ITALY Sea arrivals dashboard

Overview

In the first four months of 2021, 9,013 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea, compared to 3,465 in the same period last year.

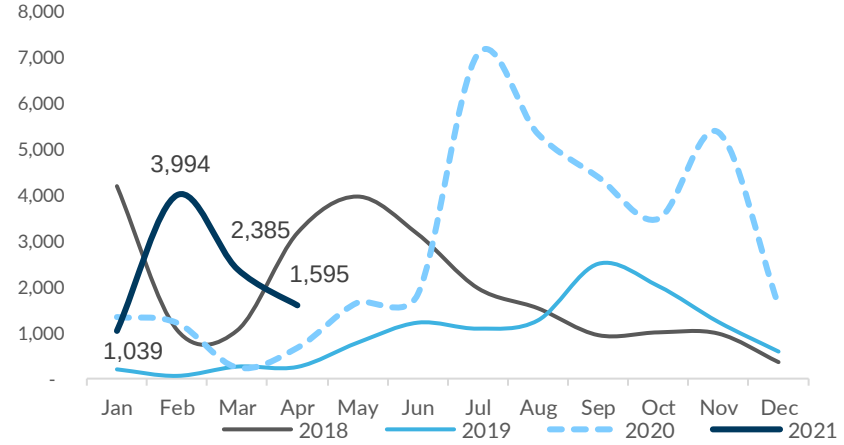
9,013 Jan - Apr 2021 [1]

3,465 Jan - Apr 2020 [1]

In April 2021, 1,595 refugees and migrants reached shore in southern Italy, compared to 671 (+136%) and 255 (+525%) in 2020 and 2019 respectively. The vast majority of them (1,208) arrived in Sicily, most commonly on the island of Lampedusa, where 887 new arrivals were recorded and 28 disembarkations took place. In April, there were six disembarkations in Apulia for a total of 214 new arrivals, while 119 persons disembarked in Calabria, 24 in Sardinia and 32 in Campania.

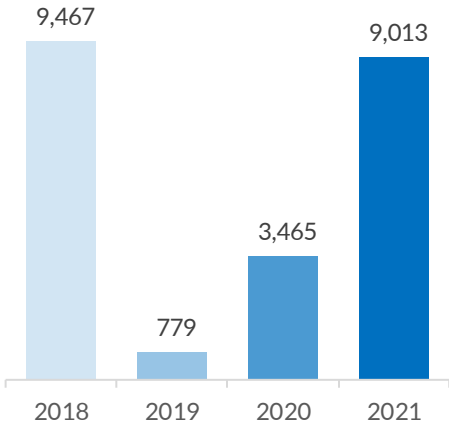
Monthly sea arrivals

January 2018 to April 2021



Yearly sea arrivals

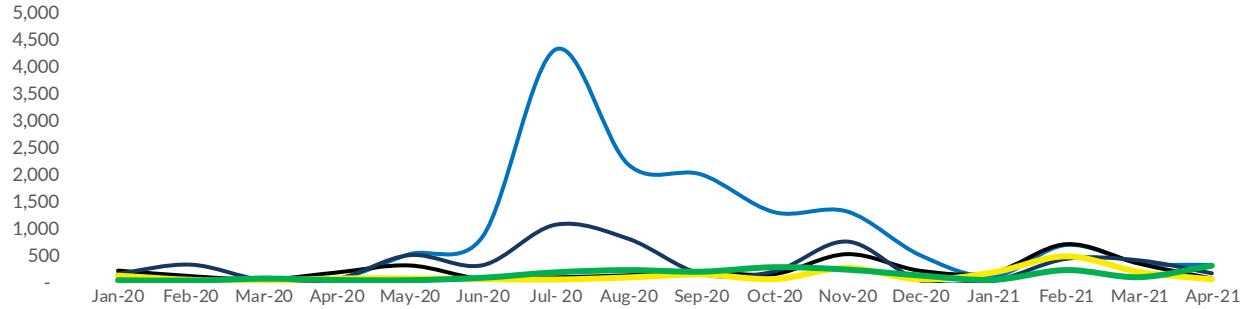
January to April, 2018-2021



Nationality of arrivals

To date in 2021, the most common country of origin recorded among refugees and migrants reaching Italian shores is Tunisia (15%), followed by Côte d'Ivoire (13%), Bangladesh (10%), Guinea (9%), Egypt (7%), Sudan (6%), Mali (5%), Eritrea (5%), Algeria (4%), and Morocco (4%). The numbers of refugees and migrants from Tunisia, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Bangladesh and Sudan who arrived in Italy by sea in April 2021 are lower than those recorded in March 2021, consistent with an overall decrease of sea arrivals this month compared to March. A significant exception to the decrease in arrivals in April is the increased presence of Egyptian nationals, with the total increasing from 71 persons in March to 284 persons in April (from 3% to 18% of the total monthly arrivals) and constituting the second highest nationality group arriving this month. A slight reduction in the presence of Côte d'Ivoire nationals was also noticed this month (13% compared to 15% at the end of March).

Most common nationalities of arrivals - January 2020 to April 2021



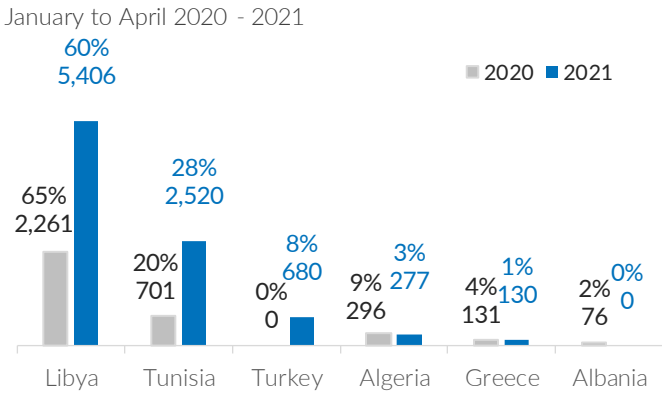
	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul- 20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21
Tunisia	68	26	60	37	498	823	4,292	2,157	1,975	1,276	1,288	478	85	668	335	297
Côte d'Ivoire	193	90	27	158	288	35	67	106	170	129	498	189	157	682	323	45
Bangladesh	137	303	15	39	480	293	1,043	782	132	177	731	9	3	410	383	143
Guinea	99	22	8	47	47	37	28	66	121	35	241	31	158	458	168	30
Egypt	15	7	44	18	15	60	161	202	173	256	211	102	22	203	71	284

[1] All data are based on official Ministry of Interior figures shared with UNHCR. All figures are provisional and subject to change.

Country of embarkation

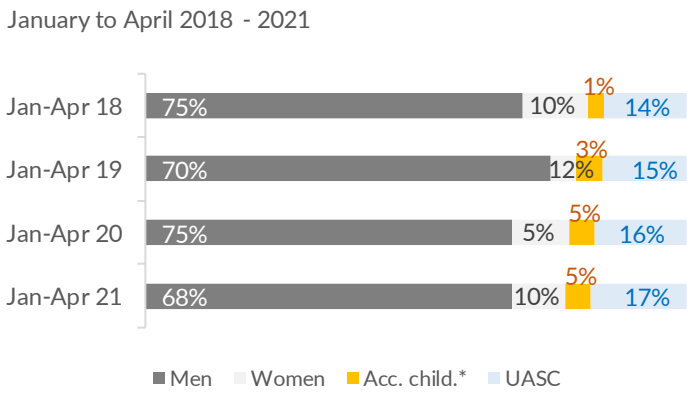
To date in 2021, 60% of sea arrivals in Italy (5,406 persons) departed from Libya, followed by 28% (2,520 persons) departing from Tunisia, 8% (680 persons) departing from Turkey, and 3% (277 persons) departing from Algeria. In April, the first 2021 arrivals from Greece were recorded, amounting to 1% (130 persons) of the total yearly sea arrivals, although the two boats included persons who embarked in Lebanon and Egypt before having recorded stopovers in Greece. Persons departing from Libya most commonly originated from Egypt, Bangladesh, Morocco, Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Somalia, while persons who embarked in Tunisia were mostly Tunisian nationals and those embarking in Algeria were all Algerian nationals. Persons who arrived via sea from Turkey were primarily Iranian, Iraqi and Egyptian nationals, while the vast majority of those who departed from Greece, were of Egyptian nationality, followed by Iraqi and Syrian.

In line with the previous month, the vast majority of refugees and migrants who departed from Libya embarked in Zuwarah, while the most common departure site in Tunisia was Sidi Mansour. Embarkations arriving from Greece departed from Crete and Corfu, those arriving from Algeria embarked in Annaba. Bodrum was the most frequent embarkation site in Turkey.



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

Demographics of arrivals



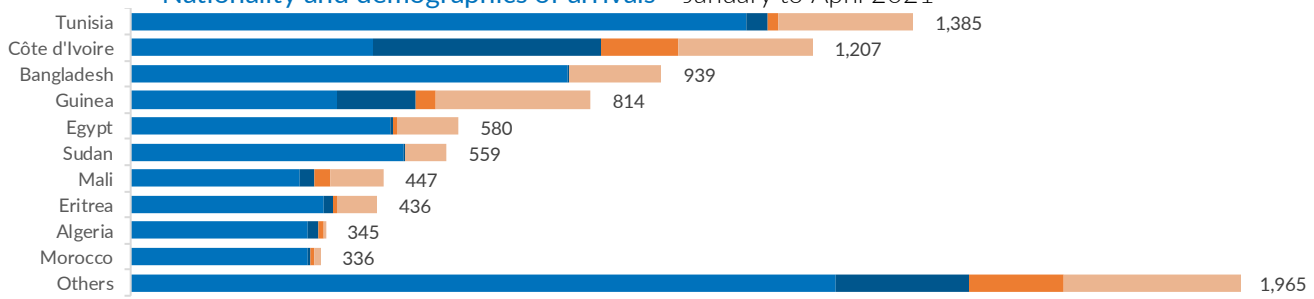
Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100% exactly

In the 1 January – 30 April 2021 period, most sea arrivals were adult men (68%), followed by unaccompanied and separated children (17%), adult women (10%) and accompanied children (5%).

In the first four months of the year, 891 adult women reached Italian shores, approximately half of whom (404) originated from Côte d'Ivoire.

In the same period, 1,596 unaccompanied and separated children arrived in Italy by sea: the most common nationalities recorded are Guinea (274 children), Tunisia (240), Côte d'Ivoire (238), and Bangladesh (164).

Nationality and demographics of arrivals – January to April 2021



	Others	Morocco	Algeria	Eritrea	Mali	Sudan	Egypt	Guinea	Bangladesh	Côte d'Ivoire	Tunisia	Total
Men	1,247	312	313	341	299	484	459	365	774	428	1,089	6,111
Women	236	6	19	16	27	2	4	138	1	404	38	891
Acc. child.*	167	6	9	7	26	-	8	37	-	137	18	415
UASC	315	12	4	72	95	73	109	274	164	238	240	1,596
Total	1,965	336	345	436	447	559	580	814	939	1,207	1,385	9,013

* Accompanied children

more information: data.unhcr.org/mediterranean