



Zimbabwe is a sending, receiving and transit country. Statistics recorded throughout 2019 point to the fact that most of the migrants leave the country for affluent neighbouring countries and overseas to seek better standards of life, employment opportunities and affordable basic services.

This report summarises the migration movements at the Southern crossing points to South Africa at Beitbridge and Eastern Crossing points to Mozambique in Manicaland, including irregular movements at other official crossing points.

## MOVEMENTS OBSERVED IN 2019

### BEITBRIDGE CROSSING POINTS

In 2019, a total of **5,368,783** movements were recorded at Beitbridge Border Post comprising **2,790,051** entries and **2,578,732** exits.

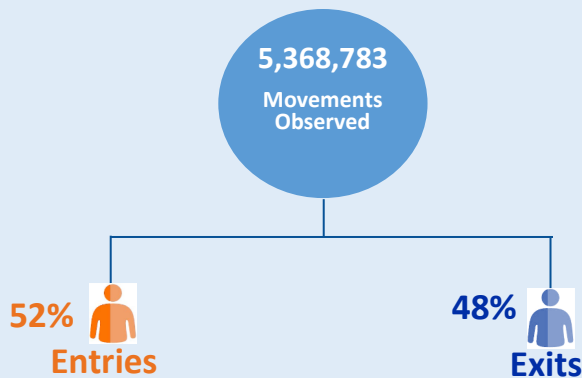


Fig 1: Summary of movements in Beitbridge

Some of the major drivers for having more entries than exits in light of the economic meltdown in Zimbabwe during the year in review can be attributed to:

- ◆ Challenges faced in applying for a new passport or renewing an expired passport. Most immigrants would come back to Zimbabwe towards the expiration of their passports intending to renew or reapply for new passports, only to realise that the process takes longer than usual and that the application fees were above the reach of the ordinary citizen. This situation led vulnerable immigrants to consider leaving the country illegally and hence no record of their exit will be recorded.
- ◆ Cases where migrants would have overstayed in host countries past their permissible days, forcing them to return to Zimbabwe and when they want to go back to South Africa the only way will be through illegal points where there is no record made of the exits.

- ◆ Stringent control measures imposed by the South Africa Government, particularly on the less educated and unskilled, has led to migrants risking crossing via illegal routes. These migrants constitute a large number of unrecorded exits.
- ◆ The figures of entries ballooned in December 2019 (mid-December) justifying travel of migrants working in South Africa to their homes for the festive season. Considering that the Zimbabwe Immigration Movement Control System does not disaggregate travellers by nationality, most of the travellers were observed to be of different nationalities destined for Zimbabwe or in transit to other countries to the north of Zimbabwe for holidays. Fig 2 below depicts the migration flows from June to December 2019. An increase in the number of exits is anticipated in January since most migrants employed in South Africa will be returning to work.

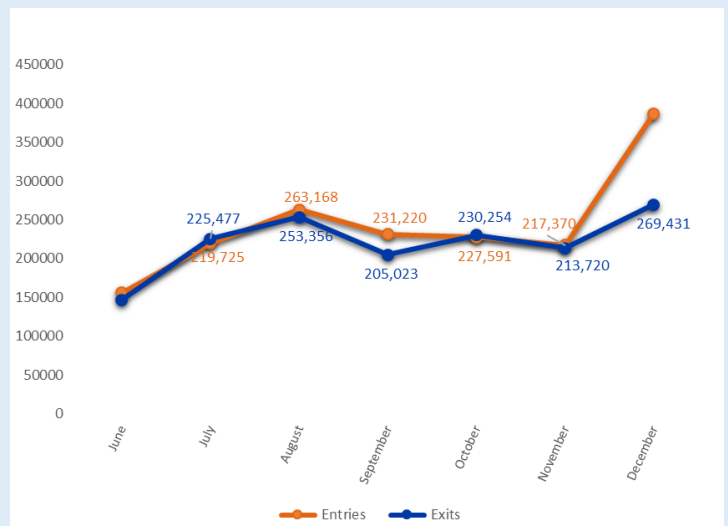


Fig 2: Beitbridge Migration Flow—June to December 2019

### MANICALAND CROSSING POINTS

In Manicaland Migration Flow is mostly to and from Mozambique through Forbes Border Post in Mutare, Mt Selinda in Chipinge and Cashel in Chimanimani. Most of the migrants engage in circulatory cross-border trading.



An average of **2,500** migrants were cleared to pass through the crossing points on a daily basis in 2019.

About **78** per cent of the travellers were observed as Zimbabwean traders who are usually day-trippers, who source cheaper and affordable basic commodities for resale or their own consumption from Mozambique, partly due to high inflation in Zimbabwe.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

email: [dtmzimbabwe@iom.int](mailto:dtmzimbabwe@iom.int) / [dtmsupport@iom.int](mailto:dtmsupport@iom.int)

<https://displacement.iom.int/zimbabwe>

<https://globaldtm.info/zimbabwe>

A total of **923,897** movements were recorded at the 3 crossing points in Manicaland.

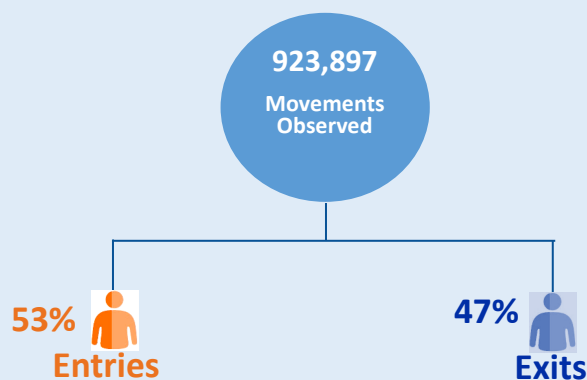


Fig 3: Summary of movements in Manicaland

Post	Entries	Exits
Forbes Border Post	475,011	424,849
Mt Selinda Post	9,513	9,154
Cashel Post	2,473	2,897

About **22** per cent of the observed migrants on the move were foreigners from Mozambique, China and India.

### IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Several cases of irregular movements were recorded in 2019 ranging from irregular entry, irregular residence, irregular employment and overstaying .

A total of **12,268** migrants were forcibly returned from South Africa, Zambia, Mozambique, Malawi and Botswana, with most of the migrants being returned from South Africa.

Male	10,825		89%
Female	1,372		11%



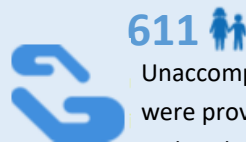
**83**

Migrants assisted with Post Arrival Support to Zimbabwe following **xenophobic** attacks in South Africa.



**2,301**

Migrants received medical assistance from MSF



**611**

Unaccompanied minors (**294** male and **317** female), were provided with interim care at the Child Centre within the Beitbridge Reception Centre.

### DEPORTATIONS

According to statistics from the Department of Immigration, a total of **1,902** migrants were deported from Zimbabwe to their respective country of origin during the year in review. Male deportees constituted **68** per cent while female deportees constituted **32** percent of the total deportees during the year in review. Fig 4 below shows the deportations by Age group.

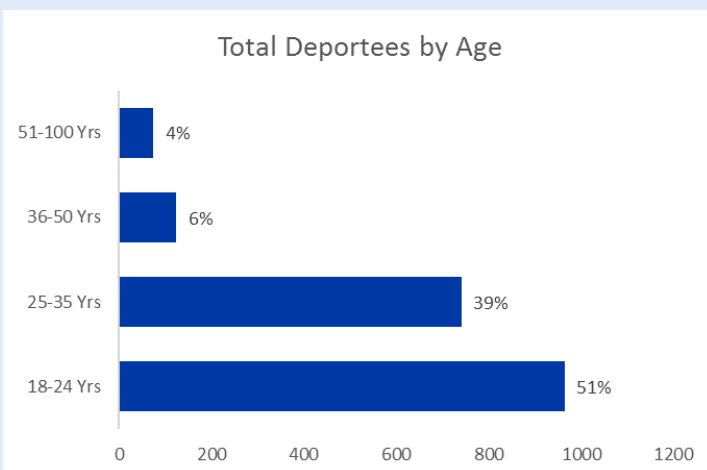


Fig 5: Deportees by Age group

The top 10 nationalities for the deportees were: Malawi (**30%**), Mozambique (**20%**), Zambia(**17%**), DRC (**8%**), South Africa (**6%**), Tanzania (**3%**), Burundi (**3%**), Botswana (**3%**), Uganda (**3%**) and Chinese (**1%**)

### FOREIGN STUDENTS

A total of **1,295** recognised foreign students were studying in Zimbabwe during 2019. The largest number of foreign students were of British Nationality (**19%**) followed by South Africa (**17%**), Namibia (**14%**), USA (**11%**), South Sudan (**8%**), Equatorial Guinea (**7%**), Malawi and Zambia (**5%**) each, DRC and Mozambique (**4%**) each and Other Nationalities (**6%**).

### TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT PERMITS (TEP)

A total of **6,211** Immigrants were issued with Temporary Employment Permits comprising Chinese nationals (**74.6%**), Indians (**9.8%**), RSA (**6.3%**), British (**2.2%**), Pakistan and Angolans (**1.5%**) each, Zambians (**1.3%**), Tanzanians (**0.4%**), Sri Lankans (**0.3%**) each and Other Nationalities (**2%**).

### INVESTOR RESIDENCE PERMITS

A total of **587** Investor Residents Permits were issued to Chinese Nationals (**62.2%**), Indians (**17.4%**), RSA (**7.7%**), British (**6.0%**), Pakistani (**3.1%**) and Other Nationals (**3.7%**).

Information presented in this report is a compilation of available data from Government sources: Immigration Officers, Border Patrol Officers, Department of Social Welfare and other organizations. DTM team categorized and analyzed the data to produce this Flow Monitoring Report.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

email: dtmzimbabwe@iom.int / dtmsupport@iom.int

<https://displacement.iom.int/zimbabwe>

<https://globaldtm.info/zimbabwe>