DTM DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX

Project funded by the European Union

IOM LIBYA

MIGRANT REPORT ROUND 54

AUGUST - OCTOBER 2024

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Cover photo: A recreational activity organised by IOM Libya at camp in Ejdabia © *Moaiad Duffani / IOM 2024*

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KEY FINDINGS

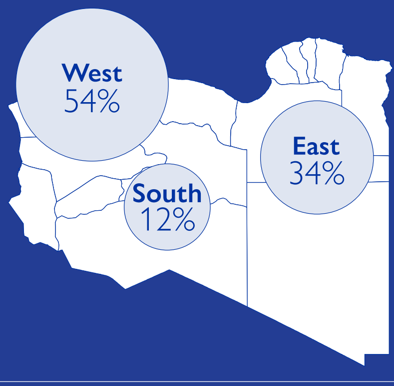
ROUND 54 (AUGUST - OCTOBER 2024)

DTM DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX

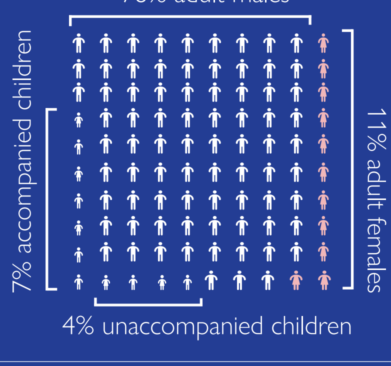
787,326

migrants were identified by DTM Libya during round 54 of data collection (August - October 2024). Around eight in ten (78%) were adult males, 11 per cent were adult females, and 11 per cent were children, among whom 4% were unaccompanied minors.

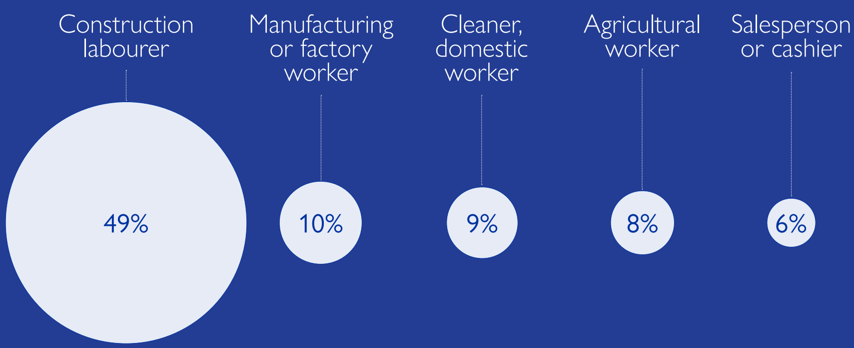
LOCATION



SEX & AGE



TOP 5 JOBS OF MIGRANTS IN LIBYA



TOP 5 NATIONALITIES

Sudan	26%
Niger	24%
Egypt	21%
Chad	10%
Nigeria	4%

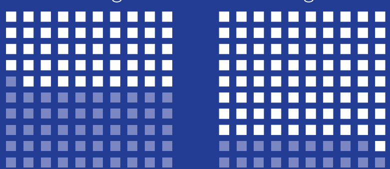
UNEMPLOYMENT

(by sex)

21%
of migrants were unemployed and actively seeking work

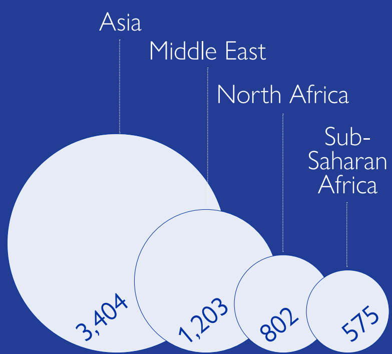
51% *Female migrants*

19% *Male migrants*



COST OF JOURNEY

(average (USD), by region of origin)



EXPERIENCES OF SHOCKS

41%

of migrants reported having experienced at least one shock (e.g. environmental, political, economic) prior to migrating to Libya. Two thirds mentioned that the shock(s) they had experienced had had a severe impact on their food consumption and income.

IOM UN MIGRATION

OVERVIEW

IOM Libya's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) programme identified a total of 787,326 migrants from 44 nationalities in all 100 Libyan municipalities during round 54 of data collection (August-October 2024). The number of migrants in Libya has continued to increase slightly (+3%) compared to the previous round of data collection. This increase is in line with a trend that started in December 2023.

The number of migrants identified in October 2024 is the highest since DTM Libya started collecting data in 2016 but remains lower than that prior to the onset of conflict in 2011 when it was estimated to be around 2.5 million.

DTM Libya has continued observing an increase in the number of migrants, particularly in eastern coastal areas and western Libya, as a result of greater livelihood opportunities, including in the sectors of construction, oil, trade, and agriculture, and in part due to the relatively stable security situation in some municipalities.

Financial difficulties continue to be the main issue affecting more than half of migrants (62%) regardless of sex, age, or employment status. A greater proportion of unemployed migrants (85%) reported facing financial difficulties compared to those who were employed (55%).

In line with a study conducted by DTM Libya in 2024 about identity documentation, a quarter of migrants surveyed reported that documentation issues were amongst the top three difficulties they faced in Libya.

Situation in Alkufra

During the period between August and October 2024, DTM Libya also observed the continued arrival of Sudanese nationals* in Alkufra and other locations in eastern Libya due to the ongoing conflict in their country of origin.

Recognizing the unique circumstances and needs of Sudanese nationals in Libya, DTM Libya assessed the MHPSS-, shelter- and WASH-related needs and resources available to Sudanese nationals who arrived in Alkufra following the onset of conflict in Sudan in April 2023 and who are sheltering in informal settings.

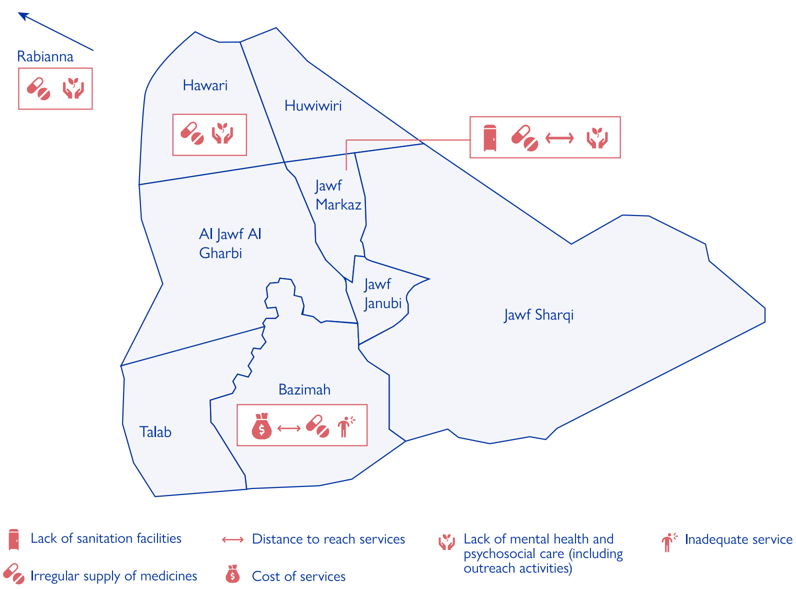
According to key informants, 55 per cent of shelters in all muhallas were deemed inadequate and in urgent need of major repairs. Furthermore, an average of 27 per cent of settlements were considered unsafe settings for women, boys and girls, including 50 per cent of settlements in Bzimah Jadida and 33 per cent of those in Jawf Markaz).

▲ <1%

Of key informants surveyed, in June and July 2024, only 0.35 per cent indicated that Sudanese nationals have access to MHPSS services in the places where they reside in Alkufra municipality.

Key informants and focus group discussions highlighted that Sudanese nationals face an array of challenges in accessing MHPSS services, as they often reside in remote locations (e.g., farms) where living conditions are challenging. As respondents indicated, certain remote locations are often overcrowded and missing key services, which further contributes to physical and psychological stress.

Fig 1: Top health-related challenges by neighbourhood (muhallas) in the municipality of Alkufra identified by key informants



*The data on Sudanese nationals in this report represents a snapshot from the time of data collection. Given the highly fluid situation, these figures are likely to have changed and increased since then. For the most up-to-date information on the Sudanese situation, please refer to the latest reports from the IM Taskforce under the UNHCR-led Refugee Response Plan.

Geographical patterns and trends

In line with previous reports, and highlighting the influence of geographical proximity and diasporic ties, eight in ten migrants in Libya (81%) are nationals from four neighbouring countries: Sudan (26%), Niger (24%), Egypt (21%), and Chad (10%) with a minority from Tunisia (1%) or Algeria (<1%) (Fig 2).

This trend highlights the influence of geographical proximity and diasporic ties that continue to shape migration patterns. The percentage of Sudanese nationals who engage in circular migration to Libya has significantly decreased twice since April 2023. In contrast, migrants from the other five neighboring countries (Tunisia, Algeria, Niger, Chad, and Egypt) are more likely to commute to Libya, with 15% compared to 4% for nationals from other countries.

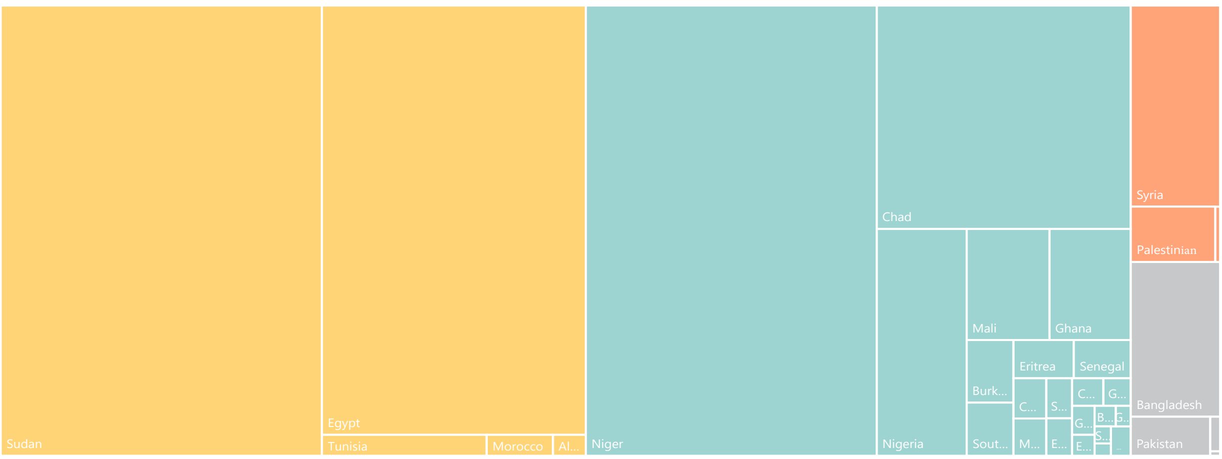
The overall majority of migrants identified by DTM Libya during round 54 (August-October 2024) were from North Africa (48%) or sub-Saharan Africa (45%) while a minority were from the Middle East (4%) or Asia (3%) (Fig 3). The largest migrant populations identified by DTM during round 54 of data collection were located in the coastal regions of Tripoli (16%), Misrata (11%), Benghazi (10%), Almargeb (6%), Ejdabia (6%), and Azzawya (6%) (Fig 4).

The Libyan coastal area is home to the majority of urban settlements and crop land, while the rest of the country (more than 95% of the total area) is mainly desertic or arid areas.

Fig 2: Number and proportion of migrants by nationality

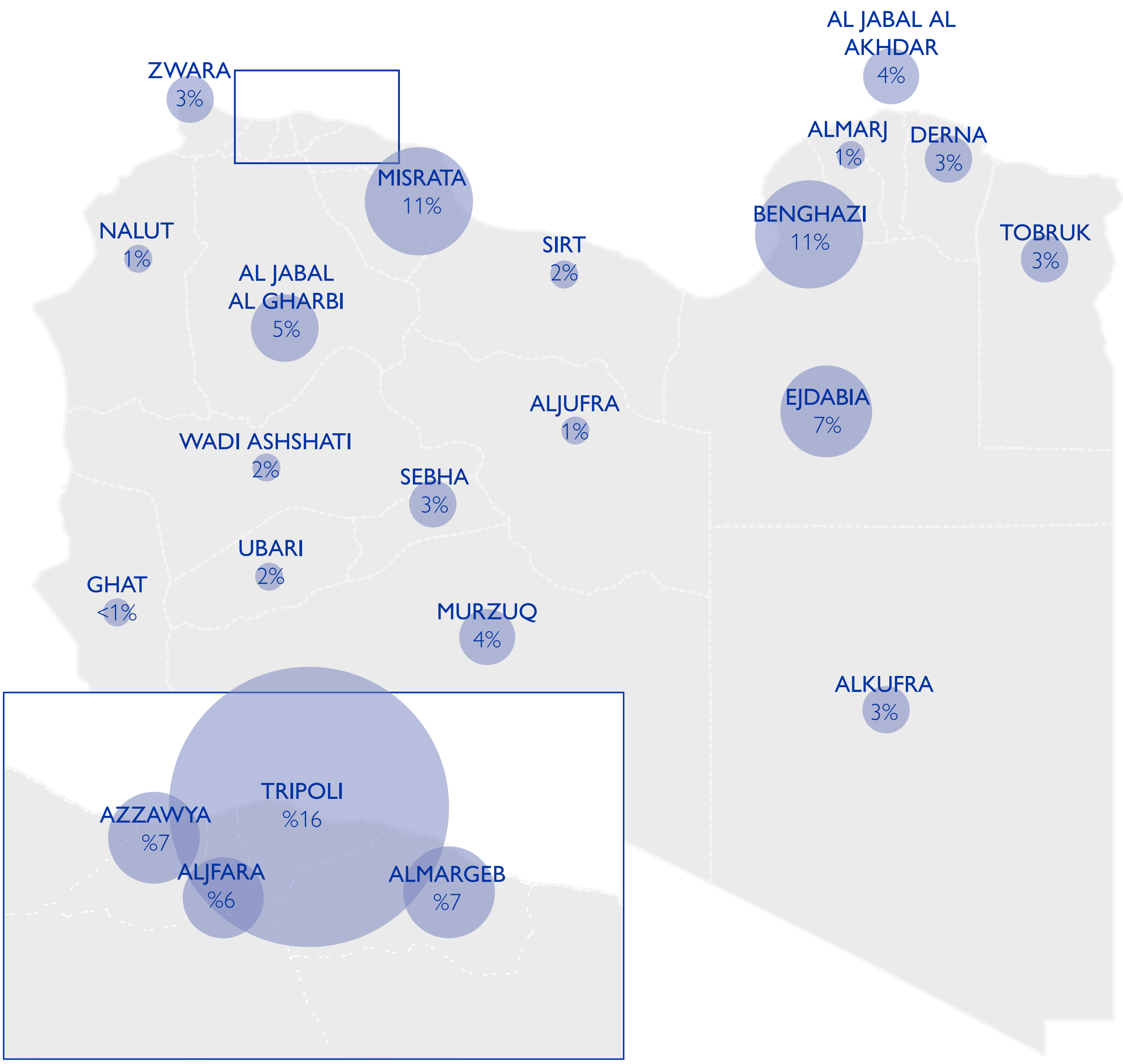
Nationality	Number of migrants	% migrants
Sudan	207,117	26%
Niger	187,471	24%
Egypt	162,231	21%
Chad	81,220	10%
Nigeria	29,274	4%
Syria	25,730	3%
Bangladesh	19,820	3%
Mali	13,146	2%
Ghana	12,930	2%
Palestinian	6,711	1%
Other	6,148	1%
Tunisia	4,931	0.6%
Pakistan	4,442	0.6%
BurkinaFaso	4,182	0.5%
SouthSudan	3,550	0.5%
Eritrea	3,299	0.4%
Senegal	3,117	0.4%
Morocco	1,979	0.3%
CôtedIvoire	1,898	0.2%
Mauritania	1,751	0.2%
Somalia	1,473	0.2%
Ethiopia	1,379	0.2%
Cameroon	1,244	0.2%
Unkown	1,206	0.2%
Guinea	1,077	0.1%
Total for Libya	**787,326**	**100%**

Fig 3: Countries and regions of origin of migrants in Libya and percentage of migrants from each region



Sub-Saharan Africa (48%) North Africa (44%) Middle East (4%) Asia (4%)

Fig 4: Percentage of migrants per region (mantika) during DTM round 54 of data collection



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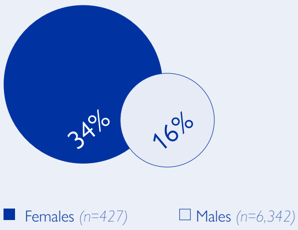
HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

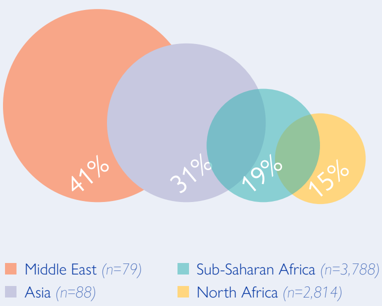
Access to sufficient drinking water continues to be more limited among female migrants (34%) than males (16%) (Fig 5) as well as among those from the Middle East (41%) and Asia (31%) compared to those from North Africa (15%) and sub-Saharan Africa (19%) (Fig 6).

Fig 5: Migrants with insufficient access to drinking water
(by sex)



Based on key informants, in addition to the lack of access to the water network, migrants also face challenges relating to the affordability of safe drinking water. In line with these findings, a greater proportion of unemployed migrants (29%) mentioned that they lack access to clean drinking water compared to those who were employed (14%).

Fig 6: Migrants with insufficient access to drinking water
(by region of origin)

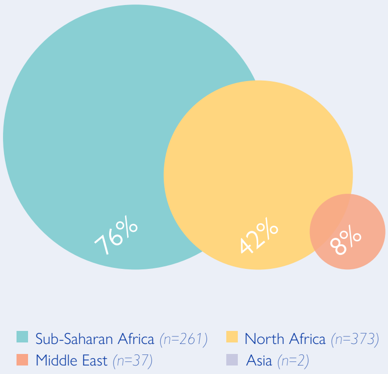


Of all migrants, those from the Middle East (41%) are most affected by insufficient access to drinking water, while migrants from North Africa (15%) are least affected.

ACCESS TO EDUCATION

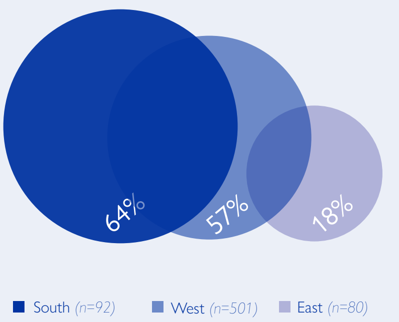
Consistent with previous reports, only a minority of migrants (10%) interviewed by DTM between August and October 2024 reported having family members aged between 5 and 18 in Libya. Among them, more than half (53%) reported that their children lacked access to education in Libya.

Fig 7: Migrant children without access to school in Libya
(by region of origin)



The lack of access to education was an issue for a greater proportion of migrants from sub-Saharan (76%) and North Africa (42%) compared to those from the Middle East (8%) (Fig 7) and for migrants in western (57%) and southern Libya (64%) compared to the east (18%) (Fig. 8), mainly because of a lack of documents, financial issues, and language barriers.

Fig 8: Migrant children without access to school in Libya
(by location of survey)

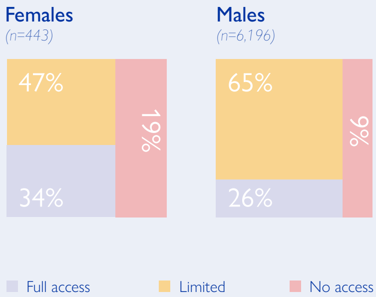


N.b. Sample size for Asian migrants was too small for analysis.

ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

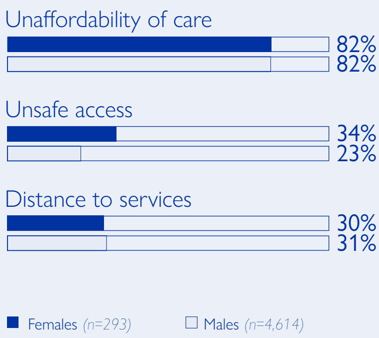
Over seven in ten migrants (74%) in Libya mentioned having limited or no access to healthcare. More females (19%) than males (9%) mentioned having no access (Fig 9).

Fig 9: Access to healthcare in Libya *(by sex)*



The main barrier to obtaining health services in Libya remains the unaffordability of care in the case of both male and female migrants (Fig 10). Migrants also reported facing obstacles with accessing healthcare in Libya (31%), the irregular supply of medicines (28%), the inadequate quality of care (24%), and the inability to reach services safely (24%).

Fig 10: Top 3 barriers to accessing healthcare
(by sex)



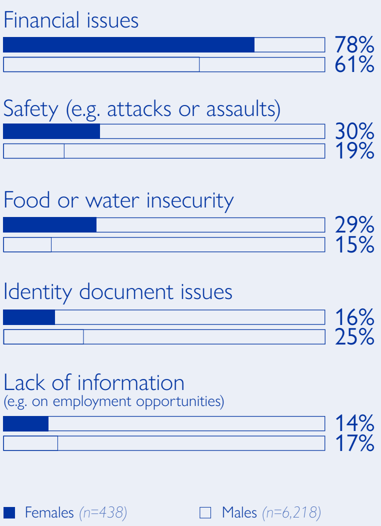
In these ways, the data highlights how women migrants face an array of challenges to accessing healthcare services. This can further compound pre-existing vulnerabilties.

HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

MAIN DIFFICULTIES

Financial difficulties continue to be the main issue affecting more than half of migrants (62%) regardless of sex, age or employment status. However, a greater proportion of unemployed migrants (85%) reported facing financial difficulties compared to those who were employed (55%).

Fig 11: Three main difficulties faced by migrants in Libya
(by sex, multiple-choice question)



In line with a study conducted by DTM Libya on identity documentation, a quarter of migrants surveyed reported that documentation issues were some of the top three difficulties they faced in Libya. These issues related to accessing formal documentation as well as renewing documentation.

Migrants without identity documents are more likely to experience compound vulnerabilities, such as safety issues, and they experience greater difficulties with accessing essential services, such as healthcare and education. Insecurity, notably attacks or assaults, was identified as the third most-significant difficulty faced by migrants.

ACCOMMODATION TYPES

According to key informants, over eight in ten of the total number of migrants in Libya resided in rented accommodation, which is either self-paid or paid by others. Most migrants live in rented accommodation for which they pay for themselves. A minority of migrants (15%) sheltered in their workplaces (Fig 12).

Fig 12: Accommodation settings
(key informants data)

Through direct surveys, DTM Libya found that, on average, a migrant shares the room with four individuals and pays 26 USD as her/his part of monthly rent.

A greater proportion of female migrants stated having been evicted or threatened with eviction (6%) compared to males (2%), which is at least partially related to the higher unemployment rate among female migrants (51%) compared to males (19%). The inability to pay rent is the main reason why migrants reported being threatened with eviction. This applies equally to both female and male migrants (82% and 61% respectively).

ACCESS TO DOCUMENTATION

Nearly nine in ten migrants (87%) in Libya mentioned not possessing a work permit. A greater proportion of migrants from the Middle East (38%) and Asia (37%) stated holding a work permit compared to those from North (21%) or sub-Saharan Africa (5%) (Fig 13).

Fig 13: Possession of a work permit in Libya
(by region of origin)

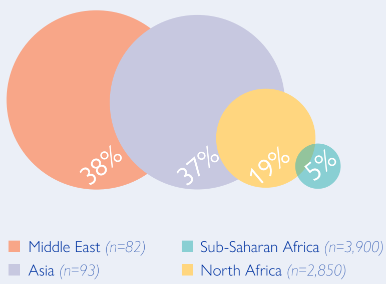
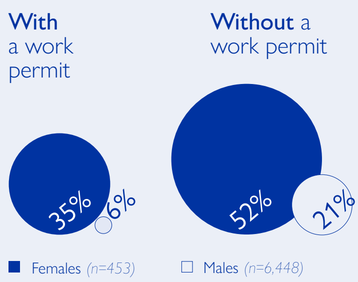


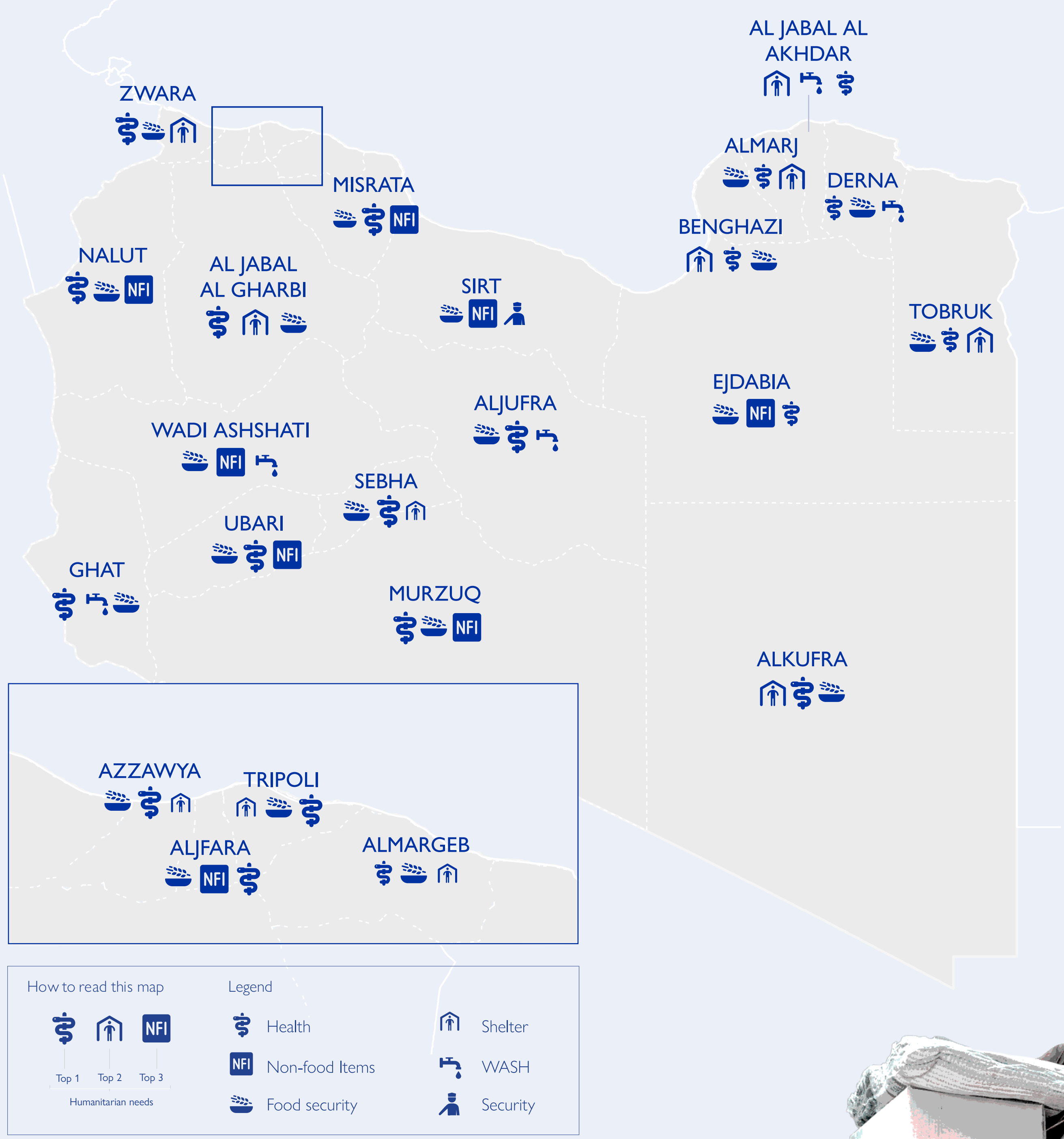
Fig 14: Unemployment
(by sex and whether migrant are in possession of a work permit)



The unemployment rate among migrants without a work permit was significantly higher, particularly for female migrants, compared to those with a work permit (Fig 14).

While migrants do not always need documentation to secure employment in Libya, the data points to the impact of not having a work permit as a factor relegating migrants to the informal economy.

Fig 15: Humanitarian priority needs of migrants per region (mantika)



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SITUATION BEFORE MIGRATING

Four in ten migrants (41%) reported having experienced at least one shock, which the majority (68%) indicated had a severe impact on their life, in the year prior to migrating to Libya. Among them, around two thirds mentioned having experienced three or more compounding shocks.

The main shocks cited were economic in nature (e.g. low or decreased wages, rise in food or agricultural input prices) (Fig 16). For a large share of migrants from North Africa as well as those from the Middle East, the main shocks cited were related to conflict and violence.

Unemployment, or the inability to find work in the 12 months prior to migrating to Libya, was cited by 54 per cent of migrants who reported having experienced a shock. A greater proportion of migrants from sub-Saharan Africa (63%) and North Africa (47%) experienced this shock as compared to those from the Middle East (40%).

The high costs of agricultural products (e.g., fertilizer, pesticides, seeds) were cited as an issue among a greater proportion of migrants from Asia (44%), sub- Saharan Africa (33%), and North Africa (21%) compared to those from the Middle East (13%).

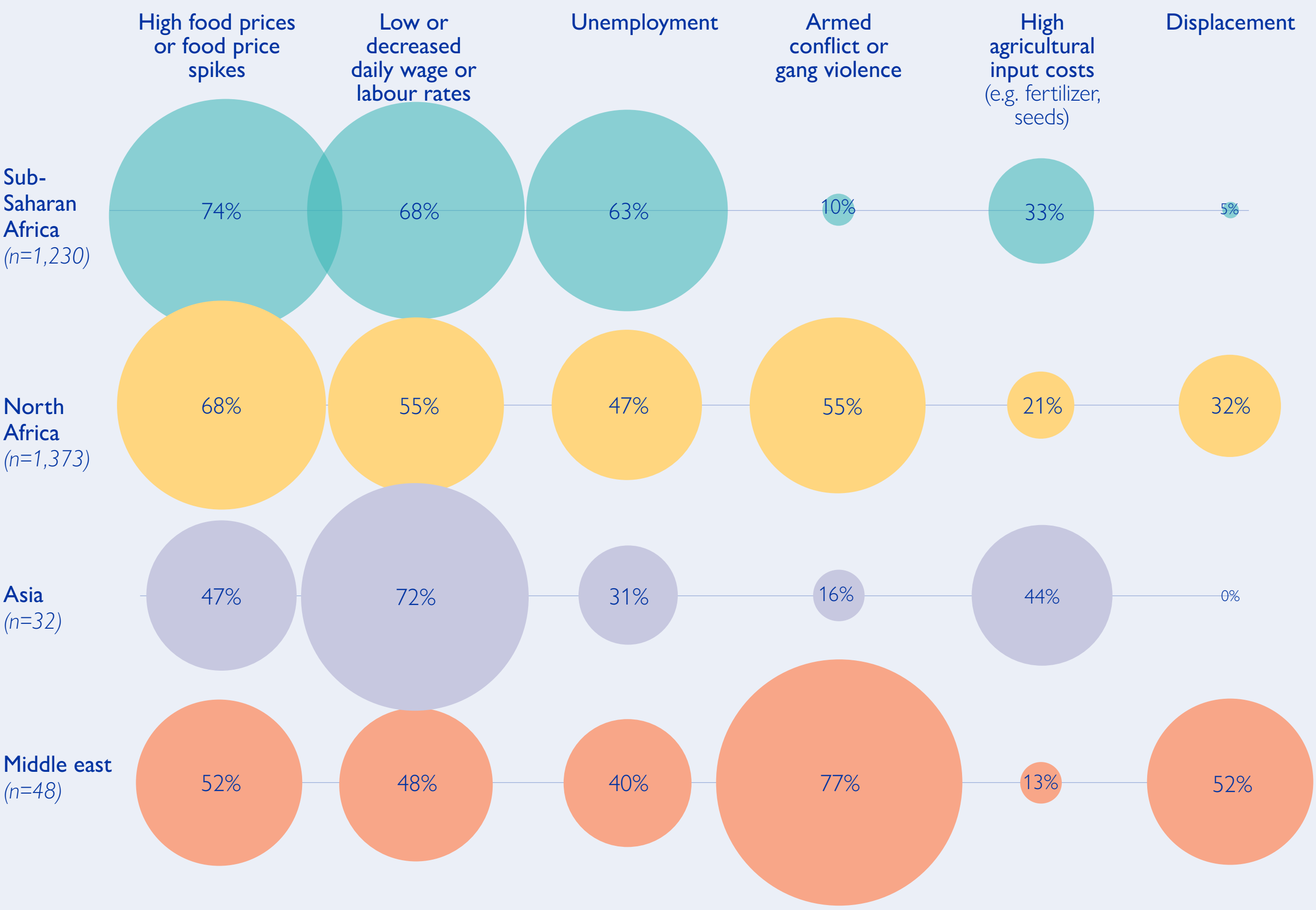
41%

of migrants reported having **experienced at least one shock** in the year prior to migrating to Libya.

33%

of migrants who were working in the agricultural sector in their home country reported having experienced a **loss of agricultural production or livestock due to environmental factors** such as sudden disasters or slow-onset degradation (e.g. droughts, floods).

Fig 16: Top shocks experienced in the 12 months prior to migrating to Libya
(by region of origin)



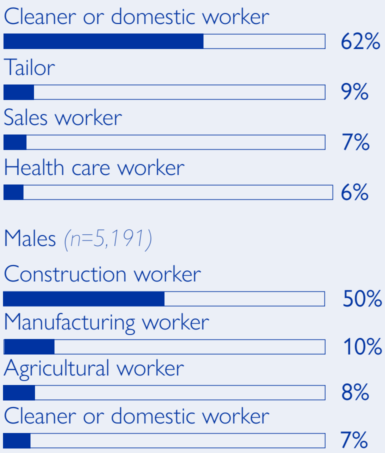
LABOUR MARKET

TOP OCCUPATIONS

The employment rate for female migrants remains significantly lower than that of male migrants, at 29% compared to 81%. Female migrants were primarily employed as cleaner or domestic worker (62%), tailor (9%), sales worker (e.g. supermarket cashier, store clerk) (7%) or healthcare worker (6%) (Fig 17).

Male migrants were mainly working as construction (50%), manufacturing or factory (10%), agricultural labourers (8%), or cleaner or domestic worker (7%) (Fig 17).

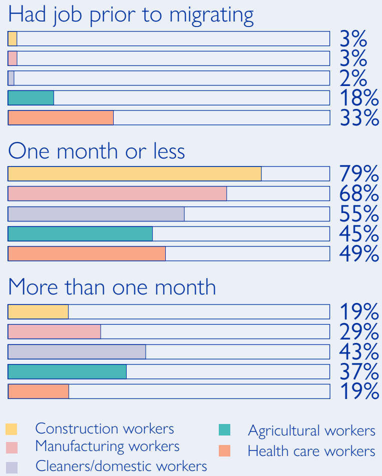
Fig 17: Top 4 jobs
(by sex)



FINDING EMPLOYMENT

Overall, a minority of migrants (6%) reported having secured employment prior to leaving their home country. A greater proportion of health care workers (33%) and agricultural labourers (18%) indicated that they had secured a job prior to leaving their country of origin, compared to those employed as manufacturing or factory workers (3%), construction labourers (3%) or cleaners (2%) (Fig 18).

Fig 18: Time required to find employment upon arriving in Libya
(by work sector)

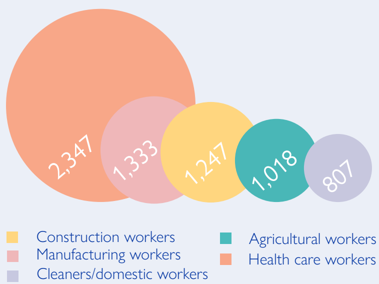


EARNINGS

Between August and October, employed migrants reported an average monthly income of 1,240 Libyan Dinars (LYD). This figure surpasses the Full Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB), which was 968.3 LYD in October 2024. Nevertheless, 55% of employed migrants and 85% of unemployed migrants currently experiencing financial issues.

Although their income is insufficient for regular remittances, a significant portion of migrants (63%) still indicated that they send money home whenever they have saved enough.

Fig 19: Average earnings in last 30 days (LYD)
(by work sector)

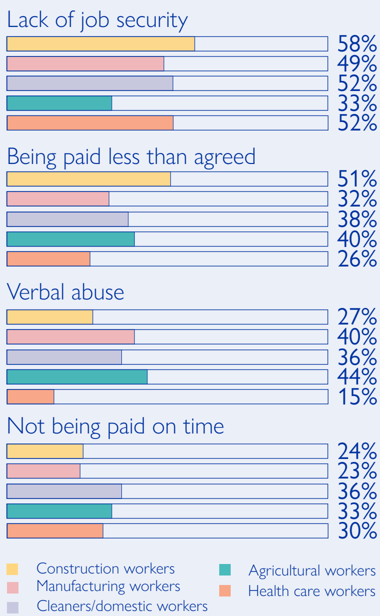


WORK CONDITIONS

Migrants' working conditions in Libya remain predominantly characterized by non-standard or temporary work agreements across an array of sectors, including construction and agriculture. Between August and October, 49 per cent of migrants interviewed were employed on a short-term or casual basis, such as daily wage workers. Only a small fraction (2%) reported having a written and signed contract, in contrast to 51 per cent of healthcare workers who held such contracts.

The primary risk identified by the majority of migrants was a lack of job security, a concern shared regardless of gender or work permit status. On average, 55 per cent of migrants reported feeling insecure in their jobs, with this proportion being higher among construction workers (58%) compared to agricultural workers (33%) (Fig 20). The data highlights that the majority of migrants work in precarious conditions.

Fig 20: Top risks faced at work
(by work sector)



MIGRATION ROUTES: TRANSIT COUNTRIES

The largest share of the 24,440 individuals who were interviewed by DTM Libya between January and October 2024 had transited through or came from Niger (44%), Egypt (20%), Sudan (16%)*, or Chad (13%) before arriving in Libya. A minority had transited through or came from Tunisia (4%), Algeria (1%), or a combination of other countries (2%) (Fig 21).

The majority of individuals interviewed (86%) mentioned that they traveled with a group. Almost half of them (48%) were accompanied by family members or friends on their journey to Libya. More than three-quarters (76%) of individuals crossed the Libyan borders through unofficial entry points.

Individuals interviewed between August and October 2024 reported that their journey from their country of origin to Libya cost an average of USD 712, although the amount varied greatly depending on the route taken (see 'migration routes: analysis and trends' section).

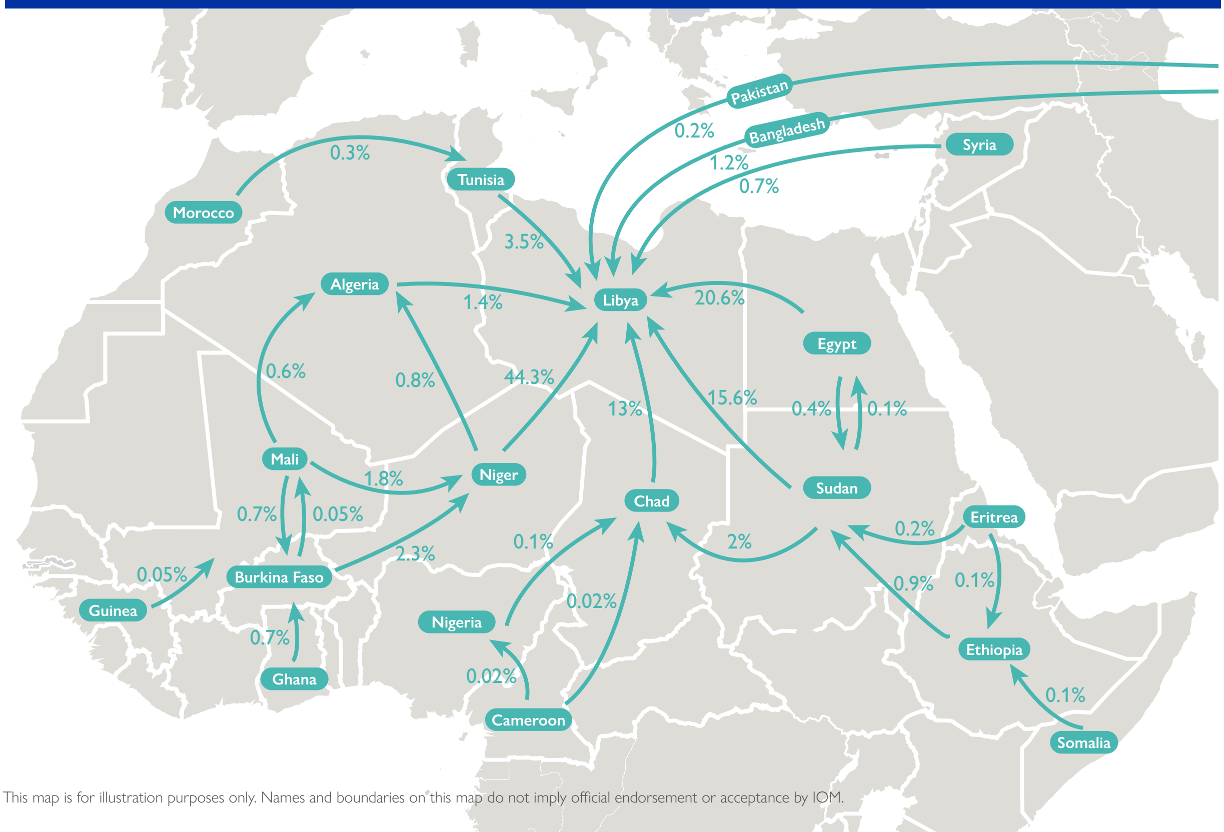
70%

of the average journey cost was allocated to facilitators' service expenses, as reported by migrants surveyed between August and October 2024. The services provided by facilitators were primarily for transportation (95%) or to help migrants cross difficult areas along their journey (53%).

Fig 21: 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 on 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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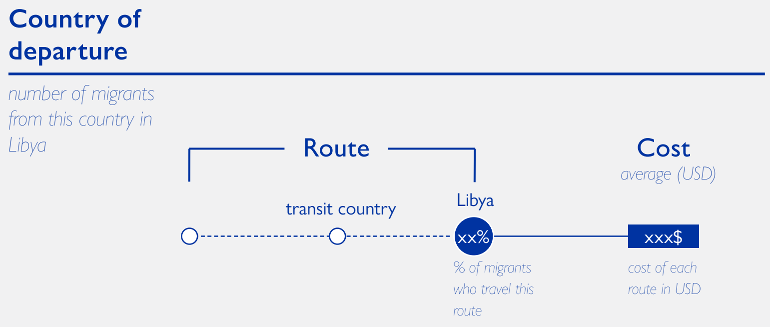
MIGRATION ROUTES: ANALYSIS AND TRENDS

This section outlines the different routes taken by migrants and the percentage of migrants who use these routes by country of origin drawing on data collected by DTM Libya over the period January - October 2024. 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 the location where individual interviews occurred.

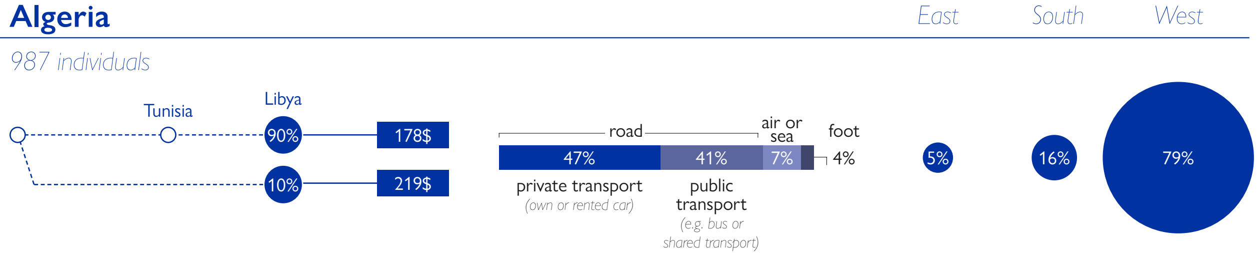
How to read this infographic



ROUTES	COST	MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION	PRESENCE IN LIBYA BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS

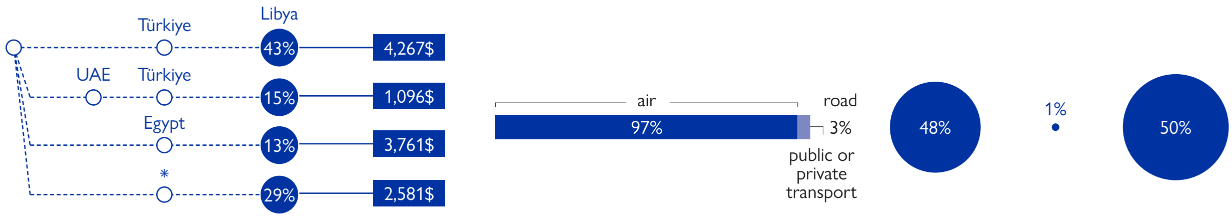
Algeria

987 individuals



Bangladesh

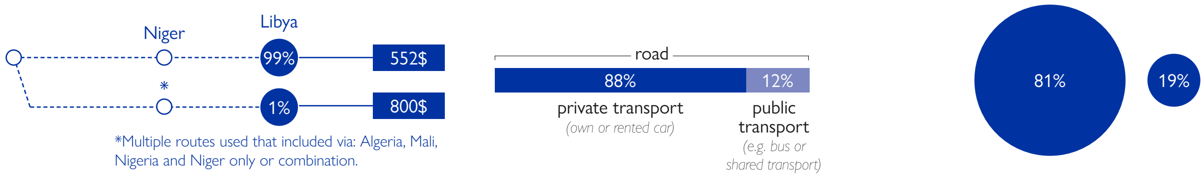
19,820 individuals



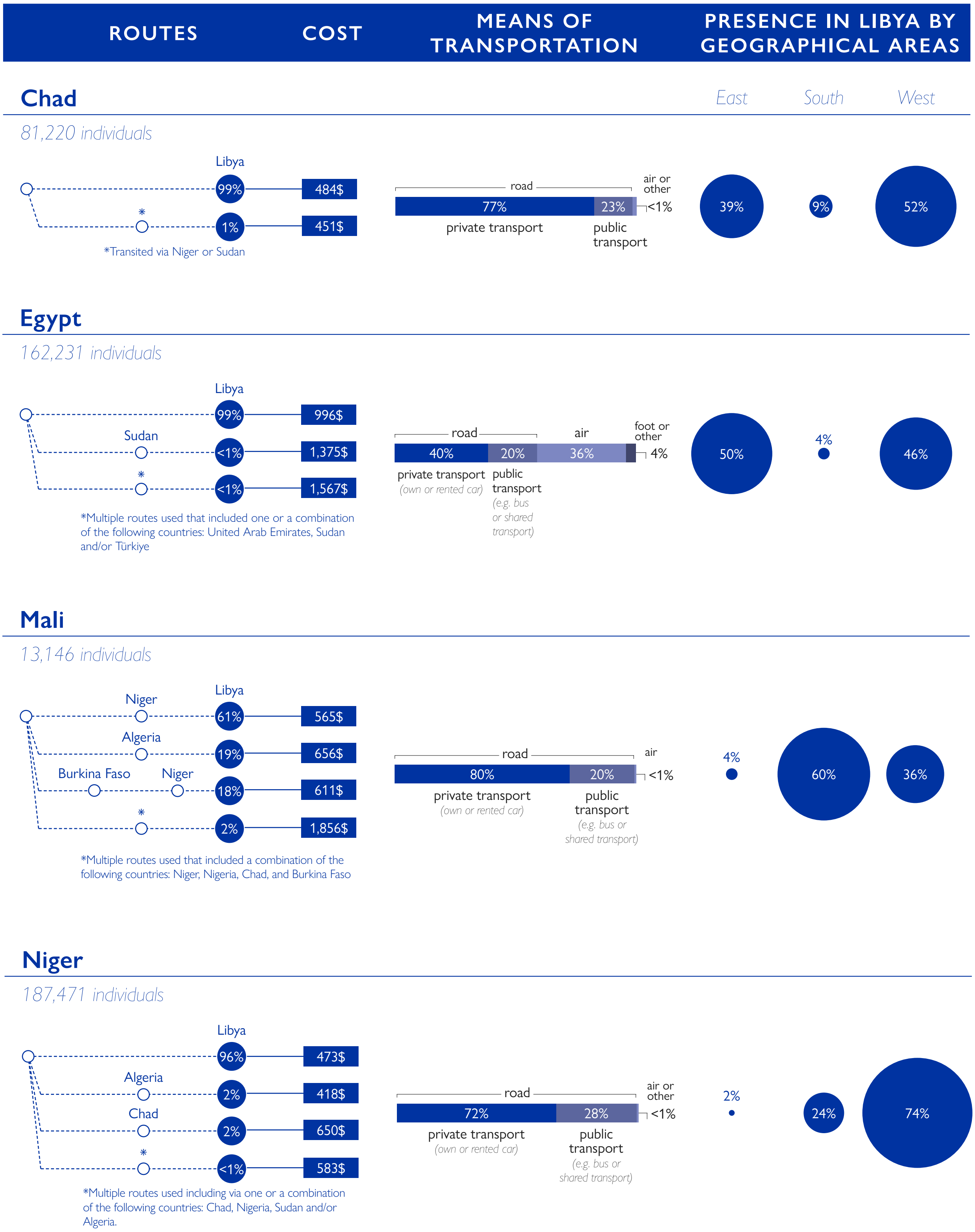
*Multiple routes used that included one or a combination of the following countries: Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar, India, Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and/ or United Arab Emirates.

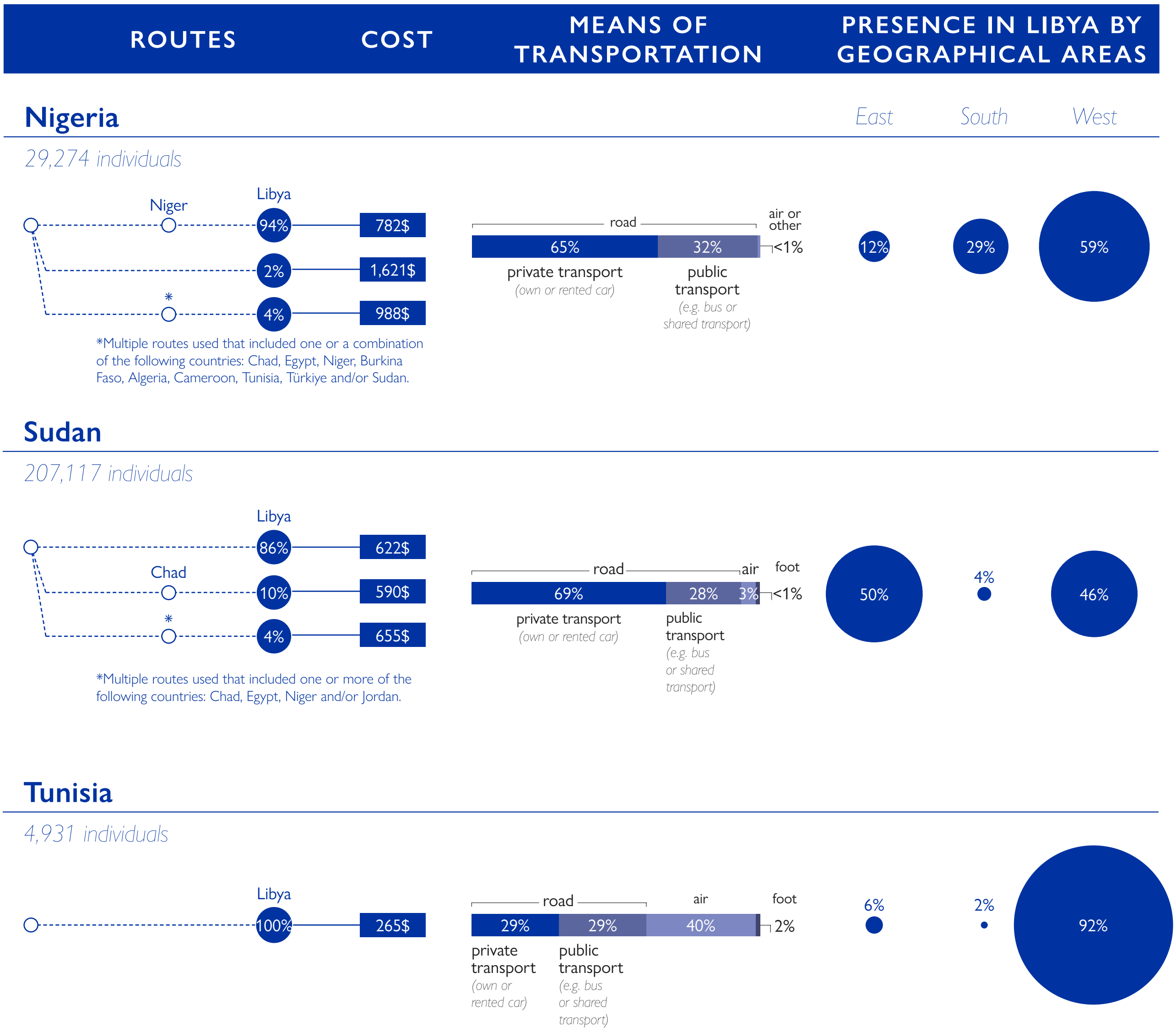
Burkina Faso

4,182 individuals



*Multiple routes used that included via: Algeria, Mali, Nigeria and Niger only or combination.


ROUTES
COST
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION
PRESENCE IN LIBYA BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS
Chad
East
South
West
81,220 individuals
Libya
99%
484$
*
1%
451$
*Transited via Niger or Sudan
road
air or other
77%
23%
<1%
private transport
public transport
39%
9%
52%
Egypt
162,231 individuals
Libya
99%
996$
Sudan
<1%
1,375$
*
<1%
1,567$
*Multiple routes used that included one or a combination of the following countries: United Arab Emirates, Sudan and/or Türkiye
road
air
foot or other
40%
20%
36%
4%
private transport
(own or rented car)
public transport
(e.g. bus or shared transport)
50%
4%
46%
Mali
13,146 individuals
Niger
Libya
61%
565$
Algeria
19%
656$
Burkina Faso
Niger
18%
611$
*
2%
1,856$
*Multiple routes used that included a combination of the following countries: Niger, Nigeria, Chad, and Burkina Faso
road
air
80%
20%
<1%
private transport
(own or rented car)
public transport
(e.g. bus or shared transport)
4%
60%
36%
Niger
187,471 individuals
Libya
96%
473$
Algeria
2%
418$
Chad
2%
650$
*
<1%
583$
*Multiple routes used including via one or a combination of the following countries: Chad, Nigeria, Sudan and/or Algeria.
road
air or other
72%
28%
<1%
private transport
(own or rented car)
public transport
(e.g. bus or shared transport)
2%
24%
74%



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REGIONAL ANALYSIS: DISTRIBUTION

In line with the previous round of data collection, key informant interviews conducted by DTM Libya between August and October 2024 revealed that over half of migrants were located in western Libya (54% or 426,159 individuals), while a minority were located in eastern Libya (34% or 264,030 individuals) or southern Libya (12% or 97,137 individuals).

Consistent with previous reports, the majority of migrants (55%) were located in the coastal regions of Tripoli (16%), Misrata (11%), Benghazi (10%), Almargeb (6%), Ejdabia (6%), and Azzawya (6%) (Fig 22).

Based on key informants interviewed between August and October 2024 nearly to three quarters of migrants (73%) lived in urban settings while more than a quarter (27%) resided in rural areas. Similarly, it is estimated that the majority of the Libyan population (81%) lives in urban areas, mainly concentrated in the major urban centres along the Mediterranean, such as Tripoli, Misrata, and Benghazi.

Nevertheless, over the course of 2024, some *mantikas,* such as Alkufra, have seen a gradual rise in the number of migrants. At the start of the year, Alkufra hosted 21,950 migrants and has since seen a 74 per cent increase, predominantly due to the arrival of Sudanese nationals, following the onset of armed conflict in the country.

In keeping with previous reports, several *mantikas*, such Tripoli, Misrata, and Benghazi, retained a high number of migrants, while their relative proportion remained stable (16%, 11%, and 10% respectively).

Fig 22: Migrants in Libya by region (mantika) (based on mobility tracking data)

Mantika (region)	Number of migrants	% by region
Tripoli	126,813	16%
Misrata	84,622	11%
Benghazi	80,924	10%
Ejdabia	48,900	6%
Almargeb	46,263	6%
Azzawya	44,931	6%
Aljfara	42,895	5%
Al Jabal Al Gharbi	38,975	5%
Alkufra	38,124	5%
Al Jabal Al Akhdar	36,120	5%
Murzuq	27,514	3%
Tobruk	27,310	3%
Derna	25,580	3%
Zwara	23,373	3%
Sebha	22,970	3%
Ubari	17,367	2%
Wadi Ashshati	13,575	2%
Sirt	13,255	2%
Aljufra	12,100	2%
Almarj	7,072	1%
Nalut	5,032	1%
Ghat	3,611	0%
Total for Libya	**787,326**	**100%**

REGIONAL ANALYSIS: NATIONALITIES OF MIGRANTS

This section outlines the percentage that migrants from each of the top eight nationalities represent in Libya in each region. For example, migrants from neighbouring Niger are among the most-represented nationalities in the southern and western regions of Libya. Sudanese nationals represent the largest share of migrants in the eastern regions of Libya, particularly in Alkufra, which is the main entry point for migrants traveling to Libya particularly those coming from or transiting through Chad and Sudan. Migrants from Egypt constitute the largest shares of migrants in the eastern coastal regions of Libya, such as Al Jabal Al Akhdar, Derna, Ejdabia, Tobruk and Benghazi.

Fig 23: Percentage that migrants represent in each region of Libya by country of origin

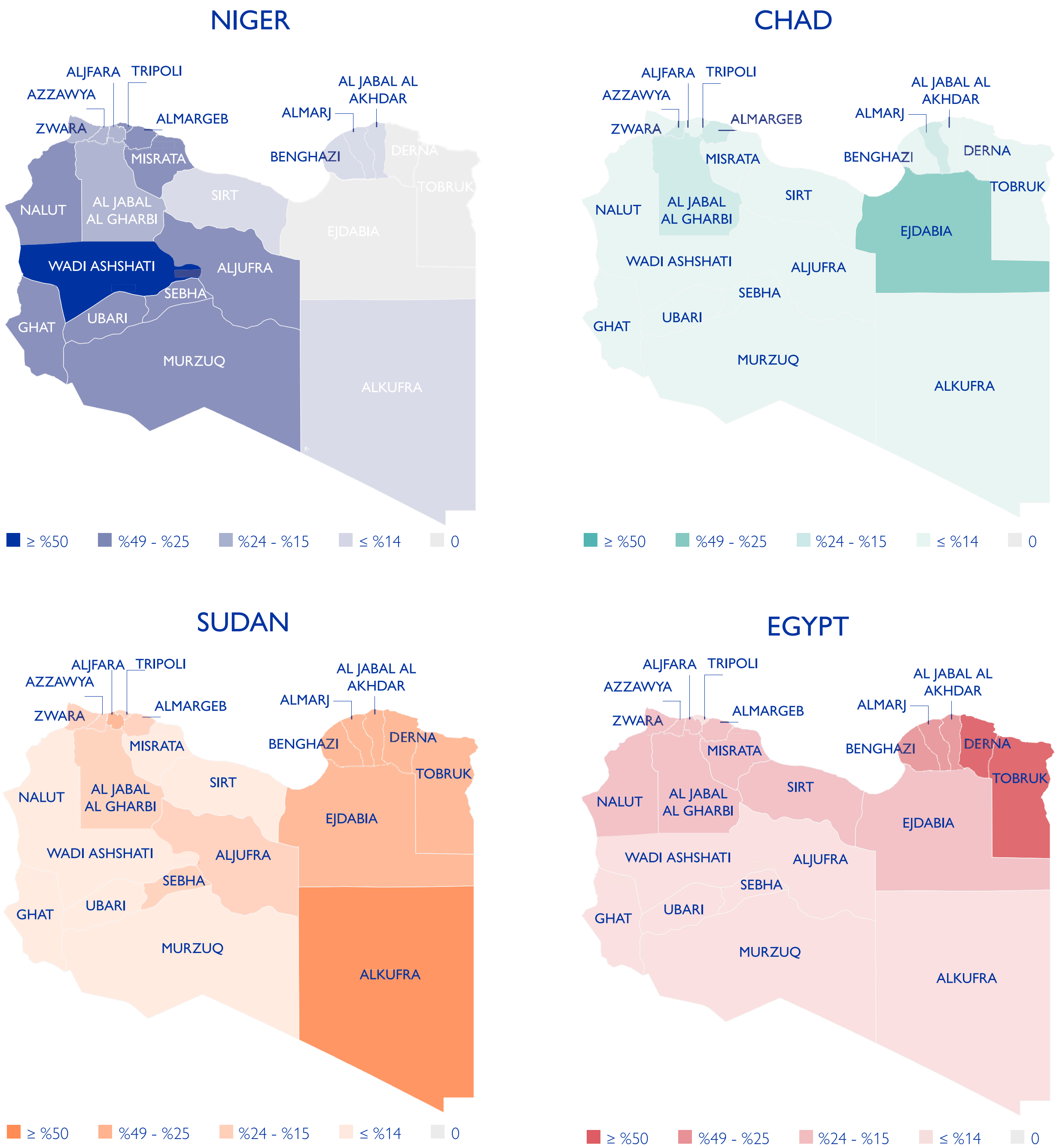

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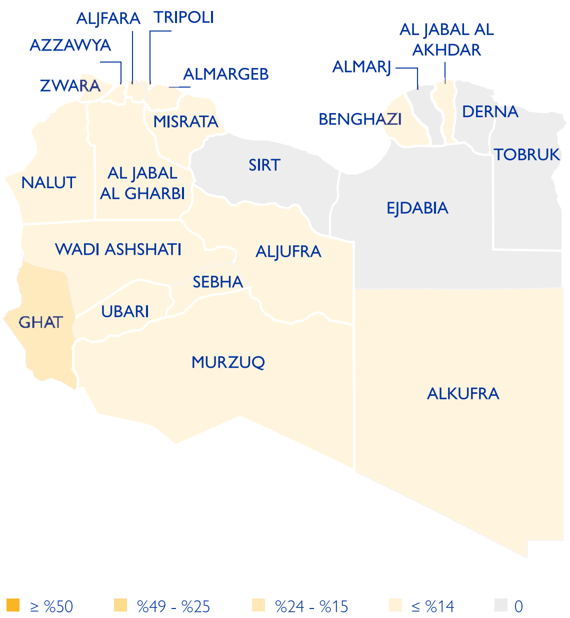
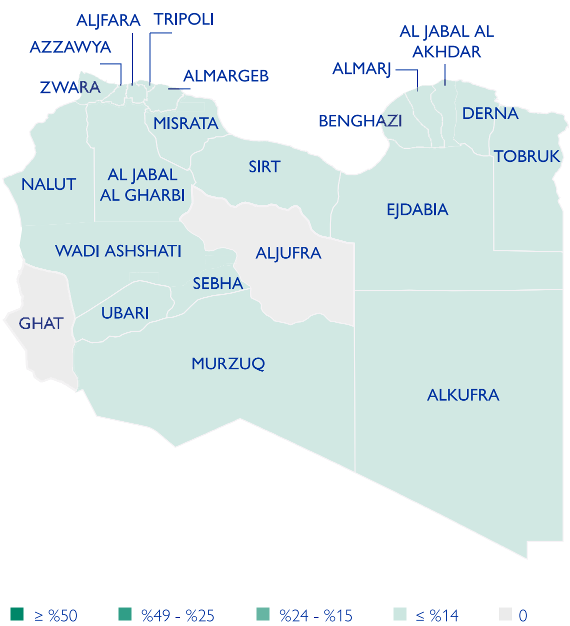
Fig 24: Percentage that migrants from Mali, Nigeria, the Syrian Arab Republic and Bangladesh represent in each region of Libya

MALI

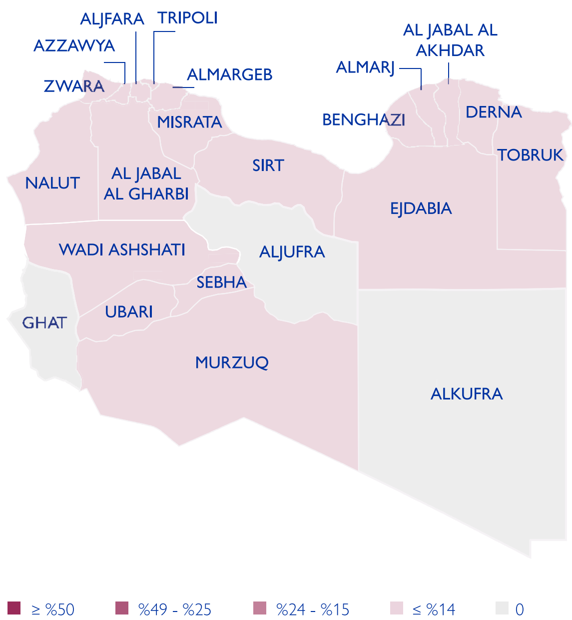


NIGERIA

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC



BANGLADESH



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REGION OF ORIGIN: GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS

Based on key informant interviews conducted between August and October 2024, and in line with previous reports, migrants from North African countries continue to account for over two thirds of migrants in eastern Libya (74%) while migrants from sub-Saharan African countries (e.g., Niger and Chad) represent the majority of migrants in southern and western Libya (78% and 55%, respectively). The majority of migrants in each region reside in urban centers (e.g., Benghazi in eastern Libya, Sebha in southern Libya, and Tripoli in western Libya). These trends highlight the influence of historical, socioeconomic, and cultural ties that have been developed through circular migration of populations from bordering countries, particularly Niger, Egypt, and Chad. The complete disaggregation of migrants' region of origins by regional location (mantika) in Libya is shown in the table below (Fig 25).

Fig 25: 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	2,460	8%	2,700	7%	30,960	16%
	Alkufra	233	1%	7,141	19%	30,750	16%
	Almarj	565	2%	1,411	4%	5,096	3%
	Benghazi	17,462	59%	15,106	40%	48,356	25%
	Derna	240	1%	1,020	3%	24,320	12%
	Ejdabia	2,725	10%	12,910	31%	33,265	17%
	Tobruk	2,995	10%	760	2%	23,555	12%
Eastern Libya total		26,680	10%	41,048	16%	196,302	74%
SOUTH	Aljufra	-	0%	7,900	10%	4,200	21%
	Ghat	-	0%	2,822	4%	789	4%
	Murzuq	285	21%	23,419	31%	3,810	19%
	Sebha	582	42%	17,941	24%	4,447	22%
	Ubari	230	17%	12,876	17%	4,256	21%
	Wadi Ashshati	286	21%	10,451	14%	2,838	14%
Southern Libya total		1,383	1%	75,409	78%	20,340	21%
WEST	Al Jabal Al Gharbi	1,001	3%	19,273	8%	18,673	12%
	Aljfara	750	3%	18,487	8%	23,608	15%
	Almargeb	1,012	3%	28,674	12%	16,577	10%
	Azzawya	1,296	4%	24,801	11%	18,834	12%
	Misrata	7,097	24%	49,257	21%	28,206	18%
	Nalut	232	1%	2,578	1%	2,201	1%
	Sirt	4,312	15%	4,087	2%	4,826	3%
	Tripoli	13,268	45%	74,905	32%	37,600	23%
	Zwara	606	2%	12,689	5%	10,078	6%
Western Libya total		29,574	7%	234,751	55%	160,603	38%
Total for Libya		**57,637**	**7%**	**351,208**	**45%**	**377,245**	**48%**

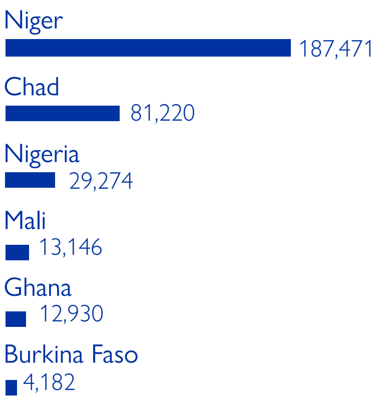
Note: 1,236 migrants from other minority nationalities (including those whose nationalities could not be established) are not included in the table above.

REGION OF ORIGIN: SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Since the beginning of 2024, the number of sub-Saharan migrants (351,208 individuals) has increased slightly, compared to 349,858 individuals as reported in round 51 January – February 2024. Niger and Chad are the first and second most-represented nationalities from sub-Saharan Africa in Libya (53% and 23%, respectively) (Fig 27).

Through interviews with key informants, between August and October 2024, DTM Libya identified 28 nationalities from the sub-Saharan Africa region. The majority of sub-Saharan migrants (97%) were from West and Central Africa, primarily passing through Niger. In contrast, nearly 3 per cent were from East Africa, traveling mainly through Sudan.

Fig 28: Number of migrants from countries of origin in sub-Saharan Africa (top 6 nationalities)

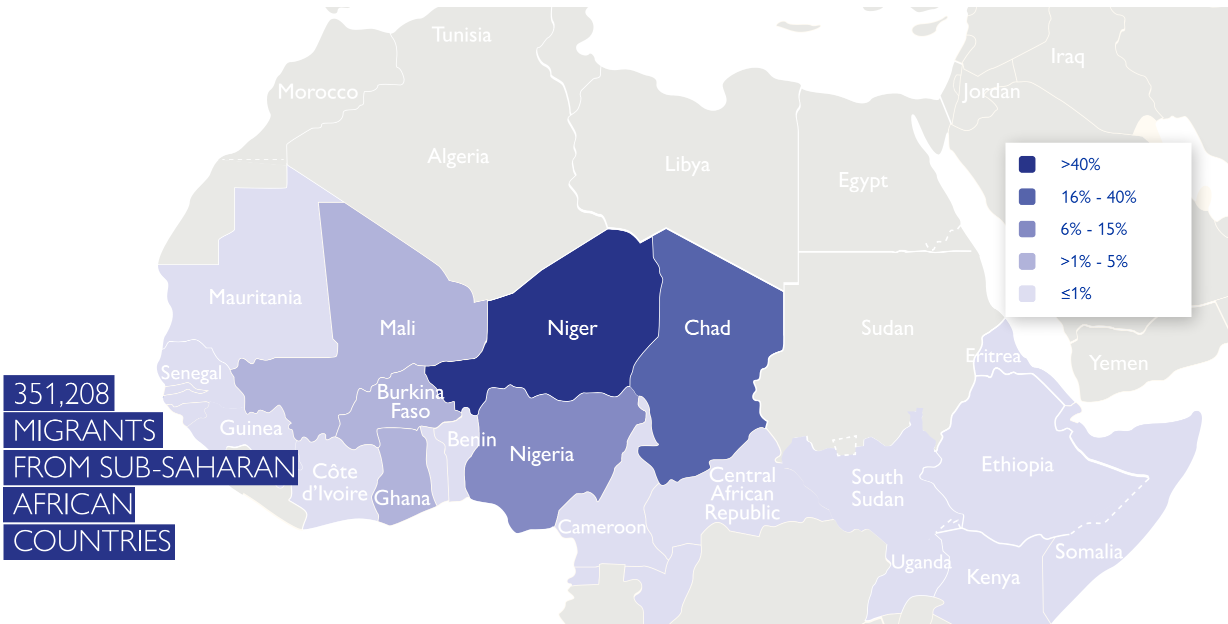


Nigeriens are the most highly represented sub-Saharan migrants in Libya and Niger remains a transit country through which other sub-Saharan migrants travel to reach Libya.

Between August and October 2024, 89 per cent of sub-Saharan migrants indicated, that they intended to migrate to Libya or through Libya when they left their countries of origin. At the time of their departure, a majority of migrants (60%) indicated that they were aware of the risks associated with their journey namely the danger of crossing the Sahara Desert and the risks of detention or abuse, as cited in a UNHCR report, Refugee and migrant flows through Libya on the rise.

99 per cent of sub-Saharan migrants who arrived in Libya between August and October 2024 indicated that they entered Libya through unofficial border crossing points..

Fig 27: Percentages of migrants by country of origin for the sub-Saharan Africa region



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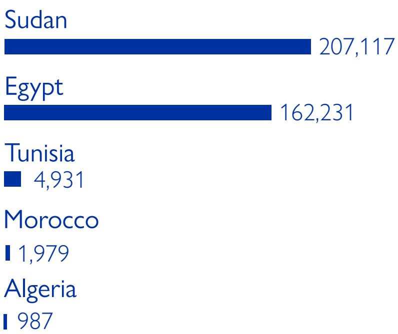
REGION OF ORIGIN: NORTH AFRICA

Libya has seen a significant increase in the number of individuals from North Africa, reaching a total of 377,245. Overall, 48% of the total number of migrants in Libya are from North Africa (Fig. 29).

In line with the Round 53 report, Sudan is the most prominent North African nationality present in Libya with 55 per cent, marking a shift away from Egypt, which was previously reported as being the highest represented nationality in Round 52.

48 per cent of Sudanese nationals interviewed between January and October 2024 indicated that they arrived to Libya after being forcibly displaced after the outbreak of conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) on 15 April 2023. In its Sudan Mobility update (10), DTM Sudan reported that 8.27 million individuals have become internally displaced since the start of the conflict in April 2023.

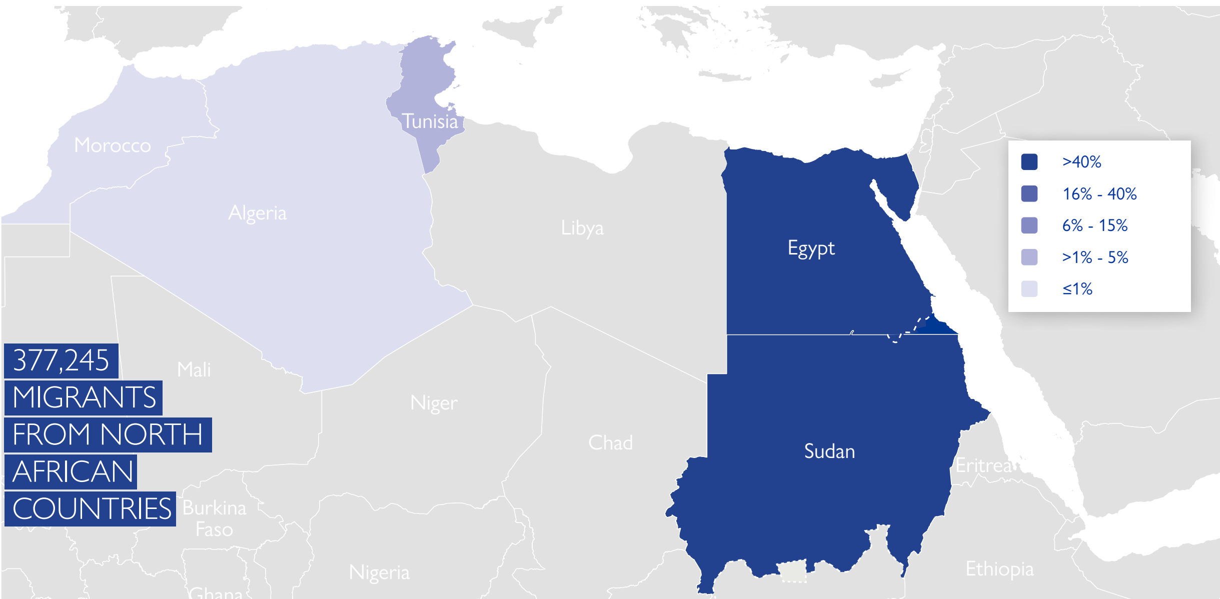
Fig 30: Number of individuals from countries of origin in North Africa



Egyptian is the second most prevalent North African nationality in Libya with 43 per cent of the overall total population of North African migrants. 20 per cent of Egyptians surveyed between August and October 2024 indicated that they regularly commute between Egypt and Libya. They further specified that they primarily community to transport goods, cigarettes, and phones.

Migrants from Tunisia, Morocco, and Algeria accounted for two per cent of the total number of migrants from North Africa. This is line with previous reports, which showed that individuals from the Maghreb countries constitute a minority.

Fig 29: Percentages of migrants by country of origin for the North African region



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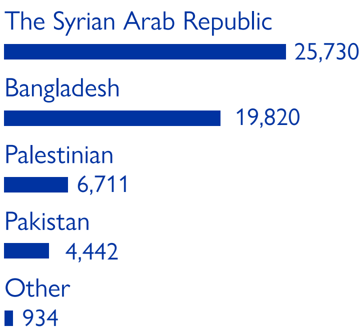
REGION OF ORIGIN: MIDDLE EAST AND ASIA

A minority of migrants identified during round 54 of data collection were from the Middle East (4% or 32,827 individuals) or Asia (3% or 24,810 individuals) (Fig 32).

In line with previous reports, the majority of migrants from Asia and the Middle East were from the Syrian Arab Republic (25,730 individuals) and Bangladesh (19,820 individuals) accounting for 45 and 34 per cent of migrants, respectively (Fig 31). Individuals from the Syrian Arab Republic and Bangladesh accounted for together six per cent of the overall migrant population in Libya — the sixth and seventh most represented nationalities in Libya.

In addition, there were 6,711 migrants who self-identified as Palestinians (12% of all migrants from the Middle East and Asia in Libya) and 4,442 migrants from Pakistan (8%). There were 934 individuals from various other nationalities, including Iraq and Aafghanistan, who altogether accounted for two per cent of the migrant population from the Middle East and Asia (Fig 32) .

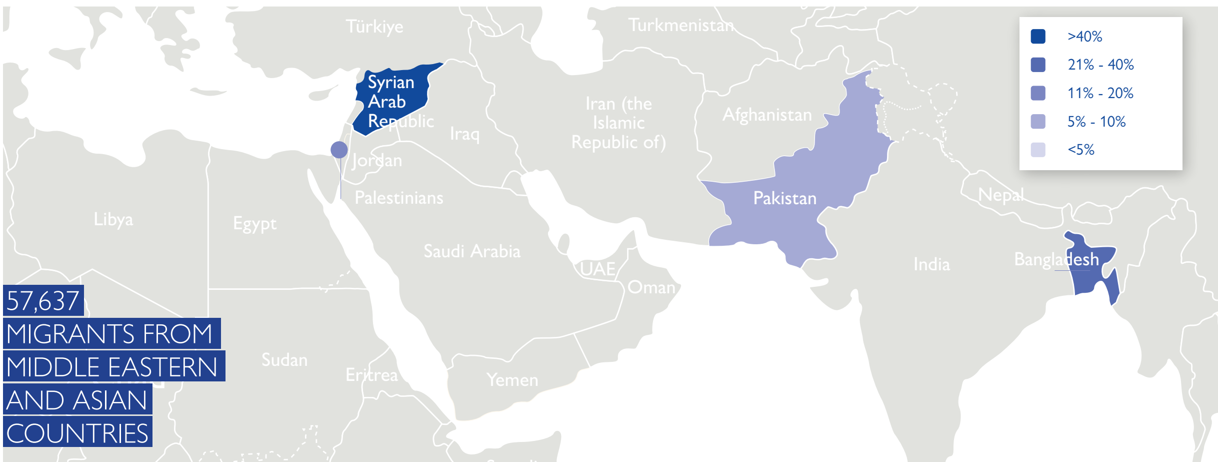
Fig 32: Migrants from countries of origin in the Middle East and Asia



According to key informant interviews conducted between August and October 2024, 78 per cent of migrants from Asia intended to immigrate to Libya prior to their departure. South Asian migrants primarily immigrated for economic reasons, while migrants from the Middle East cited security concerns as the top reason. These concerns ranged from the outbreak of armed conflict in their country of origin to concerns for their own personal safety and well-being.

The majority of migrants from the Middle East reside in the western region of Libya (51%) and eastern region (46%). Only a minority of migrants reside in the southern region (3%). In each of these regions, the majority of migrants reside in urban centers, such as Tripoli.

Fig 31: Percentages of migrants by country of origin for the Middle East and South Asia



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CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

Arrivals in Italy and Malta

During the period between August and October 2024, a total of 21,992 migrants arrived in Italy and Malta via the Central Mediterranean Sea compared to 55,297 migrants during the corresponding period in 2023, marking a significant decrease. Overall, fewer migrants arrived in Italy and Malta via the Central Mediterranean Sea in the reporting period in 2024 (55,568 January – October 2024) than during the corresponding period in the last two years (144,413 individuals in 2023 and 85,607 individuals in 2022).

In a recent study examining the Impacts of Environmental Changes on Mixed Migration to Europe, DTM Europe reported that of those who travelled the CMR, most interviewees were from Bangladesh (22%), Tunisia (11%), and Pakistan (9%). Respondents indicated that the main driver (43%) for migration was related to economic reasons. Alongside war and conflict, personal violence ranked second with 32 per cent of respondents citing incidents related to threats to their security or direct experiences of violence as central grounds for their initial departure. Limited access to basic services were mentioned by 7 per cent of respondents, respectively.

Loss of production in form of lost crops, livestock or property damage, resulting from environmental factors shortly before departure were indicated by 9 per cent of all respondents. Most individuals on the CMR who cited these issues were from Bangladesh. Interviewees who worked in agriculture or forestry prior to their departure had an elevated tendency of reporting losses related to their property and production (34%).

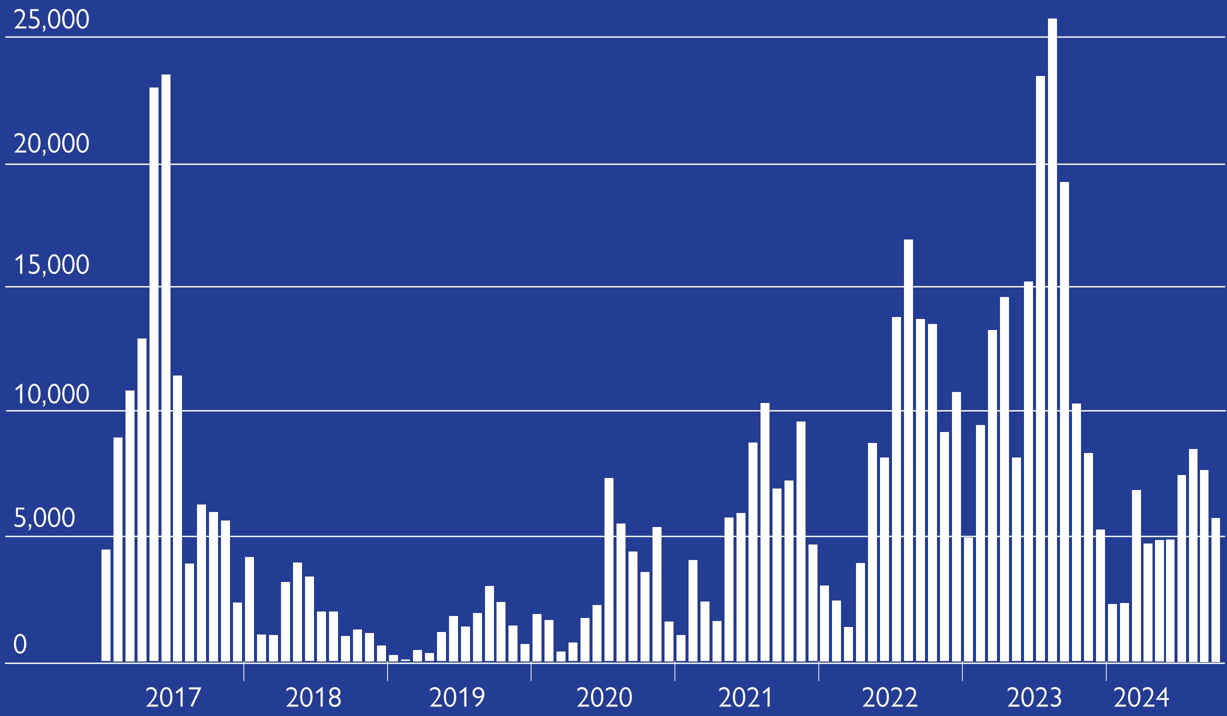
18,954

migrants were intercepted and returned to Libya between 1 January and 16 October 2024.

55,568

migrants arrived by sea in Italy and Malta between 1 January and 31 October 2024 compared to 50,447 during the corresponding period in 2023 — a 61 per cent decrease.

Fig 33: Monthly number of arrivals in Italy and Malta on the Central Mediterranean route *(2017 - 2024)*



Interception and Fatalities at Sea

In 2024, and as of October 2024, a total of 19,010 migrants who attempted the Central Mediterranean Sea crossing had been intercepted and returned to Libyan shores. A weekly average of over 475 individuals were intercepted and returned to Libyan shores during the reporting period. This marked a decrease of 25% from the previous round of data collection in June and July 2024, which could be attributed to seasonal changes and the lack of willingness of migrants to attempt sea crossings during more adverse conditions at sea.

During the reporting period (August-October 2024), a total of 362 deaths and disappearances were recorded on the Central Mediterranean route, which was more than two times fewer than during the same period in 2023 (797), marking a significant decline. The majority of these deaths resulted from drowning in the aftermath of shipwrecks due to the adverse weather or adverse conditions at sea.

On the 11th anniversary of the Lampedusa shipwreck on October 3, 2013, IOM, UNHCR, and UNICEF highlighted that, since January 2024, nearly 1,300 people have lost their lives on the central Mediterranean route, a higher percentage compared to 2023, despite a significant drop in arrivals to Italy.

Overall, between January and the end of October 2024, a total of 1,285 deaths and disappearances were recorded, a 48 per cent decrease compared to the same period in 2023 (1,901) but a slight increase compared to 2022 (953).

Monthly number of deaths and disappearances recorded

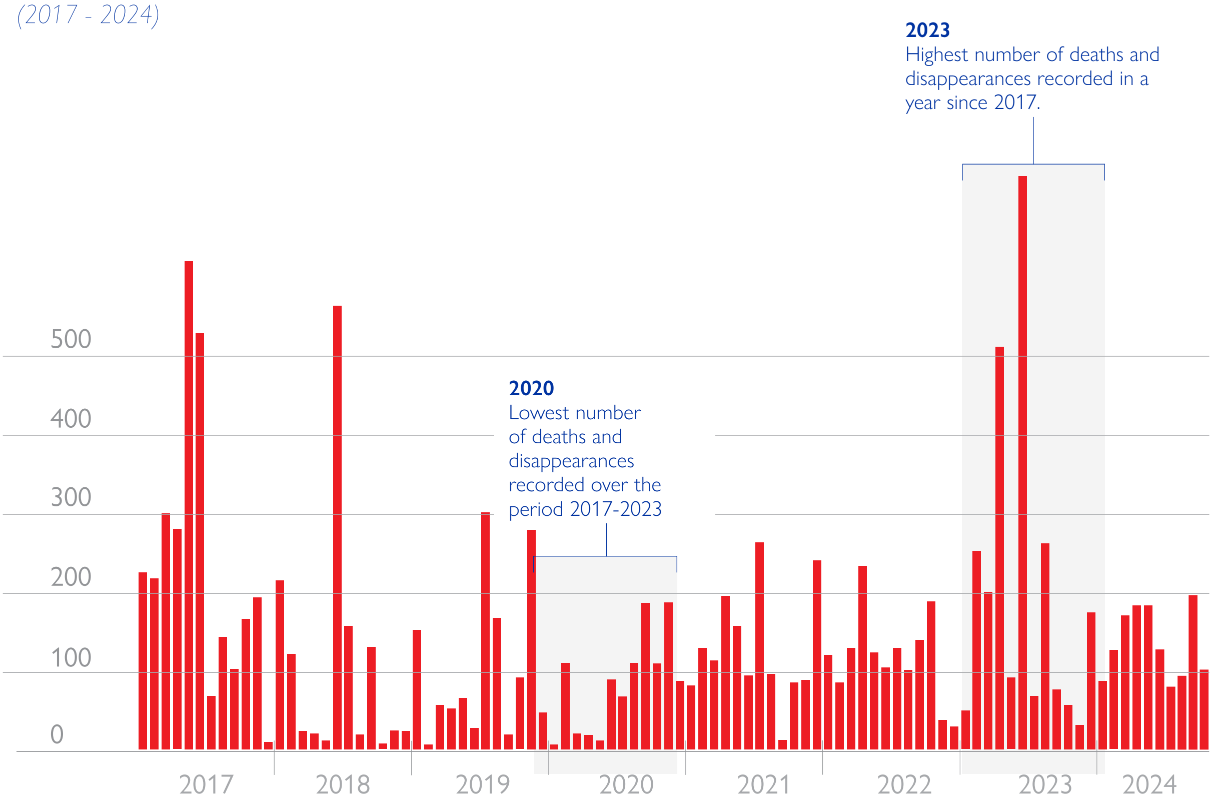
▼ **94**
in **August 2024** compared to 262 in August 2023.

▲ **198**
in **September 2024** compared to 76 in September 2023.

▲ **102**
in **October 2024** compared to 56 in October 2023.

▲ **1,285**
deaths and disappearances were recorded between January and October 2024.

Fig 34: Number of deaths and missing individuals on the Central Mediterranean route by year *(2017 - 2024)*



METHODOLOGY

The migrant population figures and analysis is based on the data collected through 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.

Migration flow statistics are based on the data collected through a network of 60 flow monitoring points (FMPs) in seven regions of Libya (Alkufra, Ejdabia, Murzuq, Nalut, Sebha, Tobruk, Ubari and Wadi Ashshati).

Analysis of migrant routes, migrant vulnerabilities and humanitarian needs is based on 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 heterogeneous 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 findings of this report 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 their 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 their 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	**6,925** migrants interviewed (round 54, flow monitoring survey)	**2,153** key informant interviews
3 team leaders	**60** flow monitoring points 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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