

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. 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.

FLOW MONITORING POINTS



In addition to the 3 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.

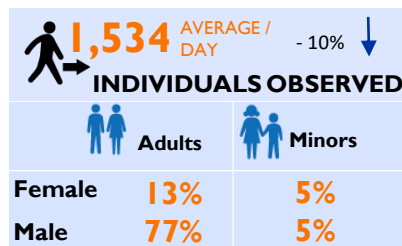
The new FMPs will be piloted in the coming months to understand the added value of the FMPs towards a more holistic understanding of migration trends in Niger. Based on the initial findings from the new FMPs, there may be adjustments to the new FMPs implemented based on an increased understanding of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

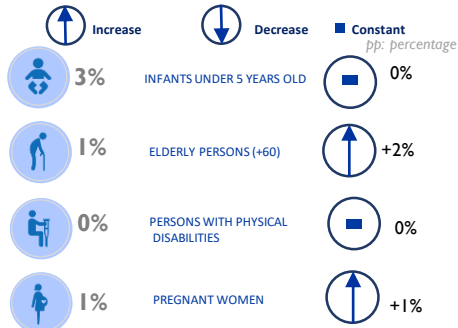
LIMITS: The data used in this analysis, including the maps, is an estimate and represents only a part of the existing flows on the routes Agadez - Arlit - Assamaka; Agadez - Séguédine - Sebha; and southern routes. The spatial and temporal coverage of these surveys is partial, although the collection 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.

PROFILE OF MIGRANTS

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



DEMOGRAPHY



VULNERABILITIES

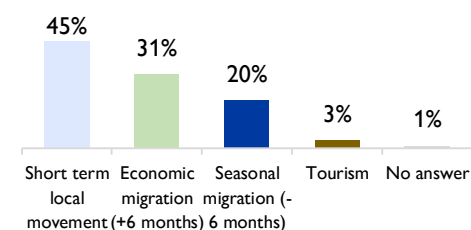
Variations calculated in percentage based on data from the previous month.

Area of Origin of passengers	%	Variation (%)
NIGER	83%	+9%
NIGERIA	15%	-6%
LIBYA	1%	-4%
OTHER	1%	0%

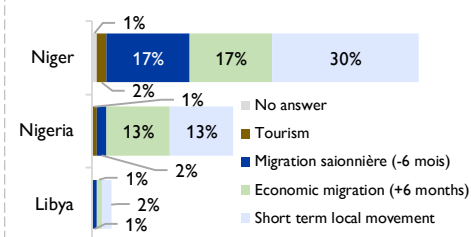
DEPARTURE AREAS AND DESTINATIONS

Intended Destination of passengers	%	Variation (%)
NIGER	77%	-1%
LIBYA	15%	+6%
NIGERIA	8%	-7%
OTHER	0%	0%

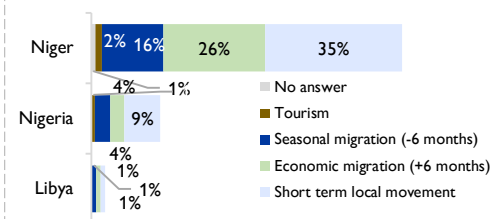
PRIMARY TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



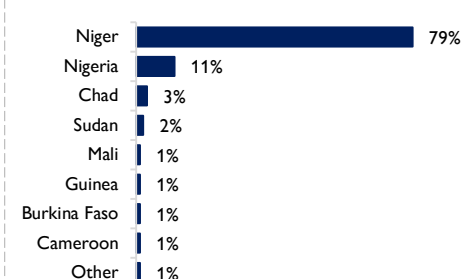
PROVENANCE OF PASSENGERS PER TYPES OF MOVEMENTS



DESTINATION OF PASSENGERS PER TYPES OF MOVEMENTS



PRIMARY NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



DECEMBER 2018*

During the month of December 2018, 47,569 individuals were observed transiting through the 6 active FMPs. Outflows observed (16,119 individuals) represent 34% of all flows, while incoming flows (11,374 persons) represent 24%. In addition, 20,076 individuals or 42% of flows were observed moving internally.

The outgoing flows were observed at: Séguédine (43%) followed by Arlit (28%), Magaria (14%), Dan Barto (10%), Dan Issa (4%) and 1% at the Tahoua FMP.

Most of the incoming flows were observed at Magaria (45%), Arlit (20%), Dan Issa (19%), Dan Barto (9%), Séguédine (6%), and Tahoua (1%).

Internal movements are mainly observed at the Arlit FMP (53%), followed by Dan Barto (25%), Magaria (18%) and Tahoua 3%.

MIGRATION TRENDS IN 2018*

The data in the graph below presents the total number of migrants identified at the Flow Monitoring Points (FMP) of Arlit and Séguédine for the period January 2017 – December 2018, so also the trends observed at the four new FMPs among which three were activated in August and the last one in September 2018. The month of June 2018 had the lowest overall number of individuals observed at the FMPs thus far in 2018. In contrast, the month of November 2018 recorded the highest number of observed individuals during the year 2018.

The increase in flows in Niger in November 2018 may be linked to the fact that migrants returning to Niger at the beginning of the rainy season return back after the harvest (August and September). Nigerien migrants, usually from rural areas, usually goes to migration toward Libya and Algeria during the cold season, because it is more easier to travel in the desert at that period. Although there's an increase in the overall flow seen at the FMPs compared to the previous month in 2018 - an important number is due to internal movement (in Arlit 53%, Dan Barto 25% and Magaria 18%) but also du to the opening and implementation of FMPs in the central (Tahoua) and southern part of the country (Magaria; Dan Barto & Dan Issa).

COMPARISON BETWEEN 2017 & 2018*

There is a general trend of more migrants entering Niger rather than leaving Niger from January to August 2017 for the **Arlit and Séguédine FMPs**, with a peak of 27,239 migrants entering in February 2017. This increase in inflows may be attributed to three phenomena: a stricter control of migration including the criminalization of persons involved in irregular migration; the deterioration of the security situation in Libya; and the repatriation efforts of Nigerien nationals from Algeria. However, the trend reverses with more outgoing flows than incoming flows from September 2017 until April 2018. Then in November 2018, the trend reversed again with the highest number of migrants recorded entering Niger during the year 2018. This increase in number may also be linked to the cold season where it is more easier to travel in the desert and the important number of people moving internally (19,580 individuals observed).

Finally the incoming flows have decreased by 10% compared to the previous year while the outgoing flows have increased by 55%. Moreover internal flows represent 27% of all flows observed in 2018.

6 Active FMPs in Niger

10 Information focal points

DECEMBER 2018 SUMMARY

11,374 Individuals entering Niger

16,119 Individuals leaving Niger

20,076 Individuals observed moving internally

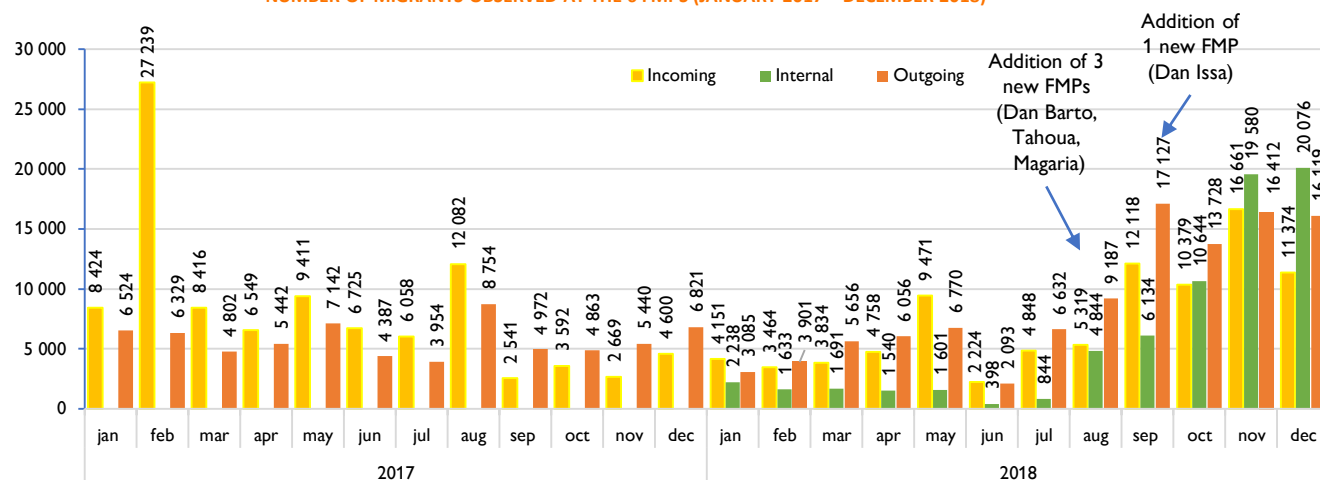
47,569 Number of individuals observed at the FMPs

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.

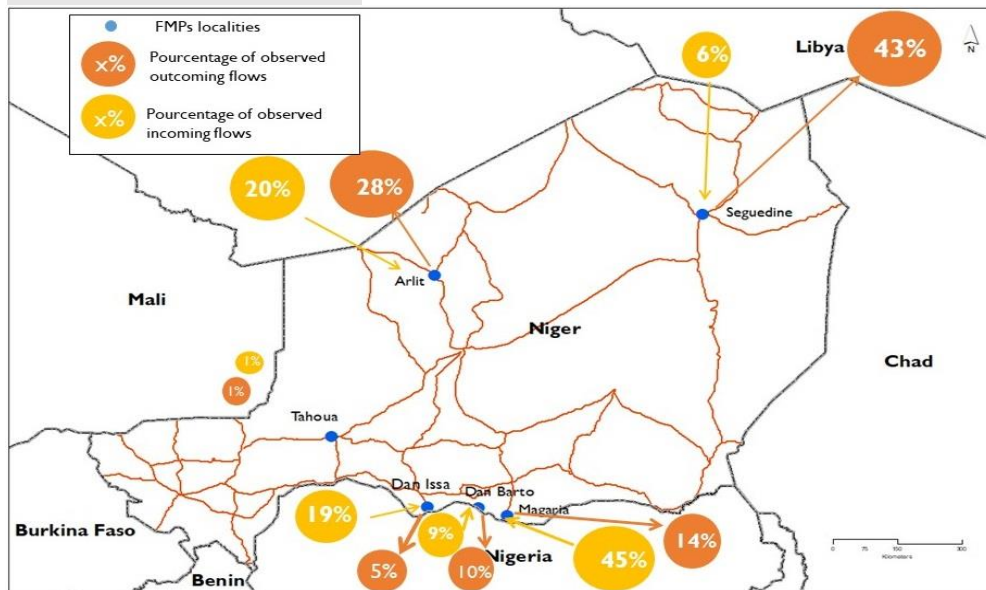
TYPE OF FLOWS OBSERVED

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

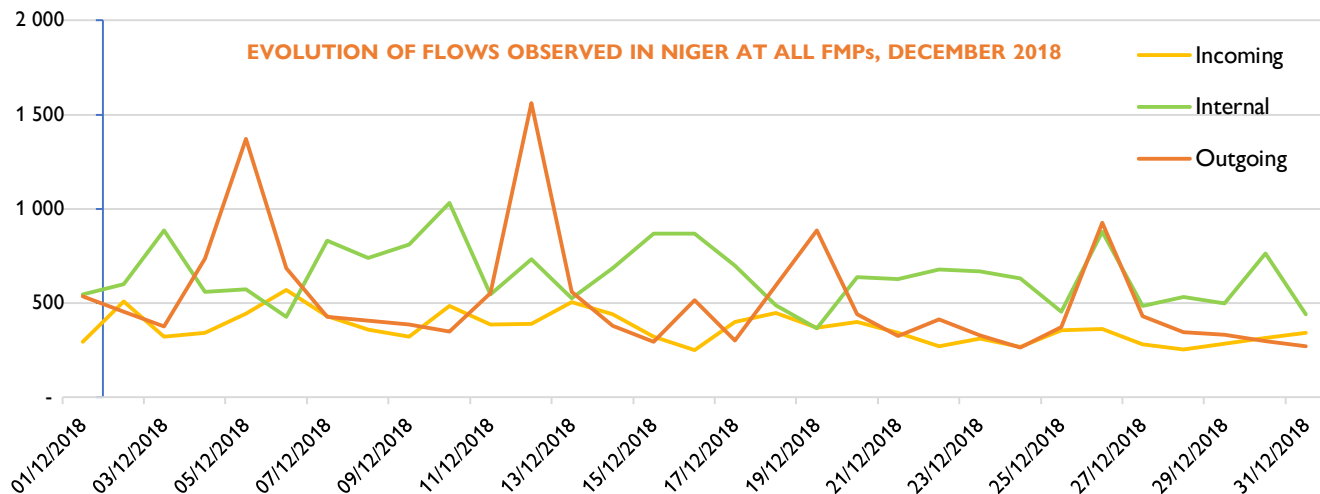
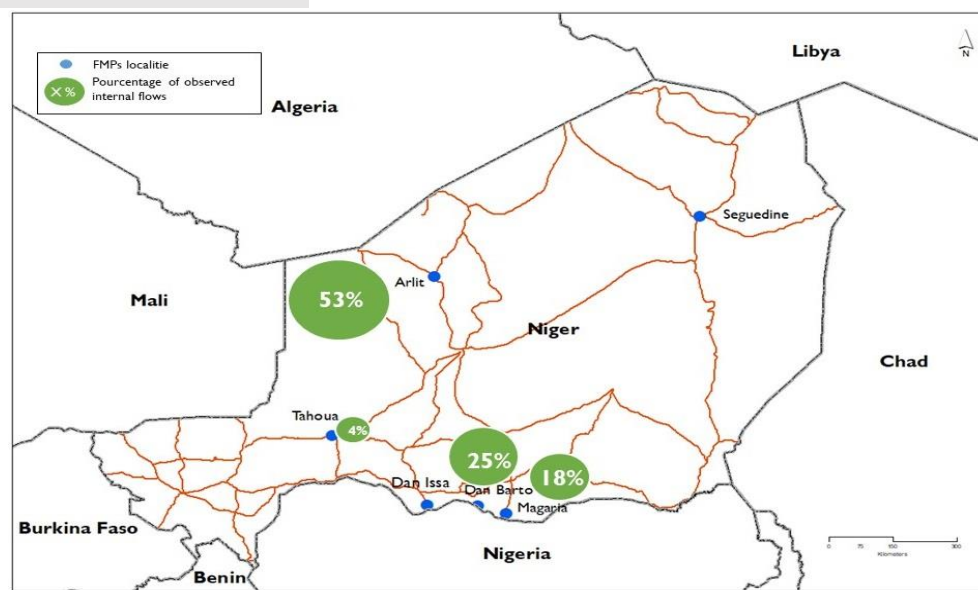
NUMBER OF MIGRANTS OBSERVED AT THE 6 FMPs (JANUARY 2017 – DECEMBER 2018)



CROSS-BORDER FLOWS



INTERNAL FLOWS



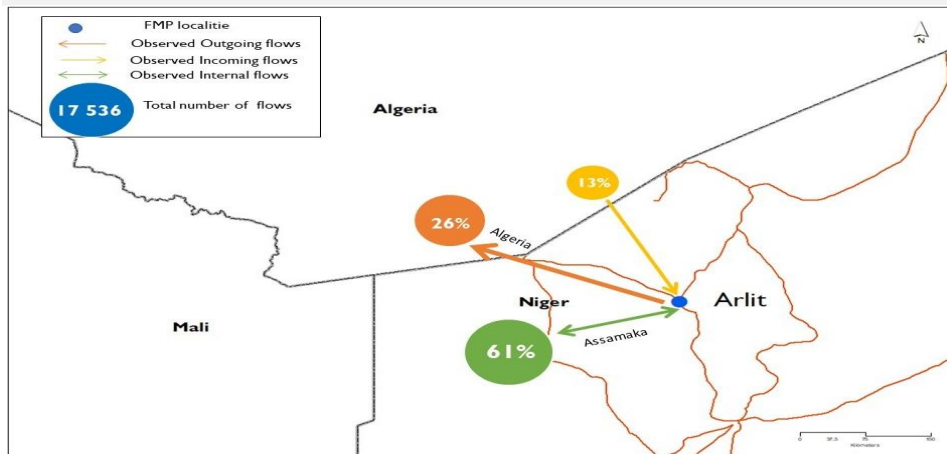
- The data in the graph shows the evolution of flows observed at the six active FMPs in Niger in December 2018. An average of 1,534 individuals per day were recorded passing through the FMPs during the month of December 2018.
- The majority of flows were cross-border (58%), including with 27% being flows between Niger and Nigeria, 16% with Libya and 15% Algeria.
- A large proportion (42%) of internal movements were observed, with the majority of internal movements observed at the Arlit (53%) and Dan Barto (25%) FMPs. 18% of internal movements were observed at the FMP in Magaria and 4% at the Tahoua FMP.
- During the month of December 2018, more outgoing than incoming flows were observed, with 6,919 individuals observed leaving Niger versus 630 entering Niger. For outgoing flows, a daily average of 223 individuals were observed leaving Niger while a daily average of 20 individuals was observed for incoming flows.

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**.

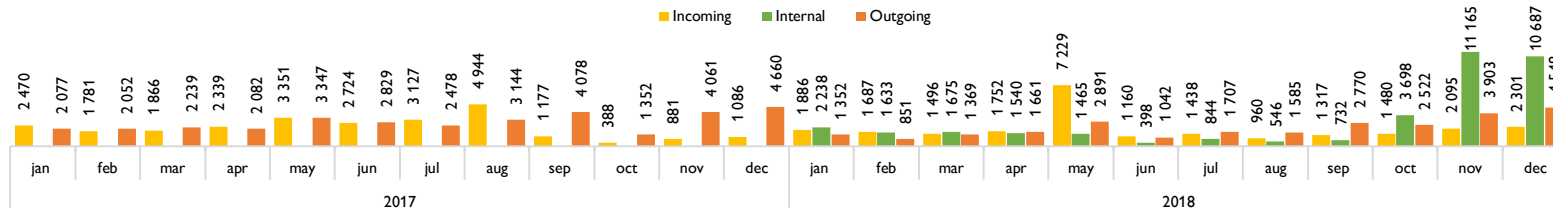
During this month, more outgoing flows (4,548) than incoming flows (2,301) were observed. The main departure cities included Arlit, Assmaka and Agadez (Niger) while the main destination cities included: Assamaka, Arlit and Algerian villages located near the boarder (Note: the majority of migrants passing 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).

In comparison with the previous month, the number of outgoing and incoming flows have increased. The outgoing flow increased by 17% while the incoming flow increased by 10%. The increase may be due to the fact that it is more easier to travel in the desert during the cold season.

The main reasons cited for movement continue to be **seasonal migration (51%)** and **economic migration (49%)**. The main nationalities observed crossing the Arlit FMP this month included Nigerien (70%), Chadian (8%), Nigerian (5%) and Sudanese (4%). Other nationalities comprised of Malian, Burkinabe, Guinean, Cameroonian and Senegalese nationals.

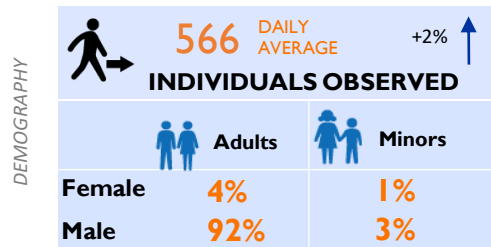


TOTAL NUMBER OF MIGRANTS OBSERVED AT THE ARLIT FLOW MONITORING POINT (JANUARY 2017 – SEPTEMBER 2018)



PROFILE OF MIGRANTS

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



PRIMARY MEANS OF TRANSPORT

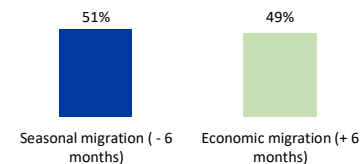


Outgoing flows: The highest outflow was observed in December 2017 (4,660 individuals). The number of migrants passing through this FMP in 2018 (26,201) shows a decrease of 24% when compared the previous year (34,399).

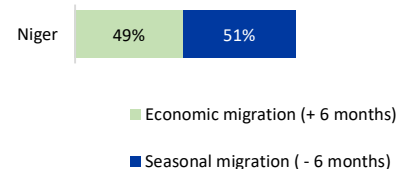
Incoming flows: The highest inflow was observed in May 2018 (7,229 individuals). The number of individuals entering Niger is trending downwards with 24,801 individuals observed entering Niger in 2018, compared to the 26,134 for previous year, which represents a 5% decrease.

Internal flows: % of flow observed in in 2018 are internal. Thus in 2018, 36,621 people were observed transiting through the Arlit FMP, of whom 10,687 were observed in December (29% of the total internal flows since the beginning of the year).

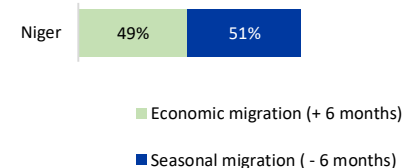
PRIMARY TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



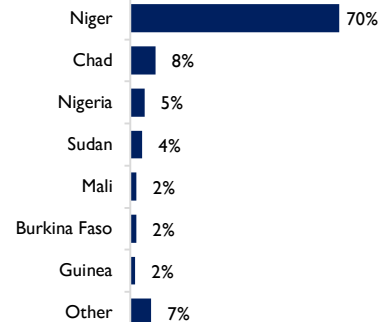
PROVENANCE OF PASSENGERS PER TYPES OF MOVEMENTS



DESTINATION OF PASSENGERS PER TYPES OF MOVEMENTS



PRIMARY NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



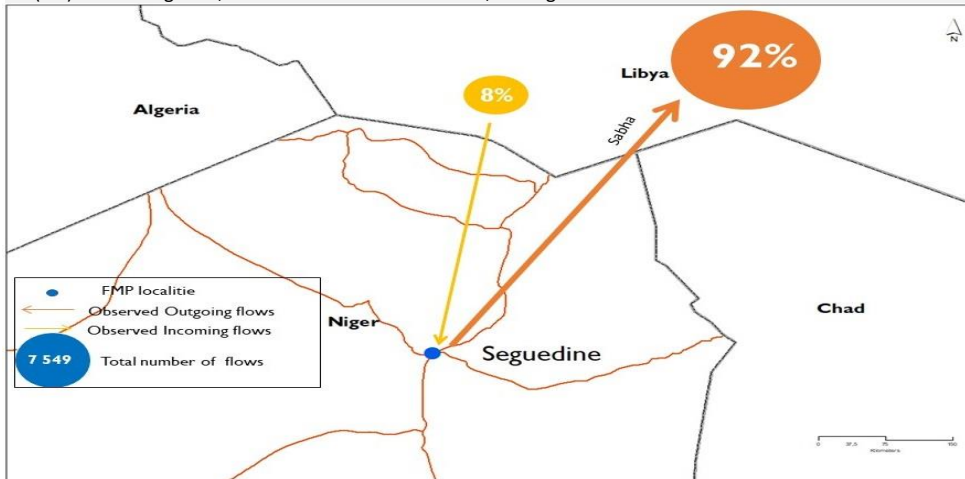
The **Séguédine** Flow Monitoring Point captures **cross-border flows** to and from neighbouring countries, mainly Libya. The Séguédine FMP has been active since **February 2016**.

During this month, more outgoing flows (6,919 individuals representing 92% of flows observed) than incoming flows (630) were observed.

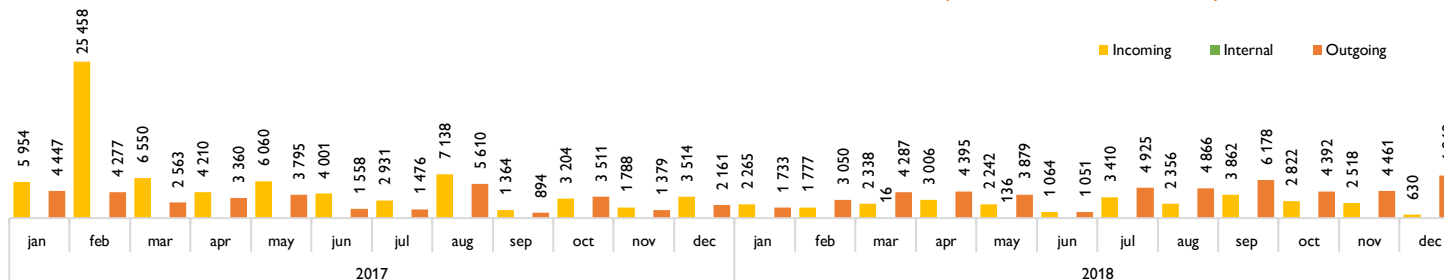
A daily average of 244 individuals were observed crossing through the Séguédine FMP this month, which is an increase of 8% compared to the previous month when 233 were crossing the boarder each day. The main departure and destination cities included Agadez (Niger) and Sebha (Libya). This increase may be due to the fact that it is easier to travel in the desert during the cold season which reaches it's peak in December.

The main reasons for movements observed remain almost the same as in previous months: **economic migration (34%)** followed by **seasonal migration** and **short term local movement (33%)**.

The main nationalities observed were : Nigerien (98%), Sudanese (1%) and other nationalities observed (1%) include Nigerian, Chadian and Ivorian nationals, among others.

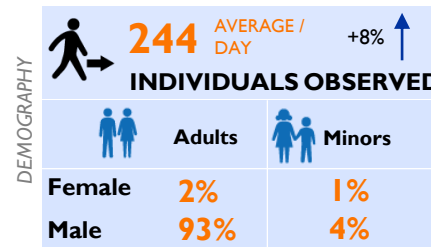


TOTAL NUMBER OF MIGRANTS OBSERVED AT THE SEGUEDINE FLOW MONITORING POINT (JANUARY 2017 – DECEMBER 2018)

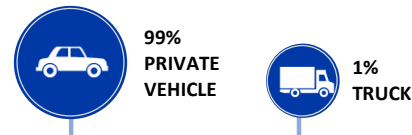


PROFILE OF MIGRANTS

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



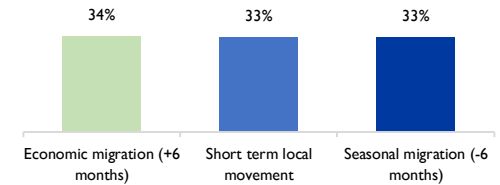
PRIMARY MEANS OF TRANSPORT



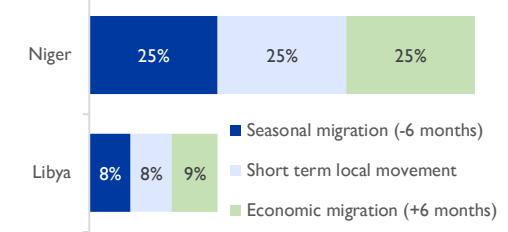
Incoming flows: Overall, the number of people entering Niger has declined since February 2017.

Outgoing flows: Starting in February 2018, the number of people leaving Niger increased from 3,050 in February to 4,287 in March 2018, 4,395 in April and decreased to 3,879 in May 2018 and 1,051 in June. In addition 6,919 individuals left Niger through the Séguédine FMP in December 2018, which is the highest number recorded for outgoing flows in 2018. Compared to last month the number of individuals leaving Niger has increased by 55%.

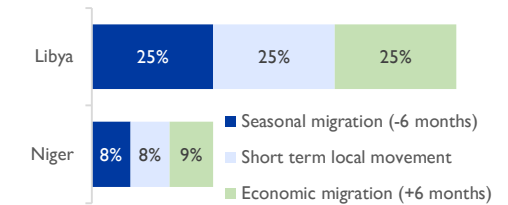
PRIMARY TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



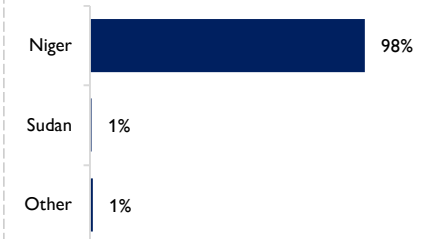
PROVENANCE OF PASSENGERS PER TYPES OF MOVEMENTS



DESTINATION OF PASSENGERS PER TYPES OF MOVEMENTS



PRIMARY 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.

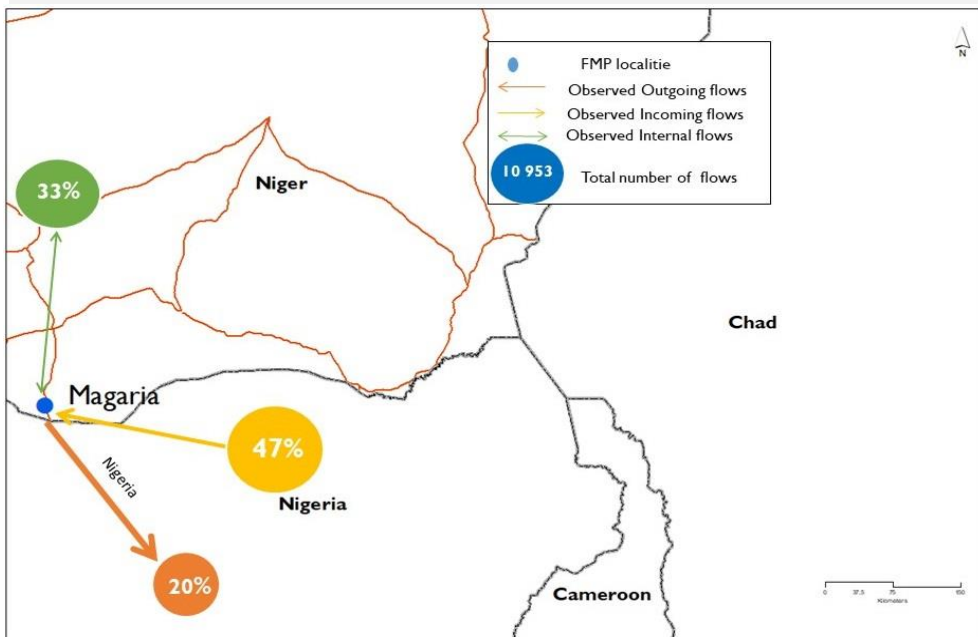
A daily average of 353 individuals passing through the Magaria FMP was observed during this month with more incoming flows (47%) than outgoing flows (20%) and a larger proportion of internal movements (33%). All flows observed were heading towards Niger and Nigeria. Primarily coming from the departure cities of Magaria and Zinder (Niger); and Kano and Babura (Nigeria).

The reasons for migration for the majority of flows were classified as **short term local movements** (64%) and **economic migration** (36%).

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

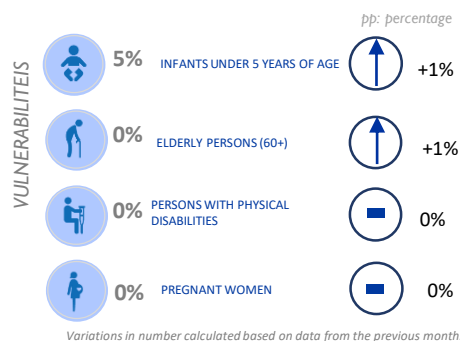
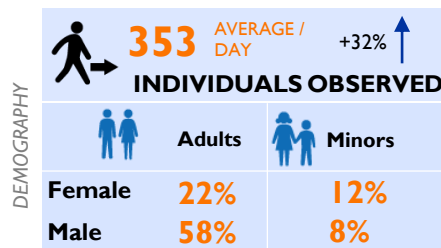
The main nationalities passing through this FMP are: Nigeriens (78%), Nigerians (21%); the other nationalities include Beninese and Cameroonian quantified as (1%) of the total number of travellers observed.

The main means of transport used were essentially private vehicles (99%) and trucks (1%).



PROFILE OF MIGRANTS

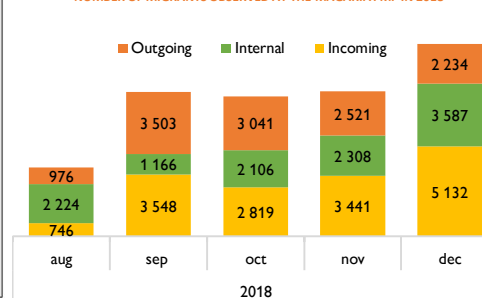
(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)



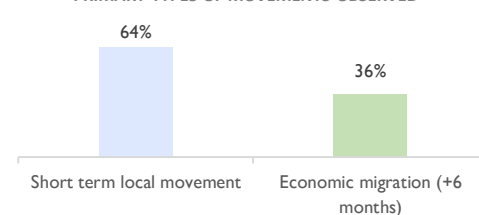
Variations in number calculated based on data from the previous month.

Area of Origin of passengers	%	Variation (%)
NIGER	63%	-5%
NIGERIA	37%	+6%
OTHER	0%	-1%

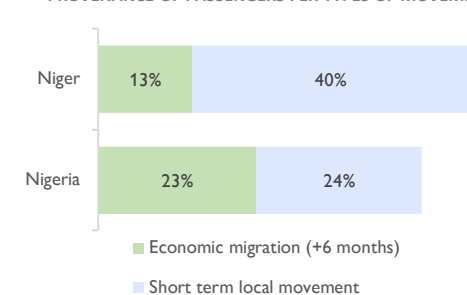
NUMBER OF MIGRANTS OBSERVED AT THE MAGARIA FMP IN 2018



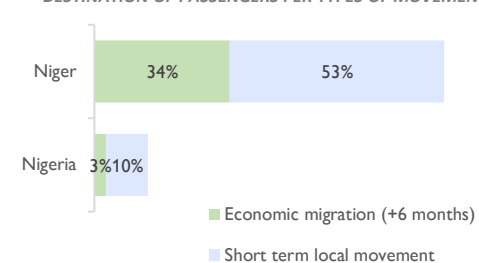
PRIMARY TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



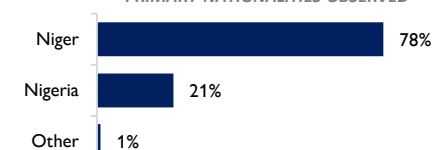
PROVENANCE OF PASSENGERS PER TYPES OF MOVEMENTS



DESTINATION OF PASSENGERS PER TYPES OF MOVEMENTS



PRIMARY 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 pass, often traveling towards the Mediterranean via Agadez and Libya. The Dan Barto FMP has been active since August 2018.

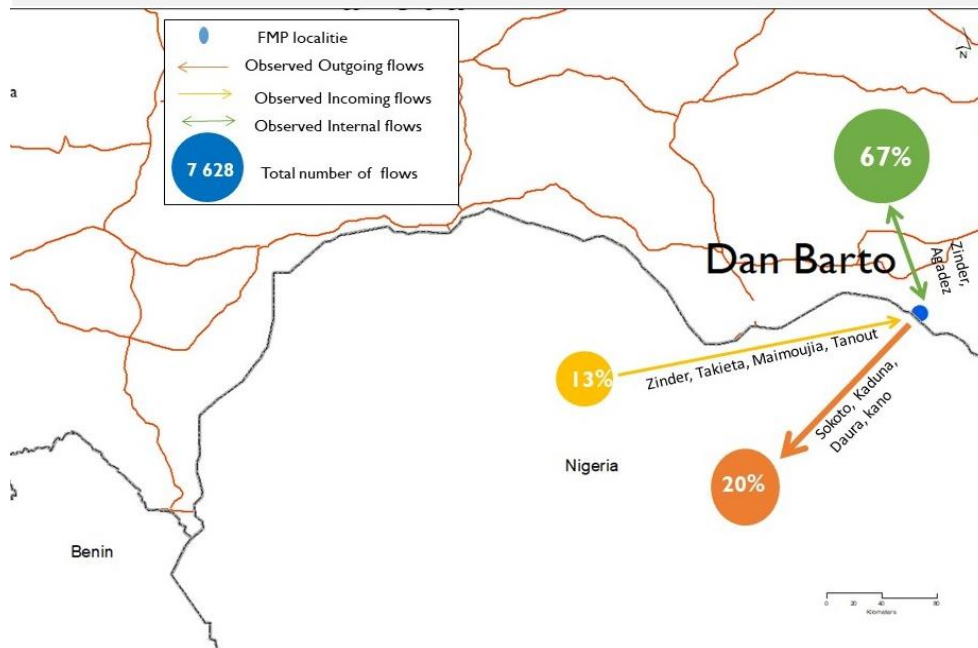
A daily average of 246 individuals passing through the Dan Barto FMP was observed during this month with more outgoing flows (20%) than incoming flows (13%). The majority of individuals transiting through the Dan Barto FMP are doing short term local movements (67%).

The main reasons cited for migrating were **short-term local movements** (49%), **seasonal migration** (31%) and **economic migration** (13%); while 6% cited **tourism** as the main motivating factor and 1% did not answer to this question.

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 items, such as animals and food (millet, beans, etc.).

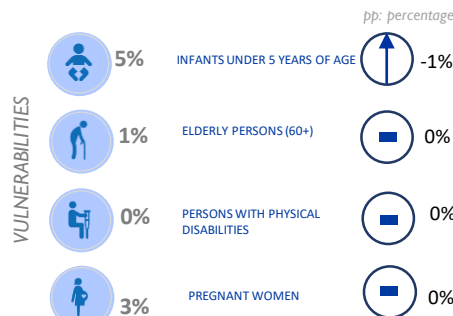
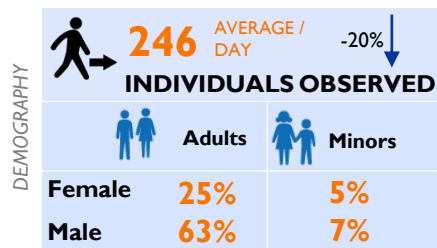
The main nationalities observed crossing the FMP include: Nigerien (93%) and Nigerian (7%).

The majority were observed travelling by bus (51%), private vehicles (41%), followed by trucks (5%), motorbikes (2%) and by foot (1%).



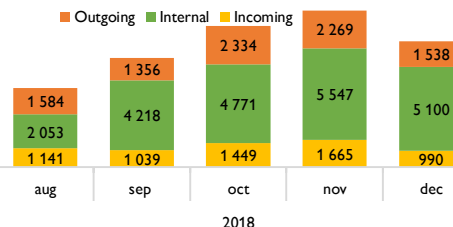
PROFILE OF MIGRANTS

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

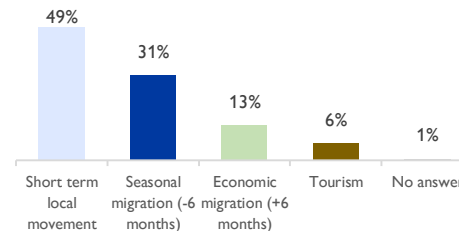


Area of Origin of passengers	%	Variation (%)
NIGER	87%	-5%
NIGERIA	13%	-4%
OTHER	0%	-1%

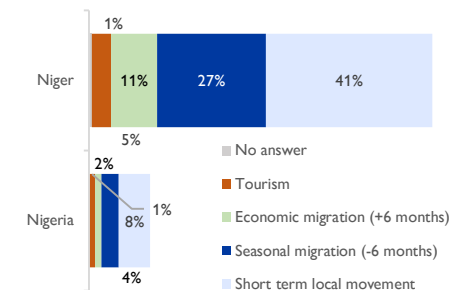
NUMBER OF MIGRANTS OBSERVED AT THE DAN BARTO FMP IN 2018



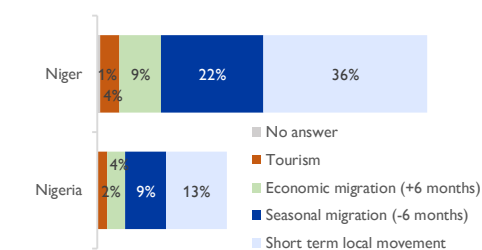
PRIMARY TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



PROVENANCE OF PASSENGERS PER TYPES OF MOVEMENTS



DESTINATION OF PASSENGERS PER TYPES OF MOVEMENTS



PRIMARY NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



The **Tahoua** Flow Monitoring Point captures both cross-border and internal movements. Tahoua is a city in central Niger, where migrants have been observed transiting through. They mainly come from Nigeria and other west African countries, such as Mali, Cameroon and Burkina Faso; they often intend to take the Agadez route towards Algeria and Libya and for some reach Algeria by passing through Tchintia which is at about 300 km to the Algerian boarder. The Tahoua FMP has been **active since August 2018**.

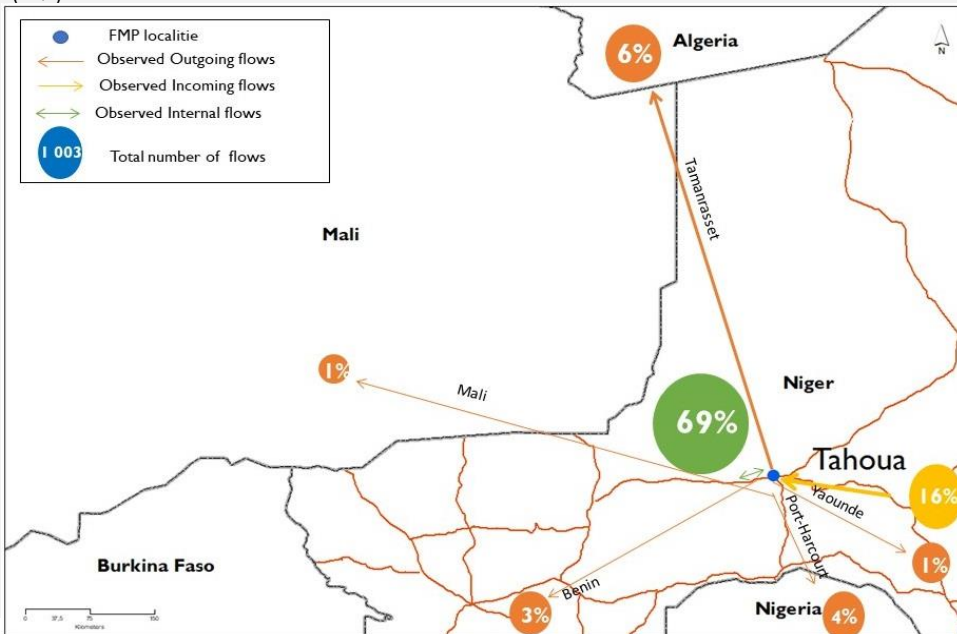
A **daily average of 32 individuals** passing through the Tahoua FMP was observed during this month.

Approximately **69% of movements observed were internal**, among which 45% of internal flow observed departed from Tahoua, 31% come from Niamey, 13% from Maradi, and the remaining come from the Agadez region. While 15% were outgoing flows, 16% were incoming flows.

The main reasons cited for migrating were **economic migration** (30%), followed by **short term local movements** (27%), **seasonal migration** (24%) and tourism (3%). 16% of observed individuals did not respond to the question.

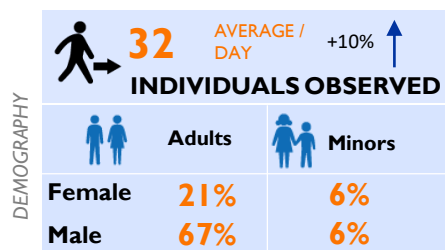
The main nationalities observed crossing the FMP include: Nigerien (78%), Guinean (6%), Nigerian and Cameroonian (4% each), Ivoirian (3%) and Beninese (2%). The other nationalities include Burkinabe and Chadian among other and represent 3%.

The majority were observed travelling by buses (55%), followed by private vehicles and (34%) and trucks (11%).

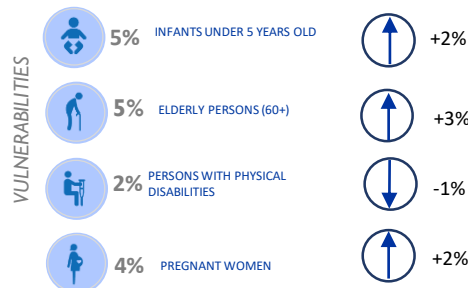


PROFILE OF MIGRANTS

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



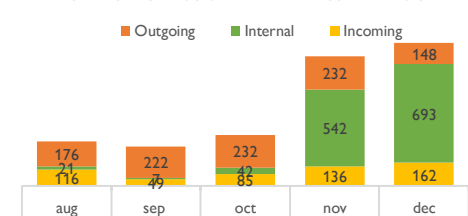
pp: percentage



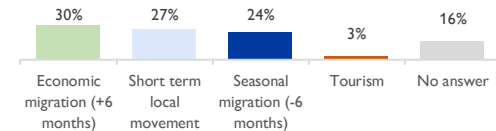
Variations in number calculated based on data from the previous month.

Area of Origin of passengers	%	Variation (%)
NIGER	78%	+2%
ALGERIA	13%	-9%
CAMEROON	3%	-1%
CÔTE D'IVOIRE	2%	0%
OTHER	4%	-11%

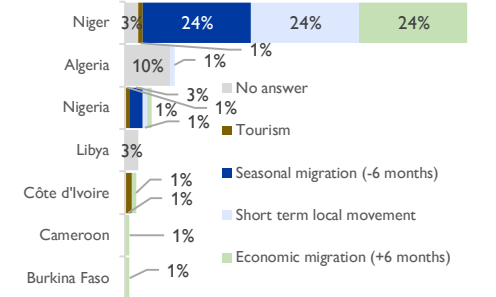
NUMBER OF MIGRANTS OBSERVED AT THE TAHOUA FMP IN 2018



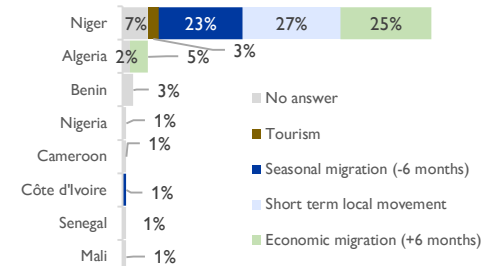
PRIMARY TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



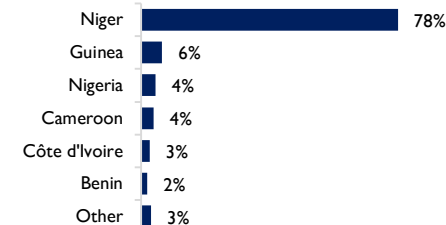
PROVENANCE OF PASSENGERS PER TYPES OF MOVEMENTS



DESTINATION OF PASSENGERS PER TYPES OF MOVEMENTS



PRIMARY 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.

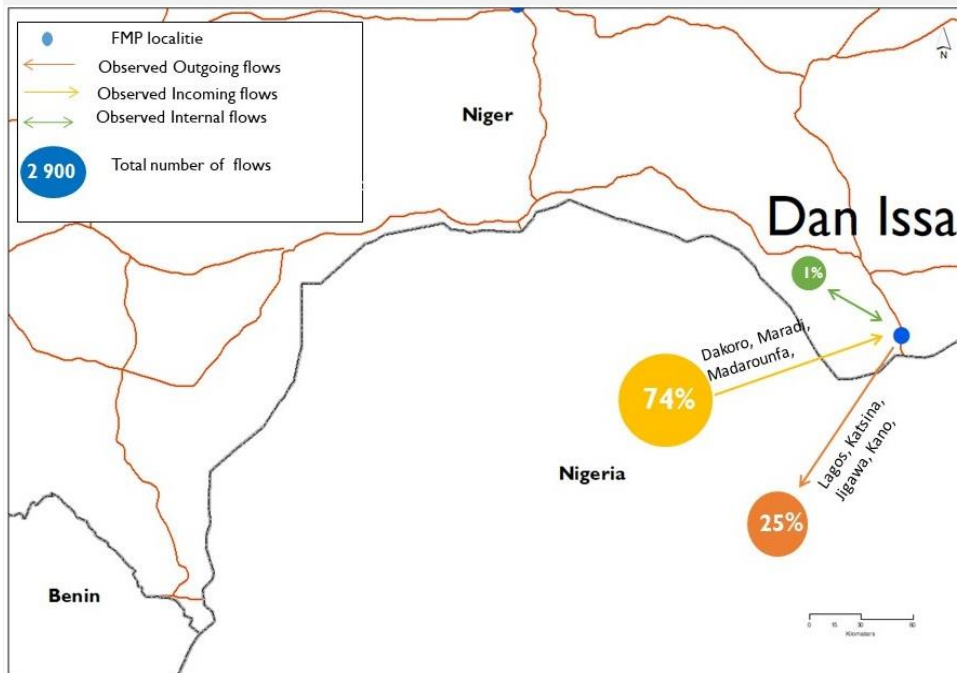
A daily average of 94 individuals passed through the Dan Issa FMP this month with more incoming flows (74%) than outgoing flows (25%). All flows observed were heading toward Niger and Nigeria. The main cities of departure are: Maradi, Guidan Roudji and Niamey (Niger); and Kano, Katsina, Abuja, Jigawa, Zamfara and Kaduna (Nigeria).

A significant decrease of 71% is observed compared to the previous month, which is due to the fact that passengers have changed their habitual road due to the high number of armed robber's attacks.

The main reasons cited for migrating were **economic migration (57%)**, **short-term local movements (37%)** and **seasonal migration (3%)**. **Forced movements due to a conflict (2%)** and **tourism (1%)** have also been cited as reasons for migration.

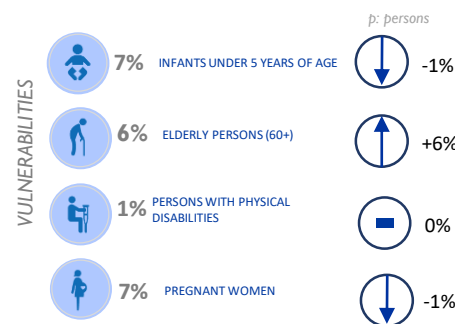
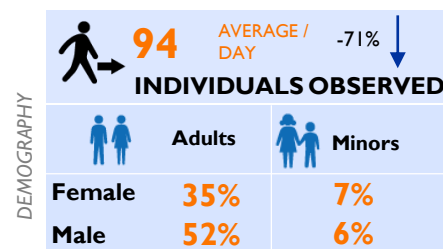
The main nationalities observed crossing the FMP include: Nigerian (51%) and Nigerien (49%).

The majority were observed using private vehicles (90%) and buses (10%).



PROFILE OF MIGRANTS

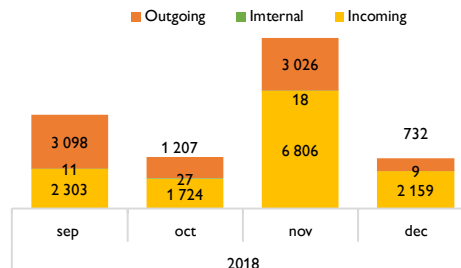
(obtained through direct observation and interviews with migrants, drivers, irregular migration facilitators, border police and bus station managers)



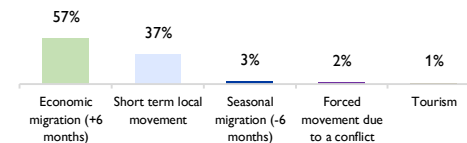
Variations in number calculated based on data from the previous month.

Area of Origin of passengers	%	Variation (%)
NIGER	74%	+5%
NIGERIA	26%	-5%

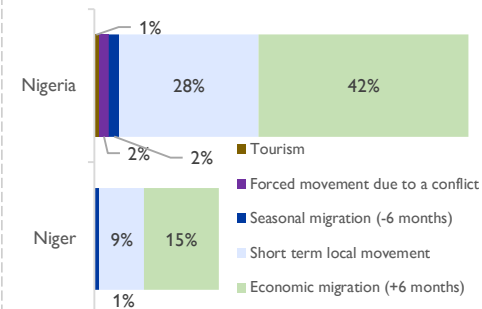
NUMBER OF MIGRANTS OBSERVED AT THE DAN ISSA FMP IM 2018



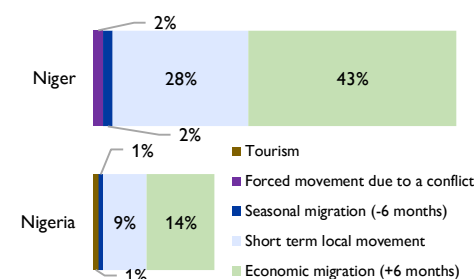
PRIMARY TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED



PROVENANCE OF PASSENGERS PER TYPES OF MOVEMENTS



DESTINATION OF PASSENGERS PER TYPES OF MOVEMENTS



PRIMARY NATIONALITIES OBSERVED

