

MALTA Factsheet

Overview

By the end of February 2020, a total of **989 people were rescued at sea and disembarked in Malta**. The majority are from Sudan (32%), Bangladesh (19%) and Somalia (17%).

Of these arrivals, 909 were rescued by the Armed Forces of Malta (AFM), while 80 persons were rescued by a SAR NGO vessel. These 80 persons were disembarked in Malta on 25 January, and a number of them will be transferred to other EU Member States under an ad hoc relocation agreement.

With 553 arrivals in January and 436 in February, the numbers were a record high for this time of year.

Sea arrivals in 2019
(as of end December 2019)

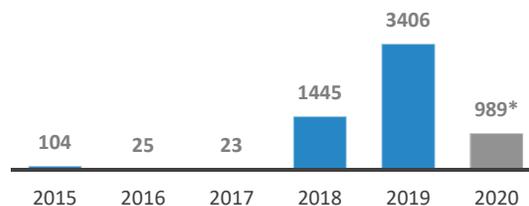
3,406

Sea arrivals in 2020
(as of 29 February 2020)

989

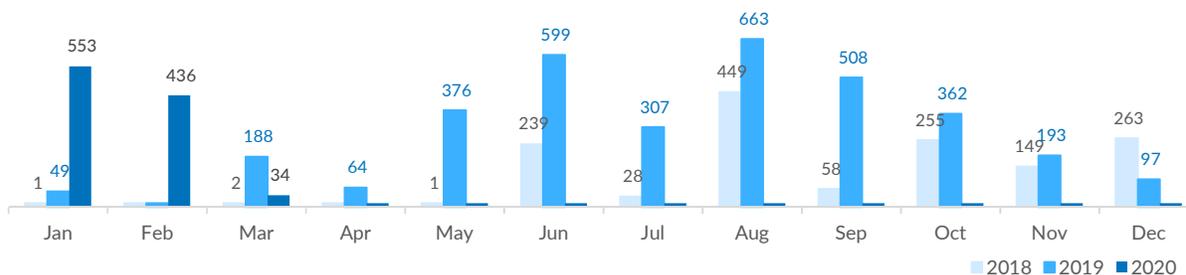
Historic Sea Arrivals by Boat

* Jan 2015 - Feb 2020



Monthly Sea Arrivals by Boat

Jan 2018 - Feb 2020



Demographics - Age and Gender

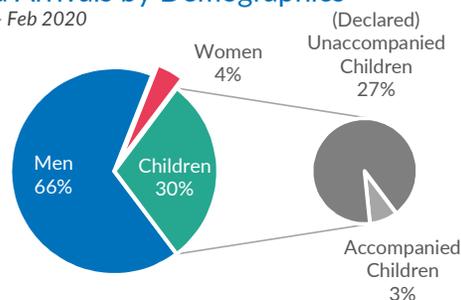
Between 1 January and 29 February 2020, most sea arrivals were adult men (66%), followed by unaccompanied and separated children (27%), adult women (4%) and accompanied children (3%).

In 2020, 275 (*declared) unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) have reached Maltese shores.

*Please note that this data is recorded before any age assessment procedures have taken place.

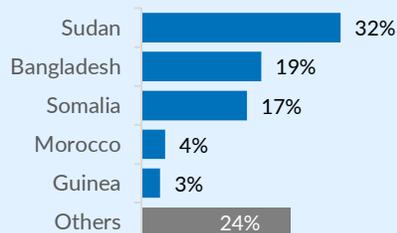
Sea Arrivals by Demographics

Jan - Feb 2020



Sea Arrivals by Most Common Nationalities

Jan 2020

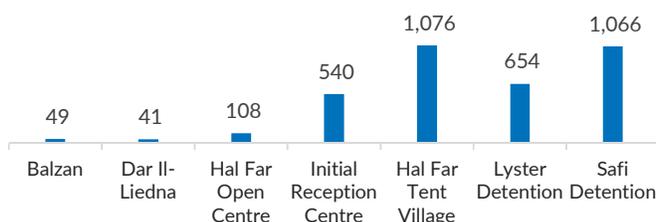


Demographics - Countries of origin

Between 1 January and 29 February 2020, 331 persons or 32% who arrived by sea originated from Sudan, followed by 199 persons from Bangladesh (19%), 175 persons from Somalia (17%), 39 persons from Morocco (4%), and 31 persons from Guinea (4%).

Population in Open and Closed Centres

February 2020



TOTAL POPULATION 3,534

UNHCR monitoring and activities

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

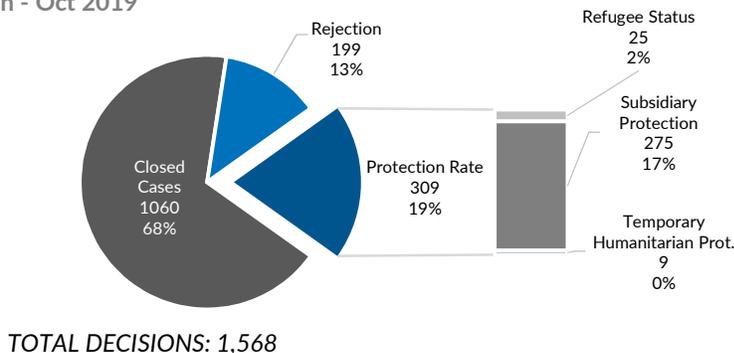
Asylum Applications and Decisions - 2019*

In recent years the refugee population has been mainly composed of Libyan, Syrian and Somali refugees. In 2019 the rate of international protection (Refugee or Subsidiary Protection status) was 19% of total decisions by RefCom. There were a high number of 'Closed' cases, which refers to applications that result in an administrative closure, Dublin closure, or applications that are explicitly withdrawn, implicitly withdrawn or inadmissible.

*Please note: Data on 2020 asylum applications is not yet available.

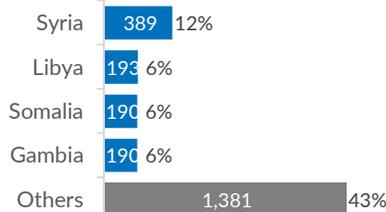
First-Time Asylum Applications Decision Statistics

Jan - Oct 2019



Most Common Nationalities

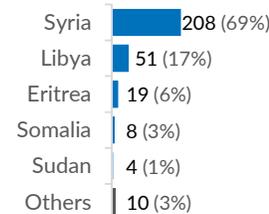
by First-Time Asylum Applications
Jan - Oct 2019



TOTAL APPLICATIONS 3,220

Most Common Nationalities

Granted International Protection
Refugee Status or Subsidiary Protection



TOTAL GRANTED 300