Hunger, displacement and migration

A joint innovative approach to assessing needs of migrants in Libya

IOM UN MIGRATION

DTM IOM • OIM

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WFP vam food security analysis

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Key highlights

- In Libya, IOM and WFP conducted joint analysis combining face-to-face and web-based interviews. Methodologies used allowed to capture a varied sample of both female and male migrants from various age groups originating from 36 countries. Almost two-thirds of interviewed migrants originated from neighboring countries in Northern and Sub-Saharan Africa, including Algeria, Egypt, Niger, Chad and Sudan.

- The strongest migration drivers identified among respondents were economic reasons, followed by insecurity, persecution and conflict, limited ability to meet food needs, environmental degradation and climate related shocks. According to the web-based survey, six out of ten respondents expressed having had a choice to leave their country of origin, while four reported not having a choice but to leave based on their own perception.

- Nearly half of interviewed migrants during face-to-face surveys reported being aware of potential risks of migration prior to departing from their countries of origin, such as robbery, detention or facing serious transportation accidents. Nonetheless, nearly 80 percent reported not having put any measures in place to mitigate these serious risks during their journey.

- The average cost of the journey to reach Libya was estimated at USD 700, indicating the need for a certain economic capacity to pay for the travel to Libya. Nearly 40 percent encountered a debt to finance partially or entirely migration related costs.

- Results from face-to-face interviews identified that two-thirds of interviewed migrants were sending remittances to their home countries, with an average cash amount of USD 95 per month. The web-based interviews highlighted that the main use of remittances in countries of origin were to meet food needs (19%) and pay off debts (17%). Health and education related costs were also found to be important needs covered by remittances.

- Main challenges faced by migrants in Libya are related to security and finding opportunities to make a living, closely followed by high food prices. The recent conflict and violence in Tripoli and surrounding governorates have raised much concern, also among host communities who reported insecurity/violence as one of their top concerns.

- Over half of migrants reported to have been worried about not having enough food to eat. Results from face-to-face interviews, showed that a third of migrants were found to have poor and borderline food consumption, compared to 12 percent of Libyan citizens. Similarly, web-based surveys found that 33 percent of migrants and 12 percent of citizens reported having to compromise their food consumption by eating only one meal. Food coping strategies were adopted by 57 percent of migrants due to lack of food or means to buy food. Most concerningly, one in four migrants reported to have gone a whole day without eating in the past month.

- Migrants who come from East African and South/Southeast Asian countries were found to be more vulnerable to food insecurity than other migrants. Unaccompanied minors are of particular concern. Moreover, those interviewed along migration routes in Central and Eastern Libya as well as those who arrived more recently also significantly showed more vulnerability to food insecurity.

- Intentions to return home were reported by one quarter of respondents, which can be attributed to the desire to visit family but also to the challenging living conditions in Libya. The lack of income and the need to repay debts inquired to reach Libya in the first place were identified as critical factors impeding those who wish to return.

- Attention must focus on ensuring migrants' safety in Libya, enhancing their capacities to support themselves to meet their food and other essential needs, and providing adequate support to those who wish to return to their home countries. Comprehensive migration management policies, including labour migration programmes, are of critical importance.

Background

Libya has been an attractive destination for economic and seasonal migrants since the late 1960s, largely for migrant workers from Arab and African countries. From the 1970s to the 1990s, the Libyan government encouraged migration from Arab countries and later from Sub Saharan African countries to temporarily meet low-skilled labour needs in private and public sectors such as agriculture, construction and domestic work. Migrant workers were attracted by the country's relative wealth and by an open-door policy, which granted them visa-free entry[1]. In addition, Libya's geographical proximity to southern Europe also resulted in a mix of regular and irregular migrants attempting to reach the shores of the European Union via Libya.[2]

Prior to the 2011 revolution, Libya had an estimated 2.5 million migrant workers[3] due to better employment opportunities than in many countries in the region[4]. Migrant workers were employed in many sectors, ranging from oil and construction to health and agriculture. While most migrant workers left with the start of conflict in 2011, IOM estimates that around 655,000 migrants are still present in the country as of July 2019[5], originating mainly from Sub-Saharan Africa but also from other African countries, Asia and the Middle East. Some are merely transiting with the plan or desire to continue their journey to Europe, while a majority come with expectations of finding work and remain in Libya for significant lengths of time[6]. Libya's main sources of income have been from oil and natural gas revenues. Despite the political instability and the ongoing conflict, oil production continues allowing for some employment opportunities for migrant workers. However, the conditions of migrants inside Libya remain inherently complex. With another spike in conflict, in and around the Tripoli region, as well as the ongoing deterioration of the economic situation, many migrants are faced with major human security and livelihood risks as well as increasing burdens in meeting their food needs.

The protracted nature of the crisis and prolonged years of conflict have also taken a toll on the Libyan population. Political instability has led to a deterioration of macroeconomic fundamentals, currency devaluation, and the inflation of food and fuel prices. While most market assessment reports[7] indicate that food is generally available, food prices and inability to access cash have been on the rise due to liquidity issues in the country. This complex crisis has not only impacted migrants in Libya but has also led to the reduced resilience of Libyan citizens. IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix has tracked 301,407 internally displaced persons (IDPs) as of July 2019, of which 93 percent were displaced due to deterioration of security[8]. The situation of Libyans is also of serious concern. Further assessments of the challenges they face with regards to their food security and basic needs, in relationship to the state of migrants can provide a more holistic understanding of the humanitarian needs in the country.

Purpose

To better understand and assess the overall situation of migrants and affected host communities in Libya, the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) programme of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) collaborated to collect information through a mixed-methods' approach comprised of face-to-face interviews and remote web-based surveys. The objective of the study was to jointly collect credible information and conduct joint analysis to:

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[1] Migration Policy Centre (2013): EU Neighbourhood Migration Report: http://www.migrationpolicycentre.eu/docs/migration_profiles/Libya.pdf
[2] Zampagni, F. et al (2017): Migrants in Countries in Crisis: Libya Case Study: https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/ Libya_CaseStudy_FINAL.pdf
[3] IOM (2011): The humanitarian response to the Libyan crisis https://publications.iom.int/books/humanitarian-response-libyan-crisis
[4] European Training Foundation (2014): Labour Market and Employment Policy in Libya https://www.etf.europa.eu/sites/default/files/m/01BE9A2F283BC6B2C1257D1E0041161A_Employment%20policies_Libya.pdf
[5] IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (2019): Libya – Migrant Report 26 (June-July 2019): https://displacement.iom.int/reports/libya-%E2%80%94-migrant-report-26-june-july-2019
[6] Mixed Migration in Libya (2018): https://reachinitiative.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=6aaac5f77087478a987fc3bb6804f4a7
[7] Joint Market Monitor Initiative (various publications): https://www.reachresourcecentre.info/country/libya/theme/cash/cycle/678/#cycle-678
[8] IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (2019) : Libya – IDP and Returnee Report 26 (June – July 2019): https://displacement.iom.int/reports/libya-%E2%80%94-idp-returnee-report-round-26-june-july-2019

1. Inform development and humanitarian actors on the status of migrants and affected Libyan citizens, including their interactions;
2. Identify the most vulnerable groups, their food security situation, the challenges they face and other basic needs to determine how best to assist these populations in their current location; and
3. Provide an understanding of the underlying drivers of migration and intentions, and what role food security plays in migration decision-making.

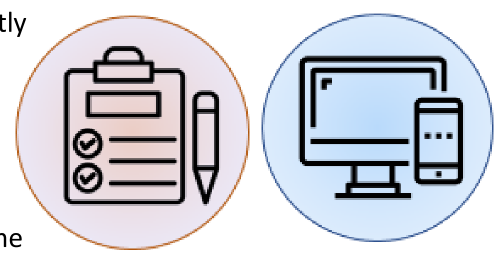
Methodology

While lack of timely information and access to affected areas remain a significant challenge for the humanitarian community in Libya, in recent years WFP and IOM have made significant improvements in monitoring food security and other needs of the affected populations, as well as population mobility trends. IOM's DTM regularly captures information on mobile populations to monitor and understand the trends of migration flows and population mobility throughout Libya.

The Flow Monitoring Survey (FMS) is part of DTM's survey component used in Libya for conducting face-to-face interviews with migrants at the individual level, using purposive sampling on a rolling basis. The questionnaire includes questions on migration dynamics vis-a-vis intentions, migration decision-making, routes, potential return to the country of origin and other migration related aspects. In 2019, DTM incorporated food security related modules in the FMS questionnaire, and ran a successful pilot in 17 governorates throughout the month of January.

WFP's Migration Pulse initiative captures the voices of affected populations, using anonymous web-based surveys[9]. In practical terms, when respondents navigate to a link that is broken or inaccurate, they encounter a survey form instead of a broken link notification. The pulse collects high-frequency sex- and- age disaggregated data on the drivers of migration, movement intentions, challenges faced, needs and food security status of displaced populations in sensitive and hard-to-reach environments.

In the framework of this study, data obtained via both methodologies was jointly analyzed to provide a holistic picture of the situation of migrants and affected host communities in Libya. IOM and WFP worked closely together to ensure that each data collection exercise collected complementary quantitative and qualitative information.



The FMS survey gathered in-depth data on food consumption patterns, income sources and remittances, as well as migration drivers, risks and movement intentions through face-to-face interviews. Meanwhile, Migration Pulse questionnaires explored the situation of migrants and host communities on a thematic level, collecting perceptional data on food security and other main needs, as well as main concerns. Two-open ended questions gave respondents the chance to share additional information about migration drivers and intentions to return home.

[9] WFP contracted RIWI Corporation to implement web-based surveys using its patented Random Domain Intercept Technology (RDIT™). Detailed information regarding RDIT can be found on the service provider's website: https://riwi.com/

Data collected and limitations

Between January and May 2019, WFP surveyed a total of **2,545 migrants** across the 22 governorates of Libya, including **827 migrants from West Africa**, **442 from East Africa**, **526 from North Africa**, **507 from Middle East** and **243 from South and Southeast Asia**[10]. Moreover, **10,029 Libyan citizens** were surveyed across the country via web during this same period.

Internet usage in Libya has grown significantly since the early 2000s, and mobile ownership covers nearly 95 percent of the population.[11] This was also reflected in the FMS, where more than a third of interviewed migrants reported relying on mobile phone service providers to transfer remittances back home. However, a level of selection bias cannot be ruled out. Given the nature of the web-based methodology, this sample may be biased towards literate internet users who live in urban areas, hence it is not representative of the migrant population in Libya. Consequently, weights were applied in the analysis to avoid distortions resulting from geographic representation imbalances across population distribution of migrant groups in Libya. Applied weights were determined based on the DTM Mobility Tracking migrant stock figures from July 2019.

In January 2019, a total of **1,650 migrants** in 17 out of 22 governorates of Libya were interviewed through the FMS pilot. Migrants were interviewed face-to-face in public spaces, such as job recruitment points where migrants gather for short-term casual labour, other urban locations like markets and public buildings, and transit points along key migration routes. Information collected at job recruitment points may suffer from selection bias due to over-representation of young men who look for work in these locations. During this pilot round, only five percent of interviews were with women migrants, which may have been influenced by women's inability to partake in income generating opportunities. And that may explain their limited presence at job recruitment points. Furthermore, migrants who are integrated in the formal economy may not be captured due to the location of interviews. However, these challenges and limitations will be systematically addressed in future assessments, while the findings of this study present a non-generalizable baseline.

Additionally, those in detention centers, in rapid transit, or staying with their employers are not captured in this exercise. The exercise also does not distinguish between economic migrants, asylum seekers and refugees.

Profile of survey respondents

The demographics and socio-economics of migrants play a large role in their livelihoods and employment opportunities. Migrants responding to both the face-to-face interviews and online surveys come to Libya from various countries, with diverse capabilities, but similar goals. Backgrounds of migrants (i.e. socioeconomic status) may determine their status in a host country. Furthermore, commonalities in population groups form new communities, and therefore it is important to explore the situation of migrants in Libya by countries and regions of origin, as well as other important demographics including time of arrival, sex and age and education level.

Countries of origin

WFP interviewed migrants in Libya originating from 36 different countries through web-based surveys. The sample included migrants from West, East and North Africa, the Middle East as well as South and Southeast Asia regions. The majority of interviewed migrants come from African countries including Sudan, Nigeria, Chad, Ghana, Ethiopia and Niger, while most of those originating from Asia are from Pakistan and Bangladesh. In addition, the survey also captured a significant number of Middle Eastern respondents, mainly Syrian.

[10] The minimum sample requirement was 400 completed surveys for East Africans, North Africans and Middle Easterners (95% confidence level, margin of error inferior of 5%), 800 completed surveys for West Africans and 240 completed surveys for South/Southeast Asians. Sample requirements have been reached and exceeded for all groups

[11] World Bank (2017): Individuals using the internet (% of population): https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/it.net.user.zs

IOM's DTM, through its FMS, conducted face-to-face interviews with migrants from 35 countries. The largest share of interviews were conducted with migrants from Niger, followed by Sudan, Egypt, Nigeria and Chad. Migrants originating from neighboring countries to Libya, accounted for 65 percent of this sample.

Map 1: Number of respondents by country of origin – FMS survey and Migration Pulse

Duration of stay

Length of stay in Libya is one of the main factors found to have a direct correlation with the situation of the migrant population. According to the web-based survey results, those who arrived in the country within the last year and a half are less established, as they struggle for sustainable livelihoods. Inversely, migrants who settled in Libya prior to 2017 were found to be in a better situation. Time-frames in the analysis were determined based on changes in domestic and foreign political policies, which have affected migration routes into Libya and to Europe.

Additionally, analysis of the FMS results found that migrants who have been in Libya for less than six months were more vulnerable compared to those who arrived earlier. Those who arrived less than six months ago have a higher level of unemployment, with nearly 57 percent reporting to be unemployed. These findings indicate that migrants who had recently arrived in Libya are faced with a significant number of challenges.

One in five migrants reported to have recently arrived in Libya, majority coming from West Africa (60%) followed by East Africa (17%).

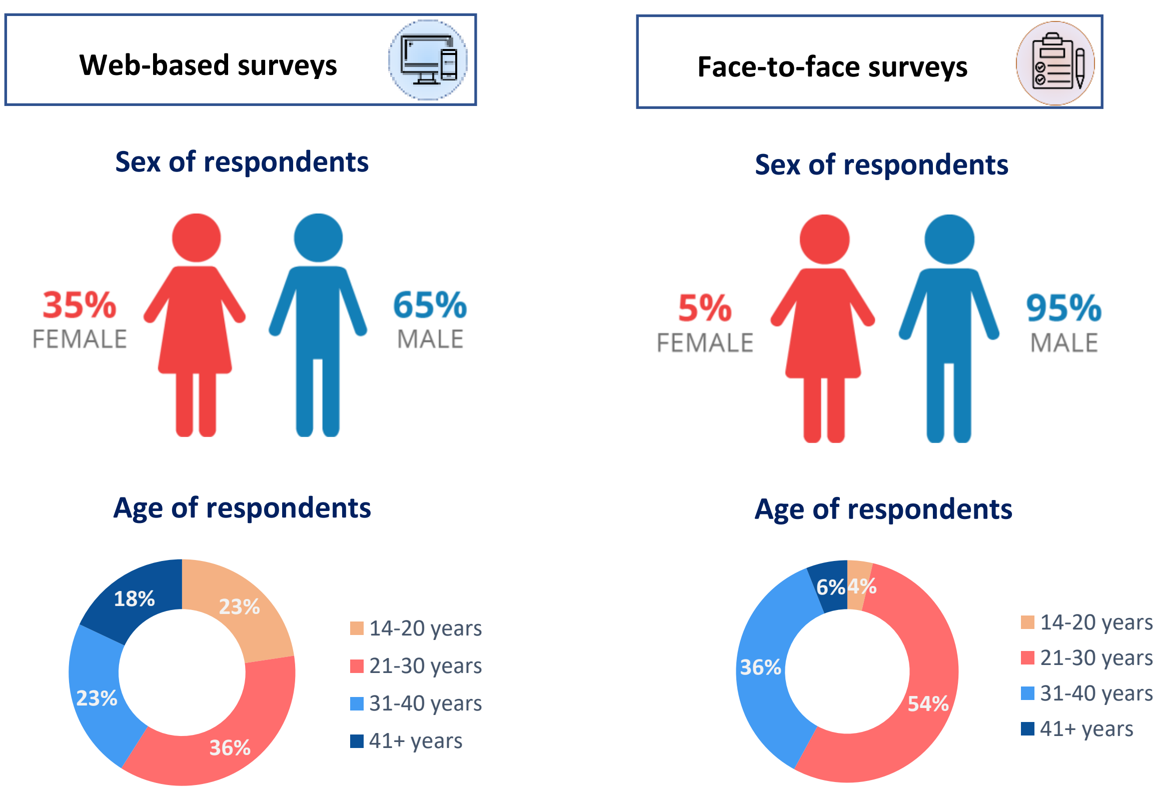
Sex and age

Disparities within the migrant population were also considered in this study, where independent variables such as sex and age data were triangulated with key indicators. The web-based technology managed to reach a high proportion of women compared to the percentage captured in the FMS sample size. Women migrants were under-represented in the face-to-face interviews, as FMS respondents were reached in public spaces (mainly job recruitment points), where women migrants may struggle to compete with men migrants over casual labour opportunities, as a majority are short-term physically intensive jobs. Furthermore, as women continue to face limitations in their freedom of movement due to insecurity and are at risk of being exploited, they are less visible.

Moreover, about two-thirds of the sampled population in the web-based surveys was found to be under the age of 34, including 11 percent of minors[12]. Out of these children, around a third were identified as unaccompanied minors. The percentage of minors taking part in the web-based surveys corresponded with the estimated proportion of unaccompanied minors in the Libya migrant stock via DTM Mobility Tracking.[13]

Comparisons of demographics and profiles reiterate the biases in both methodologies; where coverage problems of web-based surveys may have resulted due to internet access by the migrant population, so does purposive sampling[14] with the face-to-face interviews at public sites. However, the two feasible data collection methodologies for Libya, together, provide a clear picture of the situation of migrants in the country. Demographic details of interviewed migrants via FMS can be seen in figure 1 below.

Figure 1: Comparison of sex and age between migrants interviewed via FMS and Migration Pulse



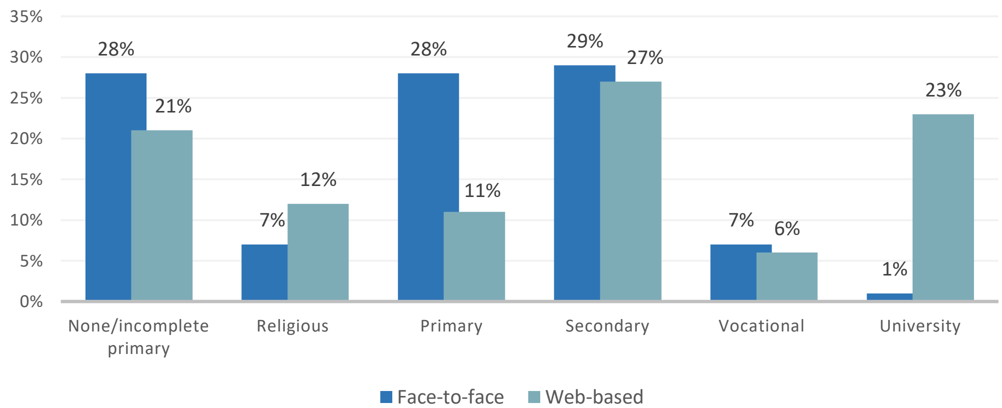
[12] Minors in this report fall under the 14-17 age range.
[13] IOM also identified similar numbers with 9 percent of minors, of which 34 percent were unaccompanied
[14] Purposive sampling or subjective sampling, is a form of non-probability sampling in which researchers' own judgment is applied when choosing members of the population to participate in their study.

Education levels

When looking into the highest education level attained by migrants surveyed via web, one-fourth reported holding a university degree which illustrates that most interviewed migrants are highly literate. Additionally, a third of respondents have either completed secondary school or vocational training. Twenty-three percent said to have attended religious school or primary school, and the remaining have incomplete or no education. On the other hand, analysis results revealed that migrants interviewed face-to-face in public spaces have lower levels of educational attainment as presented in chart 1. The largest proportion of migrants interviewed on-site reported to have either received education up to primary school level or no education at all.

Over time, DTM analysis confirmed that migrants' seeking low skilled employment at work recruitment points tend to have lower educational levels than migrants with a stable employment status. Having a better education improves perceptions of risks, as well as knowledge and access to both information and resources.

Chart 1: Comparison of education levels between migrants interviewed via FMS and Migration Pulse



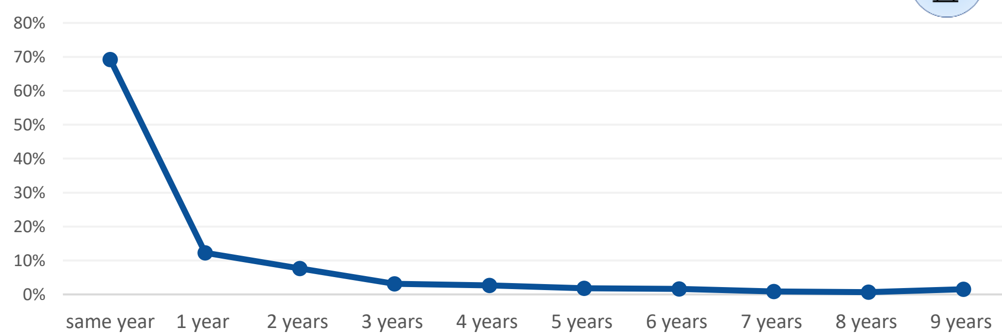
Migration history and drivers of migration

Journey length

More than three fourths of interviewed migrants via FMS indicated that their journey to Libya took less than one week. This is not surprising in light of the fact that 65 percent of FMS sample included migrants from neighboring countries, with geographical proximity that allowed most migrants to reach Libya within relatively short time periods. However, a third of migrants coming from the Middle East, mainly Syria, reported spending between two and 12 months to reach Libya. This could be explained by the number of various routes taken to reach other countries prior to finally settling in Libya.

Migrants interviewed via web-based surveys reported their year of departure from home countries and estimated arrival into Libya. Analysis results of those who left their countries of origin post-2011 showed that 31 percent have spent some time in a third country prior to arriving into Libya (see chart 2). This could reflect a level of existing vulnerability, especially for migrants who spent short periods of time in other foreign countries before arriving into Libya. Those migrants may have already used any available resources to overcome challenges of moving to a new place, prior to facing new obstacles in Libya. Further research is required to understand the movement dynamics at play. No major differences were observed among migrants from various regions.

Chart 2: Journey length



Journey cost and source of capital

FMS also included questions related to the cost of migration journey to Libya, and sources of capital utilized by respondents. The main reason behind exploring this area is to better understand mediating factors that activate intentions and facilitate the actual migration journey. The underlying assumption is that migrants arriving in search of employment opportunities in Libya, have already made significant monetary investments towards this goal. This comes in the form of travelling costs such as paying for communication, transportation and lodging. Payments may also be made to various service providers such as migration facilitators.

Overall, the median cost of the journey made to Libya was found to be at USD 700 per person, indicating that half of the respondents paid less and the other half more than this amount. The variation in median costs per person, based on the regions of origin portrayed available and most affordable modes of transport. For example, those originating from North Africa paid a median cost of USD 400 per person. Whereas median costs reported by migrants from East Africa, West Africa, and Middle East regions ranged between USD 700-800 per person. The highest median cost of migration journey to Libya was reported by those from South and Southeast Asia, at USD 4,500 per person, which can be explained by the feasible way of transport (i.e. air for part of the journey).

When migrants were asked about the financial and asset resources utilized to reach Libya, 57 percent reported to have relied on personal and family savings, either from back home or savings accumulated in Libya, to pay in installments or in full for their migration journey. Others sold their assets. The FMS survey captured multiple payment methods made by respondents, confirming that migrants rely on a variety of available financial assets to cover the migration costs. Not only did migrants rely on savings and sales of assets to pay for their journey, 40 percent of respondents also reported having to borrow money (to be paid back) to finance in part or cover costs of the entire migration journey. Whereas 32 percent reported to have received financial support from their families and relatives.

Sources of finances and capital that have been utilized by the migrants come with some protection risks that not only determine their vulnerability but extends to their families and relatives back home. Those who have relied on debts are assumed to face increased financial risks and/or social challenges in terms of responsibility towards family members back home. Exploring such factors even further - in terms of its relationship with the overall impact on the vulnerability of migrants - will be considered in future studies.

Main drivers of migration

Typically, socio-economic disparities are the main factors pushing populations to migrate. Such disparities cause a range of other factors that encourage migration, including precipitating and facilitating factors[15]. These push factors include events that trigger concerns for the local populations and determine the feasibility of migration. In 2018, two studies were conducted by UNHCR and REACH on migration decision-making, focusing on both adult and child migrants and refugees. Results found that migrants and refugees in Libya were well-informed about the situation in their destination country prior to leaving their countries of origin and were not discouraged by the information provided.[16] Such decisions involving high risks reflect on the level of despair back home.

When analyzed overall the top two main drivers that led migrants to reaching Libya reported via web-surveys were lack of income in home countries (32%), followed by seeking better education opportunities as well as security concerns (21% and 20% respectively). Inability to meet food needs was reported by 18 percent of respondents. Interestingly, 14 percent reported education for children as one of their top two reasons for leaving their country of origin. As most of them are not living with children in Libya, this indicates that they may be supporting the education of children in their home countries. Nearly a quarter of respondents also reported to have left for other reasons, which may be worth exploring in future survey rounds.

Web-surveys asked respondents if they felt that they had a choice to leave their country of origin or not: 59 percent reported leaving out of choice, while 41 percent reported having no choice but to leave based on their own perception. Among those who expressed no choice, the main push factors were lack of income, insecurity and conflict and the inability to meet food needs (see chart 3). A higher proportion of East and West African respondents (45%) reported not having a choice but leaving their countries of origin, compared to 28 percent of migrants from other regions (i.e. North Africa, Middle East, South/Southeast Asia).

Comparisons of main drivers by time of arrival in Libya did not reveal drastic variances, however, slight differences were observed for some drivers. For example, water scarcity and/or land degradation was among the drivers which was reported more often by those who arrived within the last year and half compared to others (7% and 4% respectively). In many cases, climate change and environmental degradation contribute to increased migration.

Analysis results from the face-to-face interviews among migrants surveyed in work recruitment points, other central urban locations or transit points revealed that economic-related issues, including searching for work abroad were the strongest pull factors for migrating to Libya, at 70 percent. Push factors that continue to affect populations back in countries of

[15] **Precipitating factors** refer to a specific event or trigger to the onset of migration. **Mediating factors** facilitate migration with the presence of transportation, information and resources for the entire journey.

[16] UNHCR/REACH (2018): Mixed migration Routes and Dynamics in Libya: The impact of EU migration measures on mixed migration in Libya: https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/reach_lyb_so_mixed_migration_routes_and_dynamics_in_libya.pdf
IMPACT/UNICEF, Solitary Journeys of Unaccompanied and Separated Children in Libya, forthcoming 2019.

origin include lack of employment opportunities and insufficient income, potentially related to structural issues and/or perceived benefits of mobility to overcome microeconomic challenges.

Chart 3: Comparisons of drivers based on perception of choice (multiple response – top 2)

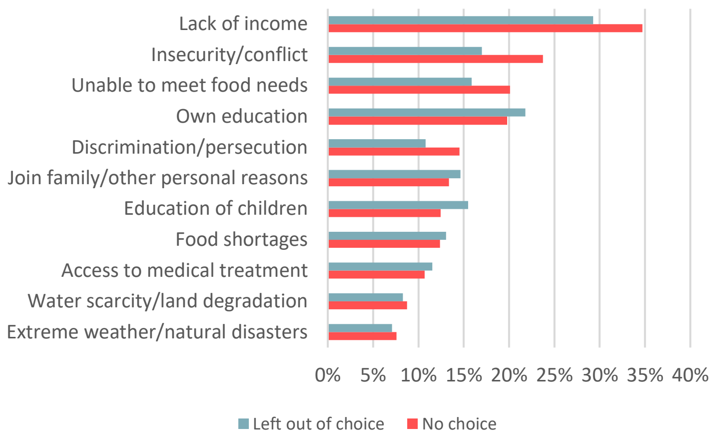
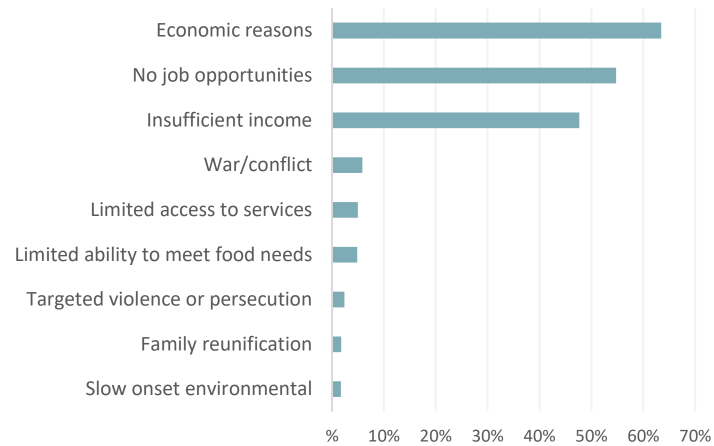


Chart 4: Main drivers of migration (multiple response - top 2)



In the words of the respondents

Using an open-ended question in web-surveys allowed for capturing reasons that led respondents to migrate to Libya in their own words. Recurring themes included insecurity and war as well as seeking work opportunities to support their families.

One Sudanese woman stated, ***"I want a place to live free without discrimination and racism",*** while another woman from Ghana mentioned, ***"I decided to leave my country because I have to support my siblings and I have no money to start up a business, that's all"***.

A Bangladeshi man said, ***"I need money to support my family, we are a VERY poor family, we need money!"***

A young Syrian man said, ***"To receive a better income after having to endure the weak economic situation in Syria".***

Why did you decide to leave your home country?

Migration journey risks and mitigation measures

When migrants were asked during face-to-face interviews whether they were aware of risk they could face during their journey to Libya, nearly half responded that they were already aware of potential risks prior to departing from their countries of origin. Awareness of probable robbery, detention or facing serious transportation accidents were among the top reported by respondents, followed by forced labour and violence. However, all these serious and unpredictable risks reflect on the lack of alternative solutions to a better life back home.

Additionally, a majority (80%) reported not having any measures in place to mitigate these serious risks during their journeys. Others purchased mobile phones (21%) to be able to communicate with family back home or in Libya. The remaining either left money with their families back home to guarantee safety and completion of journey or had to follow extreme measures such as short-term contraceptives. Acceptance of such weak mitigation measures to reduce serious harm is influenced by many push factors, and possibly by hidden facilitating factors. Over three-quarters of interviewed migrants reported having received encouragement from families and friends in countries of origin to migrate to Libya. Out of those who had their decisions influenced by family and friends, more than a third reported having also received financial support from them to cover migration journey costs.

Return intentions

A module was included in both the Migration Pulse and FMS surveys to inquire about the return intentions of migrants. FMS interviews revealed that 16 percent of respondents consider returning home. Those who have recently arrived in the country, between one week and 12 weeks, tend to be more inclined to want to return back home. Out of those who intend to return to their countries of origin, a third were newly arrived migrants. When asked about reasons for wanting to return to their countries of origin, a significant proportion of respondents wanting to return to their country of origin indicated a desire to be reunited with their family. Furthermore, several expressed being tired of the living conditions in Libya. Lastly, the third most cited reason for returning to the country of origin was identified as legal or physical barriers preventing onward migration from Libya.

Similar results were found when analyzing results from the web-surveys. While some migrants intend to continue their journey to a third country, an equal proportion expressed the desire to remain in Libya, and a quarter intends to return home. Those who plan to remain in Libya could face high safety risks to make ends meet, meanwhile migrants who intend to informally travel to Europe face life threatening decisions.

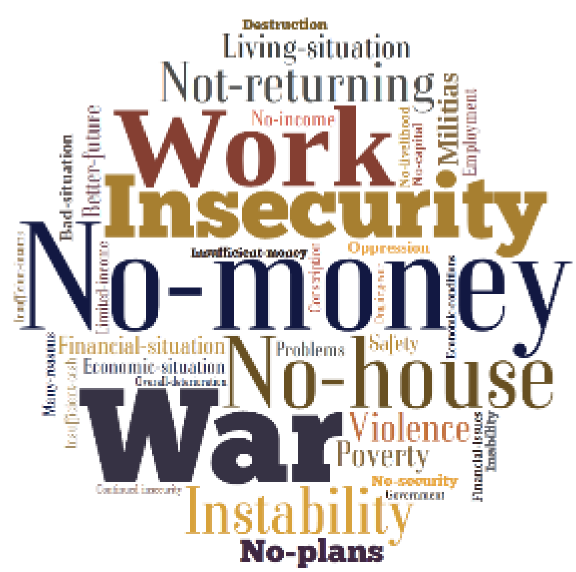
In the words of the respondents

Another open-ended question was used in the web-survey, but this time, migrants were asked about what could be preventing their return home. Recurring responses also included continued war and insecurity, but many also voiced not having houses and jobs to return to.

One Nigerian man responded, ***"I am still working on building a better future"***, while another man mentioned, ***"I spent a lot of money to come here and I currently don't have cash to return home".***

A young woman from South Sudan also said, ***"I do not have enough money to return to my country".*** A Syrian man said, ***"Due to the mandatory military conscription in my country and the need to support my family".***

What is preventing you from going home?

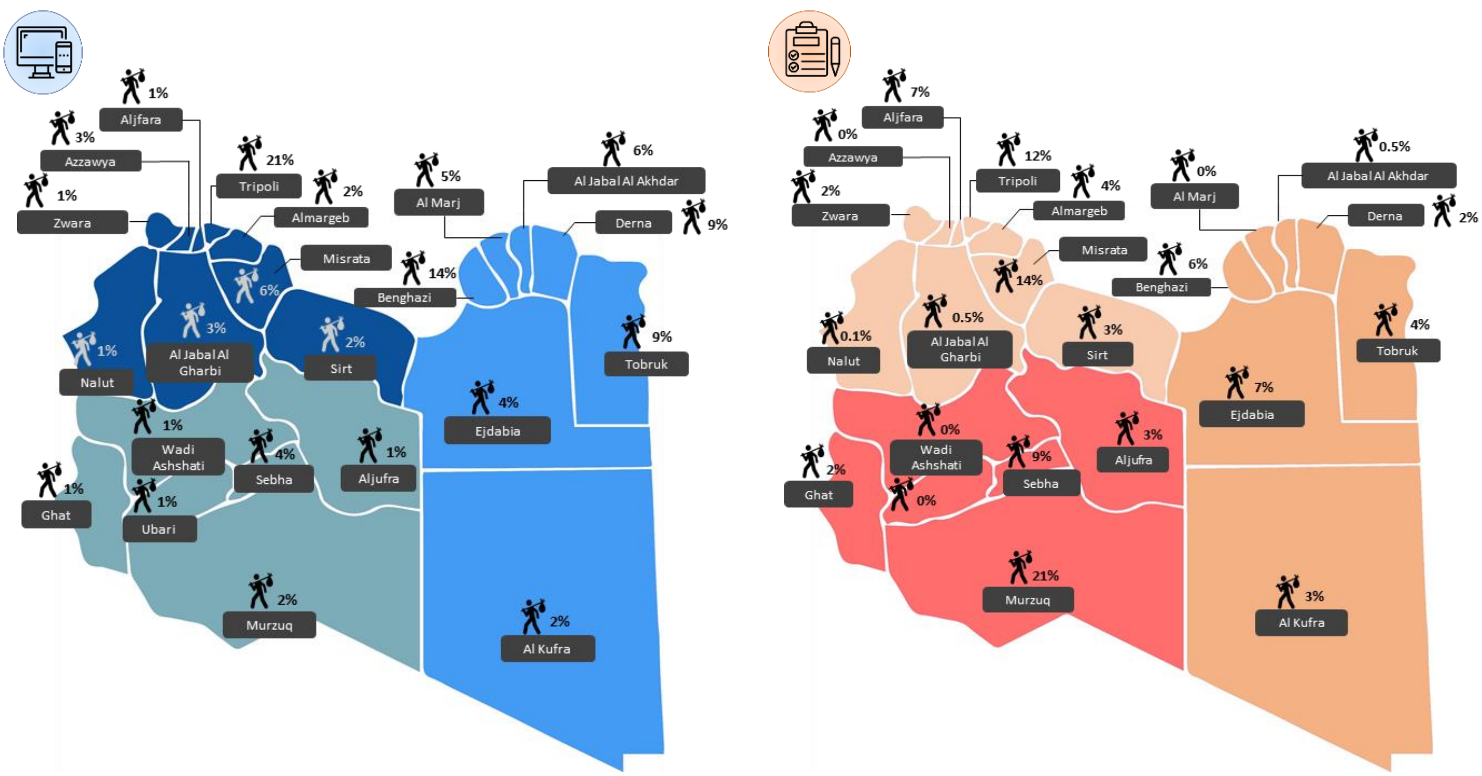


Living situation of migrants in Libya

Historically, the concentration of the Libyan population has been mainly along the trade routes in the two northern regions of Tripolitania and Cyrenaica, northwest and northeast respectively. Urbanization[17] was not far from these trade routes where Libyan populations became more concentrated around the cities of Tripoli and Benghazi. Similarly, when migrants were surveyed via web in all governorates of Libya, it appeared that nearly one in two respondents were based in west Libya, 40 percent in east Libya, and the remaining in the south.

Survey locations were only slightly different for the face-to-face survey, where more migrants coming from the south were interviewed (35%), while 43 percent were from the West and 22 percent were from the east of the country. Sample distribution for both survey types were close to country-wide migrant stock distribution identified by IOM Libya's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) which identified 655,144 migrants to be present in Libya as of August 2019, out of which 52 percent were identified in the West (341,018 migrants), 25 percent in the East (163,894 migrants) and 23 percent in the South (150,232 migrants)[18].

Map 2: Proportion of migrant respondents by governorate - FMS and Migration Pulse



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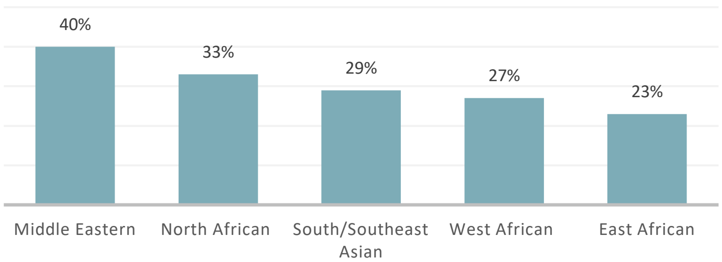
[17] **Urbanization** refers to population shift from rural areas to urban areas. The gradual increase in the proportion of people living in urban areas began in the 20th century.

[18] IOM - DTM Libya (August 2019): Round 26 Migrant Report, http://www.globaldtm.info/libya-migrant-report-26-june-july-2019/

Accommodation arrangements

Analysis of web-survey results found that living arrangements of migrants are quite complex, ranging from renting apartments (28%) and rooms/beds (13%) to being hosted for free or living with their employers (17%) to inadequate shelter solutions such as unfinished buildings (13%). Both socio-economic and household composition play a large role in determining the living and accommodation situation of migrants in Libya. For example, families with more than one adult tend to have more income sources compared to those composed of single persons with/without minors, hence tend to be living in houses/apartments. Among the migrant groups, those originating from the Middle East were found to be often part of family units (40%) in Libya compared to others (see chart 6).

Chart 6: Migrants with their families in Libya by region of origin

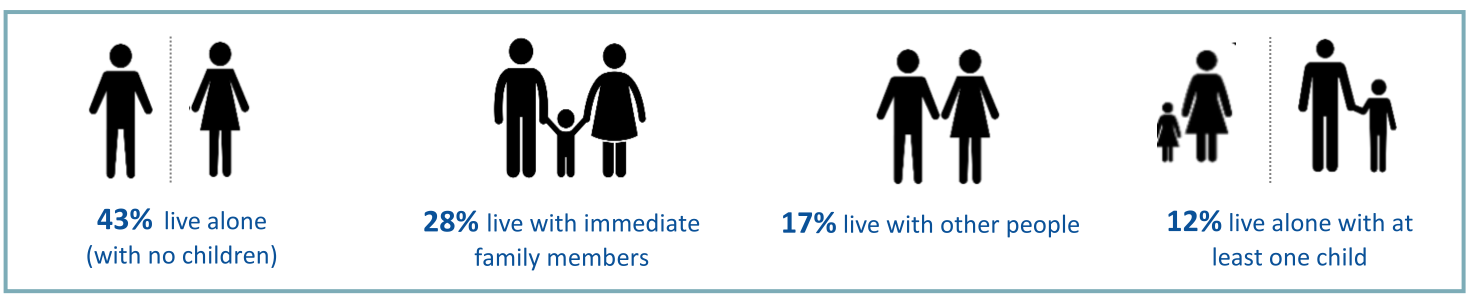


Nearly a quarter of migrants who recently arrived into Libya reported to be living in inadequate shelter compared to 17 percent of those who arrived in the earlier years, prior to 2017.

Household composition

The composition of migrant households in Libya varies from nuclear families to single-person households. Out of those living alone, a third were found to be women and nine percent are unaccompanied minors according to the Migration Pulse. Single-person households can significantly be affected by the absence of protection and support from their families. And are more prone to various types of vulnerability than others. In relation to this, it was found that one-fifth of respondents living alone with children were either hosted for free or living with their employers. Of these, 40 percent are women. Additional analysis revealed that nearly half of single persons with children are living in inadequate shelters, compared to only eight percent of respondents who are living with their families.

Figure 2: Household composition of migrants interviewed through the Migration Pulse



Main livelihood activities

Livelihoods have deteriorated dramatically in the country since 2011, both for the public and private sectors. The crisis has led to a drop-in oil production and revenue which in turn led to a high unemployment rate, but the situation has relatively improved compared to the beginning of the crisis. Latest records show that the unemployment rate had steadily decreased, from 19 percent in 2012 to 17.7 percent in 2017.[19] Further to the economic situation in Libya, the socioeconomic backgrounds of migrants play a role in their situation in the host country. A decisive factor is also the year of arrival in Libya, with people who migrated between 2018-2019 relying more on informal activities than those who arrived earlier.

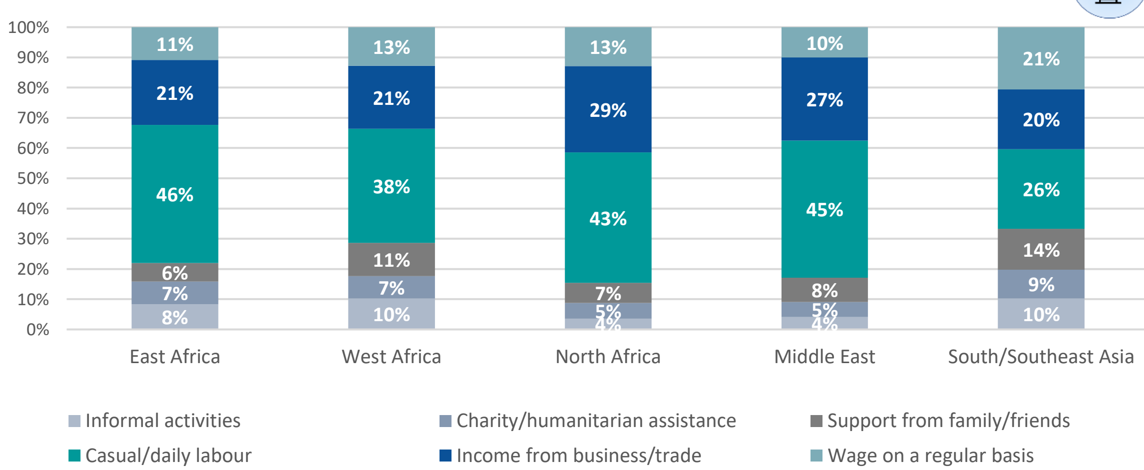
Livelihoods of migrants

Nine percent of migrants are engaging in some form of informal activities, such as begging, scavenging and other risky activities to support themselves.

Overall, results from the web-survey found that more than a third of migrants rely on casual or daily labour for income generation, and 22 percent reported earning income through small personal businesses. Comparisons between women and men revealed that women tend to be slightly more reliant on support from family and friends (11%), as well as charity or humanitarian assistance (9%) than men (8% and 6%, respectively). More in-depth qualitative data could provide more insight into the dynamics at play. Noticeable is the high proportion of single migrants living with children who depend on support, informal activities and charity to survive. Furthermore, individuals from the same group are rarely entrepreneurs or involved in casual labour, as the prolonged periods that come with this time of work, places additional pressure on their double role as breadwinners and care givers.

Income sources also vary among other homogenous groups. Primary and secondary data have demonstrated that a high proportion of South Asian migrants – Bangladeshi and Pakistani – receive a wage on regular basis while working in the service sector, and frequently as housekeepers.[20] And as previously mentioned, nearly half of interviewed migrants (including East Africans) depend on casual/daily labour as their main source of income in Libya, in order to cover necessities varying from basic day-to-day needs to costs of migration, either inward or outward. Although, migrants from East Africa have transitory profiles in Libya, 46 percent of those involved in income generation are relying on casual/daily labour in Libya. Similarly, almost half of Middle Eastern migrants reported the same income source, but a higher proportion of migrants from both the Middle East and North Africa (28%) reported involvement in small business/trade, compared to 21 percent of other migrant groups.

Chart 7: Main livelihood activities by region of origin



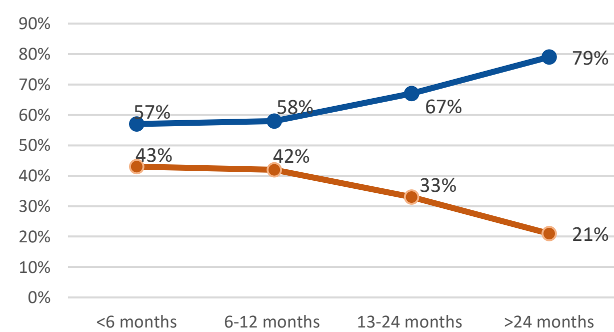
[19] Trading Economics - Libya Unemployment Rate: https://tradingeconomics.com/libya/unemployment-rate
[20] UNHCR (2018). Mixed Migration Routes and Dynamics in Libya: https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/impact_lby_report_mixed_migration_routes_and_dynamics_in_2018_june_2019.pdf

Most migrants have come to Libya for work opportunities, which would enable them to support their families back home and save money to eventually return home or continue to another country. UNHCR found that refugees and migrants from these two regions tend to be involved in low-skilled labour, primarily in the construction and agricultural sectors. With the current instability, the majority were found to be paid in cash and often work under difficult conditions.[21] Additionally, it was found that compensation for currency devaluation is sometimes taken into consideration by their employers, but even when so, the differences are not always fully covered. Since 2016, the liquidity crisis in Libya has made earning and saving cash much more difficult and rendered those migrants more vulnerable.

Face-to-face interviews revealed that 66 percent of migrants interviewed in Libya were either employed or self-employed, while 32 percent were unemployed but looking for work, and the remaining were not seeking job opportunities for various reasons.[22]

This survey also found that almost two-thirds of respondents reported being employed both in Libya and their countries of origin. Moreover, a majority of migrants continued to work in the same sectors as the one they were involved in while in their countries of origin. Interestingly, 25 percent of migrants reported that they had gone from being unemployed in their country of origin to being employed in Libya, but nearly the same proportion of respondents remained unemployed in Libya. Chart 8 illustrates the relationship between employment status of migrants and time in Libya.

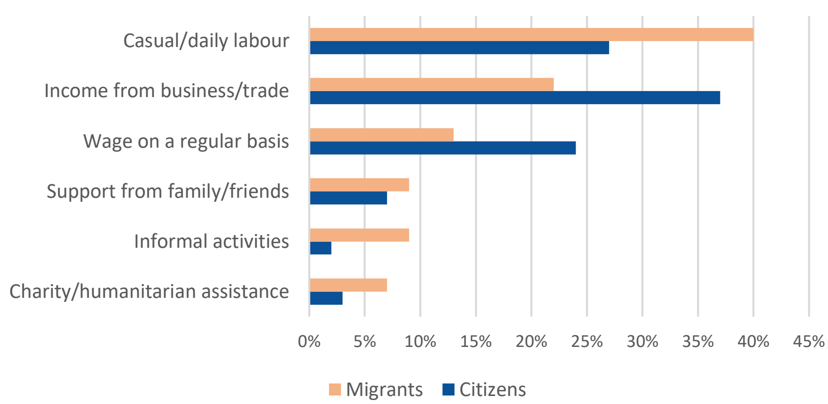
Chart 8: Employment status of migrants by time spent in Libya



Livelihoods of Libyan residents and migrants

Comparisons of web-based data related to income generation opportunities in Libya for both host community and migrants showed that more than one third of migrants rely on casual labour, compared to one-fourth of interviewed Libyans. Almost two thirds of Libyans depend on income from businesses/trade and regular wages, and the remainder rely on casual labour, support from others/charity, and informal activities. Although, the turmoil and financial crisis in Libya has affected both Libyans and migrants, the divide in livelihoods remains apparent.

Chart 9: Comparisons of livelihoods by population groups in Libya



[21] Ibid. UNHCR (2018).

[22] It is worth nothing that a majority of migrants and refugees (87%) were interviewed in work recruitment points, hence results for employment status are not representative of the migrant and refugee population in Libya.

Main sectors of work

In the FMS survey, migrants were found to be involved in three different economic sectors, namely primary, secondary and tertiary (service) sectors. None mentioned involvement in the fourth sector, quaternary (e.g. education, government jobs). Analysis results showed that most migrants (55%) work in activities that fall under the secondary economic sector, such as construction, gas, electricity and water supply. Others are involved in the service sector as well as agriculture/pastoralism activities (28% and 17% respectively).

When analyzing the relationship between nationalities of migrant and employment by sector activity, it appeared that Chadian migrants (41%) are heavily involved in agriculture/pastoralism activities compared to other migrant groups. It is estimated that 80 percent of Chad's population relies on agriculture and livestock, hence it is safe to assume that both the background and acquired skill set draws them to this type of work in Libya. Moreover, although the construction activity was found to be quite predominant for most migrants, apart from Chadians, it was reported to a greater extent by Ghanaian migrants (67%). Followed by Bangladeshis and Burkinabe, 55 and 50 percent respectively.

Remittances

In the face-to-face interviews, two-thirds of interviewed migrants at work recruitment points reported sending remittances to their home countries. The median amount of cash remittances reported is USD 95 per month. It was observed that migrants who have been in Libya for less than six months are sending larger amounts (USD 295/monthly). A possible explanation could be the immediate need to pay-off any debts (including journey costs), as well as urgent basic needs of their families back home.

About one-third of migrants reported sending money back home to their families and relatives - 38% among women and 34% by men. Top reason for sending money is to cover food needs.

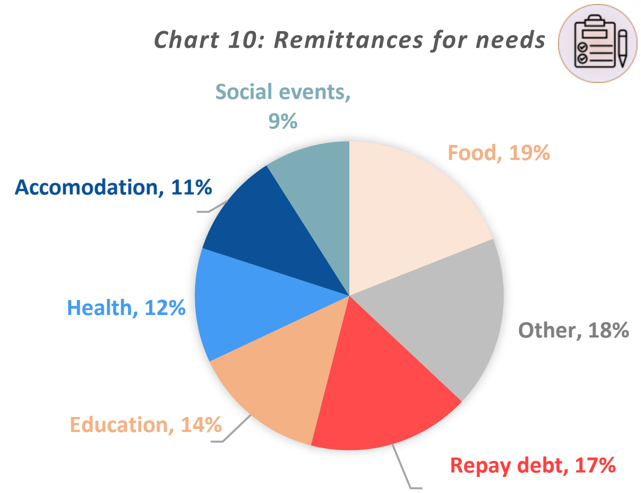
It was very apparent that remittances were used significantly for different purposes by family and relatives in various countries and/or regions. For instance, 40 percent of West African migrants reported sending money home, especially those from Niger and Nigeria (54 and 48 percent respectively). While South/Southeast Asian migrants followed with more than one-third sending remittances to mainly cover accommodation and housing needs in their countries of origin.

Majority of interviewed migrants via the web-based survey reported not sending remittances (65%) in the last three months, while others did send cash or goods back home for various reasons. This difference in results compared with the face-to-face surveys may be explained by the different timeframes in each respective survey, and cash shortages in Libya in the recent year. Whereas the face-to-face questionnaire asks about remittances sent since migration, the web-based survey asks about remittances sent in the past three months. In future rounds, timeframes will be harmonized for more comparable results in addition to differentiating the sending of goods versus cash to monitor how liquidity issues are impacting migrants' ability to send money home. Comparisons of sent remittances by time of arrival in Libya revealed that 31 percent of migrants who arrived recently had sent cash or goods in the last three months versus 36 percent of those who arrived prior to 2018. A five-percentage point variance may be due to the financial ability of those who are more established in the country than newly arrived migrants.

Coverage of remittances

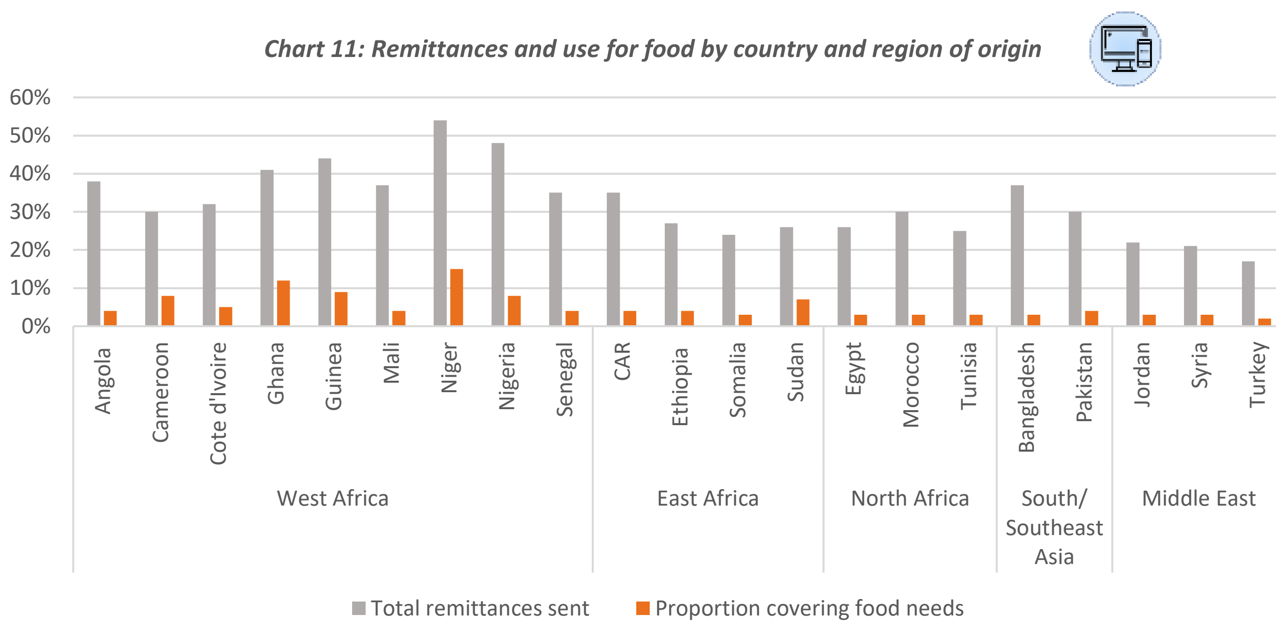
Results from in-person surveys showed that food needs and paying off debts (migration costs or other) are major reasons for respondents to send money home. The need to cover health and education needs/costs were also found to be important reasons for remittances. Savings was also mentioned by one-third of respondents through face-to-face surveys. This may reflect on difficulties faced by migrants to keep their savings in Libyan banks brought by risks of robbery and/or kidnapping as well as fluctuations in the exchange rate. [23] UNHCR and REACH also found that West and Central African migrants face higher risks of robbery and kidnapping, due to the widespread knowledge of them still getting paid in cash with limited ability to store it safely, coupled with shortage of cash in the country.

Chart 10: Remittances for needs



Those interviewed via web reported sending remittances for various reasons in line with results from the FMS survey: 30 percent to cover food and accommodation, 26 percent for health and education, 18 percent for other reasons, 17 percent to repay debt, and nine percent for social events.

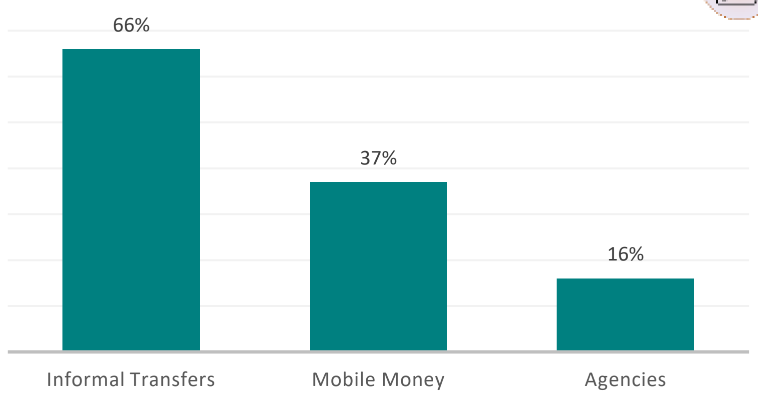
Chart 11: Remittances and use for food by country and region of origin



[23] UNHCR/REACH (2018): https://reliefweb.int/report/libya/access-cash-and-impact-liquidity-crisis-refugees-and-migrants-libya-june-2018

Among FMS respondents who send remittances, informal transfers were found to be the preferred way of sending money, demonstrated by a 66 percent usage rate in the country. Meanwhile, bank transfers were found to be almost non-existent perhaps due to the current economic situation or the need for official identification papers. Geographically speaking, the usage of this transfer method was found to be highest in the east, at 80 percent. As for the use of mobile money[24], it was found to be equally popular among all migrants, however more commonly used in the south, at 67 percent, compared to 30 percent in the east and 20 percent in the west. The reliance on agencies (e.g. Western Union) to send remittances was highest in the western part of the country (33%). The usage of different financial services across Libya mirrors the availability of these services, combined with liquidity issues and associated safety concerns.

Chart 12: Usage rates of transfer methods in Libya

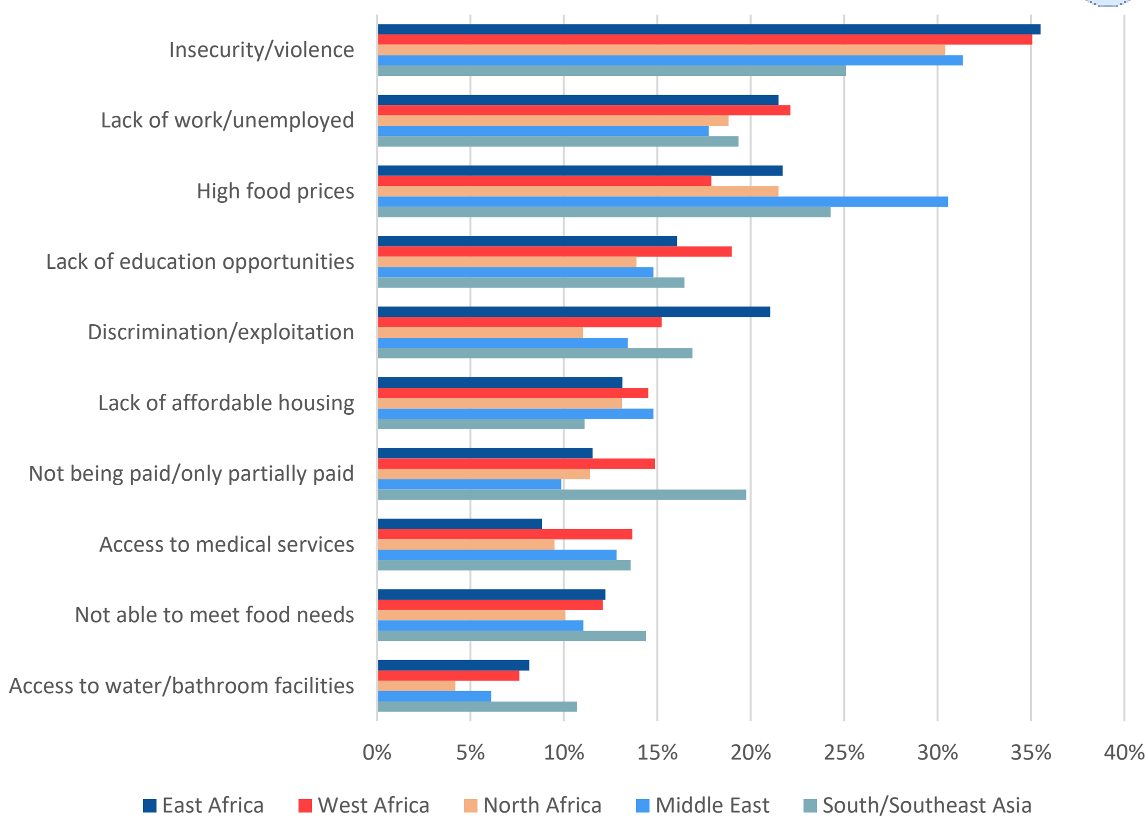


[24] **Mobile money** is an electronic wallet service (a secure electronic account linked to a mobile phone number) that allows users to store, send and receive money using their mobile phones.

Main challenges faced

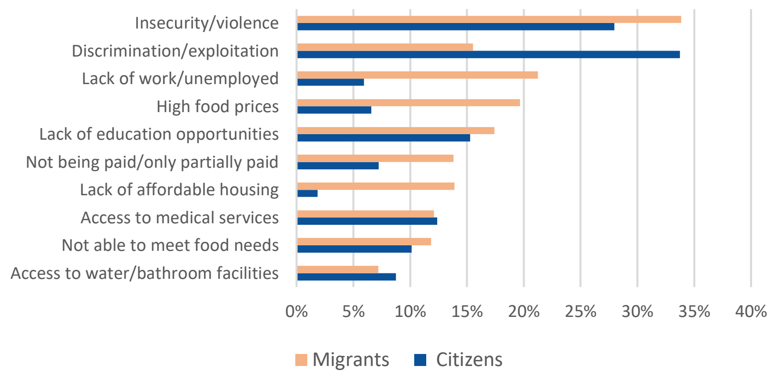
When migrants were asked to report on their top two concerns in their current location, one-third of migrants from all regions of origin reported insecurity and violence as their main worry. This was followed by lack of work/unemployment (21%) and high food prices (20%). Lack of education opportunities (17%) as well as discrimination and exploitation (16%) were also found to be quite high among respondents. When applying a gender lens, limited work opportunities was reported more often by women than men, combined with facing more difficulties in getting paid for their work. Overall, 12 percent of migrants said to be facing issues in meeting their food needs. Chart 13 illustrates the differences in concerns by main groups of migrants.

Chart 13: Migrants' main challenges by region of origin (multiple response - top 2)



Libyans are also faced by several great challenges, discrimination and exploitation being the top concerns, followed by insecurity and violence in the country. Although migrants are more vulnerable in an unstable foreign country like Libya, locals are not resistant to these risks and challenges either but may have stronger support networks and access to mitigation mechanisms. These mitigation measures range from self-censorship, to reliance on tribal associations or fleeing to another country to ensure self-protection and that of relatives in Libya. [25] However, these capacities can only withhold every day challenges in a protracted crisis for so long, as both their resilience and financial capacities have been winding down.

Chart 14: Comparisons of challenges faced by population groups in Libya (multiple response - top 2)



Food security status of migrants

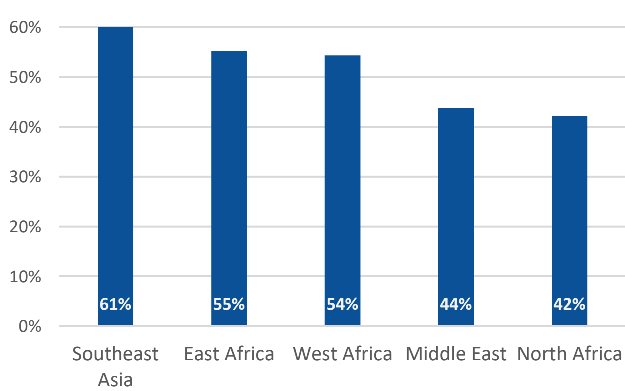
This section explores the food security situation of migrant's in Libya, looking specifically at concerns raised as well as food consumption and applied coping strategies to try to identify the groups most vulnerable to food insecurity in Libya.

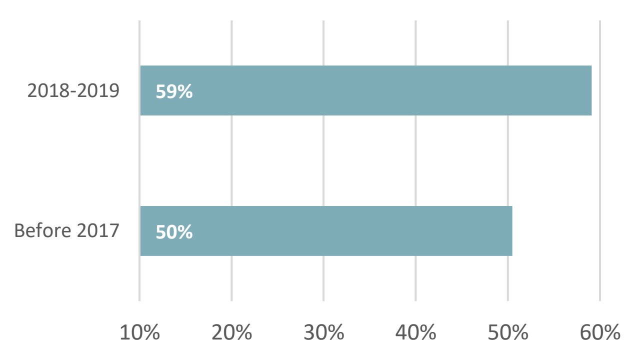
Concerns over having enough food

While some migrants may choose to eat less to save money to meet other pressing needs, not having enough food to eat was still found as a significant source of stress for these groups. More than half (52%) of migrants in Libya voiced their worries as to where the next meal will come from, which is of serious concern as this could have a toll on their mental well-being, and directly reflects on their high vulnerability levels to food insecurity. Women tend to be more concerned with availability and affordability of food compared to men (56% vs. 51%). Minors and elderly were also identified as groups who were particularly more worried. Chart 15 illustrates the levels of concern by region of origin of migrants, and by time of arrival in Libya.

More than half of migrants expressed their worries about not having enough food to eat, compared to a quarter of interviewed residents.

Chart 15: Worried about not having enough food to eat in the past 30 days





[25] **Protection of displaced Libyans:** https://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/resource-documents/12833.pdf

Food consumption

Comparisons of analysis results from the face-to-face surveys highlighted that migrants tend to have a worse food consumption compared to host communities (see chart 16). Findings from the 2018 multi-sectoral needs assessment[26] revealed an 18-percentage point variance in the poor and borderline food consumption of migrants and Libyans (30% and 12% respectively).

Disaggregation of migrants based on the region of origin showed that those from South/Southeast Asia and East Africa tend to be the most food insecure, with poor and borderline food consumption 24 and 23 percent, respectively. This may be due to the migrants' intentions, where the web-based surveys revealed that 49 percent of East Africans are looking to continue their journey to a third country, and therefore not seeking long-term employment opportunities in Libya.

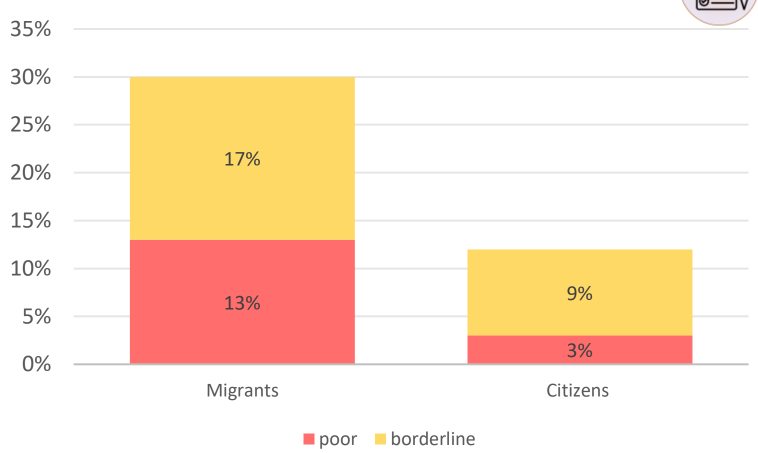
The food consumption score is a proxy indicator that measures dietary diversity and frequency of the household (incl. single-person) consumption of nutritionally important food groups during a 7-day recall period. Based on defined thresholds, households are grouped into three categories: poor, borderline and acceptable food consumption.

Poor food consumption: Households that are not consuming staples and vegetables every day and never or very seldom consume protein-rich food such as meat and dairy.

Borderline food consumption: Households that consume staples and vegetables every day, accompanied by oil and pulses a few times a week.

Acceptable food consumption: Households that consume staples and vegetables every day, frequently accompanied by oil and pulses, and occasionally meat, fish and dairy.

Chart 16: Food consumption by population group



The Migration Pulse found that almost three fourths of migrants have a limited food intake, with 33% eating less than one meal per day and 41% eating two meals per day.

Variances in food consumption levels were observed among migrant groups across regions in Libya. The eastern region recorded the highest prevalence, as governorates with major migration routes in desert areas like Alkufra and Ejdabia have more than half of migrants with poor and borderline food consumption. Web responses showed comparable results as more than half of respondents in the eastern region stressed their fears about food. Looking at the southern part of the country, the prevalence of food insecurity was the highest in Aljufra, a major transit point for migrants entering from Chad and Sudan on their way to the Western Coast of Libya, with a proportion of 85 percent of migrants having poor or borderline food consumption. Whereas, in western Libya, Misrata governorate has a migrant population with the lowest food consumption levels in the region, with 25 percent poor and 32 percent borderline food consumption. Overall, the quality and quantity of migrants' diet varies significantly between regions and governorates.

[26] **The Multi-Sectoral Needs Assesssment (MSNA)** is a nationally representative survey of Libyan households with data collected in August 2018.

Various factors have demonstrated strong effects on the food consumption levels of migrants, including age and time spent in Libya. Comparisons of the analysis results highlighted that the younger migrants are, the lower their food intake is (see chart 17). This means that young adults have a harder time supporting themselves and their families compared to older adults who come with a better work knowledge and experience. Migrants with children, especially those who are single, tend to be extremely vulnerable due to the additional costs incurred from solely providing for their young children.

Six out of ten young adults, including minors, reported feeling worried about not having enough food to eat.

Disaggregation of migrants based on the time of arrival into Libya showed a high proportion of those who arrived in Libya less than six months ago, to have a poor or borderline food consumption. Analysis results revealed that migrants who are not yet established in the country tend to be the most vulnerable to food insecurity. However, their socio-economic status back home, and current needs and debt (including cost of journey) play a large role in their situation upon arrival into Libya.

Chart 17: Food consumption by age range

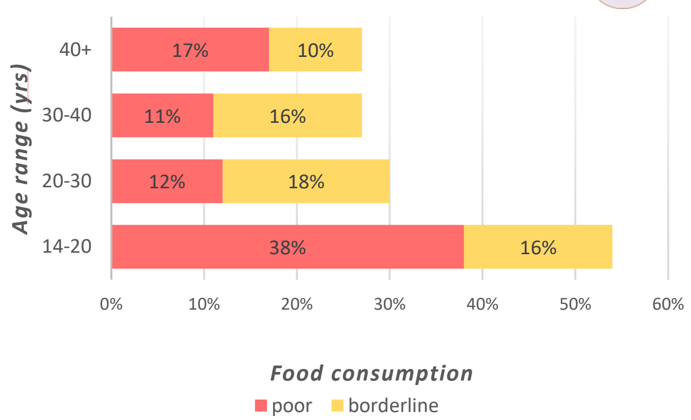
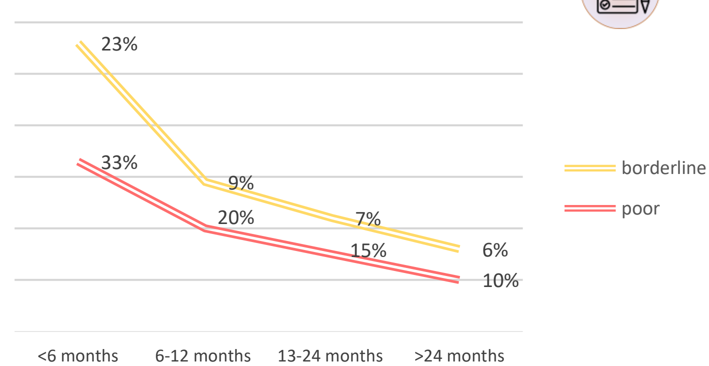
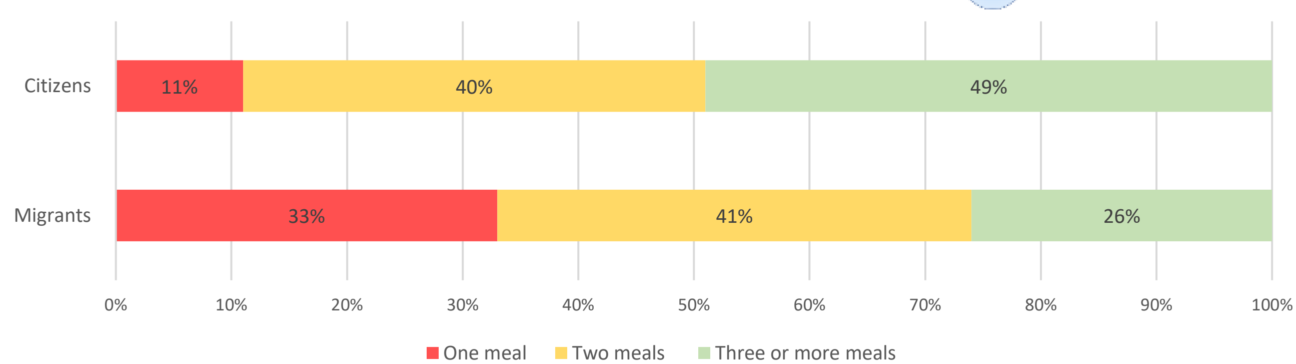


Chart 18: Food consumption by time of arrival



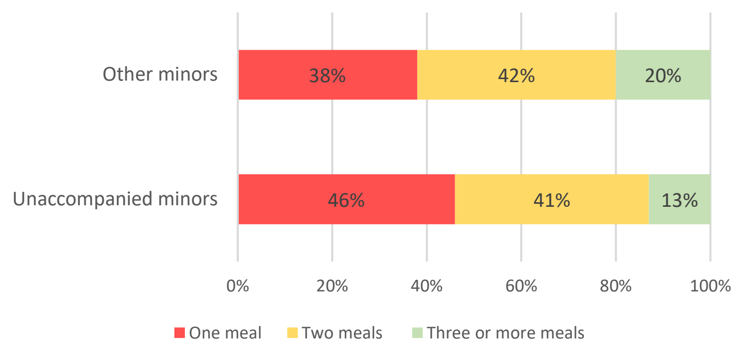
Even though food needs did not emerge as the first top concern, the Migration Pulse found that many migrants in Libya tend to be compromising their food consumption for various reasons. And while 11 percent of residents reported having to go with only one meal or none during the previous day, the proportion of migrants who experienced a similar situation was much higher. As illustrated in chart 19, one third of migrants reported to have eaten only one meal in the previous day to the survey.

Chart 19: Number of meals consumed in the previous day



Furthermore, web-based data reiterated the connection between food consumption and other key characteristics of migrant respondents, such as women having to compromise their food consumption more than men. As well as child and elder migrants being extremely vulnerable to food insecurity. Those who live alone, including single persons with young children have concerning levels of food coping and consuming a reduced number of meals per day. And results are especially alarming for single people with children, with 57 percent of respondents reporting to have eaten only one meal in the previous day. Lastly, comparisons between accompanied and unaccompanied migrant minors are of high concern, charts 20 highlights a more worrying food security situation of unaccompanied minor migrants.

Chart 20: Comparisons between unaccompanied and other minors by number of meals eaten in previous day



Unaccompanied minors are of particular concern, as nearly half reported having gone a whole day without eating and 46 percent ate only one meal in the previous day.

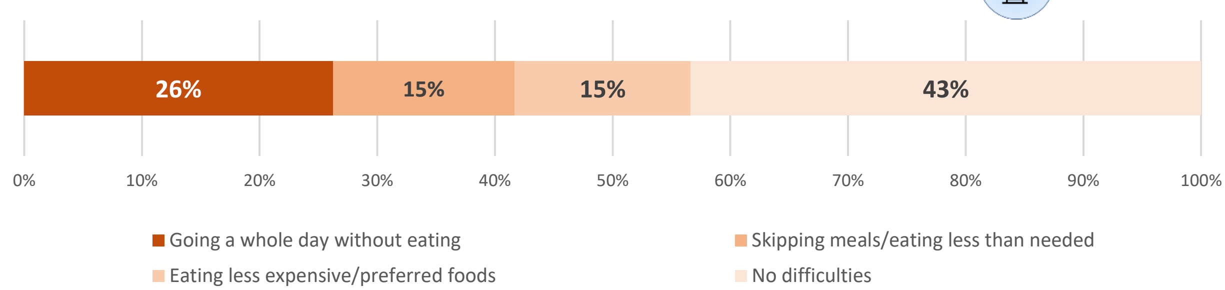
A high proportion of those originating from South/Southeast Asia and East Africa are eating only one meal per day due to unaffordability of basic food. Chart 24 further illustrates the specific regions of origin of migrants who are the most vulnerable to food insecurity.

Migrants from Ethiopia, Angola, Senegal, Somalia, Pakistan and Bangladesh were found to be the most vulnerable to food insecurity and deserve special attention.

Food coping

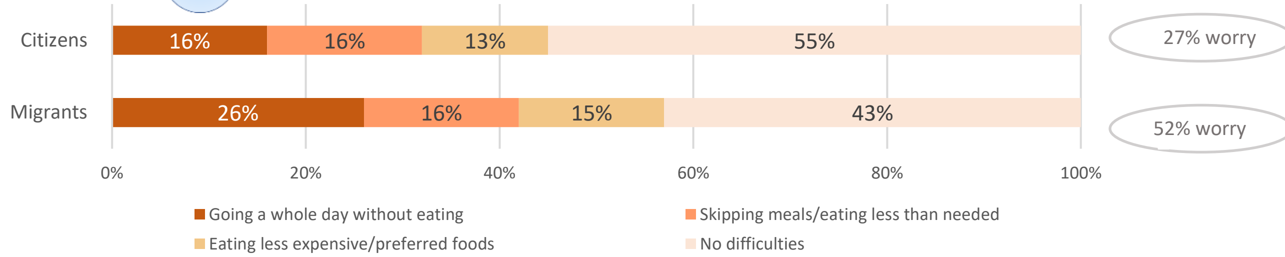
Food coping strategies were adopted by 57 percent of migrants due to lack of food or means to buy food. Most concerningly, one in four migrants reported to have gone a whole day without eating in the past month.

Chart 22: Adoption of food coping strategies in the past 30 days



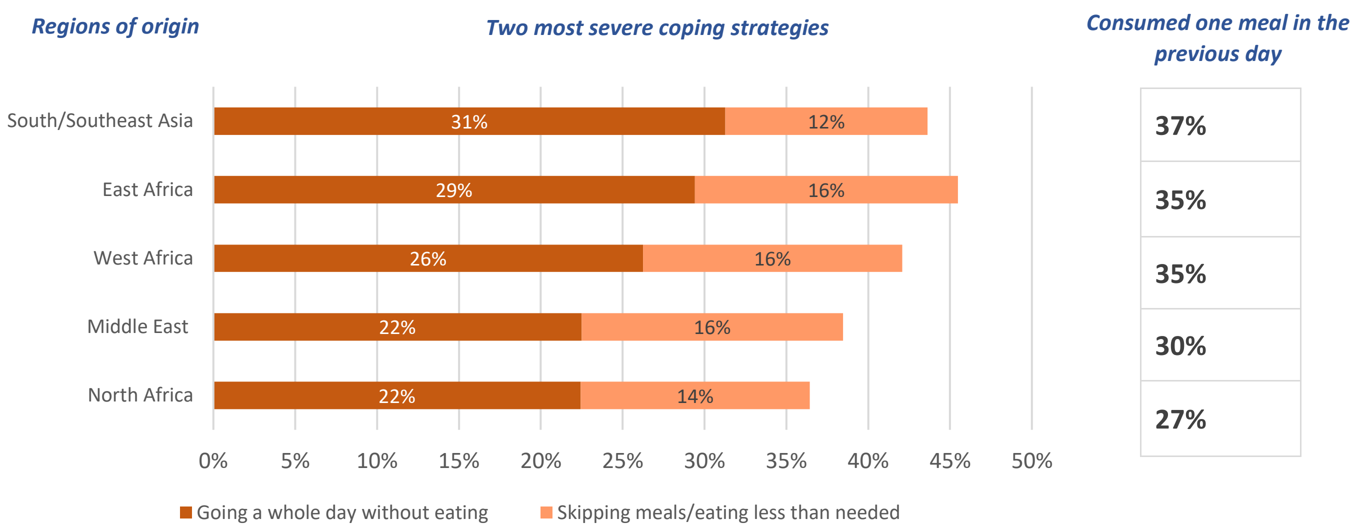
Further comparisons related to concerns over food were carried out to better understand the availability and affordability of food to both migrants and Libyans. Chart 23 shows the percentage of both population groups who had to adopt food coping strategies to meet their basic food needs or stretch out the available food for a longer period by eating smaller portions and/or less meals per day. Furthermore, numbers on the right compares the level of worry related to food affordability by both population groups.

Chart 23: Comparisons of food coping and worry levels by population group



Comparisons of coping strategies adopted by region of origin further illustrates vulnerability to food insecurity of particular groups originating from South/Southeast Asia as well as East Africa. Chart 24 illustrates the results of the Migration Pulse on both food consumption levels and the adoption of more severe food coping strategies.

Chart 24: Food coping and food consumption by region of origin

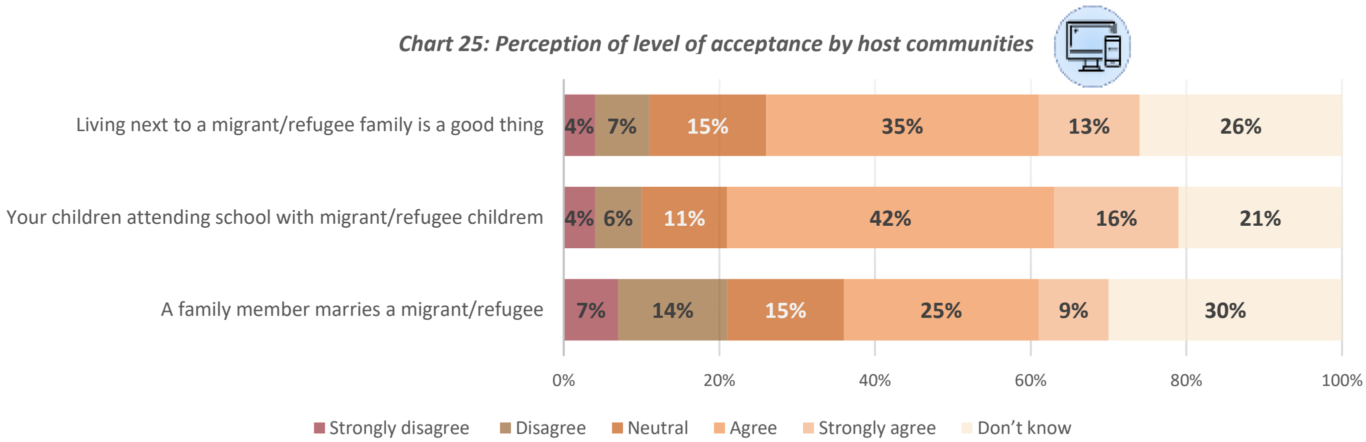


Interactions with host communities

Half of Libyan residents reported hardly ever having to interact with migrants, while the other half mentioned interacting with migrants either on daily, weekly or monthly basis. Although the level of interaction between Libyans and migrants is low, majority of Libyans do not oppose having migrants in their daily lives. Libya has been a country that provided opportunities to foreign workforce for many years, thus very accepting of migrants.

When Libyans were asked whether the current migrant workforce has affected the employment opportunities in their neighborhoods, 41 percent reported both positive and negative change (12 and 29 percent respectively), but the majority did not observe any change. This may be due to some economic and social disconnect between the two population groups. Similar results were reported for the perceived change on basic services (e.g. health and education) by host communities: 64 percent witnessed no change, a quarter reported deterioration in the basic services, and 11 percent reported improvements.

Chart 25: Perception of level of acceptance by host communities

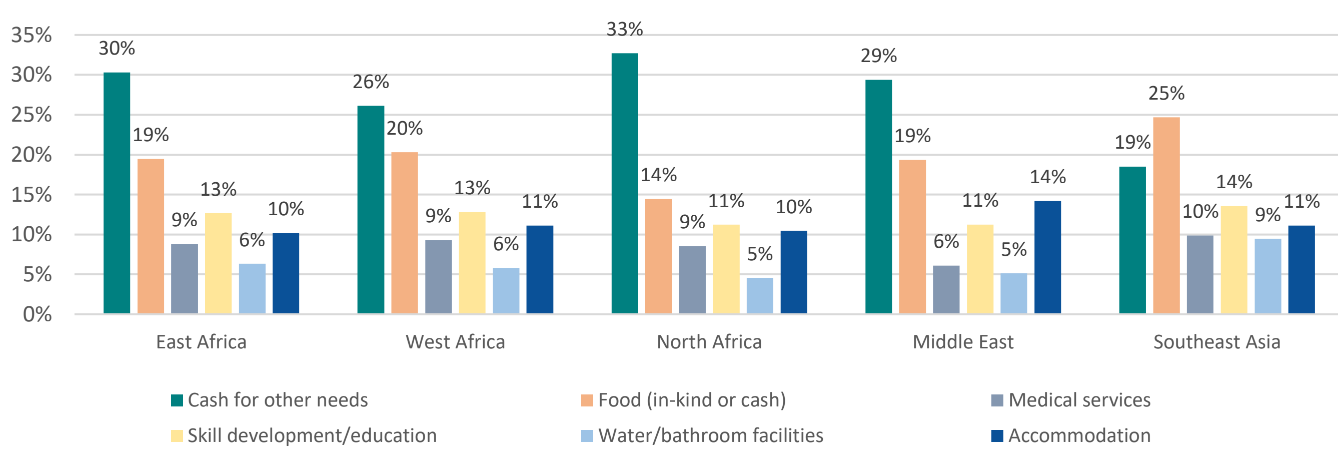


As Libya has already gone through the urbanization process and had a larger migrant population prior to 2011, the effects of migrants' accommodation needs on Libyans may not be yet apparent. When respondents from host communities were asked about the overall cost of living, 53 percent of residents reported no change. Meanwhile, 40 percent reported a noticeable increase and the remainder reported a decrease. Furthermore, only 10 percent of residents reported hosting migrants.

Assistance needed

Overall, migrants across Libya reported the need for cash for various non-food needs (28%) and food, either in-kind or cash (19%). This is followed by skill development and education (13%), accommodation (11%), medical services (8%) and water and bathroom facilities (6%). Another 15 percent of the respondents reported the need for other types of assistance. Chart 26 illustrates the type of assistance required by the region of origin of migrants. Noticeable is how the need for food assistance is higher for Southeast Asian migrants compared to groups from other regions.

Chart 26: Assistance needed by region of origin



Concluding remarks

This joint study aimed to understand and assess the overall vulnerability status of migrants and host communities in Libya. Through a mixed-method's approach of web-based and face-to-face surveys, IOM and WFP interviewed over 4,000 migrants currently in Libya, and about 10,000 people from host communities. The assessment focused on firstly understanding the drivers of migration, migration journeys and risks faced, remittances as well as return intentions. And secondly, the main challenges faced and needs of both migrants and Libyan residents as well as their food security situations.

Main push factors were found to be lack of work, insecurity and conflict, the inability to meet food needs as well as climate related shocks and discrimination and persecution. Most often, it is a combination of multiple factors that ultimately compel people to leave, however this finding highlights the critical role that food insecurity plays in migrant decision-making.

Economic factors overall remain the main driver of migration to Libya, which was confirmed by both survey methodologies used. The majority of surveyed migrants were searching for job opportunities with the hopes of supporting themselves and their families back home. Since arriving in Libya, two-thirds of migrants interviewed in person have sent remittances to their countries of origin, while one third have sent them in the past 3 months according to web surveys. Remittances are sent mainly to cover food needs and to repay debts. Intentions to return home were reported by one quarter of respondents through both methods. Return intentions can be attributed to the desire to be reunited with family, but also to the living conditions in Libya as well as legal and physical barriers preventing onward migration. Qualitative analysis of data collected through the Migration Pulse also highlighted some difficulties related to the cost of return. The significant amount payed and debts inquired to reach Libya in the first place are also significant barriers, as many have reported the lack of cash and need to repay debts before having the possibility to travel back to their countries of origin.

The analysis of challenges faced in Libya revealed that both migrants and Libyan residents are facing important human security and livelihood concerns. The current conflict and insecurity in Tripoli and surrounding governorates, as well as the overall economic instability and liquidity issues in the country are among the main causes of these challenges. These are most likely significant drivers of food insecurity in the country. Half of migrant respondents and one third of Libyans reported being worried about not having enough food to eat. Among migrants, groups most vulnerable to food insecurity and who require special attention include women migrants, single migrants with children as well as unaccompanied minors. In addition, migrants who have more recently arrived (2018/2019), who were interviewed along migration routes in Central and Eastern Libya and those who originate from South/Southeast Asia and Eastern Africa are struggling more to meet their food needs. Overall, migrants require unconditional cash transfers to cover non-food needs as well as food (either in-kind or cash).

In light of these findings, IOM and WFP jointly recommend to:

1. Support the development of labour migration policies and programmes as an integral part of comprehensive migration management policies, while considering the motivations and skills of migrant workers, that would also meet the demands of the Libyan labour market.
2. Ensure the continuation of programmes that facilitate safe return of migrants to their country of origin, such as Voluntary Humanitarian Return (VHR) and Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR), given the interest among some surveyed migrants to return home, and in consideration of economic drivers that pushed most migrants to leave their home country.
3. Design and implement programmes that encourage economic integration of migrants and promotes skill transfers between Libyan and migrant communities.
4. Promote local community dialogues between Libyans and migrants and encourage civil society to engage with migrants in order to mitigate discrimination risks and exposure to violence.
   Promote access to public services, especially public health and education, from a financial perspective.

5. Consider protection-related risks (i.e. lack of shelter, no access to healthcare, etc.) and other identified factors, such as length of stay in Libya, unemployment, gender and age into potential programmatic interventions that would enhance the overall food insecurity situation of migrants.
6. Invest into strengthening livelihood opportunities in countries of origin to reduce push factors compelling migrants to leave their countries out of destitution.
7. Implement innovative programmes together with partners to address migrants' food security needs without compromising their security.
8. Conduct additional data collection and qualitative research, to further explore the relationship between factors and food insecurity. In parallel, examine protection concerns of potential food assistance programmes that would be inclusive of the migrant communities.

International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) - Libya Country Office
Hay Al Andalos Post Office - P.O. Box 6748
Tripoli, Libya
IOM Country Representative: Federico Soda
Email: fsoda@iom.int
DTM Coordinator: Tassilo Teppert
Email: tteppert@iom.int
Data Scientist: Asfand Waquar
Email: awaqar@iom.int

Project funded by the European Union

United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)
Libya Country Office
OEA Compound, Villa R68. Sidi Abdul Jalil, Janzour
Tripoli, Libya
WFP Country Representative: Samer Abdel Jaber
Email: samer.abdeljaber@wfp.org
Food Security Analyst: Jean-Baptiste Pasquier
Email: jeanbaptiste.pasquier@wfp.org

United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)
Headquarters
Via C. G. Viola 68 Parco dei Medici - 00148
Rome, Italy
Head of the Needs Assessment&Targeting Unit: Claudia Ah Poe
Email: claudia.ahpoe@wfp.org
Migration Pulse Coordinator: Katrina Frappier
Email: katrina.frappier@wfp.org
Food Security Analyst: Isra Wishah
Email: isra.wishah@wfp.org