EUROPE SITUATIONS: DATA AND TRENDS

ARRIVALS AND DISPLACED POPULATIONS

Regional Bureau for Europe | March 2025

ARRIVALS AND DISPLACED POPULATIONS: KEY FIGURES AND TRENDS

March 2025

30,900 estimated arrivals via the Mediterranean and Northwest African maritime routes

413 estimated dead or missing at sea

(Cumulative figures[1] from 01 January to 31 March 2025)

UKRAINE

6.4 million refugees from Ukraine recorded across Europe, at the end of January 2025, while **3.7 million** people were internally displaced at the end of April 2025[7]

TÜRKIYE

Syrians under temporary protection **2.8 million**

For more information, see Syria Regional Refugee Response

Refugees and asylum-seekers under international protection **194,600**

For more information, see UNHCR Refugee Data Finder

NORTHWEST AFRICAN MARITIME ROUTE[2]

9,424 sea arrivals, no arrivals by land
201 dead or missing

WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE[3]

2,772 arrivals, of which 152 by land
122 dead or missing

CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE[4]

9,242 sea arrivals, no arrivals by land
65 dead or missing

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE[5]

9,498 arrivals, of which 903 by land
25 dead or missing

SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE[6]

2,500 people arrived in or transited through the subregion

Includes Serbia and Kosovo (S/RES/1244 [1999]). The boundaries and names shown, and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

UKRAINE SITUATION

The war in Ukraine triggered a major increase in humanitarian needs due the mass internal displacement within Ukraine as well as refugee outflows. By the end of March, 6,357,600 refugees from Ukraine were recorded across Europe, with 6,394,445 registered for asylum, temporary protection or similar national protection schemes. As of end-April 2025, 3.7 million people were displaced internally within Ukraine.[7]

According to the 2024 Interagency Socio-Economic Insights Survey (SEIS)—which examined, among other topics, the trends and challenges faced by refugee children from Ukraine in accessing education across European countries included in the Regional Refugee Response[8] for the Ukraine Situation—most countries reported increased enrolment in host country education systems compared to findings from the 2023 Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment (MSNA). See the analysis Education of refugee and youth from Ukraine for more information.

Ukraine situation key figures as of 31 March 2025

6,357,600
Refugees from Ukraine recorded in Europe

560,200
Refugees from Ukraine recorded beyond Europe

6,917,800
Refugees from Ukraine recorded globally

- For more information, please visit the Operation Data Porrtal for the Ukraine Refugee situation

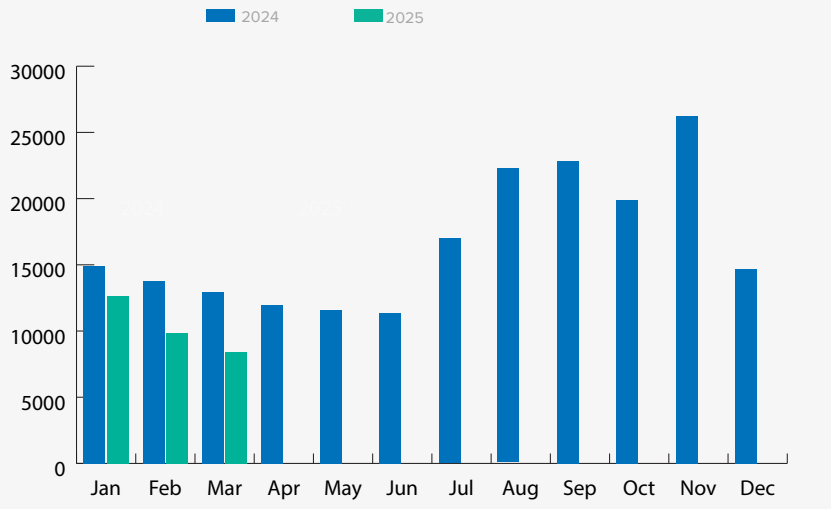
ARRIVALS IN EUROPE VIA THE MEDITERRANEAN AND NORTHWEST AFRICAN MARITIME ROUTES

In March 2025, 8,400 refugees and migrants arrived in Europe through the Mediterranean and Northwest African maritime routes through mixed-movements. The arrivals were 15 per cent lower than previous month and 35 per cent lower than in March 2024.

In March, arrivals to Italy decreased by 28 per cent compared to previous month and by 65 per cent compared to March 2024. Of the 2,400 refugees and migrants who arrived in Italy over March, 90 per cent departed from Libya and 10 per cent from Tunisia. Most refugees and migrants who arrived in March originated from Bangladesh, Eritrea and Sudan.

In March 2025, 1,600 refugees and migrants departing Libya were intercepted or rescued by Libyan authorities and disembarked in Libya – comparable to prior month. Most of those rescued at sea after departing from Libya originated from Egypt, Mali and Sudan.

Total monthly arrivals through the Mediterranean and Northwest African maritime routes



In Spain, 2,900 refugees and migrants arrived in March, representing a 21 per cent decrease compared to the previous month but a 29 per cent increase compared to March 2024. Of all arrivals in March, 78 per cent landed on the Canary Islands. When compared to last month, arrivals to Spain through the Northwest African maritime route saw a four per cent decrease but double the arrivals on the same route compared to March 2024.

In March 2025, 2,900 refugees and migrants arrived in Greece by land and sea. This amounted to a 10 per cent increase compared to February, and a 10 per cent increase from March 2024. Turkish authorities reported rescuing or intercepting 1,074 refugees and migrants at sea in March, 43 per cent more than the previous month. In Cyprus, 258 refugees and migrants arrived in March, resulting in a 17 per cent increase compared to the previous month but an 80 per cent decrease when compared to March 2024.

ⓘ For more information, please visit Operation Data Portal for Europe Sea Arrivals Situation

SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE[9]

In March 2025, 880 people arrived in, or transited through, the subregion as part of mixed refugee and migrant movements. This represented a 46 per cent increase when compared to the previous month (600) and a 15 per cent increase compared to March 2024. Of the overall arrivals in 2025 so far, the majority were from Afghanistan (19 per cent), Egypt (16 per cent) and Morocco (11 per cent).

Throughout March, 38 people submitted asylum applications, 24 per cent lower than in February (50). Meanwhile, 42 first-instance decisions were issued along with 9 subsidiary protection status however no refugee status decisions were issued. Meanwhile, 10 applicants were rejected and 23 applications were closed. As of the end of March, 431 asylum applications were still pending a decision across the subregion (excluding Bosnia and Herzegovina as no data was available for March 2025).

As of end-March 2025, some 2,300 refugees and migrants were present in the Western Balkans, including 97 unaccompanied and separated children.

ⓘ For more information, please visit Operation Data Portal for the South Eastern Europe Situation

1. Dead and missing figures refer to the Mediterranean and Northwest African maritime routes. Information is compiled from a variety of sources, the quality and reliability of which can vary. While every effort has been made to ensure that all statistical information is verified, figures on some arrivals, as well as dead and missing at sea, represent an estimate.Triangulation of information and sources is performed on a continuous basis. Therefore, amendments in figures may occur, including retroactively.
2. Includes sea arrivals in the Canary Islands (Spain) via the Atlantic Ocean.
3. Includes sea and land arrivals in Spain via the Western Mediterranean route.
4. Includes sea arrivals in Italy and Malta.
5. Includes sea and land arrivals in Greece and Cyprus.
6. Majority of the persons arriving in the Western Balkan region are part of the secondary movement, those who have already arrived in Greece or Bulgaria and then transited through the region with the intention to move onward to other EU countries.
7. International Organization for Migration (IOM), Apr 17 2025. DTM Ukraine — Internal Displacement Report — General Population Survey Round 20 (April 2025). IOM, Ukraine.
8. Countries participating in the Refugee Response Plan (RRP) are Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Republic of Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia
9. Includes Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Kosovo (S/RES/1244 [1999]).