

MIGRATION FLOWS TRENDS DASHBOARD July 2023

21,573 migration movements observed,¹ including **21%** at the Obock Flow Monitoring Point (FMP)

-0,3% movements compared to June 2023

11,393 migrants flows from Ethiopia

805 spontaneous returns from Yemen²

162 exits to Ethiopia

812 stranded migrants in Djibouti as of 26 July 2023³

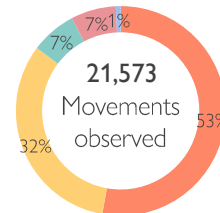
OVERVIEW

In July 2023, 21,573 migratory movements were observed at flow monitoring points (FMPs) in Djibouti, with a daily average of 719 migratory movements. The migratory flows observed in all FMPs remained almost the same in June (21,630) as in July, all experiencing a slight decrease compared to May (22,556). This slight drop in flows in June and July compared to May remains linked to the strong heat which reigns combined with the checks carried out by the Djiboutian coast guard since April 2023.

Of these 21,573 movements, 4,621 (21%) were observed in the Obock region where migrants cross the Gulf of Aden towards the Arabian Peninsula. Migratory flows at Obock FMP remain almost the same in June as in July (-1%) with a 10% drop compared to May 2023. This drop can be attributed to the amplification of surveillance operations by the Djiboutian coast guards in Obock and due to difficult weather conditions during this period of high winds and rough seas.

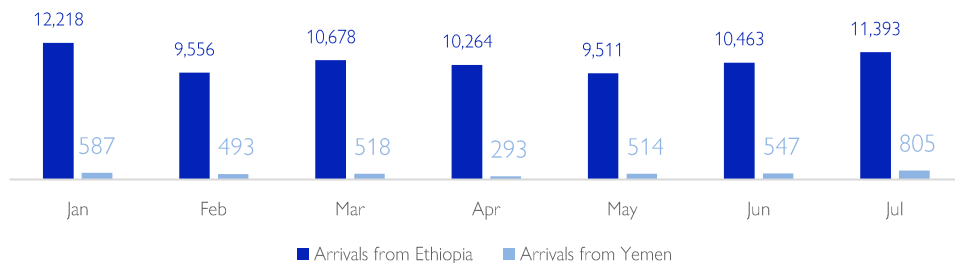
Between January and July 2023, arrivals from Ethiopia saw a significant increase of 52% compared to the same period of the previous year, with a total of 74,083 arrivals recorded. Migratory movements were mainly: incoming (53%), transiting to the Arabian Peninsula (32%), transiting inside Djibouti (7%), transiting to Ethiopia (7%) and outgoing (1%). Spontaneous returns from Yemen have significantly increased by 47%, from 547 in June to 805 in July 2023 due to deportation operations carried out by the Yemeni authorities.

TYPE OF FLOWS⁴

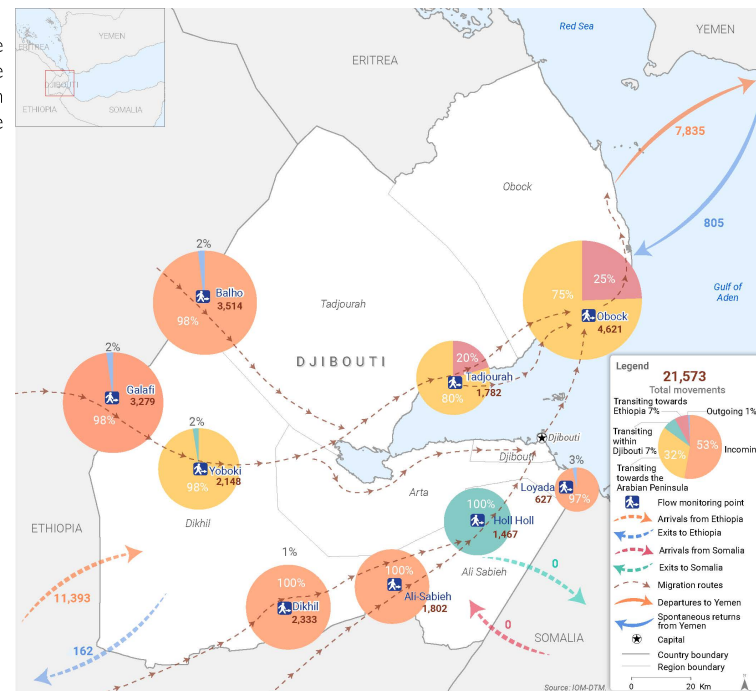


- Incoming
- Transiting towards the Arabian Peninsula
- Transiting within Djibouti
- Transiting towards Ethiopia
- Outgoing

MIGRATORY FLOWS ARRIVING IN DJIBOUTI IN 2023



AVERAGE DAILY MOVEMENTS OBSERVED AT FMPs IN 2023



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

¹As of March 2022, the movements of Djiboutian nationals (transiting, leaving or returning to the country) are included in the data except for internal movements.

²The data on returns from Yemen were collected through key informants.

³Information on the definition and methodology for counting stranded migrants in Djibouti is available on the last page of this Dashboard.

⁴In the context of this report, the method of analysis has changed compared to previous reports. The analysis considered that inflows only include flows from Ethiopia and Somalia border flow monitoring points. Transiting flows refer to flows crossing localities in Djibouti or leaving Djibouti to another country that is not the final destination. While outgoing flows are those that cross Djibouti to a country of final destination.

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MIGRATION MOVEMENTS FROM ETHIOPIA

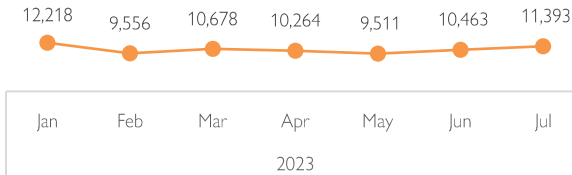
74,083

Arrivals from Ethiopia in 2023

11,393

Arrivals from Ethiopia in July 2023

ARRIVALS FROM ETHIOPIA IN 2023

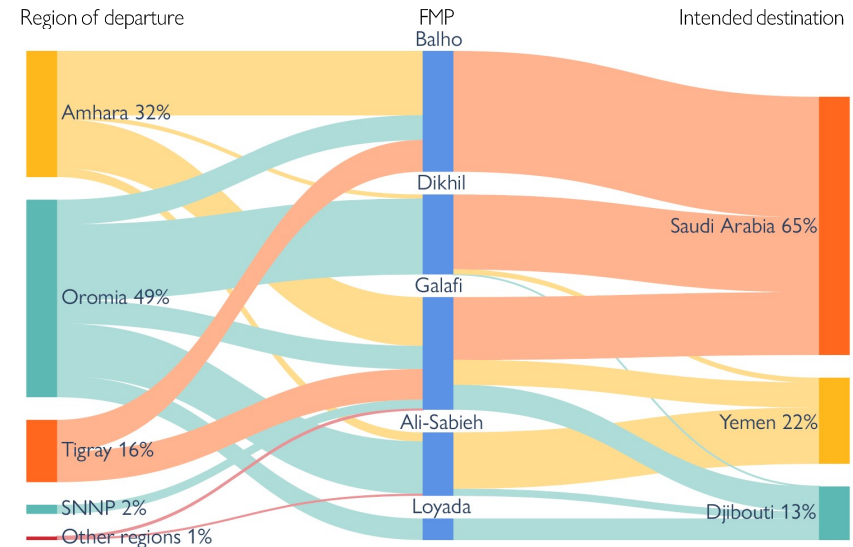


In July, almost half of the incoming movements from Ethiopia were observed in the Dikhil region (49%) via the FMPs of Galafi (28%) and Dikhil (20%). The Tadjourah region observed 30% of incoming movements to Djibouti through the Balho FMP, while movements from Ethiopia observed in Ali-Sabieh accounted for 16%. The Loyada FMP, on the border with Somalia, accounted for 5% of inbound movements from Ethiopia.

Compared to the previous month, a 9% increase in movements from Ethiopia was recorded in July 2023 due to rumors about the presence of the activities of smugglers controlling the crossing of the sea in its turbulent period.

The main regions of departure for migrants from Ethiopia were Oromia (49%) and Amhara (32%). Most migrants intended to reach the Arabian Peninsula, mainly Saudi Arabia (65%) and Yemen (22%), while 13% had Djibouti as their country of destination.

ARRIVALS FROM ETHIOPIA IN JULY 2023 BY REGION OF DEPARTURE AND INTENDED DESTINATION



RETURNS FROM YEMEN

3,757

Returns from Yemen in 2023

805

Returns from Yemen in July 2023

RETURNS FROM YEMEN IN 2023



Male • 94%



Female • 6%

In Obock, the coastal region of Djibouti where migrants cross the Gulf of Aden to the Arabian Peninsula via the eastern route, spontaneous returns of Ethiopian migrants from Yemen continue to be observed. In July 2023, 805 returns were recorded, an increase of 47% compared to June 2023. This increase is due to the deportation of several hundred migrants to the border by the Yemeni authorities.

In addition, according to the DTM in Yemen, 7,835 migrants from the Obock region arrived in Yemen in July 2023, a decrease of 11% compared to the previous month (8,789). This decrease is mainly explained by the weather conditions, namely the high tides making the sea very rough during this period.

EXITS TO ETHIOPIA⁵

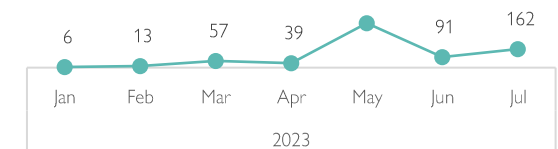
759

Exits to Ethiopia in 2023

162

Exits to Ethiopia in July 2023

EXITS TO ETHIOPIA IN 2023



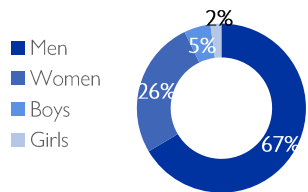
⁵ It should be kept in mind that the means of transport used by Ethiopian migrants vary; while most of them move from Obock to Ali-Sabieh on foot, the majority of Tigrayan migrants returning from Yemen cross the border at Balho and Galafi by car or by bus, which makes it more difficult to record their movements.

Exits to Ethiopia increased by 78% in the last month (from 91 to 162), following a 77% decrease between May and June. This increase may be due to the relative absence of smugglers for crossing the Gulf of Aden to the Arabian Peninsula combined with the strengthening of controls on migratory flows inside Djibouti.

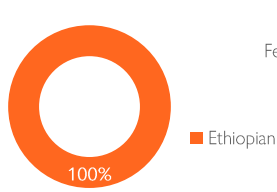
All migrants who headed for Ethiopia in June 2023 were identified in in Tadjourah, Dikhil and Arta regions in Balho (44%), Galafi (43%) and Loyada (12%) FMPs and were mainly going to the Amhara (60%) and Oromia (40%) regions.

DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIOECONOMIC PROFILE

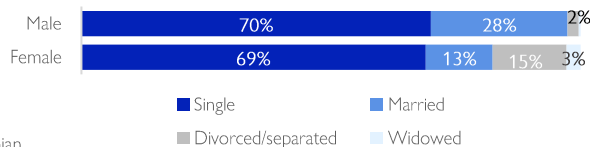
SEX AND AGE GROUP



NATIONALITIES



MARITAL STATUS BY SEX



In July, most of the migrants identified in the FMPs were adults (67% men and 26% women), while 7% were children (5% boys and 2% girls). All of them (100%) were Ethiopian nationals.

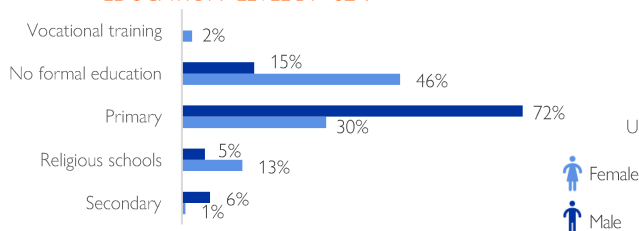
A total of 608 children were traveling alone (79% boys and 21% girls) and 374 children were heads of households.

Of the 412 respondents (66% male and 34% female) to the Flow Monitoring Surveys (FMS), nearly three-quarters were single (70%), while 23% were married (including 28% men and 13% women) and 7% divorced or separated.

More than half of the migrants surveyed (57%) had received a primary education (72% male and only 30% female) and 26% had received no formal education (15% male and 46% female gender). In addition, 13% of female migrants had attended a religious school.

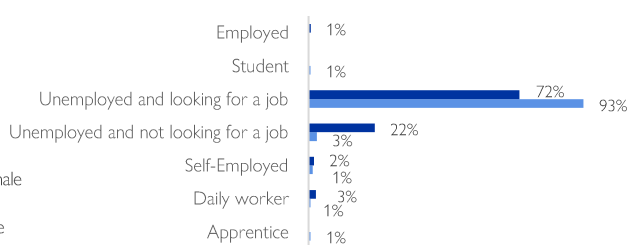
Moreover, almost all of the migrant women interviewed (93%) were looking for a job.

EDUCATION LEVEL BY SEX⁶



⁶ 8% of female and 2% of male did not answer this question.

PROFESSIONAL STATUS BY SEX

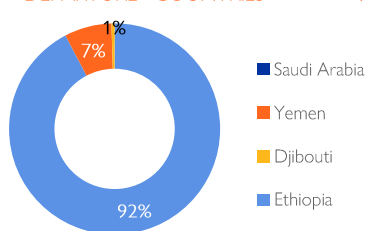


TRAVEL CHARACTERISTICS

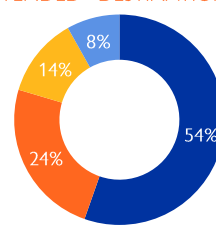
In July, almost all of the individuals identified at the FMP level had left Ethiopia (92%). Most of the migrants observed intended to reach the Arabian Peninsula (54% to Saudi Arabia and 24% to Yemen). The migrants observed traveled mainly for economic reasons (87%) and on foot (54%).

In addition, of the 412 people questioned via the FMS, 75% said they had encountered difficulties during their journey. Male migrants are more likely to encounter or report difficulties (79%) than female migrants (67%). The most recurrent challenges mentioned were lack of food and water (71%) and lack of shelter (69%). Nearly half of respondents who had encountered difficulties during their trip also reported financial difficulties (49%) or challenges at sea (14%).

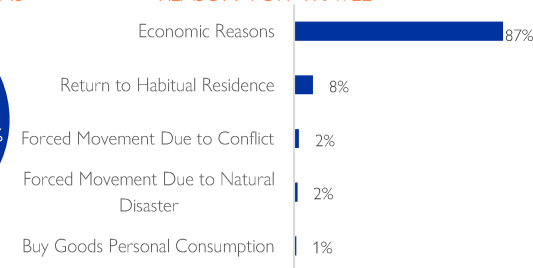
DEPARTURE COUNTRIES



INTENDED DESTINATIONS



REASON FOR TRAVEL



MEANS OF TRANSPORT



MIGRANTS STRANDED IN DJIBOUTI

812

Migrants stranded in Djibouti as of July 26, 2023



7

Informal sites



Several migrants transiting through Djibouti on their way to or returning from the Arabian Peninsula remain stranded in Djibouti, mainly due to the lack of resources to continue their migratory journeys. These migrants find themselves stranded in informal sites along the eastern route where they have little or no access to basic services and are exposed to protection risks. Their priority needs are access to drinking water, food, hygiene kits and non-food items.

As of July 26, 812 migrants were stranded in 7 informal sites distributed in the regions of Dikhil (31%), Tadjourah (24%), Obock (24%) and Ali-Sabieh (21%).

DTM in Djibouti

IOM works in collaboration with the Government of Djibouti to better understand the migratory dynamics in Djibouti as well as the profile of migrants passing through the country. IOM implements Flow Monitoring, a DTM component which consists in collecting data in the localities through which migrants transit (Flow Monitoring Points). The data presented in this monthly report provides an overview of the movements and profiles of the migrant population in Djibouti.

Flow Monitoring

Flow Monitoring is a component of the IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM). The objective of this component is to regularly provide updated information on population flows and on the profile of populations on the move (migrants, internally displaced persons, returnees, etc.). The information and analyses obtained through the Flow Monitoring methodology provide a better understanding of the difficulties encountered by migrants throughout their migratory route or forced displacement in order to better define priorities in terms of assistance.

Spontaneous returns from Yemen

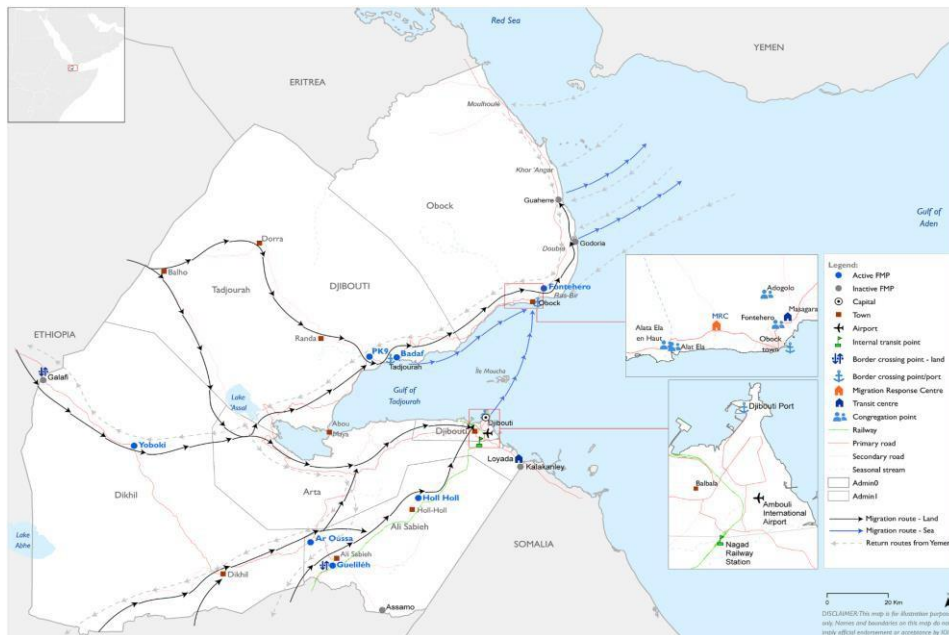
Spontaneous returns from Yemen are a component of IOM's DTM which started in May 2020. The objective of this data collection tool is to provide updated information on population flows returning from Yemen following COVID-19 movement restrictions in Yemen and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The information and analyses offered by DTM provide a better understanding of the current difficulties encountered by migrants throughout their migratory route. While the number of arrivals is gathered through a well-established system, not all returns can be captured due to their coastal location. Thus, the number of arrivals from Yemen is most probably higher than reported.

Migrants stranded in Djibouti

Information on migrants stranded in Djibouti as well as on informal sites is collected through enumerators deployed at key transit points. Data is collected on a daily basis, during time slots when the flows are most acute. Data in this dashboard does not include flows observed in Djibouti City.

Limitations

The spatial and temporal coverage of the surveys carried out is partial and does not allow all migratory flows in the country to be captured. The data presented in this report mainly shows migration trends. Furthermore, it is possible that migrants crossing several FMPs may be counted for more than once. Thus, the total number of migrants observed at the FMPs does not necessarily reflect the true migratory flows in each region. It is also worth highlighting that the number of enumerators responsible for data collection can change from one month to the other, which can partly explain some changes in the flows observed. In addition, the data on the vulnerabilities are based on direct observations by the enumerators and should only be taken as an indication. All data included in this report are based on partial observations and are not representative of the entire migrant population. IOM assures that the data included in this report is reliable, but stresses that it does not provide a complete picture of migration movements in Djibouti.



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