



MTM i-Map Migration and Development Layer

TUNISIA

Latest update of contents: November 2012

The profile provides data from official national sources to the extent possible, complemented by data of international organisations and research projects in case national data was not available. Data may deviate according to source due to differences in data collection methods and in definitions applied.

NB: Sources that are quoted more than three times are referred to with a reference number (R1, R2, etc.) while sources that are quoted less than three times are written out. A list of references including all sources as well as an overview on national data collection on migration and remittances are provided in the section 7 'Sources'.

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1 Tunisia at a Glance

| Topic | Indicator | Data | Source |
|------------|--|---|--|
| Population | Total (2011) | 10,673,800 | National Institute of Statistics (NIS) (AR , EN , FR), for forecasts please refer to UNDESA (EN) |
| | Growth rate (2010) | 1,29 % | NIS (AR , EN , FR) |
| | Female (2010) | 50.1% | NIS (AR , EN , FR) |
| | Birth rate (per 1000) (2010) | 18.6 | NIS (AR , EN , FR) |
| | Fertility rate (births per woman) (2010) | 2.13 | NIS (AR , EN , FR) |
| | Mortality rate (per 1000) (2010) | 5.7 | NIS (AR , EN , FR) |
| | Life expectancy at birth (years) (2010) | 74,7 | NIS (AR , EN , FR) |
| | Under 15 years (2010) | 23.7% | NIS (AR , EN , FR) |
| | 15-59 years (2010) | 66.4% | NIS (AR , EN , FR) |
| | 60 years and over | 9.9% | NIS (AR , EN , FR) |
| Economy | GDP (2010, provisional data)* | TND 57553.8 million * | NIS (AR , EN , FR) |
| | GDP per capita (2009) | USD 8,273 ** | UNDP (EN , FR) HDR 2011 (AR , EN , FR) |
| | GDP growth rate (2011, second quarter) | -0.5 | NIS (AR , EN , FR) |
| | Public debt (2009) | TND 21 977 million*** | NIS Annuaire Statistique de la Tunisie (2010) (AR , FR) |
| | Inflation rate | 3.2 | Central Bank of Tunisia (AR , EN , FR) |
| | Unemployment rate (2012, first quarter) | 18.1 | NIS (AR , EN , FR) |
| | Main import countries (2010) | European Union (EU) Member States (MS), other European countries, MS of the Arab Maghreb Union (UMA), countries of the Middle East, other African countries | NIS Annuaire Statistique de la Tunisie (2010) (AR , FR) |
| | Main export countries (2010) | EU MS, UMA, other European countries, other African countries, countries of the Middle | NIS Annuaire Statistique de la Tunisie (2010) (AR , FR) |

| | | East | |
|---|---|---------------------------------|---|
| Migration | Net migration rate (per 1000) (2010-2015) | -0.4 migrants /1,000 population | IOM (EN, FR) |
| | Emigration rate of tertiary educated (2000) | 12.5% | World Bank (AR, EN, FR) , Migration and Remittances Factbook (EN) |
| | Internal migration rate | n/a | n/a |
| | Immigrants (of total population) | 0.3% | IOM Tunisia Facts and Figures (EN) |
| Development | Human Development Index (HDI) Rank (2011) | 94 (out of 187) | UNDP HDR 2011 |
| | Gender-related Development Index (GDI) Rank (2011) | 45 (out of 187) | UNDP HDR 2011 |
| | Multidimensional Poverty Index (HPI) Rank (2003) | 0.010 | UNDP HDR 2011 |
| | GINI Coefficient (Income) (2010 – 2011) | 40.8 | UNDP HDR 2011 |
| | Literacy rate (adults) | 77.6% | UNDP HDR 2011 |
| | Population living below USD 1.25/day | 2.6 | UNDP HDR 2011 |
| | Official Development Assistance (ODA) received (Total) (2010) | USD 818.333 million **** | Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) (EN, FR) |
| | ODA Development Assistance Committee Countries (2010) | USD 565.096 million***** | OECD (EN, FR) |
| | ODA multilateral agencies (2010) | USD 253.217 million***** | OECD (EN, FR) |
| ODA (Main donors, DAC countries) (2010) | France, Spain, Germany, Japan, Italy | OECD (EN, FR) | |
| * EUR 29,862.4 million ** EUR 5545.65 *** EUR 11439.8 million **** EUR 622.4958 million ***** EUR 429.8616 million ***** EUR 192.619 million N.B: Currencies were converted according to EC exchange rates (EN, FR) of December of the year in which the data was collected. | | | |

Further basic information on Tunisia can be accessed [here \(AR, EN, FR\)](#).

2 The Migration Situation

2.1 Emigration Movements

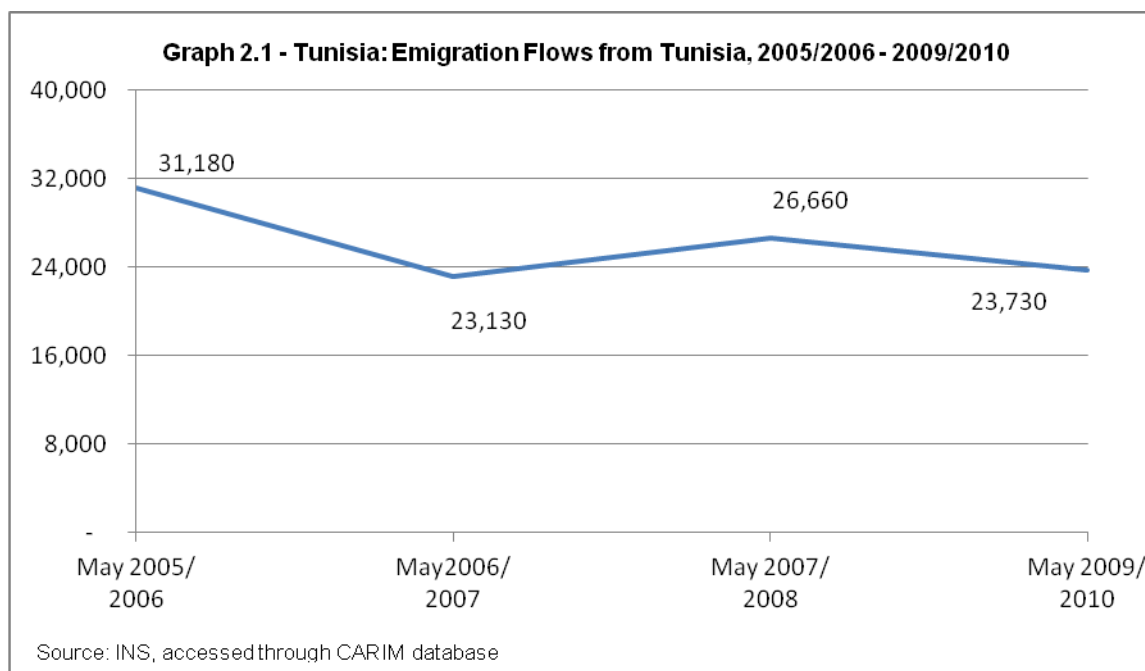
2.1.1 The Extent of Emigration Movements

1,200,818 Tunisians (i.e. 10% of the Tunisian population) were residing abroad in 2011, according to data collected by ICMPD experts ([R1](#)) during their gaps and needs assessment missions in the framework of the [EU-Tunisia Migration Cooperation Agenda \(ETMA\) project](#) (EN) (2012).

Additional sources that can be consulted for data on the stock of emigrants are:

- The [Global Migrant Origin Database](#) (EN), launched by the [Development Research Centre on Migration, Globalisation and Poverty](#) (EN) of the [University of Sussex](#) (EN) (providing statistical data on Tunisian emigrants based on data collected through National Population and Housing Censuses of destination countries, which is downloadable in excel format [here](#) (EN)).
- The [World Bank](#) ([AR](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)) [Migration and Remittances Factbook](#) (EN); and
- The [UNDP](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)) [Human Development Report \(2009\)](#) ([AR](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)).

Graph 2.1 shows data on emigration flows from 2005/2006 to 2009/2010 of the National Statistics Institute, accessed through the [CARIM database](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)).

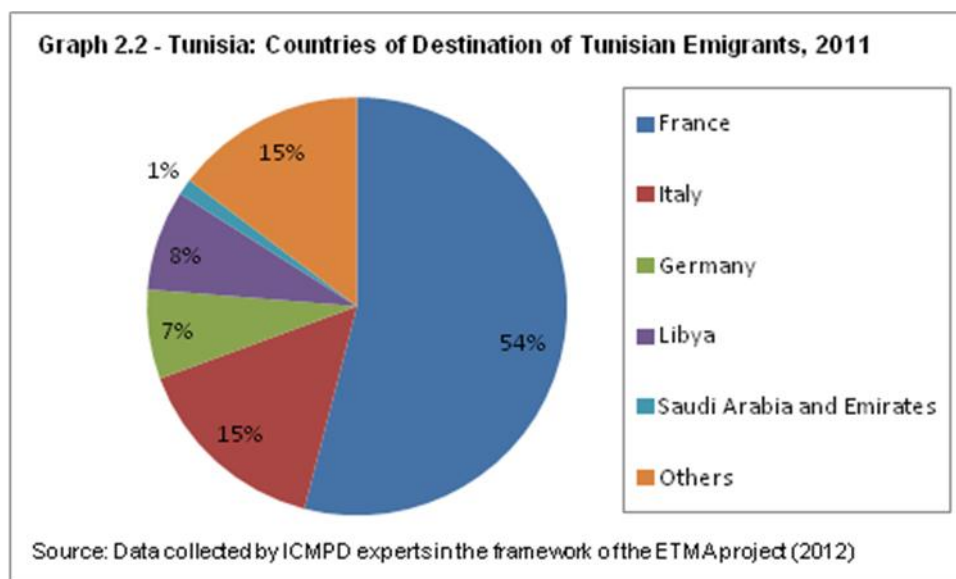


In 2011, there was a significant increase of irregular migration flows towards the Italian coasts during the time of the revolution, partly due to reduced border management capacities of Tunisian authorities

during that period, according to [R1](#). No information could be collected on regular migration flows for the same year.

2.1.2 Main Countries of Destination

The main reasons for emigration varied according to destination country ([R1](#)): While Tunisian migration flows to traditional destination countries, such as France and Germany, have increased based on family



reunification, the main reason for increasing numbers of Tunisian emigrants moving to newer destination countries (e.g. Italy) was labour migration. Migration flows to other Maghreb countries were more spontaneous, showed higher fluctuation rates, and the migrants were less

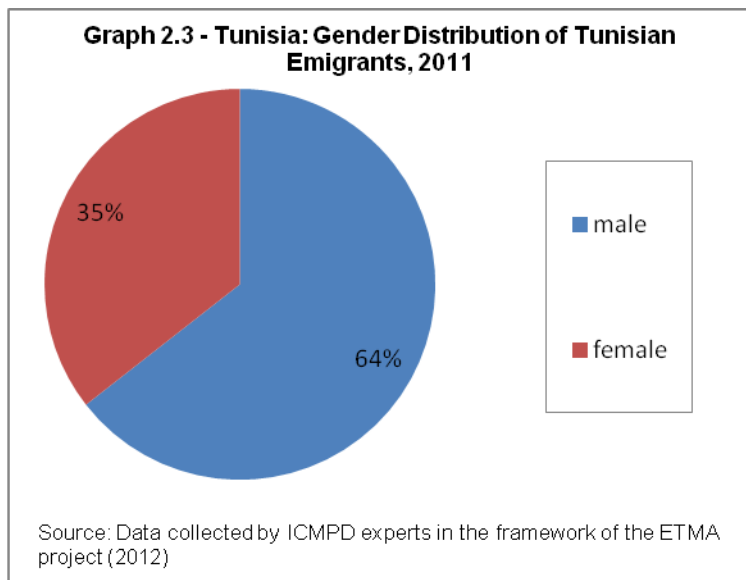
qualified. Migration to Gulf countries was in general temporary and organised through labour migration programmes. Migration to the Americas has seen a significant increase in the last years, and tended to attract highly qualified Tunisians.

Some countries of origin and countries of destination are linked through specific migration traditions. As an example, a survey ([R2](#) (FR)), conducted on a sample size of 1,684 Tunisian migrants, shows that a major part of Tunisians residing in France was born in the Southern governorate of Médénine, while an important share of Tunisians residing in Italy (notably Palermo) was born in the governorate of Mahdia. More detailed data on the governorate of birth of Tunisians residing in the cities covered by the survey (i.e. Paris, Pantin, Marseille, Milan, Palermo, and Hamburg) are accessible in [R2](#) (FR). The reasons for the choice of destination country were:

- 'Easier access (visa exemption)' (33.7%);
- 'Having family' (25.2%);
- Dynamism and economic attractiveness (18.4%);
- Having family and colleagues (7.8%);
- Prestigious university or school (6.3%);
- Language (6%); and
- Others (2.5%).

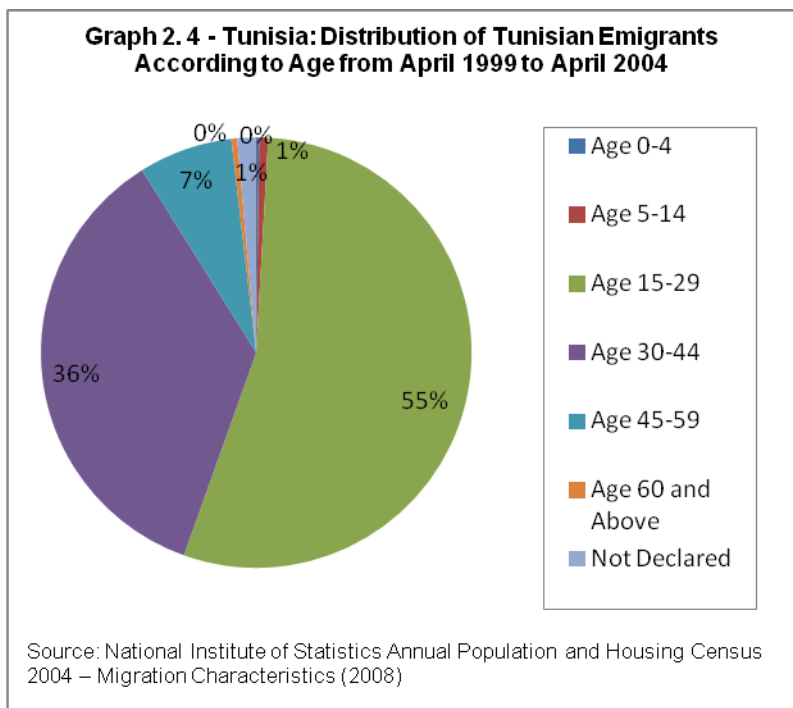
2.1.3 Characteristics of Emigrant Population

Gender



Age

From 1999 to 2004, Tunisian emigrants were rather young: The biggest age group of Tunisian emigrants were 15-29 (55%) and 30-44 (36%) (R3 (AR)).

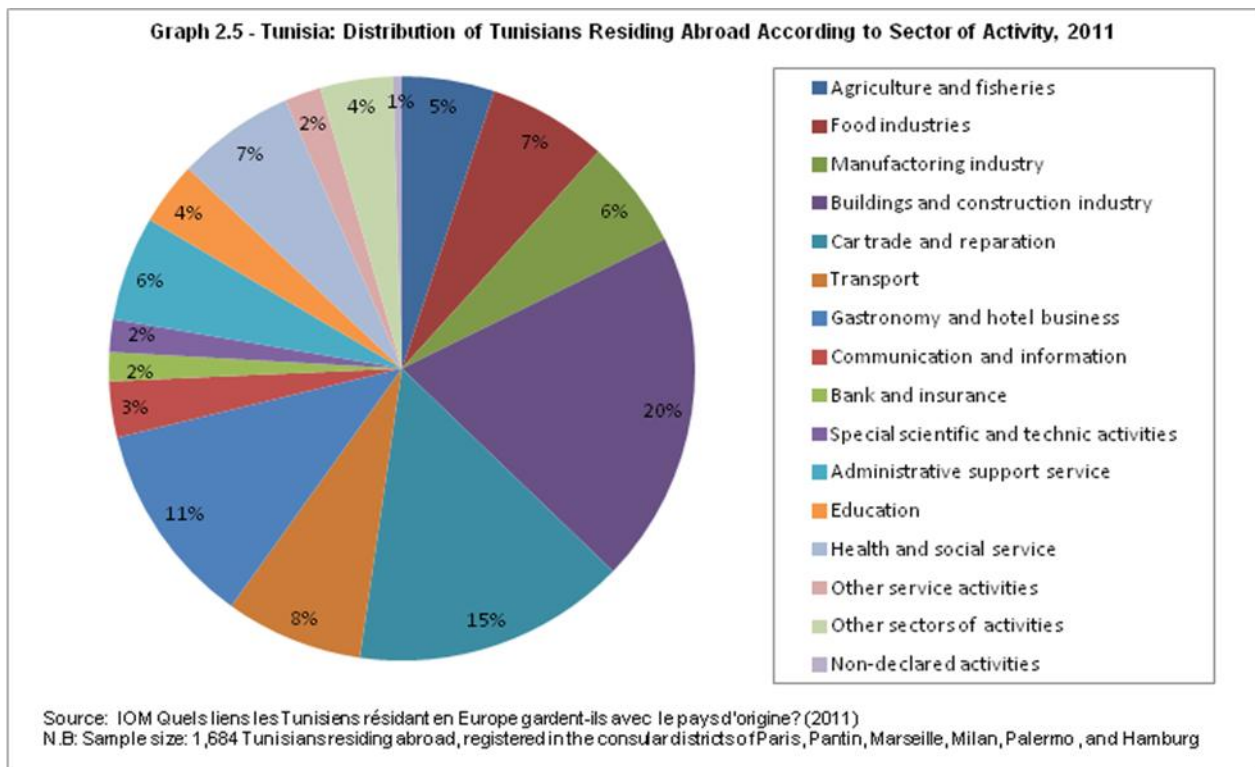


Level of Education

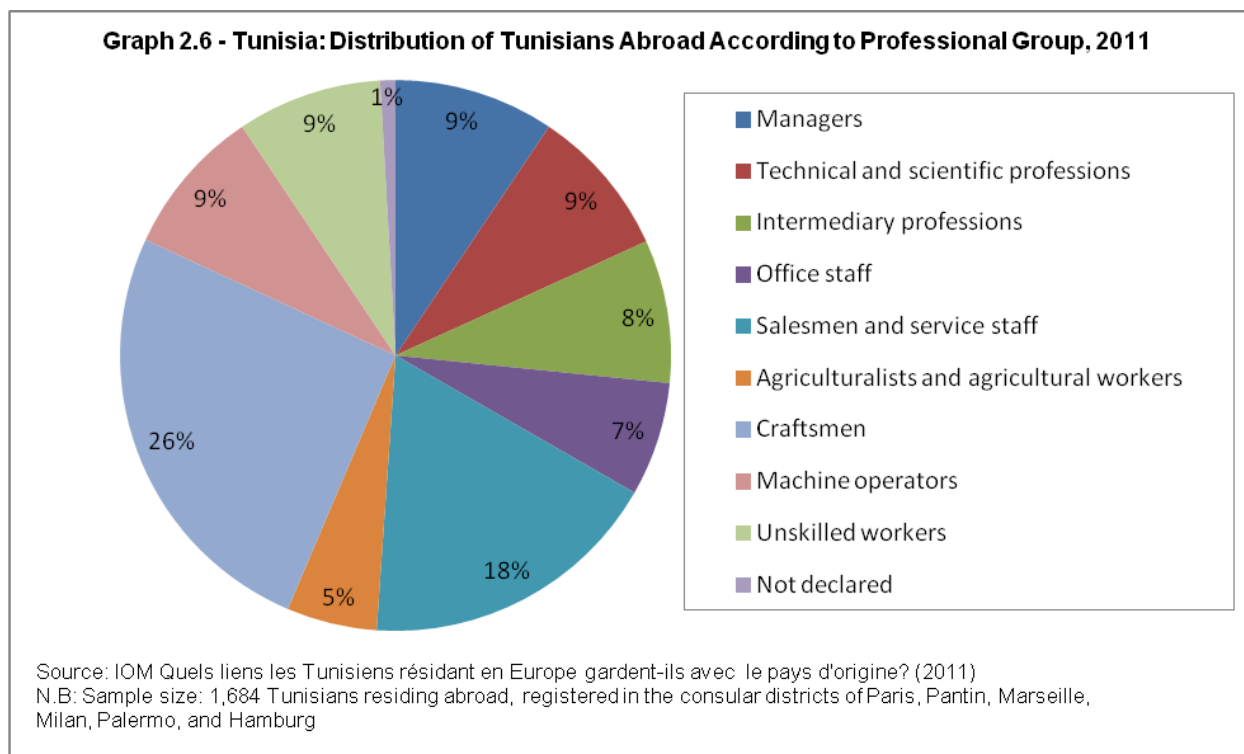
According to the [World Bank](#) ([AR](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)) [Migration and Remittances Factbook \(2011\)](#) (EN), the emigration rate of the tertiary educated population was 12.5% in 2000. 3.2% of physicians trained in the country, as well as 33.1% of physicians and 5.3% of nurses born in the country emigrated in 2000.

Business Area/Sector of Activity/Professional Position

With regard to the sectors of activity of Tunisian emigrants, a survey ([R2](#) (FR)) showed that the largest share of active Tunisians residing in the French, Italian, and German cities covered worked in the buildings and construction industry (20%), followed by car trade and repairment (15%), and gastronomy and hotel business (11%) (graph 2.5).



With regard to professional group, the biggest share were craftsmen (26%), salesmen, and service staff (18%) (graph 2.6).



Other

[R2](#) (FR) contains information on the **reasons for migration**, stating that work was the main cause for emigration (63.5%), followed by marriage (13.6%), studies (10%), family reunification (7.3%), and others (5.6%).

Also, data shows that Tunisian emigrants before emigration to Europe were:

- 37.5% working;
- 26.5% unemployed; and
- 17.3% students

Hence, Tunisian emigrants did not only leave their country to find work but also to improve their employment status ([R2](#) (FR)).

Emigration movements from Tunisia also include refugee flows. According to the [UN High Commissioner on Refugees \(UNHCR\)](#) ([AR](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)) [Country Operations Profile \(2012\)](#) (EN), as of January 2012, 1,952 refugees and 1,599 asylum seekers originated from Tunisia. Further information on Tunisians as asylum

seekers and refugees abroad can be accessed on the UNHCR website and in the [MTM i-Map irregular and mixed migration profile on Tunisia](#) ([AR](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)) (restricted access).

2.2 Immigration Movements

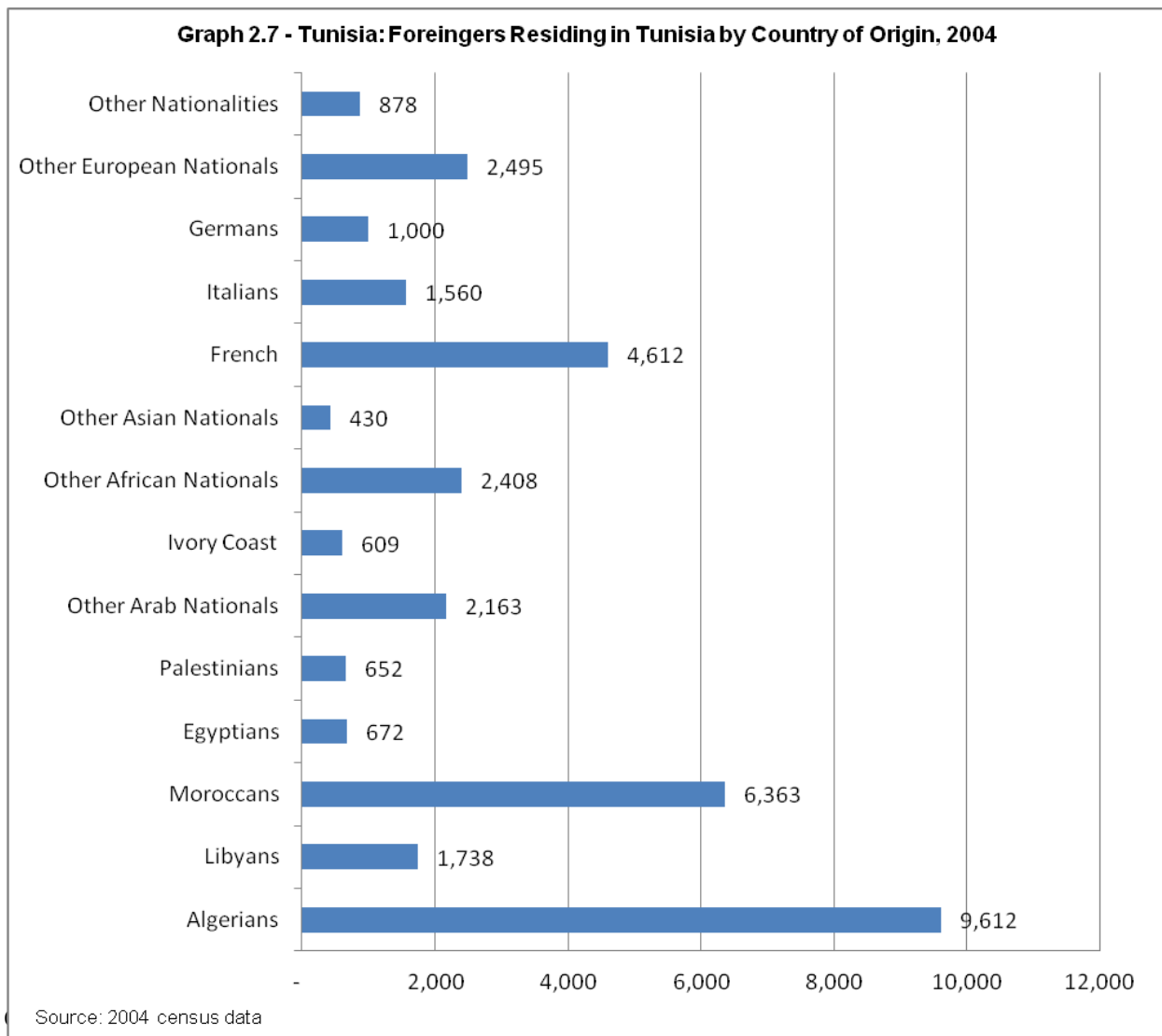
N.B: Data on 'return' migration is displayed separately, in section 5 '[Return' Migration](#)'.

2.2.1 The Extent of Immigration Movements

The number of immigrants in Tunisia was **35,192 in 2004** ([R3](#) (AR)).

2.2.2 Main Countries of Origin

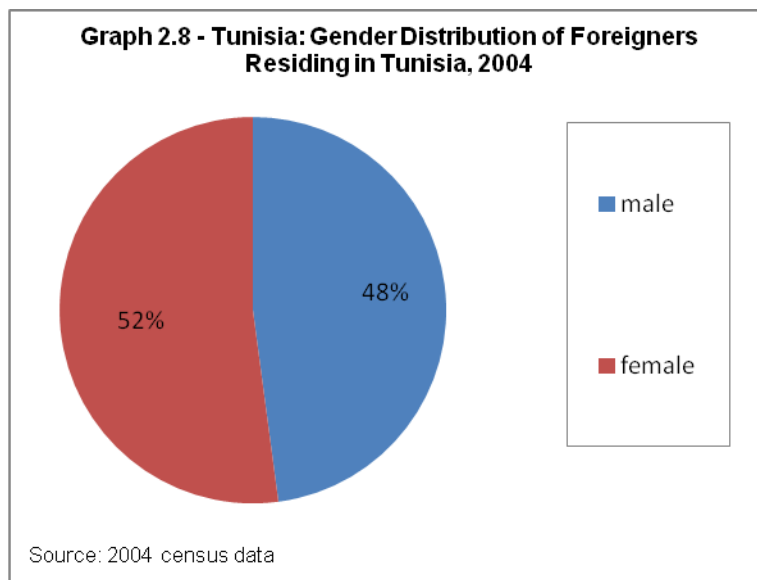
Graph 2.7 shows that in 2004, most immigrants in Tunisia came from the Maghreb according to census data ([R3](#) (AR)). The main countries of origin were Algeria, followed by Morocco, and France.



Interactive Map on Migration in Africa, the Middle-East and the Mediterranean Region (MTM i-Map)

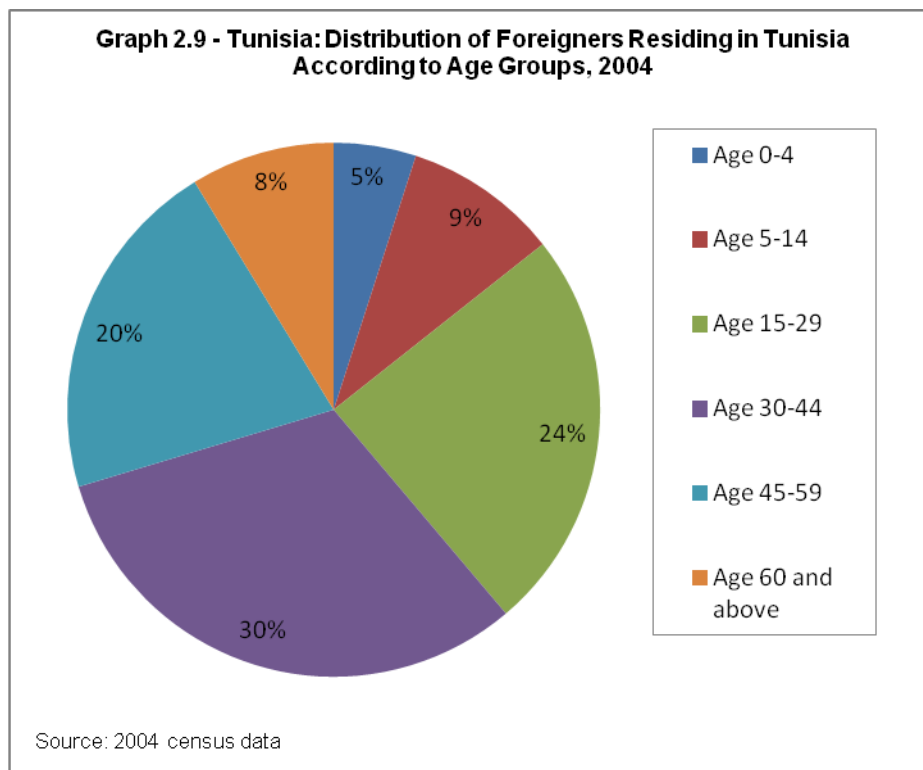
2.2.3 Characteristics of Immigrant Population

Gender



The gender distribution of immigrants in 2004 was almost equal ([R3](#) (AR)) (graph 2.8).

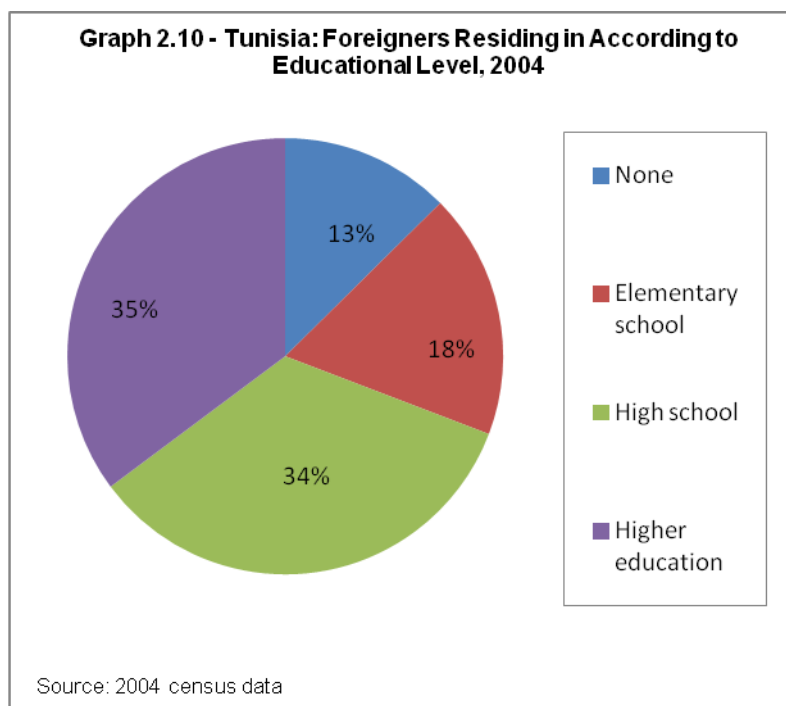
Age



In 2004, the largest age group among foreigners residing in Tunisia was 30-44 (30%), followed by 15-29 (24%), and 45-59 (20%) (R3 (AR)) (graph 2.9).

Level of Education

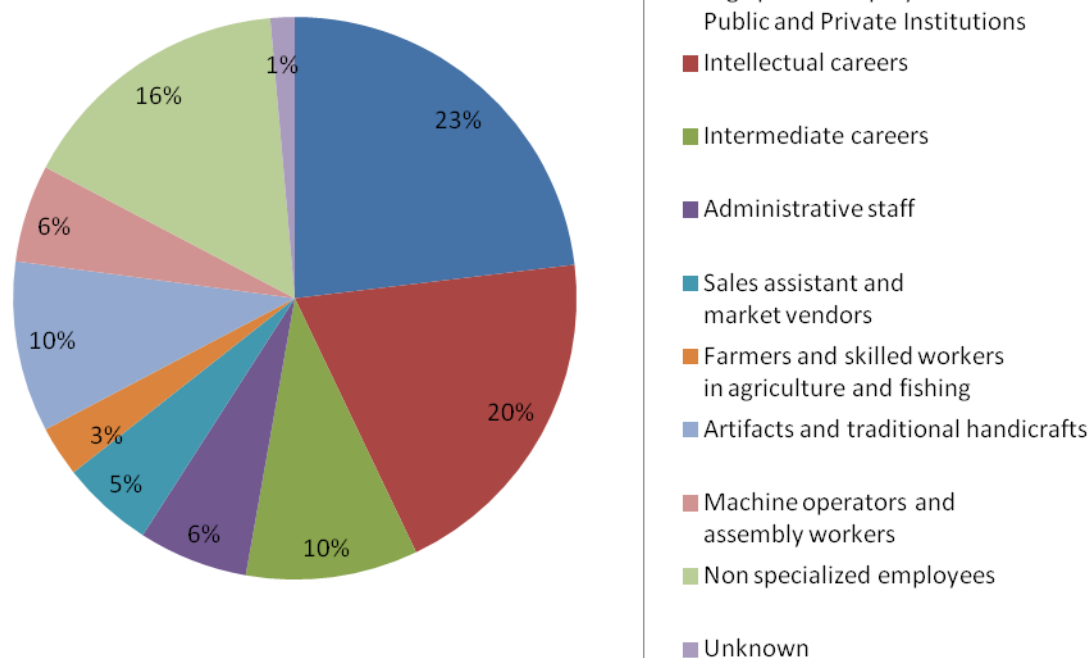
The level of education of foreigners was rather high in 2004, with 35% having completed higher education and 34% high school (R3 (AR)) (graph 2.10).



Business Area/Sector of Activity/Professional Position

Many foreign workers in Tunisia filled qualified professional positions, such as high profile employees in public and private institutions (23%) and intellectual careers (20%), (R3 (AR)) (graph 2.11).

Graph 2.11 - Tunisia: Distribution of Foreigners Working in Tunisia (15 Years and Older) According to Professional Position, 2004



Source: 2004 census data

Other

Immigration movements to Tunisia also include refugee flows. According to the [UN High Commissioner on Refugees \(UNHCR\)](#) ([AR](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)) [Country Operations Profile \(2012\)](#) (EN), as of January 2012, 4,097 refugees and 555 asylum seekers were residing in Tunisia.

Further information on asylum seekers and refugees in Tunisia can be accessed on the UNHCR website and in the [MTM i-Map irregular and mixed migration profile on Tunisia](#) ([AR](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)) (restricted access).

3 Transnational Life of Migrants

3.1 National Legislation and Policy Framework on the Transnational Life of Migrants

National authorities aim at fostering the involvement of emigrant communities in the development of Tunisia, according to [R1](#). **Emigrants have both the right to hold dual citizenship and the right to vote in Tunisia**, according to national authorities (2012). With regard to voting rights, only personal voting is possible, according to the [IOM](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)) and [Migration Policy Institute \(mpi\)](#) ([EN](#)) handbook [Developing a Road Map for Engaging Diasporas in Development \(2012\)](#) ([EN](#)).

Tunisian emigrant communities were a major target group of the Tunisian [Presidential Programme 2009-2014](#) in the context of which the following four key objectives have been identified (unofficial translation), according to [R4](#) ([AR](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)) (see also R1):

- 1) 'To foster the social and cultural links of Tunisians abroad with their country of origin;
- 2) To consolidate the established institutional framework dealing with Tunisians abroad;
- 3) To establish 'Maisons de Tunisie' to convey the Tunisian history, culture, and the work of Tunisians experts and artists residing abroad; and
- 4) To implement new initiatives aiming at encouraging skilled Tunisians abroad to participate in the development of Tunisia'.

3.2 Involvement of Migrant Organisations in their Country of Origin

The EC-funded project [European-wide African Diaspora Platform for Development \(EADPD\)](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)) will produce a **Comprehensive Database on African Migrant Organisations**, which will provide information on the African migrant organisations in EU MS and Switzerland working in the field of migration and development, as well as on their activities and funding sources.

After the revolution, a great number of associations has been newly founded, such as the '*Assises des l'immigration tunisienne et des tunisien(ne)s de l'étranger*'. It produced a [Complaints document](#) ([FR](#)), partly accepted by the new government. Some examples are: price adjustments for fares of Tunisians abroad during summer visits, or the facilitation of administrative procedures for those engaging in projects in Tunisia.

In general, the relations between the state and its communities abroad have become more open after the revolution. National authorities (2012) declare that, on the one hand, Tunisians abroad seem to be eager to contribute to development of post-revolution Tunisia and, on the other hand, national authorities are open for dialogue. Moreover, participation of Tunisians abroad in elections shall be enhanced.

3.3 Initiatives Related to the Transnational Life of Migrants

The following examples of initiatives related to the transnational life of migrants have been introduced by national and international agencies/institutions/organisations (table 3.1).

| Table 3.1 – Tunisia: Initiatives by National and International Institutions Related to the Transnational Life of Migrants | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| Agency | Initiative | Cooperation | Aim |
| National Assembly* | Participation of Tunisians abroad in elections for the National Assembly and representation within the National Assembly | n/a | Participation of Tunisians abroad in the political life |
| <u>Office for Tunisians Abroad ('Office des Tunisiens à l'Étranger')(OTE)</u> (AR, FR) * | Holiday camps for Tunisians abroad | n/a | Cultural activity |
| <u>Ministry of Education</u> (AR, EN, FR), OTE * | Arabic language courses for Tunisians abroad | n/a | Cultural activity |
| OTE * | Organised journeys for the second generation of Tunisians abroad | n/a | To foster the links between Tunisia and its emigrant communities |
| IOM (EN, FR) ** | Stabilising At-risk Communities and enhancing migration management to support transitions in Egypt, Tunisia, and Libya | n/a | n/a |
| <u>ADDCI-Zarzis</u> (FR), <u>Association Féminine Jasmin d'Orient</u> (FR) *** | Information and vocational training for migrants (' <i>Information et formation des migrants</i> ') | Donor: JMDI (EN, FR), European Union (EU) (EN, FR) | To inform, advice, support, and assist migrants in order to maximize the impact of their capabilities concerning the local development of their villages/cities/regions in Tunisia. |
| <u>ICMPD</u> (EN) | EU-Tunisia Migration Cooperation Agenda (ETMA) | Partner: Tunisian Government, Donor: EU | To promote a comprehensive foundation of cooperation on migration between Tunisia and Europe in the context of Tunisia's post-revolution recovery. This overarching objective is achieved by fostering the exchange of expertise and know-how and the establishment of an action-oriented dialogue to initiate technical cooperation in the |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | short- and long-term. |
| Managed by the African Development Bank (AfDB) (EN , FR) **** | Migration and Development Fund (approved grants to remittances funded local development projects) | Funded by the French Ministry of Interior, Overseas, Local Authorities and Immigration (FR) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) (EN) | To improve knowledge of remittances flows, reduce the costs of transfers while optimizing the use of the resources transferred, and to promote and support local initiatives from the Diasporas in favour of development in the migrants' home countries. |
| <p>N.B: This list is not exhaustive. Initiatives related to the transnational life of migrants in the cultural, health, and sanitary field are not covered in this section.</p> <p>Source: * National authorities (2012) ** IOM Tunisia *** EC-UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMIDI) (EN, FR) **** http://reliefweb.int/report/algeria/migration-and-development-fund-donates-%E2%82%AC-14-million-facilitate-diaspora-local (EN)</p> | | | |

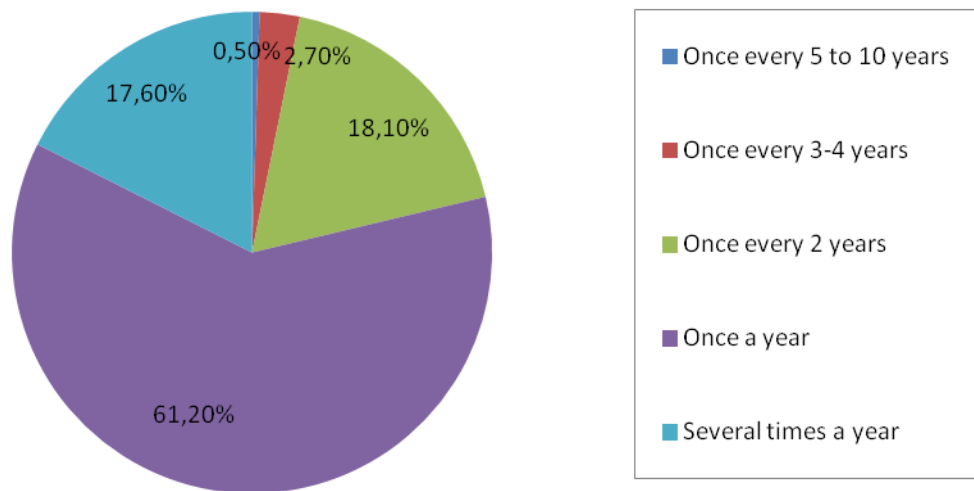
In December 2010, the [League of Arab States](#) ([AR](#), [EN](#)) Arab Expatriates Department held the First Conference of Arab Expatriates 'A Bridge for Communication'. Conference documents can be downloaded [here](#) ([AR](#), [EN](#)).

3.4 Other

Indicators for Links between Migrants and their Country of Origin

Information on the frequency of emigrants' trips to the country of origin, which may serve as an indicator for the links between migrants and their country of origin, is provided in a survey that is based on a sample of 1,000 remittances-senders in French post offices (216 persons remitting to Morocco, 196 to Algeria, 196 to Tunisia, 196 to Turkey and 196 to sub-Saharan Africa) ([R5](#) (EN)). The majority of Tunisian emigrants visited Tunisia once a year (61%) (see graph 3.1).

Graph 3.1 - Tunisia: Frequency of Trips to the Country of Origin, 2007/2008



Source: Survey 2MO, Centre d'économie de l'Université Paris Nord

4 Financial Remittances Transfers and Migrants' Investments

4.1 National Legislation on Economic Incentives for Migrants

Legal frameworks incorporating incentives aimed to encourage the return of financial resources of Tunisians abroad are, *inter alia*:

| Table 4.1 – Tunisia: Legislation Incorporating Incentives Aimed to Encourage the Transfer of Financial Resources | |
|--|---|
| Legislation | Description |
| Decree 93-1696 of 16 August 1993 (AR , FR)* | Art. 15 <i>bis</i> indicates that physical, non-resident persons holding Tunisian nationality will be legally treated as resident citizens when effecting the following operations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase or conveyance of immobile property, of immobile rights, or of enterprises situated in Tunisia • Purchase or conveyance of mobile values or of Tunisian corporate shares • Conclusion of credit contracts in dinars and opening of interior accounts in dinars • Administration of their assets and their businesses in Tunisia and accomplishment of all corresponding activities, including the conclusion and realisation of contracts, the granting of mortgages as well as hypothecation (summary of content) |
| Law 92-122 of 19 December 1992 (AR , FR)** amending Law 74-101 of 25 December 1974 (AR , FR *** | Art. 115 provides that materials and goods, including a lorry, are exempt from import taxes if they have been imported by Tunisians abroad upon their permanent or temporary return , provided that their return does not last for less than two years and the materials and goods are used for projects that they are implementing in the framework of the law on investment incentives . Furthermore, the law provides for a suspension on the value-added tax (VAT) on materials and goods that are purchased on the local market under certain conditions detailed in Art. 115 (summary of content). |
| <p>N.B: This list is not exhaustive Source: National authorities (2012) * 'Décret n°93-1696 du 16 août 1993, modifiant le décret n°77-68 du 27 juillet 1977 fixant les conditions d'application de la loi n° 76-18 du 21 janvier 1976, et portant refonte et codification de la législation des changes et du commerce extérieur régissant les relations entre la Tunisie et les pays étrangers, telle que modifiée par la loi n°93-48 du 3 mai 1993' ** 'Loi n°92-122 du 29 décembre 1992, portant loi de finances pour la gestion 1993 ' *** 'Loi 74-101 du 25 décembre 1974 portant loi de finances pour la gestion 1975'</p> | |

The Tunisian Investment Incentives Code ([AR](#), [FR](#)) ('Code des Incitations aux Investissements'), promulgated by Law No. 93-120 of 1993 and which entered into force on 1 January 1994 aims at encouraging investments, **both of foreign investors and Tunisians residing abroad** (such as tax alleviations, exemptions from customs duties under certain conditions, etc.) (summary of content).

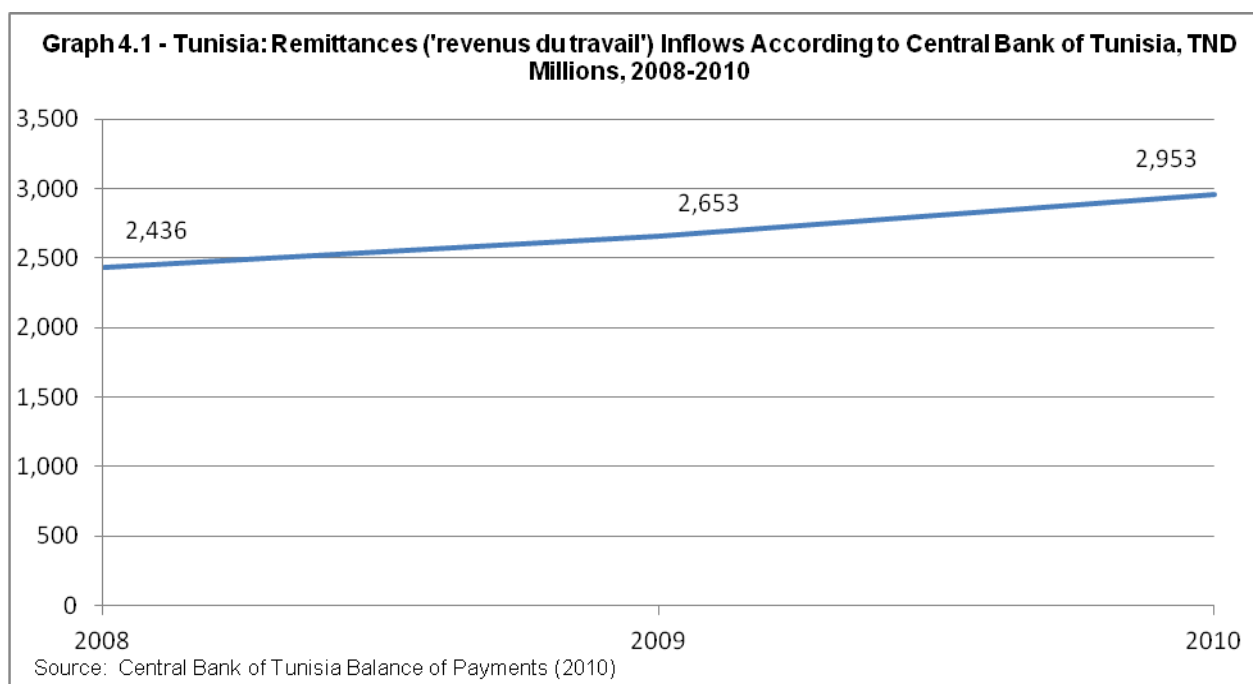
4.2 Financial Remittance: Inflows, Characteristics and Impact

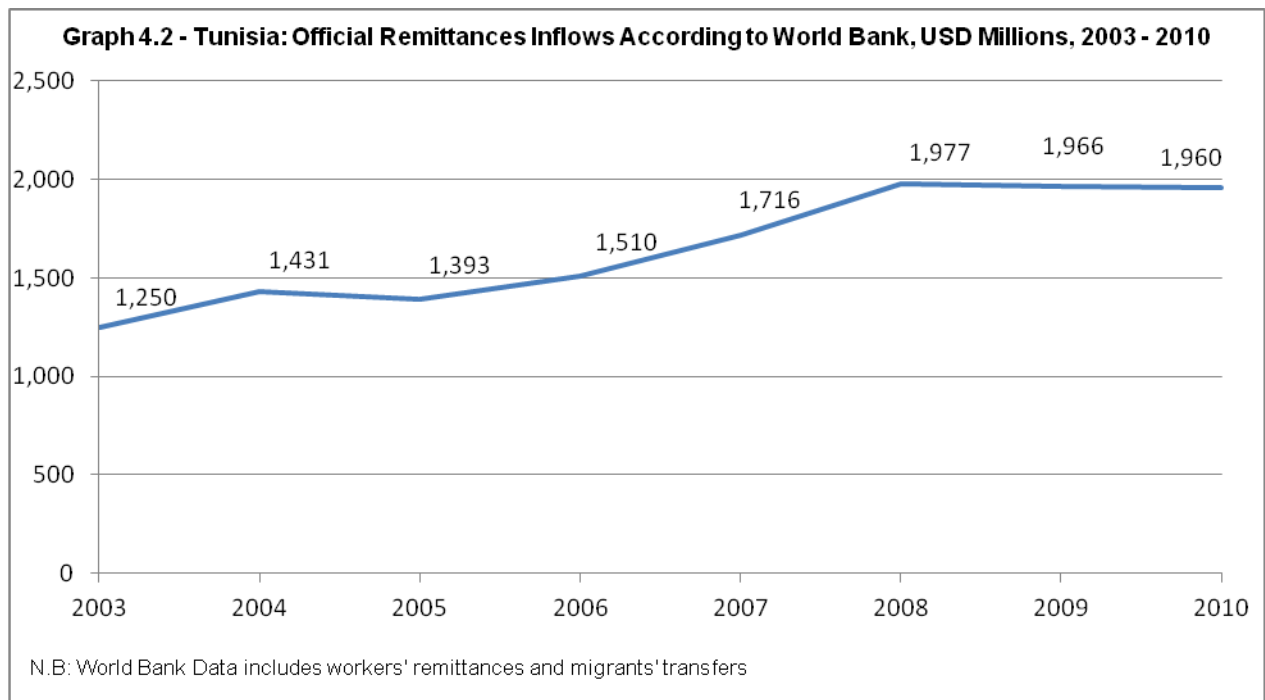
N.B: The Arab spring has affected remittances flows to Tunisia. The fact that many Tunisians ‘returned’ home from Libya, for example, caused a decline in remittances sent from Libya to Tunisia, according to the [World Bank \(EN, FR\) Migration and Development Brief 17 \(December, 2011\)](#) (EN). The full impact of the ‘Arab Spring’, however, is not yet measurable, according to the same source. Additional factors contributing to declining growth rate in the fiscal year (FY) 2011 are a decline in tourism in Tunisia following the events of the Arab Spring as well as less investments from and trade with Libya due to the crisis, according to the [AfDB \(EN, FR\)](#), [OECD \(EN, FR\)](#), [UNDP \(EN, FR\)](#) and [UNECA \(EN, FR\)](#) publication [African Economic Outlook Tunisia \(2012\)](#) (EN). An additional factor causing remittances from Europe to Tunisia to go down is the economic crisis in Europe, according to the same source.

For further information on the economic impact of the revolution please refer to the [African Development Bank \(AfDB\) \(EN, FR\)](#) economic brief [The Revolution in Tunisia: Economic Challenges and Prospects](#) (EN).

4.2.1 Financial Remittances Inflows

According to data of the [Central Bank of Tunisia \(AR, EN, FR\) Balance of Payments 2010](#) (FR) remittances (declared as ‘*revenus du travail*’) amounted to TND 2,953 million (=EUR 1,532.2 million) in 2010 (graph 4.1). This figure largely accords with data presented in the [World Bank \(AR, EN, FR\), Migration and Remittances Factbook](#) (EN), which estimated remittances to Tunisia at USD 1,960 million (=EUR 1,490.95 million) in the same year (graph 4.2). Remittances have continuously augmented in the past 20 years, according to national authorities (2010).





The Relative Size of Remittances Inflows

| Table 4.2 – Tunisia: Estimates on the Relative Size of Financial Remittances Inflows, 2007 | |
|---|-------|
| Inflows total (USD millions) | 1,716 |
| As % of GDP | 5 |
| As % of net ODA receipts | 553.2 |
| Ratio of workers' remittances to FDI | 1.1 |
| Source: UNDP (EN , FR) Human Development Report (HDR) 2009 (AR , EN , FR) | |

Amount/Frequency of Remittances Inflows to Tunisia

A survey ([R2](#) (FR)) provides data on the frequency of remittances in 2011 (table 4.3).

| Table 4.3 – Tunisia: Frequency of Remittances Sent to Tunisia, 2011 | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-------|-------|
| District | Remittances Frequency | | |
| Paris | 7.5% | 22.8% | 5.7% |
| Pantin | 80.7% | 15.8% | 3.5% |
| Marseille | 53.5% | 34.9% | 11.6% |
| Milan | 74.3% | 18.9% | 6.8% |
| Palermo | 54.9% | 39% | 6.1% |
| Hamburg | 66.7% | 33.3% | --- |
| Source: R2 (FR) | | | |

The International Institute for Labour Studies ([EN](#), [FR](#)) and International Labour Organization (ILO) ([EN](#), [FR](#)) publication *Making migration a development factor: the case of North and West Africa (2010)* ([EN](#), [FR](#)) is another source providing data on the frequency of remittances sent by male emigrants from Spain to Tunisia (table 4.4). The average amount of remittances sent from Spain to Tunisia was EUR 300 per person in 2007.

| Table 4.4 – Tunisia: Frequency of Remittances Sent by Male Emigrants from Spain to Tunisia, 2007/ 2009 | |
|--|-------|
| Once a Week | 0% |
| At least once a month | 8.7% |
| At least once every three months | 0% |
| At least once every four months | 16.1% |
| At least once a year | 52.1% |
| Less than once a year | 0% |
| Occasionally, when it is possible or needed | 23.2% |
| N.B: No data on the frequency of remittances sent by female emigrants to Tunisia could be collected at this stage. Source: Encuesta Nacional de Inmigrantes (ENI) 2007; Instituto Nacional de Estadística (INE) 2009, quoted in the International Institute for Labour Studies (EN , FR) and International Labour Organization (ILO) (EN , FR) publication <i>Making migration a development factor: the case of North and West Africa (2010)</i> (EN , FR) | |

An additional source that provides information on remittances and that can be consulted for further information is the [RemittancesGateway](#) (EN) [Country Profile](#) (EN) on Tunisia. The [RemittancesGateway Flyer](#) (EN) provides an overview on the types of information that can be found on the website.

4.2.2 Main Countries of Origin of Financial Remittances

Remittances inflows to Tunisia mainly originate from European Union (EU) Member States (MS). From within the EU, the main remittances sending country was France in 2010, with Germany and Italy trailing far behind. Among Arab countries, Libya was the main sending country, according to the [Central Bank of Tunisia](#) ([AR](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)) [Balance of Payments 2010](#) (FR).

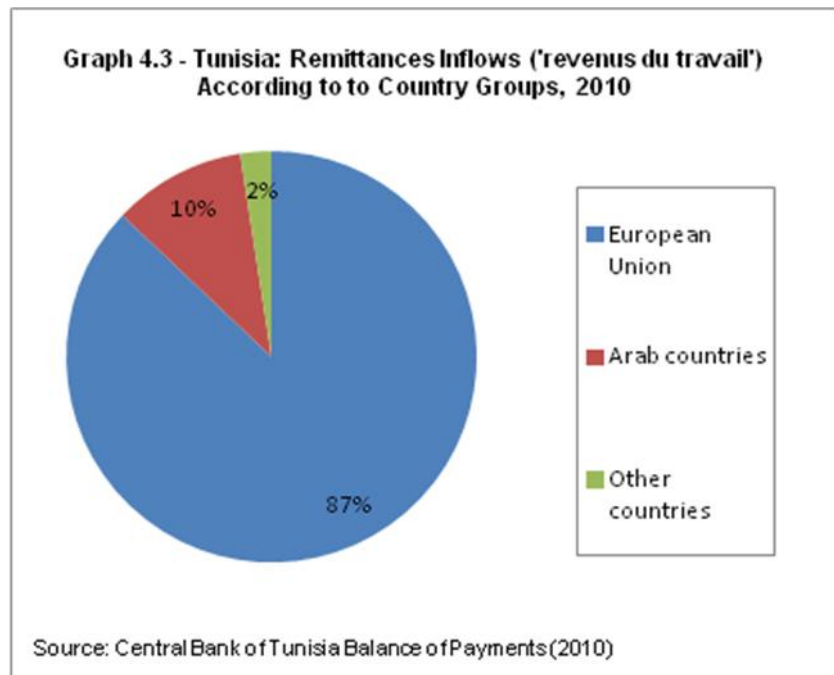
4.2.3 Characteristics of Financial Remittances Recipients

In 2007, 78.6% of remittances were paid out to recipients located in the littoral regions (mainly the District of Tunis (29.7%) and Centre East (21.6%)). Only 21.4% of remittances were sent to recipients in the three other regions of North-West, Centre West, and South-West, according to the [World Bank](#) ([AR](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)), quoted in the [ILO](#) working document [Tunisie: Migration, marché du travail et développement](#) (FR).

No data could be collected on gender, age, level of education, or business area/sector of activity/professional position at this stage.

4.2.4 Characteristics of Financial Remittances Senders

57.5% of the Tunisians interviewed in the course of a survey (sample: 1,684 Tunisians registered in the consular districts of Paris, Pantin, Marseille, Milan, Palermo, and Hamburg) ([R2](#) (FR)) indicated that they are sending remittances to Tunisia. The percentage of those sending remittances, however, varied according to



Country Profile **Tunisia**

the city of destination: The highest share of Tunisian emigrants sending remittances was found among the sample of Tunisians interviewed in Milan (69.7%), followed by Palermo (64.5%), Marseille (55.2%), Pantin (54%), Paris (51.9%), and Hamburg (39.4%). The higher share of remittances-sender among Tunisian emigrants in Italy might be due to the fact that many Tunisians in Italy migrated without their families and hence have a higher tendency of sending remittances back home ([R2](#) (FR)).

Gender and Business Area/Sector of Activity/Professional Position

No information on the gender and or business area/sector of activity/ professional position of remittances-senders could be collected at this stage.

Age

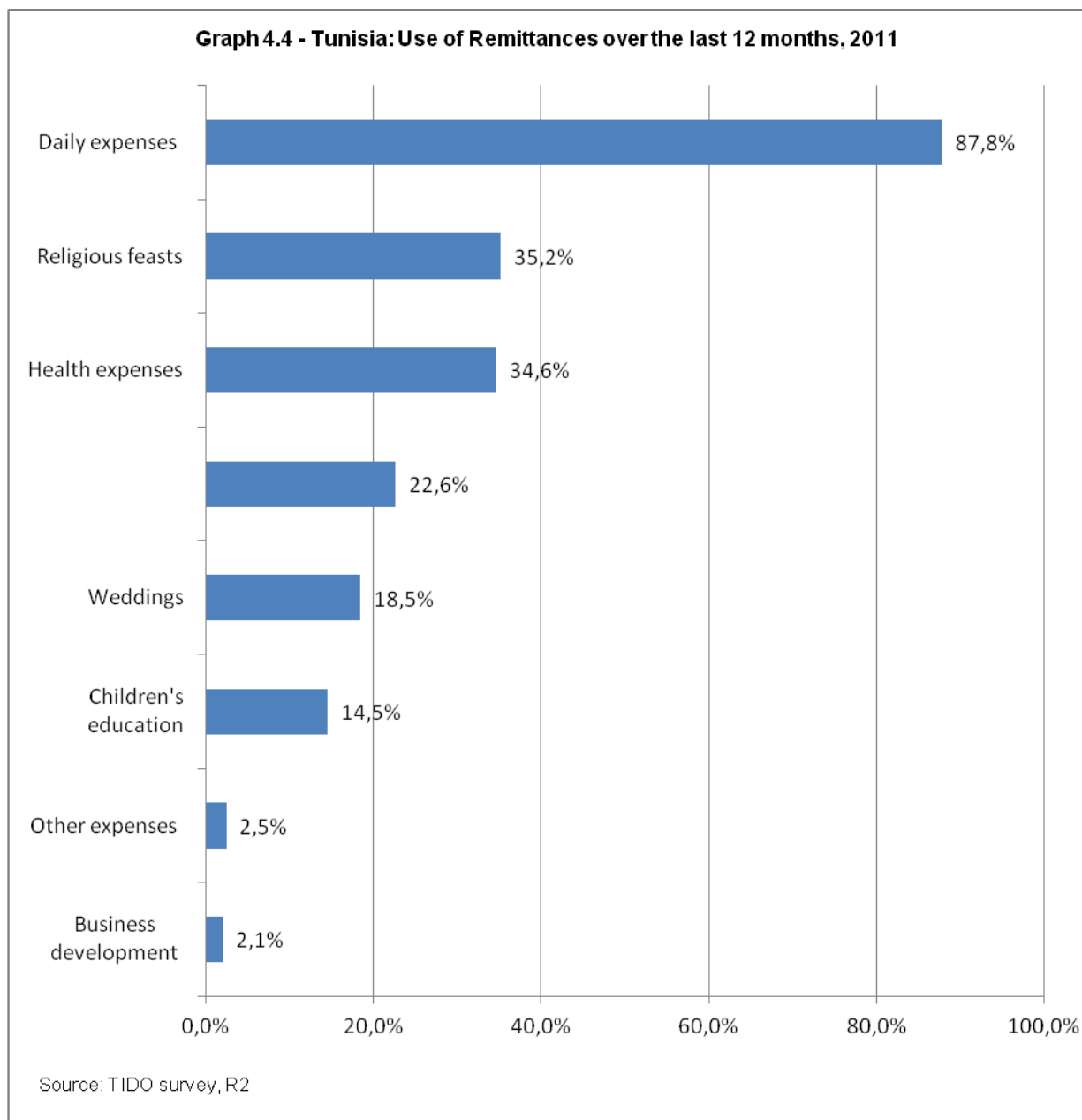
The share of remittances-senders is lowest among 25-29 year-olds (44.7%), then steadily increases with age. The highest share of remittances senders is eventually found among the age group of 40-49 year-olds (67.5%) and starts to decrease among the age group of 60+ (50%) ([R2](#) (FR)). A different survey ([R5](#) (EN)) however shows that those who are 65 years or older tend to transfer double the amounts than those aged 25-34 years.

Level of Education

Tunisians abroad who did not complete any formal education as well as those with a bachelor's degree and higher education send higher amounts of remittances, while the amounts sent by those with a medium level of education tend to be lower, according to data gathered through interviews with remittances-senders in France ([R5](#)) (EN).

4.2.5 Use of Financial Remittances Inflows

The highest share of remittances was used for daily expenses, according to data collected in the framework of a survey ([R2](#) (FR)).



4.2.6 Impact of Financial Remittances

No data on the impact of financial remittances could be collected at this stage.

4.3 Migrant Financial Remittances Marketplace: Channels and Costs

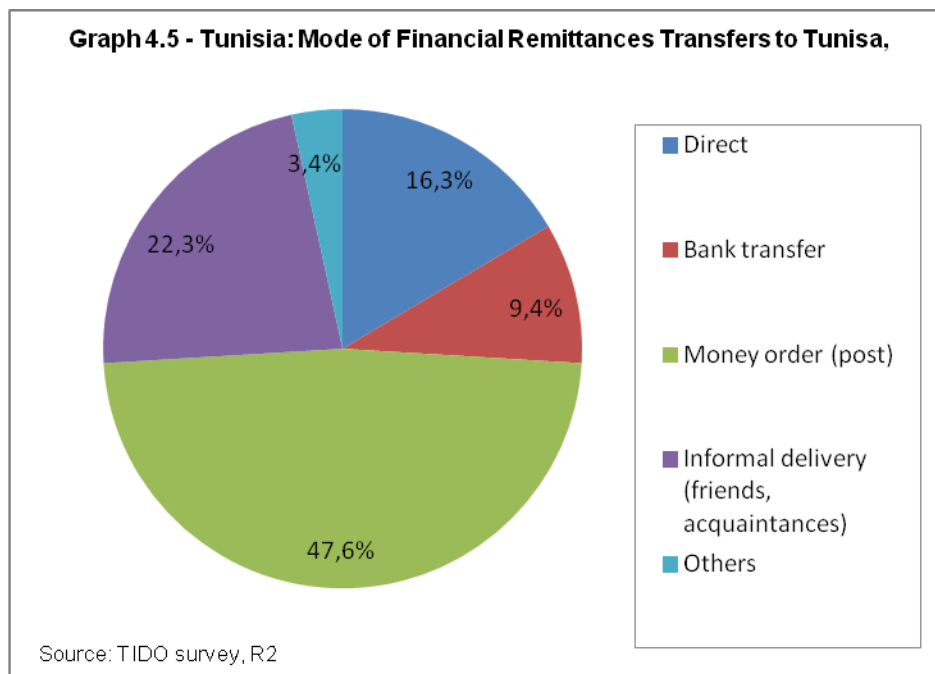
4.3.1 Mode of Financial Remittances Transfers to Tunisia

The highest share of remittances is transferred via postal orders, followed by sending the money through acquaintances, and bringing it back directly (R2) (FR).

4.3.2 Financial Remittances Marketplace

Inbound Remittances Pay-out Rate by Institution

62% of remittances to Tunisia are paid out in rural areas. The main pay-out institutions of remittances were banks in 2009, according to the [International Fund for Agricultural Development \(IFAD\)](#) (EN) publication [Sending Money Home to Africa. Remittances, Markets, Enabling Environments and Prospects \(2009\)](#) (EN) (surveys were carried out in 19 countries in collaboration with MFIs belonging to the INAFI network; staff in each institution surveyed 200 clients and 400 neighbours within the geographical coverage of the MFI branches) (graph 4.4). As reported in [R3](#) (EN), Tunisian remittances-senders are rather confident in the Tunisian banking system.



MTO participation in the remittances market

According to [IFAD](#) (EN) data in 2009, among MTOs, Western Union and MoneyGram had the monopoly of the remittances transfers to Tunisia.

Banks and post are the main pay-out locations in Tunisia. Exclusivity clauses between Western Union and its local partners make it difficult for new MTOs to establish, according to the [Épargne Sans Frontière](#) (FR) report [Réduire les coûts de transferts d'argent des migrants et optimiser leur impact sur le développement : Outils et produits financiers pour le Maghreb et la Zone franc](#) (FR).

4.3.3 Costs of Money Transfers to Tunisia

High transfer costs affect the amount received by remittance recipients. Therefore, the following Money Transfer Price Comparison Services allow for queries on the money transfer costs charged by Money Transfer Operators (MTOs) between Tunisia and the sending countries covered. In order to query the costs, please click on the service and select MTO and the amount.

| Table 4.5 – Tunisia: Money Transfer Price Comparison Services | | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------|---|--|
| Service | Established by | Sending Countries Covered | Amounts Covered | Money Transfer Operators (MTOs) Covered for Transfers to Tunisia |
| Envoi d'argent (FR) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> French Development Agency (FR) French Ministry of Immigration, Integration, Asylum and Solidarity Development (FR) (now: French Ministry of Interior, Overseas Territories and Territorial Collectivities (FR)) French Ministry of Economy, Finances and Industry (FR) French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (EN, FR) | France | EUR 100 EUR 300 EUR 500 EUR 1000 | Attijariwafa bank Europe, Banque Accord, BNP Paribas, Caisse d'Epargne Alsace, Caisse d'Epargne Normandie, Caisse d'Epargne Provence Alpes Corse, Caisse d'Epargne Rhône Alpes, CELDA, Crédit Agricole du Nord Est, Banque Postale, LCL, Moneyglobe, Moneygram International, RationalFX / Xendpay France, Société Générale, Western Union |
| Geldtransfer (DE) | Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zu- | Germany | Every amount | VoiceCash, Voxmoney, www.moneybookers.com , |

| | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| | sammenarbeit (GTZ) (now: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) (EN)) | | up to a maximum of EUR 12,500 (in EUR) | mobilcash, HypoVereinsbank, Frankfurter Sparkasse, HypoVereinsbank, Ria Enviva, SEB, Sekerbank T.A.S. |
| Remittances Prices World-wide (EN) | World Bank (AR, EN, FR) | France | USD 200 USD 500 | Moneybookers, Attijariwafa Bank, Western Union, Flouss, MoneyGram, Ria, Western Union, La Poste via Western Union, Société Générale, La Poste, Credit Lyonnais, BNP Paribas, Banque Populaire, Caisse D'Epargne de l'Île de France, Crédit Agricole |
| Send Money Home (EN) | UK Government's Department for International Development (EN) | Combinations between 91 sending and 125 receiving countries are covered (access drop-down menu here (EN)) | Every amount in sending country currencies | MTOs covered vary depending on the country combination chosen between 91 sending countries and 125 receiving countries and can be queried here (EN). |
| <p>NB: This list is not exhaustive * The information provided on this website is based in a one-time survey that has been conducted in 2007 and is not being updated.</p> | | | | |

Furthermore, the [World Bank](#) (AR, EN, FR) working paper [What Explains the Cost of Remittances? An Examination Across 119 Country Corridors \(2009\)](#) (EN) provides information on the costs of remittances.

4.4 Collective Financial Remittances and Donations

No information on collective remittances and donations could be collected at this stage.

4.5 Migrant Capital Investments and Entrepreneurship

4.5.1 Investment Volume of and Enterprises Started/Jobs Created by Tunisian Nationals Abroad in Tunisia

A total of **1,177 projects have been set up by Tunisians abroad** in 2011, which **created 2,713 jobs** and were **worth TND 48.3 million** (=EUR 24,656,700), according to administrative data collected by the Agency for the Promotion of Industry and Innovation (APII) ([AR](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)) and the Agricultural Investment Promotion Agency (APIA) ([AR](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)), provided by national authorities (2012).

4.5.2 Financial Capacities of Tunisian Nationals Abroad

No data on financial capacities of Tunisian nationals abroad could be collected at this stage.

4.5.3 Diaspora Bonds

No information on diaspora bonds could be collected at this stage.

4.6 Initiatives Related to Financial Remittances Inflows and Migrants' Investments

The following examples of initiatives related to remittances and migrants' investments have been introduced by national and international institutions (table 4.6).

| Agency | Initiative | Cooperation | Aim |
|--|--|--------------------|---|
| <u>Central Bank of Tunisia</u> (AR , EN , FR) * | Convertible accounts (<i>'comptes convertibles'</i>) | n/a | To encourage remittances |
| <u>APII, APIA</u> * | Fiscal advantages for the establishments of projects | n/a | To facilitate the participation of Tunisians abroad in economic life |
| <u>Tunisia Export ('Centre de promotion des exportations (CEPEX)')</u> (AR , EN , FR)* | Export incentives | n/a | To promote Tunisian products |
| <u>The Central Bank of Tunisia</u> (AR , EN , FR) * | Publication of a guide on modalities for opening foreign accounts, special accounts in foreign currency or in convertible dinars with banks in Tunisia | n/a | To provide information to Tunisians abroad on modalities for opening foreign accounts, special accounts in foreign currency, or in convertible dinars with banks in Tunisia |

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Managed by the <u>African Development Bank Group</u> (EN , FR) | <u>Migration and Development Fund</u> (EN , FR) (approved grants to local development projects in Tunisia) | Funded by the <u>French Ministry of Interior, Overseas, Local Authorities and Immigration</u> and the <u>IFAD</u> (EN) | To promote strategic alliances and networking, developing new financial products, channeling funds to productive uses, and building capacity at the association and institutional levels |
| <u>UNDP in Tunisia</u> (FR) ** | <u>EC/UN Joint Migration & Development Initiative in Tunisia</u> (EN) 2008-2011 | <u>UN Country Team in Tunisia</u> , <u>Delegation of the EU in Tunisia</u> (FR), and the <u>Tunisian Government</u> | To support small scale actors to contribute to link migration and development in 16 selected countries of origin. Priority areas: (i) migrant remittances, (ii) migrant communities, (iii) migrants' capacities, and (iv) migrants' rights |
| <u>World Bank Group</u> (AR , EN , FR) | <u>African Institute for Remittances (AIR)</u> (EN) 2010 - 2011 | International Organization for Migration, African Union Commission, African Development Bank | To facilitate the process leading to the creation of the Institute and to build the capacity of the Member States of the AU, remittance senders and recipients, and other stakeholders to develop and implement concrete strategies and operational instruments to use remittances as development tools for poverty reduction. |
| <p>N.B: This list is not exhaustive Source: * National authorities (2012) ** <u>Final report (2010)</u> (AR, EN, FR) of the Joint ICMPD-IOM Project: Linking Emigrant Communities for More Development – Inventory of Institutional Capacities and Practices</p> | | | |

5 'Return' Migration

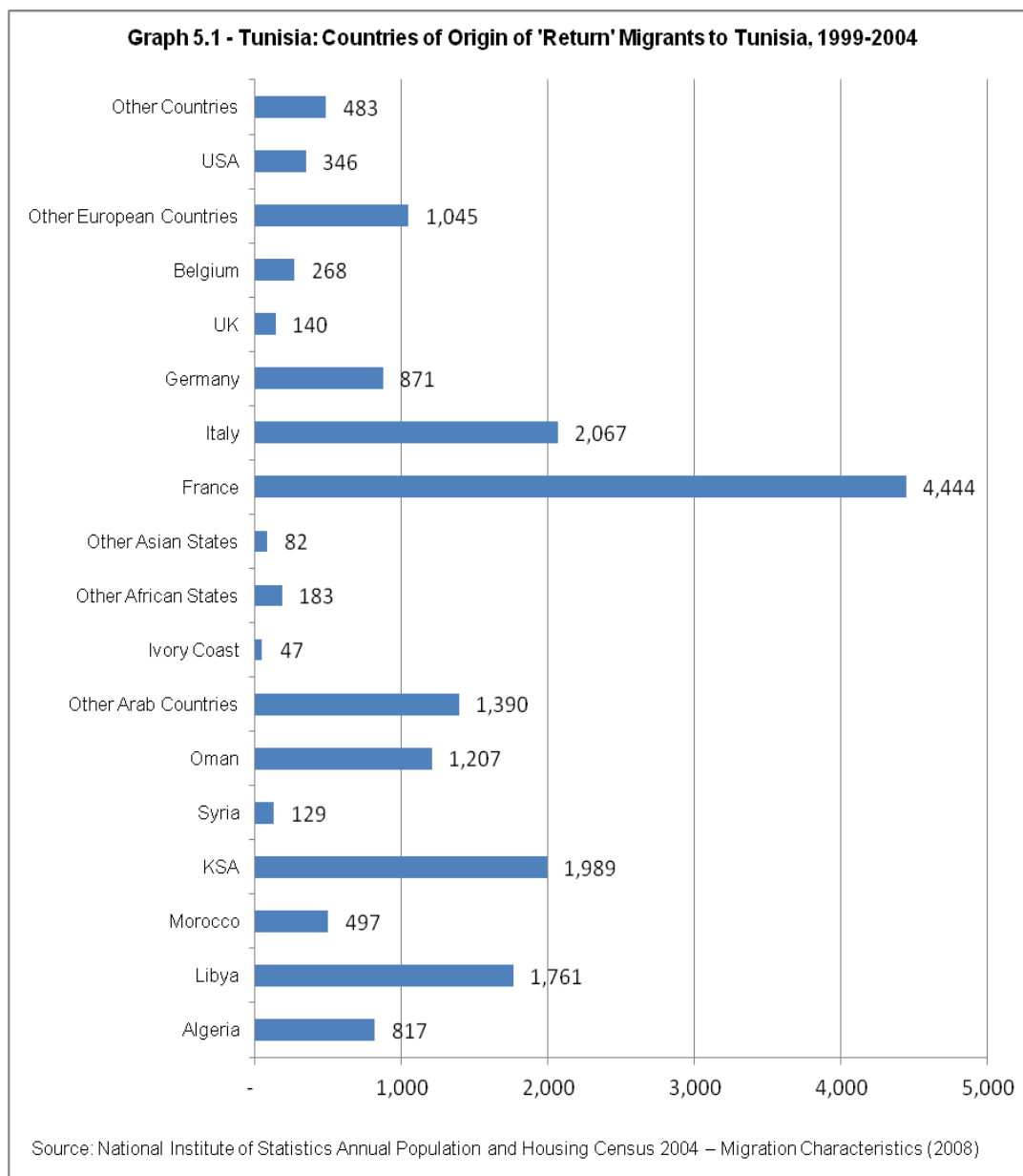
5.1 National Programmes/Legislation Related to 'Return' Migration

| Table 5.1 – Tunisia: Legislation Incorporating Incentives to 'Return' | |
|--|---|
| Legislation | Description |
| Decree no. 95-197 of 23 January 1995 on fiscal advantages of Tunisian residents abroad and the conditions for their approval (AR, FR) * | <p>Article 1 states that Tunisian residents abroad may benefit from an exemption from dues and taxes for the importation of their personal belongings at the occasion of temporary return to Tunisia under certain conditions.</p> <p>Article 2 states that subject to the provisions of Article 7 of this Decree, Tunisians resident abroad may benefit from one-time fiscal advantages in the framework of permanent return under certain conditions (summary of content).</p> <p>Furthermore, Articles 3-11 contain provisions on the conditions of the import of motorised vehicles by Tunisians residing abroad.</p> |
| Law 92-122 of 19 December 1992 (AR, FR)** amending Law 74-101 of 25 December 1974 (AR, FR)*** | Please refer to table 4.1 (section 4) |
| <p>N.B: This list is not exhaustive Source: National authorities (2012) * Décret 95 – 197 du 23 janvier 1995, fixant les avantages fiscaux au profit des tunisiens résidents à l'étranger et les conditions de leur octroi ** Loi n°92-122 du 29 décembre 1992, portant loi de finances pour la gestion 1993 *** 'Loi 74-101 du 25 décembre 1974 portant loi de finances pour la gestion 1975'</p> | |

5.2 'Return' Migration Movements

Only small numbers of Tunisian emigrants 'return' permanently and most of them 'return' upon their retirement ([R1](#)). 65% of the Tunisian emigrants interviewed in the framework of a survey in 2011 (Sample: 1,684 Tunisians registered in the consular districts of Paris, Pantin, Marseille, Milan, Palermo, and Hamburg) uttered the intention to 'return', 72% out of them wanted to 'return' to their region of origin, and 50% thought they would 'return' before their retirement ([R2](#) (FR)). The propensity to 'return', however, was smaller among women (51%) than men (69%).

Data from the same source showed that Tunisians residing abroad who only had the Tunisian nationality (and not the nationality of the destination country) and Tunisians who have invested in Tunisia but not abroad have a higher intention to 'return'. Tunisians abroad of the 2nd or 3rd generation, however, as well as persons with a higher level of education and/or having children, have less intention to 'return' to Tunisia. For more detailed information please refer to [R2](#) (FR).



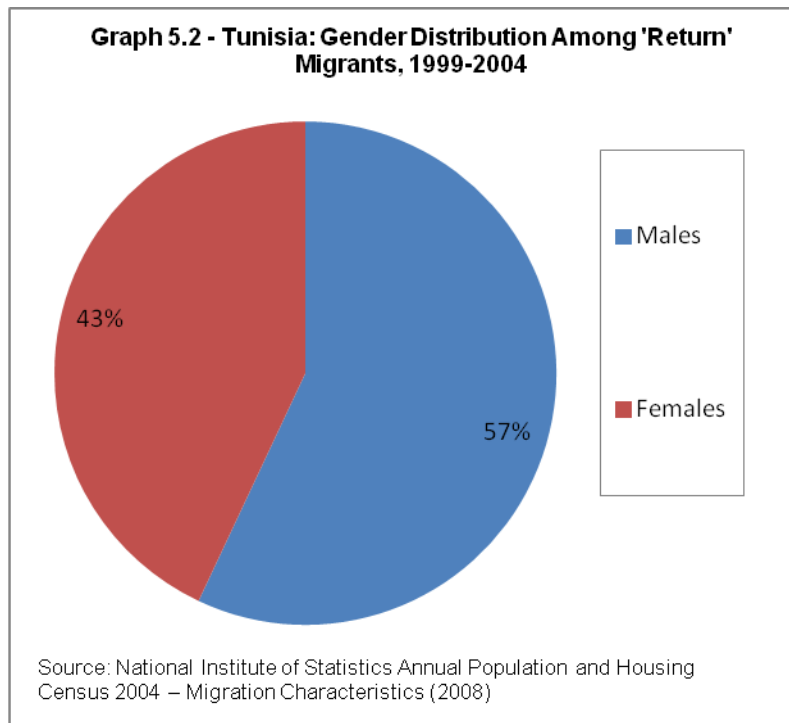
A significant inflow of 'return' migration could be noted both during and after the Arab spring: On the one hand, Tunisians 'returned' from Libya during the Libyan conflict, and on the other hand parts of the opposition to the Ben Ali regime 'returned' to Tunisia from European countries, according to [R5](#). The latter flow, however, was more significant in terms of quality than in terms of quantity. Census data presented in [R3](#) (AR) includes information on 'return' migration as presented below.

5.2.1 Main Countries of Origin of 'Return' Migrants

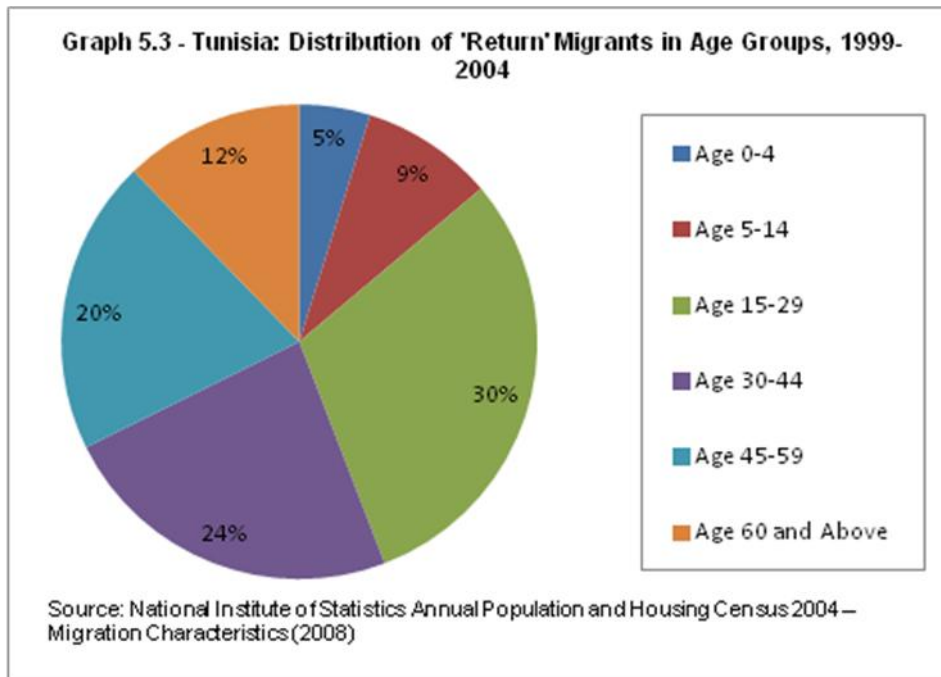
Graph 5.1, based on census data presented [R3](#) (AR) shows that the biggest share of 'return' migrants 'returned' from France (4,444), followed by Italy (2,067), and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) (1,989).

5.2.2 Characteristics of 'Return' Migrants to Tunisia

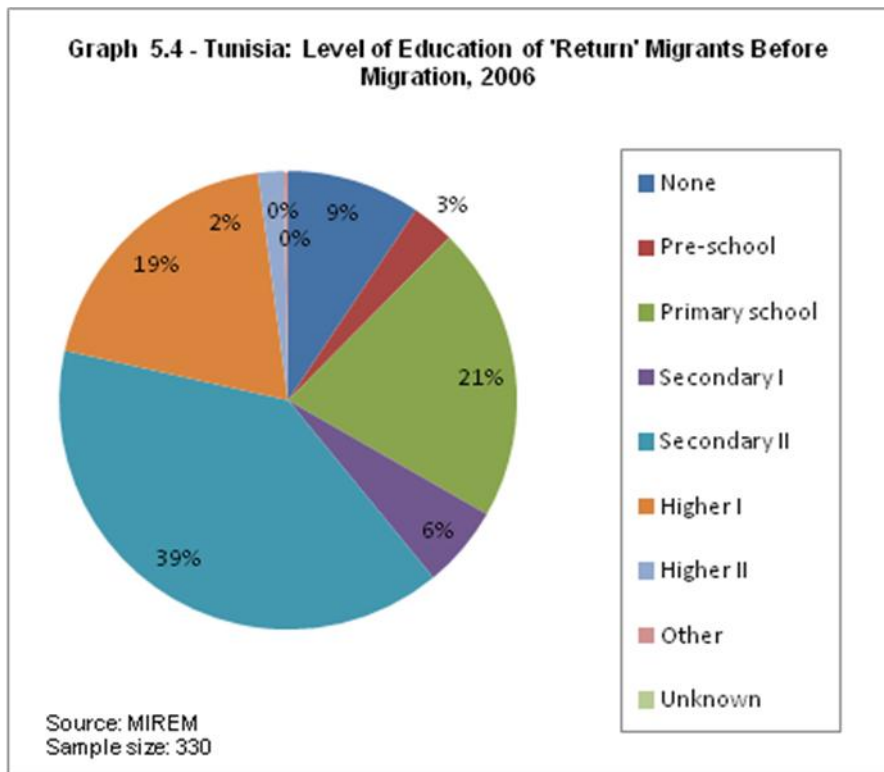
Gender



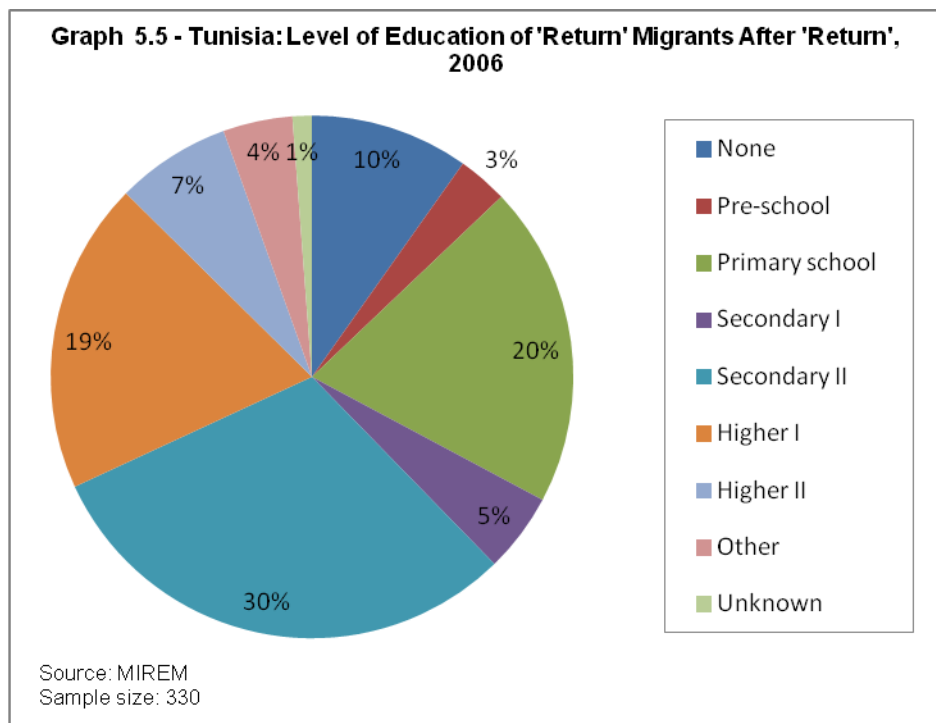
Age



Level of Education



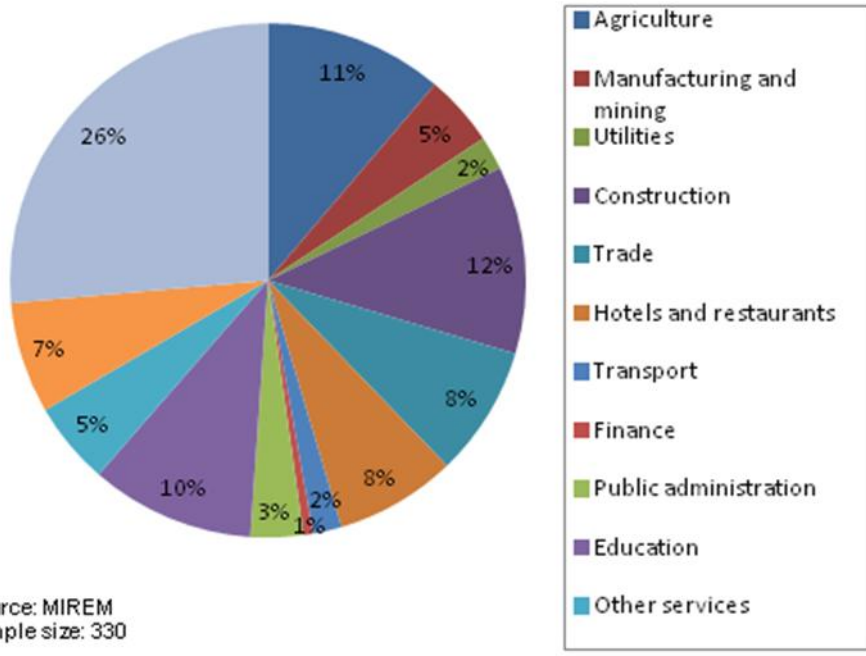
Data on the level of education of 'return migrants' before migration (graph 5.4) and after 'return' (graph 5.5) was accessed in the report [Return Migration and Small Enterprise Development in the Maghreb \(2008\)](#) (EN), which was published in the framework of the 'Migration de Retour au Maghreb' (MIREM) (EN, FR) project 2005 – 2008 (survey including a sample of 330 returnees, project coordinated by the [European University Institute](#) (EN) and co-financed by the [European Union](#) (EN, FR)).



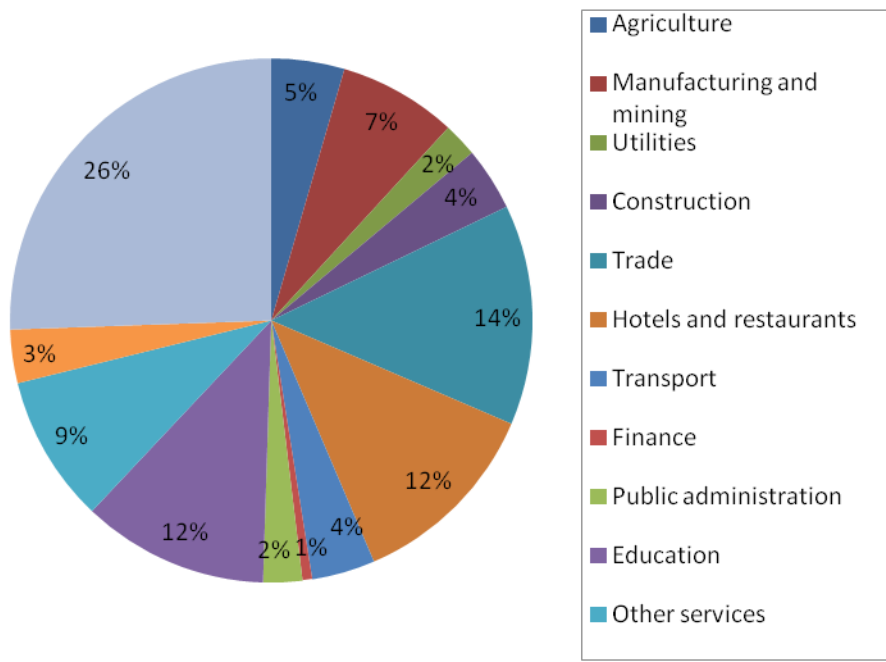
Business Area/Sector of Activity/Professional Position

The report [Return Migration and Small Enterprise Development in the Maghreb \(2008\)](#) (EN) provides data on the sector of activity of 'return migrants' before migration (graph 5.6) and after 'return' (graph 5.7). In both cases, the largest percentage was out of the labour market.

Graph 5.6 - Tunisia: Sector of Activity of 'Return' Migrants Before Migration, 2006



Graph 5.7 - Tunisia: Sector of Activity of 'Return' Migrants After 'Return', 2006



5.3 Impact of ‘Return’ Migration

41% among Tunisian ‘return’ migrants were investors, according to the MIREM report [Return Migration and Small Enterprise Development in the Maghreb \(2008\)](#) (EN). For more detailed information on ‘return’ migrants’ investment behaviour please refer to this [report](#) (EN). No additional data on impact of ‘return’ migration could be collected at this stage.

Further information on ‘return’ migration, which was produced in the framework of this publication, can be accessed in the publications listed below.

- [La migration de retour en Tunisie: Aspects juridiques \(2008\)](#) (FR);
- [La migration de retour en Tunisie \(2007\)](#) (FR);
- [La Migration de retour en Tunisie: Informations statistiques \(2006\)](#) (FR);
- [Return Migrants to Maghreb Countries: Reintegration and Development Challenges \(2008\)](#) (EN);
- [Return Migration and Small Enterprise Development in the Maghreb \(2008\)](#) (EN); and
- [Who Benefits Most from Migration? An Empirical Analysis Using Data on Return Migrants in the Maghreb \(2008\)](#) (EN).

5.4 National Initiatives Related to ‘Return’ Migration

The Office for Tunisians Abroad (*‘Office des Tunisiens à l’Etranger’*) ([AR](#), [FR](#)) provided support to temporary or permanent ‘return’ migrants related to the set-up of a business project in Tunisia, according to Tunisian authorities (2010). Furthermore, it established [temporary and permanent reception offices](#) (FR) (*‘Bureaux d’accueil’*) at main airports, harbours, and border points ([R4](#)).

The [National Agency on Employment and Self-Employment \(ANETI\)](#) ([AR](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)) supports returnees, *inter alia*, through courses and assistance with business plans, based on an agreement between ANETI and OFII ([EN](#), [FR](#)), according to national authorities (2012). 16 projects have been implemented, and 21 are in the pipeline.

Furthermore, the following examples of initiatives related to ‘return’ migration have been introduced by national and international institutions (table 5.2).

| Agency | Initiative | Cooperation | Aim |
|--|---|-------------|--|
| Customs* | Fiscal and customs advantages for ‘return’ migrants | n/a | To facilitate the economic reinsertion |
| Customs* | The right to import equipment needed for entrepreneurship of ‘return’ migrants’ | n/a | To facilitate the establishment of projects |
| Centre for International Migration and Development (EN) (joint | Returning experts programme (EN) | n/a | To support Tunisian experts (mainly engineers or information scientists) |

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| operation of GIZ (EN) and the German Federal Employment Agency (EN)) | | | returning to Tunisia after studying, undertaking vocational training or working in Germany |
| International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (AR, EN, FR) | Improve protection and living conditions of returned or transiting international migrants and those rendered vulnerable in North Africa (EN) | Donor: European Union (EU) | To improve protection and living conditions of ('return') migrants in Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, and Libya |
| The Office Français de l'Immigration et de l'Intégration (OFII) (EN, FR) | Funding of micro-projects for migrants willing to come back to Tunisia. | n/a | n/a |
| CRESM – Centro di Ricerche Economica e Sociali per il Meridione, Union Tunisienne de l'Agriculture et de la Pêche (UTAP) (FR) ** | Action for the valorisation of the experience and resources of Tunisian expatriates (' <i>Action pour la Valorisation de l'Expérience et des Ressources des Tunisiens Expatriés</i> ') | Donor: Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMDI) (EN, FR), EU | To support Tunisian migrants in Sicily who decide to return to and/or to invest in agriculture or fishing in their country of origin |
| N.B: This list is not exhaustive. Sources: * National authorities (2012)** EC-UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMDI) (EN, FR) | | | |

6 Migration and Development: Actors, Policies and Frameworks of Cooperation

6.1 Linkages between Migration and Development in National Policies

The [Presidential Programme 2009 – 2014](#) aims at fostering the contribution of Tunisian emigrant communities to development in Tunisia, according to [R5](#).

The development plan [Economic and Social Development in Tunisia 2010 – 2014](#) (EN) does not include a specific strategy that aims at harnessing the potentials of emigrants for development.

6.2 Relevant Bilateral Agreements and Other Frameworks of Cooperation

The [Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Tunisia, of the other part](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)), contains provisions on migration in Art. 69 (Chapter II on ‘dialogue in social matters’) and Art. 71 (Chapter III on ‘cooperation in the social field’).

Relevant Bilateral Agreements

| Table 6.1 - Tunisia: Bilateral Agreements on Labour Migration, Social Security, and Co-Development | | |
|--|--|---|
| Migration Partnerships | Labour Migration Agreements | Social Security Agreements |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Austria • Belgium • France • Germany • Iraq • Italy • Jordan • Libya • The Netherlands • Oman • Qatar • Switzerland • United Arab Emirates | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Austria • Belgium • France • Germany • Iraq • Italy • Jordan • Libya • The Netherlands • Oman • Qatar • United Arab Emirates • Switzerland | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algeria • Austria • Belgium • Egypt • France • Germany • Italy; • Libya • Luxembourg • Morocco • The Netherlands • Spain • Turkey |
| <p>N.B: This list is not exhaustive Source: National authorities (2012)</p> | | |

Free Movement Areas

Tunisia is not part of a free movement area, according to national authorities (2012).
Country Profile **Tunisia**

Development Cooperation

As shown in the [OECD Development Database on Official Development Assistance](#) (EN), the following Development Assistance Committee Members and multilateral organisations have provided Official Development Assistance (ODA) to Tunisia in 2010 (table 6.2).

The website [Aidflows](#) (AR, EN, FR) allows for a visualisation of aid flows to Tunisia, as well as data on key development indicators and millennium development goals.

The [European Union](#) (EN, FR) portal [Decentralised Cooperation: Local and Regional Authorities for Development](#) (EN, FR) provides an overview on cooperation projects in Tunisia.

Furthermore, the [EC-UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative \(JMIDI\)](#) (EN, FR) is implementing a [Local authorities' M&D initiatives 'mapping exercise'](#) (EN). It also offers an [E-Learning Course on Running](#)

Table 6.2 - Tunisia: Official Development Assistance (ODA) by Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Members and Multilateral Organisations

| DAC Members | ODA in millions |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| France | USD 218.439245 (= EUR 166.1640385) |
| Spain | USD 142.823206 (= EUR 108.6438506) |
| Germany | USD 107.156927 (= EUR 81.51295223) |
| Japan | USD 73.988641 (= EUR 56.28224631) |
| Italy | USD 10.224221 (= EUR 7.777438765) |
| Korea | USD 5.305272 (=EUR 4.035654952) |
| United Kingdom | USD 2.522407 (= EUR 1.918763883) |
| Belgium | USD 1.697421 (= EUR 1.291207211) |
| Austria | USD 1.143307 (= EUR 0.869699528) |
| United States | USD 0.792809 (= EUR 0.603080024) |
| Finland | USD 0.338858 (= EUR 0.2577651) |
| Switzerland | USD 0.213514 (= EUR 0.162417465) |
| Greece | USD 0.208344 (= EUR 0.15848471) |
| Canada | USD 0.109067 (= EUR 0.082965921) |
| Netherlands | USD 0.099324 (= EUR 0.075554541) |
| Portugal | USD 0.033353 (= EUR 0.025371216) |
| Multilateral Organisations | ODA in millions |
| Arab Fund (AFESD) | USD 129.145 (= EUR 98.23900806) |
| EU Institutions | USD 104.544 (= EUR 79.5253309) |
| Global Fund | USD 10.361 (= EUR 7.881484862) |
| GEF | USD 6.972(= EUR 5.303514377) |
| UNDP | USD 0.924 (= EUR 0.702875399) |
| UNICEF | USD 0.766 (= EUR 0.582686749) |
| UNFPA | USD 0.504 (= EUR 0.383386581) |
| UNAIDS | USD 0.001 (= EUR 0.000760688) |

Source: [OECD Development Database on Aid](#) (EN, FR), accessed on 11 October 2012

N.B: Currencies were converted according to [EC exchange rates](#) (EN, FR) of December of the year in which the data was collected.

This list is not exhaustive

Interactive Map on Migration in Africa, the Middle-East and the Mediterranean Region (MTM i-Map)

your M&D Project Successfully ([EN](#), [FR](#)) free of charge, covering all phases of project cycle management from programming to evaluation, while providing tips based on the experiences of the JMDI projects.

With regard to the Tunisia-EU relations, the framework of cooperation is set out in the [Country Strategy Paper 2007-2013 and National Indicative Programme for 2007-2010](#) (EN). Information on the relations between the EU and the Mediterranean and the Middle East can be accessed at the website of the [European Union External Action Service \(EEAS\)](#) ([EN](#), [FR](#)). Further information on the EU's sub-regional and bilateral relations with Africa is provided [here](#) (EN).

6.3 Description of Most Relevant National Migration and Development Actors

The following national actors are active in areas related to Migration and Development in Tunisia (table 6.3).

| Table 6.3 - Tunisia: National Actors Active in the Area of Migration and Development | |
|---|--|
| Ministry | Involvement with Migration and Development |
| Ministry of Foreign Affairs (AR , EN , FR) | The MFA is charged with diplomatic and consular relations with destination countries and the negotiation of bilateral and international agreements related to migration. It plays an important role in maintaining links with the Tunisian community abroad, not only because they host social attachés.* Some diplomatic representations organise information seminars on investment opportunities together with the Foreign Investment Promotion Agency (FIPA) (AR , EN , FR)** |
| Ministry of Social Affairs (AR , FR) | The Ministry is in place since October 2011, the main functions being to draft a migration policy and to coordinate the work of institutions and administrations related to migration issues* |
| Ministry of Social Affairs (AR , FR) - Office for Tunisians Abroad (<i>'Office des Tunisiens à l'Etranger'</i> (OTE)) (AR , FR) | The OTE is organised around a network of civil servants in different regions of the country as well as in the main destination countries of Tunisian emigrants (<i>Attachés sociaux</i>). In the regions, the OTE is present in almost all the governorates (except Sidi Bouzid and Siliana) to support migrants' families in the absence of the head of household. The office shall be restructured in the framework of an institutional reform following the revolution* |
| The Ministry of Investment and International Cooperation (<i>'Ministère de l'investissement et de la coopération internationale'</i>) – Foreign Investment Promotion Agency (FIPA) (AR , EN , FR) | The Ministry deals with the policies related to the promotion of foreign investments in Tunisia, particularly through FIPA. FIPA has seven offices abroad. |
| Agency for Technical Cooperation (ATCT) (AR , EN , FR) | The ATCT is involved in the placement and circulation of technicians abroad, especially in the Gulf countries. It is charged with the social protection of labour migrants through diplomatic missions * |
| The Agency on Migration and | The Agency shall be created in the framework of an institutional |

| | |
|---|---|
| <u>Development</u> | reform following the revolution* |
| <u>The National Migrations Observatory</u> | The Observatory shall be created in the framework of an institutional reform following the revolution (related decree pending). It will offer expertise in the area of migration and centralise data collection, and collaborate with existing research and statistics institutes both within Tunisia and in the destination countries of Tunisian emigrants* |
| <u>Ministry of Regional Development and Planning</u> (AR, EN, FR) | The Ministry has one Directorate-General in every governorate* |
| <u>Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries</u> (EN) - <u>Agricultural Investment Promotion Agency (APIA)</u> (AR, EN) | Public agency for the promotion of investments in the agricultural sector which offers support services to investors in this sector (among them Tunisians abroad)* |
| <u>Ministry of Industries</u> - <u>Agency for the Promotion of Industry and Innovation (API)</u> (AR, EN, FR) | Public agency for the promotion of investments in the industrial sector, offers support services to investors in this sector (among them Tunisians abroad)* |
| <u>Ministry of Vocational Training and Employment</u> (AR, EN, FR) – <u>Agency for National Employment and self-employment (ANETI)</u> (AR, EN, FR) | ANETI is charged with the reception of both voluntary and forced ‘return’ migrants. ‘Return’ migrants who decide to set up a project are offered support in setting up the business plan, vocational training, as well as a small financial support * |
| <u>Ministry of Education</u> (AR, EN, FR) | The Ministry is charged with organising the mobility and formation of Tunisian students abroad and foreign students in Tunisia (studying in public institutions) |
| <u>The State Secretary for Migration and Tunisians Abroad</u> (<i>‘Secretariat d’Etat à la Migration et aux Tunisiens de l’étranger’</i>) | It is currently elaborating a new national migration strategy, which will cover legislative, policy and institutional dimensions* |
| N.B: This list is not exhaustive Source: * R5 ** GTZ Tunisia’s Diaspora Policies — Supporting Integration in Host Countries and Mobilizing Resources for Home Country Development (2010) (EN) | |

Furthermore, the Ministry of Culture (AR, FR) develops cultural activities for the Tunisian communities abroad, and the Ministry of Religious Affairs supports the religious identity of Tunisians abroad.

Government is considering the revitalisation of the former Council of Tunisians Abroad through a new consultation process and with the involvement of Tunisian communities abroad (R1). On 9 July 2012, consultations between the Ministry of Social Affairs, the State Secretariat on Migration and Tunisians Abroad, and the Office of Tunisians Abroad, as well as representatives of 300 associations of Tunisians abroad, local associations, and investment groups have started to work on the formation of the future Superior Council on Emigration (*‘Conseil supérieur de l’émigration’*).

Most of the institutions mentioned are undergoing reforms related to the revolution.

International and regional organisations active in thematic areas related to migration and development include, *inter alia*:

- [IOM Tunisia](#) (EN);
- [UNDP Tunisia](#) (FR);
- [EU Delegation in Tunisia](#) (FR);
- [African Development Bank Office on Tunisia](#) (EN, FR);
- [World Bank Tunisia](#) (AR, EN, FR); and
- [ILO Country Office for Algeria \(covering Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia\)](#) (FR).

Table 6.4 lists joint chambers of commerce

| Table 6.4 - Tunisia: Examples of Joint Chambers of Commerce |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Tunisian-French Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CTFCI)• The Tunisian-Italian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CTICI)• The Tunisian-American Chamber of Commerce (TACC)• The Tunisian - German Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CTAIC)• The Tunisian - British Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CTBCI)• The Tunisian - Dutch Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CTNCI)• The Tunisian - Belgian - Luxembourgian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCTBL) |
| N.B: This list is not exhaustive Source: Agency for the Promotion of Industry and Innovation (AR, EN, FR) |

7 Sources

7.1 List of References

| Reference * | Source | Type of data collection/ methodology** | Frequency | Accessibility |
|-------------------------|--|---|------------------------|---------------|
| n/a | National authorities (2012) | Answer to a questionnaire received from national authorities | One-time | n/a |
| R1 | Data collected by ICMPD experts during their gaps and needs assessment missions in the EU-Tunisia Migration Cooperation Agenda (ETMA) (EN) project (2012) | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| R2 (FR) | International Organization for Migration (IOM) (EN, FR): Quels liens les Tunisiens résident en Europe gardent-ils avec les pays d'origine (2011) (publication on the results of the survey Tunisian migrants involved in Development of the country of origin (TIDO) (FR)) | Sample: 1,684 Tunisians registered in the consular districts of Paris, Pantin, Marseille, Milan, Palermo, and Hamburg | One-time (2011) | free |
| R3 (AR) | National Institute of Statistics (AR, EN, FR): General Population and Housing Census 2004 – Migration Characteristics (2008) (AR) | Data on immigrants in and 'return' migrants to Tunisia gathered in the annual population and housing census of 2004 | 10 years | free |
| R4 | Final report (2010) (AR, EN, FR) of the Joint ICMPD-IOM Project: Linking Emigrant Communities for More Development – Inventory of Institutional Capacities and Practices | Data collected through desk research and information collection missions | One-time (2009 – 2010) | free |
| R5 (EN) | Centre d'économie de l'Université Paris Nord (FR): A New Survey (2MO) to analyse Remittances from France to Southern and Eastern Mediterranean and Sub-Saharan countries (2010) | Sample: 1,000 remittances-senders in French post offices (216 persons remitting to Morocco, 196 to Algeria, 196 to Tunisia, 196 to Turkey, and 196 to sub-Saharan Africa) | One-time (2008) | free |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|--|--|-------------------|---|
| | (EN). | | | |
| R6 (EN) | World Bank (AR, EN, FR) Migration and Remittances Factbook (EN) | Data on workers' remittances and migrants' transfers from various sources | Regularly updated | Free access (click here (EN)) |
| n/a | UNDP (EN, FR): Human Development Report (2009) (AR, EN, FR) | n/a | Regularly updated | free |
| n/a | CARIM database (EN, FR) | n/a | n/a | free |
| n/a | Migration Policy Institute (mpi) (EN) handbook Developing a Road Map for Engaging Diasporas in Development (2012) (EN) | States participating in the GFMD were invited to share their experiences, needs, and priorities through a survey, in-depth interviews, and consultations | One-time | free |
| n/a | World Bank Migration and Development Brief 17 (December, 2011) (EN) | n/a | One-time | free |
| n/a | AfDB (EN, FR), OECD (EN, FR), UNDP (EN, FR), and UNECA (EN, FR): African Economic Outlook Tunisia (2012) | n/a | One-time | free |
| n/a | African Development Bank (AfDB) (EN, FR) economic brief The Revolution in Tunisia: Economic Challenges and Prospects (EN) | n/a | One-time | free |
| n/a | Central Bank of Tunisia (AR, EN, FR) Balance of Payments 2010 (FR) | n/a | Yearly | free |
| n/a | International Institute for Labour Studies (EN, FR) and International Labour Organization (ILO) (EN, FR): Making migration a development factor: the case of North and West Africa (2010) (EN) | n/a | One-time | free |
| n/a | ILO (EN, FR) Working document Tunisie: Migration, marché du travail et développement (2010) (FR), produced in the framework of the project Making migration a development factor: the case of North and West Africa (2010) | n/a | One-time | free |

| | | | | |
|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|------|
| n/a | International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) (EN) publication Sending Money Home to Africa. Remittances, Markets, Enabling Environments and Prospects (2009) (EN) | Surveys carried out in collaboration with microfinance institutions (MFIs) belonging to the International Network of Alternative Financial Institutions (INAFI) (EN). 200 clients and 400 neighbours within the geographical coverage of the MFI branches were surveyed | One-time | free |
| n/a | Épargne Sans Frontière (FR): Réduire les coûts de transferts d'argent des migrants et optimiser leur impact sur le développement : Outils et produits financiers pour le Maghreb et la Zone franc (FR) | n/a | One-time | free |
| n/a | World Bank (AR , EN , FR): What Explains the Cost of Remittances? An Examination Across 119 Country Corridors (2009) (EN) | n/a | One-time | |
| n/a | Migration de Retour au Maghreb' (MIREM) (EN , FR) project 2005 – 2008 (coordinated by the European University Institute (EN) and co-financed by the European Union (EN , FR)). | Sample size: 330 returnees. For further information on the methodology please click here (EN) | One-time (Sept. 2006 – Jan.2007) | free |
| n/a | GTZ Tunisia's Diaspora Policies — Supporting Integration in Host Countries and Mobilizing Resources for Home Country Development (2010) (EN) | n/a | One-time | free |
| <p>* N.B: Reports that have been quoted three times or more will be referred to with this reference system the following times. Sources that are quoted less than three times are listed in this table without having a reference number assigned to them in the first column.</p> <p>** N.B: Information on type of data collection / methodology is only provided for the main country-specific surveys.</p> | | | | |

7.2 Overview on National Data Collection on Migration and Remittances

For detailed information on the statistical system of Tunisia please refer to:

- [Country Profiles of Statistical Systems](#) (EN) of the [United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs \(UNDESA\)](#) ([AR](#), [EN](#), [FR](#));

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- [Country profiles](#) (EN) of the [World Bank](#) ([AR](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)) [Bulletin Board on Statistical Capacity \(BBSC\)](#) (EN); and
- The [Guide on the Compilation of Statistics on International Migration in the Euro-Mediterranean Region](#) [International Migration in the Euro-Mediterranean Region \(September 2009\)](#) (EN) of the [Euro-Mediterranean statistical cooperation \(MEDSTAT\)](#) (EN).

The report [Migrants Count: Five Steps Toward Better Migration Data](#) ([AR](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)), published by the [Commission on International Migration Data for Development Research and Policy](#) (EN), provides recommendations to remedy the lack of good data on migration and its effects on development.

Table 7.2 provides a brief overview on national data collection on migration and remittances.

| Agency/ Type of Data Collection | Frequency | Data Provided | Accessibility |
|---|------------------|---|----------------------|
| Ministry of Foreign Affairs (AR , EN , FR) | ongoing | Data based on consular registrations of Tunisians abroad (including bi-nationals and Tunisians up to the 4 th generation) | n/a |
| National Agency on Employment and Self-Employment (ANETI) (AR , EN , FR) | n/a | Data on labour migration based on agreement with some EU and Gulf countries, as well as data on young professionals leaving to France, based on bilateral cooperation | n/a |
| Agency for Technical Cooperation (ATCT) (AR , EN , FR) | n/a | Data on experts leaving Tunisia in the framework of international cooperation agreements | n/a |
| National Institute of Statistics (AR , EN , FR) - General Population and Housing Census (GPHC) (AR , EN , FR) | 10 years | Data on immigrants in Tunisia and on ‘return’ migrants to Tunisia | free |
| Central Bank of Tunisia (AR , EN , FR) | Annual | Remittances data | free |

N.B: This list is not exhaustive and only includes sources quoted in this profile.