



**IOM Libya**

# Migrant Remittances During Armed Conflict and Pandemic in Libya

Asfand Waqar  
Tassilo Teppert

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# Migration in Libya

- Libya has traditionally been a country of destination for migrant workers
- Prior to 2011, migrant population in Libya was estimated to be as high as 2.5 million migrant workers (including 600,000 regular migrants)
- Since 2019 migrants in Libya have faced significant challenges due to armed conflict and subsequently starting in 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic

**610,128**

**migrants currently present in Libya** from over 44 countries of origin  
(DTM Round 38 Migrant Report)

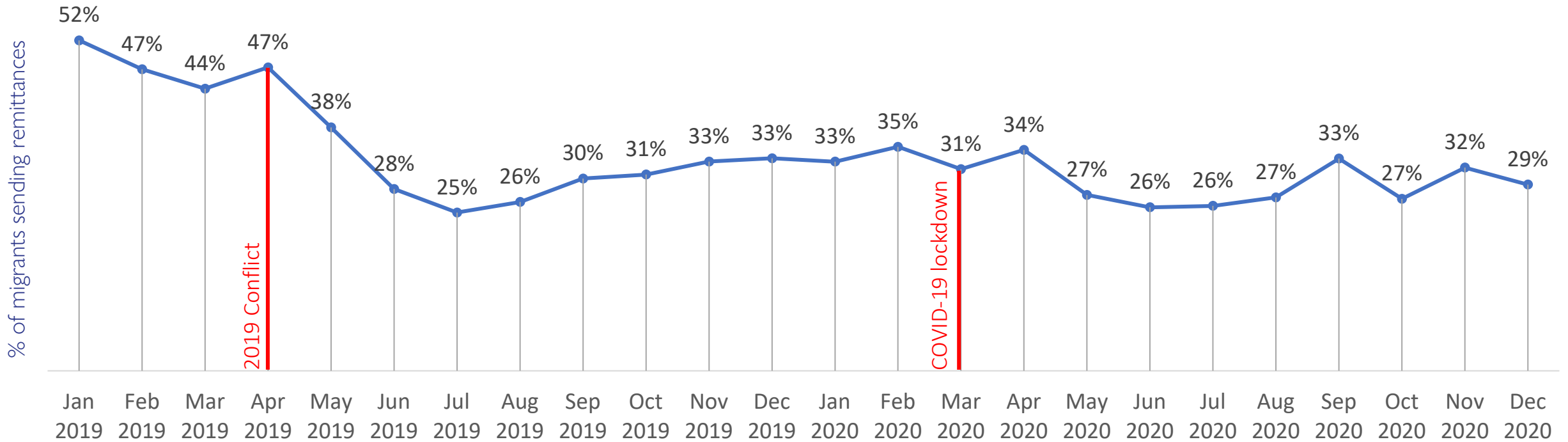




# Data on Remittances

- To support evidence-based interventions and migration management programming DTM conducts various surveys and face to face interviews with migrants
- Since 2019, a thematic module in these surveys has continuously collected data on migrants' self-reported remittances, recipients of these remittances in the country of origin, its use, and the modalities of transactions / transfers, amongst other indicators
- During 2019-2020 over 41,000 migrants responded to this module on remittances
  - 83% reported their intentions of sending remittances from Libya
  - While 33% reported to have sent remittances prior to the survey

# Decline in Remittances (Armed Conflict and Pandemic)

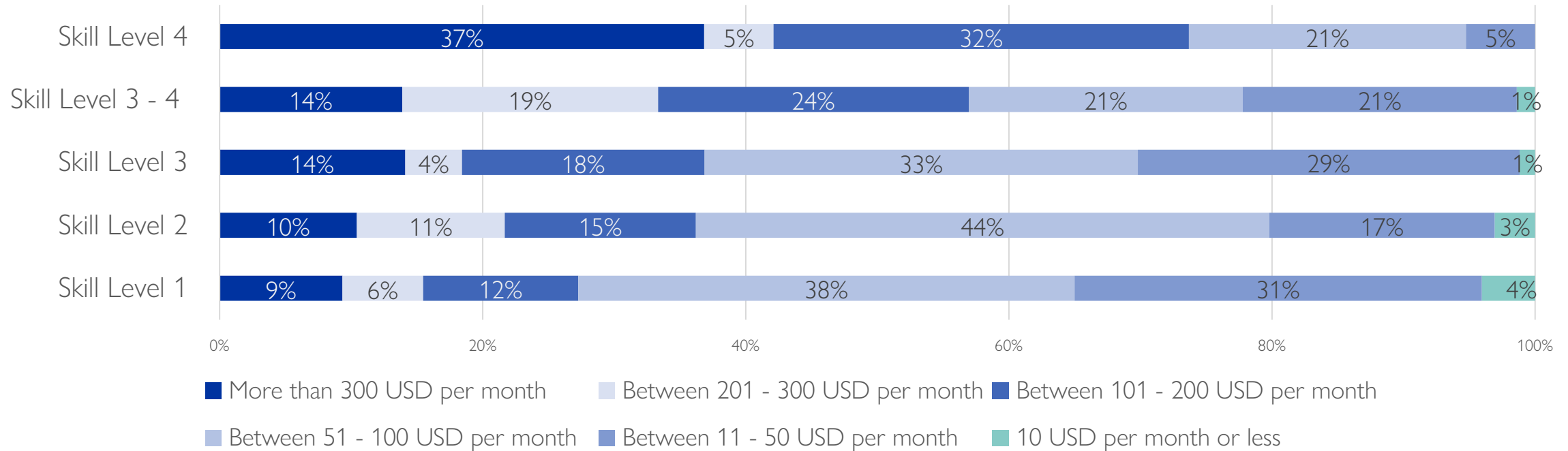


**146** USD/month  
during 2019

**123** USD/month  
during 2020

# Remittances and Migrants' Skill Levels

Self-reported value of migrant remittance sent per month shown in US dollar brackets as per migrants' skill levels



Migrants employed in occupations requiring higher skill levels reported sending higher value of remittances

# Remittances and Migration

- Ability to send remittances plays an important role in motivating migrant workers' migration to Libya
- Remittances are linked to increased capacities and therefore indicate reduced vulnerabilities
- However, 47% of the migrants surveyed during November-December 2020 reported that remittances they had sent home since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic had reduced
- Main reason for this reduction was a decline in earnings due to socio-economic impact of COVID-19
- Simultaneously DTM also measured increased food insecurity amongst migrants in Libya





# What the future may hold?

- While early projections predicted a decline in global remittances during 2021, by mid year the analysis of global trends defied this prediction as remittances remained strong
- However, improvements in migrant employment and remittances statistics in Libya has remained slow
- As of September 2021, 20% of the migrants interviewed reported to be unemployed in Libya
- While during July – September 2021, the average value of remittances sent by migrants from Libya stood at 96 USD / month
- IOM Libya via DTM programming will continue to measure and monitor migrant remittances along with other indicators to better gauge the overall situation of migrants in Libya and to understand their vulnerabilities and needs

# Thank you!



**DTM**



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