Overview

Between 1 January and 30 November 2019, 10,882 persons arrived in Italy by sea. This is a 53% decrease in sea arrivals compared to the same period last year (23,011). In November 2019, 1,233 individuals reached Italian shores, compared to 980 in November 2018. For the third consecutive month, arrivals in 2019 are higher than the number of people arrived in the correspondent period in 2018.

Nationality of arrivals

In the first eleven months of 2019, 24% of sea arrivals originated from Tunisia, followed by Pakistan (11%), Côte d’Ivoire (10%), Algeria (9%), Iraq (8%), Bangladesh (5%), Sudan (4%), Islamic Republic of Iran (4%), Guinea (3%), and Morocco (2%). In November, the most common country of origin of persons arriving by sea was Bangladesh, with 163 individuals registered at landing points, predominantly in Lampedusa. About 29% of people arriving from Bangladesh were unaccompanied children. The second most common countries of origin of sea arrivals in November were Ivory Coast and Eritrea, with a total of 100 persons each. For Eritrean nationals, this represents an increase if compared to other months in 2019. Only 89 Tunisian arrivals were recorded during this month, a notable drop compared to 381 recorded in the previous month.

Most common nationalities of arrivals - January 2018 to November 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 eleven months of 2019, 35% of sea arrivals in Italy (3,799 persons) departed from Libya, followed by 33% (3,624 persons) from Tunisia. 17% (1,803 persons) from Turkey, 8% (873 persons) from Algeria, and 7% (754 persons) from Greece.

In November, the vast majority of sea arrivals – 973 persons, corresponding to 79% of monthly sea arrivals – departed from Libya, most commonly embarking in Zuwarah. This confirms the trend recorded in October, contrary to previous months, when most recorded departures were from Tunisia. In November, 134 refugees and migrants, i.e. 10% of monthly sea arrivals, departed from Tunisia.

Between 1 January and 30 November 2019, most sea arrivals were adult men (72%), followed by unaccompanied and separated children (14%), adult women (9%) and accompanied children 5%. Since the beginning of 2019, 1,541 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) reached Italian shores, of whom 206 arrived in November.

In 2019 so far, most UASC arriving by sea originated from Tunisia (518), followed by Pakistan (195), Bangladesh (125), Côte d'Ivoire (124), Guinea (88), and Iraq (70).

Demographics of arrivals

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