in outgoing flows of migrants traveling from Niger to Libya mainly in search of (better)

economic opportunities. DTM Niger has noted that since the repeal of law 2015-3614, which previously criminalised migrant smuggling in Niger, migrants are traveling by [organised convoys](#) through new routes and that the price of transportation from Niger to Libya has [declined](#) from 300,000 to 100,000 CFA franc— a threefold decrease.

Fig 30: Number of migrants from countries of origin in sub-Saharan Africa (top 6 nationalities)

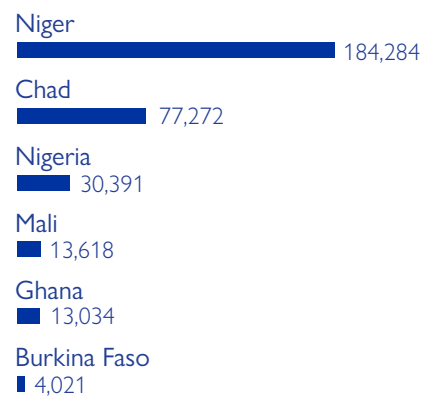
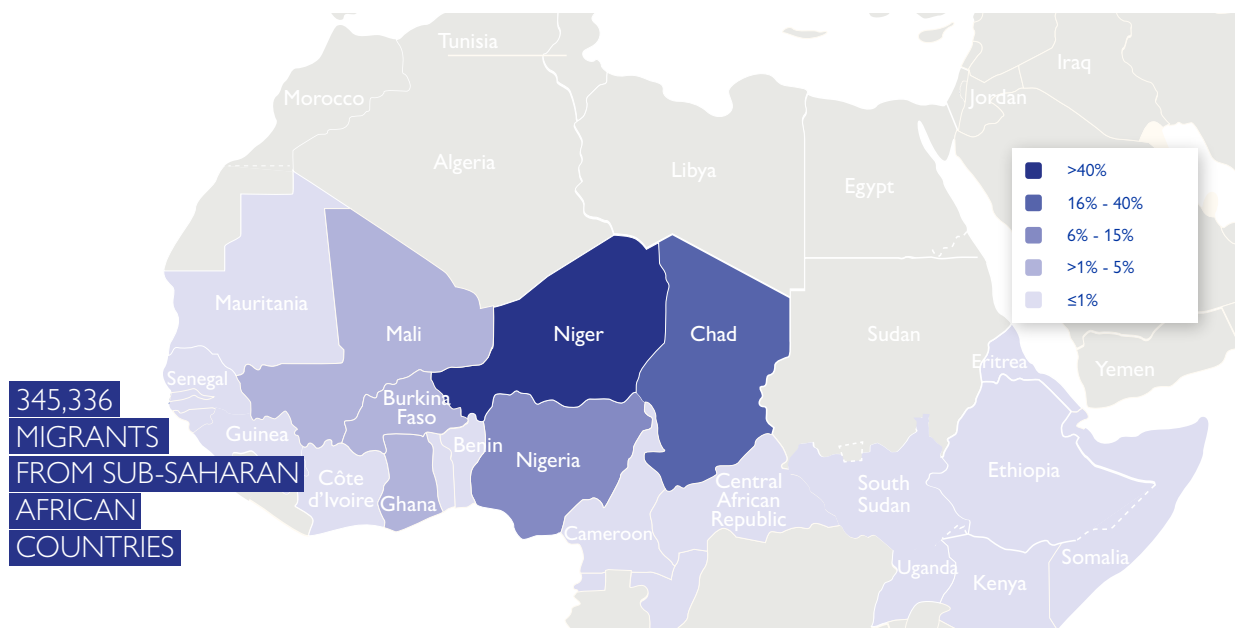


Fig 29: Percentages of migrants by country of origin for the sub-Saharan Africa region



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REGION OF ORIGIN: NORTH AFRICA

The number of North African migrants in Libya has increased compared to the previous round of data collection (from 305,368 in [February 2024](#) to 318,185 individuals in May 2024). During the reporting period, DTM has continued to observe an increase in the number of Sudanese and third-country nationals arriving directly from Sudan in Alkufra, an oasis town in southeastern Libya, as well as indirectly through Egypt, and to a lesser extent through Chad because of the [ongoing conflict in Sudan](#).

DTM field observers have also noted the increased presence of Sudanese nationals in Ejdabia and Tazirbu, two transit locations, particularly for those traveling to Libyan western and eastern coastal cities. In line with previous reports, migrants from neighbouring Egypt and Sudan continue to be the top two most-represented nationalities among nationals from North Africa (51% and 47% respectively). Together, migrants from Tunisia, Morocco and Algeria accounted for three per cent of the total number of migrants from North Africa. Overall, more than two in five migrants in Libya were from North Africa (44%).

Fig 32: Migrants from countries of origin in North Africa

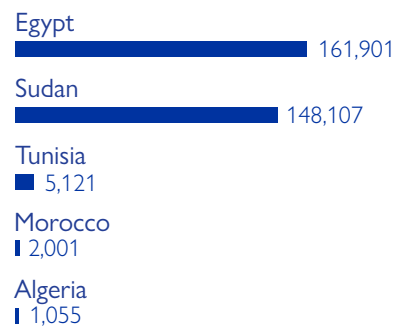
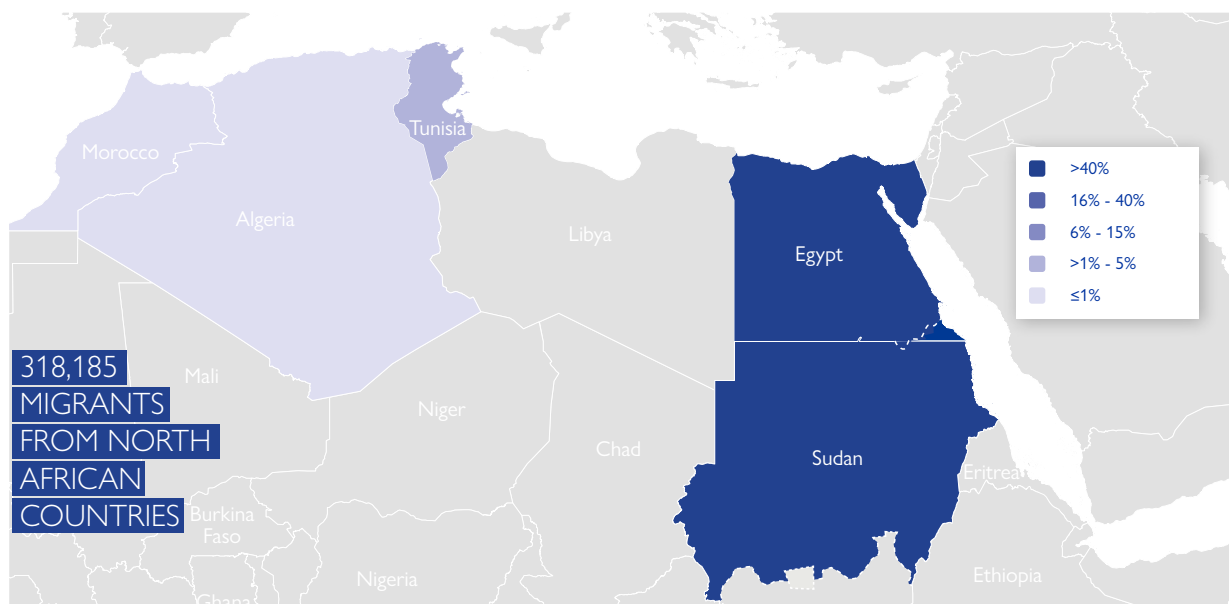


Fig 31: Percentages of migrants by country of origin for the North African region



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REGION OF ORIGIN: MIDDLE EAST AND ASIA

A minority of migrants identified during round 52 of data collection were from the Middle East (4% or 32,660 individuals) or Asia (4% or 27,658 individuals).

In line with previous reports, the majority of migrants from Asia and the Middle East were from the Syrian Arab Republic (25,675 individuals) and Bangladesh (21,134 individuals) accounting for 43 and 35 per cent of migrants (including refugees), respectively (Fig 34). Individuals from the Syrian Arab Republic and Bangladesh accounted for respectively four and three per cent of the overall migrant population in Libya — the sixth and seventh most-represented nationalities.

In addition, there were 6,509 migrants who self-identified as Palestinians (11% of all migrants from the Middle East and Asia in Libya) and 6,012 migrants from Pakistan (10%). There were 988 individuals from various other nationalities who altogether accounted for two per cent of the migrant population from the Middle East and Asia.

Fig 34: Migrants from countries of origin in the Middle East and Asia

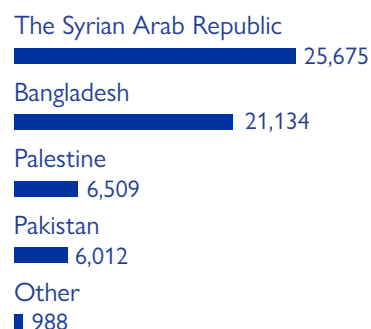
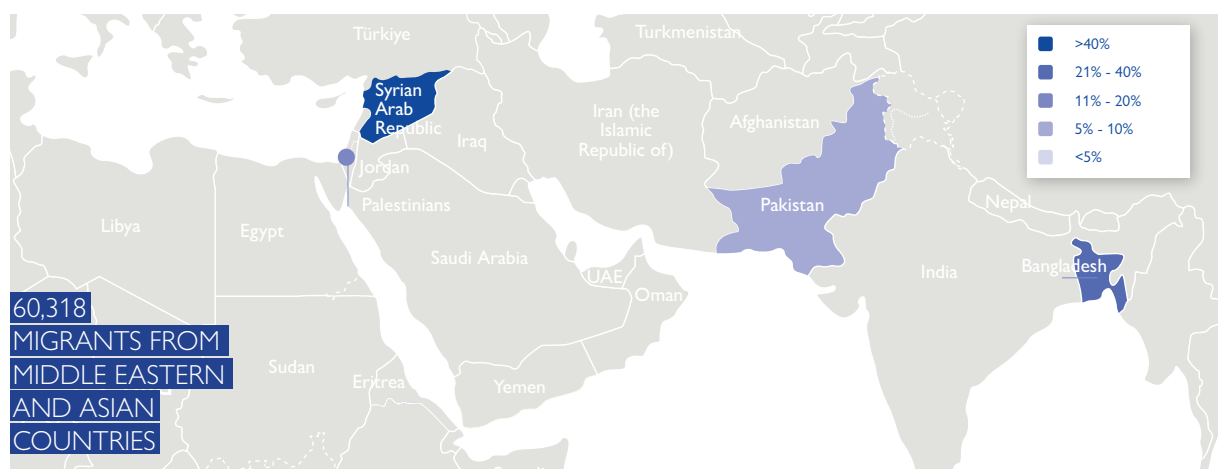


Fig 33: Percentages of migrants by country of origin for the Middle East and South Asia



This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

Fatalities at sea

During the reporting period (March - May 2024), a total of 536 deaths and disappearances were [recorded](#) on the Central Mediterranean route, which is fewer than during the same period in 2023 (803) but more than in 2022 (485), 2021 (465) and 2020 (49).

Overall, between January and the end of May 2024, a total of 749 deaths and disappearances were recorded, a 32 per cent decrease compared to the same period in 2023 (1,104) but a slight increase compared to 2022 (690) and 2021 (675).

Notably, in March, 25 people were rescued from a shipwreck, which had left Libya a week prior, while around 60 others who were also on board are still [missing and presumed dead](#).

Fatalities on land routes

In March, the bodies of at least 65 migrants were [discovered](#) in a mass grave in southwestern Libya, where they died likely in the process of crossing the Sahara desert. According to the Missing Migrant Project 2023 Annual [report](#) for the Middle East and North Africa region, for the past three years, Libya has accounted for the highest number of deaths and disappearances on land routes (253) followed by Algeria (100) and Tunisia (30). While most migrants who lose their lives on North African land routes remain unidentified (284), the majority of those identified were from sub-Saharan Africa (351) and a minority were from North Africa (11). In 2023, according to the [Missing Migrant Project](#), the number of deaths that occurred while crossing the Sahara desert rose by 73 per cent compared to 2022 with deaths and disappearances in Libya accounting for the highest number for three consecutive years.

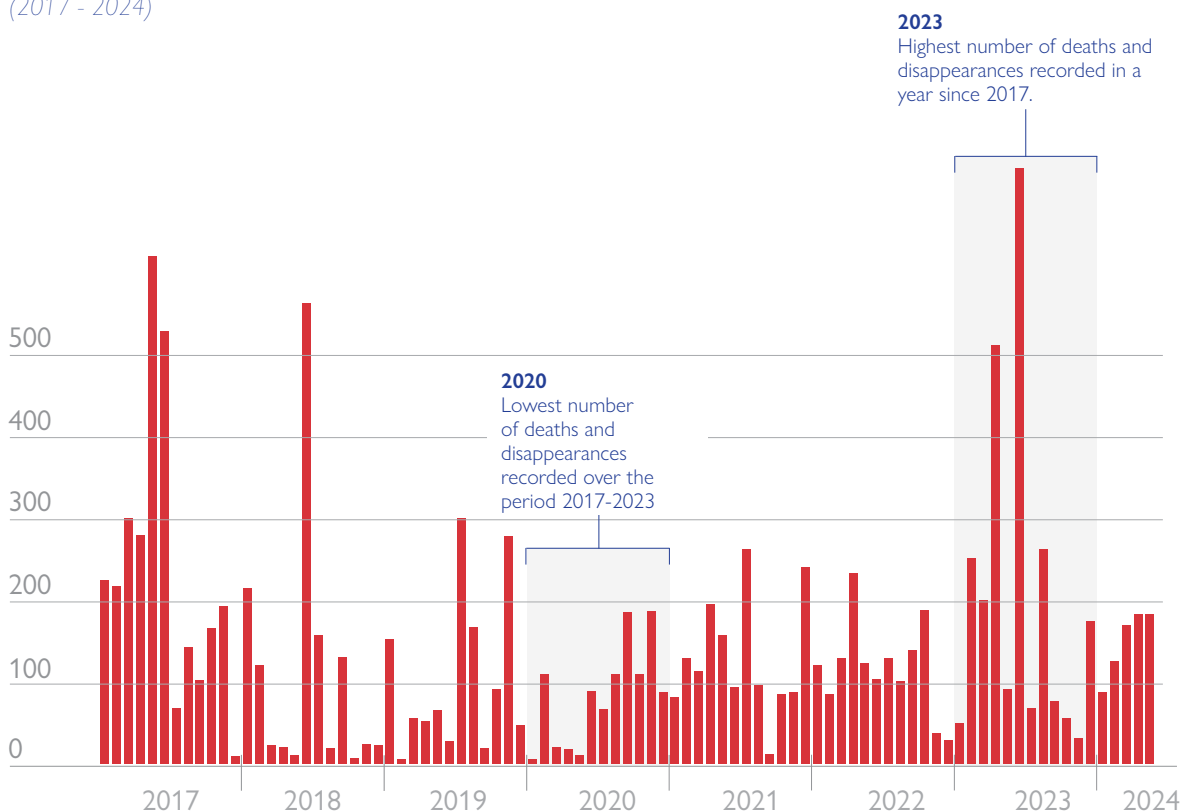
Monthly number of deaths and disappearances recorded

▼ **170**
in **March 2024** compared to 200 in March 2023.

▼ **183**
in **April 2024** compared to 512 in April 2023.

▲ **183**
in **May 2024** compared to 91 in May 2023.

Fig 36: Number of deaths and missing individuals on the Central Mediterranean route by year (2017 - 2024)



METHODOLOGY

The migrant population figures and analysis is based on the data collected through DTM mobility tracking (including multisectoral location assessment) that identifies the overall population figures in Libya including that of migrants and helps identify priority humanitarian needs via key informant interviews conducted at municipality (admin 3: baladiya), and community (admin 4: muhalla) levels.

Migration flow statistics are based on the data collected through a network of 65 flow monitoring points (FMPs) in seven regions of Libya (Alkufra, Murzuq, Nalut, Sebha, Tobruk, Ubari and Wadi Ashshati).

Analysis of migrant routes, migrant vulnerabilities and humanitarian needs is based on microlevel data collected through quantitative interviews via flow monitoring surveys (FMS) with migrants who provided their informed consent.

Limitations

Migrants in Libya are a highly heterogeneous group and their situation is very dynamic. The face-to-face interviews took place mainly in markets, public buildings, work recruitment points, collective accommodations and transit points along key migration routes, which means that the findings of this report are representative of migrants who frequent these public places. Migrants who may not be able to frequent these public places are less likely to have been included in the assessment. While this (purposive) sampling approach limits the findings on migration routes and migrant vulnerabilities from being fully statistically representative of the demographic make-up of the entire migrant stock in Libya, it represents a large-scale assessment of migrants present in Libya.

Definition of migrant

IOM characterizes 'migrant' as an umbrella term, not defined under international law, reflecting the

common lay understanding of a person who moved away from their place of usual residence, whether within a country or across an international border; temporarily or permanently, and for a variety of reasons. The term includes several of well-defined legal categories of people, such as migrant workers; persons whose particular types of movements are legally defined, such as smuggled migrants; as well as those whose status or means of movement are not specifically defined under international law, such as international students.

For the purposes of collecting data on migration, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) defines "international migrant" as "any person who changes their country of usual residence" (UN DESA, Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, Revision 1 (1998) para. 32). This report only takes into consideration the "international migrants" in Libya as defined above.

| IOM DATA COLLECTION | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| TEAM | IN NUMBERS | |
| <p>112 enumerators</p> | <p>7,612 migrants interviewed <small>(round 52, flow monitoring survey)</small></p> | <p>2,348 key informant interviews</p> |
| <p>3 team leaders</p> | <p>65 flow monitoring points <small>are active in 7 regions (mantikas) of Libya</small></p> | |



Funded by the European Union, the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) in Libya tracks and monitors population movements in order to collate, analyze and share information to support the humanitarian community with the needed demographic baselines to coordinate evidence-based interventions.

To consult all DTM reports, datasets, static and interactive maps and dashboards, please visit:

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