

IOM works with national and local authorities and local partners to identify and understand migration movements in West and Central Africa. Flow monitoring is an activity that quantifies and qualifies flows, migrant profiles, trends and migration routes at a given point of entry, transit or exit. Since February 2016, IOM Niger has been monitoring migration flows at two points in the Agadez region of Niger. Flow monitoring points (FMPs) are found at two points in the region of Agadez in Niger, Séguédine and Arlit.

The data collected provides an overview of migration in the region. The information is collected from primary sources. However, this monitoring of migration flows does not replace border surveillance. Similarly, the results presented in this report do not reflect the total flow of migrants through the Agadez region due to the size of the Sahara Desert, which covers more than 700,000 km<sup>2</sup> and has a large number of roads crisscrossing the region.

### FLOW MONITORING POINTS



During the month of August, three new FMPs were set up in Niger (**Dan Barto, Magaria and Tahoua**) in an effort to better understand migration routes along the southern part of Niger to complement existing the FMPs in Arlit and Séguédine. Two cross border FMPs (Dan Barto and Magaria) have been set up on the border between Niger and Nigeria which stretches over 1000 km. The FMP at **Tahoua** was set up to help understand internal movement flows as it is situated in central Niger, sharing a border with the Tillabery region in the east, Nigeria in the south and the Agadez region in the north.

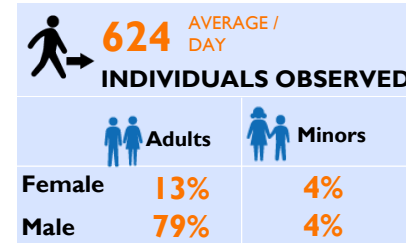
The new FMPs will be piloted in the coming months to understand the added value of the FMPs towards a more holistic understanding of migration trends in Niger. Based on the initial findings from the new FMPs, there may be adjustments to the new FMPs implemented based on an increased understanding of migration patterns and routes.

**METHODOLOGY** : Flow monitoring is an investigative work that aims to highlight and increase understanding of internal, cross-border and intraregional areas of migration. Areas of high mobility are identified across the country. DTM teams then conduct assessments at the local level to identify strategic transit points. Enumerators collect data using key informants at the flow monitoring points; they may be staff at bus stations, police or customs officials, bus or truck drivers or migrants themselves. A basic questionnaire mixed with direct observations makes it possible to collect disaggregated data by sex and nationality. In Niger, the flow monitoring points were chosen after consultation with national and local stakeholders involved in migration management, and according to the locations and characteristics of the flows transiting through the Sahara Desert. The data collection is done at times when the flows are the most frequent.

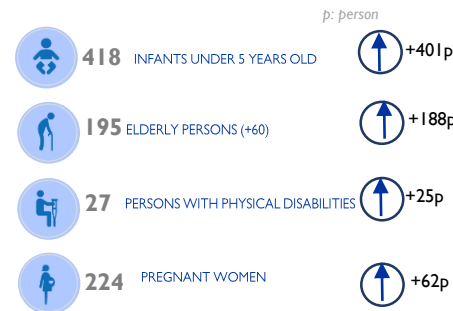
**LIMITS** : The data used in this analysis is an estimate and represents only a part of the existing flows on these routes : Agadez - Arlit - Assamaka, and Agadez - Séguédine - Sebha. The spatial and temporal coverage of these surveys is partial, although the collection is done daily and during periods when flows are significant. Finally, no information is collected on existing flows outside the time slots covered. Vulnerability data is based on direct observations by the enumerators and should be understood only as an estimate.

### PROFILE OF MIGRANTS

(obtained through direct observations and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)



DEMOGRAPHY



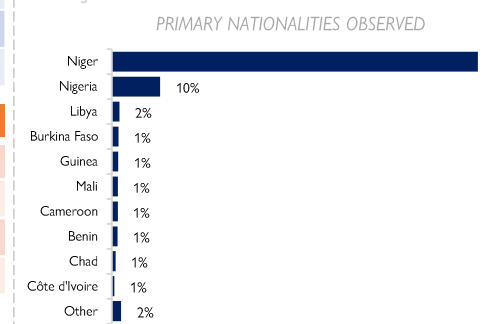
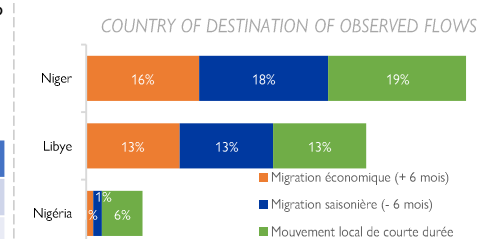
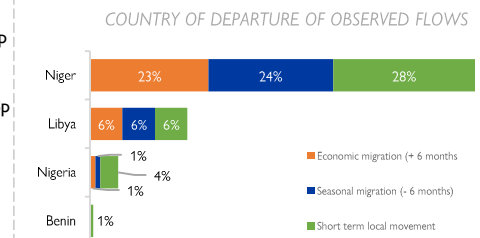
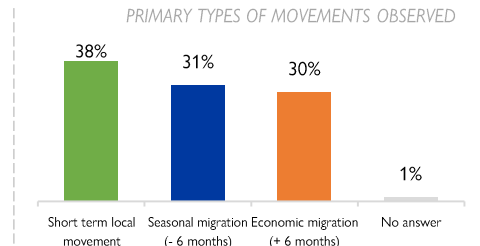
VULNERABILITIES

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month.

| Area of Origin of Flows | %  | Variation (%) |
|-------------------------|----|---------------|
| NIGER                   | 77 | +13           |
| LIBYA                   | 12 | -63           |
| NIGERIA                 | 8  | 0             |
| OTHER                   | 3  | 0             |

| Destination of Flows | %  | Variation (%) |
|----------------------|----|---------------|
| NIGER                | 61 | +13           |
| LIBYA                | 25 | -46           |
| NIGERIA              | 12 | 0             |
| OTHER                | 2  | 0             |

DEPARTURE AREAS AND DESTINATIONS



### AUGUST 2018 TRENDS\*

During the month of August 2018, both the incoming and outgoing flows compared to July 2018: a 32% decrease in the incoming flows and a 3% decrease in the outgoing flows. Additionally, more outgoing flows (66%) were observed than incoming flows (34%), which may be linked to movements back to Libya, after the celebration of Ramadan. Movements towards Niger are linked to the repatriation of Nigeriens and refoulement of migrants across the border. These migrants are usually left at the border, around Assamaka, and then travel on foot to Dune. IOM organizes search and rescue operations to rescue these people and those lost in the desert.

25% of flows observed at the five FMPs in August were **internal movement within Niger**, thus 46% of internal movements were observed at the new FMPs of Magaria and 42% at Dan Barto, followed by Arlit (11%) and Tahoua (1%).

### MIGRATION TRENDS IN 2018\*

The data in the graph below presents the total number of migrants identified at the Flow Monitoring Points (FMP) of Arlit and Séguédine for the period January 2017 – August 2018. The month of June 2018 had the lowest overall number of individuals observed at the FMPs thus far in 2018. In contrast, the month of May 2018 recorded the highest number of observed individuals in the year. The 15% decrease in flows in Niger in August 2018 can be linked to the slow down of repatriation of Nigeriens and third country nationals from Algeria. However, the trend reverses with more outgoing flows than incoming flows from September 2017 until April 2018. Then in May 2018, the trend reversed again with the highest number of migrants recorded entering Niger in 2018, which may be explained by an increase in the number of Nigeriens repatriated and migrants refouled around this timeframe. While comparing the first two quarters of 2017 and 2018, a decrease is observed both in the incoming flows (58%) and the outgoing flows (14%).

### COMPARISON BETWEEN 2017 & 2018\*

There is a general trend of more migrants entering Niger rather than leaving Niger from January to August 2017 for the **Arlit and Séguédine FMPs**, with a peak of 27,239 migrants entering in February 2017. This increase in inflows may be attributed to three phenomena: a stricter control of migration including the criminalization of persons involved in irregular migration; the deterioration of the security situation in Libya; and the repatriation efforts of Nigerien nationals from Algeria. However, the trend reverses with more outgoing flows than incoming flows from September 2017 until April 2018. Then in May 2018, the trend reversed again with the highest number of migrants recorded entering Niger in 2018, which may be explained by an increase in the number of Nigeriens repatriated and migrants refouled around this timeframe. While comparing the first two quarters of 2017 and 2018, a decrease is observed both in the incoming flows (58%) and the outgoing flows (14%).

- 5 Active FMPs in Niger
- 9 Information focal points
- 5,319 Individuals entering Niger
- 9,187 Individuals leaving Niger
- 4,844 Individuals observed moving internally

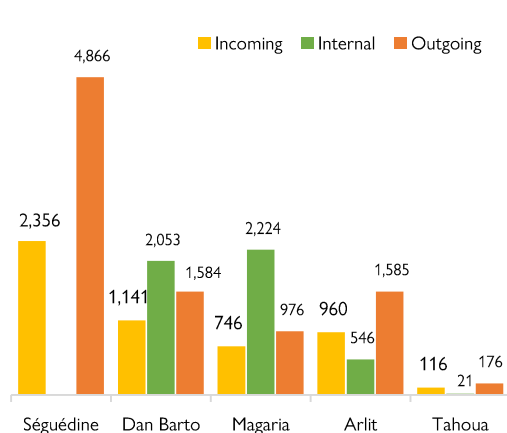
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- 19,350 Number of individuals observed at the FMPs

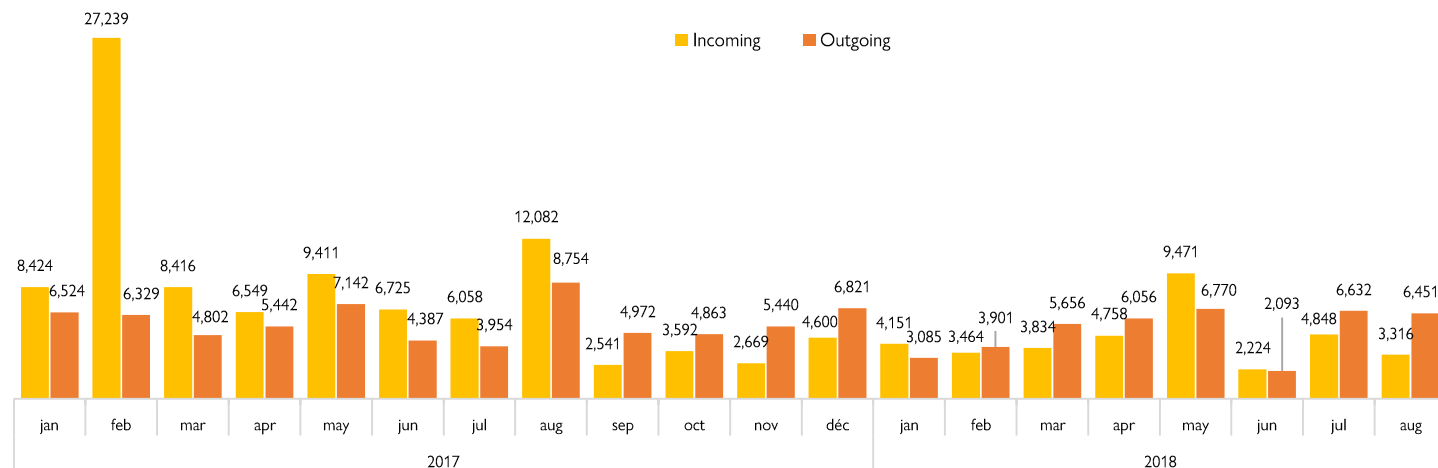
All data included in this report is based on estimates. IOM makes no guarantees as to the timeliness, suitability, accuracy, reliability, quality or completeness of the data contained in this report.

\* This section provides analysis for all five FMPs for the month of August 2018. The other analysis is for only Arlit and Séguédine FMPs, which have been active since Feb. 2016

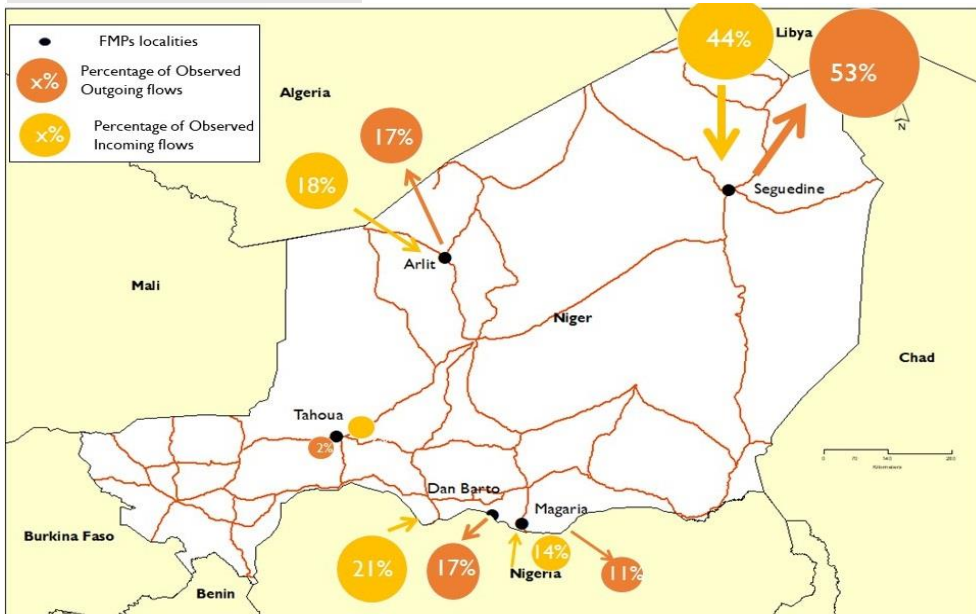
### FLOWS OBSERVED AT THE 5 FMPs (AUGUST 2018)



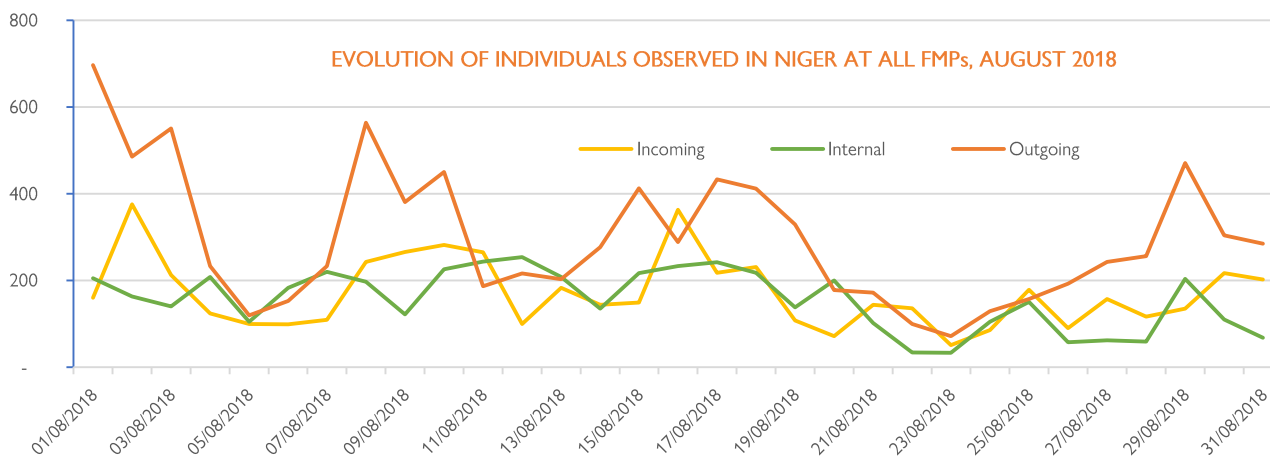
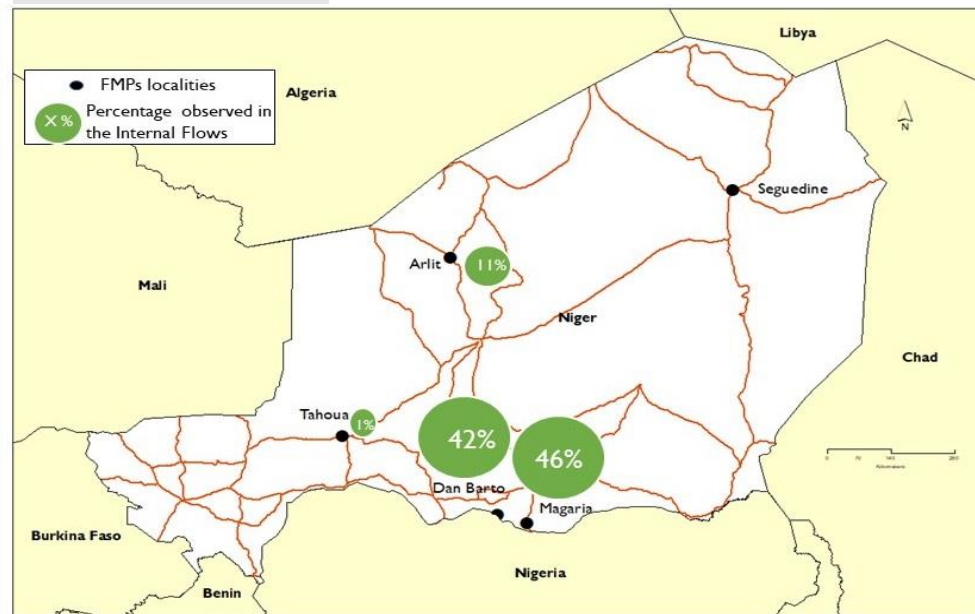
### NUMBER OF MIGRANTS OBSERVED IN THE OUTGOING AND INCOMING FLOWS AT THE ARLIT AND SEGUEDINE FMPs (JANUARY 2017 – AUGUST 2018)



**CROSS-BORDER FLOWS**



**INTERNAL FLOWS**

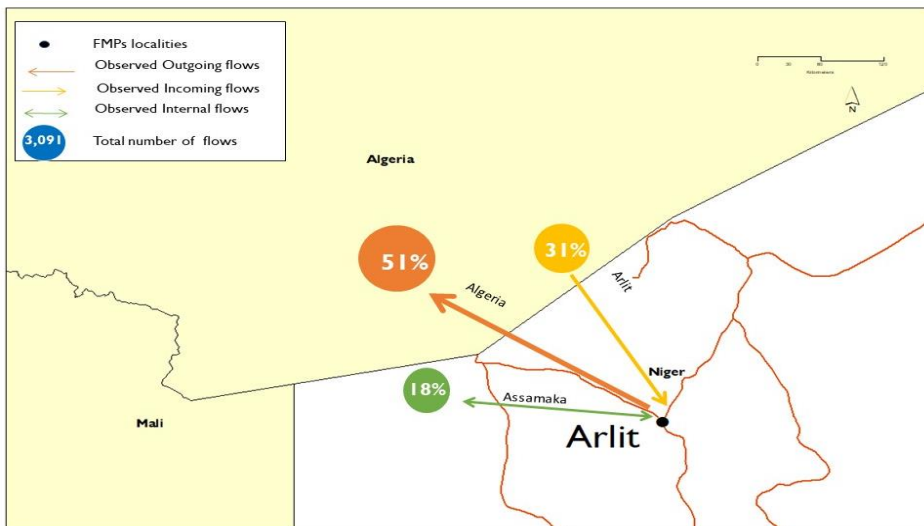


- The majority of flows are cross-border (75%) with the majority of migrants observed crossing the border with Libya (50%) followed by Nigeria (31%), Algeria (20%).
- A smaller proportion (25%) of internal movements were observed, with the majority of internal movements observed at the FMPs of Arlit, Dan Barto, Magaria and Tahoua. 46% of internal movement were observed at the FMP of Magaria, followed by Dan Barto 42% and Arlit (11%).
- During the month of August 2018, **more outgoing than incoming flows were observed** with 9,187 individuals observed leaving Niger versus 5,319 individuals observed entering Niger. For outgoing flows, a daily average of 296 individuals were observed leaving Niger while a daily average of 172 individuals was observed entering Niger.
- The data in the graph shows the evolution of flows observed at the five active FMPs in Niger in August 2018. An average of 624 individuals per day were recorded passing through the FMPs during the month of August.

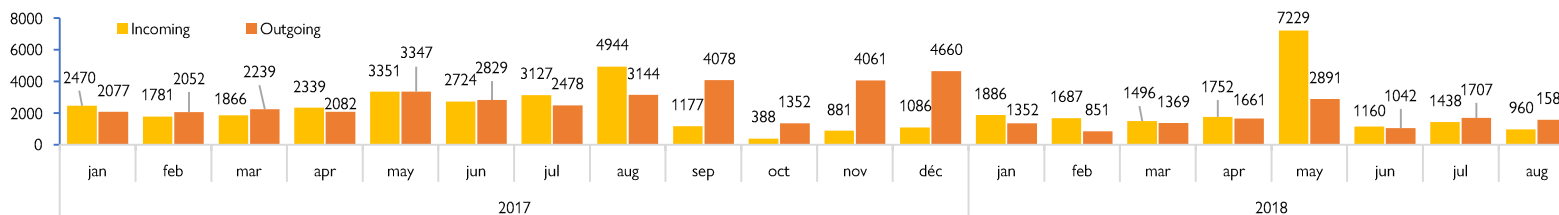
The Arlit flow monitoring point captures both cross-border flows to and from Algeria, as well as internal movements. The Arlit FMP has been active since **February 2016**.

During this month, more outgoing flows (1,585) than incoming flows (960) were observed. The main departure cities included Arlit, Assamaka and Agadez (Niger) while the main destination cities included: Assamaka, Arlit and Algerian villages located near the boarder (*Note: the majority of migrants passing through the Arlit FMP choose not to disclose their final destination given the sensitivities. In reality, most migrants transiting through Assamaka intend to travel to cities within Algeria including Inguézzam*). In comparison with the previous month, the number of outgoing flows has remained stable while the number of incoming flows has decreased by approximately 33%. This is the lowest number of incoming individuals recorded entering Niger in 2018. This decrease may be attributed to the use of new routes that bypass the Arlit FMP to reach directly the city of Agadez more directly.

The main reasons cited for movement continue to be **economic migration** (54%) and **seasonal migration** (46%). The main nationalities observed crossing Arlit this month included Nigerien (51%), Guinean (9%), Malian (6%), Nigerian (6%) and Cameroonian (4%) nationals.

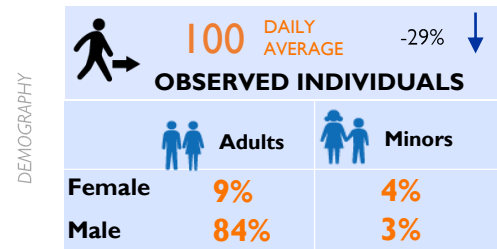


TOTAL NUMBER OF INCOMING AND OUTGOING MIGRANTS OBSERVED AT THE ARLIT FLOW MONITORING POINT (JANUARY 2017 – AUGUST 2018)



### PROFILE OF MIGRANTS

(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)



### PRIMARY MEANS OF TRANSPORT



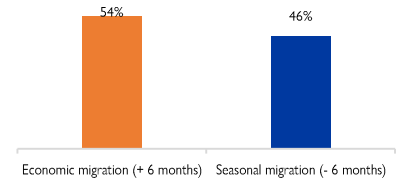
**Outgoing flows:** The highest outflow was observed in December 2017 (4,660 individuals). The number of migrants passing through this FMP during the first two quarters of 2018 (12,458) shows a decrease of 38% when compared to the same period in the previous year (20,248).

**Incoming flows:** The highest inflow was observed May 2018 (7,229 individuals).

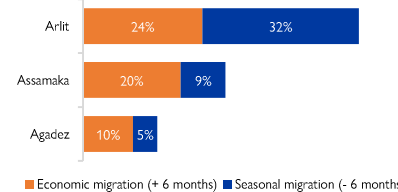
The number of individuals entering Niger is trending downwards with 17,608 individuals observed entering during the first two quarters of 2018, compared to the 22,602 for the same period in 2017, which represents a 22% decrease.

**Internal flows:** From January to August 2018, 10,339 people were observed transiting through the Arlit FMP, of whom 546 were observed in August (5% of the total internal flows since the beginning of the year).

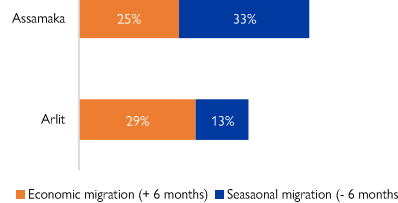
### PRIMARY TYPES OF OBSERVED MOVEMENTS



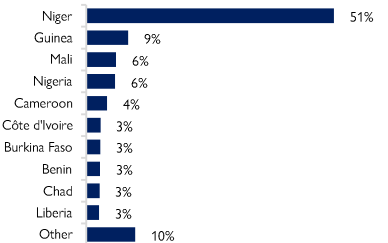
### PRIMARY DEPARTURE CITIES OF OBSERVED FLOWS



### PRIMARY DESTINATION CITIES OF OBSERVED FLOWS

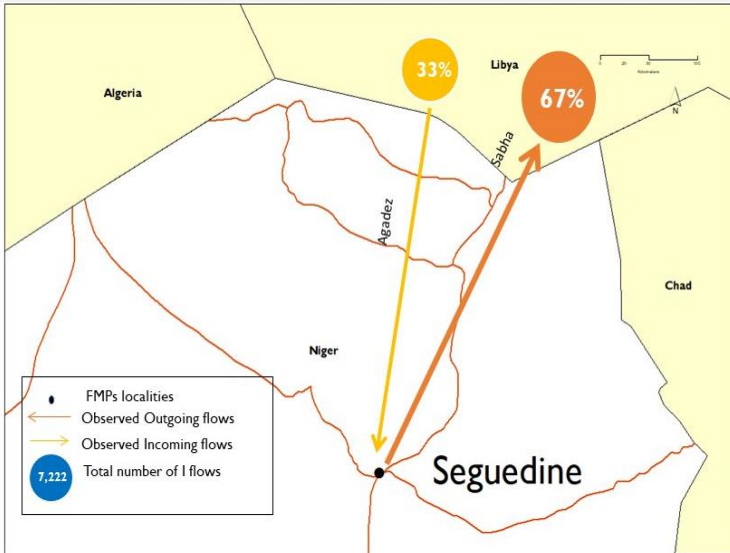


### PRIMARY NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



The **Séguédine** flow monitoring point captures **cross-border flows** to and from neighbouring countries, mainly Libya. The Séguédine FMP has been active since **February 2016**.

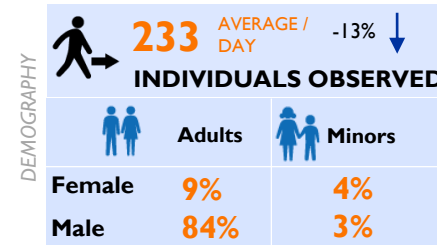
A daily average of 233 individuals were observed crossing through the Séguédine FMP this month, which means a decrease of 13% compared to the previous month where 269 were crossing the boarder each day. During this month, more outgoing than incoming flows were observed. The main departure and destination cities included Agadez (Niger) and Sebha (Libya). In comparison with the previous month, the flows decrease by 31% decrease. This decrease may be due to the fact that Nigerien migrants engaged in farming activities usually come back between March and May to prepare their farms for the rainy season, which generally starts in June and ends September.



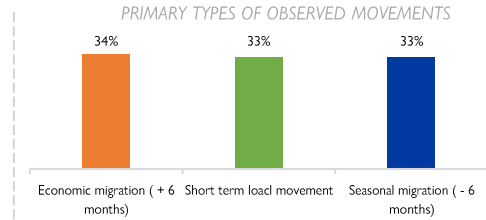
The main reasons for movements observed remain the same as in previous months: **economic migration** (34%) in August compared to (33%) last month, **short term local movement** and **seasonal migration** (33%) this month and the previous month for each type of flows. Nigerien (94%), Libyan (4%) and Nigerian (1%) nationals were the main population groups observed.

## PROFILE OF MIGRANTS

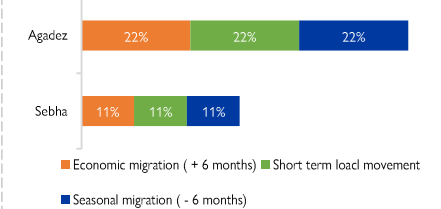
(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)



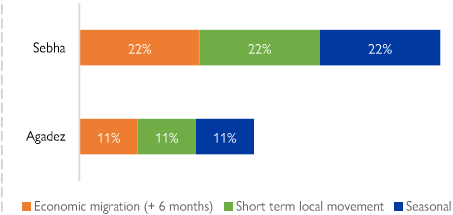
## PRIMARY MEANS OF TRANSPORT



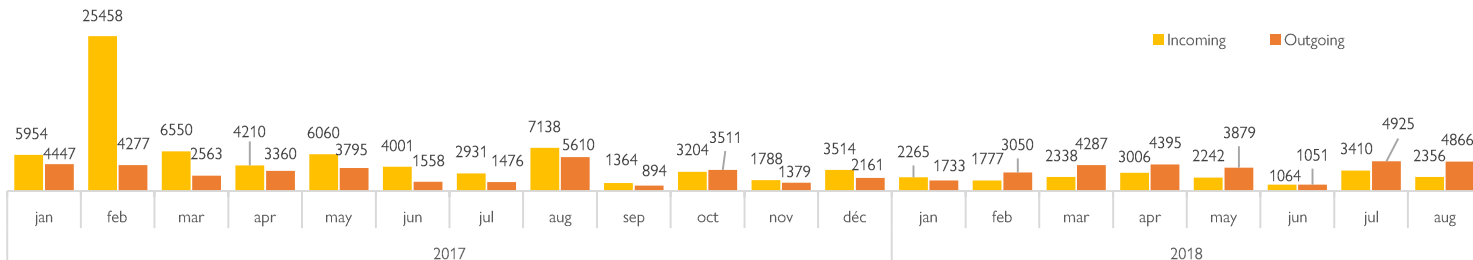
## PRIMARY DEPARTURE CITIES OF OBSERVED FLOWS



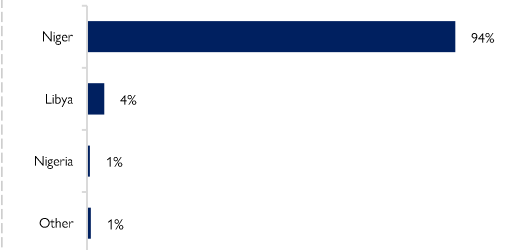
## PRIMARY DESTINATION CITIES OF OBSERVED FLOWS



## TOTAL NUMBER OF INCOMING AND OUTGOING MIGRANTS OBSERVED AT THE SEGUEDINE FLOW MONITORING POINT (JANUARY 2017 – AUGUST 2018)



## PRIMARY NATIONALITIES OBSERVED

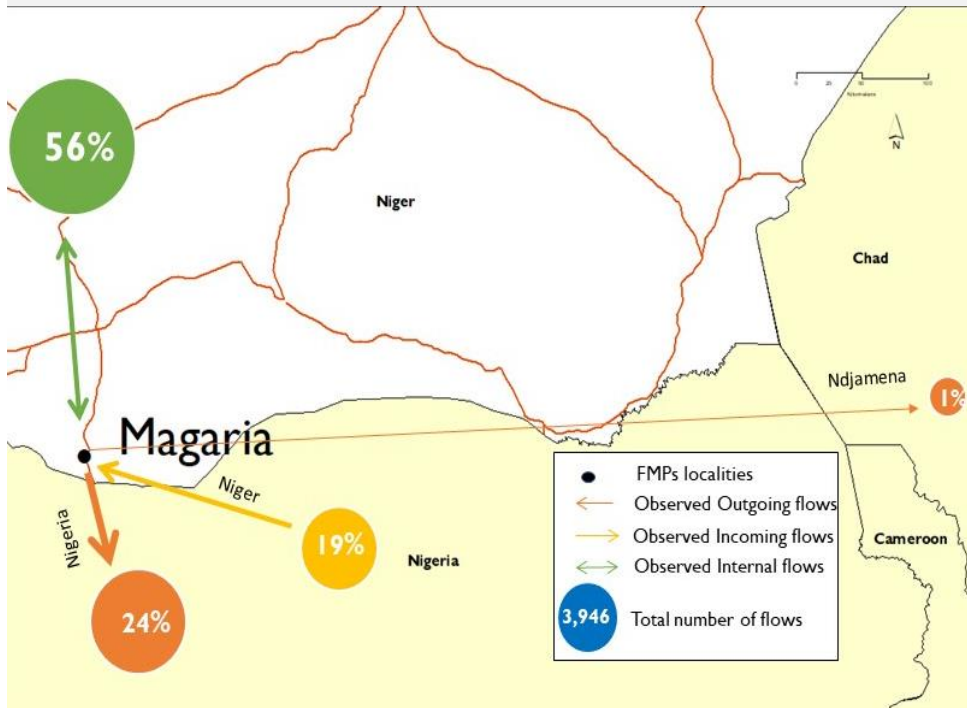


The **Magaria** flow monitoring point was established to observe cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria, as well as internal flows. Magaria is a town on the border between Niger and Nigeria, which high volumes of flows originating from Nigeria pass through; Nigeria is one of the main sending countries for migrants traveling towards the Mediterranean. The Magaria FMP has been active since August 2018.

A daily average of 127 individuals passing through Magaria FMP was observed during this month with more outgoing flows (25%) than incoming flows (19%), however the majority of movements were internal (56%). All flows observed were heading towards Niger and Nigerian. Primarily coming from the departure cities of: Magaria, Zinder and Dachi (Niger); and Kano, Babura and Garki (Nigeria). The reasons for migration for the majority of flows were classified as **short term local movement** (40%) and **seasonal migration** (40%), while smaller numbers cited **economic migration** (15%), **forced movement due to conflict** (2%) and **tourism** (1%).

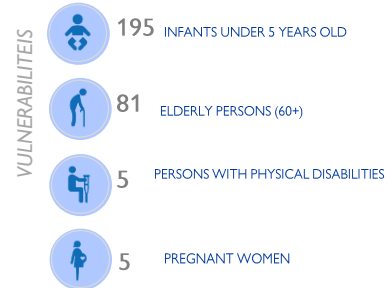
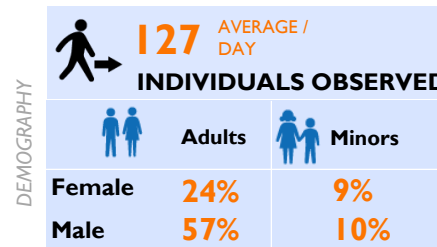
Magaria is used mostly by Nigerien and Nigerian traders who have traditionally maintained an economic exchange for centuries.

Nigerien (79%), Nigerian (18%), Cameroonian (2%) and Chadian (1%) were the primary nationalities observed passing through the FMP. The main means of transport used were private vehicles (91%) followed by motorbike, truck and bus each (3%).



### PROFILE OF MIGRANTS

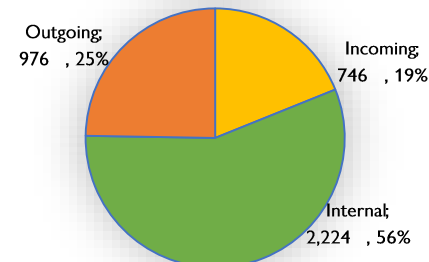
(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)



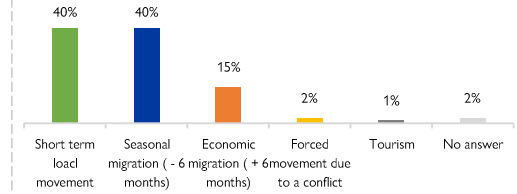
**AREA OF ORIGIN**

| Area of Origin of Flows | %  |
|-------------------------|----|
| NIGER                   | 81 |
| NIGERIA                 | 19 |

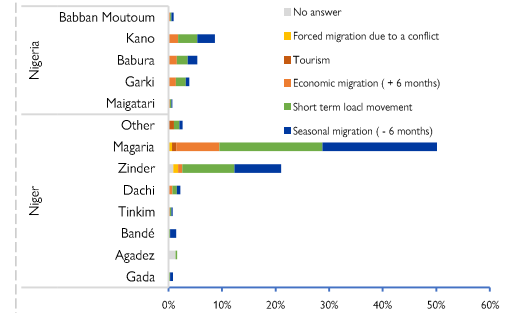
### NUMBER OF MIGRANTS OBSERVED AT THE MAGARIA FMP (AUGUST 2018)



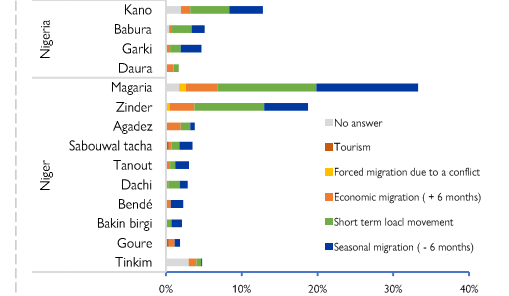
### PRIMARY TYPES OF OBSERVED MOVEMENTS



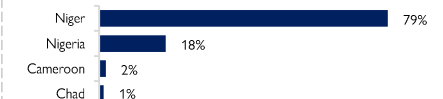
### PRIMARY DEPARTURE CITIES OF OBSERVED FLOWS



### PRIMARY DESTINATION CITIES OF OBSERVED FLOWS



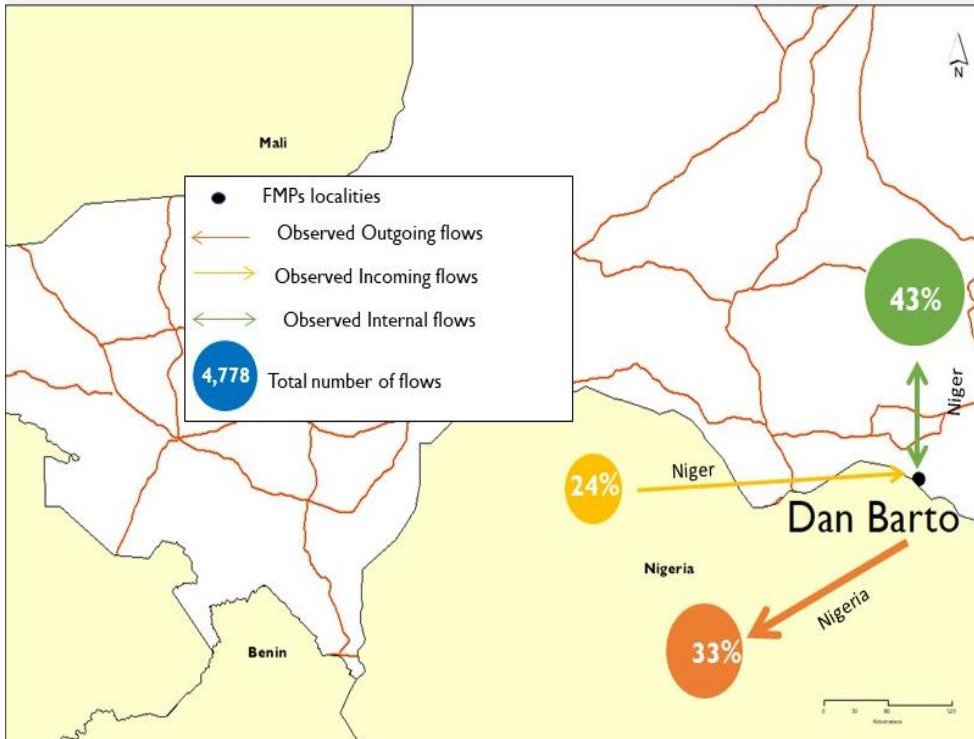
### PRIMARY NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



The **Dan Barto** flow monitoring point captures cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria. Dan Barto is a town near the border with Nigeria where high volumes of flows originating from Nigeria pass through, often traveling towards the Mediterranean via Agadez and Libya. The Dan Barto FMP has been active since August 2018.

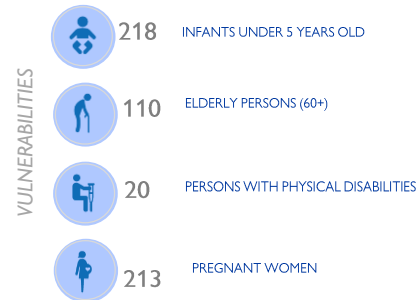
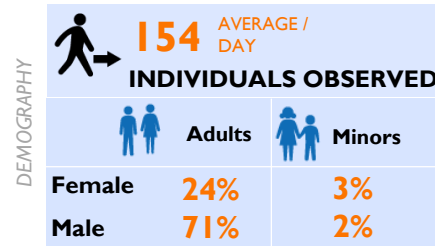
A daily average of 154 individuals passing through the Dan Barto FMP was observed during this month with more outgoing flows (58%) than incoming flows (42%). The main reasons cited for migrating were overwhelmingly **short-term local movements** (99%), while the remaining 1% cited **economic migration** as the main motivating factor. Dan Barto is mostly used by Nigerian and Nigerian traders who maintain a close economic relationship. Nigeriens travel to Nigeria to purchase goods while Nigerians travel to Niger to purchase items, such as animals and food (millet, beans, etc.).

The main nationalities observed crossing the FMP include: Nigerien (73%), Nigerian (21%), Burkinabe (3%), Beninese and Ghanaian (1%) nationals. The majority were observed using private vehicles (91%) followed by motorbikes, trucks and buses (3% each).



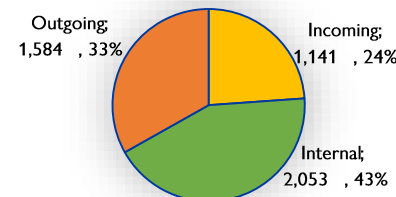
## PROFILE OF MIGRANTS

(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)

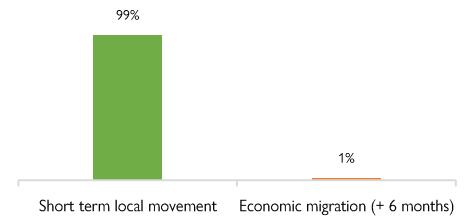


| Area of Origin of Flows | %  |
|-------------------------|----|
| NIGER                   | 76 |
| NIGERIA                 | 19 |
| BENIN                   | 5  |

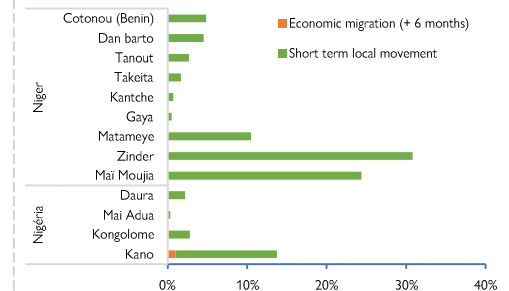
NUMBER OF MIGRANTS OBSERVED AT THE DAN BARTO FMP (AUGUST 2018)



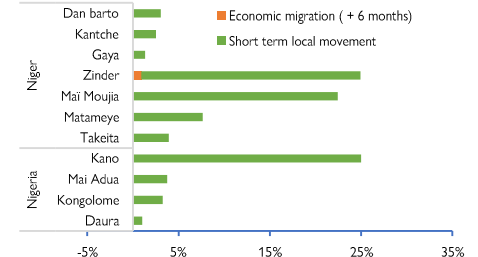
## PRIMARY TYPES OF OBSERVED MOVEMENTS



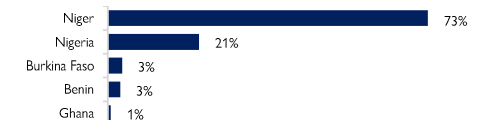
## PRIMARY DEPARTURE CITIES OF OBSERVED FLOWS



## PRIMARY DESTINATION CITIES OF OBSERVED FLOWS



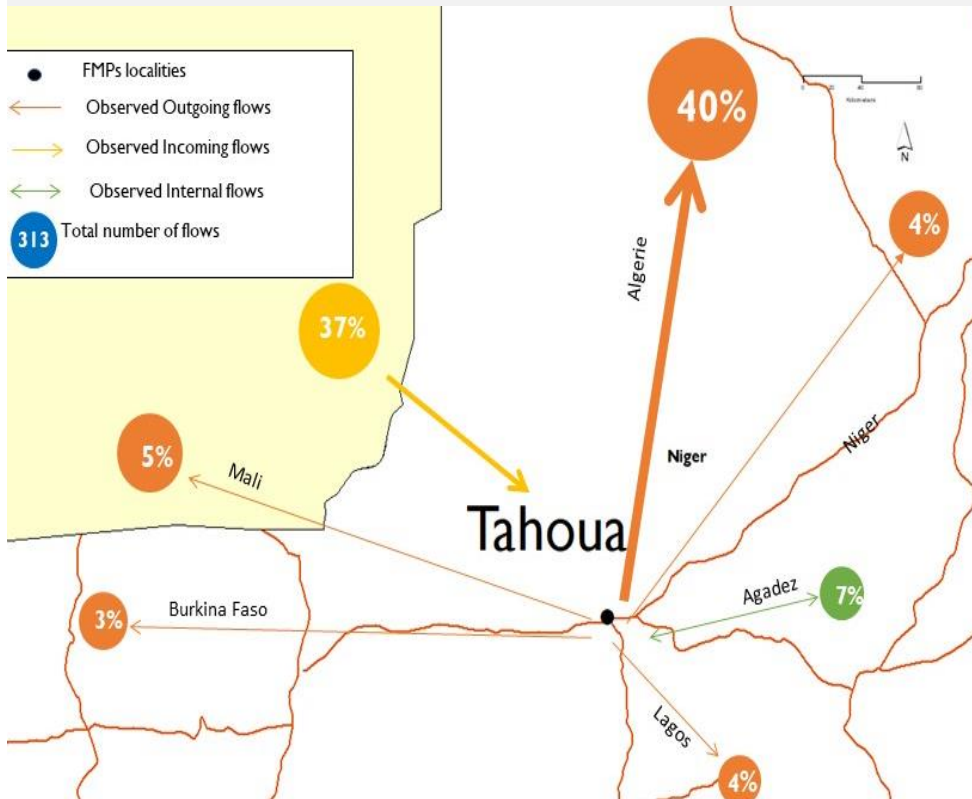
## PRIMARY NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



The **Tahoua** flow monitoring point captures both cross-border and internal movements. Tahoua is a city in central Niger which migrants have been observed transiting through. They mainly come from Nigeria and other west African countries, such as Mali, Cameroon and Burkina Faso; they often intend to take the Agadez route towards Algeria and Libya and for some reach Algeria by passing through Tchinta which is at about 300 km to the Algerian boarder. The Tahoua FMP has been active since August 2018.

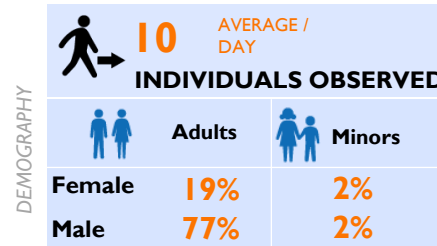
A daily average of 10 individuals passing through the Tahoua FMP was observed during this month with more outgoing flows (60%) than incoming flows (40%). The main reasons cited for migrating were **economic migration** (52%), followed by **short term local movements** (13%) and **seasonal migration** (3%). 32% did not respond to the question.

The main nationalities observed crossing the FMP include: Nigerien (35%), Nigerian (15%), Malian (13%), Cameroonian (12%), Burkinabe (8%), Beninese and Gambian (4%) nationals. The majority were observed using buses (51%), followed by trucks (28%) and private vehicles (21%).



### PROFILE OF MIGRANTS

(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)

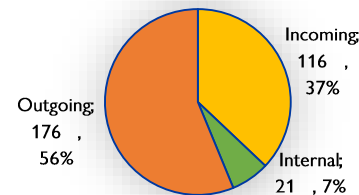


- VULNERABILITIES**
- 5 INFANTS UNDER 5 YEARS OLD
  - 4 ELDERLY PERSONS (60+)
  - 2 PERSONS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES
  - 6 PREGNANT WOMEN

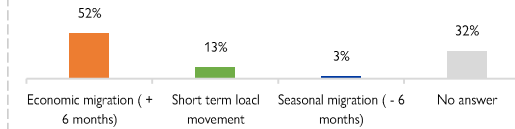
**AREA OF ORIGIN**

| Area of Origin of Flows | %  |
|-------------------------|----|
| NIGER                   | 34 |
| ALGERIA                 | 26 |
| NIGERIA                 | 15 |
| BURKINA FASO            | 11 |
| OTHER                   | 14 |

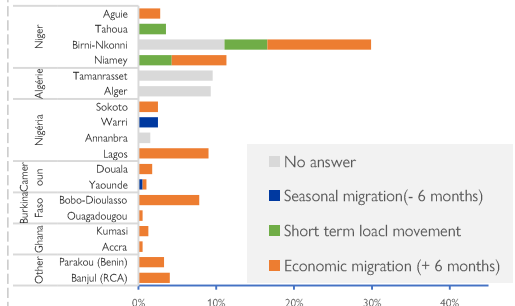
### NUMBER OF MIGRANTS OBSERVED AT THE TAHAOUA FMP (AUGUST 2018)



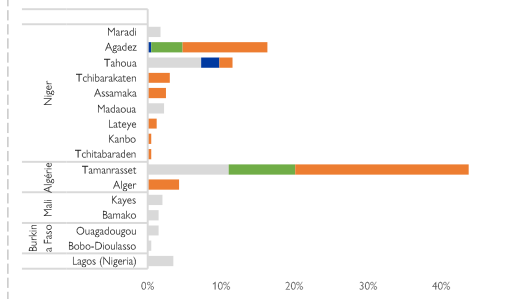
### PRIMARY TYPES OF OBSERVED MOVEMENTS



### PRIMARY DEPARTURE CITIES OF OBSERVED FLOWS



### PRIMARY DESTINATION CITIES OF OBSERVED FLOWS



### PRIMARY NATIONALITIES OBSERVED

