

Migration Response Centres (MRCs)

East and Horn of Africa

REGIONAL DATA HUB | RDH

01 January - 30 September 2019



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

REGIONAL OVERVIEW: SEPTEMBER 2019

A total of 990 migrants were registered at MRCs across the region in September. The majority were registered in Bosasso (407), followed by Obock (203), Metema (148), Semera (134) and Hargeisa (98). Compared to August, migrant registrations sharply increased in Bosasso, due to a greater number of migrant arrivals in the area. With the continued improvement in weather conditions at sea, the departure activity in the area steadily increased since August.

A vast majority of the registered migrants were Ethiopian nationals (99.2%), most commonly from the Oromia (54%), Amhara (21%), Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' (10%), and Tigray (9%) regions. Other nationalities included Eritrea (2) and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (1). Of the registered migrants, 69% were male and 31% were female.

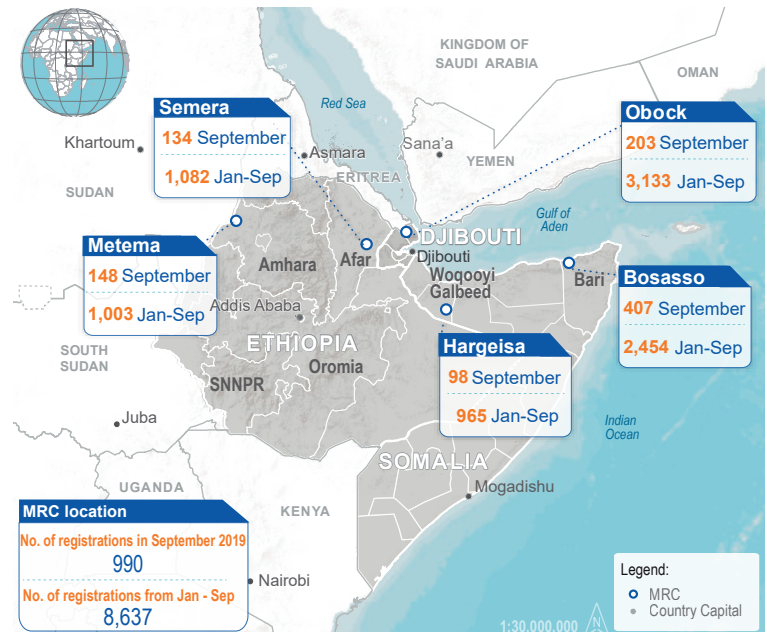
A total of 213 children were registered in September. The majority were registered in Bosasso (68) and in Hargeisa (63). The MRC in Hargeisa continues to attract a larger number of families compared to other MRCs in the region, due to its location in an area where many migrant families have settled. All minors registered at the MRC Hargeisa were accompanied, whereas all children tracked in Metema and Semera, and the majority of children tracked in Bosasso (99%) were unaccompanied.

Most registrees were headed towards the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (68%). The rest were headed towards other Gulf countries (12%) or migrating within Somalia (10%). Overall, most registered migrants reported migrating for economic reasons (97%) while 25% also mentioned educational reasons and 5% also reported migrating due to natural disasters or environmental conditions.

Temporary Sites: Dire Dawa & Togochoale

In August 2019, following a request from the Government of Ethiopia, IOM extended MRC services to two temporary sites in Dire Dawa and in Togochoale. In September 2019, IOM provided direct assistance to 256 individuals who were stranded at the Ethiopia-Djibouti border and referred to these temporary sites. A total of 109 migrants were registered in Dire Dawa and 147 were registered in Togochoale. Of the registered migrants, 81% were male and 19% were female. About 36% of registrees were children and all were unaccompanied. Almost all registrees reported migrating for economic reasons (97%).

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.



Distribution of Non-Food Items in Hargeisa © MRC Hargeisa, September 2019

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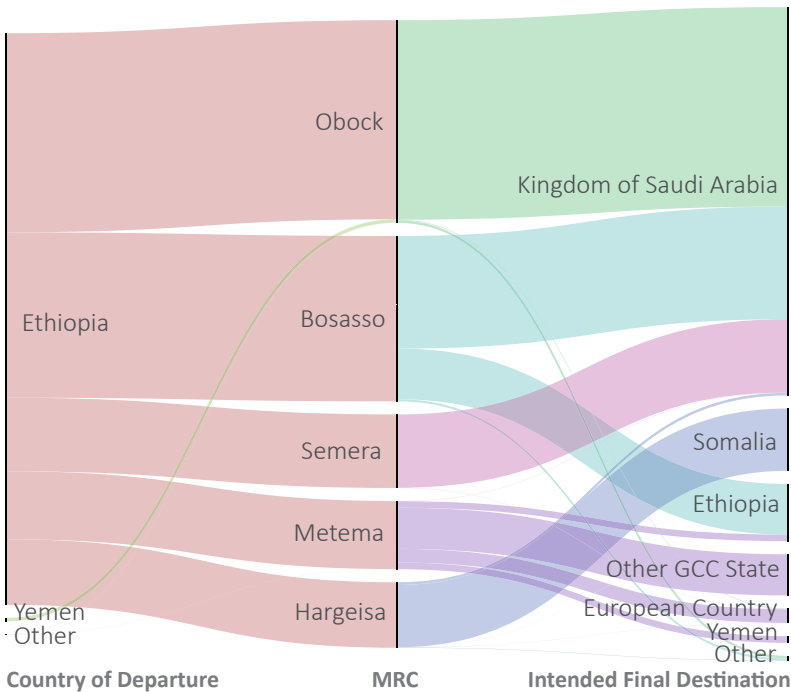


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MIGRANT JOURNEYS



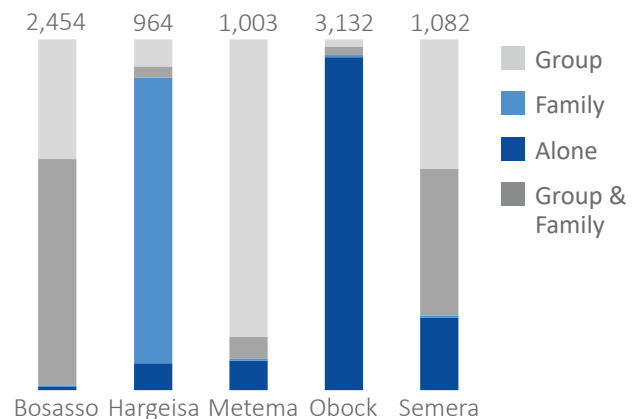
Country of Departure, MRC and Intended Destination



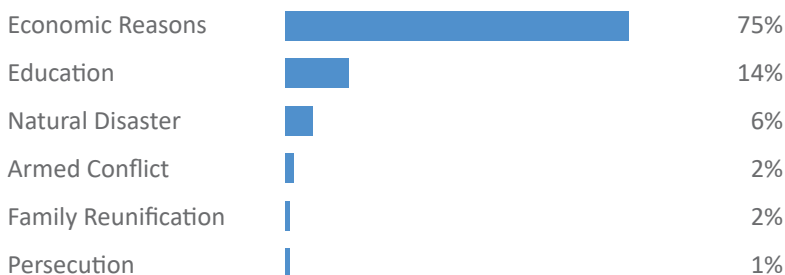
Top 4 Areas of Departure

Ethiopia	Oromia	56%
Ethiopia	Amhara	21%
Ethiopia	Tigray	9%
Ethiopia	SNNPR	8%

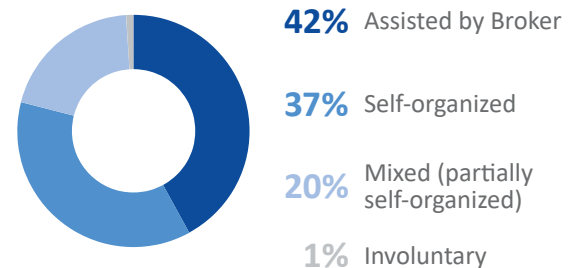
Migrant Travel Status



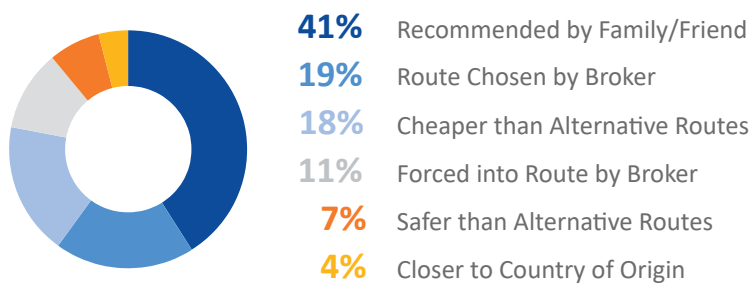
Most Commonly Reported Reasons for Migration ¹



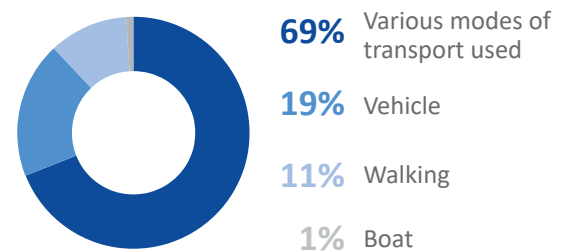
Journey Arrangements



Choice of Route



Main Mode of Transport



¹ Multiple choices allowed

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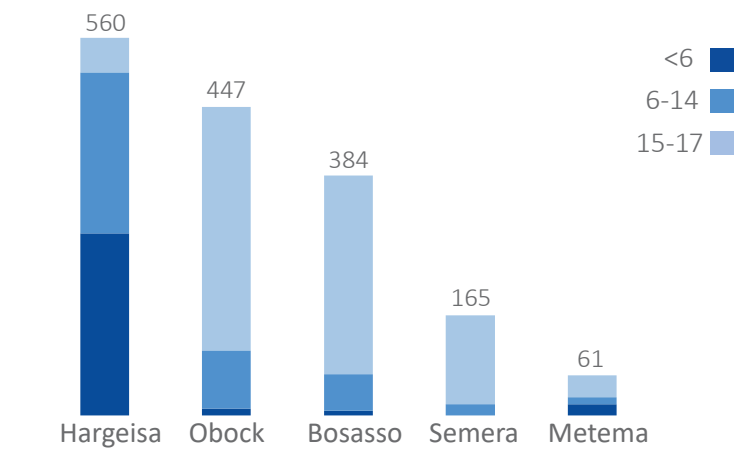
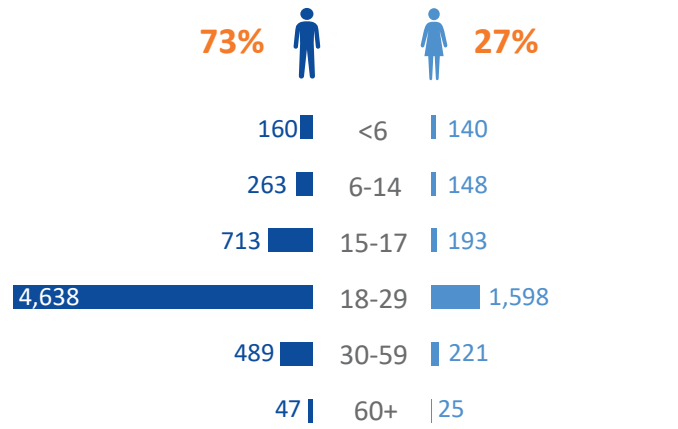
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MIGRANT PROFILES AND VULNERABILITIES



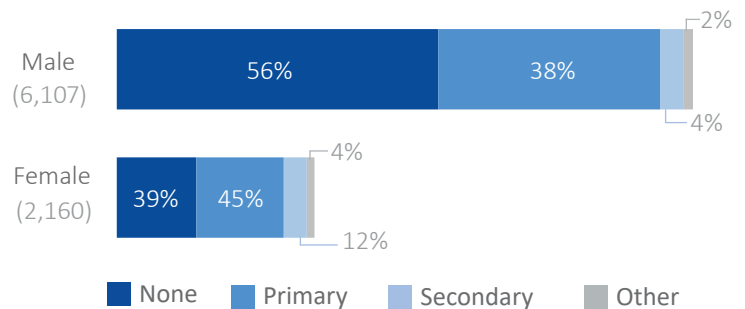
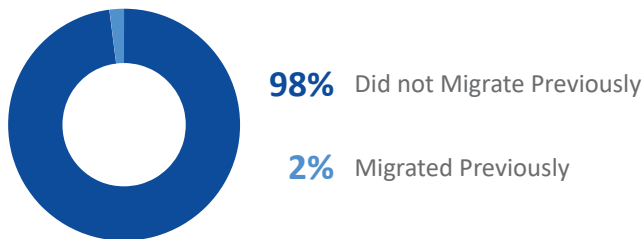
8,637 migrant registrations

1,617 child migrant registrations



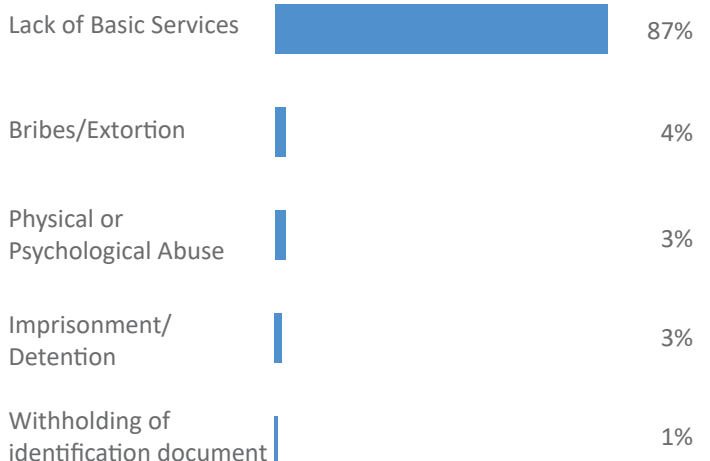
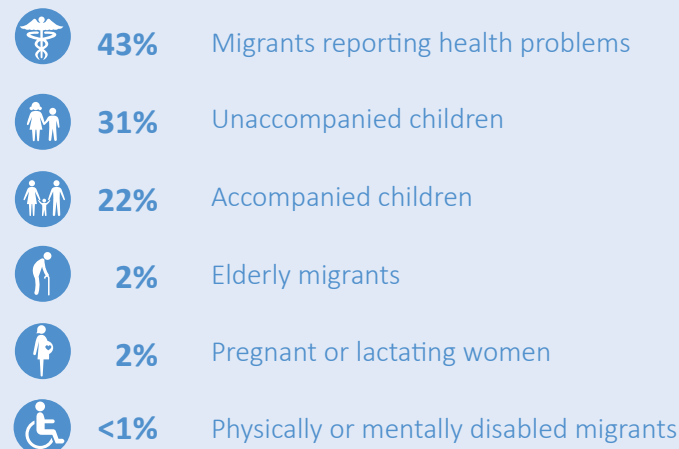
Previous Migration Attempts

Migrant Gender and Educational Background



3,068 Vulnerable Migrants (36% of total)¹

Most Reported Hardships During the Journey¹



¹ Multiple choices allowed

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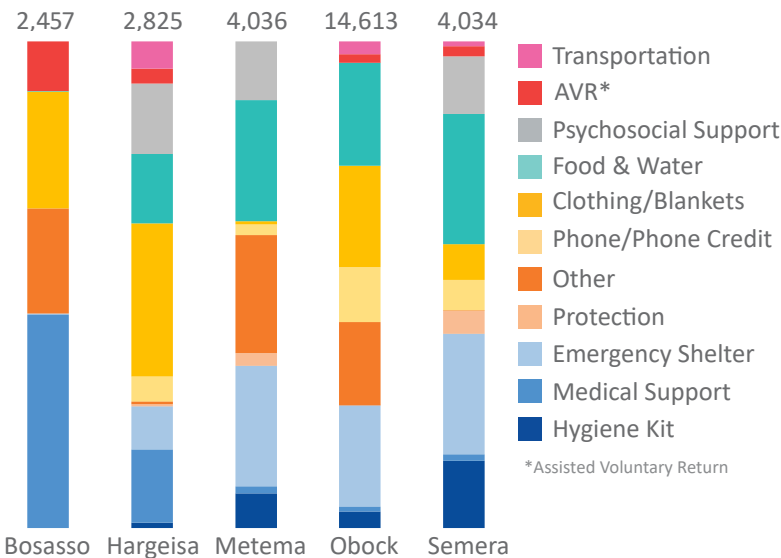
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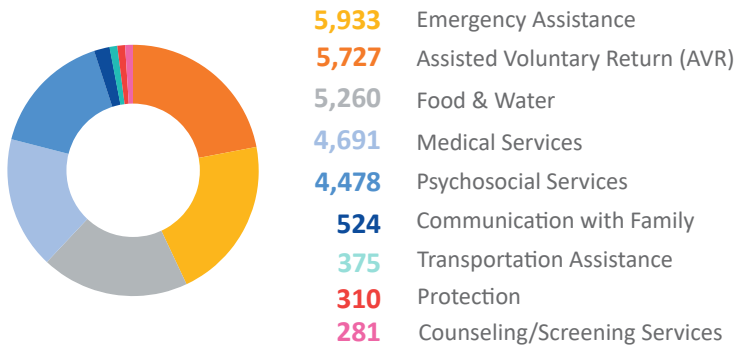
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MIGRANT NEEDS AND SERVICE PROVISION

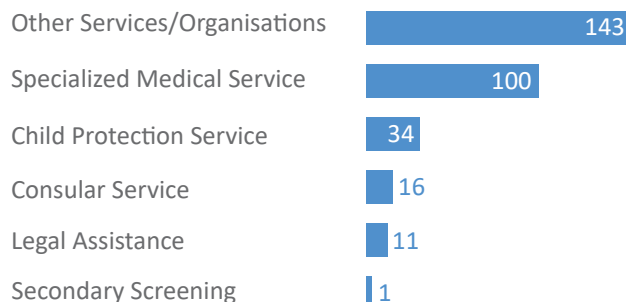
27,965 Multi-sectoral Needs Reported ¹



27,579 Services Provided at MRCs ¹



305 Service Referrals Provided ¹



¹ Multiple choices allowed

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

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.

