



International Organization for Migration (IOM)

The UN Migration Agency

**DTM**

# MIXED MIGRATION FLOWS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

Compilation of Available  
Data and Information  
January 2019



Syrian refugees crossing the Serbian-Croatian border.  
Copyright: Francesco Malavolta/IOM 2015



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\* The term transit country is used in the context of the ongoing DTM flow monitoring of movements from Middle East and Africa towards Europe. It does not imply any official accepted profiling of the countries concerned.

\*\* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.





Hundreds of Syrian women and children line up to receive a hot meal at one of the food kitchens supported by IOM in Gaziantep, Turkey. The food kitchen serves 1,500 meals daily. Across the city, 6,000 people are fed daily through three IOM supported food kitchens. For many who receive food, it is often the only meal they eat that day. © IOM/Muse Mohammed

## HIGHLIGHTS

A total of 7,671 migrants and refugees arrived in Europe through different land and sea routes in the first month of 2019. Arrivals in January decreased by 9 per cent when compared to January 2018 and are 27 per cent lower than the 10,584 registered in the previous month (December 2018).

More than a half (60%) of all arrivals were registered in Spain, indicating that the Western Mediterranean route was the main route taken by the migrants and refugees arriving to Europe in January 2019. Another 36 per cent of individuals have arrived in Europe through the Eastern Mediterranean route (Cyprus, Bulgaria, Greece) and the remaining 4 per cent were rescued and transferred to Italy and Malta in their attempt to cross the Central Mediterranean route. It is for the first time since 2017 that a route different than the Central Mediterranean was the most active route in January. For example, last year, almost half of migrants and refugees registered in January arrived in Europe through the Central Mediterranean route, and the remaining 50 per cent was almost equally distributed between Western (26%) and Eastern (24%) Mediterranean route.

A total 4,612 migrants and refugees were registered in **Spain** (WMR) in January 2019. This is two times increase compared to the 2,182 land and sea arrivals reported in January 2018 and the 2,453 reported in January 2017. Among the total registered migrants arriving to Spain in January 2019, 89 per cent (4,104) arrived by sea and the remaining 11 per cent (508) arrived by land, mainly to the Spanish enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla in the North of Africa. Migrants from Sub-Saharan Africa.

In January 2019, Hellenic Authorities reported 2,658 new arrivals to **Greece**, keeping the Eastern Mediterranean route the second most active routes for arrivals to Europe in the region. Of the 2,658 arrivals in January 2019, 78 per cent arrived in Greece by sea and the remaining 22 per cent were registered as land arrivals. Half of the registered population that arrived in the country by sea were of Afghan origin (50%), followed by 17 per cent Palestinian nationals, 9 per cent Syrian and 8 per cent Iraqi nationals, resembling the order found among the total population registered in 2018. However, when looking at the data for January 2018, it can be observed that Afghanistan was the third most commonly reported country of origin, following Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq as the first two countries of origin (32% both, respectively). In addition to that, DTM flow monitoring data from the Evros region in the North Greece shows that the majority of migrants (43%) who were registered arriving from Turkey to Greece, mainly by land were of Turkish origin (read more [here](#)).

**Italian** authorities reported the arrivals of 202 migrants and refugees in January 2019, the lowest reported since 2014. Arrivals in the first month of 2019 have decreased by 43 per cent when compared to the 359 recorded in the previous month and are only a fragment of the 4,182 registered in January 2018. One quarter of migrants registered this year were of Bangladeshi origin (28%), followed by those from Iraq (19%), Tunisia (15%) and Senegal (9%). The nationality breakdown indicates a change in the departure countries towards the increase in departures from Tunisia, Greece and Turkey (read more [here](#)). Profile of migrants and refugees registered in Italy this year differs from the profile found among migrants and refugees registered in January 2018. Last year Eritrean<sup>1</sup> nationals were the first declared nationality as reported by the Italian Authorities (31%) followed by those from Tunisia (16%), Pakistan (7%), Nigeria (6%) and Libya (5%).

For the first time since 2014, there were registered arrivals in Cyprus in January. A total of 90 migrants and refugees arrived in the country, mainly nationals of Syrian Arab Republic (read more [here](#)).

Authorities in the Western Balkans, namely Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania and Montenegro – countries that have observed a significant increase in arrivals in 2018 (read more [here](#)), registered a total of 1,026 migrants and refugees. This is three times more than the 366 registered in January 2018 in all three countries and 11 per cent less than the 1,158 registered in December 2018. The decrease is mainly related to the 50 per cent decrease in the number of migrants registered in Albania (119 in December 2018 and 59 in January 2019). In contrast to that, an increase is observed in registered entries to Kosovo (UNSCR 1244) in the second half of 2018 when 80 per cent of the overall yearly arrivals were reported. This continued in January 2019 when 110 migrants were registered (fifty-five times more than 2 registered in January 2018) (read more [here](#)). Iraq, Pakistan, Algeria, Syrian Arab Republic and Morocco were the main nationality groups registered in the countries in the region in January 2019.

<sup>1</sup> The information on nationality breakdown provided in this report is based on the nationality declared by migrants as reported by the Italian Ministry of Interior.



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The Italian Coast Guard rescues migrants bound for Italy. © Francesco Malavolta/IOM 2014

## OVERVIEW OF ARRIVALS

Figure 1 Arrivals in Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta and Spain, January 2019

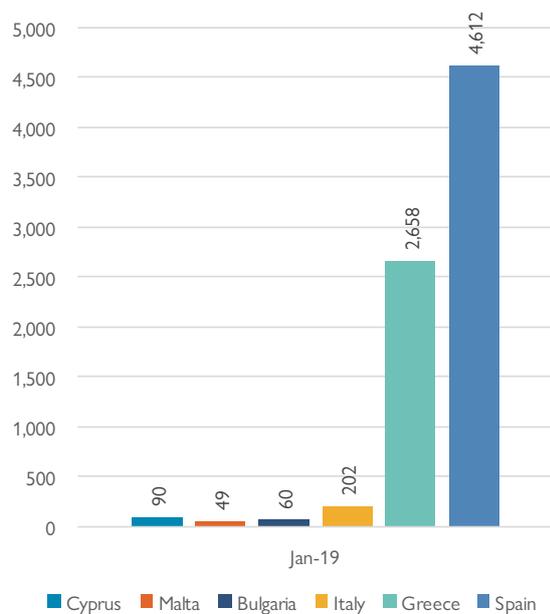


Figure 2 Distribution of land and sea arrivals in January 2019

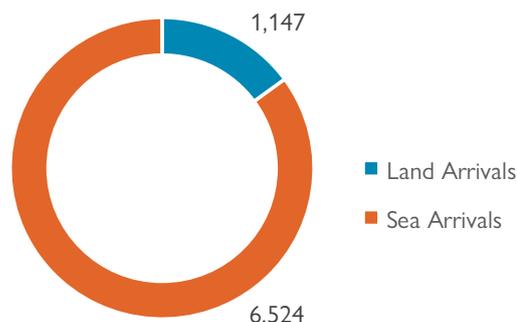
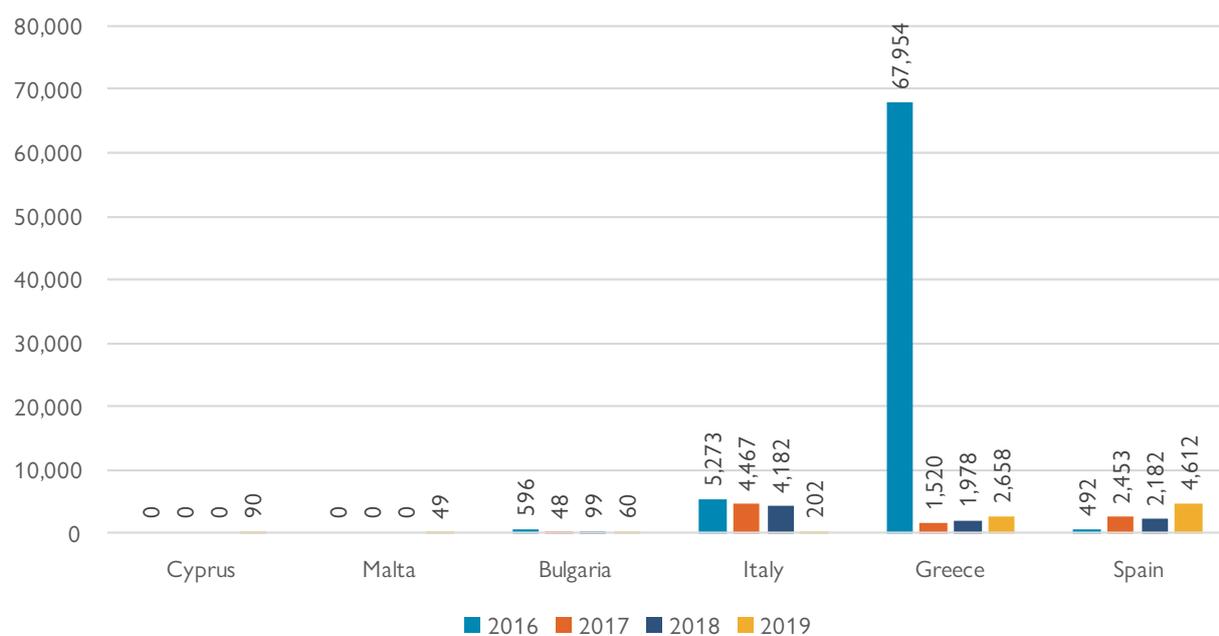
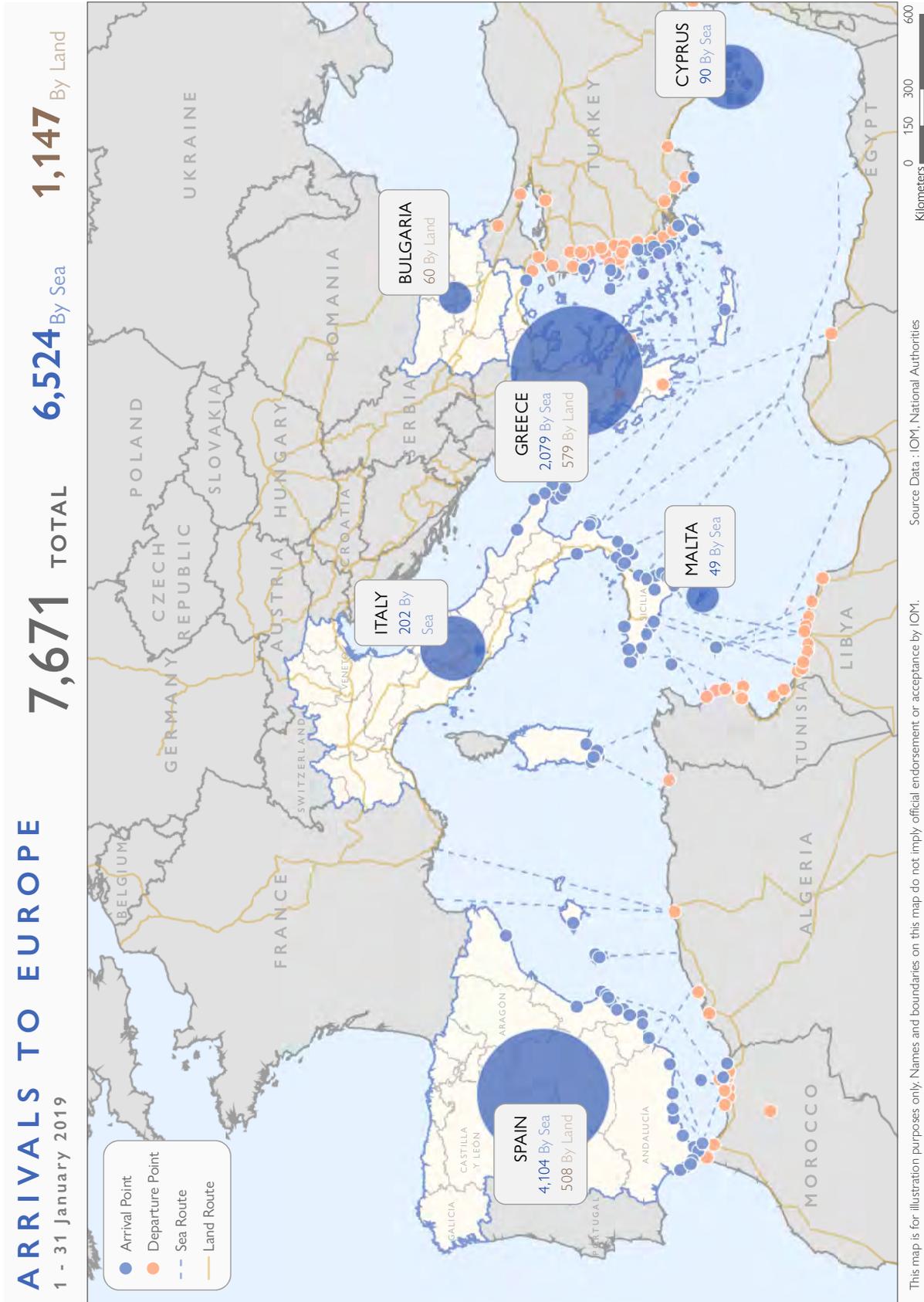


Figure 3 Arrivals in January, comparison 2016 - 2019



## OVERVIEW MAPS



# OVERVIEW: COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN - ARRIVALS TO SPAIN, ITALY AND GREECE

From 01 to 31 January 2019



\*The information on nationality breakdown provided in this report is based on the nationality declared by migrants as reported by the Italian Ministry of Interior.

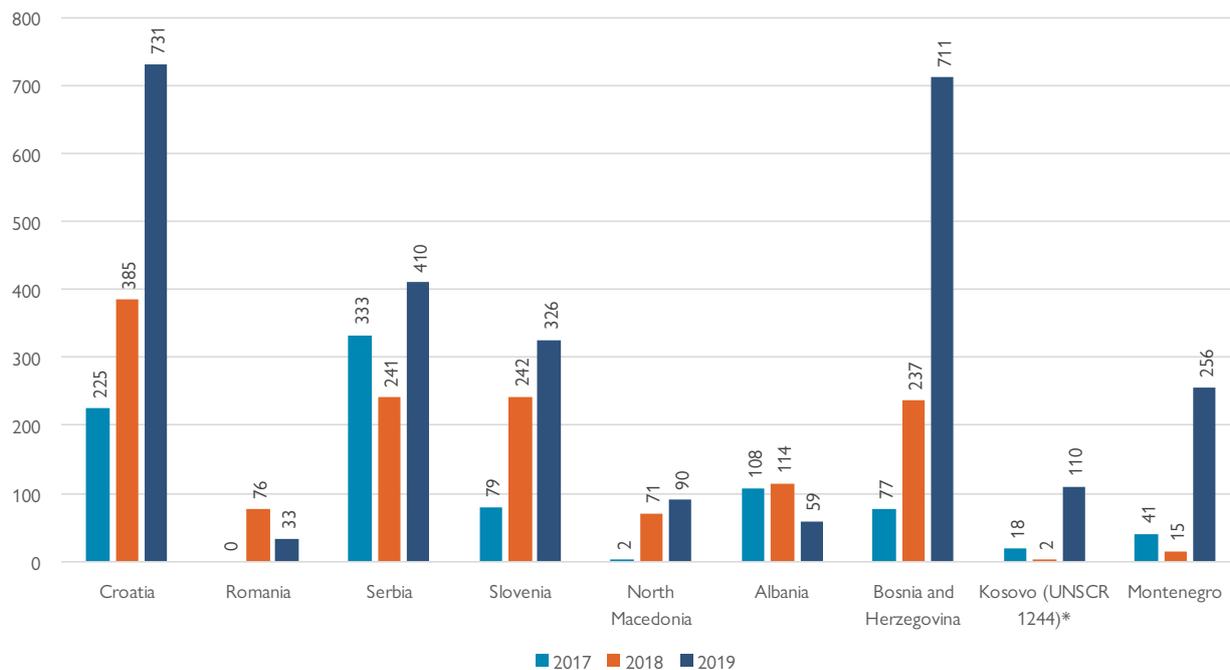
\*\*IOM estimates based on 2018 nationality breakdown as the data for January 2019 was not available at the time of publishing. MA DAGASCAR This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

\*The information on nationality breakdown provided on this map is based on the nationality declared by migrants as reported by the Italian Ministry of Interior.

Source Data: IOM, National Authorities, Esri, HERE, Garmin, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community

## TRANSIT COUNTRIES – REGISTERED IRREGULAR APPREHENSIONS

<sup>2</sup>Figure 4 Summary of Registered Irregular Apprehensions in January 2017 -2019

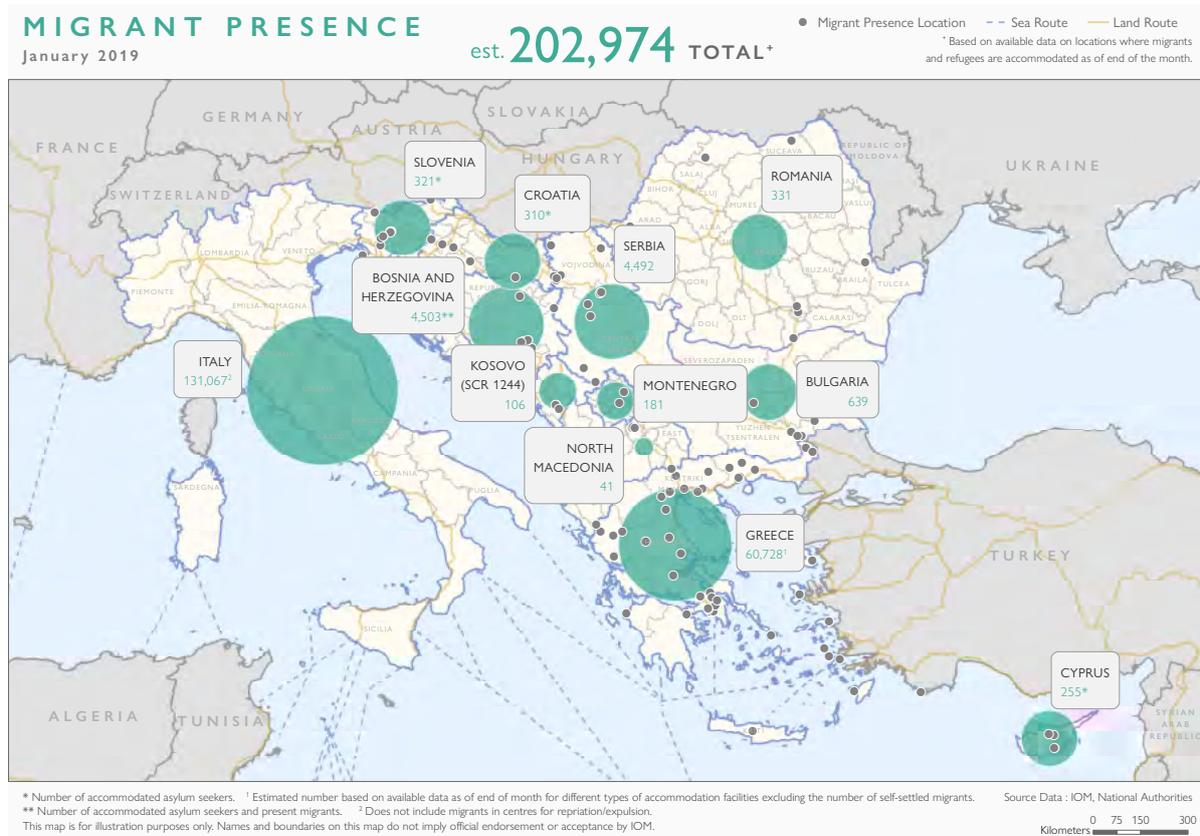


<sup>2</sup> Figure 2 includes both entry and exit statistics for Romania. 2018 data for Albania includes apprehensions on entry and exit from the country.

\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence



Rescue operations carried out at the end of June in the Channel of Sicily, Italy.  
© Francesco Malavolta/IOM 2015



PRESENCE OF MIGRANTS AND ASYLUM SEEKERS IN THE REGION – CHANGES OVER TIME				
Country	January 2017	January 2018	January 2019	
Greece <sup>3</sup>	62,711	50,871	60,728	
the Republic of North Macedonia	117	56	41	
Serbia	6,465	3,810	4,492	
Croatia <sup>4</sup>	602	387	310	
Slovenia	267	208	321	
Bulgaria	4,942	967	639	
Cyprus*	/	314	255	
Romania*	/	599	331	
Montenegro	/	86	192	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	/	/	4,503	
Kosovo	39	15	106	
Italy <sup>5</sup>	175,481	182,537	131,067	

\*Number of asylum seekers.

<sup>3</sup> Sum of available information, excluding the figure on self-settled migrants and asylum seekers.

<sup>4</sup> Data for Slovenia and Croatia includes number of asylum seekers only.

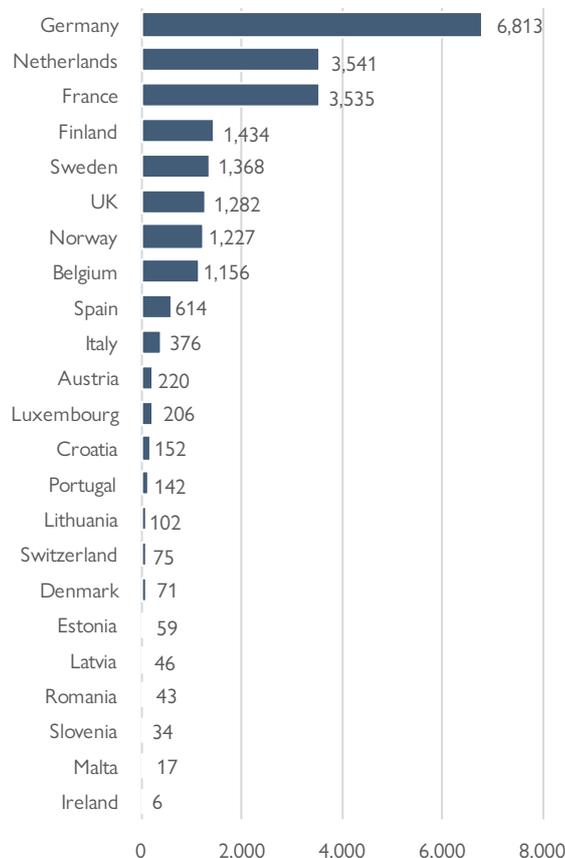
<sup>5</sup> Data for 2016 and 2017 is the final yearly data reflecting migrants' presence as of end of the year.

## POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

### EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

In response to the arrival of almost one million migrants and refugees from the Middle East and Africa through the Eastern Mediterranean route in the second half of 2015 and the first three months of 2016, on 18 March 2016, the European Union (EU) and Turkey agreed on a plan to end irregular migration flows from Turkey to the EU. The document states that from 20 March 2016 all persons who do not have a right to international protection in Greece will be returned to Turkey, based on the Readmission Agreement from 2002 signed between the countries. The whole document is available [here](#) and for the last report on Relocation and Resettlement please check [here](#).

Figure 5 Number of Syrian refugees resettled from Turkey to Europe (EEA) between April 2016 and January 2019\*



\* The figure include the number of Syrian refugees assisted by IOM Turkey through the 1:1 resettlement scheme as well as other bilateral programs. Between April 2016 and January 2019, a total of 22,519 Syrian refugees have departed to European countries. Source: IOM.

### CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN

On 2 February 2017, Italy's Prime Minister signed a memorandum of understanding with Libya's National Reconciliation Government to reduce the number of departures from Libya to Italy. A day after, 3 February 2017, Members of the European Council drafted the Malta Declaration at an informal summit held in Malta. During the summit, 28 EU heads of state discussed the external dimensions of migration, focusing mainly on undertaking actions to: significantly reduce migratory flows, break the business model of smugglers and save lives ([Malta Declaration](#)). In addition to that, the Italian Government and the EU provided trainings to the Libyan Coast Guard to improve their capacity to execute rescue operations. This had a significant impact on the number of arrivals in Italy in 2017, causing a twofold decrease in the number of arrivals between the second and third quarters of the year (59,460 in Q2 versus 21,957 in Q3). It also caused an overall decrease in the number of arrivals in 2018, which can be seen when compared to the number of arrivals in the same period in 2017 (e.g. 119,369 arrivals in 2017 compared to 23,370 in 2018). The decrease continued in the first month of 2019, when authorities registered only 202 arrivals to Italy – 20 times less than the 4,182 registered in January 2018 and 22 times less than 4,467 registered in January 2017.

### WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN

In response to the increased number of arrivals in Spain during 2018, authorities opened two new types of centers during the summer months. First type are Centers for temporary attention of Migrants (CATE – Centro de Atención Temporal de Extranjeros) intended for assistance provision and registration of migrants who arrive on the Coast of Andalusia during the first 72 hours after their rescue. By the end of the year two centers of such kind were opened in [Algeciras \(Cadiz\)](#) and Motril (Granada). The second type are Centers for temporary reception, emergency and referral (CAED – Centro Temporal de Acogida, Emergencia y Derivación) managed by the Spanish Red Cross that oversees the provision of health, psychological, social and interpretation services. At the end of December 2018, three such centers were operational in [Chiclana \(Cadiz\)](#), [Merida](#) and [Guadix \(Grenada\)](#) (read more [here](#)).

## GLOBAL COMPACT ON MIGRATION

In December 2018, the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the [Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration](#) was held in Marrakech, Morocco. The compact comprises 23 objectives and was adopted by world leaders on 10 December with 152 votes in favor, 5 against and 12 abstentions. The first of the 23 objectives is to “collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies.” See [here](#) for more information.

## CALL FOR REGIONAL DISEMBARKATION

In an effort to tackle the record rate of drownings in the Mediterranean Sea witnessed in 2018, IOM and UNHCR appealed to European leaders in October 2018 to confront the negative political discourse regarding migrants and refugees arriving by boat. Over 2,299 have died in their efforts to reach Europe by sea in 2018, and 218 so far in 2019. The [workable regional arrangement](#) initiated by IOM and UNHCR is a comprehensive approach to sea rescues that would increase the predictability and efficiency of disembarkation missions by means of common procedures. Alongside this proposal, both organizations encouraged responsibility-sharing amongst European leaders, and the implementation of the agreements formed in the Valetta Political Declaration and Plan of Action. See [here](#) for more information.



*Migrants rescued last March in the Channel of Sicily by Italian Coast Guard. © Francesco Malavolta/IOM 2015*

# COUNTRIES OF FIRST ARRIVAL

## ITALY

### Developments during the reporting period

In the first month of 2019, a total of 202 migrants and refugees were reported to have arrived in the country by sea. This is a 95 per cent decrease in comparison with the same period of 2018 when 4,182 arrivals were registered. Among those arrived in January, an estimated 14 per cent were registered as unaccompanied children. According to the Italian MOI<sup>6</sup>, Bangladesh represents the first declared

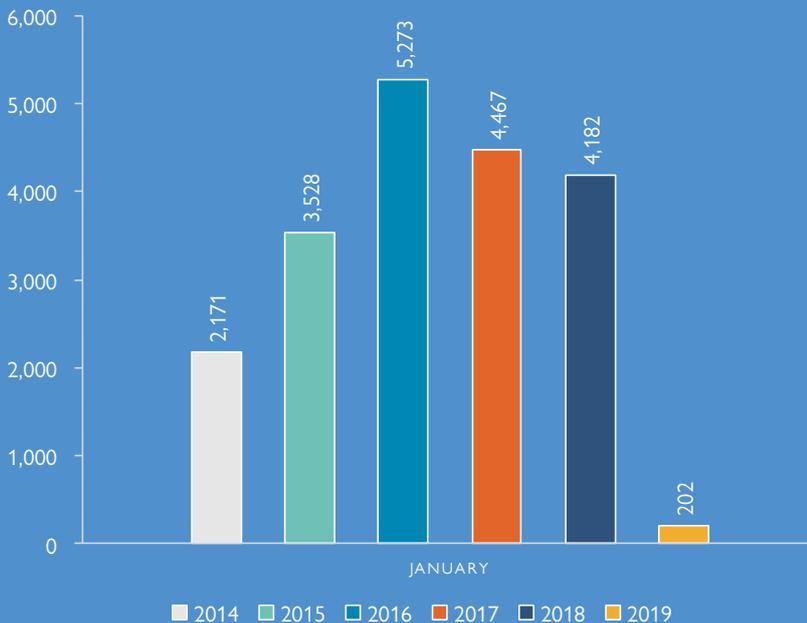
country of origin with 57 arrivals (28% of the total), followed by Iraq (19%), Tunisia (15%), and other African and Southern Asian countries. Arrivals of migrants and refugees who departed from Libya (3 landing events) represent 59 per cent of the total, followed by migrants and refugees from Turkey (1 landing event) representing 26 per cent, and Tunisia (4 landing events) making up 15 per cent.<sup>7</sup>

10 January – A sailing boat with 51 migrants and refugees from Kurdish regions of Iraq and the Islamic Republic of Iran capsized in front of the shores of Torre Melissa, a small town of Calabria. Residents and the major helped out with rescuing operations ([here](#)).

22 January – The ex CARA<sup>8</sup> in Castelnuovo di Porto, a reception centre for asylum seekers and refugees located near Rome, is set to be closed by the end of January. The center, which used to host up to 1,000 migrants and refugees over the past years, was the second biggest in place after the ex CARA in Mineo (Catania). While about 500 asylum seekers and international protection holders have been transferred to other regions and centres ([here](#)), holders of humanitarian permits (abrogated by the Salvini Decree in October) no longer have the right to reception will remain without accommodation ([here](#)).

23 January – Germany exits EU military operation *Sophia*, which is coordinated by the Italian navy and whose mandate is to undertake coordinate actions against migrant smuggling and trafficking in the Central Mediterranean Sea. Reportedly, the decision comes in reaction to Italy's reluctance to allow rescued people to disembark ([here](#)).

Figure 6 Arrivals in January, comparison 2014 – 2019



6 IOM data is adjusted according to the official figures provided by Italy's Ministry of Interior twice a week.

7 Calculations based on DTM Flow Monitoring data.

8 *Centri di accoglienza per richiedenti asilo (CARA)* – First-Line Reception Centers: Governmental Center for Accommodation of Asylum Seekers (read more [here](#)).

Table 1 Arrivals by sea - top 10 declared nationalities, January 2019

Declared nationality	Total	%	Adult Males	Adult Females	AC	UASC
Total	202	100	160	5	8	29
Bangladesh	57	28	45			12
Iraq	38	19	27	5	5	1
Tunisia	31	15	22		3	6
Senegal	19	9	17			2
Guinea	18	9	13			5
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	13	6	13			
Egypt	9	4	7			2
Sudan	6	3	5			1
Others	11	7	11			

Figure 7 Nationality breakdown of registered arrivals by sea in January 2019

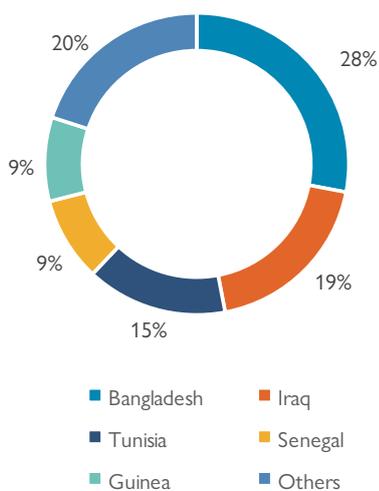
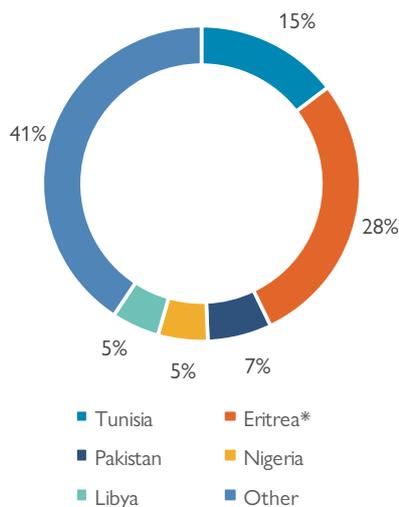
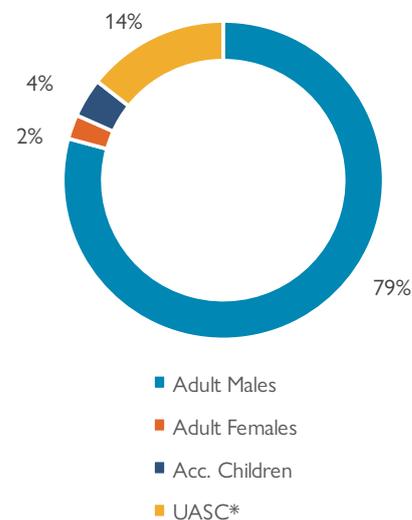


Figure 8 Nationality breakdown of registered arrivals by sea in Italy in January 2018



\* The information on nationality breakdown provided in this report is based on the nationality declared by migrants as reported by the Italian Ministry of Interior.

Figure 9 Age/Sex breakdown of arrivals in January 2019.



\*Unaccompanied and Separated Children.

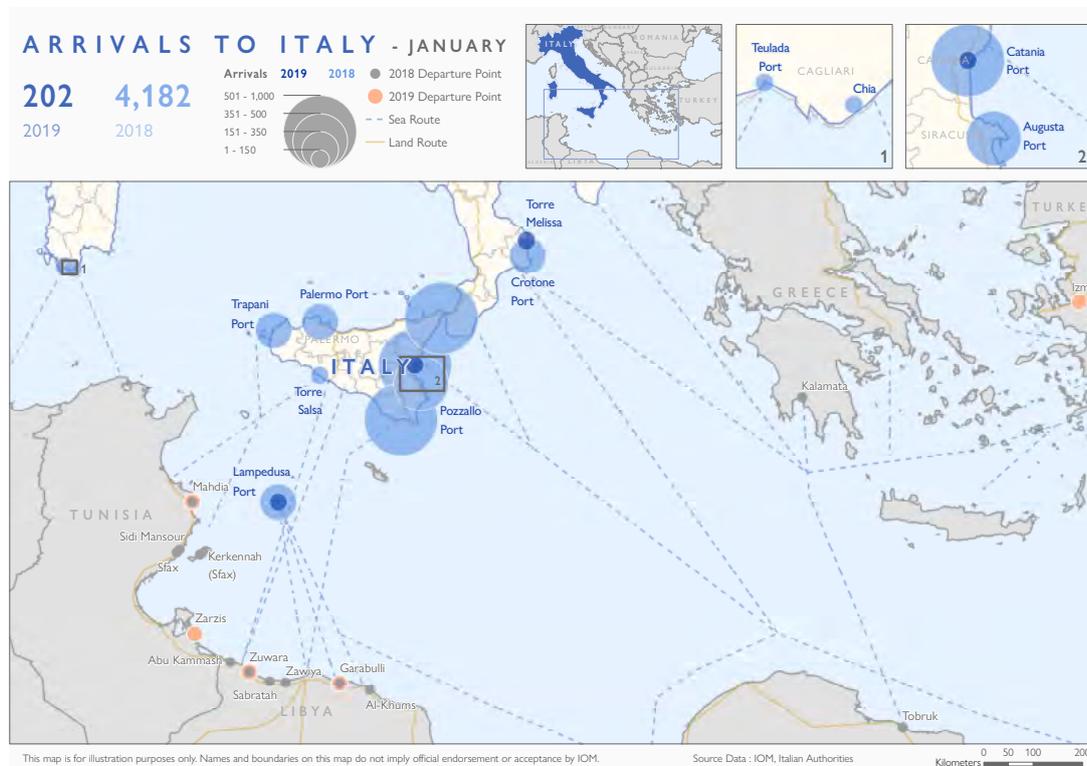
### Known entry points:

The main ports of disembarkation in 2018 are those in Sicily (Pozzallo, Lampedusa, Catania, Messina and Trapani). In January 2019, disembarkations took place in Sicily (Lampedusa and Catania) and Calabria (Torre Melissa).

While arrivals from Tunisia and Turkey are the results of autonomous landings, arrivals from Libya are brought to Italy following search and rescue operations in the Central Mediterranean Sea conducted by the Italian Navy and Coast Guard, and by NGOs.

No official estimate on the number of migrants and refugees arriving in Italy by land borders is provided by Italian authorities. Nonetheless, media report of an ongoing flow of migrants entering Italy by land in Trieste and Gorizia from Slovenia.

Map 1 Main departure points from Libya and landing points in Italy (January 2019)



### Known exit points:

Some migrants and refugees arrived by sea try to move to other European countries and formal and informal transit camps are active at border areas with neighbouring countries (France, Switzerland and Austria). Migrants and refugees are often stopped or pushed back to Italy when found on streets or trains close to the borders. Ventimiglia remains the main bottleneck for migrants and refugees who are trying to cross the border with France. French authorities are reported to send back migrants found on their territory in an irregular position. Also, Bardonecchia (Italy/France), Como (Italy/Switzerland) and, to a lesser extent, Bolzano (Italy/Austria), are other border cities where transiting migrants gather and organize to move northwards. The Italian authorities transfer migrants and refugees from Ventimiglia to the hotspot in Taranto on a regular basis, to decrease pressure at the border and reduce secondary movements.

### Relocations within Europe

After the closure of the EU relocation mechanism, IOM supports national authorities in the procedures to relocate some of migrants and refugees arriving by sea to other EU countries with which the Italian authorities have found an agreement. Between August and December 2018, IOM assisted the relocation of 142 migrants and refugees to France, Germany, Portugal and Spain.

No departures have been assisted by IOM in January 2019.

### Resettlement and Humanitarian Corridor

IOM Italy manages a resettlement program financed by the Ministry of Interior, under which 400 beneficiaries have been resettled to Italy in 2018 from Libya, Jordan, Lebanon, Sudan, Turkey. 77% of them were Syrian nationals. In January 2019, 16 Syrian nationals have been assisted by IOM in their resettlement from Lebanon to Italy.

Over the past three years, a consortium of faith-based organizations (Comunità di Sant'Egidio, Federazione delle Chiese Evangeliche in Italia and Tavola Valdese) organizes self-funded humanitarian corridors in agreement with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Italian Ministry of Interior: A total of more than 2,300 migrants and refugees have been admitted in Italy since February 2016, with beneficiaries granted reception and integration services by the promoting organizations. The last flight from Ethiopia of 85 Eritrean<sup>9</sup> and South Sudanese nationals arrived on January 31.

<sup>9</sup> The information on nationality breakdown provided in this report is based on the nationality declared by migrants as reported by the Italian Ministry of Interior.

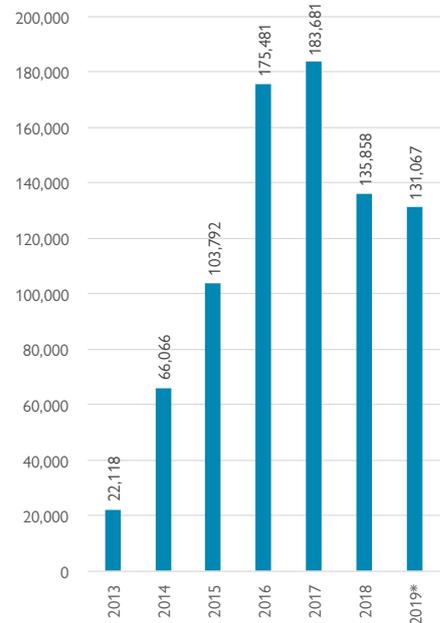
### Migrants in reception centres

According to the data provided by the Italian Ministry of Interior, there were 131,067 migrants and refugees hosted in reception centers of various types throughout the country at the end of January 2019. This is a 4 per cent decrease compared to the previous month and a 28 per cent decrease since January 2018. Five regions – Lombardy, Campania, Latium, Piedmont and Emilia Romagna – host almost half of all migrants in reception (48%). According to the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, around 10,787 unaccompanied migrant children are in dedicated reception facilities as of December 2018<sup>10</sup> (93% boys and 7% girls).

Map 2 Distribution of migrants in reception centers in Italy by region (January 2019)

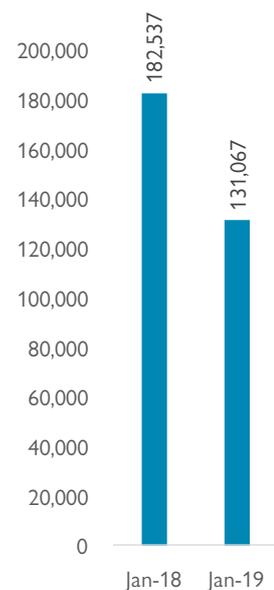


Figure 10 Occupancy in the reception centers, yearly overview 2013 - 2019



\*Data as of end of January 2019. Data for other years is a concluding figure at the end of the year. Source: Italia MOI. Note: this data does not include CPR (centres for forced repatriation).

Figure 11 Occupancy in the reception centers in Italy in January, comparison 2018 – 2019.



Source Italian Ministry of Interior. The data does not include CPR (centres for forced repatriation).

10 Data for January 2019 was not available.

# GREECE

## Developments during the reporting period

During this reporting period (1 – 31 January 2019), Hellenic authorities registered 2,658 migrants and refugees who arrived to Greece by sea and land. This is 34 per cent more than in January 2018 when 1,978 arrivals were recorded, 33 per cent less than the 3,954 registered in December 2018 and 75 per cent more than January 2017 when 1,520 arrivals were recorded. Estimated 79 per cent of migrants and refugees arrived in Greece by sea and the remaining 21 per cent arrived in the country through land borders with Turkey (Evros region in Turkey).

Afghanistan is the most commonly reported country of origin in January 2019, declared by 50 per cent of registered migrants and refugees arriving by sea to Greece. Migrants from Palestinian Territories represent the second largest nationality group registered (17%), followed by those arriving from the Syrian Arab Republic (9%), Iraq (8%) and the Democratic Republic of Congo (6%). The remaining 10 per cent is distributed among 43 different nationality groups. In contrast to that, in January 2018, Iraq and Syrian Arab Republic were the most commonly reported origin countries declared by 32 per cent of registered migrants each, and followed by Afghanistan (15%), Congo (4%) and Cameroon (4%) among the top 5 nationality groups.

Figure 12 Arrivals in January 2016 – 2019



Figure 13 Land and sea arrivals in January, comparison 2017 - 2019



Figure 14 Nationality breakdown of registered arrivals by sea in Greece in January 2019

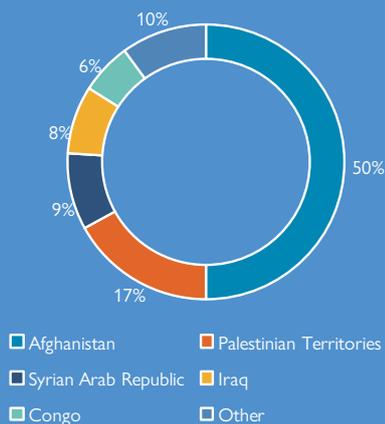


Figure 15 Nationality breakdown of tracked arrivals to the Evros region in the North of Greece. Source: DTM Flow Monitoring, January 2019

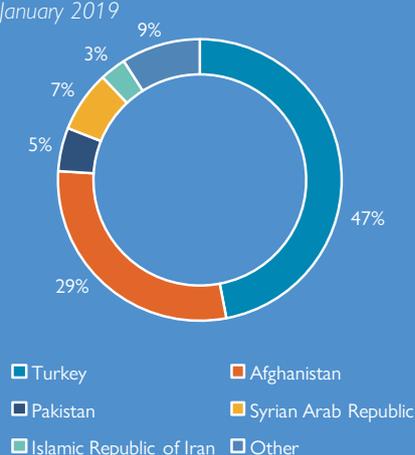
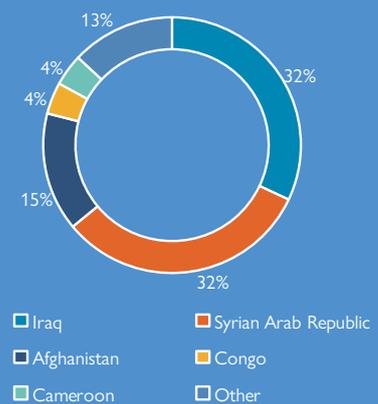


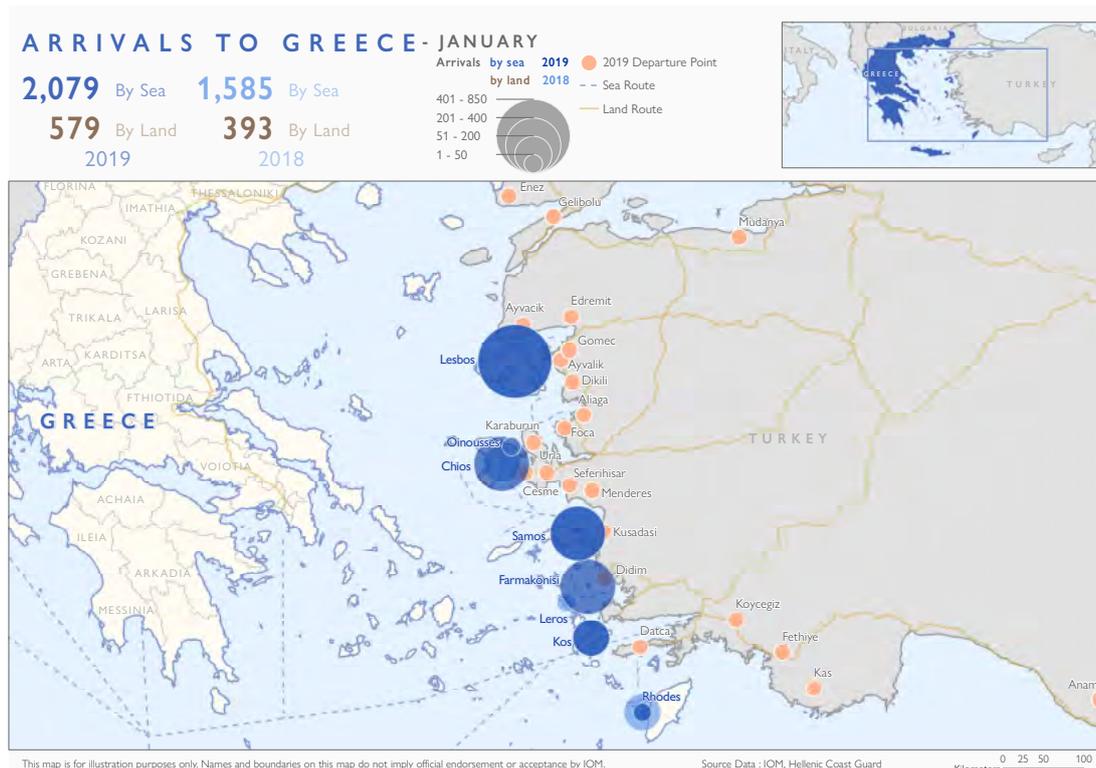
Figure 16 Nationality breakdown of registered sea arrivals in January 2018



### Known entry points

According to the available data, Lesbos, Farmakonisi, Samos and Chios (in descending order) are the main entry points for migrants who arrived in Greece by sea in January 2019. The majority of those who arrived in the country by land in 2018 came from the Edirne province in Turkey to the Evros region in Greece.

Map 3 Main entry points to Greece, January 2018 and 2019



### Migrant presence

According to the latest available data from IOM Athens and national authorities there were an estimated 60,728<sup>11</sup> migrants and refugees in different accommodation facilities on the Greek mainland and islands in January 2019. This represents a slight increase compared to the 60,083 reported in December 2018 and 19 per cent increase compared to 50,871 registered at the end of January 2018. An estimated 25 per cent of people registered as residing in official reception facilities in Greece at the end of January 2019 were registered in the facilities on the islands, while the remaining 75 per cent were registered in different types of accommodation facilities and shelters on the mainland.

Type of facilities	Number of accommodated migrants and refugees
Islands	15,120
Open Accommodation Facilities on the mainland	17,185
UNHCR Accommodation Scheme on the mainland	22,686
EKKA shelters for Unaccompanied Children (UAC)	3,792
Reception and Identification Centres on the mainland	200
Detention Centres on the mainland	1,745
<b>Total</b>	<b>60,728</b>

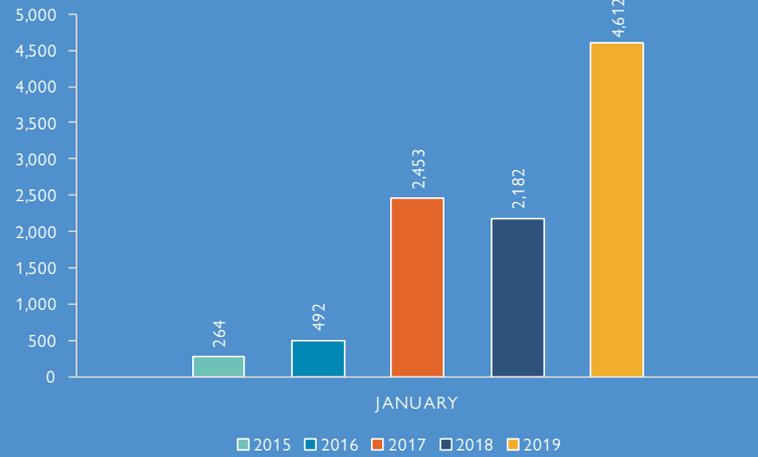
<sup>11</sup> Note that this figure does not include the number of self-settled migrants in Greece.

# SPAIN

## Developments during the reporting period

In January 2019, a total of 4,612 migrants and refugees arrived in Spain by sea and land, a 17 per cent decrease compared to the previous month when 5,578 were registered, and two times more than the 2,182 reported by the Spanish authorities in the same period last year. An estimated 89 per cent (4,104) of migrants and refugees who arrived in Spain in January 2019 used sea routes and the remaining 11 per cent arrived by land to the Spanish enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla (508). Around 1 per cent of sea arrivals were registered in Canary Islands (40), similarly like in December 2018 (44) and double the number of arrivals in January 2018 (20). However, despite low numbers, the frequency of disembarkations on the islands has increased throughout 2018 that continued in January 2019. (read more here).

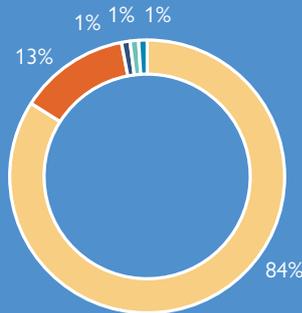
Figure 17 Sea and land arrivals in January, comparison 2015 - 2019



## Demographic profile

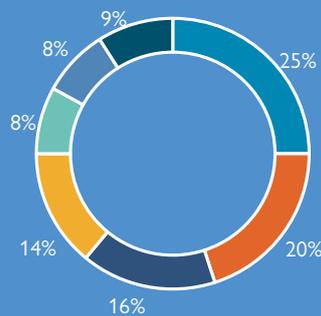
According to the information provided by the Spanish Ministry of Interior, the five main nationalities identified in January 2019 among the arrivals by sea are: unknown nationals from Sub Saharan countries (84%), followed by migrants from Morocco (13%), Algeria (about 1%), The Gambia (about 1%), and Guinea Conakry (about 1%). In comparison, nationals from Guinea Conakry were amongst the most reported in January 2018 (25%), followed by migrants from Morocco (20%), Côte d'Ivoire (16%), Mali (14%) and The Gambia (8%).

Figure 18 Nationality breakdown of arrivals to Spain in January 2019



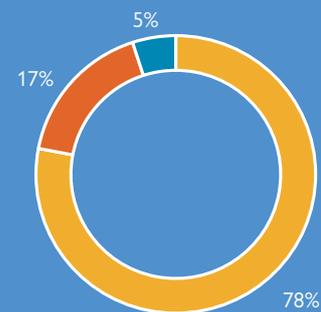
- Sub-Saharan Africa
- Algeria
- Guinea Conakry
- Morocco
- The Gambia

Figure 19 Nationality breakdown of registered sea arrivals to Spain in January 2018



- Guinea Conakry
- Côte d'Ivoire
- The Gambia
- Other
- Morocco
- Mali
- Algeria

Figure 20 Age/Sex breakdown of sea arrivals in January 2019, estimates based on DTM flow monitoring data<sup>13</sup>



- Adult Male
- Adult Female
- Children

12 Last available data.

13 Calculation is based on available information for a total of 2,878 sea arrivals (70% of the total of 4,104 sea arrivals registered in Spain in January 2019).

14 January – The Directorate General of the Spanish Merchant Marine, which operates under the Ministry of Development, denied the permission to the Proactiva Open Arms ship to leave the Port of Barcelona and sail again to the Central Mediterranean (read more [here](#)).

18 January – The Port authorities in Pasaia (Basque Country) denied the request of the rescue ship Aita Mari to sail off to the Mediterranean. Aita Mari was formerly a tuna fishing boat [converted into a humanitarian rescue vessel](#), after the investment of 750,000 euros of the NGO Humanitarian Maritime Rescue (SMH – Salvamento Marítimo Humanitario).

31 January – On its own initiative and upon the request of other political

parties, the Spanish Minister of Development, Mr. Jose Luis Abalos, appeared in the Congress of Deputies and declared that “the Maritime rescue service has nothing to do with the migration policy but, given the intervention of these services, it is quite difficult to separate the topics”. He explained that “the dispatch of a ship is an administrative procedure by which the maritime authority must verify that the ship complies with all the legal requirements necessary to carry out the intended navigational operations”. Given that the verification also includes the fulfilling of international standards, in this particular case “the technical services of the Ministry of Development have determined that the vessels Open Arms and Aita Mari fail to comply with international rescue regulations and

therefore cannot obtain permission to return to the Central Mediterranean. This is because the closure of the ports for NGO vessels in the area in which they intend to operate, together with the refusal of these ships to proceed to the disembarkation in Libya, it makes that the ships of these NGOs are forced to take direction to Spain as their ship’s flag country. Therefore, their rescue operations are de facto transformed into a transport of persons during several days until they reach Spain, on ships that do not fulfil the necessary safety conditions for it, putting at risk the safety of the ship, of its crew, of the individuals rescued and even other boats that could ask for their aid in case of emergency.” The transcript of the appearance can be found [here](#).

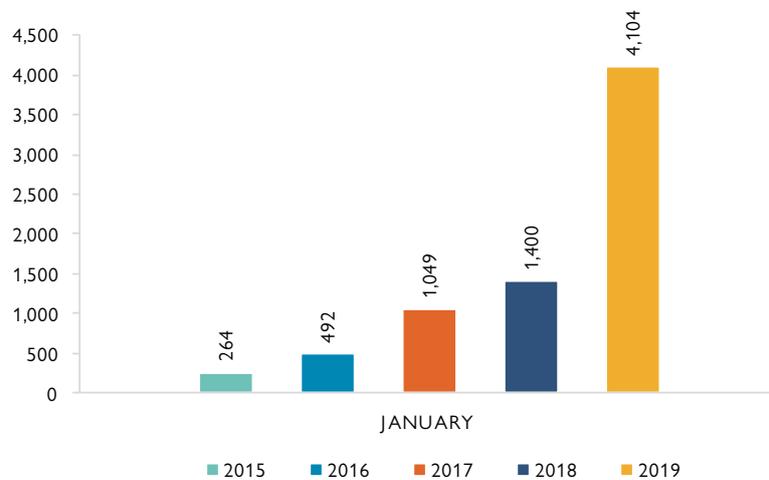
### Main entry points

During January 2019, the disembarkation of the rescue vessels of Salvamento Marítimo (the Spanish Maritime Rescue Agency, operating under the Spanish Ministry of Development) mainly took place at the Peninsular Southern coast of Spain. According to IOM estimates, the vast majority of the disembarkations took place at the port of Malaga, followed by Almeria, Motril and Algeciras (in descending order). Other minor disembarkations were carried out at the Canary Islands, Tarifa and the ports of Ceuta and Melilla.

### Sea arrivals

During this reporting period, a total 4,104 migrants and refugees arrived in Spain by sea, including both, the Western Mediterranean and the Western African Route. This is three times more than the 1,400 recorded in January 2018, and four times more than the 1,049 recorded in January 2017.

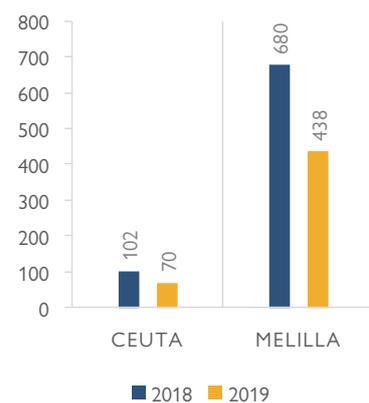
Figure 21 Sea arrivals to Spain, comparison 2015 – 2019



### Land arrivals to Ceuta and Melilla

In January 2019, a total of 508 individuals were recorded entering through the two Spanish autonomous regions located in Northern Africa. Of the total, 70 border crossings were registered in Ceuta (15%) and the rest 438 (85%) in Melilla. Land arrivals this month, decreased by 54 per cent comparing to January 2018 when 782 arrivals were reported.

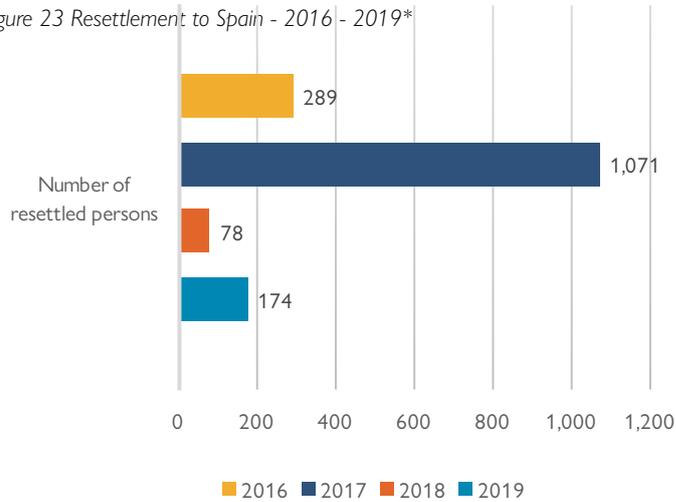
Figure 22 Land arrivals to Ceuta and Melilla, January 2018 - 2019



### Resettlement

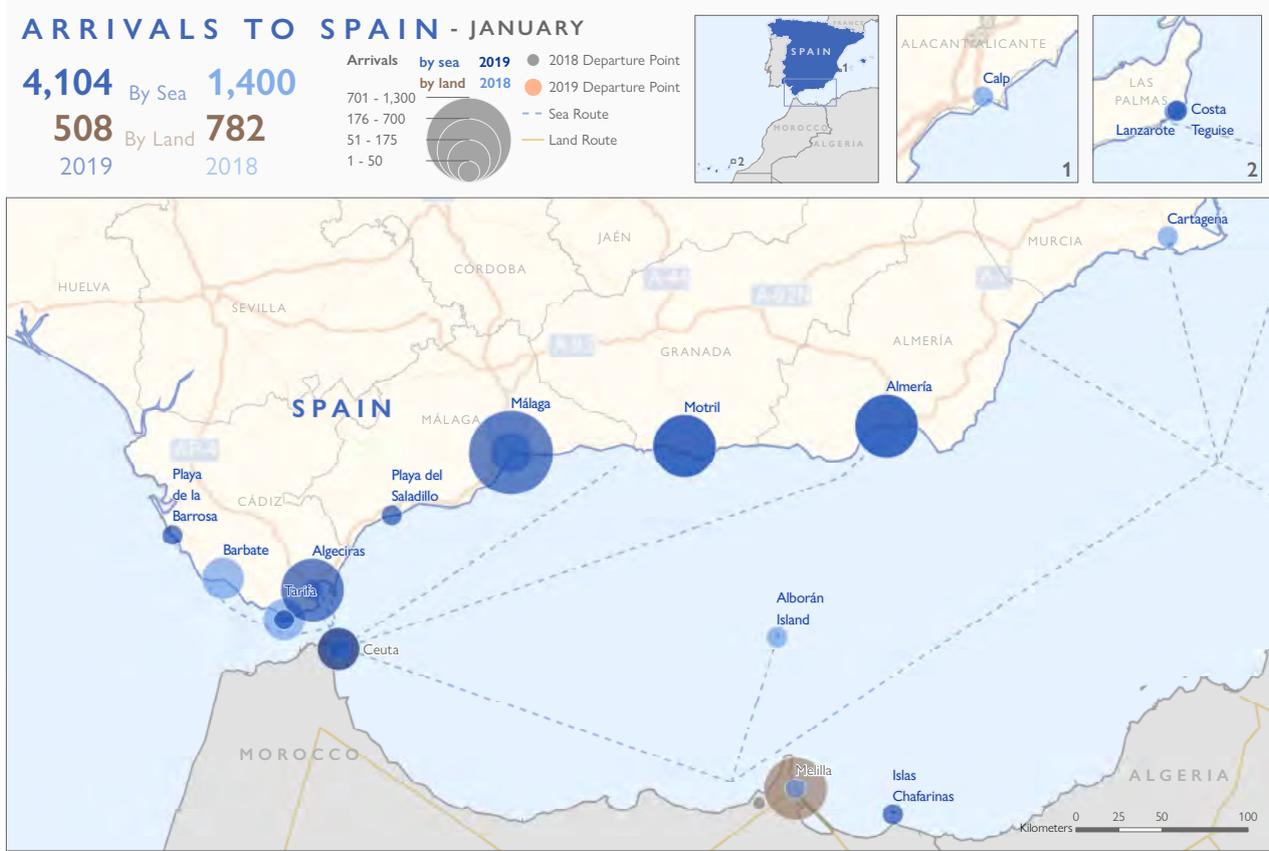
IOM Spain manages a resettlement program, financed by the Spanish Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security. The first resettlement program under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) of the European Commission, initiated in April 2016 and concluded in June 2018. The second Program started in October 2018 and it is planned to conclude in June 2019. Within this period Spain has committed to resettle a total of 1,000 Syrian refugees, temporarily residing in Turkey and Jordan. The first one was held in Amman, Jordan and the second one in Ankara, Turkey. From the beginning of the two programs until the end of January 2019, a total of 1,612 Syrian refugees have been resettled to Spain.

Figure 23 Resettlement to Spain - 2016 - 2019\*



\* Data as of January 2019.

Map of arrival points to Spain in January, comparison 2018 - 2019



This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM. Source: Data : IOM, Spanish Authorities, Salvamento Marítimo, Esri, HERE, Garmin, © OpenStreetMap contributors

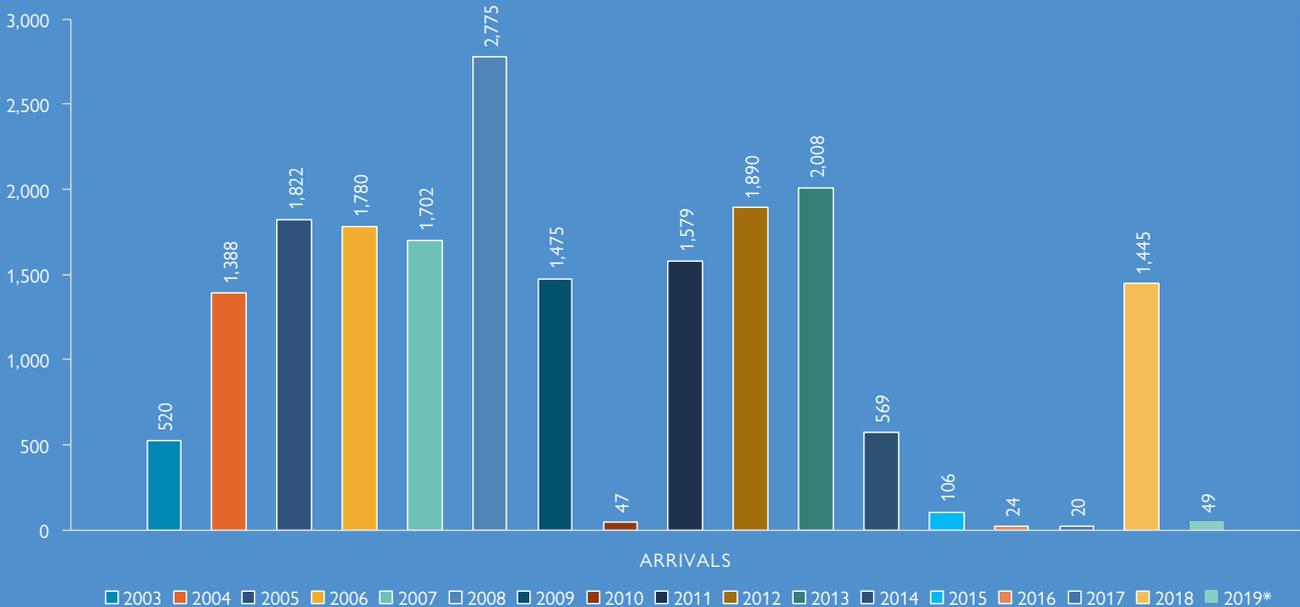
# MALTA

## Developments during the reporting period

As per IOM estimates, a total of 49 migrants disembarked in Malta in January 2019. Arrival reported in January is a result of two rescue operations conducted in December 2018. Rescued migrants spent more than two weeks at the Mediterranean Sea, on board of the Sea-Watch 3 ship until, on 9 January 2019, Maltese military ships started a transfer of migrants from the rescue ship to Malta.

The Sea-Watch 3 ship rescued a group of 32 migrants from a boat off the coast of Libya on 22 December and accepted another 17 migrants rescued by Sea-Eye vessel few days later (29 December). Following the agreement between EU Member States and Malta, migrants who disembarked in Malta will be distributed between eight EU countries including Germany, France, Portugal, Ireland, Romania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Slovenia and Italy<sup>14</sup>.

Figure 24 Arrivals in Malta, 2003 – 2019\*. Source: The Government of Malta - The National Statistics Office and IOM.



\* Monthly breakdown for previous years was not available.

14 See [here](#) and [here](#) for more information.

# CYPRUS

## Developments during the reporting period

A total of 90 migrants and refugees have arrived in Cyprus in January 2019. There were no arrivals reported in January in previous years (2014 – 2018). All apprehended individuals in January this year were of Syrian origin and declared Turkey as their last transit country before arriving to Cyprus. Most of migrants and refugees were adult male (85), 2 are adult female and 3 children.

Map 5 Comparison of apprehension areas in 2018 (cumulative data) and January 2019 \*

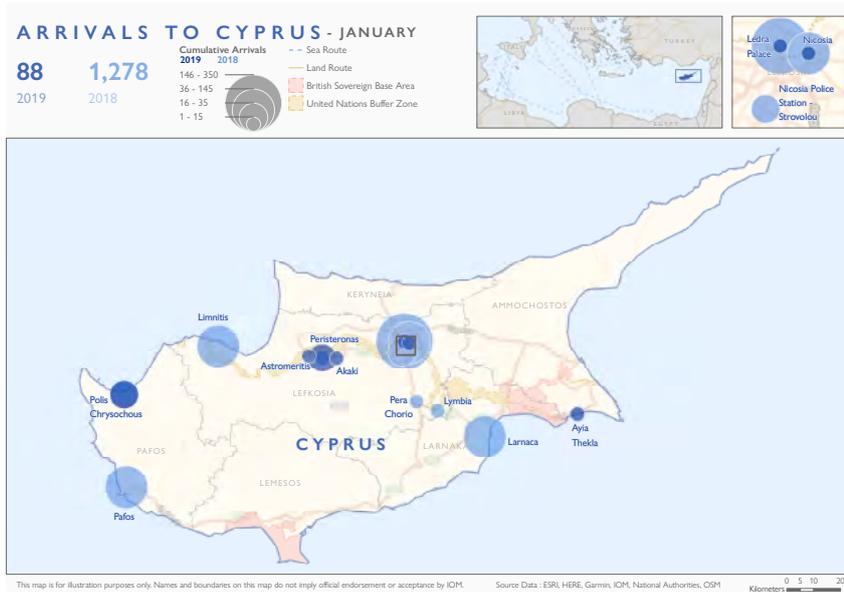
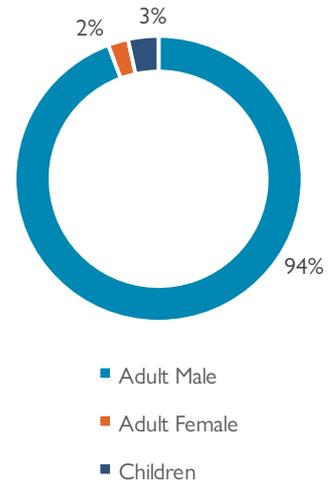
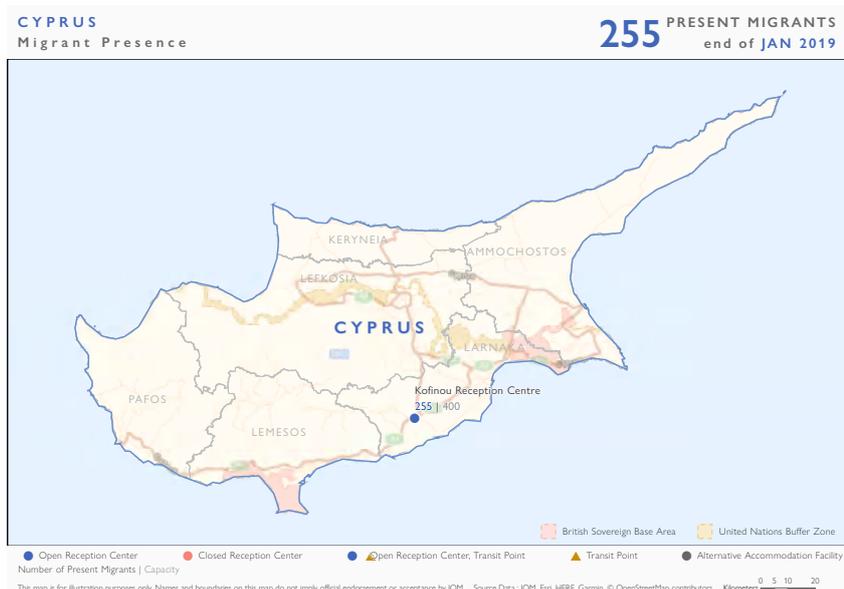


Figure 25 Gender/Sex breakdown of arrivals to Cyprus in January 2019



\*Source: [DTM flow monitoring data](#).

Map 6 Accommodation facilities with information on occupancy and capacity, January 2019



## Migrant presence

At the end of January 2019, 255 migrants and asylum seekers were accommodated in the Kofinou Reception Facility in Cyprus, which represents a 4 per cent increase compared to the 246 reported at the end of the previous reporting period (December 2018), and 19 per cent decrease compared to the 314 registered at the end of January 2018

# BULGARIA

## Developments during the reporting period

In January 2019, Bulgarian authorities apprehended 60 irregular migrants, a 33 per cent decrease compared to 89 apprehended in December 2018, almost half the 116 registered in January 2018 and 25 per cent more than the 48 reported in the same period 2017. More than a half of all migrants and refugees registered in January were detected on entry from Turkey (24) and while residing irregularly inside the country (23). The remaining 13 individuals were apprehended on exit from the country towards Serbia. In addition to that, a total of 20 irregular migrants were registered on entry from Greece<sup>15</sup>.

Available data on nationalities apprehended in January 2019 and 2018 indicates an increase in the presence of Afghan and Iranian nationals, in contrast to the decrease in the presence of migrants and refugees from the Syrian Arab Republic. 40 per cent of all migrants and refugees registered in January this year were of Afghan origin, followed by 19 per cent of those from the Islamic Republic of Iran and only 10 per cent of Syrian nationals, who in the same period last year, comprised 57 per cent of the overall arrivals. Similarly, there was also a 12 percentage points decrease in the presence of Pakistani nationals, from 20 per cent in January 2018 to only 8 per cent in January 2019.

Figure 26 Number of irregular migrants apprehended in Bulgaria in January, comparison 2016 – 2019

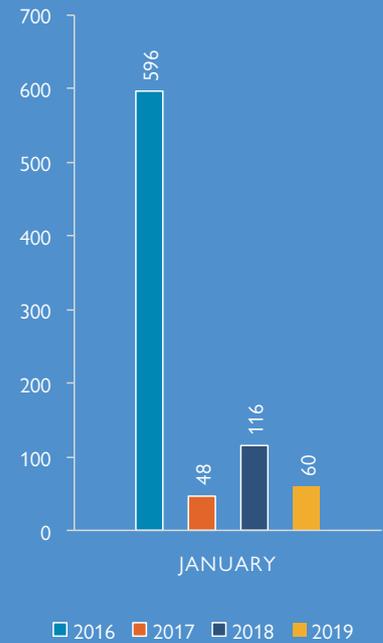
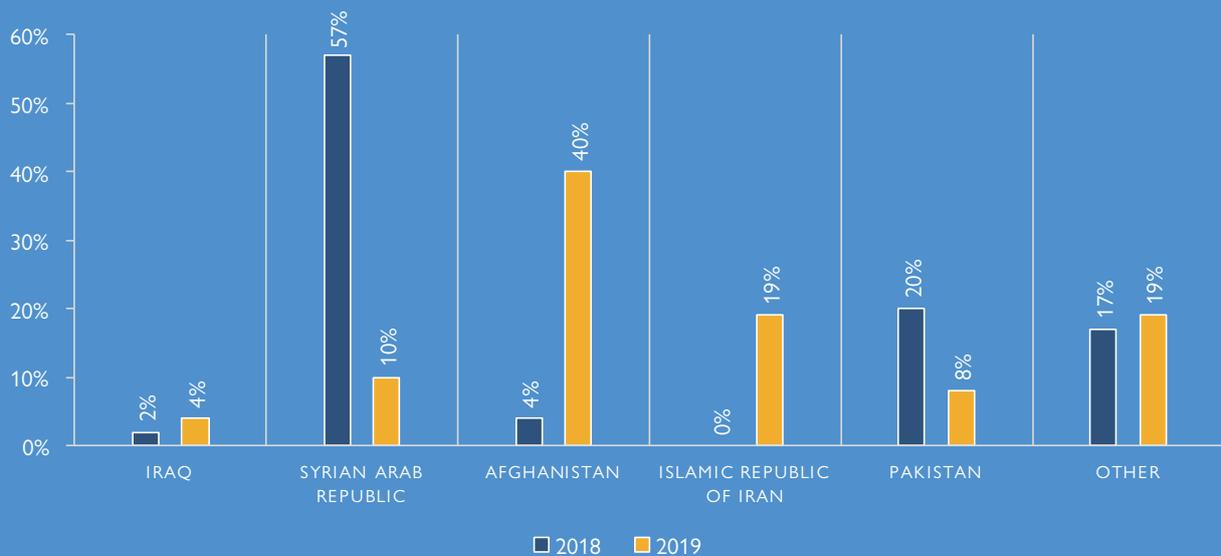


Figure 27 Top five nationalities (%) apprehended on entry in January 2018 and 2019



15 This figure is not added to the total of arrivals to avoid potential double counting considering that these migrants might have been already counted as arrivals in Greece.

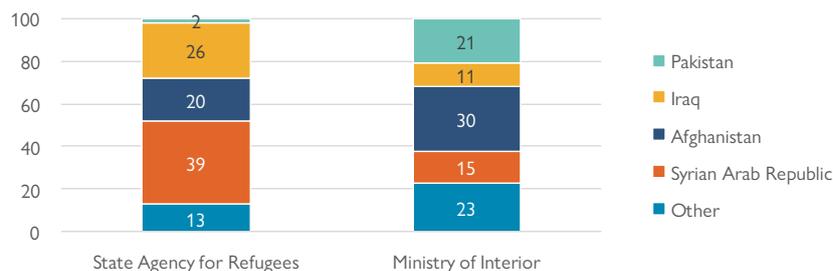
## Migrant presence

Estimated 639 migrants and asylum seekers were accommodated in different reception facilities in Bulgaria as of 31 January, occupying only 10 per cent of the overall capacity (5,940). This represents a 7 per cent decrease compared to the 690 reported at the end of the previous reporting period (December 2018), and 34 per cent less than the 967 reported at the end of January 2018. Majority of accommodated migrants and refugees in the facilities run by the State Agency for Refugees are of Syrian (39%) and Iraqi (26%) origin, while those residing in the facilities run by the Ministry of Interior (closed type facilities) are from Pakistan (21%) and Afghanistan (30%).

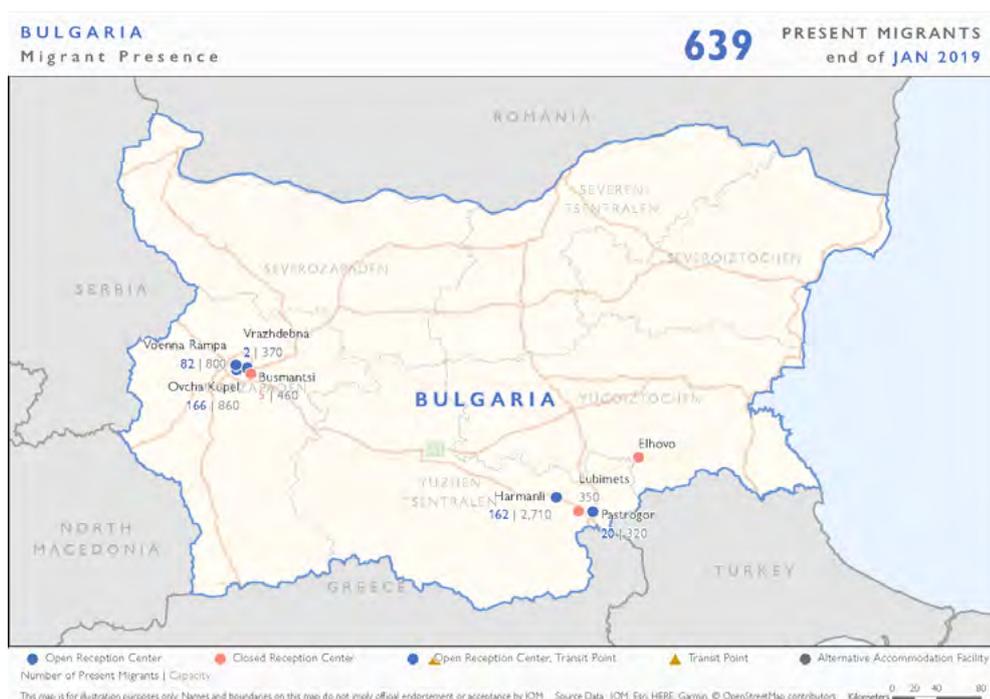
Table 2 Reception facilities in Bulgaria with information on occupancy and capacity as of the end of January 2019

Accommodation facility	Capacity	Currently Accommodated
<b>Facilities run by the State Agency for Refugees</b>		
Open Reception Centre in Banya	70	-
Open Reception Centre in Pastrogor	320	20
Open Reception Centre in Sofia – Ovcha Kupel	860	166
Open Reception Centre in Sofia – Vrazhdebna	370	-
Open Reception Centre in Sofia – Voenna Ram-pa	800	82
Closed Reception Centre in Harmanli	2,710	162
Closed Reception Centre in Sofia - Busmantsi	60	5
<b>Facilities run by the Ministry of Interior</b>		
Closed Reception Centre in Lyubimets	350	
Closed Reception Centre in Busmantsi	400	204
Closed Reception Centre in Elhovo (temporarily closed due to renovation)	N/A	
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,940</b>	<b>639</b>

Figure 28 Nationality breakdown (%) of migrants and asylum seekers accommodated in the premises run by the State Agency for Refugees and the Ministry of Interior (SAR)



Map 7 Accommodation facilities with information on occupancy and capacity, January 2019<sup>16</sup>



16 The total includes also number of migrants in the facilities run by the Ministry of Interior which are not included on the map as the breakdown per facility is not available.

## TRANSIT COUNTRIES

### CROATIA

#### Developments during the reporting period

Based on available data from the Croatian Ministry of Interior, a total of 731 irregular migrants were apprehended in January 2019, two times increase compared to the 385 apprehended in the same period last year, and three times more than the 225 reported in January 2017.

Afghanistan is the most common origin country reported by 32 per cent of all registered migrants, followed by the Syrian Arab Republic (10%), Turkey (10%), the Islamic Republic of Iran (9%) and Pakistan (8%). The remaining 31 per cent of intercepted migrants were registered as nationals of more than 34 different nationality groups. Apart from increased presence of migrants from the region (Kosovo UNSCR 1244 and Albania), the same nationalities were found among migrants registered in January 2018.

Based on available data, one third of migrants apprehended in January 2019 were detected in the Vukovarsko-Srijemska county in the eastern part of the country, mainly on entry from neighboring Serbia. 22 per cent of individuals were registered in Primorsko-Goranska county on the way to Slovenian border. This breakdown resembles the situation observed in the past month when almost a third of migrants were registered in Vukovarsko-Srijemska county and a quarter in Primorsko-Goranska county<sup>17</sup>.

Figure 29 Number apprehended migrants in January, comparison 2016-2019



Figure 30 Nationality breakdown of irregular migrants apprehended in January 2019

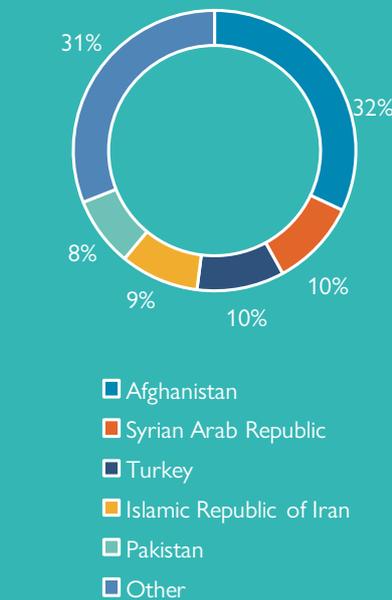
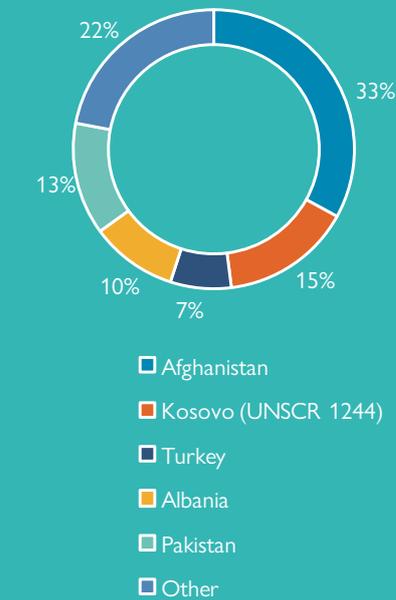


Figure 31 Nationality breakdown of irregular migrants apprehended in January 2018



<sup>17</sup> For the overall geographical overview of apprehensions in 2018, check [Mixed Migration Flows in the Mediterranean – December 2018](#) (page 27).

Map 8 Apprehensions in Croatia, by county, January 2019



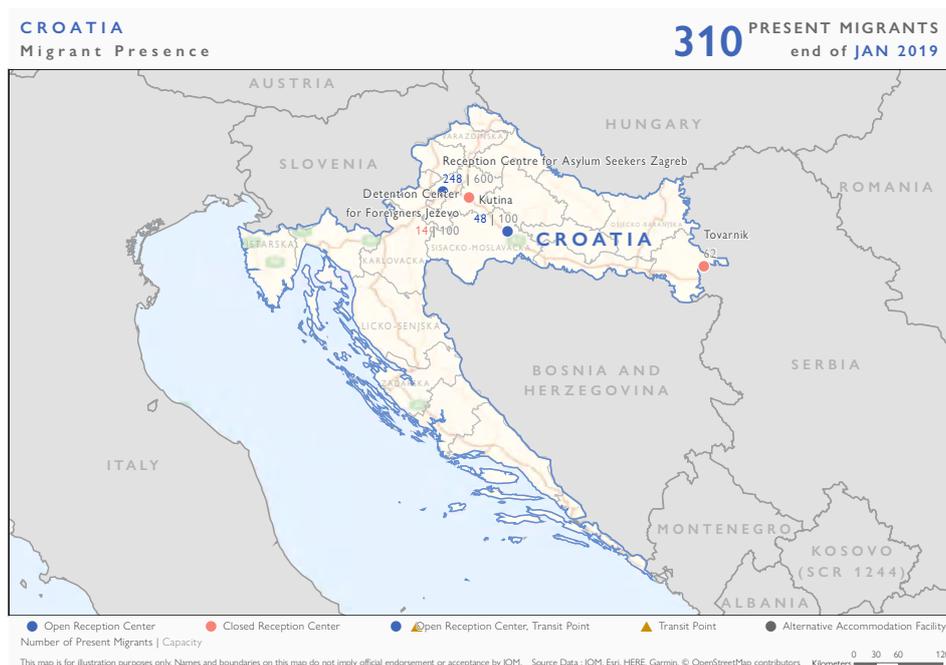
**Migrant presence**

By the end of January 2019, 310 asylum seekers were accommodated in open reception centres in Kutina and Zagreb, and the closed reception centre in Ježevo, a slight decrease compared to 326 reported at the end of December 2018 and 20 per cent decrease compared to the 387 reported at the end of January 2018.. Most accommodated asylum seekers were of Syrian, Afghan, Iraqi and Iranian origin. Majority of accommodated persons are adult male (61%), 20 per cent are adult female and 19 per cent were children.

Table 3 Reception facilities in Croatia with information on occupancy and capacity as of the end of January 2019

Accommodation facility	Capacity	Number of accommodated migrants and asylum seekers	Top origin countries
Open Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers in Zagreb	300 (600)	248	the Syrian Arab Republic, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq
Open Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers in Kutina	100	48	the Syrian Arab Republic, Iraq and Ukraine
Closed Reception Centre for Foreigners (Ježevo)	90	14	Algeria, Afghanistan, Syrian Arab Republic and Tunisia

Map 9 Accommodation facilities in Croatia with information on occupancy and capacity as of January 2019



# ROMANIA

## Developments during the reporting period

In January 2019, Romanian authorities apprehended a total of 33 migrants and asylum seekers on entry and exit from the country, 48 per cent less than the previous month when 63 migrants were apprehended. During this reporting period (1-31 January) 94 per cent of individuals (31) were apprehended on exit from the country, mainly towards Hungary (Arad, Timis and Satu-Mare county) and the remaining 6 per cent of individuals were intercepted entering from Bulgaria (Giurgiu). Arrivals this month have decreased for more than two times when compared to the same period last year when 76 individuals were apprehended on exit and entry to the country.

Out of 33 migrants registered in January 2019, 14 were from Iraq, 9 from Syrian Arab Republic, 8 from Bangladesh (arrived from Ukraine) and 2 from the Islamic Republic of Iran. 81 per cent were adult males (27), 12 per cent adult females (4) and 7 per cent children (2).

Figure 32 Registered irregular migrants in Romania in January 2018 - 2019



At the end of January 2019, 331 migrants and asylum seekers were registered residing in state run accommodation facilities, mainly in Bucharest (152). This is 15 per cent decrease compared to 385 reported at the end of the previous reporting period and 45 per cent less than the 599 registered at the end of January 2018.

Map 10 Accommodation facilities with information on occupancy and capacity, January 2019

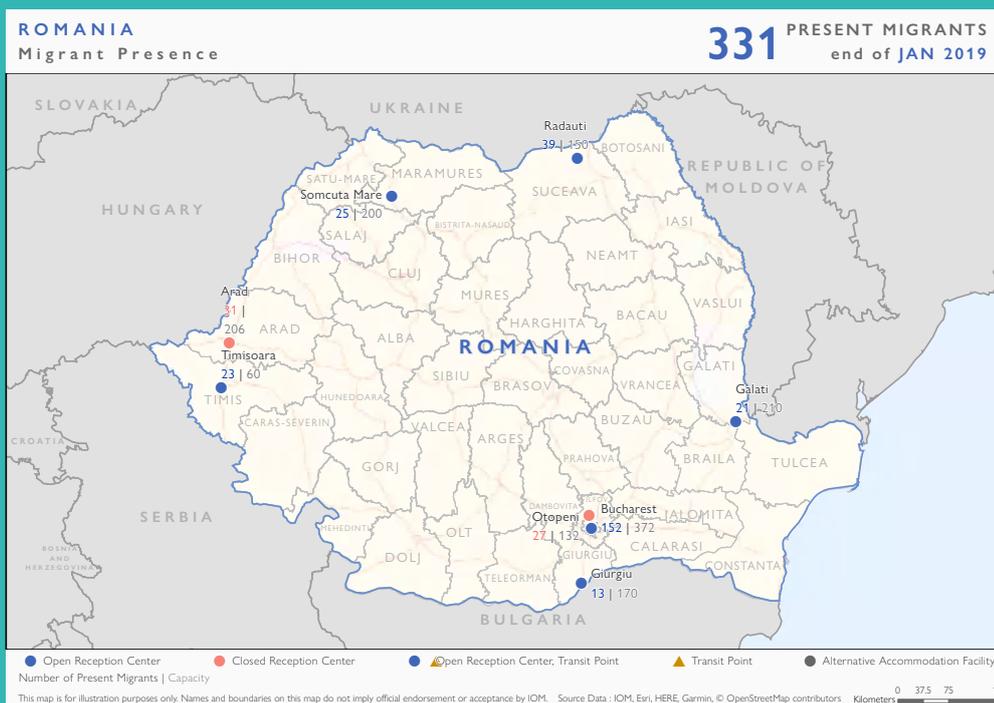


Figure 33 Nationality breakdown (%) of migrants apprehended in January 2019

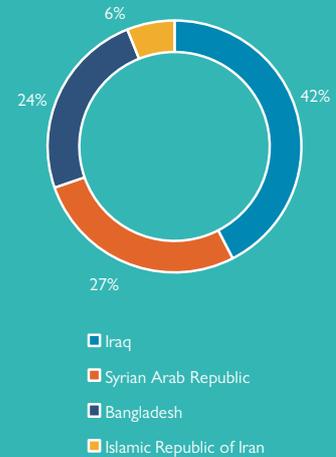
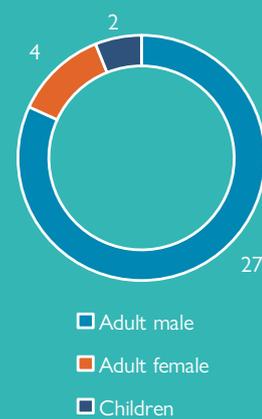


Figure 34 Age/sex breakdown of apprehended migrants in January 2019



## SERBIA

### Developments during the reporting period

In January 2019 a total of 410 new migrants and refugees were registered in the Reception Centres in Serbia<sup>18</sup>, 35 per cent less than the previous month and a 70 per cent increase compared to the same period last year when 241 migrants were registered when 635 arrivals were reported.

According to DTM flow monitoring data, estimated 58 per cent of migrants arrived in Serbia from Bulgaria, increase of 22 percentage points from 34 per cent reported in December 2018. A quarter (26%) of migrants arrived from the Republic of North Macedonia (decrease compared to December 2018) and est. 16 per cent from Albania (slight increase compared to the previous month).

Most arrivals were from Afghanistan (50%) and Pakistan (18%), followed by Islamic Republic of Iran (7%), Iraq (5%), Syrian Arab Republic (5%) and other countries. Among them 90 per cent were adult men, 6 per cent adult women and 3 per cent children (including Unaccompanied and Separated Children – UASC).

Figure 35 Arrivals in January, comparison 2017 - 2019

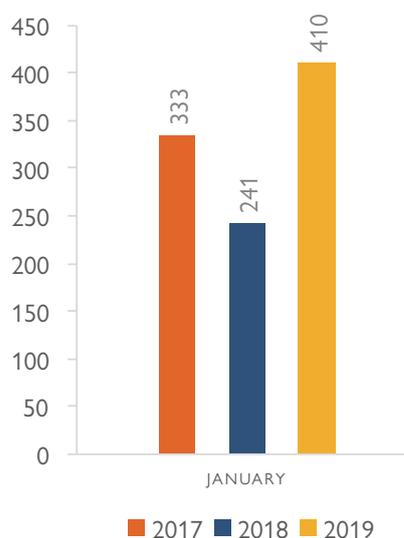


Figure 36 Last reported transit country by migrants registered in Serbia in January 2019

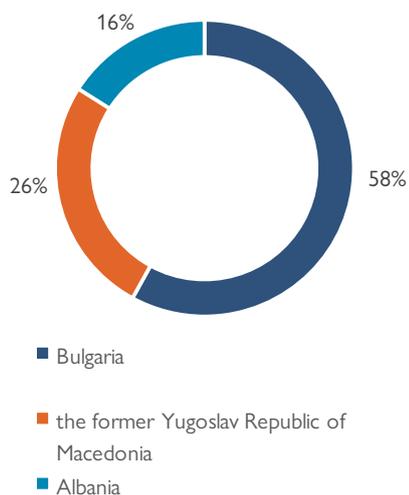


Figure 37 Nationality breakdown of registered arrivals in January 2019

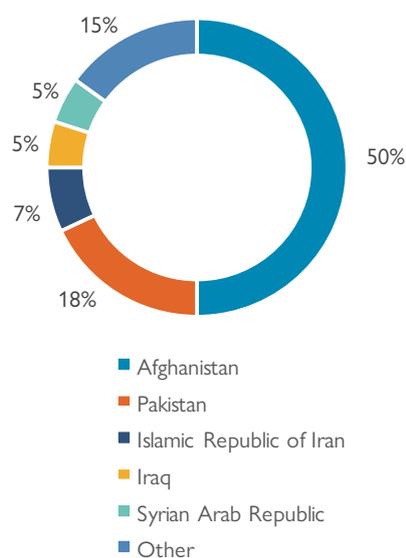
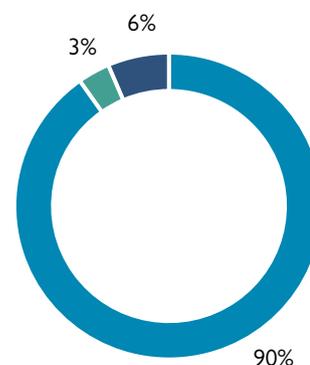


Figure 38 Age/Sex breakdown of registered arrivals in January 2019, DTM estimates

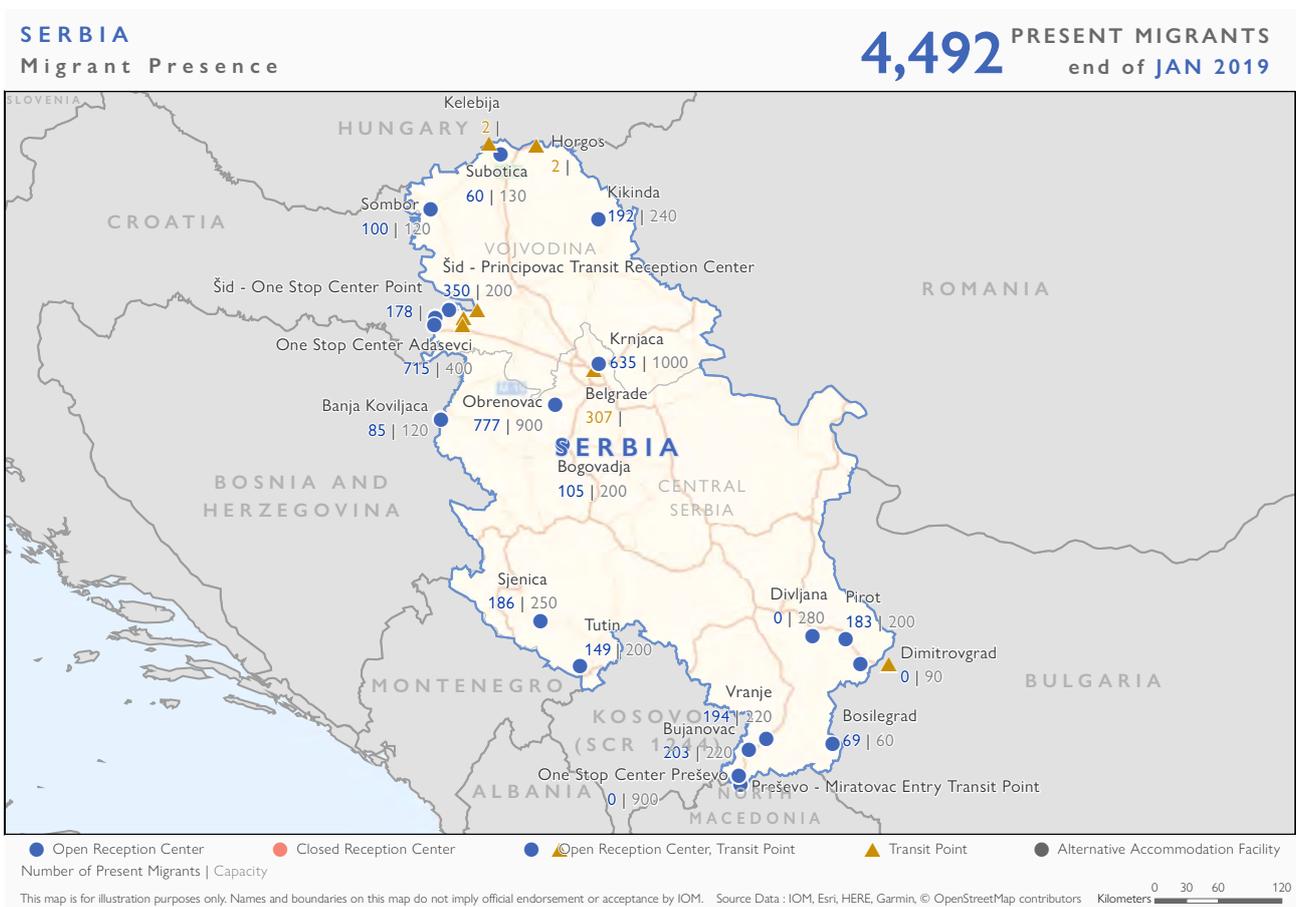


<sup>18</sup> Data on newly registered migrants in the reception centres in Serbia is used as a proxy estimation of the overall arrivals in the country.

### Migrants presence

As of 31 January, there are estimated 4,492 migrants and refugees residing in Serbia, according to the Serbian Commissariat for Refugees and Migration (SCRM), a slight 3 per cent decrease from 4,617 recorded at the end of the previous reporting period and 18 per cent more than the 3,810 registered at the end of January 2018.. The total number of accommodated migrants in Government facilities and border crossing zones decreased from 4,243 registered in the beginning of January to the 4,492 reported at the end of the month. In addition to that, 307 migrants and refugees were observed residing outside the official reception system, mainly in the Belgrade City (126) and in unofficial camping sites in the vicinity of the border with Croatia, Hungary and Bosnia and Herzegovina (181). Available information indicates that the majority of migrants accommodated in the reception centres are of Afghan origin (43%) followed by those who declared Iranian (27%), Pakistani (15%), Iraqi (6%) and Bangladeshi (3%) origin, among others.

Map 11 Accommodation facilities in Serbia with information on capacity and occupancy, January 2019



# SLOVENIA

## Developments during the reporting period

In January, authorities in Slovenia apprehended 326 irregular migrants, slightly less than the 334 reported previous month and 34 per cent more than the 242 reported in January 2018.

Figure 39 Irregular entries to Slovenia in January, comparison 2017 - 2019



Algeria and Pakistan were the most commonly reported countries of origin during this reporting period, with 32 per cent of individuals registered (20% and 12% respectively). Morocco (8%), Afghanistan (8%) and China (6%) were the remaining origin countries reported in the top 5 nationality groups registered. Other countries of origin included such as the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan, Tunisia and the Syrian Arab Republic.

As shown on the graphs, the profile of migrants registered in January 2018 and 2019 is similar, with an exception of the presence of migrants from the Western Balkans who were registered in January 2018.

8 January - According to STA, the Koper Science and Research Centre has won a EUR 2.8m project as part of the Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme to study and help overcome the obstacles to the integration of migrant children into European societies.

10 January - Slovenia has expressed to the European Commission the readiness to accept five of the migrants who have been taken in by Malta after being rescued from the Mediterranean Sea.

16 January - According to the monthly bulletin of the central Slovenian bank (*Banka Slovenije*), migration flows are becoming increasingly important for the Slovenian economy. *Banka Slovenije* notes a workforce shortage for occupations requiring intermediate qualifications, meaning that employers have started hiring migrants.

25 January - According to STA, the future of the operation Sophia, the EU's anti-migrant-smuggling mission in the Mediterranean, is not in jeopardy because of Germany's decision to suspend its naval contribution, the Defense Ministry said. Slovenia will continue to participate in the mission.

31 January - According to the official statement by the Ministry of the Interior, the government allocated an additional EUR 15m a year for the protection of the Schengen border in the face of rising migration pressure. The Interior Ministry will use the money to cover the costs that result from the increased workload of the border police units.

31 January - According to the Slovenian Press Agency (STA), the National Assembly struck down in a 25:54 vote on Thursday a motion by the opposition to hold a referendum on the UN Global Compact for Migration, a document Slovenia endorsed in December.

Figure 40 Nationality breakdown of registered irregular migrants in January 2019

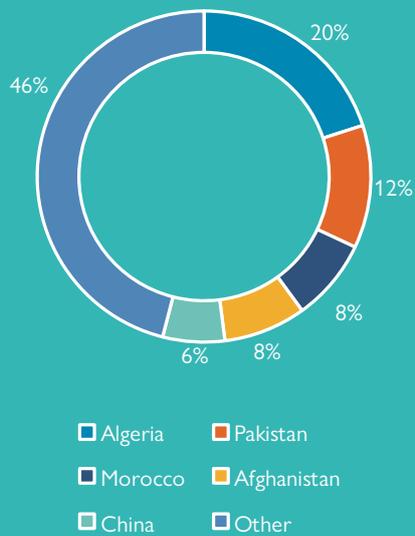
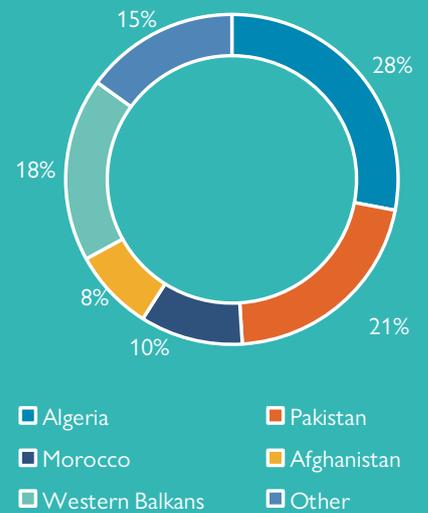


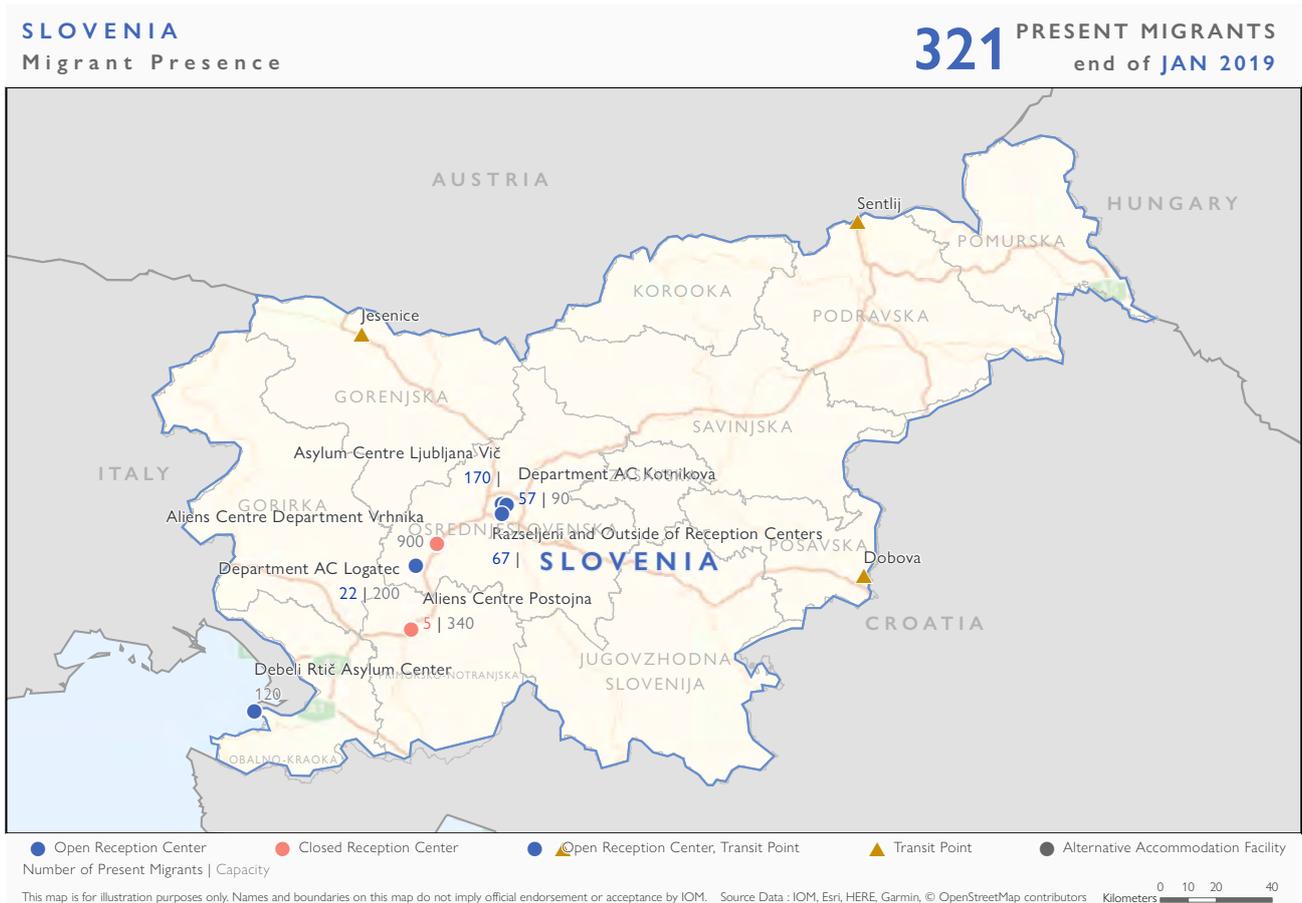
Figure 41 Nationality breakdown of registered irregular migrants in January 2018



### Migrant presence

At the end of January 2019, there were 321 migrants and asylum seekers accommodated in different facilities around the country. This represents a 21 per cent increase compared to the 266 reported in the previous month. The number is 64 per cent more than the 208 reported at the end of January 2018, and 20 per cent more than the 267 reported at the end of January 2017.

Map 12 Accommodation facilities in Slovenia with information on occupancy and capacity, January 2019



# THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

## Developments during the reporting period

In January 2019, authorities registered a total of 90 migrants and asylum seekers, a 10 per cent increase when compared to the previous month when 82 arrivals were reported and slightly higher than the same period in 2018 when 71 arrivals were reported.

More than a half of all registered migrants this month were of Afghan (27%) and Iranian (26%) origin, followed by those from Iraq (20%), Pakistan (18%) and 9 per cent of other nationalities. Available data for the same period last year, shows a decrease in the presence of Syrian nationals from 35 per cent of the overall

registered individuals in January 2018 to none registered in the first month of 2019. 70 per cent of individuals were adult males, 11 per cent adult females and 19 per cent children (among which 8 per cent were registered as unaccompanied and separated).

Figure 42 Registered arrivals in the Republic of North Macedonia in January, comparison 2017 – 2019



Figure 43 Nationality breakdown of migrants registered in January 2019

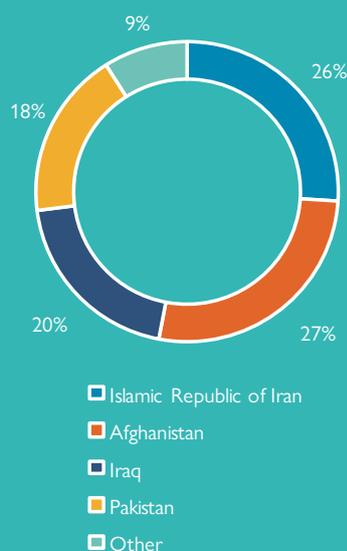


Figure 44 Nationality breakdown of migrants registered in January 2018

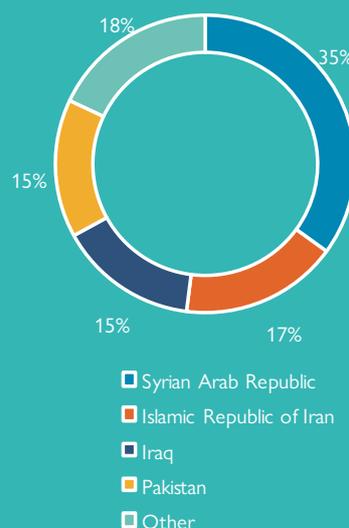
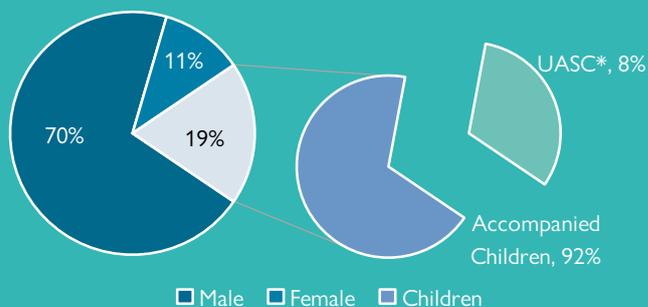


Figure 45 Age/sex breakdown of intercepted irregular migrants in January 2019



\*Unaccompanied and Separated Children.

### Migrant presence

The available data shows that on 31 January 2019, there were 41 migrants and asylum seekers accommodated in reception centres around the Republic of North Macedonia. A slight increase compared to the previous month when 35 were accommodated in the reception centres and 27 per cent less than the 59 reported at the end of January 2018.. Majority of accommodated migrants and asylum seekers were Iraqi nationals (10) followed by those from Afghanistan (8), Islamic Republic of Iran (7), Pakistan (6), Congo (3) the Syrian Arab Republic (2), and five more individuals from Turkey, Russian Federation, the United Arab Emirates, and Kosovo (UNSCR 1244/1999), 24 of the individuals were adult males, 7 adult females and 10 children.

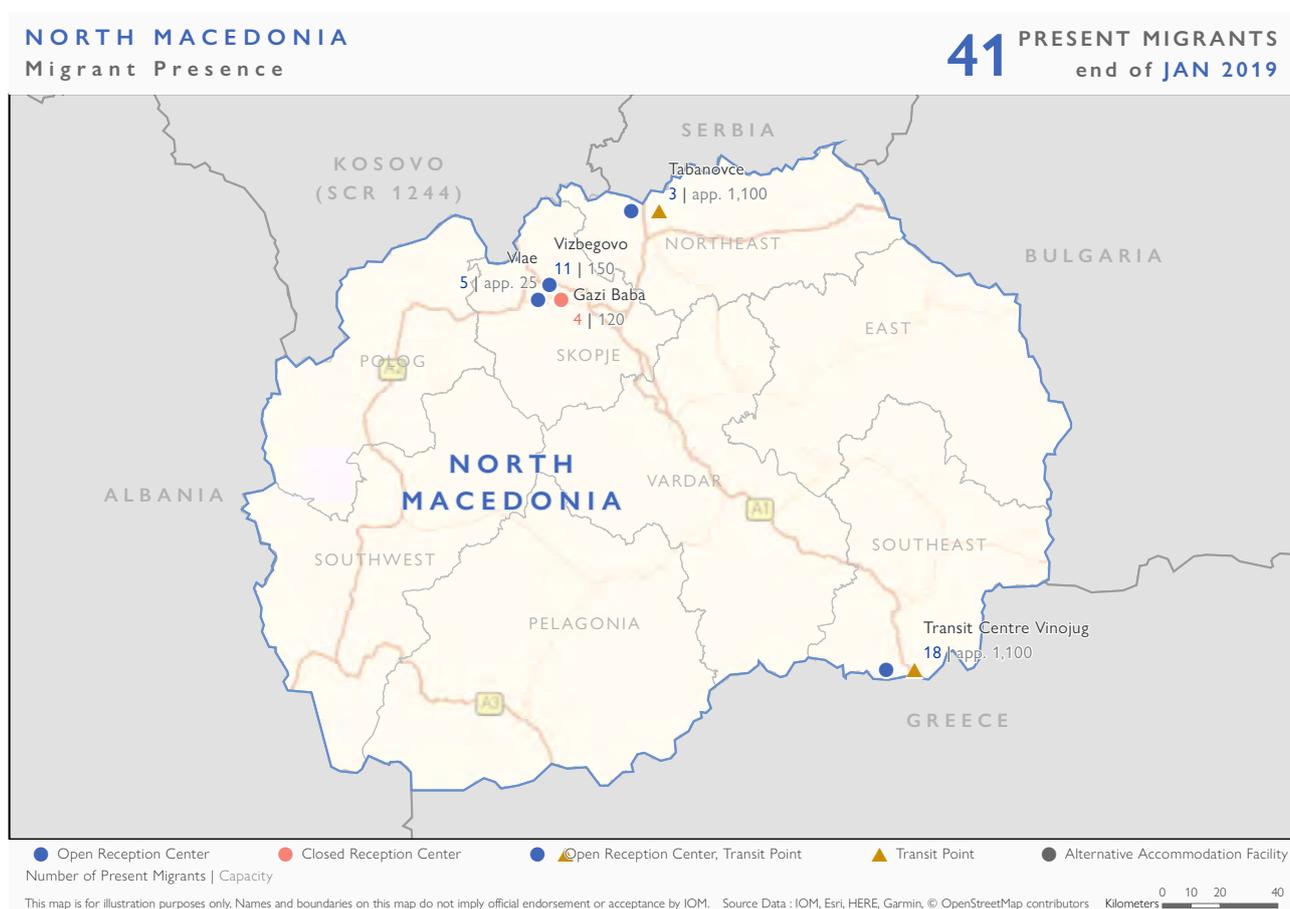
Table 4 Accommodation facilities (with occupancy/capacity) by the end of January 2019

Name of Accommodation Facility	Capacity*	Currently Accommodating
“Vinojug” Transit Centre—Gevgelija (Greece—North Macedonia)	1,100-1,200	18
Tabanovce Transit Centre (North Macedonia —Serbian Border)	1,100	3
Vizbegovo – Reception centre for Asylum Seekers	150	11
Gazi Baba – Reception centre for Foreigners	120	4
Vlae	25-30	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,495-2,600</b>	<b>41</b>

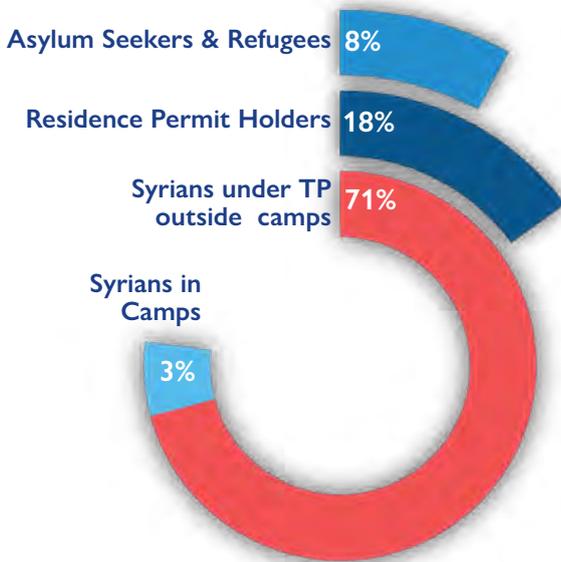
Additionally, the Red Cross teams present near the northern border with Serbia reported assisting 494 persons, according to their January report. The Red Cross mobile team present in the

close vicinity of the northern border with Serbia assisted 447 persons – this number excludes the Transit Reception Centre Tabanovce.

Map 13 Accommodation facilities in the Republic of North Macedonia with information on occupancy and capacity, January 2019



# TURKEY



## Background and Latest Figures

According to the latest available figures from the Turkish Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM) there are currently over 4 million foreign nationals present in Turkish territory seeking international protection. Most are Syrians (3,640,466\* individuals) who are granted temporary protection status, while according to UNHCR, as of end of November 2018, 368,230\*\* asylum-seekers and refugees from countries including Afghanistan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq and Somalia constitute another significant group of foreign nationals. The number of foreign nationals has increased by 185,590 in comparison to January 2018 (3.8 million foreign nationals), most of the increase was recorded as Syrian nationals (174,203).

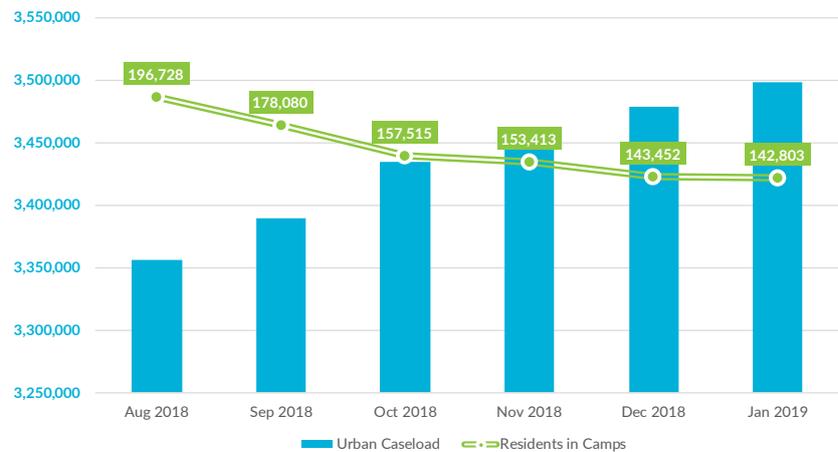
In addition, there are 884,593\* foreign nationals present in Turkey holding residency permits including humanitarian residency holders. This number was 277,727 less in January 2018. The exact number of the humanitarian residency holders is unknown, but it is estimated that there are more than several thousand humanitarian residency permit holders.

\*Data source DGMM, 31.01.2019  
\*\*Data source UNHCR, 30.11.2018

Turkey's Temporary Protection regime grants the 3,640,466 \*Syrian nationals the right to legally stay in Turkey as well as some level of access to basic rights and services. The vast majority- 3,497,663\* individuals - live outside camps, officially called Temporary Accommodation Centers and are mainly spread across the Turkish border provinces of Şanlıurfa, Gaziantep, Hatay, Adana, Mersin and Kilis. 142,803\* Syrians live in 13\* camps the majority of which are also located close to the Syrian border. Twenty one temporary accommodation centers were hosting migrants in Turkey in January 2018; however, currently eight of the centers are no longer operational. As a result, there is a decrease of 86,115 persons in the centers' residence numbers.

\*Data source DGMM, 31.01.2019

Monthly Population Chart of Persons Under Temporary Protection



## Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Another significant group of foreign nationals in Turkey are 368,230\* asylum-seekers and refugees consisting of different nationalities, but mainly coming from Afghanistan and Iraq. An increase of 11,387 persons has been recorded in this category in comparison to January 2018.

\*Data Source UNHCR, 30.11.2018

## Residence Permit Holders

Foreigners who wish to stay in Turkey beyond the duration of a visa or visa exemption i.e. longer than 90 days must obtain a residence permit. According to DGMM, there are 884,593 residence permit holders in Turkey with various categories of the residence permit. The "other" residence permit category include humanitarian residence permit holders but the exact number is unknown. It is believed that vast majority of this category are Iraqi nationals.

Nationality	#Percentage
Afghanistan	46%
Iraq	39%
Islamic Republic of Iran	11%
Somalia	2%
Others	3%

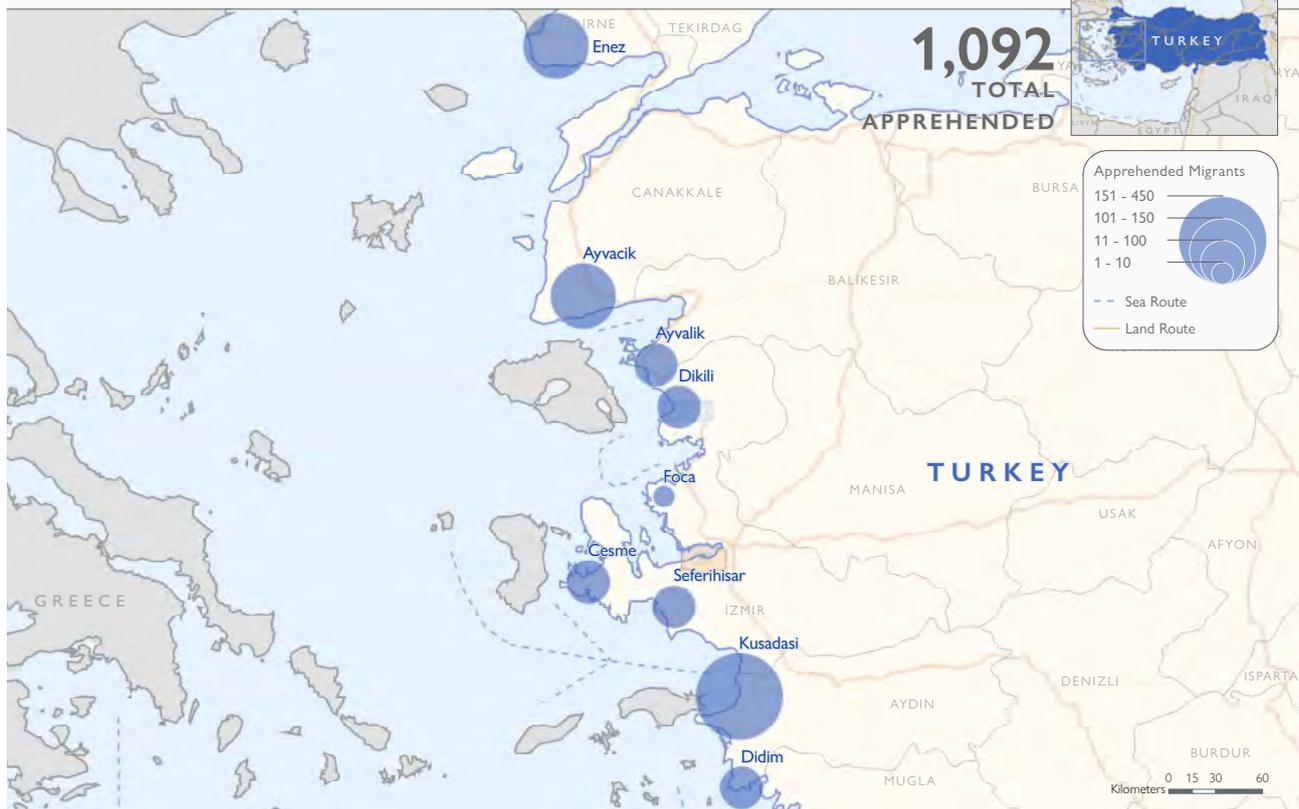
### Apprehended/Rescued Persons on Sea\*

The Turkish Coast Guard apprehended 1,092 irregular migrants in January yet one fatality was recorded. The number of irregular migrants were 1,640 in January 2018. These figures only include those apprehended and rescued by the Coast Guard; actual numbers of migrants and refugees departing Turkey by sea could be higher. Apprehensions on the hotspots on the Aegean Sea are shown in the map below.

\*see disclaimer on page 4

## APPREHENSIONS OFF THE TURKISH COAST

1 - 31 January 2019



This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

Source Data : IOM, National Authorities, Esri, HERE, Garmin, © OpenStreetMap contributors

### Apprehensions/Rescues by Turkish Coast Guard Statistics for 2019 (1 January - 31 January 2019)

Time period	Number of cases		Number of irregular migrants		Number of deaths		Number of organizers	
	Aegean	All Seas	Aegean	All Seas	Aegean	All Seas	Aegean	All Seas
January	27	27	1,092	1,092	1	1	1	1
Total	27	27	1,092	1,092	1	1	1	1

After completion of the identification process of the apprehended persons, they are referred to removal centers by gendarmerie or are issued a deportation letter unless they claim asylum. However, they still have the right to claim asylum after being referred to a removal center or issued deportation letters. The top ten nationalities of apprehended/rescued migrants are Afghan, Syrian, Palestinian, Central African, Congolese, Iraqi, Somalian, Sierra Leonean, Malian, and Egyptian.

\*Data source T.C.G., 31.01.2019

### Apprehended Persons on Land\*

Apprehensions by Turkish Land Forces (1 - 31 January 2019)			
Entry		Exit	
Syrian Arab Republic	11,494	Greece	1,513
Greece	1,539	Syrian Arab Republic	61
Islamic Republic of Iran	240	Bulgaria	28
Iraq	151	Iraq	2
Bulgaria	25	Georgia	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,449</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,605</b>

According to Turkish Armed Forces (TAF) daily figures, in January 2019, 15,054 irregular persons were apprehended at the Syrian, Greek, Iranian, Iraqi, Georgian and Bulgarian borders of Turkey. In comparison, this number was 33,279 in January 2018. The entry and exit figures breakdown are as shown in the table on the left. The highest number of irregular crossings at entry and exit happened at the border with Syrian Arab Republic, with a total number of 11,555 apprehended persons.

The irregular exits are higher at the Western Borders while Syrian, Iraqi and Iranian borders are continuing to be entry points to Turkey. In comparison to previous months there is a decrease in the irregular border entries from Syrian Arab Republic to Turkey (1,114). In December 2018, 12,608 irregular entries of persons were recorded at this border.

\*Data Source T.A.F., 31.01.2019



\*see disclaimer on page 4

### Known Entry and Exit Points

Known entry points by land: Hatay, Kilis, Şanlıurfa (from Syrian Arab Republic), Silopi, Çukurca (from Iraq), Şemdinli, Yüksekova, Başkale, Ağrı, Doğubeyazıt (from Islamic Republic of Iran)

Known entry points by air: İstanbul Atatürk, İstanbul Sabiha Gökçen, Antalya, Esenboğa Ankara (from third countries)

Known exit points by sea: Çeşme, Ayvalık, Didim, Bodrum, Küçükkuyu (Locations close to Lesbos, Samos, Chios, Symi, Kos and Rodos)

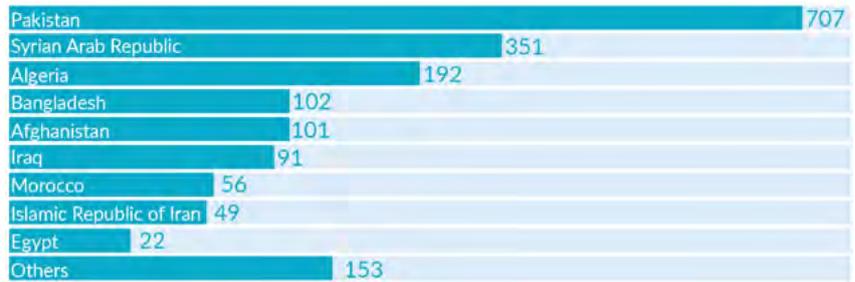
Known exit points by land: Edirne (to Greece and Bulgaria), Kırklareli (to Bulgaria)

Known exit points by air: İstanbul Atatürk, İstanbul Sabiha Gökçen (to certain EU MS)

### Readmitted Migrants and Refugees to Turkey

On 18 March 2016, EU and Turkey agreed on the readmission of migrants arriving Greece to Turkey after 20 March 2016. In this regard, according to DGMM reports, 1,824\* migrants and refugees have been readmitted to Turkey from Greece between 4 April 2016 and 24 January 2019. Main returning points from Greece include Lesvos, Chios, Kos and Samos and the main readmission points to Turkey include Dikili, Çeşme, Bodrum and Adana (through the airport).

Nationality breakdown of the readmitted is shown in the graphic below and



“others” category includes countries of Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Nepal, Myanmar, Guinea, Senegal, Ghana, Palestinian Territories, Tunisia, Côte d’Ivoire, Haiti, Lebanon, Mali, Dominica, India, Congo,

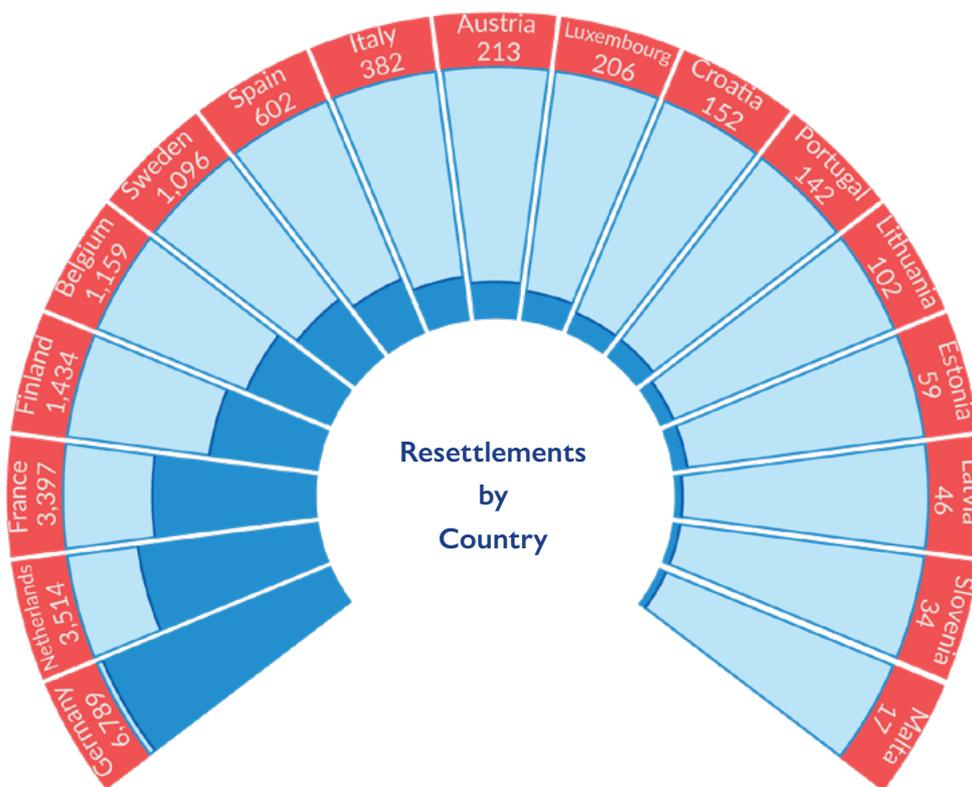
Yemen, Gambia, Niger, Sudan, Jordan, Zimbabwe, Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso and Comoros.

\*Data source DGMM, 24.01.2019

### Resettlement of Syrians From Turkey

The readmission agreement aims to replace disorganized and irregular migratory flows by organized and safe pathways to European countries. In this regard, it is agreed on that for every Syrian being returned to Turkey from the Greek islands, another Syrian will be resettled directly to Europe from Turkey. According to DGMM data released on 31 January 2018, there are 19,344\* persons that have been resettled under this mechanism and mainly to Germany, the Netherlands, France and Finland.

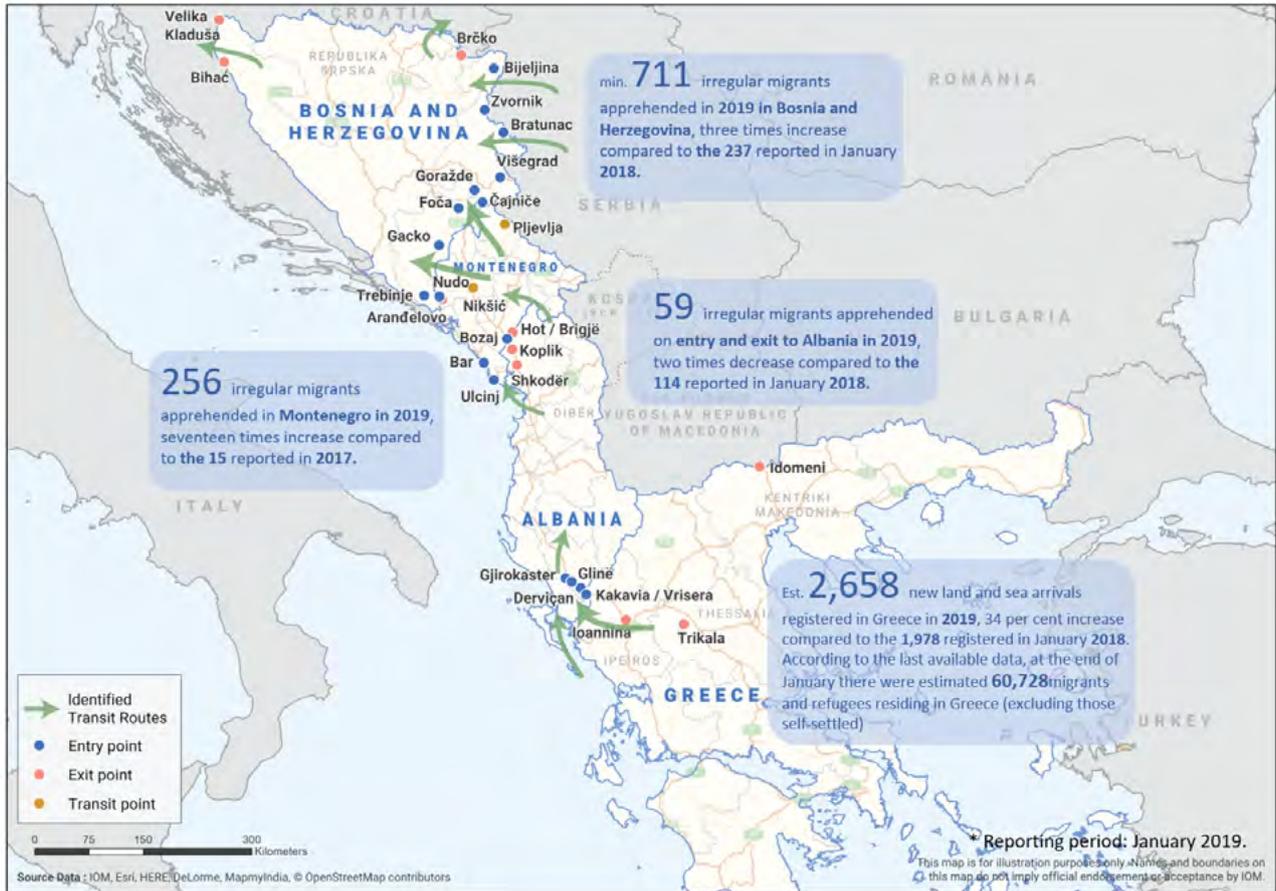
\*Data Source DGMM, 31.01.2019



mpmturkey@iom.int

\* Disclaimer: This map is for illustration purposes only. The depiction and use of boundaries, geographic names, and related data shown on maps and included in this report are not warranted to be free of error nor do they imply judgment on the legal status of any territory, or any endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries by IOM.

## WESTERN BALKANS IN FOCUS



\* The designation is to highlight the most active routes detected in the Western Balkans at the moment.



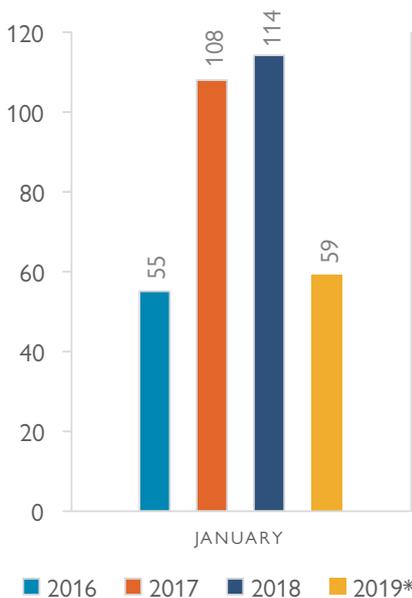
Migrants in Bihać, Bosnia and Herzegovina.  
© Munever Salihović/IOM, 2018

# ALBANIA

## Developments during the reporting period

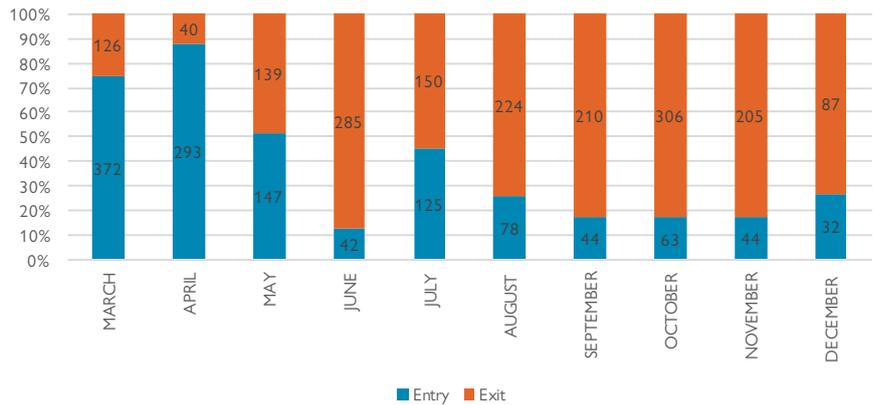
During this reporting period (1 – 31 January 2019), there were 21 new arrivals reported, 82 per cent less than the 114 reported in the same month last year and 81 per cent less than the 108 reported in January 2017. These arrivals indicate irregular entries in the Gjirokaster region. Additionally, 38 individuals were apprehended on exit from the country to Montenegro (Shkoder region), 56 per cent less than the 87 registered in the previous month (December 2018).

Figure 46 Registered irregular migrants in Albania, January comparison 2016 - 2019



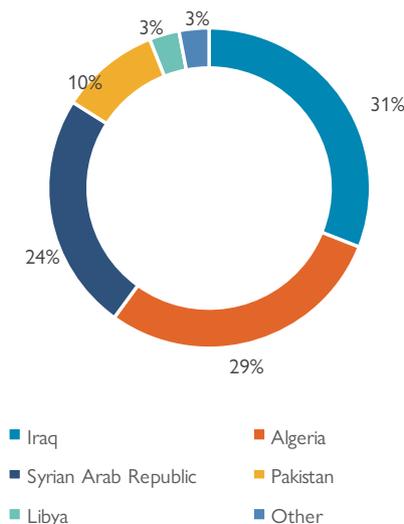
\* Data for 2019 is a cumulative number of irregular migrants registered on entry and on exit from the country.

Figure 47 Apprehensions on exit and entry in Albania, March - December 2018<sup>19</sup>



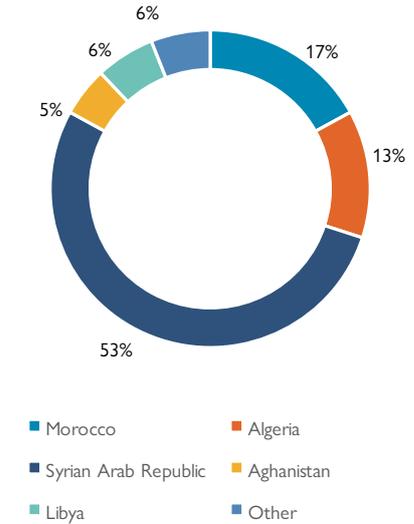
Almost a third of all registered migrants in January 2019 were Iraqi nationals (31%), followed by those from Algeria (29%), Syrian Arab Republic (24%), Pakistan (10%) and Libya (3%). Available data for January 2018, indicates a decrease in

Figure 48 Nationality breakdown of registered irregular migrants in January 2019



the presence of Syrian nationals (53% in 2018 vs. 24% in 2017) in favour of the increase of Iraqi (31% in 2019 none in Jan 2018) and Algerian nationals (13% in 2018 and 29% in 2019).

Figure 49 Nationality breakdown of registered irregular migrants in January 2018



<sup>19</sup> Data on apprehensions on exit available only as of March 2018.

# BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

## Developments during the reporting period

During this reporting period (1 – 31 January) Bosnian authorities reported 711 new irregular migrants, a 10 per cent decrease compared to the previous month when 794 arrivals were reported and three times more than the 237 reported in January 2018. The pace of arrivals on a weekly basis has slightly decreased in January 2019 when compared with the previous month. On average, authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina apprehended 177 irregular migrants on a weekly basis during this reporting period, ranging from 207 reported at the end of the month and 141 beginning of the year. In December 2018, an average was 198 ranging from 182 (beginning of December) and 215 towards the end of the month (17 – 23 December 2018).

Figure 50 Registered irregular migrants in Bosnia and Herzegovina in January 2019



Figure 51 Irregular entries to Bosnia and Herzegovina, weekly arrivals in January 2019



Available nationality breakdown shows that Iraq and Pakistan were the two most commonly reported origin countries among migrants registered in January 2019 (17% each respectively), followed by those from Syrian Arab Republic (14%), Morocco (12%) and Algeria (11%). Looking at the dynamic in the past two months, a decrease is observed in the presence of migrants from Syrian Arab Republic, from 22 per cent in December 2018 to 14 per cent in January 2019. Further on, presence of Iraqi nationals slightly increased (14% in December 2018 vs. 17 per cent in Jan 2019) while the presence of nationals of Pakistan remained the same (17% respectively).

Figure 52 Nationality breakdown of migrants registered in Bosnia and Herzegovina in January 2019

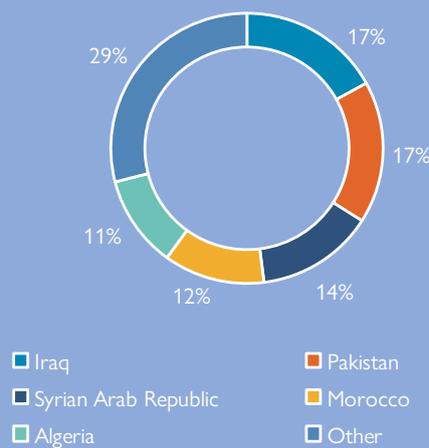
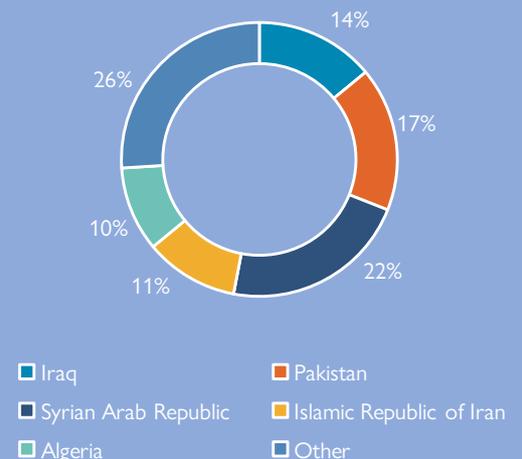


Figure 53 Nationality breakdown of migrants registered in Bosnia and Herzegovina in December 2018<sup>21</sup>

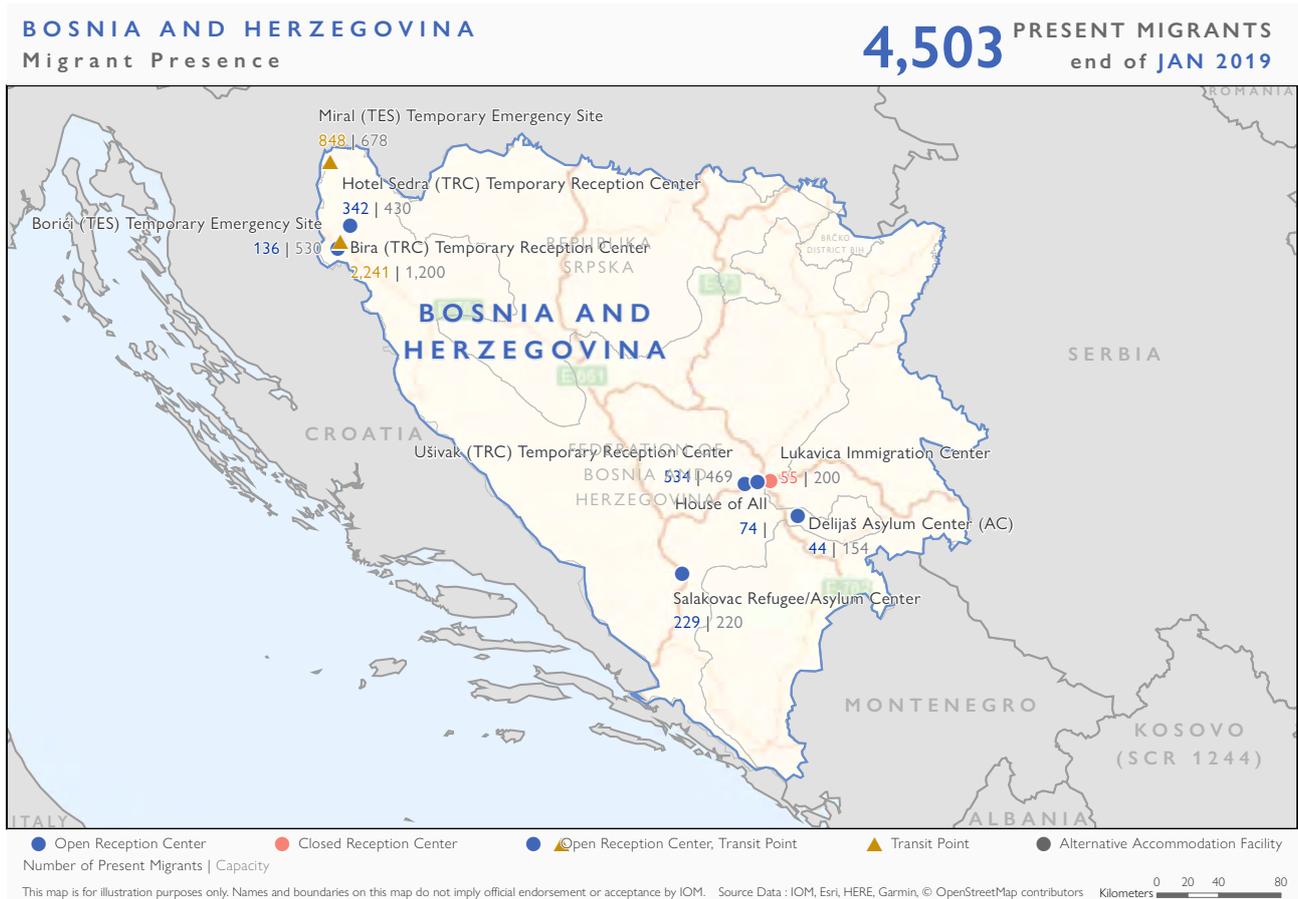


<sup>21</sup> Nationality breakdown for arrivals in January 2018 was not available.

### Migrants presence

According to the data received from IOM and partner agencies working in the field in Bosnia and Herzegovina, there were 4,503 migrants and refugees residing in the country at the end of January 2019, 5 per cent more than the 4,291 reported at the end of December 2018. Estimated 76 per cent of individuals were adult males, 7 per cent adult females and 17 per cent are children, among which, one third were registered as unaccompanied and separated registered residing in Bosnia and Herzegovina in January 2019.

Map 14 Accommodation facilities in Bosnia and Herzegovina with information on occupancy and capacity, January 2019



## KOSOVO<sup>21</sup>

### Developments during the reporting period

During this reporting period (1-31 January 2019), authorities in Kosovo (UNSCR 1244/1999) reported 110 new irregular entries to the country, a 27 per cent decrease compared to the 156 reported in the previous month and one fifth of the overall 594 arrivals reported in the whole of 2018. Entries January are fifty-five times higher compared to 2 registered in the same period in 2018, six times higher than the 18 registered in January 2017 and eight times higher than the 14 registered in January 2016.

Forty-one per cent of migrants and refugees registered in January 2019 reported Syrian nationality. Algeria is the second most reported origin country declared by 20 per cent of individuals, followed by Palestinian Territories (14%), Morocco (12%) and Turkey (11%). Similar profile was found also among 156 individuals registered in December 2018 with an exception of the presence of Libyan nationals (10%) that were replaced by Palestinian nationals one month later (14% of the total). Estimated 92 per cent of migrants and refugees were males, 8 per cent females registered in January 2019.

Among them, there were 14 children, out of which 7 unaccompanied and separated.

Figure 54 Number of irregular migrants registered in January 2016 - 2019

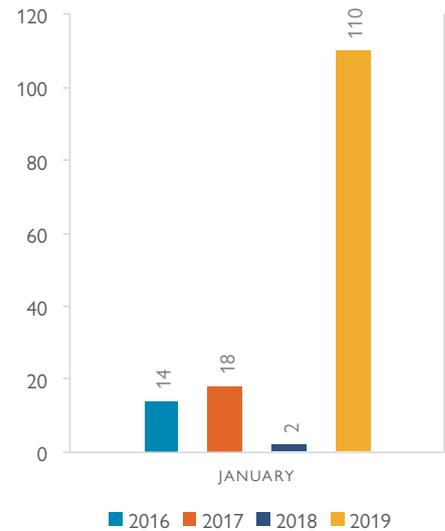


Figure 55 Nationality breakdown of registered migrants and asylum seekers in January 2019

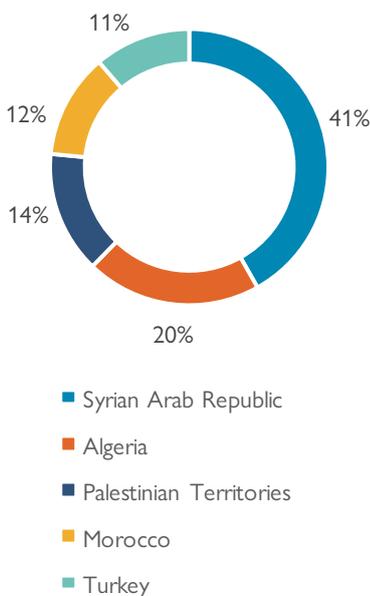
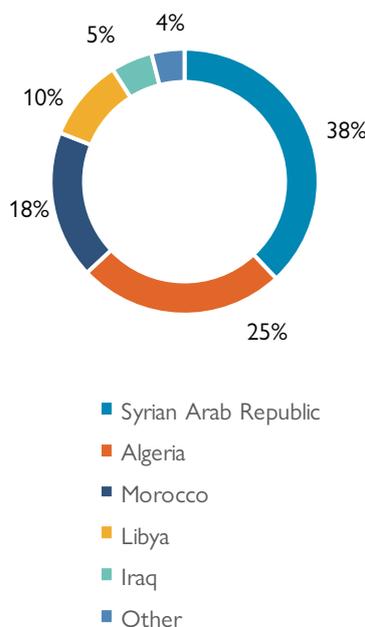


Figure 56 Nationality breakdown of registered migrants and asylum seekers in December 2018



### Migrant presence

On 31 January 2019, a total of 106 asylum seekers were present in Kosovo. This is 20 per cent more than the 88 reported at the end of the previous reporting period and seven times the 15 reported at the end of January 2018. 87 per cent of registered individuals are Turkish nationals followed by those from Morocco (6), Syrian Arab Republic (3), the Republic of North Macedonia (3), Algeria (2), Palestinian Territories (2), the Islamic Republic of Iran (2) and Serbia (1). Out of the total number of asylum seekers currently in Kosovo (end of January), 15 persons are actually irregular migrants (citizens of Turkey, North Macedonia and Serbia can enter Kosovo regularly)<sup>22</sup>.

<sup>21</sup> This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

<sup>22</sup> This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

# MONTENEGRO

## Developments during the reporting period

During this reporting period (1 – 31 January), authorities in Montenegro registered 256 migrants and refugees, a 5 per cent increase compared to the 245 reported in December 2018. Number of registered migrants and refugees in January is the highest since 2016. It is 17 times more than the 15 registered in January 2018, six times the 41 reported in Jan 2017 and three times the 81 recorded in the same period 2016.

Despite the increase in arrivals, number of attempts to cross the border, whether in the green border areas or around the official border crossing points halved in January 2019, when compared to the same period last year – 19 vs. 47 respectively.

One third of migrants registered in Montenegro in January 2019 were from Syrian Arab Republic (36%), followed by those from Algeria (18%), Morocco (15%), Iraq (11%) and Libya (6%). Looking at the data for the previous month (December 2018), the profile is similar with a difference in the presence of Libyan nationals as it halved between the two months from 12% in December 2018 to 6% in January 2019. 92 per cent of individuals were adult male, 3 per cent adult female and 5 per cent children. Among the 15 arrivals registered in January 2018, 8 were from the Islamic Republic of Iran, 5 from Syrian Arab Republic and 2 from Morocco.

Figure 57 Arrivals to Montenegro in January 2016 - 2019

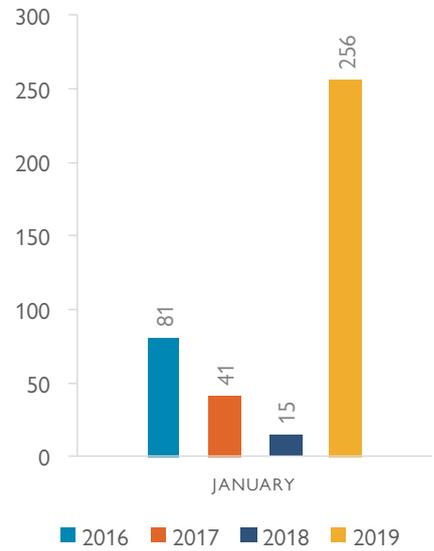


Figure 58 Attempts to cross the border in January, comparison 2018 - 2019

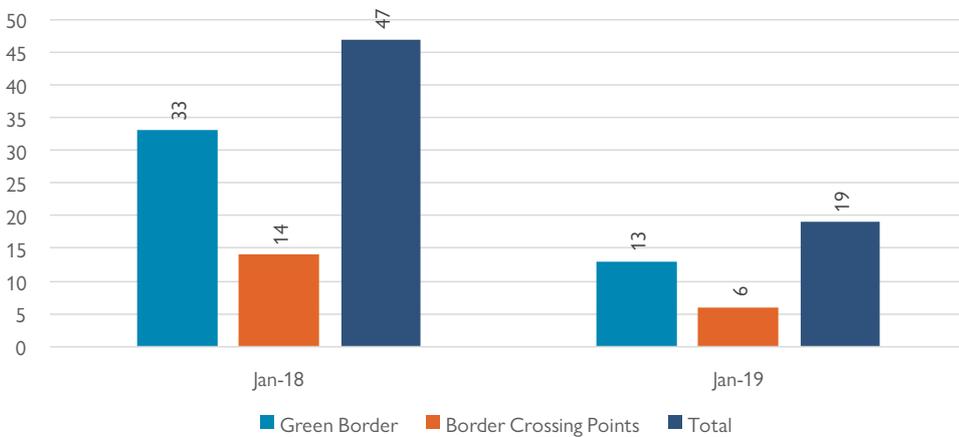


Figure 59 Nationality breakdown of registered migrants in January 2019

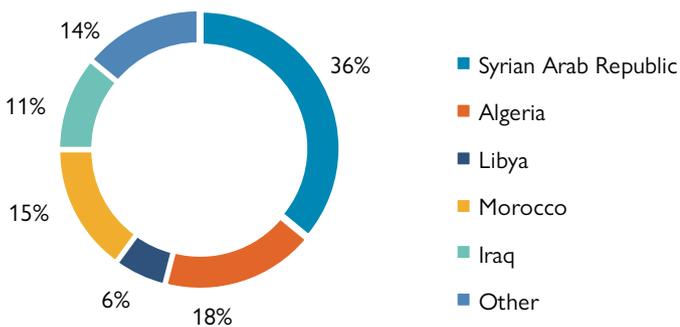
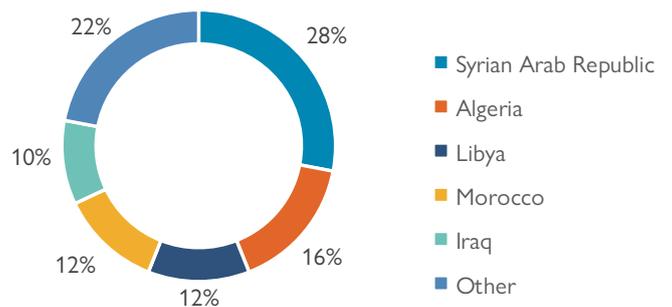


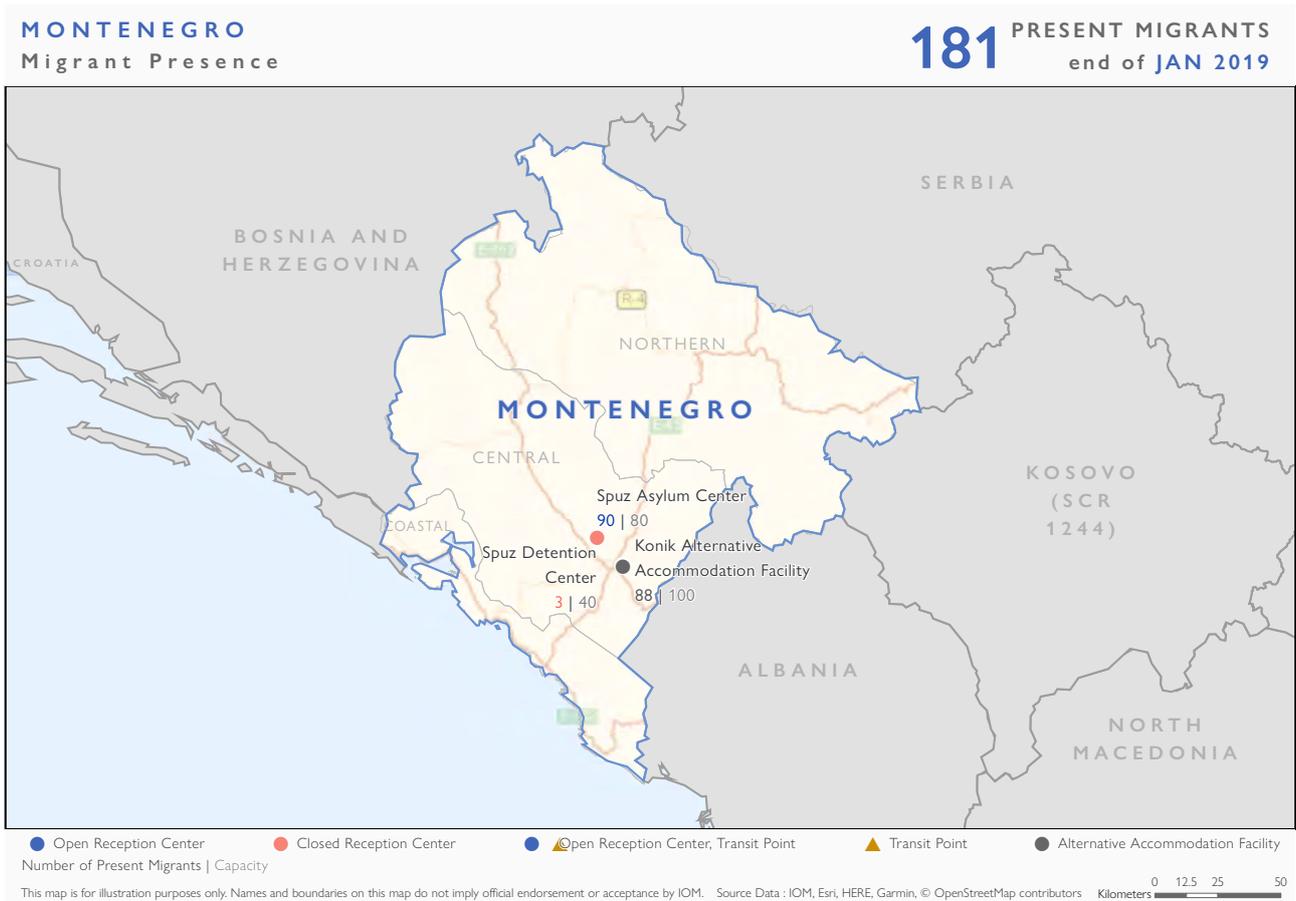
Figure 60 Nationality breakdown of registered migrants in December 2018



### Migrant presence

At the end of December 2018, there were 181 migrants and asylum seekers accommodated in the accommodation facilities and centres around the country, an 81 per cent increase from the 100 accommodated during the previous reporting period (1 – 31 December 2018) and twice the 89 reported at the end of January 2018.

Map 15 Accommodation facilities in Montenegro with information on occupancy and capacity, January 2019



## OTHER COUNTRIES

### LIBYA

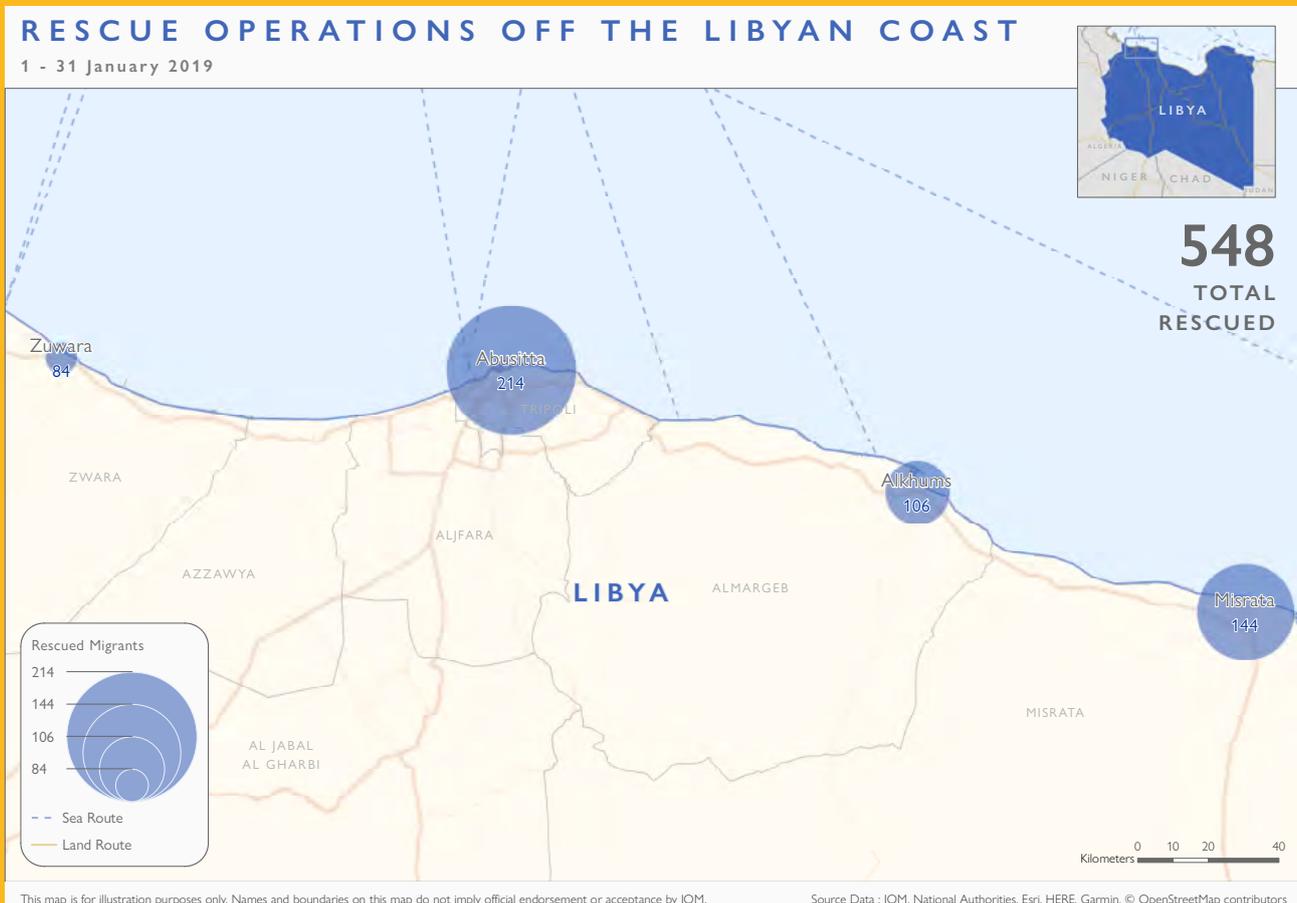
#### Developments during the reporting period

In January 2019, the Libyan Coast Guard carried out 12 rescue operations in which they rescued 548 migrants and reported 25 dead and missing migrants (no missing migrants reported this month). Available data for 2019 indicates a slight decrease in the number of operations this year compared to the same period in 2018 when 11 operations were reported. The number of rescued migrants this month is four times less than the 2,046 rescued in the same period last year, and slightly less than the 699 rescued in January 2017. The number of dead and missing migrants decreased significantly from 156 registered in January 2017 to 104 reported in January 2018, and 25 reported this month.

Figure 61 Rescue operations by the Libyan Coast Guard in January 2017 - 2019



Map 16 Rescue operations off the Libyan coast, January 2019



This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

Source Data : IOM, National Authorities, Esri, HERE, Garmin, © OpenStreetMap contributors

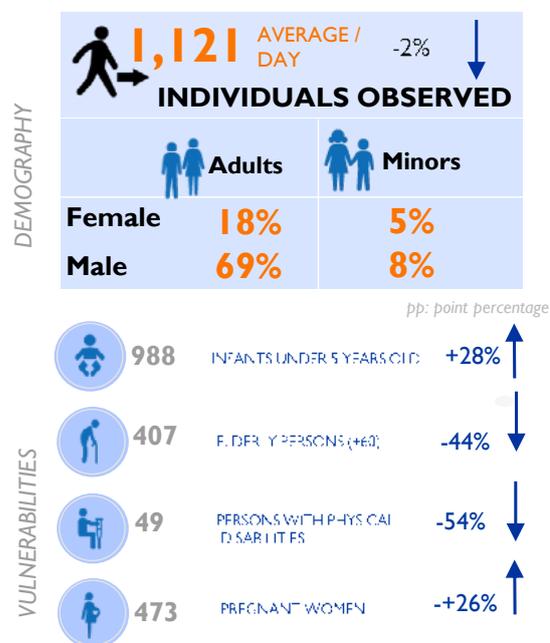
## NIGER

Between 1 and 31 December 2018, 47,569 individuals were observed transiting through the 6 active Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) in Niger. Outflows observed (16,119 individuals) represent 34 per cent of all flows, while incoming flows (11,374 persons) represent 24 per cent. 42 per cent of flows observed at the FMPs in December were internal movements within Niger. Outgoing flows were observed at the most recently established FMPs: 43 per cent Séguédine, followed by Arlit (28%), Magaria (14%), Dan Issa (4%) and Tahoua (1%). The increase in inflows observed in 2018 may be linked to stricter migration controls, criminalization of irregular migration and repatriation efforts of Nigerian nationals from Algeria. Read more [here](#).

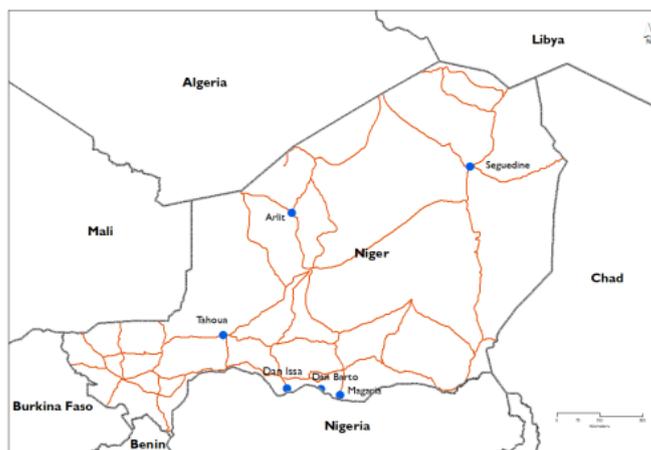
The most recent of the 6 FMPs was set up during the previous reporting period in Niger (Dan Issa) to better understand migration routes along the southern part of Niger. This FMP complements the existing FMP network established in Arlit and Séguédine, in addition to the three FMPs set up in August Dan Barto, Magaria and Tahoua. There are now three cross border FMPs (Dan Barto, Dan Issa and Magaria) that have been set up on the border between Niger and Nigeria which stretches over 1,000KM. The FMP in Tahoua was set up to help understand internal movement flows as it is situated in central Niger, sharing a border with the Tillabery region in the east, Nigeria and the Agadez region in the north.

In 2018, the lowest overall number of individuals observed at the FMPs was recorded in June, while the highest was recorded in November. The increase in November was likely linked to the fact that migrants return to Niger at the beginning of the rainy season and return back after the harvest (August and September).

Figure 62 Profile of migrants interviewed in Niger, December 2018



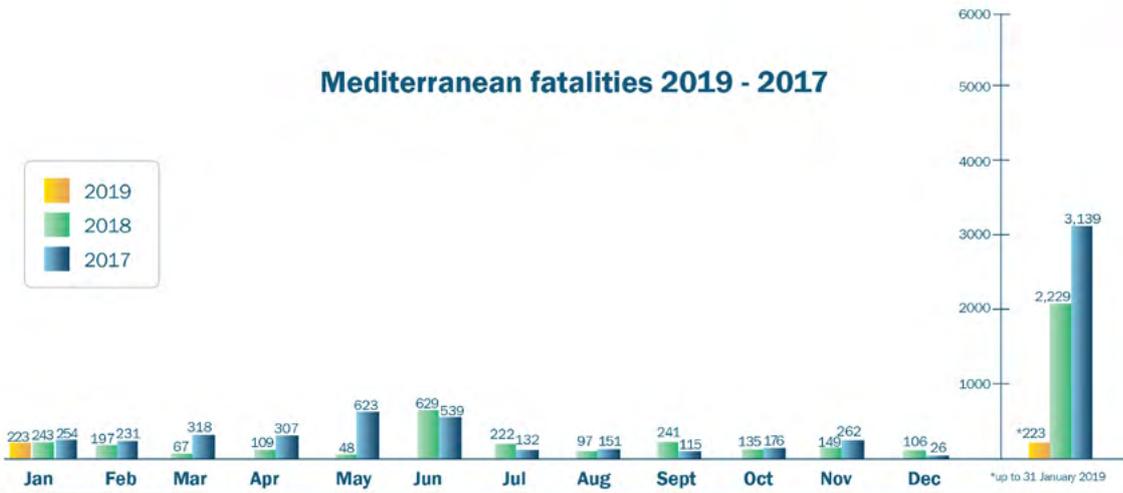
Map 17 DTM Flow Monitoring presence in Niger



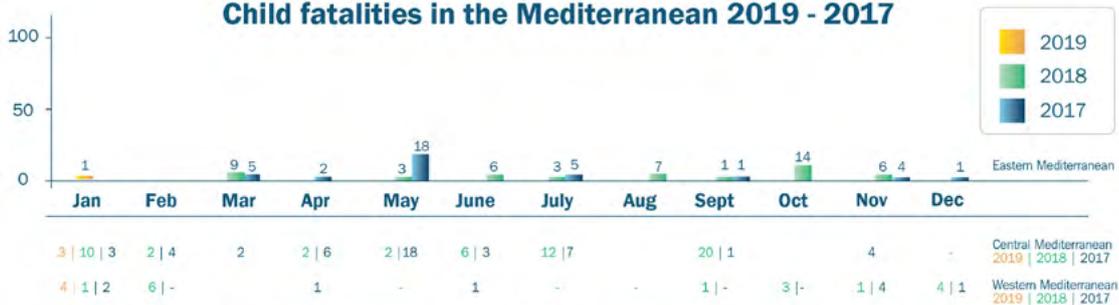
# MISSING MIGRANTS: FATALITIES/MISSING IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND AEGEAN



**Mediterranean fatalities 2019 - 2017**



**Child fatalities in the Mediterranean 2019 - 2017**



\*Data for child fatalities data on the Central Mediterranean route is incomplete as most bodies are never recovered. The true number is not known. Map is for illustrative purpose. Boundaries and names used and designations shown do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

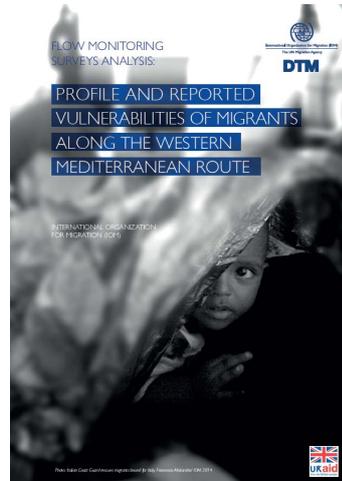
## ABOUT THIS REPORT

IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a suite of tools and methodologies designed to track and analyze human mobility in different displacement contexts in a continuous manner. To gather and disseminate information about the migrant populations moving through the Mediterranean, up the Western Balkan Route and through the Northern Route into Europe, in September 2015 DTM established a Flow Monitoring System. The Flow Monitoring System includes a monthly flows compilation report, which provides an overview of migration flows in countries of first arrival and other countries along the route in Europe, and an analysis of trends across the affected region. The data on registered arrivals is collated by IOM through consultations with ministries of interior, coast guards, police forces and other relevant national authorities. Data on arrivals is displayed and regularly updated (twice a week) on the Flow Monitoring Europe Geoportal.

### Flow Monitoring Surveys

The DTM system also includes flow monitoring surveys to capture additional and more in-depth data on the people on the move, including age, sex, areas of origin, levels of education, key transit points on their route, motives and intentions. This data has been captured by IOM field staff in Greece, the Republic of North Macedonia, Serbia, Hungary, Croatia, Italy, Bulgaria and Slovenia since October 2015. The analysis of data collected throughout 2017 is available on the [IOM portal for Mediterranean](#).

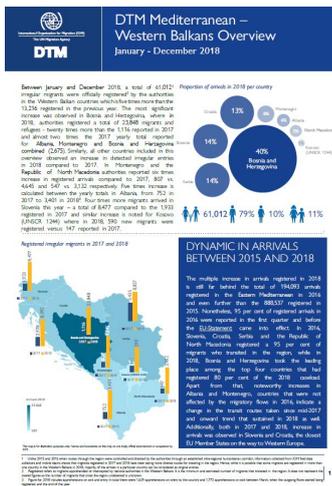
### Flow Monitoring Surveys Analysis: Profile and Reported Vulnerabilities of Migrants Along the Western Mediterranean Route



### Mixed Migration Flows in the Mediterranean – Quarterly Overview (October - December 2018)



### DTM Mediterranean – Western Balkans Overview 2018



### DTM Europe – Summary of Key Results (January – December 2018)



### Arrivals to Europe – 2018 Overview Dataset

**DTM** Mixed Migration Flows in the Mediterranean and Beyond  
COMPILATION OF AVAILABLE DATA AND INFORMATION  
REPORTING PERIOD: 2018

Country	By Sea	By Land	Total
Italy	23,370	-	23,370
Greece	31,742	17,471	49,213
Spain	38,525	6,600	45,125
Bulgaria*	-	2,531	2,531
Cyprus	1,278	-	1,278
Malta	1,445	-	1,445
TOTAL	117,960	20,006	144,166

Country	Total
Greece**	60,083
Italy*	135,858
Bulgaria**	690
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	33
Croatia	4,612
Slovenia**	356
Slovenia*	290
Hungary**	137
Cyprus**	246
Romania**	385

\* Data as of 30 December 2018  
\*\* Data as of 5 September 2018

Information contained in this document has been received from a variety of sources including: national authorities, national and international organizations as well as media reports. Specific sources are not named in the report. The information collected has been triangulated through various sources in efforts to ensure accuracy of the content, and where information has not been confirmed, this has been noted in the report.

Data collection activities in Turkey supported by:



Data collection activities supported by:

