

REFUGEES & MIGRANTS SEA ARRIVALS IN EUROPE

In 2015 and until August 2016, an increasing number of people risked their lives to cross the Mediterranean Sea in search of safety. More than 1 million people arrived by boats in 2015 and more than 280,000 people between January and August 2016. A 61 per cent come from the world's top 10 refugee-producing countries.

Main trends:

- In August 2016, 25,611 people arrived by sea through the Mediterranean. Among those, 3,447 people arrived to Greece, 21,294 people to Italy and 870 people arrived to Spain. Total arrivals to Greece, Italy and Spain in August remained almost the same compared to July (25,930), but decreased by 80% compared to August (130,837) in 2015.
- Between January and August 2016, 282,616 people arrived by sea, including 163,744 to Greece, 115,068 to Italy and 3,804 to Spain. This constitutes 21% decrease compared to the same period in 2015 (356,432).
- In 2016, the top three countries of origin of arrivals were Syrian Arab Republic, Afghanistan and Iraq.
- The majority of arrivals are from the Syrian Arab Republic (27.8%), Afghanistan (14.4%), Iraq (8.9%), Nigeria (7.9%), Eritrea (5.3%), Pakistan (3.1%), Côte d'Ivoire (3.0%), Guinea and Gambia (2.9%) each amongst others.

1,014,973	Sea arrivals in 2015
282,616	Sea arrivals in 2016 (January to August)

Figure 1. Sea arrivals to Greece, Italy and Spain between January and August 2016



For monthly updates 2015, see the [document](#)

Figure 2. Top-10 main nationalities by arrivals (January – August 2016)

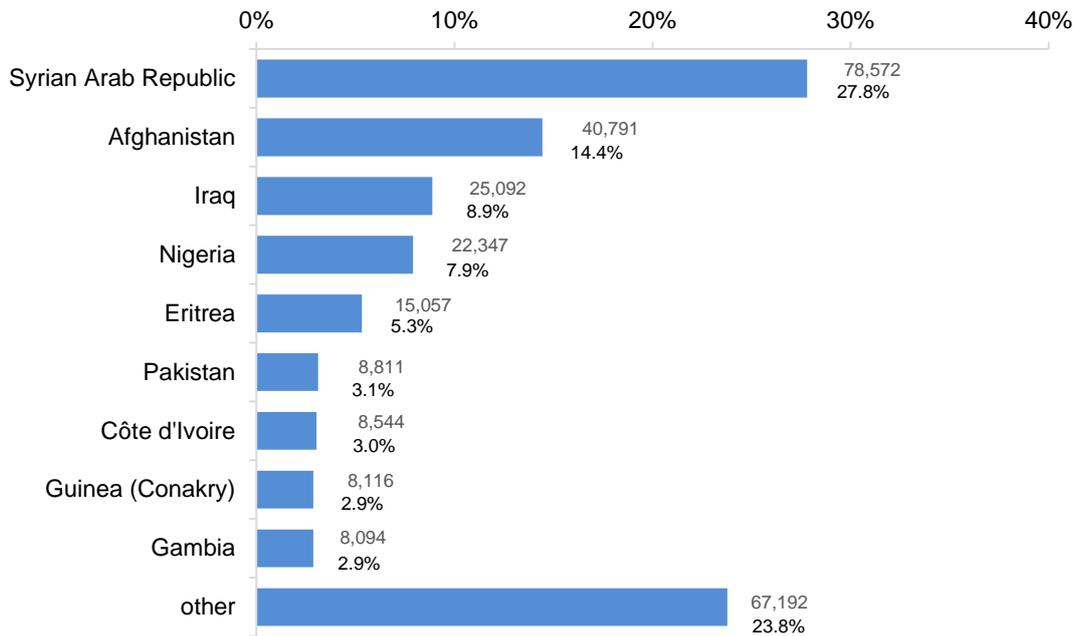
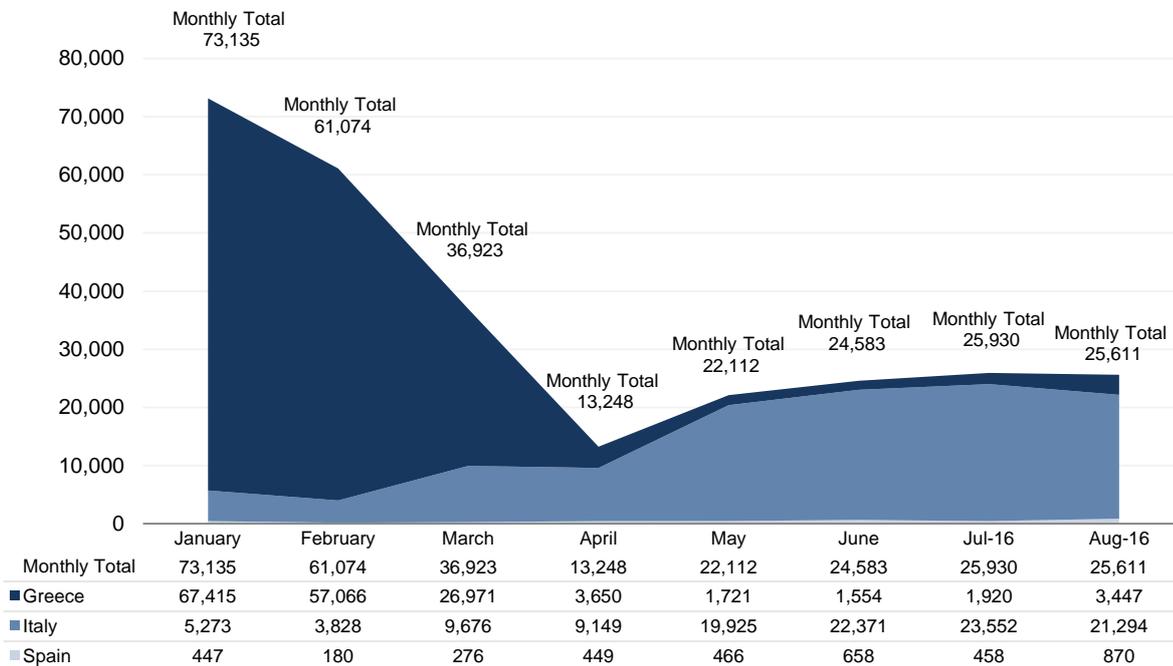
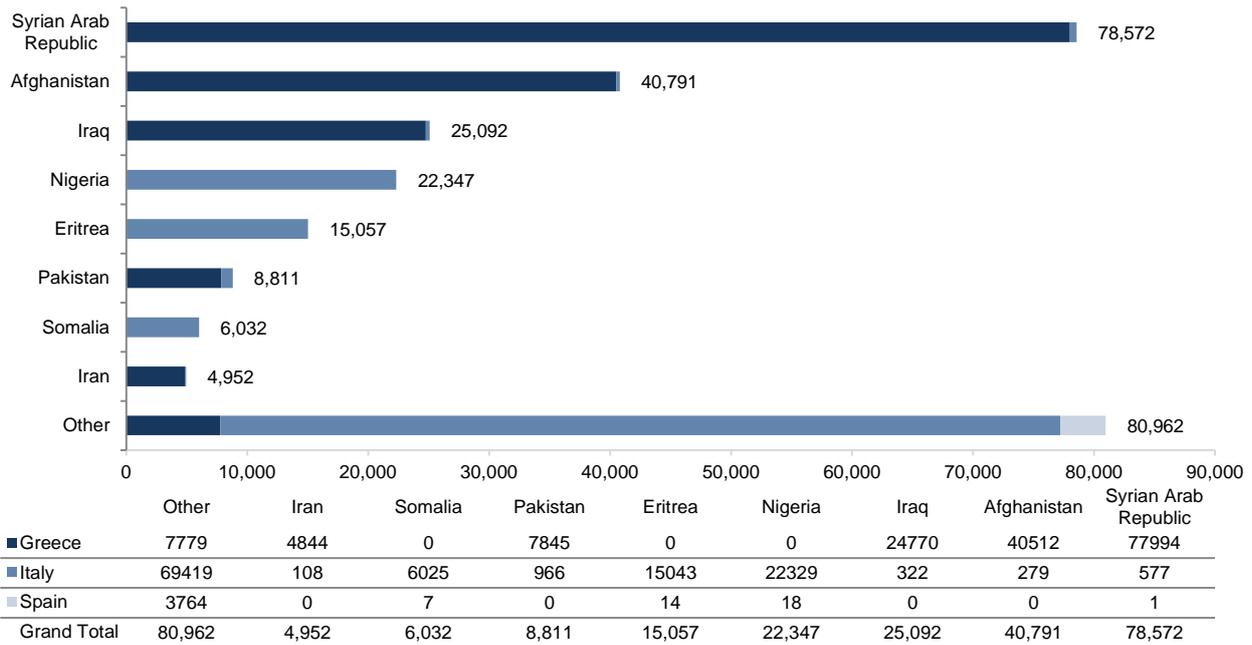


Figure 3. Arrivals to each country by month (January - August 2016)



In August there were 25,611 refugees and migrants arriving by sea which decreased by 65% compared to January (73,135). Arrivals to Greece decreased by 95% in August (3,447) compared to January (67,415) in 2016. Arrival to Italy slightly increased in August in line with seasonal trend recorded in 2015.

Figure 4: Total Arrivals by nationality to first arrival country (January – August 2016)



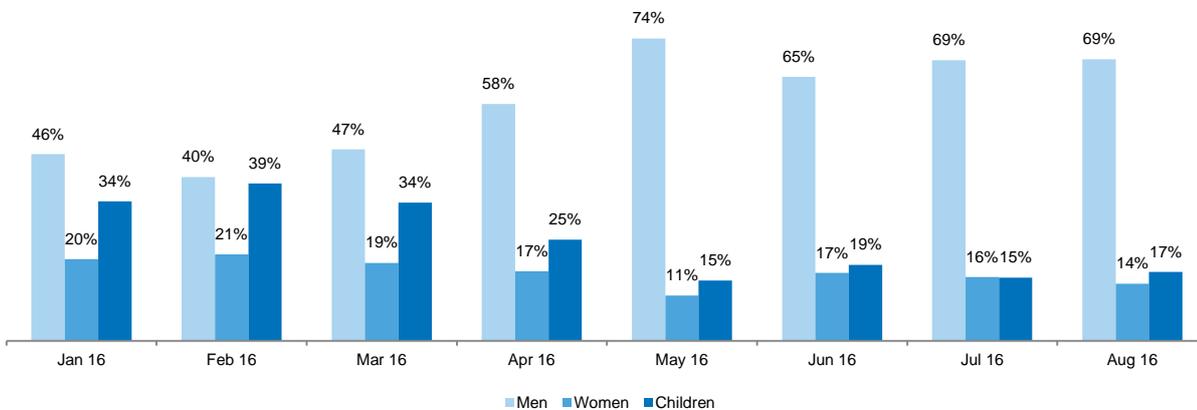
'Other' category includes all other nationalities not listed in the top ten nationalities of arrival.

DEMOGRAPHICS OF REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS ARRIVAL IN EUROPE

Main findings:

- In August 2016, men constituted 69% of the sea arrivals, while women and children were 14% and 17% respectively.
- On average, men made up for 58% of the total arrivals between January and August 2016, while women and children constituted 17% and 25% of the arrivals respectively.
- In August 2016, arrival of men (69%) increased compared to January (46%), but decreased slightly compared to the arrival of men in May (74%). The portion of women decreased from 20% in January to 14% in August. Portion of children also dropped from 34% in January to 17% in August 2016.

Figure 5. Demographic breakdown by month – Cumulative arrivals to Greece and Italy – (January – August 2016)



GREECE

The charts below are based on figures from the Hellenic Coast Guard and Police. All figures are provisional and subject to change. Data includes sea arrivals to Greece from January 2016 to August 2016.

Some 856,700 people arrived in Greece in the whole of 2015. There were 163,744 arrivals between January and August 2016 which is 31% lower compared to the same period in 2015 (237,945). The number of people arriving in Greece decreased by 95% between January (67,415) and August (3,447).

The majority of people are from the Syrian Arab Republic (47.6%), Afghanistan (24.7%), Iraq (15.1%) and Pakistan (4.8%).

Figure 6. Percentages of nationalities arriving to Greece

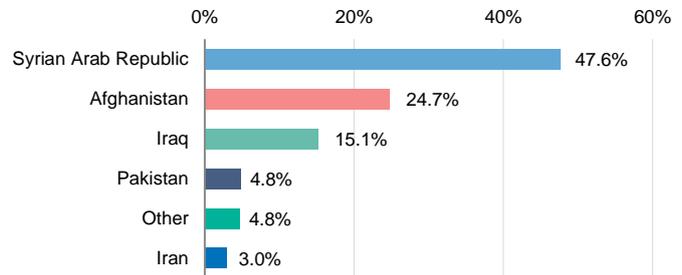
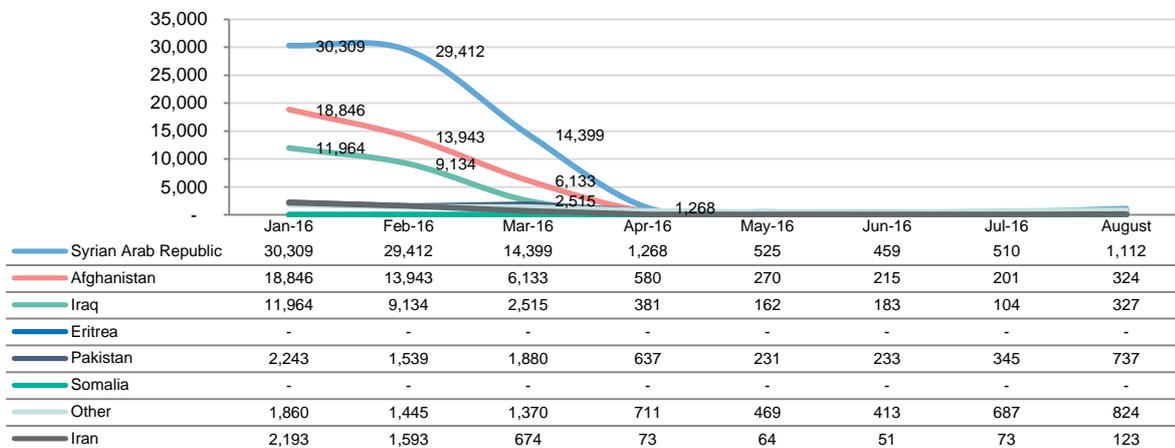
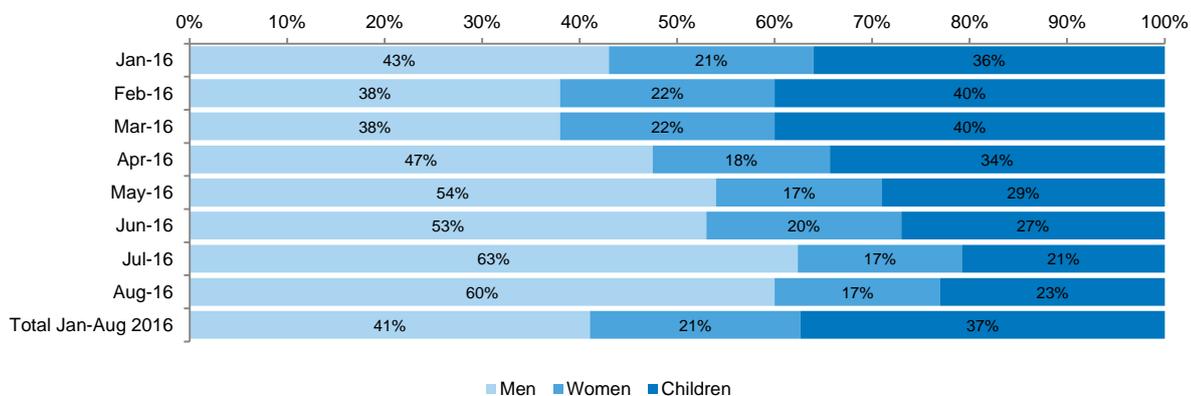


Figure 7. Greece: Trend of Monthly sea arrivals by nationality



Between January and August 2016, the top three nationality of arrival were Syrian Arab Republic, (77,994), Afghanistan (40,512) and Iraq (24,770). Arrivals of Syrian nationals decreased by 52% between January and August 2016 compared to the same period in 2015 (162,498), arrivals of Afghan nationals decreased by 17% compared to same period in 2015 (48,893) and Iraqi arrivals increased by 217% compared to the period between January and August in 2015 (7,818).

Figure 8. Breakdown of Men, Women and Children arrived by month (January – August 2016)*



In Greece the portion of men among arrivals increased from 43% (29,103) in January to 60% (2,081) in August, children decreased to 23% (797) in August from 36% (24,221) in January, whereas women portion decreased from 21% (14,091) in January to 17% (569) in August 2016.

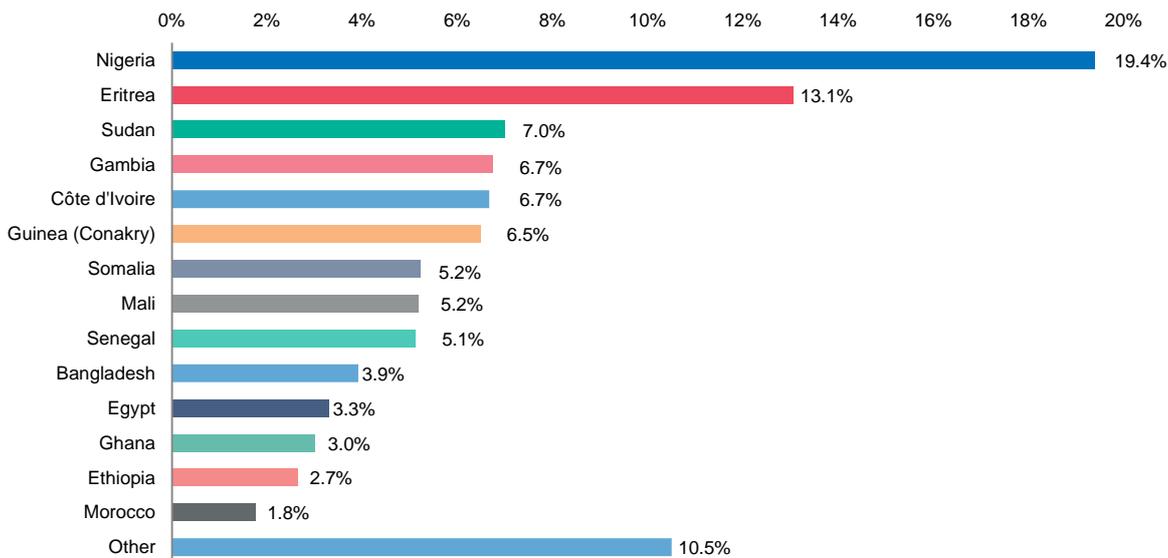
*source: Hellenic Police based on partial data

ITALY

The charts below are based on figures from the Italian Ministry of Interior. All figures are provisional and subject to change. Data includes sea arrivals to Italy from January to August 2016.

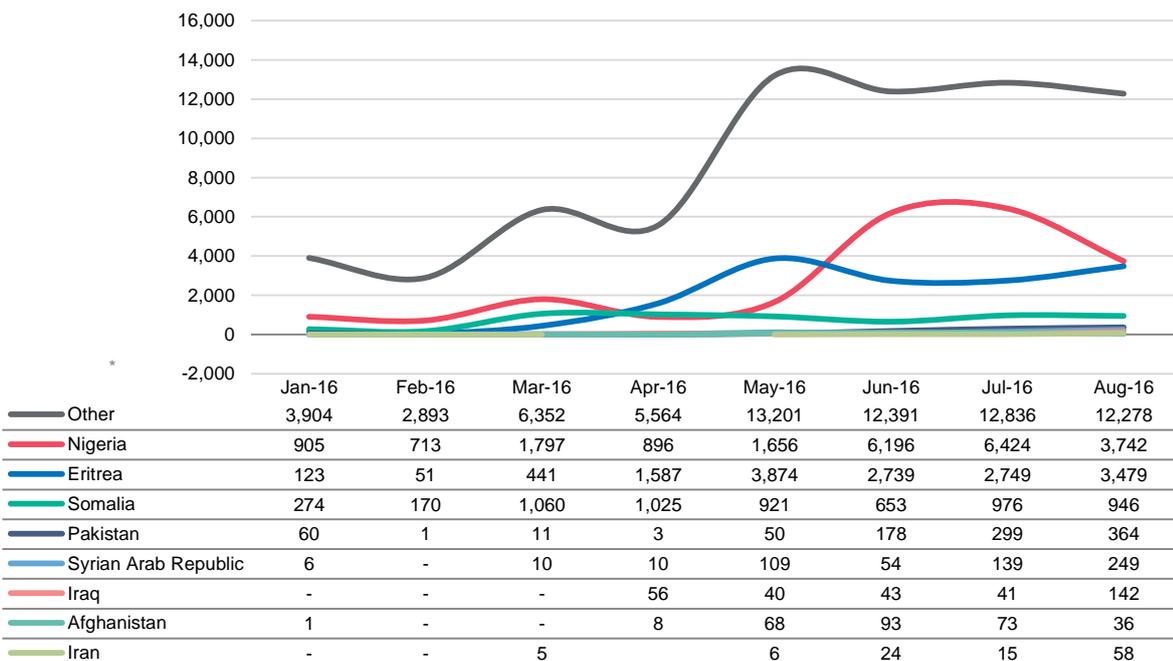
Some 153,842 people arrived in Italy in the whole of 2015. Between January and August 2016 115,068 people arrived. These figures remained almost the same by comparing with the 116,149 arrivals between January and August in 2015. The number of people arriving in August (21,294) decreased by 10% in line with seasonal trend compared to July (23,552) where highest number of arrivals took place in 2016.

Figure 9. Proportions of nationalities arriving to Italy



The vast majority of arrivals to Italy are from Nigeria (19.4%), Eritrea (13.1%), Sudan (7.0%), Gambia and Côte d'Ivoire (6.7%) each. The portion of Syrian (0.5%), Iraqi (0.3%) and Afghan (0.2%) arrivals to Italy remain very low.

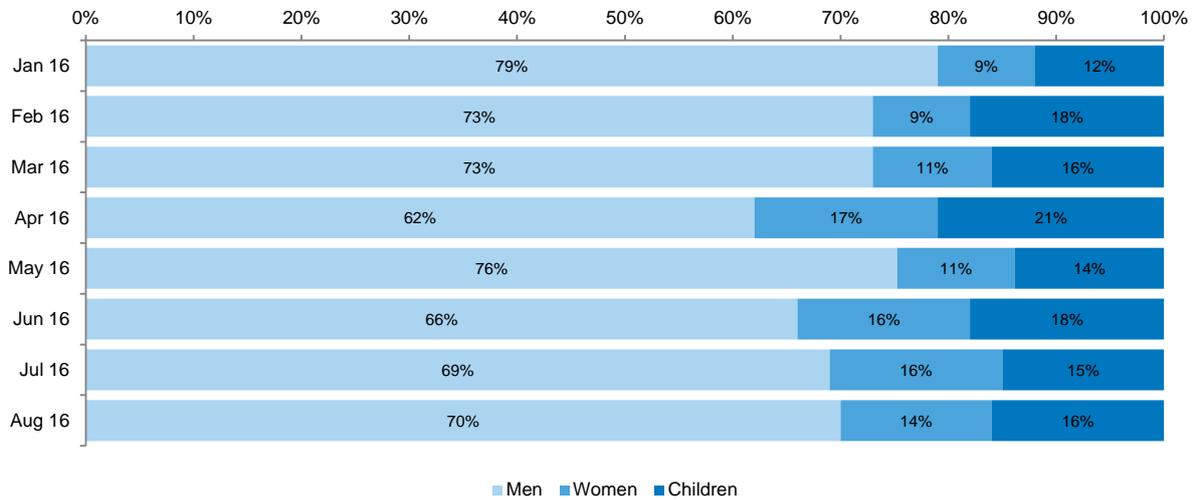
Figure 10. Italy: Top nationalities of Mediterranean sea arrivals - Trends in 2016



Nigeria (22,329), Eritrea (15,043) and Somalia (6,025) were the top nationalities of sea arrivals to Italy among others. The number of Syrians (577), Iraqis (322) and Afghans (279) arriving to Italy was very low.

**Other category includes all other nationalities not listed in the top ten and a number of other refugees and migrants, grouped by the MoI under the "Sub-Saharan" label and originating from unspecified African countries.*

Figure 11. Breakdown of Men, Women and Children arrived by month



In Italy, the number of men decreased from 79% in January to 70% in August 2016, while the portion of women increased from 9% to 14% and the portion of children increased from 12% in January to 16% in August. The majority of children (91%) are Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASCs), a number that surged by 102% compared to the same period in 2015 (16,863 in 2016 vs 8,345 in 2015).

SPAIN

The charts below are based on figures from the Spanish Ministry of the Interior and the Spanish Police. Arrivals to the Canary Islands have been excluded from this analysis, as they are not part of the Mediterranean refugee movement.

Between January and August 2016, there were 3,804 arrivals in Spain. Majority of them come from North and West Africa, mostly from Côte d'Ivoire (22.8%), Guinea (17.0%), Algeria (16.0%), Cameroon (9.4%), Gambia (9.0%) and Morocco (7.8%).

Figure 12. Percentages of top nationalities arriving to Spain

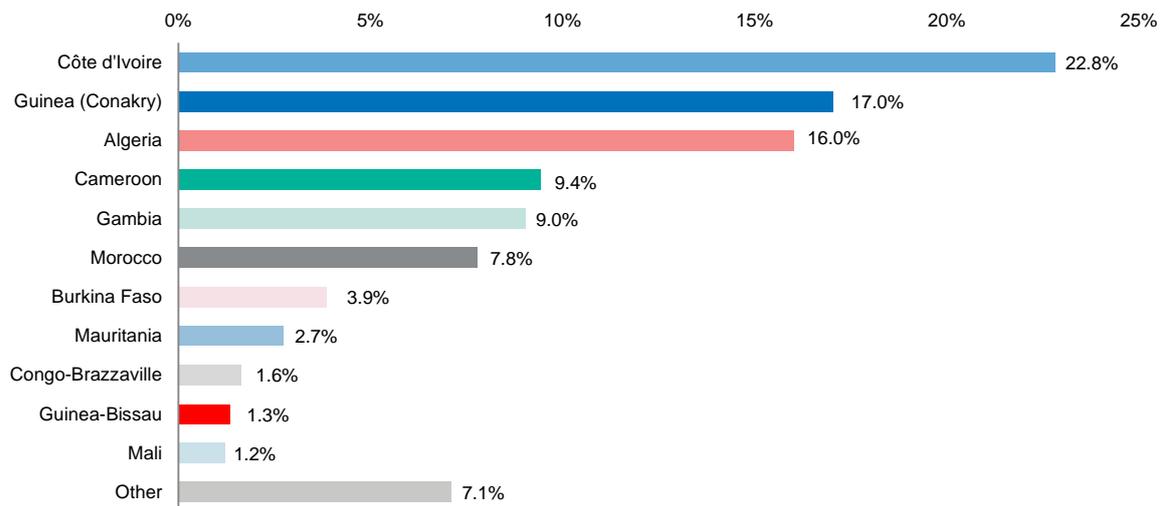
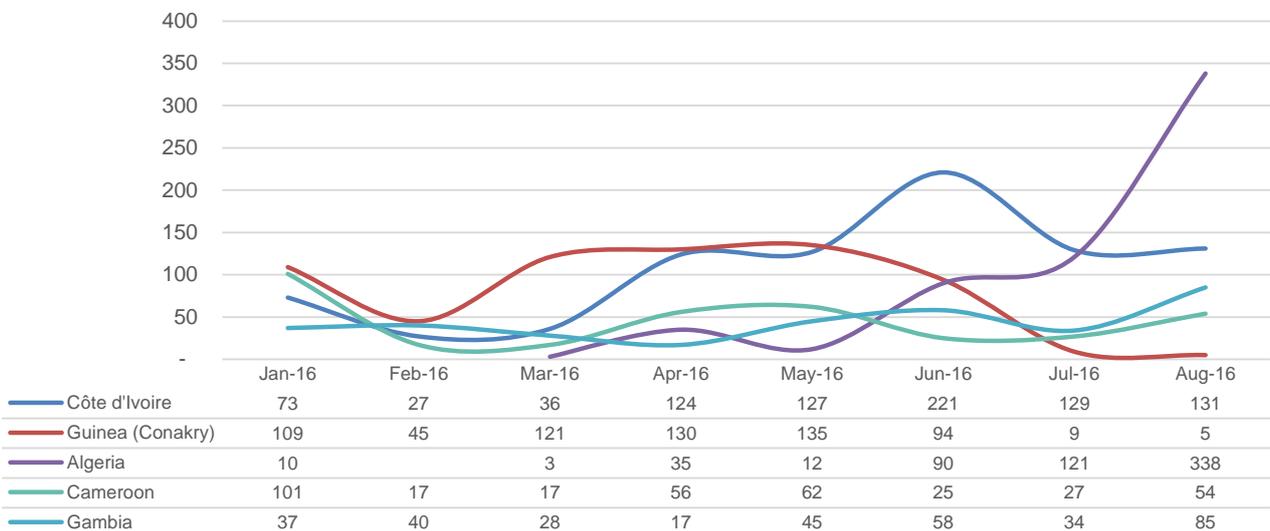


Figure 13. Spain: Trend of Monthly sea arrivals by nationality



Sources:

Arrival figures for Greece are collected in the framework of UNHCR border activities and are provided by Hellenic Coastguard and Hellenic Police; arrival figures for Italy are provided by Italian Ministry of Interior. Arrival figures for Spain are provided by Spanish Ministry of Interior and Spanish Police. Figures are subject to future adjustment and should not be considered final.

Links: data.unhcr.org/mediterranean