



The IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) has started tracking the movement of irregular migrants planning to travel to Europe in Northern Mali. Migrants, mostly from different sub-Saharan countries and West Africa in particular, travel long distances often facing harsh conditions and spending lots of money to reach their final destination.

Most of the migrants are believed to travel through the capital city, Bamako, to the strategically located town of Gao, before heading towards Algeria, Niger or Libya to reach their final destination, Europe. Gao is an important transit point and is often preferred by many irregular migrants due to the relatively easy access of its routes to the Mediterranean.

IOM has deployed trained and experienced personnel in data collection and population flow monitoring whose roles will include but not limited to undertaking field surveys with migrants along key migratory routes. The exercise will also profile migrants, as well as assess their intentions and causes of migration.

Concurrently with data collection and profiling, IOM is also implementing information campaigns in Northern Mali to support migrants in making informed decisions regarding their intention to migrate, providing assistance to migrants wanting to return to their country of origin, and offering referral services to vulnerable migrants that are victims of human trafficking or smuggling, or in need of general psychosocial support.

**KEY FINDINGS**

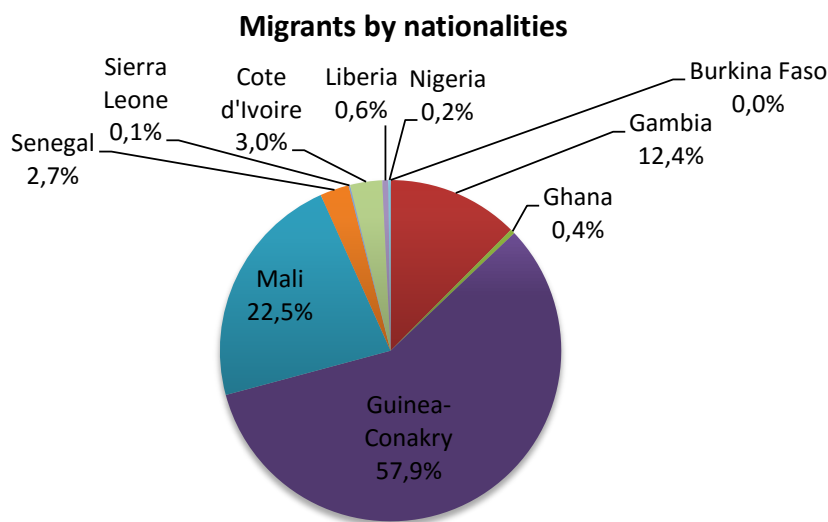
- 97 % of migrants are men
- An average of 12% of migrants are minors
- 1 404 migrants arrived in Gao
- 1 369 migrants departed from Gao
- 49 % want to go in Europe, mainly in Spain and Italy
- Almost all migrants departing from Gao are transiting through Algeria
- The large majority of migrants leave Malian territory in trucks.
- Guineans and Gambians occupy first place among non Malian migrants transiting through Gao in to Europe and North African countries.

**DEMOGRAPHY**

	Men	Woman	Total	Minors	Adults
Arrived	1 374 98%	30 2%	1 404	295 21%	1 109 79%
Departed	1 309 96%	60 4%	1 369	35 3%	1 334 97%
Total	2 683 97%	90 3%	2 773	330 12%	2 443 88%

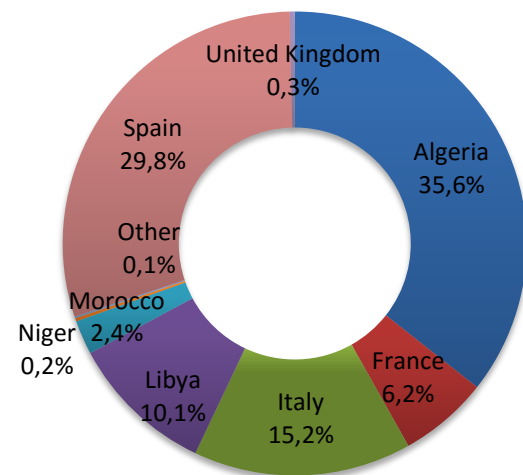
Of all migrants transiting or departing from Gao, 97% of identified migrants are men while only 3% are women. 21% of all migrants arriving in Gao are minors while they are 3% of all migrants departing from Gao.

**NATIONALITIES OF MIGRANTS**      **FINAL DESTINATION OF MIGRANTS**



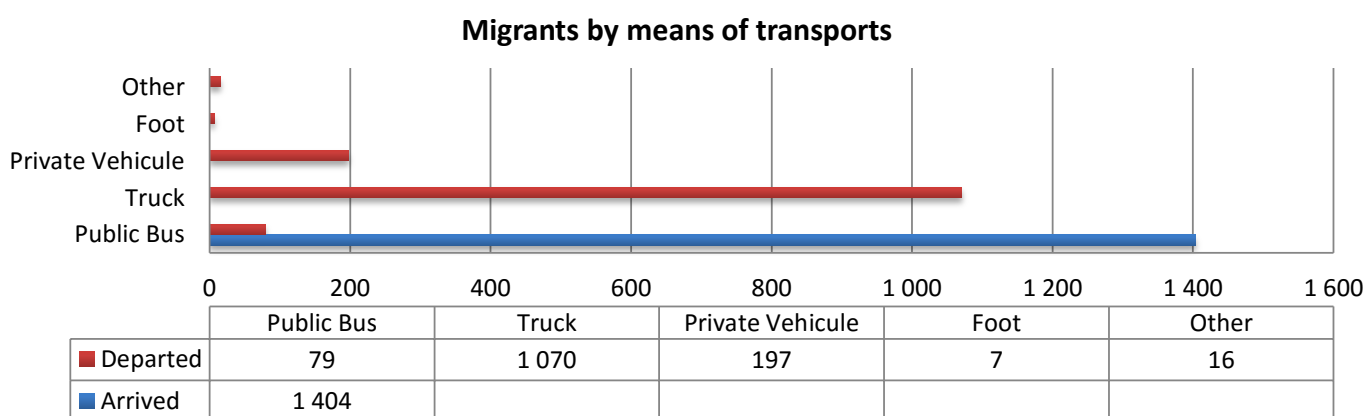
During the reporting period, the vast majority of irregular migrants who arrived in Gao and departed from Gao were citizens of Guinea (57.9%), Mali (22.5%) and Gambia (12.4%). Nationals of other countries including Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Liberia were also identified. The majority of Guineans recorded would constitute a new trend in comparison with recent years where Senegalese and Gambians figured at the top of the list.

**Migrants by final country of destination**



Most migrants mentioned Spain as their final destination, followed by Algeria and Italy as well as Libya, France and Morocco. The European continent alone represents 49.2% of declared intended final destinations.

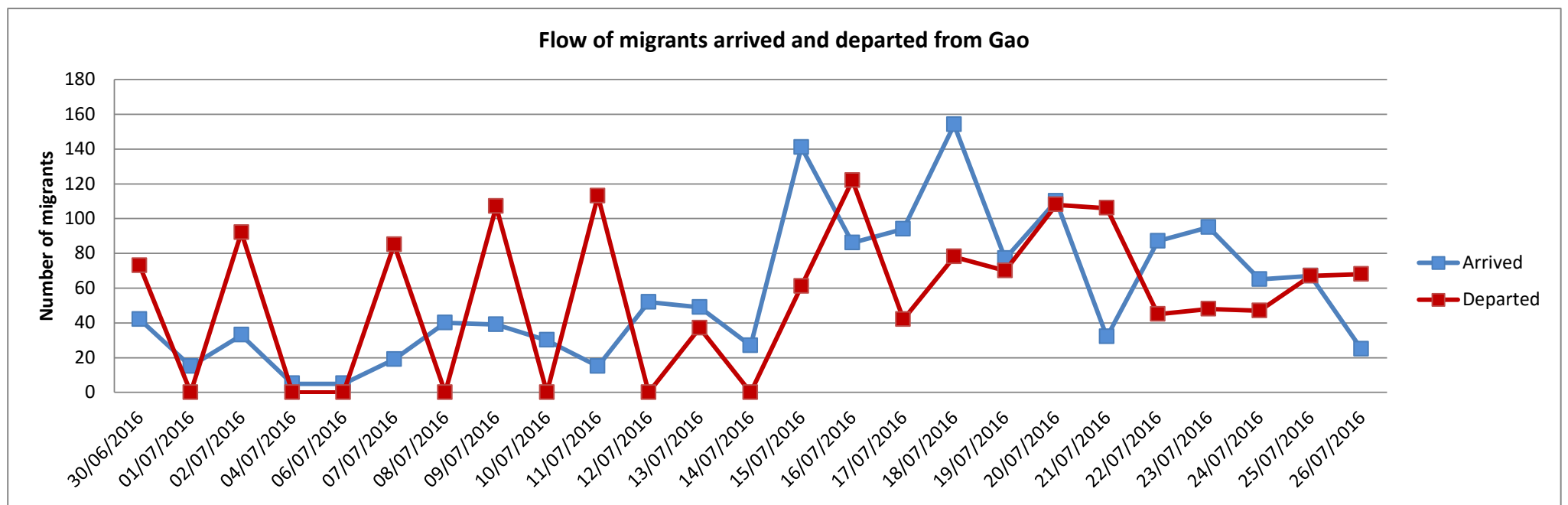
**MEANS OF TRANSPORT**      **COUNTRIES OF TRANSIT AFTER MALI**



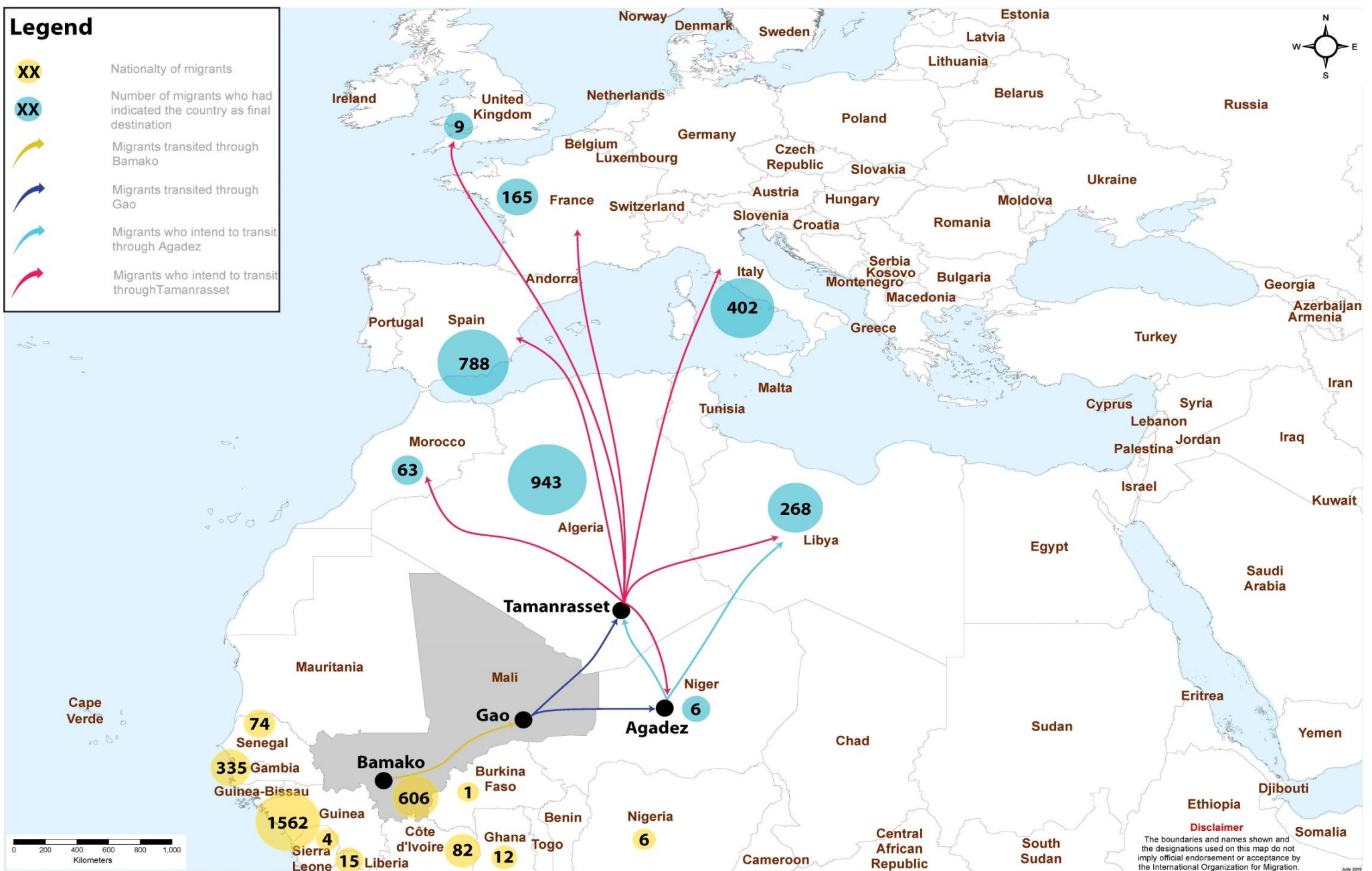
Before continuing to other countries, almost all migrants departing from Gao transit through Algeria (99%), most specifically the town of Tamanrasset for the most part, while they used to go straight to Niger after Gao.

Some of the migrants also mentioned their intention to go through Agadez Niger.

All of the migrants arrived in Gao in public buses. However, from Gao to other countries, 78% of migrants were transported in trucks while 14% used private vehicles and only 6 % used buses.



**MIGRATION ROUTES MAP**



The majority of migrants arriving in Gao and going to countries in Europe and North Africa transit through Bamako before taking a public bus to Gao. They spend a few days in Gao before being transported by trucks to the town of Tamanrasset in Algeria, where most will continue their journey through the Sahara desert to the Mediterranean Sea, hoping to reach Spain or Italy for the most part.

Most migrants remain in Algeria long enough to gather some savings to be able to pursue their route towards Europe.

**\*METHODOLOGY:**

Sources include authorities, direct observations and interviews with migrants en route. Quantitative data on nationalities and places of origin and destination are based on information provided by migrants and convoy drivers in the flow monitoring points established by IOM and must be used as estimates or approximations.

This reduces processing time by eliminating data entry errors, delivery time of paper forms and data entry time into the database, while providing a daily and rapid data analysis and report production.