

# **NIGERIEN MIGRANTS IN LIBYA**

There are

184,284

migrants from Niger in Libya. Niger is the mostrepresented nationality in Libya —a quarter of migrants are Nigerien.

The majority of Nigerien migrants surveyed by DTM Libya in 2023 and 2024 were employed, single, male, less than 30 years old and had not completed a primary level of education. A minority held a work permit (3%).

Niger is not only a country of destination and origin, but also a country of transit for migrants from Western Africa, including those travelling north towards Libya (and Algeria). Around two fifths of migrants (41%) interviewed in 2023 and 2024 came from, or had transited through Niger on their way to Libya.

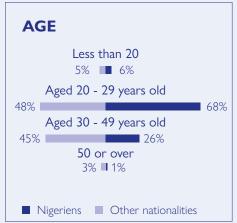
#### **GET IN TOUCH**

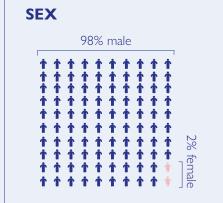


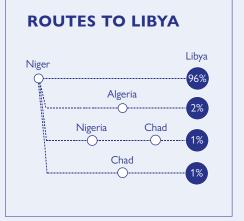
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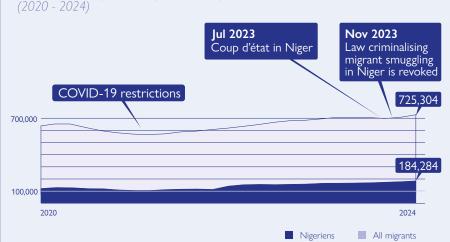


### RECENT MIGRATION DYNAMICS

The overall number of migrants in Libya, including those from Niger, has increased between 2020 and 2024 after having declined during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Following the coup d'état in July 2023, Niger's borders were momentarily and partially closed but since Niger revoked the 2015 law that criminalised migrant smuggling, DTM Niger and DTM Libya have observed a general rise in migration flows between Niger and Libya. This increase is likely related to migrants now traveling by organised convoys from Niger on new routes.

# Number of (Nigerien) migrants in Libya



### **SEASONALITY**

One in ten migrants from Niger travels regularly (e.g. on seasonal or annual basis) between Libya and Niger in line with the average across migrants of all nationalities. Beginning in December, many migrants from Niger travel to Libya in search of employment after the main harvest and they return in May to prepare the land for the planting season.

### Agricultural and migration patterns in Niger





### **EMPLOYMENT**



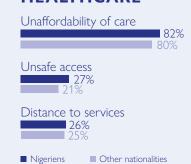
One fifth of migrants (21%) from Niger interviewed by DTM Libya in 2023 and 2024 were unemployed and actively seeking work - a rate that is equal to that among migrants of all nationalities (21%).

### WORK CONTRACT

57%

of employed Nigerien migrants were contracted on a short-term or casual basis (e.g. very short term or on an occasional and intermittent basis). compared to 44 per cent of migrants of other nationalities.

# **TOP BARRIERS TO HEALTHCARE**



# TOP DIFFICULTIES FACED IN LIBYA

58%

Other nationalities



**ACCESS TO** 

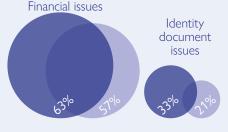
70%

10%

**Nigeriens** 

limited

**HEALTHCARE** 



no access



Security

issues





Food or

water

insecurity

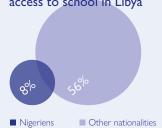


#### Other nationalities

# **ACCESS TO EDUCATION**

Nigerien children are less likely to have access to school in Libya compared to migrants of other nationalities, mainly because of the language barrier, a lack of documents and financial issues. A minority of migrants were with their children in Libya (5% of Nigeriens, 8% of migrants of other nationalities).

Percentage of migrants' children with access to school in Libya



#### **REMITTANCES**

54%

of migrants from Niger reported that the money they send home was their household's primary source of income compared to 47 per cent of migrants from other nationalities.

74%

Three quarters of Nigeriens who are sending money home mentioned that their remittances are covering their family's food needs — more than the average across other nationalities (64%).

# LANGUAGE SKILLS

35%

of Nigerien migrants surveyed by DTM Libya in 2023 and 2024 mentioned that they were unable to communicate in Arabic. Being unable to communicate in Arabic can be an obstacle to obtain information that is key to daily life, finding employment, accessing essential services (e.g. education for children), navigating the rental housing market and networking with Libyans.

### **ABOUT THIS PROFILE**

**METHODOLOGY** The information included in this report is based on 35,817 interviews with migrants (12,374 of which with Nigeriens) conducted between I January 2023 and 29 February 2024. The population figures are based on key informant interviews.

**LIMITATIONS** This brief provides a snapshot of a highly heterogenous group of people on the move in a quickly evolving context. The purposive sampling approach used limits the sex and age breakdown as well as the findings on migrant vulnerabilities from being fully statistically representative of the demographic make-up of the (Nigerien) migrant population in Libya.

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