

ITALY Sea arrivals dashboard

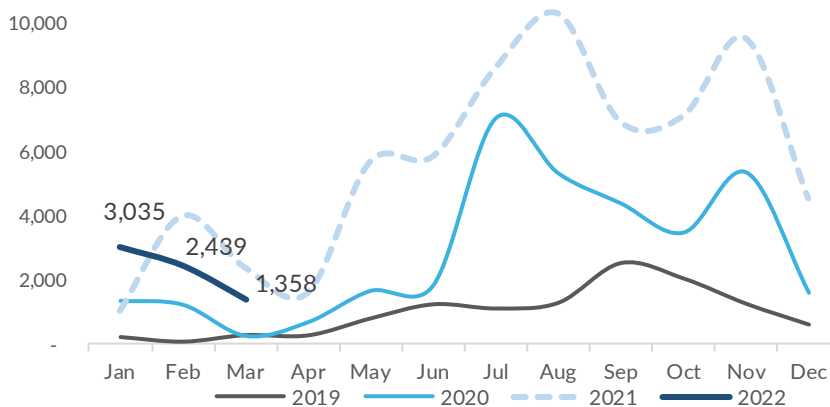
Overview

In the first three months of the year, 6,832 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea, compared to 7,418 in the same period last year. In March 2022, 1,358 persons were registered at landing points in southern Italy. The vast majority disembarked in Sicily (861 persons), followed by Calabria (497). There were no disembarkations in other regions in March.

6,832 Jan - Mar 2022¹
7,418 Jan - Mar 2021¹

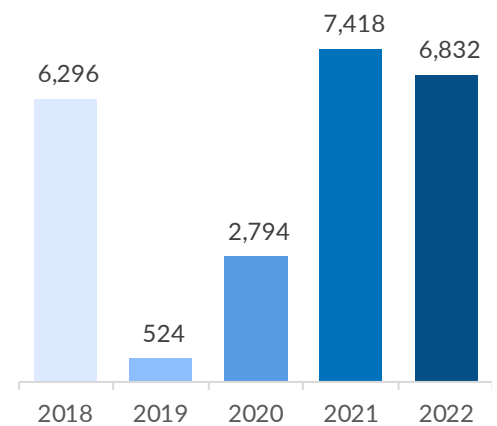
Monthly sea arrivals

January 2019 to March 2022
 12,000



Yearly sea arrivals

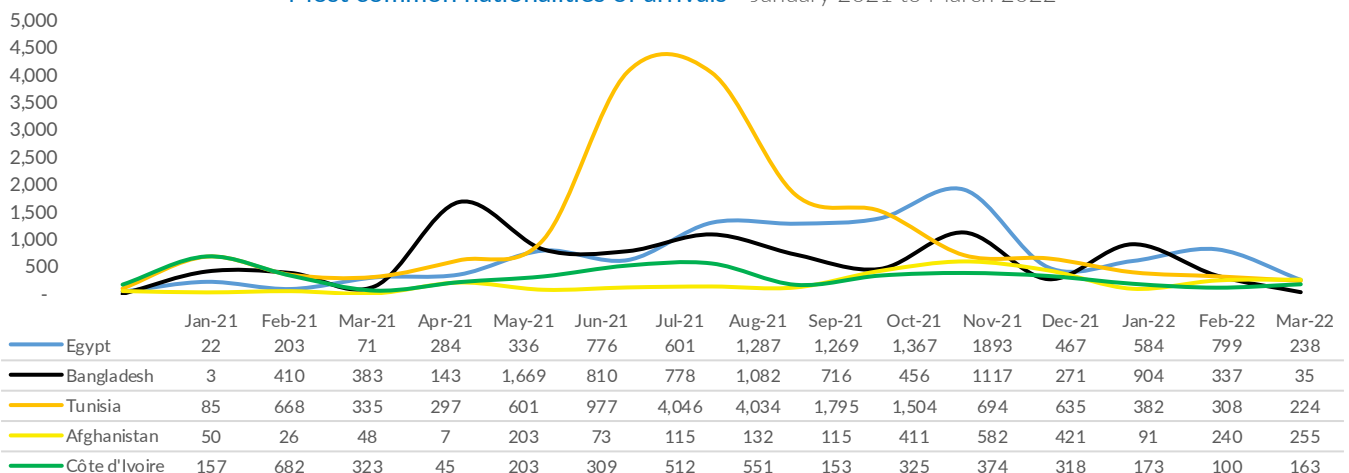
January to March, 2018-2022



Nationality of arrivals

Year to date, the most common country of origin recorded among refugees and migrants reaching Italian shores is Egypt (24%), followed by Bangladesh (19%), Tunisia (13%), Afghanistan (9%), Côte d'Ivoire (6%), Eritrea (5%), Syrian Arab Republic (4%), Guinea (4%), Sudan (3%) and Cameroon (2%). Approximately 53% of sea arrivals in March 2022 originated from just three countries, namely Afghanistan (255 persons), Egypt (238 persons) and Tunisia (224 persons). While the numbers of Afghan nationals are on a par with figures recorded in February 2022, when 240 reached Italian shores, Egyptian arrivals and, to a lesser extent, Tunisian arrivals saw a decrease compared to previous month, when respectively 799 and 308 disembarked in southern Italy. Conversely, only 35 Bangladeshi nationals arrived by sea in March 2022, compared to 337 in February 2022 and 904 in January 2022. All Afghans reaching Italian shores in March 2022 departed from Turkey. Some 72% of Egyptian arrivals this month also embarked in Turkey, while 28% travelled by sea via Libya.

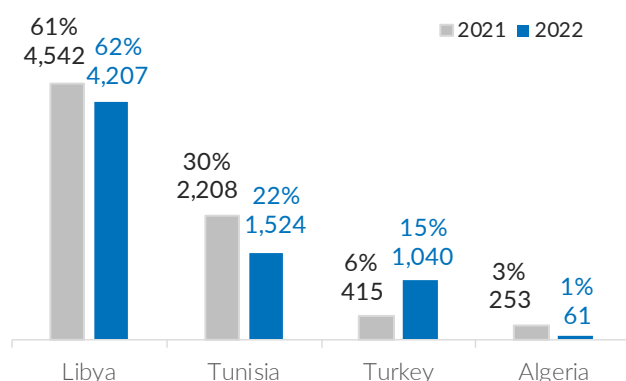
Most common nationalities of arrivals - January 2021 to March 2022



Country of embarkation

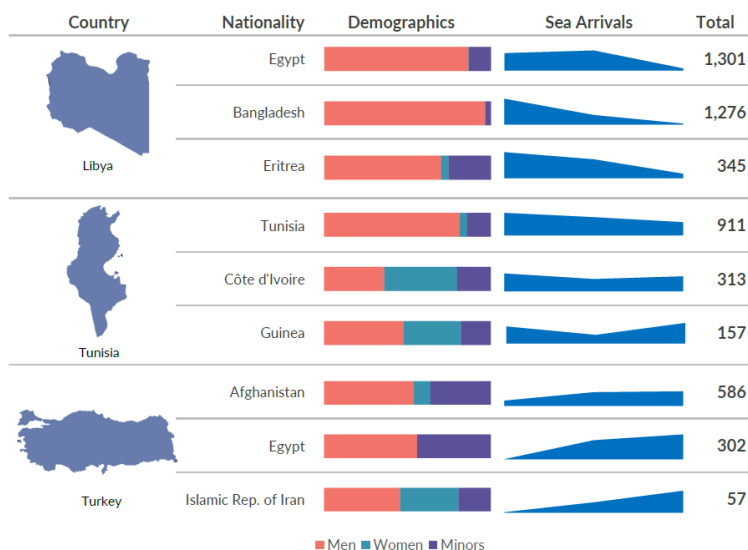
In the first three months of 2022, 62% of sea arrivals in Italy (4,207 persons; 53 disembarkations) departed from Libya, followed by 22% (1,524 persons; 85 disembarkations) departing from Tunisia, 15% (1,040 persons; 11 disembarkations) departing from Turkey and 1% (61 persons; six disembarkations) departing from Algeria. In March 2022, 37% of sea arrivals embarked in Turkey, 33% in Tunisia and 30% in Libya. Most refugees and migrants embarking in Turkey were Afghan nationals, while the vast majority of those departing from Tunisia were Tunisian. Sudan was the most common country of origin among persons departing from Libya this month.

January to March 2021 - 2022



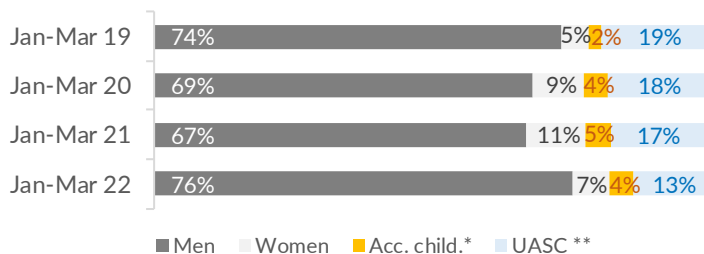
Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100% exactly

Top 3 nationalities by country of embarkation, January to March 2022



Demographics of arrivals

January to March 2019 - 2022



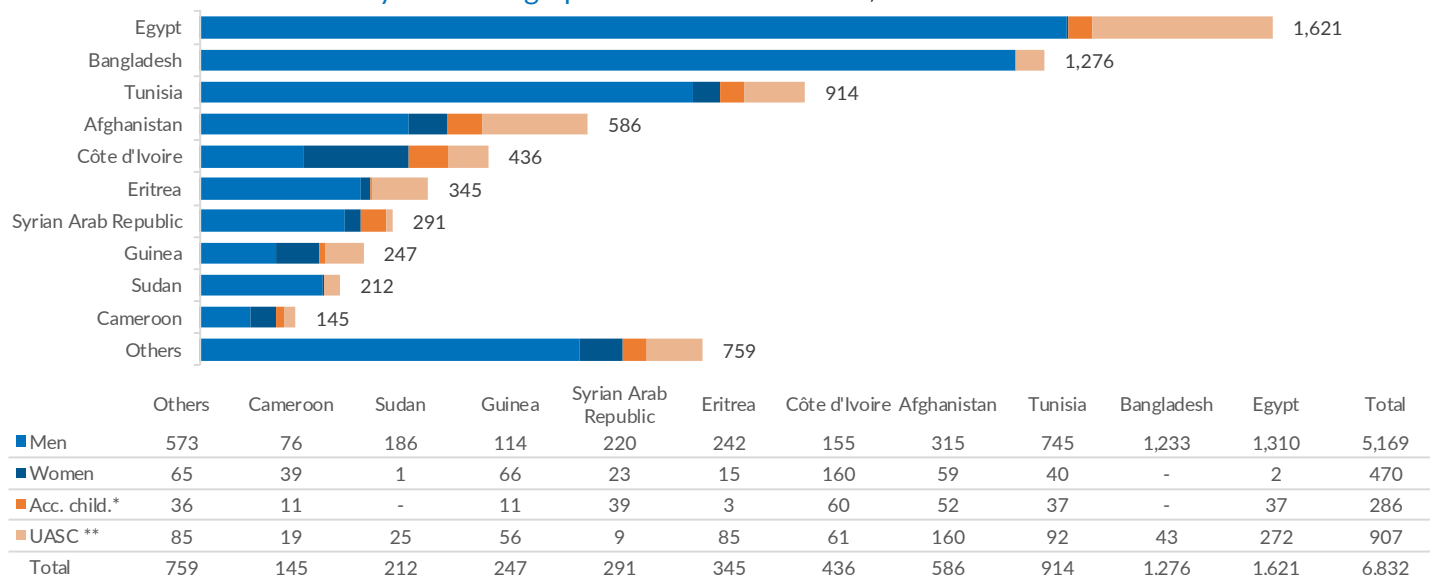
Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100% exactly

In the first three months of 2022, most sea arrivals were adult men (76%), followed by unaccompanied and separated children (UASC, 13%), adult women (7%) and accompanied children (4%).

In March 2022, 184 adult women reached Italian shores, the vast majority of whom originated from Côte d'Ivoire (58) followed by Afghanistan (42) and Syrian Arab Republic (17) and Guinea (36).

In the same period, 231 UASC arrived in Italy by sea: the most common nationalities recorded were Egypt (72 persons), Afghanistan (38), Tunisia (27), Côte d'Ivoire (26), Guinea (19) and Sudan (12).

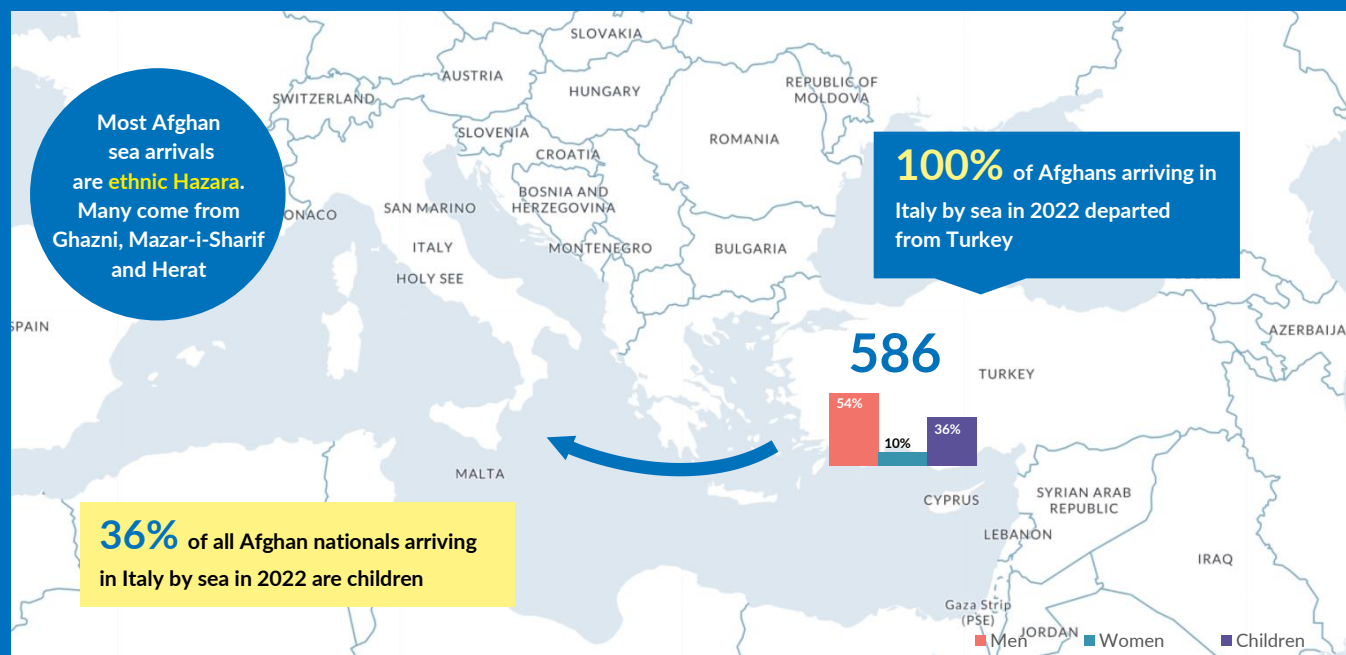
Nationality and demographics of arrivals – January to March 2022



* Accompanied children ** Unaccompanied and separated children

Quarterly focus

Afghan nationals



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Please note that children in this map refers to both accompanied and unaccompanied children. The accompanied/unaccompanied children breakdown by country of embarkation is unavailable. Due to rounding percentages may not sum to 100% exactly.

Profiles

- During the first quarter of 2022, 586 Afghan nationals reached southern Italy by sea, the **highest number on record in the January-March period** since Italian authorities started systematically collecting sea arrivals data in 2010. While Afghan sea arrivals have been relatively low in recent years (ranging from 71 to 1,009 between 2017 and 2020), they increased steadily in 2021, reaching a yearly peak of 2,183, with 582 persons arriving in November only. The **upward trend appears to continue into 2022**, as Afghan sea arrivals increased from 91 in January, to 240 in February, to 255 in March. As of 31 March 2022, Afghans are the fourth most common nationality of year-to-date sea arrivals, accounting for 9% of persons arriving by sea in the first three months of 2022.
- Over a third of Afghan sea arrivals in the first quarter of 2022 were children:** 27% were unaccompanied children, followed by 9% accompanied children. Most Afghan sea arrivals were adult men (54%), adult women accounting for only 10% of the total.
- Year to date, most Afghan sea arrivals are **ethnic Hazara**. This may partially explain the increase in Afghans arriving by sea as Hazaras, an historically discriminated ethnic minority, may feel increasingly insecure after the August 2021 Taliban takeover. The upward trend may also be linked to the **increased permeability of Afghan borders**, after their initial closure following the Taliban takeover. Finally, Afghans reportedly perceive sea routes to be increasingly safer than travelling by land through South-East Europe.
- Many Afghan sea arrivals originate from Ghazni, others from Mazar-i-Sharif and Herat. Several arrivals met by UNHCR staff were university educated, while children aged 15 to 17 reported attending high school back home.

Routes

- All Afghans arriving by sea in the first three months of the year **departed from Turkey**. The vast majority disembarked in Calabria, with small numbers reaching Apulia and Sicily. New arrivals reported leaving Afghanistan between August and September 2021, traveling via Iran and Turkey.
- Many Afghan arrivals told UNHCR staff that smugglers often arranged **accommodation** in Turkey. Many also worked in Turkey, including in clothing factories. Some Afghans met by UNHCR staff at disembarkation sites reported **previous failed attempts to cross at sea**, explaining that they were intercepted at sea by Turkish authorities and subsequently subjected to months-long detention also experiencing mistreatment at the hands of the authorities.
- The cost of the journey from Afghanistan to Europe reportedly ranges between 7,000 to 12,000 USD. Many Afghan sea arrivals told UNHCR staff that they had relatives or friends they intended to join in Europe.