



DTM
IOM DISPLACEMENT
TRACKING MATRIX

DTM ACTIVITIES
IN NIGER ARE
SUPPORTED BY:



Project funded by the European Union
Project implemented by IOM



FLOW MONITORING REPORT

NIGER

FEBRUARY 2021



INTRODUCTION

In order to better understand migratory movements and trends in West and Central Africa, IOM, through the *Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)*, implements the activity of Monitoring flows of populations (*Flow Monitoring, FM*).

Flow monitoring, which is implemented in close collaboration with the authorities and national and local partners, is made up of two tools: the *Flow Monitoring registry (FMR)*, which collects key data on the extent, origin, destination and methods of mobility flows, and individual surveys (*Flow Monitoring Survey, FMS*), conducted among travelers in order to obtain information on the profiles, migratory routes and intentions of migrants. The monitoring of population flows thus collects data on migratory flows and trends, the profiles of travelers and the journeys and intentions of migrants, in order to provide a better understanding of mobility in West and Central Africa.

In **Niger**, the DTM collects data at 6 *Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs)*, in order to identify areas with high cross-border and intra-regional mobility and collect data on mobility trends, profiles and the journey of travelers in the country.

This report presents the data obtained through the flow monitoring recording activities in February 2021, at the level of the 6 FMPs installed in Niger.

For more information on the flow monitoring methodology, please see the last page of this report.

KEY FIGURES



6 flow monitoring points (FMPs) in Niger



2,103 travelers on average observed daily



9% increase of travelers since the previous month



24% incoming individuals recorded



34% outgoing individuals recorded



58,879 total individuals observed at all Niger FMPs



90% are nationals of Niger, Nigeria and Chad

TRAVELLER PROFILES AND MOBILITY TRENDS

Migration trends: During the period covered, 2,103 people were, on average, observed at the FMPs each day. This corresponds to an increase of 9 per cent compared to January, when the daily average was 1,936 individuals. This increase is due the reopening of Nigeria's borders, but also to the end of convoys in the town of Arlit and the insecurity pushing migrants to leave the country. This had an impact on the flow of means of transport and the choice of migrants, preferring more private vehicles, to bypass patrols and police stations.

Type of flows: Of the individuals observed, the majority of flows (58%) were cross-border movements while (41%) conducted were internal movements. In the cross-border movements, 34 per cent were leaving Niger and 24 per cent entered Niger. The internal flows decreased by 8 per cent compared to the previous month while an increasing number of cross-border movements were carried out during the month of February due to the reopening of Nigeria's borders.

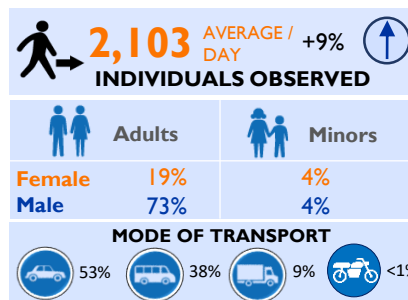
Provenance and destination: During the month of February, the main countries of origin and destination of travelers were Niger (75%), Nigeria (18%), Algeria (4%), Libya (3%) and less than 1 per cent of other countries (Chad & Benin). While those of destinations were also Niger (66%), Nigeria (13%), Algeria (12%), Libya (7%) and less than 1 per cent of other countries (Chad & Benin). The people observed traveled mainly by private vehicles (53%), by bus (38%), but also by truck (9%) and motorbike or three-wheeled vehicle (<1%).

Traveler Profiles: Among the travelers observed, 73 per cent were adult men, while 19 per cent were adult women and 8 per cent were children. Also, 4,884 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than 4 per cent of children under five, less than 1 per cent of the elderly, less than 3 per cent of pregnant women and less than 1 per cent of unaccompanied children. The travelers were mainly of Nigeriens (72%), Nigerians (15%), Chadians (3%), Sudanese (2%) and Cameroonians (1%) nationalities. It should also be noted that 7 per cent of travelers had another nationality, underlining Niger's central position as a transit country for migratory flows in West and Central Africa.

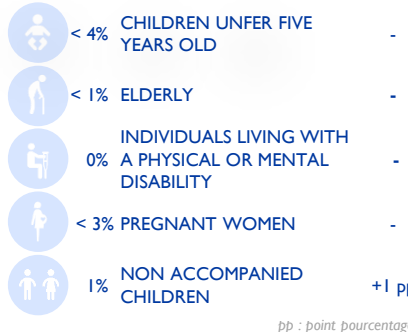


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TRAVELLER PROFILES



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

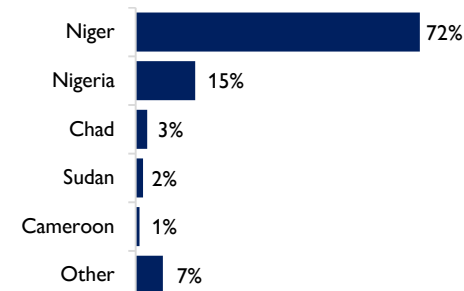


VULNERABILITIES

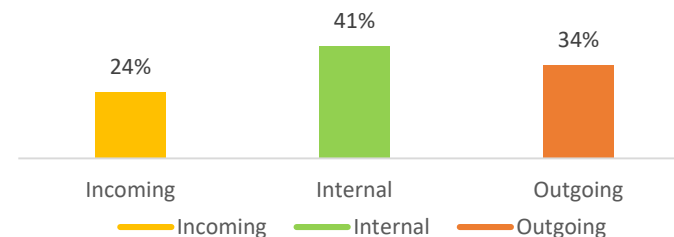
PROVENANCE AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

Provenance of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Niger	75%	Niger	66%
Nigeria	18%	Nigeria	13%
Algeria	4%	Algeria	12%
Libya	3%	Libya	7%
Other	<1%	Other	<1%

NATIONALITIES OBSERVED

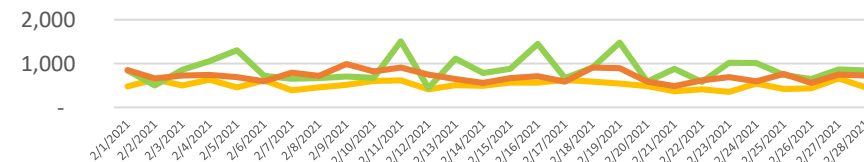


DIRECTION OF FLOWS



REGISTERED FLOWS

DAILY MOVEMENTS



ARLIT

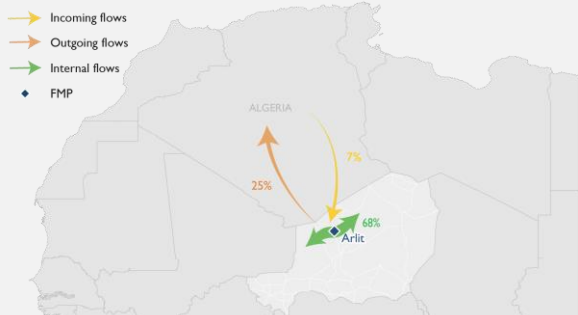
OVERVIEW OF THE FMP: The Arlit flow monitoring point captures both cross-border flows to and from Algeria, and internal movements between Arlit and other localities in Niger. The FMP at Arlit has been active since February 2016.

Migration trends: During the period covered, an average of 906 people were observed at the FMP each day. This corresponds to an increase of 23 per cent compared to the period in December 2020, when the daily average was 735 individuals. This increase is explained by the end of expulsions from Algeria, probably because of the presidential elections in Niger which ended on February 21st, 2021. This facilitated access for migrants, but also allowed the voluntary return of some fervent migrants to prepare for the fast of the month of Ramadan, which will begin in April. Nevertheless, significant movements were observed for the resumption of gold mining activities in the north of the country, which also serves as a bridge to connect Niger to North Africa (Algeria and Libya) for some migrants. For the latter, passing through gold panning sites allows them to circumvent the restrictions of Law No. 036/2015 which criminalizes the illicit transport of migrants.

Type of flows: Among the individuals observed, more than a half (68%) carried out an internal movement, mainly towards gold washing sites in northern Niger, while 32% carried out a cross-border movement (25% left Niger and 7% returned to Niger).

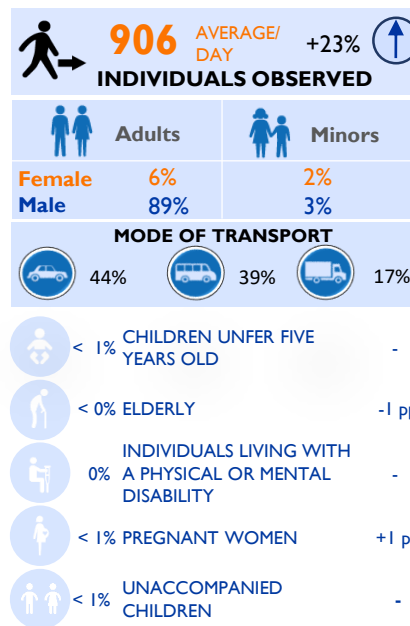
Provenance and destination: During the month of February, the main countries of origin of travelers were Niger (93%) and Algeria (6%), and those of destination were also Niger (75%) and Algeria (25%). The people observed traveled mainly by private vehicles (44%), by bus (39%), but also by trucks (17%).

Traveler Profiles: Of the travelers observed, an overwhelming majority (89%) were adult men, while 6 per cent were adult women and 5 per cent were children. Among the travelers, 817 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than 1 per cent of children under five, less than 1 per cent of pregnant women, and less than 1 per cent of unaccompanied. The travelers were of various nationalities with the majority being Nigerian (68%), Nigerian (8%), Chadian (6%), Sudanese (4%), Burkinabe (2%) and other nationalities were observed (12%). This diversity of nationalities reflects the fact that Arlit is a key crossing point along migratory routes to North Africa and to gold mining sites.



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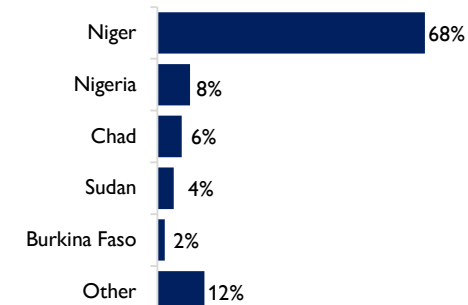
TRAVELLER PROFILES



PROVENANCE AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

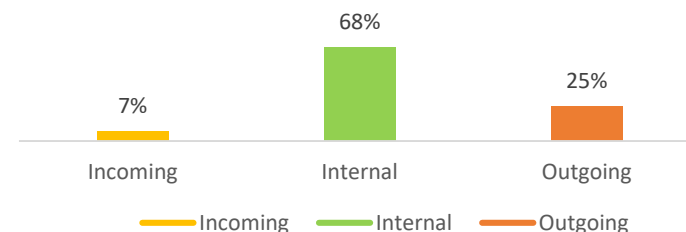
Provenance of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Niger	93%	Niger	75%
Algeria	6%	Algeria	25%

NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



pp : point pourcentage

DIRECTION OF FLOWS

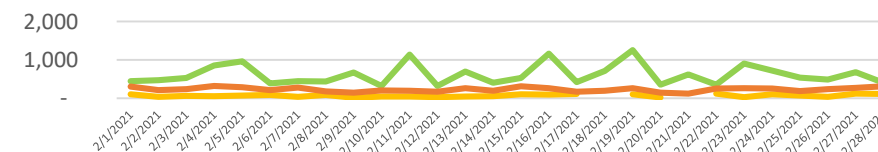


DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

VULNERABILITIES

REGISTERED FLOWS

DAILY MOVEMENTS



SÉGUÉDINE/MADAMA

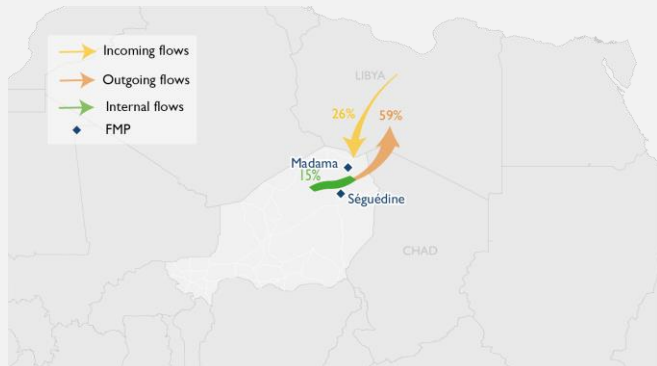
OVERVIEW OF THE FMP: The Séguédine and Madama flow monitoring point captures cross-border flows to and from Libya. The Séguédine FMP has been active since **February 2016**. Given the immensity of the Agadez region which covers 703,000 km² (larger than France and 21 times larger than Belgium), a **new FMP (Madama)**, located near the Libyan border, was activated in **January 2019** to better capture cross-border movements due to the proliferation of bypass roads to avoid border checkpoints. Thus, the two FMPs are complementary, **Séguédine only records outgoing flows and Madama records incoming flows.**

Migration trends: During the period covered, an average of 267 people were observed at FMPs each day. This corresponds to a 15 per cent increase from the January period, when the daily average was 232 individuals. This increase is explained by the exit of migrants following the insecurity that rages in the area, pushing them to leave Niger and fewer individuals entering the transit country.

Type of flows: More than half of travelers passing through Séguédine and Madama left Niger (58%), while more than a quarter returned to Niger (26%). In addition, 16 per cent made an internal movement towards the various localities of Niger.

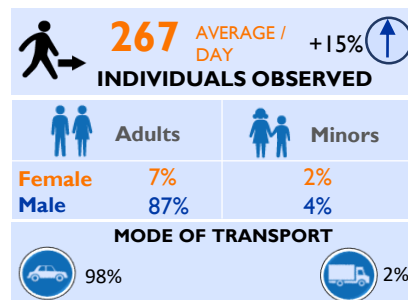
Provenance and destination: During the month of February, the main countries of origin of travelers were Niger (73%), Libya (26%) and a small percentage from Chad (1%). While those of destination were Libya (59%), Niger (41%), and Chad (<1%). The people observed traveled mainly in private vehicles (98%) and trucks (2%).

Traveler Profiles: Of the travelers identified, the vast majority (87%) were adult men, while 7 per cent were adult women and 6 per cent were children. Among the travelers, 263 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than 1 per cent of children under five, less than 1 per cent of the elderly and less than 1 per cent of individuals living with a physical or mental disability. The majority of travelers (88%) were Nigerians while 5 per cent were Nigerians, 2 per cent were Chadians and 1 per cent Libyan. It should also be noted that four per cent were of other nationalities, reflecting the fact that migrants from all over the region pass through Séguédine and Madama to reach North Africa and, for some, Europe.

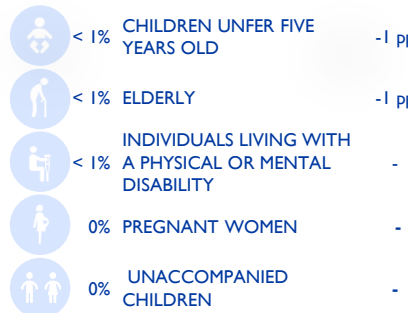


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TRAVELLER PROFILES



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE



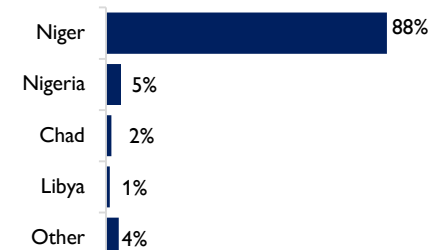
VULNERABILITIES

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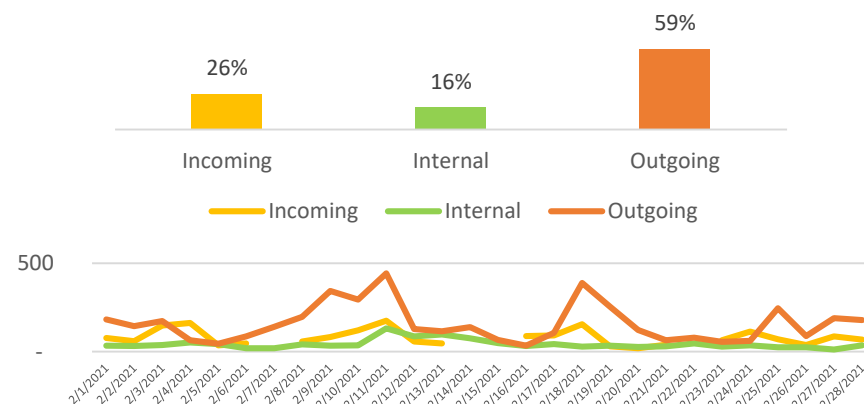
PROVENANCE AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

Provenance of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Niger	73%	Libya	59%
Libya	26%	Niger	41%
Chad	1%	Chad	<1%

NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



DIRECTION OF FLOWS



REGISTERED FLOWS

DAILY MOVEMENTS

MAGARIA

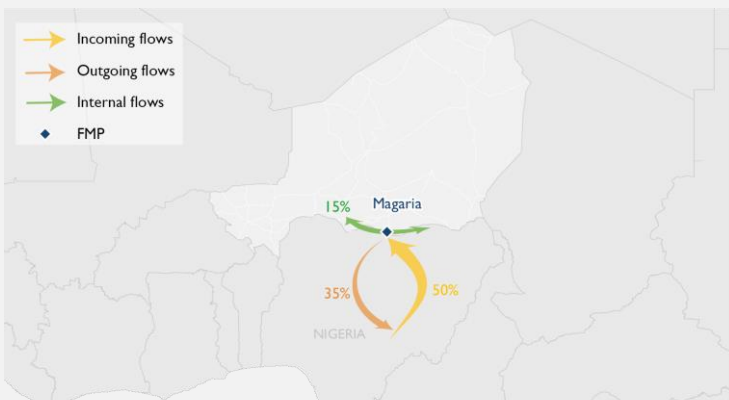
OVERVIEW OF THE FMP: The Magaria flow monitoring point was established to observe cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria, as well as internal flows. Magaria is a town on the border with Nigeria, where a large number of people travel from Nigeria, the country being one of the main countries of origin for migrants traveling to the Mediterranean. Magaria is mainly used by Nigeriens and Nigerians traders who have historically maintained an economic exchanges. Most of the basic necessities for the Zinder and Diffa regions pass through this locality. Magaria's FMP was activated in **August 2018**.

Migration trends: During the period covered, an average of 182 people were observed at the FMP each day. Daily flows were 2 per cent lower than in January, when the daily average was 186 individuals. This drop in daily flows is explained by the police patrol which hinders the passage of Chadians in the area, the migrants abandoned by the smugglers which would justify a drop in the daily flows of migrants in this locality as well as that of Dan Barto.

Type of flows: Among the individuals observed, the majority returned to Niger (50%), while 35 per cent left Niger and 15 per cent made an internal movement in Niger.

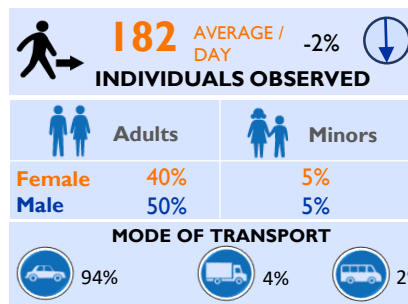
Provenance and destination: During the month of February, the main countries of origin of travelers were Nigeria (50%) and Niger (50%). While those of destination were Niger (65%), Nigeria (34%), Chad (1%) and Benin (<1%). People traveled mainly by private vehicles (94%), but also by truck (4%) and bus (2%).

Traveler Profiles: Of the identified travelers, 50 per cent were adult men, while 40 per cent were adult women and 10 per cent were children. Among travelers, 297 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than 2 per cent of children under five, less than 1 per cent of the elderly, less than 1 per cent of individuals living with a physical or mental disability, less than 2 per cent of pregnant women, and less than 1 per cent of unaccompanied children. The majority of travelers observed were of Nigerian (78%) and Nigerian (21%) and Chadian (1%) nationality.

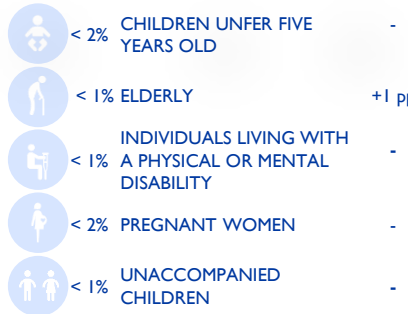


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TRAVELLER PROFILES



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

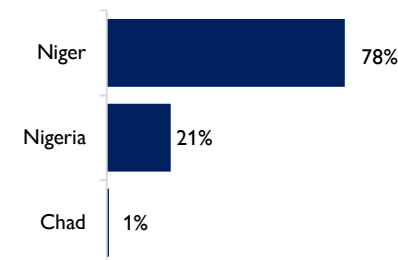


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PROVENANCE AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

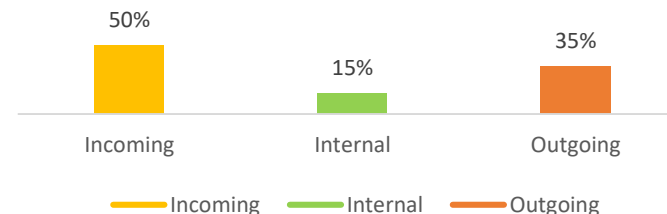
Provenance of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Nigeria	50%	Niger	65%
Niger	50%	Nigeria	34%
		Chad	1%
		Benin	<1%

NATIONALITIES OBSERVED

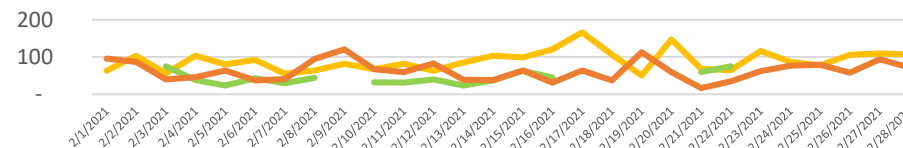


DIRECTION OF FLOWS

REGISTERED FLOWS



DAILY MOVEMENTS



DAN BARTO

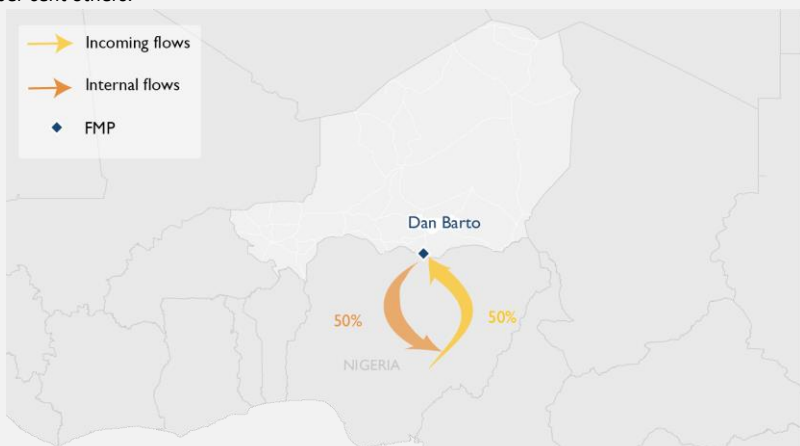
OVERVIEW OF THE FMP: Dan Barto's flow monitoring point records cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria. Dan Barto is a town near the border with Nigeria, where large numbers of people transit from Nigeria, which is one of the main countries of origin for migrants traveling to the Mediterranean. Dan Barto is mainly used by Nigerien and Nigerian traders who have a close economic relationship. Nigeriens go to Nigeria to buy basic necessities while Nigerians come to Niger to buy raw materials, animals and grains (millet, beans, etc.). Dan Barto's FMP has been active since **August 2018**.

Migration trends: During the period covered, an average of 298 people were observed at the FMP each day. This corresponds to an increase of 2 per cent from the February period, when the daily average was 291 individuals. Despite the increase in daily flows, there is however a problem of flow fluidity explained by the police patrol which hinders the passage of Chadians in the area, pushing the smugglers to abandon the smugglers, which would justify a drop in outgoing flows. migrants in this locality which is also the case of that of Magaria.

Type of flows: During the month of February, all the individuals observed were making a cross-border movement. Of these, 50 per cent returned to Niger and 50 per cent left Niger.

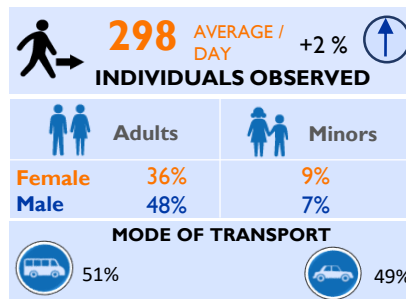
Provenance and destination: During the month of February, the two countries of origin of travelers were Niger (50%), and Nigeria (50%). While those of destination were Nigeria (50%) and Niger (50%). The people observed traveled mainly by bus (51%) and private vehicles (49%).

Traveler Profiles: Of the travelers observed, 48 per cent were adult men, while 36 per cent were adult women and 16 per cent were children. Among the travelers, 1,487 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than 10 per cent of children under five and less than 7 per cent of pregnant women. The travelers were of various nationalities, including Nigerian (92%), Nigerian (3%), Ghanaian (2%) and 3 per cent others.

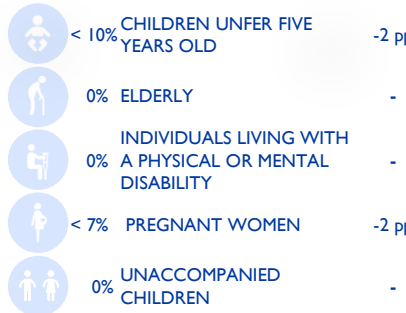


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TRAVELLER PROFILES



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

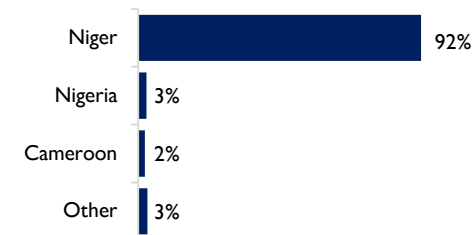


VULNERABILITIES

PROVENANCE AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

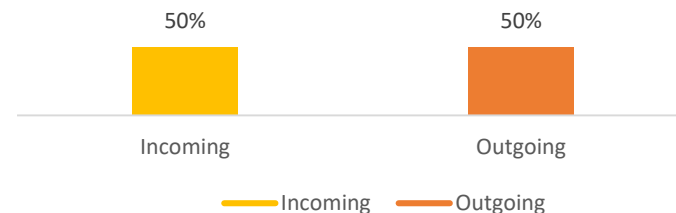
Provenance of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Niger	50%	Nigeria	50%
Nigeria	50%	Niger	50%

NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



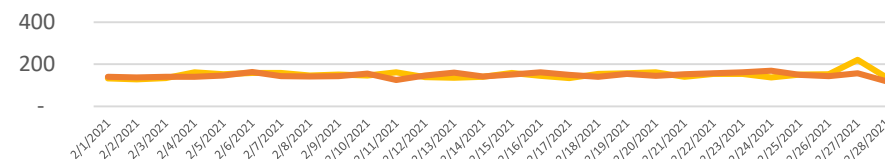
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DIRECTION OF FLOWS



REGISTERED FLOWS

DAILY MOVEMENTS



DAN ISSA

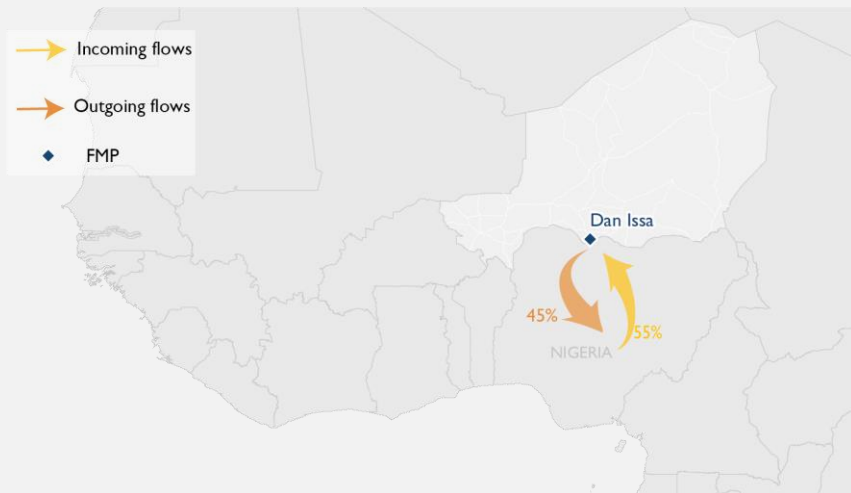
OVERVIEW OF THE FMP: Dan Issa's flow monitoring point records cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria. Dan Issa is a town near the border with Nigeria, through which large flows from Nigeria pass, often heading to the Mediterranean via Agadez and Libya. Dan Issa's FMP has been active since September 2018. Dan Issa is mainly used by Nigerien and Nigerian traders who maintain economic exchanges: most of the basic necessities for Niamey and Maradi pass through this locality.

Migration trends: During the period covered, an average of 229 people were observed at the FMP each day. This corresponds to a decrease of 13 per cent from the January period, when the daily average was 264 individuals. This decline is explained by attacks and kidnapping from Nigeria in the Madarounfa area. There have been various attacks including armed robberies diverting property and livestock from locals.

Type of flows: All travelers observed at Dan Issa were on a cross-border movement, going (55%) or coming (45%) from Nigeria.

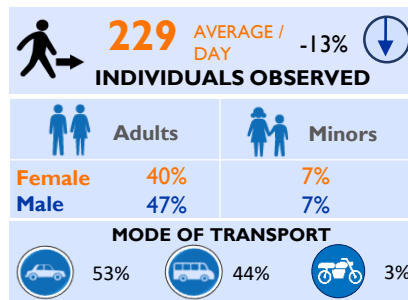
Provenance and destination: During the month of February, the main countries of origin of travelers were Niger (55%) and Nigeria (45%). While the destination countries were Nigeria (55%) and Niger (45%). The people observed traveled mainly in private vehicles (53%), bus (44%), as well as motorcycles (3%).

Traveler Profiles: Of the identified travelers, 47 per cent were adult men, while 40 per cent were adult women and 14 per cent were children. Among travelers, 1,776 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than 11 per cent of children under five, less than 6 per cent of the elderly, less than 1 per cent of individuals with a physical or mental disabilities and less than 10 per cent of pregnant women. All the travelers were of Nigerian (75%) or Nigerien (25%) nationalities.

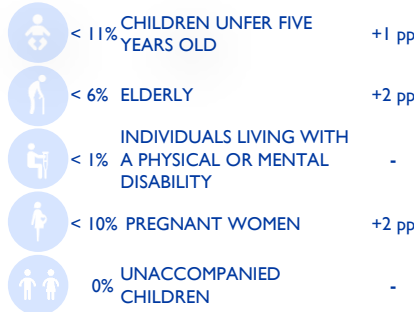


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TRAVELLER PROFILES



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

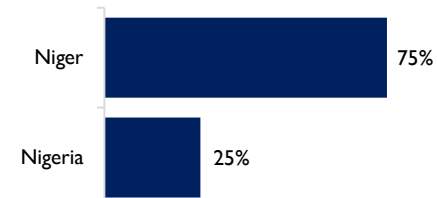


VULNERABILITIES

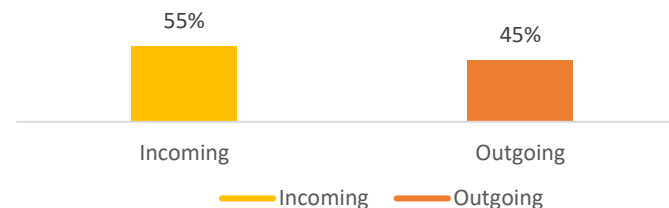
PROVENANCE AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

Provenance of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Niger	55%	Nigeria	55%
Nigeria	45%	Niger	45%

NATIONALITIES OBSERVED

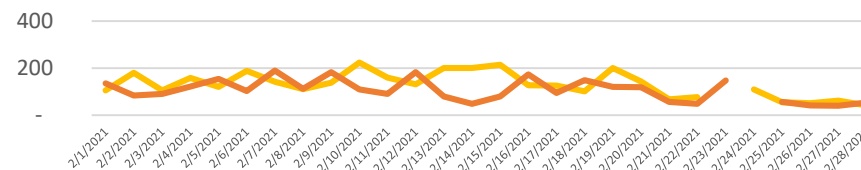


DIRECTION OF FLOWS



REGISTERED FLOWS

DAILY MOVEMENTS



TAHOUA

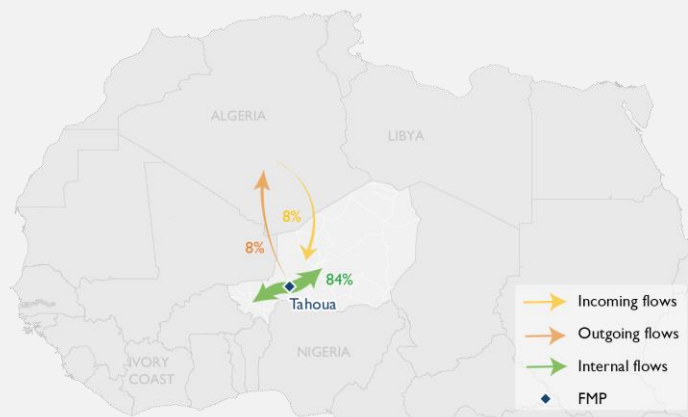
OVERVIEW OF THE FMP : The Tahoua flow monitoring point captures cross-border and internal movements. Tahoua is a town in central Niger through which migrants transit from Nigeria and other West African countries such as Cameroon, Benin, Ivory Coast, The Gambia and Mali. Most of them take the road from Agadez to Algeria and Libya. Tahoua's FMP was activated in **August 2018**.

Migration trends: During the period covered, an average of 222 people were observed at the FMP each day. This corresponds to a decrease of 3 per cent from the month of January, when the daily average was 228 individuals. This decrease is explained by the climate of state of security emergency in the area, the persistence of military patrols and the fear linked to the recent attacks on the two communes of Tchintabaraden (Tarissadat and Egarak) and the road cuts and holdups that justify the decrease in flows of the period in this locality.

Type of flows: Among the individuals observed, the vast majority (84%) made an internal movement, while 16 per cent made a cross-border movement with 8 per cent who left Niger and 8 per cent who returned to Niger. The predominant part of internal flows reflects Tahoua's position in central Niger, a true junction of the main roads crossing the country.

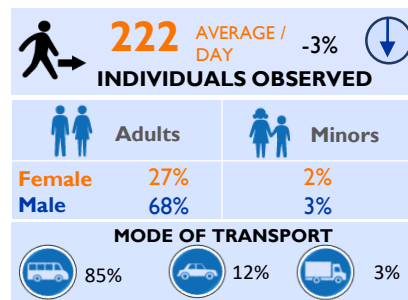
Provenance and destination: During the month of February, in terms of origin, almost all travelers were traveling from Niger (90%), Algeria (6%), Nigeria (3%) and Benin (1%). In terms of destination, the vast majority (92%) went to Niger, Algeria (4%), Libya (3%) and Nigeria (1%). The people observed traveled mainly by bus (85%), private vehicles (12%) and trucks (3%).

Traveler Profiles: Of the travelers observed, 68 per cent were adult men, while 27 per cent were adult women and 5 per cent were children. Among the travelers, 244 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than 1 per cent of children under five, less than 1 per cent of the elderly and less than 1 per cent of pregnant women. The majority of travelers were Nigerians (92%), Nigerian (3%), Cameroonian (2%) but several other nationalities (3%) were also observed.



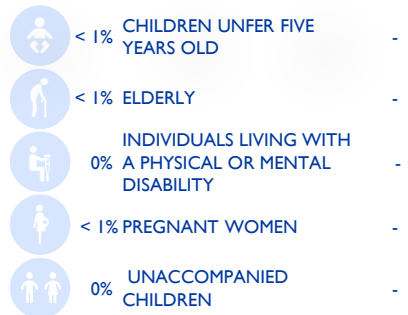
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TRAVELLER PROFILES



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

VULNERABILITIES

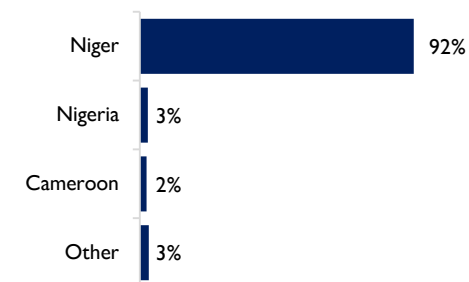


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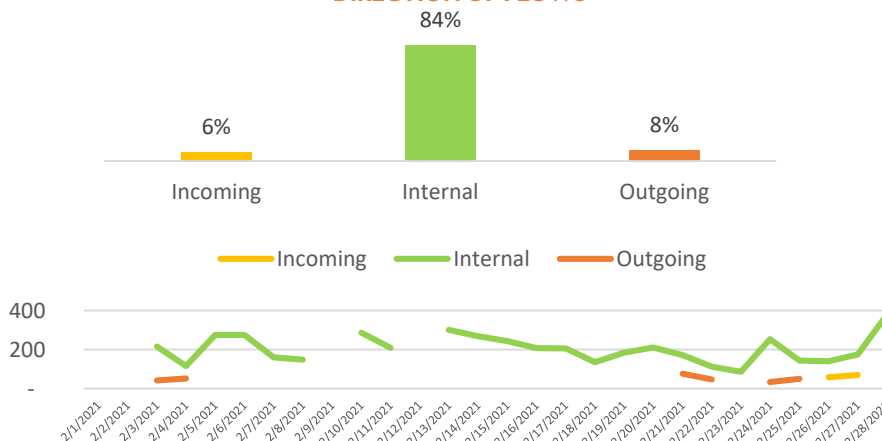
PROVENANCE AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

Provenance of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Niger	90%	Niger	92%
Algeria	6%	Algeria	4%
Nigeria	3%	Libya	3%
Benin	1%	Nigeria	1%

NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



DIRECTION OF FLOWS



REGISTERED FLOWS

DAILY MOVEMENTS

INTRODUCTION: Flow monitoring, implemented by the IOM through the Travel Monitoring Matrix (DTM), aims to collect data on the number and characteristics of travelers observed in high mobility areas, through Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) installed in these areas.

METHODOLOGY: Flow Monitoring Point (FMP) is a data collection exercise that aims to identify areas prone to cross-border and international migration and to highlight the characteristics and journeys of people passing through these areas. Areas of high mobility are identified at the national level with the help of national authorities. The DTM teams, in partnership with local authorities, then carry out work to identify strategic transit points at the local level. At each of these FMPs, two main data collection methodologies are used: the *Flow Monitoring Registry (FMR)* and *individual surveys (FMS)*.

The FMR collects data at the various crossing points through direct observation and key informant interviews with bus station staff, government officials, drivers, etc. The FMR is based on a combination of direct observation and key informant interviews

of truck drivers or the migrants themselves. The **FMR** collects information on the number of passengers passing through the crossing points, their nationalities, places of origin and intended destinations, and the means of transport used.

At each FMR, data are collected by a team of two to five interviewers. Data collection is conducted daily, between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., which is the time of day when the greatest number of passengers pass through the FMPs. However, these schedules can be adjusted to suit the time period and context. Data are collected through a form administered to key informants and direct observation.

FMS allow for more in-depth data collection through interviews with a sample of travelers who pass through the crossing points to better understand their profiles. Surveys are conducted daily with a randomly selected sample of travelers who pass through the crossing points. The main data collected are the traveler's nationality, age, gender, education, employment status, reasons for travel, origin, destination, and needs and vulnerabilities.

LIMITATIONS: The data used in this analysis are derived from surveys of a sample of travelers who passed through the three crossing points mentioned above, between April and June 2020. Therefore, they cannot be generalized to the migrant population as a whole, as they present only the specific situation of the respondents. The temporal coverage of these surveys is also limited to working days and a limited time window.

In addition, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, IOM adapted its strategy and methodology by implementing precautionary and risk mitigation measures during data collection operations at the FMP level, as well as during the training of interviewers. Thus, standard operating procedures were put in place to ensure compliance with the risk prevention and mitigation measures decreed by the Government of Niger. These measures include respect for social distancing, distribution of personal protective equipment for interviewers, sensitization of field staff and the conduct of a limited number of training sessions.

DEFINITIONS :

Outgoing flow: This term refers to travelers who arrive at the FMP with

the intention of heading to a country other than Niger.

Inflow: This term refers to travelers arriving at the FMP from a country other than Niger.

Internal Flow: This term refers to travelers who have departed from one area of Niger and arrive at the FMP with the intention of traveling to another area of Niger.

Note that upon request, further analysis (e.g., by tracking point) can be carried out by the DTM team.

The views expressed in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of IOM, donors and partners. IOM strongly believes that humane and orderly migration is beneficial for migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM works with its partners in the international community to help solve the operational challenges posed by migration; to promote a better understanding of the issues at stake; to encourage the development of a more inclusive society; and to support the development of a more effective migration policy.