

REFUGEES & MIGRANTS SEA ARRIVALS IN EUROPE

OVERVIEW

In 2016, between January and November, 351,619 people crossed the Mediterranean Sea, risking their lives to reach Europe. These new arrivals are in addition to more than one million refugees and migrants who made the journey across the Mediterranean Sea on unseaworthy boats in 2015.

In 2016, the number of those arriving decreased substantially after March. Of those reaching European shores so far this year, 58% came from the ten countries currently producing the most refugees globally.

MAIN TRENDS

- In November 2016, 16,352 refugees and migrants arrived by crossing the Mediterranean. Among those, 1,991 people arrived in Greece, 13,581 people in Italy and 780 people arrived in Spain. Total arrivals in Greece, Italy and Spain in November decreased by 48% compared to the previous month, (31,429), primarily due to the worsening weather conditions brought on by the onset of winter. Overall, arrivals also decreased by 89% compared to the same month in 2015 (154,975), largely due to the greater number of arrivals last year through the Eastern Mediterranean route.
- Between January and November 2016, 351,619 people arrived by sea, including 171,785 in Greece, 173,008 in Italy and 6,826 in Spain. This constitutes a 61% decrease compared to the same period in 2015 (896,285).
- In November 2016, arrivals most commonly originated Nigeria, Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire.
- So far in 2016, the majority of arrivals are from the Syrian Arab Republic (23%), Afghanistan (12%), Nigeria (10%), Iraq (8%), Eritrea (6%), Guinea (4%), Côte d'Ivoire (4%), Gambia (4%) and Pakistan (3%).

1,014,973	Sea arrivals in 2015
351,619	Sea arrivals in 2016 (January to November)

Figure 1. Sea arrivals to Greece, Italy and Spain between January and November 2016



For more, see [monthly updates 2015](#)

Figure 2. Arrivals' most common countries of origin (January – November 2016)

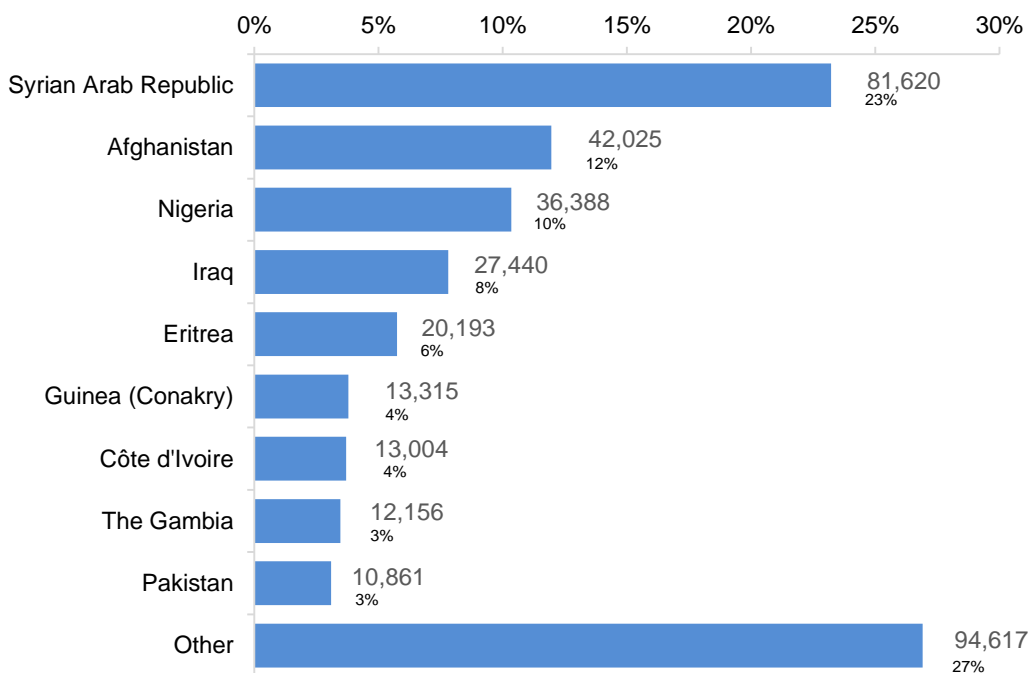
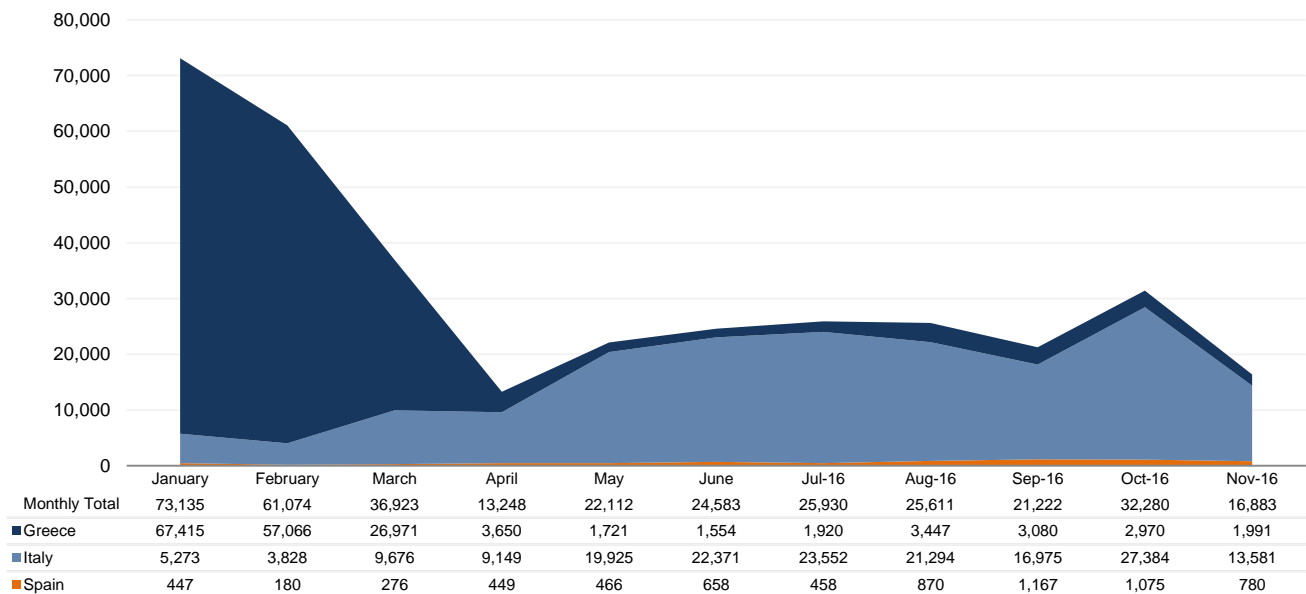


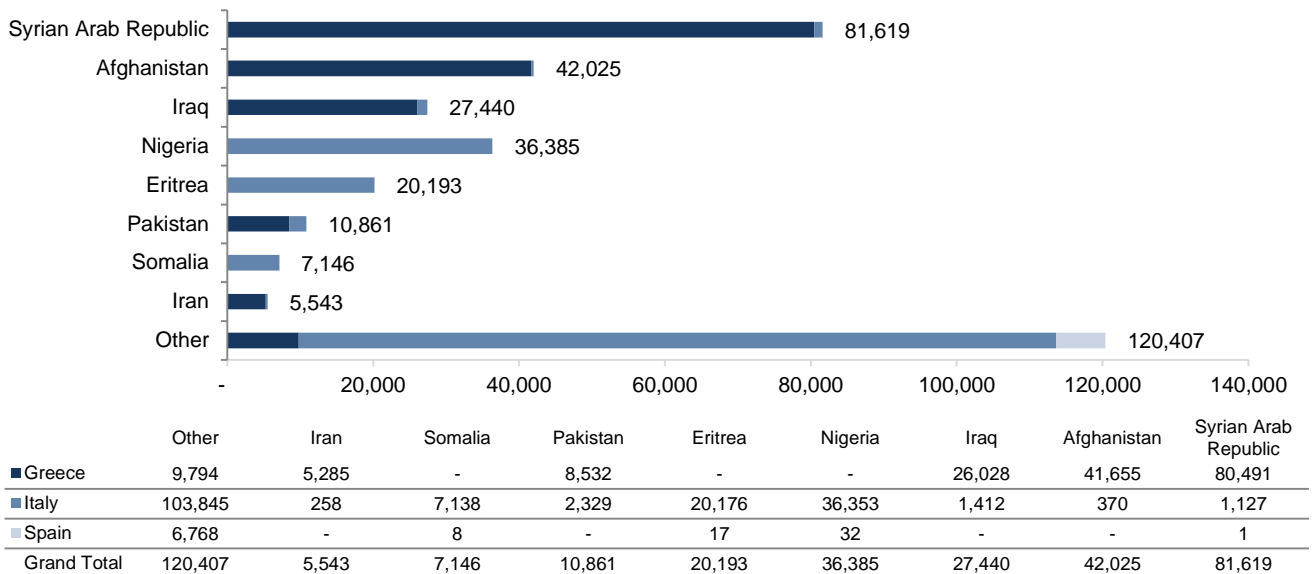
Figure 3. Arrivals to each country by month (January - November 2016)



Note – the number of monthly arrivals from each country are aggregated and stacked to produce the totals for each month shown on the graph above

In November, 16,352 refugees and migrants arrived in Europe by crossing the Mediterranean, which is a 78% decrease compared to the highest number of monthly arrivals in January 2016 (73,135). Arrivals to Greece decreased by 33% compared to October 2016 and decreased by 99% compared to November 2015. Arrivals to Italy decreased in November (13,581) compared to September and August in 2016, but increased compared to November 2015. Sea arrivals in Spain have increased steadily during the year and the total arrivals in Spain in November (780) is also higher (54%) than the same month in 2015, in which only 508 people arrived.

Figure 4: Total arrivals in Greece, Italy and Spain by nationality (Jan - Nov 2016)

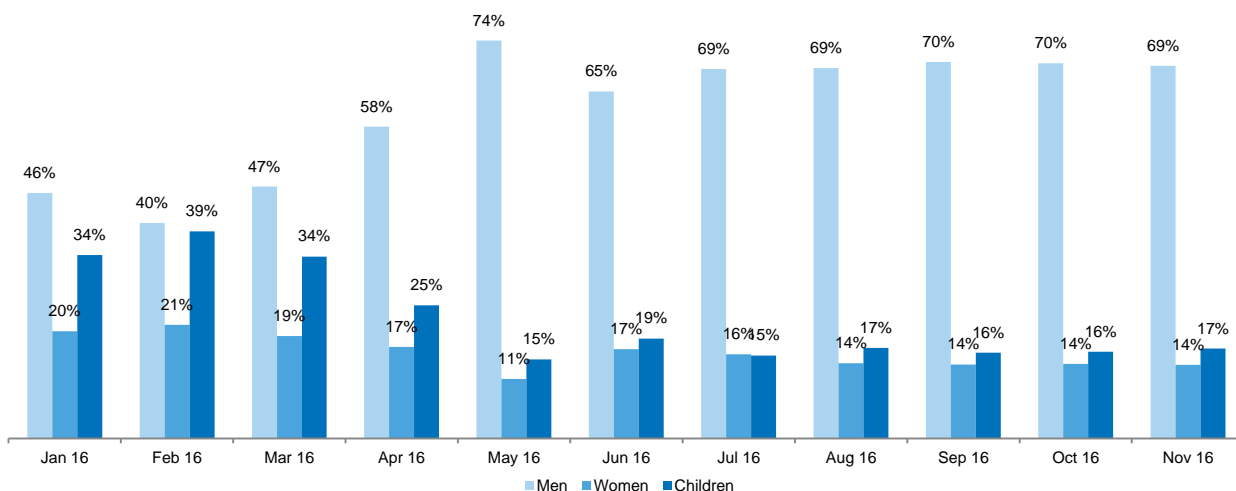


DEMOGRAPHICS OF REFUGEE AND MIGRANT ARRIVALS IN EUROPE

Main findings:

- In November 2016, 69% of sea arrivals were men, while women and children comprised 14% and 17%, respectively.
- On average, 62% of the total arrivals between January and November 2016 were men, while women and children constituted 16% and 22% of arrivals, respectively.
- The proportion of men amongst new arrivals has generally increased (46% in January to 69% in November). As a result, the proportion of women and, in particular, children amongst new arrivals have decreased steadily as the year has progressed. Notably, the proportion of children has decreased from 34% in January to just 17% in November.

Figure 5. Demographic breakdown by month – Cumulative arrivals to Greece and Italy (January – November 2016)



GREECE

The charts below are based on figures from the Hellenic Coast Guard and Police. All figures are provisional and subject to change. Data includes sea arrivals to Greece from January to November 2016.

A total of 171,785 refugees and migrants arrived by sea between January and November 2016, which is 77% lower than in the same period in 2015 (747,980). The number of people arriving in Greece in November 2016 (1,991) decreased by 97% compared to January (67,415) and by 99% compared to November 2015 (151,249). Arrivals also decreased by 33% compared to October 2016.

Between January and November 2016, arrivals most commonly originated from the Syrian Arab Republic, (80,491 or 47%), Afghanistan (41,655 or 24%), Iraq (26,028 or 15%) and Pakistan (8,532 or 5%). In November, the main countries of origin remained broadly similar and include the Syrian Arab Republic (610 or 30%), Afghanistan (254 or 13%), Iraq (220 or 11%) and Pakistan (69 or 3%).

Figure 6. Percentages of nationalities arriving to Greece

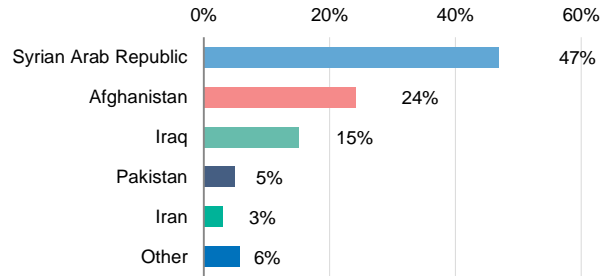
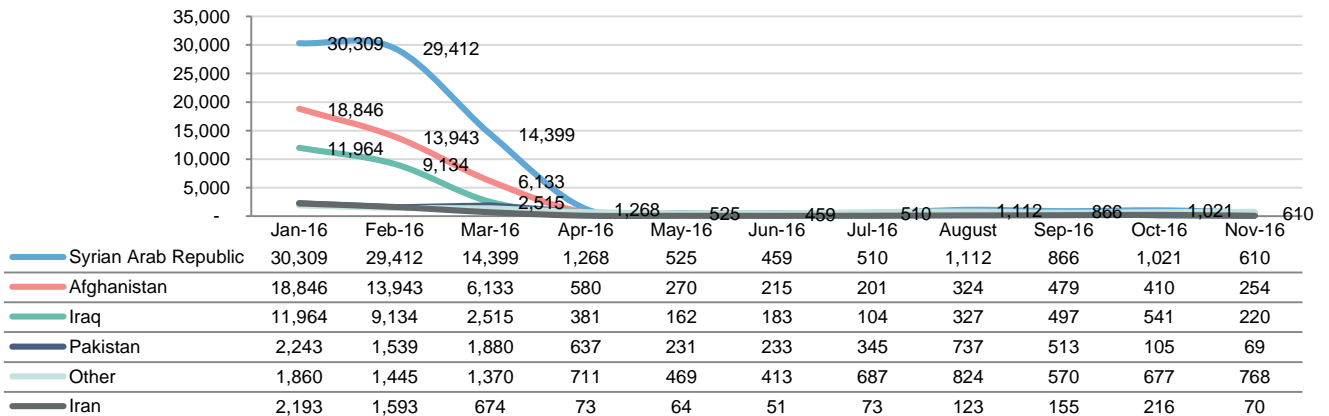
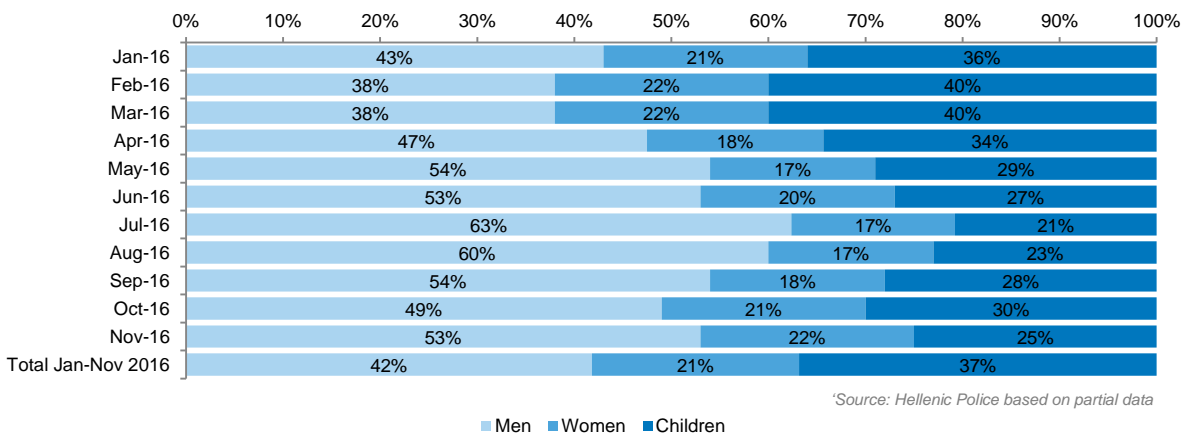


Figure 7: Greece: Trend of monthly sea arrivals by country of origin



The total number of arrivals from the Syrian Arab Republic between January and November 2016 decreased by 82% compared to the same period in 2015 (437,604). Arrivals of Afghans, Iraqis and Pakistanis also decreased by 77%, 57% and 57% respectively when compared to the same period in 2015.

Figure 8. Proportion of men, women and children arrived each month (January – November 2016)*



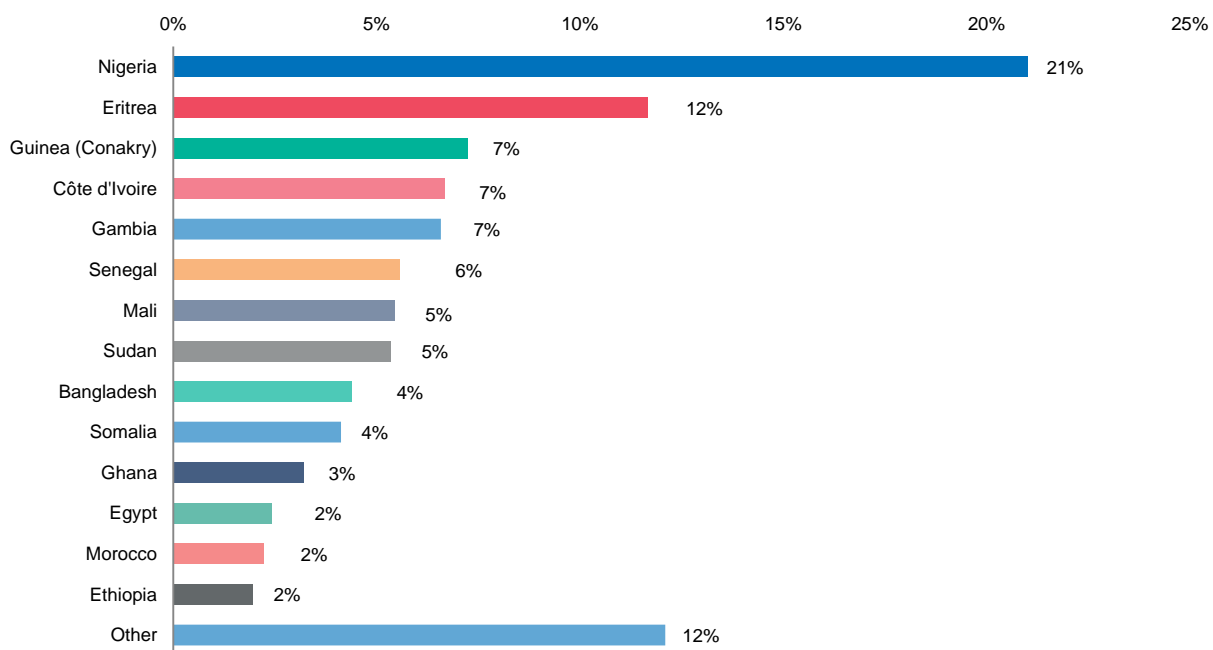
In Greece, the proportion of men among new arrivals increased from 43% (29,103) in January to 53% (1,056) in November, while the proportion of arrivals that are children decreased to 25% (504) in November from 36% (24,221) in January and the proportion of women remained similar through the year (21% or 14,091 in January and 22% or 431 in November 2016).

ITALY

The charts below are based on figures from the Italian Ministry of Interior. All figures are provisional and subject to change. Data includes sea arrivals to Italy from January to November 2016.

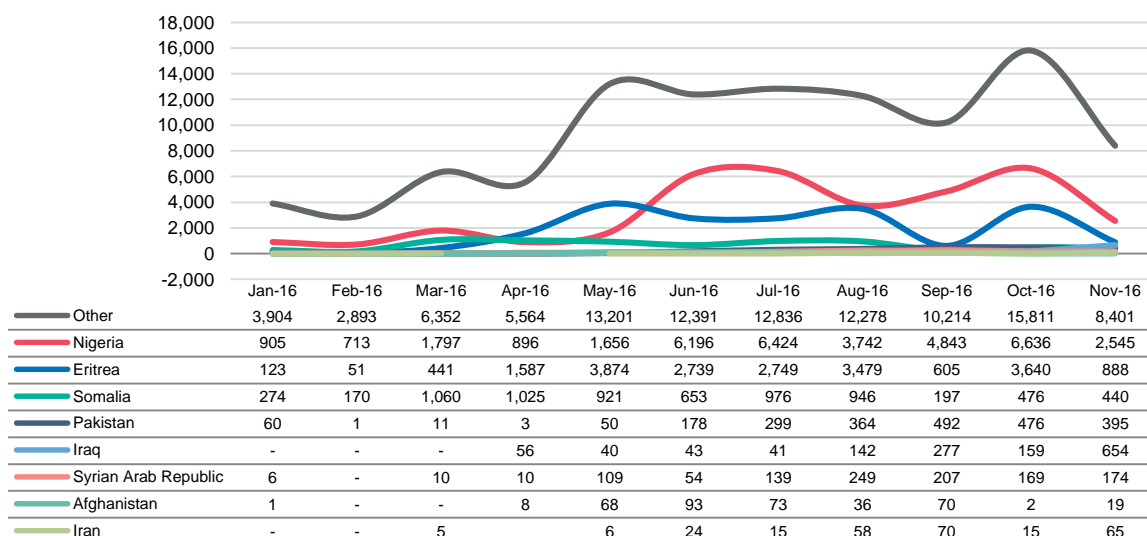
Between January and November 2016, 173,008 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea. This is an increase of 20% compared to same period in 2015 (144,205). The number of people arriving in November (13,581) decreased by 50% compared to the previous month, (27,384) due to the worsening weather conditions brought on by the onset of winter. However, arrivals in November are substantially higher than the same month in 2015 (322% higher than the 3,218 in November 2015).

Figure 9. Country of origin of sea arrivals to Italy



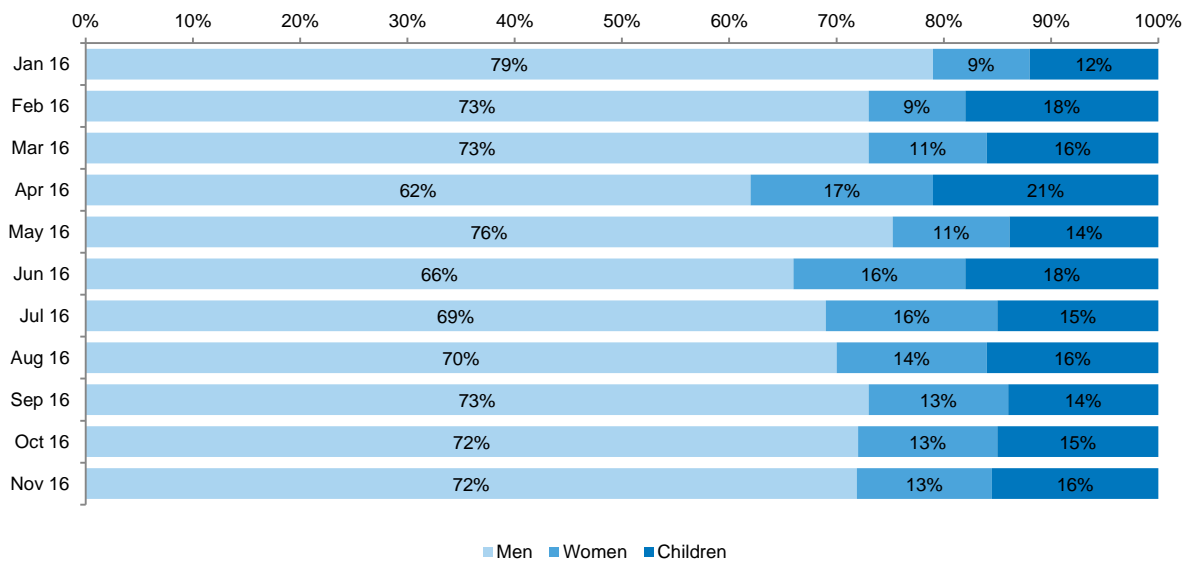
The most common country of origin of arrivals in Italy is Nigeria (36,353 or 21%), followed by Eritrea (20,176 or 12%), Guinea (12,534 or 7%), Côte d'Ivoire (11,556 or 7%), Gambia (11,384 or 7%), Senegal (9,643 or 6%) and Mali (9,416 or 5%). The proportion of Iraqis (1,412 or 1%), Syrians (1,127 or 1%), and Afghans (370 or 0.2%) amongst arrivals to Italy remain very low.

Figure 10. Main nationalities of Mediterranean sea arrivals in Italy- Trends in 2016



*Other category includes all other nationalities not listed in the top ten and a number of other refugees and migrants, grouped by the MoI under the "Sub-Saharan" label and originating from unspecified African countries.

Figure 11. Proportion of men, women and children arriving each month



In Italy, the proportion of arrivals that are men decreased slightly from 79% in January to 72% in November 2016, while the proportion of women increased correspondingly from 9% to 13% and the proportion of children increased from 12% in January to 16% in November. The vast majority of children (87%) are unaccompanied and separated children (UASCs). Their numbers have increased by 121% compared to the same period in 2015 (24,659 in 2016 compared to just 11,154 in 2015).

SPAIN

Data in the charts below cover sea arrivals only. Arrivals to the Canary Islands have been excluded from this analysis, as they are not part of the Mediterranean refugee movement.

Between January and November 2016, a total of 6,826 refugees and migrants arrived in Spain. Sea arrivals in Spain have increased steadily during the year and the total arrivals in Spain in November (780) is also higher (54%) than the same month in 2015, in which only 508 people arrived.

The majority of sea arrivals to Spain are from North and West Africa, mostly from Côte d'Ivoire (1,448 or 21%), Algeria (1,376 or 20%), Guinea (781 or 11%), Gambia (772 or 11%), Morocco (648 or 9%) and Cameroon (550 or 8%).

Figure 12. Percentages of top nationalities arriving to Spain

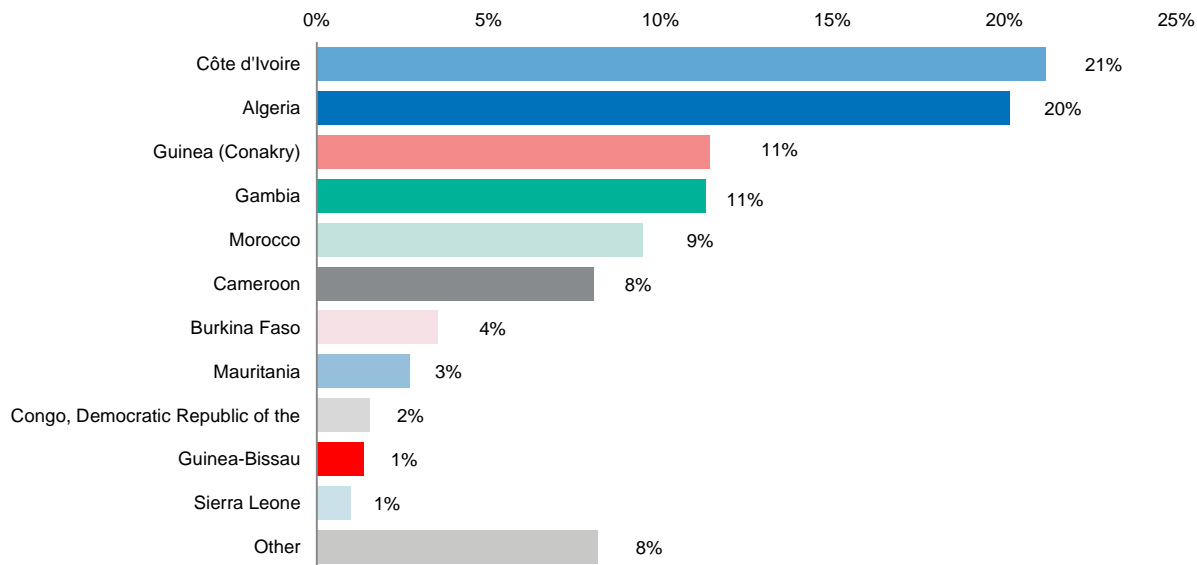
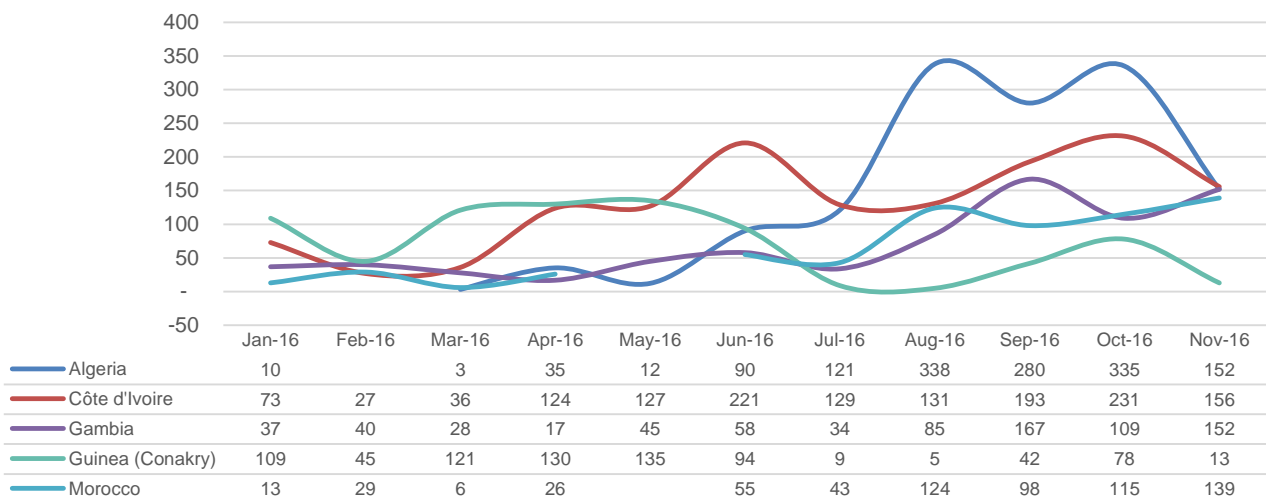


Figure 13. Spain: Trend of monthly sea arrivals by country of origin



Sources:

Arrival figures for Greece are collected in the framework of UNHCR border activities and are provided by Hellenic Coastguard and Hellenic Police; arrival figures for Italy are provided by Italian Ministry of Interior. Arrival figures for Spain are provided by Spanish Ministry of Interior and Spanish Police. Figures are subject to future adjustment and should not be considered final.

Links: data.unhcr.org/mediterranean