

MIGRATION FLOWS TRENDS DASHBOARD | JANUARY 2023

24,001 migration movements observed,¹ including **19%** at the Obock Flow Monitoring Point (FMP)

+25% movements compared to December 2022

16,693 migrant flows from Ethiopia

587 spontaneous returns from Yemen²

6 exits to Ethiopia

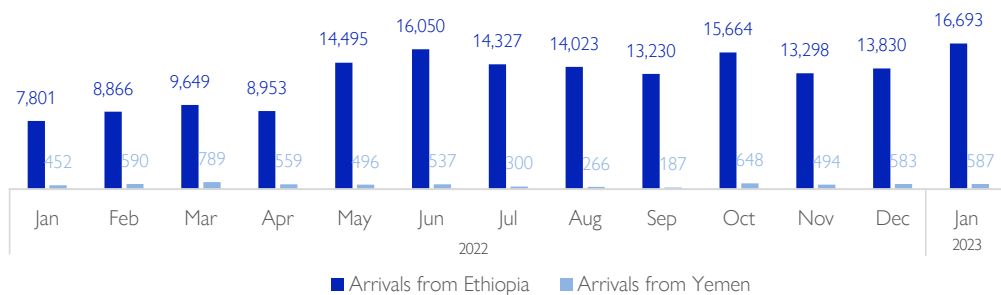
786 stranded migrants in Djibouti as of 31 January 2023

OVERVIEW

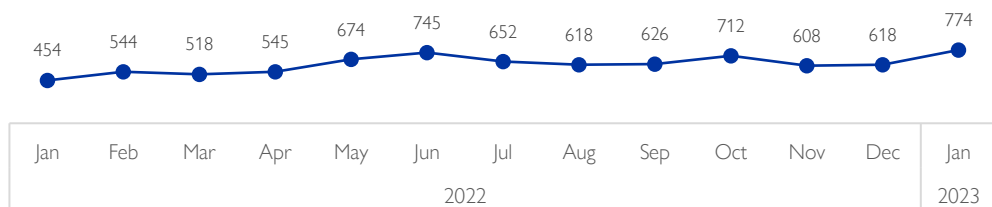
In January 2023, 24,001 migratory movements were observed at flow monitoring points (FMP) in Djibouti with a daily average of 774 migratory movements. The migratory flows observed on all FMPs increased by 25 percent compared to December 2022, during which 19,156 movements were recorded.

During January, FMPs in the border with Ethiopia observed more movements than in the previous month. Indeed, the flow of migrants was significant in the cities of Ali Sabieh (20%), Obock (19%) Galafi and Dikhil with 13 percent each and Yoboki (12%). This increase in migratory flows observed could be particularly linked to the traditional seasonal migration at the start of the fasting month of Ramadan. Migrants mainly from Ethiopia cross the regions of Dikhil (37%) and Ali Sabieh (27%) to the Arabian Peninsula.

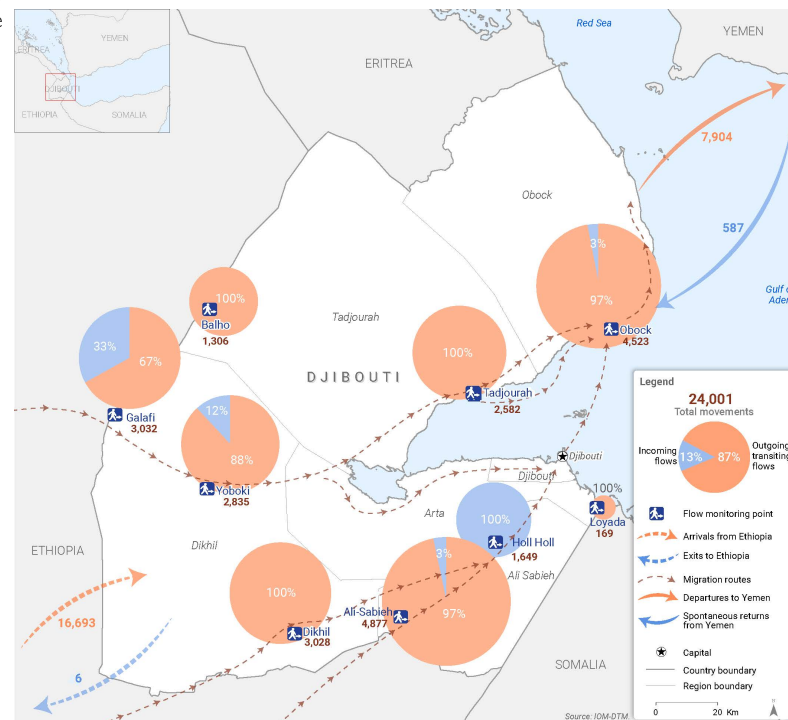
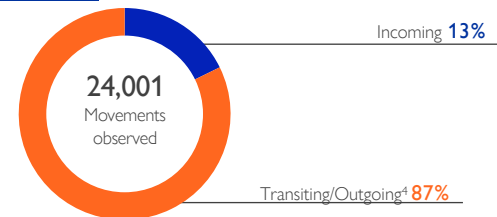
MIGRATORY FLOWS ARRIVING IN DJIBOUTI SINCE 2022



AVERAGE DAILY MOVEMENTS OBSERVED AT FMPs SINCE 2022



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.

MIGRATION MOVEMENTS FROM ETHIOPIA

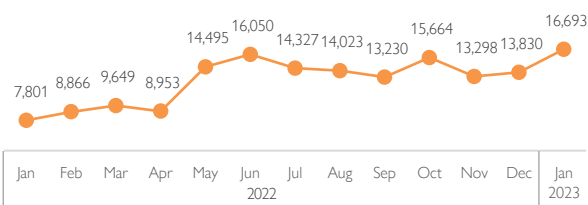
150,186

Arrivals from Ethiopia in 2022

16,693

Arrivals from Ethiopia in January 2023

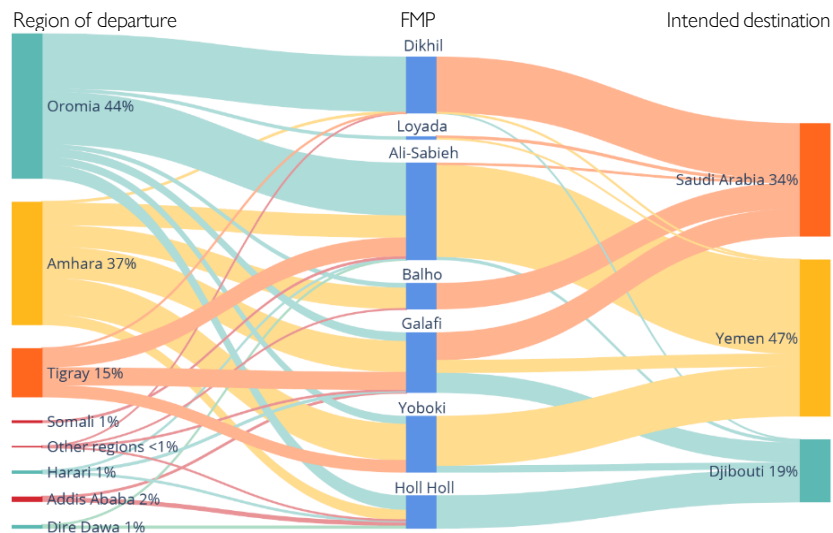
ARRIVALS FROM ETHIOPIA SINCE 2022



In January 2023, FMPs observed 16,693 migratory movements, an increase of 25 percent compared to December 2022. Entries from Ethiopia in January were the highest tracked since June 2022 (16,050). This could be attributed to different factors, such as a lower presence of border management controls at the border with Ethiopia, a decrease in the various risks associated with migration on Ethiopian routes to Djibouti or the practice of seasonal migration from Ethiopia transiting through Djibouti to the Arabian Peninsula during the period of the month of Ramadan.

In January, more than half of the movements of migrants arriving from Ethiopia (52%) passed through the Dikhil region, in particular through Dikhil, Yoboki and Galafi FMPs, 39 percent through the FMPs of Ali-Sabieh and Holl Holl in Ali-Sabieh region, 8 percent through Balho FMP in Tadjourah region and 1 percent through Loyada FMP in Arta region. The main region of departure for migrants from Ethiopia was Oromia (44%), followed by Amhara (37%) and Tigray (15%). Most migrants intended to reach the Arabian Peninsula, primarily going to Yemen (47%) and Saudi Arabia (34%), while 19 percent of observed migrant movements had Djibouti as their destination country.

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



RETURNS FROM YEMEN

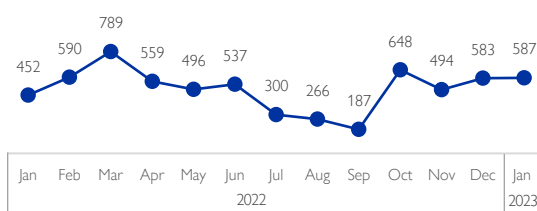
5,901

Returns from Yemen in 2022

587

Returns from Yemen in January 2023

RETURNS FROM YEMEN SINCE 2022



Male • 92%



Female • 8%

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 January 2023, 587 returns were recorded, substantially the same number as in December 2022.

In addition, according to DTM Yemen, 7,904 migrants from the Obock region arrived in Yemen in January 2023, which represents a 4 per cent decrease compared to December 2022 (8,220). This decrease can be explained by the difficulties faced by migrants during their journey as several of them were reported stranded in Djibouti with no money after the smugglers abandoned them.

EXITS TO ETHIOPIA ⁵

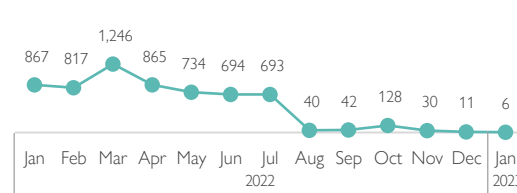
6,167

Exits to Ethiopia in 2022

6

Exits to Ethiopia in January 2023

EXITS TO ETHIOPIA SINCE 2022

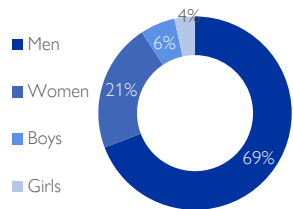


⁵ It should be kept in mind that the means of transport used by Ethiopian migrants vary; while most of them move from Obock to Ali-Sabieh on foot, the majority of Tigrayan migrants returning from Yemen cross the border at Balho and Galafi by car or by bus, which makes it more difficult to record their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

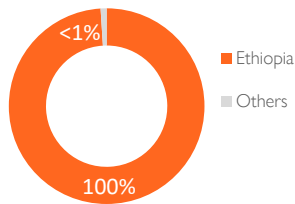
In 2022, 6,167 exits to Ethiopia were recorded. However, these numbers have seen a steady decline since March 2022 (1,246) and a steep decline since July 2022 (693). With the exception of October (128), migrant exits to Ethiopia hardly exceeded 50, while December (11) recorded the lowest number of the year 2022. This dynamic continues in January 2023 with only 6 exits observed. All the migrants who headed for Ethiopia in January 2023 were identified in the Tadjourah region heading to the Amhara region.

DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO - ECONOMIC PROFILE

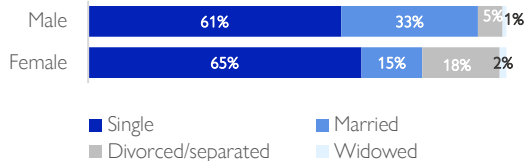
SEX AND AGE GROUP



NATIONALITIES



MARITAL STATUS, BY SEX



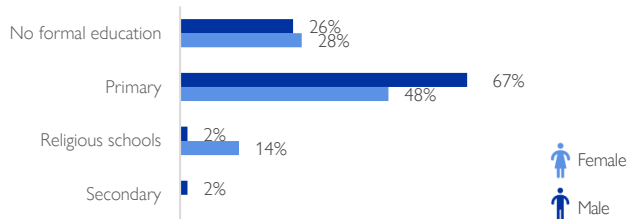
In January, most of the migrants identified in the FMPs were adults (69% men and 21% women), while 10 percent were children (6% boys and 4% girls). All of them (100%) were Ethiopian nationals.

Of the 532 respondents (77% men and 23% women) to the flow monitoring surveys (FMS), more than half were single (62%), while 28% were married (including 33% men and 15% women) and 9% divorced or separated.

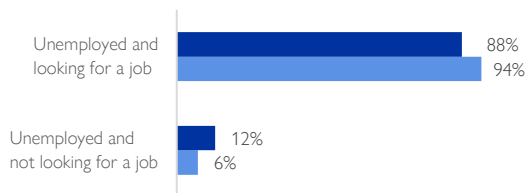
In addition, more than a quarter of the migrants surveyed (27%) had received no form of formal education (including 28% of women) and 62% had only reached primary level (including 67% of men and 48% women). It should also be noted that more than one in ten women (14%) have attended a religious school.

Additionally, most female respondents (94%) were unemployed and looking for work.

EDUCATION LEVEL, BY SEX



PROFESSIONAL STATUS, BY SEX

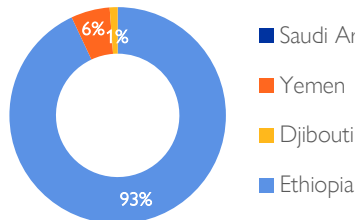


TRAVEL CHARACTERISTICS

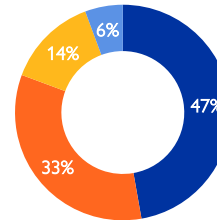
In January, most individuals identified at the FMPs level had departed from Ethiopia (93%), while 6 per cent had departed from Yemen and 1% from Djibouti. Most of the observed migrants intended to reach the Arabian Peninsula (47% to Saudi Arabia and 33% to Yemen). The migrants tracked traveled mainly for economic reasons (78%) and mainly on foot (66%).

In addition, of the 532 people surveyed via the FMS, 81% said they encountered difficulties during their trip. Notably, males are more likely to face or report challenges (88%) than females (59%). The most recurrent challenges mentioned were lack of shelter (80%) and lack of food and water (78%). More than a quarter of respondents who encountered difficulties during their trip also reported financial difficulties (31%), while others reported physical abuse (18%).

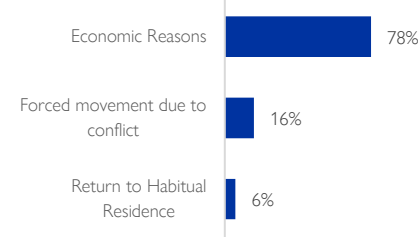
DEPARTURE COUNTRIES



INTENDED DESTINATIONS



REASON FOR TRAVEL



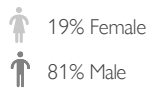
MEANS OF TRANSPORT



MIGRANTS STRANDED IN DJIBOUTI

786

Migrants stranded in Djibouti as of 31 January 2023



4

Informal sites



Several migrants transiting through Djibouti on route or returning 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 are access to drinking water, food, hygiene kits and non-food items.

As of January 31, 2023, 786 migrants were stranded in 4 informal sites. Almost half of the migrants were in Obock (46%), followed by those from Tadjourah (21%), Dikhil (18%) and Ali-Sabieh (16%).

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

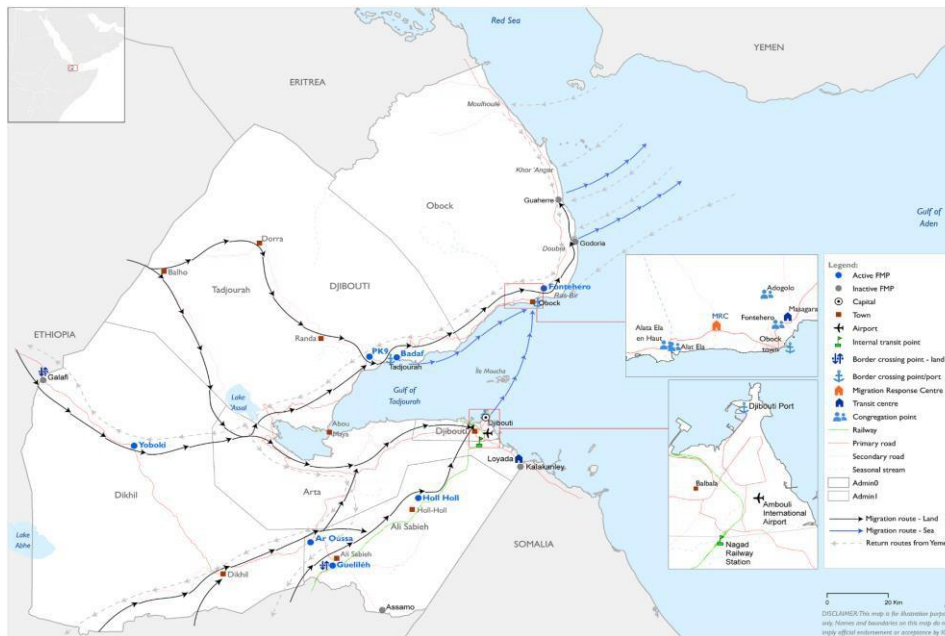
Spontaneous returns from Yemen are a component of IOM's DTM which started in May 2020. The objective of this data collection tool is to provide updated information on population flows returning from Yemen following COVID-19 movement restrictions in Yemen and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The information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