

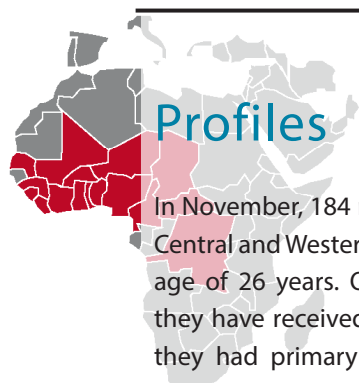
West Africa

Monthly 4Mi Update

Covering data collected by 4Mi in Mali and Niger in November
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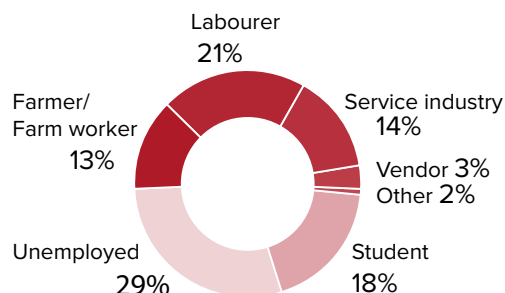
Overview

In November, the Mixed Migration Monitoring Mechanism Initiative (4Mi) conducted 287 in-depth interviews with migrants and refugees in West Africa, including 107 people in Agadez and Niamey in Niger, and 180 people in Mopti, Gao, Ber and Timbuktu in Mali.



In November, 184 men and 103 women from 18 countries in Central and Western Africa were interviewed, with an average age of 26 years. Of those interviewed, 90% indicated that they have received some formal education, 25% indicating they had primary education, 25% secondary school, 17% a university degree. The remaining indicated religious or vocational training. Prior to migrating, the majority of those surveyed were working (53%). 29% indicating that they were unemployed when they left their country of origin and 18% indicated that they were students prior to leaving.

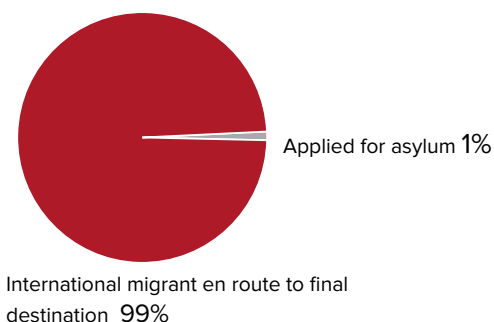
1. Employment in Country of origin



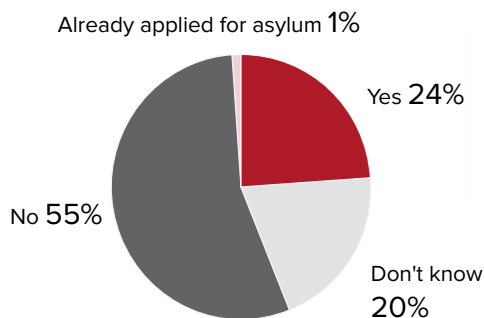
Asylum

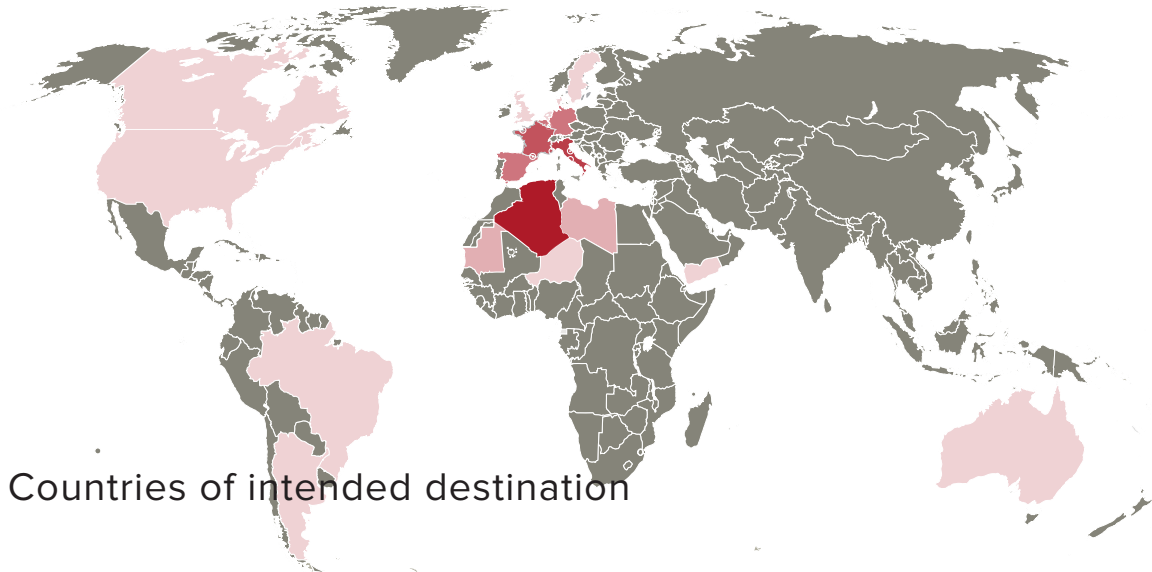
Of those interviewed, three respondents had already applied for asylum in Niger and one respondent obtained refugee status in Niger. 25% of those interviewed said that they intend to apply for asylum in their country of destination.

2. Legal Status



3. Intention to apply for asylum



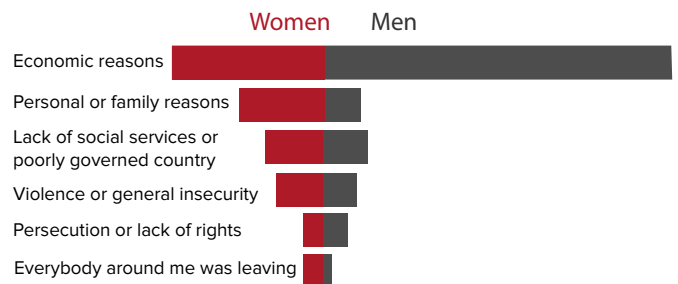


Countries of intended destination

The majority of migrants and refugees indicated that economic factors were a part of their motivation for leaving their home country. 55 people, of whom 39 were women, indicated that they had left for family reasons, in eight cases due to a divorce, in six cases because of domestic violence, in six cases to flee a forced marriage in Burkina Faso, Guinea and Nigeria.

4. Motivations for departure

46 people also indicated that a lack of services and poor governance in their country had encouraged them to leave. Further, 36 people reported having left their country because of violence or general insecurity, nine of them due to the presence of armed groups in Nigeria, Mali and Niger. 20 people reported having left due to persecution, discrimination or lack of rights for ethnic, religious or political reasons.

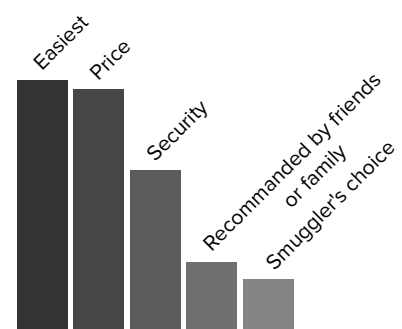


Journey

Those interviewed in November indicated different criteria for choosing their migration route, including ease of access (180), price (174), security (116), recommendations from friends or family (50) or choice of route by the smuggler (38).

38% of respondents indicated that that had made the decision to leave on their own. The remaining interviewees said they had been influenced to migrate by different persons: 63% by friends, 62% by family, 19% by the diaspora, 7% by their spouse and 7% by smugglers.

5. Reasons for choosing route



49% of migrants and refugees transiting by Mali reported Algeria as their desired final destination and 44% reported Europe, mostly Italy (24%), France (12%) and Spain (12%). Migrants and refugees transiting by Niger reported Europe as preferred final destination (64%), mostly Italy (18%), Belgium (14%), France (13%) and Germany (12%). 3% of all respondents were migrating towards a West African country, and 7% indicated other regions as their preferred final destination.

Protection

Respondents reported 58 cases of physical abuse, most often committed by security forces, police or military (61%), smugglers (14%), single unknown individuals (8%) and group of thugs (7%). Most of these abuses were committed in Tahoua (ten cases) and Agadez (seven cases) in Niger, and in Dori (ten cases) and Kantchari (seven cases) in Burkina Faso.

Women and men surveyed reported 10 cases of sexual abuse, most often committed by single unknown individuals (five cases). For cases of rape were reported in November, two in Niger, two in Mali and one in Burkina Faso. Respondents reported 22 cases of theft, including 17 committed in Agadez, Niamey and Zinder. These robberies most often concerned personal belongings (21 cases), money (11 cases) and documents (for cases).

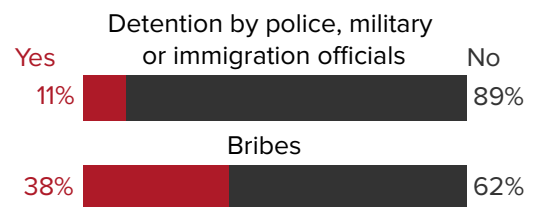
11% of the migrants and refugees interviewed were detained by police, military or immigration agents in Niger (14 cases in Tahoua, two in Agadez and one in Zinder) and Mali (seven cases in Bamako, five in Sikasso, one in Kayes and one in Timbuktu).

38% of respondents paid bribes to immigration officers, an average of three times during their journey and an average of 10,000 CFA francs per bribe (17 USD). The most common locations that those interviewed reported having paid bribes were in Agadez (62 cases), Niamey (21 cases), Zinder (13 cases), Maradi (nine cases) and Tahoua (eight cases) in Niger, Kantchari (23 cases), Dori (20 cases) and Ouagadougou (13 cases) in Burkina Faso and Bamako (18 cases) and Koro (seven cases) in Mali.

6. Protection Incidents



7. Detention and Bribes



The Mixed Migration Monitoring Mechanism Initiative (4Mi) is an innovative low-cost approach to collection and analyzing data along major mixed migration corridors, responding to the need for better data on protection issues with regards to asylum seekers, refugees and other people on the move. In Niger and Mali, 4Mi seeks to help fill the knowledge gaps regarding the nature of the mixed migratory movements and the protection risks for migrants and refugees on the move within and from West Africa.

