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IOM is working with national and local authorities in order to gain better understanding of population movements throughout West and Central Africa. Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) allow IOM to quantify and qualify migration flows, trends, and routes, at entry, transit or exit points (such as border crossing posts, bus stations, rest areas, police checkpoints and reception centers).
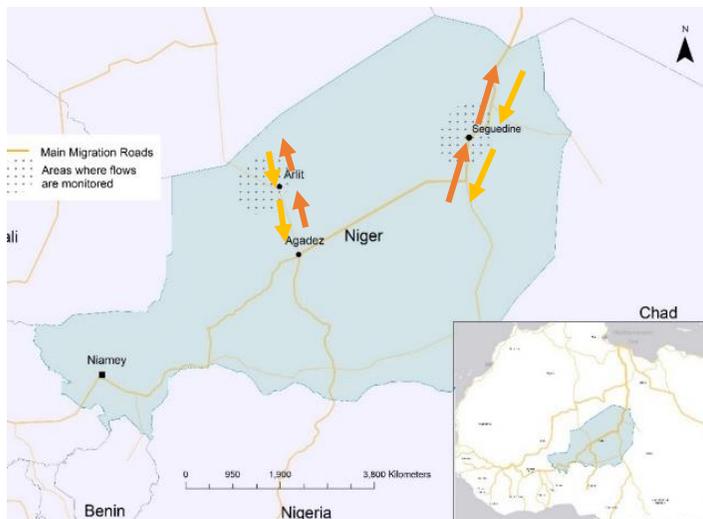
As of February 2016, IOM Niger is working with national and local authorities. This flow monitoring does not replace border monitoring, nor does it claim to observe all migratory flows in the Agadez region. FMPs are placed at known migrant transit points along the Niger migratory route. The data collected provides a snapshot of migrant movements through the region.

Flow monitoring points (FMPs) are active in Séguédine and Arlit, two towns in the Agadez region.

DEFINITIONS USED

Incoming individuals observed: This refers to individuals who arrive at a flow monitoring point (which are not located at borders) with the intention of heading further into Niger. They are represented by yellow arrows on the map.

Outgoing individuals observed: This refers to individuals who arrive at a Flow Monitoring Point (which are not located at borders) with the intention of heading outwards, traveling towards the outer borders of Niger. They are represented by orange arrows on the map.

Individuals observed in the internal movement: This refers to individuals who arrive at a flow monitoring point (which are not located at borders) with no intention of leaving Niger.

PROFILE OF PERSONS OBSERVED AT THE Flow Monitoring Points FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2018

Adults

| Women | 5% |
| Men | 95% |

<1 % Elderly persons

<1% Infants

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION COLLECTED

STATISTICS			MONITORING TOOLS	DEMOGRAPHY FOR 2018	OBSERVED NATIONALITIES	MIGRATION ROUTES
2017	INDIVIDUALS OBSERVED (OUTGOING FLOW)	69,637	□ Flow Monitoring Points (2)	Female **5%** Male **95%**	The main observed nationalities along the migration monitoring routes in 2018 are:	Restrictive measures taken by the government of Niger to crack down on irregular migration, the situation prevailing in Libya, and the repatriation of Nigerien nationals residing in Algeria, have led to a shift in the routes used by migrants, which have become more perilous and fragmented and which exacerbate the vulnerabilities of migrants.
	INDIVIDUALS OBSERVED (INCOMING FLOW)	99,455	□ Flow monitoring surveys	Minors: Approximately 806 minors (under 18 years of age) have been observed in the flow monitoring points in 2018. Among them the presence of 280 unaccompanied minors was noted among which 273 in Arlit against 7 in Séguédine.	□ Niger □ Nigeria □ Mali □ Chad □ Libya □ Guinea □ Burkina Faso □ Cameroun □ Soudan □ Senegal	
2018	INDIVIDUALS OBSERVED (OUTGOING FLOW)	6,986	□ Participatory mapping			
	INDIVIDUALS OBSERVED (INCOMING FLOW)	7,615	□ Qualitative reports			
	INDIVIDUALS OBSERVED (INTERNAL MOUVEMENT)	3,871	□ Field visits			

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MIGRATION TRENDS (2017-2018)

The data presented in the left-hand graph below shows the overall number of migrants identified at the two Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) on a monthly basis for the period between January 2017 - February 2018, while the two graphs on the right reflect the data collected at each of the FMPs during that period. The table at the bottom left presented the number of individuals identified in each of the three flows (outgoing, incoming and internal) at each FMP.

Comparison of the data between 2017 and 2018 shows that significantly fewer migrants passed through the FMPs in 2018 than in 2017, with a decreasing trend in migration flows observed from March 2017 onwards. Tellingly, more migrants entered Niger and left Niger in 2017; in 2018 the trends are quite similar with that of the last semester of the year 2017. This is likely due to three phenomena: stricter controls on migration and the criminalization of individuals involved in illegal migration, impeding outward migration, on the one hand, and the degradation of the situation in Libya and efforts to repatriate Nigerian nationals from Algeria driving up the numbers of migrants returning to Niger, on the other. The number of outgoing migrants passing through the Séguédine FMP accounted for 41% of the total number of migrants observed in 2017 while the number of incoming migrants accounted for 51% of the total number. This trend is quite similar in 2018, when 41% of the migrants observed at the Séguédine FMP were outgoing migrants and 51% of incoming migrants.While the number of migrants who were observed passing through the Arlit FMP declined between 2017 and 2018 as well, the decrease in numbers was smaller than that observed at the Séguédine FMP. In 2018, 3,871 internal migrants (travelling within Niger) were observed at the Arlit FMP.

NUMBER OF MIGRANTS IDENTIFIED AT SEGUEDINE AND ARLIT FLOW MONITORING POINTS (2017 and 2018)
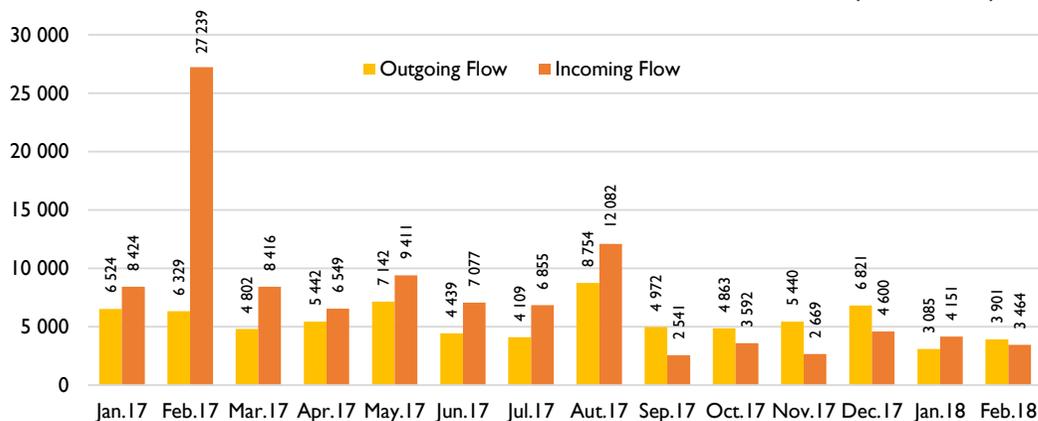
NUMBER OF MIGRANTS IDENTIFIED IN ARLIT (2017 - 2018)
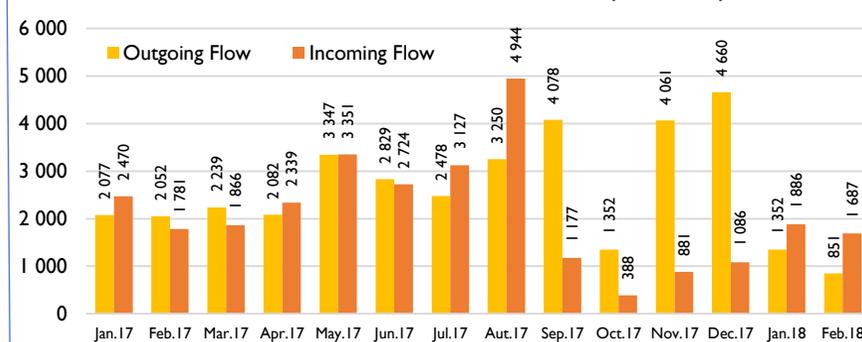
NUMBER OF MIGRANTS IDENTIFIED IN SEGUEDINE (2017 - 2018)
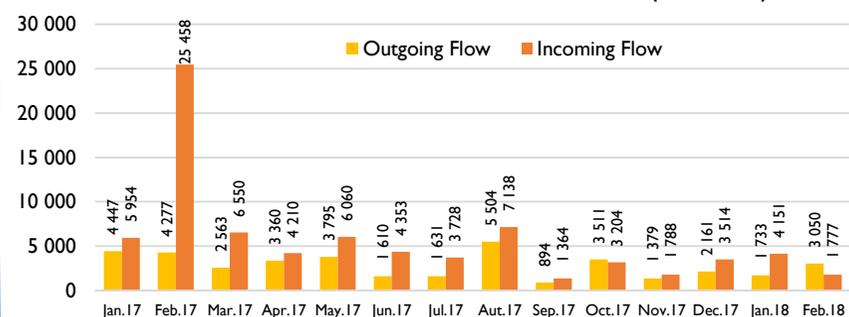
	OUTGOING FLOW	INCOMING FLOW	OUTGOING FLOW	INCOMING FLOW	INTERNAL MOUVEMENT
	2017		**2018**		
Arlit	34,505	26,134	2,203	3,573	3,871
Séguédine	35,867	73,321	4,783	4,042	0

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DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE (2018)

WOMEN 5%   **MEN** 95%   **CHILDREN** 3%

313 AVERAGE/DAY OBSERVED INDIVIDUALS

155 INFANTS (UNDER FIVE YEARS OLD)

13 PREGNANT WOMEN

16 ELDERLY PERSONS (60 +)

12 PERSONS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILTY

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE AND NUMBER OF MINORS: 2018

	Men	Women
Arlit	96%	4%
Séguédine	95%	5%

The demographic profiles of migrants passing through the two FMPs are relatively similar, consisting largely of men 18 to 40 years old as well as a small minority of women (5% in Séguédine and 4% in Arlit). In addition, nearly 806 accompanied and unaccompanied minors were registered at the FMPs in 2018. 97,5% of the unaccompanied children have been observed at the Arlit FMP. In accordance with IOM's data protection principles, more information is available upon request.

	Accompanied minors	Unaccompanied minors	Total minors
Arlit	251	273	524
Séguédine	275	7	282
Total	**526**	**280**	**806**

NATIONALITIES OF MIGRANTS: 2018

NATIONALITIES OBSERVED IN SEGUEDINE

	Outgoing	Incoming	Average
Niger	89%	77%	**83%**
Libya	7%	8%	**8%**
Nigeria	0%	6%	**3%**
Soudan	1%	3%	**2%**
Chad	1%	2%	**2%**
Burkina Faso	0%	1%	**1%**
Mali	0%	1%	**1%**
Other	44%	20%	**32%**

At both FMPs the Nigeriens are the most observed in the outgoing and incoming flow, the average of outgoing and incoming migrants is 83% at the Séguédine FMP and 54% at the Arlit FMP. The second most important nationality observed at the Séguédine FMPs are Libyans, the represent 7% for the outgoing flow and 8% for the incoming. Migrants from Nigeria and Soudan pass through the Séguédine while those from Mali, Guinea and Cameroun are passing through the Arlit FMP.

It should be noted that the nationalities observed at the Flow Monitoring Points are most often provided either by the migrants themselves or by key informants. As a result, it may be difficult to determine the nationalities of certain groups.

NATIONALITIES OBSERVED IN ARLIT

	Outgoing	Incoming	Average	Internal
Niger	68%	40%	**54%**	26%
Mali	5%	8%	**7%**	8%
Guinea	4%	8%	**6%**	2%
Cameroun	4%	5%	**5%**	5%
Chad	4%	3%	**4%**	5%
Liberia	0%	5%	**3%**	2%
Nigeria	2%	4%	**3%**	10%
Burkina Faso	2%	3%	**3%**	8%
Senegal	1%	4%	**3%**	3%
Other	10%	20%	**15%**	31%

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MIGRANT PROFILE (2018)

Main Means of Transport

75% Private vehicle **15 %** Bus **7 %** Truck **3%** Other

A majority of migrants transiting through the two Flow Monitoring Points travelled by private vehicle (75%), while 15% travelled by bus, 7% travelled by truck, and another 3% travelled by other means, such as by camel or on foot.

Reason for migration

Categories (top to bottom): Seasonal migration, No answer, Economic migration, Short term migration, Tourism, Mouvement due to a conflict. Legend: Arlit, Séguédine.
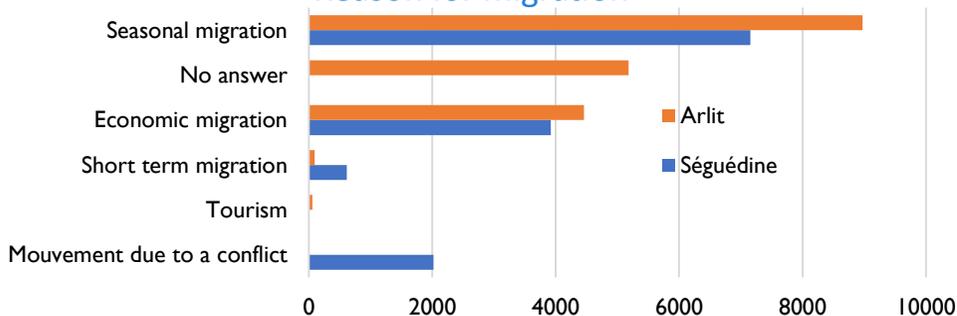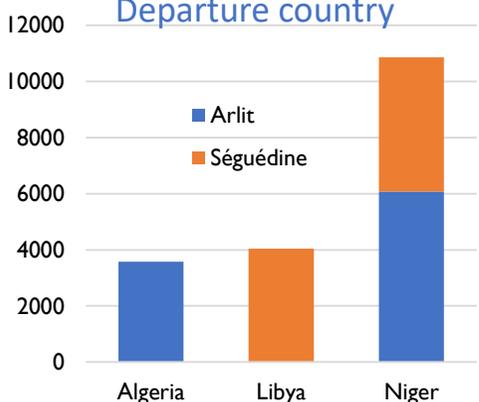
Seasonal migration was the main driver behind the migration of migrants transiting through the two FMPs. 28% of individuals observed in Arlit and 22% of individuals observed in Séguédine were seasonal migrants. At the Séguédine FMP (6%) of the registered persons have been forced to leave their place of origin to search for refuge in Algeria or Libya by transiting trough Niger.
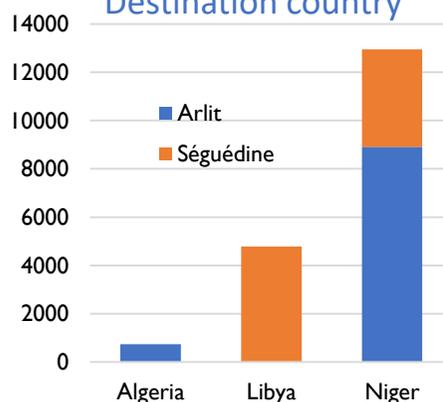
54 persons transiting trough Arlit reveal that they were doing tourism.

More short-term migrants were observed in Séguédine than in Arlit (612 ind 90, respectively). Finally 14% persons observed at the Arlit FMP travel in search of better living conditions while they are 12% at the Séguédine FMP.

Departure country

Legend: Arlit, Séguédine. Countries: Algeria, Libya, Niger.

Destination country

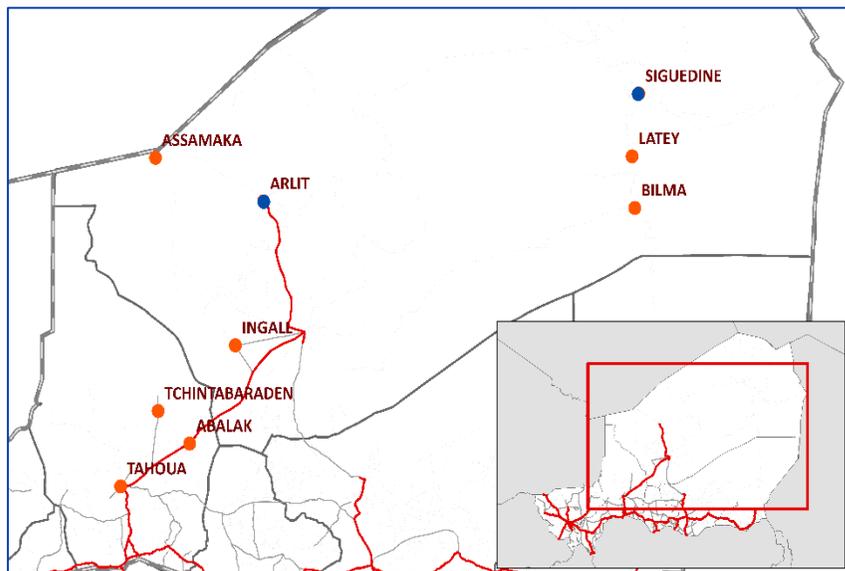Legend: Arlit, Séguédine. Countries: Algeria, Libya, Niger.

Niger is the main country of departure and destination. 59% of the migrants observed at the two FMPs claim that Niger is their country of departure and 70% mention Niger as destination country. At the Séguédine FMP the second country of departure is Libya with 46% and 54% as a destination country.

DTM

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR MIGRATION
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Credentials: When quoting, paraphrasing or in any way using the information mentioned in this report, the source needs to be stated appropriately as follows: "Source: International Organization for Migration (IOM), (month,year), Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)".

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MIGRATORY ROUTES

The map reflects the location of the FMPs in the Agadez region, which cover more than 700 000 km². For many reasons, including the restriction and clampdown on and the criminalization of irregular migration by the government of Niger, the situation in Libya, and the repatriation of Nigerien migrants from Algeria, migratory flows remained more or less stable during the last semester of 2017, and migratory routes have become increasingly diversified and fragmented.

In order to clearly understand this change, IOM Niger is collecting information from 10 focal points set up since September 2017 in remote areas of the Agadez and Tahoua regions not covered by the Information Points. The purpose of this data collection is to support the information collected at the FMPs and to have a clear understanding of migration flows in the areas around Agadez region. The supplementary information points provide guidance on these alternative routes to enable IOM to provide an adequate response for migrants on less traveled routes.

SEGUEDINE

Migrants passing through Séguédine take the migratory route to Libya, many of them presumably intending to cross the Mediterranean to reach Europe. Migrants passing through. This Flow Monitoring Point include individuals from a wide variety of West African countries as well as a few individuals from Central and Southern Africa. In 2016, this route was the most important transit point for migrants passing through the Sahara Desert. Since the adoption of a decree on migration in October 2016, security checks have increased. Migrants and their smugglers are circumventing thedirect route to Libya and are being spotted on less travelled and extremely dangerous routes. Assessments carried out during Flow Monitoring exercises made it possible to understand that migratory routes used are much more fragmented and that migrants and carriers are reluctant to transit through Séguédine for fear of being intercepted. As a result, new routes, which bypass villages and transit points, have been identified.

ARLIT

The Arlit Flow Monitoring Point is the main route used by migrants leaving for, transiting to or returning from Algeria. This road has long been used as a trade route between Niger and Algeria. There are many movements of Nigeriens who make a circular migration with Algeria. However, there are also migrants of other nationalities who transit through Arlit to Algeria, and preliminary reports suggest that a shorter route through Algeria to reach Libya passes through Arlit, although this information has not been verified yet. In addition, the migratory route crossing Niger used by migrants to go to Algeria also crosses the city of Tchintabaraden before reaching the Algerian border, bypassing Arlit.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR MIGRATION
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WHAT IS FLOW MONITORING?

Flow Monitoring is a component of IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM). It has been developed to track migrant flows (groups or individuals) through data collections carried out at key points of origin, transit and/or destination. The purpose of Flow Monitoring is to provide regularly updated information on the scale and profiles of population movements (migrants, internally displaced persons, returnees, etc.) through specific locations. The information and analysis provided through the flow monitoring methodology also helps to better understand and define shortcomings and priorities in the provision of assistance along the displacement/ migratory routes. The purpose of Flow Monitoring is not to replace border monitoring or border surveillance. Data collected by IOM flow monitoring exercises does not replace government border controls and should not be interpreted as such.

The Flow monitoring methodology aims to identify areas prone to internal, cross border, and regional migration. Mobility area assessments are conducted at the national level. FMP teams then collect information at the local level to identify key transit points. Enumerators collect data from key informants at the flow monitoring points. Data is collected through a basic form combined with direct observations – enabling sex and nationality breakdowns. In Arlit and Séguédine, the FMPs were selected according to their geographic characteristics and mobility patterns after consultation with local and national key stakeholders involved in the management of migration in Niger. Data is collected on a daily basis during peak time hours.

A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF MIGRATORY FLOWS, A REGIONAL INCENTIVE IN WEST AFRICA?

Monitoring population movements in West and Central Africa represents an important regional initiative. It allows for a better understanding of intentions, trends, routes, risks as well as demographic and socio-economic profiles of migrants. It serves as a common source of data contributing to informed policymaking by authorities in countries of origin, transit and destination. IOM aims to install over thirty of these flow monitoring points throughout the West and Central African region to assist the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

HOW IS FLOW MONITORING SET UP IN FIELD ENVIRONMENTS?

Flow monitoring is composed of three tools. Assessment of areas with high mobility, regular monitoring of locations with high mobility, in-depth surveys done with migrants at these locations. These tools can be deployed simultaneously or separately.

1 **DATA QUALITY CONTROL**: The methodology employs multi-layered data collection with various levels of granularity to allow for consistency checks. The team rigorously checks for data quality during the data collection, processing and analysis process.

2 **DATA PROTECTION**: Personal data collected by IOM and the protection of such data is subject to IOM's data protection principles.

3 **LIMITATIONS:** Data collected for these exercises should be understood as estimations only. They represent only part of the total flows transiting through the region. The spatial and temporal coverage of this data collection activity is therefore incomplete. In addition, although data is collected daily, it is collected only during peak hours, and therefore the portion of the flows that occur during the uncovered hours is not represented. Data on vulnerability is based on direct observation and should be understood as mainly indicative. *IOM does not make any warranties or representations as to the appropriateness, quality, reliability, timeliness, accuracy or completeness of the data included in this report.*

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