

INTRODUCTION: IOM works with national and local authorities and local partners to identify and understand migration movements in West and Central Africa. Flow monitoring is an activity that quantifies and qualifies flows, migrant profiles, trends and migration routes at a given point of entry, transit or exit. **Since February 2016, IOM Niger has been monitoring migration flows at six points across Niger.** The data collected provides an overview of migration in the region. The information is collected from primary sources. Given the immensity of the region of Agadez, **a new FMP (Madama) on the Libyan border was activated in January 2019** to capture the outflows due to the proliferation of bypass roads. This new FMP complements that of Séguédine which is now only capturing incoming flows. The data collected provides an overview of migratory movements in the region. However, this monitoring of migration flows does not replace border surveillance. Similarly, the results presented in this report do not reflect the total flow of migrants through the Agadez region due to the size of the Sahara Desert, which covers more than 700,000 km² and has a large number of roads crisscrossing the region.

NIGER POPULATION FLOW MONITORING POINTS



In addition to the three FMPs (Dan Barto, Magaria and Tahoua) activated in August, a **new FMP** was also set up in Niger (**Dan Issa**) in **September**. The aim was to better understand migration routes along the southern part of Niger, and to complement the existing FMPs in Arlit and Séguédine. There are now three cross border FMPs (**Dan Issa, Dan Barto and Magaria**) on the border between Niger and Nigeria, which stretches over 1000 km. The FMP at **Tahoua** was set up to understand internal movement flows as it is situated in central Niger, the Tahoua region borders Tillabery region in the east, Nigeria in the south and the Agadez region in the north.

The new FMPs will be piloted in the coming months to understand the added value of the FMPs towards a more holistic understanding of migration trends in Niger. Based on the initial findings from the new FMPs, there may be adjustments to the new FMPs implemented based on an increased understanding of migration patterns and routes.

METHODOLOGY: Flow monitoring is an investigative tool that aims to highlight further understanding of internal, cross-border, and intraregional migration. Areas of high mobility are identified across the country. DTM teams then conduct assessments at the local level to identify strategic transit points. Enumerators collect data using key informants at the flow monitoring points; they may be staff at bus stations, police or customs officials, bus or truck drivers, or migrants themselves. A basic questionnaire mixed with direct observations makes it possible to collect disaggregated data by sex and nationality. In Niger, the flow monitoring points were chosen after consultation with national and local stakeholders involved in migration management, and according to the locations and characteristics of the flows transiting through the Sahara Desert. The data collection is done at times when the flows are the most frequent.

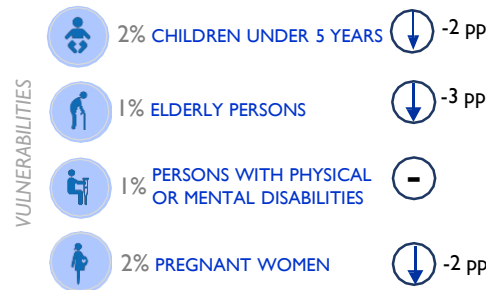
LIMITATIONS: The data used in this analysis, including the maps, is an estimate and represents only a part of the existing flows on the routes 1: Agadez - Arlit - Assamaka; route 2 : Agadez - Séguédine - Sebha; route 3: and southern routes. The spatial and temporal coverage of these surveys is partial, although the collection is done daily and during periods when flows are significant. Finally, no information is collected on existing flows outside the times covered. Vulnerability data is based on direct observations by the enumerators and should be understood only as an estimate.

DEMOGRAPHICS

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)



* The decrease is due to the fact that data collection does cover only 3 weeks because of the national DTM training that brought together all the enumerators together in Niamey from 25 to 29 March.



Country of origin	%	Variation
Niger	78	-3 pp
Nigeria	19	+4 pp
Libya	3	-1 pp

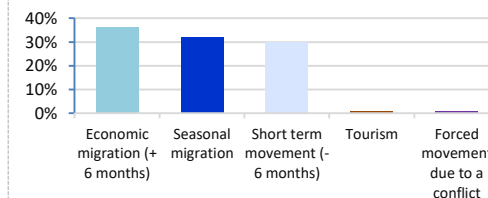
Country of destination	%	Variation
Niger	79	-
Nigeria	12	-
Libya	7	-2 pp
Other	2	+2 pp

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month

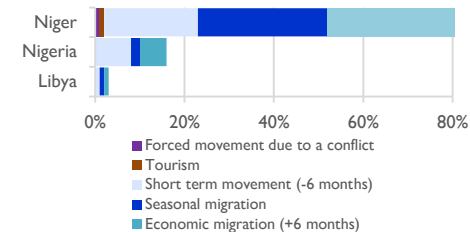
TRAVELLERS' PROFILE

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)

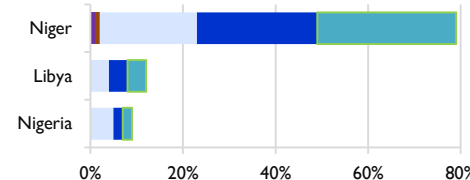
MAIN TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



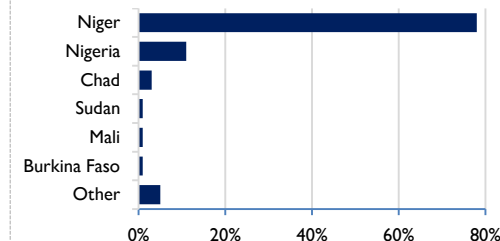
ORIGIN OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



INTENDED DESTINATION OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



MAIN NATIONALITIES OBSERVED

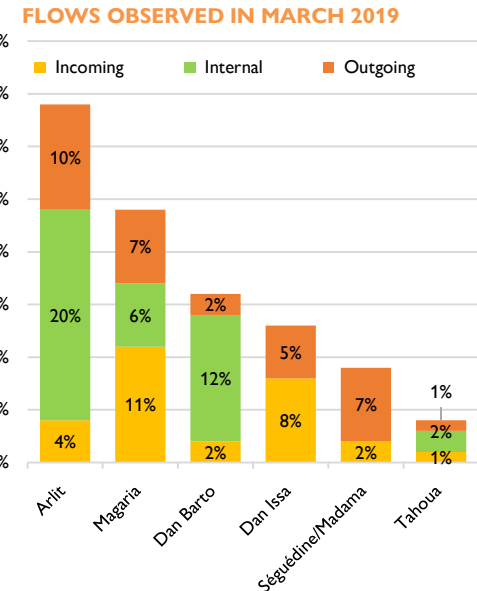
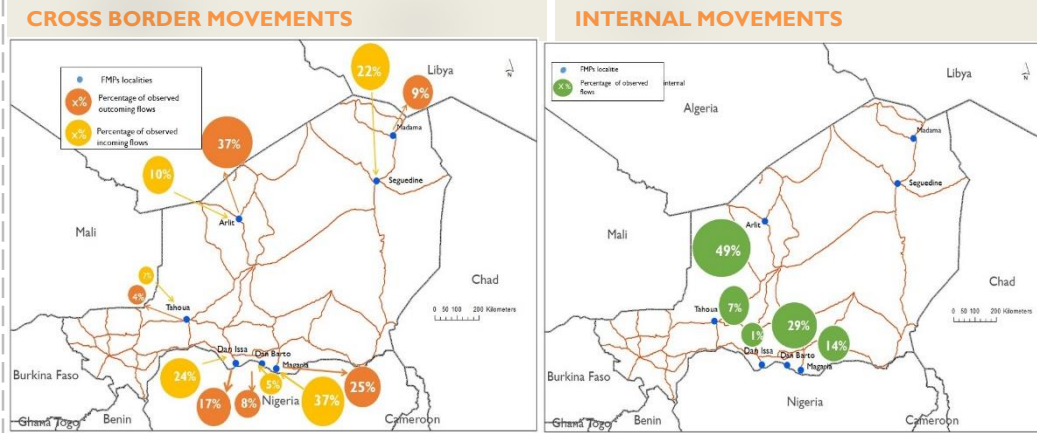
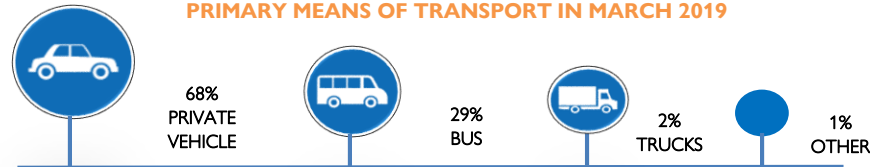


7 Active FMPs in Niger
10 Information focal points

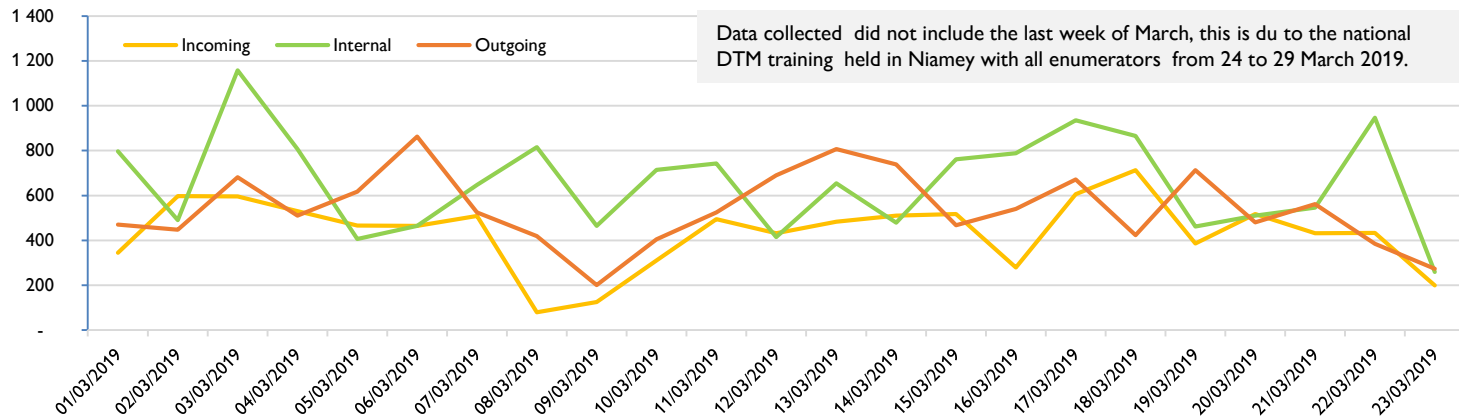
MARCH 2019 SUMMARY

10,025 Individuals entering Niger
12,417 Individuals leaving Niger
15,132 Individuals observed moving internally
37,574 Number of individuals observed at the FMPs

All data included in this report is based on estimates. IOM makes no guarantees as to the timeliness, suitability, accuracy, reliability, quality or completeness of the data contained in this report.



FLOW OBSERVED IN MARCH 2019



KEY RESULTS IN MARCH 2019

- The data in the graph shows the flows observed at the seven active FMPs in Niger in March 2019. An average of 1,212 individuals per day were recorded passing through the six FMPs during this month.
- While 60 per cent of the flows were cross border, (38%) of these were between Niger and Nigeria, followed by (13%) with Algeria and (9%) with Libya respectively.
- A larger proportion (40%) of internal movements was observed. Majority of these were observed at Arlit (19%) and Dan Barto (12%). To a lesser extent, internal movements were observed at Magaria (6%) and Tahoua (3%).
- In March 2019, there were more outgoing flows (12,417 individuals) than incoming flows (10,025 individuals). On a daily average, 401 individuals were leaving Niger while 323 individuals were entering the country.

The depiction and use of boundaries, geographic names, and related data shown on maps and included in this report are not warranted to be error free nor do they imply judgment on the legal status of any territory, or any endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries by IOM.

RETURNS FROM ALGERIA AND SEARCH & RESCUE OPERATIONS IN MARCH 2019

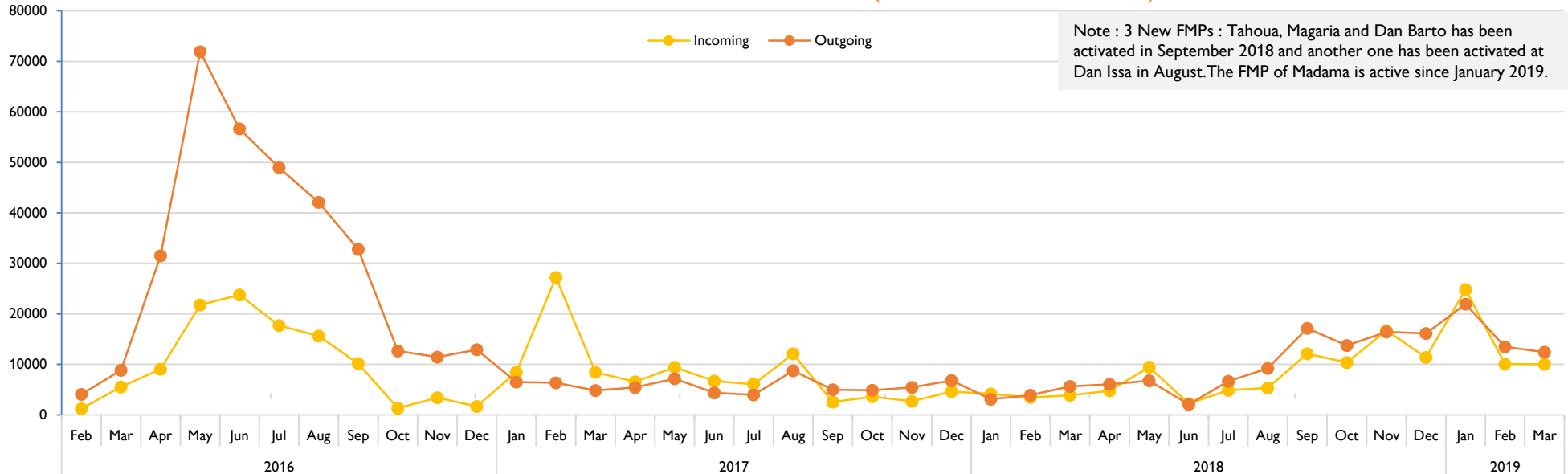
IOM Niger conducts search and rescue (SAR) operations and supports the Government of Niger in the registration process for migrants arriving from Algeria on the official Algerian convoys. These two types of incoming flows are not included in the FMP data in order to ensure data quality and avoid double counting. As such, in order to provide a more holistic understanding of incoming flows to Niger, particularly from Algeria, incoming flows should take into account these two additional figures on top of the figures captured by FMPs.

- Search and rescue operations:** Since October 2016, IOM, in collaboration with the Direction Générale de la Protection Civiles (DGPC), undertaken search and rescue operations to find and bring migrants in distress to the nearest safe urban center in the Agadez region. Search and rescue operations are performed both proactively and reactively to distress calls received from our teams in the field. The migrants are often mentally and physically stressed, suffering from trauma, dehydration and/or physical wounds. **In March 2019, IOM conducted 7 rescue operations** to rescue 1,069 migrants who had signalled in distress, 910 of which were transported **to the nearest urban center in Arlit**. (33%) were from Mali, (26%) Niger, (17%) Guinea Conakry; Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso (4% each), Senegal (3%), Nigeria and Sierra Leone (2% each); and other nationalities (5%). *Other SAR operation are conducted in Agadez, Arlit and Dirkou (see monthly SAR Dashboard for more details).
- Official Algerian convoys:** Each year, thousands of migrants, the majority of whom are from Niger, are repatriated from Algeria to Niger within the framework of the agreement between the governments of Niger and Algeria. IOM, through the Migrant Response and Ressource Mechanism (MRRM), provides humanitarian assistance for these migrants upon arrival to Niger including support in registration migrants. **In March 2019, 4 official Algerian convoys arrived with 401 migrants** (96% Nigerien while 4% or 16 individuals were non-Nigerien).

TYPE OF FLOWS OBSERVED

Year	Incoming	Outgoing	Internal	Total
2016	111,230	333,891	-	445,121
2017	98,306	69,430	-	167,736
2018	88,601	106,766	71,223	226,590
2019	44,900	47,819	50,517	143,236

NUMBER OF MIGRANTS OBSERVED AT THE FMPs (FEBRUARY 2016 – MARCH 2019)



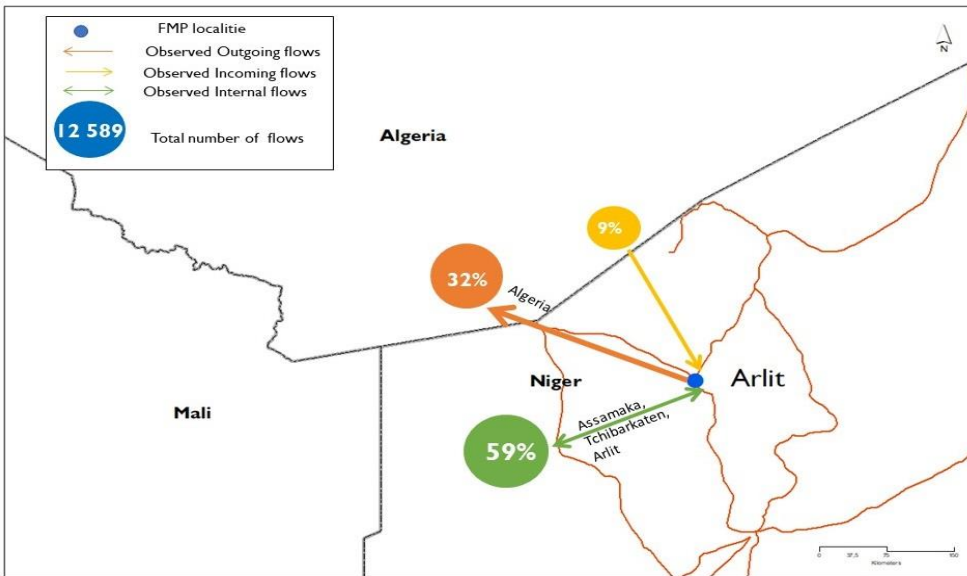
The **Arlit** Flow Monitoring Point captures both cross-border flows to and from Algeria, as well as internal movements. The Arlit FMP has been active since **February 2016**.

During this month, more outgoing flows (3,930) than incoming flows (1,200) were observed. The main departure cities included Arlit, Agadez, Tchibarakaten, and Assamaka (Niger) while the main destination cities included Arlit Tamanrasset, Tchibarakaten, and Assamaka. (Note: the majority of migrants passing through the Arlit FMP choose not to disclose their final destination given the sensitivities. In reality, most migrants transiting through Assamaka intend to travel to cities within Algeria including Inguezzam, Tamanrasset, Tamanghasset. Additionally, FMP figures do not include migrants who were subject to refolement or repatriated from Algeria as these are collected separately – see page 3).

In comparison with the previous month, the daily average of observed flows has decreased by (29%), this is due to the repatriation of irregular migrants living in Algeria.

The main reasons cited for movement are **seasonal migration (49%)**, followed by **economic migration (46%)**, **short term local movement (3%)** and **fleeing from conflict (2%)**.

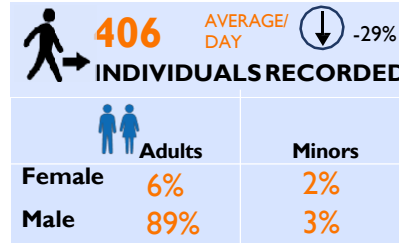
The main nationalities observed crossing the Arlit FMP this month included Nigerien (77%), Chadian (5%), Sudanese (3%); Nigerians, Malian and Burkinabe (2% each). The Guinean, Cameroonian and Senegalese nationals represent (9%) persons of observed individuals. Please note FMP breakdown of nationalities does not include migrants subject to refolement and/or repatriated from Algeria via the official convoys (see page 3).



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DEMOGRAPHICS

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)

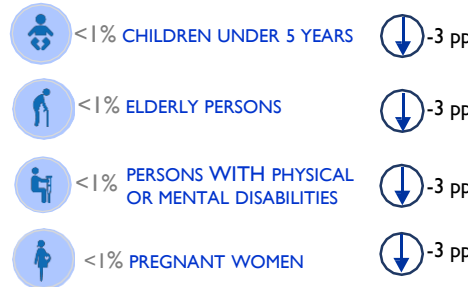


DEMOGRAPHICS

VULNERABILITIES

ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION

pp: percentage point



Country of origin	%	Variation
Niger	100	-

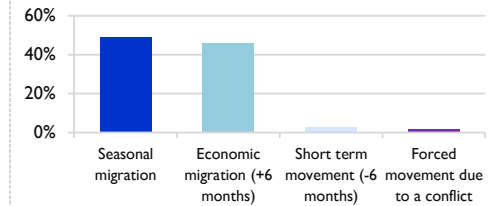
Country of destination	%	Variation
Niger	99	-1 pp
Algeria	1	+1 pp

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month
pp: percentage point

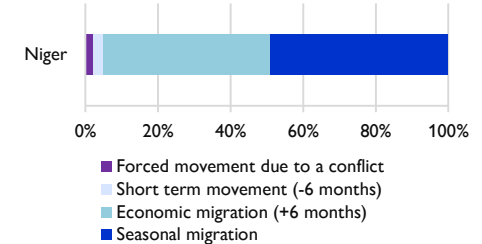
TRAVELLERS' PROFILE

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)

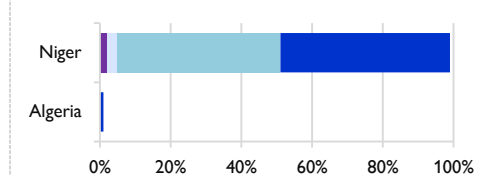
MAIN TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



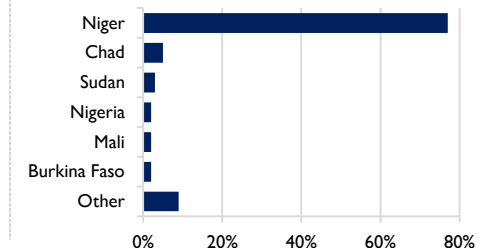
ORIGIN OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



INTENDED DESTINATION OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



MAIN NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



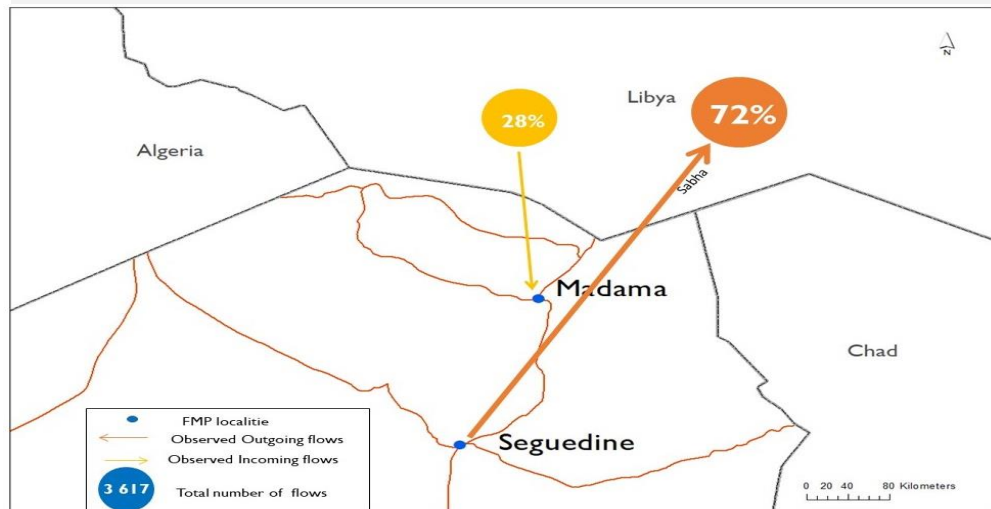
The **Séguédine** Flow Monitoring Point captures **cross-border flows** to and from neighbouring countries, mainly Libya. The Séguédine FMP has been active since **February 2016**. Given the vastness of the Agadez region which spans 703,00 km² (greater than the size of France and 21 times larger than Belgium), a **new FMP (Madama)** located near the Libyan border was activated in January 2019 to better capture cross-border movements due to the proliferation of bypass roads to avoid border control posts. As such, this new FMP complements the one in **Séguédine which only captures incoming flows** while **Madama captures outgoing flows**.

During this month, more outgoing flows (2,596 individuals representing 74% of flows observed) than incoming flows (923) were observed. A daily average of (117) individuals were observed crossing through the Séguédine/Madama FMP this month, which is an decrease of (35%) compared to the previous month when 181 individuals were crossing the border each day.

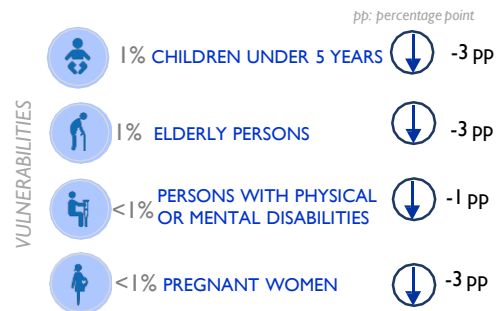
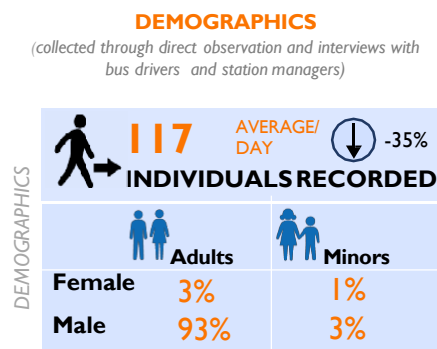
The main departure and destination cities included Agadez (Niger), Sebha and Murzuq (Libya), and Faya (Chad). The decrease in flows is possibly linked to the upsurge of insecurity in the northern part of Libya, but also to increasing number in attacks by armed groups in the area around the border between Chad, Niger and Libya, which is a **“no man’s land”**.

The main types of movements observed this month were: economic migration (34%), seasonal migration and short term local movements (33% each).

The main nationalities observed were: Nigerien (87%), Chadians (5%), and Nigerians (3%); other nationalities observed (5%) include Libyans and Sudanese (2% each); Ghanaians and Malians among others represent (1%) of individuals observed at that FMP.



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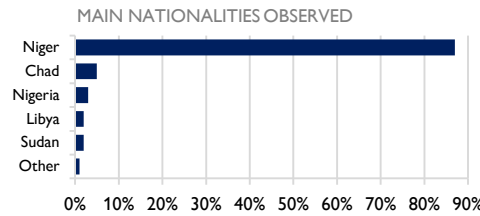
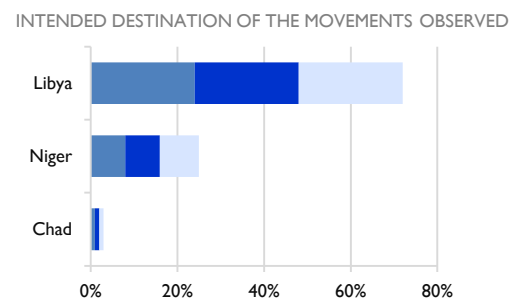
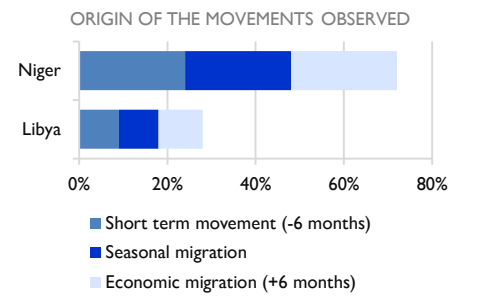
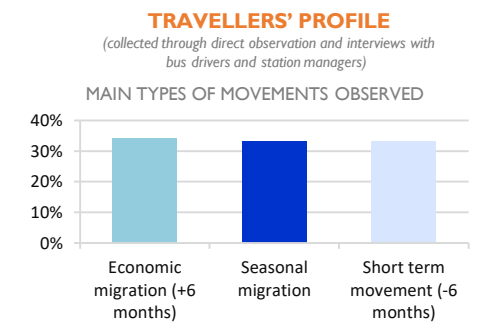


ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION

Country of origin	%	Variation
Niger	72	+10 pp
Libya	28	-6 pp
Chad	0	-2 pp

Country of destination	%	Variation
Libya	72	+6 pp
Niger	26	-7 pp
Chad	2	+1 pp

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month
pp: percentage point



The **Magaria** Flow Monitoring Point was established to observe cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria, as well as internal flows. Magaria is a town on the border between Niger and Nigeria, through which high volumes of flows originating from Nigeria is one of the main points of origin for migrant travelling toward the Mediterranean. The Magaria FMP has been active since August 2018.

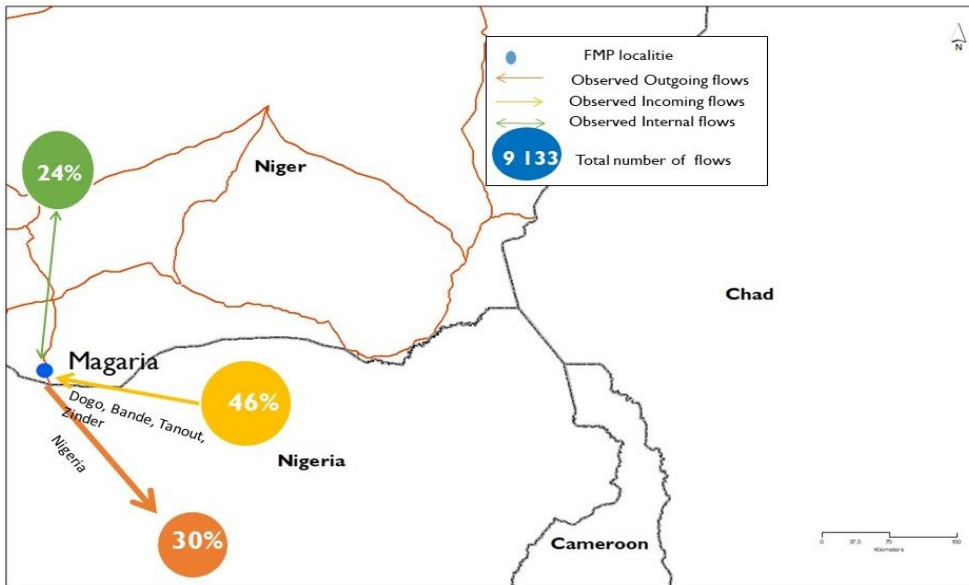
A daily average of 295 individuals passing through the Magaria FMP was observed during this month with more incoming flows (47%) than outgoing flows (29%) and a larger proportion of internal movements (24%). All cross border flows observed were heading towards Niger or Nigeria and primarily coming from the departure cities of Magaria and Zinder (Niger); Babura, Garki and Kano (Nigeria).

The reasons for migration for the majority remain similar with those of the previous month, thus flows were classified as **short term local movements (64%)** and **economic migration (32%)**. Three per cent were tourists while one per cent were seasonal migrants.

Magaria is used mostly by Nigerien and Nigerian traders who have traditionally maintained an economic exchange.

Three main nationalities were observed passing through this FMP in February 2019 : Nigeriens (80%), Nigerians (19%) and Chadians (1%).

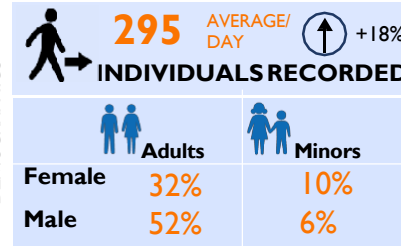
Migrants transiting through the Magaria FMP travelled mostly in some private vehicles (86%), some in buses (10%), and some trucks (4%).



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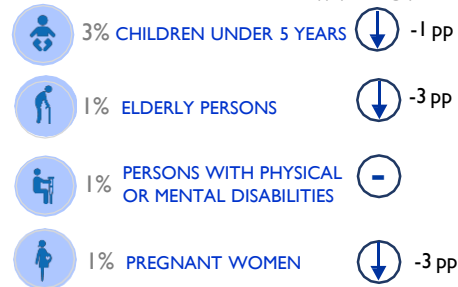
DEMOGRAPHICS

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)



DEMOGRAPHICS

pp: percentage point



VULNERABILITIES

ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION

Country of origin	%	Variation
Niger	60	-
Nigeria	40	+1 pp
Other	0	-1 pp

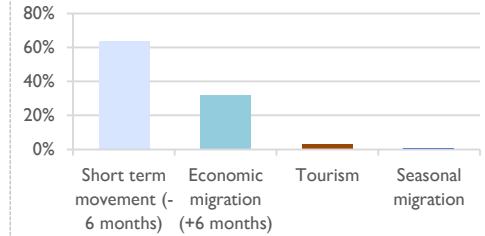
Country of destination	%	Variation
Niger	79	-
Nigeria	21	+1 pp
Other	0	-1 pp

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month
pp: percentage point

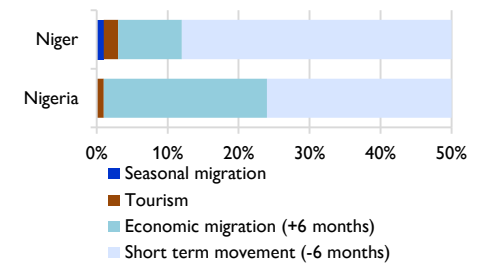
TRAVELLERS' PROFILE

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)

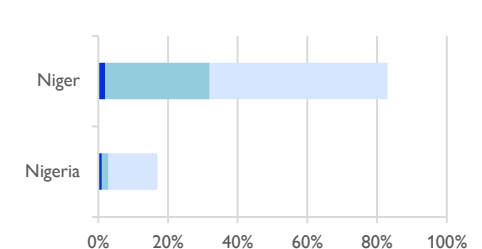
MAIN TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



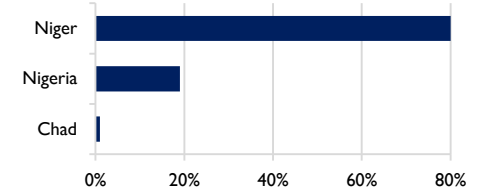
ORIGIN OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



INTENDED DESTINATION OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



MAIN NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



The **Dan Barto** Flow Monitoring Point captures cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria. Dan Barto is a town near the border with Nigeria through which high volumes of flows originating from Nigeria, often travelling towards the Mediterranean via Agadez and Libya. The Dan Barto FMP has been active since **August 2018**.

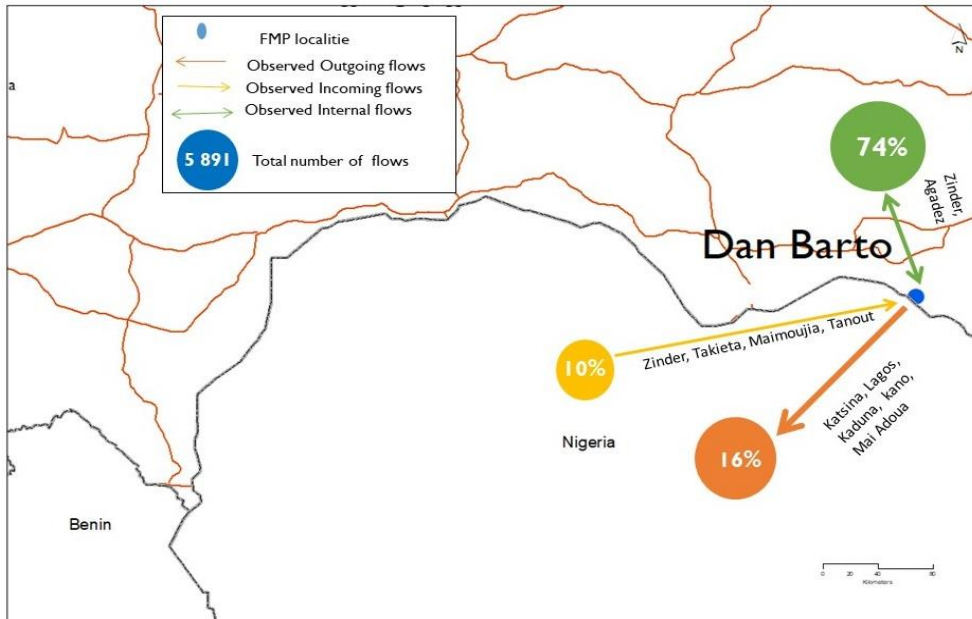
A daily average of 190 individuals passing through the Dan Barto FMP was observed during this month with more outgoing flows (15%) than incoming flows (11%). The majority of individuals transiting through the Dan Barto FMP are short term local movements (74%). this month, a 9% increase in the daily average is observed compared to the previous month when (154) individuals were crossing the boarder each day.

The main reasons cited for migrating were **and seasonal migration (37%)** followed by **short-term local movements (36%),** and **economic migration (27%);**

Dan Barto is mostly used by Nigerien and Nigerian traders who maintain a close economic relationship. Nigerien nationals travel to Nigeria to purchase goods while Nigerian nationals travel to Niger to purchase animals and food (millet, beans, etc.).

Two main nationalities were observed crossing the FMP : Nigeriens (94%) and Nigerians (6%).

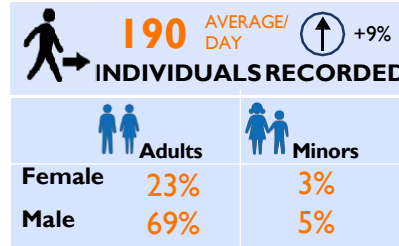
The majority were observed travelling by bus (56%), private vehicles (37%), followed by trucks (3%), by motorbikes and by foot (2%).



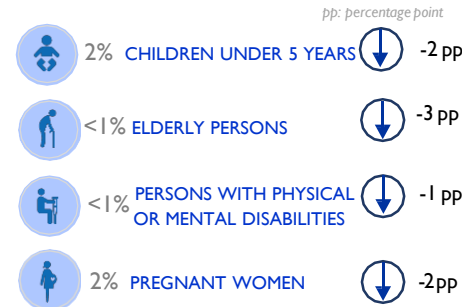
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DEMOGRAPHICS

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)



DEMOGRAPHICS



VULNERABILITIES

Country of origin	%	Variation
Niger	89	-6 pp
Nigeria	11	+6 pp

ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION

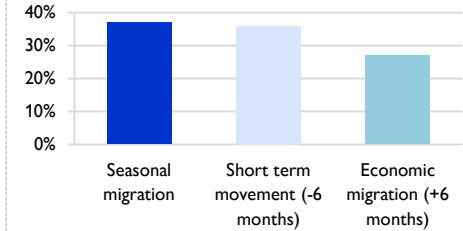
Country of destination	%	Variation
Niger	84	+1 pp
Nigeria	16	-1 pp

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month
pp: percentage point

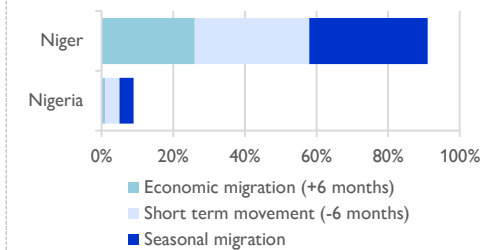
TRAVELLERS' PROFILE

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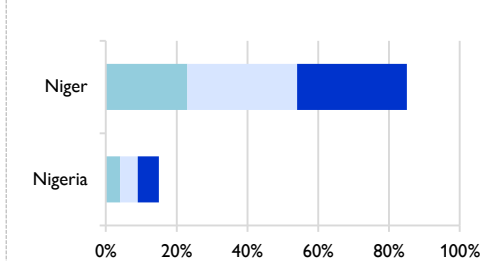
MAIN TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



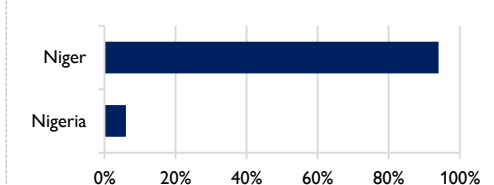
ORIGIN OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



INTENDED DESTINATION OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



MAIN NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



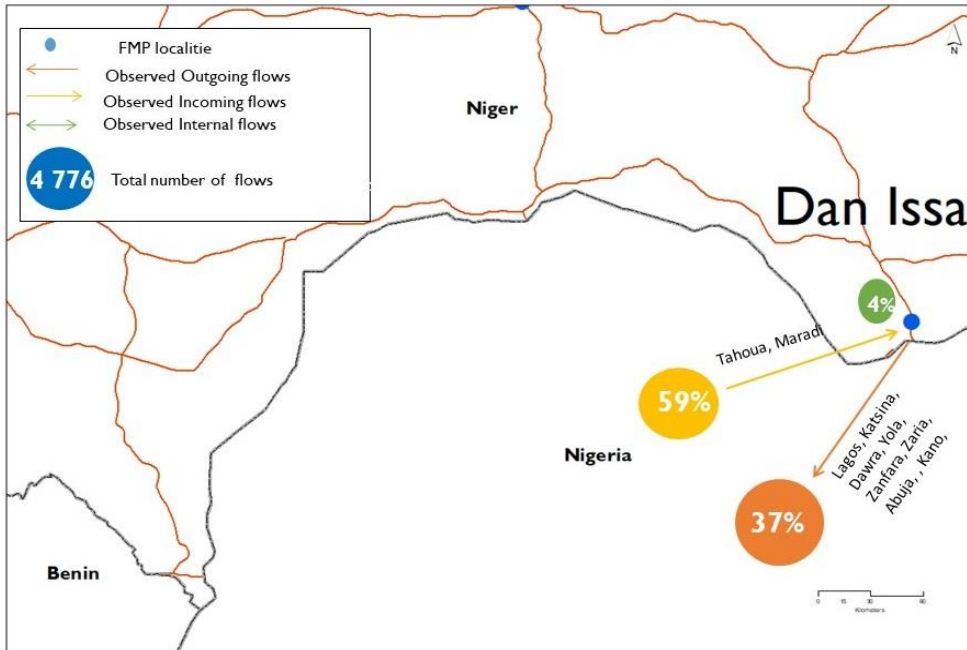
The **Dan Issa** Flow Monitoring Point captures cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria. Dan Issa is a town near the border with Nigeria through which high flow volumes pass. Often the migrants are travelling towards the Mediterranean via Agadez and Libya. The Dan Issa FMP has been active since September 2018.

A daily average of 154 individuals passed through the Dan Issa FMP this month, incoming flows represent (59%) and outgoing flows (37%). All flows observed were heading toward Niger or Nigeria. The main cities of departure are: Maradi, Tahoua and Zinder (Niger); Katsina, Jibia, Magama, Kano, Abuja, and Zamfara (Nigeria). Four per cent of individuals observed at this FMP are moving internally. A decreased of (14%) was observed in the daily average of the observed individuals

The main reasons cited for migration were **short-term local movements (42%)**, **economic migration (34%)**, and **seasonal migration (15%)**. Five per cent of the observed individual were tourists while four per cent are fleeing insecurity in Zamfara state of Nigeria.

Two main nationalities observed crossing the FMP include: Nigeriens (53%) and Nigerians (47%).

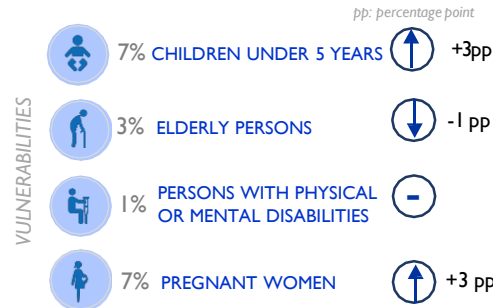
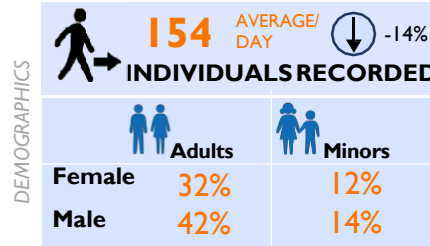
The majority were observed using private vehicles (59%) by buses (35%), on three wheels motorcycles (4%), and on motorcycles (2%).



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DEMOGRAPHICS

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)



ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION

Country of origin	%	Variation
Nigeria	59	+9 pp
Niger	41	-9 pp

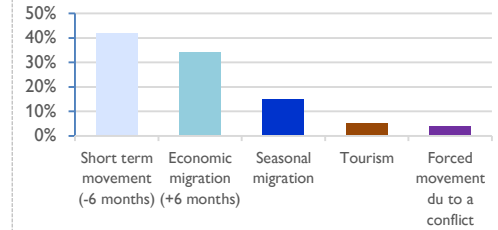
Country of destination	%	Variation
Niger	62	+12 pp
Nigeria	38	-12 pp

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month
pp: percentage point

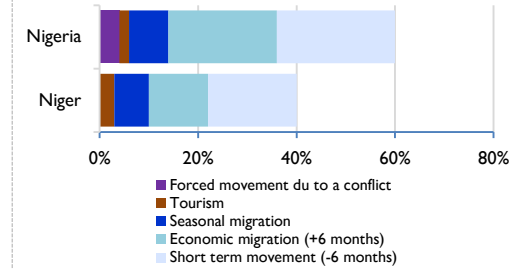
TRAVELLERS' PROFILE

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)

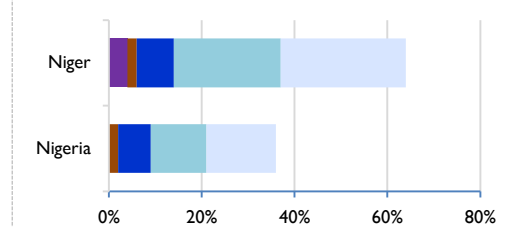
MAIN TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



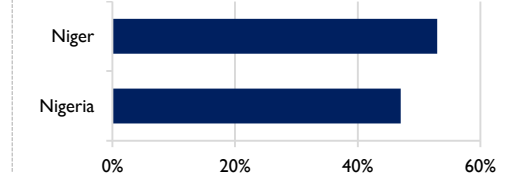
ORIGIN OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



INTENDED DESTINATION OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



MAIN NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



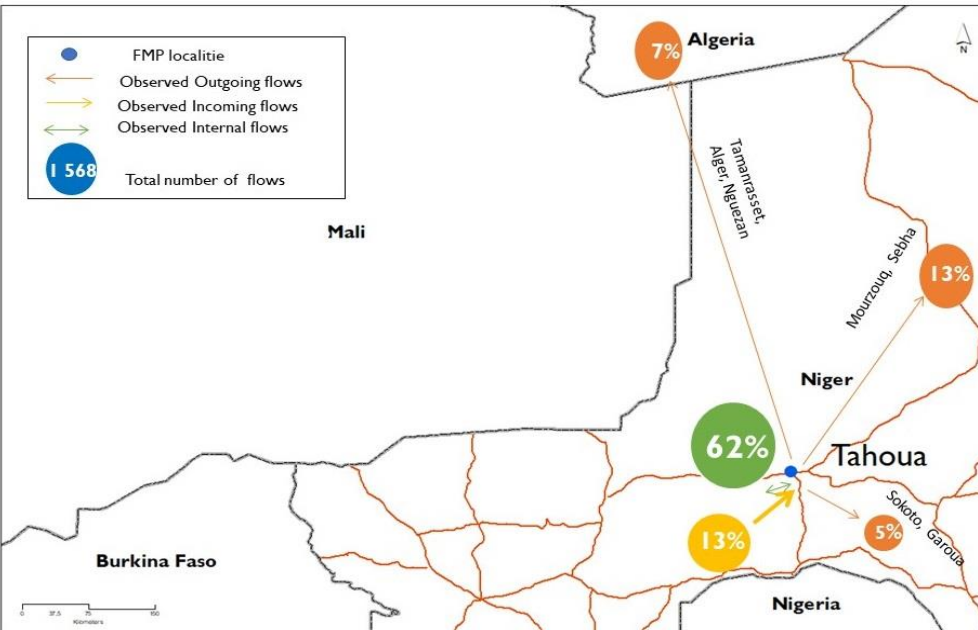
The **Tahoua** Flow Monitoring Point captures both cross-border and internal movements. Tahoua is a city in central Niger, where migrants transit. They mainly originate from Nigeria and other west Africa, such as Mali, Cameroon and Burkina Faso. They tend to take the Agadez route toward Algeria and Libya, while some reach Algeria through Tchinta, about 300km near the Algerian border. The Tahoua FMP has been **active since August 2018**.

A **daily average of 51 individuals** passing through the Tahoua FMP was observed in March 2019. This represents a decrease of (37%) in comparison to the previous month. Internal movements originated from Niamey (27%), Agadez (26%), Tahoua (6%), and Maradi (4%). Outgoing flows represented (24%) flows, while incoming flows represented (13%) of flows.

The main reasons cited for migrating were **seasonal migration (42%)** followed by **short term local movements (31%), economic migration (21%)** and **tourism (2%) per cent**. Two per cent were tourists while four per cent of surveyed individuals did not respond to the question.

The main nationalities observed crossing the Tahoua FMP included: Nigeriens (84%), Cameroonians (3%) and Ghanaians (3%), Nigerians (2%), Beninese (2%), Malians (2%), and Ivoirians (1%). Other observed nationalities include Burkinabe, Chadian, amongst others.

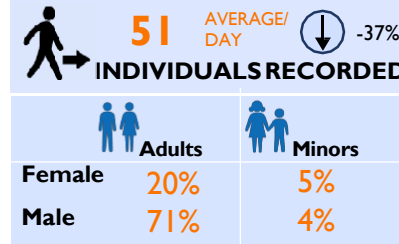
The majority were observed travelling by buses (69%), followed by private vehicles and (28%) and trucks (3%).



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DEMOGRAPHICS

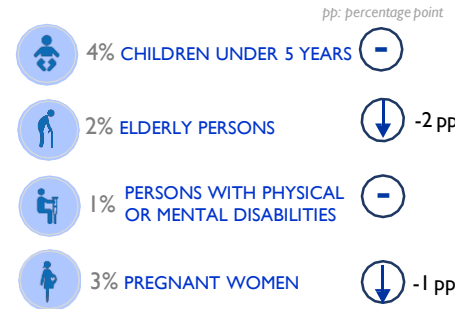
(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)



DEMOGRAPHICS

VULNERABILITIES

ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION



Country of origin	%	Variation
Niger	85	-7 pp
Côte d'Ivoire	6	+6 pp
Algeria	6	+2 PP
Libya	2	-2 pp
Nigeria	1	-3 pp

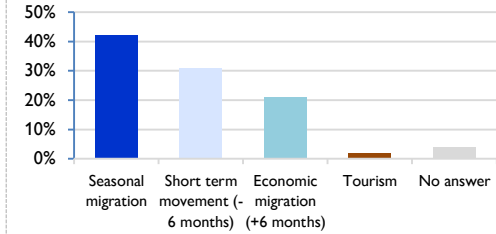
Country of destination	%	Variation
Niger	76	-18 pp
Libya	12	+12 pp
Algeria	8	+5 pp
Other	4	+2 pp

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month
pp: percentage point

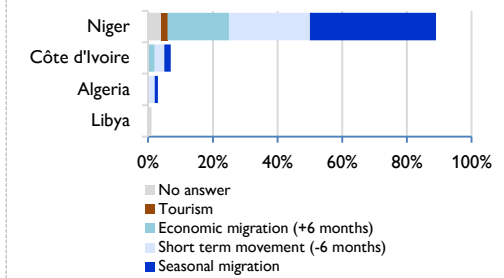
TRAVELLERS' PROFILE

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)

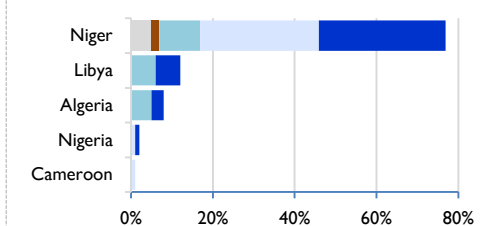
MAIN TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



ORIGIN OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



INTENDED DESTINATION OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



MAIN NATIONALITIES OBSERVED

