

# FLOW MONITORING REGISTRY REPORT

## MALAWI (KARONGA) – UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA | SEPTEMBER 2024

### OVERVIEW

Over the reporting period, a total of 1,175 cross-border movements were observed at the Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs). The average daily number of flows was 56. This represented a 22 per cent increase compared to August, during which 46 individual movements were observed on a daily basis. Malawi (68%), United Republic of Tanzania (32%), Burundi (<1%) and Democratic Republic of the Congo (<1%) were the main countries of departure, while Malawi (70%), United Republic of Tanzania (30%) and Mozambique (<1%) were the main countries of intended destination of individuals passing through the different FMPs. Out of 1,175 individuals observed, 52 per cent were males and 48 per cent were females. There was a number of women who were visibly pregnant. Boys and girls (males and females below 18) made up 24 per cent of the individuals observed. Of the 285 children observed, 31 were children travelling without an adult (14 boys and 17 girls). However, this information is based on direct observation and self-reporting, and therefore is likely under-reported.

### MAP 1: FLOWS THROUGH THE FLOW MONITORING POINT

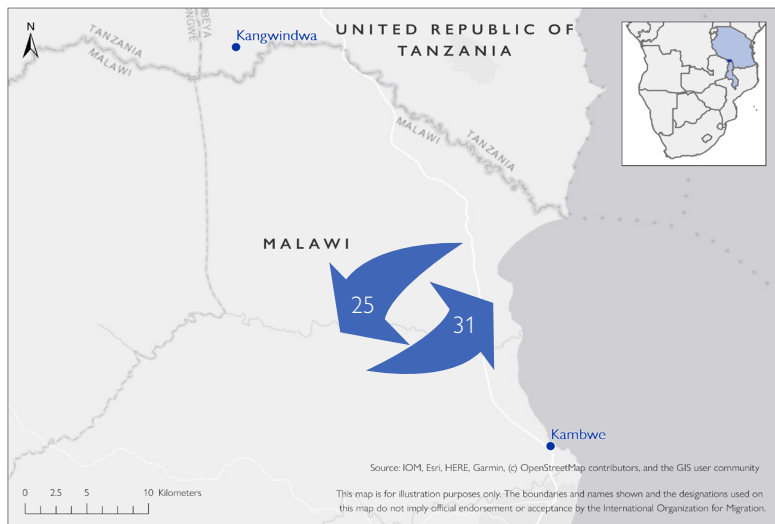
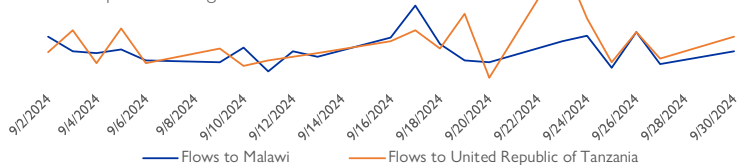


FIGURE 1: DAILY OBSERVATIONS FROM 1 - 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

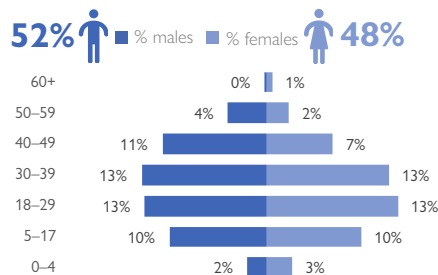
22% increase in average daily flows compared to August



### KEY FINDINGS



### DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE



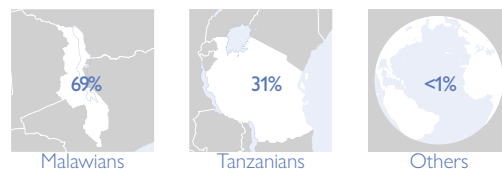
### VULNERABLE GROUPS



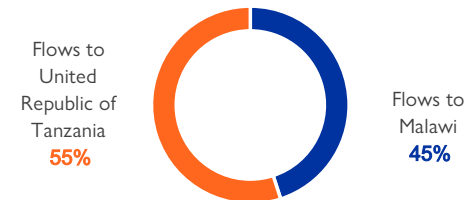
### MODES OF TRANSPORTATION



### DECLARED NATIONALITIES



### FIGURE 2: FLOW DIRECTION



### FIGURE 3: AREAS OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATIONS

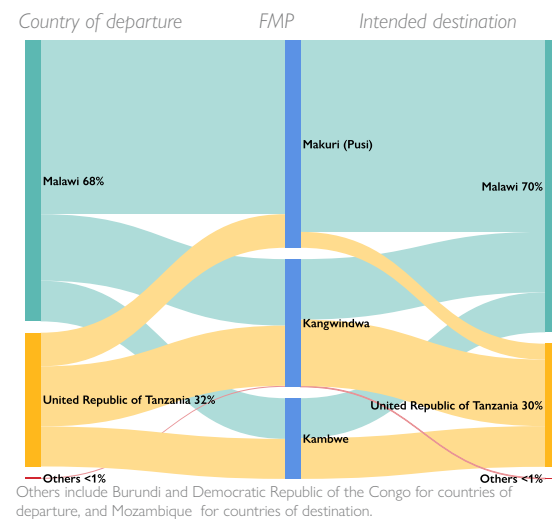


TABLE 1: REASONS FOR MOVEMENT

Reasons for Movement	Total	Flows to Malawi	Flows to Tanzania
Short-term local movement (<6 months)	93%	44%	56%
Family reunification (>6 months)	7%	50%	50%
Seasonal migration	4%	12%	88%
Long-term economic migration (>6 months)	3%	65%	35%
Forced movement due to disasters	2%	<1%	100%

Disclaimer: Please note that multiple answers were possible for this question.

**FIGURE 4: INTENDED PERIOD OF STAY**



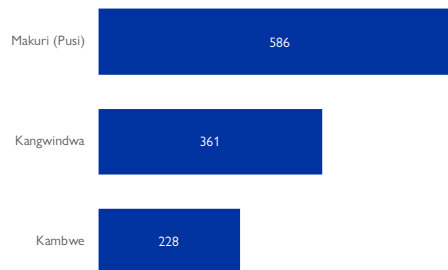
For the 1,175 flows of travellers observed across the three Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs), the most common intended period of stay was a day or less than two weeks (35%). This may include individuals visiting for short-term work assignments, tourism, or family visits. These brief stays highlight the fluid nature of mobility in the region, where a notable number of travellers might be engaging in circular migration patterns or routine cross-border movements for economic or social reasons. This trend provides important insights into the mobility dynamics, indicating a substantial portion of transient populations whose needs and challenges may differ from those staying for longer periods.

Additionally, 35 per cent of the travellers planned to stay for a day or less. This suggests that a significant portion of the individual travellers observed were engaged in short-term activities such as business trips, daily commutes, or brief visits, likely driven by the proximity of their destinations or the nature of their travel, which may not require extended stays.

A smaller segment of travellers indicated longer stays: three (3%) per cent intended to stay between two weeks and three months, two (2%) per cent reported plans to stay between 12 months or over a year and one (1%) per cent indicated plans to stay for 6 to 12 months. These longer-term stays may reflect individuals involved in temporary work contracts, extended family visits, or other medium-term commitments.

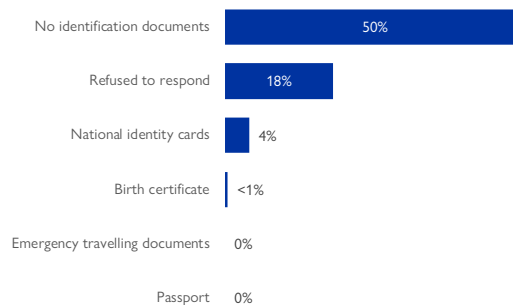
Interestingly, 24 per cent of the observed travellers indicated that they had no plans to leave, suggesting a shift toward permanent residency or indefinite stays. This could be driven by factors such as migration for economic reasons such as employment, family reunification, or the desire for a more stable living environment. This diverse distribution of intended stay periods highlights the varied travel purposes and circumstances of the individuals observed.

**FIGURE 5: FLOWS BY INDIVIDUAL FMP**



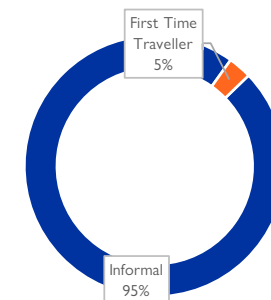
Makuri (Pusi) emerged as the most active flow monitoring point for this round, recording a total of 586 flows, the highest among all the FMPs. This marked a significant 49 per cent increase compared to Kambwe in the previous month (392), indicating a potential shift in travel patterns or changes in local conditions. Following Makuri (Pusi), Kangwindwa registered the second highest number of flows with a total of 361, suggesting it remains a key transit point in the region. Meanwhile, Kambwe saw considerably lower individual flows this time, with only 228 flows recorded during the September reporting period.

**FIGURE 6: IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS**



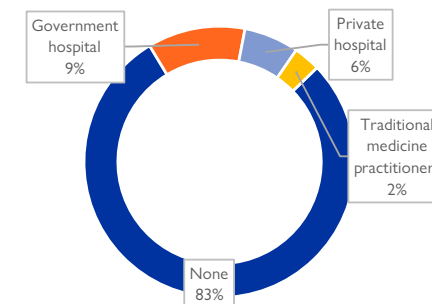
A significant portion of the observed travellers lacked identification documents, with 50 per cent having no documents and 18 per cent refusing to respond. Only a small minority carried formal documents: four (4%) per cent had a national identity card and less than one (1%) had a birth certificate. This highlights the widespread issue of individuals travelling without proper identification documents, posing challenges for legal verification and assistance efforts.

**FIGURE 7: POINT OF ENTRY**



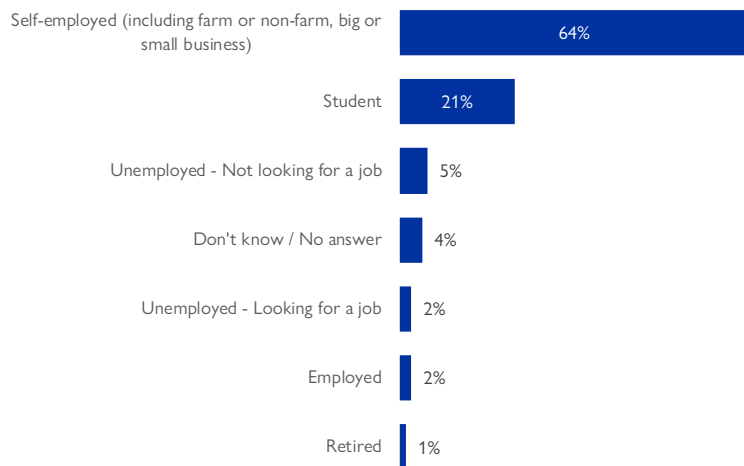
Approximately 95 per cent of the total travellers observed between Malawi and Tanzania indicated that they used an informal crossing point exiting or entering Malawi. This high percentage underscores the prevalence of informal routes in cross-border movements, possibly due to factors such as convenience, avoidance of official scrutiny, or a lack of accessible formal crossing points. In contrast, only three (5%) per cent of the travellers crossing through the flow monitoring points indicated that they were first time travellers.

**FIGURE 8: MOVEMENTS RELATED TO HEALTH SERVICES**



Nine (9%) per cent of the observed travellers reported that they sought health services from private hospitals. Additionally, six (6%) per cent of the travellers used public hospitals, indicating a reliance on public healthcare facilities for their medical needs during their journey. Only two (2%) per cent of the travellers use traditional medicine.

**FIGURE 9: EMPLOYMENT STATUS**



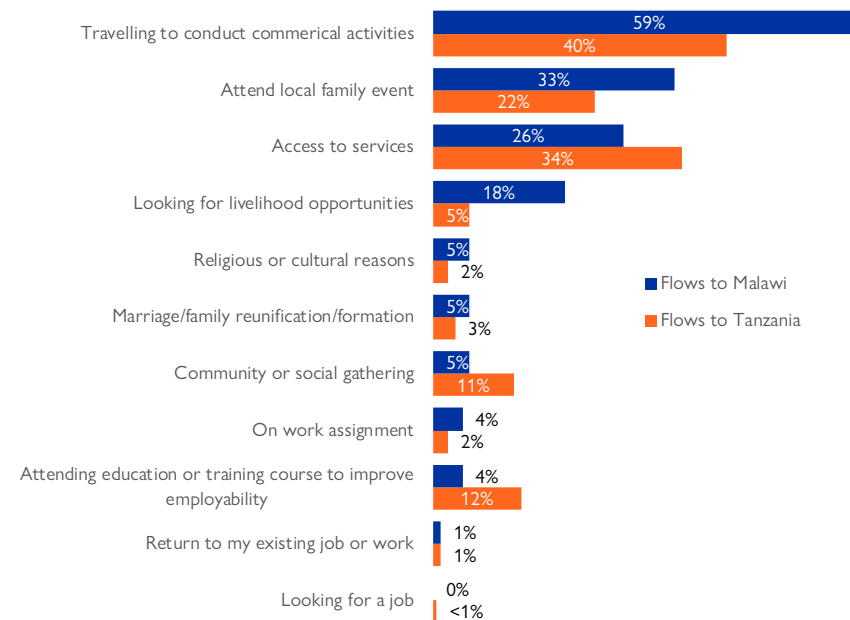
In terms of employment status, majority of the travellers indicated that they were self-employed, which accounted for 64 per cent of the total flows. This was followed by students 21 per cent, unemployed and not looking for a job five (5%) per cent, unemployed and while looking for a job two (2%) per cent, employed two (2%) per cent, and retired one (1%) per cent of the total flows between Malawi and the United Republic of Tanzania.

**TABLE 2: CHALLENGES FACED DURING THE JOURNEY**

Challenge Faced	Total	Flows to Malawi	Flows to of Tanzania
None	63%	49%	51%
Difficult to access health care services	16%	46%	54%
Difficult to access basic services (food, water, etc.)	16%	14%	86%
Road blocks and/or delays	11%	51%	49%
Lack of information	7%	55%	45%
Document issues	2%	48%	52%
Discrimination/Stigmatizations (including either physical or verbal abuse)	1%	<1%	100%
Mental trauma and/or depression (including homesickness or distress)	1%	<1%	100%

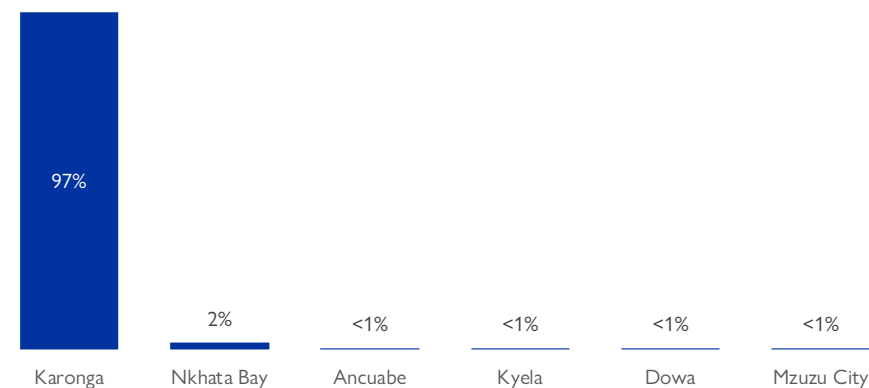
Disclaimer: Please note that multiple answers were possible for this question.

**FIGURE 10: REASONS OF MOVEMENT ACROSS EACH DIRECTION OF FLOWS**



Disclaimer: Please note that multiple answers were possible for this question.

**FIGURE 11: FLOWS TO MALAWI BY DESTINATION DISTRICT**



## METHODOLOGY

Flow Monitoring is a data collection activity which seeks to gather key information on mobility and migrant profiles. It begins by identifying zones in which large mobility flows occur and highlighting the characteristics and journeys of travellers in these zones. DTM teams, with the support of local authorities and partners, identify strategic points of transit, where Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) are set up. At each FMP, DTM conducts two main activities: Flow Monitoring Registry (FMR) and Flow Monitoring Surveys (FMS). This report focuses on FMR data only. The FMR collects data at FMPs through direct observation and interviews with key informants, including staff working at transit stations, border patrol officers, local authorities, bus or taxi drivers and travellers themselves. The FMR gathers data on the number of travellers crossing FMPs, as well as the provenance, next destination, vulnerabilities and means of transport of travellers. At each FMP, data is collected by a team of enumerators. Data collection is carried out daily, between 08:00 and 17:00. Enumerators collect data via a mobile data collection form to ensure data integrity and quality. This report is an overview of the data collected from 1 to 30 September 2024.

Flow Monitoring Point: Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) are points set up by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix in high mobility areas in each country covered (near borders or main travel routes).

## LIMITATION

Data collected in the framework of Flow Monitoring activities are the result of direct observations and interviews conducted at FMPs between 08:00 to 17:00. The data is not representative of all migration flows in the border area, and, because they only reflect the situation of observed or surveyed individuals, cannot be generalized. Temporal coverage of the data collection exercises is also limited to a specific time window. While data is collected daily, flow monitoring activities do not capture all flows transiting through FMPs. Data on vulnerability is based on direct observation and self-reporting. Therefore, the findings should be understood as mainly indicative. Data collected for these exercises should be understood as estimations only. IOM does not make any warranties or representations as to the appropriateness, quality, reliability, timeliness, accuracy or completeness of the data included in this report.

In some instances, demographic percentages may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding in calculations, as it also occurs when breaking down the relative flows of different nationalities through a border crossing.

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### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

 [ROPretoriaRMDHub@iom.int](mailto:ROPretoriaRMDHub@iom.int) - [iommalawi@iom.int](mailto:iommalawi@iom.int)

 <https://dtm.iom.int/malawi> - <https://dtm.iom.int>

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