

FLOW MONITORING REGISTRY REPORT

MALAWI (KARONGA) – UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA | AUGUST 2024

OVERVIEW

Over the reporting period, a total of 822 cross-border movements were observed at the Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs). The average daily number flows was 46. This represented a 38 per cent decrease compared to July, during which 74 individual movements were observed on a daily basis. Malawi (55%), United Republic of Tanzania (45%) and Burundi (<1%) were the main countries of departure, while Malawi (58%) and United Republic of Tanzania (42%) were the main countries of intended destination of individuals passing through the different FMPs. Out of 822 individuals observed, 68 per cent were males and 32 per cent were females. There were six (6) women who were visibly pregnant. Boys and girls (males and females below 18) made up 14 per cent of individuals observed. Of the 119 children observed, 17 were unaccompanied boys and 5 were unaccompanied girls. However, this information is based on direct observation and self-reporting, and therefore is likely under-reported.

MAP 1: FLOWS THROUGH THE FLOW MONITORING POINT

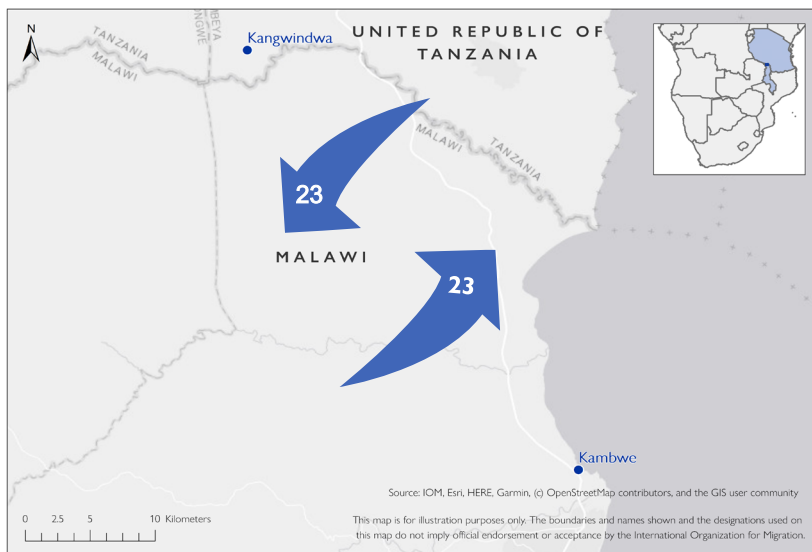
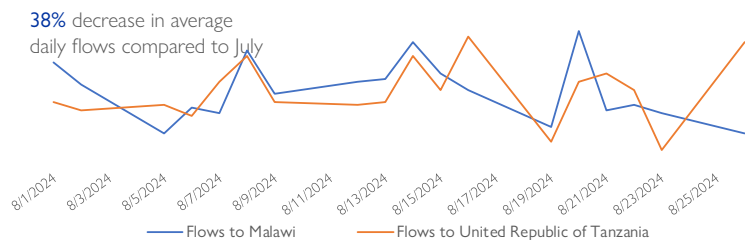


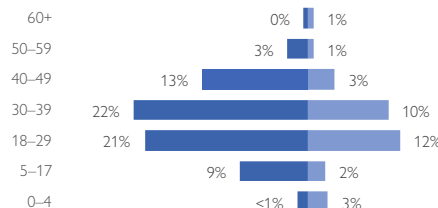
FIGURE 1: DAILY OBSERVATIONS FROM 1 - 31 AUGUST 2024



KEY FINDINGS



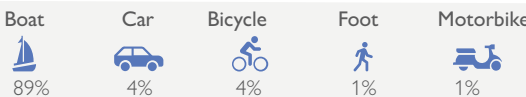
DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE



VULNERABLE GROUPS



MODES OF TRANSPORTATION



DECLARED NATIONALITIES

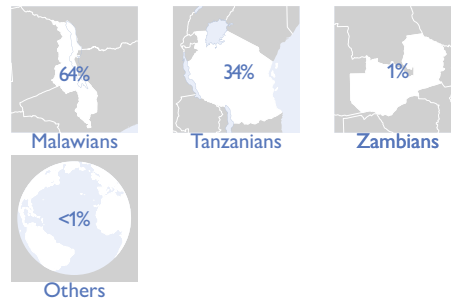


FIGURE 2: FLOW DIRECTION



FIGURE 3: AREAS OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATIONS

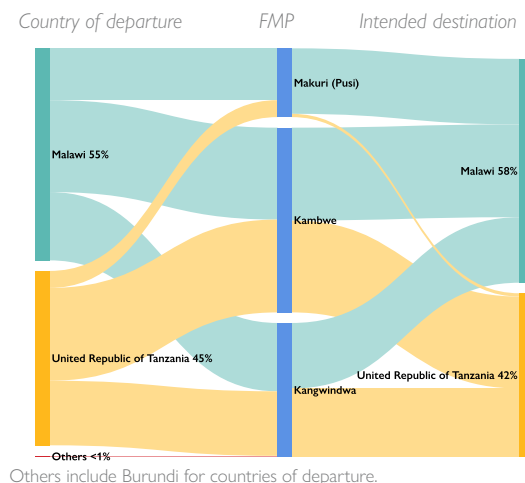


TABLE 1: REASONS FOR MOVEMENT

Reasons for Movement	Total	Flows to Malawi	Flows to Tanzania
Short-term local movement (<6 months)	90%	49%	51%
Family reunification (>6 months)	6%	73%	27%
Long-term economic migration (>6 months)	6%	67%	33%
Seasonal migration	<1%	100%	<1%
Forced return	<1%	100%	<1%

Disclaimer: Please note that multiple answers were possible for this question.

FIGURE 4: INTENDED PERIOD OF STAY



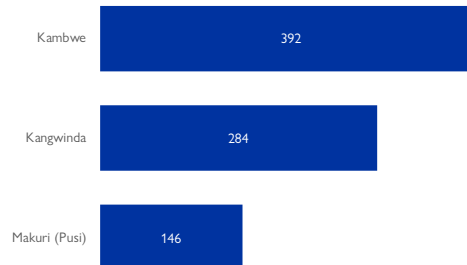
For the 822 flows of travellers observed across the three Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs), the most common intended period of stay was a day or less than two weeks (38%). This may include individuals visiting for short-term work assignments, tourism, or family visits. These brief stays highlight the fluid nature of mobility in the region, where a notable number of travellers might be engaging in circular migration patterns or routine cross-border movements for economic or social reasons. This trend provides important insights into the mobility dynamics, indicating a substantial portion of transient populations whose needs and challenges may differ from those staying for longer periods.

Additionally, 30 per cent of the travellers planned to stay for a day or less. This suggests that a significant portion of the individual travellers observed were engaged in short-term activities such as business trips, daily commutes, or brief visits, likely driven by the proximity of their destinations or the nature of their travel, which may not require extended stays.

A smaller segment of travellers indicated longer stays: 10 per cent intended to stay between two weeks and three months, five (5%) per cent reported plans to stay between 12 months or over a year and two (2%) per cent indicated plans to stay for 6 to 12 months. These longer-term stays may reflect individuals involved in temporary work contracts, extended family visits, or other medium-term commitments.

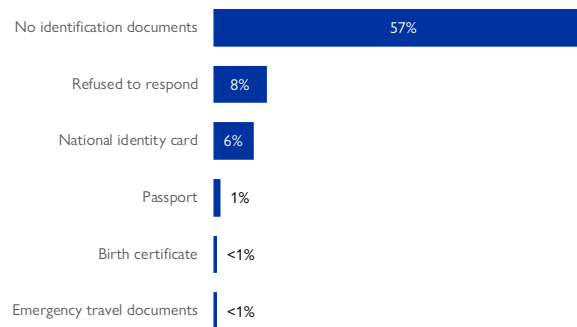
Interestingly, 15 per cent of the observed travellers indicated that they had no plans to leave, suggesting a shift toward permanent residency or indefinite stays. This could be driven by factors such as migration for economic reasons such as employment, family reunification, or the desire for a more stable living environment. This diverse distribution of intended stay periods highlights the varied travel purposes and circumstances of the individuals observed.

FIGURE 5: FLOWS BY INDIVIDUAL FMP



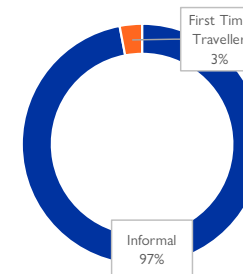
Kambwe emerged as the most active flow monitoring point, recording a total of 392 flows, the highest among all the FMPs. This marked a significant 39 per cent decrease compared to Makuri (Pusi) in the previous month (639), indicating a potential shift in travel patterns or changes in local conditions. Following Kambwe, Kangwinda registered the second highest number of flows with a total of 284, suggesting it remains a key transit point in the region. Meanwhile, Makuri (Pusi) saw considerably lower individual flows, with only 146 flows recorded during the August reporting period.

FIGURE 6: IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS



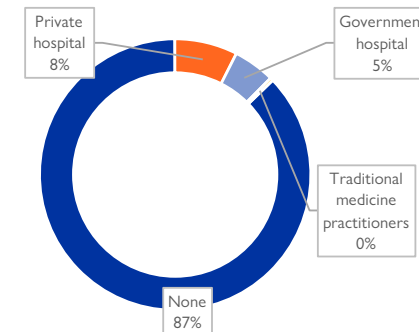
A significant portion of observed travellers lacked identification documents, with 57 per cent having no documents and eight (8%) per cent refusing to respond. Only a small minority carried formal documents: three (3%) per cent had a national identity card and only one (1%) had a valid passport. This highlights the widespread issue of individuals travelling without proper identification documents, posing challenges for legal verification and assistance efforts.

FIGURE 7: POINT OF ENTRY



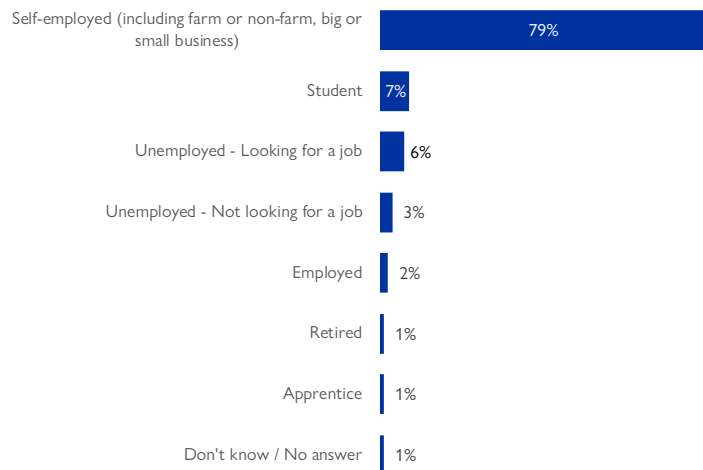
Approximately 97 per cent of the total travellers observed between Malawi and Tanzania indicated that they used an informal crossing point exiting or entering Malawi. This high percentage underscores the prevalence of informal routes in cross-border movements, possibly due to factors such as convenience, avoidance of official scrutiny, or a lack of accessible formal crossing points. In contrast, only three (3%) per cent of the travellers crossing through the flow monitoring points indicated that they were first time travellers.

FIGURE 8: MOVEMENTS RELATED TO HEALTH SERVICES



Eight (8%) per cent of the observed travellers reported that they sought health services from private hospitals. Additionally, five (5%) per cent of the travellers used public hospitals, indicating a reliance on public healthcare facilities for their medical needs during their journey. None of the travellers used traditional medicine.

FIGURE 9: EMPLOYMENT STATUS



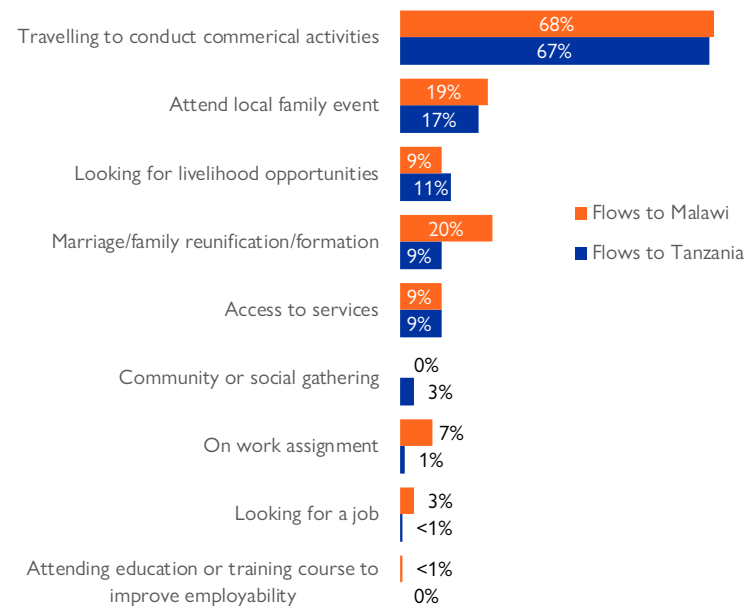
In terms of employment status, majority of the travellers indicated that they were self-employed, which accounted for 79 per cent of the total flows. This was followed by students seven (7%) per cent, unemployed while looking for a job six (6%) per cent, unemployed and not looking for a job three (3%) per cent, employed two (2%) per cent, retired one (1%) per cent and apprentice one (1%) per cent of the total flows between Malawi and the United Republic of Tanzania.

TABLE 2: CHALLENGES FACED DURING THE JOURNEY

Challenge Faced	Total	Flows to Malawi	Flows to United Republic of Tanzania
None	88%	50%	50%
Road blocks and/or delays	6%	44%	56%
Lack of information	4%	62%	38%
Difficult to access basic services (food, water, etc.)	3%	<1%	100%
Difficult to access health care services	3%	30%	70%
Document issues	1%	64%	36%

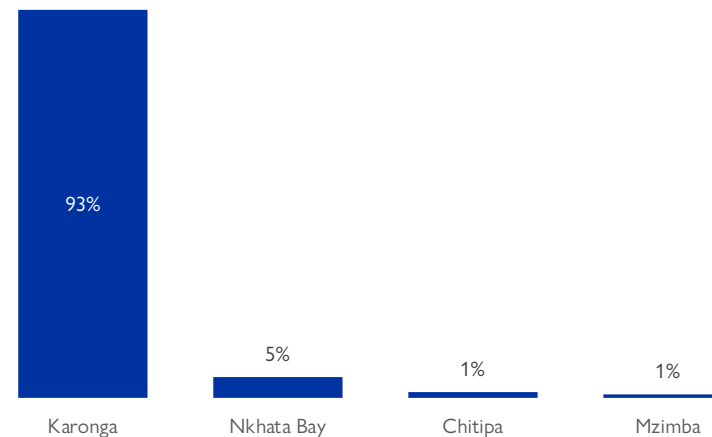
Disclaimer: Please note that multiple answers were possible for this question and other challenges faced during the journey.

FIGURE 10: REASONS OF MOVEMENT ACROSS EACH DIRECTION OF FLOWS



Disclaimer: Please note that multiple answers were possible for this question.

FIGURE 11: FLOWS TO MALAWI BY DESTINATION DISTRICT



METHODOLOGY

Flow Monitoring is a data collection activity which seeks to gather key information on mobility and migrant profiles. It begins by identifying zones in which large mobility flows occur and highlighting the characteristics and journeys of travellers in these zones. DTM teams, with the support of local authorities and partners, identify strategic points of transit, where Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) are set up. At each FMP, DTM conducts two main activities: Flow Monitoring Registry (FMR) and Flow Monitoring Surveys (FMS). This report focuses on FMR data only. The FMR collects data at FMPs through direct observation and interviews with key informants, including staff working at transit stations, border patrol officers, local authorities, bus or taxi drivers and travellers themselves. The FMR gathers data on the number of travellers crossing FMPs, as well as the provenance, next destination, vulnerabilities and means of transport of travellers. At each FMP, data is collected by a team of enumerators. Data collection is carried out daily, between 08:00 and 17:00. Enumerators collect data via a mobile data collection form to ensure data integrity and quality. This report is an overview of the data collected from 1 to 31 August 2024. Flow Monitoring Point: Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) are points set up by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix in high mobility areas in each country covered (near borders or main travel routes).

LIMITATION

Data collected in the framework of Flow Monitoring activities are the result of direct observations and interviews conducted at FMPs between 08:00 to 17:00. The data is not representative of all migration flows in the border area, and, because they only reflect the situation of observed or surveyed individuals, cannot be generalized. Temporal coverage of the data collection exercises is also limited to a specific time window. While data is collected daily, flow monitoring activities do not capture all flows transiting through FMPs. Data on vulnerability is based on direct observation and self-reporting. Therefore, the findings should be understood as mainly indicative. Data collected for these exercises should be understood as estimations only. 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. In some instances, demographic percentages may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding in calculations, as it also occurs when breaking down the relative flows of different nationalities through a border crossing.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

 ROPretoriaRMDHub@iom.int - iommalawi@iom.int

 <https://dtm.iom.int/malawi> - <https://dtm.iom.int>

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