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 two points in the Agadez region of Niger. Flow monitoring points (FMPs) are found at two points in the region of Agadez in Niger, Séguélinde and Arlit.

The data collected provides an overview of migratory movements 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 through the Agadez region due to the vastness of the Sahara Desert which covers more than 700,000 km² and has a multitude of roads crossing the region.

FLOW POINTS AND INFORMATION OF MIGRATION FLOW

The daily average of the number of individuals observed at the two Niger flow monitoring points decreased by 73% compared to May.

During this month, Agadez, Assamaka, Arlit (Niger), Sebha, Tripoli, Misrata and Mizda (Libya) were the main departure cities of flows transiting through the two FMPs located in Niger, while Agadez, Arlit, Assamaka and Benghazi were the main destination cities.

Individuals transiting through the FMPs travelled mainly by car (73%), as well as by bus (20%), by truck (6%), or by other means of transportation, including motorcycle by foot or by camel (1%). Nigeriens, Libyans and Chadians were the main nationalities observed during this month.

METHODOLOGY: Flow monitoring is an investigative work that aims to highlight internal, cross-border and intraregional areas of 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 from key informants at the flow monitoring point: 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 gender and nationality. In Niger, the flow monitoring points were chosen after consultation with national and local stakeholders involved in migration management, according to the locations and characteristics of the flows transiting through the Sahara Desert. The data collection is done at times where the flows are the most important.

LIMITS: The data used in this analysis are estimates and represent only a part of the existing flows on these axes: Agadez – Arlit – Assamaka, and Agadez – Séguélinde - Sebha. The spatial and temporal coverage of these surveys is partial and, although the collection is done daily and during periods when flows are significant. Finally, no information is collected on existing flows outside the time slots covered. Vulnerability data is based on direct observation by the enumerators and
MIGRATORY TRENDS (2017-2018)

The data presented in the graph below presents the total number of migrants identified at the two Flow Monitoring Points (FMP) for the period January 2017 – June 2018. The month of June 2018 has seen the lowest overall number of individuals at the FMPs thus far in 2018. In contrast, the month of May 2018 recorded the highest number of observed individuals in the year. The 89% decrease in flows into Niger during June 2018 may be linked to the temporary halting of repatriation of Nigeriens and third country nationals from Algeria. The decrease may also be explained by the end of Ramadan, which in past years corresponded to a general decrease in flows.

Analysis of the data shows a general trend in more migrants coming into Niger rather than leaving Niger from January to August 2017. Two key peaks were observed: in February 2017, 27,230 individuals were observed entering Niger and in August 2017, 12,082 individuals were recorded entering Niger. This increase in inflows may be attributed to three phenomena: a stricter control of migration, the criminalization of persons involved in illegal migration and the deterioration of the situation in Libya, as well as the repatriation efforts of Niger nationals from Algeria who increase the number of migrants returning to Niger, on the other hand. However, the trend reverses with more outgoing flows than incoming flows from September 2017 until April 2018. Then in May 2018, the trend reversed with the most number of migrants recorded entering Niger in 2018, which may be explained by an increase in the number of Nigeriens repatriated around this timeframe.

All data included in this report is based on estimates. IOM makes no warranties, or any representations as to the timeliness, suitability, accuracy, reliability, quality or completeness of the data contained in this report.
The data in the graph below shows the evolution of the flows observed in Niger in June 2018 at the two FMPs. An average of 157 individuals per day passed through the FMPs during the month of June. The incoming flows were larger than the outgoing flows, slightly more people entered Niger than left the country.

The number of individuals observed in the internal movement were quite similar for both FMPs, with respectively an average of 39 and 35 individuals observed each day in Arlit and Seguedine.

The number of outgoing and incoming flows observed was quite similar for both FMPs throughout the month with an average of 74 individuals entering and 69 leaving Niger through the FMPs everyday. Data collection started at the FMP of Seguedine by the 11 June due to internal training. A peak in the number of outgoing migrants was observed on 28 June when 167 individuals left Niger, while a peak in the number of incoming migrants was observed on 26 June, at which date 243 individuals were observed entering the country.
During the month of June 2018, there was a significant decrease of internal movements observed at the Arlit FMP, with 398 individuals observed compared to 1,601 during the previous month, which represents a daily average of 13 individuals. The trend of internal movements in June are shown in the chart below.

**Incoming flows**: Since January 2017, a larger number of individuals leaving Niger than individuals entering Niger was observed. The largest inflow was witnessed in August 2017 (4,944 individuals). The number of migrants passing by this FMP during the first six months of 2018 (15,210) grew by 10% when compared to the same period the previous year (14,531).

**Outgoing flows**: The highest outflow was observed in December 2017 (4,660 individuals). The number of individuals leaving Niger is trending downwards, with 9,166 individuals observed in the outflows during the first six months of 2018, compared to 14,626 for the same period in 2017, representing a decrease of 60%.

**Internal flows**: From January to June 2018, 8,949 people were observed transiting through the Arlit FMP, of whom 398 were observed in June (4% of the total internal flow since the beginning of the year).

The demographic profile of migrants crossing through the Arlit FMP is mainly men (90%) aged 18 to 40 years while women represent only 11% of all flows.

In addition, 2,496 minors were observed at the Arlit FMP in the first half of the year 2018, including 558 unaccompanied children. 258 children under 5 were observed in 2018, including 17 in June 2018, which represents an increase of 11 individuals compared to the previous month.

Only 2 elderly people were observed during the month of June, which represents a decrease of 33 individuals. No individual living with a disability or pregnant and/or lactating were observed during the month of June 2018.

At the Arlit FMP, 62% of the migrants travelled by 4x4 vehicles, 31% by bus and 6% by truck.
Economic migration (51%) was the primary motive for migration of migrants passing through the Arlit FMP. Seasonal migration (32%) was cited as the second most important reason for migration.

A large proportion of migrants (17%) did not give a reason for migrating.

The majority of individuals transiting through the Arlit FMP came from Assamaka (42%) and their travel was motivated by the repatriation of persons residing illegally in Algeria. Others came from Agadez (31%) and Arlit (26%).

The main nationalities observed at the Arlit FMP in June 2018 were Nigeriens (41% of flows through the Arlit FMP), followed by Guineans and Nigerians (8% each) and Cameroonian (6%). Chadians and Malians each represented 5% of observed flows. Ivorian’s and Liberian’s represent 4% each of the total number while Sudanese, Senegalese and Burkinabe’s represent 3% each. Other nationalities included Beninese, Ghanaians, Sierra Leoneans, Gambians, and Central Africans quantified at 11% of the total number of people observed at this point of flow monitoring.

The main destination cities envisaged by migrants transiting through the Arlit FMP were the cities of Arlit (74%) and Assamaka (26%).
During the month of June 2018, both the number of incoming and outgoing flows experienced a decrease. A daily average of 35 individuals leaving and entering Niger was observed at the FMP of Séguedine. Data collection at the FMP of Séguedine started on 11 June 2018.

1,051 individuals were observed leaving Niger while 1,064 individuals were observed entering Niger through Séguedine. The most important peak of the outgoing flow was observed on 27 June (160 individuals) while that of the incoming flow was observed on 28 June (198 individuals).

**Incoming flows**: Although the number of people entering Niger has been declining since January 2017, it witnessed an anomalous increase in February 2017, during which month 25,458 migrants were observed.

**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. These trends are more or less equivalent to the averages of the first months of 2017.

**Internal flows**: The internal flows observed at the Séguedine FMP are generally very low compared to other types of flows throughout the year. Thus, for the month of June 2018, no individuals were reported to be migrating internally to Niger.

This month witnessed both a decrease of more than 50% for both incoming flow and outgoing flows. The decrease in flows may be linked with the end of Ramadan where the volume of flows is generally lower.
Seasonal migration and economic migration represent the two main triggers of migration of people observed in the Séguédine FMP. Each trigger represents 33% of the observed flows.

Each year, youth workers from Niger leave to seek jobs in Algeria and Libya and return to Niger at the beginning of the rainy season which usually starts in June. After the harvest, the youth return to Niger.

47% of the observed persons came from Agadez in Niger, while 16% came from the city of Sebha, 13% Tripoli, 7% Misrata. Individuals coming from Zaouia and Mizda represent each 4% while those coming from El Beida, Khoms, Benghazi and Mourzouq represented each 2%.

The destinations envisaged by the migrants observed at the Séguédine FMP were Agadez (53% of individuals), Sebha in Libya (22% of individuals). 7% of the individuals intend to reach Misrata so as for Benghazi. The destination envisaged by 4% is Murzouq, 2% Tripoli and Msallata each.