



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

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

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

This report presents the data for July 2024, collected through direct interviews and observations by DTM enumerators which were triangulated via a network of key informants. It highlights the number of herders and their herds, identified at 36 counting points in the eight Local Government Areas (LGAs) across Kaduna and Katsina states. Notably, this enumeration included areas within the Kachia, Kaura, Kaita and Faskari LGAs of Kaduna and Katsina states, under the auspices of the Peacebuilding Fund. Additionally, it was extended to Batsari, Jibia, Kankara, and Dan Musa LGAs of Katsina State, with the support of the European Union Fund.

The practice of transhumance involves a systematic movement where herders migrate with their households and families. This movement is often strategic and well-coordinated, typically occurring seasonally. During the dry season, herders move southwards to regions where water and pasture are more readily available. Conversely, during the rainy season, they migrate northwards to take advantage of the lush pastures that develop with the rains. Sometimes, families move ahead very early in the morning, leaving the older male herders and the herds behind for a few days to check the security situation in the area and ensure it is safe. Given the complex socio-political landscape in Nigeria, this step is crucial to avoid conflicts with local communities and other herders. They then rendezvous at a predetermined resting point, such as a water point or a grazing area, to allow the herds to feed and rest. This method fosters a more secure and organized migration, ensuring the safety and well-being of both the herders and their livestock.

In July 2024, Transhumance Flow Monitoring tool identified 1,817 herders in Kaduna State and 723 herders in Katsina State. The herd count was estimated at 8,662 for Kaduna State and 2,981 for Katsina State. Notably, 97 per cent of the total number of herders departed from states within Nigeria, while the remaining three per cent departed from Niger.

### ORIGIN AND DESTINATION OF HERDS

Majority of the herd movements originated within Nigeria, with 94 per cent of the observed movements destined for states within the country. This indicates that most herders graze their herds within the nation, likely due to familiarity with local conditions, available resources and established routes. Conversely, three per cent indicated movements from Nigeria to Niger, while three per cent indicated movements from Niger to Nigeria.

Bauchi State (5,418 animals) emerged as the primary destination for transhumance movements within Nigeria, followed by Kaduna State (1,818 animals) and Jigawa State (1,369 animals), which represented 74 per cent of the total animal movements. The diversity of states involved in these movements illustrates the extensive network of grazing paths and the widespread dependence on transhumance for livestock management across Nigeria.

State of departure	State of destination	Animals
Bauchi	Kaduna	23
Bauchi	Katsina	36
Bauchi	Nasarawa	29
Benue	Bauchi	78
FCT	Bauchi	211
FCT	Kaduna	111
FCT	Kano	89
Gombe	Kebbi	62
Kaduna	Bauchi	842
Kaduna	Kaduna	950
Kaduna	Plateau	1,098
Kaduna	Zamfara	517
Kano	Kaduna	66
Kano	Sokoto	44
Katsina	Kaduna	68
Katsina	Katsina	10
Kogi	Katsina	2
Kwara	Jigawa	961
Nasarawa	Bauchi	4,178
Nasarawa	Jigawa	408
Nasarawa	Kaduna	176
Nasarawa	Kano	85
Nasarawa	Plateau	65
Niger	Plateau	184
Plateau	Bauchi	70
Plateau	Kaduna	424
Plateau	Kebbi	22
Zamfara	Bauchi	40
Zamfara	Katsina	120
<b>Total</b>		<b>10,969</b>

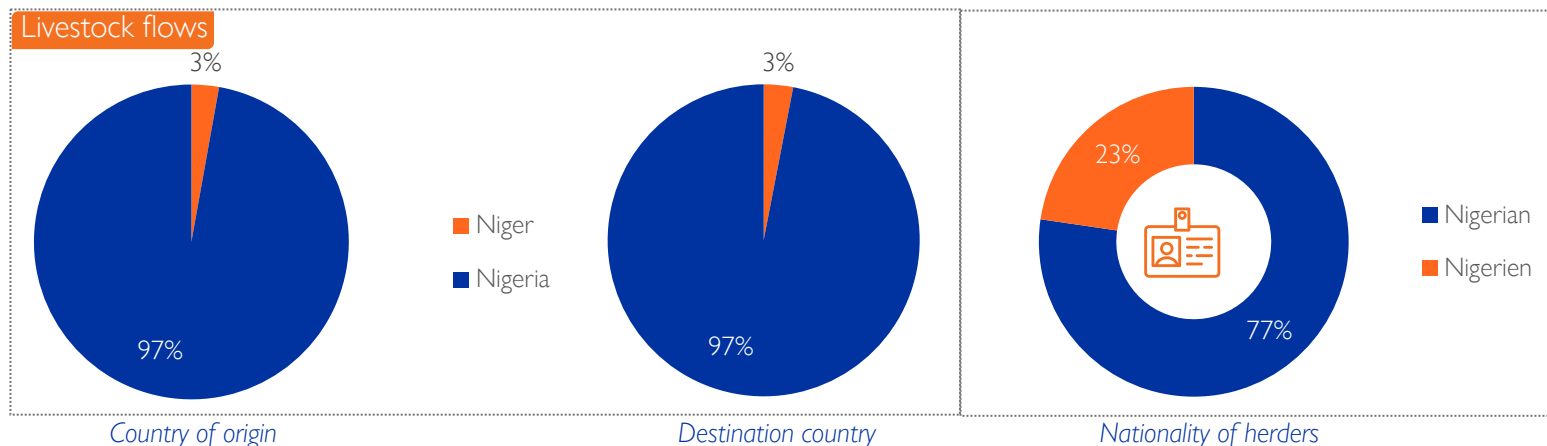
Table 1: Animal flow within Nigeria

State of departure	State of destination	Animals
Kaduna	Maradi	31
Kano	Agadez	22
Kano	Maradi	148
Katsina	Maradi	145
Katsina	Tahoua	8
<b>Total</b>		<b>354</b>

Table 2: Animal flow from Nigeria to Niger

State of departure	State of destination	Animals
Dosso	Jigawa	41
Karaye	Kaduna	15
Maradi	Jigawa	100
Maradi	Kaduna	45
Maradi	Katsina	2
Maradi	Sokoto	87
Tahoua	Kaduna	30
<b>Total</b>		<b>320</b>

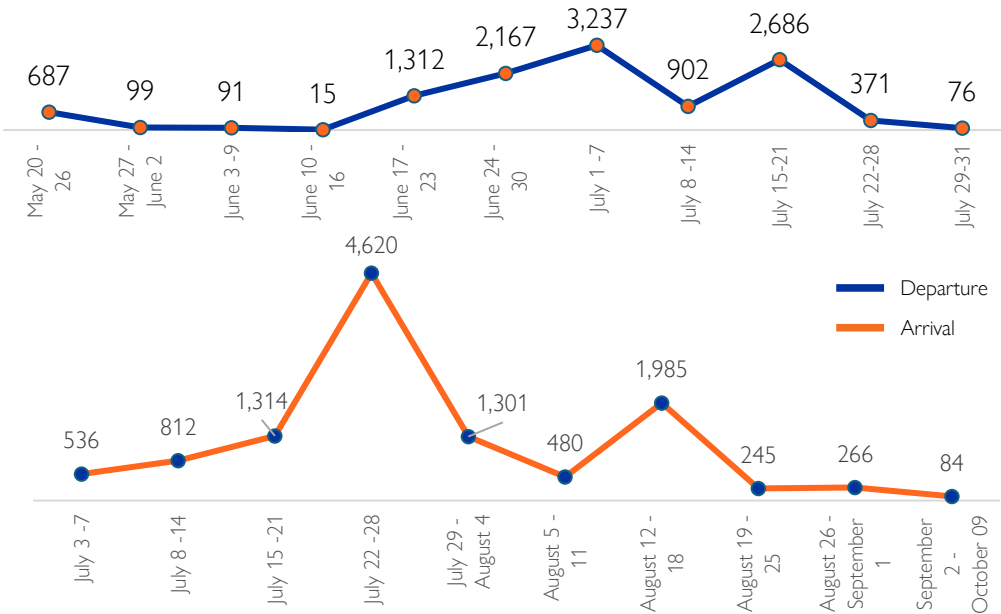
Table 3: Animal flow from Niger to Nigeria



### EVOLUTION OF OBSERVED FLOWS

During the observed period, herd departures peaked in between July 1 - 7 with 3,237 animals, the highest outflow recorded. This followed a gradual rise from June 24 - 30 with 2,167 departures, and another surge between July 15 - 21 with 2,686 animals. This peak was largely influenced by the herders need to navigate rivers and flood-prone areas; heavy rainfall required them to wait until conditions improved and it was safe to move.

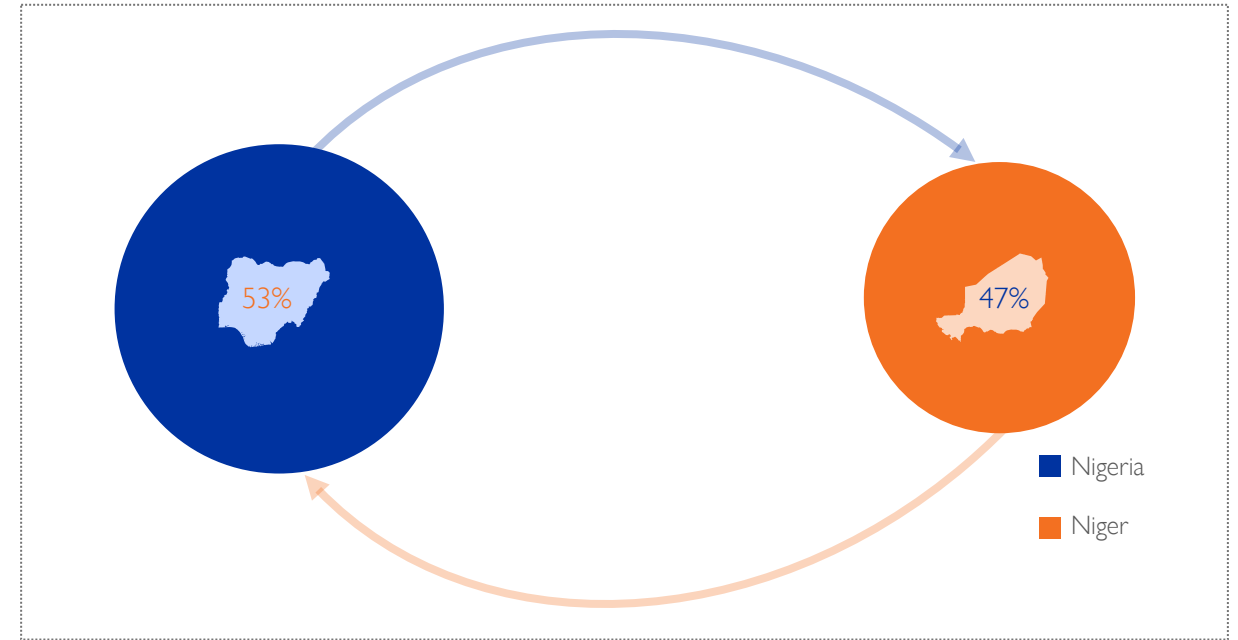
Conversely, herd arrivals peaked between July 22 - 28 with 4,620 animals, the highest influx observed. This increase was similarly influenced by herders waiting for safer conditions before proceeding. Following this peak, there were 1,301 arrivals between July 29 and August 4, sustaining the momentum, and another significant arrival occurred between August 12 and 18, totaling 1,985 animals.



### CROSS-BORDER MOVEMENTS

Cross-border transhumance stands out as a significant herding practice in West Africa and has been an integral part of Nigeria's agro-pastoral systems for centuries. In July 2024, 284 herders and 674 herds were observed in cross-border movements across Niger and Nigeria transhumance corridors.

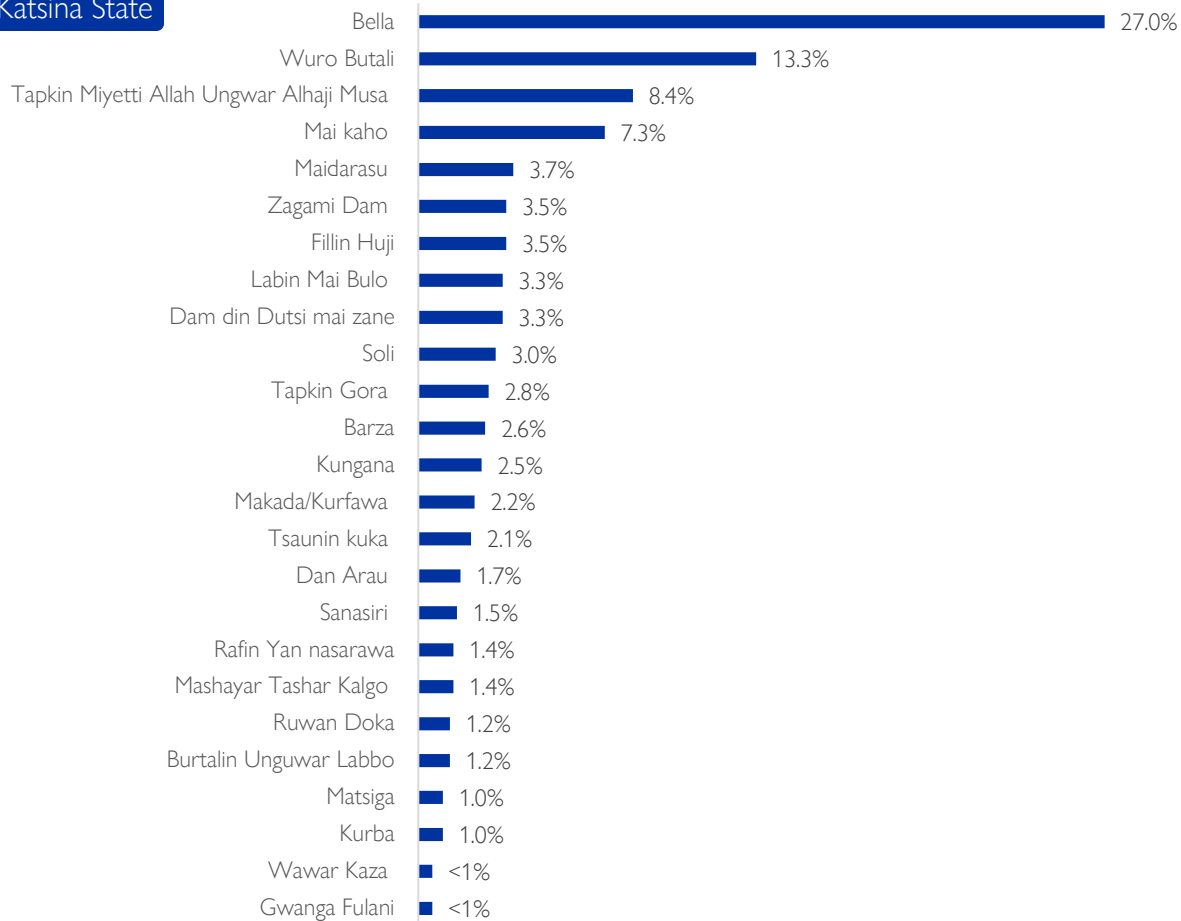
Among the identified movements, the majority occurred from Nigeria to Niger, with 72% of the herders and 53% of the herds, totaling 205 herders and 354 herds. In contrast, the movement from Niger to Nigeria involved 28% of the herders and 47% of the herds, totaling 79 herders and 320 herds. This distribution highlights a substantial flow of both herders and herds from Nigeria to Niger.



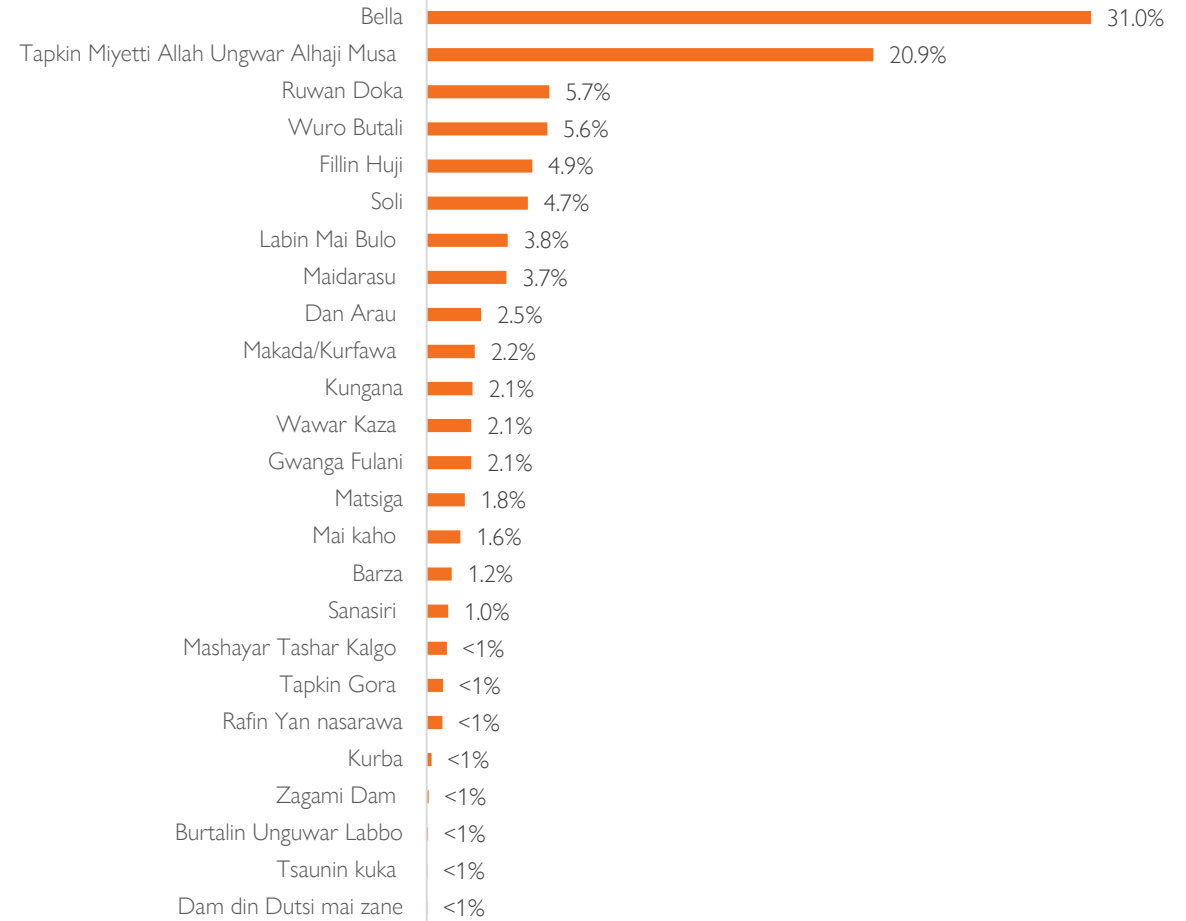
Cross-border herd movement in percentages

### NUMBER OF HERDS AND HERDERS PER COUNTING POINT

#### Katsina State



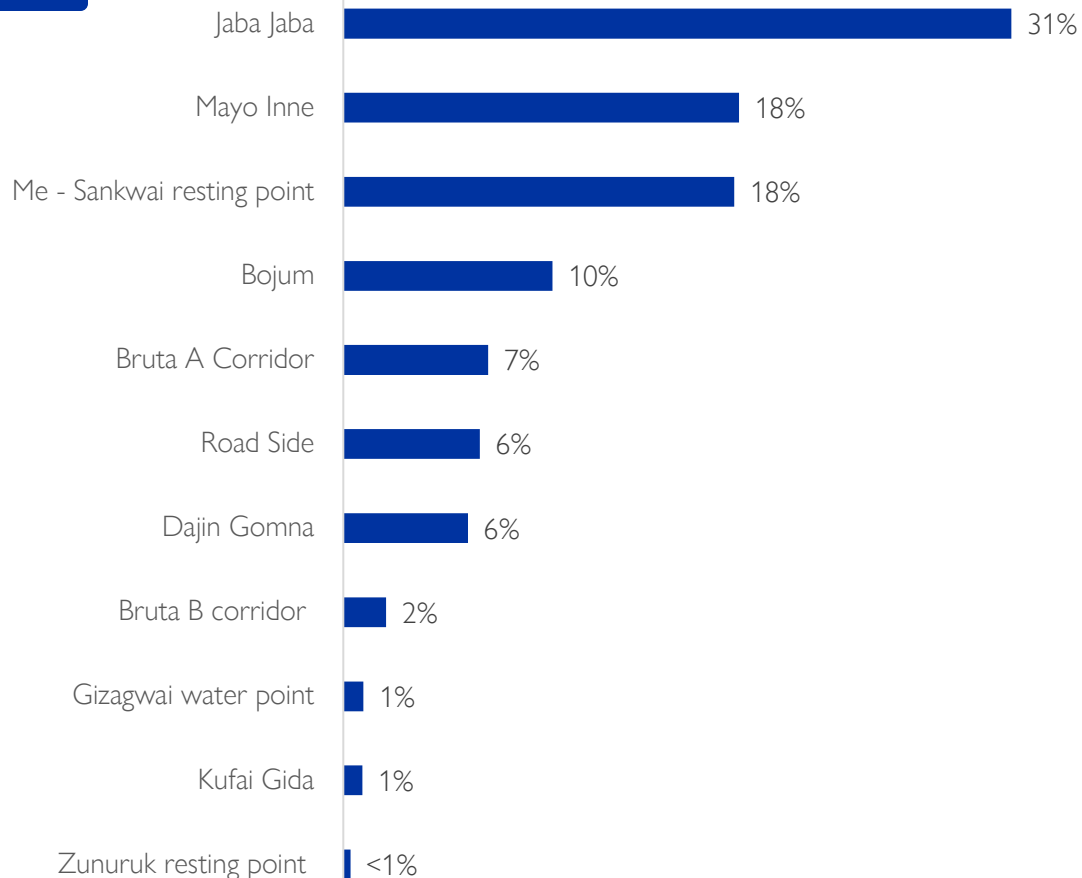
Percentage of herders counted



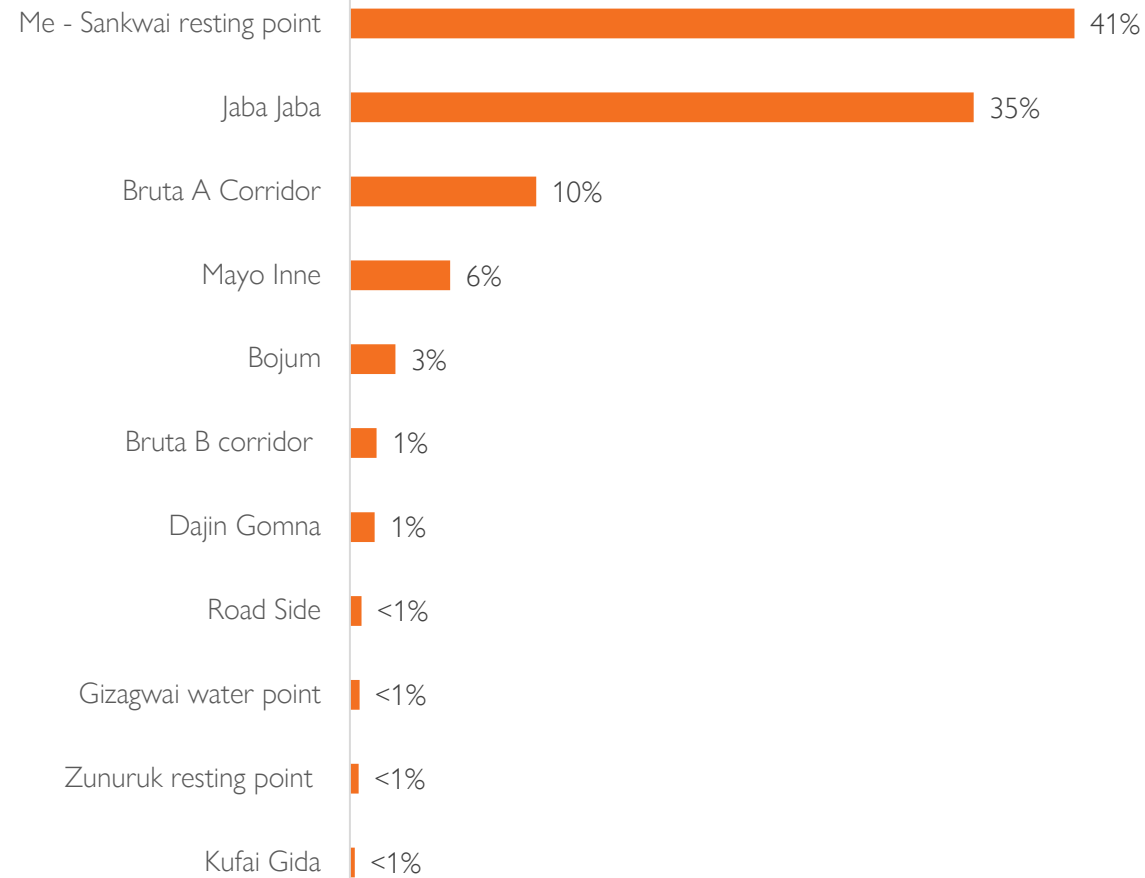
Percentage of herds counted

### NUMBER OF HERDS AND HERDERS PER COUNTING POINT

#### Kaduna State



Percentage of herders counted



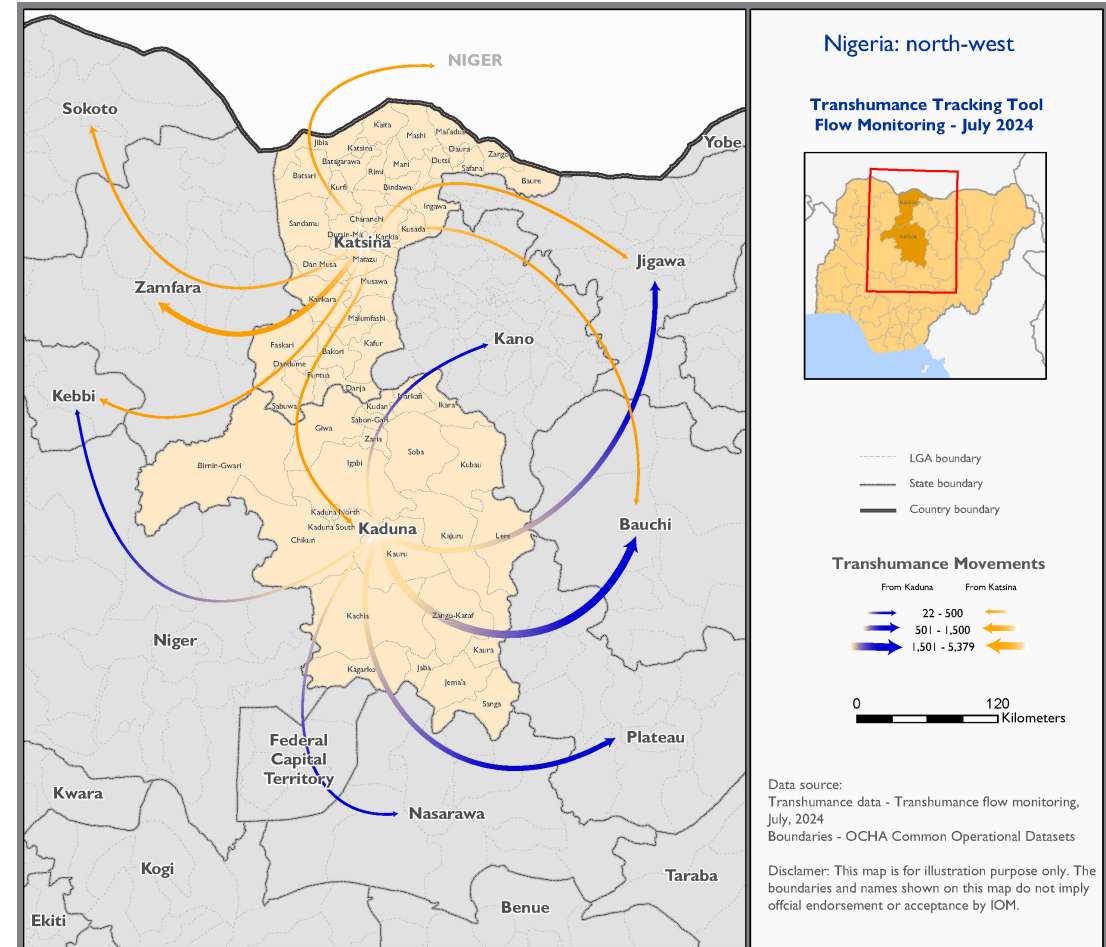
Percentage of herds counted

Country of departure	Country of destination	Month of Departure	Month of arrival	Number of people	Number of animals
Nigeria	Nigeria	May-24	Jul-24	64	872
	Niger		Oct-24	9	22
	Nigeria	Jun-24	Aug-24	57	55
	Niger		Jul-24	47	98
	Nigeria		Jun-24	627	3,072
	Niger		Jun-24	22	3
	Nigeria	Jul-24	Aug-24	34	135
	Niger		Aug-24	700	2,784
	Nigeria		Jul-24	93	96
	Niger		Jul-24	804	4,124
Niger	Nigeria	Jul-24	Sep-24	4	62
			Aug-24	9	2
			Jul-24	70	318
<b>Total</b>				<b>2,540</b>	<b>11,643</b>

Table 4: Number of herds and herders by months of departure and arrival

Sixty-four per cent of the herds movements commenced in July 2024, 28 per cent began in June 2024, while eight per cent began in May 2024.

The estimated month of arrival of 74 per cent of the total animal movements was envisaged in July 2024, 25 per cent in August 2024, less than one per cent in September 2024 and less than one per cent in October 2024.



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



### METHODOLOGY

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

Steps: Following the transhumance baseline and infrastructure mapping, 36 counting points (25 in Katsina and 11 in Kaduna states) were identified, making it possible to capture the flow of transhumant herders and their animals.

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

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

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

### RECOMMENDATIONS

01

Establish and strengthen collaborative and inclusive platforms involving all stakeholders, including farmers, herders, and relevant authorities. These platforms should facilitate cross-border consultations, raise awareness, and mobilize support for peaceful transhumance.

02

Implement continuous capacity-building programs to keep stakeholders updated on the evolving nature of transhumance and counting methodologies. This will empower them to adapt and respond effectively to emerging challenges.

03

Extend the current data collection system to cover additional states in Nigeria, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of transhumance dynamics.