

REFUGEES & MIGRANTS SEA ARRIVALS IN EUROPE

OVERVIEW

In 2016, between January and December, **362,376** people crossed the Mediterranean Sea, risking their lives to reach Europe. These new arrivals are in addition to more than one million refugees and migrants who made the journey across the Mediterranean Sea on unseaworthy boats in 2015.

In 2016, the number of those arriving decreased substantially after March. Of those reaching European shores so far this year, **53%** came from the ten countries currently producing the most refugees globally.

All statistics presented below refer to **January to December 2016**, unless explicitly stated otherwise.

MAIN TRENDS

- In December 2016, 10,757 refugees and migrants arrived by crossing the Mediterranean. Among those, 1,665 people arrived in Greece, 8,428 people in Italy and 664 people arrived in Spain. Total arrivals in Greece, Italy and Spain in December decreased by 34% compared to the previous month (16,352), primarily due to the worsening weather conditions brought on by the onset of winter. Overall, arrivals also decreased by 91% compared to the same month in 2015 (118,687), largely due to the greater number of arrivals last year through the Eastern Mediterranean route.
- In 2016 overall, between January and December 2016, 362,376 people arrived by sea, including 173,450 in Greece, 181,436 in Italy and 7,490 in Spain. This constitutes a 64% decrease compared to the same period in 2015 (1,015,078).
- In December 2016, arrivals most commonly originated Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea.
- So far in 2016, the majority of arrivals are from the Syrian Arab Republic (23%), Afghanistan (12%), Nigeria (10%), Iraq (8%), Eritrea (6%), Guinea (4%), Côte d'Ivoire (4%), The Gambia (4%), Pakistan (3%) and Senegal (3%).

1,014,973 Sea arrivals in 2015

362,376 Sea arrivals in 2016

Figure 1 - Sea arrivals to Greece, Italy and Spain



Figure 2 - Arrivals' most common countries of origin

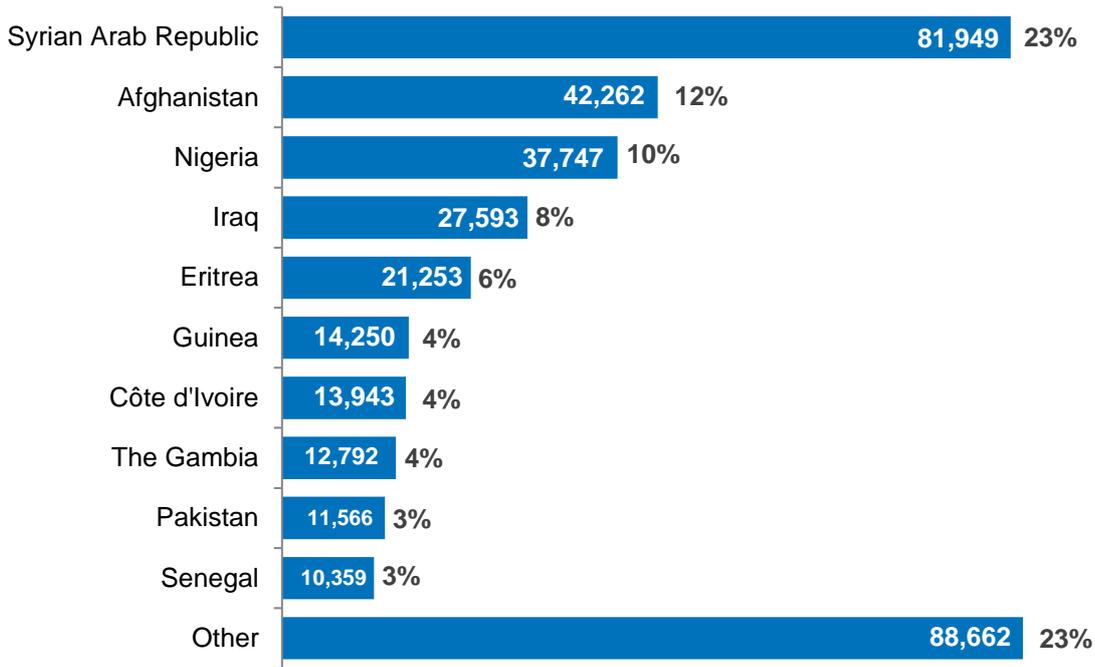
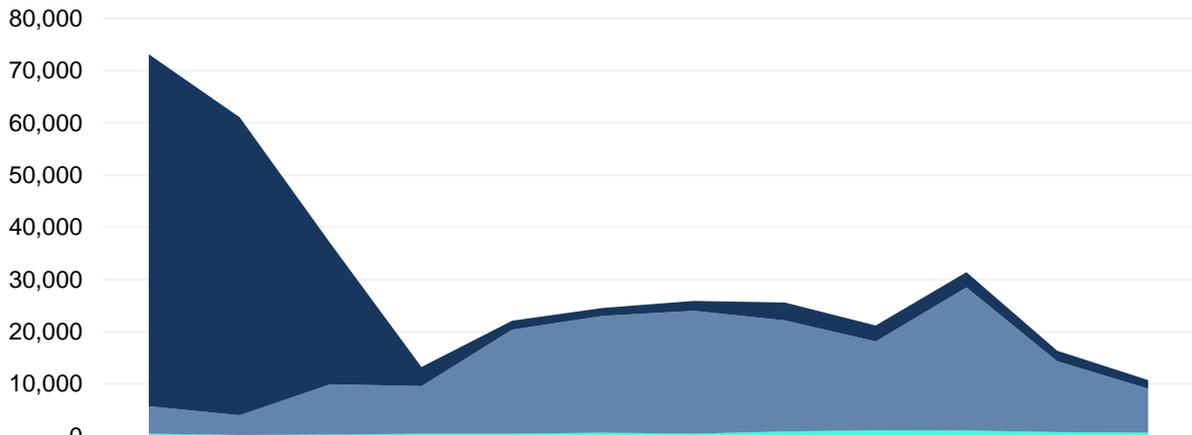


Figure 3 - Arrivals to each country by month

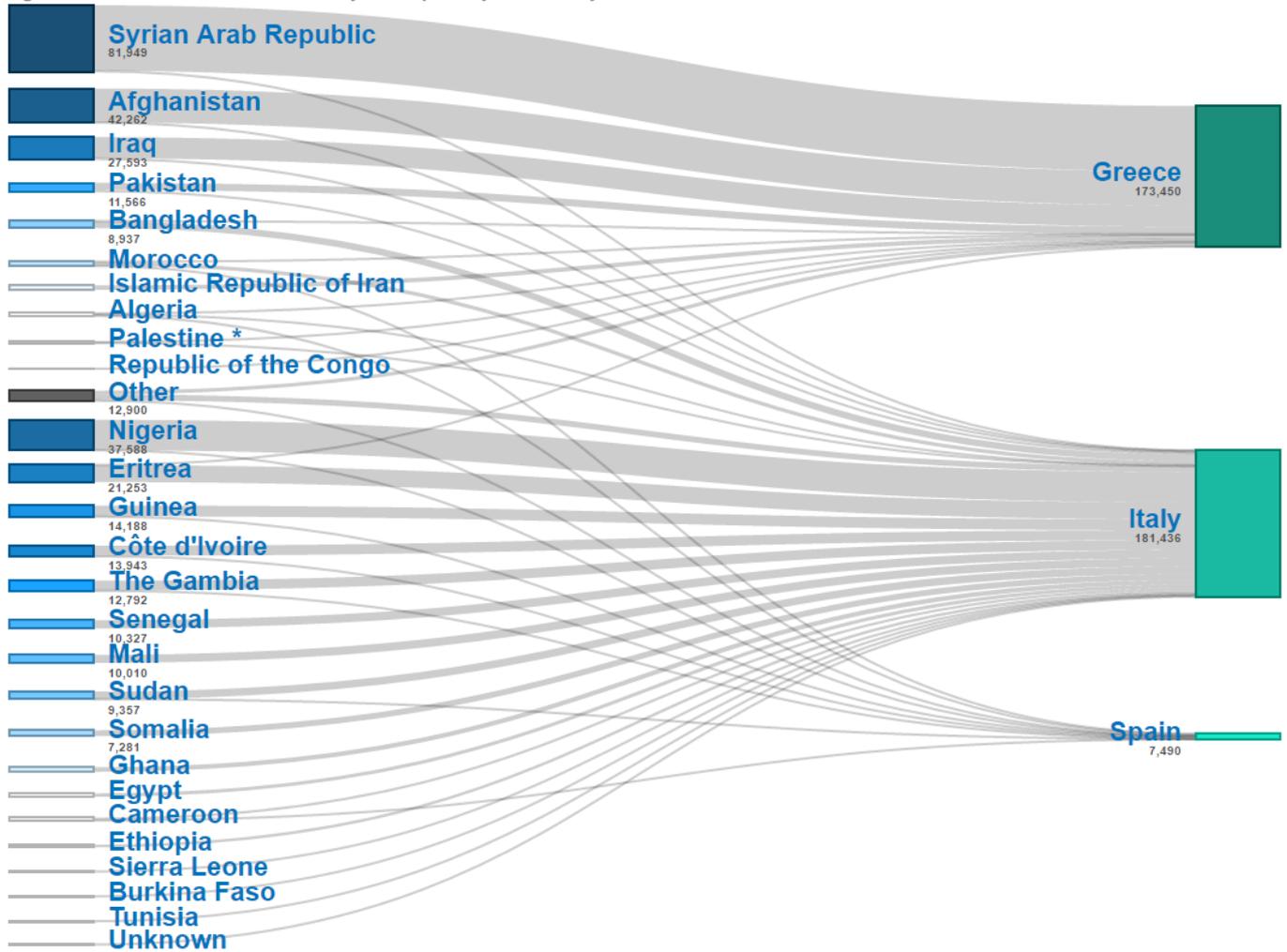


	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16	Jul-16	Aug-16	Sep-16	Oct-16	Nov-16	Dec-16
Monthly Total	73,135	61,074	36,923	13,248	22,112	24,583	25,930	25,611	21,222	31,429	16,352	10,757
■ Greece	67,415	57,066	26,971	3,650	1,721	1,554	1,920	3,447	3,080	2,970	1,991	1,665
■ Italy	5,273	3,828	9,676	9,149	19,925	22,371	23,552	21,294	16,975	27,384	13,581	8,428
■ Spain	447	180	276	449	466	658	458	870	1,167	1,075	780	664

Note – the number of monthly arrivals from each country are aggregated and stacked to produce the totals for each month shown on the graph above

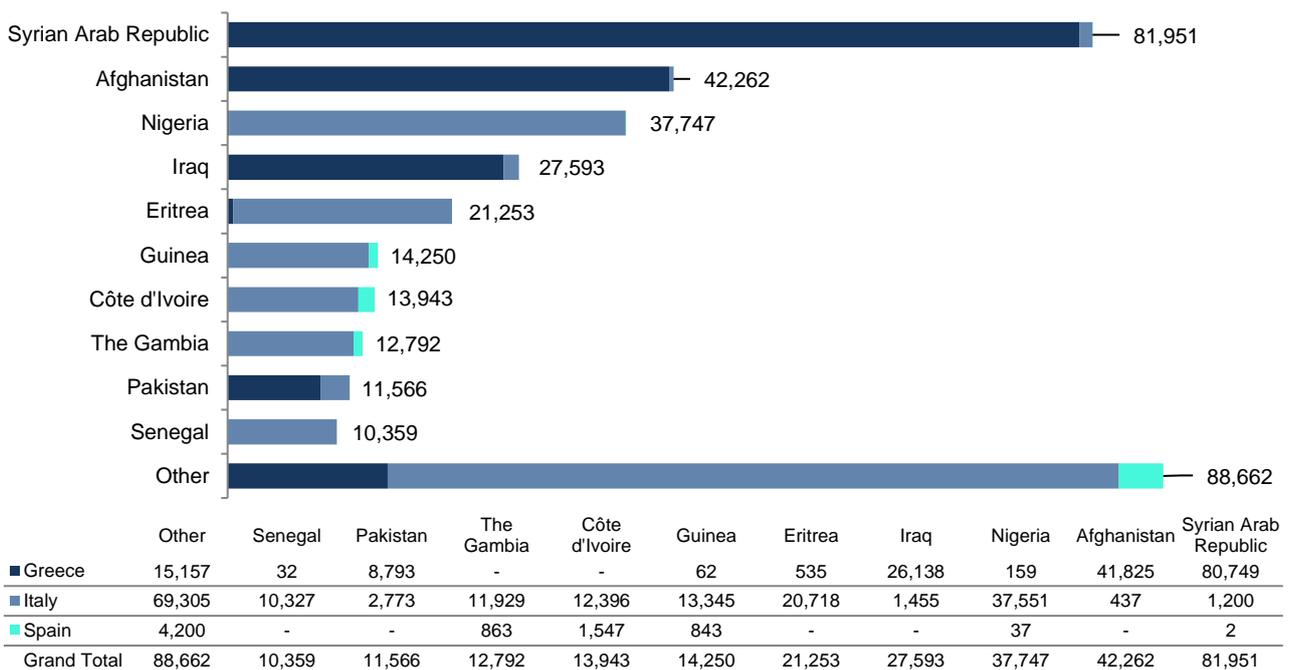
In December, 10,757 refugees and migrants arrived in Europe by crossing the Mediterranean, which is an 85% decrease compared to the highest number of monthly arrivals in January 2016 (73,135). Arrivals to Greece decreased by 16% compared to November 2016 and decreased by 98% compared to December 2015. Arrivals to Italy decreased in December (8,428) compared to November 2016 (38%), and decreased slightly compared to November 2015 (13%). Sea arrivals in Spain have increased steadily during the year, before reducing during the winter months, with arrivals in December 2016 15% lower than the previous month. The total arrivals in Spain in December (664) is over double the same month in 2015 (116% or 308).

Figure 4 - Sea arrivals in Greece, Italy and Spain by Nationality ^



^ Note that only sea arrivals are included in the chart above. Also, arrivals to the Canary Islands in Spain are not included, which total 672 during 2016.
* Most Palestinians have arrived from Syria

Figure 5 - Total arrivals in Greece, Italy and Spain by nationality



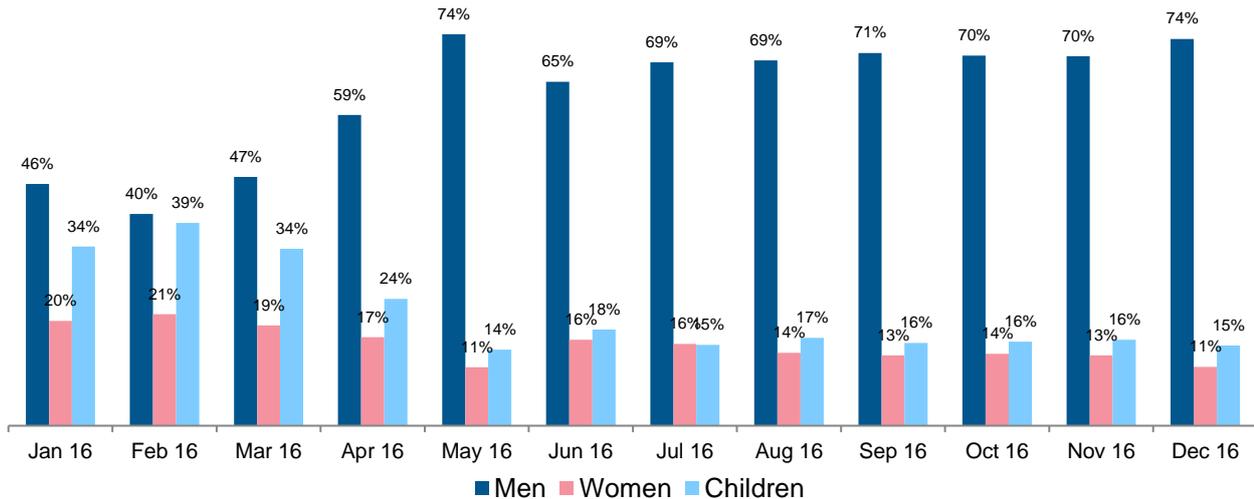
'Other' category includes all other nationalities not listed in the top ten nationalities of arrival.

DEMOGRAPHICS OF REFUGEE AND MIGRANT ARRIVALS IN EUROPE

Main findings:

- In December 2016, 74% of sea arrivals were men, while women and children comprised 11% and 15%, respectively.
- In 2016 overall, between January and December, 57% of the arrivals were men, while women and children constituted 17% and 26% of arrivals, respectively.
- The proportion of men amongst new arrivals has generally increased between January and May (46% to 74%) and then remained consistent until December. As a result, the proportion of women and, in particular, children amongst new arrivals have decreased accordingly. Notably, the proportion of children has decreased from 34% in January to just 15% in December.

Figure 6 - Demographic breakdown by month, based on arrivals to Greece, Italy and Spain (January – December 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 to December 2016.

A total of 173,450 refugees and migrants arrived by sea between January and December 2016, which is 80% lower than in the same period in 2015 (856,723). The number of people arriving in Greece in December 2016 (1,665) decreased by 97% compared to January (67,415) and by 98% compared to December 2015 (108,742). Arrivals also decreased by 16% compared to November 2016.

Between January and December 2016, arrivals most commonly originated from the Syrian Arab Republic, (80,749 or 47%), Afghanistan (41,825 or 24%), Iraq (26,138 or 15%) and Pakistan (8,793 or 5%). In December, the main countries of origin remained broadly similar and include Pakistan (261 or 16%), the Syrian Arab Republic (258 or 15%), Afghanistan (170 or 10%) and Iraq (110 or 7%). Notably in December, significant numbers of Palestinians, Algerians and Moroccans also arrived.

Figure 7 – Nationalities arriving to Greece (January – December 2016)

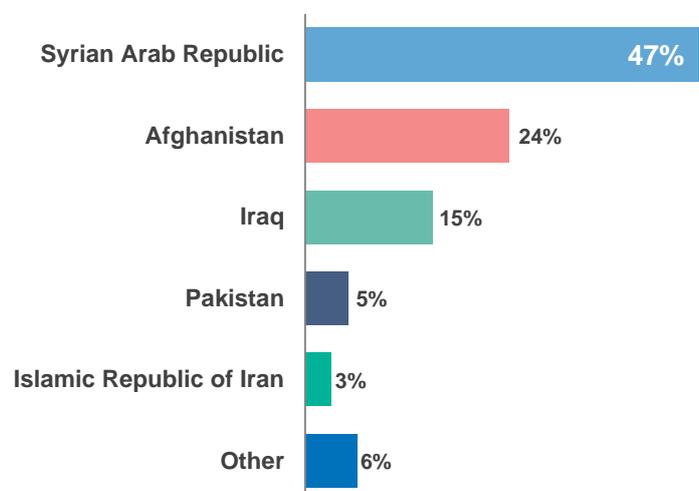
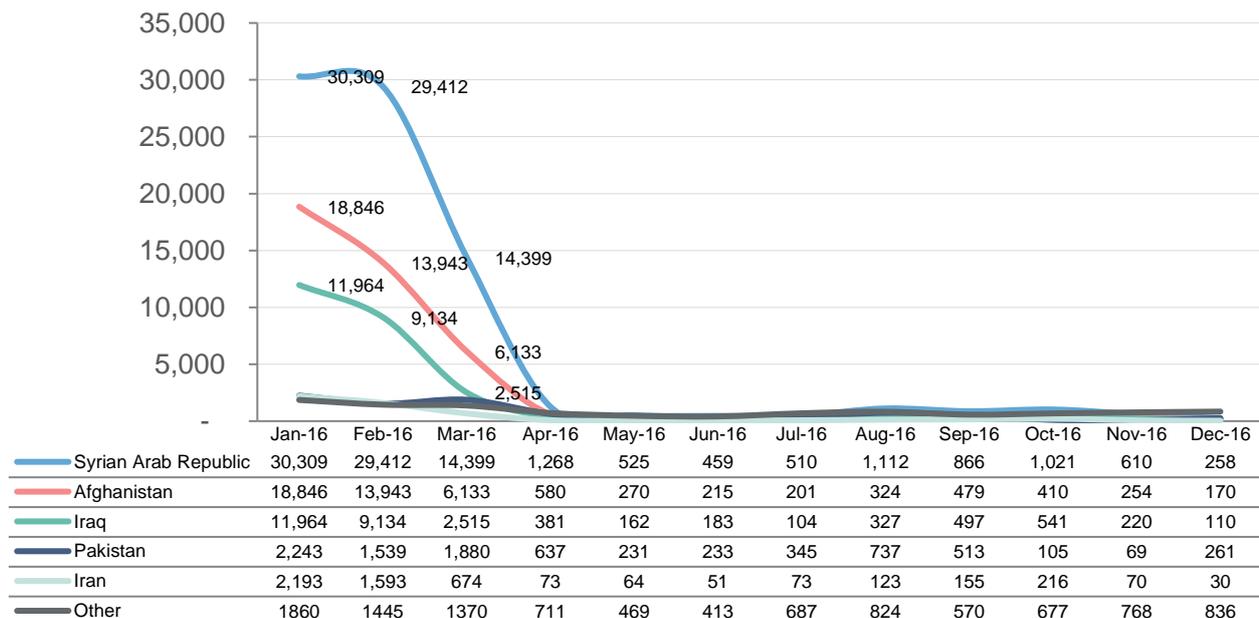
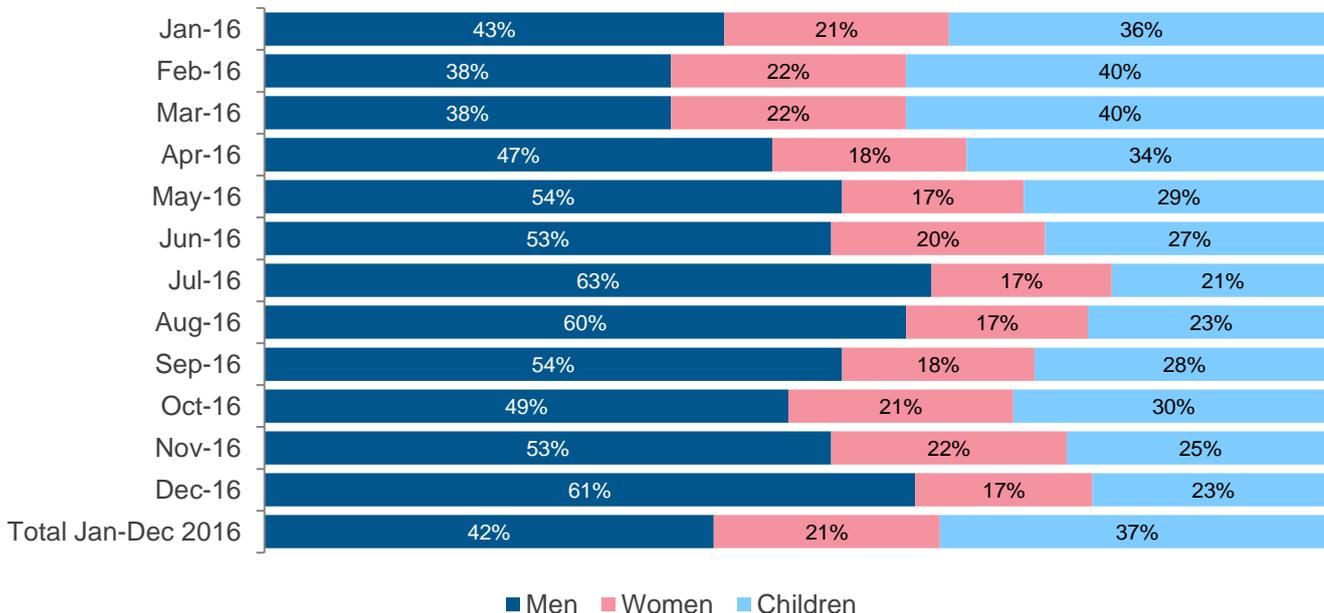


Figure 8 – Greece - Trend of monthly sea arrivals by country of origin


The total number of arrivals from the Syrian Arab Republic between January and December 2016 decreased by 83% compared to the same period in 2015 (479,642). Arrivals of Afghans, Iraqis and Pakistanis also decreased by 80%, 70% and 62% respectively when compared to the same period in 2015.

Figure 9 – Greece - Proportion of men, women and children arriving each month (January – December 2016)*


*Source: Hellenic Police based on partial data

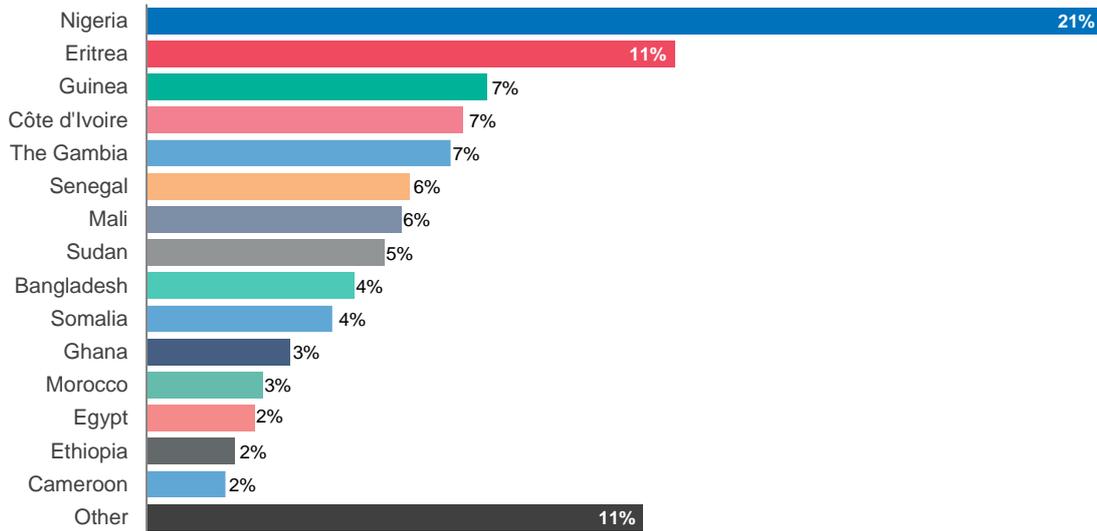
In Greece, the proportion of men among new arrivals increased from 43% (29,103) in January to 61% (1,013) in December, while the proportion of arrivals that are children decreased correspondingly to 23% (376) in December from 36% (24,221) in January and the proportion of women remained similar through the year (21% or 14,091 in January and also 21% or 276 in December 2016).

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 December 2016.

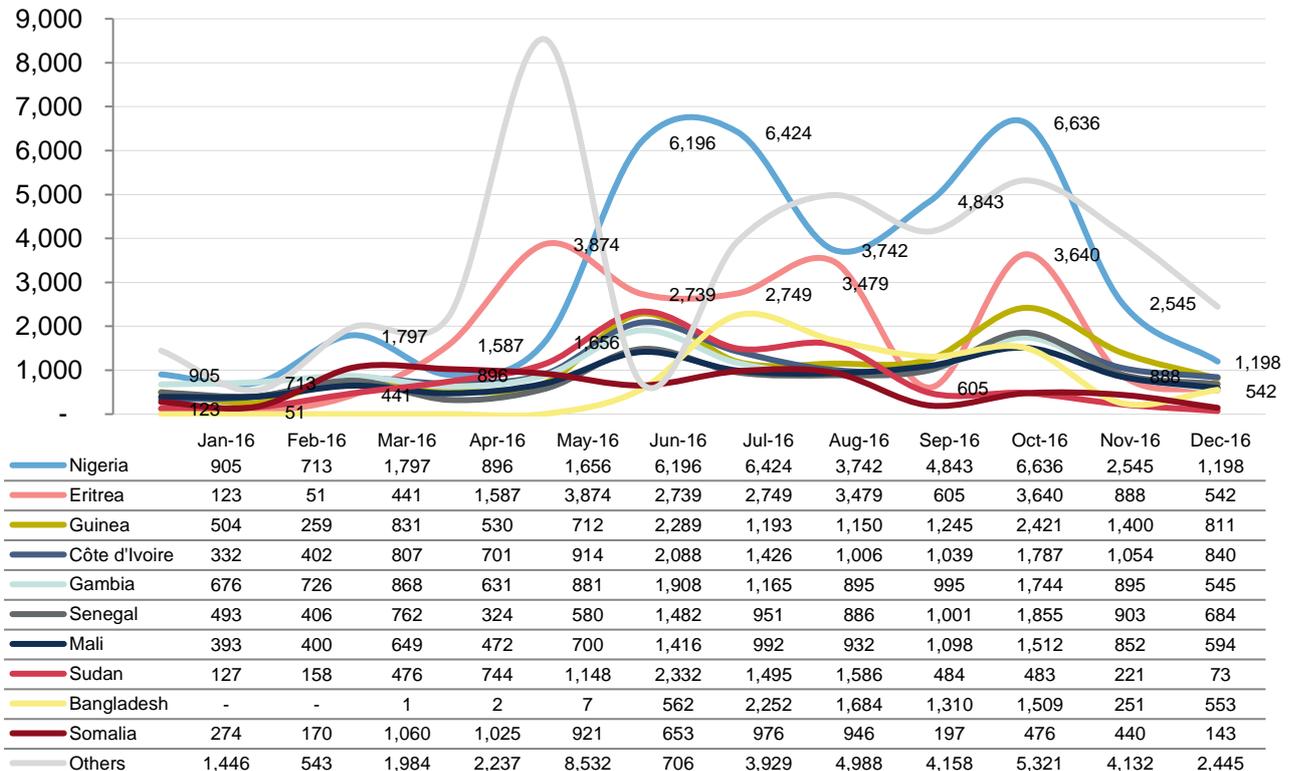
Between January and December 2016, 181,436 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea. This is an increase of 18% compared to same period in 2015 (153,842). The number of people arriving in December (8,428) decreased by 38% compared to the previous month (13,581), due to the worsening weather conditions brought on by the onset of winter. Arrivals in December are also 13% lower than the same month in 2015 (9,637).

Figure 10 - Country of origin of sea arrivals to Italy



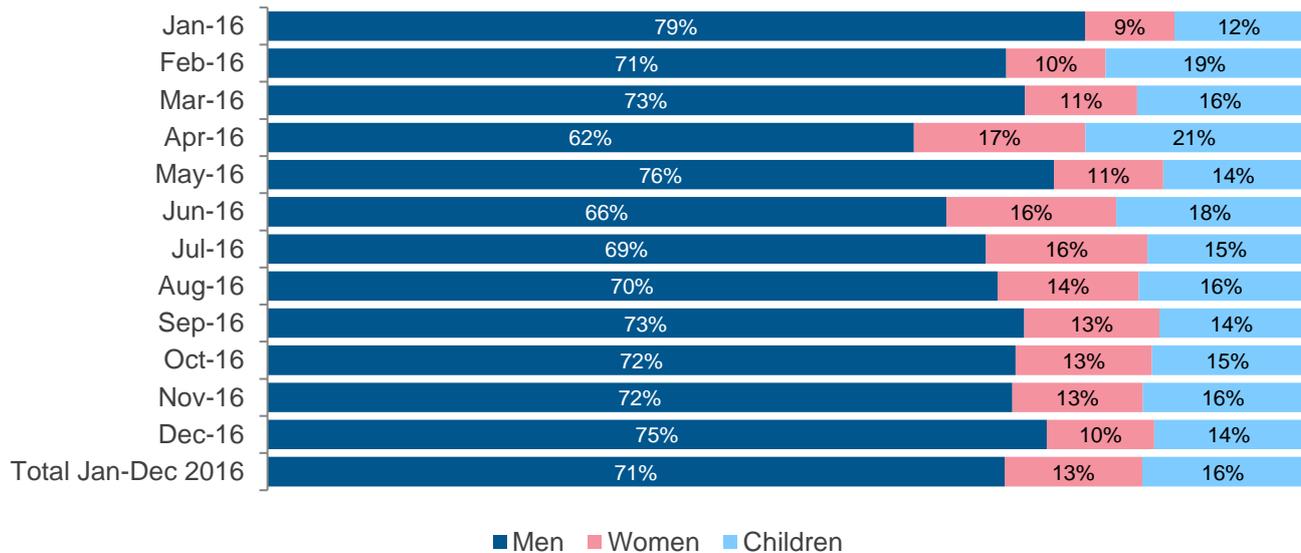
The most common country of origin of arrivals in Italy is Nigeria (37,551 or 21%), followed by Eritrea (20,718 or 11%), Guinea (13,345 or 7%), Côte d'Ivoire (12,396 or 7%), The Gambia (11,929 or 7%), Senegal (10,327 or 6%) and Mali (10,010 or 6%). The proportion of Iraqis (1,455 or 1%), Syrians (1,200 or 1%), and Afghans (437 or 0.2%) amongst arrivals to Italy remain very low.

Figure 11 - Main nationalities of Mediterranean sea arrivals in Italy



*Other category includes all other nationalities not listed in the top most common, including also those refugees and migrants recorded by the MoI as "Sub-Saharan" and originating from unspecified African countries.

Figure 12 - Proportion of men, women and children arriving each month



In Italy, the demographics of those arriving remained broadly similar throughout the year. Overall, 71% of arrivals are men, 13% are women and 16% are children. The vast majority of children (92%) are unaccompanied and separated children (UASCs). Their numbers have increased by 132% compared to the same period in 2015 (25,846 UASC in 2016 compared to just 11,154 in 2015).

SPAIN

Data in the charts below cover sea arrivals only. Arrivals to the Canary Islands have been excluded from this analysis, as they are situated beyond the Mediterranean.

Between January and December 2016, a total of 7,490 refugees and migrants arrived in Spain. Sea arrivals in Spain have increased steadily during the year and the total arrivals in Spain in December (664) are more than double (116% higher) the same month in 2015, in which only 308 people arrived.

The majority of sea arrivals to Spain are from North and West Africa, mostly from Algeria (1,601 or 21%), Côte d'Ivoire (1,547 or 21%), The Gambia (863 or 12%), Guinea (843 or 11%), Morocco (674 or 9%) and Cameroon (610 or 8%).

Figure 13 – Country of origin of sea arrivals to Spain

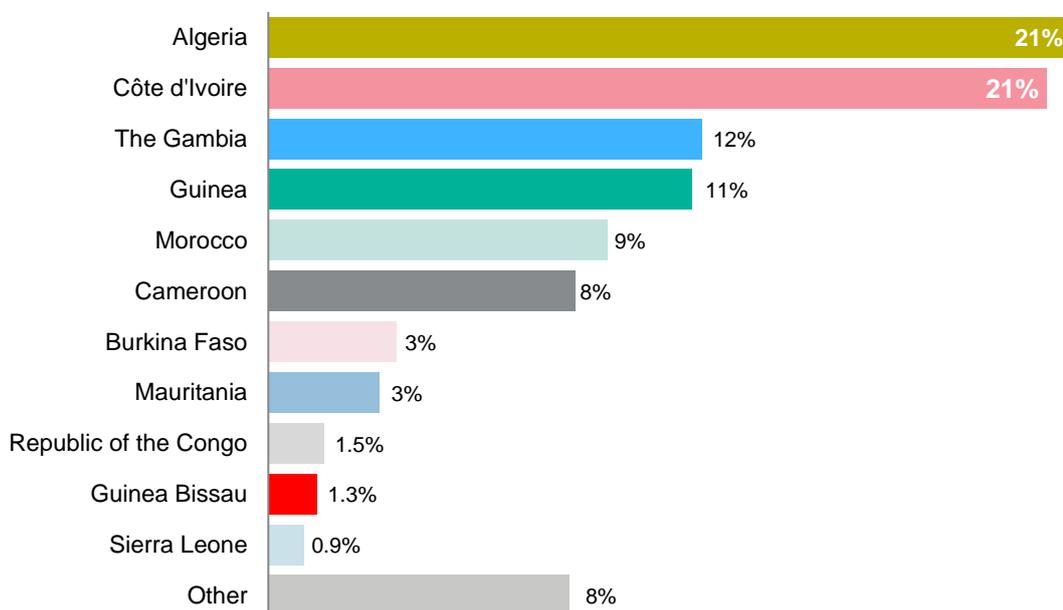
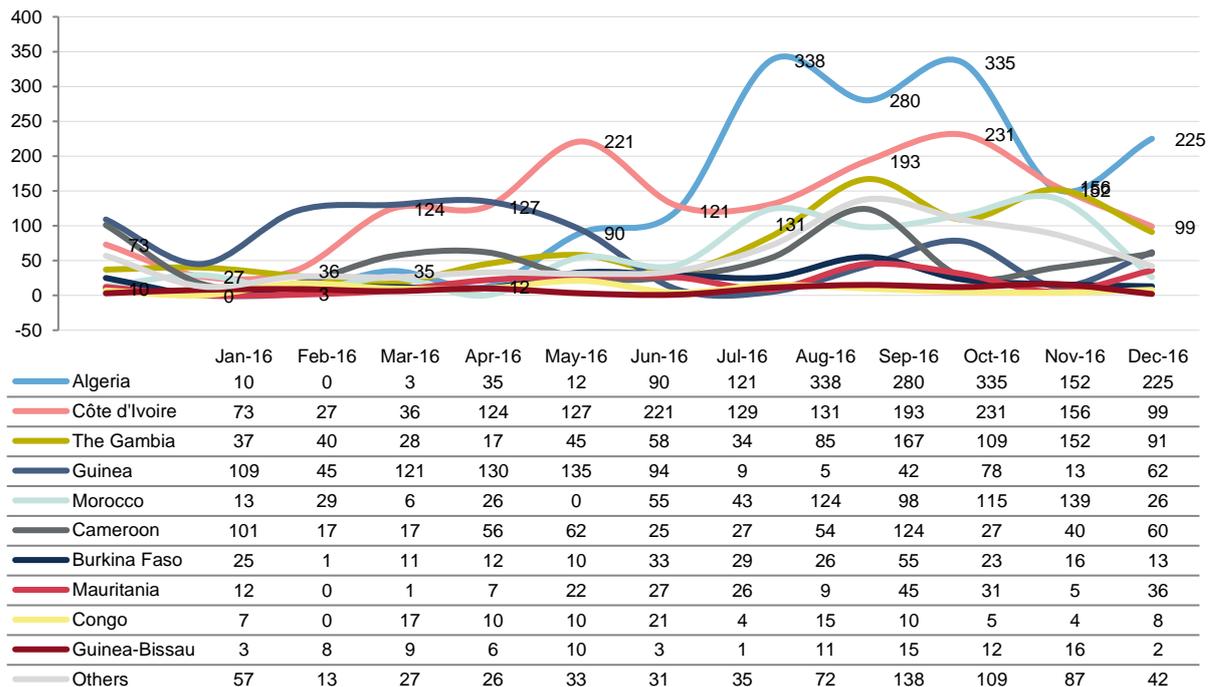
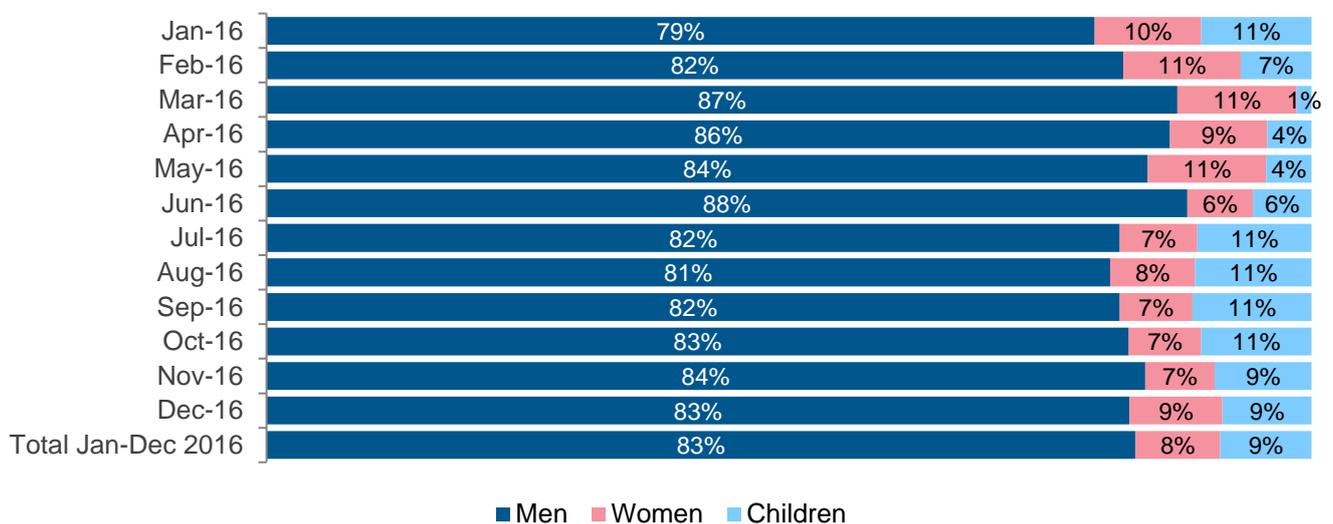


Figure 14 - Trend of monthly sea arrivals by country of origin



In Spain, while arrivals in general have increased as the year has progressed, this is particularly the case for refugees and migrants arriving from Algeria, The Gambia and Morocco.

Figure 15 - Proportion of men, women and children arriving each month



The demographics of those arriving in Spain remained broadly similar throughout the year. Overall, 83% of arrivals are men, 8% are women and 9% are children.

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