

# **ITALY** Sea arrivals dashboard

### Overview

Between 1 and 31 January 2019, 202 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea, compared to 4,189 and 4,467 in the same period in 2018 and 2017, respectively. During the first month of 2019, there were 8 disembarkations events occurring on Italian shores, with the largest groups comprising 53 arrivals in Torre Melissa on 10 January, 68 arrivals in Lampedusa on 18 January; and 47 arrivals in Catania on 31 January. While in recent years, sea arrivals have normally been lower during winter than in other seasons (often reflecting more difficult weather conditions), monthly sea arrivals in January 2019 were the lowest since January 2013.



### Nationality of arrivals

In January 2019, 28 per cent of all arrivals originated from Bangladesh, followed by Iraq (19 per cent), Tunisia (15 per cent), Senegal (9 per cent), Guinea (9 per cent), and Iran (6 per cent). In the same period last year, the most common nationalities of sea arrivals were Eritrea, Tunisia, Pakistan, Nigeria, Libya, and Côte d'Ivoire. While Tunisians continue to represent a significant percentage, their numbers dropped from 611 in January 2018 to 31 in January 2019. Notably, so far this year, there were no sea arrivals originating from Eritrea and only one sea arrival originating from Nigeria. Eritrea and Nigeria were among the most common nationalities of sea arrivals of sea arrivals in recent years, with almost 21,000 and over 37,000 sea arrivals, respectively, in 2016. Numbers dropped to just over 7,000 Eritreans and some 18,000 Nigerians in 2017. The decrease was even more significant in 2018, when 3,320 Eritreans and 1,250 Nigerians reached Italian shores.

#### Most common nationalities of arrivals - January 2018 to January 2019



Jan 2019

Jan 2018<sup>1</sup>

202

4.189

#### UNHCR 12 February 2019

more information: data.unhcr.org/mediterranean

<sup>1</sup> All data are based on Official Mol figures shared with UNHCR. All figures are provisional and subject to change



### Country of embarkation

Between 1 and 31 January 2019, 118 refugees and migrants reached Italian shores having departed from Libya, representing 58 per cent of monthly sea arrivals. Almost all of them departed from Zuwarah. Sea arrivals departing from Libya include a group of 68 persons who were rescued by the Italian Coast Guard and disembarked in Lampedusa on 18 January. Furthermore, the 47 refugees and migrants who were rescued by NGO vessel Sea Watch 3 on 19 January also departed from Libya. UNHCR called for the urgent disembarkation of the group, who were stranded on board the Sea Watch 3 until Italian authorities authorized the disembarkation in Catania on 31 January. Another 26 per cent of monthly arrivals (53 persons) departed from Turkey (Izmir) and autonomously reached Torre Melissa, in the southern region of Calabria. The group comprised ethnic Kurds from Iraq and Iran. UNHCR praised the Torre Melissa community for rescuing new arrivals as the vessel in which they were travelling was in distress just off the town's coast. Finally, 15 per cent of monthly sea arrivals departed from Tunisia, mostly reaching Italian shores in Lampedusa.

## Demographics of arrivals

January 2017, 2018 and 2019



■ Men ■ Women ■ Acc. child.\* ■ UASC



\* Others include Turkey, Greece and Algeria

In January 2019, most sea arrivals were men (73 per cent), followed by unaccompanied and separated children (23 per cent), adult women (2 per cent), and accompanied children (2 per cent). During the month, 42 UASC reached Italian shores, most of whom originated from Bangladesh (12), followed by Tunisia (9), Guinea (7), Iraq (6), Senegal (5), Egypt (2), and Sudan (1). 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*.



#### Nationality and demographics of arrivals – January 2019

UNHCR 12 February 2019 \* Accompanied children