

INTRODUCTION

This report presents the findings of the Migrant Presence Monitoring (MPM) data collection exercise conducted by IOM in Lebanon between May and July 2024. The MPM is an annual assessment designed to estimate the number of migrants in Lebanon to support humanitarian assistance and planning efforts.

To ensure accuracy, the MPM relies on key informants (KIs), including representatives from migrant communities and local leaders such as mukhtars and municipal officials. The assessment focuses on small areas to gather detailed and precise information. It categorizes migrants by nationality, sex, and age, while also considering their living situations, distinguishing between “live-in” and “live-out” migrants.

Overall, the MPM provides valuable insights into Lebanon’s migrant population, contributing to informed decision-making and effective support for those in need.

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION

A total of 176,504 migrants were identified, representing a 10% increase since 2023. The highest concentration was in Mount Lebanon, which accounted for 57% (101,178 individuals) of the migrant population. The Beirut governorate followed with 19% (32,885 individuals).

Between 2023 and 2024, population distribution shifts were noted, with a 15% increase in the number of migrants in Mount Lebanon (from 88,091 to 101,178 individuals) and a 6% increase in Beirut (from 31,063 to 32,885 individuals).

KEY FIGURES



A total of 176,504 migrants were identified, representing a 10% increase compared to the number recorded in 2023, which was 160,738.



The Mount Lebanon and Beirut governorates accommodate 101,178 migrants (57% of the total) and 32,885 migrants (19%), respectively.



The largest migrant groups by nationality in Lebanon are Ethiopian (38%), Bangladeshi (21%), and Sudanese (9%). In total, the MPM identified 98 nationalities among the migrant population.



Of the total migrant population, 85,245 individuals (48%) are “live-out” migrants, 85,275 (48%) are “live-in” migrants, and 5,984 (4%) have unknown living arrangements.



Females make up 70% of the migrant population, while males comprise 30%. The female-to-male ratio varies by nationality: 99% of Filipinos and 98% of Ethiopians are female, compared to 9% of Sudanese and 7% of Egyptians.

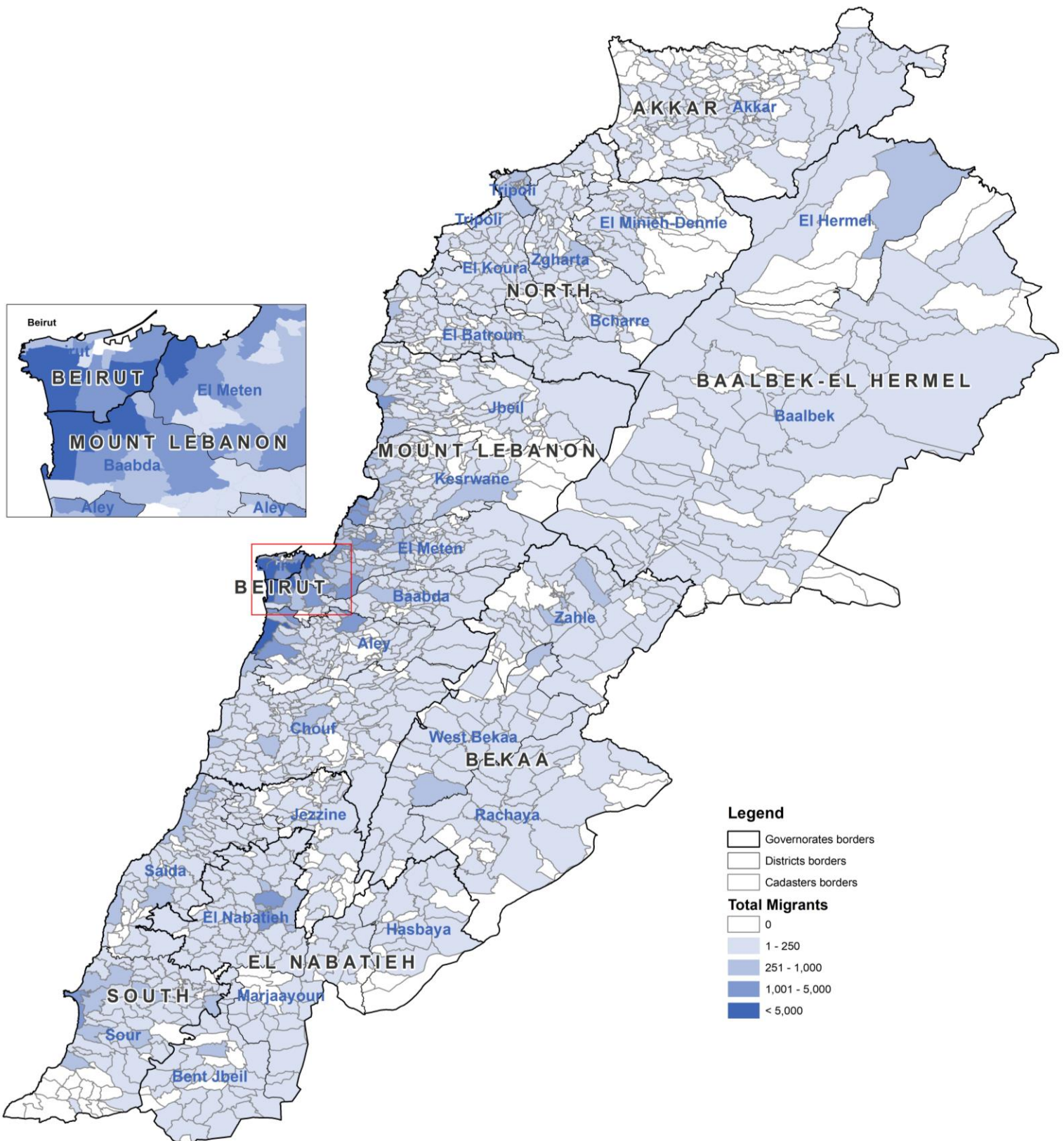


The MPM exercise covered 2,153 neighbourhoods across 1,460 cadasters, 22 districts, and seven governorates in Lebanon.



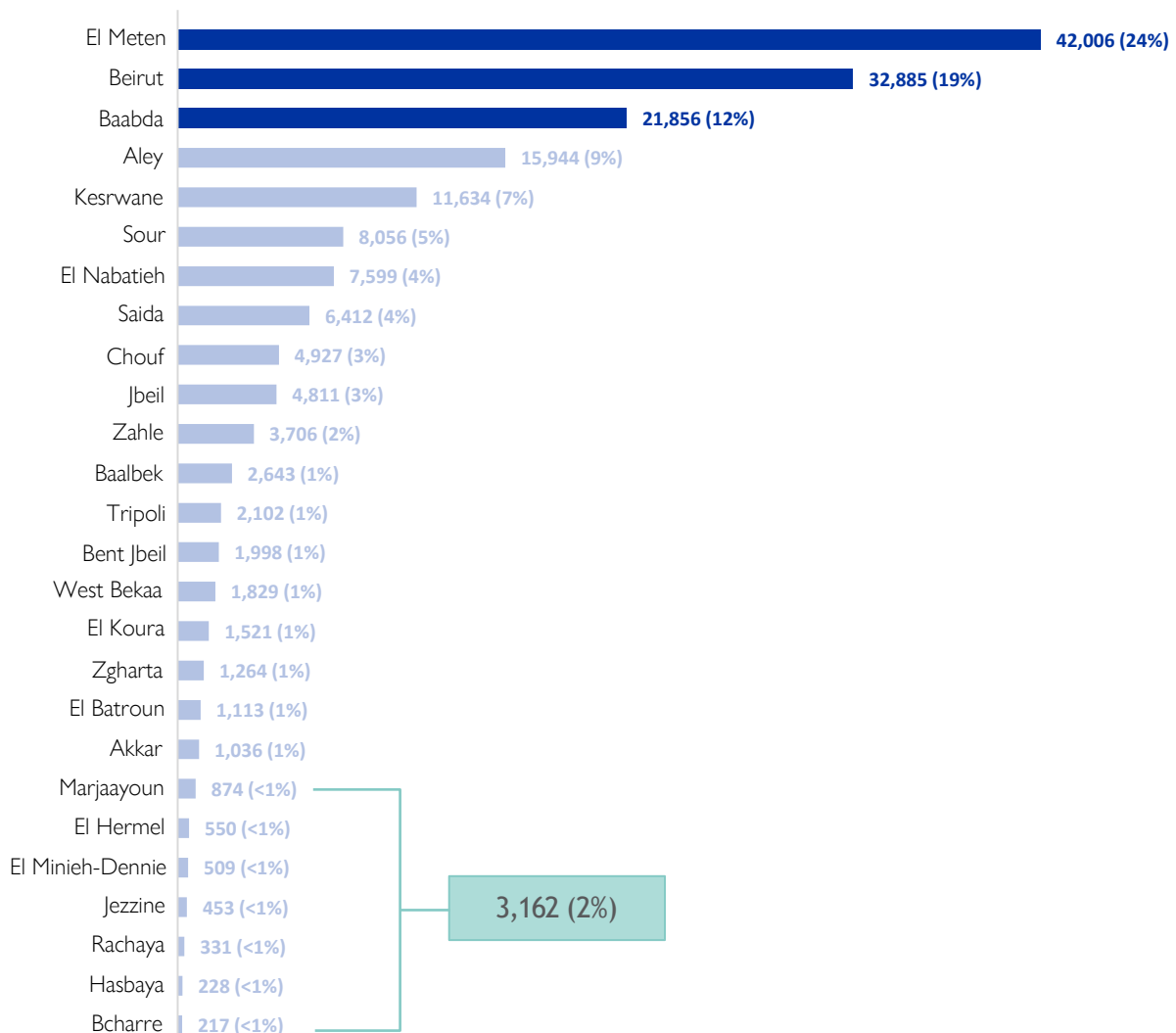
Between May and July 2024, 2,736 key informants were interviewed, including 10 recruitment agencies, 133 migrant community representatives, 1,191 neighbourhood focal points such as store owners, workers, and residents, and 1,345 government officials, such as mukhtars, municipality officials and mayors.

Map 1: Migrant presence in Lebanon by cadaster



Note: 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.

Figure 1: Distribution of migrants in Lebanon by district



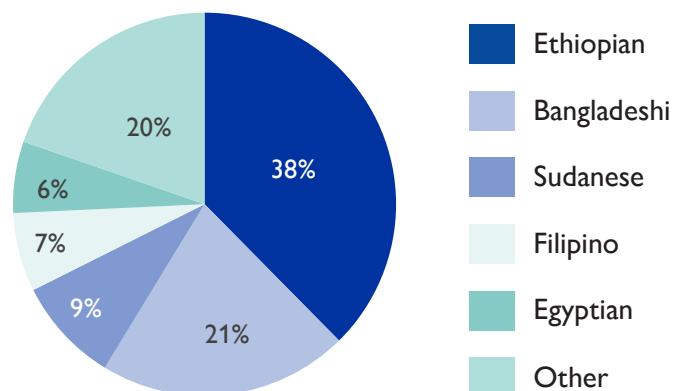
The majority of migrants in Lebanon reside in urban areas, with approximately 76% (134,280 individuals) living in just 100 out of the 1,609 cadasters. Of these 100 cadasters, 47 are in the densely populated districts of El Meten, Beirut, and Baabda, collectively hosting around 89,173 migrants.

NATIONALITIES

The majority of migrants in Lebanon come from five countries: Ethiopia (38% or 66,379 individuals), Bangladesh (21% or 37,258 individuals), Sudan (9% or 15,692 individuals), the Philippines (7% or 11,745 individuals), and Egypt (6% or 10,639 individuals). These nationalities make up the largest groups within the migrant population. In total, the MPM identified 98 different nationalities among migrants in Lebanon.

There has been a significant increase in the number of migrants from Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, Philippines, Kenya, and Sri Lanka. Conversely, there has been a notable decrease in the migrant populations from Egypt, Turkey, and Iraq.

Figure 2: Percentage of migrants by nationality

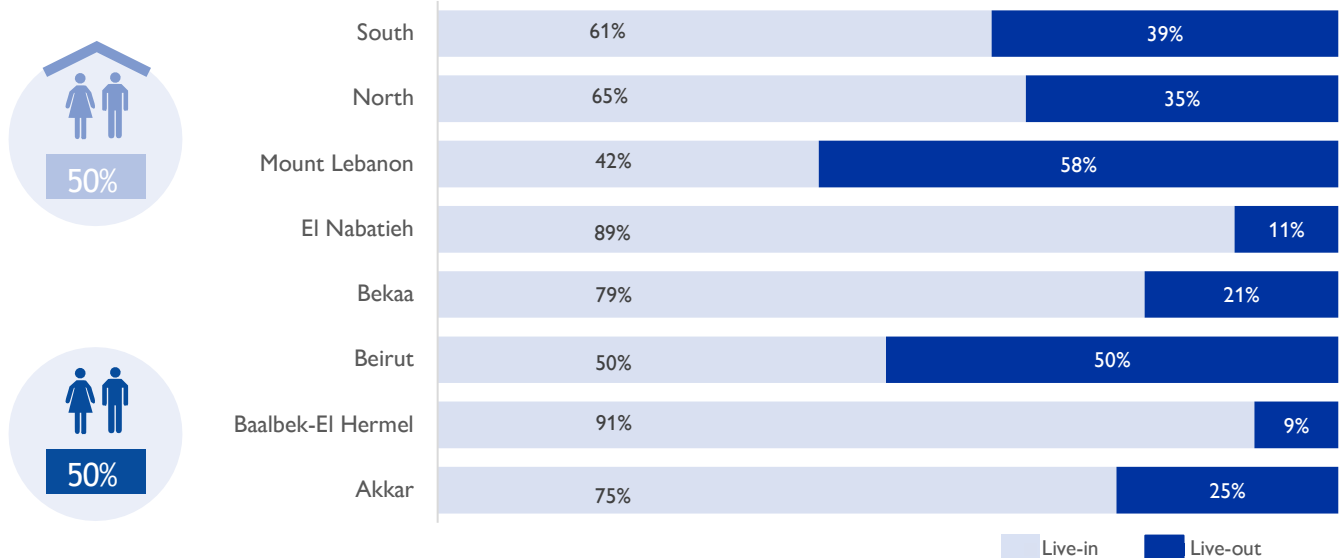


LIVING ARRANGEMENTS (“LIVE-IN” AND “LIVE-OUT”)

Among the migrants whose living arrangements were identified, 170,597 (97%) were categorized as either “live-in” or “live-out”. Of these, 85,275 (50%) were “live-in,” and 85,322 migrants (50%) were “live-out.”

Mount Lebanon and Beirut had the highest percentages of “live-out” migrants, with 58% and 50% respectively, while the other governorates primarily housed “live-in” migrants. Nearly all (99%) “live-in” migrants were women, while 59% of “live-out” migrants were men.

Figure 3: Living arrangements by governorate



SEX AND AGE DISAGGREGATED DATA

Females make up 70% of the migrant population, totaling 122,975 individuals. Males represent 30%, accounting for 53,529 individuals.

Figure 4: Sex disaggregation by governorate

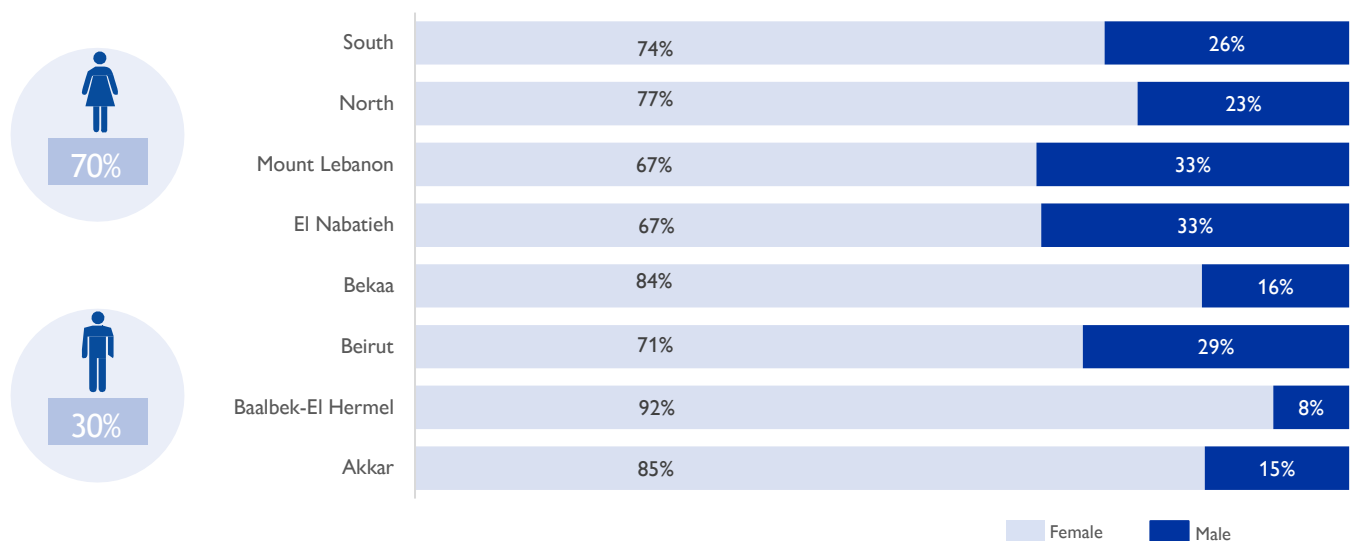


Figure 5: Percentage of children and adults

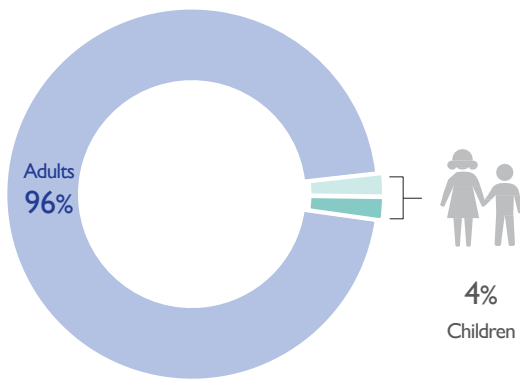


Figure 6: Percentage of children by governorate

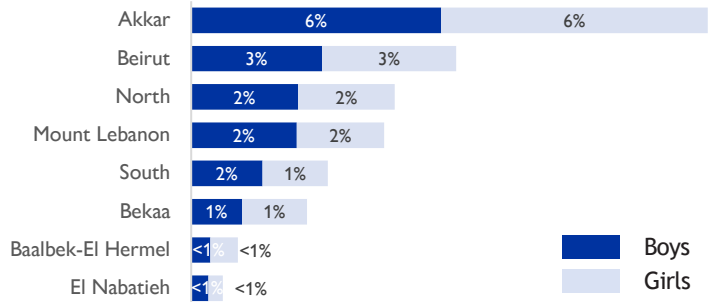
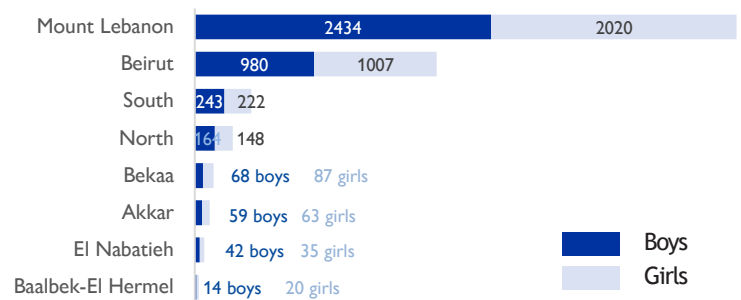
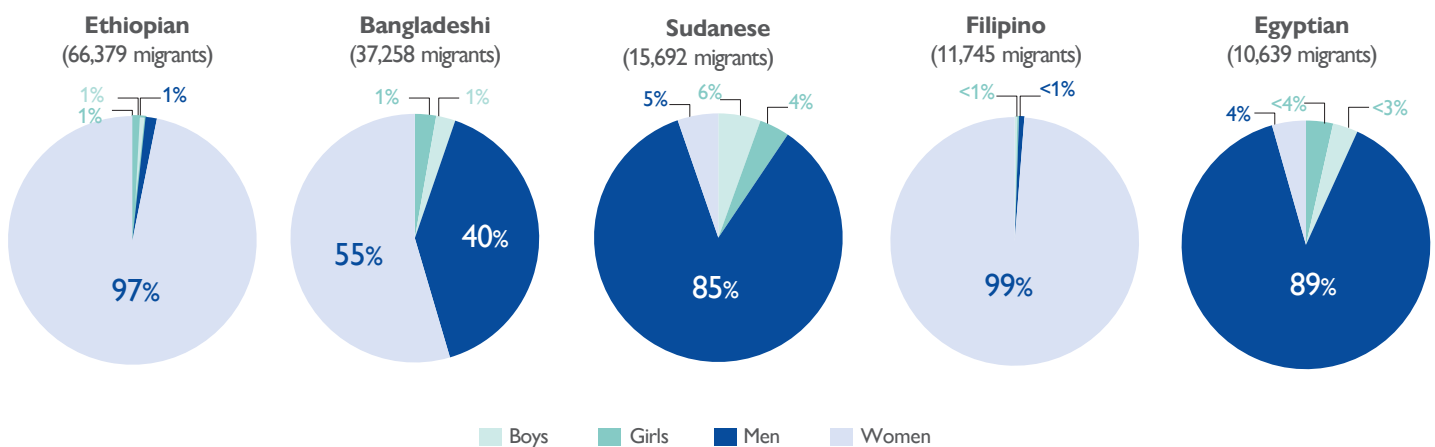


Figure 7: Number of children by governorate



Approximately 4% of the overall migrant population (7,606 individuals) are children. Among them, there are 3,602 girls and 4,004 boys, with the largest number living in Mount Lebanon. However, the proportion of children among migrants varies across different governorates, with South, North, and Bekaa governorates having a higher proportion of children compared to the other five governorates.

Figure 8: Sex and age distribution across the top five nationalities



ANNEX

METHODOLOGY

The MPM assessment in Lebanon used IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Mobility Tracking component methodology. It updated findings from previous MPM assessments conducted in 2021, 2022 and 2023, focusing on data related to migrants' locations, numbers, countries of origin, sex, age, and living arrangements ("live-in" or "live-out").

Data collection involved interviews with key informants, conducted both remotely and in person, focusing on the neighbourhood level (admin 4) as the lower administrative unit of analysis.

OBJECTIVE

The MPM assessment aims to provide partners with evidence-based information about the presence of migrants. This information contributes to a comprehensive understanding of the migrant situation in Lebanon to enable well-informed, targeted, and coordinated responses to address their needs. The findings can serve as a baseline and supplementary source of data, allowing for comparison and cross-validation with other data sources and assessments.

DEFINITIONS

"Migrant" is defined by IOM as an umbrella term, not defined under international law, reflecting the common understanding of a person who moves away from their place of usual residence, whether within a country or across an international border, temporarily or permanently, and for various reasons. The term includes several well-defined legal categories, such as migrant workers; persons whose particular types of movement 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 (IOM, Glossary on Migration, 2019).

"Live-in migrants" refers to migrant workers who live in the same residence as their direct employer. This category mainly includes female migrant domestic workers, though some drivers, gardeners, or janitors may also be included if they live in the same house or apartment as their employer.

"Live-out migrants" refers to migrants who live outside their employer's residence. They may or may not receive payment or accommodation from their employer. Examples include doormen, concierges, and domestic workers who have separate living quarters provided by their employer.

For this exercise, "children" are defined as individuals below 18 years of age.

GEOGRAPHIC REFERENCE

The geographic reference for areas in the MPM assessment is based on the HDX geo-dataset obtained in October 2020. Adjustments were made to this dataset during MPM Rounds 1 and 2. In Round 2, a new geographic division called Admin 4 was introduced for more detailed analysis.

CHALLENGES AND LIMITATIONS

- IOM assessed 1,423 out of 1,609 cadasters (Admin 3 areas). The remaining 146 cadasters were not assessed due to lack of access in Nabatieh governorate. The number of migrants in Nabatieh Governorate in this round is based on data from Round 3.
- The key informant database from 2023 required updating and diversification, which involved extensive field research during the preparatory phase of data collection.
- Key informants provided figures based on their perception and knowledge, introducing a level of subjectivity into the data.
- Local movement restrictions posed challenges for face-to-face interviews, leading to a shift toward remote or phone interviews with some key informants to ensure data collection could continue.
- Some cadasters showed significant variations in reported values, and there were cases of high numbers of "unidentified nationals." To improve data reliability, a validation phase was conducted alongside additional assessments.
- It is likely that the migrant population estimates in this report do not fully capture migrants from OECD countries, whose reasons for migrating to Lebanon are often more varied and difficult to capture during data collection.

OVERVIEW TABLE BY DISTRICT (TOP FIVE NATIONALITIES)

Governorate	District	Total Population	Ethiopian	Bangladeshi	Sudanese	Filipino	Egyptian
Akkar	Akkar	1,036	593	103	2	47	162
Baalbek-El Hermel	Baalbek	2,643	1,974	381	10	33	43
Baalbek-El Hermel	El Hermel	550	471	40	-	-	-
Beirut	Beirut	32,885	11,029	6,176	3,867	4,212	1,292
Bekaa	Rachaya	331	247	4	-	3	-
Bekaa	West Bekaa	1,829	1,371	128	2	49	46
Bekaa	Zahle	3,706	2,209	591	25	80	325
El Nabatieh	Bent Jbeil	1,998	707	280	120	22	52
El Nabatieh	El Nabatieh	7,599	2,296	1,686	996	54	214
El Nabatieh	Hasbaya	228	147	55	-	4	-
El Nabatieh	Marjaayoun	874	323	113	30	3	59
Mount Lebanon	Aley	15,944	7,093	4,756	1,020	364	764
Mount Lebanon	Baabda	21,856	8,352	5,230	3,838	1,135	783
Mount Lebanon	Chouf	4,927	1,996	1,435	135	168	433
Mount Lebanon	El Meten	42,006	11,899	9,178	2,973	4,095	3,590
Mount Lebanon	Jbeil	4,811	1,941	1,132	536	235	428
Mount Lebanon	Kesrwane	11,634	3,262	2,841	998	650	1,038
North	Bcharre	217	170	6	-	19	4
North	El Batroun	1,113	652	122	62	86	59
North	El Koura	1,521	921	155	25	86	119
North	El Minieh-Dennie	509	376	21	1	10	53
North	Tripoli	2,102	888	165	47	102	399
North	Zgharta	1,264	645	14	1	114	28
South	Jezzine	453	269	95	-	6	42
South	Saida	6,412	2,965	1,574	570	74	631
South	Sour	8,056	3,583	977	434	94	75
Grand Total		176,504	66,379	37,258	15,692	11,745	10,639

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