

MALTA Factsheet

Overview

Between 1 January and 30 June 2021, there were 244 sea arrivals to Malta. This is a 86% decrease compared to the same period last year (1699 sea arrivals to Malta from 1 January to June 2020).

Of the 244 persons that arrived in Malta, 65 landed on Malta spontaneously in February. The AFM rescued 14 persons in April, 68 persons in May, and 97 persons in June. There were no arrivals in January or March 2021.

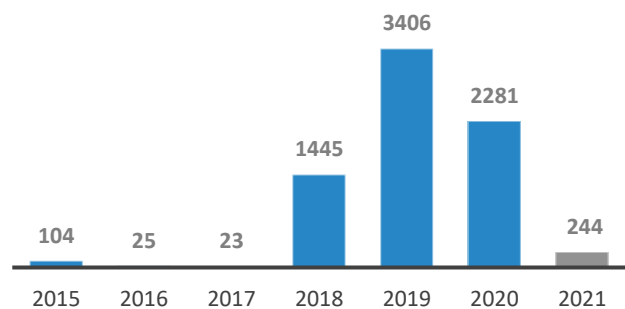
The UNHCR team attends and monitors disembarkations, providing interpretation support to the authorities and giving initial information on reception and asylum procedures to all new arrivals.

Sea arrivals in 2020
(as of end December 2020) **2.281**

Sea arrivals in 2021
(as of 30 June 2021) **244**

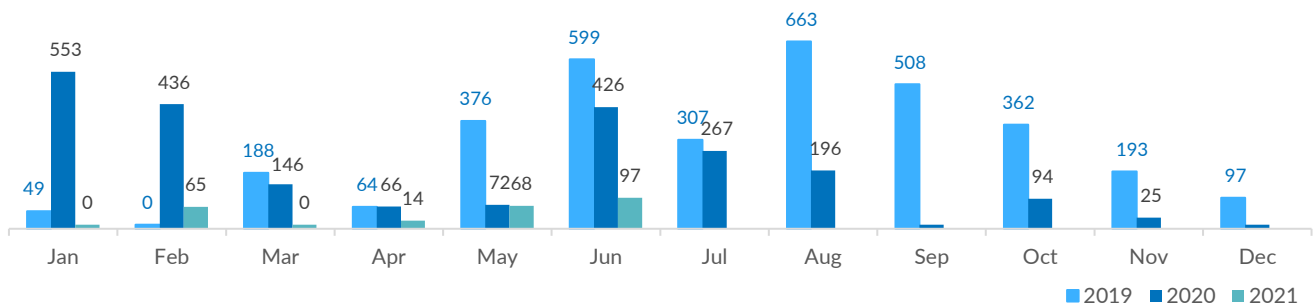
Yearly Sea Arrivals

2015 - 2021 (until end June)



Monthly Sea Arrivals

Jan 2019 - Jun 2021

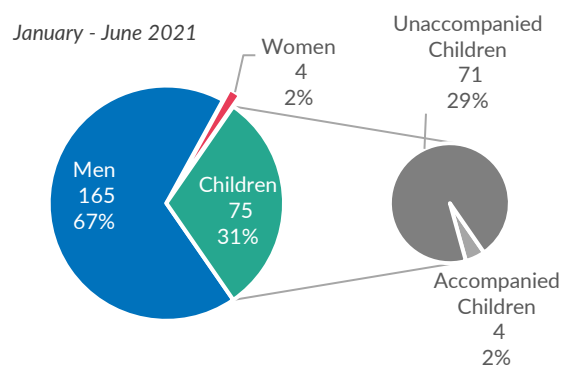


Age and Gender Demographics

Between 1 January and 30 June, most sea arrivals to Malta were adult men (67%), followed by unaccompanied and separated children (29%), adult women (2%) and accompanied children (2%).

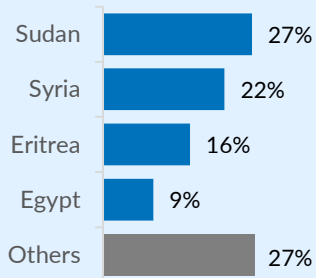
There have been 71 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC)* arrivals in 2021.

*Please note that this data is based on each individual's declared age on arrival, before any age assessment procedures have taken place.



Sea Arrivals - Top 4 Nationalities

January - June 2021

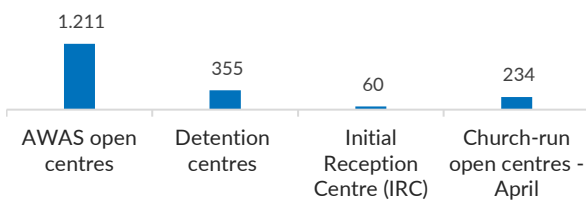


Demographics - Countries of origin

From January to June 2021, 65 persons, or 27% of sea arrivals originated from Sudan, followed by 53 persons from Syria (22%), 38 persons from Eritrea (16%), and 22 from Egypt (9%), among other countries of origin.

Population in Reception Centres

June 2021



Note: The IRC has both 'open' and 'closed' sections.

UNHCR monitoring and activities

UNHCR visits open and closed centres to provide information on the asylum system, Dublin regulation, rights and obligations, and to refer persons of concern to appropriate services. UNHCR conducts child protection activities, detention monitoring and, through its implementing partners, provides legal aid and psycho-social support in centres.

Due to measures to combat COVID-19, since March 2020 UNHCR has strengthened its digital communications to provide information to persons of concern online and through Whatsapp. UNHCR and partner organisations have dedicated telephone helplines for refugees and asylum-seekers.

Asylum Applications and Decisions

January - May 2021

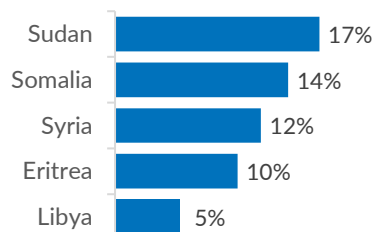
In recent years the refugee population has been mainly composed of Libyan, Syrian and Somali refugees. Currently the rate of international protection (Refugee or Subsidiary Protection status) is 6% of total decisions.

'Closed cases' make up 74% of outcomes. Most of these relate to applications that were withdrawn, and applications that were closed because applicants were transferred to another EU country for relocation.

First-time Asylum Applicants

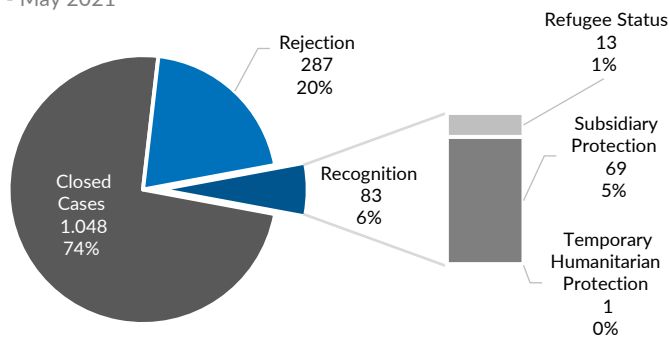
Top 5 Nationalities

January - May 2021



First Instance Asylum Applications - Decision Rates

January - May 2021



TOTAL DECISIONS 1418

TOTAL APPLICATIONS 630

International Protection Rates

Refugee Status and Subsidiary Protection

Top 6 Nationalities; Jan - May 2021

