



DTM

IOM DISPLACEMENT
TRACKING MATRIX

REGIONAL MIGRATION REPORT

West and Central Africa

July – September 2017

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

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IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting 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.

IOM DATA COLLECTION ON MIGRATION IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA AND THE CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) has established **Flow Monitoring Points (FMP)** as part of its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) in areas of significant migratory transit in West and Central Africa, Libya and Italy. Two tools are used as part of the FMP methodology: 1) the Flow Monitoring Registry (FMR) collects data from *groups of people* to provide a better understanding of intra and inter-regional migration patterns and trends; 2) the Flow Monitoring Survey (FMS) collects *individual* data on a sample of migrants on their journey. Both tools are implemented in various locations across the Central Mediterranean Route (CMR). The narrative and map on this page provides details on data collection activities for the period July—September 2017.

Burkina Faso: An FMP was established in Burkina Faso's capital city of Ouagadougou in April 2017. FMR reports can be found [here](#).

Chad: Since April 2017, IOM has been collecting FMR data in Chad. FMR reports can be found [here](#).

Guinea: Since May 2017, IOM has been collecting FMR data in multiple locations in Guinea. FMR reports can be found [here](#).

Libya: DTM has tracked the number of migrants in Libya since the start of 2016. Data collection has been conducted over the course of the year and the programme provides updates on a regular basis. Data and reports can be found [here](#).

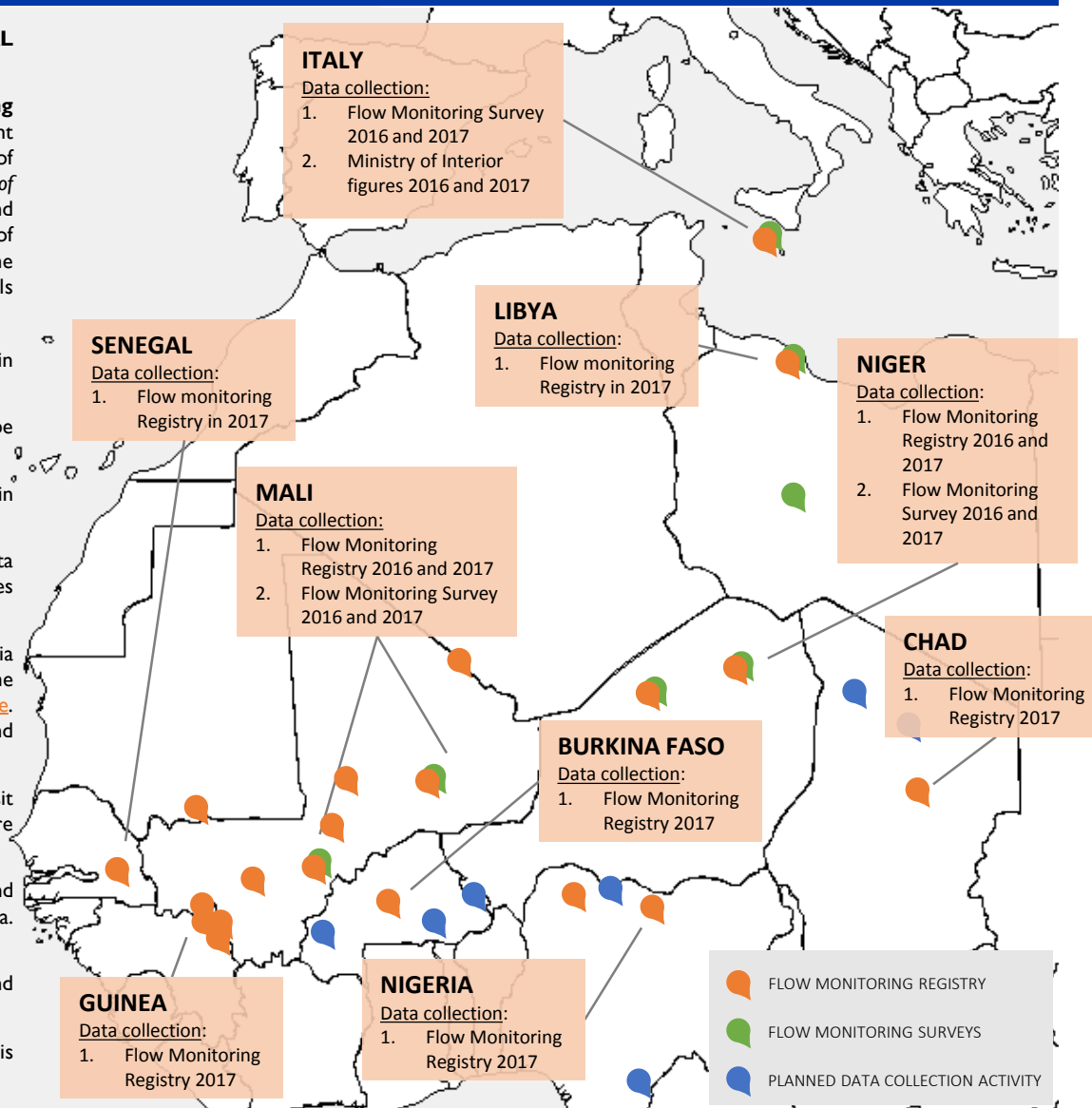
Italy: Beginning in October 2015, IOM has conducted FMS in Sicily, Apulia and Calabria with the aim of tracking and monitoring populations on the move through the Mediterranean and Western Balkan routes to Europe. Data and analysis are available [here](#). Other data, gathered by the Ministry of interior of Italy, on migrants from West and Central Africa is available [here](#).

Mali: FMR and FMS have been conducted since the start of the year in two main transit areas of Mali. Both trends and individual data are available. Dashboards and analysis are available [here](#).

Niger: FMR and FMS have been conducted since the start of the year in Séguédine and Arlit, two main transit point for migrants going or coming back from Libya and Algeria. Both trends and individual data are available. Dashboards and analysis can be found [here](#).

Nigeria: Two FMRs were set-up in northern Nigeria in main transit areas in Kano and Sokoto in Quarterly 2 2017. FMR reports can be found [here](#).

Senegal: An FMR was established in Tambacounda, Senegal in April 2017. Data is available [here](#).



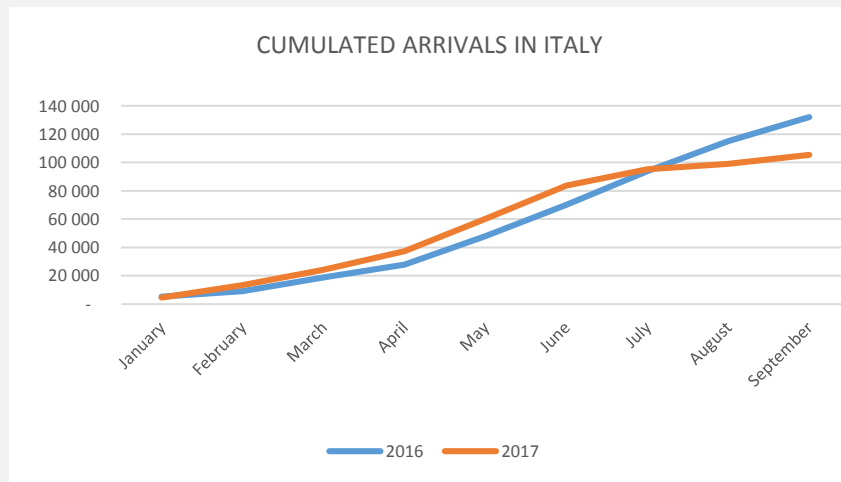
TRENDS AND KEY FIGURES OBSERVED ON MIGRATION TO/FROM AND WITHIN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

MIGRATION TRENDS – WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

Arrivals to Italy from Libya have sharply decreased since July 2017. In the first six months of 2017, Italy received more than 83,000 individuals compared to 70,000 in the same period in 2016. By September 2017, Italy had received 105,000 individuals, compared to 132,000 in 2016. Nationals from countries in West and Central Africa represent approximately 50% of the arrivals.

The decrease in arrivals, in the third quarter of the year, follows various changes to border policies and stronger international cooperation between the EU and certain West African States. Simultaneously, arrivals in Spain from Morocco have increased demonstrating a diversification in the routes from West and Central Africa to Europe.

Source: Monthly flow compilation - [link](#)



HARROWING JOURNEYS

UNICEF and IOM conducted an analysis of the journeys of some 11,000 migrant and refugee children (adolescents aged 14–17) and youth (18–24), as recorded in their responses to the Displacement Tracking Matrix Flow Monitoring Surveys conducted by IOM along the Central and Eastern Mediterranean routes to Europe in 2016 and 2017.

Among the main findings: Adolescents and youth from sub-Saharan Africa are at particularly high risk of trafficking and exploitation. On the Central Mediterranean Road, adolescents and youth from sub-Saharan Africa face considerably higher risks – 83% report exploitation, versus 56% of those from other regions.

In addition, adolescents with lower levels of education are more vulnerable to trafficking and exploitation. Adolescents with no education face higher risks on the Central Mediterranean Route as well, with 90% reporting exploitation, compared with 75% of those with secondary education.

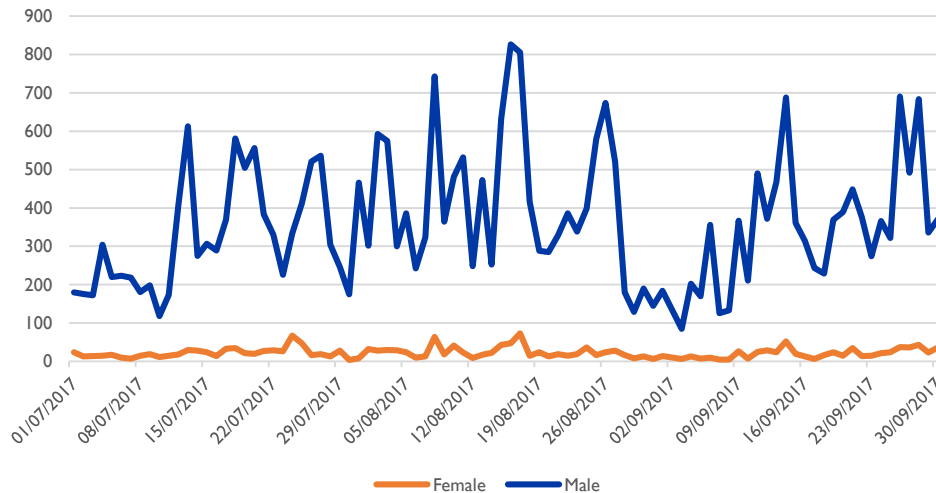


Since February 2016, flow monitoring of individuals has been conducted in two locations in the region of Agadez, Niger.

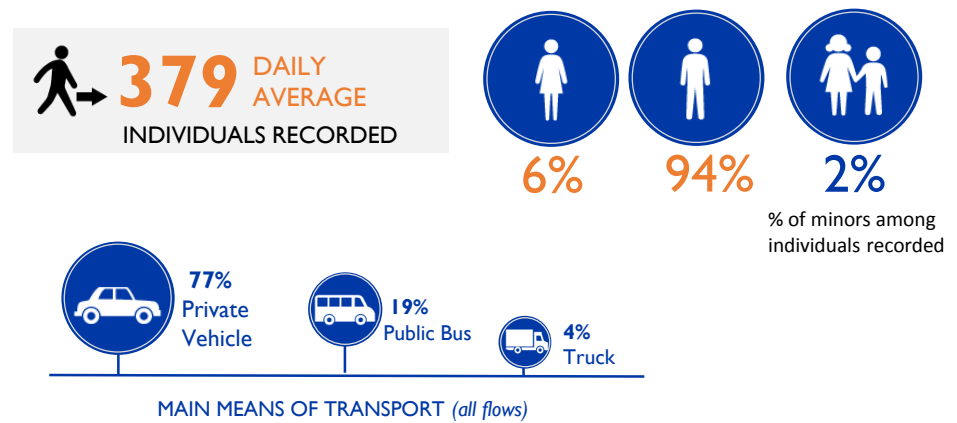
In this quarter, the main migration flows in Niger are comprised mainly of Nigerien, Nigerian, Malian, Guinean and Cameroonian nationals. The majority of flows taking place in Niger are individuals traveling within the country. Agadez, Gatrone, Arlit and Assamaka are the main towns of departure and destination. There has been a consistent flow of Nigeriens traveling back and forth between Libya and Niger over the past few quarters. A deeper analysis of Nigerien migration flows are captured on pages 12-14)

The daily average of individuals crossing FMPs has remained consistent over the quarter. However, compared to last quarter, the proportion of private vehicles used for transportation has increased (61% of all means of transport in Q2 increased to 77% in Q3) and the proportion of public buses decreased (31% to 19% from Q2 to Q3).

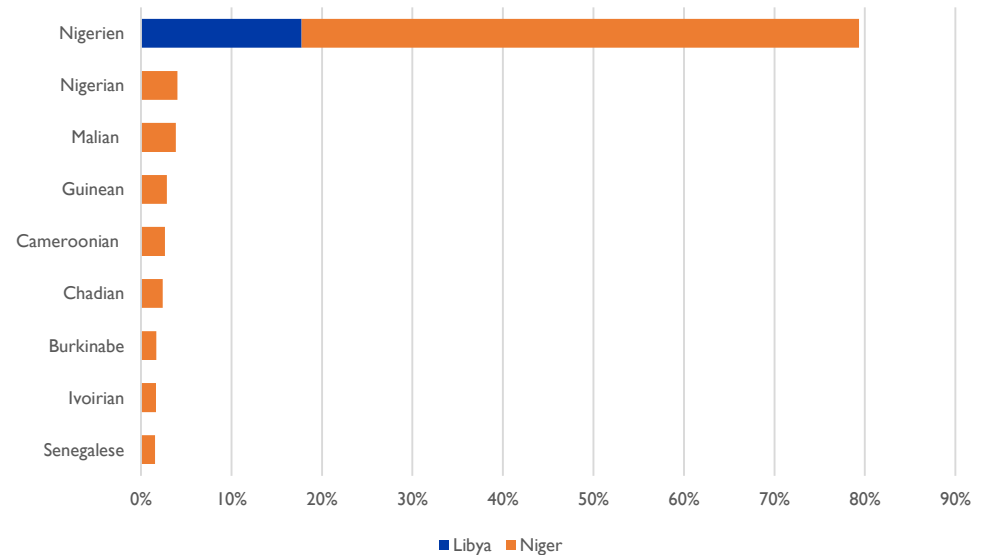
DAILY INDIVIDUALS RECORDED CROSSING FMPs IN NIGER



PROFILE OF PERSONS OBSERVED AT FMPs IN NIGER



NATIONALITY AND DESTINATION COUNTRIES OF MIGRANTS IN NIGER

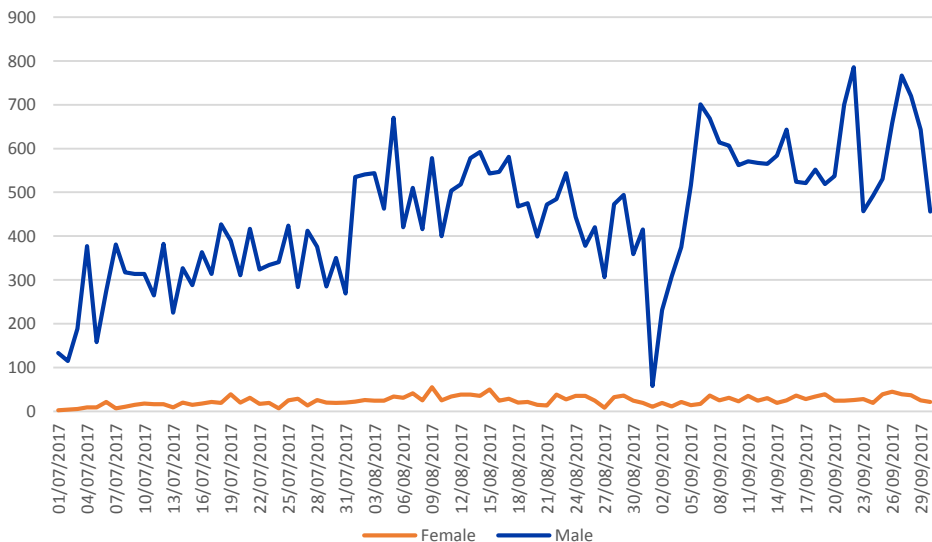


Since June 2016, IOM Mali has captured the movement of individuals in the regions of Gao and Segou (in Benena). There is a significant increase in the daily average of flows for this quarter due primarily to the establishment of new FMP points in Inhalid, Gogui, Tobouctou, Sévaré, Bamako and Heremakono.

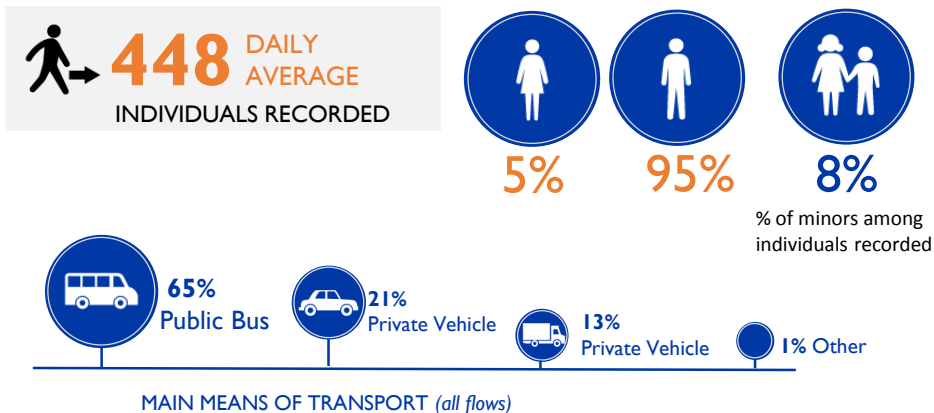
For this third quarter of 2017, the main migration flows entering and leaving Mali are comprised of nationals from Guinea, Mali, Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal and The Gambia. Bamako and Gao are the main towns of departure, and Tamanrasset and Borj (Algeria) are the main towns of destination.

Based on reports from the field, migratory routes are in the process of changing due to an increase in security measures in Niger and Burkina Faso. Consequently, migrants have increasingly started to travel through Mali to reach Algeria. This observation corresponds to an increase in flows occurring at Timbuktu and a decrease in flows at Benena (located at the border between Burkina Faso and Niger). Additionally, the drop in September is due to an adjustment to the data collection activity.

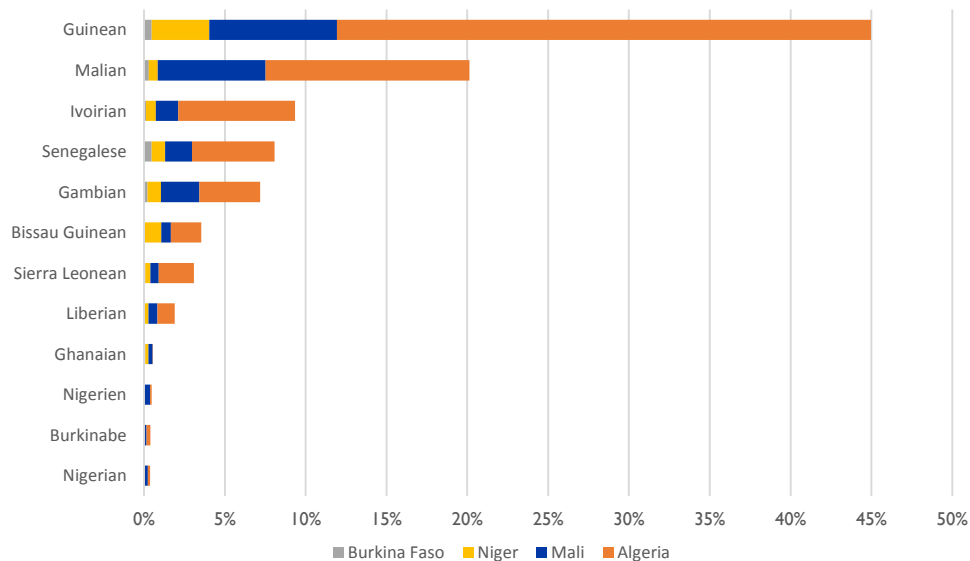
DAILY INDIVIDUALS RECORDED CROSSING FMPs IN MALI



PROFILE OF PERSONS OBSERVED AT FMPs IN MALI



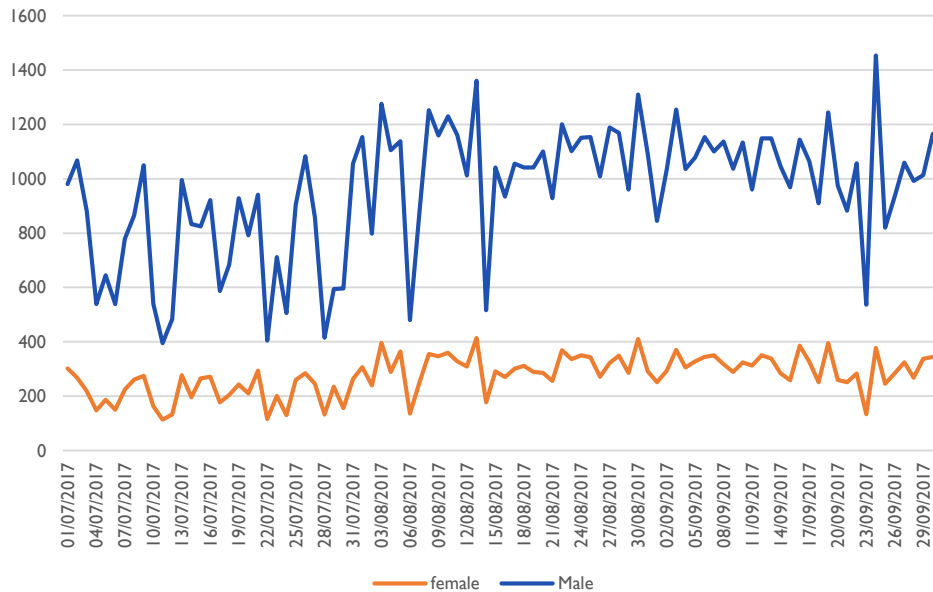
NATIONALITY AND DESTINATION COUNTRIES OF MIGRANTS IN MALI



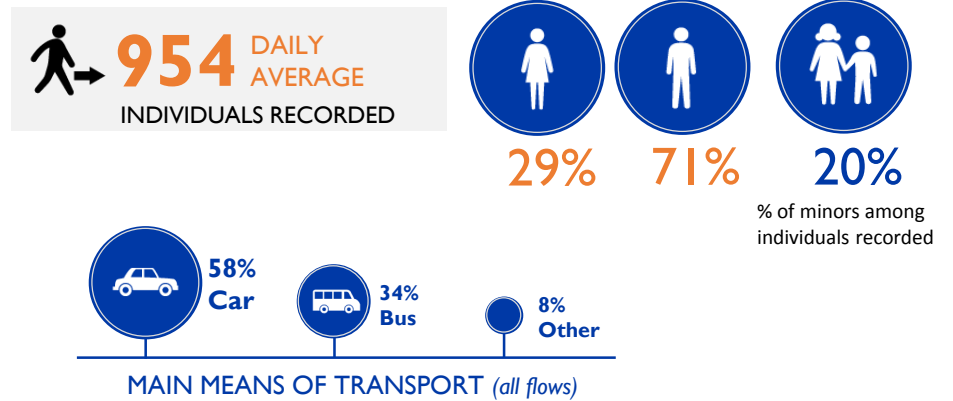
In March 2017, two FMPs were established in Kano and Sokoto, Nigeria, where significant flows of individuals of different nationalities were observed. As part of intraregional migration flows, individuals travel back and forth to neighboring countries for various reasons, including economic opportunities, educational pursuits and reasons related to social and family life.

The daily average of individuals traveling through the FMPs has slightly increased this quarter (from a daily average of 834 in the second quarter of 2017 to 954 in the third quarter). The main means of transport identified this quarter are cars (58%) and buses (34%). Vehicle drivers from Nigeria indicated the main point of destination as Niger (88%). Women and girls represent 29% of the observed population. 20% of individuals transiting Nigeria are minors.

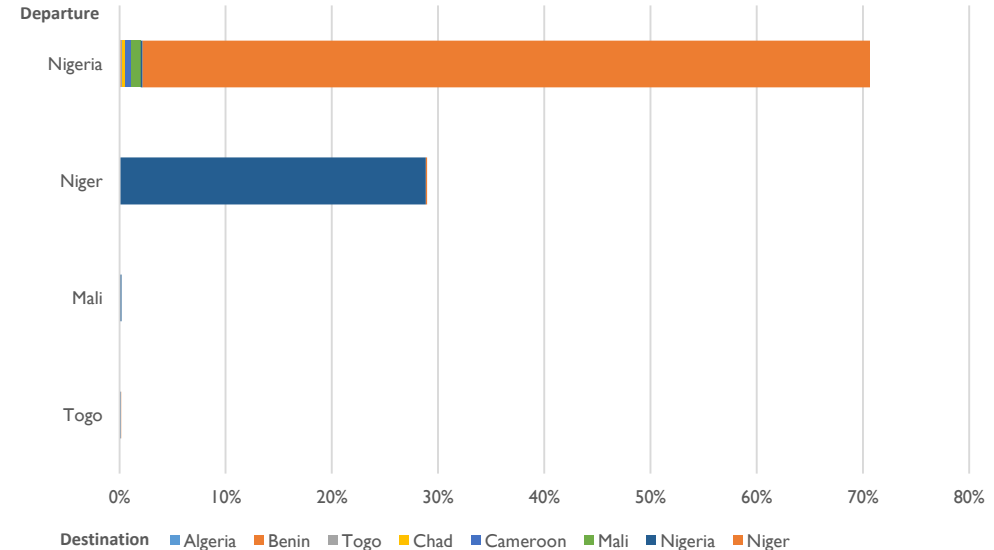
DAILY INDIVIDUALS RECORDED CROSSING FMPs IN NIGERIA



PROFILE OF PERSONS OBSERVED AT THE FMPs IN NIGERIA



ORIGIN OF THE VEHICLE AND DESTINATION

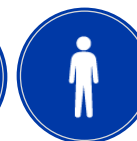


In Chad, the FMP is located in Kalait in the north of the country, which borders Sudan, Libya and Niger. From July to September 2017, the main flow transiting Kalait was composed of Chadian nationals. A small number of Sudanese, Libyan and Togolese nationals were also observed (not significant enough to be included in the chart below).

The main town of destination for Chadian nationals leaving Kalait is Abeche — a town close to the Sudanese border with a direct route to both Sudan and N’Djamena in Chad. Privates vehicles are the main means of transportation for individuals transiting through Kalait followed by trucks which represent a change from the 2nd quarter of 2017 when trucks represented 53% of flows).

Compared to the 2nd quarter of 2017, the daily average of individuals recorded at the FMP decreased by 39% (with the exception of a peak in September due to a mine closure that led to movement into northern Chad). The 39% decrease is also largely due to a strike of the driver’s union which impacted travel in the cities of Kalait, Faya and Abéché. The reason for the strike was the increasing costs associated with passing customs. The strike ended at the beginning of December 2017. Another factor was the government’s new security restrictions on the movement of illegal mine workers. All intercepted individuals, traveling with the intention of mining gold, were automatically returned to their point of departure.

PROFILE OF PERSONS OBSERVED AT THE FMP IN CHAD

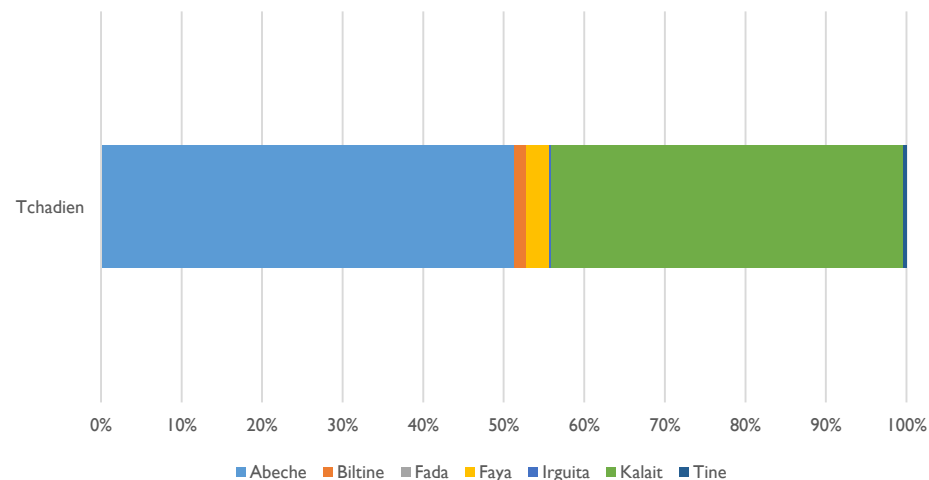


% of minors among individuals recorded

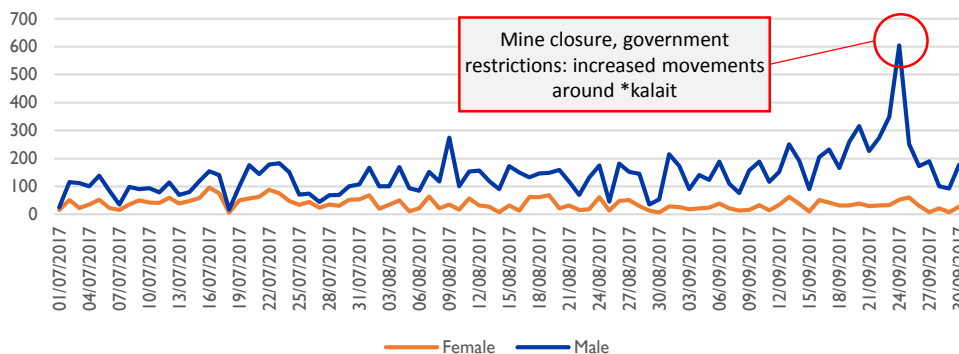


MAIN MEANS OF TRANSPORT (all flows)

NATIONALITY AND MAIN TOWN OF DESTINATION OF MIGRANTS IN CHAD



DAILY INDIVIDUALS RECORDED CROSSING KALAIT

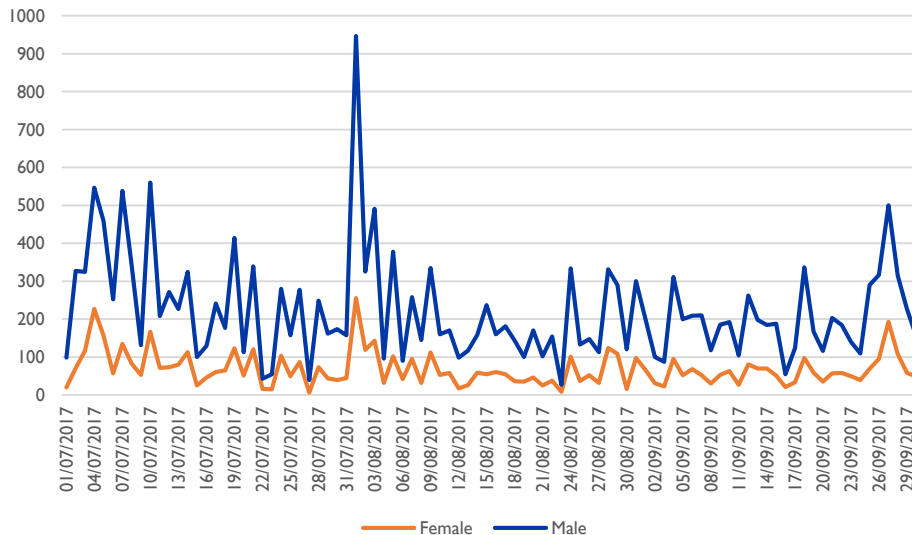


Since March 2017, flow monitoring of individuals has been conducted in Ouagadougou. In Q3, nationals of Burkina Faso, Niger, Mali and the Ivory Coast were observed at this point.

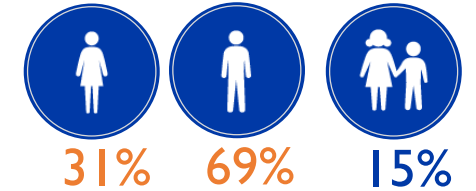
Most of the flows are between Burkina Faso and the neighboring countries of Mali, Niger, Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana. The main destination of individuals passing through the FMP are: Ouagadougou (50%); Abidjan (21%); Niamey (13%); Bamako (12%) and Accra (1%). In the third quarter, there is a slight increase in the number of females (from 25% to 31%) and minors (12% to 15%) transiting Ouagadougou compared to the second quarter of 2017.

Overall, and based on interviews with bus/taxi terminal managers, the flows in Burkina Faso tend to decrease in the months of July-September due to cultural activities which occupy migrants. The daily average decreased from 279 individuals to in the second quarter to 223 for the third quarter.

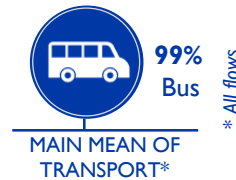
DAILY INDIVIDUALS RECORDED CROSSING OUAGADOUGOU FMP



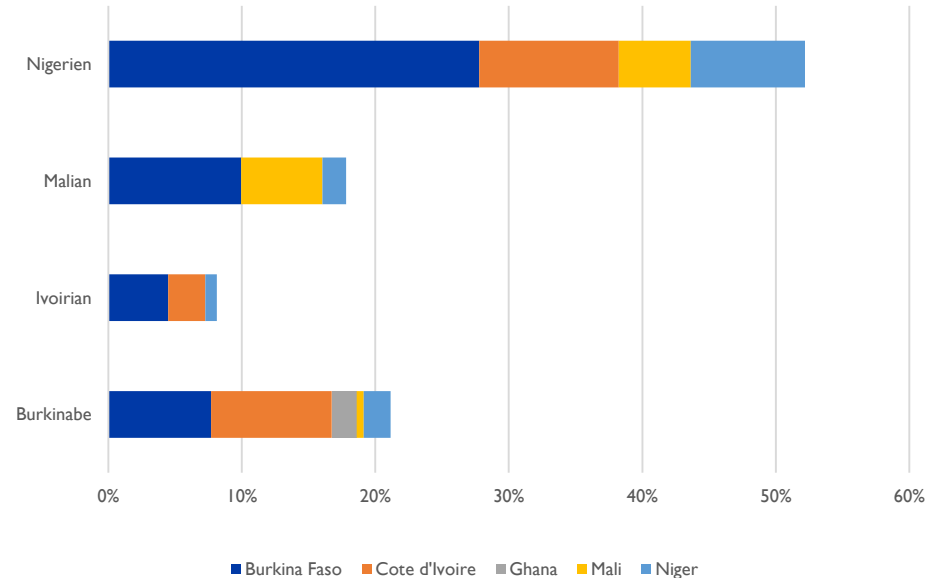
PROFILE OF PERSONS OBSERVED AT THE FMP IN BURKINA FASO



% of minors among individuals recorded



NATIONALITY AND DESTINATION COUNTRIES OF MIGRANTS

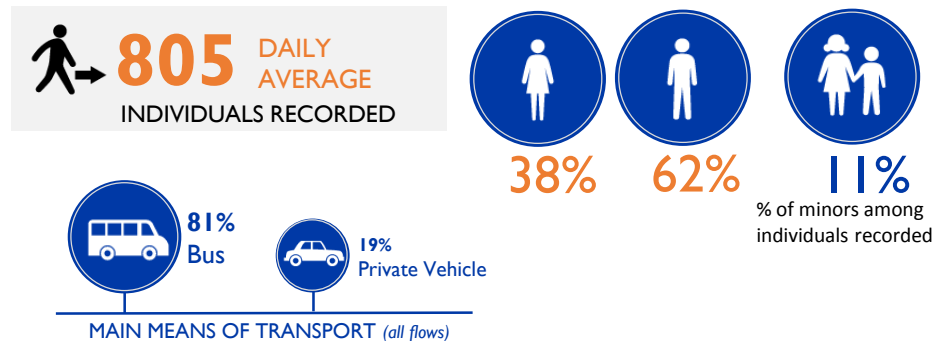


Since April 2017, flow monitoring data has been collected in Tambacounda, a main transit town in Senegal. During the period observed, nationals from Senegal, Mali, Guinea and The Gambia were identified at the FMP.

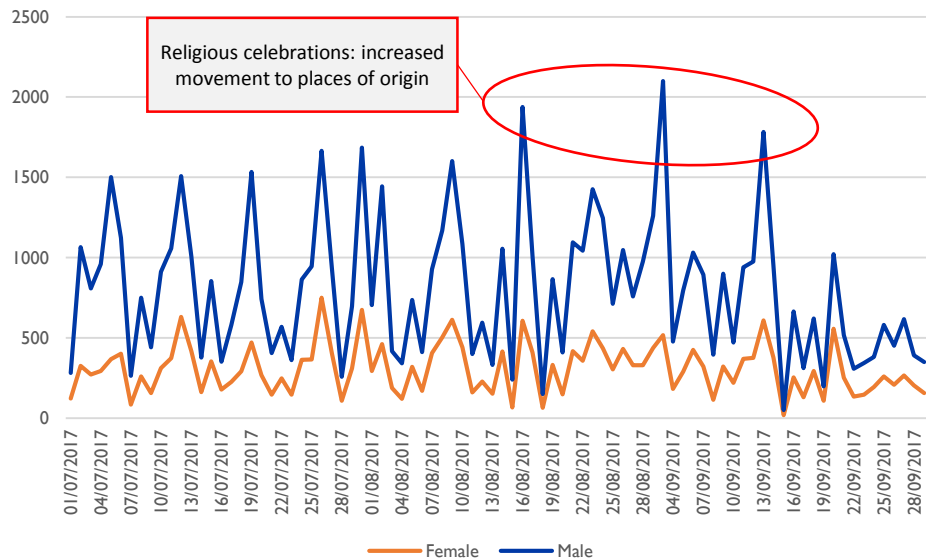
The majority of the flows are internal with individuals heading to border towns including Bakel, Kedougou, Diaobe, Manda, Kidira and Richard Toll. The main flows are of Senegalese (64%), Malian (20%) and Guinean (8%) nationals. The main means of transportation are buses (81%).

There were several peaks this quarter, particularly in September, which coincides with the Aid el-Kebir, a holiday that sees many Senegalese return to their home regions from the main cities. Consequently, a high percentage of females (38%, 33% in the 2nd quarter) and minors (11%, 7% in Q2) crossed FMPs during this period.

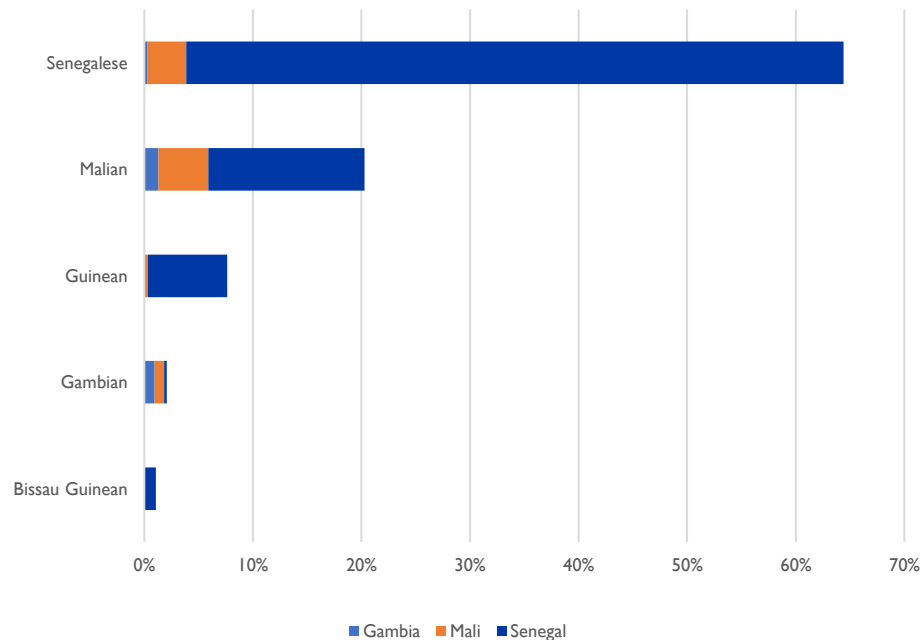
PROFILE OF PERSONS OBSERVED AT THE FMP IN SENEGAL



DAILY INDIVIDUALS RECORDED CROSSING FMP IN TAMBACOUNDA



NATIONALITY AND DESTINATION COUNTRIES



FLOW MONITORING SURVEY IN NIGER

The quantitative analysis presented in the following pages is based on data collected through Flow Monitoring Surveys (FMS) at Flow Monitoring Points in Niger (NER). The total sample includes data collected in 2017 for 2,669 migrants at Flow Monitoring Points in Niger. The survey asks a series of questions related to the migrants’ profile (e.g. nationality, age, education level etc.) as well as questions about their journey, motivations and intentions. The surveys are conducted with migrants who are going towards new destinations as well as those returning to their places of origin. Two of the locations where surveys are conducted are flow monitoring locations, while the third location is the city of Agadez which is a city with a high presence of migrants.

The following analysis will provide a comparison of the migratory flows for two of the two largest population groups represented in the sample: Nigerian (NGA) with a sample of 305 migrants and Nigerien (NER) with a sample of 1,504 migrants. Considering that the data collection exercise was undertaken in Niger and captures both inter and intra-regional migration flows, Nigeriens represent the largest sample population (68% of the total sample).

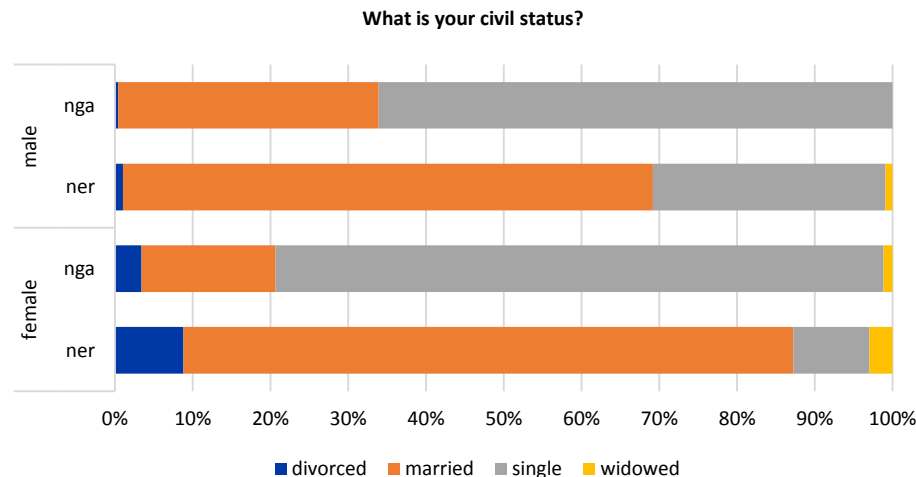
COMPARISON OF NIGERIAN AND NIGERIEN MIGRANTS

More single Nigerian women on the move

A quarter of the 335 Nigerian migrants in the sample are women (27%) compared to only 7% of the Nigerien migrants. This is in line with findings from IOM’s FMP Q2 report that examined FMS data from Italy. The Italy data included migrants from West and Central Africa who arrived in Italy between February and June 2017. In that data set, Nigerian women represented 26% of all Nigerian migrants interviewed. In comparison, there were relatively few Nigerien migrants overall in the 2017 sample (1% of all migrants interviewed in Italy), and **no** Nigerien women.

Nigerien migrants tend to travel within Niger, as well as to Algeria and Libya but not beyond, hence the low number of Nigerien migrants arriving in Italy. One possible reason for this is the high costs associated with travel to Europe - Nigeriens are on average less wealthy than their Nigerian counterparts. In terms of Nigerian women, culture plays a significant role in their lower incidence of travel compared to Nigerian women. Overall, Nigerians (both male and female) travel more than their Nigerien counterparts and the human smuggling networks are likely more established in Nigeria compared to those in Niger.

The marital status of Nigerian migrants is primarily single (76%), with a higher percentage of single Nigerian women (78%) than men. In comparison, 78% of all Nigerian migrants are married. Most Nigerian migrants are Christians from the southern part of Nigeria (NGA). These individuals tend to marry later than their Muslim counterparts and consequently have more freedom to travel, and do so while single.

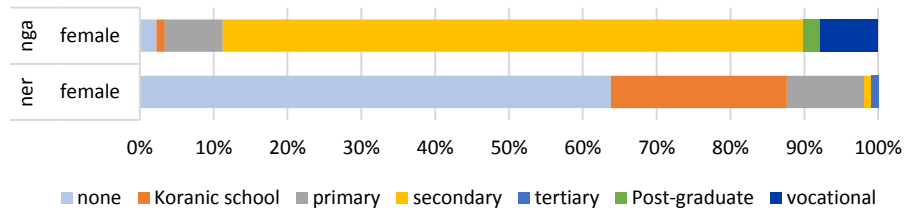


Varied levels and type of education among female migrants

Education levels are quite varied between Nigerian and Nigerien migrants, particularly among female migrants. A significantly higher percentage of Nigerian women (64%) have no education compared to 2% of Nigerien women. Further, 24% of Nigerien women have attended Koranic school compared to only 1% of Nigerian women. Overall, female Nigerian migrants have acquired more varied, and in certain cases, higher levels of education including some post-graduate and vocational education.

In the south of Nigeria, where the majority of Nigerian migrants depart, educational levels are higher than other parts of Nigeria. The migrants from these areas are more actively seeking employment opportunities in Europe and elsewhere. Koranic education is also much more common in the north of Nigeria.

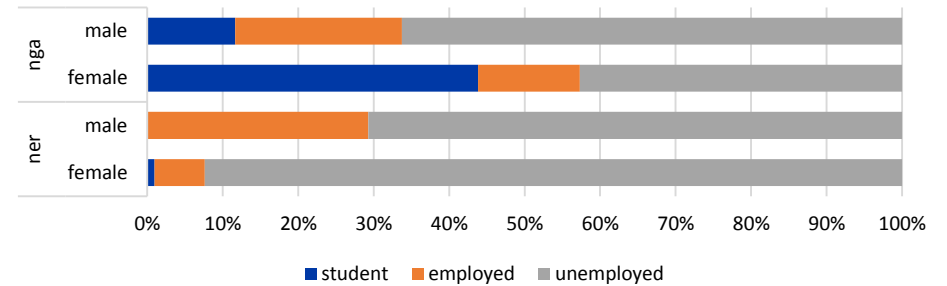
What level of education have you attained (female only)?



High rates of unemployment among male migrants

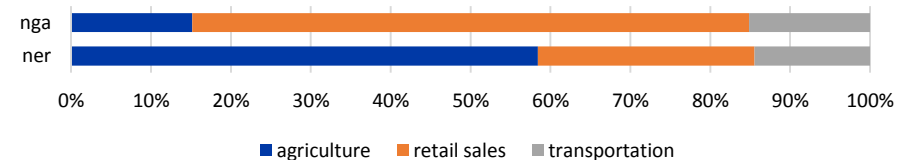
In terms of employment status prior to departure, Nigerian female migrants are equally likely to be unemployed (43%) or students (44%). Men from both populations have high percentages of unemployment overall (66% Nigerian and 71% Nigerien). However, perhaps the most striking is the high rate of unemployment of Nigerien female migrants (92%).

What was your employment status prior to departure?



In terms of sectors of employment, Nigerien migrants tend to work in agriculture (58%), which is the largest sector in Niger, and Nigerian migrants in retail sales (27%).

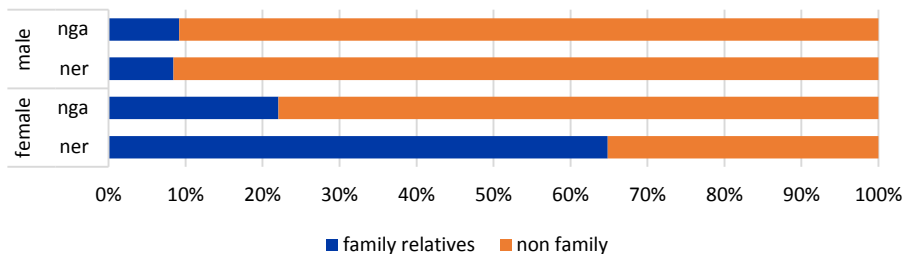
If employed, what was your sector of employment/profession prior to departure?



Migrants traveling in non-family groups

In terms of travel, the majority of migrants are traveling in groups (83%). There are more Nigerian male migrants traveling alone than any other population group (41%). In terms group travel, the majority of migrants are traveling with *non* family members (87%). The exception is female Nigerien migrants who are predominantly traveling with family members (65%) which is in line with the cultural standards in Niger.

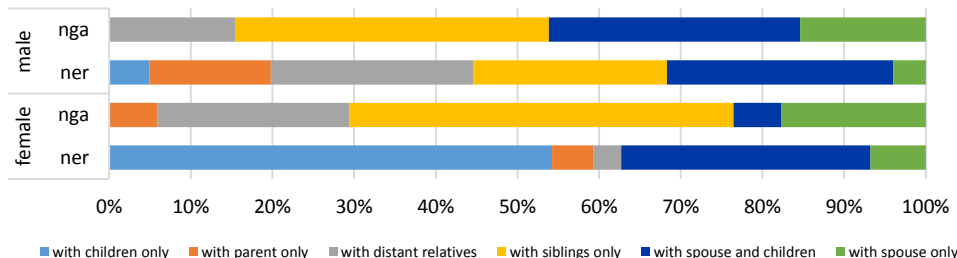
Who are you traveling with?



Of the female migrants traveling with relatives, Nigerian women travel with children only (54%), whereas Nigerian women travel primarily with siblings (47%). None of the Nigerian female migrants traveled with children alone and very few with spouse and children (6%). One possible explanation for the high number of children traveling with Nigerian women is to support the practice of begging upon arrival in Algeria.

A possible explanation for Nigerian women traveling with siblings, and supported by interviews with Nigerian returnees, is the promise of traffickers to provide good jobs upon arrival and request that younger siblings be brought along as well (under the guise of providing better living standards for the migrants).

Which family members are you traveling with?

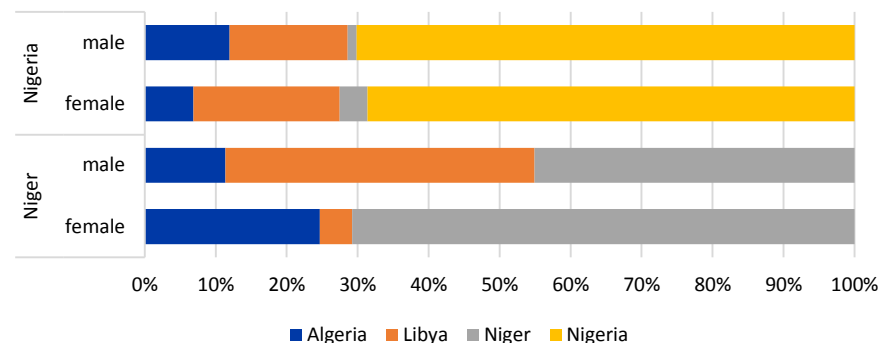


The importance of intraregional migration for Nigerien migrants

Nigerian migrants (of both genders) are departing* primarily from Nigeria (70%) with a smaller percentage departing from Libya (18%). Many Nigerian migrants use Niger as the starting point for their trip to Europe. A recent IOM global survey on migration, in which Nigeria participated, indicated that the proliferation of social media has enhanced contact with traffickers – who often use the platforms to demonstrate an idealized view of life in Europe and promising employment opportunities.

For Nigerien migrants, the situation is quite different. Nigerien female migrants are departing primarily from Niger (71%), whereas Nigerien male migrants are departing equally from Niger (45%) and Libya (44%).

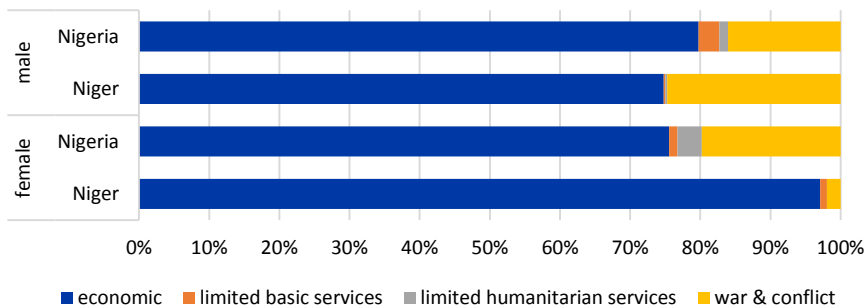
Where did you depart* from?



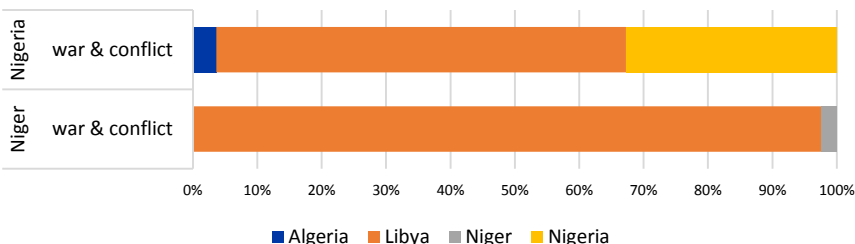
*departure country refers to habitual residence, country of origin, country of nationality or country of residence for one year or more.

The reasons for the departures are primarily economic for both groups (77%). A lesser and secondary reason is war & conflict (22%). A deeper analysis indicates that it is migrants departing primarily from Libya who have cited war and conflict as a motivation for departure. This is particularly true of Nigerian migrants. According to enumerators in the field who conducted the survey, Nigerian migrants are referencing the instability in Libya as a motivation for returning to Niger.

Why did you leave your country of origin?



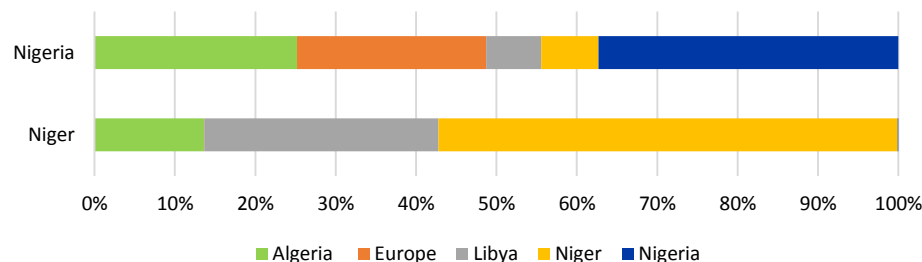
Reason for departure: War & Conflict and country of departure



Not all migrants heading to Europe

The data has demonstrated that Nigerian migrants are traveling primarily within Africa and for economic reasons. The primary country of destination for those departing Niger is Libya (29%). Whereas, Nigerian migrants destination countries are more varied, with many traveling to Europe (24%) and Algeria (25%). Nigerian migrants seem to be transiting through Niger, rather than staying in the country.

What is your destination?



This short comparative analysis between Nigerian and Nigerien migrants sheds some light on the varying motivations and destinations of migrants in West and Central Africa. It also demonstrates the importance of intra regional migration, particularly for Nigerien migrants but likely other populations groups as well. It also highlights the role that culture and gender play in migration, particularly how and with whom migrants travel, particularly female migrants.

METHODOLOGY

WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA



Flow Monitoring Methodology

IOM works with national and local authorities as well as community-based organizations to better understand migration movements in West and Central Africa.

Using tools from the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), the flow monitoring registry and survey questionnaires, teams of enumerators work in major transit areas to monitor intra and inter-regional migration movements. The locations of flow monitoring points are defined based on entry, exit and transit point assessments conducted with national and local authorities along main migration routes.

The flow monitoring methodology includes direct observations in places of entry, transit or exit, as well as structured interviews with migrants and key stakeholders in transit points (including transportation workers, housing workers, and migration officials) to assess movement trends, routes, and countries of origin and destination. This methodology has been developed to track movement flows of groups and individuals through key points of origin, transit locations and points of destination.

The purpose of flow monitoring is to provide regularly updated information on the scale and profile of population movements. The information and analysis provided by flow monitoring also aims to better understand and define shortcomings and priorities in the provision of assistance along the displacement/migratory routes.

This tool collects information on the number and frequency of individuals transiting or moving through a particular location. Several techniques of flow monitoring and population movement tracking are available and are deployed depending on the context and volume of flows identified.

Migrants adjust their routes according to opportunities and obstacles they encounter along their journey, their intended transit and destination locations are often subject to change. This renders the systematic assessment of their mobility throughout West and North Africa more complex. Therefore, data collected in destination locations may not always accurately reflect flows detected in transit locations. Data variations depends on migratory movements, FM methodology and the number of staff deployed in each FMP and their capacity to capture all movements.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON IOM DTM AND FMP IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA:

<http://displacement.iom.int/>
<http://migration.iom.int>
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