

Children and Youth on the move across West and Central Africa in 2018



IOM DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX



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For feedback or question, please contact:

RO Dakar, Division of Emergency - rodakarepcteam@iom.int

Damien Jusselme — djusselme@iom.int

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ACRONYMS AND COUNTRY CODES

Acronyms

DTM Displacement Tracking Matrix

FMP Flow Monitoring Points

FMR Flow Monitoring Registry

FMS Flow Monitoring Survey

IOM International Organization for Migration

WCA West and Central Africa

Country Code

BFA Burkina Faso

CIV Côte d'Ivoire

CMR Cameroon

DZA Algeria

GIN Guinea

GMB The Gambia

GNB Guinea-Bissau

LBR Liberia

LBY Libya

MLI Mali

NER Niger

NGA Nigeria

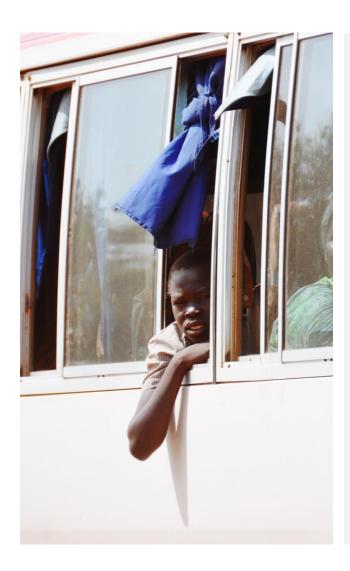
SEN Senegal

SLE Sierra Leone

TCD Chad



INTRODUCTION



Context, objectives and limitations

To ensure evidence-based policy and programming, the international organization for Migration (IOM) through its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) activities, set up Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) to collect data on the movements and profiles of migrants along the main migration routes in West and Central Africa (WCA).

The Flow Monitoring Survey (FMS) is a component of IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) activities in WCA. Surveys are conducted with individual migrants with the objective of gaining a deeper understanding of mobility in the region.

The surveys are regularly analysed, providing key information on the profiles, migration routes and vulnerabilities of migrants. Data collected include the age, sex, country and area of origin, intended destination, level of education, employment status, main transit points and reason for travel of respondents.

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of youth mobility in West and Central Africa. It presents an analysis of surveys conducted in 2018 with over 11,000 individuals aged 14-24 years old throughout the region.

Further information about the methodology and form used can be found at the end of the report.

The methodology used during Flow Monitoring Survey (FMS) exercises entail some limitations. Surveys are conducted with a sample of respondents. As a result, the findings presented in this report only reflect the situation of respondents and cannot be generalized to the entire migrant population travelling in WCA. Moreover, results are impacted by the location at which interviews are conducted.

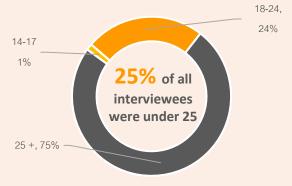
Nevertheless, the surveys give useful indications on the profiles, routes, intentions, needs and vulnerabilities of migrants in West and Central Africa.

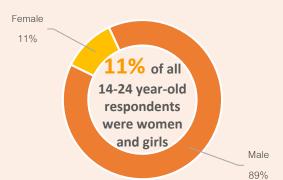
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

KEY FIGURES

45,000 Travellers interviewed in 2018 in West and Central Africa

11,454 under 25 years old







6% of all 14-24 year-old interviewees were students at the time of the interview



54% of all 14-24 year-old interviewees from Nigeria were girls and women



29% of all 14-24 year-old interviewees declared having faced difficulties during the travel



85% of all 14-24 year-old interviewees declared having information needs



15% of all 14-24 year-old interviewees with information needs indicated a specific need for information on return (specifically in Chad and Niger)

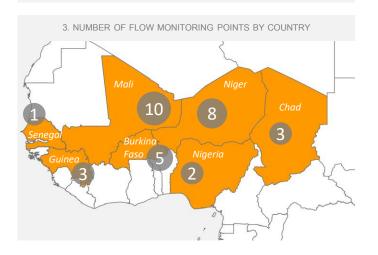


I. DATA COLLECTED

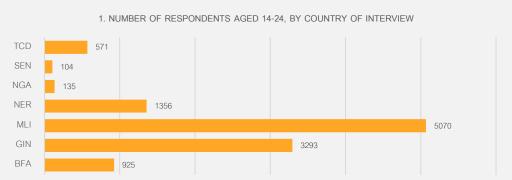
Metadata

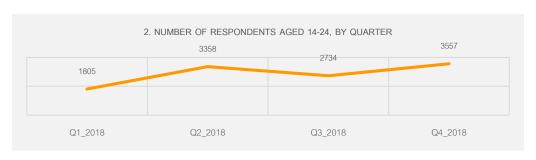
Nearly 45,000 individuals were interviewed in 2018 by IOM enumerators in seven countries of the West and Central Africa region (Burkina Faso, Chad, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal). Of those, 11,454 (over a quarter of the total number) were youth aged 14-24 years old: 1,3% were between 14 and 17 years old and 24% between 18 and 24 years old.

Individuals under 25 were interviewed in more than 32 high transit locations in all seven countries in which Flow Monitoring exercises were conducted (*chart 1*). Large presence of under 25 travellers was identified in Mali (in Bamako and Gogui), Guinea (near Kouremale and Boundoufourdou), and Niger (near Arlit).









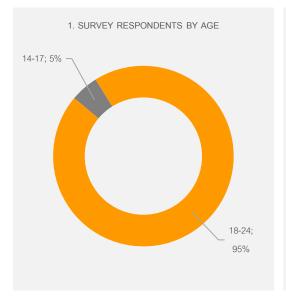


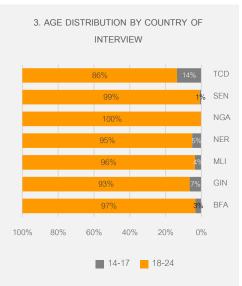
2.1. Age

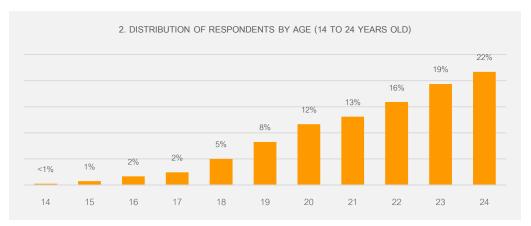
Of the 11,500 individuals interviewed aged 14-24, 5% were between 14 and 17 years old and 95% between 18 and 24 years old (*chart* 1).

A more detailed breakdown by age of respondents (<u>chart 2</u>) shows an apparent and steady increase in the number of respondents with age (22% of the whole sample interviewed were 24 years old at the time of the interview)

The age distribution by country of interview (*chart 3*) shows a larger share of respondents interviewed in Chad were female (14% of the total number of respondents under 25).







2.2. Gender

The gender distribution shows a high share of male respondents: 89 per cent of interviewees were men and boys (*chart 1*). In comparison with the total number of interviews conducted in 2018 (45.000), there were fewer female respondents aged 14-24 (11%) than female respondents among the total respondent population (15%).

The age distribution of travellers interviewed by gender gives an overview of youth migration in the region. The proportion of female respondent aged 14-17 is higher among female interviewees (9% of female) than among male interviewees (5%) (charts 2 and 3)

The male/female ratio varies also by country. Nigeria has the highest proportion of female aged 14-24 interviews (49%) while Mali has the lowest (3%)

The age and gender distribution varies by country of interview. Higher proportion of boys under 18 years old was for instance observed among respondents in Chad (12% of youth respondents interviewed in the country), Guinea (6%) and Niger (4%), while the highest hare of girls under 18 years old were interviewed in Mali (1%) of youth respondents) (*chart 4*).



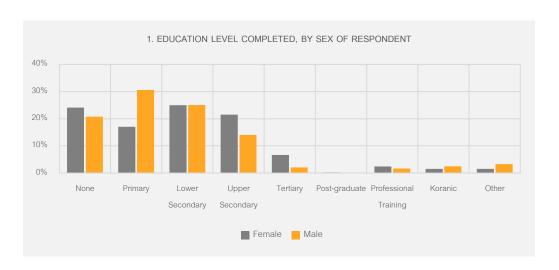
2.3. Level of education

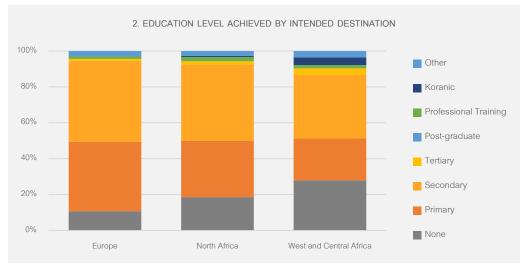
Of the 45,000 individuals interviewed, 19% had not completed any form of education and 21% attended primary school. The analysis of the highest level of education completed by respondents aged 14-24 shows two interesting trends when the results of male and female respondents.

The first visible trend from is the higher proportion of female with higher education level (7% of female youth respondents had a tertiary degree, compared to 2% of male youth respondents; 22% of women and girl respondents under the age of 25 had completed secondary education, as compared to 14% of men and boys aged 14-24).) (*chart 1*).

A second visible trend is that of the proportion of female who had not completed any form of education. 24% of female interviewed have no education degree against 21% of male respondents) (*chart 1*).

The education level often differs depending on the intended destination of the travellers interviewed. A similar trend was identified among young respondents. Those travelling within the West and Central Africa region displayed a lower level of education than those headed to North Africa or Europe: 45% of those headed to Europe have a secondary degree and 36% of those headed to WCA (*Chart 2*).



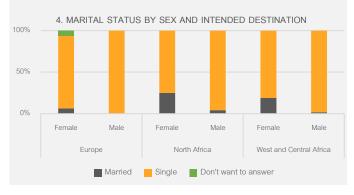


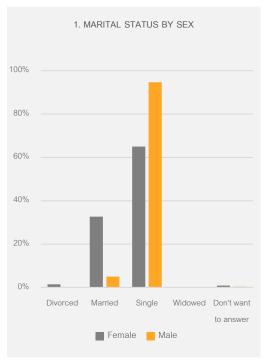
2.4. Marital Status

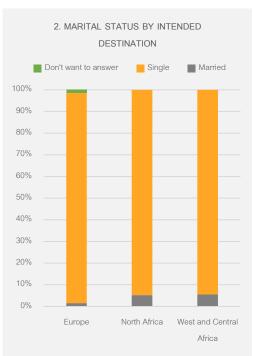
There were significant differences between the marital status of female and male respondents. 33% of female respondents are married while only 5% of male are (chart 1).

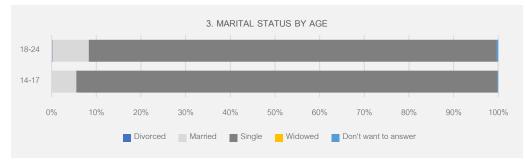
Marital status did not vary significantly depending on the region of intended destination, although respondents travelling to Europe were more likely to be single than those headed to other regions (2% single for Europe, 6% for WCA) (*chart 2*). However, it varies when disaggregating data by destination and gender particularly for men and women heading to North Africa (25% female married, 4% male married) (*chart 4*).

Similar observations can be made when comparing the marital status and the two main age tranches (14-17 years old and 18-24) (*chart 3*).









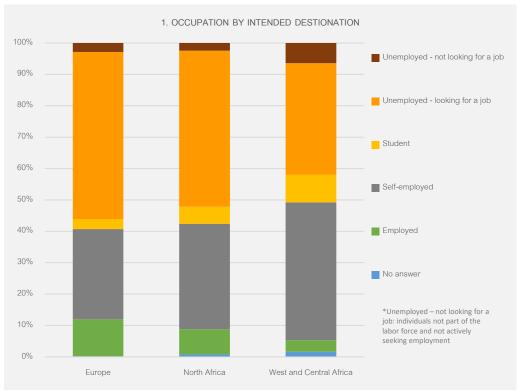
2.5. Occupation

The share of respondents who indicated being unemployed at the time of interview varied significantly depending on the intended destination, with over half of respondents (53%) headed to Europe being unemployed, compared to 35% of respondents travelling within WCA (*chart 1*). Migrants who are staying within west Africa are more likely to be self employed (i.e. traders).

More than 6% of the 14-24 interviewees indicated still being a student at the moment of the interview (*chart* <u>2</u>). The proportion was higher among women and girls respondents (13%) than among men and boys (6%).









3. NATIONALITY

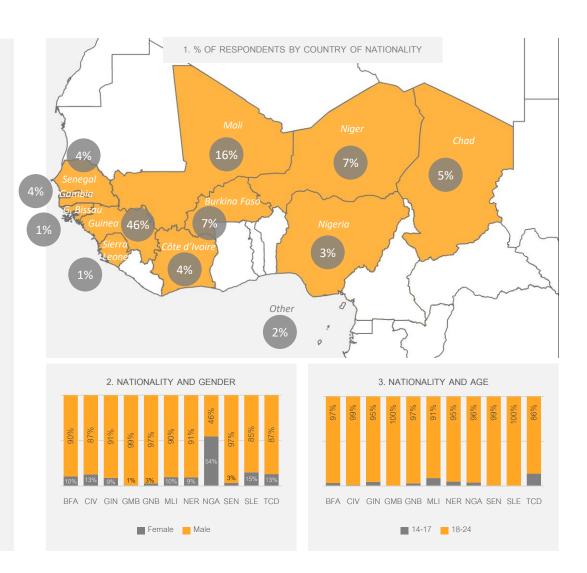
3.1. Nationals

The largest share of respondents under 25 years old were Guinean nationals (46%). followed by Malian (16%), Burkinabe and Niger (6% respectively) respondents. (*Chart 1*).

Overall, the distribution of nationalities corresponds to the location of the flow monitoring points in the 7 countries targeted by the data collection.

Among the main nationalities interviewed in the flow monitoring surveys, Nigeria stand out as in its gender distribution of respondents, 54% of respondents interviewed in 2018 are female. Female respondents from Sierra Leone (17% of all respondents) and Chad (13%) follow Nigeria but with much smaller proportions (chart 2).

Two nationalities present a fairly high proportion of under 18 among the youth interviewed: Chad (14% of all respondents under 25) and Mali (9%) (*chart 3*).



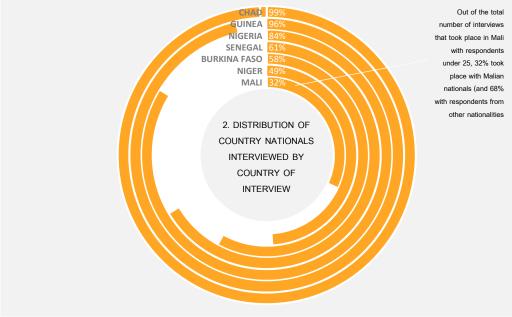
3. NATIONALITY

3.2. Respondants by nationality and country of interview

Among travellers under 25 interviewed in 2018, certain nationalities are showing a much greater likelihood to be identified out of their own country than other. Senegalese and Nigerian nationals are the two main nationalities identified outside of the flow monitoring points of their countries, or put differently; a majority of Senegalese (86%) and Nigerian (32%) nationals were interviewed abroad. Conversely, Chad, Mali and Niger nationals were more likely to be interviewed in their own country (chart 1).

Combining nationality and place of interviews (in the 7 countries with flow monitoring points) shows the role of transit countries of certain countries. Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso clearly appear as main transit countries for interviewees with a high proportion of non-nationals interviewed (68% in Mali, 51% in Niger and 42% in Burkina Faso). Other countries, less centrally located such as Chad and Guinea are less likely to see significant foreigner movements from under 25 (however it doesn't imply that there are less movements) (*chart 2*).







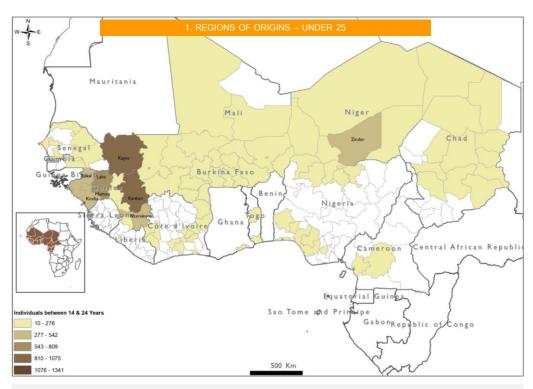


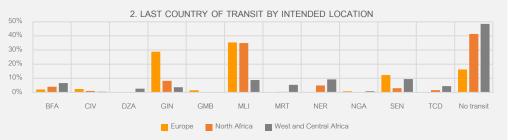
4.1. Origin and Transit

This section presents the regions (administrative level 1) of origin of travellers aged 14-24 years old interviewed in 2018.

Main regions of origins of travellers interviewed were located in areas at the intersection of Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Burkina Faso and Senegal. These areas is where most travellers came from (*map 1*). Other significant regions of respondents are Zinger in Niger and other regions of Guinea (Nzerkora)

Asked about their last country of transit, nearly half of the under 25 (48%) who intended to travel within West and Central Africa did not mention a transit country, indicating that they were travelling directly from the country of departure to the country of intended destination. A similar proportion of respondents travelling to North Africa indicated not having stayed in a country of transit (due to a high number of persons interviewed in Mali directly or Niger)(41%).



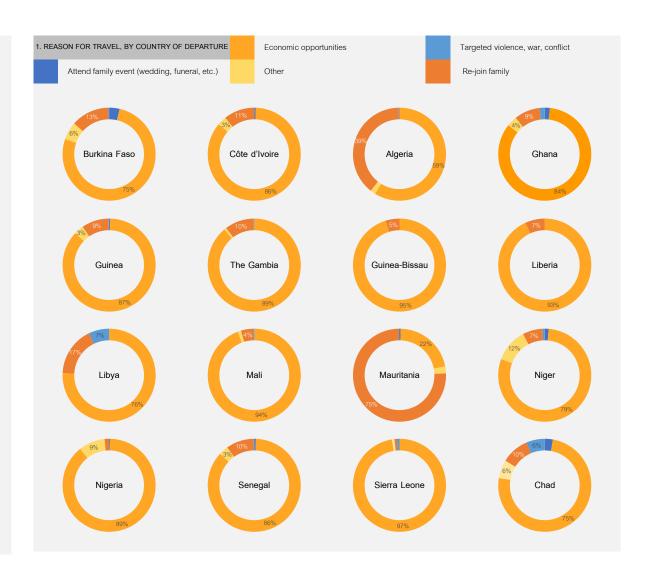


4.2. Reasons for travel

These charts display the main reason of departure based on the main country of departure of all under 25 respondents.

The main reason of travel of respondents under 25 years old was economic. Whether trade-related, transhumant, or to look for a job opportunity, labour movements was always the top reason of travel given by respondent, regardless of the country of departure. More than 90% of travellers departing from Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea-Bissau or Ghana and interviewed at Flow Monitoring Points indicated moving for economic reasons.

Notably, three countries showed different trends: respondents who had left Mauritania (75%), Algeria (39%) and Libya (17%) were primarily travelling for family-related reasons.

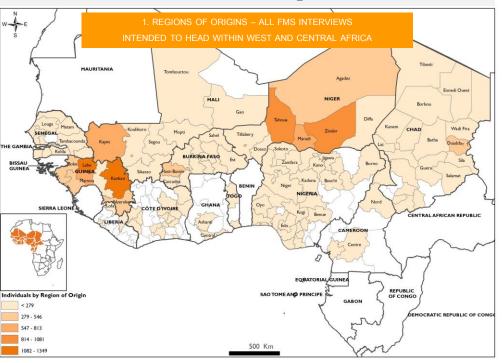


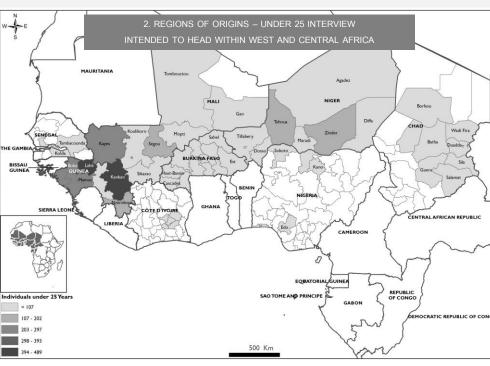
4.3. Region of origin by intended destinations - WCA

A large number of youth migrants who were travelling internally to WCA had departed from Kankan and Labé in Guinea, Kayes and Koulikoro in Mali, Tahoua in Niger.







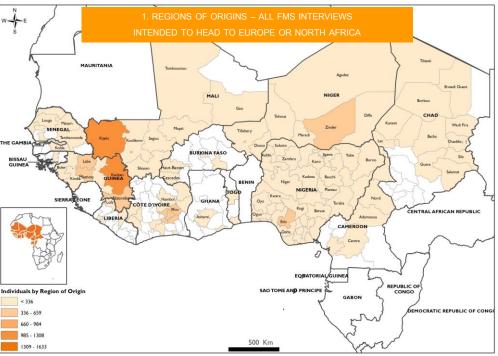


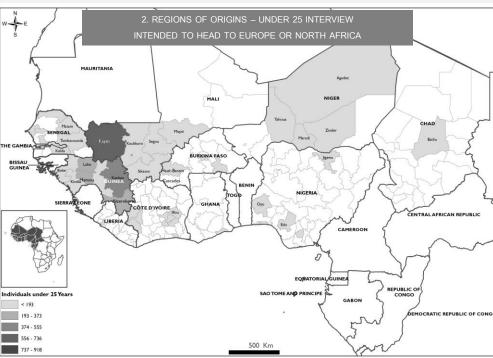
4.4. Region of origins by intended destinations - Europe/North Africa

Interestingly, the areas of origins of travellers who intended to travel to Europe or North Africa were similar to that of respondents travelling within WCA. Kayes in Mali, Kankan, Labé and Mamou un Guinea are all still were all highly represented regions of departure.









4.5. Intended destinations

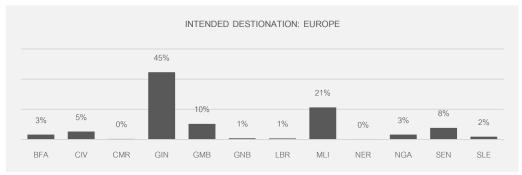
The sampling method used for the flow monitoring surveys doesn't allow for the extraction of a representative figure of intended region of destination (compiled here into "West and Central Africa", "Europe" and "North Africa"), however the sampling targeted certain populations in order to allow for a solid analysis by intended destination and comparison with different population groups (nationality, age category, etc.)

Main nationalities to all three intended region of destination is the same, indeed Guinean nationals under 25 (as indicated in previous slides) represent the most interviewed population group. Guinean nationals represent 51% of all those who indicated their intention to travel within the WCA region (45% of those who headed to Europe).

The variations by region of destinations shows an increase in the proportion of Malian nationals who intend to head to Europe (21% of all respondents) against those who intended to travel within the WCA region (16% of all respondents). An opposite trend is identified among Burkinabe nationals (higher proportion among those travelling within WCA: 11% than among those travelling to Europe: 3%).



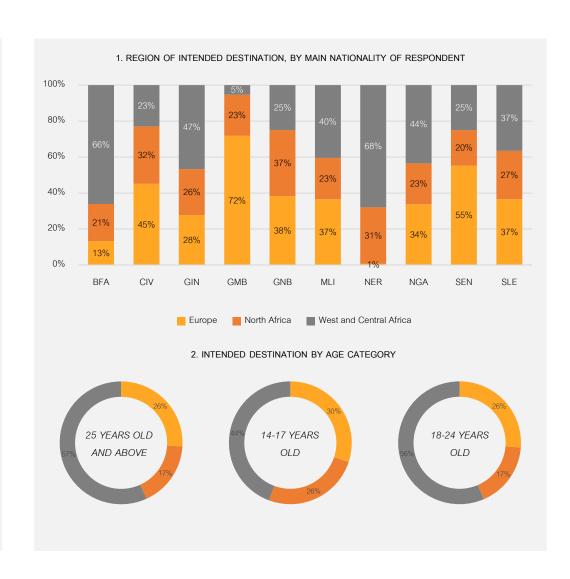




4.6. Intended destinations by nationality

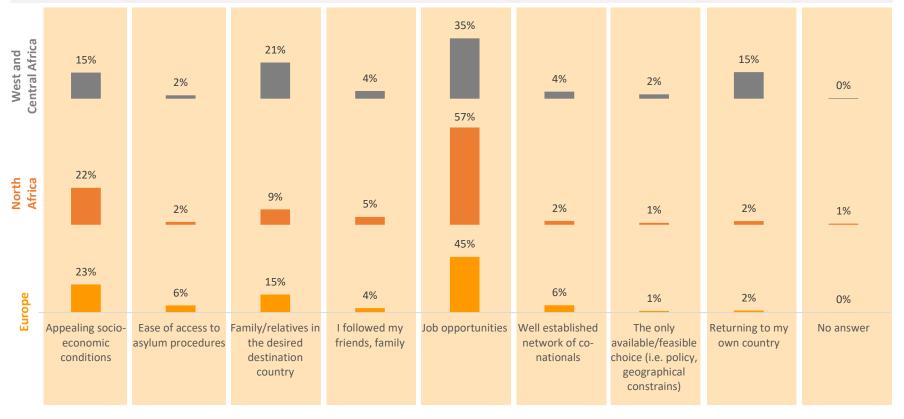
The region of intended destination varied significantly depending on the nationality of the respondent. Thus, 72% of Gambian nationals under 25 declared at the time of the interview that their intended destination was in Europe, while 23% indicated travelling within North Africa. This might be explained in part by the localisation of the points (being outside of The Gambia) but that's still a good indication of travel destinations. Similarly, a significant share of youth from Senegal and Côte d'Ivoire intended to travel to Europe at the time of the interview (respectively 56 and 46%) (*chart 1*).

A comparison of intended destination shows a slight different between age categories. Respondents between the ages of 18 and 24 were more likely to be travelling to Europe (30%) or North Africa (26%) than respondents from other age groups (*chart 2*).



4.7. Reason for choice of region of destination

The reasons for which youth respondents chose a destination varied among the regions of destination. Economic reasons (appealing socio-economic conditions, looking for job opportunities) were more frequently mentioned by respondents who intended to head to Europe and North Africa than by those travelling within the WCA region. Travel for family-related reasons was highest among respondents headed for a destination in WCA, although a significant share of respondents going to Europe also indicated travelling for family-related motives.



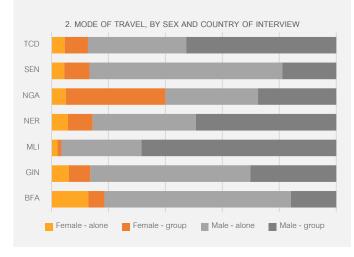




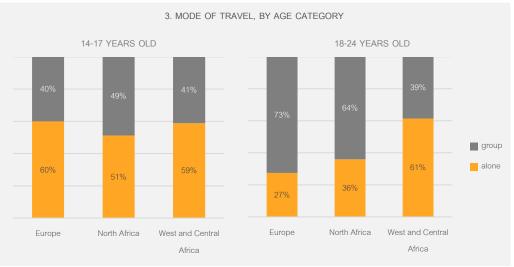
5. CHARACTERISTICS OF TRAVEL

5.1. Mode of travel

The majority (54%) of respondents indicated travelling in group. Nevertheless, whether respondents travelled in a group or on their own varied significantly depending on the sex, age category, country of departure and country of destination of the respondent: travellers who had departed from The Gambia (83%), Sierra Leone (74%) and Guinea Bissau (70%) were the most likely to travel with a group. The likelihood of travelling in a group also increased the further away a travellers was from his or her own country. Overall, 28 per cent of respondents who indicated travelling to Europe were travelling alone (as opposed to 61% of respondents travelling within the WCA region).







5. CHARACTERISTICS OF TRAVEL

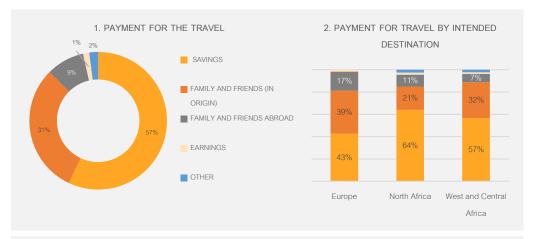
5.2. Funding of travel

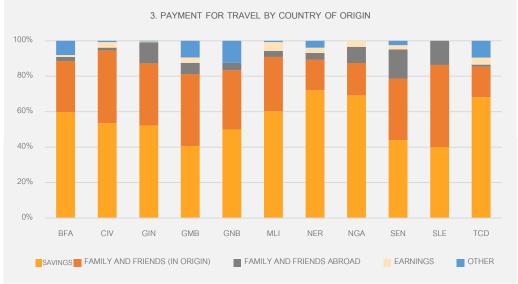
Most (57%) respondents under 25 years old used their savings to pay for the travel (*chart 1*). The breakdown of results by intended destination shows that respondents travelling to Europe relied more (39%) on family and friends in the country of origin to fund the journey than respondents headed for other regions. This reflects the role played by migrants' families and communities in the decision to migrate (*chart 2*).

The source of funding for the travel also varied by the country of origin, with a higher proportion of travellers using family and friends in country in Niger, Nigeria and Chad (*chart 3*).

Finally, the payment for travel is also varied also by age category, with family and friends contributing to up to 61% of 14-18 years old respondents travel (compared with 31% among 18-24 years old respondents).

4. PAYMENT FOR TRAVEL BY AGE TRANCHE						
AGE CATEGORY	SAVING	FAMILY AND FRIENDS (PLACE OF ORIGIN)	FAMILY AND FRIENDS (ABROAD)	EARNING	OTHER	TOTAL
14-17	31%	61%	11%	3%	7%	100%
18-24	71%	35%	11%	2%	3%	100%







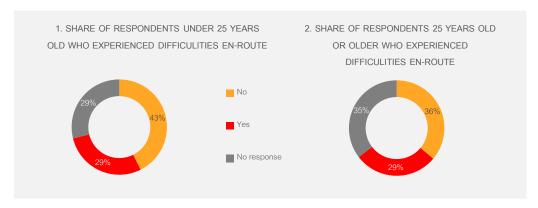
6.1. Travel difficulties occurrence

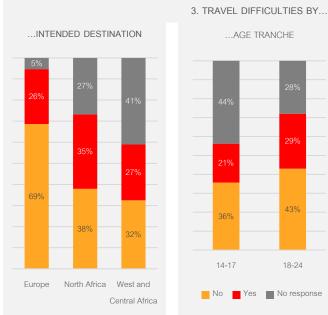
The question of travel difficulties faced by interviewees is a sensitive one that is not always asked by IOM DTM enumerators (taken out of the analysis here). When asked, respondent frequently do not respond to the question.

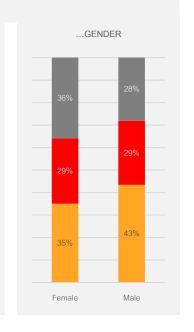
29% youth respondents under 25 declared having faced difficulties in the course of their travel (*chart 1*). This figure is similar than that of interviewees above 25 (29%) demonstrating both the particular vulnerability of young migrants and the increasing dangerosity of travel.

A similar share of female (29%) and male (29%) respondents reporting having encountered difficulties. The region of intended destination did have an effect, with a smaller share of respondents headed to Europe (26%) having faced difficulties than those headed to North Africa (35%) or travelling within WCA (27%). This result is to consider carefully, has it might simply indicate that respondents are less willing to respond.

29% faced travel difficulties (Among those who responded)





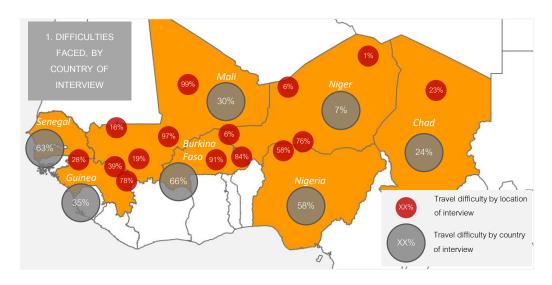


6.2. Travel difficulties by country of interview and nationality

The largest share of respondents under 25 who indicated having come across difficulties were found in Burkina Faso (66% of interviewees who responded to this question), while the smallest proportions were found in Niger (7% in both countries) (*map 1*). However, it should be noted that this question wasn't asked in certain places (below a table showing the proportion of respondents to whom the question was asked) (table 1) for lack of existing referral mechanisms in case of protection concerns

Table 1. Proportion of interviewees to whom the question on travel difficulties was asked by country of interview		
Burkina Faso	21%	
Chad	41%	
Guinea	42%	
Mali	43%	
Niger	70%	
Nigeria	19%	
Senegal	8%	

Main nationalities that faced travel challenges are displayed in <u>table 2</u>. Burkina Faso and Sierra Leone nationals have expressed the most challenges en-route (respectively 46% and 45%).



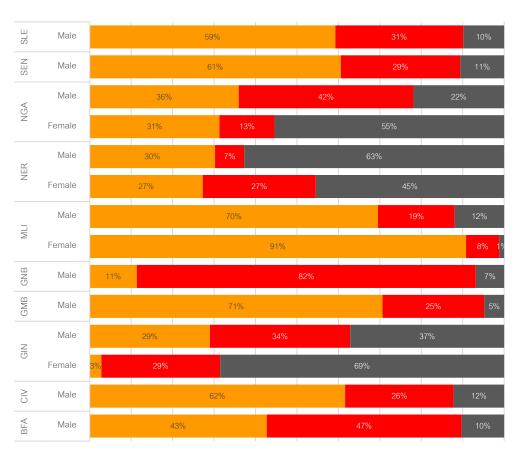


6.3. Travel difficulties by sex

Difficulties expressed by sex and nationality of respondents shows divers results. Indeed, among male respondents, Guinea-Bissau, Nigeria and Burkina Faso nationals have the highest proportion of respondents indicating travel difficulty. Among female respondents, Guinea and Niger have the highest rate.

* Certains variables for countries or gender are not displayed in the chart 1 due to a low number of respondents that could not be analyzed as a stand alone variable (e.g. Côte d'Ivoire female variable).

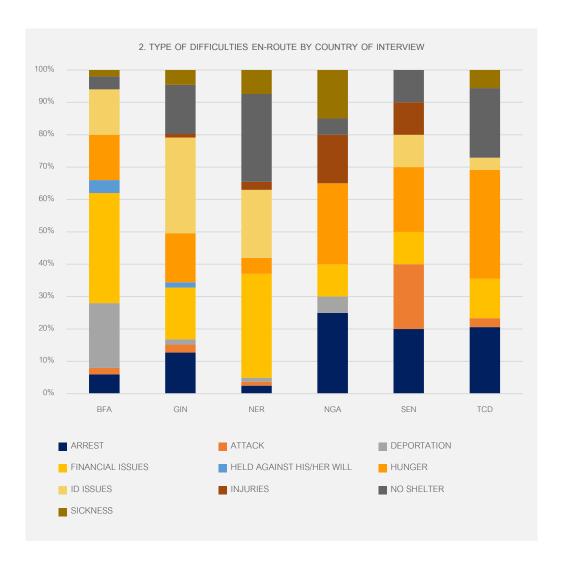
1. TRAVEL DIFFICULTY BY NATIONALITY AND GENDER



6.4. Type of difficulties faced

The county of interview doesn't necessarily reflects the actual location where the interview faced the difficulty en-route, it only reflects the location where this difficulty was report to IOM DTM enumerators.

No data on the type of difficulties was collected in Mali. Other countries of interviews are displaying a wide range of difficulties en-route for interviewees under 25. In Burkina Faso and in Niger, the main difficulties interviewees indicated is "financial issues" (respectively 34% and 32%), in Guinea the main issue is the lack or non conformity of ID (30%), in Chad and Nigeria, hunger is indicated as the main en-route difficulty (respectively 34 and 25%). In Senegal, the main difficulties en-route are "attacks", arrests and hunger (all at 20%).





7. INFORMATION NEEDS

Information needs

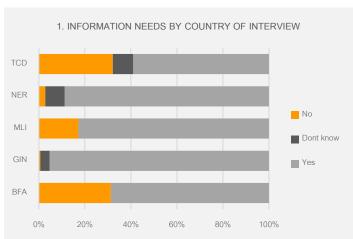
DTM enumerators asked also questions on information needs and type of information needed by respondents 14-24 years old. As for the questions on difficulties enroute (section 6), these questions were not always asked by the enumerators. Questions were asked only in location where possible information could be provided. (below a table showing the proportion of respondents to whom the question was asked) (table 1). Due to the low number of responses in Senegal and Nigeria, these two countries are not analysed.

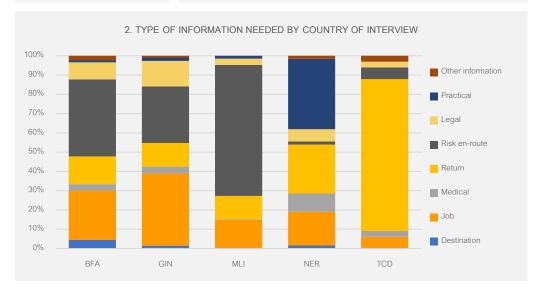
Table 1. Proportion of interviewees to whom the question on information needs was asked by country of interview		
Burkina Faso	14%	
Chad	10%	
Guinea	15%	
Mali	13%	
Niger	5%	
Nigeria	11%	
Senegal	5%	

Overall, out of all those who where asked this question, 85% indicated having a need for certain type of information. This need is higher among respondents in Niger (89%) and Guinea (95%) (*Chart 1*).

Main type of information respondents are after are: « risks en-route » (46%), « Job opportunities » (25%) and Return options (15% and particularly in Chad (79%) and Niger (25%) (*chart 2*).







METHODOLOGY AND SOURCES

This section provides additional details on the methodologies and sources used to produce the data presented in the report

FLOW MONITORING

This report presents an analysis of flow monitoring surveys conducted with mobile populations in the West and Central Africa region between January and December 2018.

In West and Central Africa (WCA), Flow Monitoring exercises are set up in over 30 strategic zones of transit throughout the region in order to obtain a better understanding of the volume, trends and composition of migration flows (both intraregional and to and from North Africa) in the region.

These surveys are part of IOM DTM's Flow Monitoring activities, which gather information on the numbers and characteristics of travellers observed in high mobility areas of origin, transit and destination. Surveys are conducted at Flow Monitoring Points on a sample of travellers on a daily basis (travellers may or

may not be nationals). The purpose of these surveys is to collect more in-depth information on travellers, such as their nationalities, educational and vocational backgrounds, reasons for departure and intended destinations.

Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) are located in Chad, Niger, Nigeria, Mali, Burkina Faso, Senegal and Guinea, at which over 100 enumerators collect data on mobility daily. The DTM teams in these seven countries' IOM Country Offices, with the support of the Regional Office in Dakar. implement Flow Monitoring activities, clean, analyse and stock the data collected, and produce regular reports presenting the findings of the FM exercises.

METHODOLOGY

A Flow Monitoring Point (FMP) collects information on the number, frequency and defining features of individuals transiting a particular location. Prior to the establishment of an FMP, it is essential to identify key migration-prone areas. These

locations are identified based on assessments of main migration routes at national and local levels, conducted in partnership with national and local authorities.

FMPs rely on two main tools: The Flow Monitoring Registry (FMR) and the Flow Monitoring Survey (FMS). The FMR includes direct observations at places of entry, transit or exit, as well as interviews with key informants (including transportation workers, housing workers, and migration officials) to assess movement trends, routes, and countries of origin destination. The FMS entails more detailed individual surveys to profile people on the move, including education levels and skills/employment; drivers of migrations; and needs, risks and vulnerabilities. This document presents an analysis of surveys conducted using the FMS tool. A similar methodology is used in other regions (Horn of Africa and Europe) to allow for comparative analysis of flows and individuals' characteristics.



YOUTH AND MOBILITY

Children and Youth on the move across West and Central Africa in 2018

IOM Regional Office for West and Central Africa

Zone 3, Route des Almadies

Dakar BP16 838

Sénégal: Tel: +221 33 689 62 00

Fax: +221 33 869 62 33

Equipe RO Dakar - DOE: rodakarepcteam@iom.int