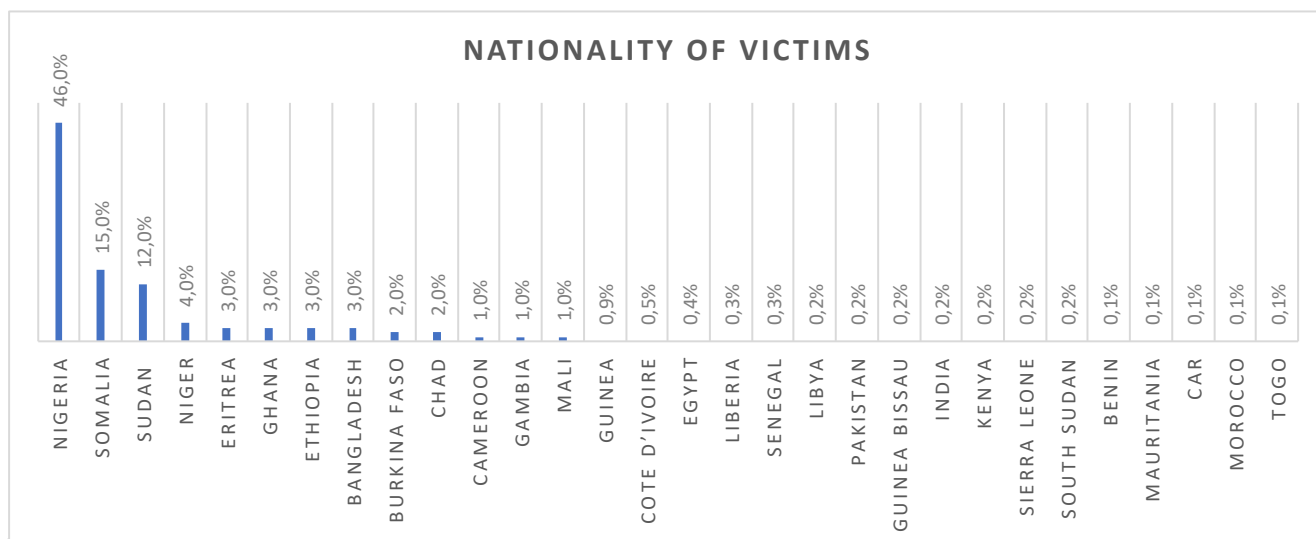


From July 2020 to July 2022, of the 11,173 migrants assisted with specialised protection services by IOM in Libya, 1,614 were identified as victims of trafficking. This report provides an overview of trafficking in persons as reported by the victims assisted by IOM.



KEY POINTS

- There were more men than women among the identified victims of trafficking exploited in Libya. However, proportionately women were more at risk of exploitation based on the overall migrant gender demographics in Libya.
- Identified victims predominately originated from Nigeria, Somalia and Sudan.
- The most common forms of exploitation identified were kidnapping for extortion, forced labour and sex trafficking.
- The most common means of control for traffickers specified by identified victims was physical abuse.
- Most of the identified victims in Libya reported being trafficked by strangers.
- The two most common forms of victims' initial contact with recruiters was through a friend of a friend, or in a public space.
- The nationalities of traffickers identified by victims were diverse, the main nationalities include Nigeria, Libya, Somalia, and Sudan.
- The proportion of male perpetrators was larger than that of female perpetrators identified by the victims.

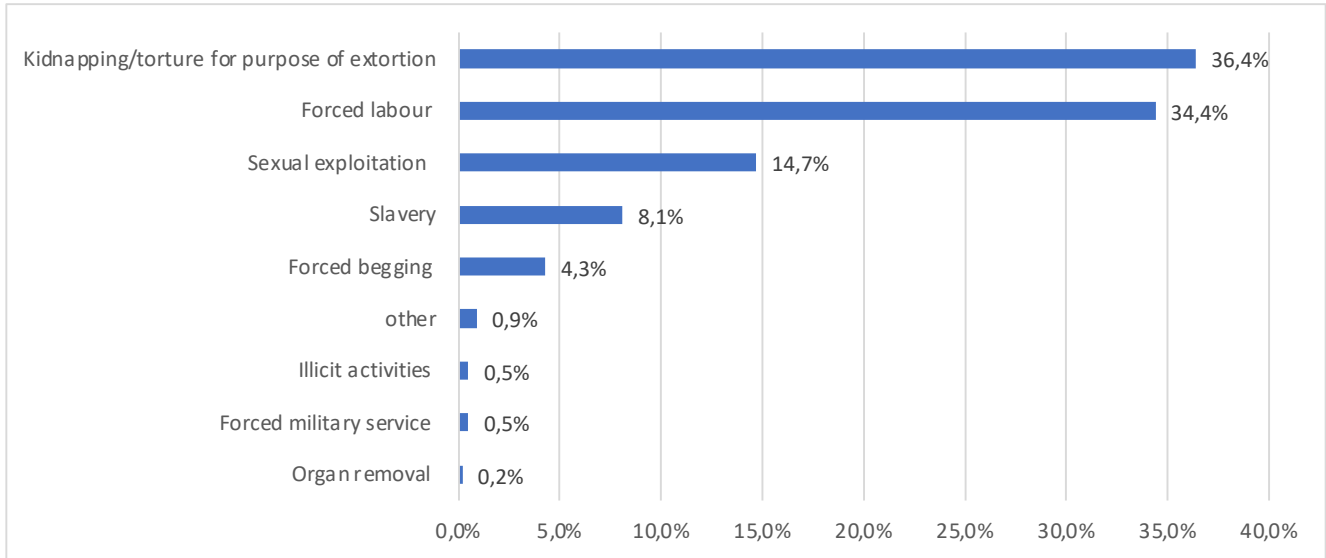


Nationality of Victims of Trafficking (VoT)

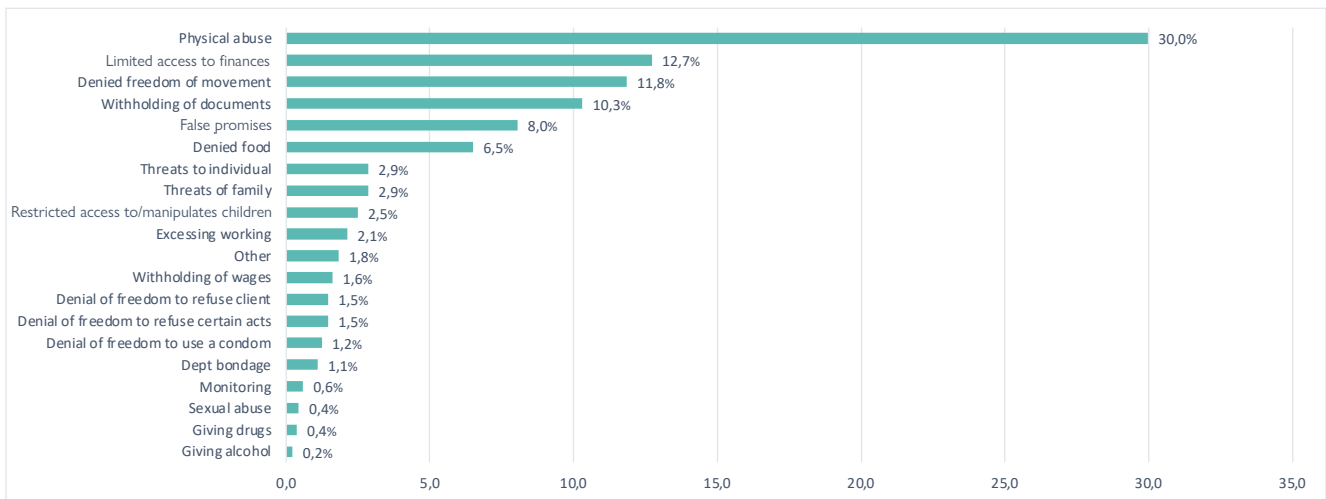
- Nigerian, Somalian and Sudanese are the main nationalities of victims identified.
- Only 36 VoT had regular status in Libya, with the vast majority being irregular. Over 90% did not enter through an official border.

¹ According to [DTM Libya Migrant Report 41](#), there are a total of 649,788 migrants currently in Libya. It is worth noting that 76% of migrants in Libya are adult males, 12% adult females, 12% children. The top 5 nationalities are Niger (25%), Egypt (19%), Sudan (18%), Chad (13%) and Nigeria (5%).

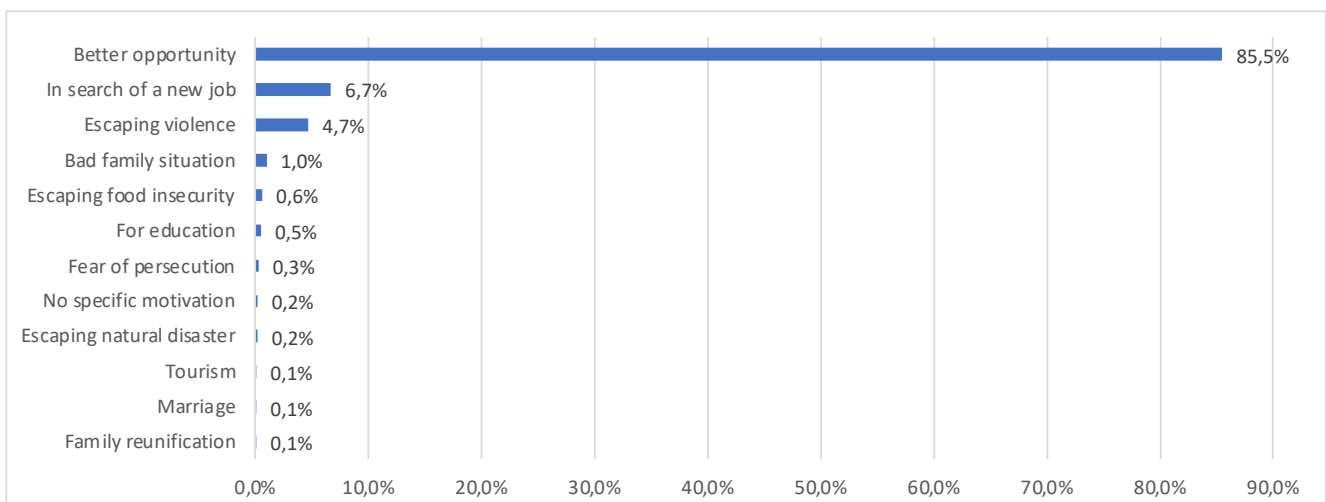
Exploitation



Means of control



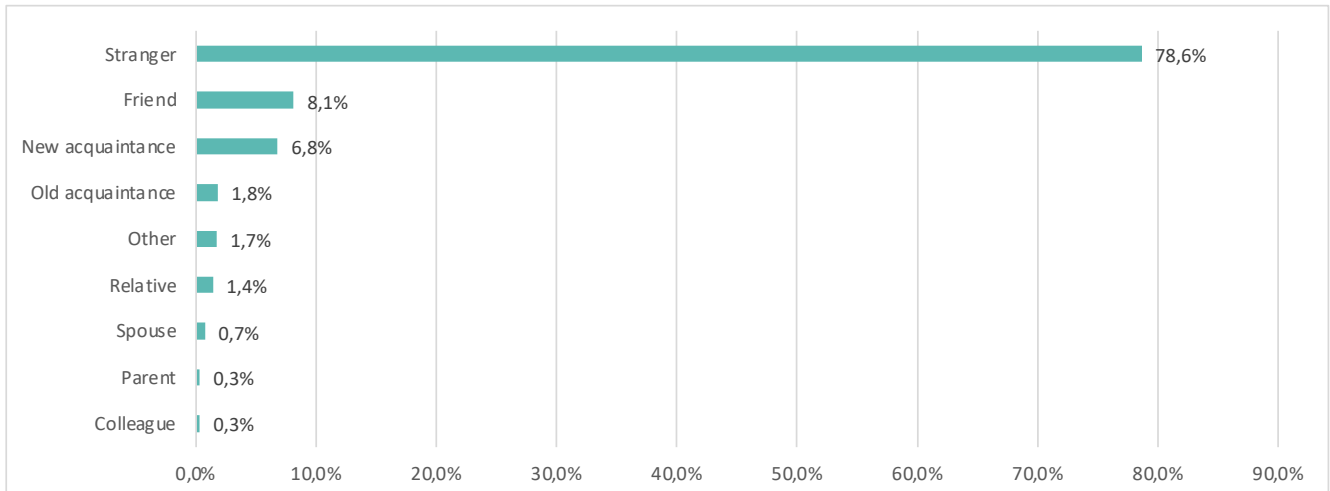
Traveling motivation



1,360
Cases

The majority of cases (1,360) were intended to travel from the outset. The top 5 destinations of intended travel were Libya, Italy, Germany, France and the UK.

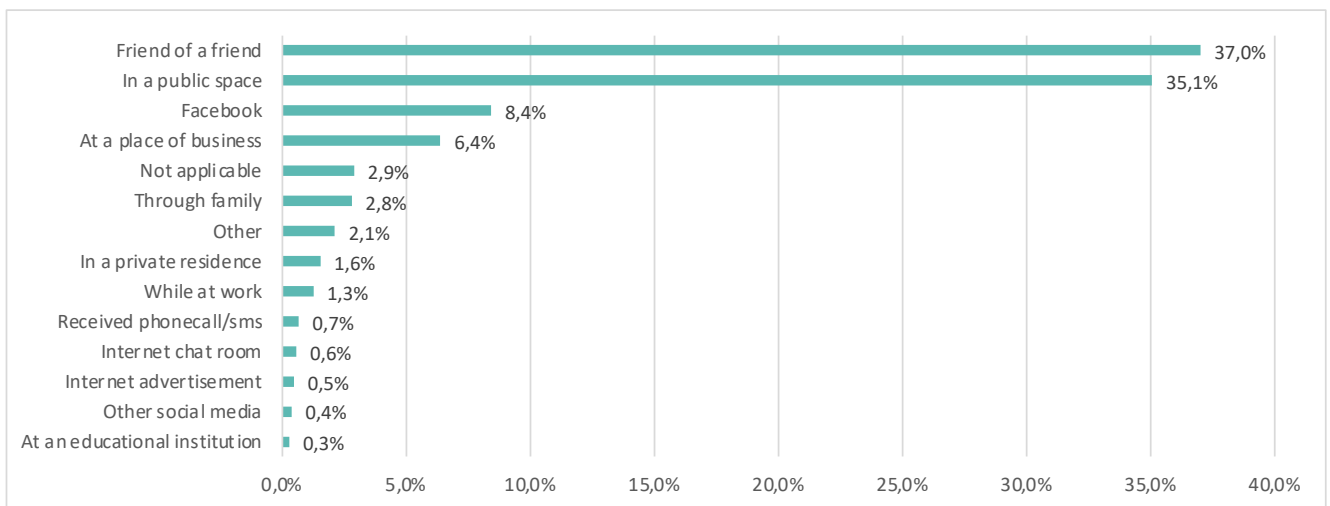
Involved persons profiles



52,5% of the involved persons were of Nigerian nationality, followed by 28,6% of Libyan nationality, and 8,4% were of Somali nationality.



Initial contact with the recruiter



SERVICES

IOM provides protection case management services to victims of trafficking identified in Libya, and reintegration and support services for those choosing to return through IOM’s Voluntary Humanitarian Return (VHR) programme. Below are the services provided to VoT in Libya:

- ✓ Medical assistance
- ✓ Psychosocial support and counselling
- ✓ Food and non-food items
- ✓ Family tracing and linking
- ✓ Advocacy for release from detention
- ✓ Placement in community based care arrangements
- ✓ Transport services
- ✓ Referral for consular assistance and support
- ✓ Referral for legal assistance
- ✓ VHR and tailored reintegration assistance in Country of Return

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

MARY*

When Mary was just 16 years old, her father was deceived by a group of people who tricked him into believing that they were part of an educational institution located in North Africa. Wanting a better life for his daughter and believing false registration forms to be real, Mary's father paid a large amount to the group thinking that they could provide her with the opportunity to access a quality education.

Mary left her country with 50 other people and found herself in the south of Libya. There, she was handed over to a man who forced her to work as a cleaner. She did not stay there for long before she was sent to the north of Libya to work in domestic servitude for a married couple. Mary worked long hours for six months without receiving any payment and was physically assaulted when the couple found any fault with her cleaning.

During the last three months, the head of the household tried to rape her several times. Mary had multiple injuries after each attempt from her efforts to protect herself. "On the final day that I spent in the house, he managed to rape me". The next morning, I ran away from the house even though I didn't know anyone in the country and had no money or belongings. I was terrified but nothing was worse than going back to the house. I was found by a group of people who took me to the IOM centre". Mary was assisted by IOM and has since returned to Nigeria where she is continuing her education. She hopes to be a doctor and wants to help people who have been abused.

*Name changed to protect identity

CONTACTS

Claudia Natali, Head - Programme Development Support Unit
cnatali@iom.int

Public Information Unit
LibyaPublicInfo@iom.int

This data was collected by IOM Protection case workers over the course of victim screening, identification and provision of assistance. It was extracted from the IOM Migrant Management Operational System Application (MiMOSA), an IOM institutional data management system. It covers the period 07 July 2020 to 07 July 2022. The number of VoT identified/sample size is 1,614. Prior to 2021, not all VoT assisted were reflected on MiMOSA and these cases are not included in this report.