

IOM LIBYA

MIGRANT REPORT ROUND 55

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2024

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This publication was made possible through support provided by the European Union. The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

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This publication was issued without formal editing by IOM.

This publication was issued without IOM Publications Unit (PUB) approval for adherence to IOM's brand and style standards.

This publication was issued without IOM Research Unit (RES) endorsement.

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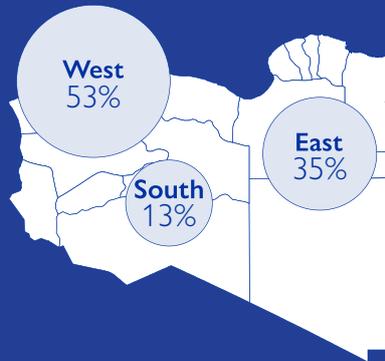
KEY FINDINGS

ROUND 55 (NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2024)

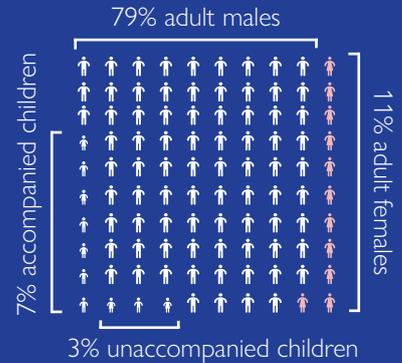
824,131

migrants were identified by DTM Libya during round 55 of data collection (November - December 2024). Around eight in ten (79%) were adult males, 11 per cent were adult females, and 10 per cent were children, among whom 3 per cent were unaccompanied minors.

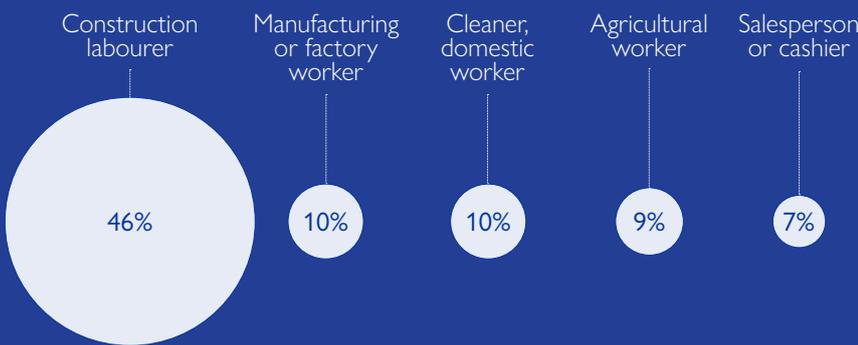
LOCATION



SEX & AGE



TOP 5 JOBS OF MIGRANTS IN LIBYA



TOP 5 NATIONALITIES



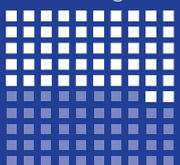
UNEMPLOYMENT

(by sex)

23% of migrants were unemployed and actively seeking work

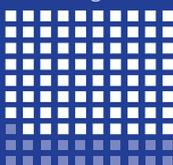
48%

Female migrants



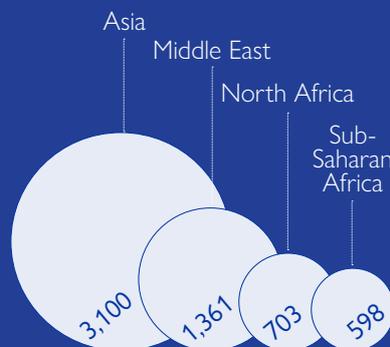
21%

Male migrants



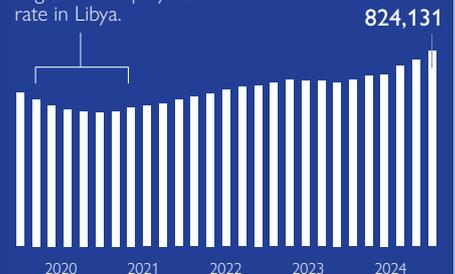
COST OF JOURNEY

(average (USD), by region of origin)



NUMBER OF MIGRANTS IN LIBYA 2020 - 2024

Height of the COVID-19 pandemic including mobility restrictions and peak migrant unemployment rate in Libya.



OVERVIEW

IOM Libya's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) programme identified a total of 824,131 migrants from 47 nationalities across the 100 Libyan municipalities during the reporting period. This represents a five per cent increase compared to the previous round of data collection, and this increase is in line with a trend that started in December 2023.

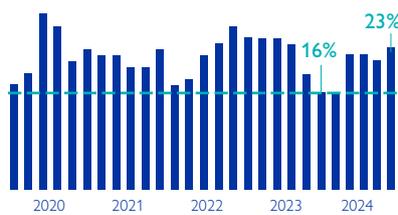
The number of migrants identified in December 2024 is the highest since DTM Libya started collecting data in 2016 but remains lower than prior to the onset of conflict in 2011 when it was estimated to be around 2.5 million. Overall, 80 per cent of migrants in Libya are male and the remaining 20 per cent are female.

Throughout 2024, DTM Libya observed an increase in the number of migrants in Libya in eastern coastal areas and western areas. The high number of migrants in western regions could be, at least in part, attributed to greater livelihood opportunities, including in the construction, oil, trade, and agriculture sectors, and due to the relatively stable security situation in some municipalities.

During the reporting period (Nov-Dec 2024), a significant portion of migrant men (79%) report having steady employment while only a minority (37%) of migrant women report being employed. Of the men who are employed, nearly half (49%) report that they work in construction, while a minority work in the manufacturing sector and as factory labourers (10%), or in the agricultural sector (9%). Of the migrant women who are employed, a majority (73%) work as cleaners or domestic workers, and a minority work as healthcare workers (5%) or in the manufacturing sector and as factory labourers (5%).

The unemployment rate (the percentage of migrants actively seeking employment) remained steady at approximately 21-23 per cent throughout 2024. This marks a significant increase from 16 per cent in December 2023 (Round 50), which can be partially attributed to the growing number of Sudanese nationals in Libya. Unemployment among Sudanese nationals in Libya has remained steady at 34 per cent across all surveys conducted in 2024, highlighting the challenges that they face in securing employment.

Fig 1: Migrant unemployment rate in Libya 2020-2024



During the reporting period (Nov-Dec 2024), of migrants who are unemployed, a majority (48%) of women reported actively seeking work, compared to a minority (21%) of men who reported the same (Fig 2). Almost a quarter of unemployed migrants who are actively seeking work are from Sub-Saharan Africa (Fig 3).

Figure 2: Percentage of migrants unemployed and actively seeking work (by sex)

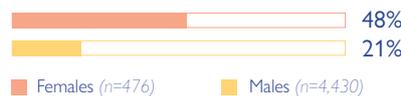
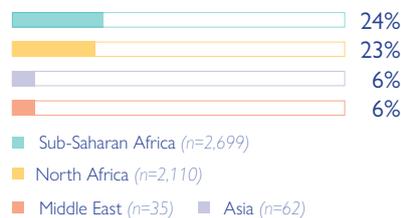
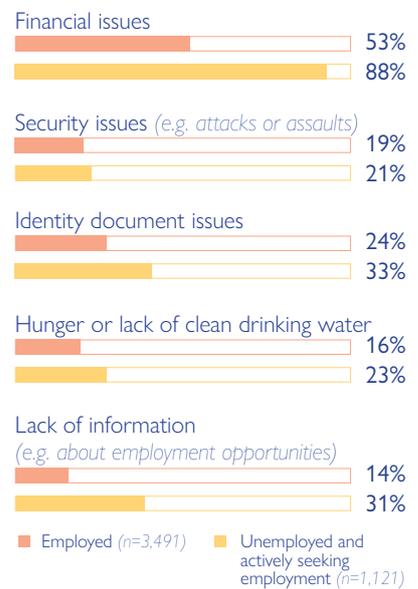


Fig 3: Percentage of migrants unemployed and actively seeking work (by region of origin)



Against this background, migrants reported having experienced difficulties relating to finding employment, particularly relating to identity documentation issues and financial issues. This is consistent with the difficulties they reported in previous rounds in 2024, particularly those relating to employment conditions and terms of contract.

Fig 4: Top 3 difficulties faced by migrants by employment status in Libya (multiple-choice question)



More broadly, both migrants who are unemployed but actively seeking employment and those who are employed reported that they experienced an array of difficulties in Libya, including financial issues, security issues, and identity documentation issues (Fig 4).

Despite the reported challenges in finding employment and working conditions, a steady majority (over 60%) of migrants stated that they either send or intend to send remittances back home.

Geographical patterns and trends

The majority of migrants identified by DTM Libya during the reporting period (Nov-Dec 2024) were from North Africa (50%) or sub-Saharan Africa (43%), while a minority were from the Middle East (4%) or Asia (3%). These trends point to the influence of geographical proximity and diasporic ties that continue to shape migration patterns in Libya.

Over eight in ten migrants (82%) are nationals from four neighboring countries: Sudan (29%), Niger (23%), Egypt (20%), and Chad (10%). A minority come from Tunisia (1%) or Algeria (<1%).

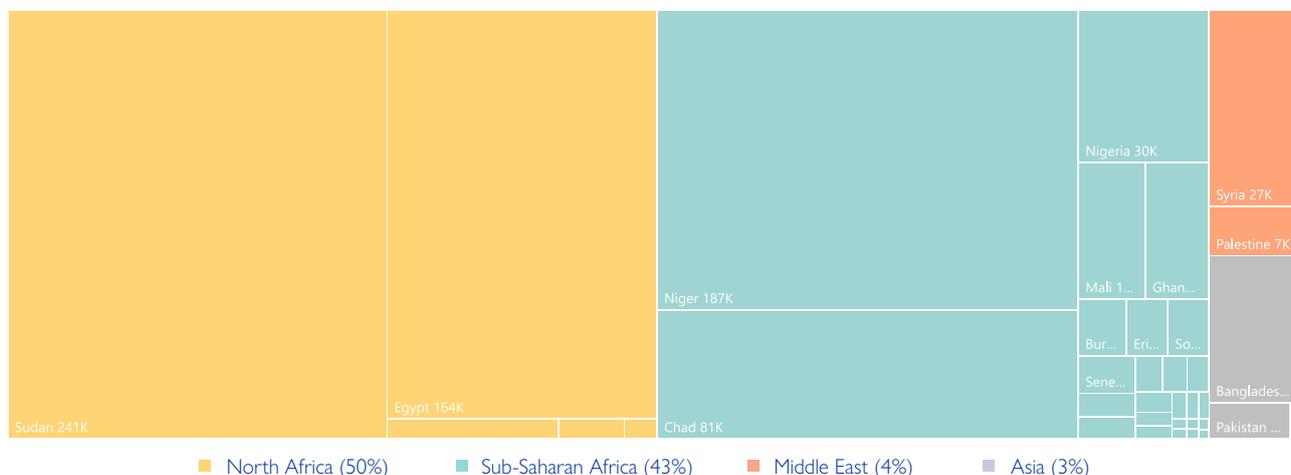
The number of Sudanese* nationals has continued to increase throughout 2024 largely due to the on-going armed conflict in Sudan. At the same time, the percentage of Sudanese nationals who engage in circular migration to Libya has significantly decreased since April 2023. In contrast, migrants from the other five neighboring countries (Tunisia, Algeria, Niger, Chad, and Egypt) are more likely to undertake seasonal migration to Libya, with 15 per cent compared to four per cent for nationals from other countries.

The largest migrant populations identified during this round were in the coastal regions of Tripoli (16%), Misrata (10%), Benghazi (10%), Almargeb (6%), Ejdabia (6%), and Azzawya (6%).

Fig 5: Number and proportion of migrants by nationality

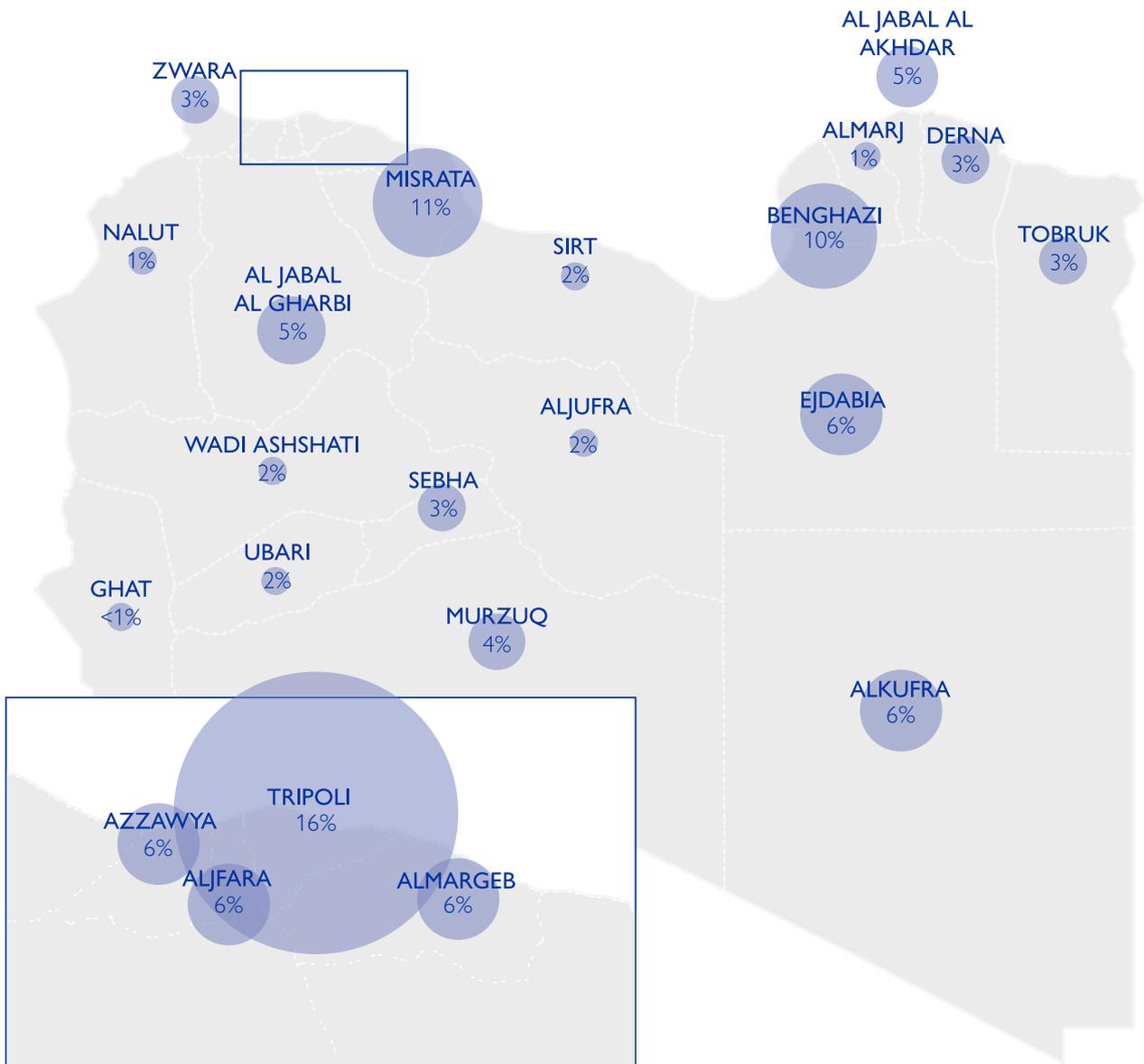
Nationality	Number of migrants	% migrants
Sudan	241,065	29%
Niger	187,123	23%
Egypt	163,510	20%
Chad	80,523	10%
Nigeria	29,501	4%
Syria	27,046	3%
Bangladesh	20,275	2%
Mali	13,554	2%
Ghana	12,855	2%
Palestine	6,706	1%
Other	6,264	1%
Tunisia	5,076	0.6%
Pakistan	4,379	0.5%
Burkina Faso	4,043	0.5%
Eritrea	3,476	0.4%
South Sudan	3,446	0.4%
Senegal	3,187	0.4%
Mauritania	1,982	0.2%
Morocco	1,946	0.2%
Côte d'Ivoire	1,854	0.2%
Somalia	1,450	0.2%
Ethiopia	1,331	0.2%
Unknown	1,242	0.2%
Cameroon	1,171	0.1%
Guinea	1,126	0.1%
Total for Libya	824,131	100%

Fig 6: Countries and regions of origin of migrants in Libya and percentage of migrants from each region



*The information on Sudanese nationals reflects a snapshot taken during the data collection period. Due to the highly fluid situation, these figures are likely to have changed and increased since then. For the most current updates on the Sudanese situation, please refer to the latest reports from the IM Taskforce under the UNHCR-led Refugee Response Plan.

Fig 7: Percentage of migrants per region (mantika) during DTM round 55 of data collection



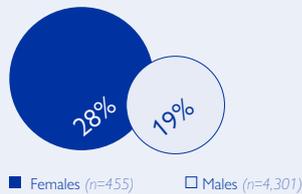
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HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

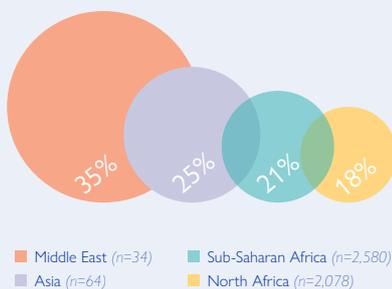
As recent IOM Libya research on [Migration, Environment, and Climate Change](#) has illustrated, Libya faces severe water scarcity, ranking among the most water-stressed countries globally. It relies on groundwater for approximately 97 per cent of its water needs, yet faces a significant annual deficit.

Fig 8: Migrants with insufficient access to drinking water (by sex)



In terms of humanitarian needs, access to sufficient drinking water continues to be more limited amongst female migrants (28%) than males (19%) (Fig 8). It is also more limited amongst migrants from the Middle East (35%) and Asia (25%) compared to those from North Africa (18%) and Sub-Saharan Africa (21%) (Fig 9).

Fig 9: Migrants with insufficient access to drinking water (by region of origin)

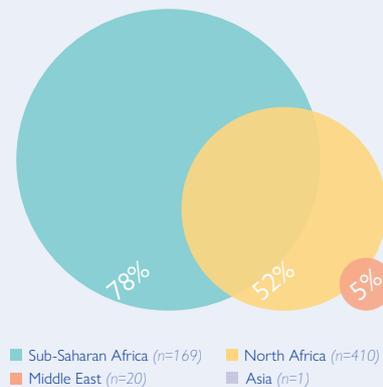


According to key informants, migrants face challenges with accessing water networks and affordable safe drinking water. A greater proportion of unemployed migrants (32%) mentioned that they lack access to clean drinking water compared to those who were employed (16%).

ACCESS TO EDUCATION

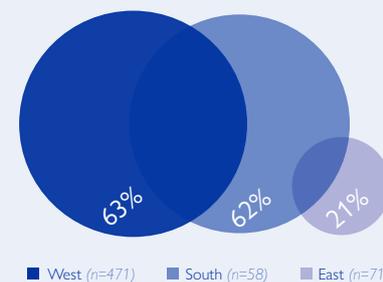
Consistent with previous reports and in line with the trend for 2024, only a minority of migrants (13%) interviewed by DTM during the reporting period stated that they had family members aged between five and 18 in Libya. Among them, more than half (58%) reported that their children lacked access to education in Libya.

Fig 10: Migrant children without access to school in Libya (by region of origin)



Lack of access to education was an issue for a greater proportion of migrants from Sub-Saharan Africa (78%) and North Africa (52%) compared to those from the Middle East (5%) (Fig 10). An increasing number of migrant children in the south (62% in Round 55 as compared to 57% in Round 54), did not have access to school. These issues were mainly because of a lack of documentation (69%), financial issues (80%), and language barriers (32%).

Fig 11: Migrant children without access to school in Libya (by location of survey)

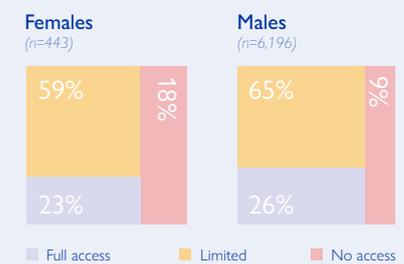


N.b. Sample size for Asian migrants was too small for analysis.

ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

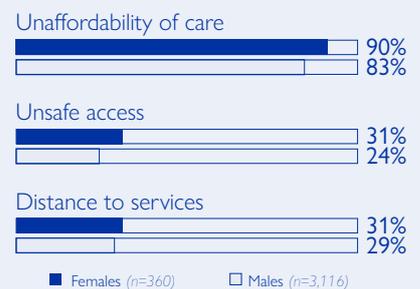
Over seven in ten migrants (75%) in Libya pointed to having limited or no access to healthcare. More females (18%) than males (9%) mentioned having no access to healthcare (Fig 12).

Fig 12: Access to healthcare in Libya (by sex)



The majority of male (90%) and female (83%) migrants reported that they could not access healthcare in Libya due to the unaffordability of healthcare services (Fig 13). A recent [multi-sectoral assessment](#) carried out by DTM illustrated that Sudanese nationals in Alkufra face significant challenges in accessing healthcare services, and that the distance to healthcare services remains a significant barrier.

Fig 13: Top 3 barriers to accessing healthcare (by sex)



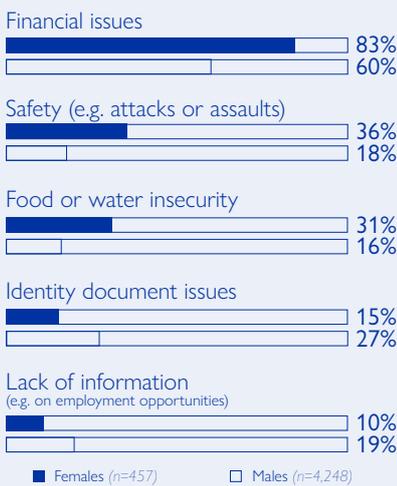
Migrants also reported facing obstacles with accessing healthcare in Libya due to distance (31%), the irregular supply of medicines (28%), the inadequate quality of care (24%), and the inability to reach services safely (24%). Throughout 2024, migrants constantly reported encountering these barriers to accessing healthcare.

HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

MAIN DIFFICULTIES

During the reporting period, migrants indicated that they faced an array of difficulties, including financial issues, attacks or assaults, food or water insecurity, a lack of identity documentation, and lack of information. A greater proportion of female migrants experienced all of these difficulties, except a lack of information, which affected more male (19%) than female (10%) migrants.

Fig 14: Three main difficulties faced by migrants in Libya
(by sex, multiple-choice question)



Financial difficulties continue to affect more than half of migrants (62%) regardless of sex, age or employment status. However, a greater proportion of unemployed migrants (88%) reported facing financial difficulties compared to those who were employed (53%).

ACCOMMODATION

According to key informants, most migrants (75%) live in rented accommodation for which they pay for themselves. The majority of migrants (68%) who live in self-paid rented accommodation do not have legal contracts that regulate their tenancy. A minority of migrants, seven per cent, sheltered in their workplaces. (Fig 15).

Fig 15: Accommodation settings
(key informants data)



Through direct interviews, DTM Libya found that on average, a migrant shares a room with four individuals and pays USD 30 as her or his part of monthly rent.

A greater proportion of female migrants reported having been evicted or threatened with eviction (14%) compared to males (4%) (Fig 16), which is at least partially related to the higher unemployment rate among female migrants (48%) compared to males (20.6%). Migrants indicated that in the vast majority of instances (75%), their landlord threatened them with eviction. While 9 per cent of migrants were threatened by armed groups. Inability to pay rent is the main reason why both female and male migrants (54% and 46% respectively) were threatened with eviction. These findings are in line with the overall trend for 2024.

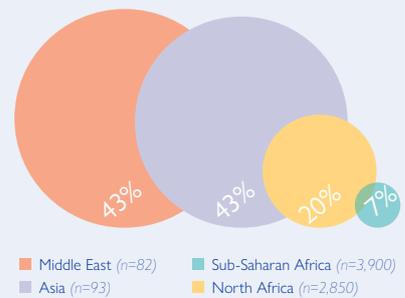
Fig 16: Migrants who have been evicted or threatened thereof (by sex)



ACCESS TO DOCUMENTATION

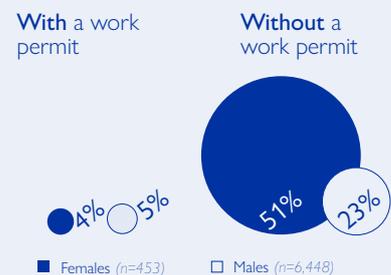
Nearly nine in 10 migrants (87%) in Libya indicated that they do not possess a work permit. A greater proportion of migrants from the Middle East (43%) and Asia (43%) reported having a work permit compared to those from North (20%) or Sub-Saharan Africa (7%) (Fig 17).

Fig 17: Possession of a work permit in Libya (by region of origin)



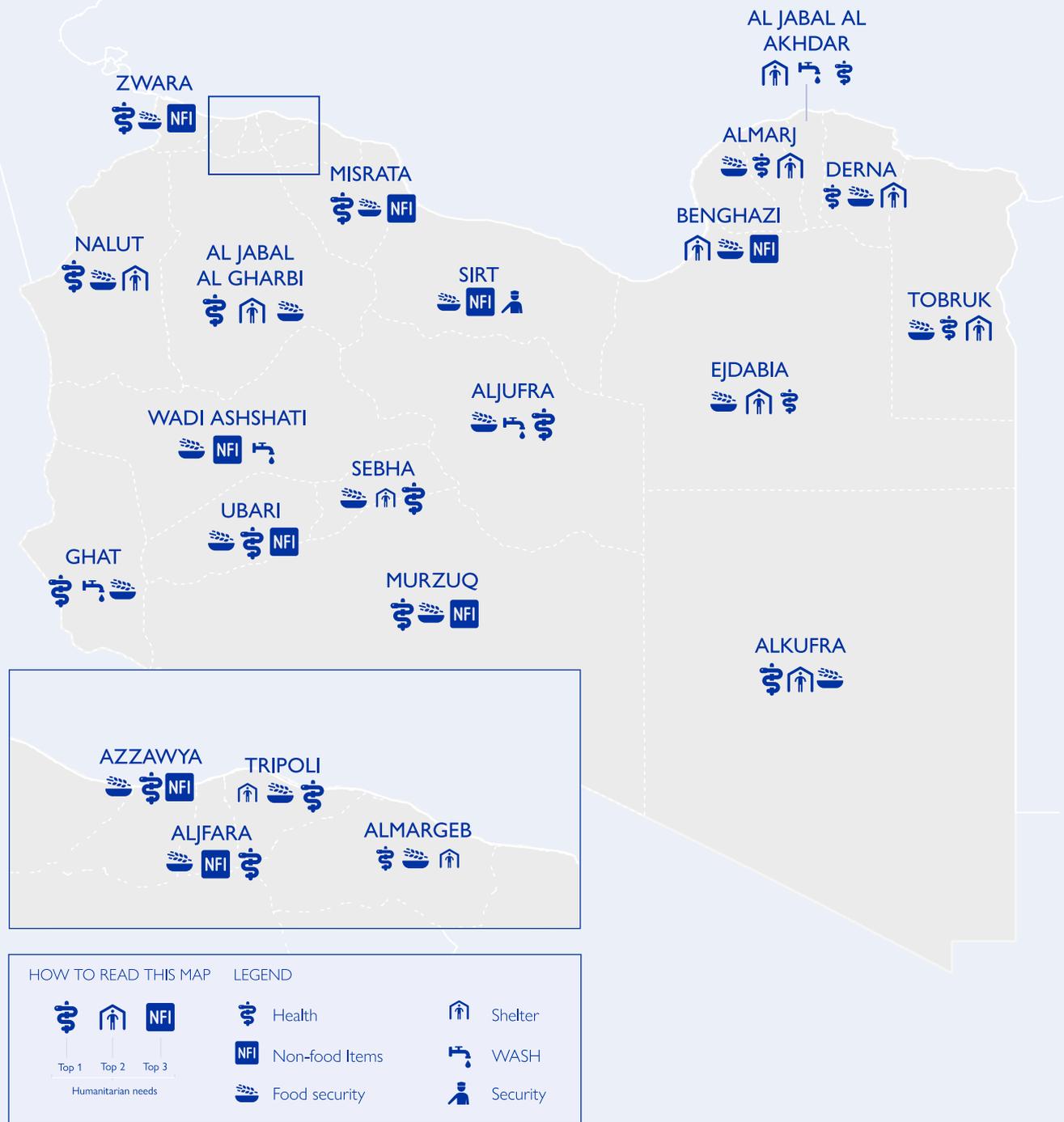
The unemployment rate among migrants without a work permit was significantly higher, particularly for female migrants (51%), compared to those with a work permit (4% and 5% respectively) (Fig 18).

Fig 18: Unemployment
(by sex and whether migrant are in possession of a work permit)



While migrants do not need formal documentation to secure employment in Libya, not having a work permit impacts migrants' ability to access formal job opportunities. A quarter of migrants indicated that they still experience difficulties with obtaining identity documents.

Fig 19: Humanitarian priority needs of migrants per region (mantika)



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SITUATION BEFORE MIGRATING

Four in ten migrants (40%) reported having experienced at least one shock, which the majority (65%) 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. This points to how a complex array of shocks can compound migrants' difficulties and influence their decision to migrate.

The main shocks that migrants experienced were economic in nature, rise in food or agricultural input prices, unemployment, armed conflict or gang violence, high agricultural input costs, and displacement (Fig 20). 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 (a total of 16%).

Unemployment, or the inability to find work in the 12 months prior to migrating to Libya, was cited by 19 per cent of migrants who reported having experienced a shock. A smaller proportion of migrants from Sub-Saharan Africa (17%) and North Africa (22%) experienced this shock as compared to those from the Middle East (43%) (Fig 20).

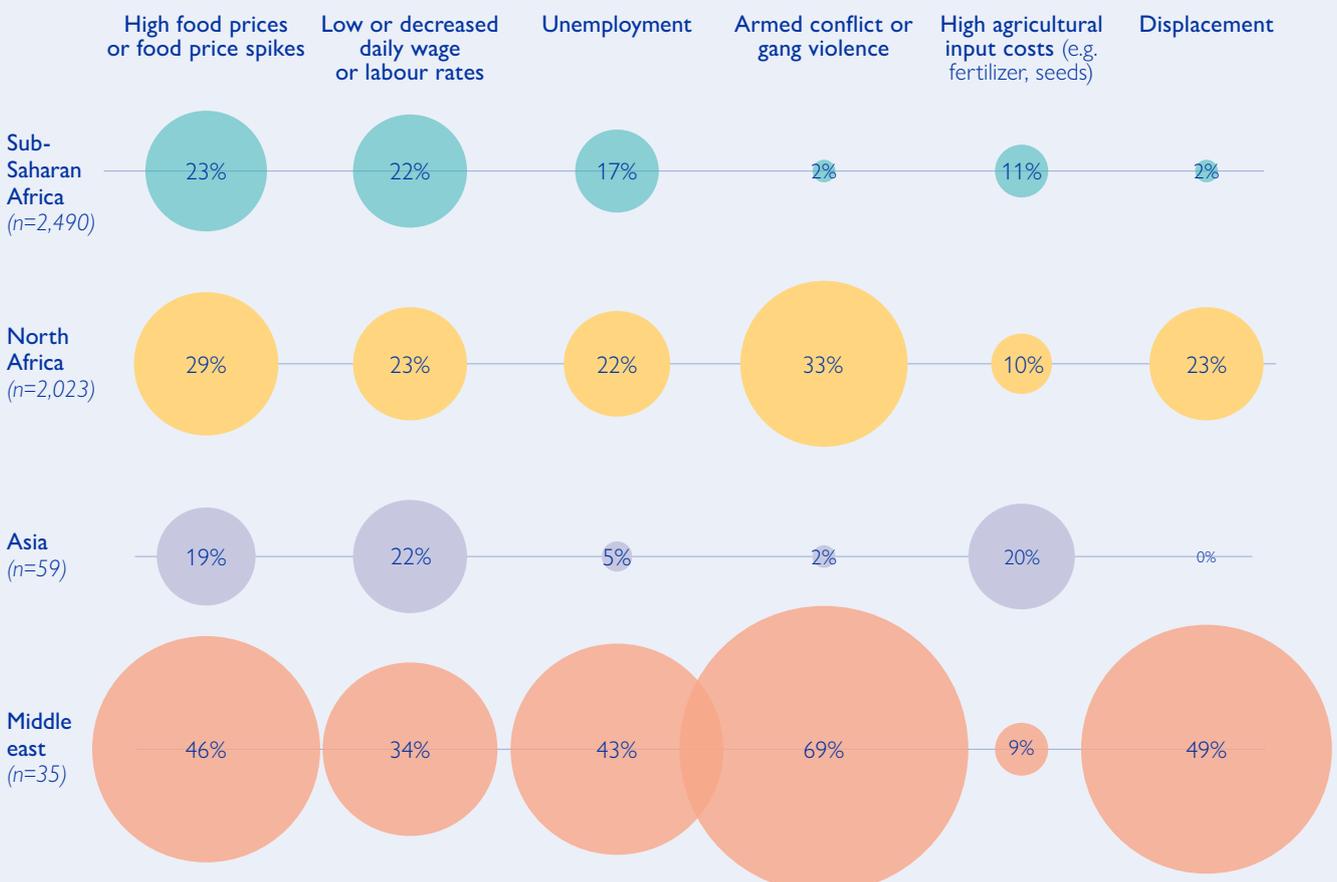
The high cost of agricultural products (e.g., fertilizer, pesticides, seeds) was cited as an issue among a greater proportion of migrants from Asia (20%), Sub-Saharan Africa (11%), and North Africa (10%) compared to

those from the Middle East (9%). The percentage of migrants experiencing shock pre-departure has remained stable throughout 2024 with high food prices and low or decreased wages being the two most important factors.

Migration Intentions

Overall, around a third of migrants mentioned that they intend to stay in Libya (36%) while 39 per cent stated that they have no definite intentions. A minority reported their intention to return to their country of origin (16%) or continue onwards to another country (10%), of these, 86 per cent listed Europe as their final destination, 10 per cent listed Canada.

Fig 20: Top shocks experienced in the 12 months prior to migrating to Libya (by region of origin)



LABOUR MARKET

TOP OCCUPATIONS

In line with the trend for the year 2024 the employment rate for female migrants remains significantly lower than that of male migrants, at 37 per cent of all female migrants compared to 79 per cent of all male migrants. Female migrants were primarily employed as cleaner or domestic worker (73%), health care workers (5%), sales worker (e.g. supermarket cashier, store clerk) (4%) or in manufacturing (5%) (Fig 21). Male migrants were mainly working as construction (49%), manufacturing or factory (10%), agricultural labourers (9%), or sales or cleaner or domestic worker (both at 7%) (Fig 21). These trends have remained stable for 2024.

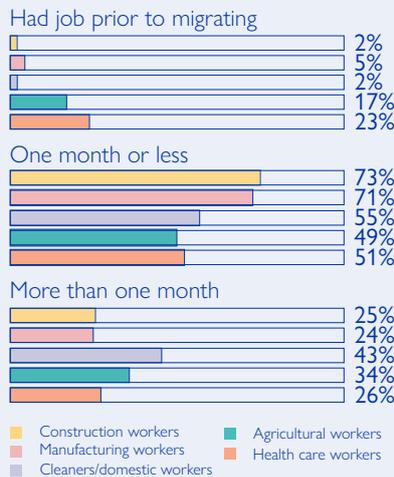
Fig 21: Top 4 jobs (by sex)



FINDING EMPLOYMENT

Overall, a minority of migrants (5%) reported having secured employment prior to leaving their home country. A greater proportion of health care workers (23%) and agricultural labourers (17%) indicated that they had secured a job prior to leaving their country of origin, compared to those employed as manufacturing or factory workers (5%), construction labourers (2%) or cleaners (2%) (Fig 22).

Fig 22: Time required to find employment upon arriving in Libya (by work sector)

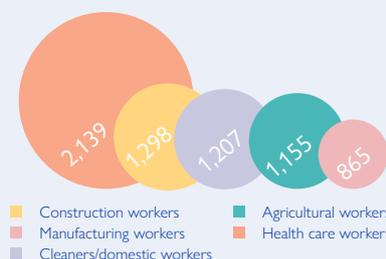


EARNINGS

In November and December, employed migrants reported an average monthly income of 1,284 Libyan Dinars (LYD). This figure surpasses the Full Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) which generally declined during November to LYD 943.8 compared to October 2024, with women earning less on average (LYD 806 against men's LYD 1311). Nevertheless, 53 per cent of employed migrants and 88 per cent of unemployed migrants currently experiencing financial issues.

Although their income is insufficient for regular remittances, a significant portion of migrants (33%) still indicated that they send money home, with another 38 per cent planning to do so once they have saved enough. Of these the vast majority (73%) send money towards assisting families' food needs.

Fig 23: Average earnings in last 30 days (LYD) (by work sector)

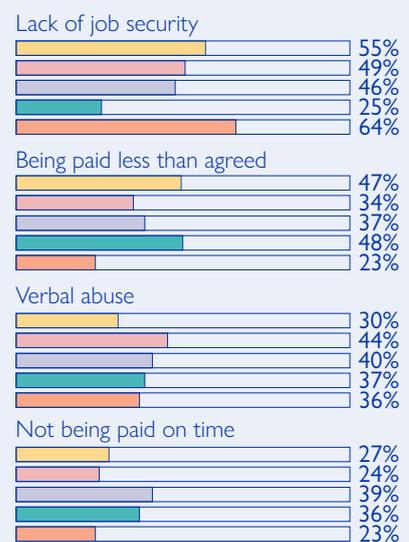


WORK CONDITIONS

In line with the trend observed over 2024, migrants' working conditions in Libya remain predominantly characterized by non-standard or temporary work agreements across an array of sectors, including construction and agriculture. During the reporting period, 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, the only exception being 49 per cent of healthcare workers who held such contracts. 77 per cent had only oral agreements, with the difference between men and women being noticeable as 79 per cent of men had oral agreements, while only 47 per cent of women had corresponding agreements. 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 as well as employers paying lower wages than agreed upon (respectively 43% and 47%).

Fig 24: Top risks faced at work (by work sector)



MIGRATION ROUTES: TRANSIT COUNTRIES

The largest share of the 29,354 individuals who were interviewed by DTM Libya between January and December 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 (3%), Algeria (2%), or a combination of other countries (2%) (Fig 21).

77 per cent of migrants reported that their main reason for leaving their country of origin was lack of financial possibilities, including a lack of sufficient income (46%) and a lack of job opportunities (15%). A further 16 per cent cited conflict as the main reason. These trends have been consistent during 2024.

Journey characteristics and costs

The majority of individuals interviewed (88%) mentioned that they travelled with a group. Of those, 46 per cent travelled with a group of people they did not previously know and 42 per cent 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 during the reporting period stated that their journey from their country of origin to Libya cost an average of USD 682, although the amount varied greatly depending on the route taken, from

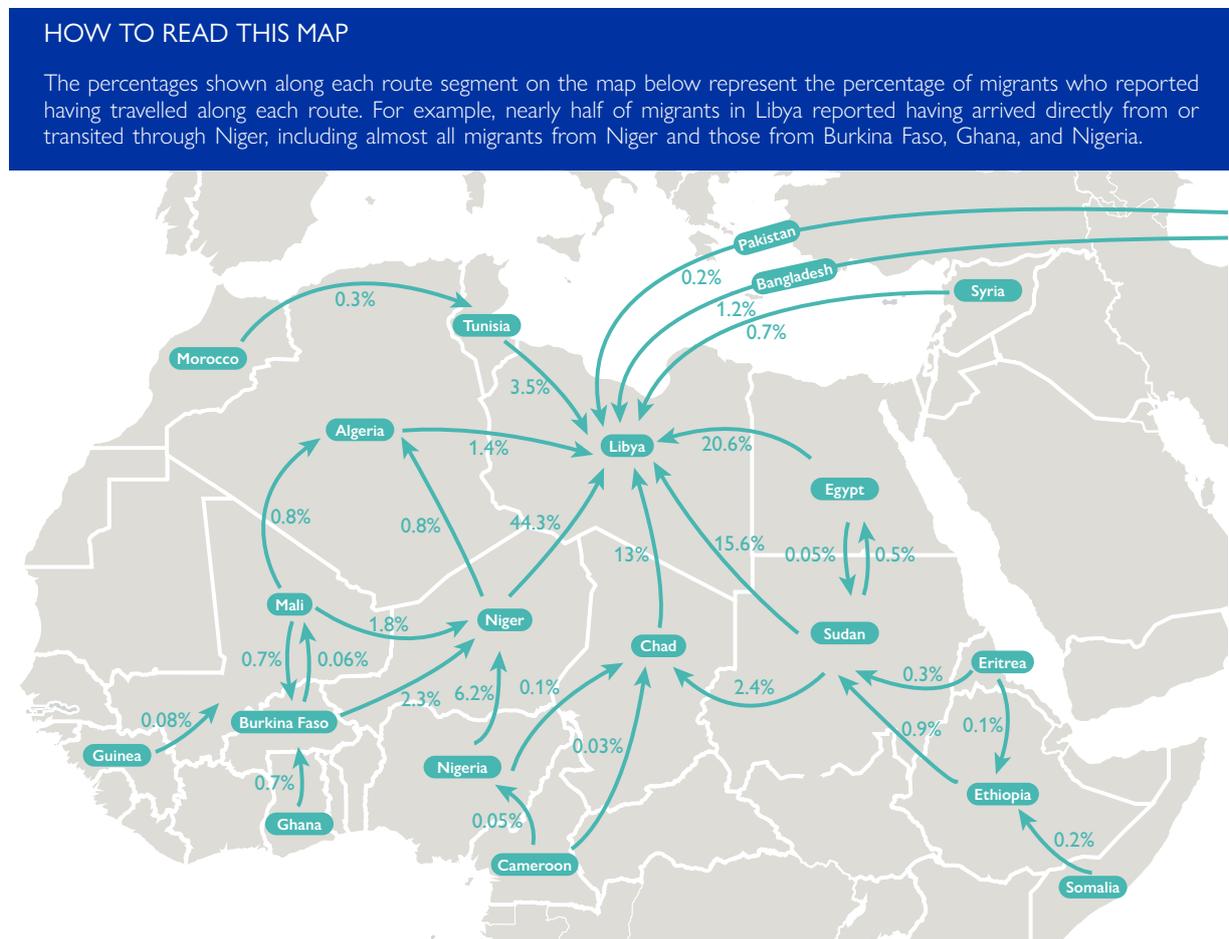
USD 598 average from Sub-Shara to USD 3,100 from Asia (see 'migration routes: analysis and trends' section). 73 per cent reported that the biggest expense they incurred was related to the fees for migration facilitators.

73%

of the total journey cost was allocated to facilitators' service expenses, as reported by migrants surveyed between November and December 2024.

The services provided by facilitators were primarily for transportation (95%) or to help migrants cross difficult areas along their journey (53%).

Fig 25: Major migration routes reported by migrants interviewed via DTM Flow Monitoring Surveys (FMS)



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 year 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

Country of departure

Number of migrants from this country in Libya

Route

transit country

Libya

xx%

% of migrants who travel this route

Cost average (USD)

xxx\$

cost of each route in USD

ROUTES	COST	MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION	PRESENCE IN LIBYA BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS		
			East	South	West
Algeria 964 individuals 	88% — 178\$ 12% — 219\$	road private transport (own or rented car) 47% public transport (e.g. bus or shared transport) 41% air or sea 7% foot 4%	5%	16%	79%
Bangladesh 20,275 individuals 	44% — 4,267\$ 14% — 1,096\$ 13% — 3,761\$ * — 2,581\$	air 97% road 3% public or private transport	48%	1%	50%
Burkina Faso 4,043 individuals 	98% — 552\$ * — 800\$	road private transport (own or rented car) 88% public transport (e.g. bus or shared transport) 12%	81%	19%	

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

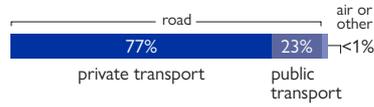
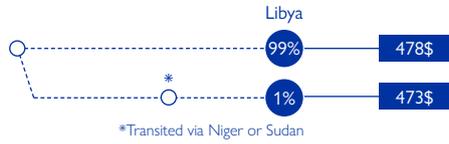
*Multiple routes used that included via: Algeria, Mali, Nigeria and Niger only or combination.

ROUTES	COST	MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION	PRESENCE IN LIBYA BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS		
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Chad

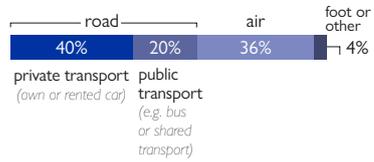
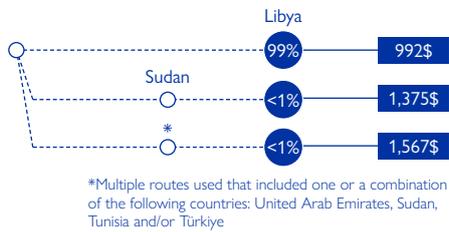
East South West

80,523 individuals



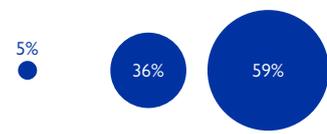
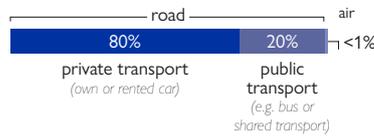
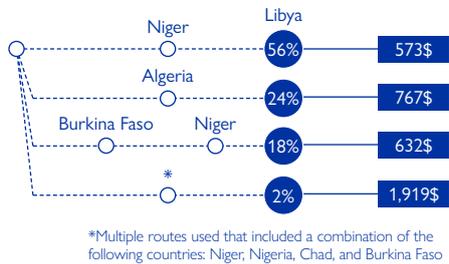
Egypt

162,510 individuals



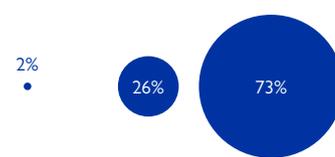
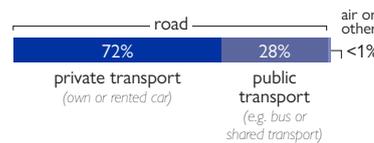
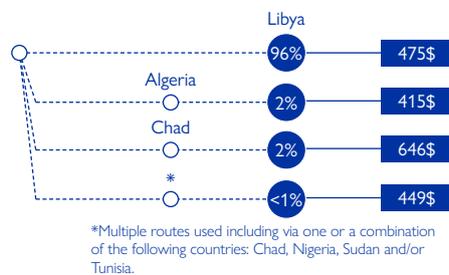
Mali

13,554 individuals



Niger

187,123 individuals

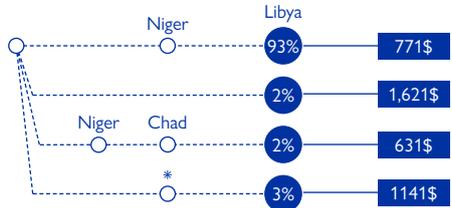


ROUTES	COST	MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION	PRESENCE IN LIBYA BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS		
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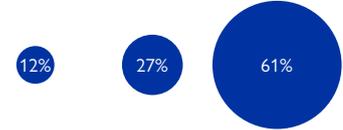
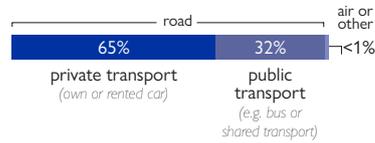
Nigeria

East South West

29,501 individuals

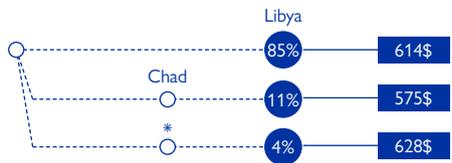


*Multiple routes used that included one or a combination of the following countries: Chad, Egypt, Niger, Burkina Faso, Algeria, Cameroon, Tunisia, Türkiye and/or Sudan.

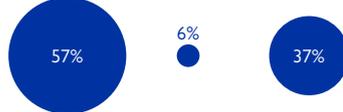
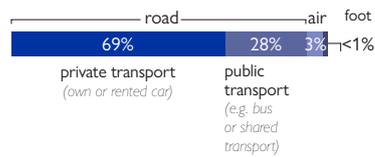


Sudan

241,065 individuals

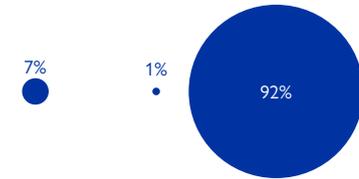
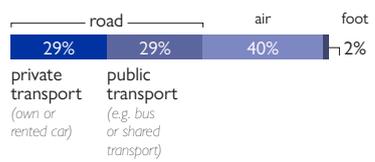


*Multiple routes used that included one or more of the following countries: Chad, Egypt, Niger and/or Jordan.



Tunisia

5,076 individuals



REGIONAL ANALYSIS: DISTRIBUTION

In line with the previous round of data collection, key informant interviews conducted by DTM Libya during the reporting period (Nov-Dec 2024), showed that over half of migrants were located in western Libya (53% or 435,346 individuals), while a minority were located in eastern Libya (34% or 284,357 individuals) or southern Libya (13% or 104,428 individuals).

Consistent with previous reports, the majority of migrants (54%) were located in the coastal regions of Tripoli (16%), Misrata (10%), Benghazi (10%), Almageb (6%), Ejdabia (6%), and Azzawya (6%) (Fig 25).

Based on key informants interviewed during the reporting period nearly 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 120 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 as Tripoli, Misrata, and Benghazi, retained a high number of migrants.

Fig 26: Migrants in Libya by region (mantika) (based on mobility tracking data)

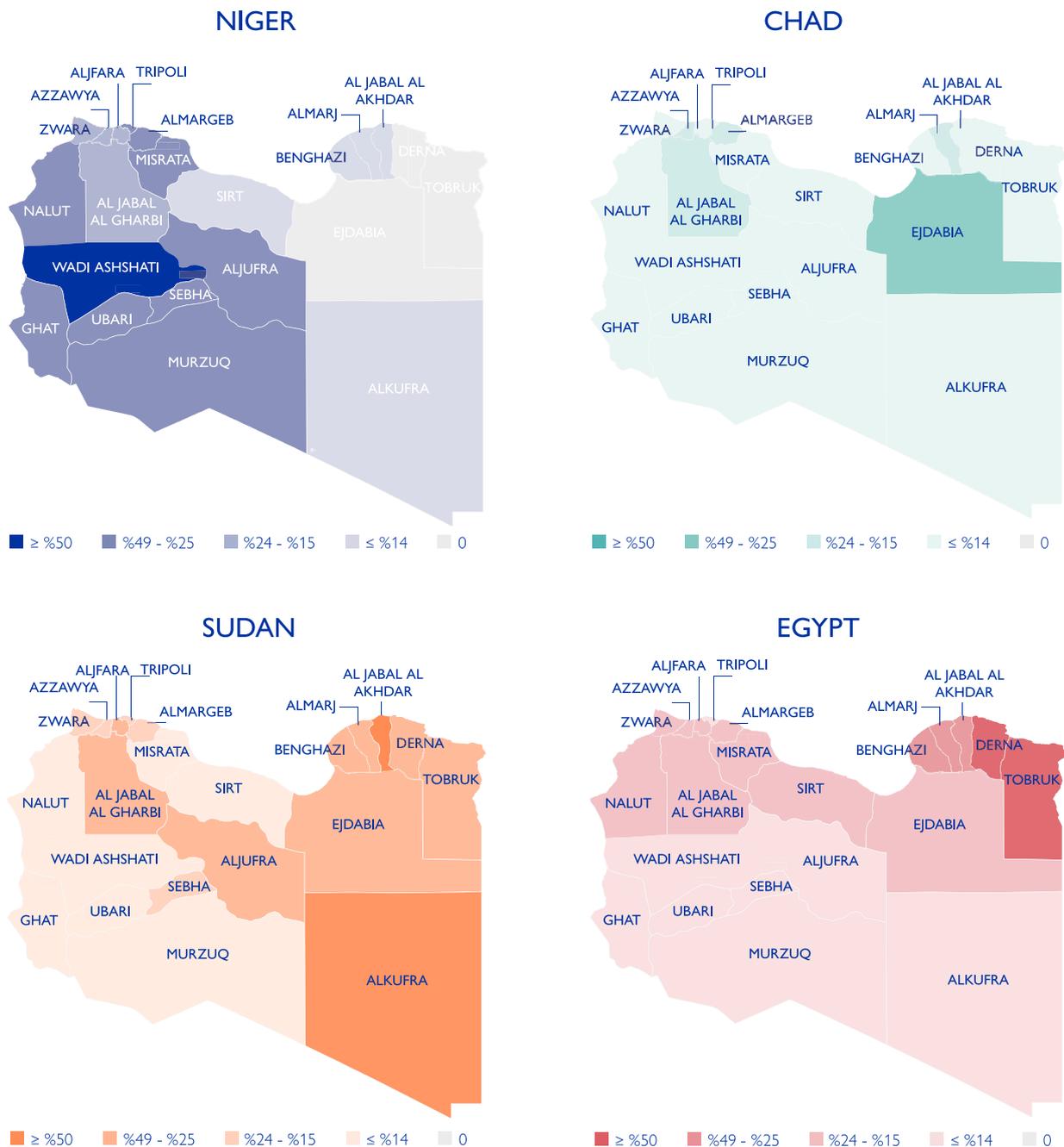
Mantika (region)	Number of migrants	% by region
Tripoli	129,047	16%
Misrata	83,600	10%
Benghazi	83,565	10%
Ejdabia	51,490	6%
Alkufra	48,260	6%
Almageb	46,776	6%
Azzawya	46,584	6%
Aljgara	45,380	6%
Al Jabal Al Gharbi	41,565	5%
Al Jabal Al Akhdar	38,900	5%
Murzuq	29,495	4%
Tobruk	28,090	3%
Derna	26,940	3%
Sebha	23,490	3%
Zwara	23,084	3%
Ubari	17,480	2%
Aljufra	15,950	2%
Wadi Ashshati	14,355	2%
Sirt	13,865	2%
Almarj	7,112	1%
Nalut	5,445	0.7%
Ghat	3,658	0.4%
Total for Libya	824,131	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 neighboring 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

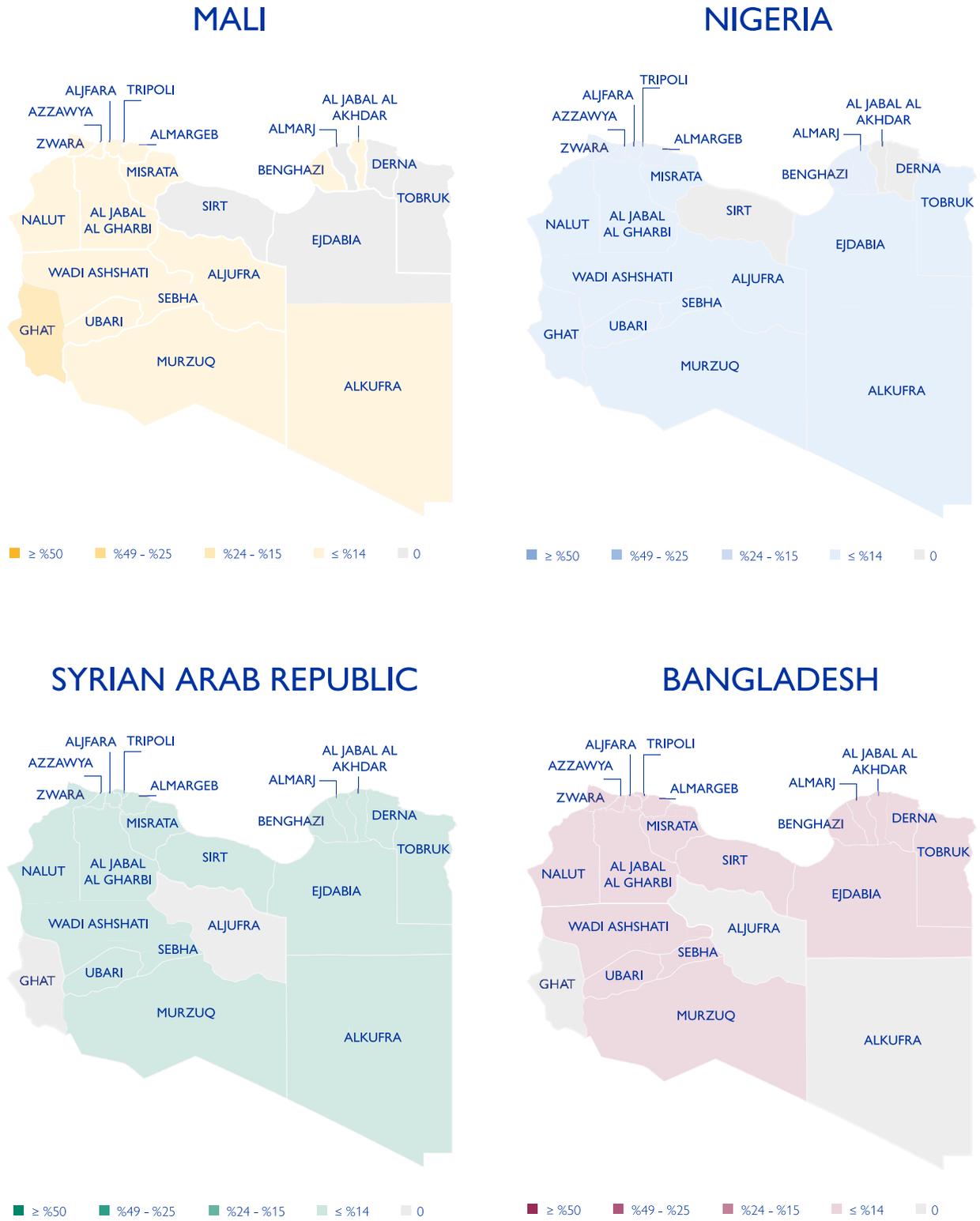
in Alkufra, which is the main entry point for migrants traveling to Libya particularly those coming from or transiting through Chad and Sudan. Migrants from Egypt constitute the largest shares of migrants in the eastern coastal regions of Libya, such as Al Jabal Al Akhdar, Derna, Ejdabia, Tobruk and Benghazi.

Fig 27: Percentage that migrants represent in each region of Libya by country of origin



These maps are for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on the maps do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

Fig 28: Percentage that migrants from Mali, Nigeria, the Syrian Arab Republic and Bangladesh represent in each region of Libya



These maps are for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on the maps do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

REGION OF ORIGIN: GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS

Based on key informant interviews conducted during the reporting period (Nov-Dec 2024), and in line with previous reports, migrants from North African countries continue to account for over two thirds of migrants in eastern Libya (76.5%). A significant number are Sudanese nationals who came to Libya after the onset of armed conflict in Sudan.

Migrants from sub-Saharan African countries (e.g., Niger and Chad) represent the majority of migrants in southern and western Libya (76% and 54%, 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 developed through the circular migration of populations from bordering countries, particularly Niger and Egypt. The complete disaggregation of migrants' region of origin by regional location (*mantika*) in Libya is shown in the table below (Fig 29).

Fig 29: 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	2,815	10%	2,720	7%	33,365	15%
	Alkufra	223	1%	7,483	19%	40,554	19%
	Almarj	565	2%	1,411	4%	5,136	2%
	Benghazi	17,769	63%	15,236	40%	50,560	23%
	Derna	260	1%	790	2%	25,890	12%
	Ejdabia	3,443	12%	10,169	26%	37,782	17%
	Tobruk	2,998	11%	720	2%	24,372	11%
Eastern Libya total		28,073	9.90%	38,529	13.50%	217,659	76.50%
SOUTH	Aljufra	-	0%	9,856	12%	6,094	26%
	Ghat	-	0%	2,863	4%	795	3%
	Murzuq	308	19%	24,778	31%	4,409	19%
	Sebha	612	38%	18,234	23%	4,644	20%
	Ubari	242	15%	12,873	16%	4,360	19%
	Wadi Ashshati	463	28%	10,667	13%	3,225	14%
Southern Libya total		1,625	2%	79,271	76%	23,527	23%
WEST	Al Jabal Al Gharbi	1,041	4%	19,828	9%	20,675	12%
	Aljfara	810	3%	19,343	8%	25,177	15%
	Almargeb	984	3%	27,603	12%	18,189	11%
	Azzawya	1,310	4%	25,453	11%	19,821	12%
	Misrata	6,913	23%	48,282	21%	28,405	17%
	Nalut	227	1%	2,603	1%	2,600	2%
	Sirt	4,293	14%	4,101	2%	5,431	3%
	Tripoli	13,432	45%	73,181	31%	41,419	24%
Zwara	688	2%	12,738	5%	9,658	6%	
Western Libya total		29,698	7%	233,132	54%	171,375	39%
Total for Libya		59,396	7%	350,932	43%	412,561	50%

Note: 1,141 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

Through interviews with key informants, during the reporting period, DTM Libya identified 29 nationalities from the sub-Saharan Africa region. The majority of sub-Saharan migrants (97%) were from West and Central Africa.

Since the beginning of 2024, the number of sub-Saharan migrants (327,599 individuals for the reporting period Nov-Dec 2024) has remained relatively stable throughout the year, with 349,858 individuals reported in January–February 2024, 345,336 in March–May, 348,897 in June–July, and 351,208 in August–October 2024. Niger and Chad are the first and second most represented nationalities from sub-Saharan Africa in Libya (57% and 25%, respectively). A minority are from Nigeria (9%), Mali (4%), Ghana (4%), and Burkina Faso (1%).

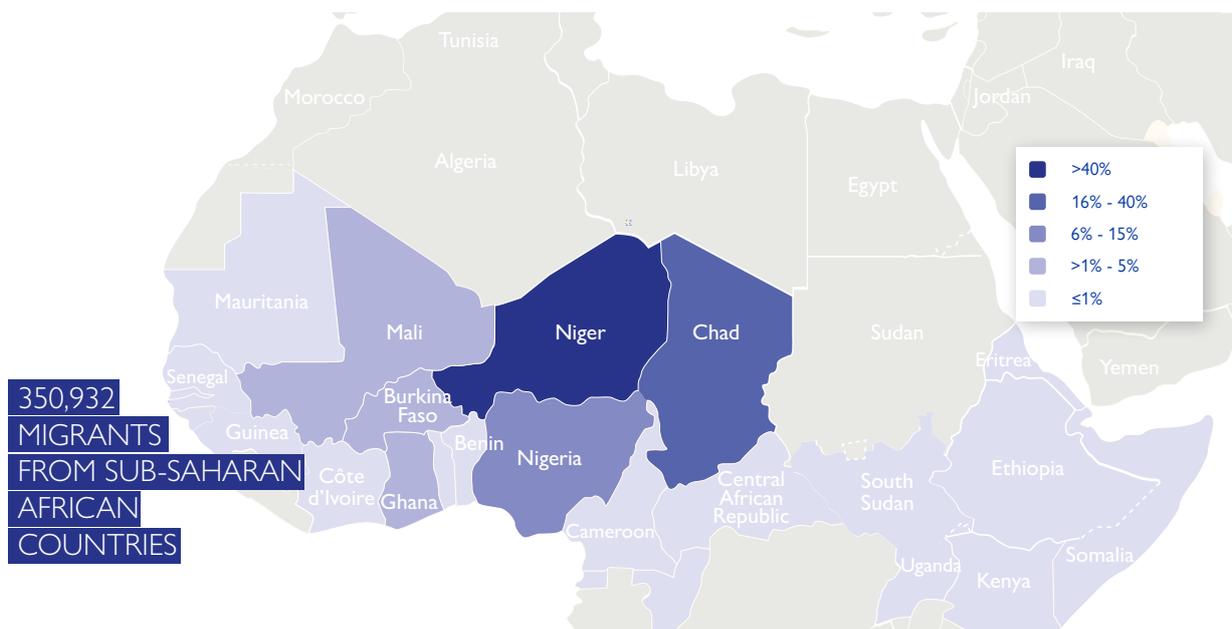
Fig 30: Number of migrants from countries of origin in sub-Saharan Africa (top 6 nationalities)



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

Between November and December 2024, 90 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, the majority (54%) were aware of the risks associated with their journey namely the danger of crossing the Sahara Desert. 94 per cent of sub-Saharan migrants surveyed indicated that they entered Libya through unofficial points.

Fig 31: Percentages of migrants by country of origin for the sub-Saharan Africa region



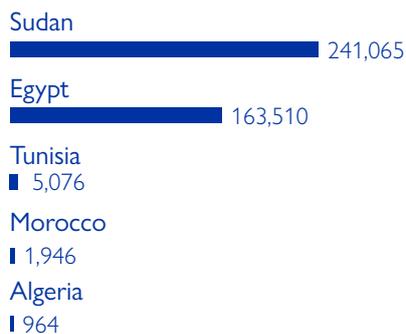
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REGION OF ORIGIN: NORTH AFRICA

Over the course of 2024, there was a significant increase in the number of individuals from North Africa in Libya, reaching a total of 421,561. Overall, 50 per cent of the total number of migrants in Libya are from North Africa (Fig 32). In line with the Round 54 report, Sudan is the most prominent North African nationality present in Libya with 58 per cent.

51 per cent of Sudanese nationals interviewed between January and October 2024 indicated that they arrived in Libya after being forcibly displaced in the midst of the conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) on 15 April 2023.

Fig 32: Number of individuals from countries of origin in North Africa

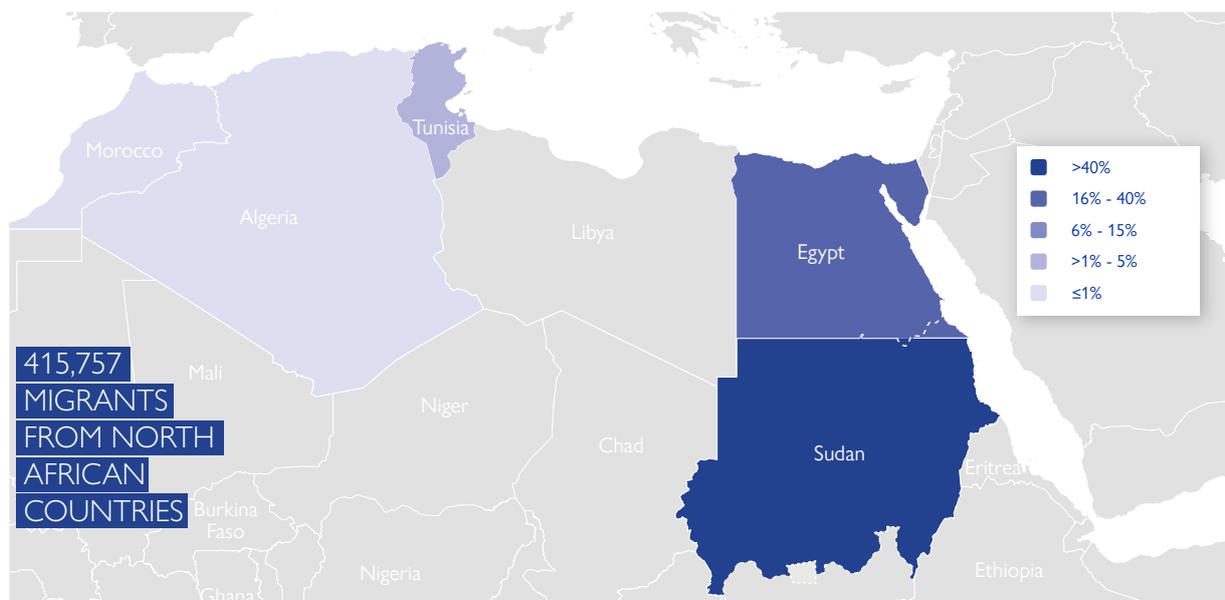


By the end of 2024, over 210,000 Sudanese nationals were estimated to have arrived in Libya. Authorities in Alkufra issued 125,020 health certificates to Sudanese nationals and estimate that approximately 173,000

Sudanese nationals have arrived in Libya through Alkufra alone.

Despite these estimates, irregular entry points, vast remote borders with Chad, Egypt, and Sudan, and onward movements to coastal cities make it challenging to determine exact numbers. Migrants from Tunisia, Morocco, and Algeria accounted for two per cent of the total number of migrants from North Africa. This is in line with previous reports, which showed that individuals from the Maghreb countries constitute a minority.

Fig 33: Percentages of migrants by country of origin for the North African region



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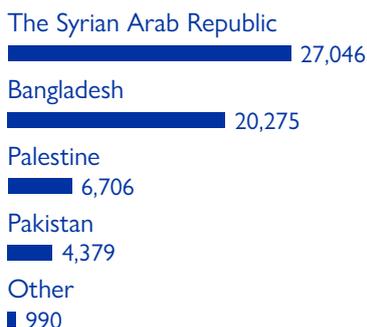
REGION OF ORIGIN: MIDDLE EAST AND ASIA

A minority of migrants identified during the reporting period (Nov-Dec 2024) were from the Middle East (4% or 34,068 individuals) or Asia (3% or 25,328 individuals).

In line with previous reports, the majority of migrants from Asia and the Middle East were from the Syrian Arab Republic (27,046 individuals) and Bangladesh (20,275 individuals) accounting for 46 per cent and 34 per cent of migrants (including refugees), respectively (Fig 34). 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 6,706 migrants who self-identified as Palestinians (11% of all migrants from the Middle

Fig 34: Migrants from countries of origin in the Middle East and Asia



East and Asia in Libya) and 4,379 migrants from Pakistan (7%). There were 990 individuals from various other nationalities who altogether accounted for just over two per cent of the migrant population from the Middle East and Asia.

According to key informant interviews conducted during the reporting period, 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. The majority of migrants from the Middle East reside in the western region of Libya (56%) and eastern region (42%), and only a minority reside in the southern region (2%).

Contrary to migrants arriving from Sub-Saharan Africa a noticeable percentage of migrants coming from Asia and the Middle-East arrive through official border crossing points.

Fig 35: 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 reporting period (Nov-Dec 2024), a total of 11,287 migrants arrived in Italy and Malta through the Central Mediterranean Sea, compared to 13,619 migrants during the corresponding period in 2023, marking a decrease of 17 per cent. Overall, fewer migrants arrived in Italy and Malta through the Central Mediterranean Sea in 2024 (66,855) than during the previous two years (158,032 individuals in 2023 and 105,575 individuals in 2022).

There has been a marked decrease in arrivals during 2024 compared to 2023, which saw an increase compared to 2022.

Interception and Fatalities at Sea

In 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 per cent 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.

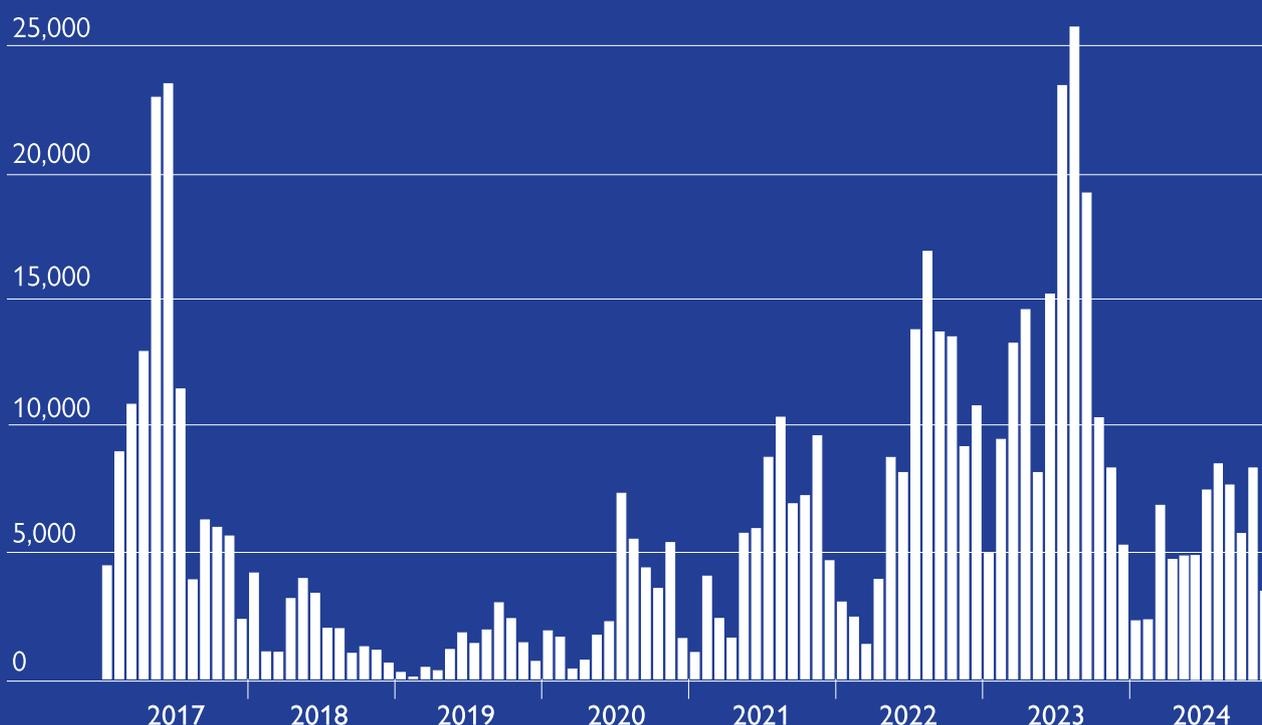
21,762

migrants were intercepted and returned to Libya in 2024.

66,855

migrants arrived by sea in Italy and Malta in 2024 compared to 158,032 in 2023 — a 58 per cent decrease.

Fig 36: Monthly number of arrivals in Italy and Malta on the Central Mediterranean route (2017 - 2024)



According to the Missing Migrants Project, 2,333 people on the move were recorded as dead or missing in the Mediterranean in 2024 compared to 3,155 in the previous year (26% decrease). Of the 2,333 people identified in 2024, 1,692 (73%) died or went missing on the Central Mediterranean Route, marking a 33 per cent decrease compared to 2023. According to the Missing Migrants Project, out of the 965 recorded deaths and disappearances in Libya in 2024, more than 22 per cent occurred on land routes. This highlights the often-overlooked risks migrants face on land routes, including extreme weather conditions such as heatwaves.

During the reporting period (Nov-Dec 2024), a total of 340 deaths and disappearances were recorded on the Central Mediterranean Route, which is 40 percent lower than the same period last year. The majority of these deaths resulted from drowning following shipwrecks caused by adverse weather or sea conditions.

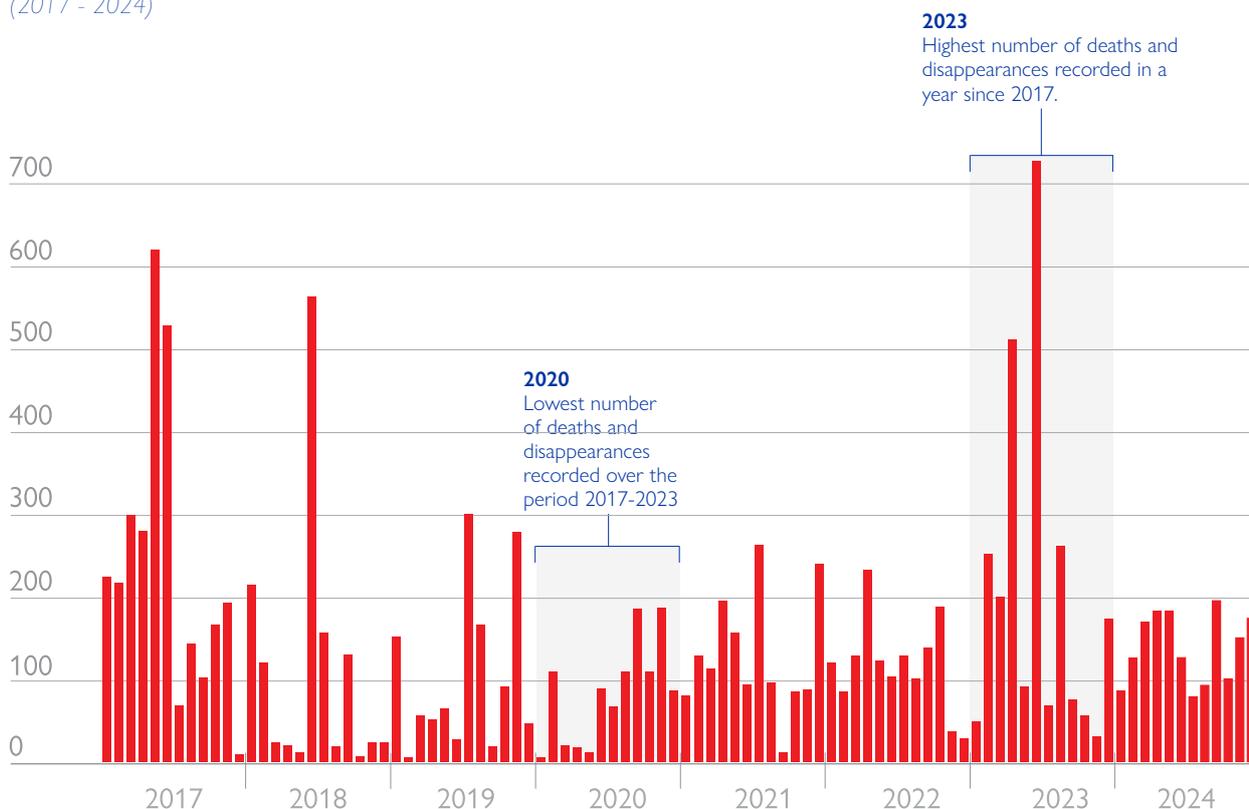
Monthly number of deaths and disappearances recorded

▲ **161**
in **November 2024**
compared to 31 in August 2023.

▲ **179**
in **December 2024**
compared to 174 in September 2023.

▼ **1,692**
deaths and disappearances were recorded between January and December 2024.

Fig 37: 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 multi sectoral 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	4,920 migrants interviewed <small>(round 55, flow monitoring survey)</small>	2,153 key informant interviews
3 team leaders	60 flow monitoring points <small>are active in 8 regions (mantikas) of Libya</small>	



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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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