

MIGRATION TRENDS DASHBOARD | DECEMBER 2022

19,156 movements observed,¹ including **19%** at the Obock Flow Monitoring Point (FMP)

+5% movements compared to November 2022

13,830 arrivals from Ethiopia

583 spontaneous returns from Yemen²

11 exits to Ethiopia

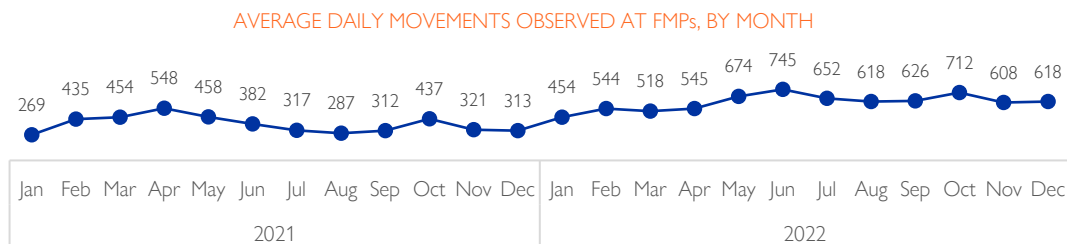
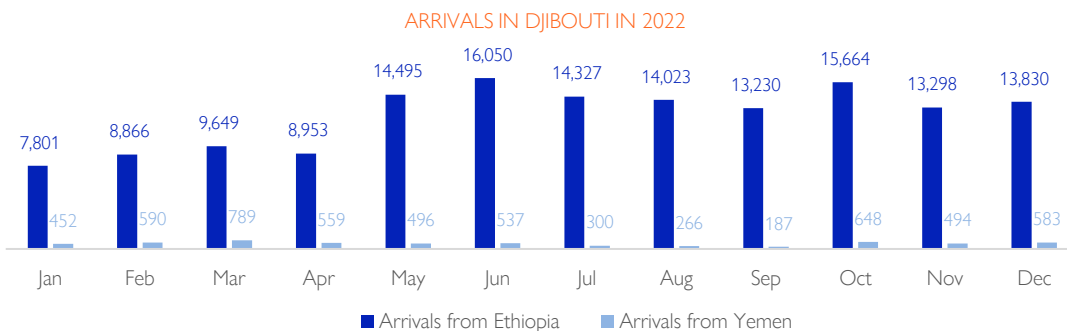
672 stranded migrants in Djibouti as of 29 December 2022

OVERVIEW

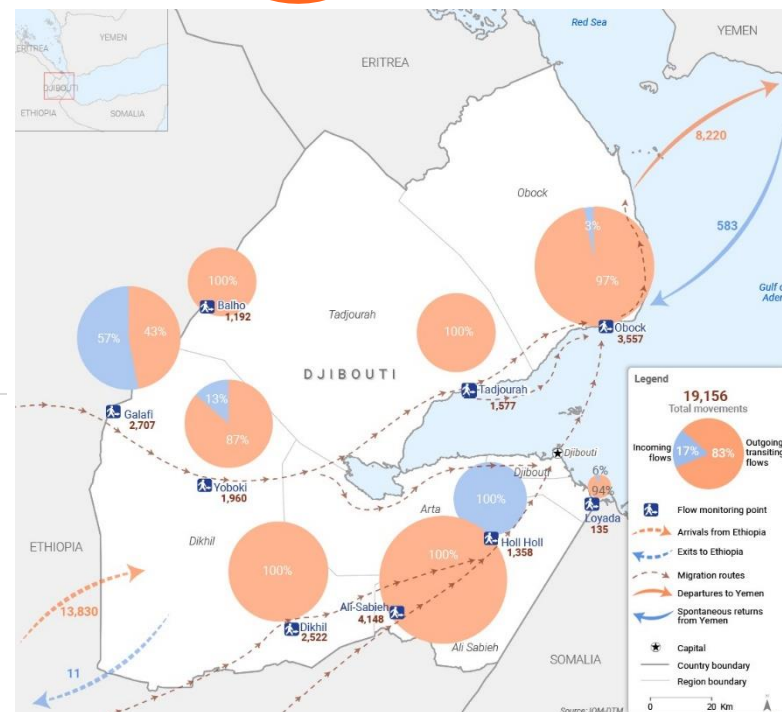
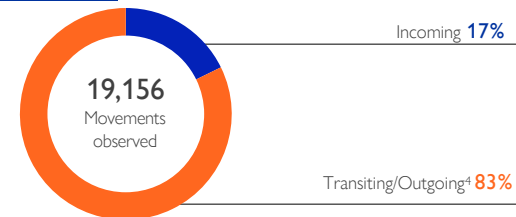
In December 2022, 19,156 movements were observed at the Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) in Djibouti, representing a daily average of 618 movements. Migration flows increased by 5 per cent compared to November, during which 18,234 movements had been registered. It is worth highlighting that in December daily migration flows (618) were below pre COVID-19 levels (between March 2019 and March 2020, the daily average was 654).

Of these 19,156 movements, 3,557 (19%) were observed in Obock. This coastal region of Djibouti is the main gateway for migrants going to and returning from the Arabian Peninsula. Migrants regroup at gathering points in the Obock region where they then cross the Gulf of Aden on boats along the so-called Eastern route.

If compared with 2021 (73,648), incoming movements from Ethiopia in 2022 (150,186) almost doubled (+90%). However, if compared to November 2022 (13,298) these movements only increased by 4 per cent (13,830). Furthermore, the number of Ethiopians who have returned from Yemen has increased by 18%, from 494 in November to 583 in December. In 2022, there were 5,901 Ethiopian migrants who returned to Djibouti from Yemen, slightly more than half compared to 2021 (10,547).



TYPE OF FLOWS



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.

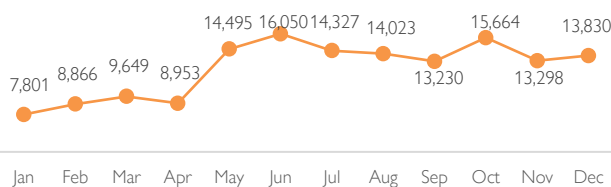
⁴In the framework of this report, incoming flows only include flows coming from a country other than Djibouti and headed to Djibouti. Outgoing flows cover the flows departing from Djibouti to reach another country, while transiting flows are those which pass through Djibouti, but whose departure and final destination countries are different from Djibouti.

ARRIVALS FROM ETHIOPIA

150,186 Arrivals from Ethiopia in 2022

13,830 Arrivals from Ethiopia in December 2022

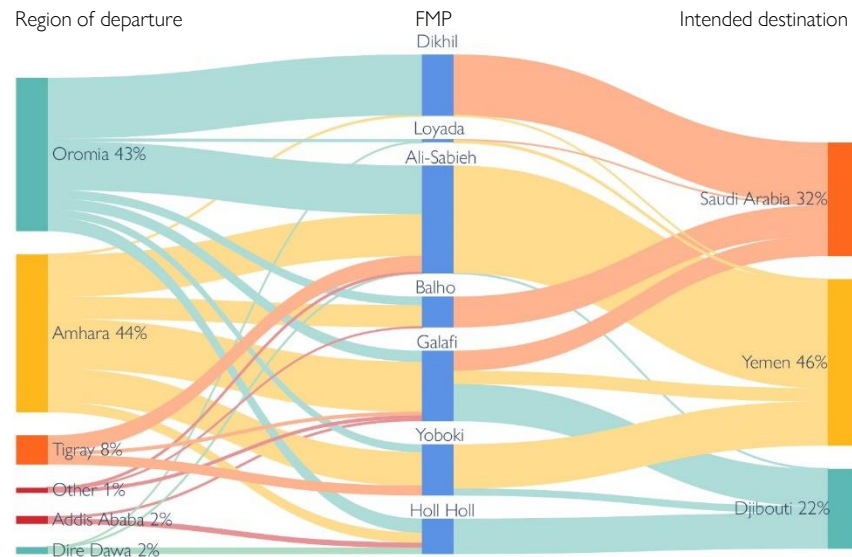
ARRIVALS FROM ETHIOPIA IN 2022



In 2022, 150,186 migrants entered Djibouti from Ethiopia. The month of December (13,830) experienced a slight increase (4%) with respect to November in terms of incoming movements from Ethiopia. This could be attributed to different factors, such as lower presence of controls at the borders with Ethiopia and a decrease in various risks associated with migration on the Ethiopian routes towards Djibouti.

In December, more than half of the migrants arriving from Ethiopia (51%) transited through the Dikhil region, notably through the Dikhil, Yoboki, and Galafi FMPs, 40 per cent through the Ali-Sabieh and Holl Holl FMPs in the Ali-Sabieh region, 8% through the Balho FMP in the Tadjourah region, and 1% through the Loyada FMP in the Arta region. The main region of departure of migrants coming from Ethiopia was Amhara (44%), followed by Oromia (43%) and Tigray (8%). Most migrants intended to reach the Arabian Peninsula, mostly Yemen (46%) and Saudi Arabia (32%), while less than a quarter (22%) wanted to stay in Djibouti.

ARRIVALS FROM ETHIOPIA IN NOVEMBER 2022, BY REGION OF DEPARTURE AND INTENDED DESTINATION



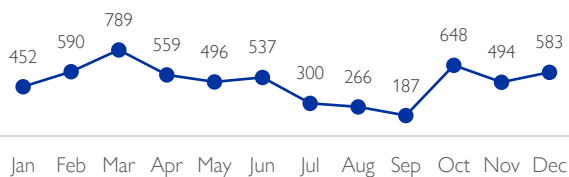
RETURNS FROM YEMEN

5,901 Returns from Yemen in 2022

84 Returns of Tigrayan migrants from Yemen as of July 2021*

*No updates since July 2021

RETURNS FROM YEMEN IN 2022



583 Returns from Yemen in December 2022



Men • 92%



Women • 8%

In Obock, where migrants cross the Gulf of Aden to the Arabian Peninsula along the Eastern route, spontaneous returns of Ethiopian migrants from Yemen continue to be observed. Indeed, 5,918 spontaneous returns from Yemen were tracked in 2022. After a moderate decrease of 24% between October and November, December observed an 18% increase in the number of Ethiopian nationals returning from Yemen.

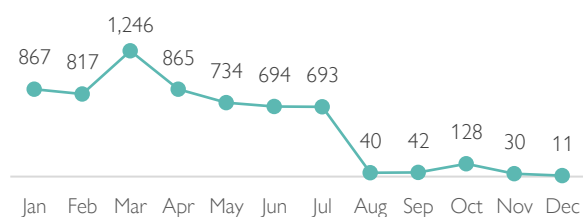
In addition, according to DTM Yemen, 8,220 migrants from the Obock region arrived in Yemen in December, which represents a 62% increase with respect to November (5,081), and the month with the highest number of Ethiopian migrants arriving from Obock to the Yemeni coast. This could be explained by favorable weather and sea conditions along with a decrease in coast guard patrolling in the Bab al-Mandab Strait. DTM team in Yemen tracked more than 31,000 Ethiopian migrants arriving from Obock in 2022.

EXITS TO ETHIOPIA ⁵

6,167 Exits to Ethiopia in 2022

11 Exits to Ethiopia in December 2022

EXITS TO ETHIOPIA IN 2022



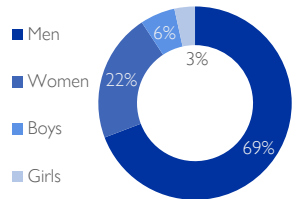
⁵ It should be kept in mind that the means of transport used by Ethiopian migrants vary: while most of them move from Obock to Ali-Sabieh on foot, the majority of Tigrayan migrants returning from Yemen cross the border at Balho and Galafi by car or by bus, which makes it more difficult to record their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

In 2022, 6,167 exits to Ethiopia have been tracked. However, these figures have experienced a steady decrease since March (1,246) and a sharp decrease since July 2022 (693). Except for the month of October (128), in the second half of the year, migrant exits to Ethiopia never went above 50, while the lowest figure (11) was registered in December.

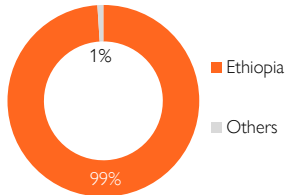
All migrants headed to Ethiopia in December were identified in the region of Tadjourah and were headed towards the Amhara region. During 2022, migrants exiting Djibouti and heading to Ethiopia were tracked in the Ali-Sabieh region (87%), followed by those identified in Dikhil (10%) and Tadjourah (3%) regions. Most of them had Oromia (76%) and Amhara (23%) regions in Ethiopia as a destination.

DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO - ECONOMIC PROFILE

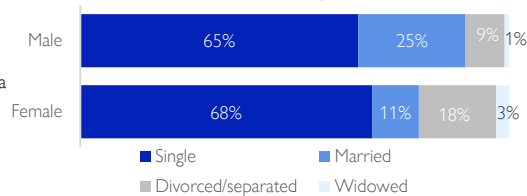
SEX AND AGE GROUP



NATIONALITIES



MARITAL STATUS, BY SEX



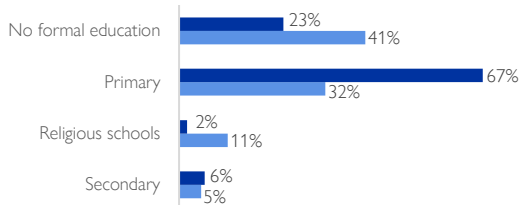
In December, most of the migrants identified at FMPs were adults (69% men and 22% women), while 9% were children (6% boys and 3% girls). Almost all of them (99%) were Ethiopian nationals. Amongst the vulnerable population groups identified, there were 661 children who were travelling alone (499 boys and 162 girls), 53 pregnant or lactating women, and 6 children aged under five years old.

Of the 488 respondents (79% males and 21% females) to the Flow Monitoring Surveys (FMS), more than half were single (65%), while 22 per cent were married (notably 25% of males and 11% of females) and 11% divorced or separated.

Moreover, more than a quarter of migrants surveyed (27%) had not received any kind of formal education (notably 41% of females) and 60% had reached only the primary level (including 67% of males but only 32% of females). It is also worth highlighting that more than one out of ten females (11%) attended a religious school.

Also, most of the respondents (88%) were unemployed and looking for a job.

EDUCATION LEVEL, BY SEX



Note: 11% of females and 2% of males did not respond to this question

PROFESSIONAL STATUS, BY SEX

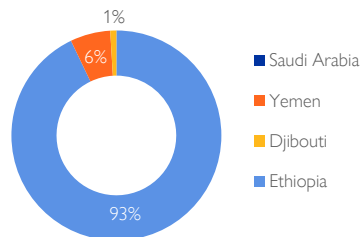


TRAVEL CHARACTERISTICS

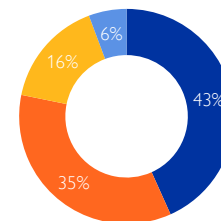
In December, most of the individuals identified at FMPs had departed from Ethiopia (93%), while 6% did so from Yemen and 1% from Djibouti. Most of the observed migrants intended to reach the Arabian Peninsula (43% to Saudi Arabia and 35% to Yemen). The tracked migrants traveled mainly for economic reasons (73%) and mostly on foot (64%).

In addition, of the 488 individuals surveyed through the FMS, 81% reported facing challenges during their journey. Notably, males are more prone to report challenges (85%) than females (62%). The most recurrent challenges mentioned were lack of shelter (85%) and lack of food and water (81%). More than a quarter of those surveyed who faced challenges during their journey also reported financial challenges (27%), while some others reported physical abuse (20%).

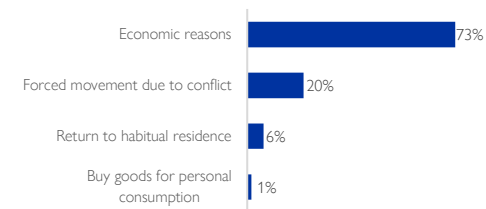
DEPARTURE COUNTRIES



INTENDED DESTINATIONS



REASON FOR TRAVEL



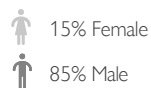
MEANS OF TRANSPORT



MIGRANTS STRANDED IN DJIBOUTI

672

Migrants stranded in Djibouti as of 29 December 2022



7

Informal sites



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

As of 29 December 2022, 672 migrants were stranded in 7 informal sites. Most of them were stranded in the Obock region (38%), followed by those in Tadjourah (26%), Dikhil (19%) and Ali-Sabieh (17%).

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

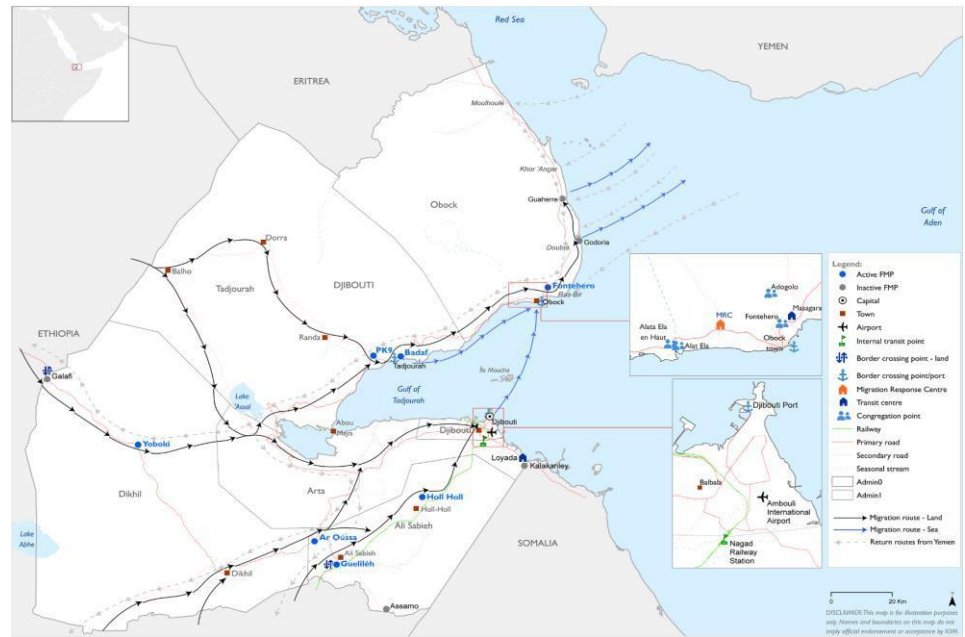
Spontaneous returns from Yemen are a component of IOM's DTM which started in May 2020. The objective of this data collection tool is to provide updated information on population flows returning from Yemen following COVID-19 movement restrictions in Yemen and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The information 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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