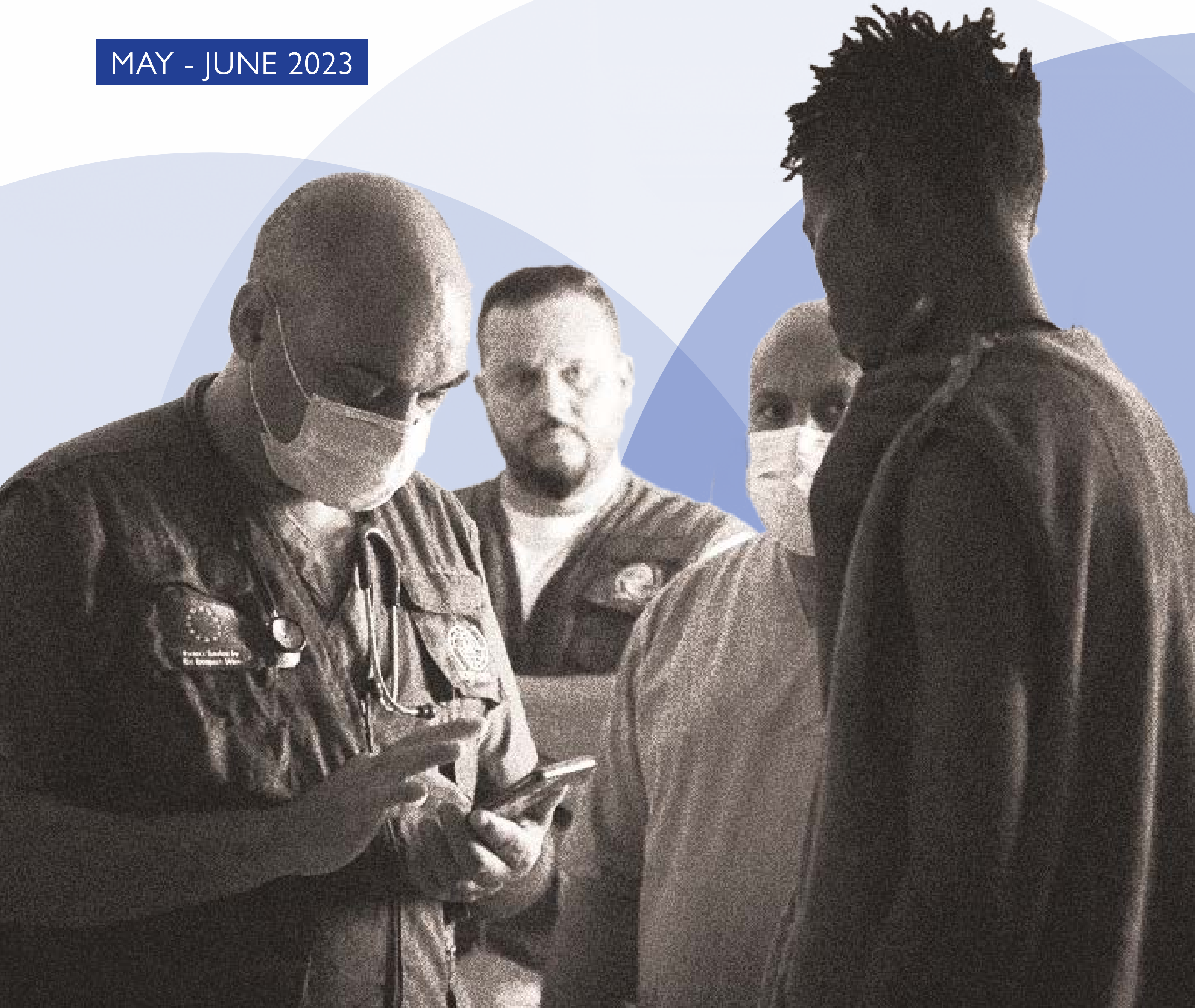
IOM • OIM DTM

Project funded by the European Union

IOM LIBYA MIGRANT REPORT ROUND 48

MAY - JUNE 2023



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Cover photo: *IOM Libya in collaboration with partners such as the Libyan Red Crescent continues providing humanitarian assistance, including medical screenings, food and non-food items to migrants in Libya.*
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IOM
UN MIGRATION

CONTENTS

KEY FINDINGS

ROUND 48 (MAY - JUNE 2023)

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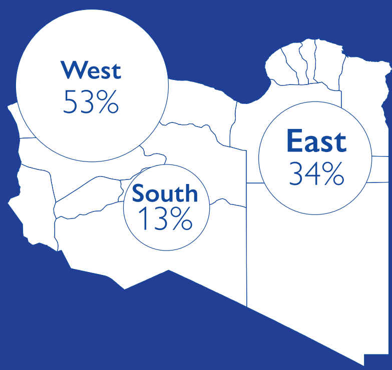
704,369

migrants were identified by DTM Libya in May and June 2023. Around eight in ten (79%) were adult males, 11 per cent adult females, and 10 per cent were children (among whom 4% were unaccompanied children).

COST OF JOURNEY

Migrants reported that their journey to Libya cost on average 863 USD per person. Migrants' largest expense was the cost of migration facilitators, whose services were used by 63 per cent of migrants, primarily for transportation (92%) or to help them cross difficult areas along the route (51%).

LOCATION



REMITTANCES

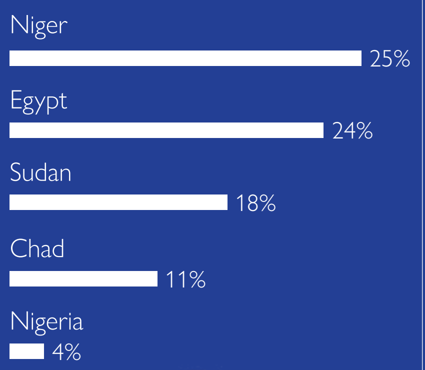
Around one in three migrants (36%) mentioned having sent remittances since arriving in Libya. Among them, around half (49%) stated that the money they send home is their household's primary source of income.

EMPLOYMENT

23%

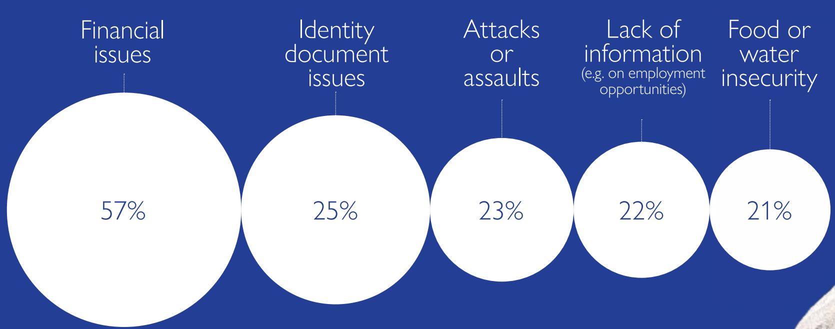
of migrants interviewed in May and June 2023 stated that they were unemployed and actively seeking work. A greater proportion of female (56%) than male migrants (22%) mentioned being out of work and actively seeking employment.

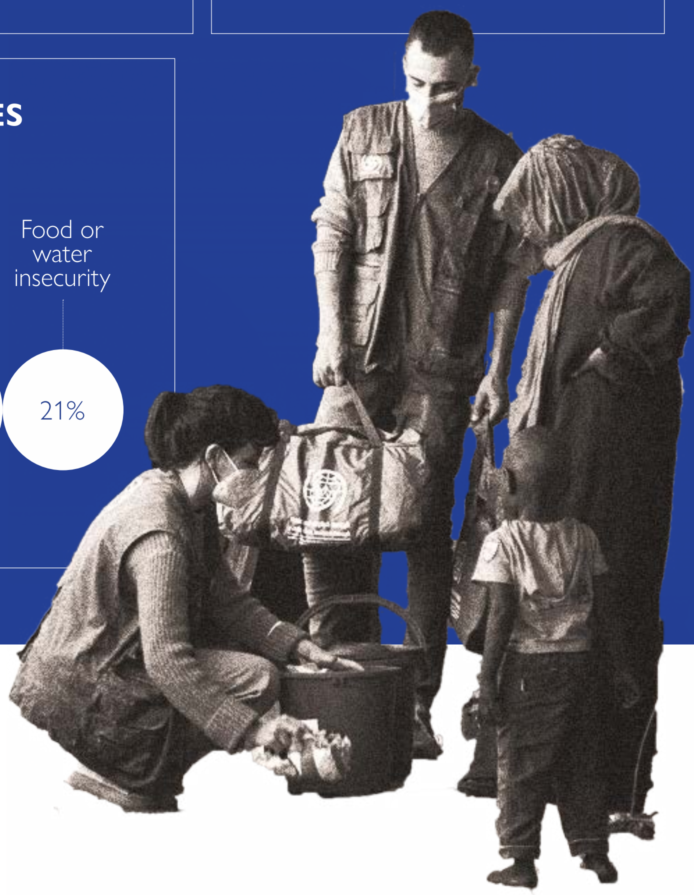
TOP 5 NATIONALITIES



WHAT ARE THE THREE MAIN DIFFICULTIES MIGRANTS ARE FACING?

(multiple-choice question)





IOM UN MIGRATION

OVERVIEW

IOM Libya's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) programme identified a total of 704,369 migrants from over 43 nationalities in the 100 Libyan municipalities during round 48 of data collection (May - June 2023).

The number of migrants in Libya in May and June 2023 has remained relatively stable compared to the previous two rounds of data collection (705,746 migrants, Round 47, March-April 2023 and 706,472 migrants, Round 46, January - February 2023).

Multiple factors may explain the relative stability in the number of migrants in Libya. Generally, in April and May, some migrants from Niger return from Libya to prepare the land for the planting and weeding season which starts in June and ends in October. In parallel and starting in May, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) reported that a wave of arrests and collective expulsions of migrants took place in western and eastern Libya[1]. Moreover, following the recent Sudan crisis, which erupted in mid-April 2023, and according to the UNSC, Libyan authorities ordered the deployment of reinforcements in the south-east and south-west area along the country's borders with Chad and Sudan. Overall, between January and June 2023 a total of 26 per cent of migrants, came from, or had transited through Chad and/or Sudan.

Together, these factors may have contributed to the relatively stable number of migrants compared to previous rounds of data collection. Since the beginning of 2021, and up until February 2023, the number of migrants had been increasing in Libya while in 2020 it had declined as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and its socioeconomic impact. Prior to the onset of conflict in 2011 there were an estimated 2.5 million migrants in Libya.

Security

Nearly a quarter of migrants interviewed by DTM Libya in May and June 2023 (23%) identified attacks or assaults as one of the main difficulties they faced. According to the UNSC, starting from the end of April the security situation in the western region began deteriorating after sporadic clashes erupted.

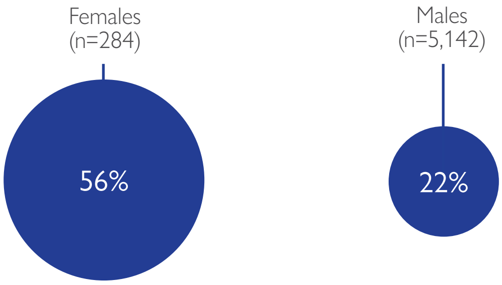
The percentage of migrants who reported facing security and safety threats was greater among those who were unemployed (29%) compared to those who are employed (19%), which may be related to the increased difficulty or inability of unemployed migrants to secure housing in neighourhoods that are considered safe. A previous DTM Libya study found that rent in neighbourhoods considered safer may be higher, which can compromise migrants' ability to fulfil their basic needs and push those who are unemployed, facing financial difficulties or on precarious types of contractual arrangements to seek accommodation in locations that are more affordable but not necessarily considered safe. Beyond safety, living in a more affordable location can also often mean being cut off from services and further from employment opportunities or services, such as healthcare and schools.

Employment rate

Around a quarter of migrants (23%) were unemployed during the reporting period, a rate in line with that of the previous six months but which remains higher than pre-pandemic levels (17%). According to the UNSC, unemployment in Libya among the host population remains at 20 per cent, with youth unemployment at 50 per cent.

The rate of unemployed female migrants actively seeking work (56%) was over twice that of males (22%) (Fig 1). A recent DTM Libya study on the experiences of migrant men and women found that the majority of migrants interviewed recognized that there is currently a general lack of job opportunities in Libya, which affects all migrants regardless of whether they are a man or a woman. However, the discussions also highlighted that male migrants are perceived as having generally "a greater chance of finding employment and that a wider variety of opportunities are available to them." These findings are also in line with a UNDP labour market assessment, which found that while 29 per cent of companies surveyed would be willing to hire male migrant workers, only 10 per cent declared they would be ready to employ female migrant workers.

Figure 1: Rate of migrants who are unemployed and actively seeking employment by sex



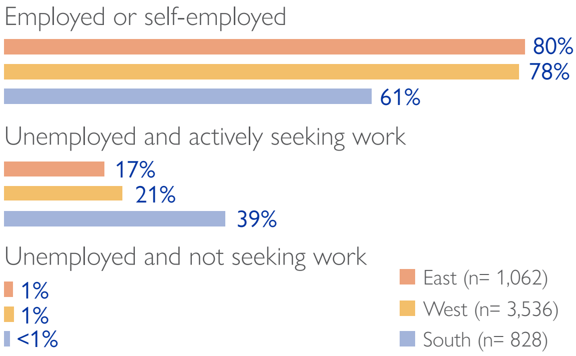
1 N.b. The number of migrants (704,369 individuals) represents the number of migrants who were present at the time of data collection but who may have been collectively expulsed later on during the reporting period (May - June 2023). Data collection for this report does not capture migrants living in detention centres. For more information on migrants in detention centres, please see the DTM Libya Detention Centre Profile Generator available here.

This may also be related to the sectors of employment where migrant are able to find work. According to UNDP, migrant workers constitute a greater proportion of the workforce of traditionally male-dominated sectors such as manufacturing (20%) and construction (13%) compared to the health sector (5%), which tends to be dominated by female workers.

A total of eight per cent of female migrants were unemployed and *not* actively seeking work compared to less than one per cent of males. The majority of female migrants who reported being unemployed and *not* seeking work (91%) were involved in household chores and/or care work whereas most male migrants who mentioned being unemployed and *not* seeking work (75%) mentioned their intention to leave Libya in the short term.

In line with the previous IOM Libya migrant report, the migrant unemployment rate is higher in southern (39%) and western Libya (22%) than in the east (18%) (Fig 2). The percentage of migrants who reported that financial issues were among the main difficulties they faced was also higher in the west (78%) and south of Libya (58%) compared to the east (37%).

Figure 2: Migrant employment status by region of survey



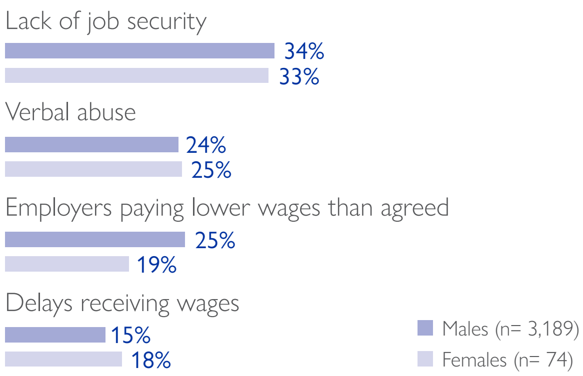
Labour market and work conditions

The majority of migrants who were employed (64%) stated having found employment within one month of arriving in Libya while for a quarter it took more than two months. A minority (10%) had found employment prior to arriving in Libya. The longer it took for migrants to find employment the greater the likelihood they were to have incurred debt to fund their journey. For example, a total of 52 per cent of migrants for whom it took three months or longer after arriving in Libya to find work had taken on debt compared to 39 per cent of those for whom it took less than one month to secure employment. Among those who required longer than a month to find employment, a greater proportion of migrants from the Middle East (48%) and sub-Saharan Africa (30%) mentioned having taken on debt to fund their journey to Libya compared to those from North Africa (19%) or Asia (11%). Indebtedness is associated with higher levels of vulnerability as it represents an increased challenge to repay debt after migrating while meeting their own and their family's immediate basic needs. In addition, the external pressure of repaying debt may include being forced or coerced, which constitutes an indicator of vulnerability to abuse and exploitation.

A lack of job security was the most commonly cited risk that migrants face at work (34%). Being paid less than agreed (25%), verbal abuse (24%) or wages not paid on time (16%) were the second, third and fourth most commonly identified threats at work. Slightly more male migrants identified being paid less than agreed as the top risk they faced (25%) compared to females (19%) (Fig 3).

A total of 12 per cent of migrants interviewed in May and June 2023 mentioned being employed in more than one income-generating activity. They earned a monthly average of 993 Libyan dinars, which is marginally more than the monthly earnings of those who stated having one income-generating activity (980 Libyan dinars). This may indicate that migrants are potentially seeking multiple simultaneous job opportunities as a coping strategy to cover their basic needs rather than as an income diversification strategy to earn (and save) more.

Figure 3: Top risks migrants reported facing at work by sex (single-answer question)



Finding employment in Libya

Most migrants found employment through their social networks; mainly through migrants from their own country (36%) or other countries (3%), through family members (7%) or other social connections (6%). Nearly one in three migrants mentioned having found employment at recruitment points (30%). A minority (13%) mentioned having found their current job through an employer who recruited them for their specific skills.

Environment and climate change

A total of 14 per cent of migrants interviewed in May and June 2023 by DTM Libya reported having been employed in the agricultural sector in their country of origin at the time of departure. A greater proportion of migrants from Chad (45%), Niger (21%) and Sudan (14%) reported that their livelihood in their country of origin was related to agriculture compared to those from Mali (9%), Tunisia (4%), Egypt (4%).

Overall, around two in five migrants (43%) who reported having been employed in the agricultural sector in their country of origin mentioned having experienced the loss of crops or livestock assets due to environmental factors (e.g. droughts, floods). This proportion was highest among migrants from Chad (57%) and Sudan (56%) compared to those from Niger (32%) and Egypt (25%).

Geographical patterns and trends

As in previous rounds of data collection the majority of migrants in Libya were nationals from neighbouring countries: Niger (25%), Egypt (24%), Sudan (18%) and Chad (11%) (Fig 4). This trend highlights the significant influence of geographical proximity and diasporic ties on migration patterns to Libya.

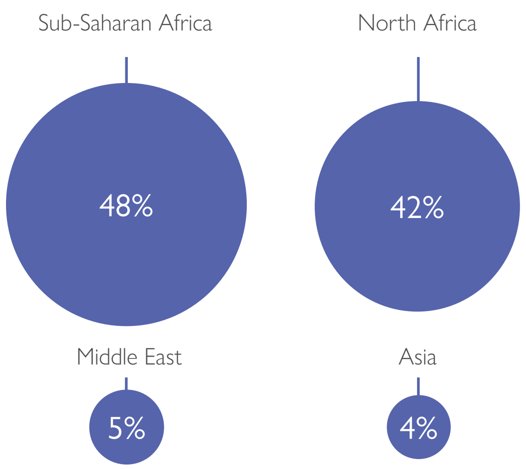
On average, 86 per cent of migrants cited economic reasons as their primary reason for leaving their country of origin, including insufficient income (51%) or lack of job opportunities (17%). This proportion was slightly higher among migrants from Niger (92%) and Chad (85%) compared to those from Sudan (68%). The majority of the population in Niger (91%), Chad (84%) and Sudan (52%) is classified as poor according to the 2023 multidimensional poverty index. A greater proportion of Sudanese mentioned war, conflict or targeted violence (26%) as the primary reason for having left their country of origin compared to those from Chad (8%) or Niger (2%).

Overall, around half of migrants in Libya were from sub-Saharan Africa (48%), two in five were from North Africa (42%) and a minority were from the Middle East (5%) or Asia (4%) (Fig 5). Less than one per cent were from other parts of the world or unknown countries or origin. The largest migrant populations identified by DTM during round 48 of data collection were in the coastal regions of Tripoli (16%), Benghazi (12%), Misrata (10%), Ejdabia (7%), Azzawya (6%) and Almargeb (6%) (Fig 6). The coastal area is home to the majority of urban settlements and crop land, while the rest of Libya (more than 95% of the total area) is mainly desertic or arid areas.

Figure 4: Proportion of migrants by nationality

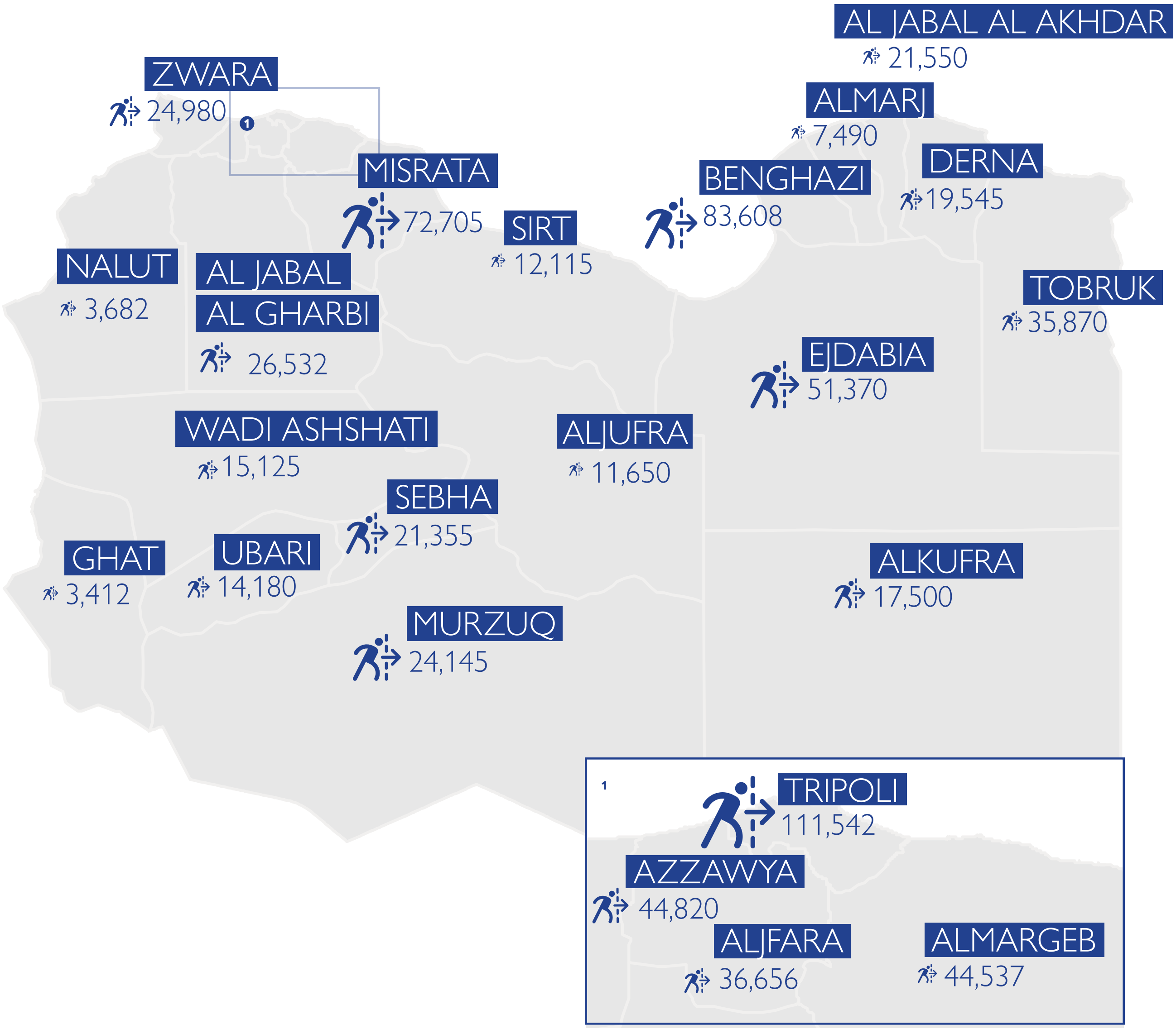
NATIONALITY	NUMBER OF MIGRANTS	% MIGRANTS
Niger	175,132	25%
Egypt	165,924	24%
Sudan	123,607	18%
Chad	80,525	11%
Nigeria	30,095	4%
Syria	26,451	4%
Bangladesh	23,563	3%
Ghana	14,783	2%
Mali	12,581	2%
Palestine	6,754	1%
Tunisia	6,284	1%
Other	6,085	1%
Pakistan	5,484	1%
South Sudan	4,601	1%
Burkina Faso	3,968	1%
Senegal	3,368	0.5%
Eritrea	2,718	0.4%
Mauritania	2,685	0.4%
Côte d'Ivoire	2,431	0.3%
Morocco	1,952	0.3%
Somalia	1,705	0.2%
Unknown	1,550	0.2%
Guinea	1,110	0.2%
Cameroon	1,013	0.1%
TOTAL FOR LIBYA	704,369	100%

Figure 5: Regions of origin of migrants



N.b. In addition, less than one per cent of migrants (1,595 individuals) were from other parts of the world or unknown countries of origin.

Figure 6: Number of migrants per region (mantika) during DTM round 48 data collection.



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HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

In May, IOM Libya organised an event to celebrate the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development. Libyan and migrant communities participated in cultural exchange activities to highlight the role of intercultural dialogue in achieving peace and development.

MIGRANT VULNERABILITY AND HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

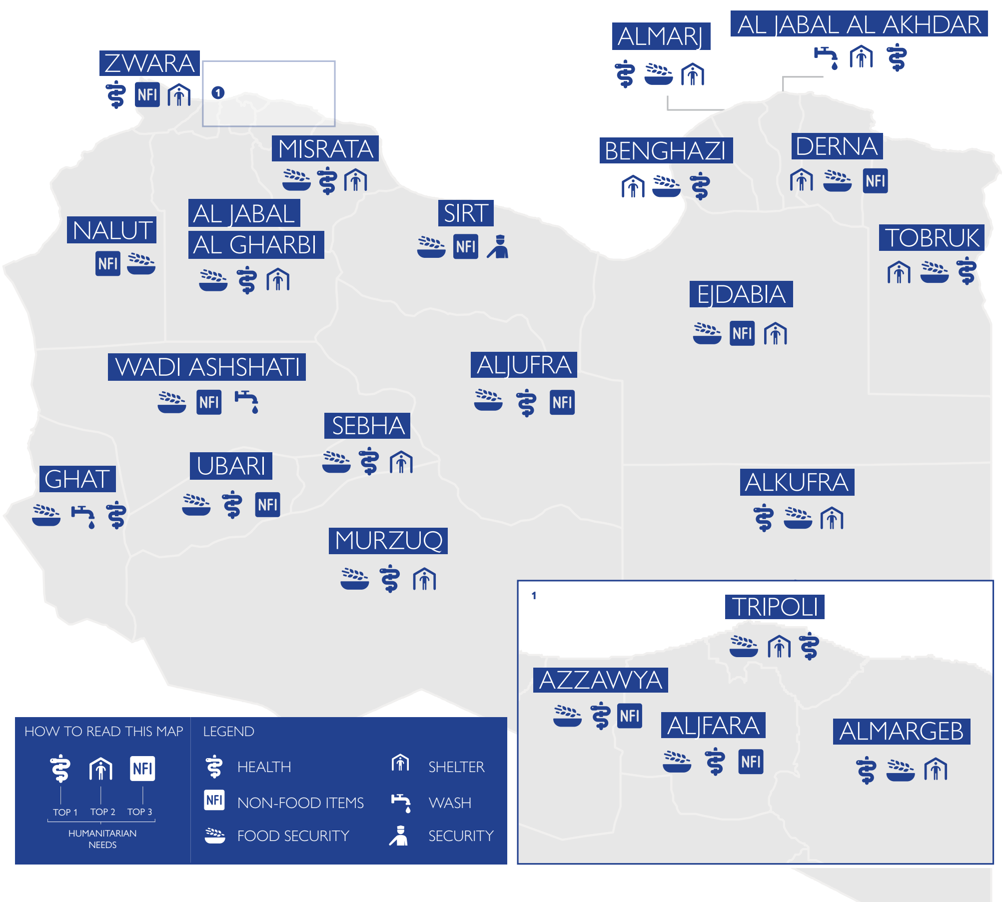
To better understand migrant vulnerabilities and humanitarian needs, DTM conducted 5,426 individual interviews with migrants in Libya in May and June 2023. The thematic findings presented in this section rely largely on these interviews.

In parallel, interviews conducted by DTM Libya with 2,173 key informants across Libya in May and June 2023 highlighted that the main needs of migrants were related to health services (76%), accommodation (54%), non-food items (NFIs) (50%) and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) (20%). Moreover, one in five migrants (21%) interviewed individually identified insufficient food or water as one of the three main difficulties they faced. This proportion was higher in the south and west where one in four migrants reported that food or water insecurity was one of the main difficulties they faced (25%) compared to eastern Libya (9%).

According to key informant interviews, adverse economic conditions, including the unaffordability of food, clean drinking water, accommodation, essential non-food items and healthcare was the main issue affecting migrants' ability to fulfill their basic needs. These findings are further corroborated by the results of individual interviews with migrants that showed that a greater proportion of unemployed respondents systematically reported facing difficulties, such as food insecurity, lack of safety, economic hardship and limited access to information compared to those who were employed.

Key informants also cited issues related to the lack of availability to the public water network and the lack of waste management or disposal system at the local level as affecting migrants' wellbeing.

Figure 7: Humanitarian priority needs of migrants per region (mantika)



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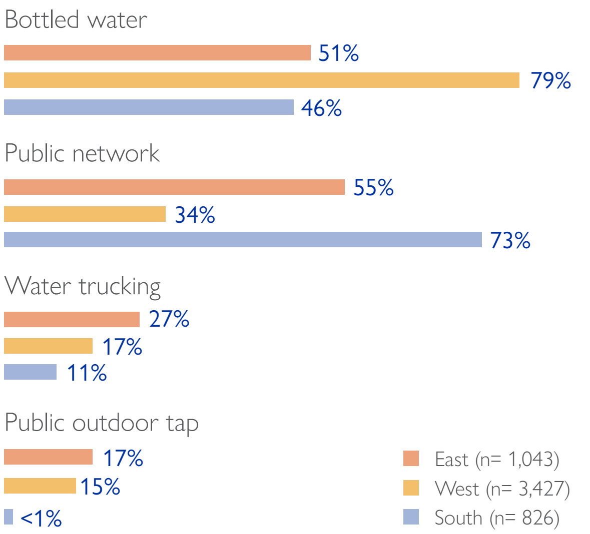
WASH

Nearly one in five migrants (18%) interviewed individually in May and June 2023 mentioned having insufficient clean drinking water. In line with previous reports, this percentage was highest in southern (23%) and western Libya (20%) compared to the east (4%). This may be due to the fact that nearly twice as many migrants were unemployed and actively seeking work in the south (39%) compared to western (21%) or eastern Libya (17%). Overall, a greater proportion of female migrants (28%) mentioned lacking sufficient drinking water compared to males (17%).

The majority of migrants reported relying on bottled water (74%) and/or the public water network (53%) as their main sources of water. More specifically, in the east (55%) and in the south of Libya (73%), the majority of migrants mentioned relying on the public water network, whereas a higher percentage of migrants in the west (79%) identified bottled water as their main source of water (Fig 8). A greater proportion of migrants surveyed in the west (20%) and east (26%) than in the south (12%) mentioned having rarely or never access to the public water network.

A minority of migrants mentioned that they relied on water trucking (20%), protected wells (18%) and public outdoor taps (12%) for clean drinking water.

Figure 8: Main sources of drinking water (top 4) by geographical area (multiple-choice question)



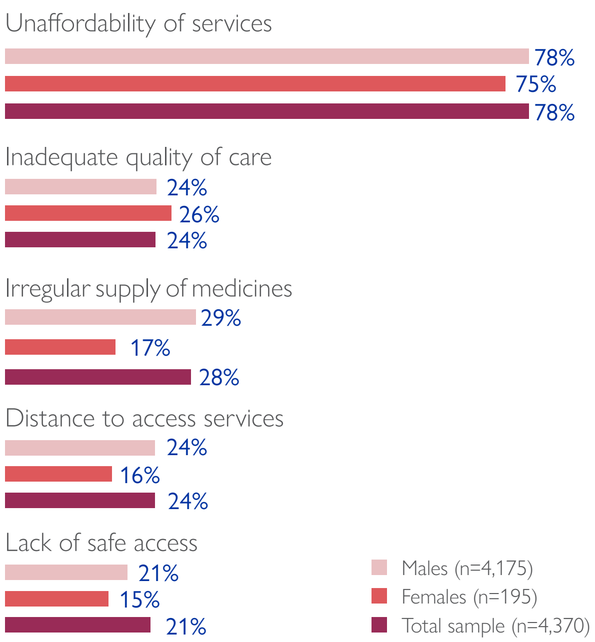
Health

In line with the previous reporting period, seven in ten migrants reported having limited (62%) or no access (8%) to healthcare services in Libya. A greater proportion of migrants in the south (83%) and west of Libya (77%) compared to the east (37%) reported that their access to healthcare was constrained. Access appeared most difficult in the regions of Almarj, Derna and Ejdabia in the east; Aljufra, Murzuq, Sebha and Ubari in the south; as well as all regions in western Libya (Al Jabal Al Gharbi, Aljfara, Almargeb, Azzawya, Misrata, Nalut, Sirt, Tripoli and Zwara).

Those who reported having limited or no access to healthcare identified being limited mainly by the cost of services (78%), the irregular supply of medicines (28%), the inadequate quality of care (24%), the distance to reach services (24%), or the lack of safe access (21%) (Fig 9).

More than twice as many females (17%) than male migrants (8%) stated having no access to healthcare. However, fewer males mentioned having full access to healthcare services (29%) compared to females (36%). Key informants interviewed during the reporting period reported that the lack of female clinicians was one of the main issues hindering women's access (Libyan and migrant) to pre- and post-natal care, family planning as well as primary healthcare services.

Figure 9 Top 5 barriers to accessing healthcare services identified by migrants (multiple-choice question)



Education

A minority of migrants (7%) interviewed by DTM in May and June 2023 reported having family members aged between 5 and 18 in Libya. Among migrants who had school-aged family members, more than half (59%) reported that their children could not access school. In line with previous reports, the main obstacles for migrants' children to access school were related to financial issues (81%), lack of documentation (70%), problems related to social isolation and participation in the local community (55%), as well as the language barrier (49%) (Fig 10). For example, the majority of migrants who reported speaking Arabic as a first language mentioned that their children could access education (73%) compared to a minority of those who were non-native Arabic speakers (11%).

A total of 60 and 52 per cent of migrants who have children aged between 8 - 13 and 6 - 7 mentioned they lacked access to education, the highest proportions among all age groups (Fig 11). Fewer mentioned that their children aged 0-5 (36%) and teenagers (14 - 18 years old) (34%) were unable to attend school.

Figure 10: Main issues hindering migrants' ability to send their children to school (multiple-choice question) (n=187)

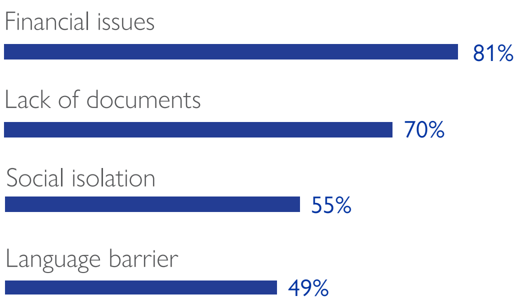
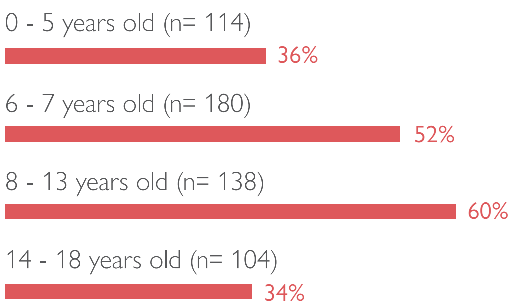


Figure 11: Percentage of migrants who reported that their children lacked access to education (by children's age group)



Accommodation

According to key informants and in line with previous reports, the majority of migrants (80%) resided in rented accommodation for which they paid for themselves, or that was paid for by their employers or others. A greater proportion of migrants in urban areas (69%) than in rural settings (60%) lived in rented accommodation (for which they paid for themselves). On the contrary, more migrants in rural areas were sheltered in their workplaces (19%) than in urban areas (13%). Consistent with previous reports, a similar proportion were housed in housing paid for by their employers in both urban and rural settings (8% and 9%, respectively).

Overall, a total of two per cent of migrants interviewed by DTM Libya in May and June 2023 reported having been evicted or threatened with eviction in the past three months. A greater proportion of unemployed migrants (4%) mentioned having been threatened with eviction or evicted than those who were employed (2%). Moreover, a larger percentage of female migrants (4%) stated having been evicted or threatened with eviction than male migrants (2%). More than twice as many migrants who were aged 50 or over (5%) reported having been threatened with eviction or evicted compared to any other age group (2% or less). Slightly more migrants in western (3%) and eastern Libya (2%) mentioned having been evicted or threatened with eviction compared to southern Libya (<1%).

Nearly all migrants (96%) are estimated to have undocumented rental lease agreement or none at all, meaning they lack legal protection against forced eviction, harassment and other threats while being at an increased risk of eviction, arbitrary rent increases, inadequate housing maintenance, lack of access to services and lower quality housing. According to the eviction tracker, as of April 2022, a total of 6,103 migrants had been affected by collective expulsions from their accommodations and 149 migrants had been impacted by individual evictions since its launch in April 2021, although the actual numbers are estimated to be higher.

A recent DTM Libya study on migrants' access to rental accommodation found that eviction or threat of eviction was the most commonly cited ill-practice across municipalities, nationalities, sex, levels of accommodation settings or migration intentions.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MIGRATION FLOWS

MIGRATION FLOWS

During the reporting period (May - June 2023) DTM Libya's 44 Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) monitored migration movements in 13 municipalities and in 8 regions (mantika) of Libya. FMPs are set up at key transit locations along major migration routes within Libya where migrants are observed arriving and departing.

At these flow monitoring points, DTM field staff regularly monitor migration flows and conduct individual interviews (Flow Monitoring Surveys (FMS)) to shed light on migrants' intentions, profiles, humanitarian needs and vulnerabilities. The following section presents an overview of both quantitative and qualitative information collected during the reporting period.

Flow monitoring points in numbers

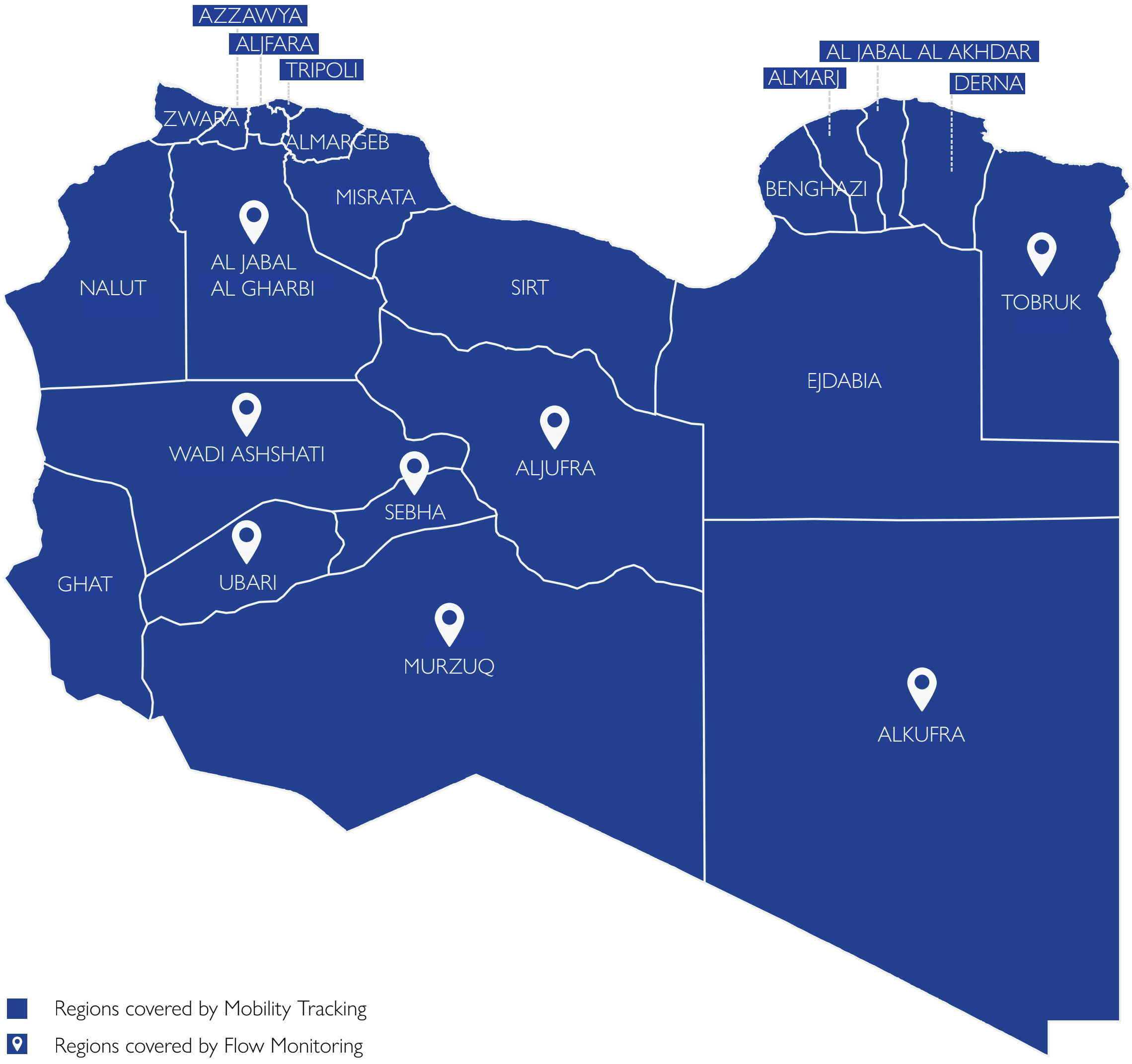
8 regions covered

387 assessments

13 municipalities

44 flow monitoring points (FMPs)

Figure 18: Regions (mantika) covered by flow monitoring and mobility tracking activities in Libya



MIGRATION ROUTES TO LIBYA

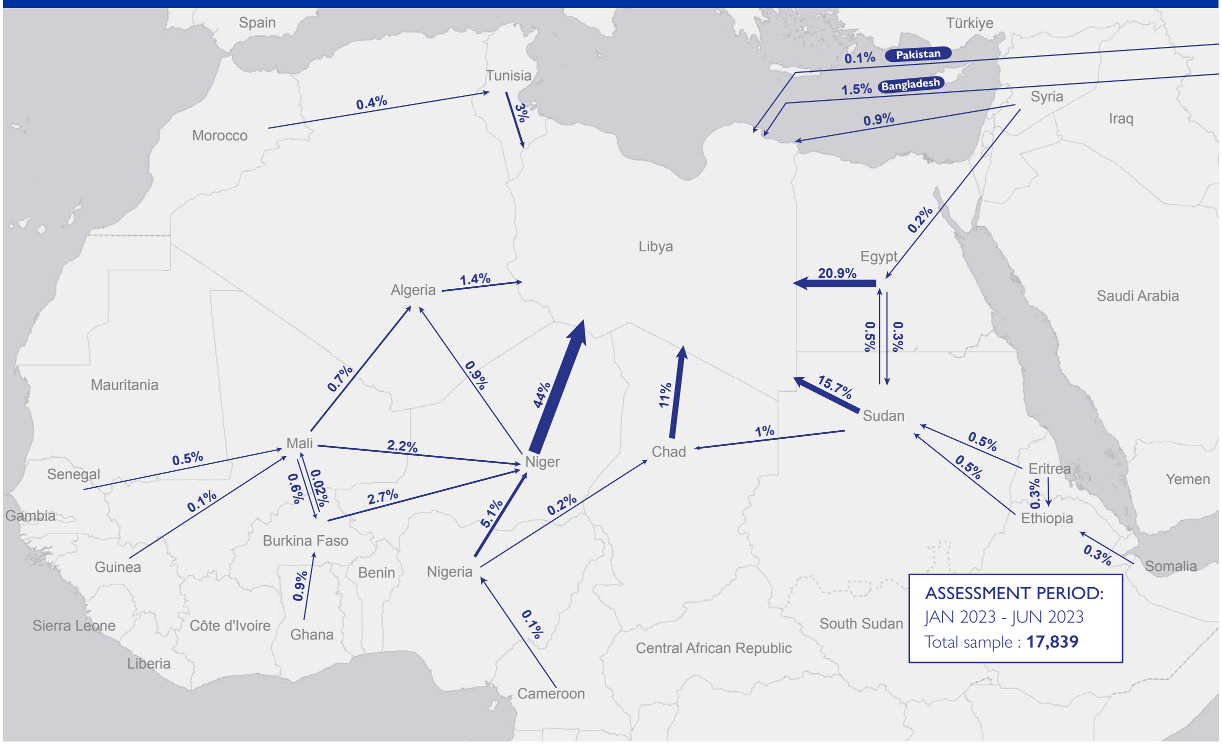
This section maps the major migration routes that migrants from different countries of origin use to reach Libya. This analysis is based on 17,839 individual quantitative migrant interviews conducted at key locations including transit points throughout Libya (through DTM Flow Monitoring Surveys (FMS)) between January and June 2023.

In line with previous reports, over four in five migrants (86%) interviewed in May and June 2023 reported that economic reasons were the primary driver of their migration to Libya. The majority (58%) mentioned that their journey cost over 500 USD with the biggest expense being the cost of migration facilitators in 73 per cent of cases. Two thirds of migrants (66%) reported having paid for their journey with their savings. Around two in five (41%) mentioned having incurred debt to finance their migration to Libya. A total of 63 per cent of migrants stated having used the services of migration facilitators primarily for transportation (92%) or to help them cross difficult areas along the route (51%). A minority used the services of migration facilitators to help them with the provision of food and water (24%), information (22%), housing (15%), security (15%) and documents (5%).

Figure 20: Major migration routes reported by migrants interviewed via DTM Flow Monitoring Surveys (FMS)

How to read this map

The percentages shown along each route segment in the map below represent the percentage of migrants who reported having travelled along each route. For example, nearly half of migrants in Libya reported having arrived directly from or transited through Niger, including almost all migrants from Niger and those from Burkina Faso, Ghana, and Nigeria.



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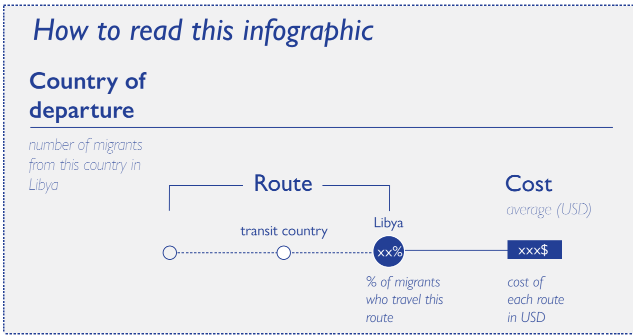
N.b. A total of 1.5 per cent of respondents reported having arrived directly or indirectly to Libya via other countries including the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Türkiye, Saudi Arabia and Togo.

MIGRATION ROUTES: ANALYSIS AND TRENDS

This section outlines the different routes taken by migrants (i.e. through which countries they transit before reaching Libya) and the percentage of migrants who use these routes by country of origin drawing on data collected by DTM Libya over the period January - June 2023.

This table also includes the average cost of each route, the means of transportation migrants use and the total number of migrants from each country as well as their geographical distribution by regions of Libya (i.e. where individual interviews occurred).

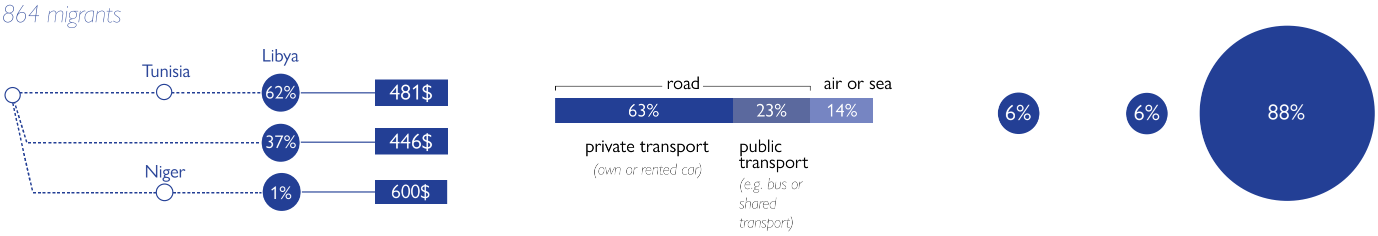


ROUTES	COST average (USD)	MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION	PRESENCE IN LIBYA BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS

East South West

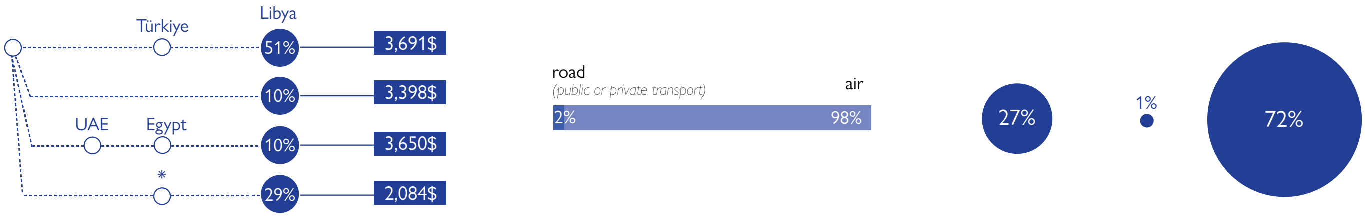
Algeria

864 migrants



Bangladesh

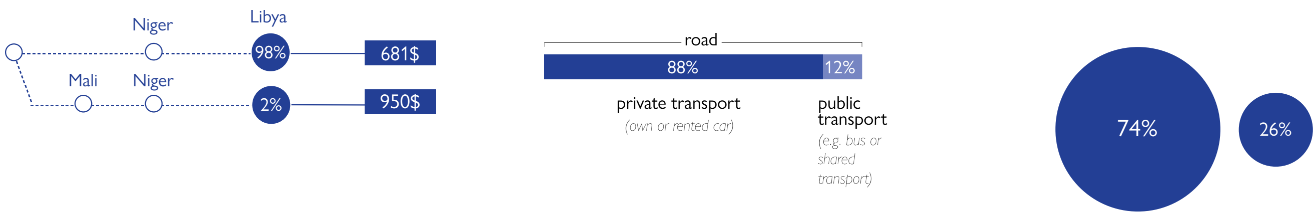
23,563 migrants



*Multiple routes used that included one or a combination of the following countries: Egypt, India, Jordan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic, Sudan, Türkiye, Tunisia, UAE (and other countries)

Burkina Faso

3,968 migrants



ROUTES	COST *average (USD)*	MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION	PRESENCE IN LIBYA BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS

Chad

80,525 migrants

Libya	99%	615$
Niger	1%	3,132$

Means of transportation: road — 81% private transport; 18% public transport; Air or foot 1%

East	South	West
14%	10%	76%

Egypt

165,924 migrants

Libya	99%	883$
Sudan	<1%	2,898$
*	<1%	2,505$

*Multiple routes used that included one or a combination of the following countries: United Arab Emirates, Chad, Sudan and Tunisia.

Means of transportation: road — 43% private transport *(own or rented car)*; 25% public transport *(e.g. bus or shared transport)*; air 24%; foot 7%

East	South	West
47%	4%	49%

Mali

12,581 migrants

Niger – Libya	67%	1,119$
Burkina Faso – Niger	20%	647$
Algeria	13%	921$

Means of transportation: road — 70% private transport *(own or rented car)*; 28% public transport *(e.g. bus or shared transport)*; foot 2%

East	South	West
4%	51%	45%

Niger

175,132 migrants

Libya	97%	528$
Algeria	2%	439$
Nigeria – Chad	1%	493$

Means of transportation: road — 77% private transport *(own or rented car)*; 23% public transport *(e.g. bus or shared transport)*

East	South	West
1%	33%	66%

ROUTES	COST *average (USD)*	MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION	PRESENCE IN LIBYA BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS

Nigeria

30,095 migrants

Routes		Cost
Niger → Libya	91%	909$
Chad → Libya	4%	1,309$
* → Libya	5%	563$

*Multiple routes used that included one or a combination of the following countries: Niger, Chad, Mali, Tunisia and Algeria

Means of transportation		
road	private transport *(own or rented car)*	65%
road	public transport *(e.g. bus or shared transport)*	31%
air or other		4%

East	South	West
4%	34%	62%

Sudan

123,607 migrants

Routes		Cost
Libya	89%	855$
Chad → Libya	7%	487$
* → Libya	4%	749$

*Multiple routes used that included one or more of the following countries: Chad, Egypt, Niger and/or Tunisia

Means of transportation		
road	private transport *(own or rented car)*	69%
road	public transport *(e.g. bus or shared transport)*	21%
air		8%
foot		2%

East	South	West
33%	11%	56%

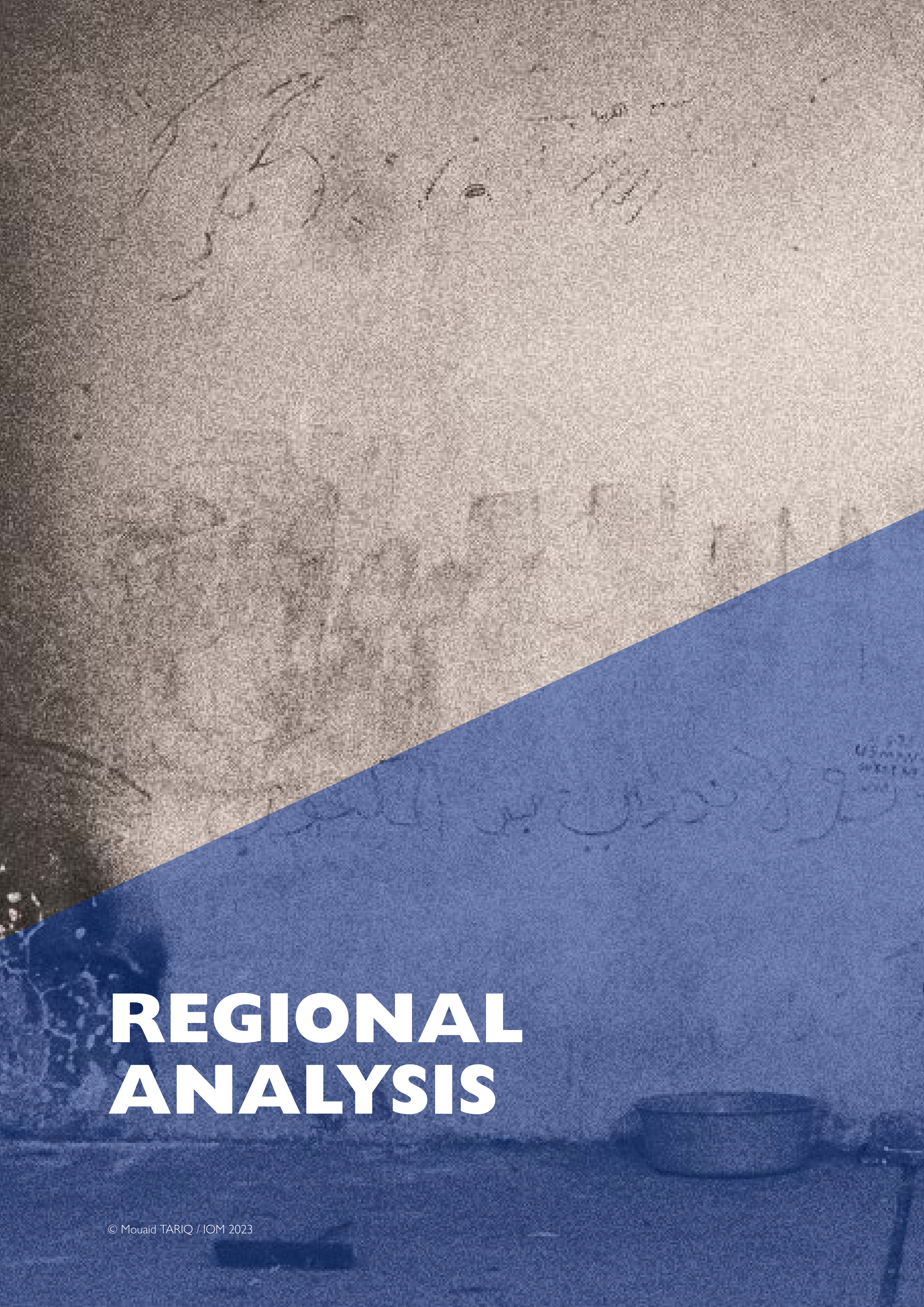
Tunisia

6,284 migrants

Routes		Cost
Libya	100%	274$

Means of transportation		
road	public transport *(e.g. bus or shared transport)*	38%
road	private transport *(own or rented car)*	32%
air		30%

East	South	West
6%	2%	92%



REGIONAL ANALYSIS

REGIONAL ANALYSIS - DISTRIBUTION

Key informant interviews conducted by DTM Libya in May and June 2023 revealed that over half of migrants were located in the west (53%), while a minority were in the east (34%) or the south (13%) (Fig 21).

In line with previous reports, more than half of migrants (58%) were located in the coastal regions of Tripoli (16%), Benghazi (12%), Misrata (10%), Ejdabia (8%), Azzawya (6%) and Almargeb (6%), in line with previous reports (Fig 22).

Key informants interviewed in May and June 2023, a little over two thirds of migrants (69%) lived in urban settings while a third (31%) resided in rural areas. In comparison, it is estimated that 80 per cent of the Libyan population reside in urban areas, mainly concentrated in the major urban centres along the Mediterranean, such as Tripoli, Misrata and Benghazi.

Figure 21: Distribution of migrants by geographical area

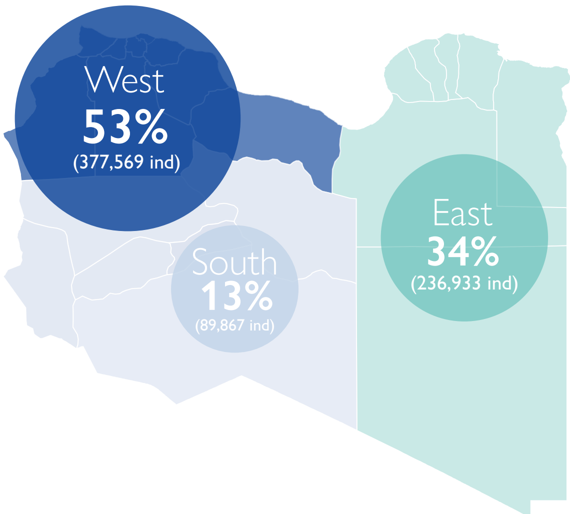


Figure 22: Migrants in Libya by region (mantika) (based on Mobility Tracking data)

MANTIKA (REGION)	NUMBER OF MIGRANTS	% BY REGION
Tripoli	111,542	16%
Benghazi	83,608	12%
Misrata	72,705	10%
Ejdabia	51,370	7%
Azzawya	44,820	6%
Almargeb	44,537	6%
Aljfara	36,656	5%
Tobruk	35,870	5%
Al Jabal Al Gharbi	26,532	4%
Zwara	24,980	4%
Murzuq	24,145	3%
Al Jabal Al Akhdar	21,550	3%
Sebha	21,355	3%
Derna	19,545	3%
Alkufra	17,500	3%
Wadi Ashshati	15,125	2%
Ubari	14,180	2%
Sirt	12,115	2%
Aljufra	11,650	2%
Almarj	7,490	1%
Nalut	3,682	1%
Ghat	3,412	<1%
TOTAL FOR LIBYA	704,369	100%

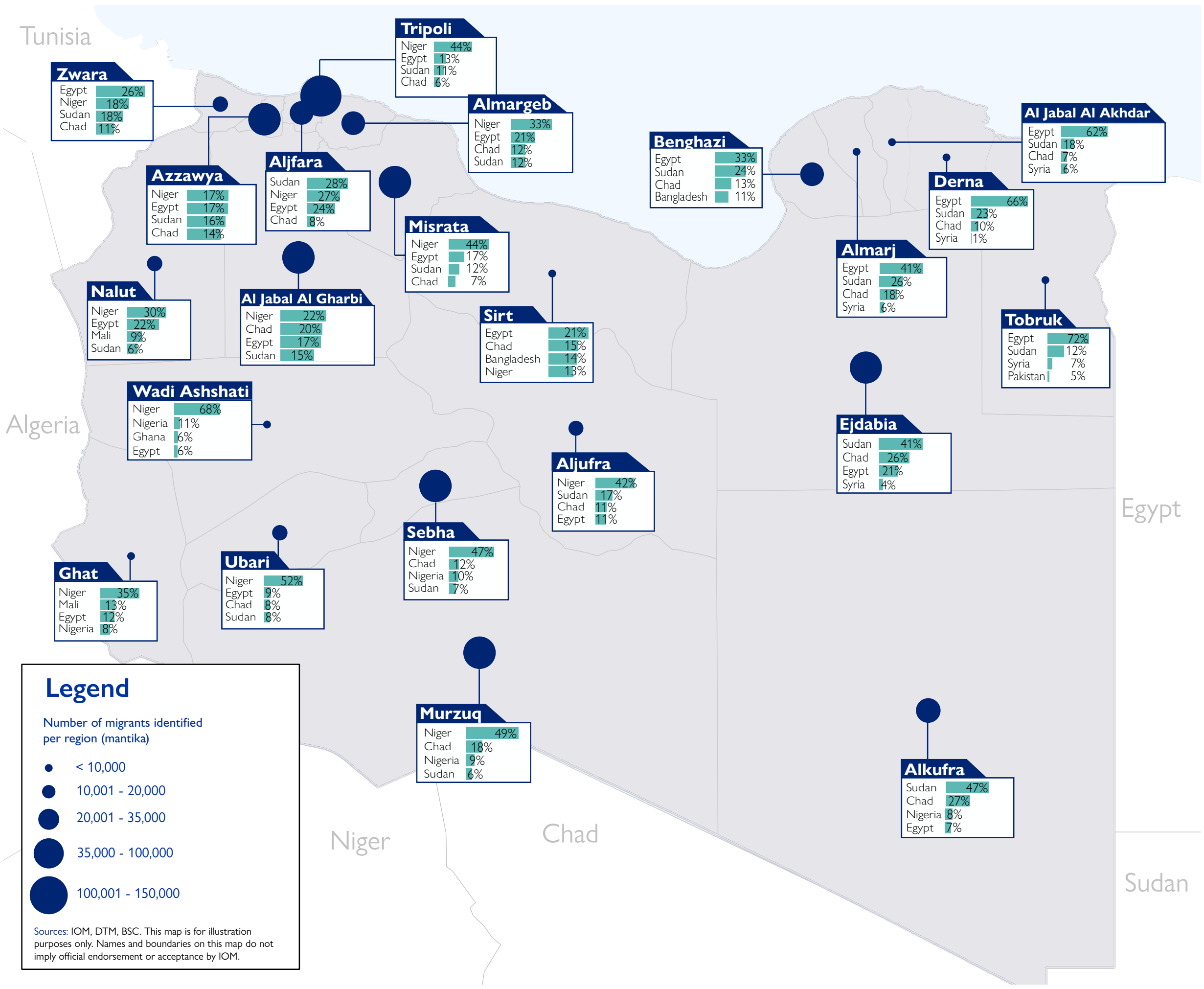
REGIONAL ANALYSIS: NATIONALITIES OF MIGRANTS

The map below (Fig 23) shows the top four nationalities of migrants by region based on data collected by DTM Libya in May and June 2023.

This map highlights that the distribution of migrants in Libya is largely influenced by the historical, socioeconomic, ethnic and cultural ties that developed through the circular migration of populations from bordering countries, particularly Niger, Egypt, Sudan and Chad.

Migrants from neighbouring Niger and Chad were the most-represented nationalities in the southern and western regions of Al Jabal Al Gharbi, Aljufra, Murzuq and Sebha. Sudanese and Chadians represented the majority of migrants in the region of Alkufra, which is the main entry point for migrants traveling to Libya particularly those coming from or transiting through Chad and Sudan. Similarly, migrants from Egypt constituted the largest share of migrants in the eastern coastal regions of Libya, such as Al Jabal Al Akhdar, Derna, Almarj, Tobruk and Benghazi.

Figure 23: Map of top 4 migrant nationalities per region (mantika)



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

REGION OF ORIGIN ANALYSIS

Based on key informant interviews conducted in May and June 2023 and in line with previous reports, migrants from North African countries (including Egypt and Sudan) continue to account for two thirds of migrants in eastern Libya (67%) while migrants from sub-Saharan African countries (such as Niger and Chad) represent the bulk of migrants in southern and western Libya (86% and 58%, respectively). The complete disaggregation of migrants' region of origins by regional location (mantika) in Libya is shown in the table below (Fig 24).

Figure 24: Migrants' region of origin by region in Libya

REGION (MANTIKA)		MIGRANTS FROM ASIA & MIDDLE EAST		MIGRANTS FROM SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA		MIGRANTS FROM NORTH AFRICA	
EAST	Al Jabal Al Akhdar	1,993	6%	1,898	4%	17,644	11%
	Alkufra	290	1%	7,663	17%	9,527	6%
	Almarj	688	2%	1,791	4%	5,011	3%
	Benghazi	17,612	55%	18,155	40%	47,841	30%
	Derna	211	1%	1,899	4%	17,435	11%
	Ejdabia	5,947	19%	13,790	30%	31,633	20%
	Tobruk	5,404	17%	636	1%	29,830	19%
EASTERN LIBYA TOTAL		**32,145**	**14%**	**45,832**	**19%**	**158,921**	**67%**
SOUTH	Aljufra	-	-	8,347	11%	3,303	28%
	Ghat	-	-	2,636	3%	776	7%
	Murzuq	238	23%	21,979	28%	1,928	17%
	Sebha	517	51%	18,982	25%	1,856	16%
	Ubari	184	18%	11,488	15%	2,505	21%
	Wadi Ashshati	77	8%	13,799	18%	1,249	11%
SOUTHERN LIBYA TOTAL		**1,016**	**1%**	**77,231**	**86%**	**11,617**	**13%**
WEST	Al Jabal al Gharbi	819	3%	16,367	8%	9,336	7%
	Aljfara	683	2%	16,882	8%	19,091	15%
	Almargeb	2,694	9%	26,884	12%	14,959	12%
	Azzawya	1,394	5%	26,745	12%	16,681	13%
	Misrata	6,422	21%	42,848	20%	23,383	18%
	Nalut	155	1%	2,165	1%	1,335	1%
	Sirt	4,268	14%	3,871	2%	3,905	3%
	Tripoli	12,962	43%	70,162	32%	27,021	21%
	Zwara	747	2%	11,851	5%	12,382	10%
WESTERN LIBYA TOTAL		**30,144**	**8%**	**217,775**	**58%**	**128,093**	**34%**
TOTAL FOR LIBYA		**63,305**		**340,838**		**298,631**	

Note: 1,595 migrants from other minority nationalities (including those whose nationalities could not be established) are not included in the table above.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Niger and Chad are the first and second most represented nationality from sub-Saharan Africa in Libya (51% and 24%, respectively) (Fig 25 and 26). The number of migrants from sub-Saharan Africa, including nationals of Niger, has decreased slightly compared to the previous round of data collection (from 345,580 individuals (round 47) to 340,838 (round 48)) and is on par or slightly below with that of the previous two rounds of data collection (340,057 in round 45 and 343,538 in round 46).

IOM Niger reported that during the second quarter of 2023 (April - June) outgoing flows from Niger to Libya were on par with or slightly lower than those of February and March. A total of five per cent of the overall outgoing flows from Niger were to Libya between April and June compared to six per cent in March and eight per cent in February. Overall, nearly half of migrants (44%) interviewed in Libya in 2023 had transited through, or came from Niger.

Figure 26: Number of migrants from countries of origin in sub-Saharan Africa (top 6 nationalities)

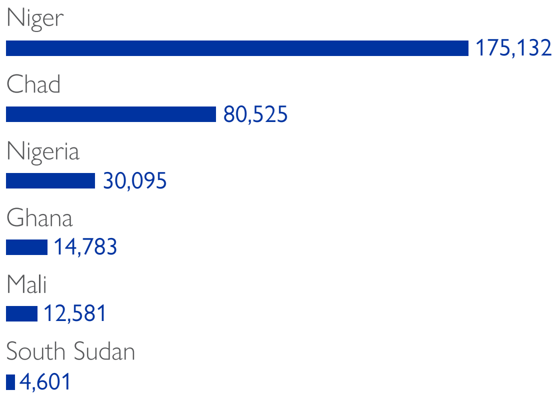
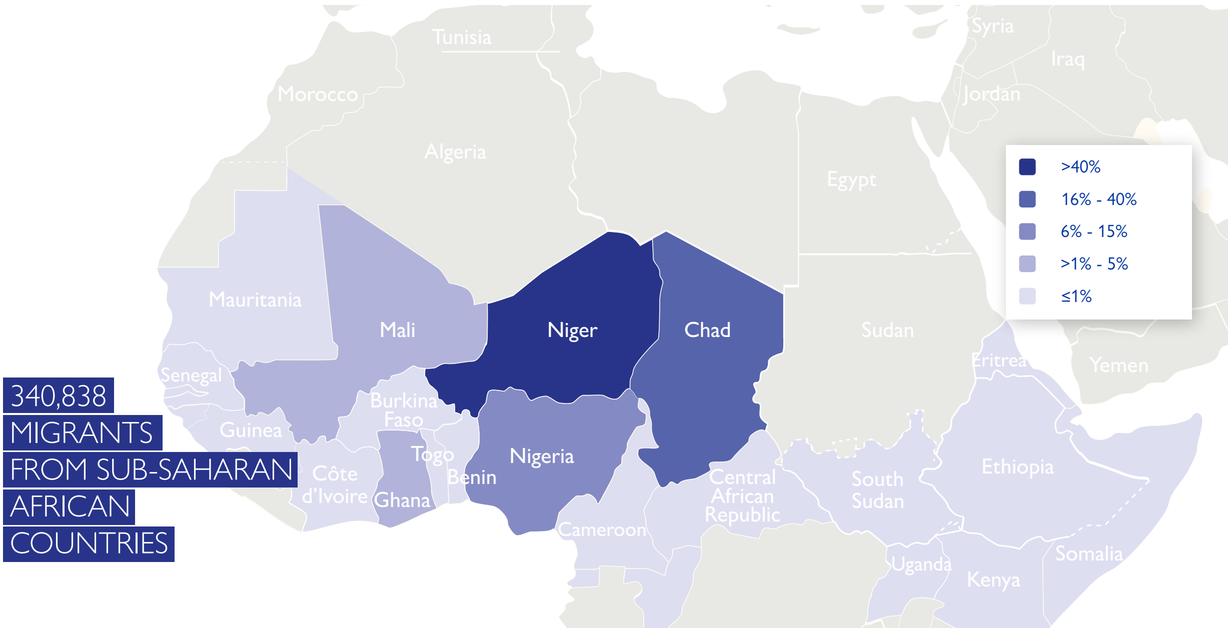


Figure 25: Percentages of migrants by country of origin for the sub-Saharan Africa region



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NORTH AFRICA

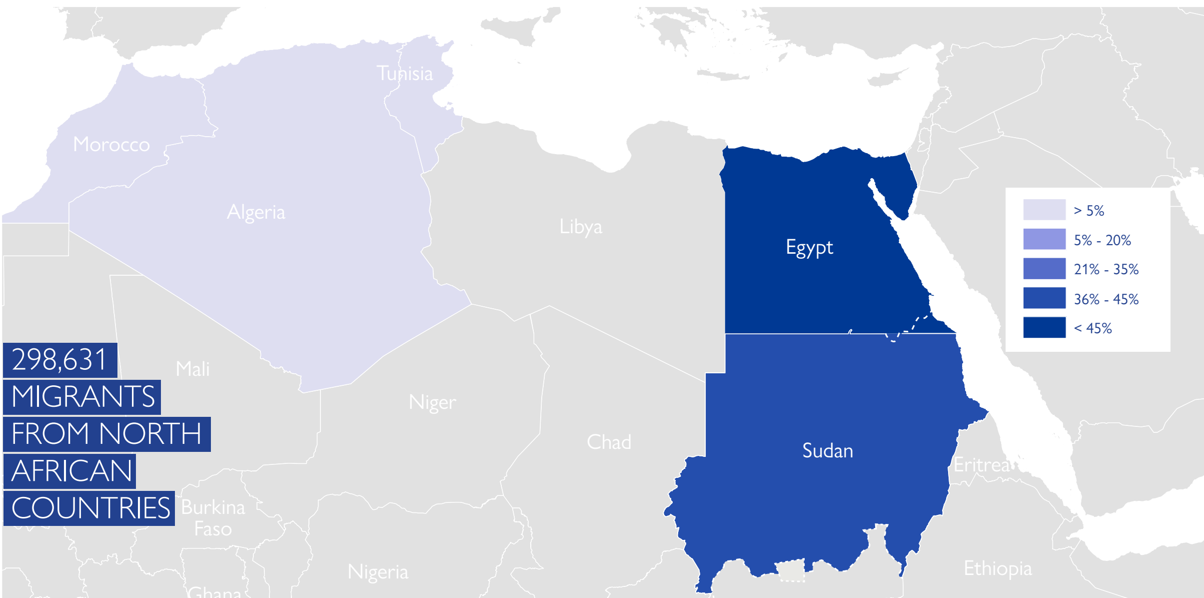
Since February 2023, the number of North African migrants in Libya has been decreasing slightly during each round of data collection. The number of individuals from North Africa in Libya declined from 304,545 in February 2023 to 300,765 individuals in April 2023 to 298,631 in June 2023, but remains above that of December 2022 (295,351 individuals). Previously, the number of North African migrants in Libya had been on the rise since the end of 2021.

In line with previous reports, migrants from neighbouring Egypt and Sudan continue to be the two most represented nationalities among those from North Africa (56% and 41% respectively). Together, migrants from Tunisia and Morocco accounted for three per cent of the total number of migrants from North Africa while less than one per cent of migrants were from Algeria. Overall, more than two in five migrants in Libya were from North Africa (43%).

According to DTM Europe, Egyptians were the top most represented nationality among those having arrived in Italy across the Mediterranean sea between April and June 2023..

Figure 28: Migrants from countries of origin in North Africa

Figure 27: Percentages of migrants by country of origin for the North African region



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MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA

A minority of migrants (9% or 58,092 individuals) identified during round 48 were from the Middle East (5%) or Asia (4%).

The majority of individuals from Asia and the Middle East were from Syria (26,451 individuals) and Bangladesh (23,563 individuals) accounting for 42 and 37 per cent of migrants (including refugees), respectively (Fig 29). Individuals from Syria and Bangladesh accounted for respectively four and three per cent of the overall migrant population in Libya.

In addition, there were 6,754 migrants who self-identified as Palestinians (11% of all migrants from the Middle East and Asia in Libya) and 5,484 migrants from Pakistan (9%). There were 1,053 individuals from various other nationalities who altogether accounted for two per cent of the migrant population from the Middle East and Asia.

Figure 30: Migrants from countries of origin in the Middle East and Asia

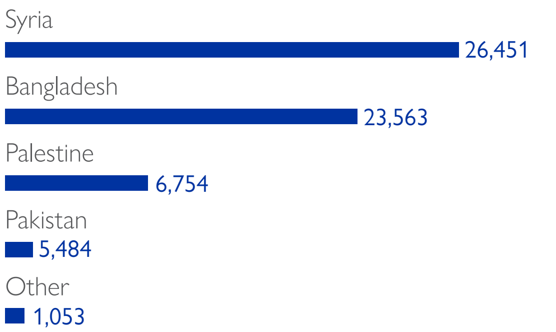
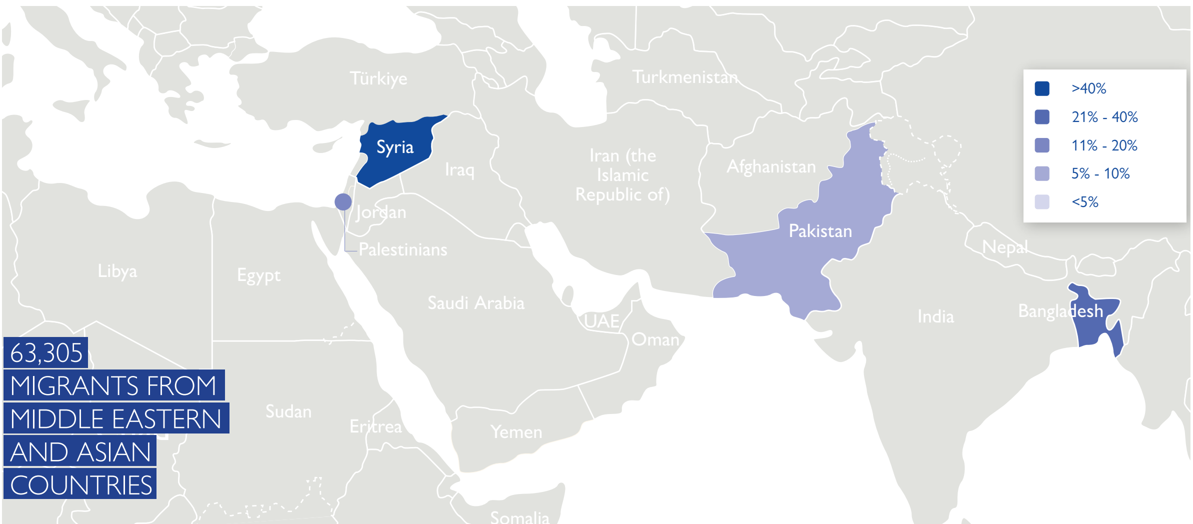


Figure 29: Percentages of migrants by country of origin for the Middle East and South Asia



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MARITIME INCIDENTS

Arrivals to Italy and Malta

During the months of May and June 2023, a total of 23,367 migrants arrived in Italy and Malta from Libya and Tunisia via the Central Mediterranean Sea compared to 16,905 individuals during the corresponding period in 2022 and 11,690 in 2021 (Fig 32) The number of arrivals in May and June 2023 remains half or slightly more than half than those during the corresponding period in 2017 (46,517 individuals) or 2016 (42,296 individuals).

Between January and June 2023, a total of 65,660 migrants arrived in Italy and Malta from Libya and Tunisia via the Central Mediterranean Sea more than twice as many compared to the corresponding period in 2022 (27,667 individuals) and three times as many compared to 2021 (20,782 individuals). However, this figure remains lower than arrivals for the corresponding period in 2017 (83,752 individuals) and 2016 (70,222 individuals).

According to DTM Europe, nearly half of migrants who arrived in Italy during the second quarter of 2023 had departed from Tunisia (48%) while slightly fewer had left from the Libyan coast (45%). A minority had departed from Türkiye (6%) and Algeria (<1%).

Figure 31: Arrivals by sea, returns and deaths on the Central Mediterranean Route to Italy and Malta

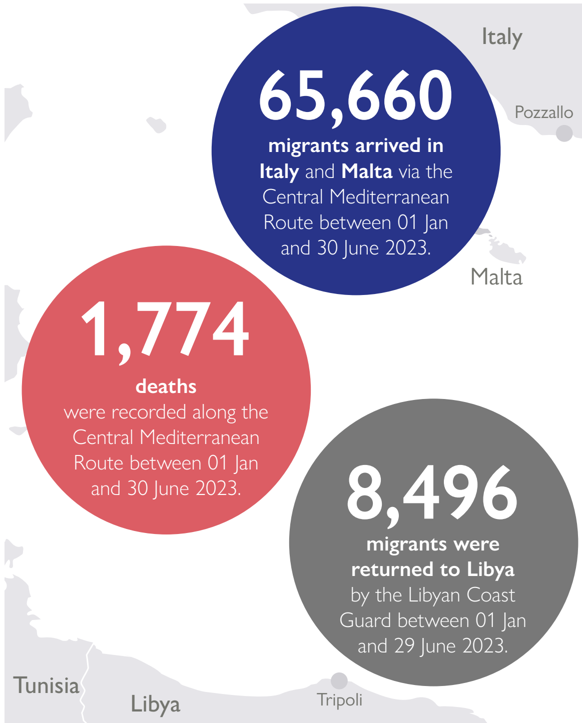
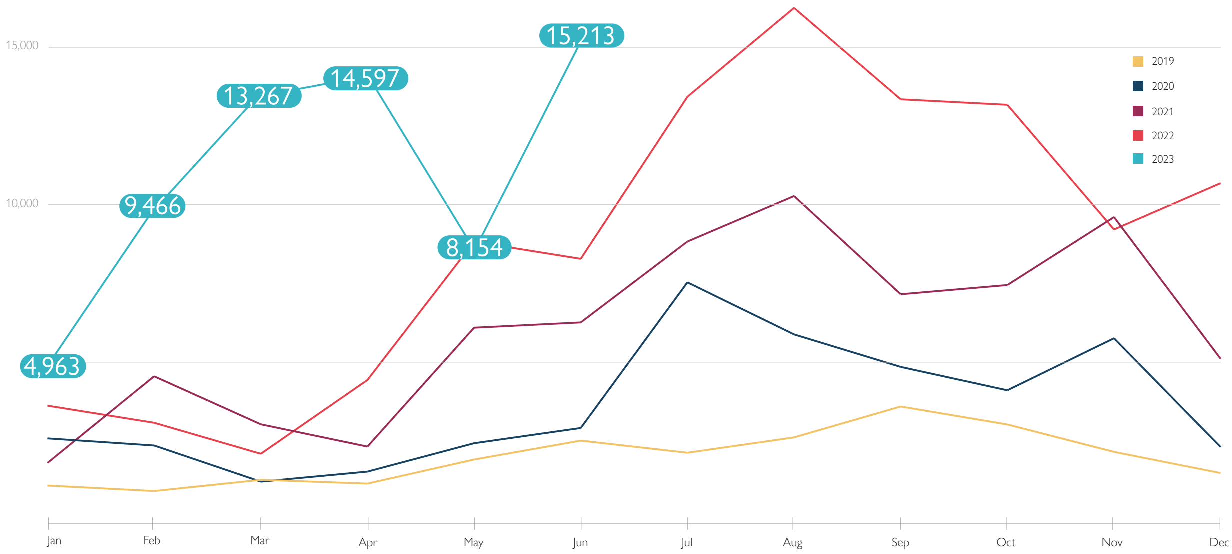


Figure 32: Arrivals by sea via Central Mediterranean route to Italy and Malta (2019 - 2023) (number of individuals)



Interceptions and returns to Libyan shores

In 2023, and as of 01 July, a total of 8,496 migrants who attempted the Central Mediterranean Sea crossing had been intercepted and returned to Libyan shores which is fewer than in 2022 (9,973 individuals) but fewer than in 2021 (15,700 individuals) over the corresponding period.

Fatalities at sea

In May and June 2023, a total of 789 deaths and disappearances were recorded on the Central Mediterranean route, which is more than in 2022 (227), 2021 (251) and 2020 (100) during the corresponding period (Fig 33).

Between January and June 2023, a total of 1,774 deaths and disappearance were recorded on the Central Mediterranean route, more than twice as many compared to 2022 (794) and 2021 (769).

The first six months of 2023, as was the first quarter, have been the deadliest on record since 2017 (Fig 34). During the second quarter of 2023, most of the deaths and disappearances at sea along the Central Mediterranean occurred off the coasts of Tunisia (538) followed by Libya (354) and Algeria (17).

Deaths on land routes

According to the Missing Migrant project, Libya registered the highest number of deaths and disappearances on Northern Africa land routes with 83 deaths, followed by Sudan (12) and Tunisia (9).

Figure 34: Comparisons of the number of deaths and missing individuals on the Central Mediterranean route during the period January - June for the years 2018 - 2023

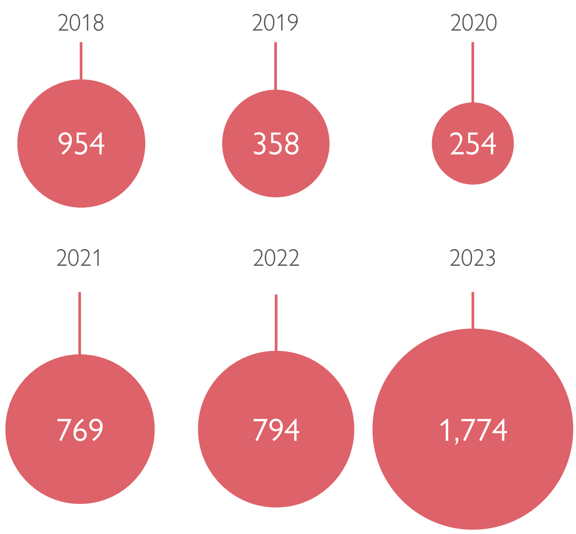
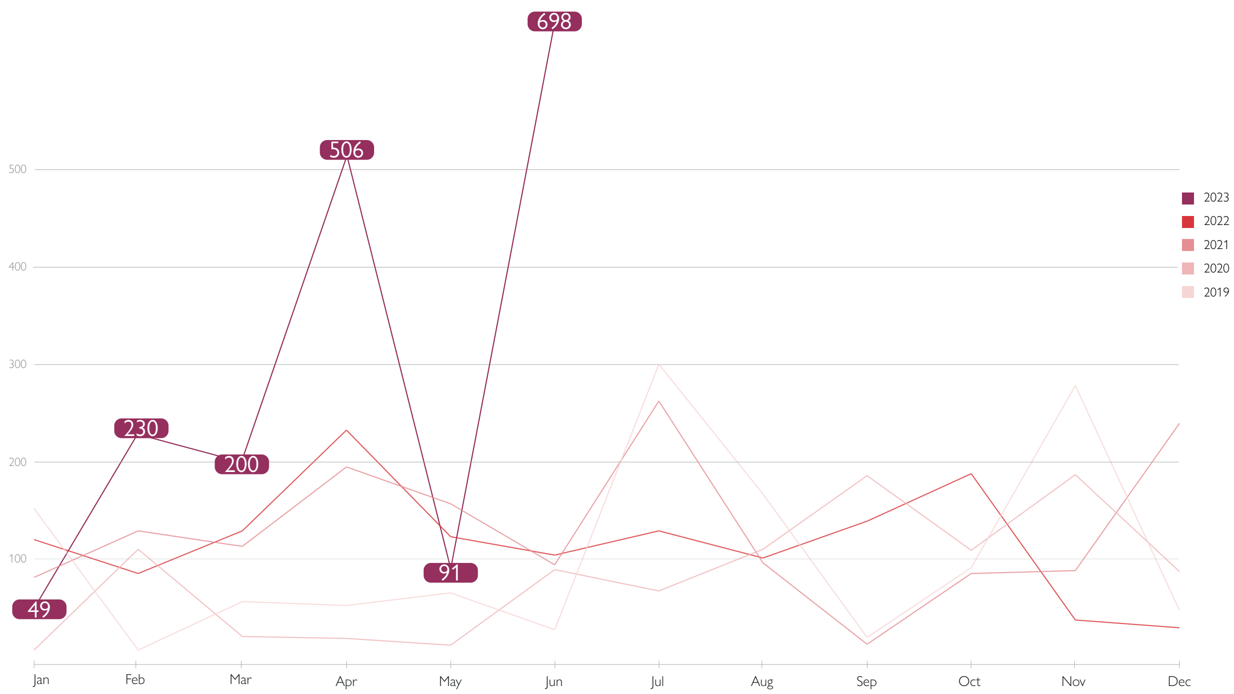


Figure 33: Number of deaths and missing individuals on the Central Mediterranean route by year (2019 - 2023)



METHODOLOGY

DTM's Migration Information Package includes DTM Libya Migrant Report and Migrant Public Dataset and is part of IOM Libya's Flow Monitoring operations that ensure regular delivery of data and information on migration to, through and from Libya.

This DTM Libya Migrant Report utilizes data collected via different regular DTM data collection activities.

The migrant population figures (stock figures), and their analysis is based on the data collected via DTM Mobility Tracking (including Multisectoral Location Assessment) that identifies the overall population figures in Libya including that of migrants and helps identify priority humanitarian needs via Key Informant Interviews conducted at municipality (admin 3: baladiya), and community (admin 4: muhalla) levels.

Statistics of migration flows are based on the data collected via a network of 44 flow monitoring points (FMPs) in eight regions of Libya.

Analysis of migrant routes along with other aspects of migration, including migrant vulnerabilities and humanitarian needs is based on the microlevel data collected through quantitative interviews via Flow Monitoring Surveys (FMS) with migrants who provided their informed consent.

Limitations

Migrants in Libya are a highly heterogenous group and their situation is very dynamic. The face-to-face interviews took place mainly in markets, public buildings, work recruitment points, collective accommodations and transit points along key migration routes, which means that the results of the assessment are representative of migrants who frequent these public places. Migrants who may not be able to frequent these public places are less likely to have been included in the assessment. While this (purposive) sampling approach limits the findings on migration routes and migrant vulnerabilities from being fully statistically representative of the demographic make-up of the entire migrant stock in Libya, it represents a large-scale assessment of migrants present in Libya.

Definition of migrant

IOM characterizes 'migrant' as an umbrella term, not defined under international law, reflecting the common lay understanding of a person who moved away from his or her place of usual residence, whether within a country or across an international border, temporarily or permanently, and for a variety of reasons. The term includes several of well-defined legal categories of people, such as migrant workers; persons whose particular types of movements are legally defined, such as smuggled migrants; as well as those whose status or means of movement are not specifically defined under international law, such as international students.

For the purposes of collecting data on migration, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) defines "international migrant" as "any person who changes his or her country of usual residence" (UN DESA, Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, Revision 1 (1998) para. 32). This report only takes into consideration the "international migrants" in Libya as defined above.

IOM DATA COLLECTION

TEAM	IN NUMBERS	
112 enumerators	**5,426** migrants interviewed (round 48, Flow Monitoring Survey)	**2,173** key informant interviews
3 team leaders	**44** Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) are active in 8 regions (mantikas) of Libya	

Funded by the European Union, the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) in Libya tracks and monitors population movements in order to collate, analyze and share information to support the humanitarian community with the needed demographic baselines to coordinate evidence-based interventions.

To consult all DTM reports, datasets, static and interactive maps and dashboards, please visit:

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