

MIGRATION TRENDS DASHBOARD DECEMBER 2021

9,692 movements observed, including **20%** at the Obock Flow Monitoring Point (FMP)

5,311 arrivals from Ethiopia

178 spontaneous returns from Yemen¹

514 exits to Ethiopia

2 migrants deceased along the migratory routes

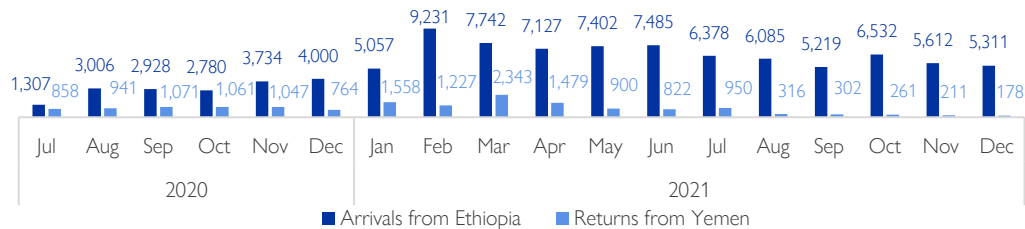
615 migrants stranded in Djibouti as of 30 December 2021

OVERVIEW

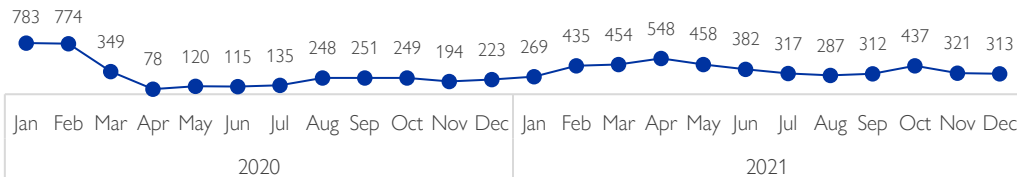
In December 2021, 9,692 movements were observed at Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) in Djibouti, representing a daily average of 313 movements. Migration flows remained relatively stable (-2%) compared to the month of November 2021, during which an average of 321 movements had been registered daily. It is worth highlighting that migration flows have not yet reached pre-COVID-19 levels (between March 2019 and March 2020, the daily average was 621). Of these 9,692 movements, 1,911 (20%) 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 congregation points in the Obock region where they then cross the Gulf of Aden on boats.

From January to June 2020, the number of entries observed from Djibouti's western borders decreased by 99 per cent due to the closure of Ethiopian borders. Since Djibouti and Ethiopia resumed land services in July 2020, the number of entries from Ethiopia has increased sharply. They went from 1,307 movements in July 2020 to 5,311 in December 2021. In addition, 16,641 Ethiopian nationals have returned from Yemen since May 2020. Between May 2020 and July 2021, the number of spontaneous returns from Yemen has been multiplied by nine, from 109 to 950. At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, these movements were mainly due to mobility restrictions imposed in Yemen and Saudi Arabia. Subsequently, the progressive deterioration of living conditions in Yemen also triggered growing numbers of spontaneous returns, which continue to this day. However, since August 2021, the average daily number of returns from Yemen has been declining, reaching its lowest level in December 2021 (178 movements).

ARRIVALS IN DJIBOUTI SINCE JULY 2020³



AVERAGE DAILY MOVEMENTS OBSERVED AT FMPs, BY MONTH

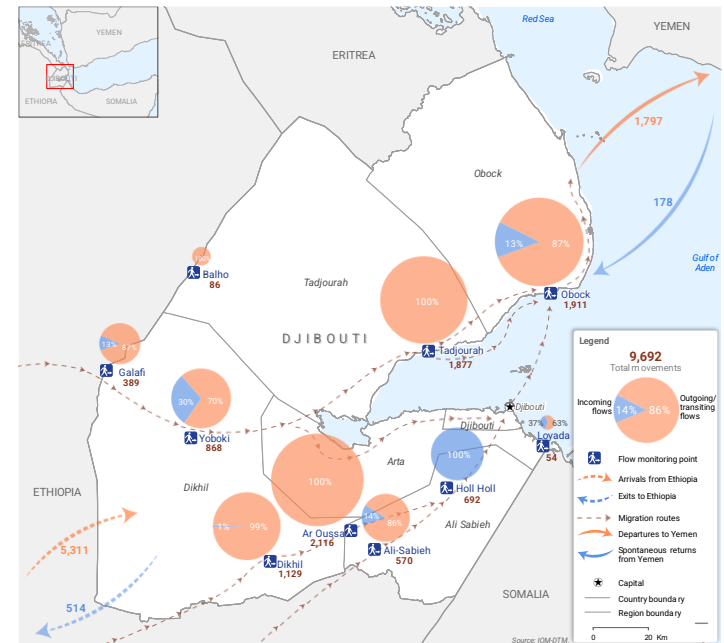
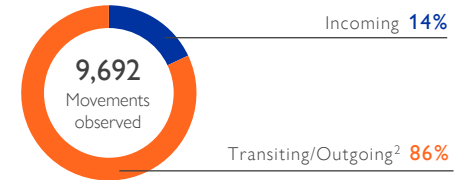


¹The data on returns from Yemen were collected through key informants.

²In 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.

³Some of the data on arrivals from Ethiopia may be different from those reported in previous dashboards, because these numbers include the Dikhil FMP which was previously omitted.

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.

ARRIVALS FROM ETHIOPIA

79,181 Arrivals from Ethiopia in 2021

5,311 Arrivals from Ethiopia in December 2021

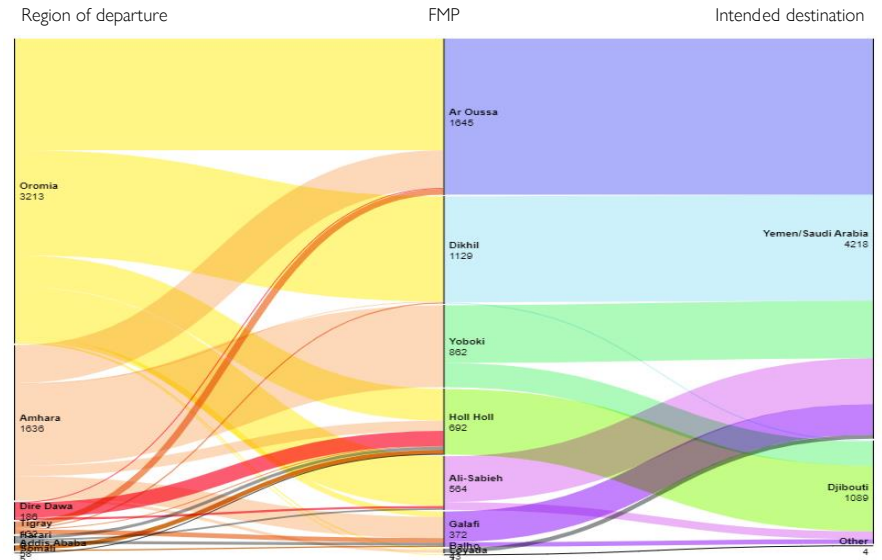


As a nationwide state of emergency was declared in Ethiopia on 2 November 2021, flows from Ethiopia continued to decline in December 2021, with a total of **5,311 arrivals** observed, which represents a **5 per cent decrease compared to November 2021** (5,612 movements). This brings the total entries from Ethiopia in 2021 to **79,181**.

More than half of the migrants arriving from Ethiopia transited through the Ar Oussa, Ali-Sabieh and Holl-Holl FMPs in the region of **Ali-Sabieh** (55%), while 44 per cent were observed in the region of Dikhil (at the Dikhil, Yoboki and Galafi FMPs).

The main region of departure of migrants coming from Ethiopia was **Oromia** (61%), followed by Amhara (31%). Only 2 per cent originated from Tigray. Data show that most of the migrants who came from the regions of Oromia (88%), Tigray (80%), Amhara (75%) and Harari (60%) intended to reach the Arabian Peninsula, while the majority of migrants who came from other regions in Ethiopia reported that they would stay in Djibouti.

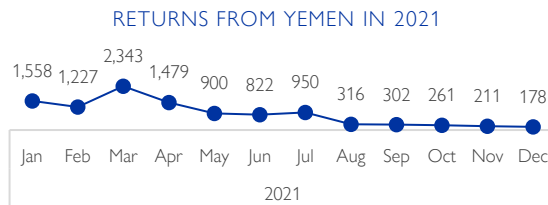
ARRIVALS FROM ETHIOPIA, BY REGION OF DEPARTURE AND INTENDED DESTINATION



RETURNS FROM YEMEN

10,547 Returns from Yemen in 2021

84 Returns of Tigrayan migrants from Yemen since July 2021



178 Returns from Yemen in December 2021

Men • 98% Boys • 2% Women • <1%

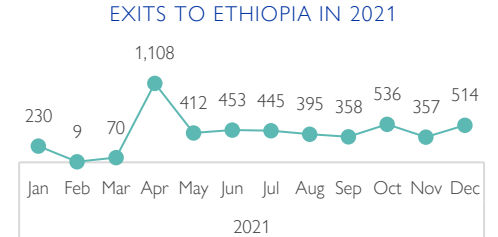
Since the beginning of 2021, a total of **10,547 spontaneous returns from Yemen** have been registered. During the month of December 2021, **178 migrants arrived from Yemen** on the Djiboutian coast, which represents a **16 per cent decrease compared to the flows observed in November 2021** (211 returns). This decrease is notably attributable to the intensification of the Ethiopian crisis and the suspension of Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) operations implemented by IOM in the Obock region following the declaration of a nationwide state of emergency in Ethiopia.

In addition, according to DTM Yemen, **1,797 migrants arrived in Yemen from the Obock region** in December 2021, which represents a 7 per cent decrease compared to November 2021 (1,927).

EXITS TO ETHIOPIA⁴

4,887 Exits to Ethiopia in 2021

514 Exits to Ethiopia in December 2021



⁴It should be kept in mind that the means of transport used by Ethiopian migrants vary: while most of them return on foot from Obock to Ali-Sabieh, 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.

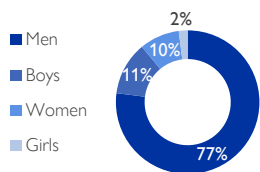
In December 2021, **514 exits to Ethiopia** were observed, which represents a **44 per cent increase** compared to the previous month (357 in November 2021). This brings the total exits to Ethiopia in 2021 to **4,887**.

Most of the migrants who were headed to Ethiopia in December 2021 were identified in the region of **Ali-Sabieh** (90%), 8 per cent passed through Balho in the region of Tadjourah and 1 per cent through Yoboki (Dikhil region).

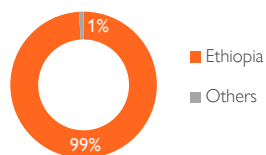
They were mainly travelling towards the region of **Oromia** (70%) and 29 per cent intended to reach Amhara.

DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE

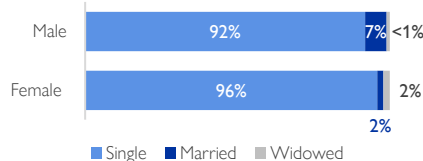
SEX AND AGE GROUP



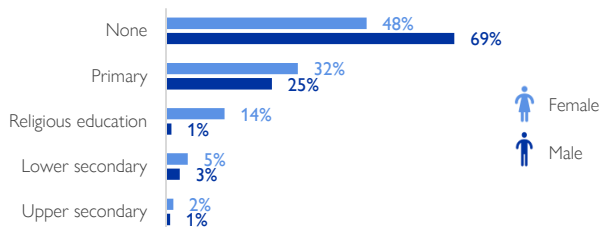
NATIONALITIES



MARITAL STATUS, BY SEX



EDUCATION LEVEL, BY SEX



PROFESSIONAL STATUS, BY SEX



In December 2021, most of the migrants identified at FMPs were adults (76% of men and 11% of women), while 13 per cent were minors (11% of boys and 2% of girls). Almost all of them (99%) were **Ethiopian nationals**. Most of the migrants observed (93%) were single, while 6 per cent were married and 1 per cent were widowed.

Among the 357 individuals surveyed (of which 84% were males and 16% were females) through the Flow Monitoring Surveys (FMS), 64 per cent (notably 69% of males) had **not received any kind of formal education** and 26 per cent had reached the primary level. It is also worth highlighting that a significant proportion of females (14%) had received a religious education.

Most of the interviewed travellers (88%) were **looking for a job**. Nine per cent were unemployed but were not looking for work, and a small proportion (all males) were self-employed or daily workers.

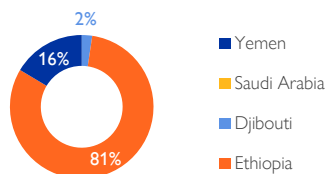
TRAVEL CHARACTERISTICS

In December 2021, most of the individuals identified at FMPs had departed from **Ethiopia** (81%), 16 per cent came from Yemen and 2 per cent had started their journey in Djibouti. Most of the migrants observed intended to reach the **Arabian Peninsula** (55% to Yemen and 15% to Saudi Arabia).

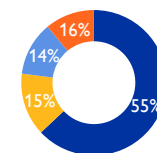
The migrants observed were mainly travelling for **economic reasons** (84%), while 14 per cent were returning to their place of habitual residence and 2 per cent were forced to move due to conflict or food insecurity. Most of them (93%) were travelling **on foot** at the transit points.

In addition, among the 357 individuals surveyed through the FMS, 69 per cent reported that they **faced obstacles** during their journey. The main **challenges** mentioned were hunger and/or thirst (cited by 82% of the individuals who encountered difficulties). A large proportion of migrants also faced trouble at sea (65%) or lacked shelter for sleeping (42%).

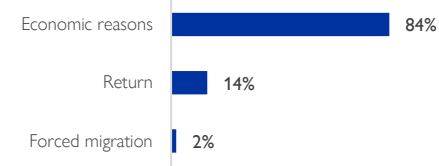
DEPARTURE COUNTRIES



INTENDED DESTINATIONS



REASON FOR TRAVEL



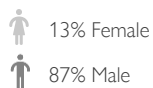
MEANS OF TRANSPORT



MIGRANTS STRANDED IN DJIBOUTI

615

Migrants stranded in Djibouti as of 30 December 2021



8

Informal sites



Some migrants transiting through Djibouti who are on their way or coming back from the Arabian Peninsula remain stranded in Djibouti, mainly due to the 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 include drinking water, food, hygiene kits and non-food items.**

As of 30 December 2021, **615 migrants were stranded in eight informal sites**. The largest proportion (36%) were located in the Obock region, while 32 per cent were stranded in Dikhil and 28 per cent in Ali-Sabieh.

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 mobile 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

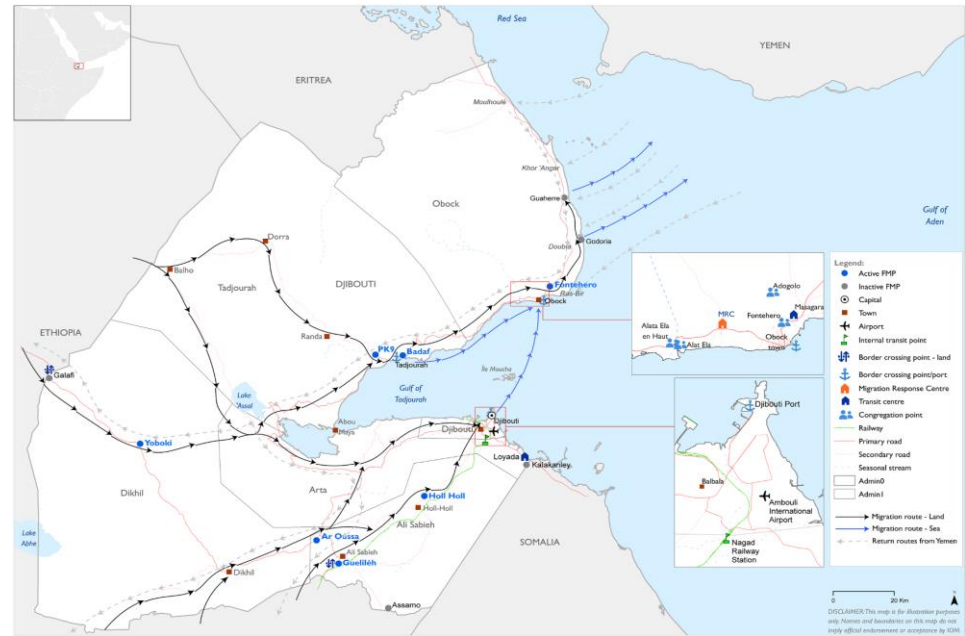
Spontaneous returns from Yemen are a component of IOM's DTM which started in May 2020. The objective of this data collection tool is to provide updated information on population flows returning from Yemen following COVID-19 movement restrictions in Yemen and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The information 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, all returns cannot 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 important. 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 several times. 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 guarantees the data included in this report; however we cannot give a complete picture of migratory movements.



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