

West Africa

Monthly 4Mi Update

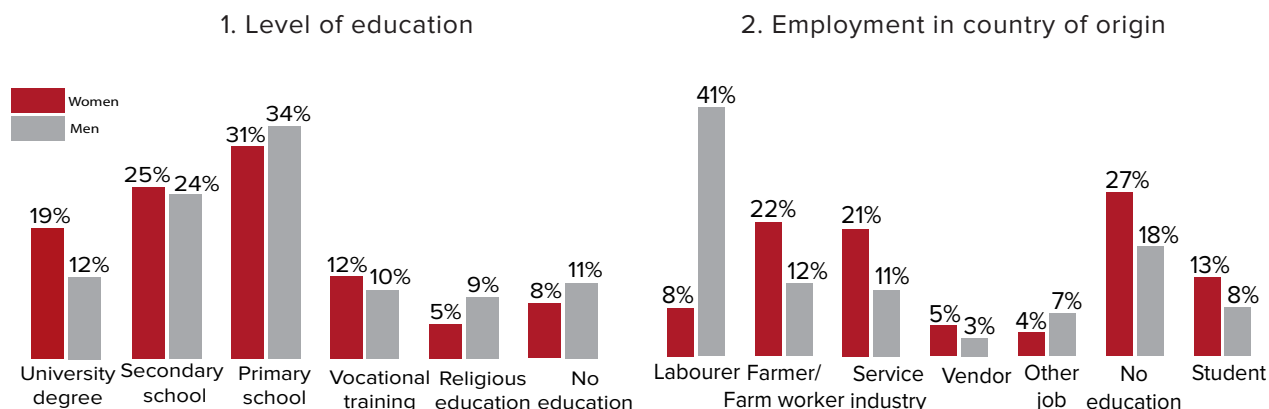
Covering data collected by 4Mi in Mali and Niger in February
 Please visit our [website](#) or sign up to the mailing list [here](#)

Overview

In February, the Mixed Migration Monitoring Mechanism Initiative (4Mi) conducted 310 in-depth interviews with migrants and refugees in West Africa, including 115 people in Agadez and Niamey in Niger and 195 people in Mopti, Gao, Ber and Timbuktu in Mali.

Profiles

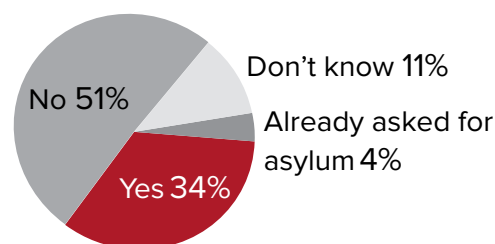
In February, 199 men and 111 women from 20 countries in North, Central and Western Africa were interviewed, with an average age of 29 years.

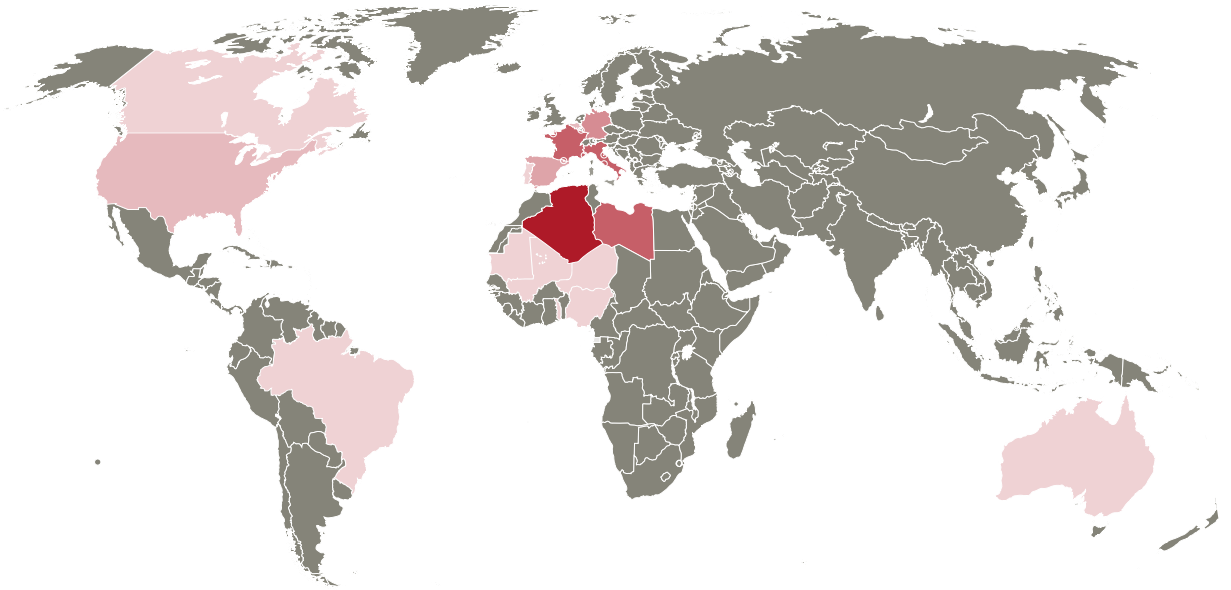


Asylum

Of those interviewed, 12 respondents, among them 5 Chadians, 3 Sudanese, 2 Central Africans and 2 Burkinabe have already applied for asylum in Chad or Niger. 34% of those interviewed said that they intend to apply for asylum in their country of destination.

3. Intention to apply for asylum





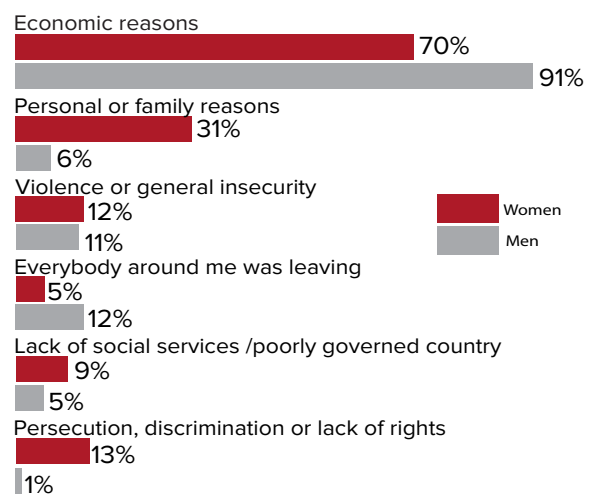
Countries of intended destination

The majority of migrants and refugees indicated that economic factors were a part of their motivation for leaving their home country. 47 people indicated that they had left for family reasons, in 11 cases to flee a forced marriage in Cote d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Niger, Guinea, Senegal and Burkina Faso, in 9 cases because of domestic violence and in 5 cases due to a divorce.

28 people reported having left due to numerous migration departures around them. 34 people reported having left their country because of violence or general insecurity

20 people also indicated that a lack of services or poor governance in their country had encouraged them to leave. 16 people reported having left due to persecution, discrimination or lack of rights for ethnic, religious or political reasons.

4. Motivations for departure

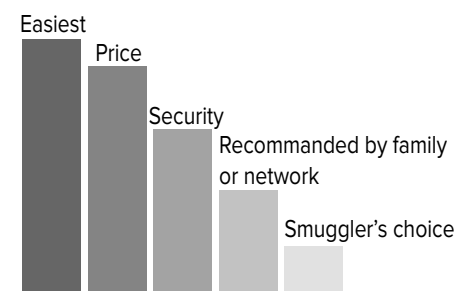


Journey

Those interviewed in February indicated different criteria for choosing their migration route, including ease of access (195), price (139), security (91), recommendations from friends or family (54) or choice of route by the smuggler (21).

42% of respondents indicated that they made the decision to leave on their own. The remaining interviewees said they had been influenced to migrate by different persons: 72% by friends, 39% by parents, 38% by siblings, 31% by other family members, 13% by diaspora and 13% by smugglers.

5. Reasons for choosing route



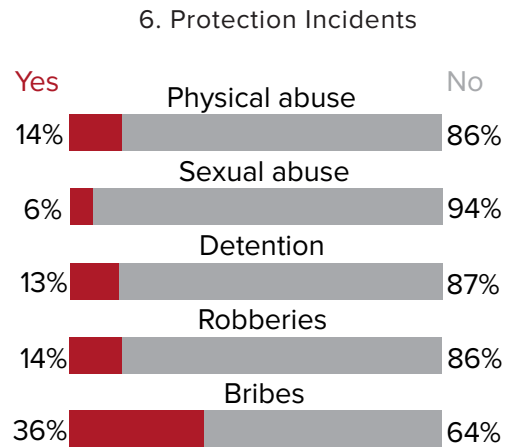
Protection

Respondents reported 69 cases of physical abuse, most often committed by security forces, police or military (23 cases), groups of thugs (17 cases) and smugglers (9 cases). Most of these abuses were committed in Agadez (5 cases), Niamey (5 cases) and Zinder (4 cases) in Niger, in Kantchari (7 cases) and Ouagadougou (4 cases) in Burkina Faso and in Bamako (3 cases) and Segou (2 cases) in Mali.

Women and men surveyed reported 28 cases of sexual abuse, most often committed by security forces, police or military (8 cases), groups of thugs (8 cases) or other migrants (8 cases), in Niger and Mali. 7 cases of rapes were reported by respondents. Migrants and refugees interviewed also reported 44 cases of theft. These robberies most often concerned personal belongings (29 cases) and money (13 cases).

13% of the migrants and refugees interviewed were detained by police, military or immigration agents mostly in Mali (9 cases in Bamako, 6 in Sikasso and 5 in Kayes), in Niger (4 cases in Tahoua and 4 in Agadez) and in Burkina Faso (6 cases in Ouagadougou and 2 in Kantchari and Dori).

36% of respondents paid bribes to immigration officers, an average of two times during their journey and an average of 9,000CFA francs per bribe (17 USD). 36% of respondents reported having witnessed children on the move. According to the respondents, 58% of children were travelling in a group with both children and adults, 30% were travelling alone, and 12% in a group with only childrens.



The Mixed Migration Monitoring Mechanism Initiative (4Mi) is an innovative low-cost approach to collection and analyzing data along major mixed migration corridors, responding to the need for better data on protection issues with regards to asylum seekers, refugees and other people on the move. In Niger and Mali, 4Mi seeks to help fill the knowledge gaps regarding the nature of the mixed migratory movements and the protection risks for migrants and refugees on the move within and from West Africa.

4Mi data, graphics and analysis are based on the accumulated, ongoing data collection by 4Mi field monitors through direct interviews with migrants/refugees on the move. Sample sizes are clearly indicated and represent a limited section of those on the move. All findings derived from the surveyed sample of migrants/refugees and should not be used to make any inferences about the total population of any mixed migration flow.

