

About

- MHUB is undertaking field surveys with migrants, refugees and asylum seekers along key migratory routes to build up a body of data over time and to map country and regional level mixed migration trends.
- This snapshot presents early survey findings of the profiles, intentions and experiences of those moving in mixed migration flows who have recently arrived in Niger in the last year.
- Even though these findings cannot be considered statistically representative of the migration population, they do provide key insights on the migration process.

Key Findings

*These findings are based on 222 interviews conducted between 25 April and 15 May 2016 in Agadez, Niger in bus stations and informal settlements where migrants can be found before transiting on to their next destination.

Profile

- 62% of respondents had a valid passport when entering Niger.

Motivations

- Respondents indicated that their principal reason for migrating was to escape poverty and to seek better economic opportunities, with 30% indicating specifically that their intention was to help their family.

Pre-Departure Plans

- None of the migrants interviewed had intended to settle in Niger.
- 98% of respondents indicated that they chose to move through Niger because of its position as a key transit hub on the route from West Africa to North Africa and Europe.

Onward Movement

- 93% of respondents intended to leave the African continent and travel towards Europe, the remaining 7% planned to travel to Libya and Algeria.

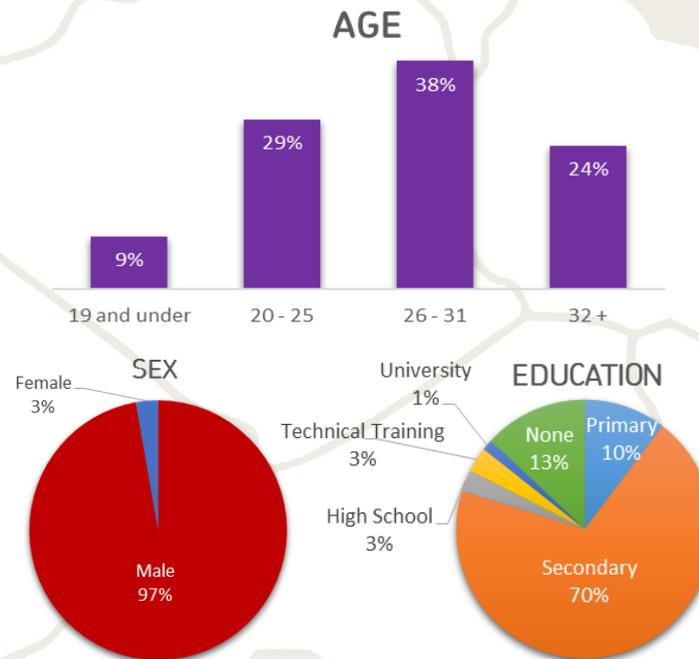
Information Access

- 60% of those interviewed did not seek information about migrating before leaving their country of origin, while 16% obtained information via Facebook.
- 78% of respondents had a smartphone during their travels allowing them to stay in touch with their families, friends and other migrants, as well as to access information relevant to their journey.

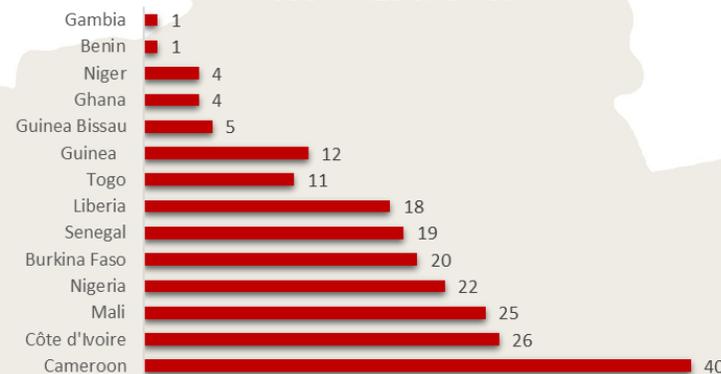
Abuses and Risks

- Respondents indicated that they feel generally good in Niger and highlight a feeling of security.

Demographic Breakdown of Interviewees



COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN



*14 participants did not indicate a country of origin

Photos from the Field



Photos taken in data collection sites by IOM 2016 © Manuel Scrima

Quotes from Respondents

Quotes are from interviews with migrants done in informal settlements and at a bus station in Agadez.

"Have all your papers and legal status in order, take enough money and know your itinerary before leaving." Senegalese male 05/05/16

"Take a lot of water to cross the desert and watch out for the scams of smugglers." Malian male, 05/05/16

"My friend, everybody knows this trip is two things: papers and money." Guinean male 30/04/16

"I don't have a choice but to migrate, I don't have a job and the economy isn't working." Malian male 05/05/16

"Why do I migrate? Poverty is worse than any risk that can be faced." Malian male 28/04/16

"Because the situation is such in our countries, poverty and unemployment force us to go and seek work." Liberian male 14/5/16

"I never would have travelled had I known the risk." Cameroonian male 15/05/16