

# ANALYSIS: FLOW MONITORING SURVEYS THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND OTHER EXPLOITATIVE PRACTICES PREVALENCE INDICATION SURVEY

REPORTING PERIOD

**MAY 2016—AUGUST 2016**

**3,075** INTERVIEWS WERE CONDUCTED IN THE PERIOD FROM MAY TO AUGUST 2016 BY IOM IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, GREECE, HUNGARY, SERBIA, AND FROM JUNE TO AUGUST IN ITALY

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Visit IOM's interactive map to view data on flows: [migration.iom.int/europe](http://migration.iom.int/europe)

## ABOUT DTM'S FLOW MONITORING SURVEYS

This research started in October 2015 and is being conducted within the framework of IOM's research on populations on the move through the Mediterranean and Western Balkan Routes to Europe. This round of surveys has been carried out by IOM field staff in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Greece, Serbia, Hungary, and Italy. This report contains the findings of IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) from surveys conducted between May and August 2016 in Hungary, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Greece, Serbia and between June and August 2016 in Italy.

The survey gathers information about migrants' profiles, including age, sex, areas of origin, levels of education, key transit points on their route, cost of journey, motives, and intentions. The survey also includes six questions that are proxy indicators for potential human trafficking or exploitative practices that the migrants and refugees interviewed might have experienced.

## ANALYSIS OVERVIEW

This week's report focuses on providing an analysis on migrants and refugees travelling along the Central Mediterranean Route and the Eastern Mediterranean Route. The first section provides analysis on interviewees' responses to human trafficking and other exploitative prevalence indicators. It also explains the context of the two migration routes. The second section includes information on the socioeconomic background and demographic profile of migrants and refugees, push factors, the migration route, and length of journey.

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

#### CONTACTS

#### Media

Displacement Tracking Matrix

[migration.iom.int](http://migration.iom.int)

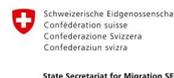
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## SECTION I. COUNTER-TRAFFICKING SURVEY ON THE CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE AND THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

### ABOUT THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND OTHER EXPLOITATIVE PRACTICES PREVALENCE INDICATION SURVEY

This section presents findings from the Human Trafficking and Other Exploitative Practices Prevalence Indication Survey in the Central Mediterranean and the Eastern Mediterranean Routes.

The DTM's Flow Monitoring Survey, which includes questions that indicate the prevalence on human trafficking and other exploitative practices, was introduced in June 2016 on the Central Mediterranean Route. The findings in this report are based on a sample of 1,346 migrants and refugees who were interviewed in different locations in Sicily, Italy. The Eastern Mediterranean Flow Monitoring Survey on human trafficking and other exploitative practices prevalence indicators started earlier. This survey has a sample of 1,729 migrants and refugees who were interviewed from May 2016 until August 2016, on which findings on the Eastern Mediterranean Route are based.

The Survey includes six questions that are proxy indicators for potential human trafficking or exploitative practices that the migrants and refugees interviewed might have experienced. Five survey indicator-questions refer to the experiences of individual and family travelling with the respondents, and a sixth question refers to a situation witnessed by the respondent (that could also include individual experience, or the experience of a family member).

The surveys are fully anonymous and provide strong evidence of the kind of enabling environment within which trafficking and associated forms of exploitation and abuse thrive, as well as a picture of the vulnerability of migrant populations and the risks they face. If, while conducting the survey, interviewers come across people with likely protection needs, those people are referred directly to the relevant protection actor.

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IOM has a range of projects aimed at preventing trafficking in persons and the protection of victims. For more information, please visit <http://www.iom.int/world-trafficking-day>

## RESULTS

### CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

These first results take into account the responses of 1,346 migrants and refugees that were interviewed from June to August 2016 in Sicily<sup>1</sup>.

#### Main findings

- **76%** of individuals answered “yes” to at least one of the trafficking and other exploitative practices indicators included in the survey, based on their own direct experience.
- An additional **5%** of respondents reported that a family member travelling with him/her experienced a situation described by one of the trafficking and other exploitative practices indicators.
- **54%** of respondents responded positively to **at least 2 out of 5 indicators** of trafficking and other exploitative practices.
- North African migrants interviewed (nationals of Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt and Sudan) are significantly less likely to answer positively to one or more trafficking and other exploitative practices indicators, than migrants of Western Africa, Eastern Africa and, to a lesser extent, Western and South Asia.<sup>2</sup>

Events captured by the five trafficking and other exploitative practices indicators included in the questionnaire are reported to take place mostly in Libya. Algeria, Sudan, Niger, Nigeria, Mali, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Mauritania, Ethiopia, Benin were also reported by respondents in fewer cases.

#### Direct experience of respondents

- **Individuals who were held against their will:** 53% of respondents reported having been held in a location against their will during their journey, by armed individuals or groups other than any relevant governmental authorities.

The majority of reported events fell into the category of kidnapping for the purpose of requesting a ransom or of detention by armed individuals and physical restrictions of movement to a closed space, such as a house or a garage. More than half of the men interviewed (56%) and 41 per cent of women reported being held captive/against their will. In the vast majority of cases experiences were reported to have happened in Libya.

- **Individuals who had worked without being paid<sup>3</sup>:** 52% of all interviewed migrants reported having worked or provided services for someone during their journey without receiving the agreed remuneration in return. This often happened in association with some sort of threat by an armed individual (employer/broker). Some reported that unpaid work was connected with the possibility of being freed from a condition of kidnapping or detention (63% of those reporting not having being paid, also reported of having being held against will), others said they were transferred by their employer onto another leg of the journey rather than being paid. Libya is reported in the majority of cases as the place where circumstances of unpaid work occurred.

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the methodology section on page 13 for details on the flow monitoring survey points.

<sup>2</sup> Sub-regional aggregations are based on UN definition of continents and regions. In the presented analysis North Africa includes: Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia; Western Africa includes: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo; Middle Africa includes: Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon; Eastern Africa includes: Comoros, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan; Southern Asia includes: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Pakistan; Western Asia includes: Iraq, Israel, State of Palestine, Syria, Yemen.

<sup>3</sup>This indicator-question refer to the migrants are refugees who were either not paid at all for the work done, or they were paid only a part of the amount agreed

- **Individuals who were forced to work:** 47% of respondents stated they had been forced to work or perform activities against their will. Nearly all of these events were reported to have taken place in Libya, with others also in Algeria and Niger.
- **Individuals approached with a work offer<sup>3</sup>:** 15% of the migrants reported having being approached during the journey by someone offering employment. This happened in the majority of cases in Libya, and to a lesser extent also in Algeria, Niger and Nigeria.
- **Individuals offered a marriage arrangement:** less than 2% of all respondents reported having been approached with offers to arrange a marriage (for the respondent or for a close family member). This is the only indicator where women were more likely to respond positively than men (7% versus 1%).

#### Other observed experiences by migrants along the route

- **Offer of cash in exchange for blood, organs or body parts:** around 5% of all respondents reported to know of instances where people on the journey have been approached by someone offering cash in exchange for giving blood, 2% stated there were instances of cash offered in exchange for organs, and 1% for body parts. In some cases, migrants reported they didn't have the possibility to choose, as blood was taken against their will and in a condition of captivity.

#### Profile of migrants who answered "yes" to at least one of the trafficking and other exploitative practices questions, based on their direct individual experience

- **Nationality<sup>4</sup>:** highest rates of positive responses are among Gambians and Ghanaians (91%), followed by Guineans (90%), Ivorian (86%), Comorian and Senegalese (85%)
- **Age:** more than half of all positive responses (52%) come from migrants between the ages of 18 and 25, with the mean age of sample being 22.6 and the median age 21. Adults are more likely than children (aged 14-17) to report positive responses (78% versus 71%)
- **Sex:** on average, the rate of positive response to at least one indicator of trafficking and other exploitative practices is higher for men (80%) than for women (55%), with exception of offers to arrange marriage. The difference between men and women is particularly striking in the case of work without pay (57.8% versus 19.3%) and in the case of forced work (51.1% versus 19.8%). The gap is smaller in the case of forced stay in a closed place (kept against will), which was reported by 55% of men and 41% of women.
- **Travelling mode:** the highest rates of positive response are found among those travelling alone (79%) and those travelling with non-family members (77%); migrants travelling with at least one family member reported a positive response in 61% of the cases.

<sup>3</sup>This is a proxy indicator for potentially exploitative practices, as shows how frequently people are trying to procure labour or services from extremely vulnerable individuals in transit.

<sup>4</sup>Only national groups with 10 or more respondents were considered.

## EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

These results are based on the responses 1,729 migrants and refugees that were interviewed from May to August 2016 in Greece, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Hungary.

### Main findings:

- **14%** of individuals answered “yes” to one of the trafficking and other exploitative practices indicators, based on their own direct experience
- **0.6%** of respondents had a member of their family travelling with them, who experienced situations captured by one of the trafficking and other exploitative practices indicators
- **3%** of respondents responded positively to at least 2 of the trafficking and other exploitative practices indicators

The experiences captured by the human trafficking and other exploitative practices prevalence indicator questions are reported by respondents as mostly taking place in Turkey, but also Greece, Bulgaria, and to a lesser extent Iran.

### Direct experience of respondents

- **Individuals who were held against their will:** 8% of respondents reported being held at a location against their will during their journey by parties other than any relevant governmental authorities. Most of the respondents who were in this situation were men.

The interviewees specified that instances when they were kept against their will include captivity and restrictions to physical movement, but also kidnapping. The smugglers were indicated to play a role into this process. The majority of events are reported to take place in Turkey, but also Greece and Bulgaria.

- **Individuals who were not paid the agreed amount for their work:** 4% reported having worked or performed other activities during the journey without getting the payment they thought they would get. All respondents who were not paid for their work were men
- **Individuals who were forced to work:** 2% reported that they had been forced to perform work or other activities against their will during their journey. Almost all respondents who mentioned that they were forced to work reported Turkey as the location.
- **Individuals approached with a work offer:** 3% reported being approached during their journey by someone offering employment. Turkey and Greece were the main countries in which migrants and refugees mentioned that they received offers of employment.

### Other observed experiences of migrants and refugees on the route

- **Offer of cash in exchange for blood, organs or a body part:** around 0.9% of all respondents reported to know of instances where people on the journey have been approached by someone offering cash in exchange for blood, organs or a body part. These instances were reported to happen in three countries: Turkey, Greece and Albania.

The profile and experiences of the respondents who answered “yes” to one of the trafficking and other exploitative practices indicator-questions, based on the respondents’ own experience on the Eastern Mediterranean route:

**Nationality:**<sup>1</sup> Highest rates of positive response are amongst Algerians (23%), Afghans (17%), Moroccans (16%) and Syrians (14%)

**Age:** Positive response rates are slightly higher for children (17%) than for adults (14%). The mean age of those who respond positively is 26 years old, while median age is 24 years old.

**Sex:** Rates of positive response to a trafficking or other exploitative practices indicator are slightly higher amongst men (11% of women responded positively, and 15% of men), with exception of offers to arrange marriage. Almost 5% of respondents who were women got an offer to arrange marriage, while the rate for men was under 1%.

**Travelling mode:** Migrants and refugees travelling alone had a much higher rate of response (21%) to the indicators than those respondents who travel in a group (12%). From those travelling in a group, most positive responses were given by those who travelled with non-family members.

## THE CONTEXT OF CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

There are much higher rates of positive responses to at least one of the trafficking or other exploitative practices prevalence indicators in the IOM surveys in the Central Mediterranean (76% for individual experiences), than in IOM surveys conducted on the Eastern Mediterranean route (14% respectively).

The different characteristics of the journey to Europe, and the profile of the migrants and refugees interviewed on the Eastern Mediterranean and the Central Mediterranean routes, can explain the difference in rates of positive answers to the trafficking and other exploitation indicators.

**The migration route and the length of the journey:** Migrants and refugees interviewed on the Central Mediterranean route (Italy) report a longer journey to Europe that involves different means of transport and longer transit in more than one country. For example, 35% of respondents from the IOM survey in Italy left their country of origin or habitual residence more than 6 months before the survey and 25% left the country between 3 and 6 months before the survey. In total, over half of respondents spent 3 months or more on the journey. Respondents spent an average of 112 days on the first leg of the journey.

**Context in the transit country prior to crossing into Europe:** Migrants interviewed on the Central Mediterranean route typically arrive from Libya as the last transit country, followed by Egypt. The majority of events reported by respondents when they respond positively to the trafficking and other exploitative practices indicators are reported as happening in Libya.

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<sup>1</sup>National groups who had 10 respondents or over were considered

**Profile of migrants and refugees interviewed:** The Eastern Mediterranean Route is generally used by asylum seekers and refugees more likely to be travelling with their family who indicate that they left because of war and insecurity in the country of origin; while the Central Route is used by younger men travelling without their family with different motivations for their migration. Respondents on the Central Mediterranean route left because of war or conflict (60%) and economic reasons (21%). On the Eastern Mediterranean route, almost 3 in 4 respondents reported to have left country of origin due to war of conflict (74%) and 20% mentioned economic reasons.

**The average age of respondents** on the Central Mediterranean route is lower (22 years the mean) than the average age of respondents in Eastern Mediterranean route (26 years the mean age), In addition, almost all respondents interviewed on the Central Mediterranean route were single (78%), and the rest married, or (21%) or widowed (under 1%), or divorced (under 1%).

The main national groups that use the Central Mediterranean route and the Eastern Mediterranean route are different. While in Italy the top nationalities of respondents were Nigerians, Gambians, Eritreans and Senegalese, in Eastern Mediterranean route they were Syrian, Pakistani, Iranian and Iraqi.

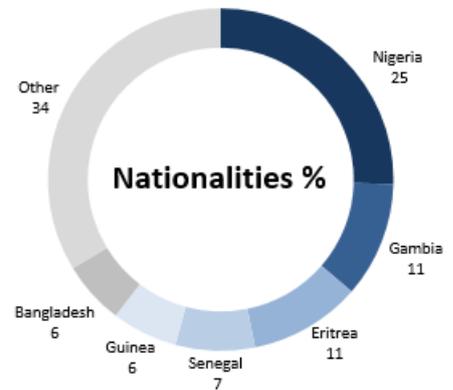
## SECTION 2. FLOW MONITORING SURVEYS

### CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

This section provides analysis of a sample of 1,346 migrants and refugees surveyed between the end of June and the beginning of August 2016 in Italy. The analysis focuses on demographic profile of migrants and refugees, push factors, migration routes and length of the journey.

#### Nationalities

Top nationalities by number of respondents in Italy were Nigerians (25%), Gambians (11%), Eritreans (11%), Senegalese (7%), Guineans and Bangladeshis (6%). The remaining 34% of respondents comprise 30 different nationalities from Western Africa, Eastern Africa and Asia.



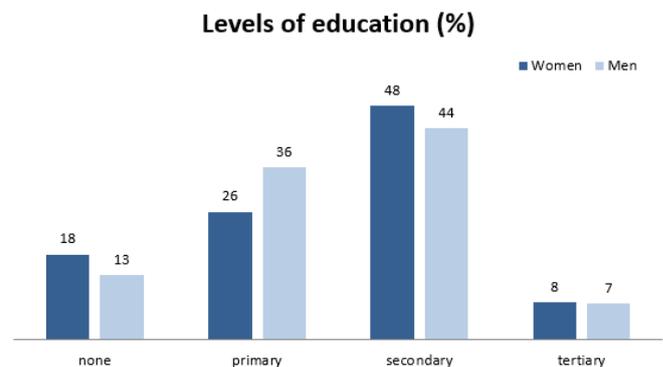
#### Demographics

The average age of respondents on the Central Mediterranean route was 22 years, with a slight difference between men (average age of 22.5 years) and women (23 years). The majority of the respondents were male (86%).

The majority of the respondents were single (78%), 21% were married, and the rest widowed (under 1%), or divorced (under 1%). Moreover, male respondents were more likely to be single (82%) as compared to female respondents (58%). 38% of women reported being married versus 18% of men.

#### Education levels

The majority of respondents (44%) reported having obtained a secondary education degree. Women are more likely than men to report having no formal level of education (18% vs 13%), nevertheless, men are less likely to have a secondary or tertiary degree.



#### Employment status before leaving

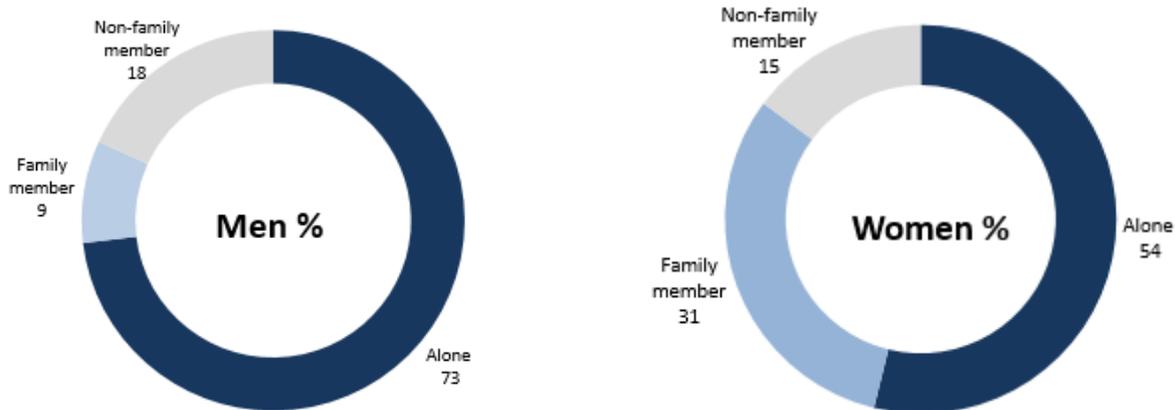
Almost half of the respondents (48%) reported being employed at the time of leaving countries of origin, 32% of the respondents reported being unemployed, and 20% reported studying at the time of departure.

Moreover, out of those 48% of respondents who reported being employed at the time of departure, the most common professional occupation was construction or electricity services and retail services.



## Travelling along the route

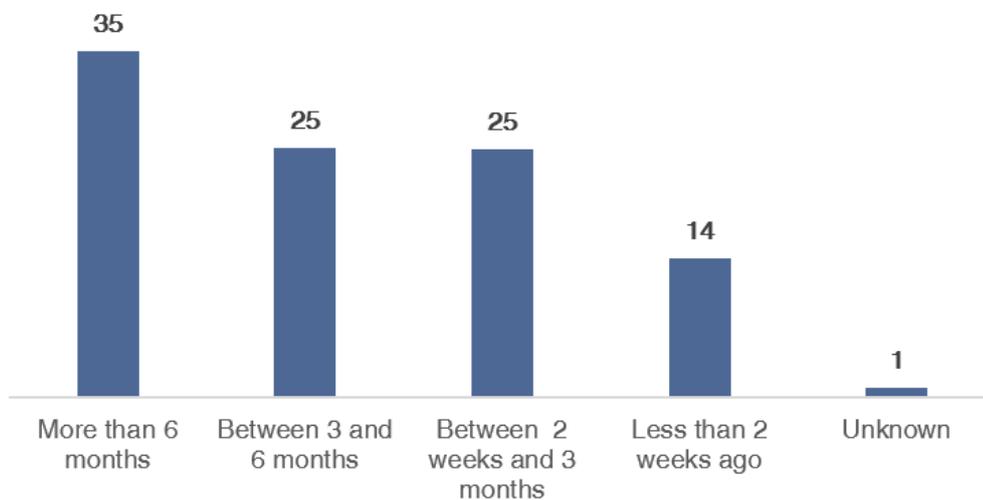
70% of all respondents reported travelling alone, while 18% travelled with a group with non-family members and a remaining 12% reported travelling with family members. Men were more likely to travel alone than women. 73% of men reported travelling alone versus 54% of women. Women seem to travel more with family members (31%), as compared to men (9%).



## Leaving countries of origin

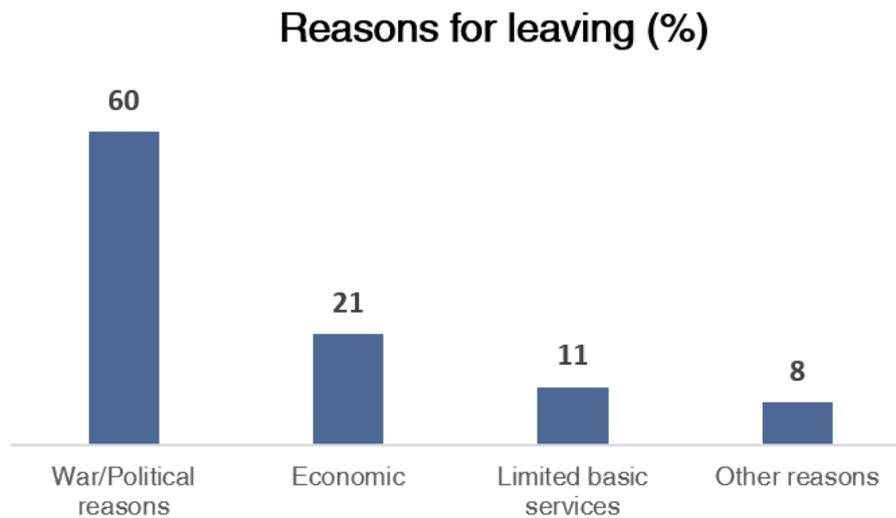
35% of the sample left the origin country more than 6 months ago, 25% left between 3 and 6 months before the survey was taken, another 25% between 2 weeks and 3 months, and a remaining 14% left less than two weeks before being interviewed.

Time of leaving country of origin (%)



## Reasons for leaving

The majority of the respondents (60%) surveyed in Italy left their country of origin because of war or political reasons, 21% left because of economic reasons, and 11% because of limited access to basic services. An additional 8% reported other reasons for leaving.



## Destination countries

Overall, 54% of migrants interviewed along the Central Mediterranean route reported Italy as their intended country of destination. Other reported destinations were Germany (10%), United Kingdom (6%) and France (4%). 15% of the respondents didn't have any specific destination in mind. Also, a few migrants reported having Libya (1%) as an initial destination, however they had to reconsider this due to the increased instability in the country. The remaining share of migrants (10%) reported 11 other different destinations in Europe and 1% reported United States and Canada as their intended destinations.

The correlation matrix below shows Italy is the preferred destination country for the majority of Nigerians (70%), Gambians (60%), Senegalese (67%), Guineans (59%). However Eritreans mentioned the United Kingdom (25%) Germany (18%) and other countries in Northern Europe as their intended destination.

**Top Countries of Destination**

	Nigeria	Gambia	Eritrea	Senegal	Guinea	Others**
Italy	70%	61%	4%	67%	60%	52%
Germany	6%	12%	18%	2%	8%	12%
United Kingdom	0%	1%	26%	0%	1%	7%
Unknown	16%	15%	10%	18%	12%	14%
Others*	8%	11%	42%	13%	19%	15%

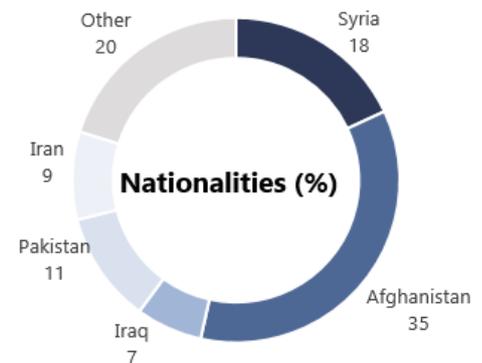
\*Other countries include: Netherlands, Hungary, Spain, Belgium, Finland, Denmark, Luxembourg, Norway, Ireland  
 \*\*Other Sub-Saharan and Southern Asian countries

## EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

This section provides analysis of a sample of 1,729 migrants and refugees surveyed in Hungary, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Greece and Serbia from May to August 2016. The analysis focuses on demographic profile of migrants and refugees, push factors, migration route, and length of journey.

### Nationalities

Top nationalities by number of respondents along the Eastern Mediterranean route were Afghans (35%), Syrians (18%), Pakistanis (11%), Iranians (9%), Iraqis (7%). The remaining 20% of respondents belongs to other nationalities of Asia, North Africa and the Middle East.

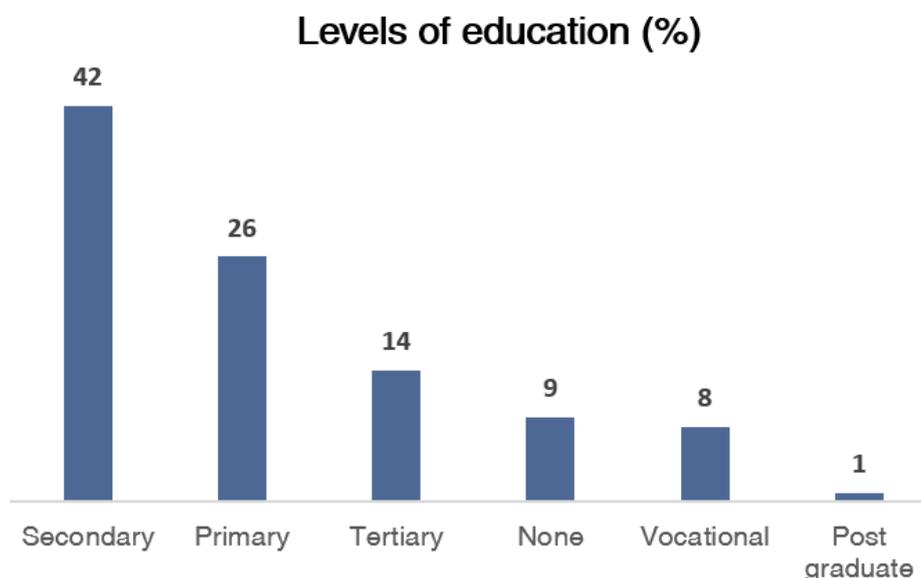


### Demographics

The average age of respondents on the Eastern Mediterranean route was 26 years, with a significant difference between men (average age of 26.3 years) and women (29.2 years). The majority of all respondents were single (58%), 39% were married, and the rest either widowed or divorced (3%). Moreover, male respondents were more likely to be single (66%) as compared to female respondents (22%). 67% of women reported being married versus 32% of men.

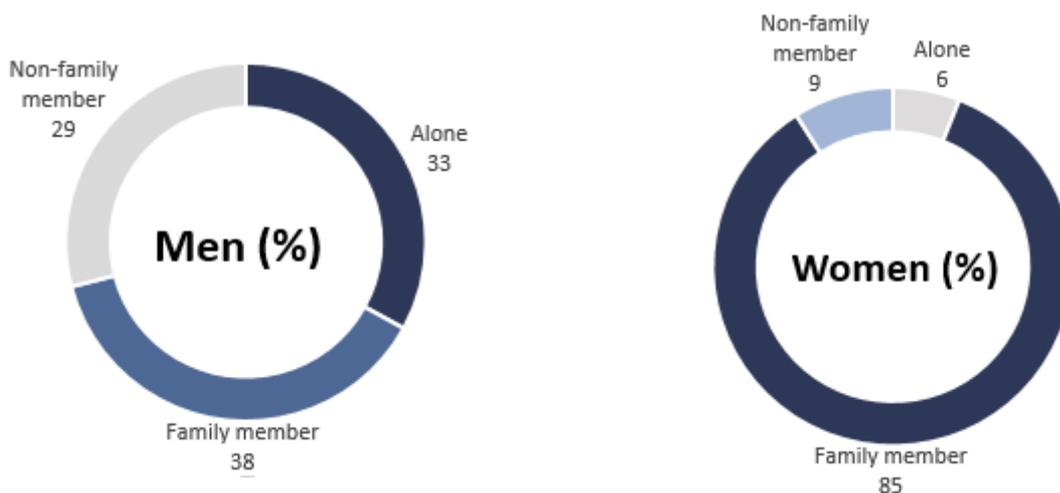
### Education levels

The majority of respondents (42%) reported having obtained a secondary education degree. Women are more likely than men to report having no formal level of education (15% vs 7%). Men are also most likely to have a secondary or tertiary degree.



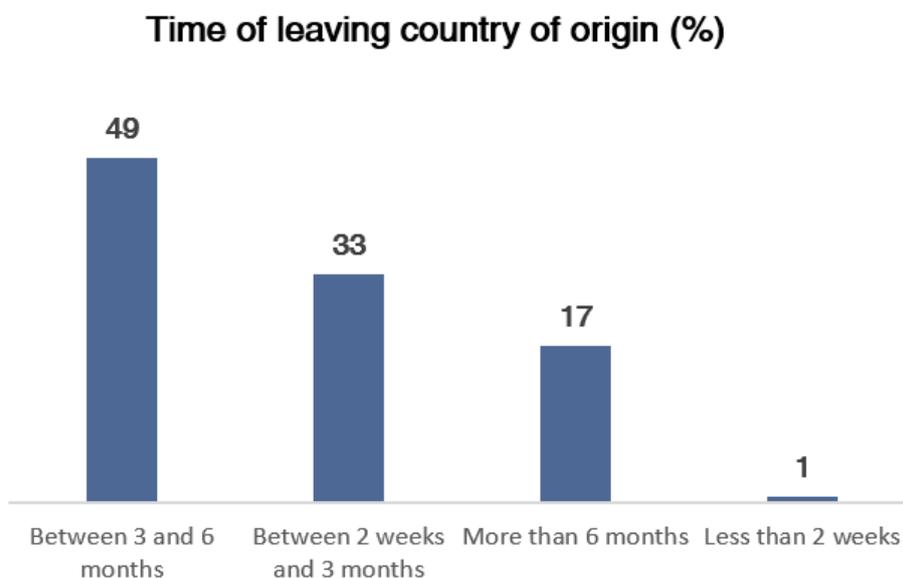
### Travelling along the route

72% of the total number of respondents were travelling with a group. 35% of those travelling with a group were non-family members, while 65% travelled with family members. Men were more likely to travel alone (33%), as compared to women (6%). Women seem to travel more with family members (85%), as compared to men (38%).



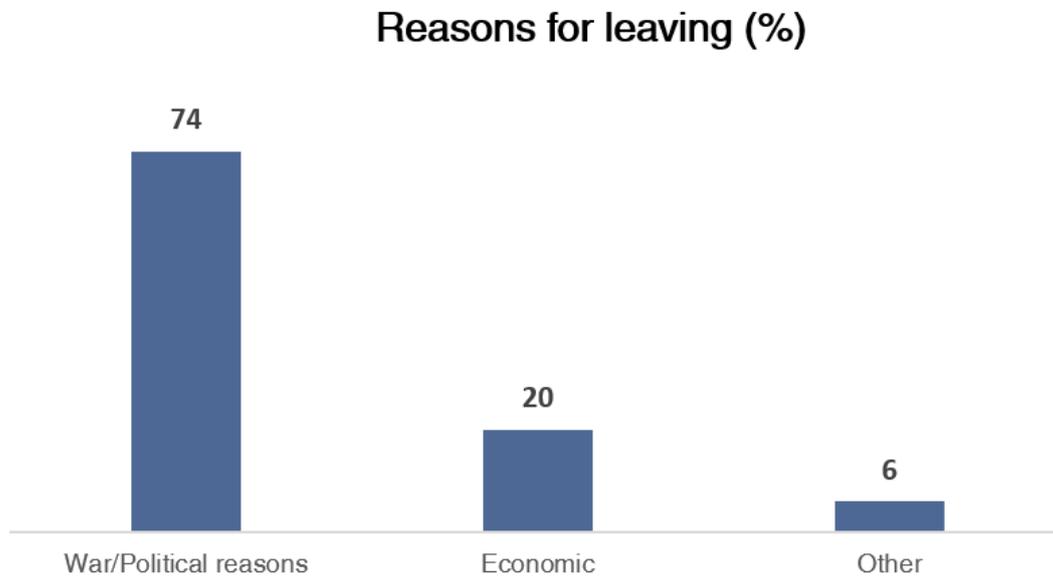
### Leaving countries of origin

49% of respondents left the country of origin/habitual residence between 3 and 6 months, 33% left the country between 2 weeks and 3 months before the survey was taken, while 17% left more than 6 months before the survey was taken.



## Reasons for leaving

The majority of the respondents surveyed on the Eastern Mediterranean route left because of war or political reasons (74%), and economic reasons (20%). The remaining 6% of the respondents reported other reasons for leaving.



## Destination countries

The majority of migrants and refugees who travelled along Eastern Mediterranean route transited through Turkey and Greece. The average number of days spent in Turkey was 26 days and a median of 15 days. Furthermore, they spent an average of 81 days in Greece and median of 84 days.

The majority of the migrants and refugees (50%) interviewed along the Eastern Mediterranean route reported Germany as their intended country of destination.

Amongst the top five nationalities of the respondents, Germany is the preferred destination for the majority of Afghans (61%), Syrians (76%), Pakistanis (67%). However Iranians mentioned other European countries (64%) as their preferred destination.

Top Countries of Destination

		Afghanistan	Syria	Pakistan	Iran	Others**
Country of Destination	Germany	61%	76%	40%	24%	29%
	Austria	7%	3%	2%	7%	1%
	France	5%	1%	6%	1%	12%
	Italy	2%	1%	30%	4%	15%
	Others*	25%	19%	22%	64%	43%

\*Other countries include: Netherlands, Hungary, Spain, Belgium, Finland, Denmark, Luxembourg, Norway, Ireland

\*\*Other Middle Eastern, Northern African and Southern Asian countries

## METHODOLOGY

The survey is conducted by IOM field staff in locations of entry, transit, and exit in Hungary, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia and Greece. The survey in Italy is conducted in entry and transit points in the Sicily Region, including in 3 out of 4 hotspots currently operating in the country (Lampedusa, Trapani and Pozzallo). The hotspots are first reception facilities with high capacity for the purpose of identification and registration of migrants soon upon arrival. Respondents are approached in an ad hoc manner by IOM field staff, with those who give their consent to be interviewed proceeding with the remainder of the questions. The sample is therefore not random and, as with all surveys of this kind, this can lead to selection bias. Those willing to respond to this survey are more likely to be young adult males and this group is therefore overrepresented.

The surveys are fully anonymous and provide strong evidence of the kind of enabling environment within which trafficking and associated forms of exploitation and abuse thrive, as well as a picture of the vulnerability of migrant populations and the risks they face. If, while conducting the survey, interviewers come across people with likely protection needs, those people are referred directly to the relevant protection actor.

The original survey is designed to capture data which includes: the socioeconomic background of respondents; the routes that they have taken; their region of origin within their last country of habitual residence; their reasons for leaving their last country of habitual residence; what their intended country of destination is; and, who they are travelling with. Five additional questions have been added to the standard 16-question survey, to generate indicators of the prevalence of human trafficking and other exploitative practices for the sample. The Human Trafficking and Other Exploitative Practices Prevalence Indication Survey therefore includes 21 questions translated into Arabic, Dari, Pashtu, Urdu, Somali, French and Farsi. The details of the indicators of human trafficking and other exploitative practices indicators are below.

The human trafficking module was developed to capture information about whether or not the respondent has, during their journey:

- Worked or performed activities without getting the payment they expected
- Been forced to perform work or activities against their will
- Been approached by someone offering employment
- Been approached by someone offering to arrange a marriage (for the respondent or anyone in his or her family)
- Been aware of instances where migrants/refugees en route had been approached by people offering cash in exchange for blood, organs, or other body parts.
- Been kept at a certain location against their will

The survey structure has the advantage of the collection of data relating to the direct experiences of the primary respondent. This provides more reliable data that are easier to estimate prevalence with. The respondent is also asked a follow up question about whether that same question applies to any of his or her family members travelling with him or her on the journey, in order to capture the experiences of other migrants and refugees on the route.

The survey therefore captures some data beyond the experience of the primary respondent. Given that most respondents are men, the question in relation to arranged marriage is phrased to capture “for you or for a family member” as one, to avoid underreporting this important indicator. Due to how underreported blood or organ trafficking are, for this question respondents are asked whether they have heard of such offers being made to anyone travelling with their group.

Women and children are relatively underrepresented in the sample. Women are somewhat less likely to provide a positive response to one of the indicators but this is most likely explained by the fact that women are less likely to be traveling alone and are more likely to be traveling with a spouse, children, or spouse and children. While the survey does not target minors, attempts to weight based on age generally do not produce differences in the rates of positive response to one of the human trafficking and other exploitative practices prevalence indicators.

The disadvantage of prioritizing collection of data relating to the direct experiences of the respondent is that experiences of family members are not reported in cases where the respondent has already answered affirmatively for him or herself.