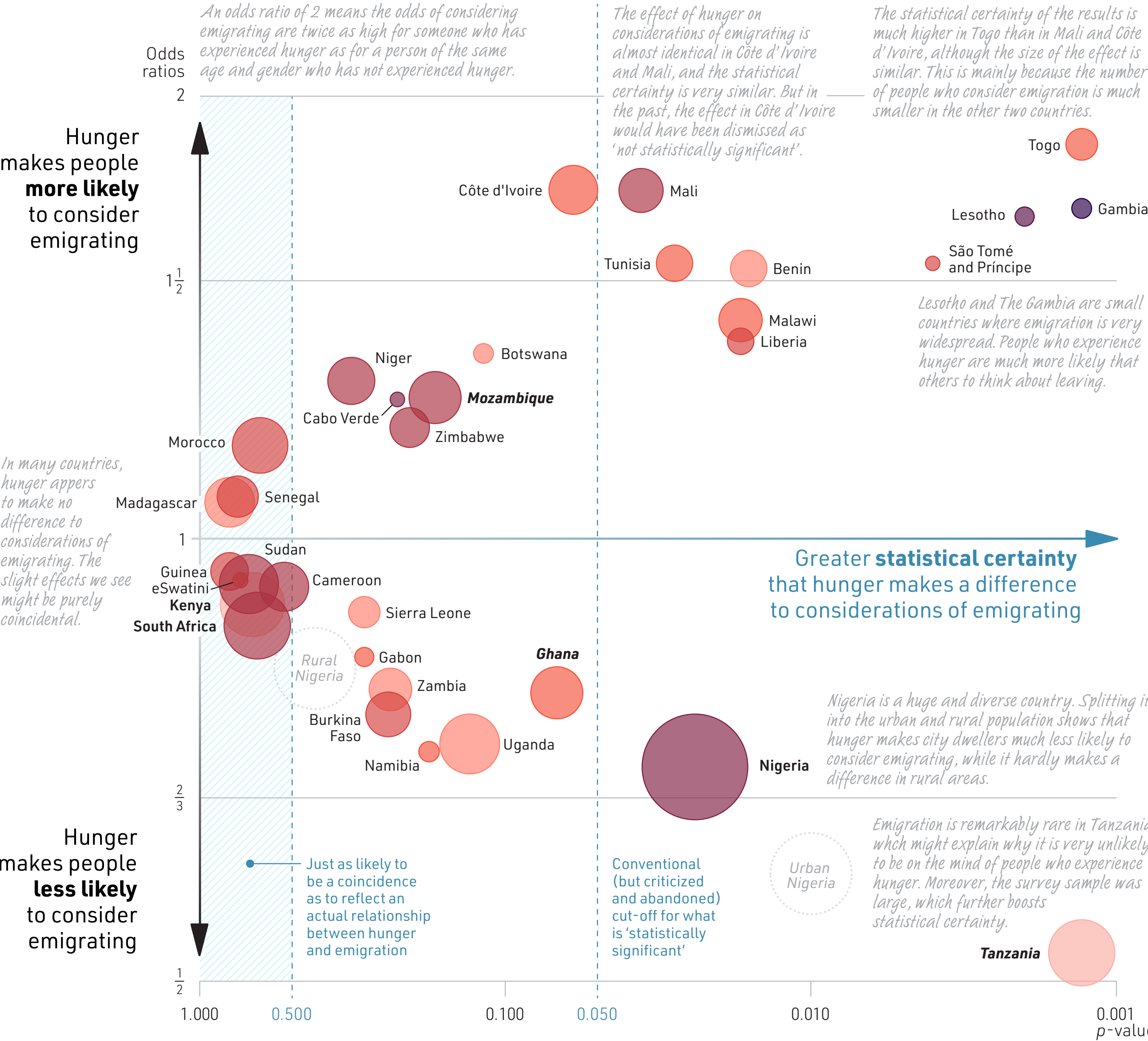


Does hunger make Africans want to move abroad?

Extensive survey data shows that there is not a simple answer.



Number of respondents in the survey (sample size)

Country 2200–2400

Country 1500–1800

Country 1100–1200

Larger samples yield greater statistical certainty. So, although the effect of hunger is stronger in Uganda than in Ghana, we can be more confident that there really is an effect in Ghana, simply because the survey in Ghana had twice as many respondents.

Population

200 million

80 million

10 million

1 million

Population size has no impact on statistical uncertainty, but it might be that people in small countries are more inclined to see emigration as a pathway out of hunger.

Share of people who receive remittances

40 %

35 %

30 %

25 %

20 %

15 %

10 %

If more people receive money transfers from relatives or friends abroad, it probably means that emigration is more widespread – and thereby more relatable as a possible way of of hardship. If emigration is rare, it might be more of an elite phenomenon, beyond the imagination of those who experience hunger.

Source and notes

See jorgencarling.org/2024/12/31/hunger-and-migration for a full explanation.

Data source: Afrobarometer Round 7. Data collected in 2019 (the most recent year for which data on considerations of emigration are available.) Question formulations: Q68A 'How much, if at all, have you considered to moving to another country to live?' ('A lot': 1; Other non-missing answers: 0). Q8D 'Over the past year, how often, if ever, have you or anyone in your family gone without enough food to eat?' ('Never': 0; Other non-missing answers: 1).

Regression analysis: logit regression using Stata's presets for survey data analysis. Age and gender are included as controls.

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