

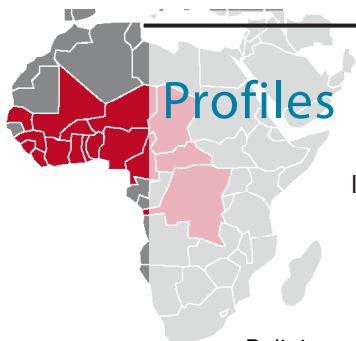
West Africa

Monthly 4Mi Update

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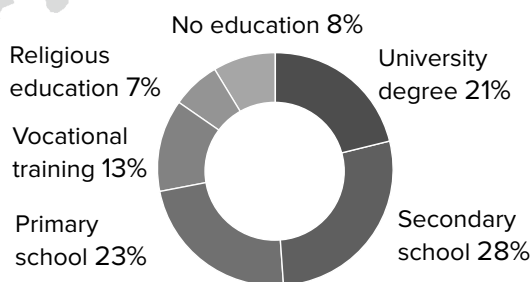
Overview

In January, the Mixed Migration Monitoring Mechanism Initiative (4Mi) conducted 119 in-depth interviews with migrants and refugees in West Africa, including 44 people in Agadez and Niamey in Niger and 75 people in Mopti, Gao, Ber and Timbuktu in Mali.

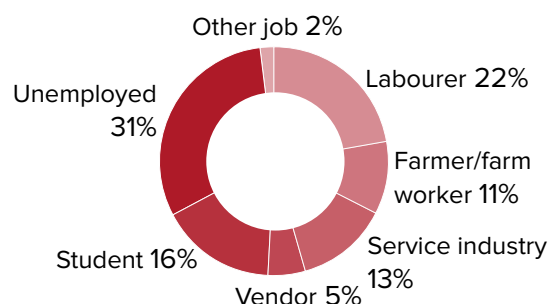


In January, 78 men and 41 women from 12 countries in Central and Western Africa were interviewed, with an average age of 27 years.

1. Level of education



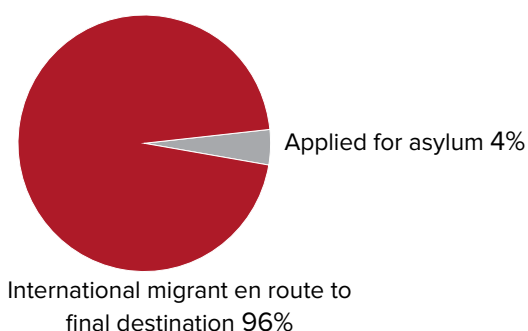
2. Employment in country of origin



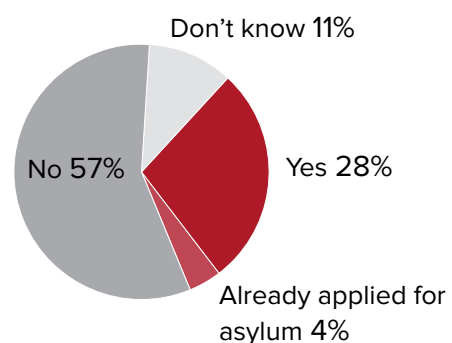
Asylum

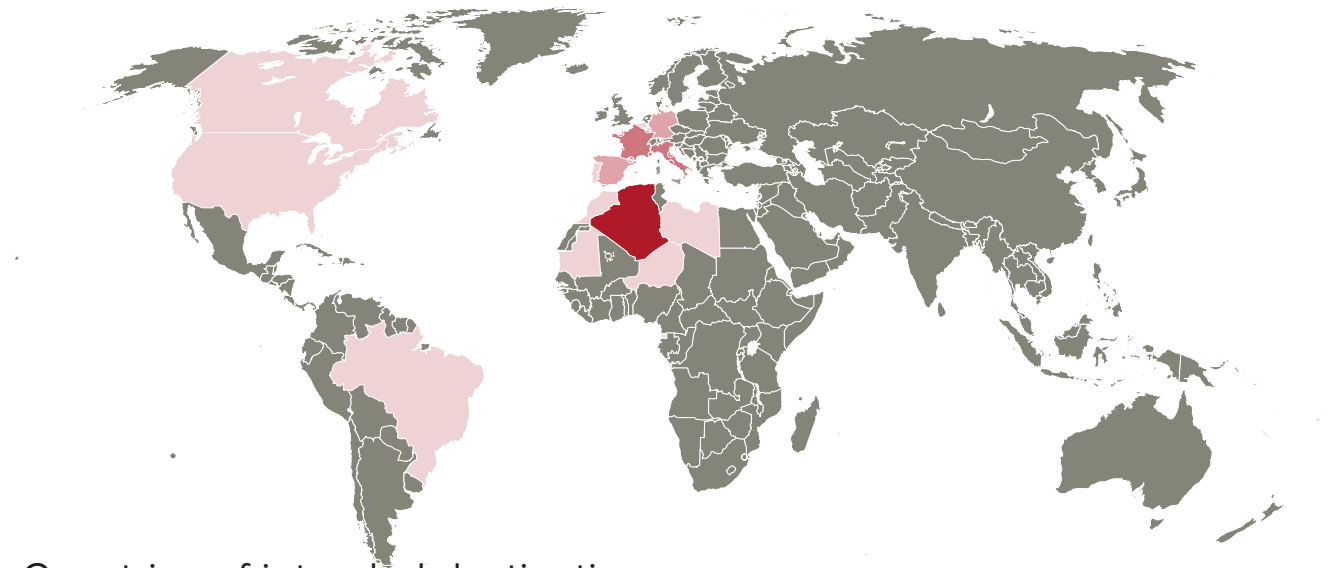
Of those interviewed, five respondents, among them 4 Sudanese and 1 Togolese have already applied for asylum in Niger. 28% of those interviewed said that they intend to apply for asylum in their country of destination.

3. Legal Status



4. Intention to apply for asylum



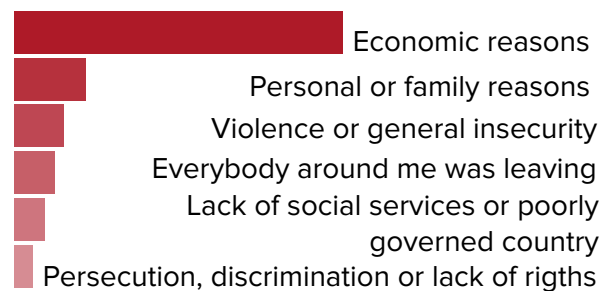


Countries of intended destination

The majority of migrants and refugees indicated that economic factors were a part of their motivation for leaving their home country. 23 people indicated that they had left for family reasons, in 4 cases because of domestic violence, in two cases due to a divorce, in two cases to flee a forced marriage in Guinea and Cameroon.

13 people reported having left due to numerous migration departures around them. 16 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. 10 people also indicated that a lack of services and poor governance in their country had encouraged them to leave. 6 people reported having left due to persecution, discrimination or lack of rights for ethnic, religious or political reasons.

5. Motivations for departure

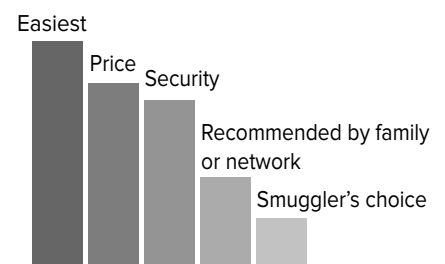


Journey

Those interviewed in January indicated different criteria for choosing their migration route, including ease of access (77), price (63), security (57), recommendations from friends or family (31) or choice of route by the smuggler (17).

30% of respondents indicated that they made the decision to leave on their own. The remaining interviewees said they had been influenced to migrate by different persons: 50% by friends, 24% by parents, 24% by siblings, 16% by other family members and 12% by diaspora.

6. Reasons for choosing route



Protection

Respondents reported 23 cases of physical abuse, most often committed by security forces, police or military (12 cases) and single unknown individuals (5 cases). Most of these abuses were committed in Kantchari (5 cases) in Burkina Faso, in Segou (2 cases) and Sikasso (2 cases) in Mali and in Agadez (3 cases) and Niamey (2 cases) in Niger.

Women and men surveyed reported 13 cases of sexual abuse, most often committed by security forces, police or military in Niger and Mali. Respondents reported 19 cases of theft. These robberies most often concerned personal belongings (14 cases) and money (8 cases).

12% of the migrants and refugees interviewed were detained by police, military or immigration agents mostly in Niger (3 cases in Abalak, and 2 cases in Agadez) and Mali (4 cases in Kayes and 2 in Zehoua).

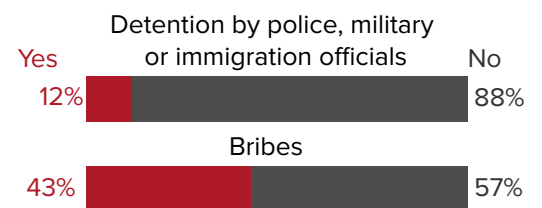
43% of respondents paid bribes to immigration officers, an average of three times during their journey and an average of 9,000CFA francs per bribe (17 USD).

36% of respondents reported having witnessed children on the move. According to the respondents, 56% of children were travelling in a group with both children and adults, 32% were travelling alone, and 12% in a group with only childrens.

7. Protection Incidents



8. 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.

4Mi data, graphics and analysis are based on the accumulated, ongoing data collection by 4Mi field monitors through direct interviews with migrants/refugees on the move. Sample sizes are clearly indicated and represent a limited section of those on the move. All findings derived from the surveyed sample of migrants/refugees and should not be used to make any inferences about the total population of any mixed migration flow.

4Mi is generously supported in Mali and Niger by UNHCR

