

INTRODUCTION: IOM works with national and local authorities and local partners to identify and understand migration movements in West and Central Africa. Flow monitoring is an activity that quantifies and qualifies flows, migrant profiles, trends and migration routes at a given point of entry, transit or exit. Since February 2016, IOM Niger has been monitoring migration flows at six points across Niger. The data collected provides an overview of migration in the region. The information is collected from primary sources. Given the immensity of the region of Agadez, a new FMP (Madama) on the Libyan border was activated in January 2019 to capture the outflows due to the proliferation of bypass roads. This new FMP complements that of Séguédine which is now only capturing incoming flows. The data collected provides an overview of migratory movements in the region. However, this monitoring of migration flows does not replace border surveillance. Similarly, the results presented in this report do not reflect the total flow of migrants through the Agadez region due to the size of the Sahara Desert, which covers more than 700,000 km² and has a large number of roads crisscrossing the region.

NIGER POPULATION FLOW MONITORING POINTS



In addition to the three FMPs (Dan Barto, Magaria and Tahoua) activated in August, a new FMP was also set up in Niger (Dan Issa) in September. The aim was to better understand migration routes along the southern part of Niger and to complement the existing FMPs in Arlit and Séguédine. There are now three cross border FMPs (Dan Issa, Dan Barto and Magaria) on the border between Niger and Nigeria, which stretches over 1000 km. The FMP at Tahoua was set up to understand internal movement flows as it is situated in central Niger, sharing a border with the Tillabery region in the east, Nigeria in the south and the Agadez region in the north.

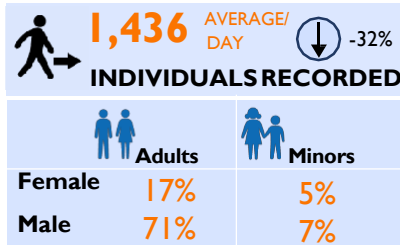
The new FMPs will be piloted in the coming months to understand the added value of the FMPs towards a more holistic understanding of migration trends in Niger. Based on the initial findings from the new FMPs, there may be adjustments to the new FMPs implemented based on an increased understanding of migration patterns and routes.

METHODOLOGY: Flow monitoring is an investigative work that aims to highlight and increase understanding of internal, cross-border and intraregional migration. Areas of high mobility are identified across the country. DTM teams then conduct assessments at the local level to identify strategic transit points. Enumerators collect data using key informants at the flow monitoring points; they may be staff at bus stations, police or customs officials, bus or truck drivers or migrants themselves. A basic questionnaire mixed with direct observations makes it possible to collect disaggregated data by sex and nationality. In Niger, the flow monitoring points were chosen after consultation with national and local stakeholders involved in migration management, and according to the locations and characteristics of the flows transiting through the Sahara Desert. The data collection is done at times when the flows are the most frequent.

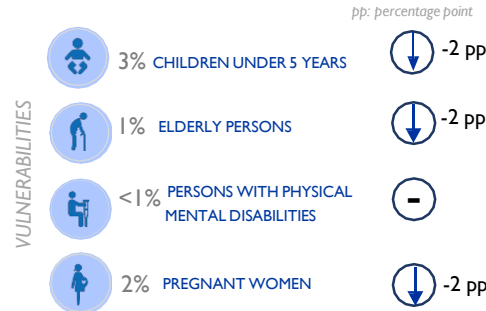
LIMITS: The data used in this analysis, including the maps, is an estimate and represents only a part of the existing flows on the routes Agadez - Arlit - Assamaka; Agadez - Séguédine - Sebha; and southern routes. The spatial and temporal coverage of these surveys is partial, although the collection is done daily and during periods when flows are significant. Finally, no information is collected on existing flows outside the times covered. Vulnerability data is based on direct observations by the enumerators and should be understood only as an estimate.

DEMOGRAPHICS

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)



DEMOGRAPHICS



ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION

Country of origin	%	Variation
Niger	81	+15 pp
Nigeria	15	-15 pp
Libya	4	-

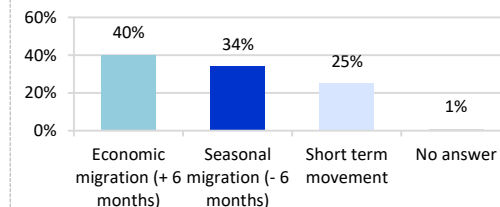
Country of destination	%	Variation
Niger	79	+5 pp
Nigeria	12	-7 pp
Libya	9	-2 pp

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month

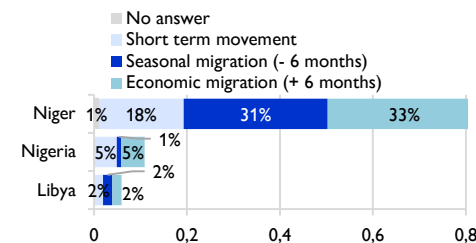
TRAVELLERS' PROFILE

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)

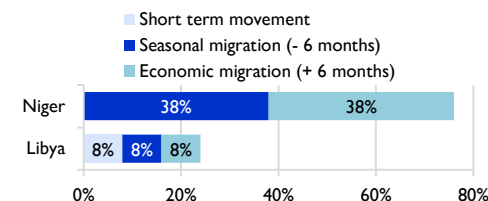
MAIN TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



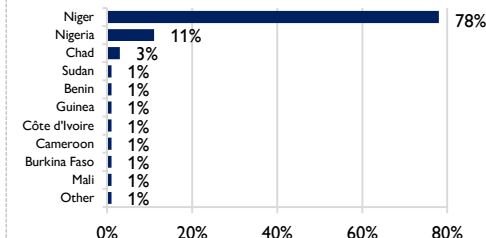
ORIGIN OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



INTENDED DESTINATION OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



MAIN NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



7 Active FMPs in Niger

10 Information focal points

FEBRUARY 2019 SUMMARY

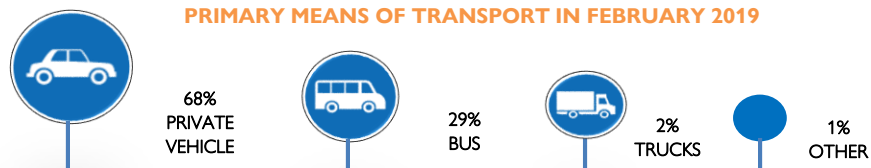
10,067 Individuals entering Niger

13,478 Individuals leaving Niger

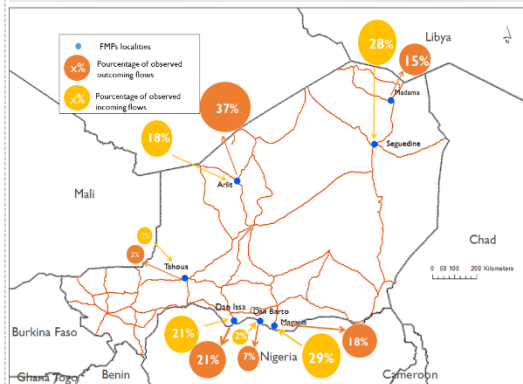
16,650 Individuals observed moving internally

40,195 Number of individuals observed at the FMPs

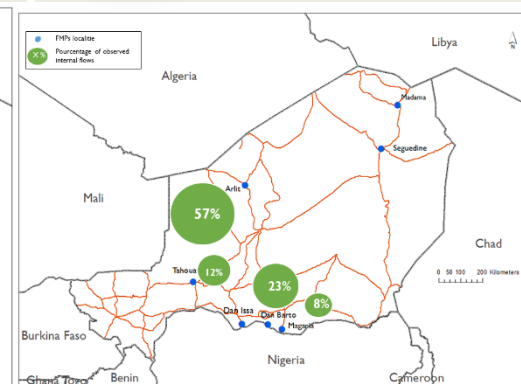
All data included in this report is based on estimates. IOM makes no guarantees as to the timeliness, suitability, accuracy, reliability, quality or completeness of the data contained in this report.



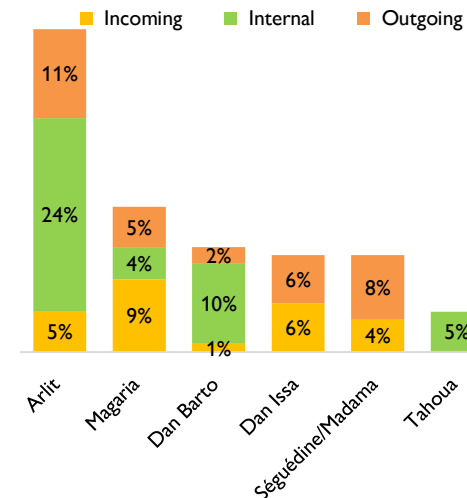
CROSS BORDER MOVEMENTS



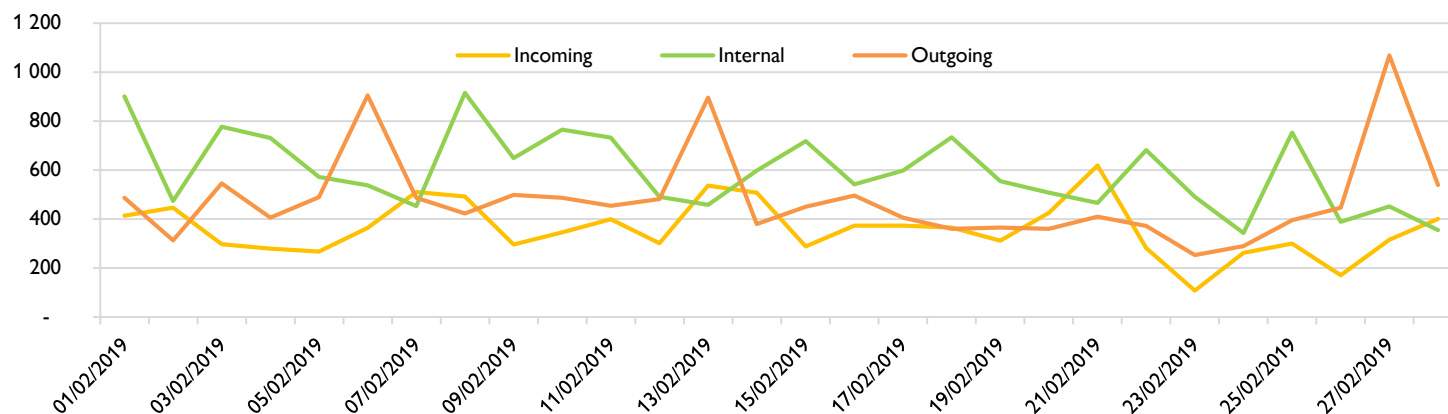
INTERNAL MOVEMENTS



FLOWS OBSERVED IN FEBRUARY 2019



FLOW OBSERVED IN FEBRUARY 2019



KEY RESULTS IN FEBRUARY 2019

- The data in the graph shows the flows observed at the seven active FMPs in Niger in February 2019. An average of 1,436 individuals per day were recorded passing through the seven FMPs during this month.
- While 57 per cent of the flows were cross border, (29%) of these were between Niger and Nigeria, followed by (16%) with Algeria and (12%) with Libya respectively.
- A larger proportion (43%) of internal movements were observed. Majority of these were observed at Arlit (24%) and Dan Barto (10%). To a lesser extent, internal movements were observed at Tahoua 5 per cent and Magaria four per cent
- In February 2019, there were more outgoing flows (13,478 individuals) than incoming flows (10,067 individuals). On a daily average, 481 individuals were leaving Niger while 360 individuals were entering the country.

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RETURNS FROM ALGERIA AND SEARCH & RESCUE OPERATIONS IN FEBRUARY 2019

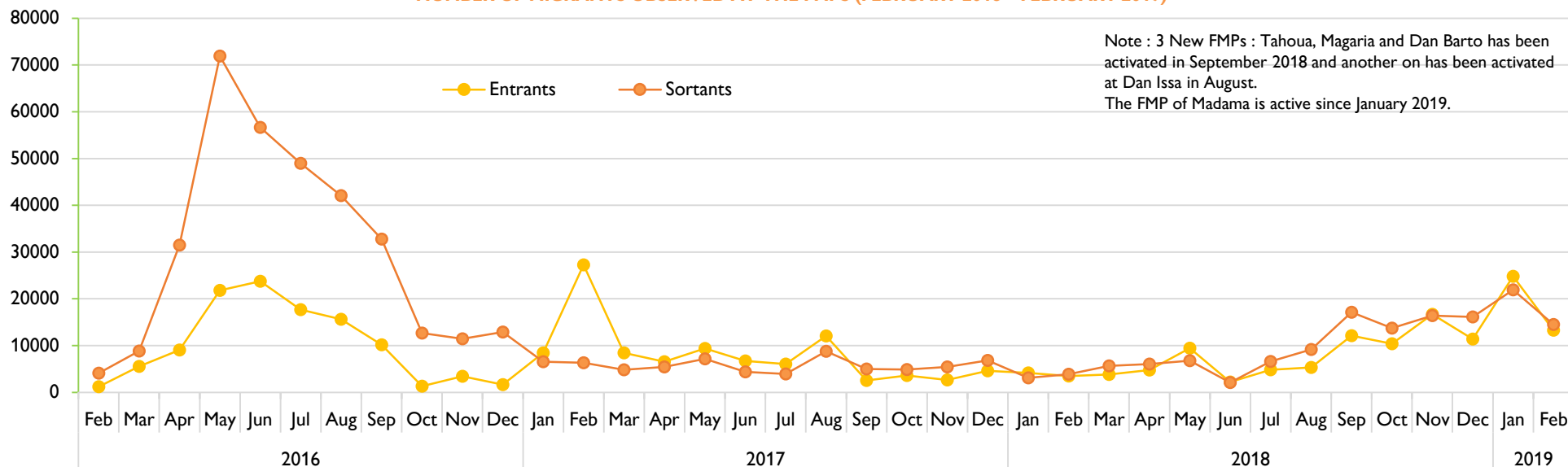
IOM Niger conducts search and rescue (SAR) operations and supports the Government of Niger in the registration process for migrants arriving from Algeria on the official Algerian convoys. These two types of incoming flows are not included in the FMP data in order to ensure data quality and avoid double counting. As such, in order to provide a more holistic understanding of incoming flows to Niger, particularly from Algeria, incoming flows should take into account these two additional figures on top of the figures captured by FMPs.

- **Search and rescue operations:** Since October 2016, IOM, in collaboration with the Direction Générale de la Protection Civiles (DGPC), undertake search and rescue operations to find and bring migrants in distress to the nearest safe urban center in the Agadez region. Search and rescue operations are performed both proactively and reactively to distress calls received. The migrants are often mentally and physically stressed, suffering from trauma, dehydration and/or physical wounds. **In February 2019, IOM conducted 8 rescue operations** to rescue 1,534 migrants who had signalled in distress, 1,308 of which were transported **to the nearest urban center in Arlit**. (30%) were from Mali, (27%) Niger, (19%) Guinea Conakry, (5%) Cameroon, (4%) Côte d'Ivoire; Burkina Faso, Benin, Sierra Leone and Gambia (2% each) ; and other nationalities (5%). *Other SAR operation are conducted in Agadez, Arlit and Dirkou (see monthly SAR Dashboard for more details).
- **Official Algerian convoys:** Each year, thousands of migrants, the majority of which are from Niger, are repatriated from Algeria towards Niger within the framework of the agreement between the governments of Niger and Algeria. IOM, through the Migrant Response and Ressource Mechanism (MRRM), provides humanitarian assistance for these migrants upon arrival to Niger including support in registration migrants. **In February 2019, 7 official Algerian convoys arrived with 917 migrants** (98% Nigerien while 2% or 17 individuals were non-Nigerien).

TYPE OF FLOWS OBSERVED

Year	Incoming	Outgoing	Internal	Total
2016	111,230	333,891	-	445,121
2017	98,306	69,430	-	167,736
2018	88,601	106,766	71,223	226,590
2019	34,875	35,402	35,385	109,866

NUMBER OF MIGRANTS OBSERVED AT THE FMPs (FEBRUARY 2016 – FEBRUARY 2019)

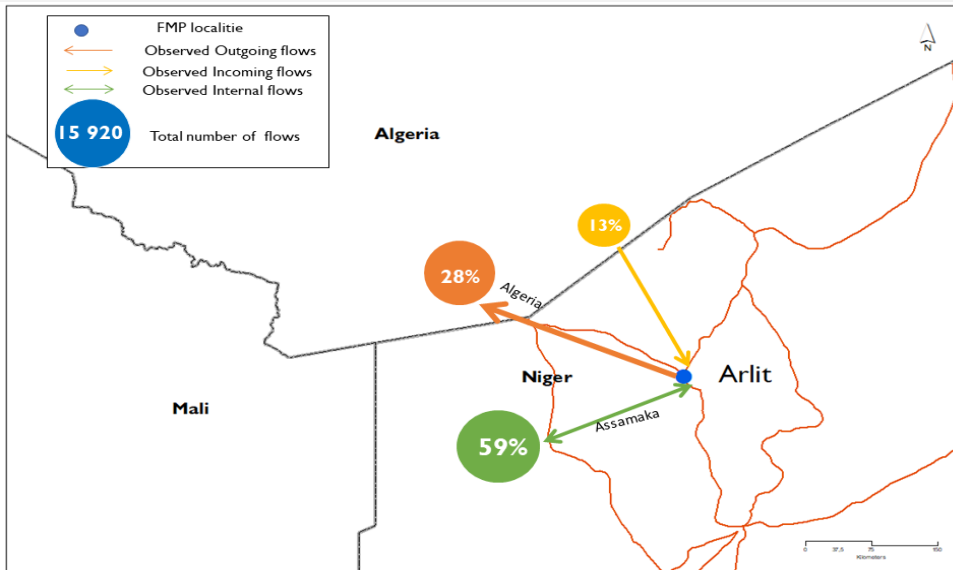


The **Arlit** Flow Monitoring Point captures both cross-border flows to and from Algeria, as well as internal movements. The Arlit FMP has been active since **February 2016**.

During this month, more outgoing flows (4,397) than incoming flows (2,066) were observed. The main departure cities included Arlit, Assamaka and Agadez (Niger) while the main destination cities included: Assamaka, Arlit and Algerian villages located near the border (Note: the majority of migrants passing through the Arlit FMP choose not to disclose their final destination given the sensitivities. In reality, most migrants transiting through Assamaka intend to travel to cities within Algeria including Inguezzam, Tamanrasset, Tamanghasset. Additionally, FMP figures do not include migrants refouled or repatriated from Algeria as these are collected separately – see page 3).

In comparison with the previous month, the number of individuals observed in the incoming and outgoing flows remained constant. Thus a decrease of four per cent is observed. The decrease may be linked to the fact that we have 28 days in the month of February and 31 days in January. The main reasons cited for movement continue to be **economic migration (50%) and seasonal migration (50%)**.

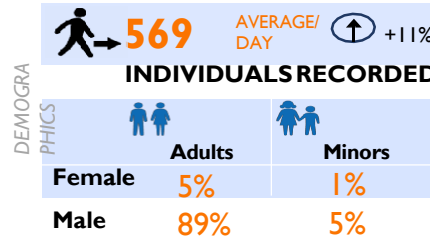
The main nationalities observed crossing the Arlit FMP this month included Nigerien (77%), Chadian (5%), Sudanese (3%); The remaining 15 per cent comprised of Nigerians, Malian, Burkinabe Guinean, Cameroonian and Senegalese nationals. Please note FMP breakdown of nationalities does not include migrants refouled and/or repatriated from Algeria via the official convoys (see page 3).



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DEMOGRAPHICS

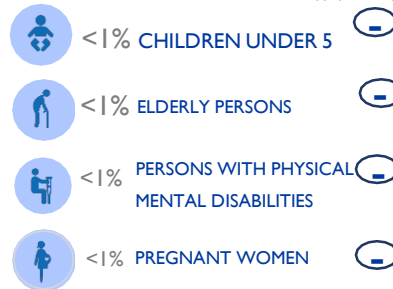
(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)



DEMOGRAPHICS

pp: percentage point

VULNERABILITIES



ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION

Country of origin	%	Variation
Niger	100	-

Country of destination	%	Variation
Niger	100	-

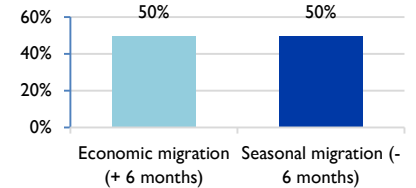
Variations calculated based on data from the previous month

pp: percentage point

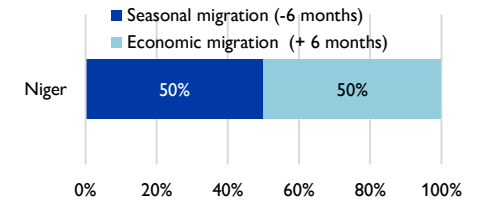
TRAVELLERS' PROFILE

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)

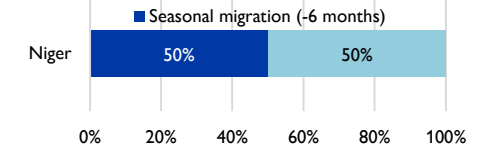
MAIN TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



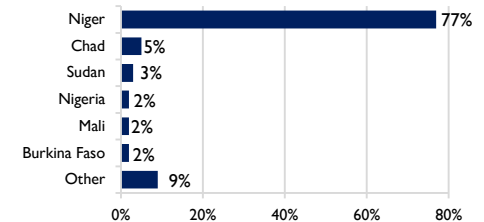
ORIGIN OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



INTENDED DESTINATION OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



MAIN NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



The **Séguédine** Flow Monitoring Point captures **cross-border flows** to and from neighbouring countries, mainly Libya. The Séguédine FMP has been active since **February 2016**. Given the vastness of the Agadez region which spans 703,00 km² (greater than the size of France and 21 times larger than Belgium), a **new FMP (Madama) located** near the Libyan border was activated in January 2019 to better capture cross-border movements due to the proliferation of bypass roads to avoid border control posts. As such, this new FMP complements the one in **Séguédine which only captures incoming flows** while **Madama captures outgoing flows**.

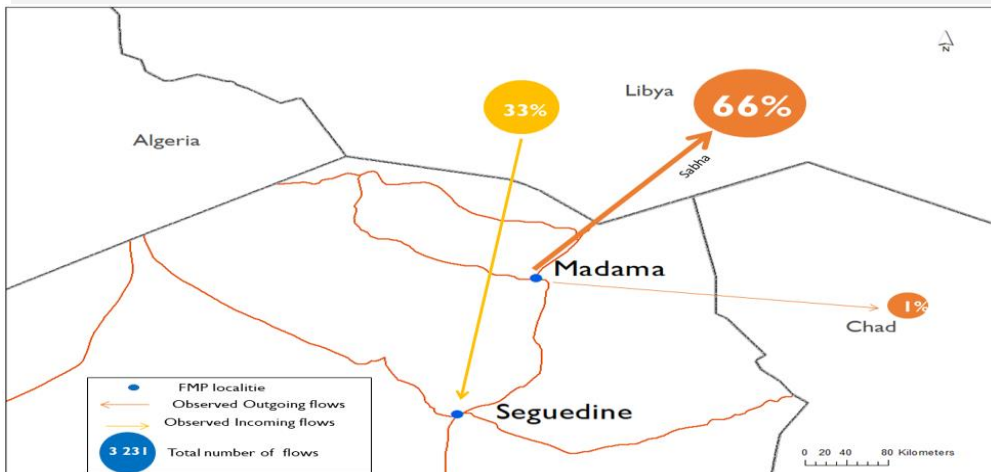
During this month, more outgoing flows (3,403 individuals representing 67% of flows observed) than incoming flows (1,657) were observed.

A daily average of (181) individuals were observed crossing through the Séguédine/Madama FMP this month, which is an decrease of (26%) compared to the previous month when 220 were crossing the border each day. The main departure and destination cities included Agadez (Niger) and Sebha, Murzuq and Gatron (Libya); Faya and Mongo (Chad). The decrease in flows is possibly linked to the upsurge of insecurity in the northern part of Libya, but also to increasing number in attacks by armed groups

in the area around the border between Chad, Niger and Libya, which is a **“no man’s land”**. During the month of February, internally displaced persons and migrants were observed leaving from Murzuq to Al Gatrone towards the border with Niger, with some families reportedly leaving for Niger and headed towards Agadez.

The main reasons for movements observed remain the same as in previous months: economic migration, seasonal migration and short term local movement (33% each). One per cent travel to flee insecurity in the southern part of Libya along the border with Chad and Niger.

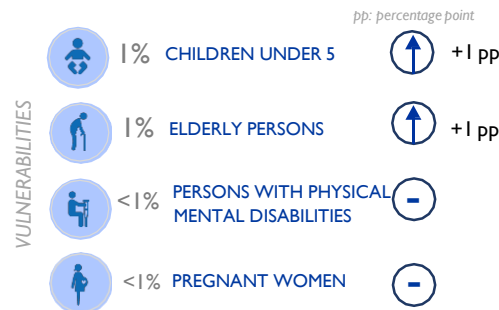
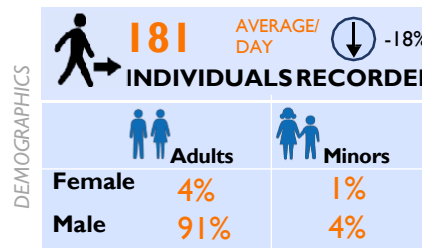
The main nationalities observed were: Nigerien (87%), Chadians (5%) and Nigerians (3%); other nationalities observed (5%) include Libyans and Sudanese (2% each); Ghanaians and Malians among others represent (1%) of individuals observed at that FMP.



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DEMOGRAPHICS

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)



Country of origin	%	Variation
Niger	64	-
Libya	34	-1 pp
Chad	2	+1 pp

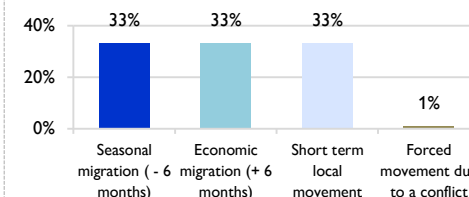
Country of destination	%	Variation
Libya	66	+1 pp
Niger	33	-
Chad	1	-1 pp

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month
pp: percentage point

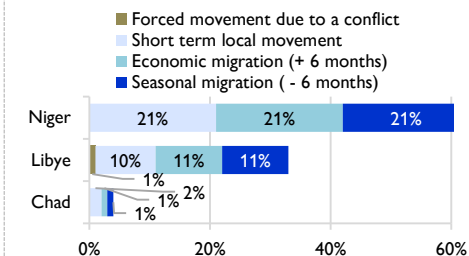
TRAVELLERS' PROFILE

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)

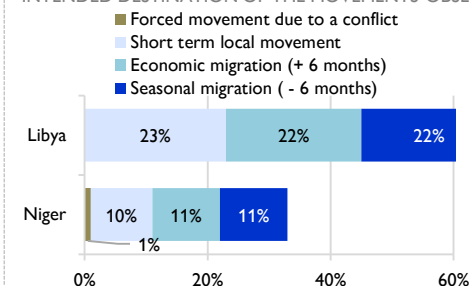
MAIN TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



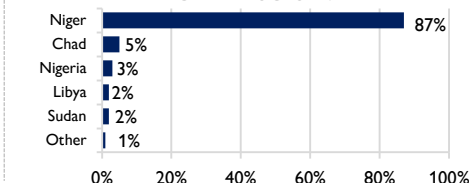
ORIGIN OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



INTENDED DESTINATION OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



MAIN NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



The **Magaria** Flow Monitoring Point was established to observe cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria, as well as internal flows. Magaria is a town on the border between Niger and Nigeria, through which high volumes of flows originating from Nigeria pass; Nigeria is one of the main sending countries for migrants traveling towards the Mediterranean. The Magaria FMP has been active since August 2018.

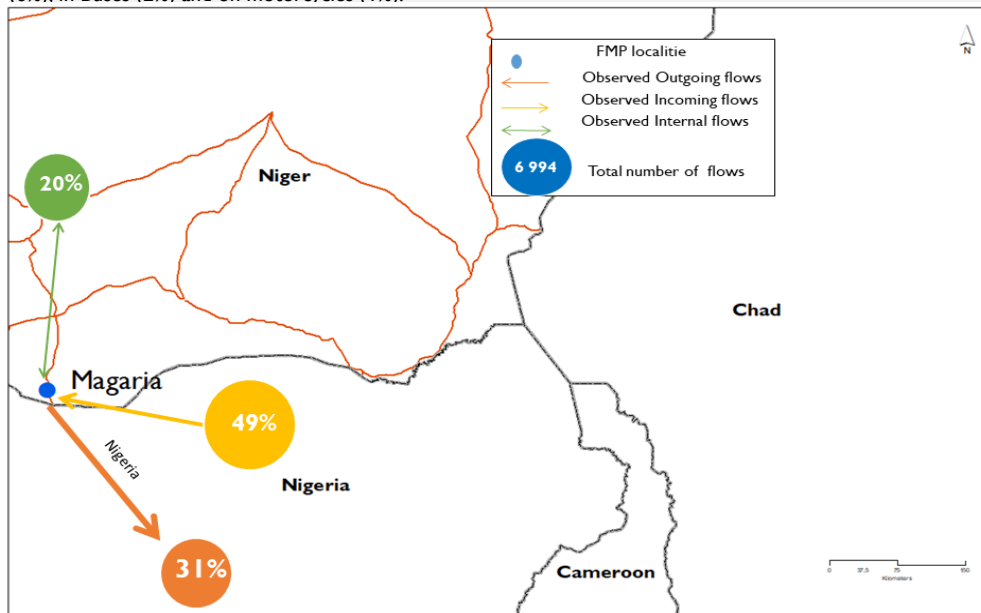
A daily average of 250 individuals passing through the Magaria FMP was observed during this month with more incoming flows (41%) than outgoing flows (23%) and a larger proportion of internal movements (36%). All flows observed were heading towards Niger and Nigeria and primarily coming from the departure cities of Magaria and Zinder (Niger); and Kano and Babura (Nigeria).

The reasons for migration for the majority remain similar with those of the previous month, thus flows were classified as **short term local movements (62%)** and **economic migration (36%)**. One per cent of the observed individuals were tourists.

Magaria is used mostly by Nigerien and Nigerian traders who have traditionally maintained an economic exchange.

Three main nationalities were observed passing through this FMP in February 2019 : Nigeriens (80%), Nigerians (19%) and Chadians (1%).

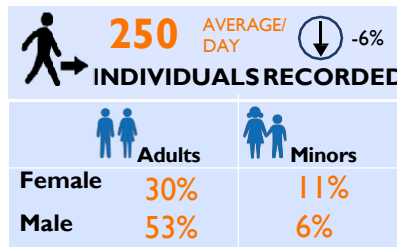
Migrants transiting through the Magaria FMP travelled essentially in some private vehicles (91%), in some trucks (6%), in Buses (2%) and on motorcycles (1%).



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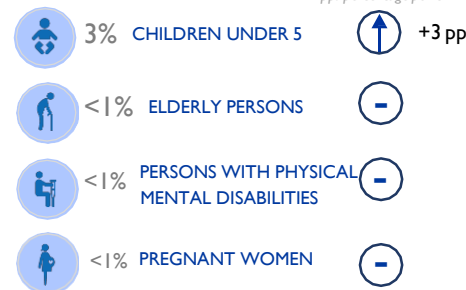
DEMOGRAPHICS

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)



DEMOGRAPHICS

pp: percentage point



VULNERABILITIES

ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION

Country of origin	%	Variation
Niger	60	-4 pp
Nigeria	39	-3 pp
Other	1	+1 pp

Country of destination	%	Variation
Niger	79	-5 pp
Nigeria	20	+4 pp
Other	1	+1 pp

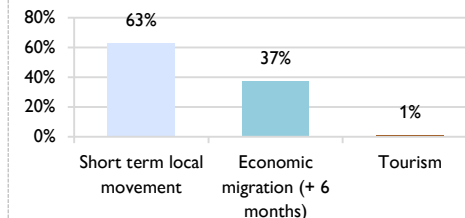
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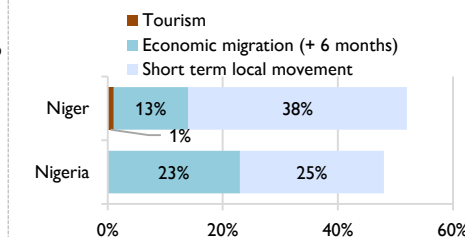
TRAVELLERS' PROFILE

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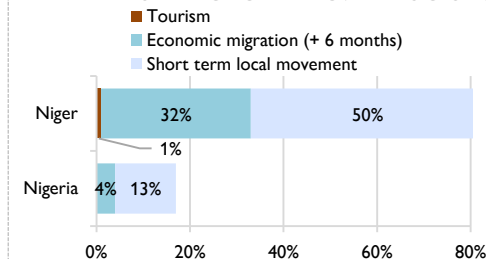
MAIN TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



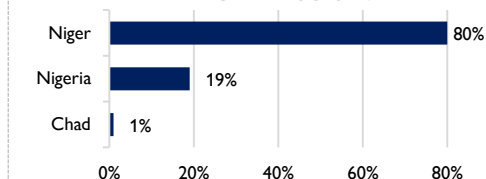
ORIGIN OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



INTENDED DESTINATION OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



MAIN NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



The **Dan Barto** Flow Monitoring Point captures cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria. Dan Barto is a town near the border with Nigeria through which high volumes of flows originating from Nigeria, often travelling towards the Mediterranean via Agadez and Libya. The Dan Barto FMP has been active since **August 2018**.

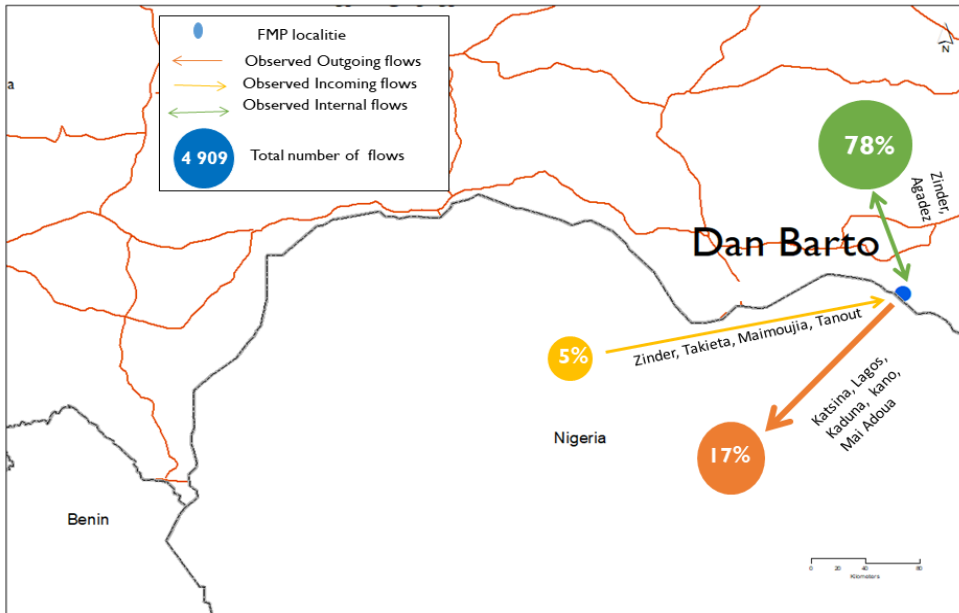
A daily average of 175 individuals passing through the Dan Barto FMP was observed during this month with more outgoing flows (17%) than incoming flows (5%). The majority of individuals transiting through the Dan Barto FMP are short term local movements (78%). this month, a 35% decrease compared to the previous month.

The main reasons cited for migrating were **short-term local movements (35%), economic migration (33%); and seasonal migration(32%)**.

Dan Barto is mostly used by Nigerien and Nigerian traders who maintain a close economic relationship. Nigerien nationals travel to Nigeria to purchase goods while Nigerian nationals travel to Niger to purchase animals and food (millet, beans, etc.).

Two main nationalities were observed crossing the FMP : Nigeriens (94%) and Nigerians (6%).

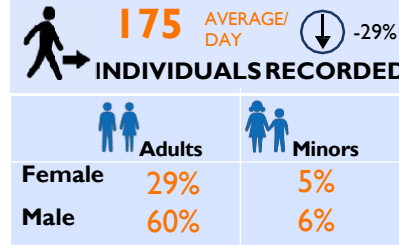
The majority were observed travelling by bus (49%), private vehicles (47%), followed by trucks (2%), by motorbikes and by foot (1%).



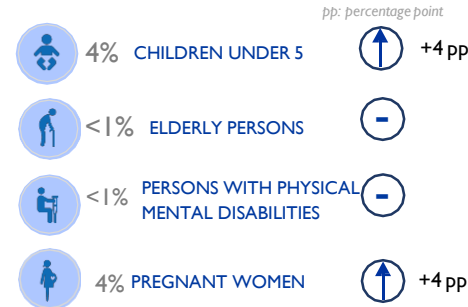
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DEMOGRAPHICS



VULNERABILITIES

Country of origin	%	Variation
Niger	95	+9 pp
Nigeria	5	-9 pp

ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION

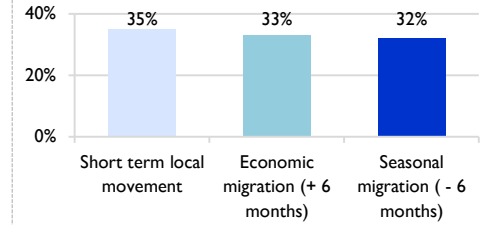
Country of destination	%	Variation
Niger	83	+3 pp
Nigeria	17	-3 pp

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month
pp: percentage point

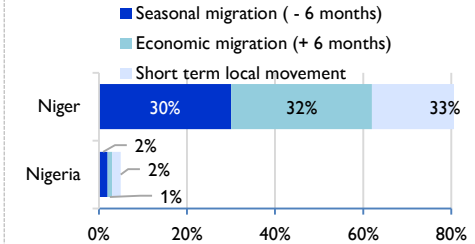
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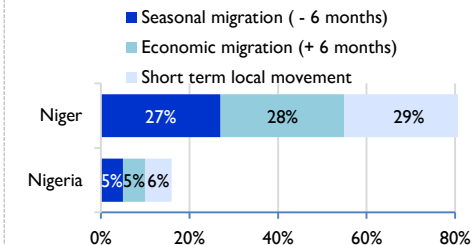
MAIN TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



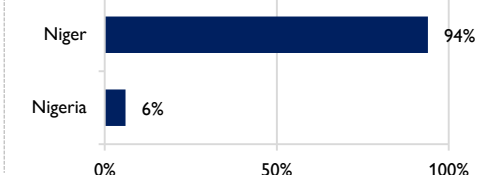
ORIGIN OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



INTENDED DESTINATION OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



MAIN NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



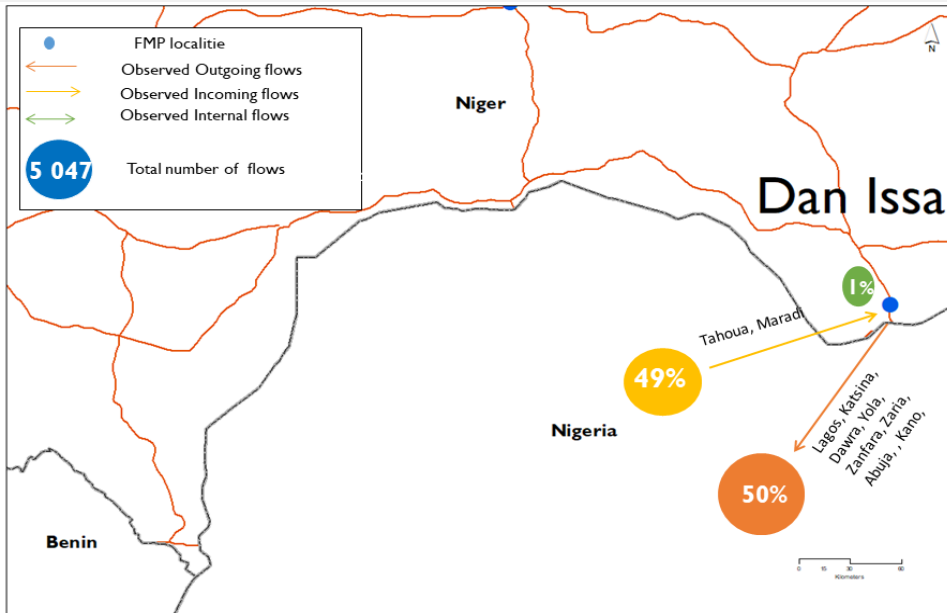
The **Dan Issa** Flow Monitoring Point captures cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria. Dan Issa is a town near the border with Nigeria through which high volumes of flows originating from Nigeria pass, often traveling towards the Mediterranean via Agadez and Libya. The Dan Issa FMP has been active since September 2018.

A daily average of 180 individuals passed through the Dan Issa FMP this month, equal incoming flows (50%) and outgoing flows (50%). All flows observed were heading toward Niger and Nigeria. The main cities of departure are: Maradi, (Niger); Katsina, Jibia, Magama, Kano, Abuja, Zamfara (Nigeria). One per cent of individuals observed at this FMP are moving internally.

A significant decrease of (80%) was noted during this month. This decrease may be linked to presidential elections campaign held in Nigeria on 23 February 2019. This situation contributed to the decrease of movements toward Nigeria.

The main reasons cited for migration were **economic migration (46%), short-term local movements (40%) and seasonal migration (12%). Two per cent** of the observed individual are fleeing insecurity in Zamfara state of Nigeria.

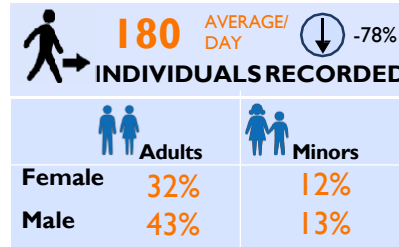
Two main nationalities observed crossing the FMP include: Nigeriens (53%) and Nigerians (47%). The majority were observed using private vehicles (54%) and buses (46%).



The depiction and use of boundaries, geographic names, and related data shown on maps and included in this report are not warranted to be error free nor do they imply judgment on the legal status of any territory, or any endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries by IOM.

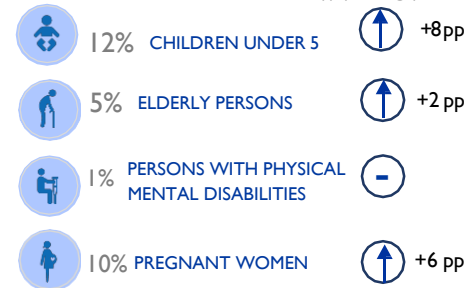
DEMOGRAPHICS

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)



DEMOGRAPHICS

pp: percentage point



VULNERABILITIES

ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION

Country of origin	%	Variation
Nigeria	50	-13 pp
Niger	50	+13 pp

Country of destination	%	Variation
Niger	50	-13 pp
Nigeria	50	+13 pp

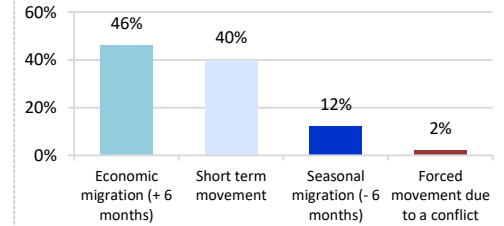
Variations calculated based on data from the previous month

pp: percentage point

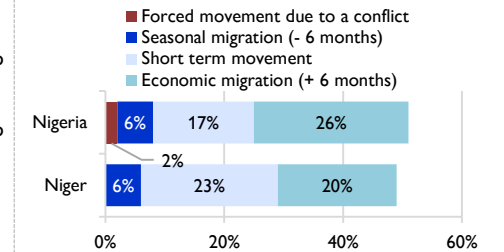
TRAVELLERS' PROFILE

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)

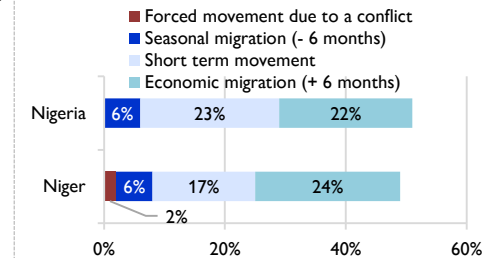
MAIN TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



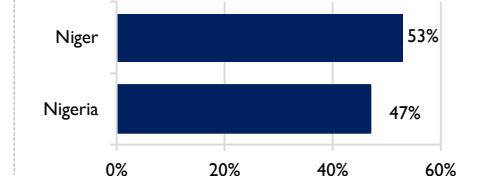
ORIGIN OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



INTENDED DESTINATION OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



MAIN NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



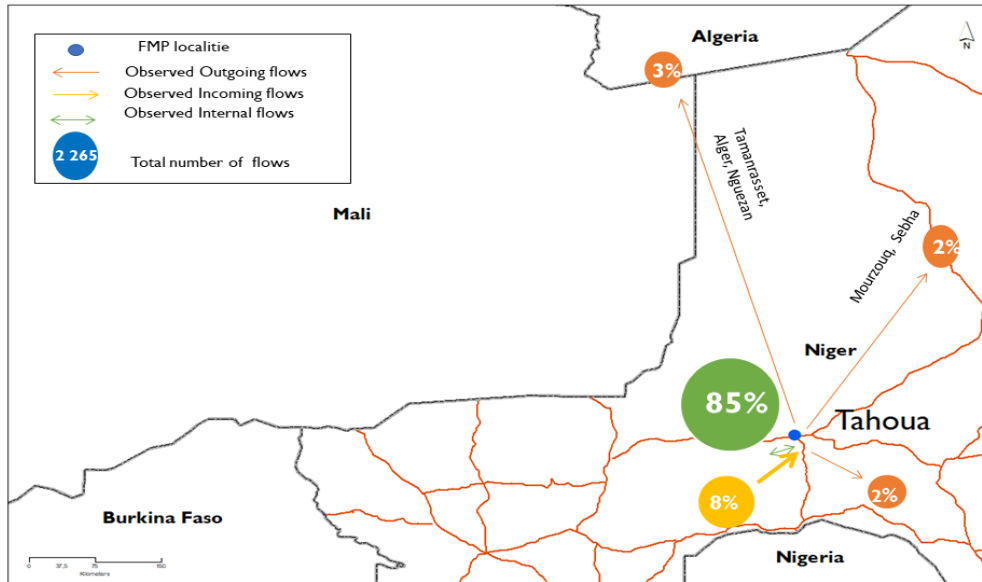
The **Tahoua** Flow Monitoring Point captures both cross-border and internal movements. Tahoua is a city in central Niger, where migrants transit. They mainly originate from Nigeria and other west Africa, such as Mali, Cameroon and Burkina Faso. They tend to take the Agadez route toward Algeria and Libya, while some reach Algeria through Tchinta, about 300km near the Algerian border. The Tahoua FMP has been **active since August 2018**.

A **daily average of 81 individuals** passing through the Tahoua FMP was observed in February 2019. This represents an increase of (15%) in comparison to the previous month. internal, including (47%) originating from Niamey, (27%) from Agadez, (10%) from Maradi, (7%) from Arlit, (6%) from Tahoua, and (2%) from Zinder.

The remaining one per cent travelled from Birnin Konni and the Tchinaraden. Incoming flows represented eight per cent of flows, while outgoing flows represented seven per cent of flows. The main reasons cited for migrating were **short term local movements (39%)**, followed by **seasonal migration (38%)** and **economic migration (18%)**. Five per cent of observed individuals did not respond to the question.

The main nationalities observed crossing the Tahoua FMP included: Nigeriens (84%), Cameroonians and Ghanaians (3% each), Nigerians, Beninese and Malians (2% each), followed by Ivoirians one per cent. The other nationalities include Burkinabe and Chadian among others and represent three per cent.

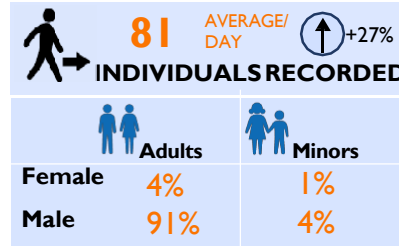
The majority were observed travelling by buses (84%), followed by private vehicles and (13%) and trucks (3%).



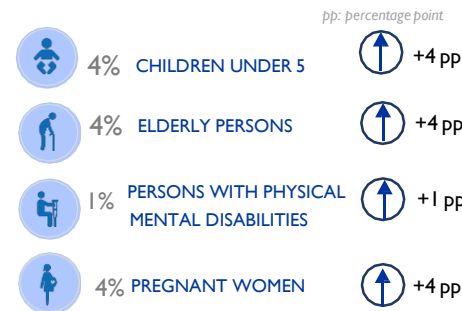
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DEMOGRAPHICS

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)



DEMOGRAPHICS



VULNERABILITIES

Country of origin	%	Variation
Niger	92	+5 pp
Nigeria	4	-3 pp
Algeria	4	+1 pp

ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION

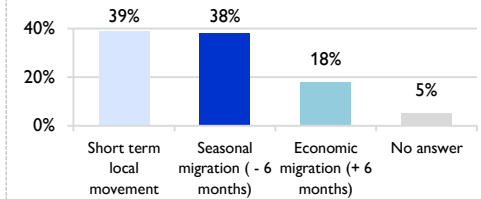
Country of destination	%	Variation
Niger	94	-2 pp
Algeria	3	-
Other	3	-

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month
pp: percentage point

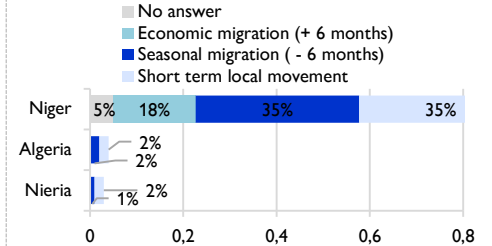
TRAVELLERS' PROFILE

(collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)

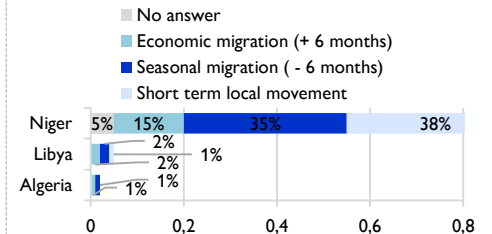
MAIN TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



ORIGIN OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



INTENDED DESTINATION OF THE MOVEMENTS



MAIN NATIONALITIES OBSERVED

