DTM DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX

Project funded by the European Union

IOM LIBYA

MIGRANT REPORT ROUND 53

JUNE - JULY 2024

This publication was made possible through support provided by the European Union. The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

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This publication was issued without formal editing by IOM.

This publication was issued without IOM Publications Unit (PUB) approval for adherence to IOM's brand and style standards.

This publication was issued without IOM Research Unit (RES) endorsement.

Cover photo: Activity organised by IOM Libya with migrants to celebrate World Health Day.
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KEY FINDINGS

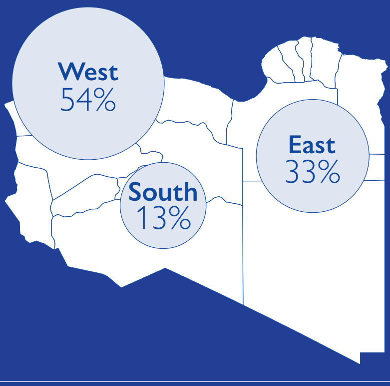
ROUND 53 (JUNE - JULY 2024)

DTM DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX

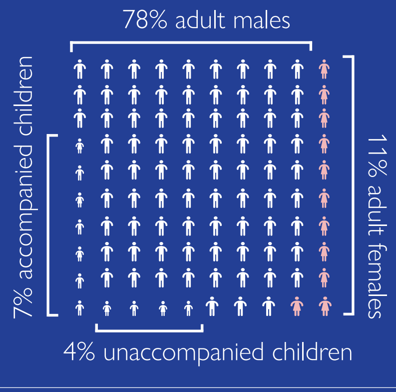
761,322

migrants were identified by DTM Libya during round 53 of data collection (June - July 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

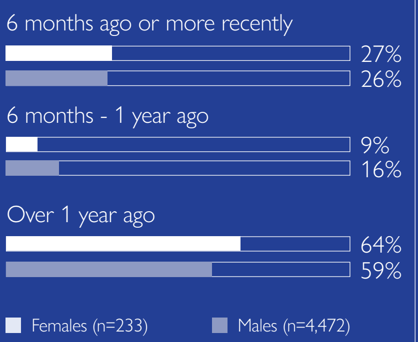


SEX & AGE



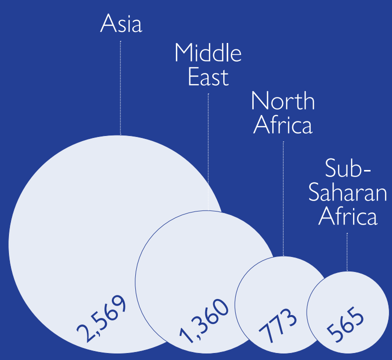
ARRIVAL IN LIBYA

(by sex)

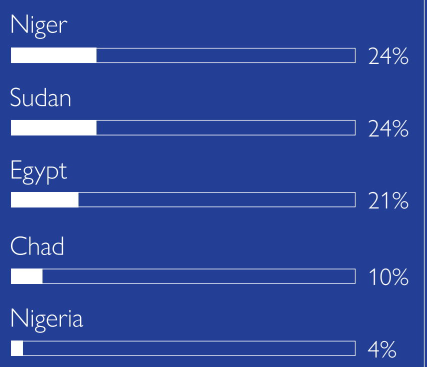


COST OF JOURNEY

(average (USD), by region of origin)



TOP 5 NATIONALITIES

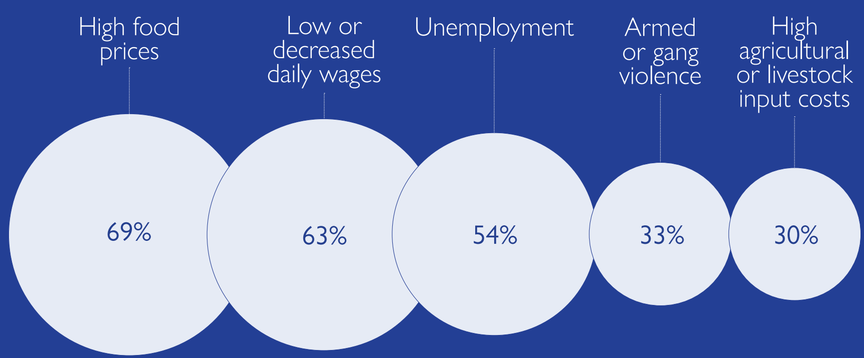


EXPERIENCES OF SHOCKS

38%

of migrants reported having experienced at least one shock (e.g. environmental, political, economic) prior to migrating to Libya. Two thirds mentioned that the shock(s) they had experienced had had a severe impact on their food consumption and income.

TOP 5 SHOCKS EXPERIENCED PRIOR TO MIGRATING TO LIBYA



IOM UN MIGRATION

OVERVIEW

IOM Libya's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) programme identified a total of 761,322 migrants from 44 nationalities in the 100 Libyan municipalities during round 53 of data collection (June - July 2024).

The number of migrants in Libya has continued to increase slightly (+5%) compared to the previous round of data collection in line with a trend that started in December 2023. The rise in the number of migrants in Libya can be at least partially linked to the continuous arrival of Sudanese nationals, particularly in Alkufra, because of the ongoing conflict in their country of origin. While the number of migrants identified by DTM Libya in July 2024 is the highest since DTM started collecting data in 2016 it remains lower than prior to the onset of conflict in 2011 when it was estimated to be around 2.5 million.

DTM Libya has also continued observing an increase in the number of migrants, particularly in eastern coastal areas and western Libya driven by livelihood opportunities in the sectors of construction, oil, trade, and agriculture in some municipalities. In addition, seasonal migrant workers arrived in municipalities of southern Libya in preparation for the date harvest in July, August and September. According to a joint FAO and UNDP study, full-time workers on farms in southern Libya (e.g. Algatroun and Sebha) are almost exclusively migrants from sub-Saharan Africa, mainly from Chad, Niger and Sudan.

▲ **22%**

of **migrants** interviewed by DTM Libya in June and July 2024 were **unemployed and actively seeking employment** compared to 21 per cent in May 2024 and 16 per cent in February 2024.

Main risks faced at work

Extreme temperatures and power outages (thereby limiting the use of active cooling methods such as fans and air conditioning) have been reported throughout Libya during the reporting period. Hot temperatures are a significant challenge in the daily life of migrants (and Libyans) and an occupational safety and health hazard for outdoor workers, and particularly for those involved in physically demanding work as is the case of agricultural and construction labourers.

Migrants interviewed in June and July by DTM Libya reported that the main risks they faced at work were related to a lack of job security and

SITUATION IN ALKUFRA

The largely desertic and sparsely populated area of Alkufra is the main entry point for migrants, including refugees, coming from Sudan and Chad to Libya. While local authorities have been assisting newly arrived Sudanese nationals crossing into Libya following the onset of conflict in their country of origin, local services are being stretched to their limit.

At the same time, humanitarian needs are increasing. For example, a third of migrants interviewed in Alkufra reported that hunger or thirst was one of the three main issues they faced compared to 18 per cent of migrants surveyed elsewhere in Libya. The prices of essential food and non-food items in the region Alkufra remained the most expensive of all Libya in June and July, according to WFP.

Overall, a greater proportion of migrants interviewed by DTM in the municipality of Alkufra in June and July 2024 stated having limited or no access to healthcare services (95%) compared to migrants surveyed elsewhere (73%).

Field reports also indicate that migrants in Alkufra are facing security concerns and economic difficulties, including job scarcity. For instance, during the reporting period, the percentage of migrants unemployed and actively seeking work in the municipality of Alkufra (62%) was nearly three times that of migrants surveyed elsewhere in Libya (21%). In parallel, the extreme heat in the region represents an additional challenge for migrants waiting at work recruitment points. In addition, a higher percentage of migrants surveyed in Alkufra identified insecurity (e.g. attacks or assaults) as an issue they faced (32%) compared to migrants surveyed elsewhere (21%).

▲ **62%**

of **migrants** interviewed by DTM Libya in June and July 2024 in the municipality of Alkufra were **unemployed and actively seeking employment** compared to 21 per cent of migrants interviewed in other locations.

▲ **34%**

of **migrants** interviewed by DTM Libya in June and July 2024 in the municipality of Alkufra identified **hunger and thirst** as **one of the three main issues** they faced in Libya compared to 18 per cent of migrants interviewed in other locations.

*IOM defines migrants as individuals having 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 (see also 'methodology' section).

being paid less than agreed with their employer. A greater proportion of construction workers mentioned the issues of a lack of job security and being paid less than agreed compared to others (Fig 1) while a higher percentage of agricultural workers stated that verbal abuse and delays receiving wages was a problem they faced at work.

Unemployment

In line with the previous round of data collection around one in five migrants was unemployed and actively seeking employment (22%) during the reporting period. A greater proportion of female migrants (43%) continue to be unemployed compared to males (21%).

The migrant unemployment rate had previously been decreasing in 2023 and up until February 2024, after having peaked at 27 per cent in October 2022.

According to UNSMIL, during the reporting period, Libya's economic stability has deteriorated partly driven by the prolonged political deadlock.

In line with the previous round of data collection the unemployment rate was highest among migrants interviewed in Ubari (71%), Alkufra (61%) Zwara (55%) and Murzuq (52%) (Fig 2).

Migration intentions

Overall, around a third of migrants mentioned that they intend to stay in Libya, while 43 per cent stated that they have no definite intentions. A minority reported their intention to return to their country of origin (12%) or continue onwards to another country (8%). A total of 38 per cent of migrants who were employed in Libya mentioned their intention to stay in the country compared to 27 per cent of those who were unemployed.

One in seven migrants (14%) who were employed stated their intention to return to their country of origin compared to five per cent who were unemployed (5%) highlighting the circular migration patterns between Libya and countries of origin. Migration can help individuals and households diversify their livelihood options by providing access to new employment opportunities and by the same token enable them to send remittances, often on a seasonal or temporary basis.

Overall, migration intentions do not always materialize in migration outcomes because individual factors (e.g. socio-economic capital) as well as structural and contextual factors (e.g. migration policies) can limit or allow (aspiring) migrants' ability to transform their intentions into reality.

Fig 1: Main risks faced at work by employment sector
(multiple-choice question)

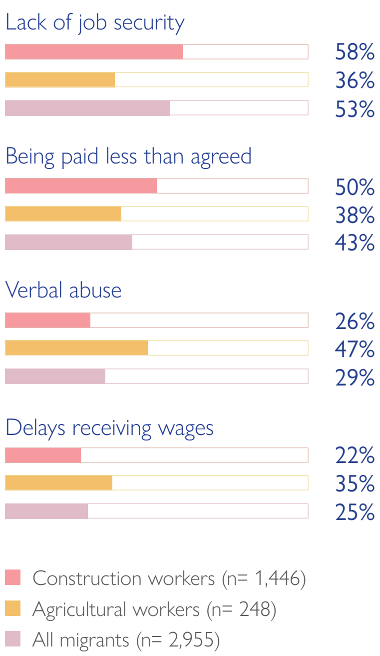
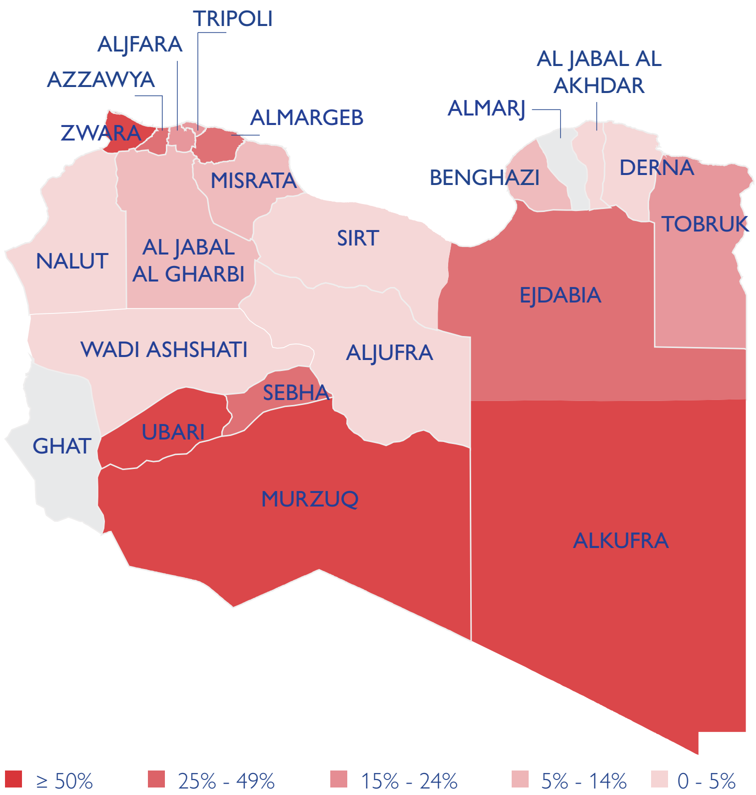


Fig 2: Percentage of migrants unemployed and actively seeking work
(by location of survey)



No data was available for Ghat and Almarj. 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.

Geographical patterns and trends

Eight in ten migrants in Libya (79%) were nationals from four neighbouring countries: Niger (24%), Sudan (24%), Egypt (21%) and Chad (10%) with a minority coming from Tunisia (1%) or Algeria (<1%) (Fig 4).

This trend highlights the influence of geographical proximity and diasporic ties that continue to shape migration patterns. Libya has been hosting large migrant populations from neighbouring Niger, Egypt, Sudan and Chad since the discovery of oil in Libya in the 1960s, when it became an appealing destination for migrants, particularly from neighbouring countries, seeking livelihood opportunities on a temporary, regular or long-term basis.

The majority of migrants identified by DTM Libya during round 53 (June - July 2024) were from sub-Saharan Africa (46%) or North Africa (46%) while a minority were from the Middle East (4%) or Asia (4%) (Fig 3).

In line with previous reports the largest migrant populations identified by DTM during round 53 of data collection were located in the coastal regions of Tripoli (15%), Misrata (11%), Benghazi (10%), Almargeb (6%), Ejdabia (6%) and Azzawya (6%) (Fig 4).

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 3: Regions of origin of migrants in Libya and percentage of migrants from each region

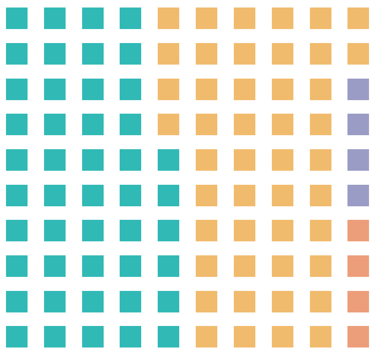
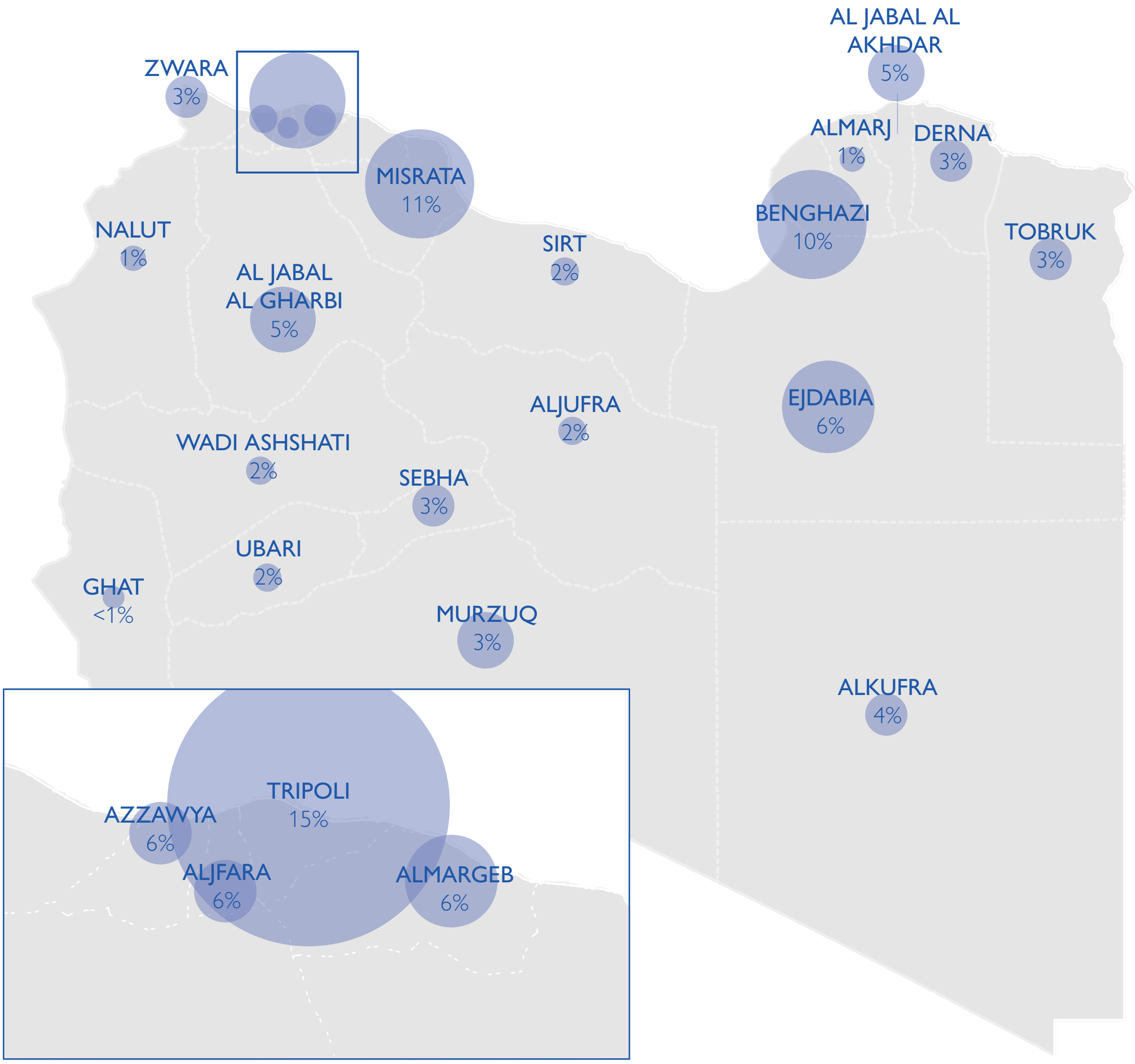


Fig 4: Number and proportion of migrants by nationality

Nationality	Number of migrants	% migrants
Niger	186,317	24%
Sudan	181,875	24%
Egypt	162,124	21%
Chad	78,311	10%
Nigeria	31,343	4%
Syrian Arab Rep.	25,380	3%
Bangladesh	20,883	3%
Mali	13,654	2%
Ghana	12,948	2%
Palestine	6,629	0.9%
Other	5,757	0.8%
Tunisia	5,155	0.7%
Pakistan	5,026	0.7%
Burkina Faso	4,175	0.5%
South Sudan	3,605	0.5%
Eritrea	2,928	0.4%
Senegal	2,910	0.4%
Côte d'Ivoire	2,046	0.3%
Mauritania	2,012	0.3%
Morocco	1,988	0.3%
Somalia	1,595	0.2%
Unknown	1,419	0.2%
Guinea	1,118	0.1%
Cameroon	1,089	0.1%
Algeria	1,035	0.1%
Total for Libya	**761,322**	**100%**

Fig 5: Percentage of migrants per region (mantika) during DTM round 53 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 regardless of employment status (Fig 6). A greater proportion of migrants from the Middle East (37%) reported having insufficient clean drinking water compared to those from Asia (16%), sub-Saharan (16%) and North Africa (12%) (Fig 7). Key informants reported that the lack of access to the public water network was the main issue faced by migrants. According to the Carnegie Endowment, Libya's water supply, sourced from groundwater, suffers from inadequate infrastructure, unsustainable extraction rates and uneven provision of services, which is made worst by climate change.

Fig 6: Migrants with insufficient access to drinking water *(by sex and employment status)*

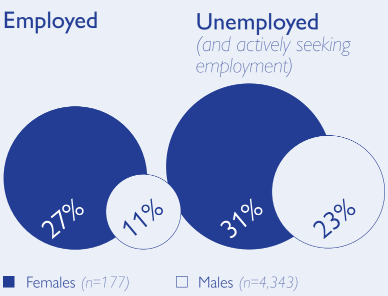
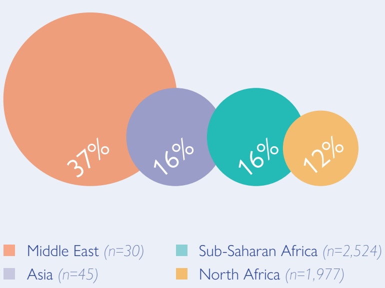


Fig 7: Migrants with insufficient access to drinking water *(by region of origin)*

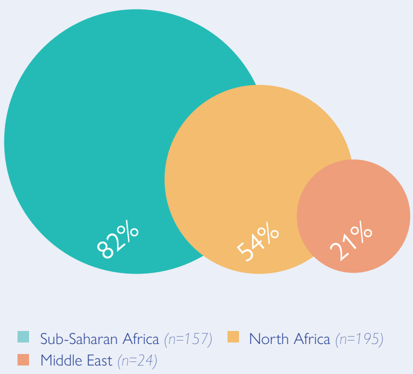


EDUCATION

Consistent with previous reports, only a minority of migrants (9%) interviewed by DTM in June and July 2024 reported having family members aged between 5 and 18 in Libya. A greater proportion of those from the Middle East (77%) were with their children in Libya compared to those from North (10%) or sub-Saharan Africa (7%). None of the migrants from Asia interviewed by DTM Libya in June or July mentioned being with their children aged 5 to 18 in Libya.

Among migrants who stated being in Libya with school-aged children, nearly two thirds (63%) 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 (82%) and North Africa (54%) compared to those from the Middle East (21%) (Fig 8). The main reasons cited included financial barriers (83%), a lack of documentation (76%) and issues with social participation (56%). The language barrier was more of an issue for migrants from sub-Saharan Africa (71%) compared to those from the Middle East (20%) or North Africa (3%).

Fig 8: Migrant children without access to school in Libya *(by region of origin)*



HEALTHCARE

Around a quarter of migrants (26%) in Libya mentioned having access to healthcare —a percentage that was greater in eastern Libya (58%) compared to those surveyed in the south (23%) or west (19%) (Fig 9). The main barrier for migrants to obtaining health services in Libya remains the unaffordability of care regardless of the sex or the region of origin of the respondent. The irregular supply of medicines and the quality of care were more significant problems for migrants surveyed in eastern and southern Libya while the inability to reach services safely was a more pressing issue for those in western Libya (Fig 10).

Fig 9: Migrants with access to healthcare in Libya *(by region)*

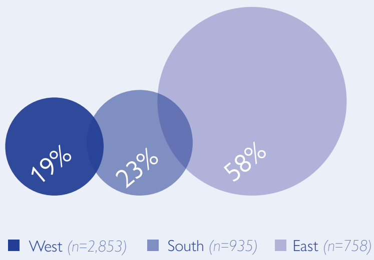
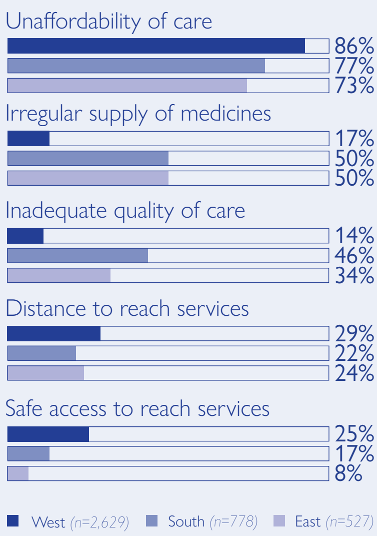


Fig 10: Barriers to accessing healthcare *(multiple-choice question, by region of origin)*



HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

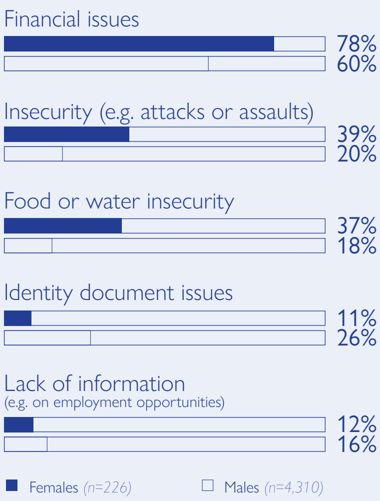
TOP DIFFICULTIES

Financial difficulties continue to be the main issue affecting the majority of migrants (61%) and compounds other issues. For example, a greater proportion of unemployed migrants reported facing difficulties in Libya (e.g. insecurity, hunger) compared to those who were employed.

Insecurity (e.g. attacks or assaults) was the second most commonly identified issue. The percentage of female migrants who stated that insecurity was one of the main difficulties they faced (39%) was nearly twice that of male migrants (20%) (Fig 11). According to ACLED, the security environment has worsened in Libya in recent months.

A study conducted by DTM Libya highlighted that both migrant men and women take precautionary measures, such as avoiding certain neighbourhoods. However, more female migrants than males mentioned being constrained in the types of jobs they can undertake, the times at which they can travel and the means of transportation they can use because of security concerns.

Fig 11: Three main difficulties faced by migrants in Libya
(by sex, multiple-choice question)



ACCOMMODATION

According to key informants, the majority of migrants live in rented accommodation for which they pay for themselves. A greater proportion of migrants in rural areas (18%) are sheltered in their workplaces than in urban areas (13%) (Fig 12).

Financial hardship and the inability to pay rent continue to be the primary issues identified by migrants as being the cause of eviction or threat thereof. A higher percentage of female migrants interviewed by DTM Libya in June and July 2024 reported having been evicted or threatened with eviction in the past three months (9%) than males (2%) (Fig 13). This is likely to be at least partially related to the higher unemployment rate among female migrants (43%) compared to males (21%) as well as the additional challenges they may face while navigating the rental housing market.

Fig 12: Type of accommodation
(based on key informants)

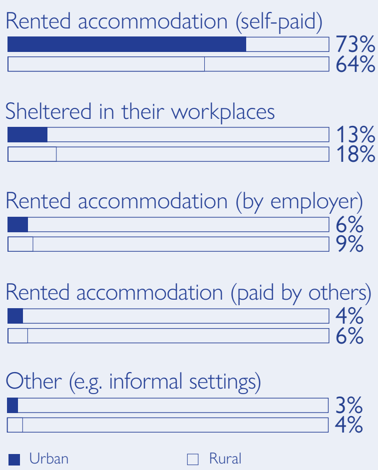


Fig 13: Migrants who have been evicted or threatened thereof
(by sex)

ACCESS TO DOCUMENTATION

Nearly nine in ten migrants (88%) in Libya mentioned not possessing a work permit. A greater proportion of migrants from Asia (59%) and the Middle East (39%) stated holding a work permit compared to those from North (20%) or sub-Saharan Africa (5%)(Fig 14). Migrants without a valid documentation, such as work permits are generally more likely to be unemployed, and when employed more prone to be working in informal arrangements (Fig 15), and are at an increased risk of facing compound vulnerabilities such as food insecurity, lack of access to essential services and clean drinking water.

A lack of access to documentation was the second most commonly cited barrier for migrant children to access education in Libya. Overall, a quarter of migrants reported that identity documents issues was one of the three main problems they faced in Libya.

Fig 14: Possession of a work permit in Libya
(by region of origin)

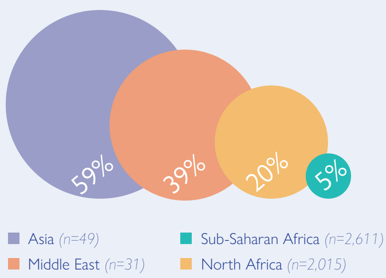


Fig 15: Types of work contract
(whether they possess a work permit or not)

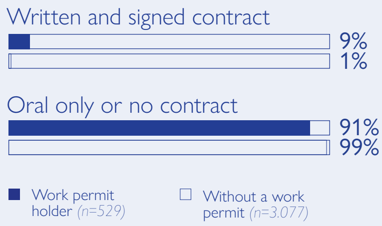
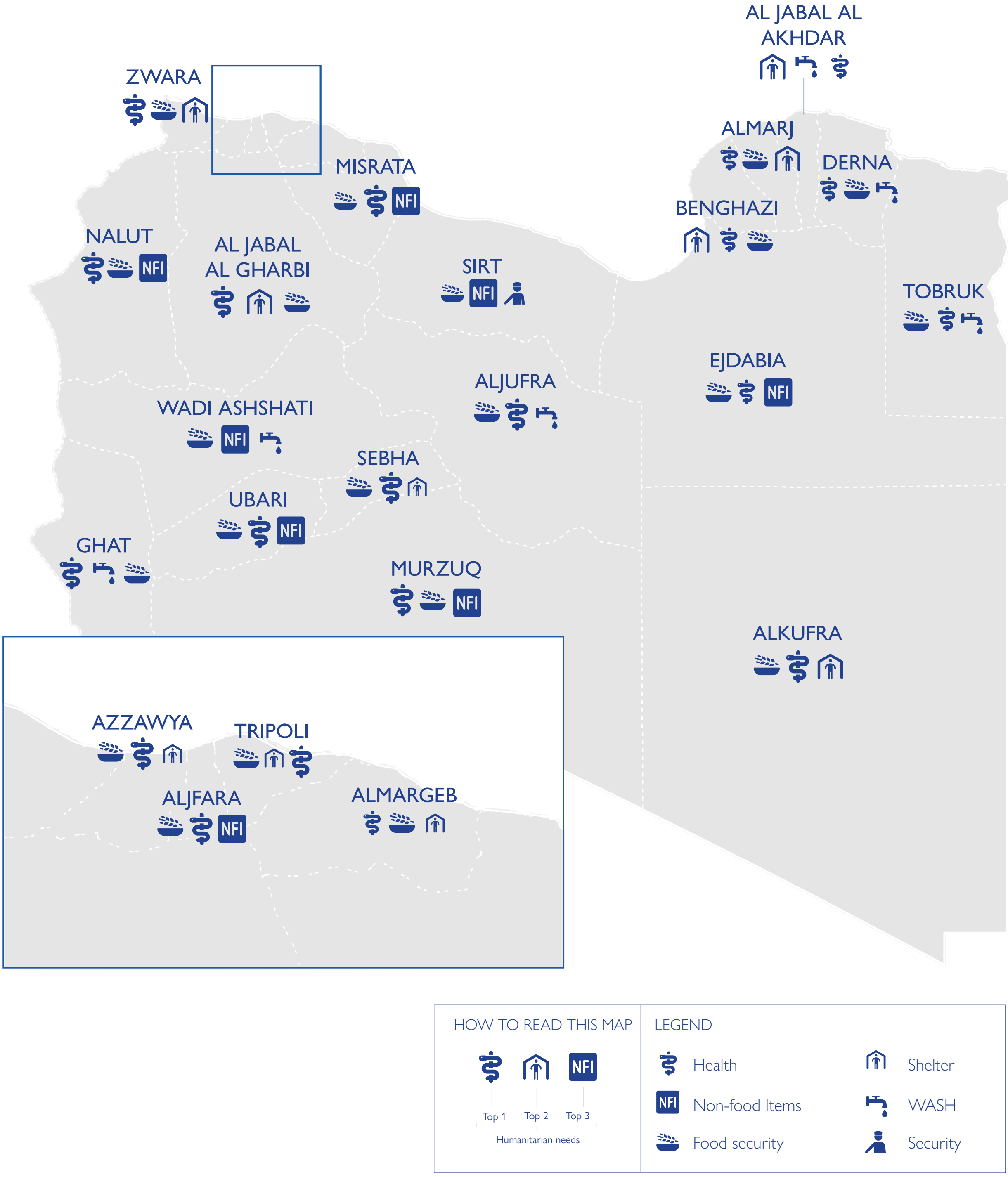


Fig 16: Humanitarian priority needs of migrants per region (mantika)



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CLIMATE CHANGE

Overall, more than nine in ten migrants who were interviewed in Libya by DTM in June and July 2024 are from countries ranked among the bottom 85 (out of 187) in the ND-GAIN index, which assesses a country's level of vulnerability to climate change (i.e. exposure, sensitivity and adaptive capacity) and level of resilience to climate disruptions (i.e. economic, governance and social readiness).

In the year prior to migrating, the most commonly cited shocks by migrants surveyed in June and July 2024 were high food prices, low or decreased daily wages and unemployment. Among those who reported having experienced at least one shock, a greater proportion of migrants who were employed as agricultural workers in their country of origin mentioned having suffered from these three shocks compared to those employed in other occupations (Fig 17). This suggests that climate-related events can be indirect migration drivers through their negative impact on local economies and workers, particularly in agriculture-dependent economies, as highlighted in an extensive IOM review and a DTM Libya study. In Niger and Chad, where more than a third of migrants in Libya are from, for example, an estimated 70 per cent of the population rely on agriculture, forestry and fishing for their food and income.

Extreme heat

One in five migrants from West and Central Africa reported having experienced an increased number of hot days or heat waves in the year prior to migrating to Libya compared to nine per cent of those from North Africa and five per cent of those from the Middle East.

Recent UNICEF analysis showed that children in West and Central Africa face the highest exposure to extremely hot days (when a day exceeds 35 degrees Celcius) and have faced the most significant increases over time between 1960 and the 2020-2024 average. Extreme heat and a lack of cooling means disrupts children's health, well-being and daily routines.

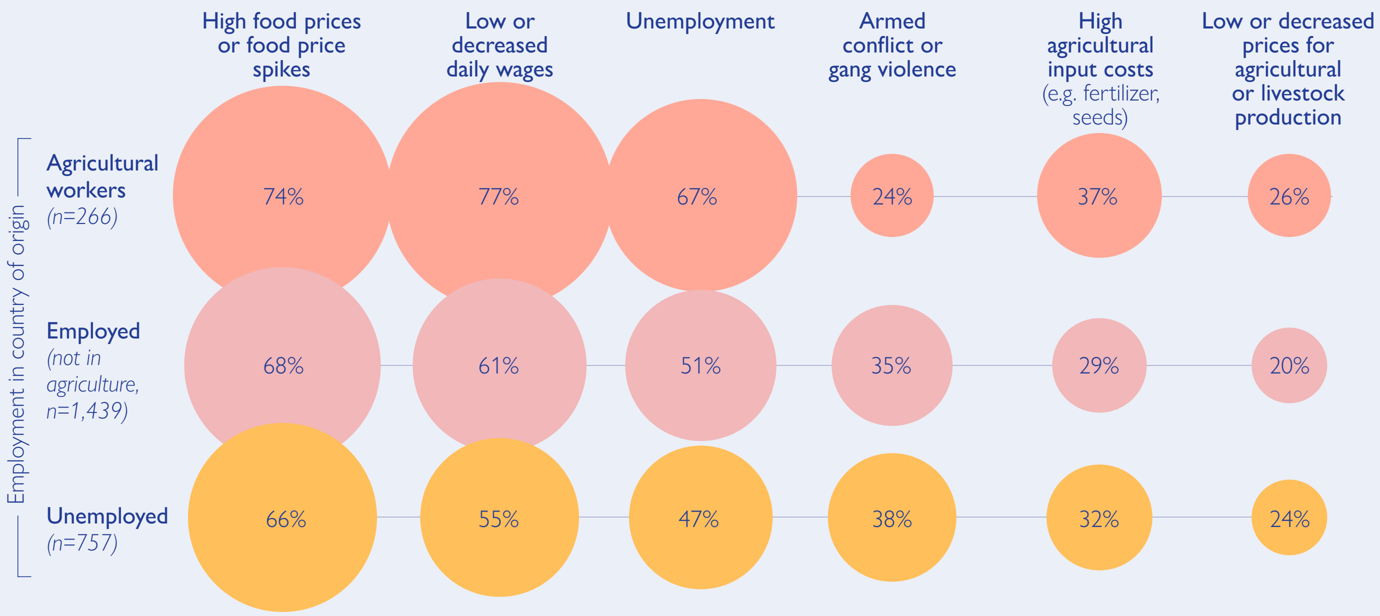
1 in 5

migrants from West and Central Africa reported having **experienced an increased number of hot days or heat waves** in the year prior to migrating to Libya.

57%

of migrants who were employed in Libya were working in the agricultural or construction sectors, in physically demanding outdoor jobs meaning that they are at a **higher risk of being adversely impacted by excessive heat** due to the inability to take breaks or the lack of cooling means, for example.

Fig 17: Top 6 shocks experienced in the 12 months prior to migrating to Libya
(by employment status and type of employment prior to departing Libya, multiple-choice question)



LABOUR MARKET

TOP OCCUPATIONS

Overall, the majority of migrants (83%) interviewed by DTM Libya mentioned having migrated to Libya for economic reasons (e.g. insufficient income or lack of job opportunities in the country of origin) and were employed (77%) in Libya. However, a greater proportion of male migrants both reported having migrated to Libya for economic reasons (85%) and being employed in Libya (79%) compared to female migrants (43% and 40%, respectively).

Female migrants were primarily employed as cleaner or domestic worker (62%), sales worker (e.g. supermarket cashier, store clerk) (11%) or healthcare worker (10%) (Fig 18).

Male migrants were mainly working as construction (50%), manufacturing or factory (10%) or, agricultural labourers (8%) (Fig 18).

CONTRACT TYPES

Migrants' working conditions continue to be characterized by non-standard or informal work agreements — particularly for those who do not possess a work permit (see 'access to documentation' section). The majority of migrants were employed informally — a minority of migrants surveyed in June and July 2024 (2%) mentioned being in possession of a written and signed employment contract. A greater proportion of migrants aged 20 or less stated being employed on a short term or casual basis (e.g. very short-term or on an occasional and intermittent basis) compared to other age groups (Fig 19).

Half of migrants were employed on a short-term or casual basis but a greater proportion of male migrants (50%) than females (39%) reported being employed on a short-term of casual basis.

FINDING EMPLOYMENT

Overall, a minority of migrants (5%) reported having secured employment prior to leaving their home country. A greater proportion of health care workers (35%) and agricultural labourers (15%) stated having had a job prior to leaving their country of origin compared to those employed as manufacturing or factory workers (6%), sales worker (4%), construction labourers (3%) or cleaners (1%).

Migrants aged less than 20 required the least amount of time to secure work compared to those who were in other age groups. For example, 60 per cent of those aged 20 or less took one week or less to find work compared to 30 to 36 per cent of those in other age groups.

Fig 18: Top 6 jobs
(by sex)

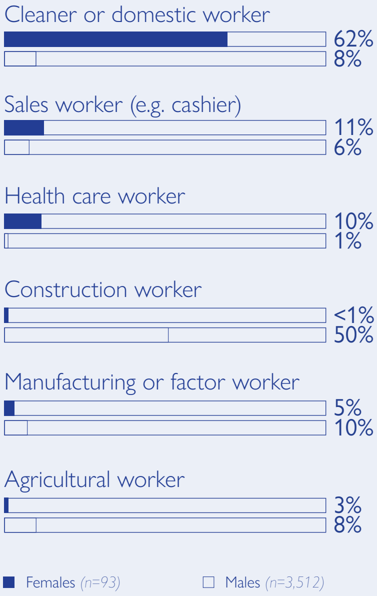


Fig 19: Percentage of migrants who were employed on a short-term or casual basis (e.g. very short-term or on an occasional and intermittent basis)
(by age group)

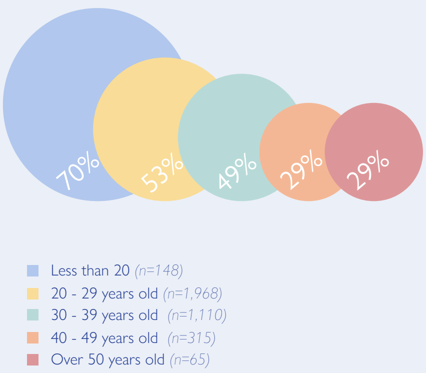
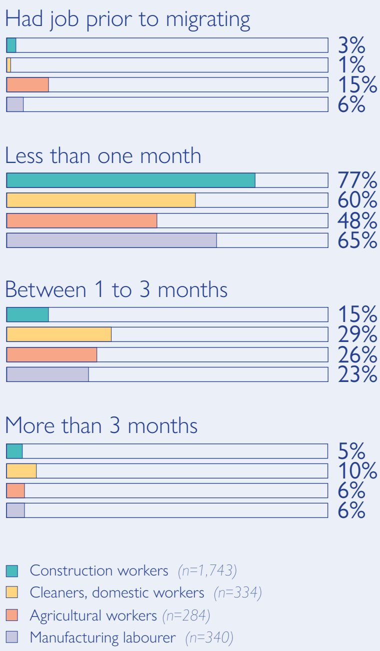


Fig 20: Time required to find employment upon arriving in Libya
(by work sector)



MIGRATION ROUTES: TRANSIT COUNTRIES

The largest shares of the 17,517 migrants who were interviewed by DTM Libya between January and July 2024 had transited through (or came from) Niger (45%), Egypt (20%), Sudan (15%) 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%).

Migrants interviewed in June and July reported that their journey from their country of origin to Libya cost on average USD 677, although the amount spent varied greatly depending on the route traveled (see 'migration routes: analysis and trends' section).

Migrants' largest expense was the cost of migration facilitators whose services were used by the majority of migrants (71%) primarily for transportation (94%) or to help them cross difficult areas along their journey (54%).

47%

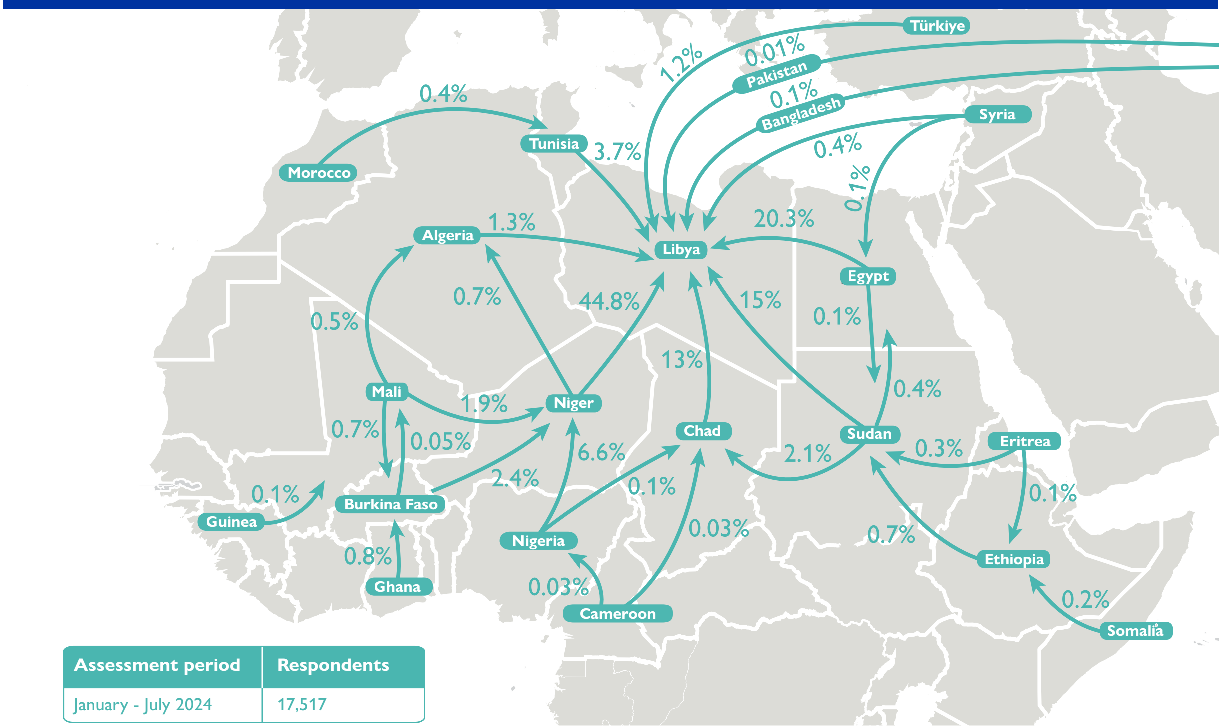
of migrants surveyed in June and July 2024 reported having **funded entirely or partially their journey** to Libya through incurring **debt**.

Indebtedness is associated with **higher levels of vulnerability** as it represents an increased challenge to repay debt after migrating while meeting their own and their family's immediate basic needs.

Fig 21: 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.

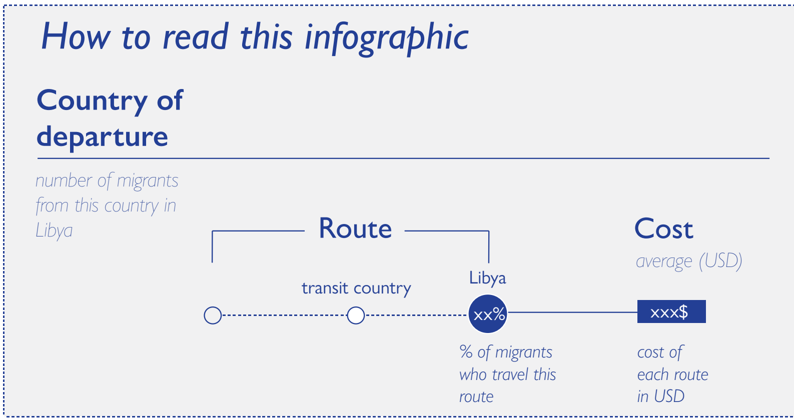


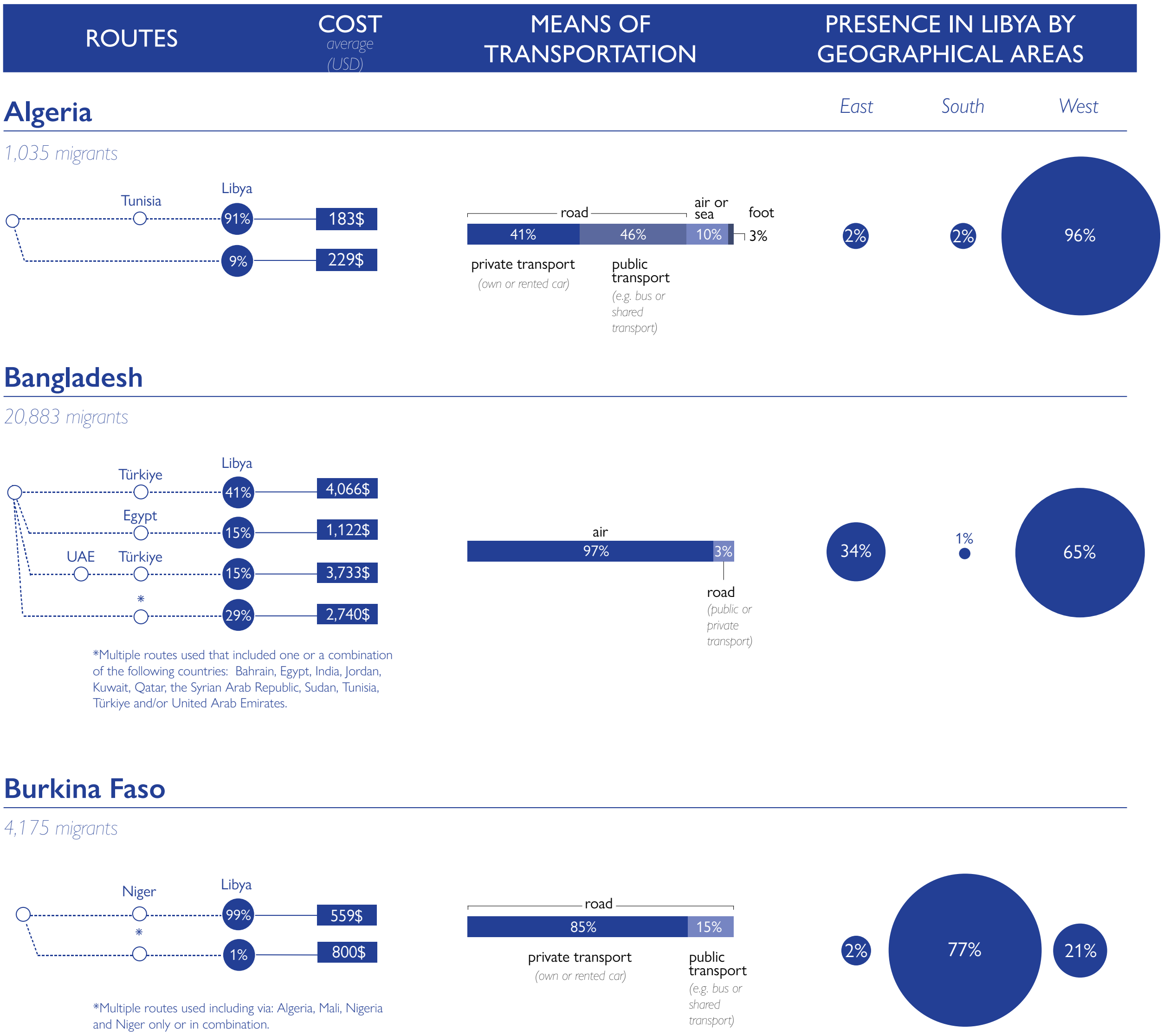
Assessment period	Respondents
January - July 2024	17,517

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

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 - July 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

Chad

78,311 migrants

Route	Libya	Cost
Direct	99%	501$
Niger	1%	530$

road: 77% private transport; 22% public transport
Air or foot: 1%

East	South	West
9%	9%	82%

Egypt

162,124 migrants

Route	Libya	Cost
Direct	99%	991$
*	<1%	1,592$

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

road: 41% private transport *(own or rented car)*; 20% public transport *(e.g. bus or shared transport)*
air: 35%
foot: 4%

East	South	West
36%	5%	59%

Mali

13,654 migrants

Route	Libya	Cost
Niger	63%	567$
Burkina Faso, Niger	20%	648$
Algeria	16%	680$
*	1%	3,200$

*Multiple routes used including via one or a combination of the following countries: Burkina Faso, Chad, Niger and/or Nigeria.

road: 80% private transport *(own or rented car)*; 19% public transport *(e.g. bus or shared transport)*
air: <1%

East	South	West
2%	63%	35%

Niger

186,317 migrants

Route	Libya	Cost
Direct	96%	472$
Algeria	2%	415$
Chad	1%	711$
*	1%	702$

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

road: 72% private transport *(own or rented car)*; 27% public transport *(e.g. bus or shared transport)*
Air or foot: 1%

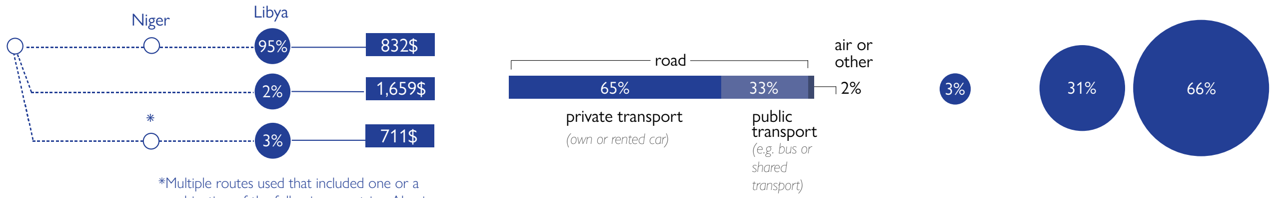
East	South	West
1%	33%	66%

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

East *South* *West*

Nigeria

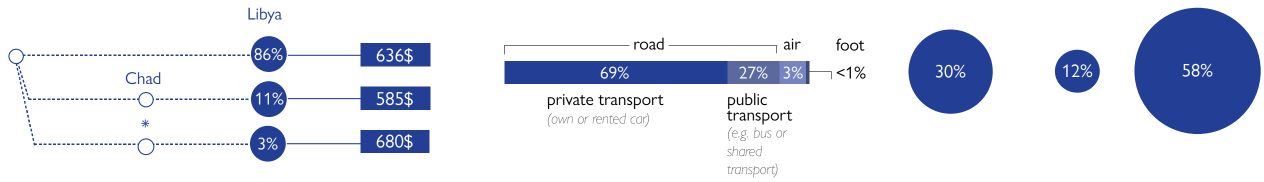
31,343 migrants



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

Sudan

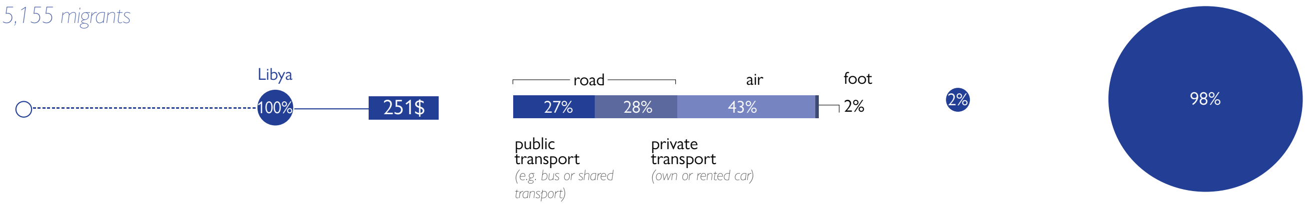
181,875 migrants



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

Tunisia

5,155 migrants



REGIONAL ANALYSIS: DISTRIBUTION

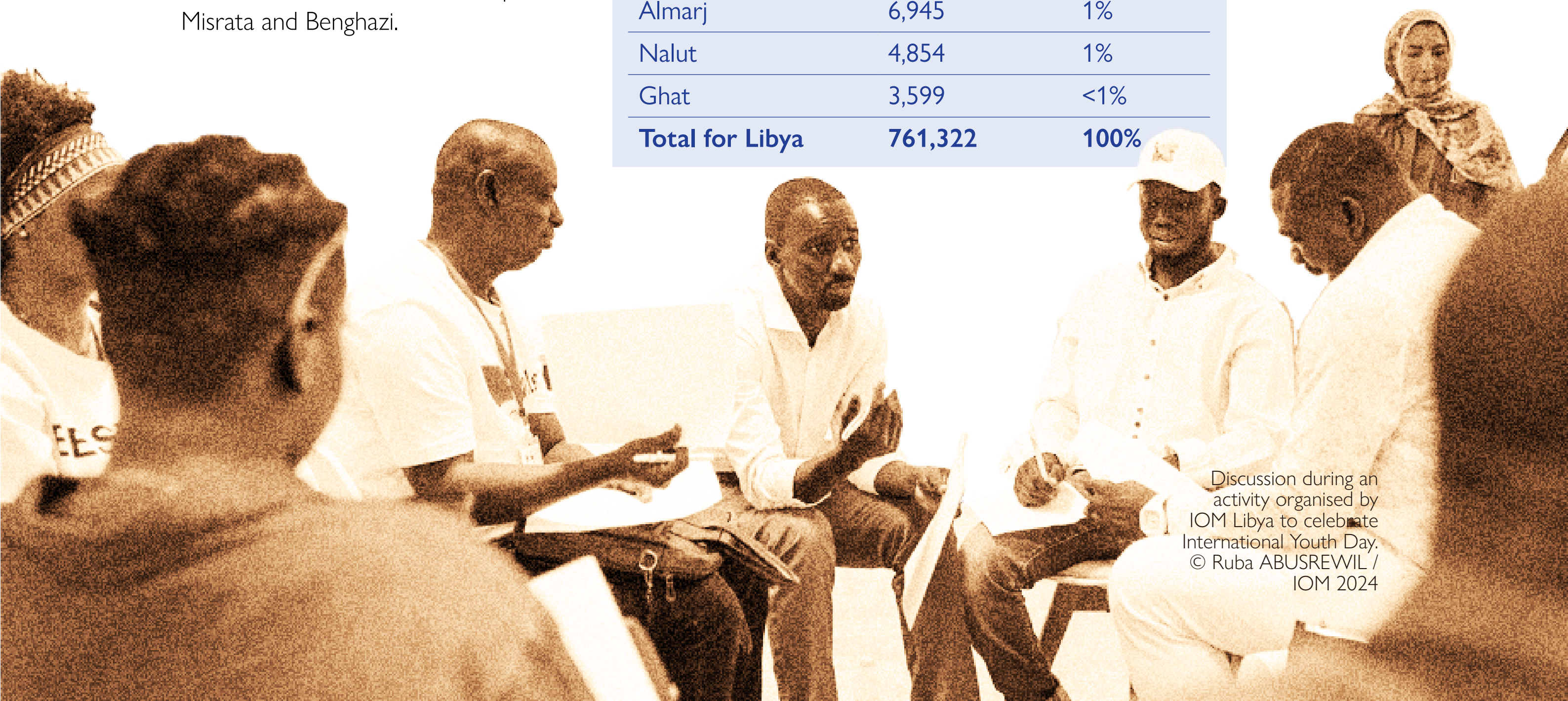
In line with the previous round of data collection, key informant interviews conducted by DTM Libya between June and July 2024 revealed that over half of migrants were located in the west (54% or 415,081 individuals), while a minority were in the east (33% or 250,027 individuals) or the south (13% or 96,214 individuals).

Consistent with previous reports, more than half of migrants (55%) were located in the coastal regions of Tripoli (15%), Benghazi (11%), Misrata (10%), Almargeb (6%), Ejdabia (6%) and Azzawya (6%) (Fig 22).

Based on key informants interviewed in June and July 2024 nearly three quarters of migrants (73%) lived in urban settings while around a quarter (27%) 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 22: Migrants in Libya by region (mantika) (based on mobility tracking data)

Mantika (region)	Number of migrants	% by region
Tripoli	115,334	15%
Misrata	82,189	11%
Benghazi	79,132	10%
Almargeb	49,093	6%
Ejdabia	48,285	6%
Azzawya	48,029	6%
Aljfara	42,230	6%
Al Jabal Al Gharbi	36,573	5%
Al Jabal Al Akhdar	35,300	5%
Alkufra	33,650	4%
Murzuq	26,623	3%
Tobruk	25,780	3%
Zwara	23,577	3%
Sebha	22,752	3%
Derna	20,935	3%
Ubari	17,100	2%
Wadi Ashshati	14,790	2%
Sirt	13,202	2%
Aljufra	11,350	1%
Almarj	6,945	1%
Nalut	4,854	1%
Ghat	3,599	<1%
Total for Libya	**761,322**	**100%**



Discussion during an activity organised by IOM Libya to celebrate International Youth Day. © Ruba ABUSREWIL / 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 such as Murzuq, Sebha, Ubari and Wadi Ashshati. 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 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, Tobruk and Benghazi.

Fig 23: Percentage that migrants represent in each region of Libya by country of origin

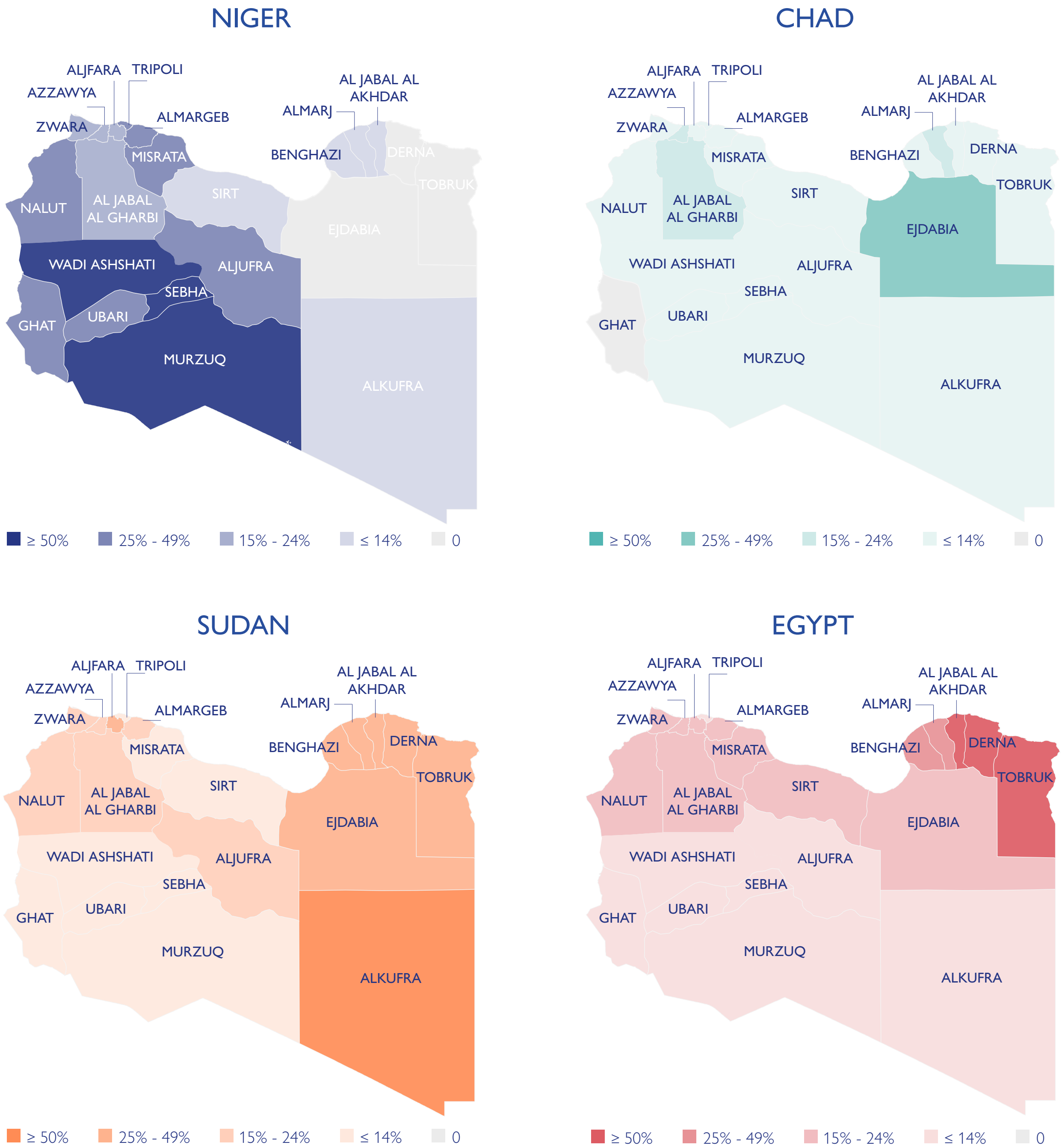


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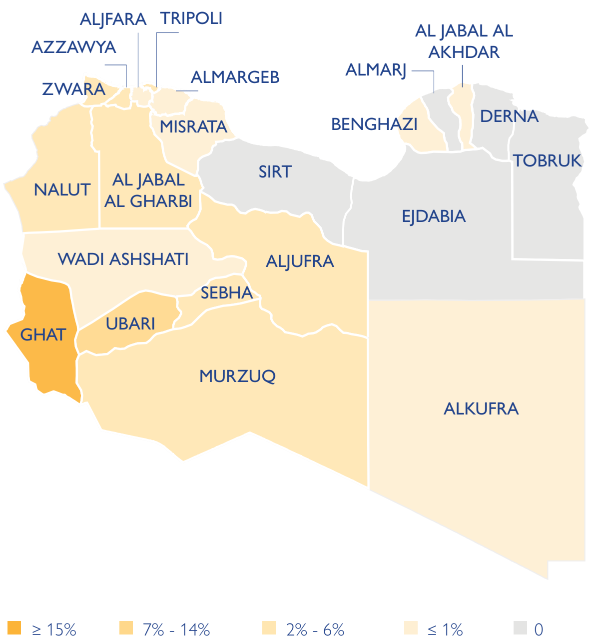
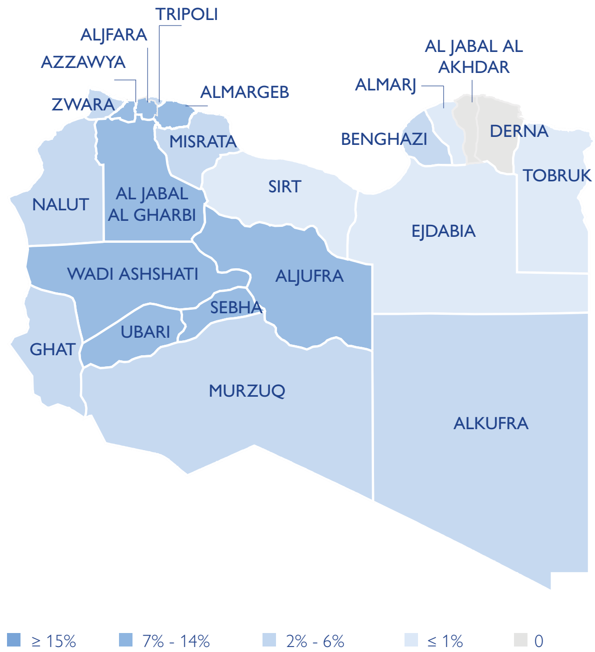
Fig 24: Percentage that migrants from Mali, Nigeria, the Syrian Arab Republic and Bangladesh represent in each region of Libya

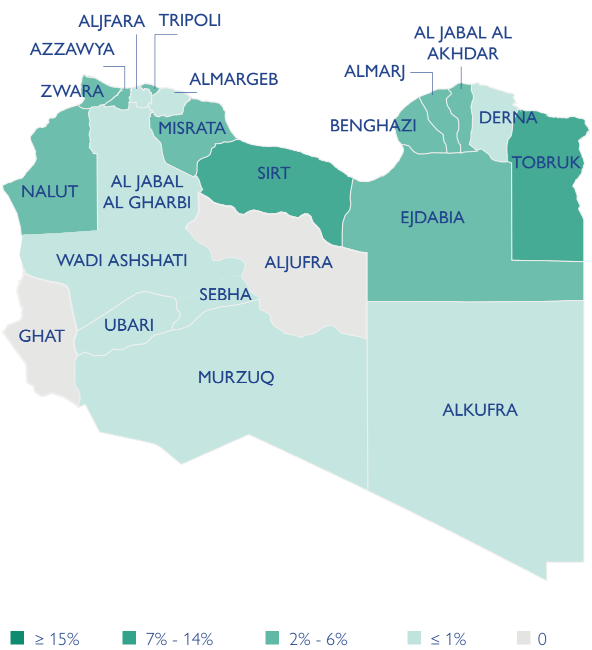
MALI



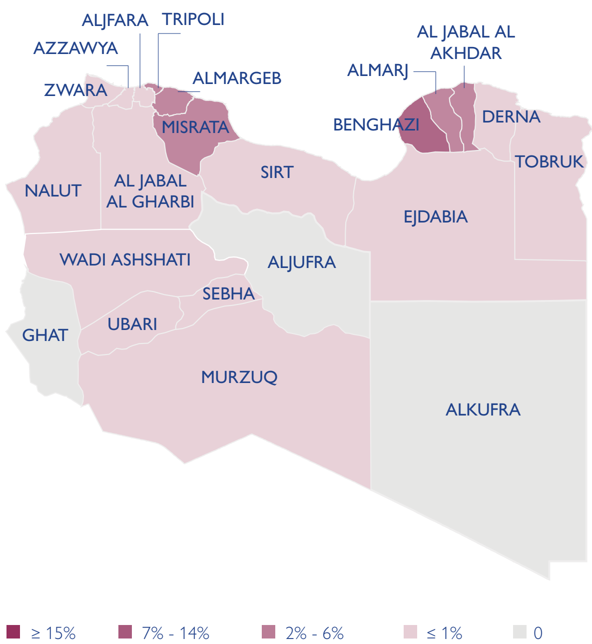
NIGERIA



SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC



BANGLADESH



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REGION OF ORIGIN: GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS

Based on key informant interviews conducted in June and July 2024, migrants from North African countries (e.g. Egypt and Sudan) account for nearly three quarters of migrants in eastern Libya (73%) while migrants from sub-Saharan African countries (such as Niger and Chad) represent the bulk of migrants in southern and western Libya (80% and 56%, 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 25).

Fig 25: 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	2,400	9%	2,625	7%	30,275	16%
	Alkufra	248	1%	6,558	17%	26,844	15%
	Almarj	565	2%	1,411	4%	4,969	3%
	Benghazi	17,848	65%	14,315	36%	46,969	26%
	Derna	215	1%	755	2%	19,965	11%
	Ejdabia	2,885	11%	12,820	33%	32,580	18%
	Tobruk	3,120	11%	760	2%	21,900	12%
Eastern Libya total		27,281	11%	39,244	16%	183,502	73%
SOUTH	Aljufra	-	-	7,615	10%	3,735	21%
	Ghat	-	-	2,601	3%	998	6%
	Murzuq	280	19%	23,167	30%	3,176	18%
	Sebha	634	43%	19,519	25%	2,599	15%
	Ubari	228	15%	12,875	17%	3,992	23%
	Wadi Ashshati	337	23%	11,523	15%	2,930	17%
Southern Libya total		1,479	2%	77,300	80%	17,430	18%
WEST	Al Jabal al Gharbi	1,024	3%	18,319	8%	17,210	11%
	Aljfara	675	2%	18,480	8%	23,024	15%
	Almargeb	1,923	6%	29,445	13%	17,725	12%
	Azzawya	1,401	5%	27,037	12%	19,591	13%
	Misrata	6,828	23%	47,879	21%	27,420	18%
	Nalut	178	1%	2,285	1%	2,378	2%
	Sirt	4,315	14%	4,179	2%	4,658	3%
	Tripoli	13,100	44%	71,629	31%	29,387	19%
	Zwara	625	2%	13,100	6%	9,852	7%
Western Libya total		30,069	7%	232,353	56%	151,245	36%
Total for Libya		**58,829**	**8%**	**348,897**	**46%**	**352,117**	**46%**

Note: 1,419 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

Overall over nine in ten migrants in Libya are from Africa, half of whom are from sub-Saharan Africa (46%).

In line with previous reports, Niger and Chad are the first and second most-represented nationality from sub-Saharan Africa in Libya (53% and 22%, respectively) (Fig 26 and 27). The number of migrants from sub-Saharan Africa (348,897 individuals) has increased slightly compared to the corresponding reporting period in 2023 (340,838 individuals, round 48, May - June 2023).

According to field reports, the cost of travel between Niger and Libya has increased due to the enforcement of greater security measures at the border. In line with these findings, DTM Niger reported that in June, while outgoing flows (from Niger to Libya) were greater overall than those incoming (from Libya to Niger) the number of migrants traveling to and from Libya (as well as within Niger) dropped compared to May. A total of 45 per cent of migrants from sub-Saharan Africa — and 80 per cent of those from West and Central Africa came from or had transited via Niger on their way to Libya.

Fig 27: Number of migrants from countries of origin in sub-Saharan Africa (top 6 nationalities)

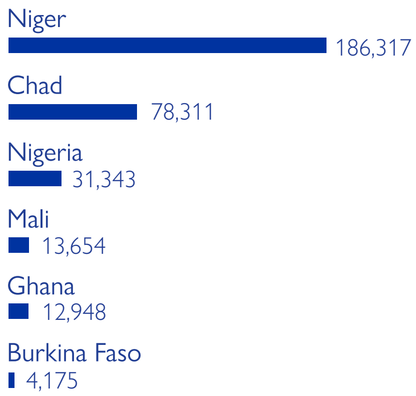
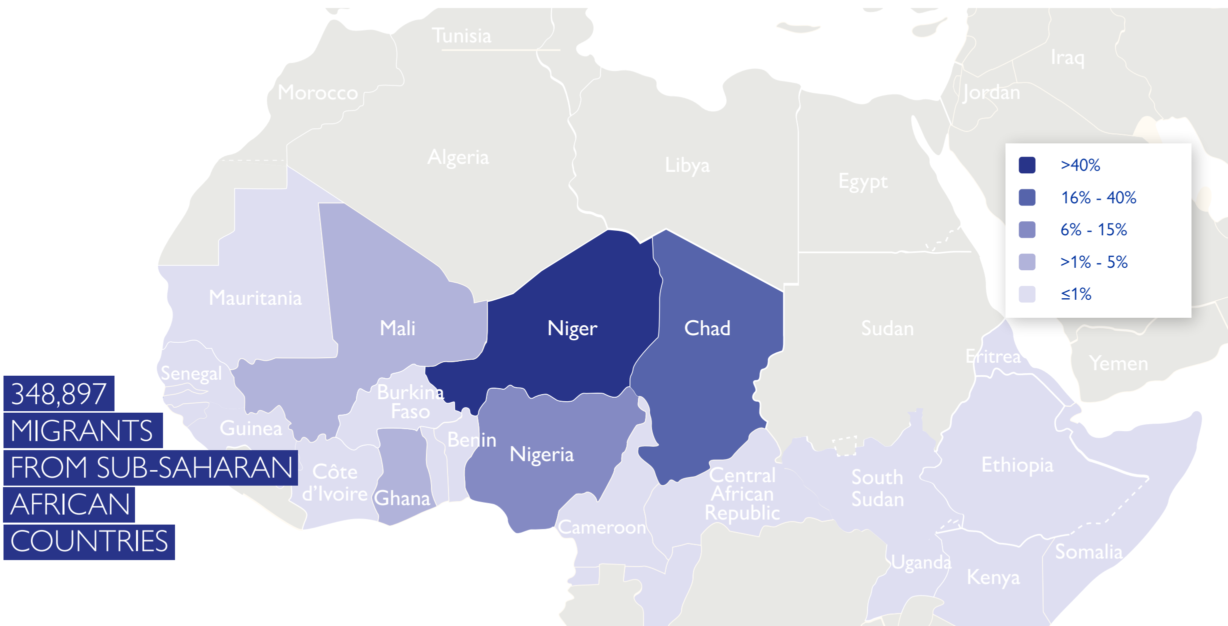


Fig 26: Percentages of migrants by country of origin for the sub-Saharan Africa region



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REGION OF ORIGIN: NORTH AFRICA

The number of North African migrants in Libya has continued to increase compared to the previous round of data collection (from 318,185 individuals in May 2024 to 352,177 individuals in July 2024).

Notably, during the reporting period, and similarly to the previous round of data collection, DTM has continued to observe an increase in the number of Sudanese arriving directly from Sudan in Alkufra, an oasis town in southeastern Libya, and, to a lesser extent, indirectly through Egypt and Chad because of the ongoing conflict in Sudan. DTM has also observed an increase in the number of Sudanese nationals in municipalities other than Alkufra highlighting that while the majority of those fleeing the conflict in Sudan arrive in Alkufra some also move to other locations including Ejdabia, Benghazi and Tripoli. Newly arrived Sudanese nationals tend to travel on less visible routes and often a night, which increases the difficulty of capturing accurate numbers, particularly given the dynamic context as well as access and security constraints.

Sudanese and Egyptian nationals are the top and second most-represented nationality from North Africa in Libya (52% and 46% respectively). Together, migrants from Tunisia, Morocco and Algeria accounted for two per cent of the total number of migrants from North Africa. Overall, 46 per cent of migrants in Libya were from North Africa.

Fig 29: Migrants from countries of origin in North Africa

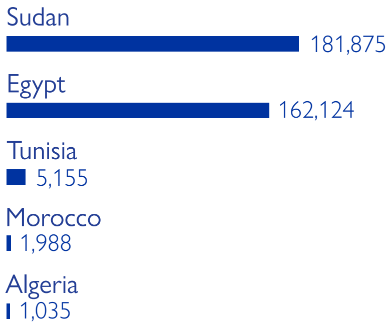
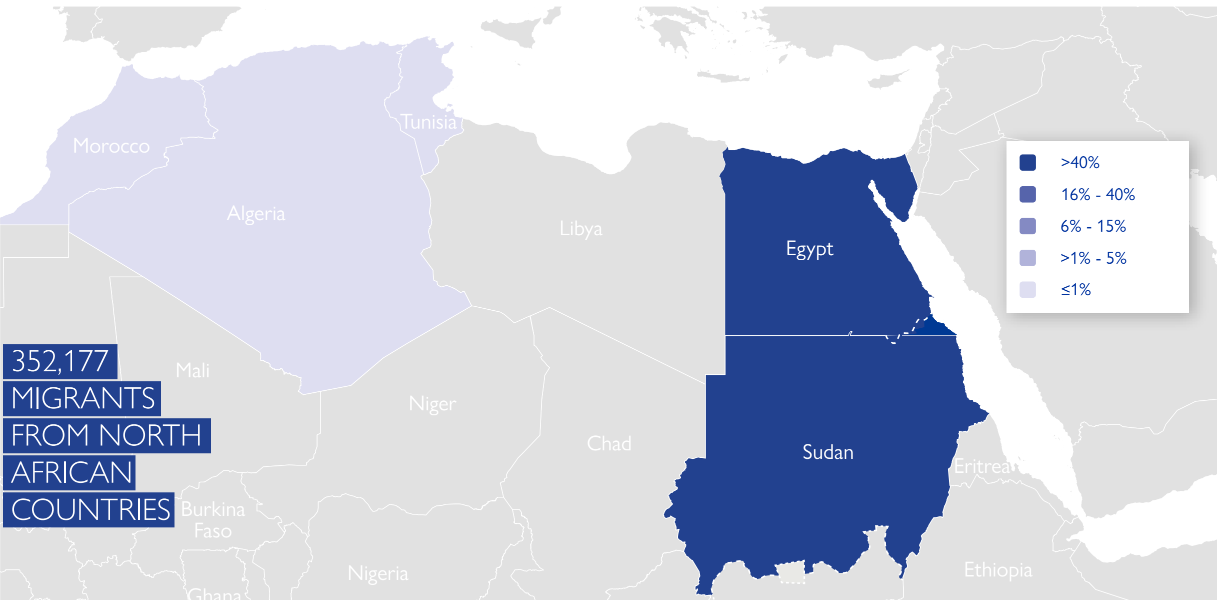


Fig 28: Percentages of migrants by country of origin for the North African region



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REGION OF ORIGIN: MIDDLE EAST AND ASIA

A minority of migrants identified during round 53 of data collection were from the Middle East (4% or 32,381 individuals) or Asia (4% or 26,448 individuals).

In line with previous reports, the majority of migrants from Asia and the Middle East were from the Syrian Arab Republic (25,380 individuals) and Bangladesh (20,883 individuals) accounting for 43 and 35 per cent of migrants (including refugees), respectively (Fig 31). Individuals from the Syrian Arab Republic and Bangladesh accounted for both three per cent of the overall migrant population in Libya — the sixth and seventh most-represented nationalities.

In addition, there were 6,629 migrants who self-identified as Palestinians (11% of all migrants from the Middle East and Asia in Libya) and 5,026 migrants from Pakistan (9%). There were 911 individuals from various other nationalities who altogether accounted for two per cent of the migrant population from the Middle East and Asia.

The majority of migrants from Asia and the Middle East (85%) arrived in Libya by plane.

Fig 31: Migrants from countries of origin in the Middle East and Asia

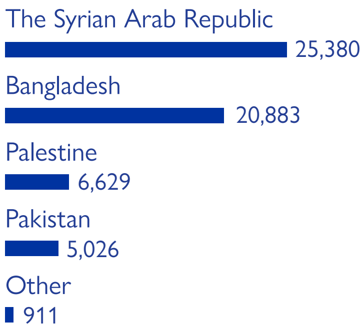
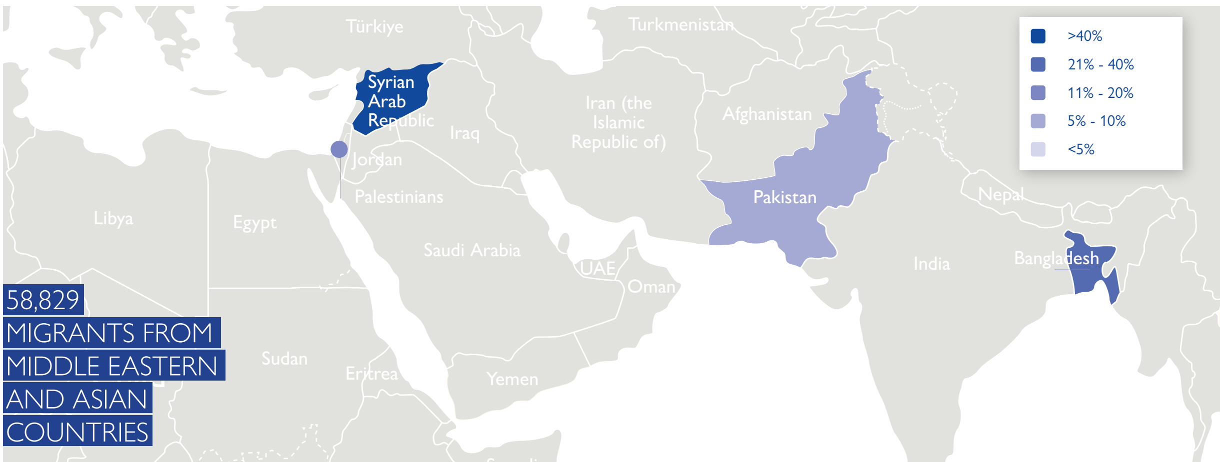


Fig 30: Percentages of migrants by country of origin for the Middle East and South Asia



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CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

Arrivals in Italy and Malta

During the months of June and July 2024 a total of 12,395 migrants arrived in Italy and Malta via the Central Mediterranean Sea compared to 36,669 migrants during the corresponding period in 2023 — a 66 per cent decrease.

Overall, fewer migrants arrived in Italy and Malta via the Central Mediterranean Sea during the reporting period (12,395 individuals, June - July 2024) than during the corresponding period in the last three years (38,669 individuals in 2023, 21,957 individuals in 2022, 14,693 in 2021) as well as in 2016 (45,923 individuals) and 2017 (34,985 individuals) but more than in 2020 (9,591 individuals), 2019 (3,212 individuals) and 2018 (5,379 individuals).

Youth and adolescents interviewed by IOM in 2023 in Italy and who had traveled the Central Mediterranean Route reported having left their country of origin for a variety of reasons including to escape war and conflict (32%) and/or personal and targeted violence (30%) as well as for economic reasons (30%), because of limited access to basic services (16%) and/or slow environmental changes or sudden natural disasters (6%).

In the first quarter of 2024, two thirds of migrants who arrived in Italy had departed from Libya (66%) while one third had departed from Tunisia.

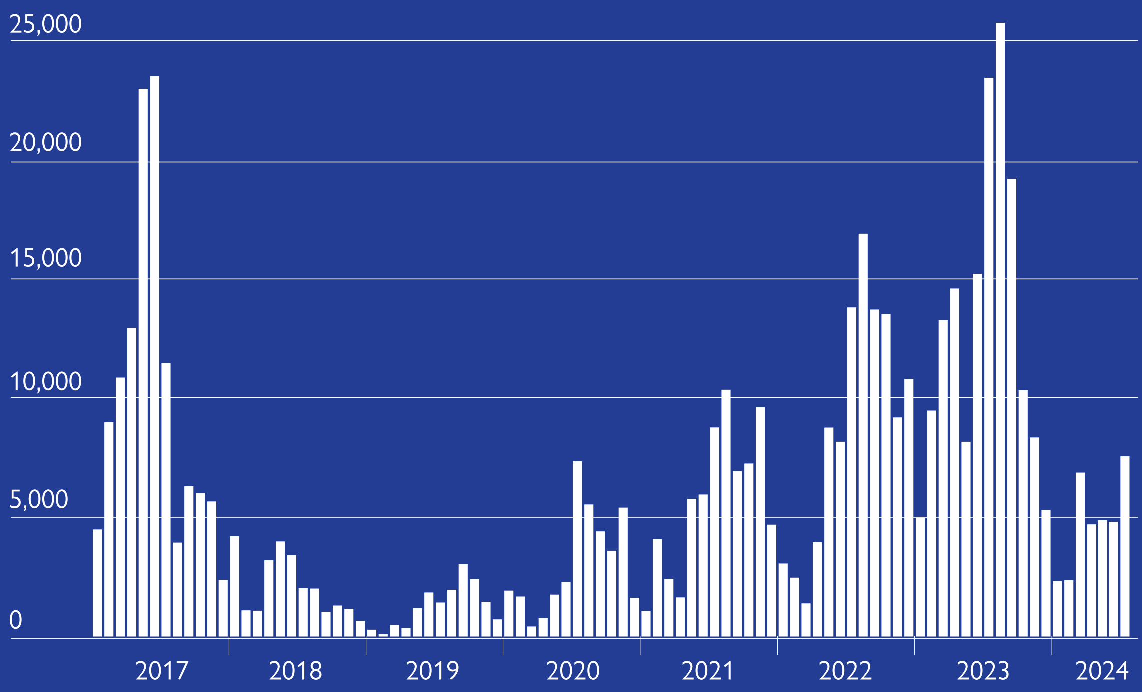
11,651

migrants were **intercepted and returned to Libya** between 1 January and 27 July 2024.

33,576

migrants **arrived by sea in Italy and Malta** between 1 January and 31 July 2024 **compared to more than twice as many during the corresponding period in 2023** (89,116 individuals).

Fig 32: Monthly number of arrivals in Italy and Malta on the Central Mediterranean route *(2017 - 2024)*



Interceptions and returns to Libyan shores

In 2024, and as of 27 July 2024, a total of 11,651 migrants who attempted the Central Mediterranean Sea crossing had been intercepted and returned to Libyan shores which is more than 2023 (9,055 individuals) but slightly fewer than in 2022 (11,947 individuals) over the corresponding period.

A weekly average of over 630 individuals were intercepted and returned to Libyan shores during the reporting period compared to over 1,020 during the corresponding period in 2023.

Fatalities at sea

During the reporting period (June - July 2024), a total of 208 deaths and disappearances were recorded on the Central Mediterranean route, which is more than three times fewer than during the same period in 2023 (797).

Overall, between January and the end of July 2024, a total of 957 deaths and disappearances were recorded, a 50 per cent decrease compared to the same period in 2023 (1,901) but a slight increase compared to 2022 (953).

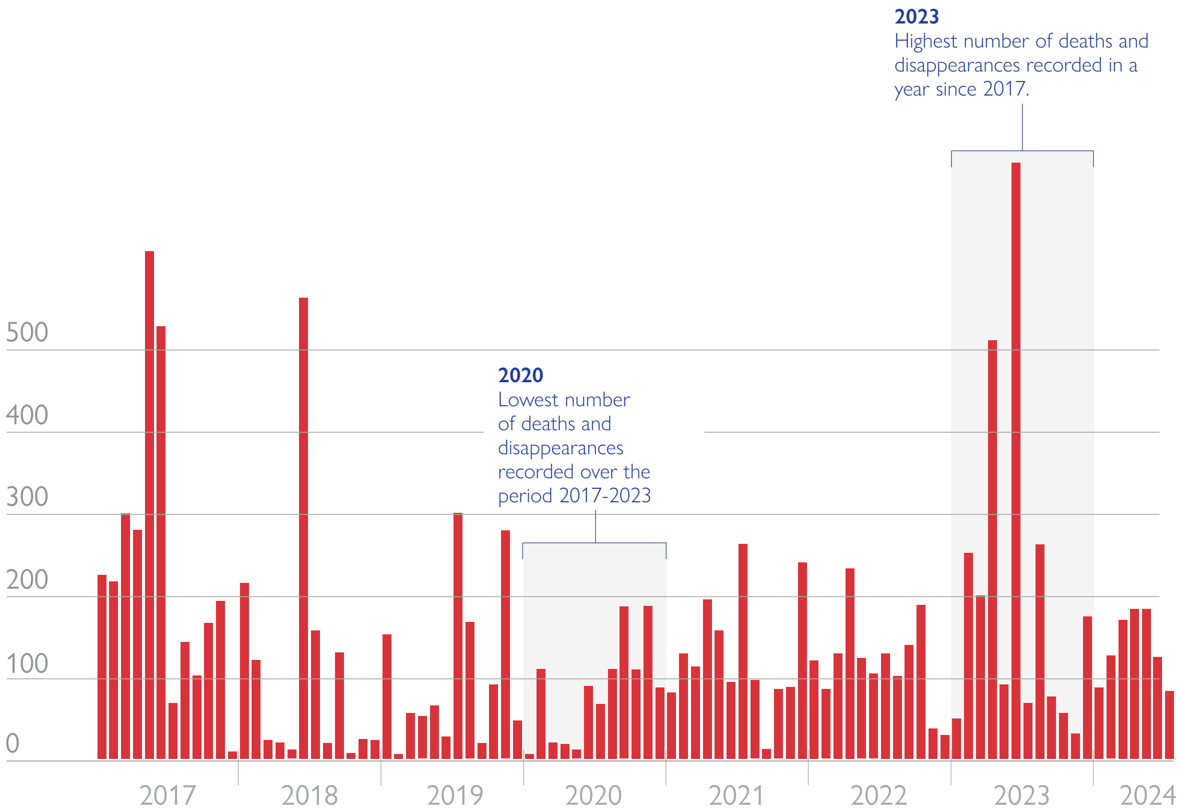
Monthly number of deaths and disappearances recorded

128
in **June 2024** compared to 779 in June 2023.

80
in **July 2024** compared to 68 in July 2023.

877
deaths and disappearances were recorded by the Missing Migrant project in the first half of 2024, which is **less than half** the number recorded in the first six months of 2023 (1,833).

Fig 33: 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 48 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	
112 enumerators	**4,706** migrants interviewed (round 53, flow monitoring survey)	**2,227** key informant interviews
3 team leaders	**48** flow monitoring points are active in 7 regions (mantikas) of Libya	

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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