

MIGRATION TRENDS DASHBOARD | SEPTEMBER 2022

**18,773** movements observed,<sup>1</sup> including **15%** at the Obock Flow Monitoring Point (FMP)

**-2%** movements compared to August 2022

**13,230** arrivals from Ethiopia

**187** spontaneous returns from Yemen<sup>2</sup>

**42** exits to Ethiopia

**1,069** stranded migrants in Djibouti as of 29 September 2022<sup>3</sup>

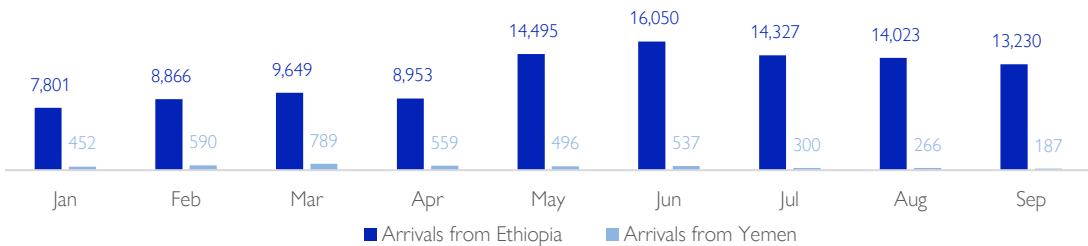
OVERVIEW

In September 2022, 18,773 movements were observed at the Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) in Djibouti, representing a daily average of 626 movements. Migration flows decreased by 2 per cent compared to August, during which 19,163 movements had been registered. It is worth highlighting that in September migration flows were still below pre-COVID19 levels (between March 2019 and March 2020, the daily average was 654).

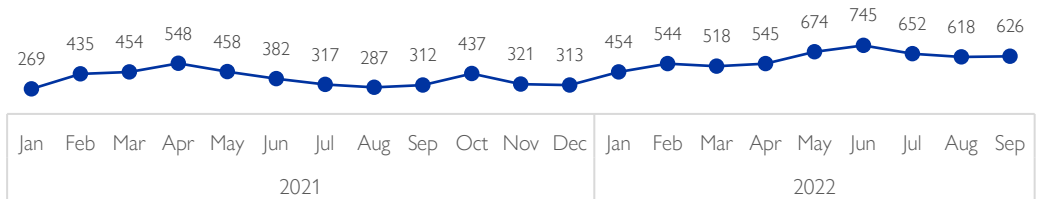
Of these 18,773 movements, 2,851 (15%) were observed in Obock. This coastal region of Djibouti is the main gateway for migrants going to and returning from the Arabian Peninsula. Migrants regroup at gathering points in the Obock region where they then cross the Gulf of Aden on boats along the so-called Eastern route.

Compared to the period between January and September 2021, movements from Ethiopia have increased sharply by 74 per cent with 107,394 entries between January and September 2022. However, compared to August 2022, these movements decreased by 6 per cent in September 2022. Furthermore, a decrease of 12 per cent can also be observed in figures of Ethiopians who have returned from Yemen. This slight decrease may be attributed to the amplified surveillance operations by the Djiboutian coast guards in Obock.

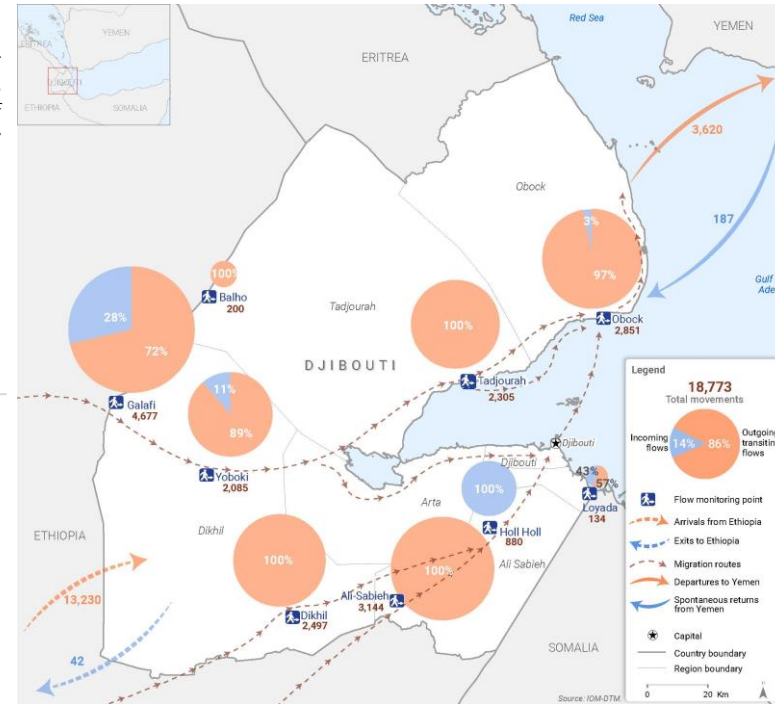
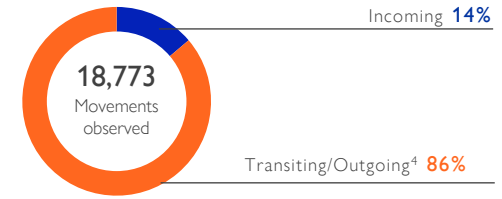
ARRIVALS IN DJIBOUTI IN 2022



AVERAGE DAILY MOVEMENTS OBSERVED AT FMPs, BY MONTH



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.*

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

<sup>2</sup>The data on returns from Yemen were collected through key informants.

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

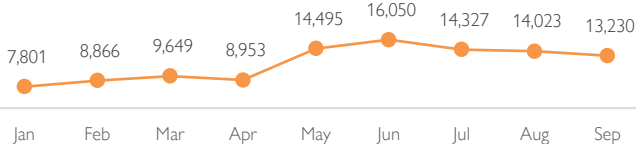
<sup>4</sup>In the framework of this report, incoming flows only include flows coming from a country other than Djibouti and headed to Djibouti. Outgoing flows cover the flows departing from Djibouti to reach another country, while transiting flows are those which pass through Djibouti, but whose departure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

## ARRIVALS FROM ETHIOPIA

107,394 Arrivals from Ethiopia in 2022

13,230 Arrivals from Ethiopia in September 2022

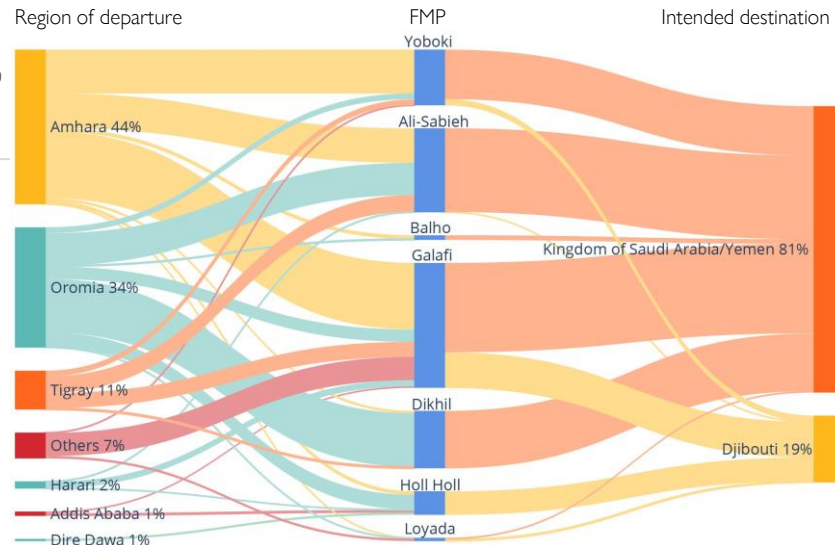
### ARRIVALS FROM ETHIOPIA IN 2022



As of September 2022, 107,394 migrants entered Djibouti from Ethiopia. Although an upward trend was observed during the first half of the year, movements from Ethiopia decreased by 6 per cent between August and September 2022. This decrease may be due to the relative deterioration of security conditions in certain regions of Ethiopia, limiting migrants' access to the roads leading to Djibouti.

More than half of the migrants arriving from Ethiopia (67%) transited through the Dickil region, notably through the Dickil, Yoboki and Galafi FMPs, 30 per cent through the the Ali-Sabieh and HollHoll FMPs in the Ali-Sabieh region, 1 per cent through the Balho FMP in the Tadjourah region, and 1 per cent through the Loyada FMP in the Arta region. The main region of departure of migrants coming from Ethiopia was Amhara (44%), followed by Oromia (34%) and Tigray (11%). Most migrants from the regions of Tigray (95%), Amhara (81%) and Oromia (78%) intended to reach the Arabian Peninsula, while most migrants who came from Dire Dawa (100%) and Addis Ababa (86%) reported the intention to stay in Djibouti.

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



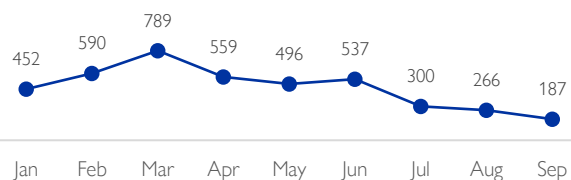
## RETURNS FROM YEMEN

4,176 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



187 Returns from Yemen in September 2022



Men • 96%



Women • 4%

In Obock, the coastal region of Djibouti 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, 4,176 spontaneous returns from Yemen were recorded in 2022. Between August and September, these figures decreased by 30 per cent.

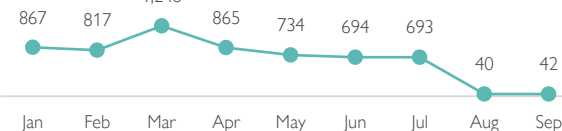
In addition, according to DTM Yemen, 3,620 migrants from the Obock region arrived in Yemen in September, which represents a 12 per cent increase from August (3,238). This increase could be explained by favorable weather and sea conditions in the Bab al-Mandab Strait for migrants crossing from Djibouti to Yemen to reach Saudi Arabia.

## EXITS TO ETHIOPIA<sup>5</sup>

5,998 Exits to Ethiopia in 2022

42 Exits to Ethiopia in September 2022

### EXITS TO ETHIOPIA IN 2022



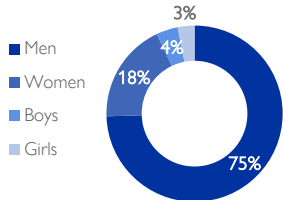
<sup>5</sup> It should be kept in mind that the means of transport used by Ethiopian migrants vary; while most of them move from Obock to Ali-Sabieh on foot, the majority of Tigrayan migrants returning from Yemen cross the border at Balho and Galafi by car or by bus, which makes it more difficult to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

Since January, a total of 5,998 exits to Ethiopia have been recorded. However, these figures have experienced a steady decrease since March 2022 and a sharp decrease since July 2022. The numbers reported in August (40) and September (41) 2022 are the lowest recorded since February 2021 (9). This drastic decrease of 94 per cent compared to July 2022 (693) can be attributed to the limited access of migrants to certain regions of Ethiopia.

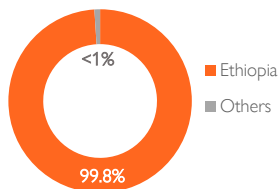
More than half of the migrants (60%) headed to Ethiopia in September were identified in the region of Tadjourah, while 40 per cent transited through the region of Dickil. Nearly three-quarters were headed to the Oromia region (71%) and the rest to the Amhara region (29%).

## DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE

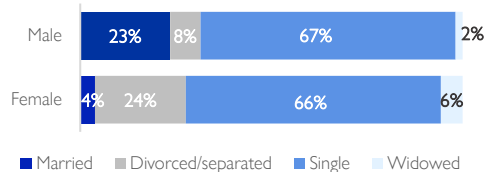
### SEX AND AGE GROUP



### NATIONALITIES



### MARITAL STATUS, BY SEX



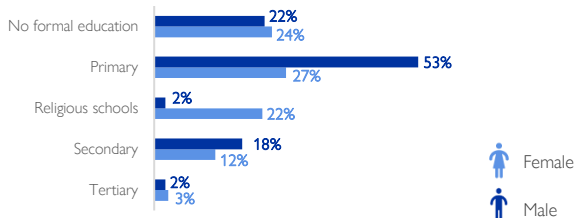
In September, most of the migrants identified at FMPs were adults (75% men and 18% women), while 7 per cent were children (4% boys and 3% girls). Almost all of them (99.8%) were Ethiopian nationals. Amongst the vulnerable population groups identified, there were 477 unaccompanied children (391 boys and 86 girls), 42 pregnant or lactating women, and 6 children aged under five years old.

Of the 369 respondents (72% males and 28% females) to the Flow Monitoring Surveys (FMS), more than half were single (67%), while 18 per cent were married (including 23% of males) and 12 per cent divorced or separated (including 24% of females).

Moreover, 23 per cent of migrants had **not received any kind of formal education** and 46 per cent had reached the primary level (including 53% of males). It is also worth highlighting that a significant proportion of females (22%) had received a religious education.

Also, the majority of the respondents (94%) were **unemployed and looking for a job**.

### EDUCATION LEVEL, BY SEX



\*12% of females and 3% of males did not respond to this question

### PROFESSIONAL STATUS, BY SEX

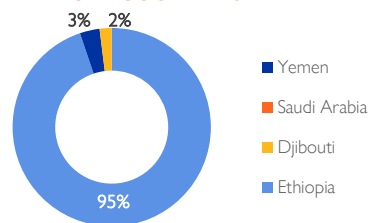


## TRAVEL CHARACTERISTICS

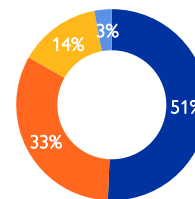
In September, most of the individuals identified at FMPs had departed from Ethiopia (95%), 3 per cent from Yemen and 2 per cent left from Djibouti. Most of the observed migrants intended to reach the Arabian Peninsula (51% to Yemen and 33% to Saudi Arabia). The recorded migrants traveled mainly for economic reasons (72%) and mostly on foot (67%).

In addition, of the 369 individuals surveyed through the FMS, 52 per cent reported encountering obstacles during their journey. The main challenge mentioned was the lack of shelter (cited by 81% of migrants who encountered difficulties). A significant proportion of people also mentioned hunger and/or thirst (57%), financial issues (28%), or attacks and assaults (26%).

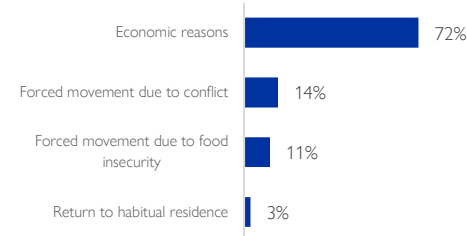
### DEPARTURE COUNTRIES



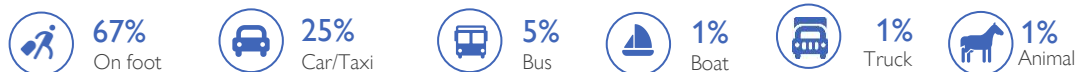
### INTENDED DESTINATIONS



### REASON FOR TRAVEL



### MEANS OF TRANSPORT



## MIGRANTS STRANDED IN DJIBOUTI

1,069 Migrants stranded in Djibouti as of 29 September 2022

7% Female  
93% Male

7 Informal sites

51% in Dikhil  
24% in Obock  
20% in Tadjourah  
5% in Ali-Sabieh

Several migrants transiting through Djibouti who are on their way to or from the Arabian Peninsula remain stranded in Djibouti, mainly due to 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 September 2022, 1,069 migrants were stranded in seven informal sites. More than half (51%) were in Dikhil, 24 per cent in Obock, 20 per cent in Tadjourah and 5 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 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**

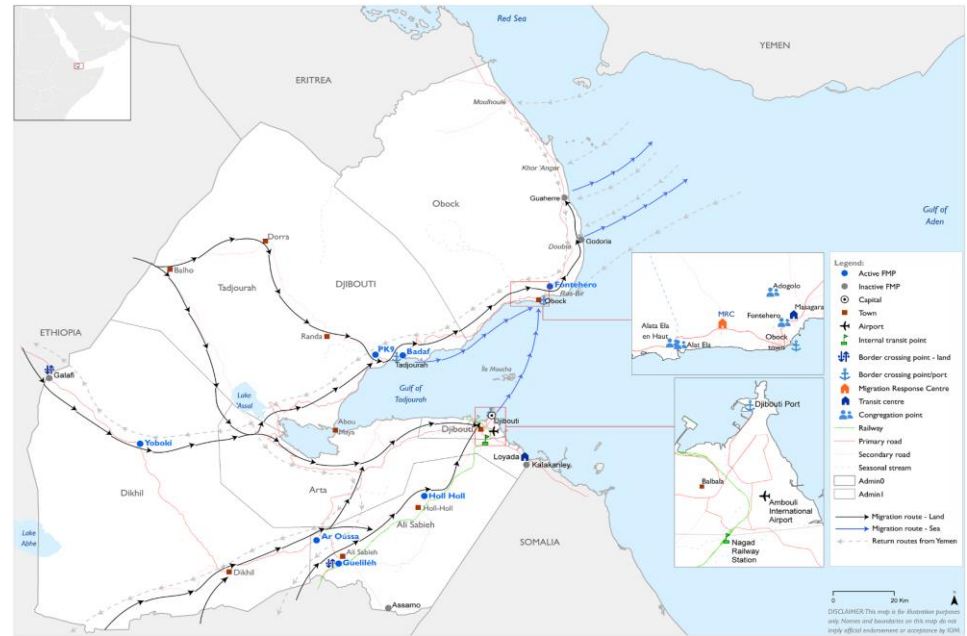
Spontaneous returns from Yemen are a component of IOM's DTM which started in May 2020. The objective of this data collection tool is to provide updated information on population flows returning from Yemen following COVID-19 movement restrictions in Yemen and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The information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