ITALY Sea arrivals dashboard

Overview

Between 1 January and 30 April 2019, 779 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea, compared to 9,467 in the same period last year. In April 2019, 255 individuals reached Italian shores. This is comparable to monthly sea arrivals in March this year, when 262 persons were registered at landing points in southern Italy.

Monthly sea arrivals
January 2015 to April 2019

Yearly sea arrivals
January to April, 2015-2019

Nationality of arrivals

In the first four months of 2019, 32 per cent of sea arrivals originated from Tunisia, followed by Algeria (12 per cent), Iraq (10 per cent), Bangladesh (7 per cent), Pakistan (7 per cent), Guinea (5 per cent), Senegal (4 per cent), Somalia (3 per cent), Côte d’Ivoire (3 per cent), and Islamic Republic of Iran (3 per cent). In the same period last year, the most common nationalities of sea arrivals were Tunisia, Eritrea, Nigeria, Sudan, Côte d’Ivoire, Pakistan, Mali, Libya, Guinea, and Algeria. Despite representing the most common nationality of sea arrivals, the numbers of Tunisian nationals arriving on Italian shores dropped from 1,910 in the time period January-April 2018 to 253 in same period of 2019. Notably, 46 per cent of Tunisian sea arrivals in 2019 so far (116 persons out of 253) reached shore in the month of April. Furthermore, Eritrean sea arrivals decreased significantly from 1,810 in January-April 2018 to just 11 in January-April 2019. It is to be noted that, in April 2019, 69 Eritrean nationals were evacuated from Libya to Italy thanks to a joint operation between UNHCR, and Italian and Libyan authorities. Moreover, despite featuring among the most common nationalities of sea arrivals in 2019 so far, Iraqis arriving on Italian shores also dropped in numbers, from 204 to 80 if compared the first four months of 2018 with the same period in 2019.

Most common nationalities of arrivals • January 2018 to April 2019

more information: data.unhcr.org/mediterranean

1 All data are based on Official MoI figures shared with UNHCR. All figures are provisional and subject to change.
Country of embarkation

In the first four months of 2019, 37 per cent of sea arrivals (286 persons) departed from Tunisia, most commonly reaching Italian shores in Lampedusa. The vast majority of individuals departing from Tunisia embarked in Sfax, followed by Mahdia and Al Huwariyah. Furthermore, between 1 January and 30 April 2019, 209 refugees and migrants reached Italian shores having departed from Libya, representing 27 per cent of sea arrivals in the first four months of the year. Individuals departing from Libya most commonly embarked in Zuwarah, followed by Abu Kammash, Sabratha, and Garabulli. Notably, there were no disembarkations of individuals departing from Libya in April 2019 (four had occurred in January and two in March). Also, since the beginning of 2019, 16 per cent of sea arrivals (128 persons) departed from Turkey, mostly from Bodrum, and reached Italian shores in Apulia and Calabria. An additional 12 per cent of sea arrivals in the January-April 2019 period (91 persons) reached Sardinia from Algeria most commonly departing from the towns of El Kala and Sidi Salam. Finally, 8 per cent (64 persons) departed from Greece, most commonly from Patras, and reached Italian shores in Apulia and Calabria.

Demographics of arrivals

Between 1 January and 30 April 2019, most sea arrivals were men (75 per cent), followed by unaccompanied and separated children (16 per cent), adult women (5 per cent), and accompanied children (5 per cent). Since the beginning of 2019, 122 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) reached Italian shores, of whom some 20 arrived in April. Most UASC arriving by sea originated from Tunisia (46), followed by Guinea (17), Bangladesh (12), Iraq (12), Somalia (10), Senegal (8), and Eritrea (3). In 2018, 3,536 UASC reached Italian shores, representing 15 per cent of sea arrivals throughout the year. Further information on UASC arrivals in Italy can be found in the December 2018 *Italy - Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) Dashboard*.