

Migration Response Centres (MRCs)

East and Horn of Africa

REGIONAL DATA HUB | RDH

01 January - 31 July 2019



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

REGIONAL OVERVIEW: JULY 2019

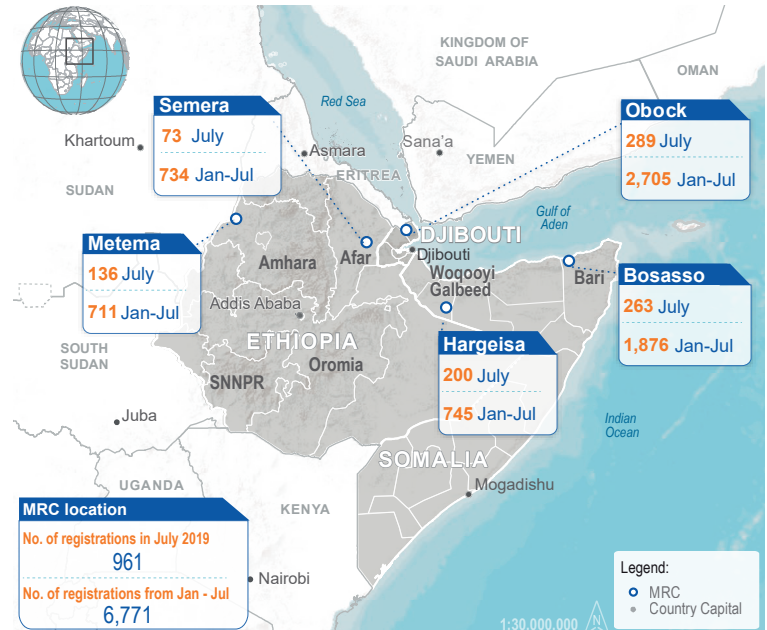
A total of 961 migrants were registered at MRCs across the region in July. The largest number of migrants were registered in Obock (289), followed by Bosasso (263), Hargeisa (200), Metema (136) and Semera (73). Compared to June, migrant registrations increased in Hargeisa due to growing Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) activities at the MRC as well as successful awareness campaigns and mobile outreach services supporting AVRR-related activities. A similar trend was observed in Bosasso, triggered by an increase in Ethiopian arrivals to the area and reduced departure activity due to seasonal, heavy seas.

A total of 182 children were registered in July. The majority were registered in Hargeisa (111). The MRC in Hargeisa continues to attract a larger number of families compared to other MRCs in the region, due to its location in an area where many migrant families have settled. The Hargeisa MRC assisted all elderly persons registered across MRCs in July and the largest number of children below the age of 15 (90% of total). Almost all minors at the MRC Hargeisa (92%) were accompanied, whereas all children tracked in Semera and the majority of children tracked in Bosasso (94%) were unaccompanied.

Of the registered migrants, 71% were male and 29% were female. While 38% of registered men were travelling alone and 37% opted for a mix of travelling with immediate family and within a group, the majority of females (43%) preferred travelling within a group or with their immediate family (35%). Compared to June, registrees of both sexes were 32% less likely to be travelling alone and one and a half times more likely to be travelling with their immediate family. All except one of the registered migrants were Ethiopian nationals, mainly coming from the Oromia (49%), Amhara (22%) and Tigray (13%) regions.

All registrees in Semera and the majority in Obock (99%) were headed towards the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (54% of total registrees), in hope of better economic (79%) and educational (17%) opportunities. Most others reported migrating within Somalia (19%). These migrants most commonly left their communities of origin due to natural disasters or environmental conditions over the past months or years. In recent months, the region experienced below average cumulative rainfall, resulting in ongoing, harsh climatic conditions. The rest of the registered migrants reported returning to Ethiopia (12%).

MRC LOCATIONS & REGISTRATIONS



Migration Response Centers (MRCs)

are situated along key migration routes, where they fill critical gaps by providing direct assistance, including food and temporary shelter, information and service referrals to migrants on the move. Working collaboratively, MRCs bring together key partners to facilitate the identification of migrants in vulnerable situations, and ensure that they receive appropriate, immediate and longer-term support. Five MRCs are currently operational in the Horn of Africa: Hargeisa and Bosasso since 2009, Djibouti since 2011 and Semera and Metema since 2014. IOM is working closely with local authorities to open two further MRCs in the coming months. The services provided by each MRC vary based on location and needs.



Awareness-raising Campaign on the Dangers of Crossing the Gulf of Aden in Fantehero, Obock © MRC Obock, July 2019

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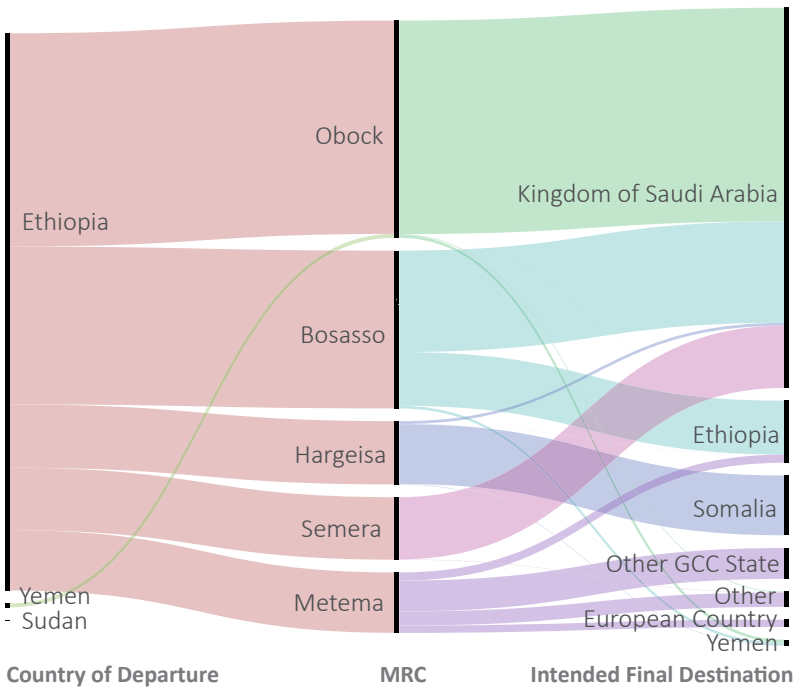


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MIGRANT JOURNEYS



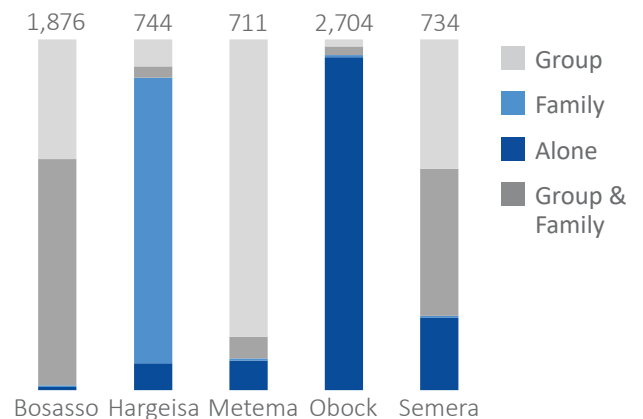
Country of Departure, MRC and Intended Destination



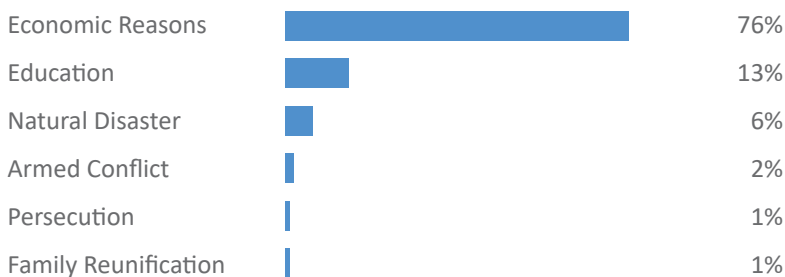
Top 4 Areas of Departure

Ethiopia	Oromia	57%
Ethiopia	Amhara	21%
Ethiopia	Tigray	8%
Ethiopia	SNNPR	7%

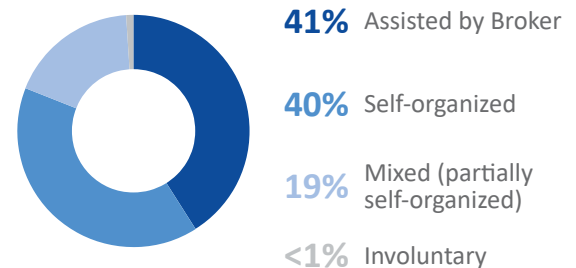
Migrant Travel Status



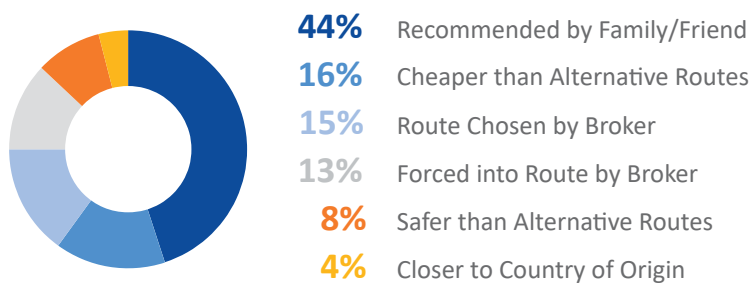
Most Commonly Reported Reasons for Migration ¹



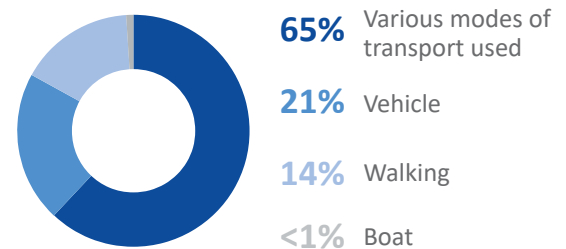
Journey Arrangements



Choice of Route



Main Mode of Transport



¹ Multiple choices allowed

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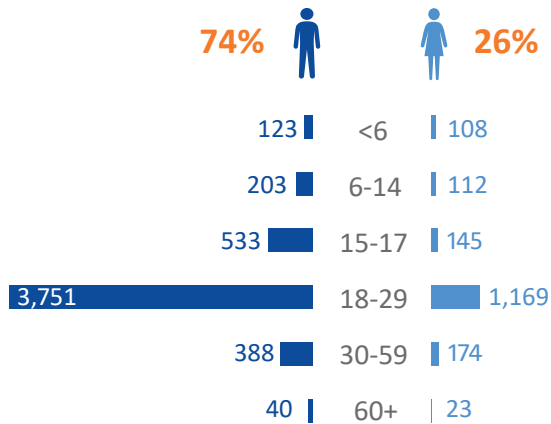


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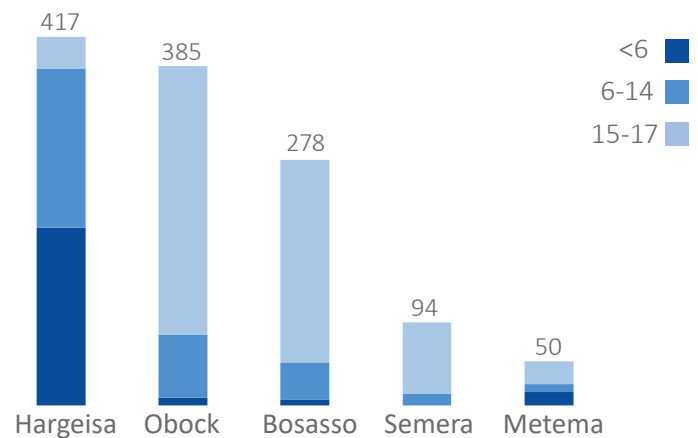
MIGRANT PROFILES AND VULNERABILITIES



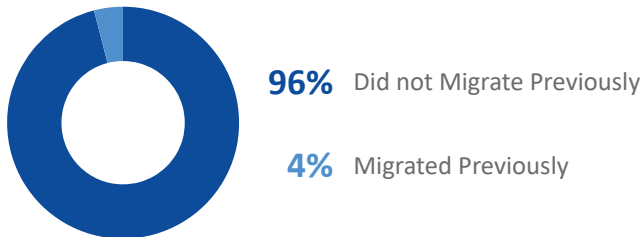
6,771 migrant registrations



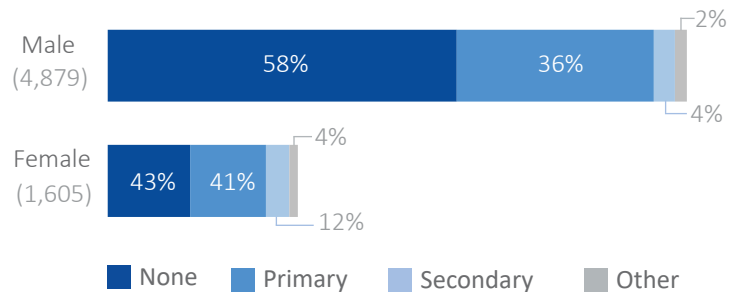
1,224 child migrant registrations



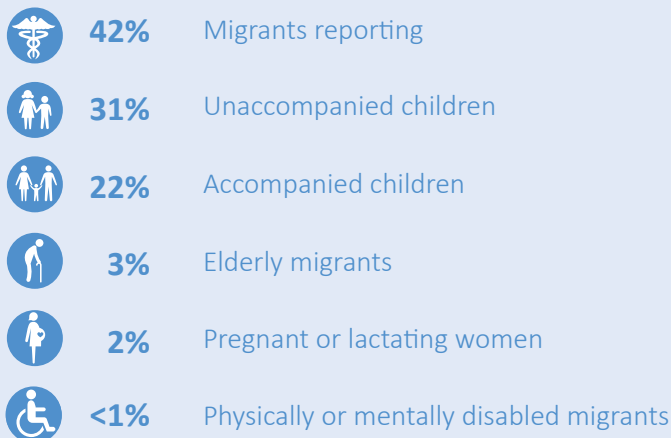
Previous Migration Attempts



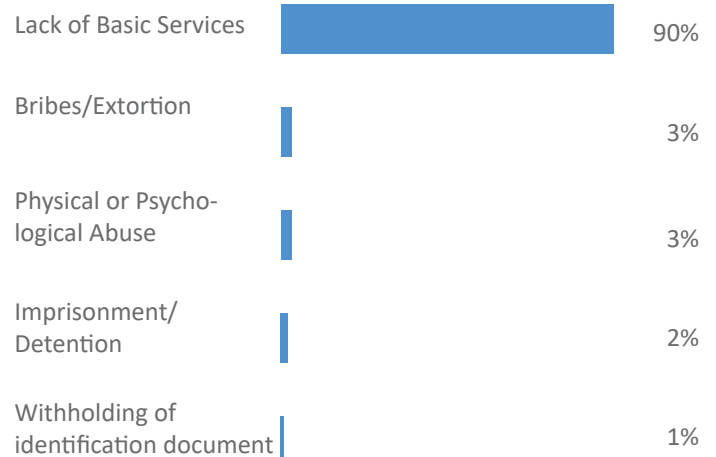
Migrant Gender and Educational Background



2,337 Vulnerable Migrants (35% of total)¹



Most Reported Hardships During the Journey¹



¹ Multiple choices allowed

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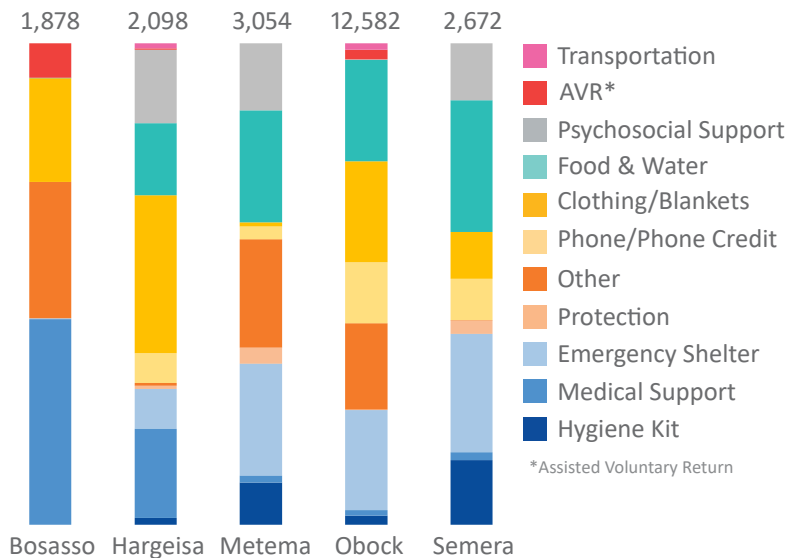
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MIGRANT NEEDS AND SERVICE PROVISION

22,284 Multi-sectoral Needs Reported ¹



Background & Methodology

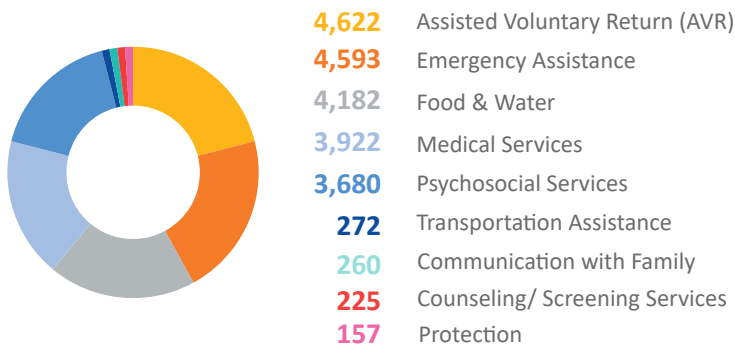
IOM established the MRC Regional Data Collection System, encompassing all MRCs in the Horn of Africa, in July 2016 to advance a standardized approach for collecting data and monitoring responses to mixed migration flows in the region. Data is collected upon migrant registration at the MRCs. Only the information of migrants that consent to their data being captured is collected. IOM does not share individual-level data. The MRC screening form was designed to foster a better understanding of migrant hardships, vulnerabilities and needs, as well as their motivations and intentions. The data collected is able to inform evidence-based policy and programming in the region.

In 2018, IOM revised the MRC Regional Data Collection System to strengthen the provision of relevant and robust data. First, a technical working group was established to revise the MRC screening form to better capture the fluidity of migrants' movements, their vulnerabilities and the services provided to them at the MRCs. Simultaneously, a regional network of Information Management Assistants was established to facilitate and harmonise data collection activities and further strengthen the MRC Data Collection System. Finally, all focal persons and other relevant MRC staff across the region received training on the MRC data collection procedures. They continue to receive technical support from the Regional Data Hub.

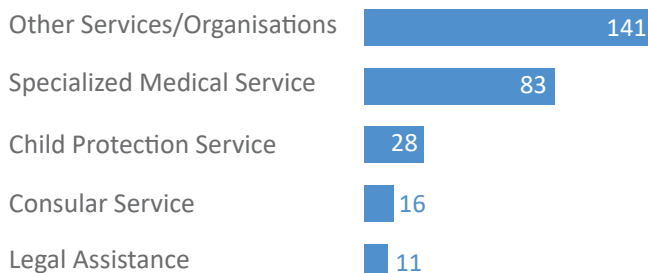
This factsheet presents key findings, rather than the entire range of information gathered in the MRC questionnaire. Information is collected in the MRCs by trained enumerators upon migrant registration. Findings are triangulated through other IOM data collection systems and secondary sources including news monitoring and humanitarian reports. All data presented in this factsheet should be taken as indicative rather than representative and should not be used to generalise across the region.

For more information on the methodology used, please contact: rdhronairobi@iom.int

21,913 Services Provided at MRCs ¹



280 Service Referrals Provided ¹



¹ Multiple choices allowed

The Regional Data Hub | RDH

Established in early 2018, the RDH aims to support evidence-based, strategic and policy-level discussion on migration through a combined set of initiatives. These include: strengthening regional primary and secondary data collection and analysis; increasing Information Management capacity across countries; providing technical support to ensure harmonization and interoperability of key methodologies used to monitor population mobility; and the engagement of key stakeholders and governmental counterparts in migration dialogue and consultation.

