



DTM SOMALIA

FLOW MONITORING

Annual Report 2021



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OUR PARTNERS



EU-IOM
Joint Initiative for
Migrant Protection
and Reintegration



- In 2021, DTM teams observed **281,527 movements at Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs)**.
- Out of the total observed movements, **43 per cent (121,095) were incoming flows**. People interviewed originated from Ethiopia (66%), Kenya (13%) and Djibouti (10%). In addition, 10 per cent of the incoming flows were recorded as internal movements.
- **Fifty seven per cent (160,432) of the movements were outgoing flows**. The people on the move interviewed mainly intended to reach Ethiopia (46%), Saudi Arabia (23%), Yemen (15%), Kenya (11%) and Djibouti (6%).
- **As in 2020, the main reason for movements in 2021 was economic**. This is a trend observed since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, which may have heavily impacted employment and business opportunities. Previously to the pandemic, in 2019, the most common reason for movement was attributed to seasonal migration.
- The main nationality reported was predominantly Somali (68%) followed by Ethiopian (27%). This may be partially due to the re-opening of borders, as in 2019

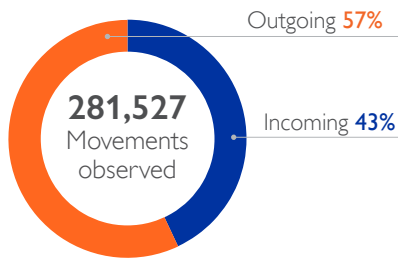
Somali nationals were also representing a small majority (51%), compared to 57 per cent of Ethiopian nationals in 2020.

- **Only a fifth of the people on the move declared holding a passport or any other form of identification**.
- Among the migrants interviewed, 30 per cent of males and 23 per cent of females declared that someone (most times a friend or family member) helped them in organizing their journey.
- Twenty five per cent of males and 14 per cent of females, declared that they will have to repay the expense of their journey upon arrival.
- **In 2021, people on the move continued to perceive a negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic**, specifically in relation to their access to basic services such as food and water (14%), their access to health care services (12%) and their capacity to send and receive remittances (12%).
- **Half of the migrants interviewed would want to get vaccinated if the vaccine was offered to them**.

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HIGHLIGHTS



121,095
ENTRIES INTO
SOMALIA

160,432
EXITS FROM
SOMALIA

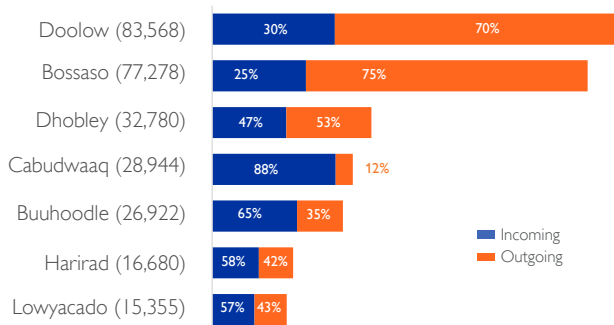
Movements are monitored at **7 FLOW MONITORING POINTS**

Movements **INCREASED** by 44% in **2021** compared to **2020**

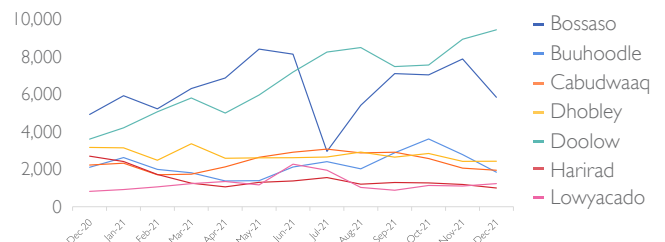
Between January and December 2021, a total of 281,527 movements (people on the move) were observed at Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs). Operations were suspended between October 2019 and January 2020, hence the movements tracked in 2021 and 2020 are not directly comparable. However, an increase of movements by 44 per cent was observed between 2020 and 2021. This is probably a return to the trends observed before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic (between March 2020 and April 2020, when most countries closed their borders, movements had declined by 60%). Indeed, compared to 2019 (January to October), movements have increased by 8 per cent.

In 2021, out of the total observed movements, 43 per cent were incoming flows and 57 per cent outgoing flows (65% and 35% respectively in 2020). Two factors explain this shift to a majority of outgoing flows. First, in 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the people on the move may have been able to enter Somalia but not easily exit. Second, in February 2021, the FMR tool was modified to capture the distinction between transiting locations and places of origin, and transiting destinations and final destinations. As a result, outgoing flows have increased because the tool captured better when Somalia is a transit stage in a migrant's journey,

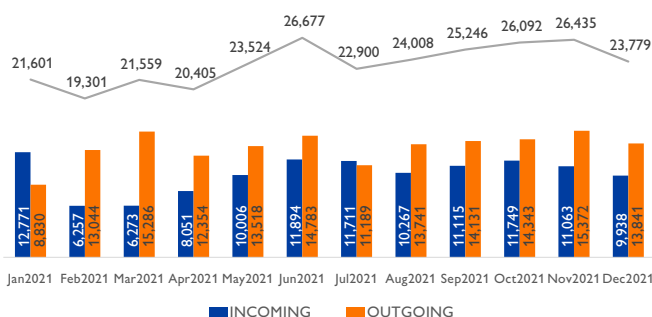
TYPE OF MOVEMENTS PER FMP



MOVEMENTS PER FMP AND PER MONTH

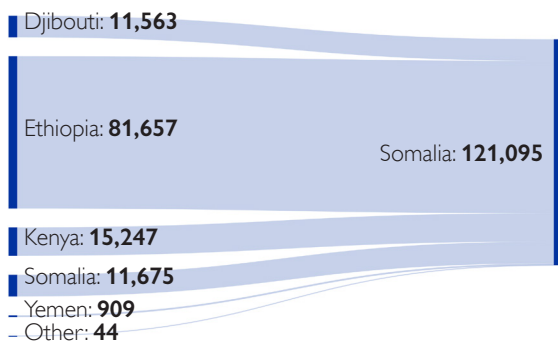


TYPE OF MOVEMENTS PER MONTH

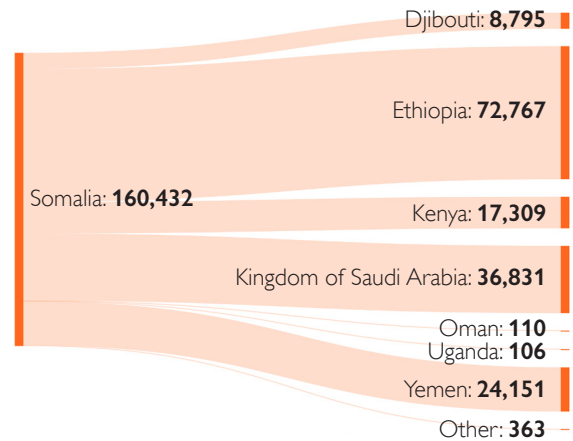


Highest numbers of movements were observed at Doolow FMP (30%), followed by Bossaso FMP (27%), Dhobley FMP (12%), Cabudwaaq FMP (10%), Buuhoodle FMP (10%), Harirad FMP (6%) and Lowyacado FMP (5%).

INCOMING



OUTGOING



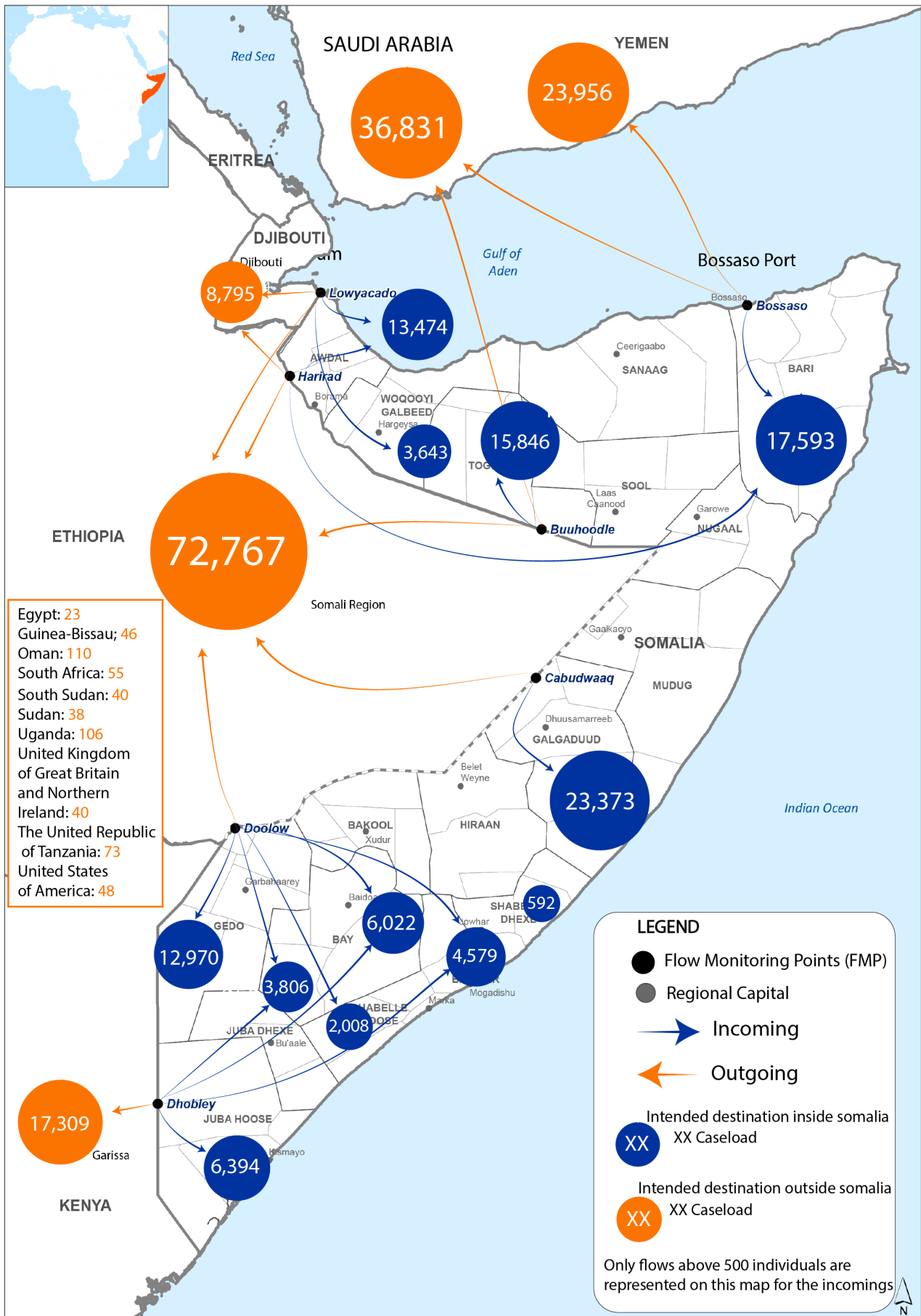
Countries of origin and destination countries with less than 100 movements are not represented on these sankey diagrams.

Incoming flows: 121,671 movements were observed as entering Somalia. Movements recorded originated from Ethiopia (66%), Kenya (13%) and Djibouti (10%) while 10 per cent of the movements observed as entering Somalia also originated from Somalia.

Outgoing flows: 159,812 movements were observed as exiting Somalia. The main countries of intended destination for outgoing flows were Ethiopia (46%), Saudi Arabia (23%), Yemen (15%), Kenya (11%) and Djibouti (6%).



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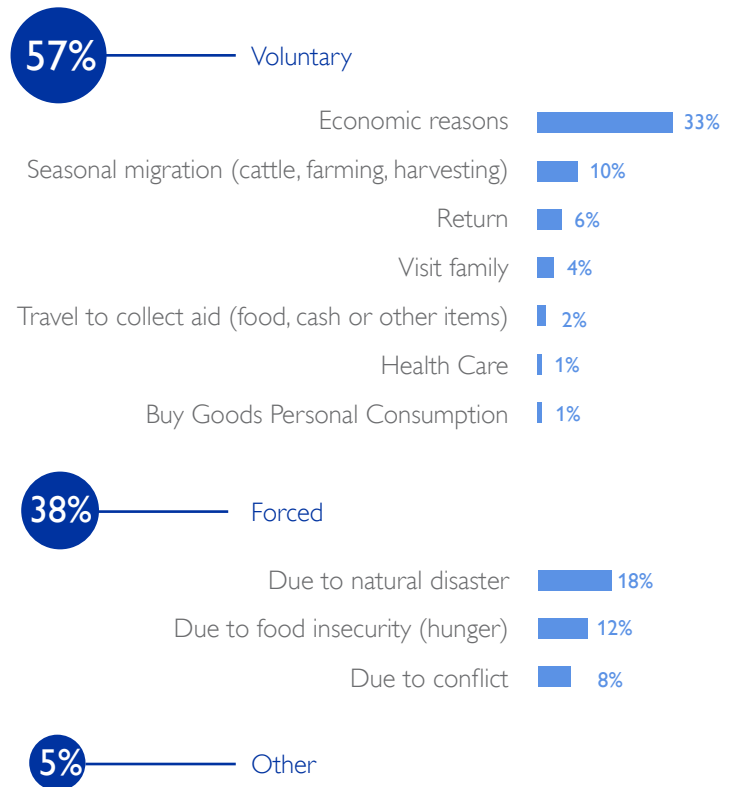
DISCLAIMER: This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

As in 2020, the main reason for movements in 2021 is economic. This is a trend observed since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, which may have impacted heavily employment and business opportunities. Previously to the pandemic, in 2019, the most common reason of movement was attributed to seasonal migration.

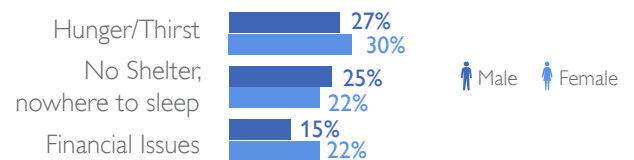
Interestingly, the forced movements due to natural disaster are the second main reason for movements and have increased since October 2021. This is partially a consequence of the severe drought experienced by the country and the Horn of Africa region since the last quarter of 2021. Because of the dramatic impact of the drought, the Federal Government of Somalia declared a state of emergency due to drought on the 23rd of November 2021.

With regards to the main difficulties faced by the migrants, males and females declared facing the same main challenges: access to food, water, shelter, and financial issues. However, females are impacted by financial problems by 7 percentage points more than males.

REASONS FOR MOVEMENTS

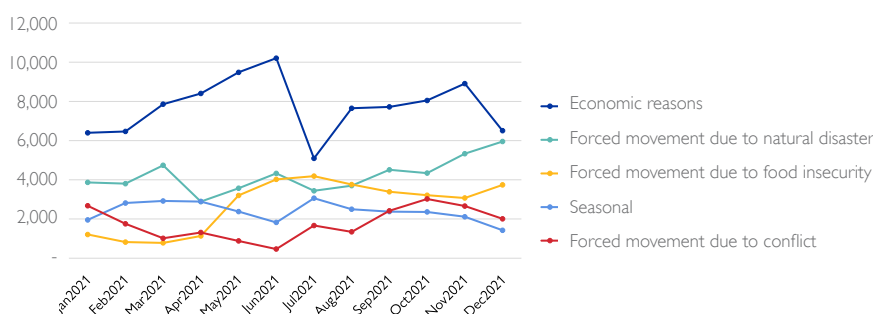


MAIN DIFFICULTIES*

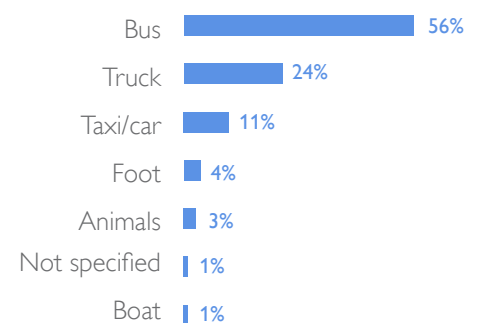


* From FMS data collection tool sample. Percentages are on a total of 13,778 responses (not the total of respondents) from individuals facing difficulties which declared up to 3 main difficulties.

5 MAIN REASONS FOR MOVEMENTS PER MONTH



MODES OF TRANSPORT

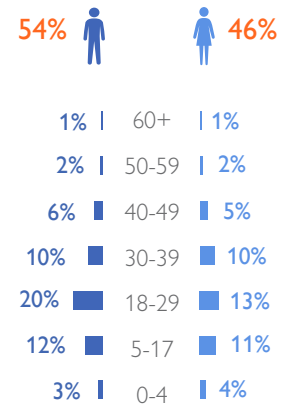


Similarly to 2020, a small majority of the migrants were males (54% versus 46% females) and close to a third of them were children (30%). The main nationality reported was predominantly Somali (68%) followed by Ethiopian (27%). This is possibly due to the re-opening of borders, as in 2019 Somali nationals were also representing a small majority (51%), compared to 57 per cent of Ethiopian nationals in 2020. These nationalities are self-declared by the migrants and notably females and males were only a fifth to declare holding a passport or any other form of identification.

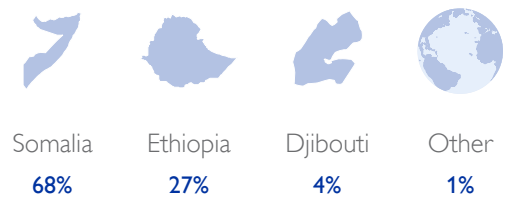
While the prevalence of most vulnerabilities remains quite stable (pregnant and lactating women, unaccompanied children, people with physical disabilities or aged), the proportion of children under five on the move has increased by 6 percentage points in 2021 (13% of the people in 2021 compared to 7% in 2020).

Most of the people on the move in 2021 were married (52%) and unemployed and looking for a job (53%). Nevertheless, there are some gender variations. Females are 6 percentage points more often married than males, and 18 percentage points more often unemployed and not looking for a job. With regards to education, even if females have on average a lower level of education, most of the migrants interviewed (female and male) have received primary education (53% compared to 2020 when 54% of the migrants were lacking formal education).

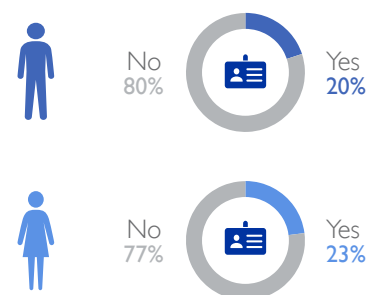
SEX AND AGE



NATIONALITIES



DO YOU HOLD A PASSPORT, OR ANY OTHER FORM OF IDENTIFICATION*

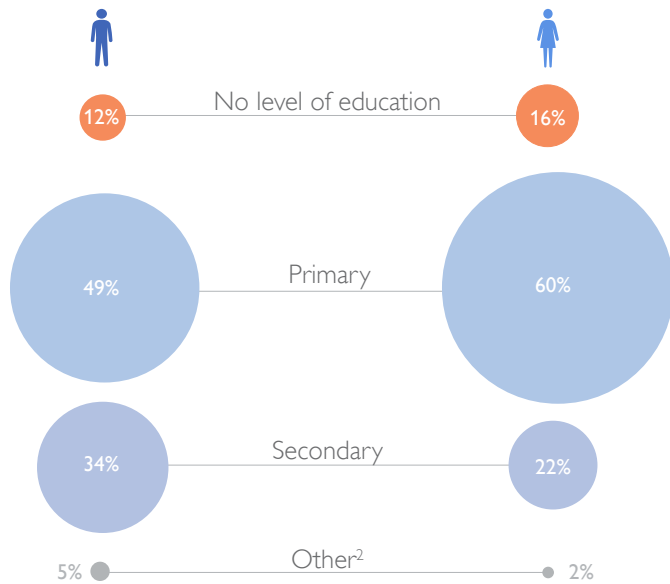


* Data from FMS which is based on a sample size of 11,652 individuals from July 2021 to December 2021.



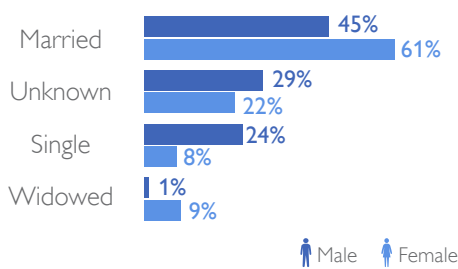
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SEX AND HIGHEST EDUCATION LEVEL COMPLETED*



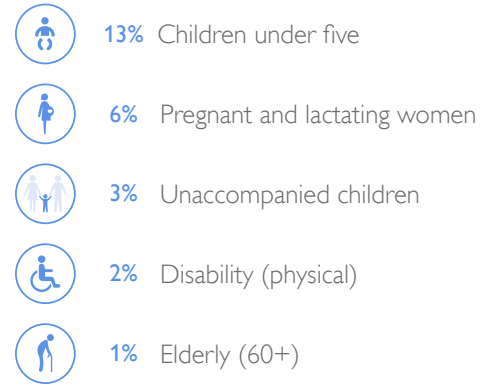
* Data from FMS which is based on a sample size of 24,269 individuals. Other education levels include: vocational training, religious schools, and tertiary education (Bachelor's/Master's/PhD).

SEX AND MARITAL STATUS*



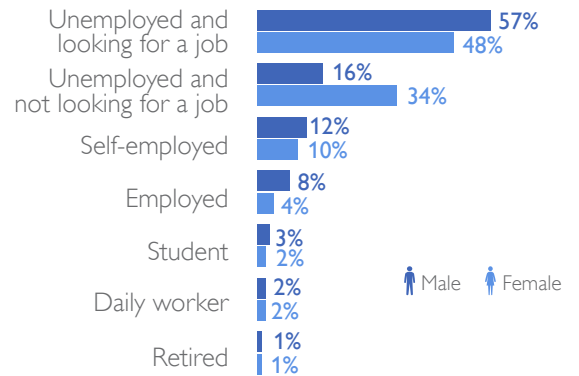
* Data from FMS which is based on a sample size of 24,269 individuals

VULNERABILITIES*



*A total of 47,033 vulnerabilities have been observed in 2021. Vulnerabilities may be overlapping since individuals may have more than one vulnerability. These percentages are therefore calculated on the total number of observations for this 2021 (281,527)

SEX AND CURRENT OCCUPATION*



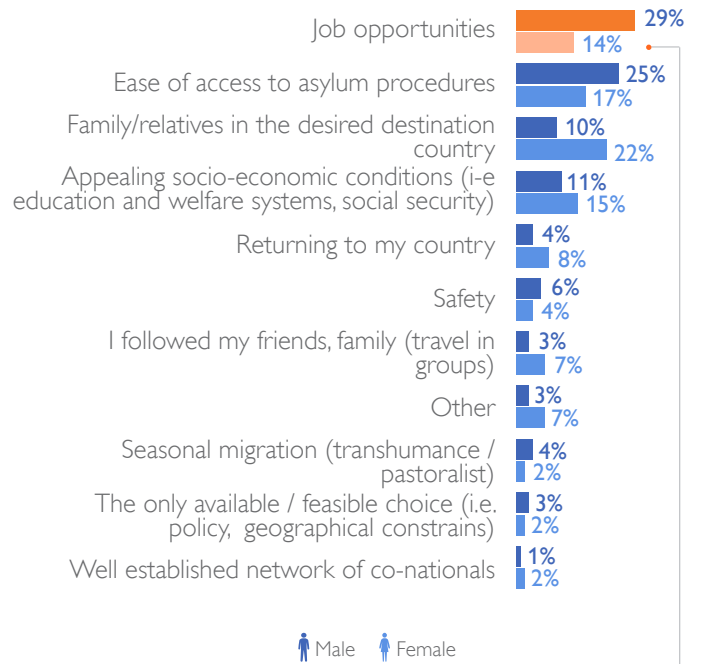
* Data from FMS which is based on a sample size of 24,269 individuals



The motivations to choose the final destinations are similar to those declared in 2020. The opportunity of employment remains the first declared reason, with a slight decrease of 5 percentage points in 2021 (on average for females and males). This decrease seems to be correlated to the augmentation of choices related to the presence of family and relatives in the destination country (7 percentage points on average for females and males).

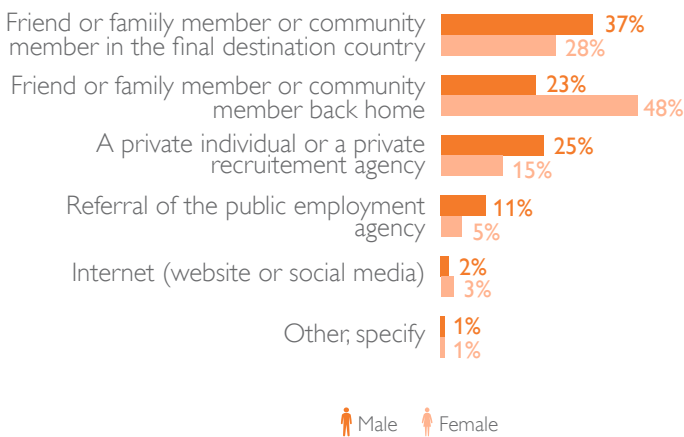
Regarding gender differences, most males were motivated by a job opportunity (29%) whereas most females were motivated by the presence of family or relatives (22%) when they chose their destination. When they travel for a job opportunity, males would be more often aware of the opportunity thanks to family or relatives in the destination whereas females would have known about it thanks to family or relatives back home.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE THIS FINAL DESTINATION? *



* From FMS data collection tool sample. Percentages are on a total of 31,549 responses (not the total of respondents) from individuals who declared the reasons of the choice of their final destination..

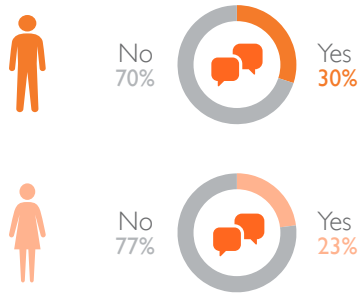
IF FOR JOB OPPORTUNITY, HOW WAS THE MIGRANT AWARE OF IT? *



* From FMS data collection tool sample. Percentages are on a total of 10,307 responses (not the total of respondents) from individuals who declared that the choice of their final destination is due to a job opportunity.

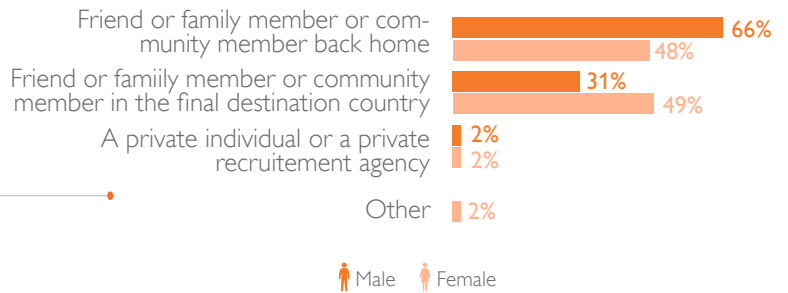
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DID ANYONE HELP YOU IN ORGANIZING THIS JOURNEY?*



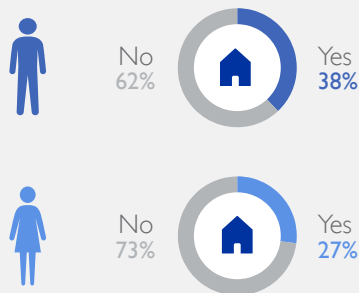
* Data from FMS which is based on a sample size of 11,652 individuals from July 2021 to December 2021.

IF, YES WHO HELPED YOU IN ORGANIZING THIS JOURNEY? *



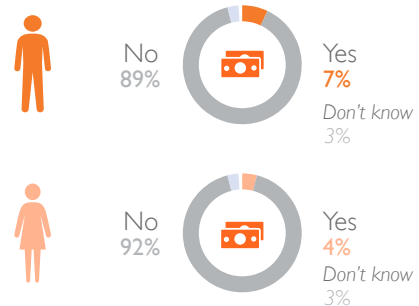
* Data from FMS which is based on a sample size of 3,162 individuals from July 2021 to December 2021.

DO YOU HAVE ACCOMODATION ARRANGED IN THE DESIRED COUNTRY OF DESTINATION?*



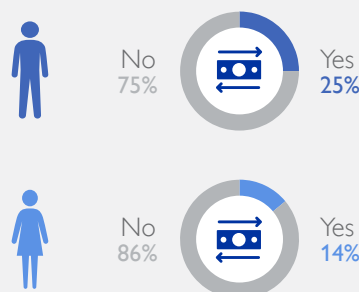
* Data from FMS which is based on a sample size of 11,652 individuals from July 2021 to December 2021.

DO YOU HAVE A JOB/BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY LINED UP AT DESTINATION?*



* Data from FMS which is based on a sample size of 11,652 individuals from July 2021 to December 2021.

UPON ARRIVAL AT DESTINATION, WILL YOU HAVE TO REPAY THE EXPENSES OF THE JOURNEY?*



* Data from FMS which is based on a sample size of 11,652 individuals from July 2021 to December 2021.

IF YES, IN WHAT SECTOR?*



* Data from FMS which is based on a sample size of 708 individuals from July 2021 to December 2021.

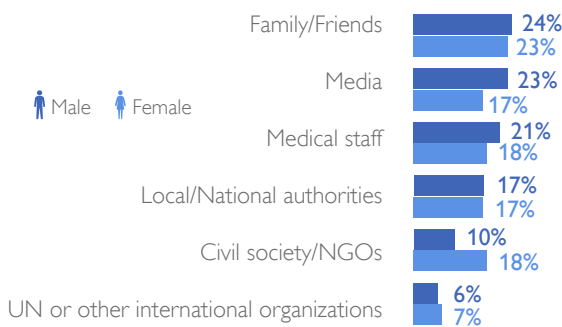
KEY COVID-19 FIGURES³



AWARENESS OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

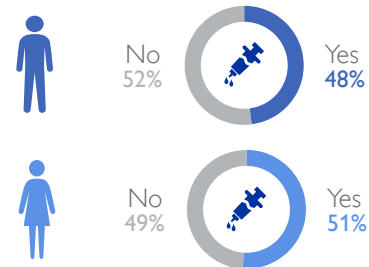


SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT COVID-19



* From FMS data collection tool sample. Percentages are on a total of 40,269 responses (not the total of respondents) from individuals who declared one or more sources of information about COVID-19.

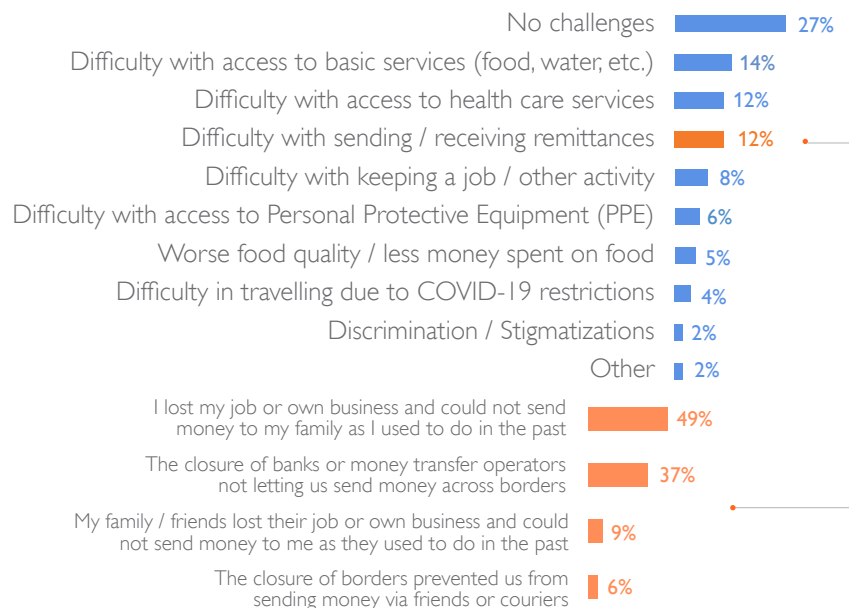
IF COVID-19 VACCINATION WAS AVAILABLE TO YOU, WOULD YOU WANT TO GET VACCINATED?*



* Data from FMS which is based on a sample size of 2,077 individuals from July 2021 to December 2021.

In 2021, on average 63 per cent of the people on the move were aware about COVID-19. This proportion has been slightly fluctuating over the months (between 53% and 68%). The sources of information are mostly the same for females and males, with the family and friends, the media, and the medical staff being the three main sources of information. Some migrants have perceived a negative impact of the pandemic on their access to basic services (such as food and water - 14%), their access to health care services (12%) and their capacity to send and receive remittances (12%). This impact on remittances is mostly due to job loss and the closure of bank or money transfer operators. Notably 49 per cent of the people on the move would want to get vaccinated if the vaccine was offered to them.

DIFFICULTIES RELATED TO COVID-19*



* From FMS data collection tool sample. Percentages are on a total of 35,035 responses (not the total of respondents) from individuals who declared one or more difficulties related to COVID-19. For the difficulties with remittances, percentages are on a total of 4,616 responses.

METHODOLOGY

The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a system to track and monitor displacement and population mobility. It is designed to regularly and systematically capture, process and disseminate information to provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of mobile populations, whether on site or en route. DTM provides decision makers with primary data and information on human mobility, both in country and at the regional and global level.

Flow monitoring is one of DTM's four methodological components. Its purpose is to provide regular and updated information of the size and profile of population movements. The information and analysis provided by flow monitoring also aims to contribute to improved understanding of shortcomings and priorities in the provision of assistance along the displacement/migratory routes. Flow monitoring methodology consists of three basic steps:

- **High Mobility Area/Location Assessments:** aimed at mapping locations of high mobility to establish where to set up Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) through key informant interviews;
- **Flow Monitoring Registry (FMR):** aimed at capturing quantitative data about certain characteristics such as the volumes of migrants, their nationalities, sex and age disaggregated information, their origin, their planned destination and key vulnerabilities. This is collected by enumerators at the FMPs. Since 22 March 2020, the tool includes COVID-19-related indicators, such as awareness of COVID-19 and the prevalence of chronic diseases. In February 2021, the FMR tool was modified to capture the distinctions between transiting locations and places of origin, transiting destinations and final destinations thus the incoming/outgoing flows from February 2021 may not be directly comparable with the previous weeks and months;
- **Flow Monitoring Survey (FMS):** aimed at capturing qualitative information about the profiles of migrants, migration drivers and migrants' needs. This is done through interviews with a sample of migrants passing through the FMPs. Since 1 September 2020, the tool includes COVID-19-related indicators, such as the challenges encountered since the start of the pandemic.

Movement categories:

- **Outgoing/Exiting Migrants:** migrants originating from and travelling out of the country where the FMP is located. Nationality is irrelevant.
- **Transiting Migrants:** migrants travelling through the country where the FMP is located, where both departure point, and the intended final destination, are not the country of FMP. Nationality is irrelevant.
- **Incoming Migrants:** both entering (non-nationals of the country with the FMP) and returning (nationals of the country with the FMP) migrants, where the intended destination is the country containing the FMP.
- **Internal Migrants:** where both the departure and the destination country are the country with the FMP. This includes circular migration.

More information on flow monitoring data and reports can be accessed via DTM's [Flow Monitoring portal](#). Access the [interactive flow monitoring dashboard](#) that presents findings from the FMR.

LIMITATIONS

Data collected for this exercise (from FMR and FMS) should be understood as indicative observations at FMPs. They represent only part of the total flows passing through Somalia. DTM Somalia has seven (7) cross-border FMPs, which is not exhaustive of all cross-border roads that migrants may use.

Data is collected from Saturday to Thursday and is collected only during working hours. The spatial and temporal coverage of this data collection activity is therefore incomplete. However, it provides information on the situation at assessed points and allows to make hypothesis on the overall situation. In addition, having collected flow monitoring data consistently in the past years, historical data offers the possibility to observe trends and make comparisons.

Data on vulnerability is based on direct observation and should be understood as mainly indicative. FMS data is based on a sample of the total movements observed and therefore it should be interpreted with caution. Due to rounding, the percentages of some indicators add up to 99 per cent or 101 per cent.