EUROPE SITUATIONS: DATA AND TRENDS

ARRIVALS AND DISPLACED POPULATIONS

Regional Bureau for Europe | July 2023

ARRIVALS AND DISPLACED POPULATIONS: KEY FIGURES AND TRENDS

JULY 2023 FIGURES

120,200 estimated arrivals via the Mediterranean and Northwest African maritime routes

2,374 estimated dead or missing at sea

(Cumulative figures[1] from 1 January to 31 July 2023)

UKRAINE

5.8 million refugees from Ukraine recorded across Europe, at the end of July 2023[8], while **5.1 million** people were internally displaced by the end of May.

TÜRKIYE

Syrians under temporary protection	**3.4 million**
Refugees and asylum-seekers under international protection	**300,000**

For more information, please see UNHCR Türkiye factsheet June 2023

NORTHWEST AFRICAN MARITIME ROUTE[2]

8,555 sea arrivals, no arrivals by land
270 dead or missing

WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE[3]

7,779 arrivals, of which 289 by land
121 dead or missing

CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE[4]

89,329 sea arrivals, no arrivals by land
1,290 dead or missing

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE[5]

14,516 arrivals, of which 2,109 by land
693 dead or missing

SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE[6]

14,700 people arrived in or transited through the subregion

Includes Serbia and Kosovo (S/RES/1244 [1999]). The boundaries and names shown, and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

UKRAINE SITUATION

The war in Ukraine triggered a major increase in humanitarian needs due to mass internal displacement and refugee outflows. As of 31 July 2023, 5,804,500 refugees from Ukraine were recorded across Europe, with 5,119,600 registered for Asylum, Temporary Protection or similar national protection schemes. As of the end of May, 5.1 million people were internally displaced in Ukraine.[7]

In July UNHCR published the 4th round of the Lives on hold: Intentions and Perspectives of Refugees and IDPs from Ukraine, based on interviews with some 3,850 refugee households across Europe and 4,000 internally displaced people (IDP) households in Ukraine. The main enabler for sustainable returns amongst both refugees and IDPs remained an end to the war and related safety risks, as well as regaining access to basic services, housing and livelihoods opportunities.

Ukraine situation key figures as of 31 July 2023[8]

5,804,500
Refugees from Ukraine recorded in Europe

364,000
Refugees from Ukraine recorded beyond Europe

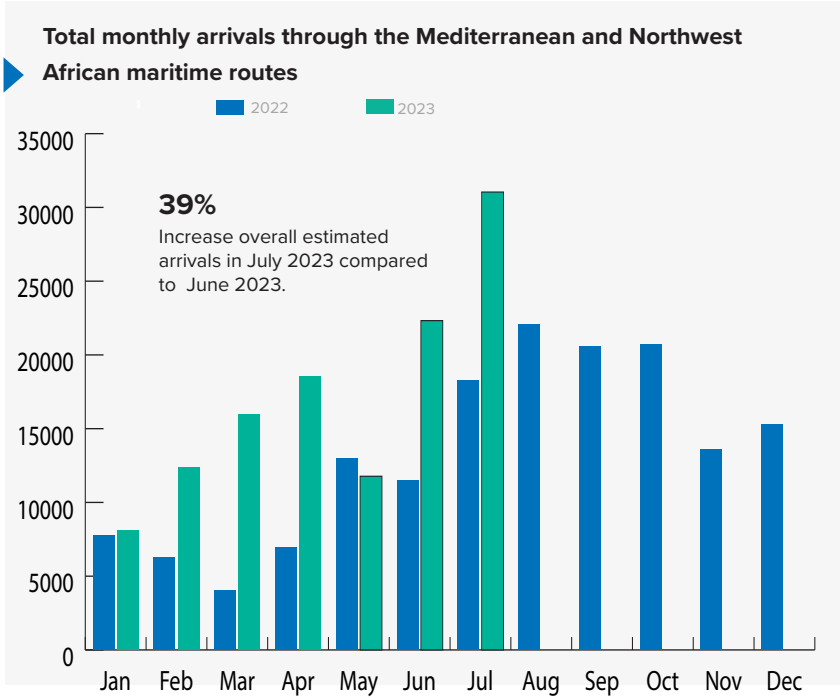
6,168,500
Refugees from Ukraine recorded globally

For more information, please visit the Operational Data Portal for the Ukraine Refugee Situation

The survey showed that 39 per cent of refugees and 50 per cent of IDPs made at least one short-term visit to their place of origin, while 40 percent of refugees and 35 percent of IDPs were unable to do so due to security concerns and lack of means. Moreover, for refugees, a lack of documentation and fear of loosing their legal status played a deciding factor as well. The ability to return for short periods and maintain links with relatives, communities and check on the prevailing situation can help pave the way for more durable returns when conditions permit.

ARRIVALS IN EUROPE VIA THE MEDITERRANEAN AND NORTHWEST AFRICAN MARITIME ROUTES

Between January and July 2023, some 120,200 refugees and migrants arrived in Europe, specifically through the Mediterranean and Northwest African maritime routes. This resulted in a 77 per cent increase compared to the same period last year. In July, overall arrivals increased by 39 per cent compared to previous month and by 70 per cent compared to the same period last year.



Total arrivals in Italy increased by 56 per cent in July compared to the previous month, and by 71 per cent compared to the same period last year. Of the 23,600 refugees and migrants who arrived in Italy over July, 86 per cent departed from Tunisia, and 9 per cent from Libya. UNHCR also noted 1,071 arrivals from Türkiye and 11 from Algeria in July. In addition, 36 people arrived in Malta over the month as well.
Total arrivals from Tunisia between January and July 2023 increased five-fold, while arrivals from Libya increased by 32% compared to the same period last year. The majority of arrivals from Tunisia originated from Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Tunisia, while most arrivals from Libya originated from Bangladesh, Egypt and Syrian Arab Republic.

In Spain, some 3,600 refugees and migrants arrived over July, a 13 per cent decrease compared to the previous month. Of the arrivals, 38 per cent landed on the Canary Islands. Arrivals along the Northwest African maritime route decreased by 51 per cent in July while increased by 67 per cent along the Western Mediterranean route compared to the previous month.

In Greece, throughout July, some 3,300 refugees and migrants arrived by both land and sea, representing a 26 per cent increase compared to the previous month and a 126 per cent increase compared to the same period last year. Turkish authorities reported rescuing, or intercepting, 2,909 refugees and migrants at sea in July. Further, 547 refugees and migrants arrived in Cyprus by sea in July, resulting in a 25 per cent increase compared to the previous month.

For more information, please visit https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/mediterranean

SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE[9]

In July 2023, 4,400 people arrived in, or transited through, the subregion as part of mixed refugee and migrant movements. Resultantly, arrivals were 140 per cent more than the previous month and 11 per cent more than in July 2022. Between January and July 2023, 14,700 people arrived in, or transited through, the subregion, nine per cent less than in the same period in 2022.

In July 2023, 82 people submitted asylum applications, a six per cent decrease compared to the previous month. 13 positive first-instance decisions were issued in July (four subsidiary protection status and nine refugee status), while 22 applications were rejected and 45 closed.

As of the end of July, 489 asylum applications were pending a decision across the subregion. So far this year, 94 positive first-instance decisions were issued across the subregion (37 refugee status and 57 subsidiary protection status), 112 asylum applications were rejected, and 426 asylum applications were closed after applicants did not respond or were no longer present in the country of application.

For more information, please visit http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/southeasterneurope

[1] Dead and missing figures refer to the Mediterranean and Northwest African maritime routes. Information is compiled from a variety of sources, the quality and reliability of which can vary. While every effort has been made to ensure that all statistical information is verified, figures on some arrivals, as well as dead and missing at sea, represent an estimate.Triangulation of information and sources is performed on a continuous basis. Therefore, amendments in figures may occur, including retroactively.
[2] Includes sea arrivals in the Canary Islands (Spain) via the Atlantic Ocean.
[3] Includes sea and land arrivals in Spain via the Western Mediterranean route.
[4] Includes sea arrivals in Italy and Malta.
[5] Includes sea and land arrivals in Greece and sea arrivals in Cyprus.
[6] Majority of the persons arriving in the Western Balkan region are part of the secondary movement, those who have already arrived in Greece or Bulgaria and then transited through the region with the intention to move onward to other EU countries.
[7] Ukraine Internal Displacement Report, IOM, May 2023.
[8] In preparation for UNHCR's Annual Statistical Review 2023, and publication of our Global Trends Report in June 2023, a thorough review of all statistics related to refugees from Ukraine was undertaken (for details please refer to Ukraine Refugee Situation - Data Explanatory Note).
[9] Includes Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Kosovo (S/RES/1244 [1999]).