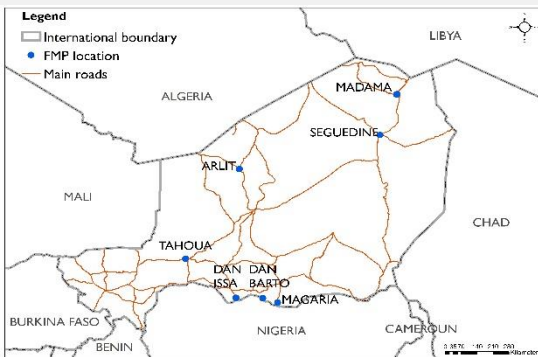


INTRODUCTION: IOM works with national and local authorities and local partners to identify and understand migration movements in **West and Central Africa**. Flow monitoring is an activity that quantifies and qualifies flows, migrant profiles, trends and migration routes at a given point of entry, transit or exit. The data collected provides an overview of migration in the region. **Since February 2016, IOM Niger has been monitoring migration flows at seven points across Niger.** Given the immensity of the region of Agadez, a new FMP (**Madama**) on the Libyan border was activated in January 2019 to capture the inflows due to the proliferation of bypass roads. This new FMP complements the Séguédine FMP which is only captures outgoing flows. The data collected provides an overview of migratory movements in the region.

NIGER POPULATION FLOW MONITORING POINTS



Three cross-border FMPs (**Dan Issa, Dan Barto and Magaria**) were established in August and September 2018 on the border between Niger and Nigeria, which is over 1,000 kilometers long. The aim was to better understand migration routes along the southern part of Niger, and to complement the existing FMPs in Arlit and Séguédine. An additional FMP was setup in **Tahoua**, in central Niger, to better understand internal movements.

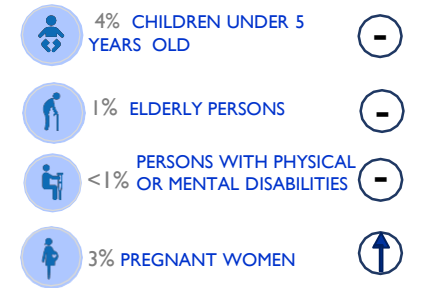
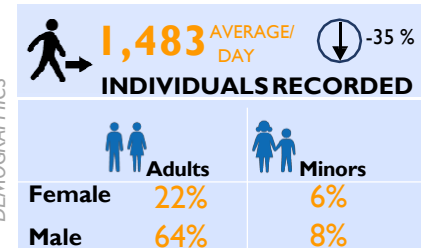
The depiction and use of boundaries, geographic names, and related data shown on maps and included in this report are not warranted to be error free nor do they imply judgment on the legal status of any territory, or any endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries by the IOM.

METHODOLOGY: Flow monitoring is an investigative tool that aims to highlight further understanding of internal, cross-border and intraregional migration. Areas of high mobility are identified across the country. DTM teams then conducts 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 data disaggregated by gender 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.

LIMITATIONS: The data used in this analysis, including the maps, is an estimate and represents only a part of the existing flows on the migration routes passing through the country. 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

(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)



ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION

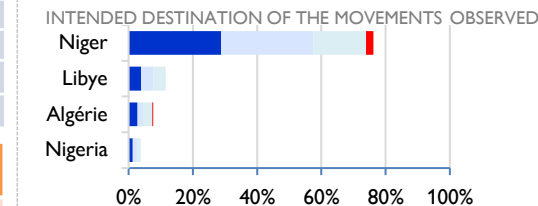
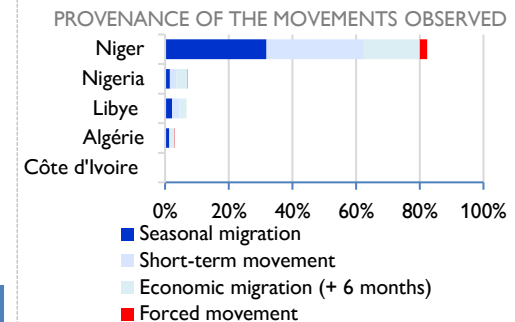
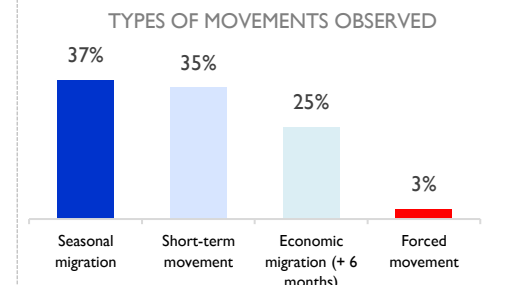
Country of origin	%	Variation
Niger	83	+ 2 pp
Nigeria	7	- 5 pp
Libya	3	+ 3 pp
Algeria	3	-

Country of intended destination	%	Variation
Niger	76	- 2 pp
Lybia	12	+ 5 pp
Algeria	8	+ 1 pp
Nigeria	4	- 4 pp

Variations computed based on data from the previous month

TRAVELLERS' PROFILE

(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)



MARCH 2020 SUMMARY

8,817 Individuals entering Niger

10,219 Individuals leaving Niger

26,945 Individuals observed moving internally

45,981 Number of individuals observed at the FMP

“ 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.”

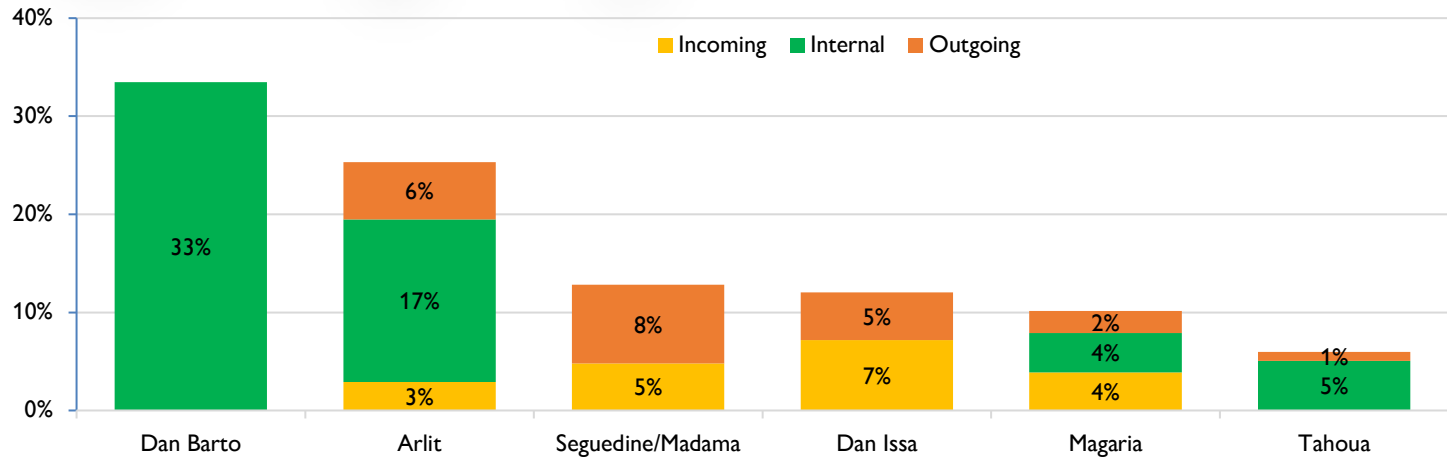
PRIMARY MEANS OF TRANSPORT IN MARCH 2020



7 Active FMP in the Niger

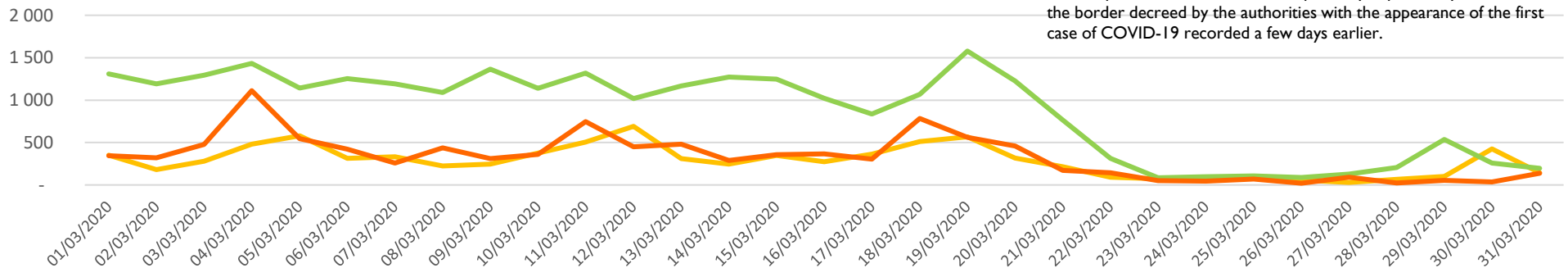
10 Information focal points

FLOWS OBSERVED IN MARCH 2020



FLOWS OBSERVED IN MARCH 2020

Incoming Internal Outgoing



COMPARISON OF TRENDS (2018, 2019 and 2020)

The flows (incoming and outgoing) for **March 2020** are the lowest recorded since the seven FMPs were active in Niger (**August 2018**). Comparing the total monthly flows (internal included), the month of March recorded **45,981**. This is the **lowest total recorded** since March 2018 when we recorded **37,574**.

The data in the graph below presents the total number of migrants identified at the seven Flow Monitoring Points (FMP) active in Niger, noting that only the FMP of **Arlit** and **Séguédine** have been active **since February 2016**. In August 2018 three new FMPs (Tahoua, Magaria and Dan Barto) were activated and another FMP (Dan Issa) was activated in September 2018. Following the development of bypasses routes a seventh FMP (Madama) was activated in January 2019 to capture only the outgoing flows and complement Séguédine which only captures incoming flows.

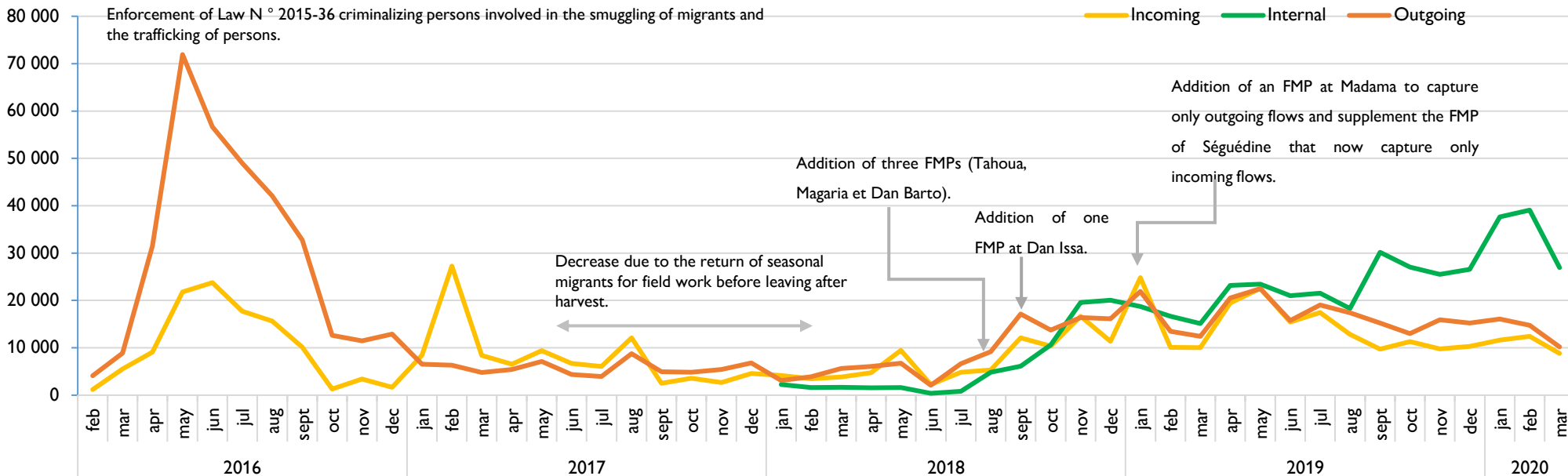
The analysis of data collected at **the seven FMPs** shows a 141 per cent increase in total flows in 2019 compare to the total flow in 2018. Comparing the period of July to December of the year 2018 to the same period in 2019 there is a general pattern of more migrants arriving and leaving Niger this year compared to the 2018. Specifically, an increase of 18 per cent was observed in the incoming flows against an increase of 21 per cent the outgoing flows. In addition, the highest peak in incoming flows was observed in January 2019 while for the outgoing flows it occurred during May 2019 with respectively 24,808 and 22,493 individuals observed at the seven FMPs. These increases may be related to the fact that the enumerators received training and technical support as well as subsequent follow-up training.

The DTM Niger began collecting data on **internal movements in January 2018**. Comparing the data of the 2018 July to December period to that of the same period in 2019, we clearly see that flows have increased by more than 140%. The largest peak of internal movements was observed in September 2019 with 30,152 individuals, compared to September 2018 with 6,134 individuals. This represents an increase of nearly 400 per cent.

TYPES OF FLOWS OBSERVED

Year	Incoming	Internal	Outgoing	Total
2016	111,230	-	333,891	445,121
2017	98,306	-	69,430	167,736
2018	88,601	71,223	106,766	266,590
2019	173,737	267,228	202,409	643,374
2020	32,867	103,620	41,047	177,534

NUMBER OF MIGRANTS OBSERVED AT THE FMP : FEBRUARY 2016 - MARCH 2020



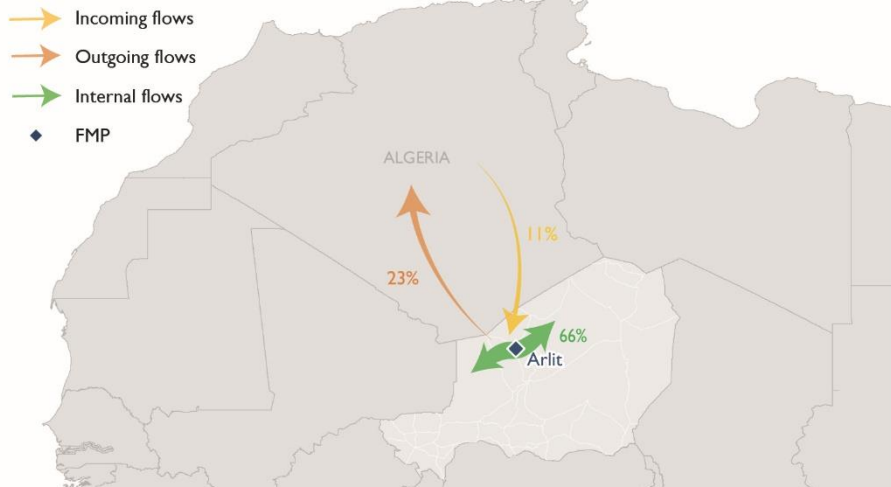
The **Arlit** Flow Monitoring Point captures both cross-border flows to and from Algeria, as well as internal movements in Niger. The Arlit FMP has been active since **February 2016**.

During the reporting month, more outgoing flows (2,681) than incoming flows (1,330) were observed. The main departure cities included Arlit, Agadez and Tchibarakaten (Niger); Tamanrasset and Inguezzam (Algeria) while the main destination cities included Arlit and Tchibarakaten. In fact, most migrants transiting through Assamaka were intending to travel to cities within Algeria including Tamanrasset, Inguezzam and Oran. Additionally, FMP figures do not include migrants who were subject to repression or were repatriated from Algeria as these are collected separately.

Compared to the previous month, the daily average decreased by 34 per cent with a daily average of 375 individuals crossing the FMP each day. This decrease can be explained by the movements restrictions observed in the last week of the month of March. These movements are justified by the resumption of gold mining activities in the northern part which also serves as a hub to connect Niger to North Africa (Algeria and Libya) for certain migrants. For these such migrants, this route is related to escaping the restriction of the law 036/2015 which criminalizes the illegal transport of migrants in this area of the country.

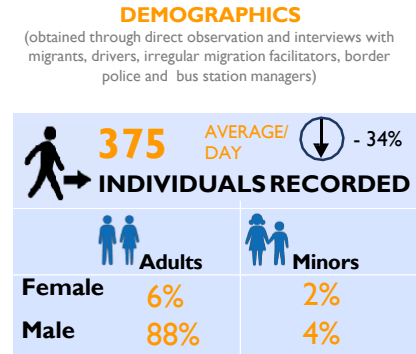
The main reasons for travel mentioned by the travelers were **seasonal migration** and **economic migration** (35% each), followed by **short-term local movements** (25%) and **forced movements** (5%).

The main nationalities observed crossing the Arlit FMP this month included Nigerien nationals (78%), Chadian and Nigerian nationals (4% each), and Sudanese (3%) and Malian (2%) nationals. The Guinean, Cameroonian and Senegalese nationals, among others, represented 9 per cent of observed individuals. It is important to note that the FMP breakdown of nationalities does not include migrants subject to repression and/or repatriated from Algeria via the official convoys.



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DEMOGRAPHICS



VULNERABILITIES



ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION

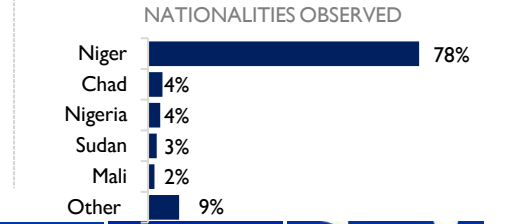
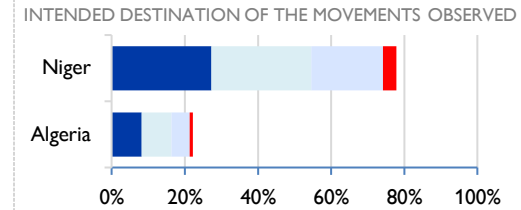
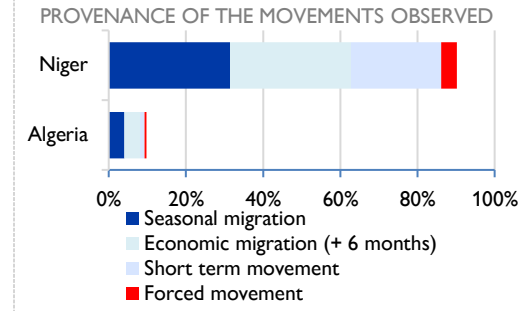
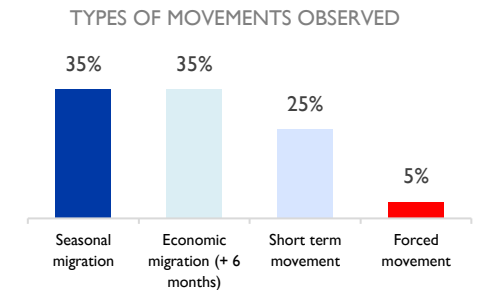
Country of provenance	%	Variation
Niger	90	+ 2 pp
Algeria	10	- 2 pp

Country of destination	%	Variation
Niger	78	+ 5 pp
Algeria	22	- 5 pp

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

TRAVELLERS' PROFILE

(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)



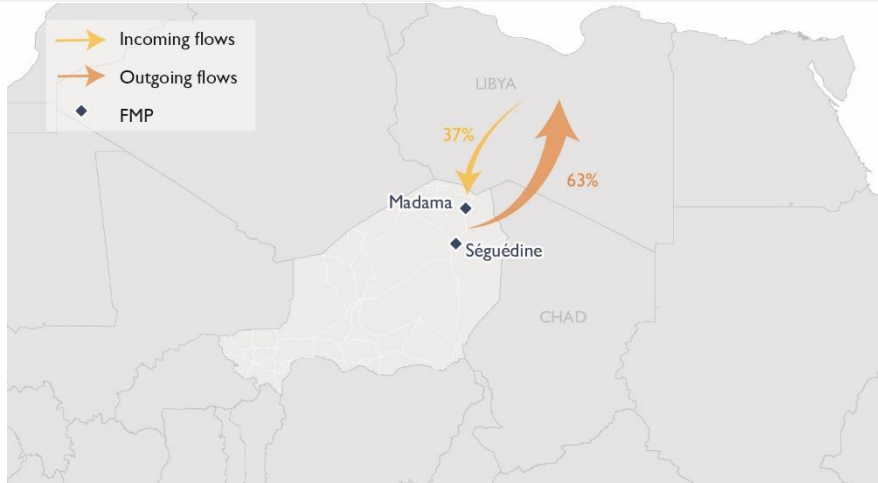
The **Séguédine and Madama** Flow Monitoring Point captures **cross-border flows** to and from neighbouring countries, mainly Libya. The Séguédine FMP has been active since February 2016. Given the vastness of the Agadez region which spans 703,000 km² (greater than the size of France and 21 times the size of 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 outgoing flows** while **Madama captures incoming flows**.

During this month, more outgoing flows (3,864 individuals representing 63% of flows observed) than incoming flows (2,211 individuals or 37% of all flows) were observed. A daily average of 195 individuals were observed crossing through the Séguédine/Madama FMP this month. The daily average of individuals passing through this FMP has decreased by 20 per cent compared to the previous month when 244 individuals were crossing the border each day.

During the month of March 2020, more than 200 migrants were held at Madama because of the closure of the border due to COVID-19's prevention measures.

The main reasons of movements observed were **economic migration (34%)** followed by **seasonal migration and short-term local movements (33% each)**. The search for employment in the gold sites in Murzuq as well as a return to calm in Libya consist of the main factors, among others, for the migration towards this country.

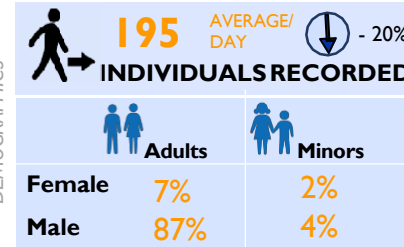
The main nationalities observed in August were mostly composed of Nigeriens (88%), followed by Nigerians (4%). Other nationalities observed at this FMP (8%) were Chadian, Lybian, Gambian, Mauritanian and Ghanaian nationals, among others.



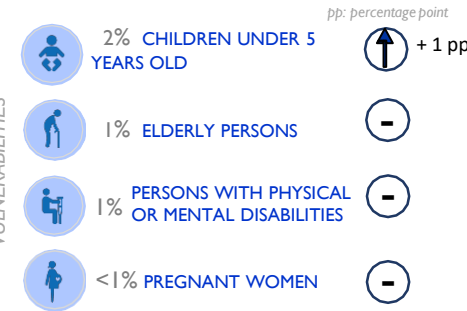
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DEMOGRAPHICS

(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)



DEMOGRAPHICS



VULNERABILITIES

Country of provenance	%	Variation
Niger	63	-
Libya	37	-

Country of destination	%	Variation
Libya	63	- 4 pp
Niger	37	+ 1 pp

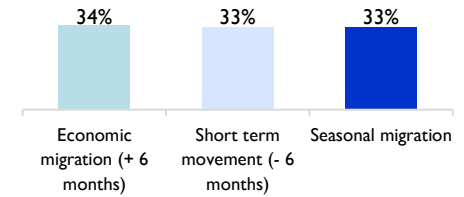
Variations computed based on data from the previous month

pp: percentage point

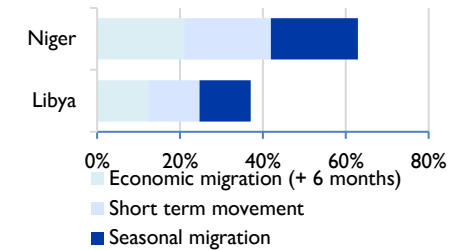
TRAVELLERS' PROFILE

(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)

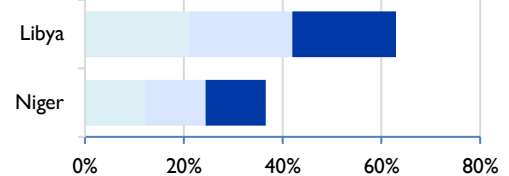
TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



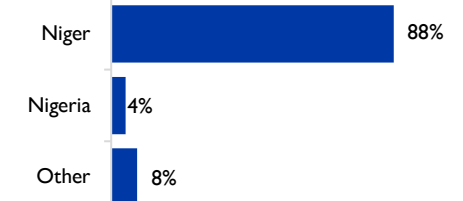
PROVENANCE OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



INTENDED DESTINATION OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



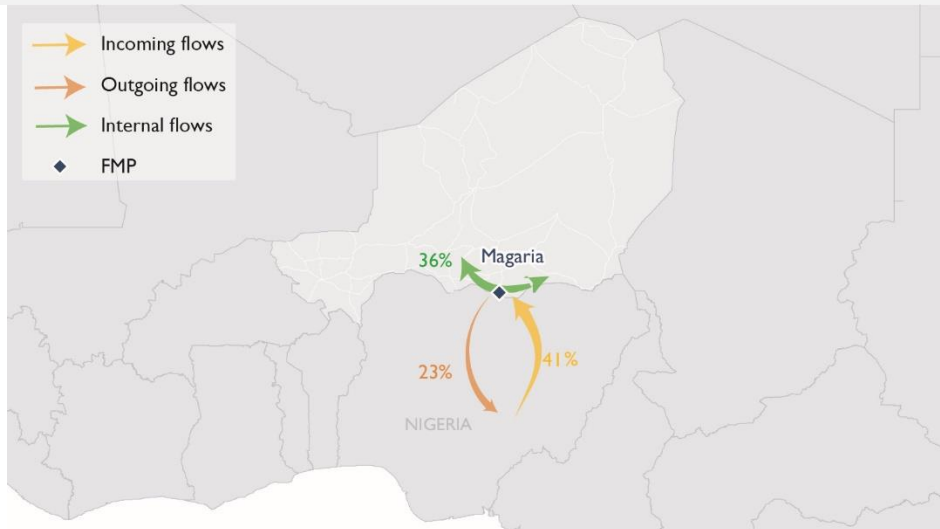
The **Magaria** Flow Monitoring Point was established to observe cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria, as well as internal flows. Magaria is a town on the border between Niger and Nigeria, through which high volumes of transit flows take place, originating from Nigeria which is one of the main points of origin for migrants travelling toward the Mediterranean sea. The Magaria FMP has been active since August 2018. Magaria is used mostly by Nigerien and Nigerian traders who have traditionally maintained an economic exchange. Most essential products towards Diffa and Zinder regions pass through this FMP. All cross-border flows observed were heading towards Niger or Nigeria and primarily coming from the departure cities of Magaria, Zinder, Dachi, Agadez, Tinkim, Bandé, Dungass, Tanout, Gada and Dogo (Niger) ; Babura, Garki, Kano, Baban Mutum and Daura (Nigeria).

A daily average of 142 individuals passing through the Magaria FMP was observed during this month, which represents a decrease of 28 per cent compared to the previous month, with more incoming flows (1,791 individuals or 41%) than outgoing flows (1,037 individuals or 23%), while almost the third of all flows observed were internal (1,566 individuals or 36%). The closure of the Nigeria - Niger and Nigeria - Benin border has been extended.

The reasons for migrating for most travellers were **short-term local movements (57%)** while **36 per cent of individuals travelling was for economic migration**. Six per cent were seasonal migrants while 1 per cent were forced movements.

The two nationalities observed passing through this FMP in March 2020 were Nigerien (78%) and Nigerian (22%).

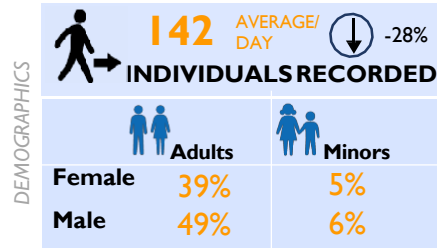
Vast majority of migrants transiting through the Magaria FMP travelled in private vehicles (88%) and motorcycles (12%).



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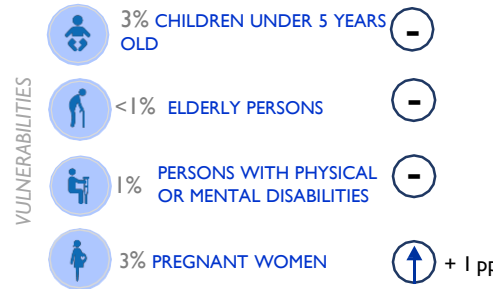
DEMOGRAPHICS

(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)



DEMOGRAPHICS

pp: percentage point



VULNERABILITIES

pp: percentage point

Country of provenance	%	Variation
Niger	54	+ 1 pp
Nigeria	46	- 1 pp

Country of destination	%	Variation
Niger	78	+ 4 pp
Nigeria	21	- 5 pp
Chad	1	+ 1 pp

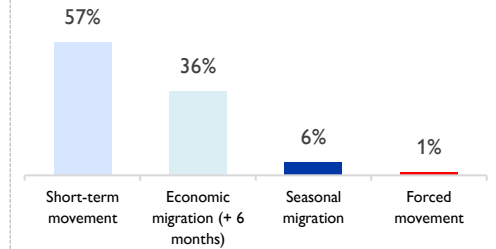
Variations calculated based on data from the previous month

ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION

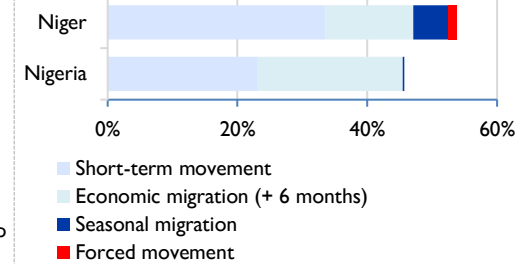
TRAVELLERS' PROFILE

(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)

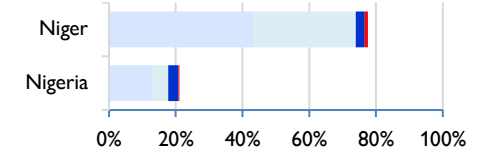
TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



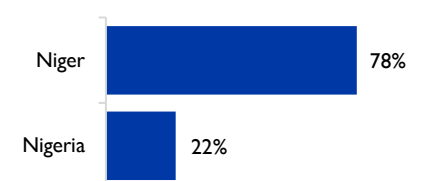
PROVENANCE OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



INTENDED DESTINATION OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



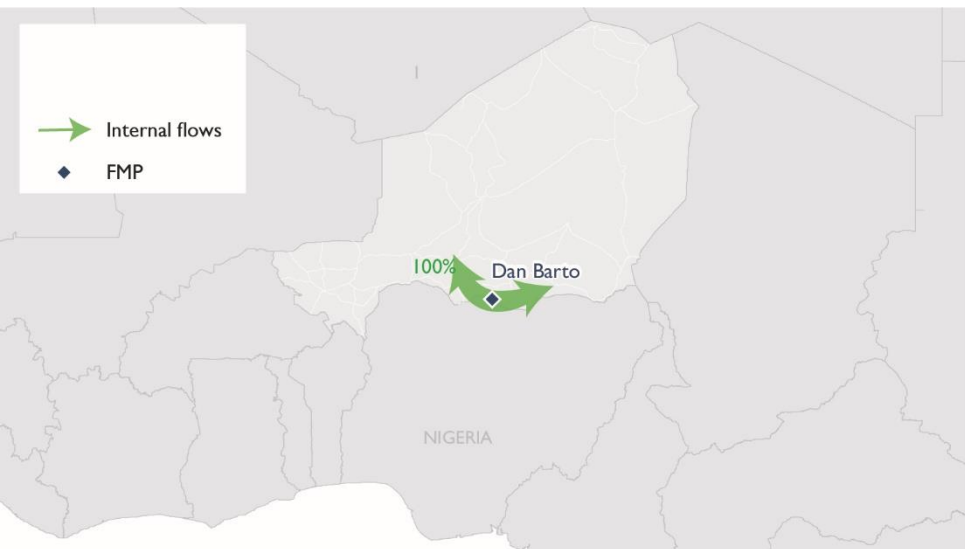
The **Dan Barto** Flow Monitoring Point captures cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria. Dan Barto is a town near the border with Nigeria through which high volumes of flows originating from Nigeria transit, often travelling towards the Mediterranean sea via Agadez and Libya. The Dan Barto FMP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

A daily average of 497 individuals passing through the Dan Barto FMP was observed during this month which represents a decrease of 43 per cent compared to the previous month when 705 individuals were crossing the FMP each day. The flows observed this month are mainly internal movements. This is due to the closure of the Niger - Nigeria border, as the Nigerian border police strictly enforces the measure, however few travelers take other crossing routes using some means which will allow them to cross the border.

The reasons cited for migrating were mostly **short-term local movements (49%)**, followed by **seasonal migrations (47%)** and **forced movements (4%)**.

The nationalities observed crossing the FMP of Dan Barto include Nigeriens (78%), Nigerians (17%), Ghanaian (2%) and other nationalities (3%).

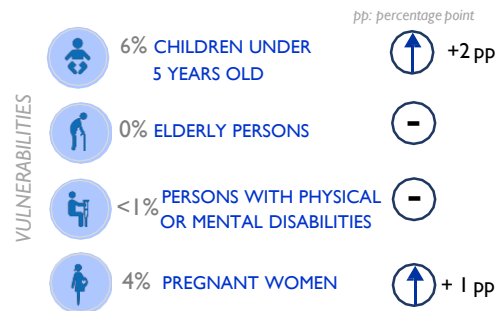
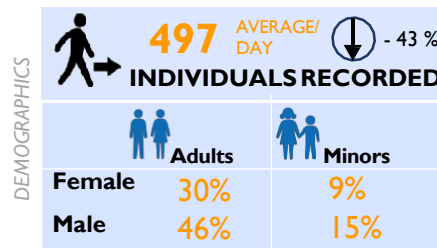
More than half of the individuals were observed travelling by private vehicles (50%), followed by bus (44%), trucks (3%) and motorcycles (2%).



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DEMOGRAPHICS

(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)



ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION

Country of provenance	%	Variation
Niger	100	+ 1 pp

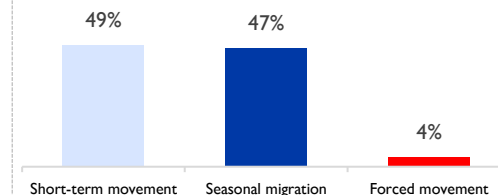
Country of destination	%	Variation
Niger	100	+ 1 pp

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month

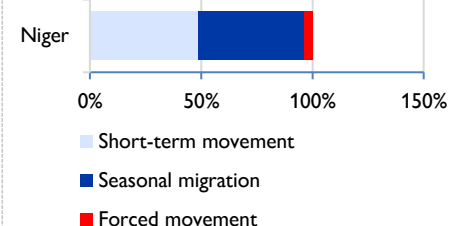
TRAVELLERS' PROFILE

(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)

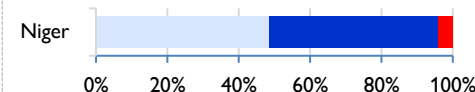
TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



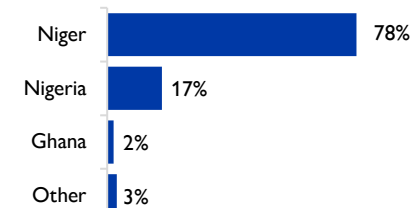
PROVENANCE OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



INTENDED DESTINATION OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



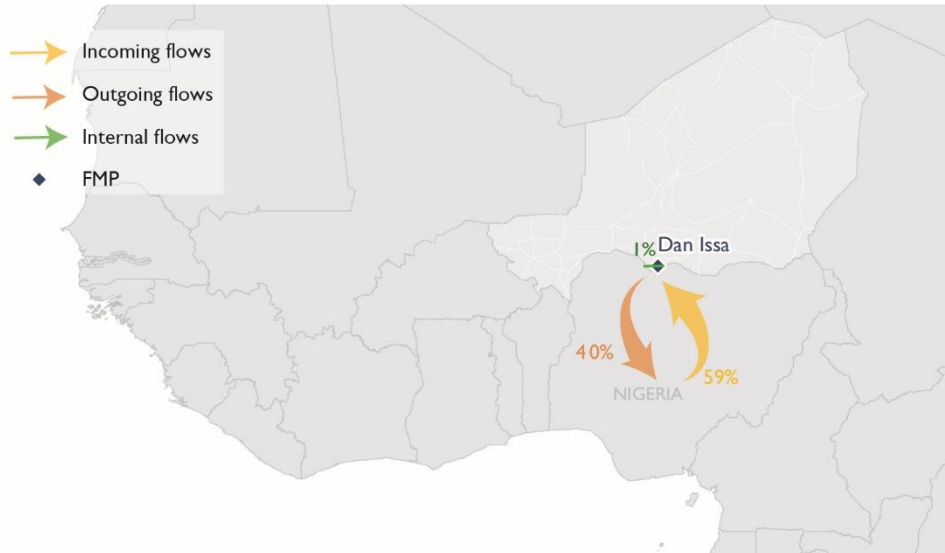
The **Dan Issa** Flow Monitoring Point captures cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria. Dan Issa is a town near the border with Nigeria through which high flow volumes pass. Migrants are often travelling towards the Mediterranean sea via Agadez and Libya. The Dan Issa FMP has been active since September 2018. Dan Issa is used mostly by Nigerien and Nigerian traders who have traditionally maintained an economic exchange. Most essential products heading towards Niamey and Maradi region pass through that FMP.

A daily average of 180 individuals passed through the Dan Issa FMP this month with more Incoming flows 3,302 individuals or 59 per cent of the total observed flows and outgoing flows accounted for 2,241 individuals or 41 per cent. All flows observed were heading toward Niger or Nigeria. The main cities of departure were Maradi (Niger); Katsina, Kano, Jibia and Magama (Nigeria). A 41 per cent decrease was observed in the daily average of observed individuals compared to the reports of the previous month.

The main reasons cited for migrating were **economic migration (44%)**, followed by **seasonal migration (43%)** and **short-term local movements (11%)** and **tourism (2%)**.

The nationalities observed crossing the FMP of Dan Issa were Nigeriens (78%), Nigerians (21%) and other nationalities (nationals from Mali, Chad and Cameroon) were 1 per cent.

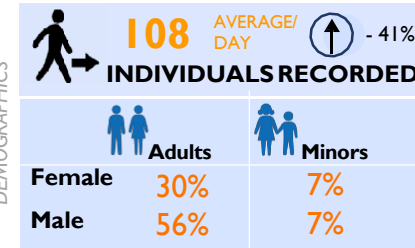
Most individuals were observed travelling by bus (54%) and by private vehicles (35%) and motorcycles (11%).



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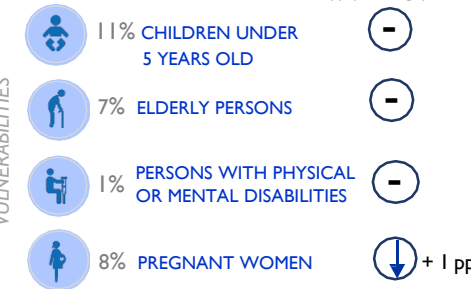
DEMOGRAPHICS

(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)



DEMOGRAPHICS

pp: percentage point



VULNERABILITIES

ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION

Country of provenance	%	Variation
Nigeria	60	+ 3 pp
Niger	40	- 2 pp

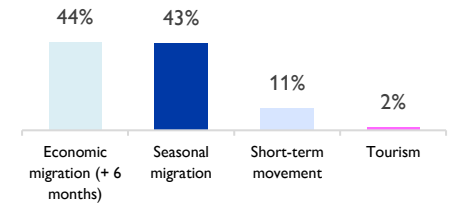
Country of destination	%	Variation
Niger	60	+ 4 pp
Nigeria	40	- 3 pp

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month

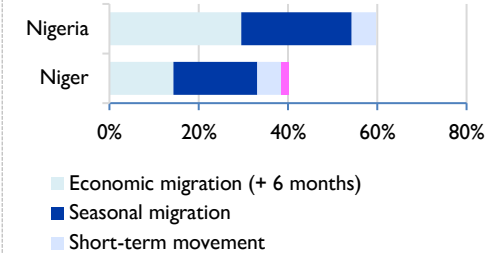
TRAVELLERS' PROFILE

(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)

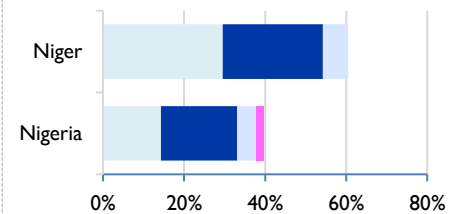
TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



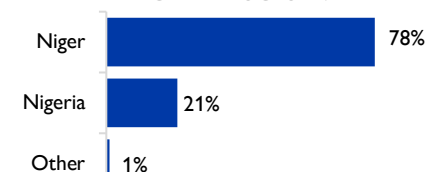
PROVENANCE OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



INTENDED DESTINATION OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



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 African countries, such as Mali, Cameroon and Burkina Faso. They tend to take the Agadez route to travel northbound toward Algeria and Libya, while some reach Algeria through Tchintabaraden, about 300 km near the Algerian border. The Tahoua FMP has been **active since August 2018**.

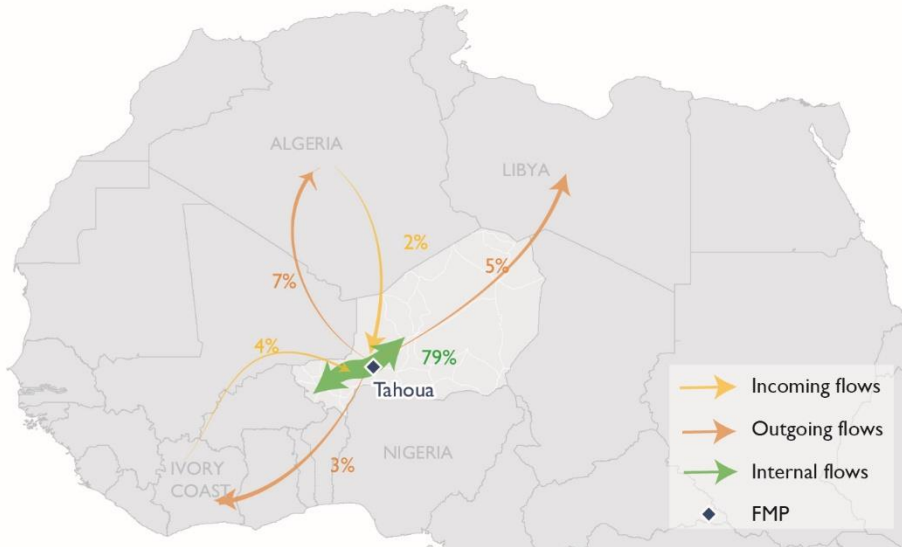
A **daily average of 94 individuals** passing through the Tahoua FMP was observed in March 2020. This represents a decrease of 8 per cent in comparison with the previous month when an average of 102 individuals were crossing the FMP each day. Movements originated mainly from Niamey, Tahoua, Agadez, Arlit, Maradi and Zinder in Niger. The other departure countries include Ivory coast and Algeria.

Most flows observed were internal (79%) which is linked to the fact that the FMP is located in the middle of Niger. Incoming flows represented 6 per cent of flows, while outgoing flows represented 15 per cent of flows.

The main reasons cited for migrating were **seasonal migration (38%)** followed by **short-term local movements (34%)**, **economic migration (27%)** and **forced movements (2%)**.

The main nationalities observed crossing the Tahoua FMP were Nigeriens (90%), Nigerians (3%), Beninese and Burkinabe (2% each), and other nationalities (3%) among them are Ivorians, Ghanaians, Gambians, Senegalese, Guineans, Malians and Cameroonians.

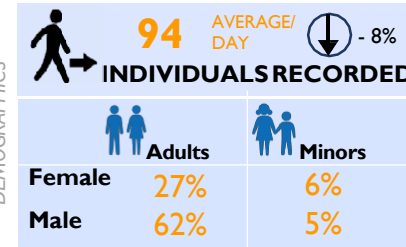
Most of the individuals observed were travelling by bus (84%), followed by private vehicles (13%) and trucks (3%).



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 the IOM.

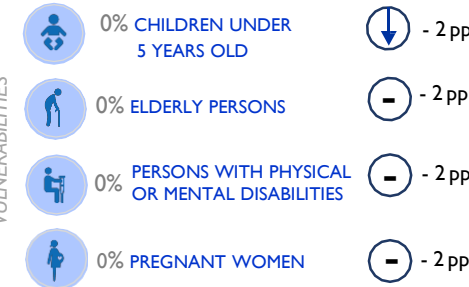
DEMOGRAPHICS

(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)



DEMOGRAPHICS

pp: percentage point



VULNERABILITIES

Country of provenance	%	Variation
Niger	94	+ 4 pp
Ivory Coast	4	- 2 pp
Algeria	2	+ 2 pp

ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION

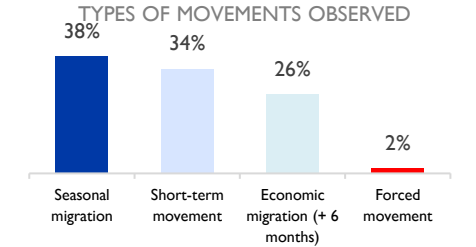
Country of destination	%	Variation
Niger	86	+ 5 pp
Algeria	6	- 1 pp
Libya	5	- 2 pp
Ivory Coast	5	- 2 pp

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month

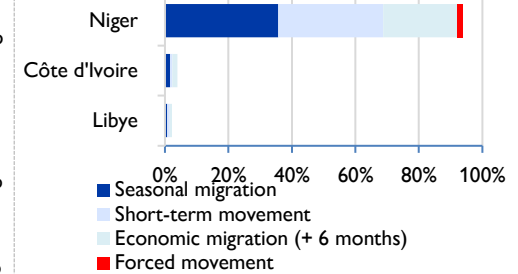
pp: percentage point

TRAVELLERS' PROFILE

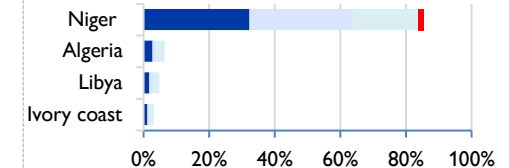
(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)



PROVENANCE OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



INTENDED DESTINATION OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



NATIONALITIES OBSERVED

