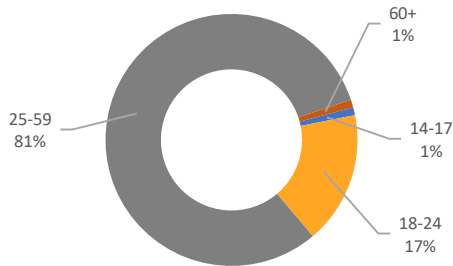


# 12,485 Female travellers in West and Central Africa surveyed 7 COUNTRIES >35 Data Collection Points

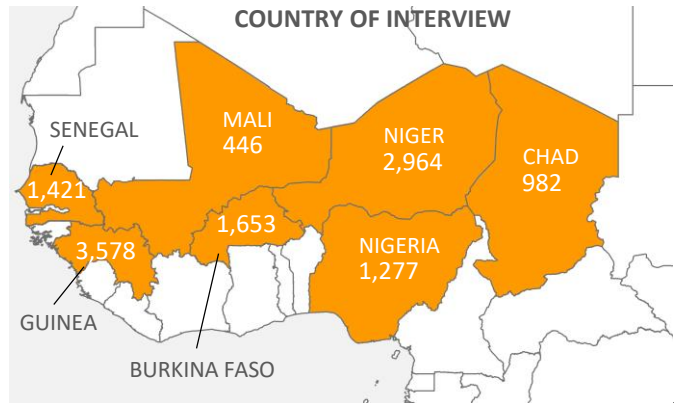
**INTRODUCTION:** A better understanding of migratory movements in West and Central Africa is critical to support the programmes and decision-making of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Since 2016, IOM collects data at strategic transit points throughout the region to monitor the various intra and interregional movements and migrations trends. This document presents key results from interviews conducted with female travellers in 2019 along migration routes in West and Central Africa.

### AGE OF FEMALE TRAVELLERS



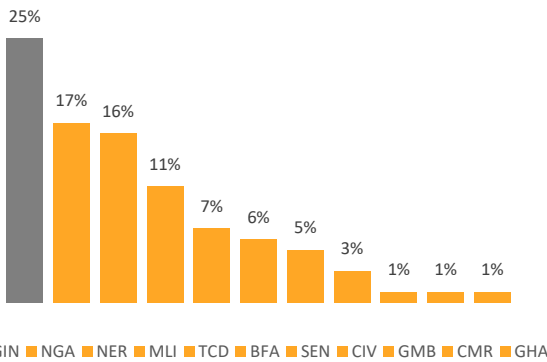
Of the 12,485 female travellers interviewed in West and Central Africa, the majority (81%) were aged 25-59 years old. A significant proportion (17%) were youth (aged 14-24 years old). Minors (14-17 years old) made up 1 per cent and another 1 per cent were elderly (ages 60 or older).

### COUNTRY OF INTERVIEW



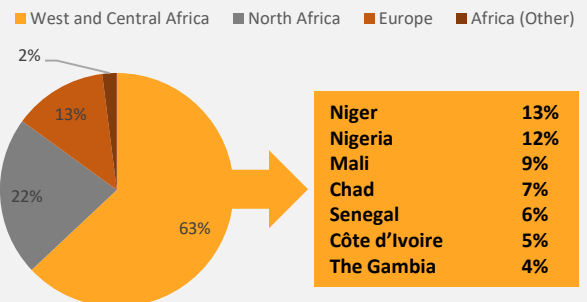
The main country for interviews of female travellers was Guinea (where 29% of all interviews took place). Niger (24%), Burkina Faso (13%) and Senegal (11%) were also significant places of interviews with women and girls.

### MAIN COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN



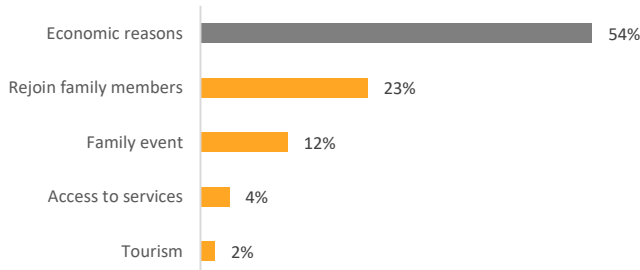
Guinea, Nigeria and Niger were the main countries of origin of female travellers interviewed in 2019 (25%, 17% and 16% of interviewees were nationals of these countries, respectively).

### REGIONS OF FINAL INTENDED DESTINATION



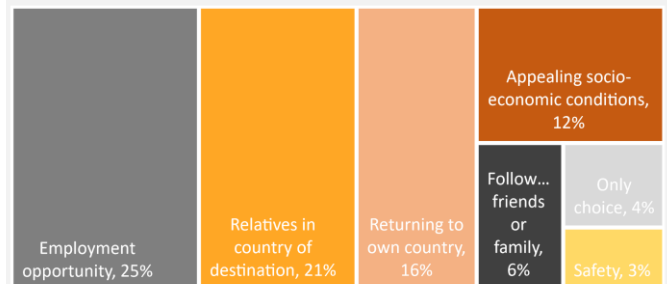
Intended destinations declared by female respondents were mainly countries within the West and Central Africa region (63%), notably Niger (13%), Nigeria (12%) and Mali (9%). Additionally, 22 per cent of interviewees were heading to North Africa.

### PRIMARY REASONS OF TRAVEL



Female travellers interviewed were mainly travelling for economic purposes (54%), which includes a wide range of reasons from business travel, to trade-related movements, to finding new work opportunities, to re-stocking of merchandise. Family related movements (joining family and attending a family event) accounted for 35 per cent of flows.

### MAIN REASONS FOR CHOICE OF DESTINATION



The motivation for choosing a particular country of destination overlapped with the reason for travel among female respondents: while economic reasons still prevailed (employment opportunities, 25% and appealing socio-economic conditions, 12%), family-related reasons (relatives in the destination country and following family) and the wish to return home (16%) were also significant factors.