

# MIXED MIGRATION FLOWS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

Compilation of Available  
Data and Information

August 2019



International Organization for Migration (IOM)

The UN Migration Agency

**DTM**



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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.



Photo/ cover page: Migrants' reception centre in Ventimiglia, close to the border between Italy and France. IOM Italy/2019.



Migrants' reception centre in Bira, Bosnia and Herzegovina in April. IOM BIH/2019

## HIGHLIGHTS

A total of 66,268 migrants and refugees arrived in Europe through different land and sea routes between January and August 2019, 24 per cent less than the same period last year when 87,611 sea and land arrivals were reported, 50 per cent less than the 133,390 arrivals registered in this period of 2017 and 78 per cent less than the 296,512 registered during this period in 2016.

Sixty per cent of all arrivals were registered via the Eastern Mediterranean route in Cyprus, Bulgaria and Greece. Another 29 per cent of individuals have arrived in Europe through the Western Mediterranean route leading to Spain, and the remaining 11 per cent crossed the Central Mediterranean and arrived by sea in Italy and Malta. This indicates that the Eastern Mediterranean route continues to surpass both the Western and the Central Mediterranean routes as the main route taken by the migrants and refugees arriving to Europe between January and August 2019.

In the same period last year, there was a much smaller difference in the proportion of arrivals between the Western and Eastern Mediterranean routes. On the Western route 33,912 arrivals were registered (39%), and on the Eastern route 32,908 arrivals were registered (38%). On the Central route 20,791 arrivals were registered (11%).

Between January and August 2019, Hellenic Authorities reported 33,700 new arrivals in **Greece**. It is the top arrival country in Europe so far in 2019. Arrivals this year in Greece are 7 per cent more than the 31,451 registered in the first eight months of 2018 and 92 per cent more than the 17,534 reported in 2017. Sixteen per cent of all migrants and refugees registered arriving in Greece so far crossed into the country through land routes, and the remaining 84 per cent arrived by sea. The most frequently registered nationality this year so far was Afghan (42%). Nationals from the Syrian Arab Republic were the second most registered (18%), followed by Democratic Republic of Congo (6%), Iraq (6%), Palestinian Territories (6%), and other nationalities (22%) (read more [here](#)).

A total 19,178 migrants and refugees were registered in **Spain** (WMR) between January and August 2019, 43 per cent less than the 33,912 registered in 2018, and 32 per cent more than the 14,483 registered in the same period of 2017. Among the total registered migrants arriving to Spain in the first eight months of 2019, 81 per cent (13,326) arrived by sea and the remaining 19 per cent (3,184) arrived by land, mainly to the Spanish autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla in the North of Africa. According to available data from the Spanish Ministry of Interior, Morocco is the first declared origin country by migrants and refugees who arrived in Spain between January and August 2019 (33% of the total), followed by Guinea (9%), Mali (9%), others from sub-Saharan countries (25%) (read more [here](#)).

**Italian** authorities reported the arrivals of 5,135 migrants and refugees between January and August 2019. Arrivals in the first eight months of 2019 have decreased by 74 per cent compared to the same period of 2018 when 20,077 arrivals were registered and represents only 4 per cent of the total 95,213 reported to have arrived between January and August 2017. Twenty-six per cent of migrants registered in the first eight months of the year were of Tunisian origin, followed by those from Pakistan (16%), Algeria (10%), Côte d'Ivoire (10%), Iraq (8%) and other African and Southern Asian countries (read more [here](#)). Tunisian nationals also made up the majority of arrivals between January and August 2018 (19% of the total), followed by migrants from Eritrea<sup>1</sup> (15%), Sudan (8%), Nigeria (6%), and Pakistan (6%). In addition, 2,245 migrants arrived in **Malta** between January and August 2019. This is over three times the 714 migrants reported to have arrived in Malta in the first eight months of 2018. According to the available data from national authorities, Sudan is the most frequently reported country of nationality at arrival (29%), followed by Eritrea<sup>2</sup> (8%), Nigeria (5%) and many other countries of Africa and Asia (read more [here](#)).

With regards to the Western Balkans, authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania and Montenegro have observed a significant increase in arrivals in 2019 and have registered a total of 24,970 reported arrivals this year so far (read more [here](#)). This is 40 per cent more than the 1,153 registered in the same period 2018 in all three countries and over twenty-one times than the 783 registered in the same period of 2017.

1 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.

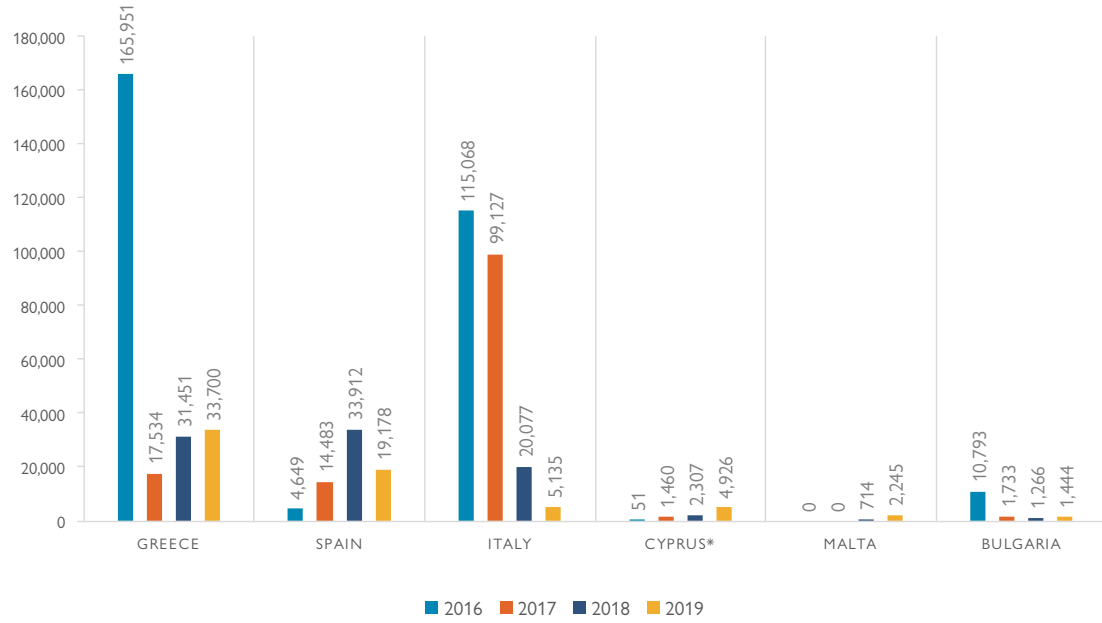
2 The information on nationality breakdown provided in this report is based on the nationality declared by migrants as reported by the Maltese authorities.



External lavatories of a migrants' reception centre in Ventimiglia, Italy. IOM/Italy/2019

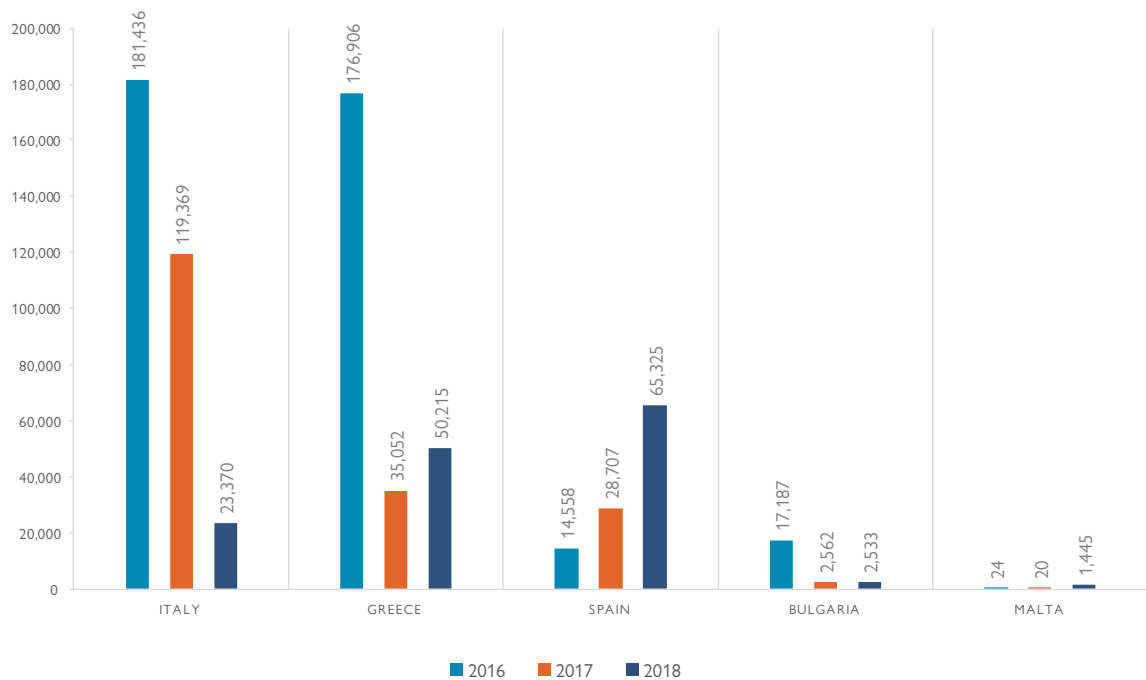
## OVERVIEW OF ARRIVALS

Figure 1: Arrivals in Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta and Spain between January and August, 2016 -2019.



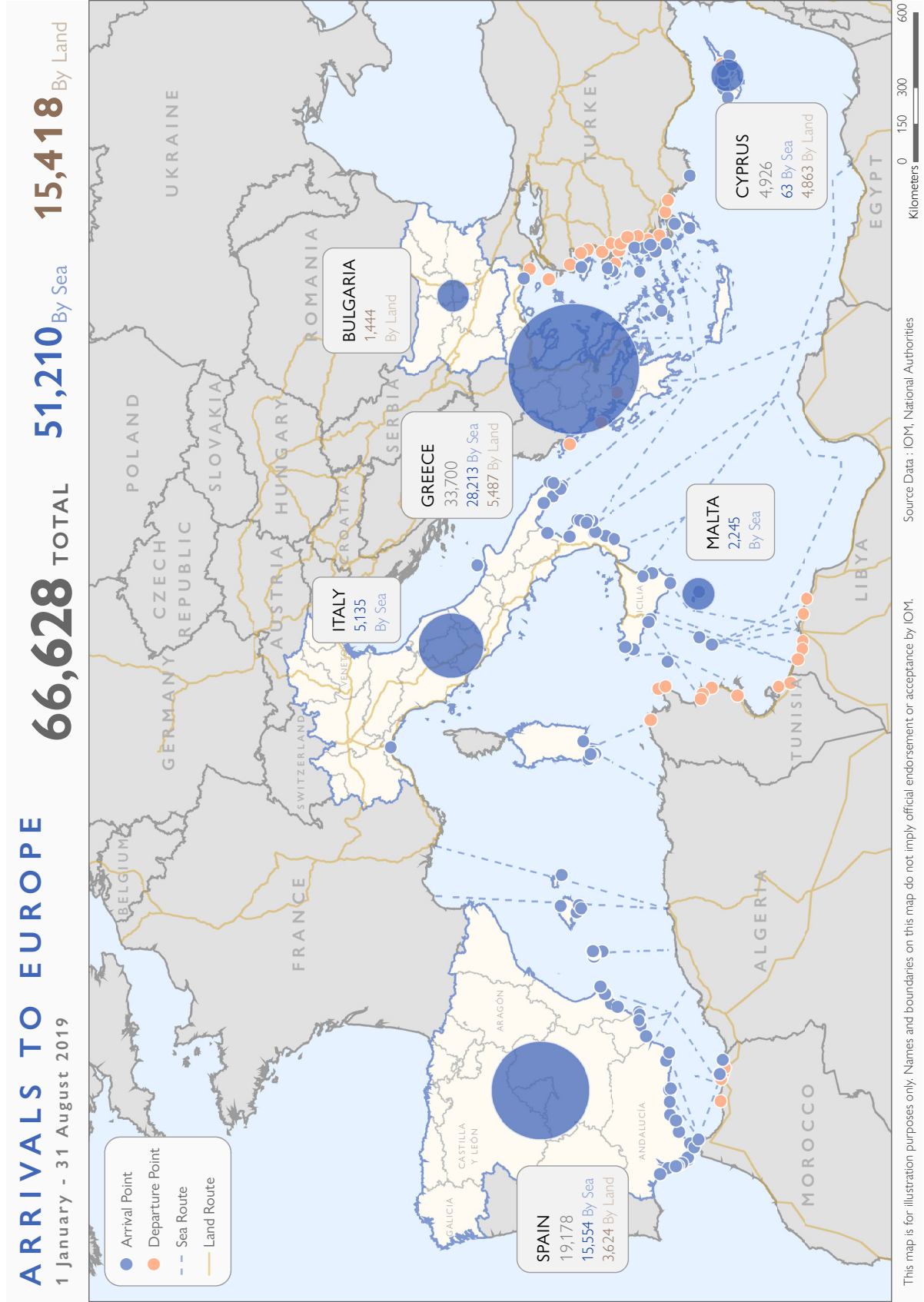
\* Data for 2016 are IOM estimates pending official government data.

Figure 2: Arrivals between January and December 2016 – 2018.



## OVERVIEW MAPS

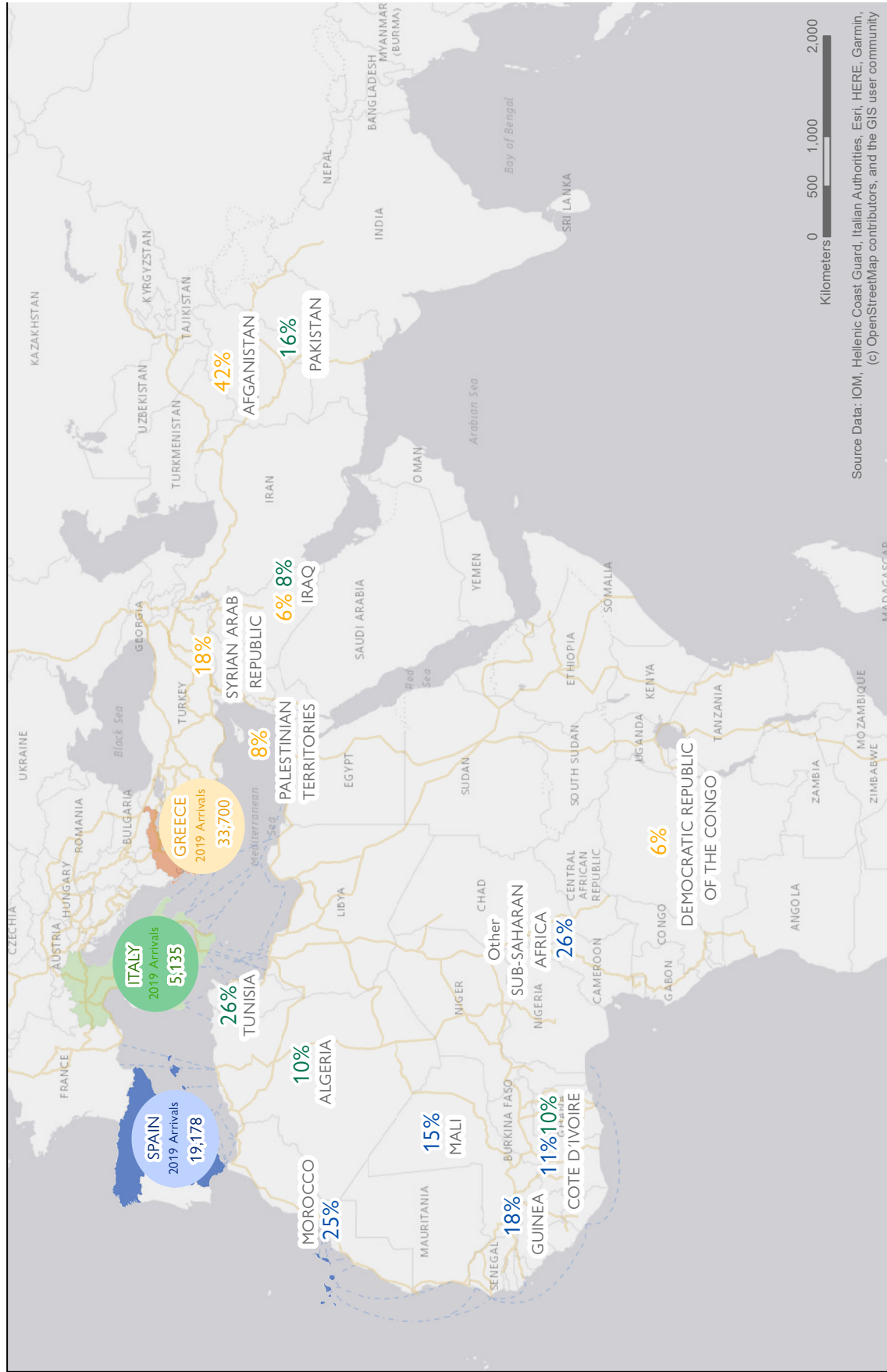
Map 1: Arrivals in Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Spain between January and August 2019.



Map 2: Main countries of origin reported at arrival in Greece, Italy and Spain between January and August 2019.

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

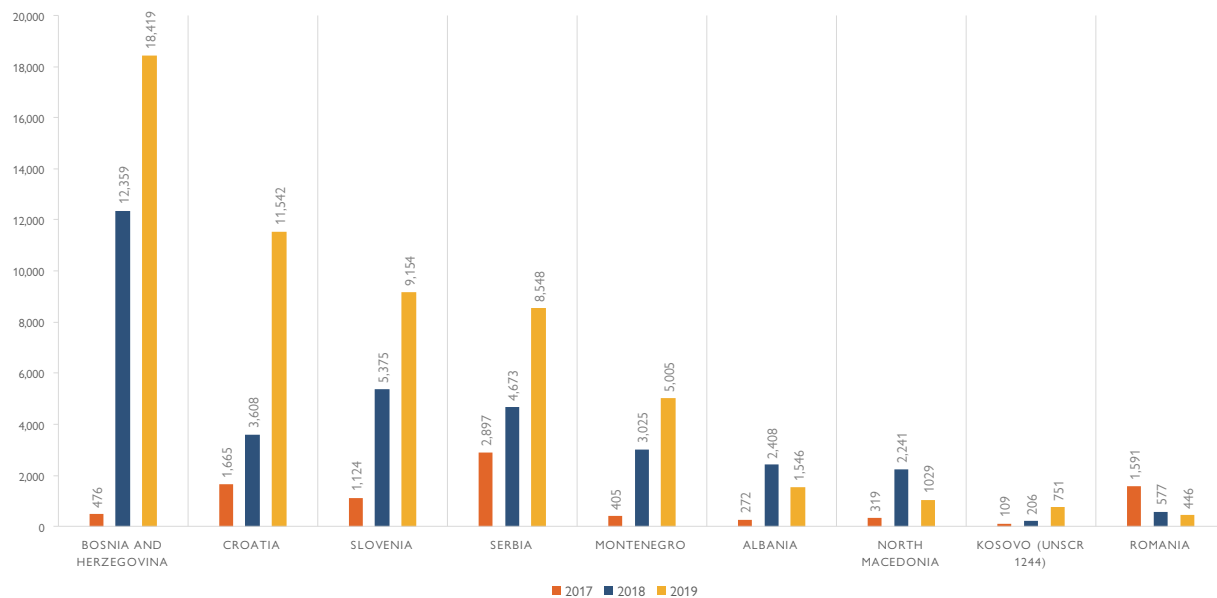
From 01 January to 31 August 2019





## TRANSIT COUNTRIES – REGISTERED IRREGULAR ARRIVALS/APPREHENSIONS

Figure 3: Registered irregular apprehensions by country between January and August, 2017-2019.



Migrants' reception centre in the northern part of Bosnia and Herzegovina. IOM BIH/2019

Map 3: Presence of migrants and asylum seekers in the region as of the end of August 2019.

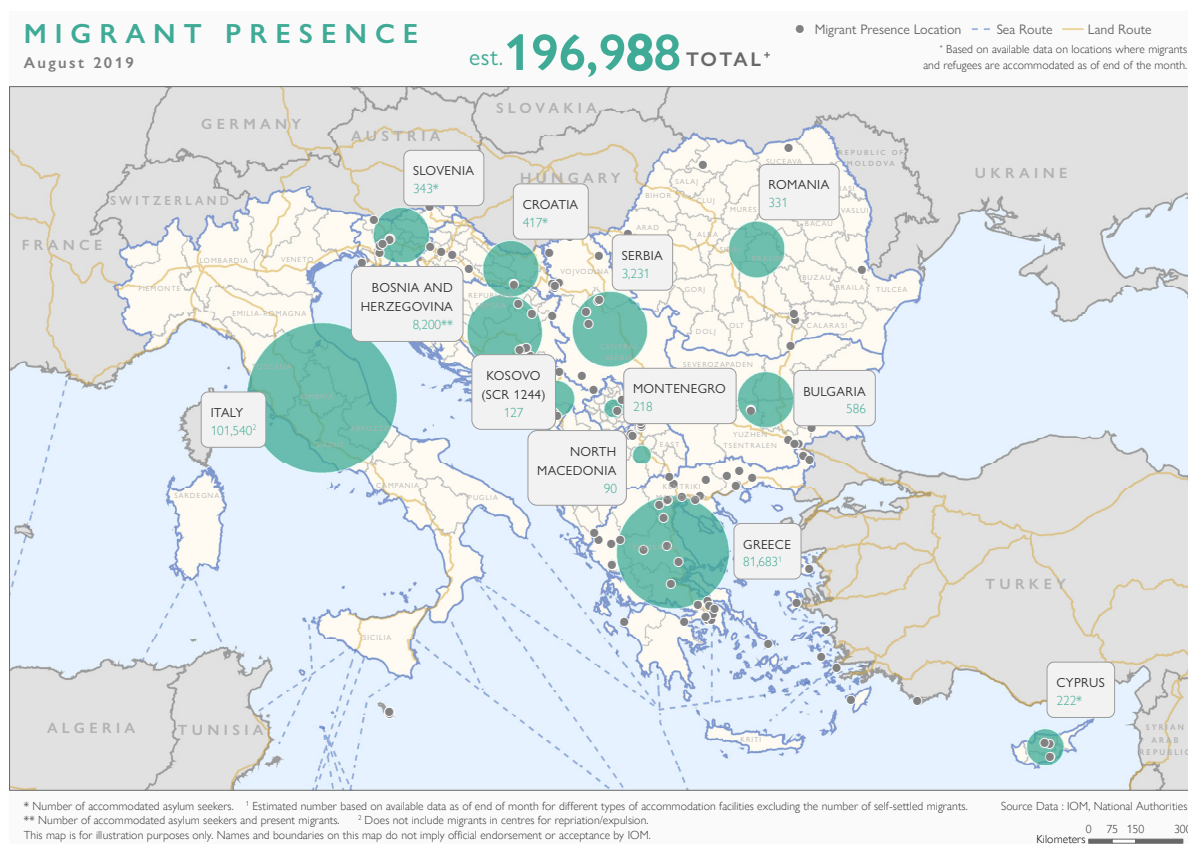


Table 1: Presence of migrants and asylum seekers in the region as of the end of August, 2017-2019.

Country	Aug-17	Aug-18	Aug-19
Greece	62,206	62,292	81,683 <sup>3</sup>
Bosnia and Herzegovina	/	/	8,200
Bulgaria	1,358	999	586
Croatia <sup>4</sup>	582	376	417
Cyprus	277	252	222
Kosovo (UNSCR 1244/1999)	/	/	127
Montenegro	/	115	218
Republic of North Macedonia	45	62	90
Romania	995	410	331
Serbia	3,821	3,278	3,231
Slovenia <sup>5</sup>	249	335	343
Italy	177,505 <sup>6</sup>	155,619	101,540

3 Data for Greece excludes self-settled migrants and asylum seekers.

4 Data for Slovenia and Croatia includes number of asylum seekers only.

5 Data for Slovenia and Croatia includes number of asylum seekers only.

6 Data are as of end of April 2017.

## POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

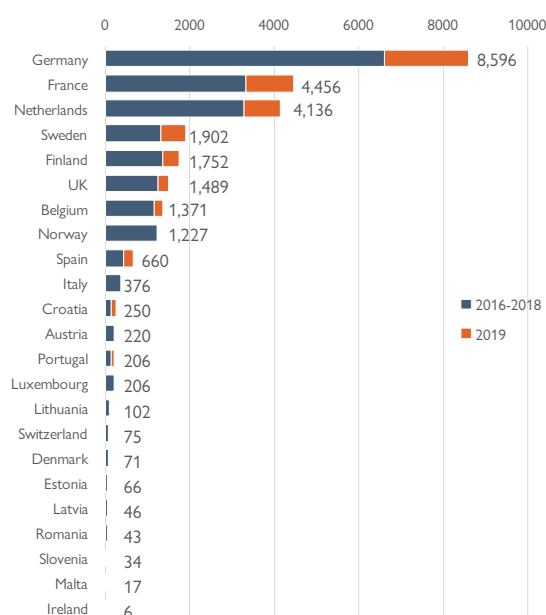
### EU - TURKEY STATEMENT AND THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

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](#)). At the same time, it was agreed to facilitate the resettlement of Syrian refugees from Turkey to many European countries (European Economic Area, EEA). The total number of Syrian refugees resettled between April 2016 and August 2019 is 27,307.

A significant decrease in arrivals in Greece was observed starting from the second quarter (April – June) of 2016 until mid-2019. From the 152,617 arrivals in Greece registered in the first quarter of 2016, a drastic drop was registered in the second quarter of 2016 with 7,498 new entries by land and by sea. Arrivals in 2017 have been around 8,800 each quarter on average, with the second quarter marking a record low of 6,272 new entries that year. A more sustained trend has been observed over 2018, with quarterly arrivals at around 12,500 new entries on average. Arrivals registered in the first half of 2019 (18,448) were 19 per cent lower than in the first half of 2018 (22,899), but a new increase was observed during the third quarter of the year: arrivals in July and August 2019 (15,252) are higher than the totals of the first and second quarter this year (8,162 and 10,286, respectively).

Overall, arrivals in Greece for August 2019 (9,349) and for the whole year (33,700) so far are higher than those reported along the Western and Central Mediterranean routes, in Spain (2,558 and 19,178 in August and in 2019 respectively), and in Italy (1,268 and 5,135, in August and in 2019 respectively).

Figure 4: Number of Syrian refugees resettled from Turkey to Europe (EEA) between April 2016 and August 2019.<sup>7</sup>



<sup>7</sup> The figure includes the number of Syrian refugees assisted by IOM Turkey through the 1:1 resettlement scheme as well as other bilateral programs.

### CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

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 the whole 2018, compared with the total arrivals in 2017 (e.g. 119,369 arrivals in 2017 compared to 23,370 in 2018). The decrease continued in the first and second quarter of 2019, when authorities registered only 524 and 2,255 arrivals in Italy respectively (-92 and -78 per cent less than Q1 and Q2 in 2018). The arrivals for the first half of 2019 (2,779) represent an 83 per cent decrease when compared to the first half of 2018 (16,577) and a 97 per cent less than the first half of 2017 (83,759). Arrivals registered in July and August 2019 (2,356) are slightly higher than those registered in the second quarter (2,255) and in the first quarter (524) of the year.

### WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

In response to the increased number of arrivals in Spain during 2018, in the summer months authorities opened two new types of centres. First type are Centres 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 centres of such kind were opened in [Algeciras \(Cadiz\)](#) and Motril (Granada). The second type are Centres 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 of these centres were operational in [Chiclana \(Cadiz\)](#), [Merida](#) and [Guadix \(Grenada\)](#).

## 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 favour, 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 840 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.

More recently, IOM and UNHCR welcomed new consensus among European States on addressing the situation of the Mediterranean, to prevent loss of life on the Mediterranean Sea and to establish a regional disembarkation mechanism (more [here](#)).



Language course in a migrants' reception centre in Bosnia and Herzegovina in May. IOM BIH/2019

# COUNTRIES OF FIRST ARRIVAL

## ITALY

### Developments during the reporting period

During this reporting period, authorities in Italy registered a total of 1,268 new arrivals, 17 per cent more than the 1,088 reported in the previous month and representing 25 per cent of all arrivals registered in 2019 so far (5,135). Arrivals in August 2019 are 17 per cent less than the 1,531 registered in August 2018, 68 per cent less than the 3,914 of August 2017 and only a fragment of the 21,294 registered in July 2016.

A total of 5,135 migrants and refugees were reported to have arrived in Italy in the first eight months of 2019. This is a 74 per cent decrease in comparison with the same period of 2018 when 20,070 arrivals were registered and only a small fraction of the 99,127 reported between January and

August 2017. So far, arrivals in Italy this year are the lowest reported since 2014.

According to the available data shared by the Italian Ministry of Interior (MOI),<sup>8</sup> most migrants and refugees arrived in 2019 so far are adult males (73%), while the rest being adult females (8%), accompanied children (5%) and unaccompanied and separated children (14%).

Tunisia represents the first declared country of origin for registered migrants arriving in Italy in 2019, with a total of 1,326 migrants and refugees (26% of the total). Other main reported nationalities are Pakistan (16%), Côte d'Ivoire (10%), Algeria (10%), Iraq (8%) and other African and Southern Asian countries. Tunisians also made up the biggest national group at arrivals between January and August 2018 (19% of the total), followed by migrants

from Eritrea<sup>9</sup> (15%), Sudan (8%), Nigeria (7%) and Pakistan (6%).

Migrants and refugees arrived in Italy between January and August 2019 by sea are more frequently reported to have departed from Tunisia (36%). Other main reported countries of departure are Libya (26%) and Turkey (21%), followed by Algeria and Greece.<sup>10</sup> This year for the first time since 2011 Tunisia surpasses Libya as main country of departure of those arriving in Italy by sea.

02 July – The Italian Minister of the Interior visited Trieste, in Friuli Venezia Giulia, to sign new protocols for local authorities to increase their action at borders, to prevent the entry by land of migrants coming from the so-called Balkan route ([more here](#)).

Figure 5: Monthly arrivals in Italy by sea, 2014 – 2019.

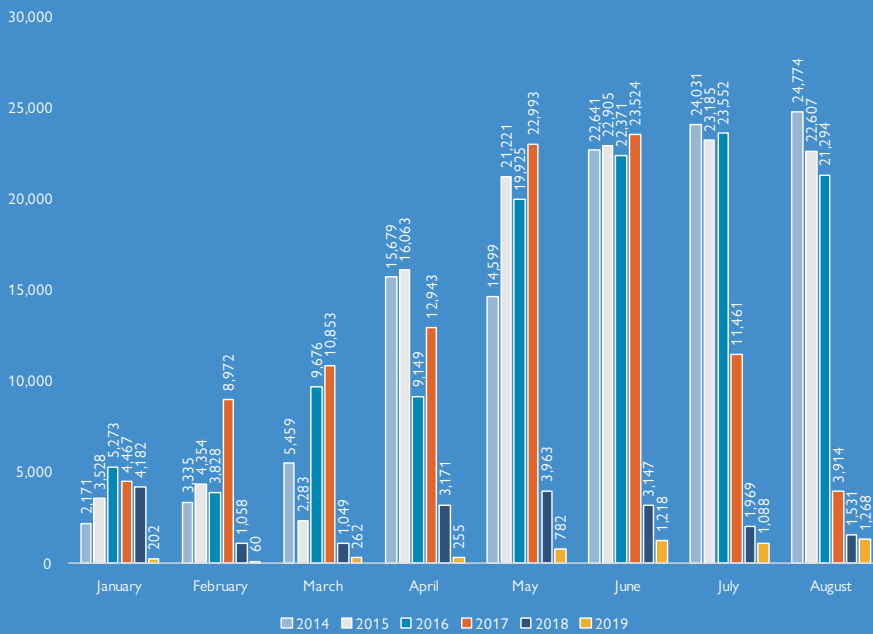
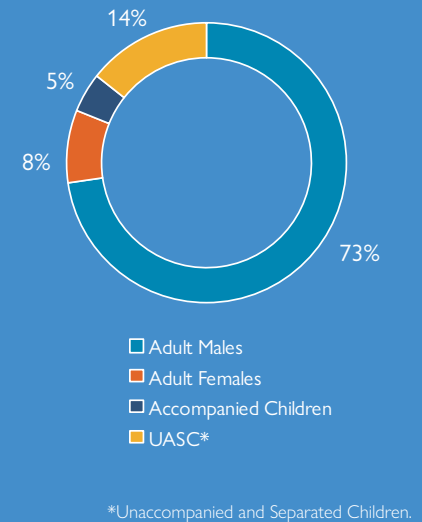


Figure 6: Age/Sex breakdown of registered arrivals by sea, January-August 2019



8 IOM data is adjusted according to the official figures provided by Italian MOI twice a week.

9 The information on nationality breakdown provided in this report is based on the nationality declared by migrants as reported by the Italian MOI.

10 Calculations based on DTM Flow Monitoring data and data from Italian MOI.



05 August – The Italian government approved a decree on security and immigration (D.L. 53/2019). The decree toughens sanctions on NGOs operating migrant rescue ships in the Mediterranean, with fines for vessels entering Italian waters without permissions and investigations which might imply the arrest of the captains and the requisitions of the vessels (more [here](#)).

20 August – The Spanish vessel Open Arms docked in Lampedusa and disembarked 81 migrants after having received a ban from the Italian Ministry

of the Interior for 19 days and after several other migrants were evacuated and brought to Lampedusa for medical reasons. The ship was confiscated after the berth. The migrants will be relocated as Spain, France, Germany, Luxemburg and Portugal announced their availability for receiving them (more [here](#)).

27 August - At least 40 people are feared dead following an accident of a boat off the coast of [Libya](#). According to IOM and UNHCR some 60 survivors have been returned to shore and several bodies have been retrieved so far, among them children ([here](#) and [here](#)).

28 August – The Italian NGO Mediterranea rescued around 100 migrants in the Central Mediterranean and was initially not allowed to enter Italian waters. On August 29<sup>th</sup>, 64 vulnerable people (pregnant women, children and sick persons) were transferred by the Italian Coast Guard from the NGO vessel and brought to Lampedusa. On September 2<sup>nd</sup>, also the migrants remaining on board were transferred by Italian authorities to Lampedusa (more [here](#) and [here](#)).

Table 2: Arrivals in Italy by sea - top 10 declared nationalities, January – August 2019.

Declared nationality	Total	%	Adult Males	Adult Females	AC	UASC
Total	5,135		3,733	431	234	737
Tunisia	1,326	26	967	43	64	252
Pakistan	805	16	655	0	14	136
Algeria	534	10	523	4	0	7
Côte d'Ivoire	518	10	197	218	53	50
Iraq	399	8	259	48	36	56
Bangladesh	231	4	180	0	0	51
Sudan	205	4	169	2	12	22
Morocco	114	2	93	10	5	6
Islamic Republic of Iran	108	2	93	6	4	5
Guinea	104	2	52	10	4	38
Other	791	15	545	90	42	114

### Known entry points:

Since the beginning of the year, 228 single landing events were reported by Italian authorities. Most recorded disembarkations took place in Sicily (60% of the total) and particularly in Lampedusa and Pantelleria. The remaining number of events were registered in Sardinia (Porto Pino, Sant'Antioco, Cagliari), Calabria (Crotone) and Apulia (Leuca, Otranto).

Arrivals from Tunisia, Algeria, Turkey and Greece are normally the result of autonomous landings or of rescue operations conducted very close to Italian shores. Arrivals from Libya are more frequently the result of search and rescue (SAR) operations in the Central Mediterranean Sea than of boats reaching autonomously the Italian waters. SAR operations are conducted less frequently by the Italian Coast Guard, by Italy's and EU's navy and by NGOs' vessels. As a recent development, since June 2019 some small wooden boats departed from Tunisia with non-Tunisian nationals also on board, particularly migrants from francophone Western African countries.

No official estimate on the number of migrants entering Italy by land and air borders is provided by Italian authorities. Nevertheless, according to media reports and IOM operations in the North of Italy, there is a continuous flow of migrants and refugees entering Italy by land in Trieste and Gorizia from Slovenia. Main reported nationalities of migrants entering Italy by land are Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Figure 7: Nationality breakdown of registered arrivals by sea in Italy between January and August 2019.

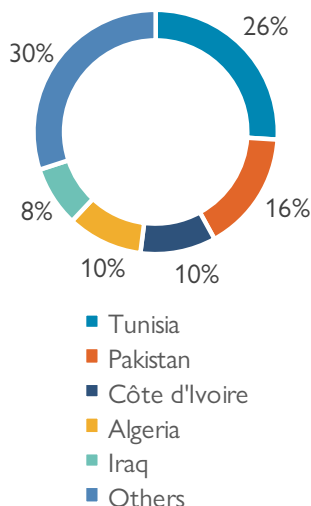
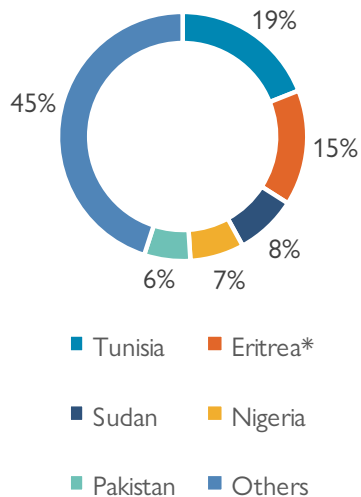
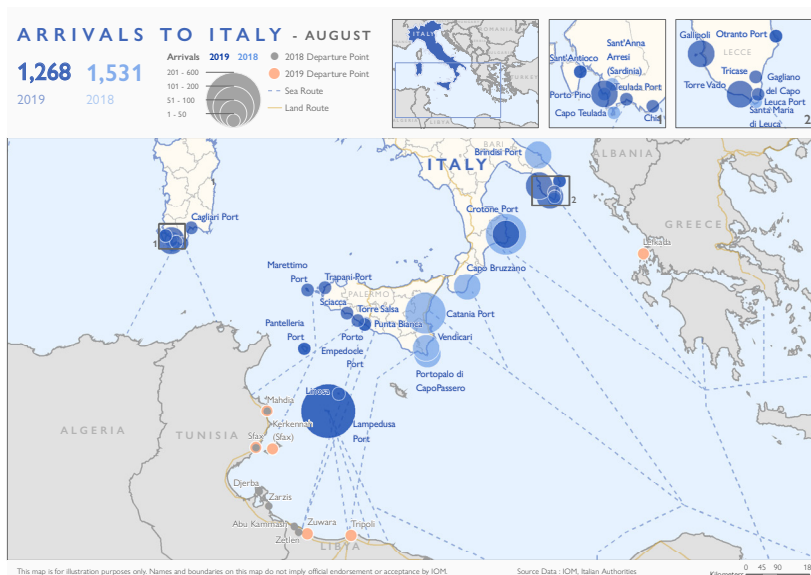


Figure 8: Nationality breakdown of registered arrivals by sea in Italy between January and August 2018.



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

Map 4: Main departure points from Libya and landing points in Italy, August 2019.



### Known exit points

It is well reported by media and organizations in the field including IOM that some migrants arrived by sea and by land in Italy try to exit the country and reach other European destinations. Hence, formal and informal transit camps are active at border areas with neighbouring countries (mostly with France and Switzerland). Migrants are reported to be often stopped or pushed back to Italy when found on streets, footpaths or trains close to the borders.

Ventimiglia consistently remains the most visible transit place 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.

### Relocation 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.

In 2019, the relocation of 26 asylum seekers was made possible through bilateral ad-hoc agreements between Italian and French authorities:

- 6 individuals from Senegal, Guinea, Sudan and Côte d'Ivoire in February 2019;
- 5 individuals from Sudan and Chad in June 2019;
- 6 individuals from Côte d'Ivoire and Mali in July 2019;
- 9 individuals from Côte d'Ivoire, Mali and Niger in August 2019.

So far in 2019, IOM has also assisted the transfer of 20 children to the United Kingdom within the framework of the DUBS project. Since the beginning of the project (April 2018), a total of 33 children were transferred to the UK with IOM support.

### Resettlement and Humanitarian Corridors

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 and Turkey. Seventy-seven per cent of them were Syrian nationals.

By the beginning of 2019, 289 refugees were assisted by IOM in their resettlement to Italy: 86 per cent of them are Syrian nationals with the rest being from Sudan, Palestinian Territories and Libya. Departures took place from Lebanon, Jordan, Sudan and Libya.

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 2,200 migrants and refugees have been admitted in Italy since February 2016 (about 1,700 from Lebanon, 500 from Ethiopia), with beneficiaries granted reception and integration services by the promoting organizations. Other 500 migrants and refugees have been transferred to France, Belgium and Andorra. According to the available data, the consortium has organized the transfer of about 2,700 refugees to Europe so far.

Humanitarian corridors and evacuations from Libya to Italy assisted by other UN agencies have been also registered during the reporting period.

### Migrants in reception centres

According to the data provided by the Italian Ministry of Interior, migrants hosted in reception centres of various types throughout the country are 101,540

in August 2019. This is a 35 per cent decrease compared to August 2018. Five regions – Lombardy, Emilia Romagna, Latium, Piedmont and Campania – host almost half of all migrants in reception (50%). Out of the total, 25 per cent of migrants and refugees are hosted in second-level reception centres (SIPROIMI) while the rest is hosted in first-level reception centres (hotspots, former CARA, CAS, etc.).

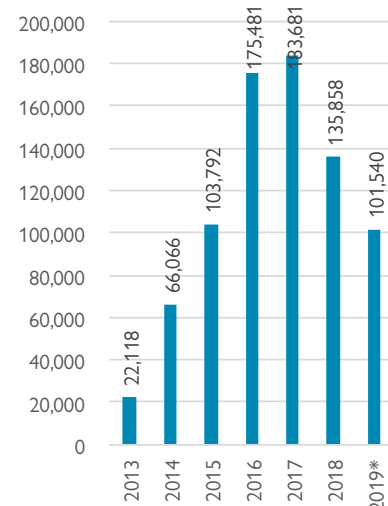
The number of migrants and refugees in reception is decreasing due to the decrease in arrivals and to recent legislative changes which have also affected the criteria to be granted a shelter in the reception system. The number of migrants and refugees in reception is decreasing at a faster pace in the regions of the south than in the rest of the country.

The number of unaccompanied migrant children in dedicated reception facilities is also decreasing. According to the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, around 6,775 unaccompanied migrant children were in reception at the end of August 2019, which represents a 46 per cent decrease compared to August 2018 (12,457). Children coming from Albania, Egypt, Pakistan, Côte d'Ivoire and the Gambia represent 51.5 per cent of all those registered and present in reception.

Map 5: Distribution of migrants in reception centres in Italy by region, August 2019



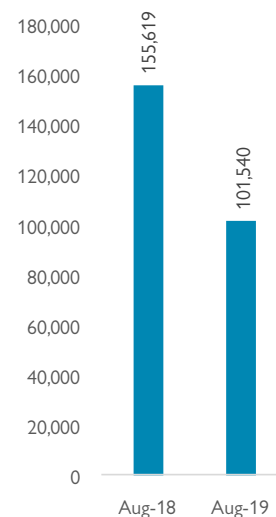
Figure 9: Occupancy in reception centres for migrants and refugees in Italy at the end of the year, 2013 – 2019.



\*Data as of end of August 2019.

Source: Italia MOI. Note: this data does not include CPR (centres for forced repatriation).

Figure 10: Occupancy in reception centres for migrants and refugees in Italy as of the end of August, comparison 2018 – 2019.



Source: Italia MOI. Note: this data does not include CPR (centres for forced repatriation).



# GREECE

## Developments during the reporting period

During this reporting period (1 – 31 August 2019), Hellenic authorities registered 9,349 migrants and refugees who arrived in Greece by sea and land. This is 58 per cent more than the previous month, when 5,903 arrivals were registered and more than 2 times more than the 4,339 reported in August 2018 and the 4,240 reported in August 2017.

Between January and August 2019, 33,700 migrants and refugees have been registered, this is 7 per cent more than the 31,451 in 2018 and 92 per cent more than the 17,534 reported in 2017.

Sixteen per cent of all migrants and refugees registered arriving in Greece so far in 2019 crossed into the country through land route and the remaining 84 per cent arrived by sea.

Afghanistan is the most commonly reported country of origin this year so far as of August 2019, declared by 42 per cent of registered migrants and refugees arriving by sea to Greece. Nationals of the Syrian Arab Republic represent the second largest nationality group registered (18%), followed by those arriving from Democratic Republic of the Congo (6%), Iraq (6%), Palestinian Territories (6%), and the remaining 22 per cent is distributed among 59 other nationality groups. In the same period of 2018, Syrian nationals represented the most frequently reported country of origin (31%), followed by those arriving from Iraq (21%), Afghanistan (19%), Cameroon (4%) and Palestinian Territories (4%).

The profile of registered nationalities started changing in the second half of 2018 when an increase in the presence of Afghan nationals is observed, that continued until the end of the year leading to Afghanistan being the first registered nationality group among the overall arrivals recorded in 2018. In addition to that, DTM flow monitoring data from the Evros region in the North Greece shows that most of those registered arriving from Turkey to Greece by land were of Turkish origin, followed by Afghanistan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Iraq and Pakistan.

Figure 11: Arrivals in Greece each month, 2016 – 2019.

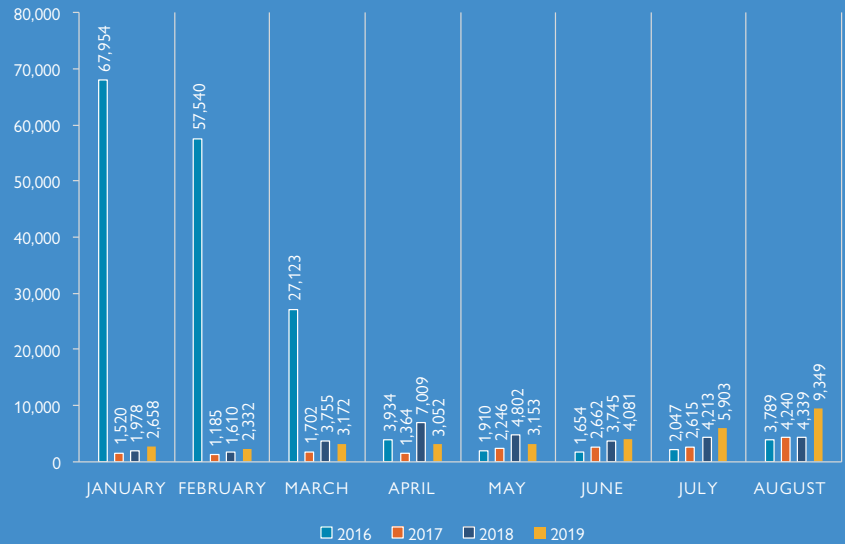


Figure 12: Arrivals by sea and by land in Greece between January and August, 2017 – 2019.

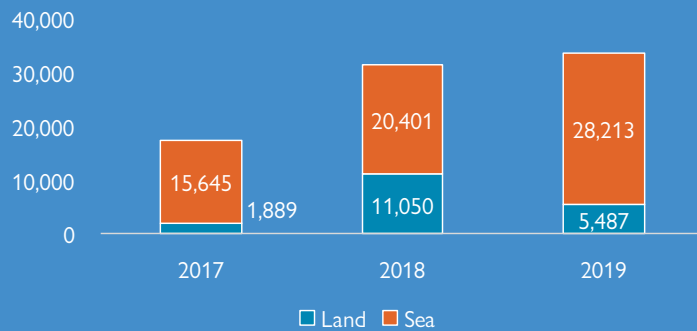


Figure 13: Nationality breakdown of registered arrivals by sea in Greece between January and August 2019.

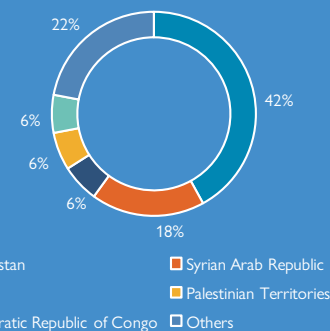
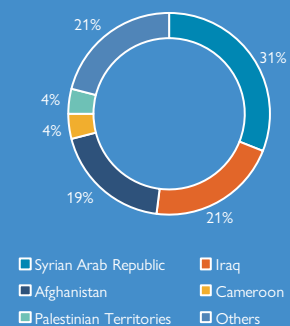


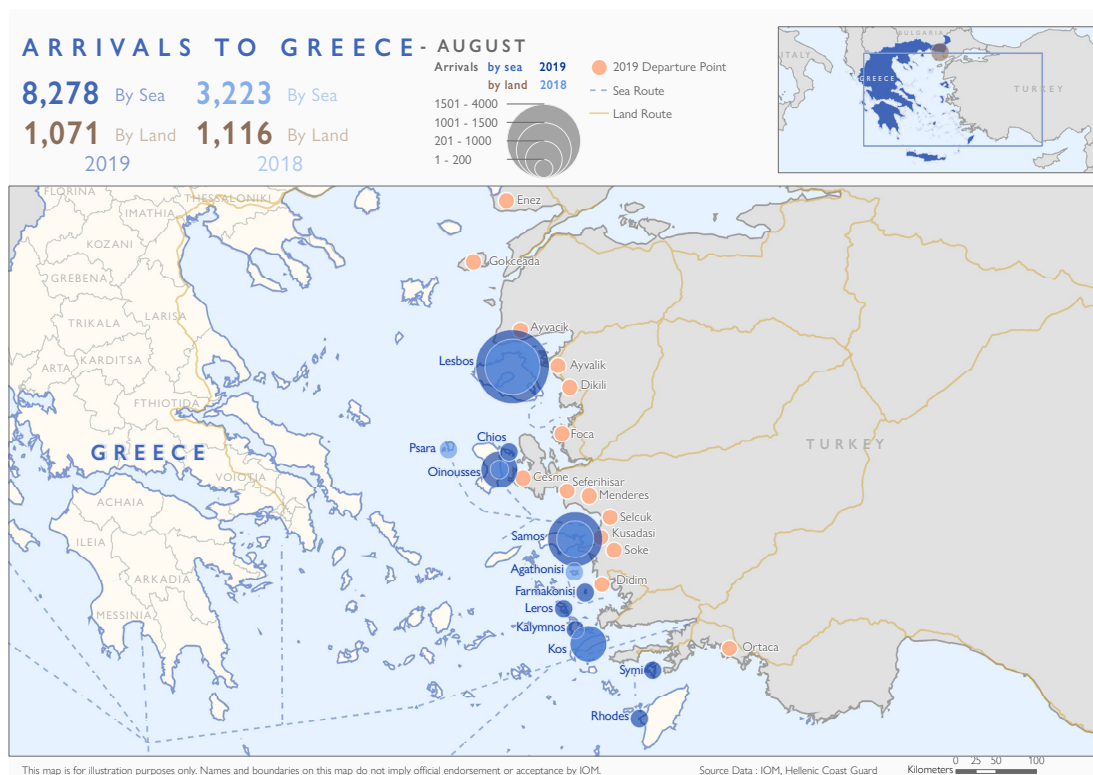
Figure 14: Nationality breakdown of registered arrivals by sea in Greece between January and August 2018.



### Known entry points

According to the available data for August 2019, Lesbos, Samos and Kos (in descending order) are the main entry points for migrants who arrived in Greece by sea, similar to the previous reporting period (1-31 July). Available data indicates that the majority of those who arrived in the country by land in 2019 came from the Edirne province in Turkey to the Evros region in Greece.

Map 6: Main entry points to Greece, August 2018 and 2019.



### Migrant presence

According to the latest available data from IOM Athens and national authorities there were an estimated 81,683<sup>11</sup> migrants and refugees in different accommodation facilities on the Greek mainland and islands at the end of August 2019. An increase (14%) compared to the 71,804 reported in the previous reporting period (July 2019) and a 31 per cent increase compared to 62,292 registered at the end of August 2018. An estimated 34 per cent of people in official reception facilities in Greece at the end of August 2019 were registered in the facilities on the islands, while the remaining 66 per cent were registered in different types of accommodation facilities and shelters on the mainland.

Table 3: Types of facilities in Greece and occupancy at the end August 2019.

Type of facilities	Number of accommodated migrants and refugees
Islands	28,150
Open Accommodation Facilities on the mainland	19,652
UNHCR Accommodation scheme on the mainland	21,685
EKKA UAC	4,393
Reception and Identification Centers on the mainland	284
Detention Centers on the mainland	2,726
Hotels in the mainland	4,793
Total	81,683

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

## SPAIN

### Developments during the reporting period

In August 2019, a total of 2,578 migrants and refugees arrived in Spain by sea and land, representing a decrease of 63 per cent compared to the arrivals in August last year, when a total of 7,022 individuals arrived in Spain using both routes.

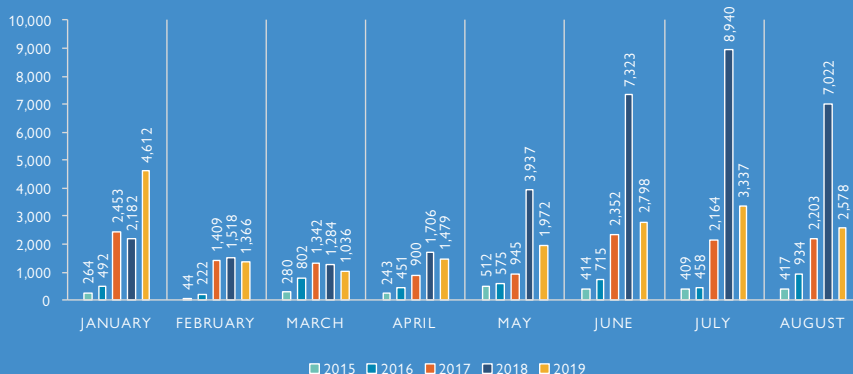
The Spanish authorities have reported that in this reporting period (1 January – 31 August 2019), the total number of individuals that have reached Spain by sea and land route is 19,178. The arrivals registered in this period are showing a decrease of 43 per cent decrease (14,734 individuals less) compared to the same period in 2018, when a total of 33,912 arrivals were recorded.

### Demographic profile

According to the information reported by the Spanish Ministry of Interior, the main nationalities among the arrivals by sea are: Morocco (33%), followed by non-specified nationals from Sub-Saharan countries (25%), Guinea (9%), Mali (9%), Côte d'Ivoire (6%), Algeria (7%), Senegal (5%).<sup>12</sup> In 2018 the most popular nationalities reported were Guinea (18%), Morocco (19%), Mali (16%), Côte d'Ivoire (7%) and other sub-Saharan countries (10%).

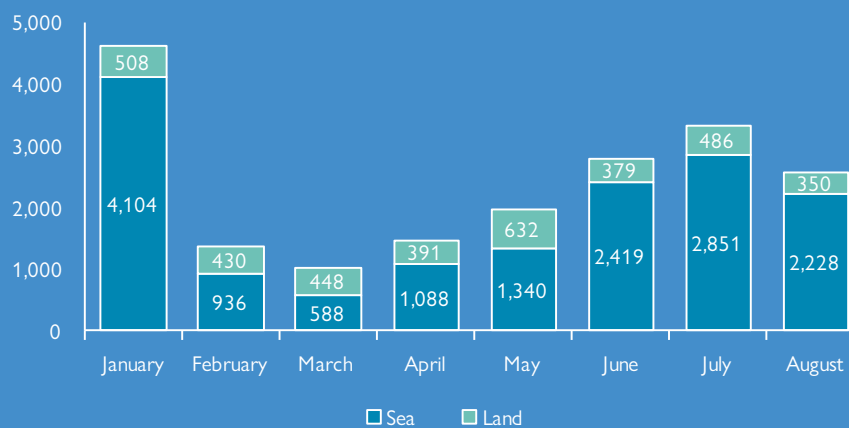
Based on IOM estimates from DTM flow monitoring data, 81 per cent of all arrivals by sea are adult males, 13 per cent are adult females and the remaining 6 per cent are children.

Figure 15: Sea and land arrivals between January and August, comparison 2015 - 2019<sup>13</sup>



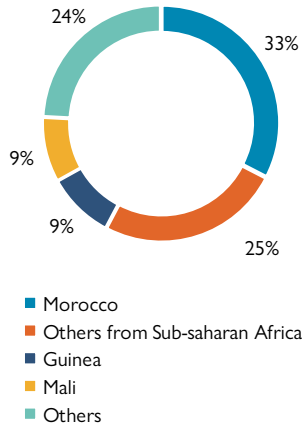
<sup>13</sup> Monthly breakdown for 2015, 2016 and 2017 does not include land arrivals which became available only at the end of the year and were added to the yearly totals instead.

Figure 16: Land and sea arrivals registered in Spain each month, 2019.



<sup>12</sup> Available data from Spanish authorities are as of 20 August, 2019.

Figure 17: Nationality breakdown of arrivals to Spain between January and August 2019<sup>14</sup>



14 Available data from Spanish authorities are as of 20 August, 2019.

Figure 18: Nationality breakdown of sea arrivals to Spain between January and August 2018.

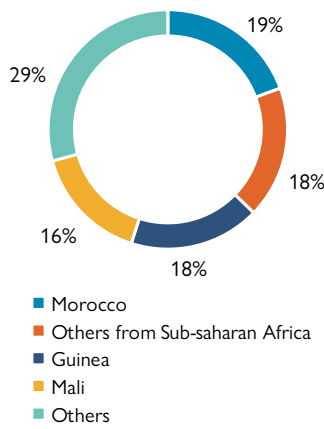
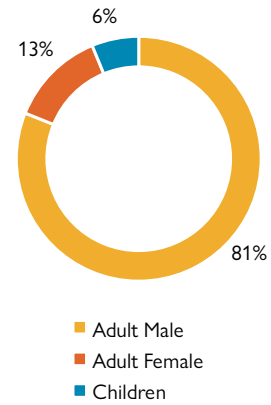


Figure 19: Age/Sex breakdown of sea arrivals between January and August 2019, estimates based on DTM flow monitoring data.<sup>15</sup>



15 Calculation is based on available information for a total of 10,752 sea arrivals (71% of the total of 13,326 sea arrivals registered in Spain in the reporting period).

## Main entry points

Based on DTM monitoring data, an estimated 62 per cent (1,598) of migrants and refugees who arrived in Spain in August this year crossed the Strait of Gibraltar and the Alborán Sea and disembarked the coasts of the Region of Andalucía. Another 18 per cent (470 individuals) reached Spain by arriving to the autonomous city of Melilla, out of which, 10 per cent arrived by land and 8 per cent by sea. In comparison with Melilla, Ceuta registered the arrivals of 130 (6%) individuals, out of which 4 per cent arrived by land and 2 per cent by sea route.

Sea arrivals were also registered at the Balearic Island (5%), Canary Islands (5%), the Region of Valencia (3%) and to the Region of Murcia (1%).

### Sea arrivals

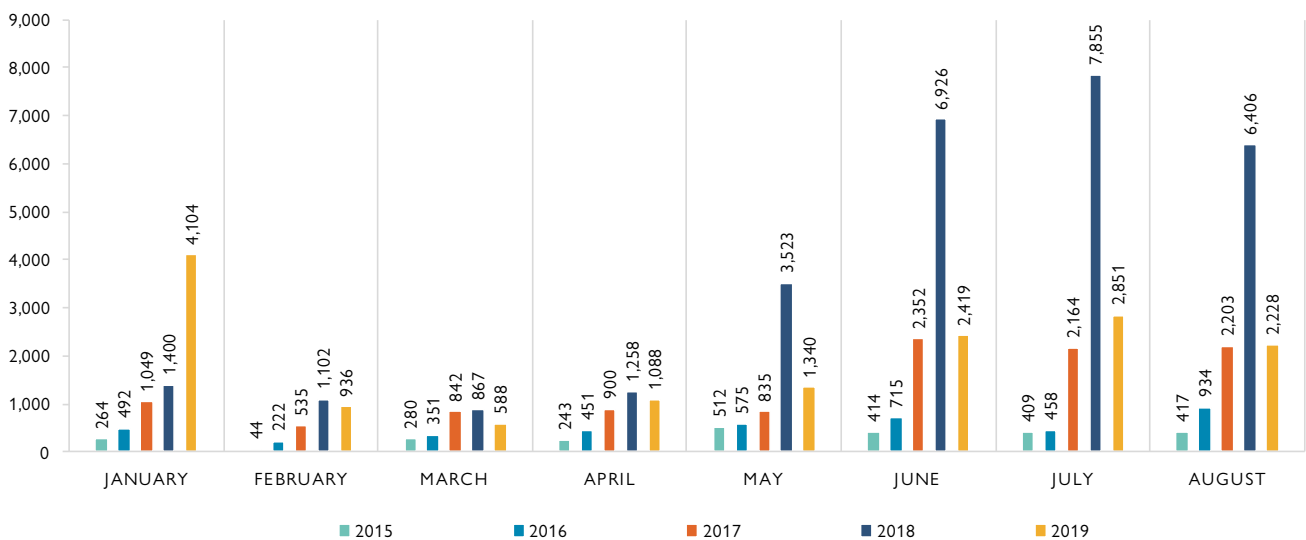
The reported 2,228 arrivals by sea, registered in August 2019, are representing a decrease of 65 per cent compared to the same month in 2018 and an increase of only 1 per cent when compared to August 2017. When comparing the total number of sea arrivals during the first eight months of the year, the reported 15,554 arrivals in 2019 are 47 per cent less than the arrivals in the same period in 2018 and 43 per cent

more than the sea arrivals in the same eight-month period in 2017.

The migrants and refugees who arrived in August 2019 by sea travelled in 150 embarkations. This is 65 embarkations more than those registered in the previous month and 58 less than in August 2018.

Since the beginning of the year, Spanish authorities have reported to have intercepted a total number of 620 embarkations. This is 47 per cent less than the number of embarkations registered in the same period last year, when a total of 1,168 embarkations were reported (548 less).

Figure 20: Sea arrivals in Spain each month, comparison 2015 – 2019.



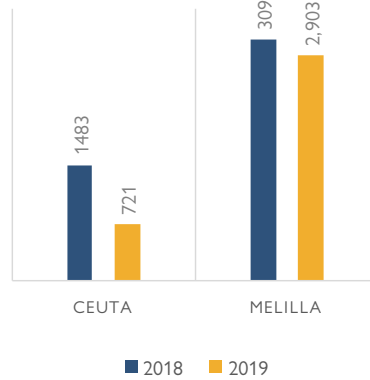
*Land arrivals in Ceuta and Melilla*

In August 2019, a total of 350 individuals were recorded entering through the borders of Ceuta and Melilla, the two Spanish autonomous cities located in Northern Africa.

Of the total, 93 border crossings were registered in Ceuta (27%) and the rest 257 (73%) in Melilla. Land arrivals this month represent a decrease of 76 per cent compared to the same month last year, when a total of 616 arrivals were apprehended by the Spanish authorities.

The overall number of land arrivals (3,624) in this reporting period (1 January – 31 August 2019) shows a decrease of 21 per cent when compared to the same period in 2018 (951 arrivals less).

Figure 21: Land arrivals in Ceuta and Melilla between January and August 2018 – 2019.<sup>16</sup>



16 Source: DTM Flow Monitoring Registry.

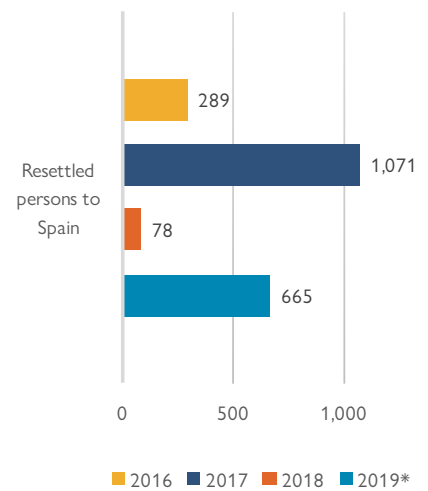
**Resettlement**

Under the ongoing National Resettlement Program, in the period between January and August 2019, IOM assisted the resettlement of 665 Syrian refugees to Spain.

This Resettlement program is the second one that the Spanish Government has entrusted to IOM. The program is financed by the Spanish Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security and the Spanish Ministry of Interior

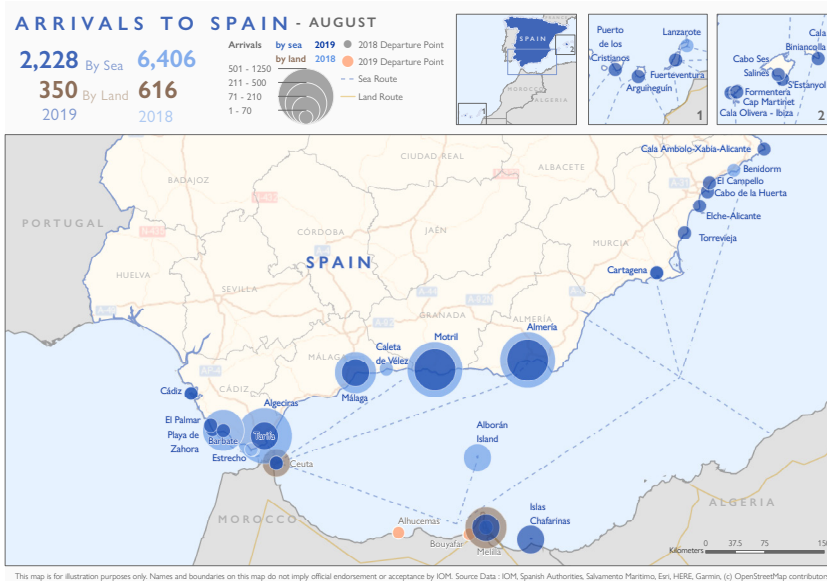
From the beginning of the first Resettlement Program which initiated in June 2016, and until the end of August 2019, IOM has assisted the resettlement to Spain of 2,103 Syrian refugees.

Figure 22: Resettlements to Spain, 2016 – 2019.



\* As of August 31.

Map 7: Main departure and arrival points in Spain, in August 2018 and 2019.



# MALTA

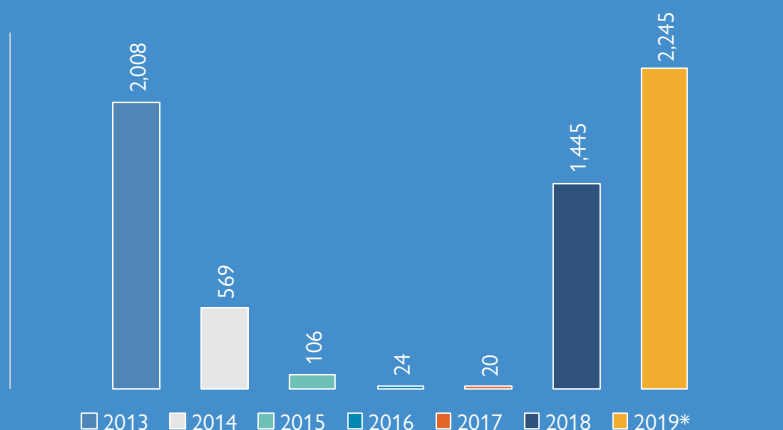
## Developments during the reporting period

During the reporting period (1 – 31 August 2019), 662 migrants disembarked in Malta. The disembarkations were the result of at least 4 rescue operations coordinated by the Armed Forces of Malta (AFM) and of some others carried out by NGOs operating in the Central Mediterranean. Arrivals in August 2019 are more than the double of 307 reported the previous month (1 – 31 July 2019). This is the highest amount recorded for a month so far in 2019. August 2018 was also the highest recorded month for that year, with 451 recorded arrivals. In particular, 355 migrants were transferred from the Ocean Viking vessel of the NGO SOS Méditerranée, by the AFM on August 23; Maltese authorities confirmed that disembarked migrants will be relocated in other European countries ([more here](#)).

As per data provided by the Maltese Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security (MHAS), a total of 2,245 migrants arrived in Malta in the first eight months of 2019. This is three times more than the arrivals registered in the first eight months of 2018 (714).<sup>17</sup>

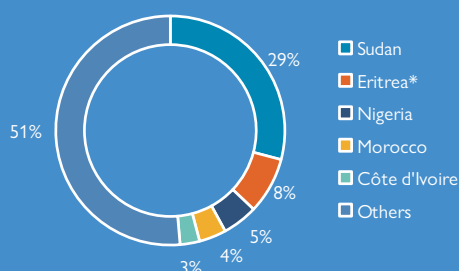
According to available data for 2018, the first arrivals in 2018 were reported in June, with a group of 235 migrants disembarked in Malta from MV Lifeline. The total number of arrivals in Malta in 2018 reached 1,445 by the end of the year.<sup>18</sup> Total arrivals in Malta in 2019 so far have exceeded the yearly totals registered since 2013.

Figure 24: Arrivals in Malta, 2013 – 2019.



\*Monthly breakdown for previous years was not available.

Figure 25: Arrivals in Malta by nationality, Jan-Aug 2019.



\* The information on nationality breakdown provided is based on the nationality declared by migrants as reported by the Maltese authorities.

Figure 26: Age/Sex breakdown of sea arrivals in Malta between January and August 2019

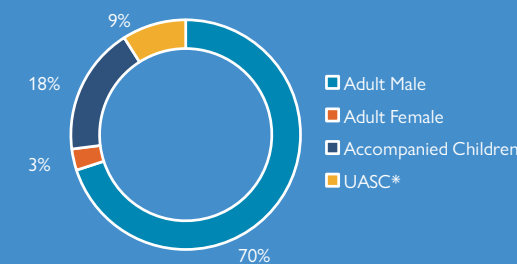
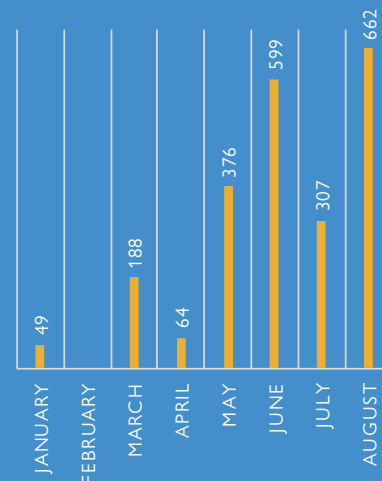


Figure 23: Arrivals in Malta, January – August 2019.



According to the available data from national authorities, in the first 8 months of 2019 Sudan is the most frequent reported country of nationality at arrival (29%), followed by Eritrea<sup>19</sup> (8%), Nigeria (5%) and many other countries of Africa and Asia. Most disembarked migrants are adult males (71%), followed children (about 26%) and adult females (3%). Half of all children is reported to be unaccompanied.<sup>20</sup>

17 As per IOM estimates.

18 As per IOM estimates.

19 The information on nationality breakdown provided in this report is based on the nationality declared by migrants as reported by the Maltese authorities.

20 Information on sex and age is available only for arrivals since late June 2019 (919 individuals, or 41% of all arrivals registered in 2019).

# CYPRUS

## Developments during the reporting period

In August 2019, 413 arrivals were recorded in Cyprus, which represents an 31 per cent decrease from the 600 registered in the previous reporting period (1- 31 July 2019).

Since the beginning of 2019 (January-August), a total of 4,926 migrants and refugees are reported to have arrived in Cyprus. This amount is more than double the total arrivals registered for the same period last year.

The Syrian Arab Republic and Cameroon represent the most frequently reported country of origin of migrants arriving in Cyprus since the beginning of the year (35% and 13% respectively). The remaining 52 per cent is distributed among more than 50 different nationality groups: Pakistan (12%), Bangladesh (11%), Georgia (5%) and others (24%). Most of the registered arrivals are adult males (70%), followed by adult females (14%) and children (16%).

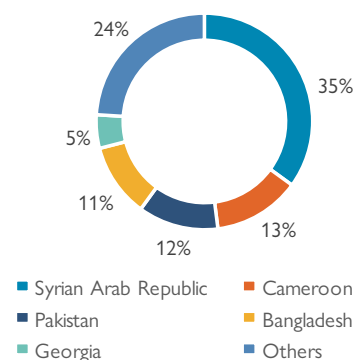
Available data from Cyprus authorities shows that the great majority of irregular arrivals continue to arrive overland via the Green Line from the northern part of the island. From the beginning of the year 2019, only 63 registered migrants out of 4,926 arrived by sea.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>21</sup> Data on arrivals in Cyprus have been revised from previous months, to be in line with new updated data provided by Cyprus authorities.

Figure 27: Arrivals in Cyprus between January and August, comparison 2017 – 2019.



Figure 28: Nationality breakdown of arrivals in Cyprus between January and August 2019.



Map 8: Accommodation facility with information on occupancy, August 2019.

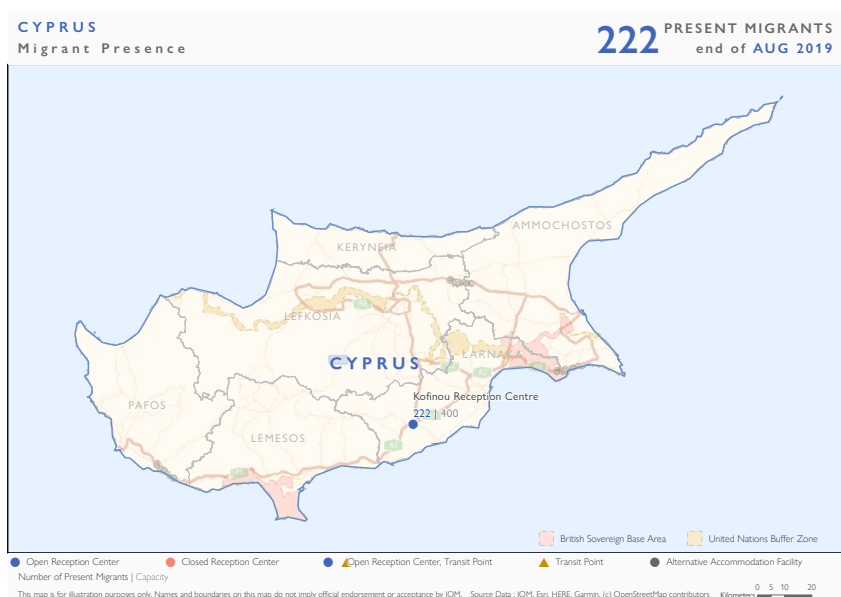
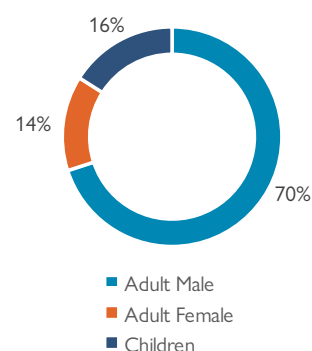


Figure 29: Gender/Sex breakdown of arrivals in Cyprus between January and August 2019.



## Migrant presence

At the end of August 2019, 222 migrants and asylum seekers were accommodated in the Kofinou Reception Facility in Cyprus, slightly more than the 214 reported at the end of the previous reporting period (31 July 2019).

# BULGARIA

## Developments during the reporting period

In August 2019, Bulgarian authorities apprehended 315 irregular migrants, 8 per cent more than the 293 reported previous month (July 2019), 24 per cent less than the 414 reported in August 2018 and 1 per cent more than the 311 registered in August 2017.

Of these, the number of migrants apprehended inside the country has decreased from 211 to 203 between July and August 2019, while the number of migrants apprehended on exit from the country has increased from 63 in July to 82 in August. In addition, 13 individuals were apprehended on arrival from Greece giving a total of 109 irregular migrants who crossed the Greek – Bulgarian border since the beginning of the year.<sup>22</sup>

Between January and August 2019, authorities registered a total of 1,444 irregular migrants. Number of apprehensions this year is 14 per cent higher than the 1,266 registered in the same period of 2018 and 17 per cent lower than the 1,733 registered by the end of August 2017.

According to available data from the Bulgarian Ministry of Interior, 26 per cent of migrants and refugees registered in 2019 on entry from Turkey were from Afghanistan, followed by those from Iraq (22%), Turkey (10%), the Islamic Republic of Iran (8%), the Syrian Arab Republic (8%) and others (26%). Nationals from Afghanistan are the biggest group also among those apprehended within the country since the beginning of the year (59%), followed by nationals from the Syrian Arab Republic (15%) and other nationalities (26%).

Figure 30: Number of irregular migrants apprehended in Bulgaria each month, comparison 2017 – 2019.

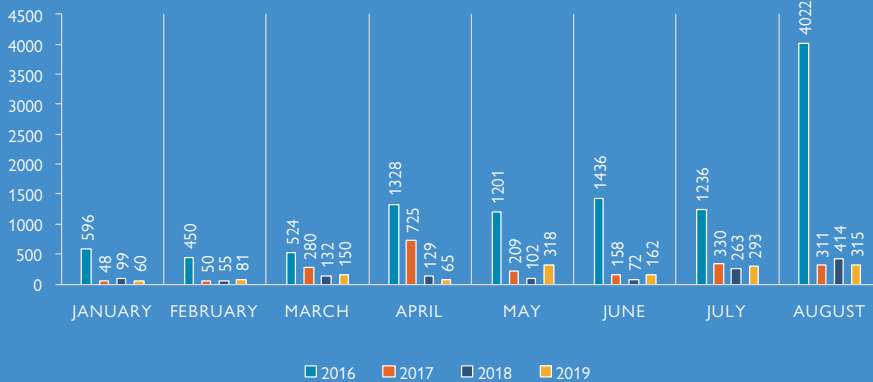


Figure 31: Nationality breakdown of migrants registered at entry in Bulgaria in 2019.

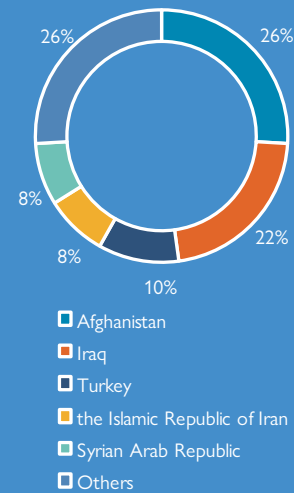
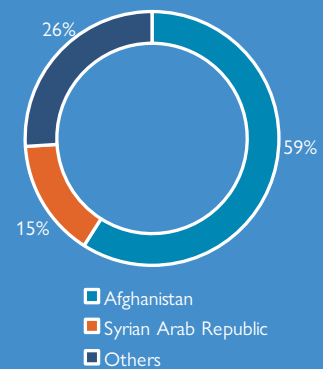


Figure 32: Nationality breakdown of migrants apprehended within Bulgaria between January and August 2019.



## Migrant presence

An estimated 586 migrants and asylum seekers were accommodated in different reception facilities in Bulgaria at the end of August, occupying around 10 per cent of the overall capacity (5,940). This represents a five per cent decrease compared to the 614 reported at the end of the previous reporting period (July 2019), and 41 per cent less than the 999 reported at the end of August 2018.

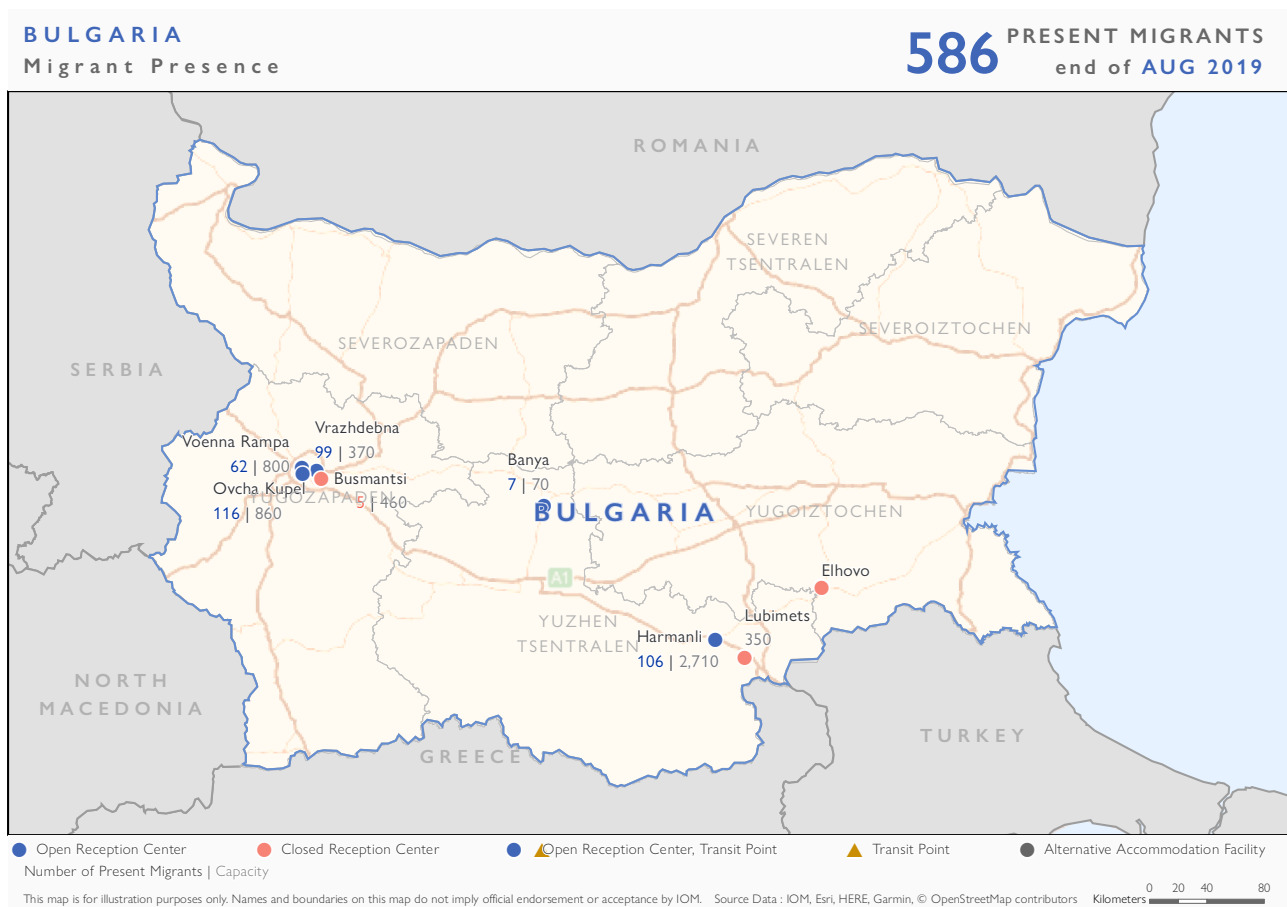
<sup>22</sup> This figure is not added to the total of arrivals to avoid potential double counting considering that these migrants might have been already counted as arrivals in Greece.



Table 4: Reception facilities in Bulgaria with information on occupancy and capacity, as of the end of August 2019.

Accommodation facility	Capacity	Currently Accommodated
<b>Facilities run by the State Agency for Refugees<sup>24</sup></b>		
Open Reception Centre in Banya	70	7
Open Reception Centre in Pastrogor	320	0
Open Reception Centre in Sofia – Ovcha Kupel	860	116
Open Reception Centre in Sofia - Vrazhdebna	370	99
Open Reception Centre in Sofia – Voenna Rampa	800	62
Closed Reception Centre in Harmanli	2,710	106
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	191 <sup>25</sup>
Closed Reception Centre in Elhovo (temporarily closed due to renovation)	N/A	
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,940</b>	<b>586</b>

Map 9: Accommodation facilities in Bulgaria with information on occupancy and capacity, August 2019.



23 As of August 29.

24 As of August 25.

## TRANSIT COUNTRIES

### CROATIA

#### Developments during the reporting period

Based on available data from the Croatian Ministry of Interior, a total of 2,289 irregular migrants were apprehended in August 2019, which is nine per cent more than the 2,100 apprehended previous month. The number of apprehensions in August this year is over four times the 546 reported in August 2018 and more than twelve times more than the 189 recorded in August 2017.

Between January and August 2019, authorities in Croatia apprehended a total of 11,542 irregular migrants, over three times the 3,608 apprehended in the same period last year and nearly seven times the 1,669 registered at the end of August 2017. Moreover, the number of apprehensions this year so far is over four times the 2,479 registered in the whole of 2017 and already 43 per cent more of the 8,092 registered between January and December 2018.

Afghanistan (20%) and Pakistan (20%) are the most common origin countries reported by registered migrants in 2019 so far, followed by Turkey (8%), Algeria (8%) and Iraq (7%). The remaining 37 per cent of intercepted migrants were registered as nationals of more than 40 different nationality groups. Compared to the same period last year, we observe an increase in Pakistan and decrease in Kosovo (UNSCR 1244) and Islamic Republic of Iran as reported nationalities.

Based on available data, 28 per cent of migrants apprehended in August 2019 were detected in the Primorsko-Goranska county on the way to the Slovenian border, followed by 21 per cent in Karlovac county connecting Bosnia and Herzegovina with Slovenia, and 10 per cent exiting Medimurje county (also bordering Slovenia).

Figure 34: Nationality breakdown of irregular migrants apprehended in Croatia between January and August 2019.

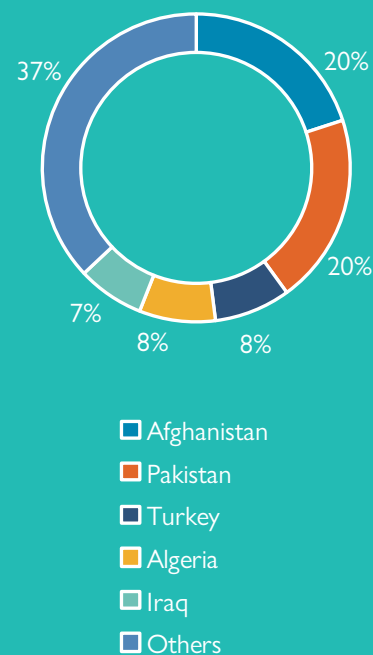


Figure 35: Nationality breakdown of irregular migrants apprehended in Croatia between January and August 2018.

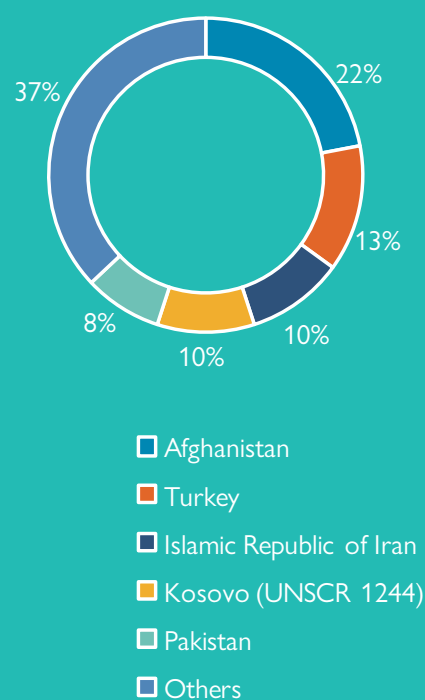
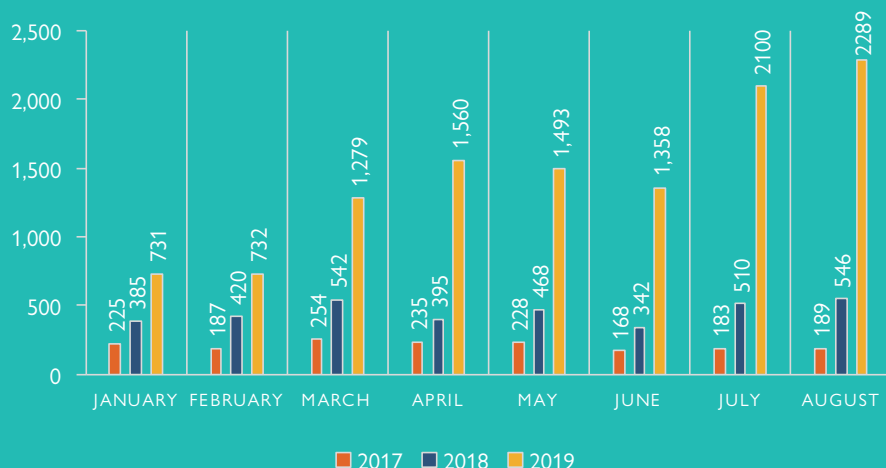


Figure 33: Number apprehended migrants in Croatia each month, 2017-2019.



Map 10: Apprehensions in Croatia by county between January and August 2019.



### Migrant presence

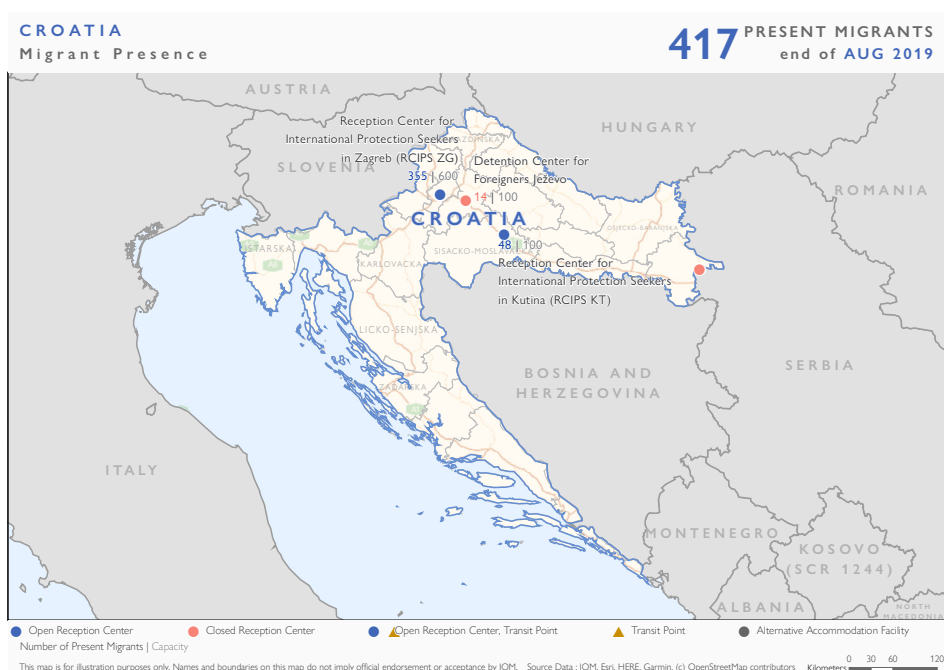
By the end of August 2019, a total of 417 asylum seekers were accommodated in reception centres in Croatia, which is 47 per cent more than the 283 reported at the end of July 2019. In particular, 355 migrants and asylum seekers were accommodated in open reception centre in Zagreb, 48 were accommodated in open reception centres in Kutina and 14 in the closed reception centre in Ježevo. Accommodated asylum seekers were of Iraqi, Irani, Syrian, Turkish, Afghani, and Ukranian origin.

Table 5: Reception facilities in Croatia with information on occupancy and capacity as of the end of August 2019.

Accommodation facility	Capacity	Number of accommodated migrants and asylum seekers
Open Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers in Zagreb	400 (600)*	355
Open Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers in Kutina	100	48
Closed Reception Centre for Foreigners (Ježevo)	90	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>590 (790)</b>	<b>417</b>

\*Maximum capacity is 600 but it is undergoing renovation.

Map 11: Accommodation facilities in Croatia with information on occupancy and capacity as of August 2019.



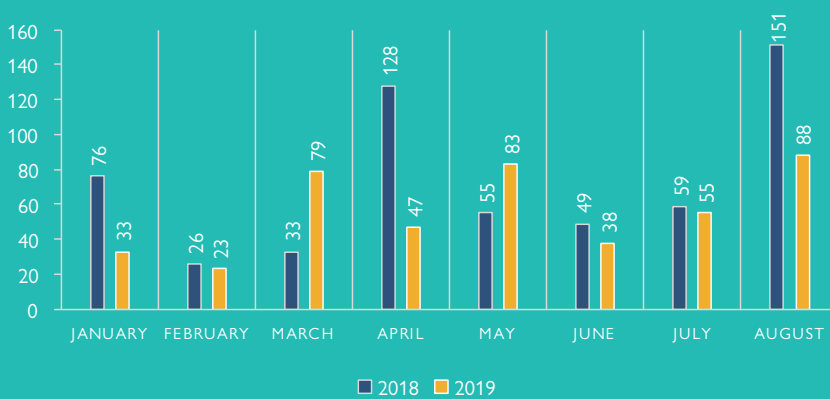
## ROMANIA

### Developments during the reporting period

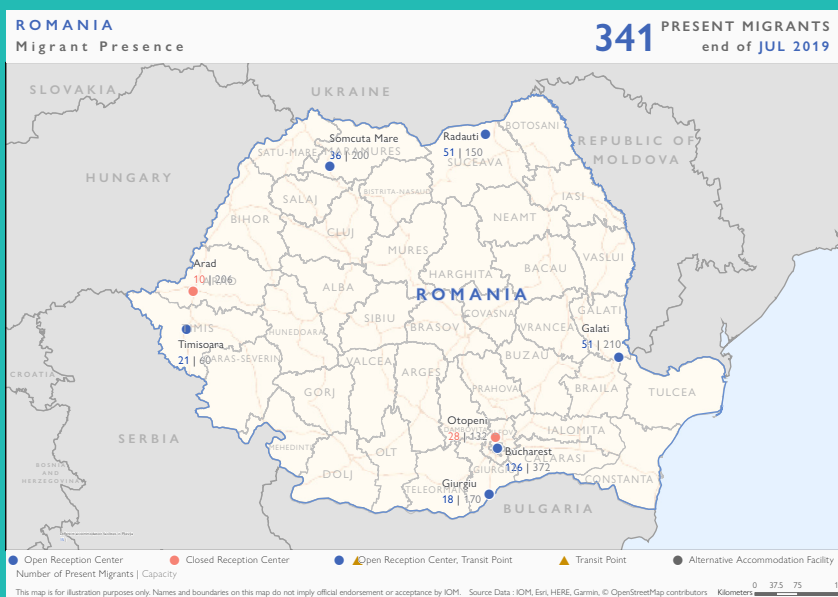
In August 2019, Romanian authorities apprehended a total of 88 migrants and asylum seekers, 60 per cent more than the previous month when 55 migrants were apprehended, and 42 per cent less than August 2018 when 151 migrants were apprehended. For this month, 83 apprehensions were on exit from the country and five were on entry. Between January and August 2019, there have been 446 migrants and asylum seekers apprehended, of which 342 (77%) were apprehended on exit from the country, mainly towards Hungary (Arad, Timis and Satu-Mare county) and the remaining 104 (24%) were intercepted entering from Bulgaria (Giurgiu).

The number of apprehended migrants so far this year (446) has decreased by 23 per cent compared to the same period last year when 577 individuals were apprehended on entry and exit to the country and is 72 per cent less than the estimated 1,591 apprehended in the same period of 2017, since DTM flow monitoring activities were activated in April.<sup>25</sup>

Figure 36: Registered irregular migrants in Romania each month, 2018 – 2019.



Map 12: Accommodation facilities in Romania with information on occupancy and capacity, August 2019.



<sup>25</sup> DTM flow monitoring is activated in Romania in April 2017 hence only cumulative data is available for the first quarter of the year without the breakdown on the type of flows (incoming-entry/outgoing-exit).

Figure 37: Nationality breakdown of migrants apprehended between January and August 2019.

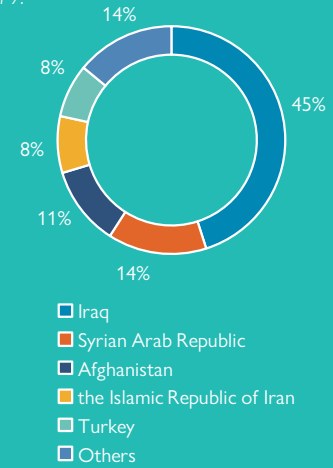
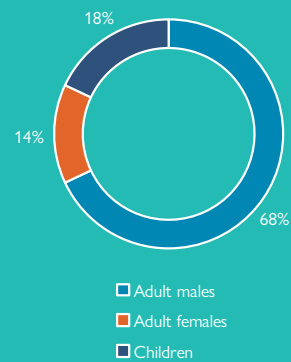


Figure 38: Age/sex breakdown of apprehended migrants between January and August 2019.



According to the available data for this year so far,<sup>26</sup> nationals of Iraq made up the biggest group (45%), followed by those from the Syrian Arab Republic (14%), Afghanistan (11%), the Islamic Republic of Iran (8%), Turkey (8%), and others (14%).

Out of 446 migrants registered between January and August 2019, 69 per cent were adult males, 14 per cent adult females and 18 per cent children.

### Migrant presence

At the end of August, there were 331 migrants and asylum seekers registered as residing in state-run accommodation facilities, 3 per cent less than the 341 reported at the end of July 2019, and 19 per cent less than the 410 registered at the end of August 2018. Most migrants were in the asylum centres located in Bucharest (108), followed by Galati (58) and Radauti (48).

<sup>26</sup> Data on nationalities are available for 435 of the 446 registered migrants.

## SERBIA

### Developments during the reporting period

In August 2019, 1,644 new migrants and refugees were registered in reception centres in Serbia,<sup>27</sup> which is a 23 per cent increase compared to the previous month (1,340 registrations) and a 79 per cent more than the same month last year (920).

Between January and August 2019, 8,548 migrants and refugees were registered. This is 83 per cent more than the same period in 2018 when 4,673 were registered and almost three times the 2,897 registered between January and August 2017.

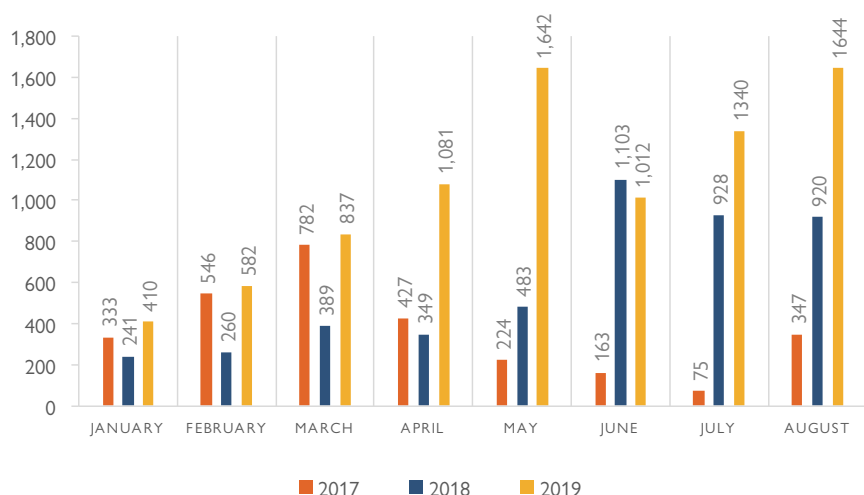
According to DTM flow monitoring data, in August 2019 an estimated 82 per cent of migrants arrived in Serbia from the Republic of North Macedonia (down from 85 per cent in July), 15 per cent of migrants arrived from Bulgaria, and three per cent arrived from other destinations.

In August migration flow through Serbia has increased, mostly with migrants and refugees from Pakistan and Afghanistan. Additionally, an increased influx of migrants and refugees from Iraq and Somalia was recorded. The increase in migratory flows during in the summer period is related to improved weather conditions in the region.

Operating IOM mobile teams continue to observe migrants' movements entering North Macedonia who remain in reception centres located in the South of Serbia only for few days before moving again onwards to the border with Croatia or Bosnia and Herzegovina for (usually) multiple attempts to cross the borders and leave Serbia (the so called "the game"). Apart from going to the border areas, migrants also travel to Belgrade to meet with the other migrants also trying to cross the border on foot, hiding in buses or trains. Despite increased border controls, many migrants are reported to be able to exit Serbia heading to Central and Northern European countries every day.

Between January and August 2019, most arrivals were from Pakistan (42%) and Afghanistan (25%), followed by arrivals from Bangladesh (17%), Iraq (3%), the Islamic Republic of Iran (2%) and other countries (11%).

Figure 39: Arrivals in Serbia each month, 2017 – 2019.



<sup>27</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.

Figure 40: Last reported transit country by migrants registered in Serbia in August 2019.

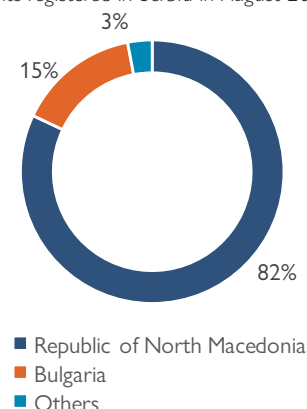


Figure 41: Nationality breakdown of registered new arrivals between January and August 2019.

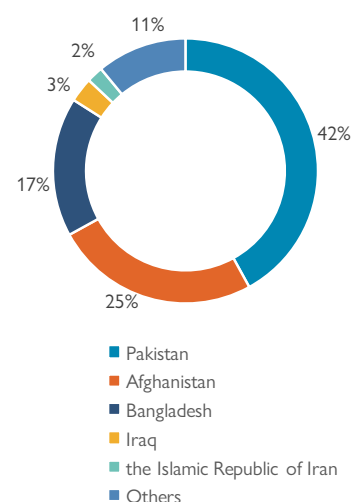
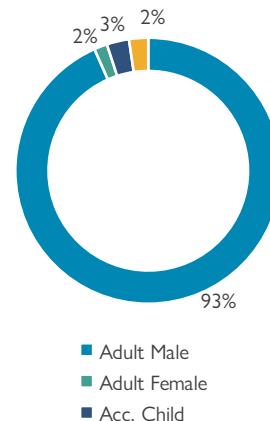


Figure 42: Age/Sex breakdown of registered arrivals in Serbia between January and August 2019.

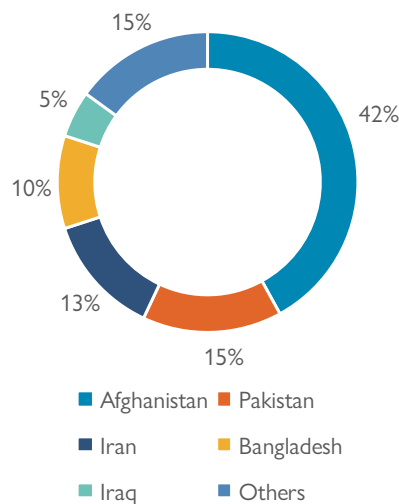


### Migrants presence

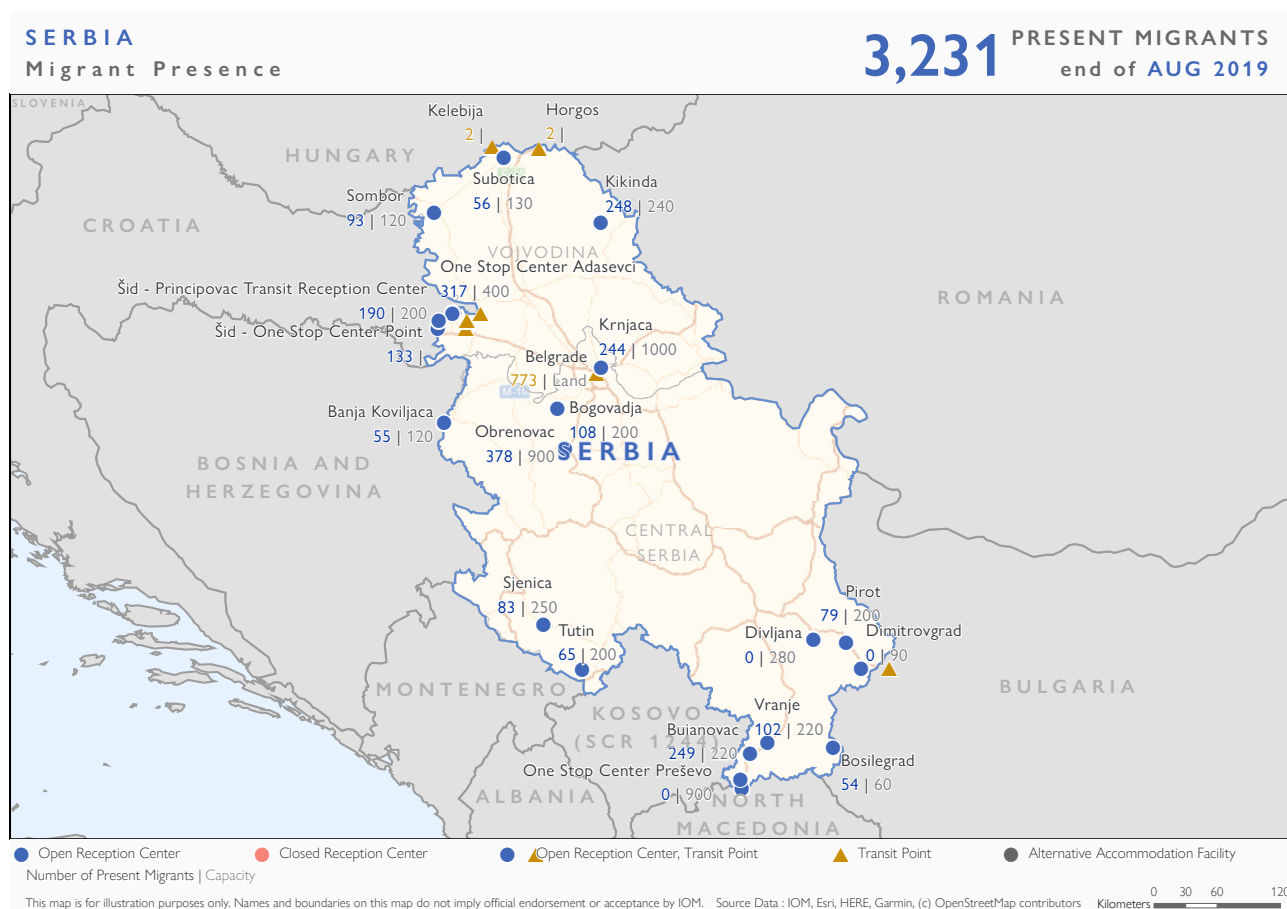
The number of migrants and refugees in Serbia on 31 August is 3,231 according to the Serbian Commissariat for Refugees and Migration (SCRM). The total number of accommodated migrants in government facilities and border crossing zones is stable from the 3,202 registered at the end of July.

Seventy-six per cent of migrants and refugees are residing in governmental reception centres, while the remaining 773 were observed residing outside the official reception system: some 353 in Belgrade City area and another 420-camping close to borders with Croatia, Hungary and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The total number of accommodated migrants in government facilities decreased from 2,488 on 1 August to 2,454 on 31 August. The majority are from Afghanistan (42%), followed by migrants from Pakistan (15%), the Islamic Republic of Iran (13%), Bangladesh (10%), Iraq (5%), Syrian Arab Republic (4%) and other countries. Most of them are male (71%), while children represent 19 per cent (6% considered to be unaccompanied) and females are 10 per cent.

Figure 43: Nationality breakdown in centres in Serbia as of 31 August 2019



Map 13: Accommodation facilities in Serbia with information on capacity and occupancy, August 2019.

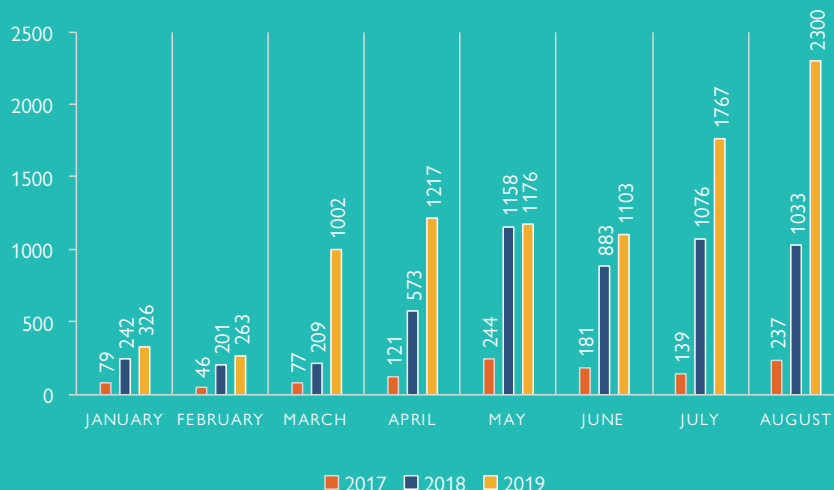


# SLOVENIA

## Developments during the reporting period

In August 2019, authorities in Slovenia apprehended 2,300 irregular migrants, which is 30 per cent more than the 1,767 reported in the previous month and double the 1,033 reported in August 2018. Between January and August 2019, 9,154 migrants were apprehended. This is almost double the 5,375 apprehended in the same period last year and five times more than the 1,124 apprehended between January and August 2017. The following highlights are from this reporting period (1 – 31 August):

Figure 44: Apprehensions of irregular migrants entering Slovenia each month, comparison 2017 – 2019.



Between January and August 2019, Pakistan and Algeria were the most commonly reported countries, with 38 per cent of individuals registered (24% and 14% respectively). Afghanistan (11%), Morocco (8%) and Bangladesh (7%) were

the remaining origin countries reported in the top 5 nationality groups registered. Other countries of origin included Turkey, Iraq, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Syrian Arab Republic. Pakistani and Algerian nationals also made up the majority of

those reported in the same period of 2018 (23% and 17% respectively), followed by Afghanistan (9%), the Syrian Arab Republic (8%) and the Islamic Republic of Iran (5%).

5 August - Four men from Koper have been sentenced to a total of more than 11 years in jail for transporting irregular migrants who crossed into Slovenia from Croatia in the south ([more here](#)).

6 August - A civil initiative providing advocacy for asylum seekers has warned about allegedly unbearable conditions at Ljubljana's Vič Asylum Centre, accusing some security guards of intimidation and even involvement in organised smuggling of asylum seekers. Security firm Varovanje Galekom denies all the accusations. The Government Office for Integration and

Support of migrants confirmed that the Security firm is performing their tasks professionally and in line with the rules ([more here](#)).

21 August - Broadcaster POP TV reported that Slovenia has started raising another 40 kilometres of fence along the border with Croatia. Works are currently underway on a 4-kilometre segment between the villages of Zilje and Žuniči, southeast of Črnomelj ([more here](#)).

26 August - The police apprehended two migrant smugglers transporting a total of

38 migrants in two vehicles in the Kočevje and Cerknica areas in south Slovenia ([more here](#)).

28 August – According to Slovenian Police report, within a large operation to bust a human smuggling ring the police in Celje have apprehended several persons suspected of smuggling almost 280 migrants across the Slovenian border. The smuggled migrants were citizens of Iraq, Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan, India and China. The operation begun in December 2018 ([more here](#)).

Figure 45: Nationality breakdown of registered irregular migrants between January and August 2019.

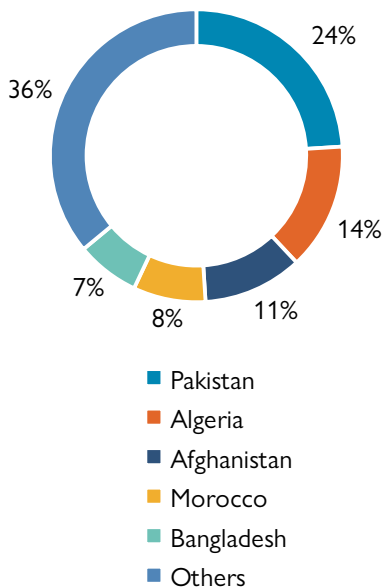
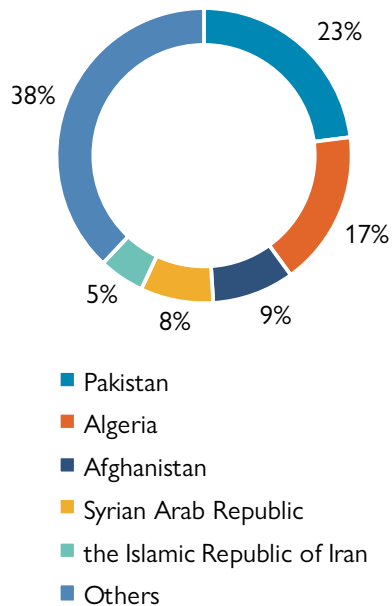


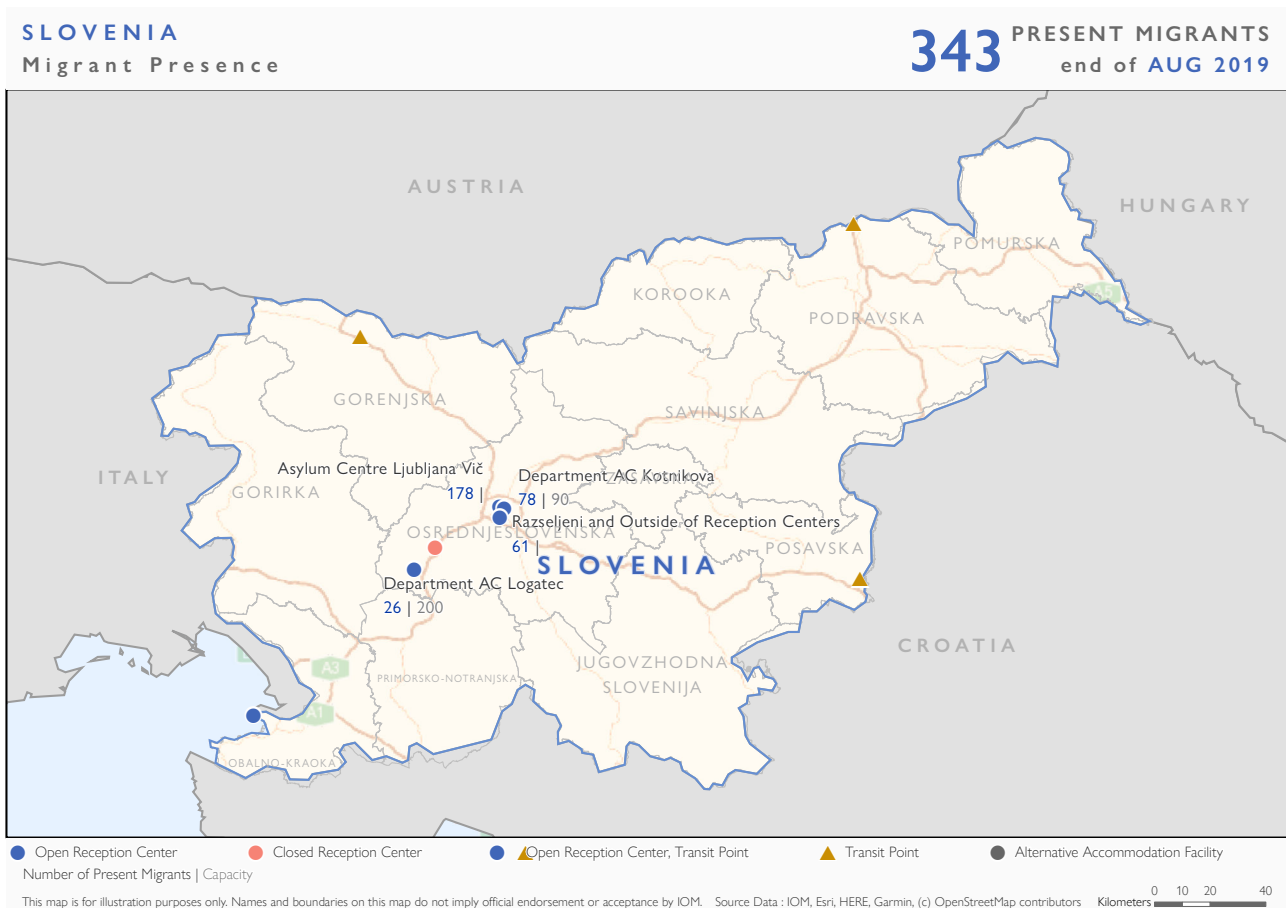
Figure 46: Nationality breakdown of registered irregular migrants between January and August 2018.



### Migrant presence

At the end of August 2019, there were 343 migrants and asylum seekers accommodated in different facilities around the country, about 17 per cent more than the 292 accommodated in the previous month and almost the same amount reported at the end of August 2018 (335).

Map 14: Accommodation facilities in Slovenia with information on occupancy and capacity, August 2019.





## THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

### Developments during the reporting period

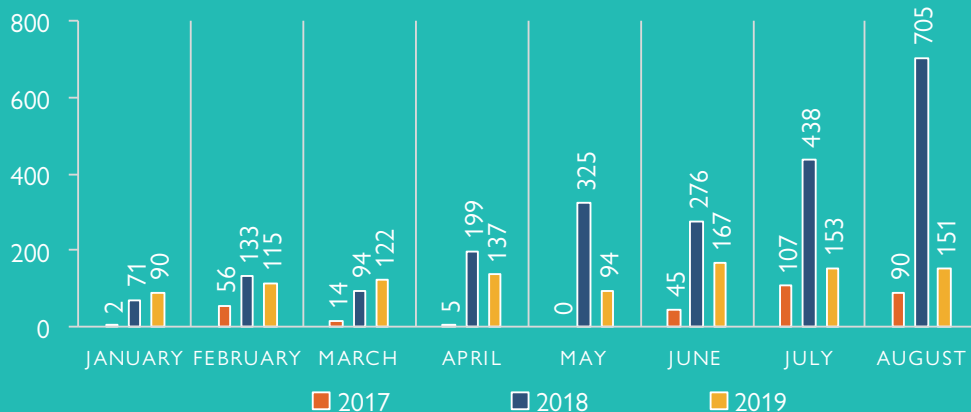
During this reporting period (1 August – 31 August 2019) 151 new arrivals were registered in North Macedonia, almost identical to the previous reporting period in July 2019 when 153 arrivals were reported. This month's figure (151) represents a 79 per cent decrease when compared to the same period in August 2018 when 705 arrivals were reported, but are 68 per cent more than the 90 arrivals registered in August 2017 and even bigger increase compared to the 9 arrivals registered in the same month of 2016.

By the end of August 2019, total of 1,029 migrants have been registered arriving into the country. This number represent a decrease when compared to the same period in 2018, when 2,241 arrivals were officially reported by national authorities, and are three times more than those reported between January and August 2017.

Additionally, the Red Cross mobile teams deployed in the area of Gevgelija (southern border with Greece) reported to have provided assistance to 1,893 persons, according to Red Cross August report. Red Cross mobile teams present in the close

vicinity of the norther border with Serbia (Lojane, Vaksince, Lipkovo) also assisted 1,232 persons, excluding the activities run in the Transit Reception Centre in Tabanovce. Since the beginning of the year, Red Cross assisted a total of about 12,987 migrants and refugees in the south of the country while UNHCR estimates about 25,400 arrivals between January and June based on multiple sources. These figures point to a higher number of migrants and refugees transited through the country so far than what has been reported officially.

Figure 47: Registered arrivals in the Republic of North Macedonia between January and August, comparison 2017 – 2019.



Migrants from Afghanistan make up the majority of those registered between January and August 2019 (29%), followed by those from Pakistan (26%), Algeria (9%), Islamic Republic of Iran (9%), Iraq (6%) and others (21%). According to the available data for the same period last year, the Islamic Republic of Iran was the most commonly declared country of origin (41%), followed by Afghanistan (14%), Pakistan (12%), Iraq (8%), Libya (6%) and others (19%).

Figure 48: Nationality breakdown of migrants registered between January and August 2019.

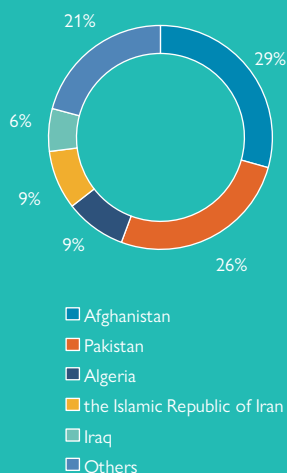


Figure 49: Nationality breakdown of migrants registered between January and August 2018.

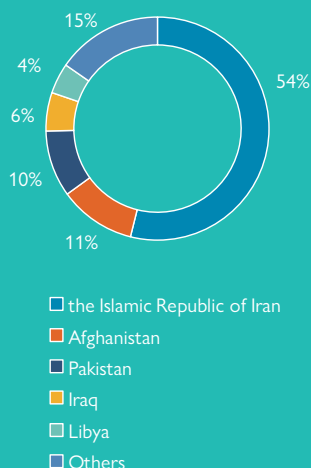
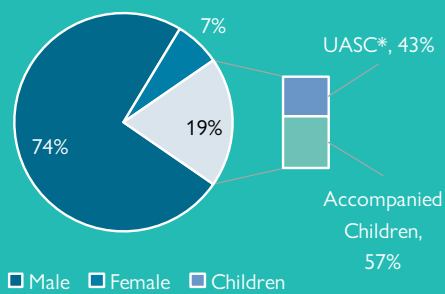


Figure 50: Age/sex breakdown of intercepted irregular migrants between January and August 2019.



\*Unaccompanied and Separated Children.

### Migrant presence

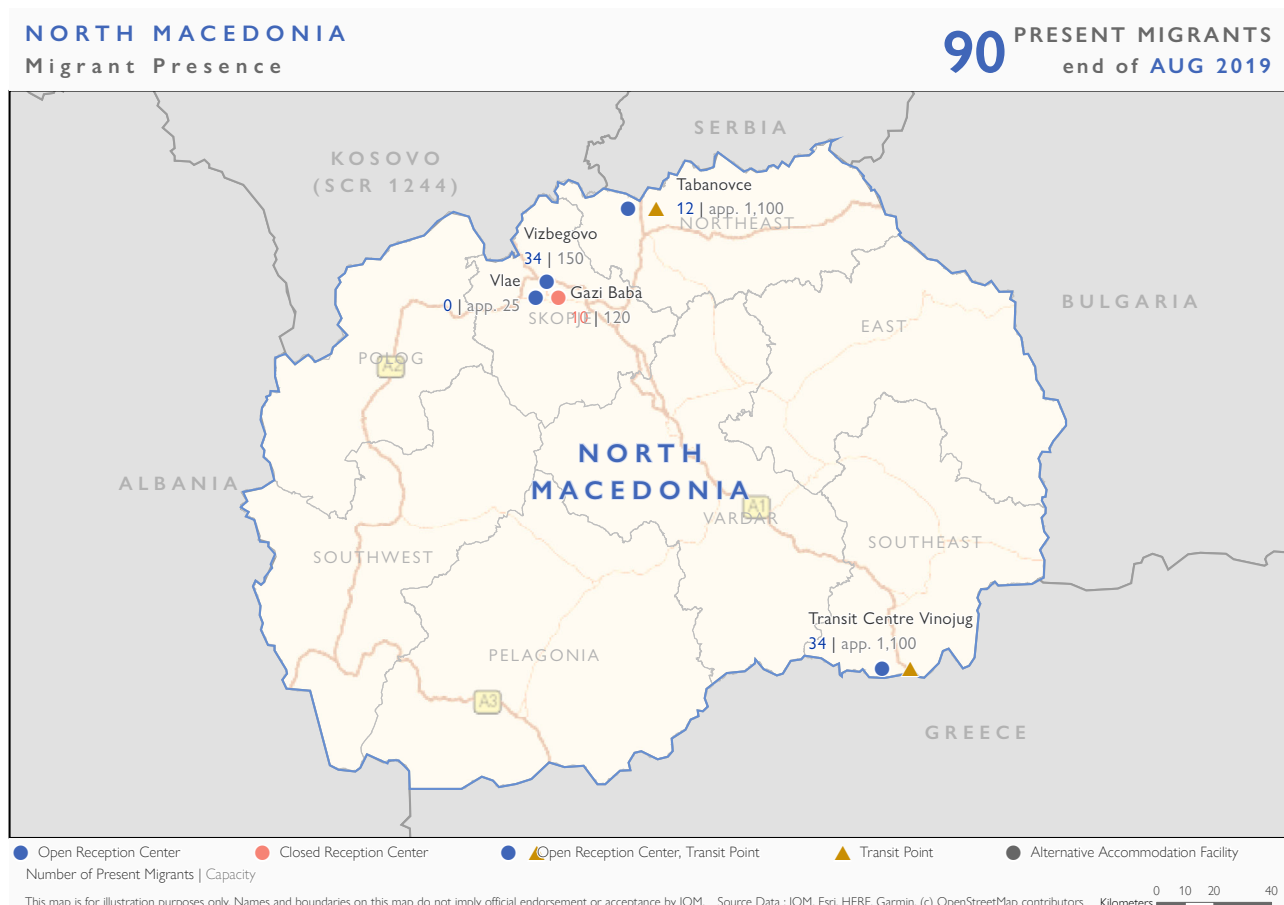
The available data shows that as of the end of August 2019, there were 90 migrants and asylum seekers accommodated in reception centres around the Republic of North Macedonia, which is slightly less than the 94 individuals accommodated at the end of July. Accommodated migrants and asylum seekers were most frequently nationals from Afghanistan, followed by those from Pakistan, Syrian Arab Republic, Iraq and others. Most of the accommodated individuals were adult males, followed by adult women and children.<sup>28</sup>

<sup>28</sup> SADD not available for Gazi Baba – Reception Centre for Foreigners. Nationality data not available for Vizbegovo – Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers.

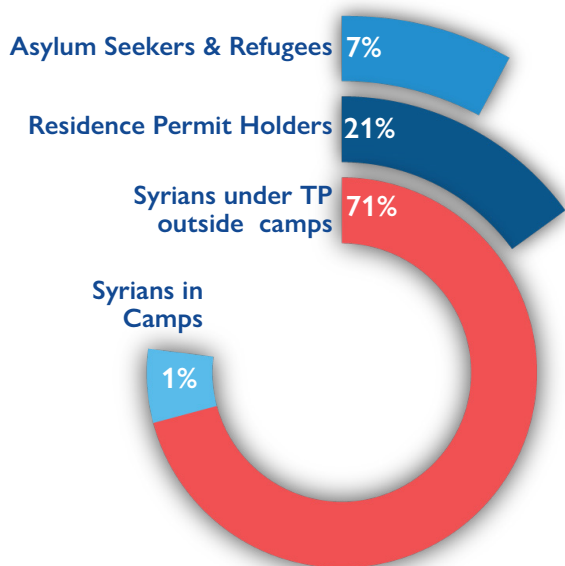
Table 6: Accommodation facilities (with occupancy/capacity) at the end of August 2019.

Name of Accommodation Facility	Capacity*	Currently Accommodating	Nationalities
“Vinojug” Transit Centre—Gevgelija (North Macedonia – Greece Border)	1,100-1,200	34	Iraq 10, Syrian Arab Republic 10, Bangladesh 9, Pakistan 3, Algeria 1 and Afghanistan 1; 15 males, 4 females and 15 children
Tabanovce Transit Centre (North Macedonia - Serbia Border)	1,100	12	6 Pakistan, 2 Algeria, 1 Afghanistan, 1 Morocco and 1 Iraq; 8 males and 3 UASC
Vizbegovo – Reception center for Asylum Seekers	150	34	Male 20; Female 5; children 7; UMC Male 2.
Gazi Baba – Reception Center for Foreigners	120	10	4 Pakistan, 3 Iraq, 2 Syrian Arab Republic, 1 Afghanistan, 1 Egypt and 1 Serbia; 12 males
Vlae – Safe House	25-30	0	/
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,495-2,600</b>	<b>90</b>	

Map 15: Accommodation facilities in the Republic of North Macedonia with information on occupancy and capacity at the end of August 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 (3,657,694\* individuals) who are granted temporary protection status. In addition, asylum-seekers and refugees from countries including Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq and Somalia constitute another significant group of foreign nationals. According to UNHCR, as of end of February 2019, there are 368,230\*\* asylum-seekers and refugees present in Turkey. The number of foreign nationals has increased by 111,928 in comparison to August 2018 (3.9 million foreign nationals), with most of the increase recorded among Syrian nationals (105,391).

In addition, there are 1,065,446\* foreign nationals present in Turkey holding residency permits, including humanitarian residency holders. Compared to August 2018, this is an increase of 344,953 individuals. The exact number of humanitarian residency holders is unknown, but it is estimated that there are more than several thousand humanitarian residency permit holders.

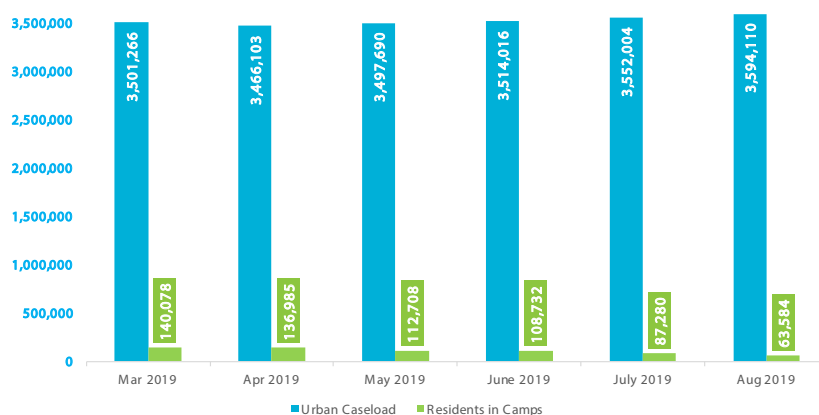
\*Data source DGMM, 27.08.2019  
\*\*Data source UNHCR, 28.02.2019<sup>1</sup>

## Syrians under Temporary Protection

Turkey's temporary protection regime grants the 3,657,694\* Syrian nationals the right to legally stay in Turkey as well as some level of access to basic services. The vast majority - 3,594,110\* individuals - lives outside of formal camps, known as temporary accommodation centers, thus primarily residing across the Turkish border provinces of Hatay, Adana and Kilis. As such, only 63,584\* Syrians live in formal camps, the majority of which are located close to the Syrian border. Compared to August 2018 when 19 temporary accommodation centers were hosting migrants in Turkey, only seven remain operational with 12 no longer in service. As a result, 133,144 fewer Syrians currently reside in the centers.

\*Data source DGMM, 27.08.2019

Monthly Population Chart of Persons Under Temporary Protection



## Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Another significant group of foreign nationals in Turkey are the 368,230\* asylum-seekers and refugees consisting of different nationalities, but mainly originating in Afghanistan and Iraq. An increase of 6,537 individuals has been recorded in this category in comparison to August 2018.

\*Data Source UNHCR, 28.02.2019<sup>1</sup>

## 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 1,065,446 residence permit holders in Turkey with various categories of the residence permit, including "other". The latter category includes humanitarian residence permit holders, and while the exact number is unknown, it is believed that the vast majority of foreign nationals in this category are Iraqis.

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

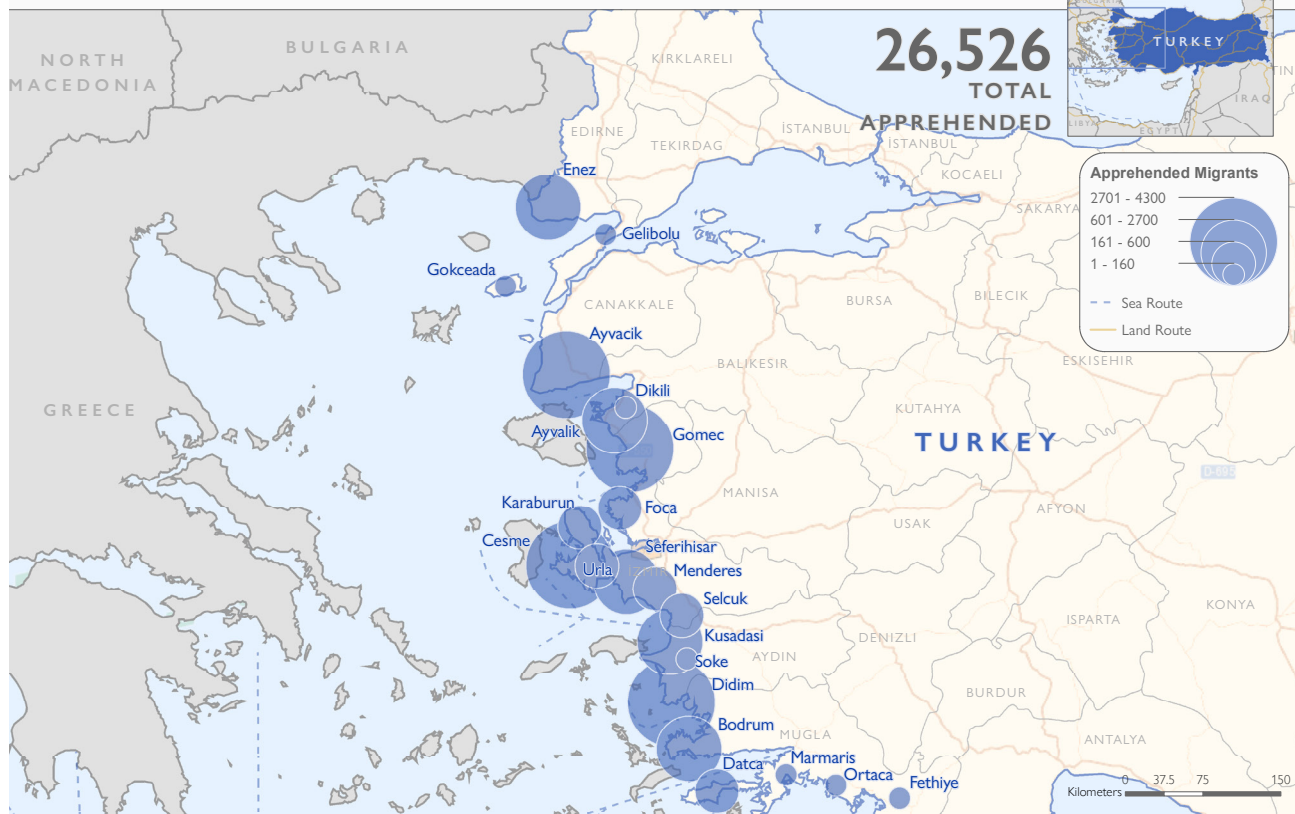
1 UNHCR ended registration process in Turkey on 10 September 2018. the registration process will continue with the procedure carried out by the Turkish authorities.

### Apprehended/Rescued Persons on Sea\*

The Turkish Coast Guard (TCG) recorded 8,430 irregular migrants and no fatalities in August 2019. Comparing to August 2018, there is an increase of 6,907 apprehended individuals, when 1,523 irregular migrants were recorded. These figures only include those apprehended and rescued by the TCG, while the actual number of migrants and refugees departing Turkey by sea may be higher. Apprehensions at the so-called 'hotspots' on the Aegean Sea are shown in the map (left).

## APPREHENSIONS OFF THE TURKISH COAST

1 January - 31 August 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, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors

### Apprehensions/Rescues by Turkish Coast Guard Statistics for 2019 (1 January - 31 August 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
February	36	36	1,428	1,428	-	-	6	6
March	56	56	1,796	1,796	4	4	2	2
April	80	81	2,765	2,773	1	1	5	6
May	80	82	2,560	2,604	10	10	2	4
June	98	99	3,258	3,262	12	12	6	6
July	160	161	5,388	5,409	-	-	8	8
August	249	250	8,422	8,430	-	-	11	11
Total	786	792	26,709	26,794	28	28	41	44

Upon identification of the apprehended persons, the latter are referred to removal centers by the Turkish Gendarmerie or are issued a deportation letter, unless they claim asylum. However, apprehended individuals 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, Palestinian, Syrian, Iraqi, Congolese, Iranian, Central African, Somalian, Senegalese, and Egyptian.



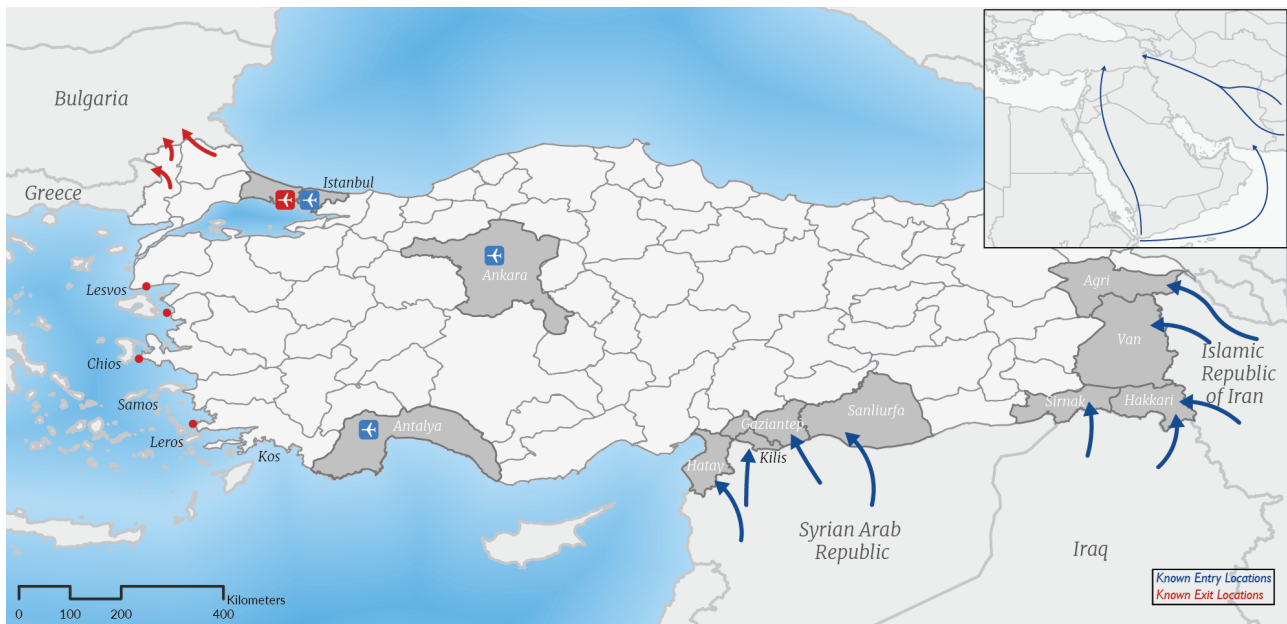
### Apprehended Persons on Land\*

Apprehensions by Turkish Land Forces (1 - 31 August 2019)			
Entry		Exit	
Syrian Arab Republic	13,270	Greece	4,988
Greece	6,436	Syrian Arab Republic	113
Islamic Republic of Iran	90	Bulgaria	54
Bulgaria	56	Islamic Republic of Iran	30
Iraq	1	Georgia	3
Total	19,853	Total	5,188

According to the Turkish Armed Forces (TAF) daily figures, 25,041 irregular migrants were apprehended during August 2019 at Turkey's borders with the Syrian Arab Republic, Greece, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Georgia and Bulgaria. Irregular exits were higher at Turkey's western borders (with Europe), and borders with the Syrian Arab Republic and Greece are the main entry points into Turkey. In comparison, the total number of apprehended persons on land was higher in August 2018, when 25,792 persons were apprehended. Meanwhile, the number of apprehended persons during attempted exit out of Turkey were highest at the border with Greece. The entry and exit figures breakdown are shown in the table (left).

During August 2019, the highest number of irregular crossings at entry and exit took place at the border with the Syrian Arab Republic, with a total number of 13,383 apprehended persons. In comparison to previous month there is a decrease in the irregular border entries from Syrian Arab Republic to Turkey (3,336). In July 2019, 16,606 irregular entries of individuals were recorded at this border.

\*Data Source TAF, 31.08.2019



\*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.

### Known Entry and Exit Points

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

Known entry points by air: İstanbul, 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, 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 from Greece to Turkey after 20 March 2016. In this regard, according to DGMM reports, 1,906\* migrants and refugees have been readmitted to Turkey from Greece between 4 April 2016 and 31 August 2019. Main points of return from Greece include Lesbos, Chios, Kos and Samos, while the main readmission points to Turkey include Dikili, Çeşme, Bodrum and Adana (point of entry is through airport).

Per nationality breakdown of readmitted

Pakistan	718
Syrian Arab Republic	361
Algeria	194
Afghanistan	111
Bangladesh	103
Iraq	100
Morocco	56
Islamic Republic of Iran	53
Egypt	26
Others	184

migrants is shown in the graphic above. The top nine nationalities are included in the graph, while the “others” category includes migrants from Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Nepal, Myanmar, Guinea, Palestinian Territories, Senegal, Ghana,

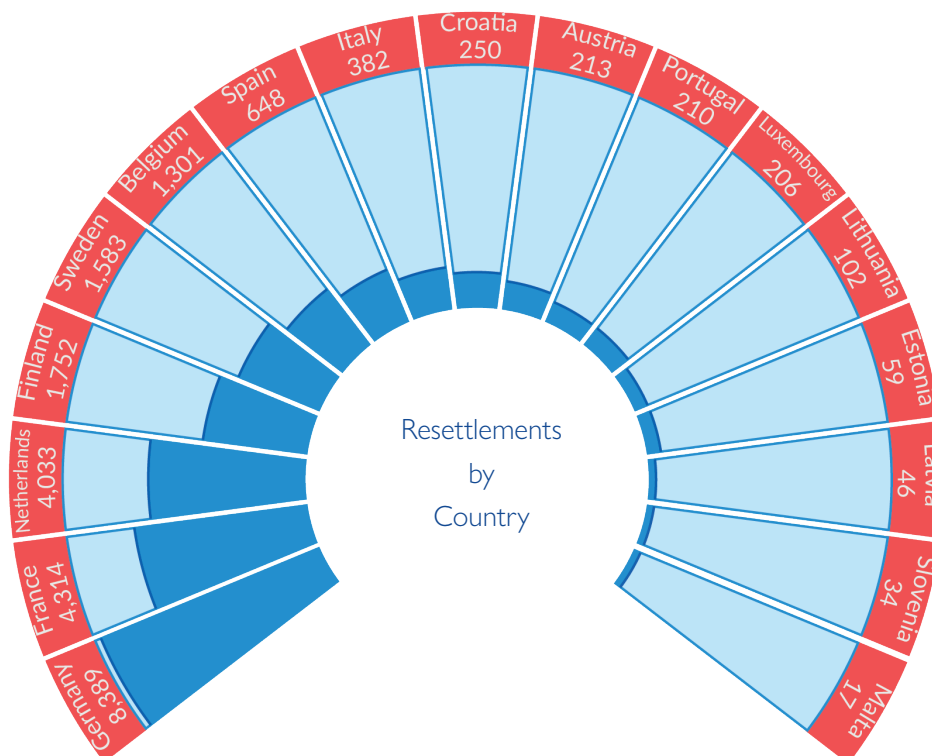
Tunisia, Côte d'Ivoire, Haiti, Lebanon, Mali, Dominica, India, Sierra Leone, Yemen, Congo, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Comoros, Niger, Sudan, Jordan, Uzbekistan, Togolese Republic and Zimbabwe.

\*Data source DGMM, 31.08.2019

## Resettlement of Syrians From Turkey

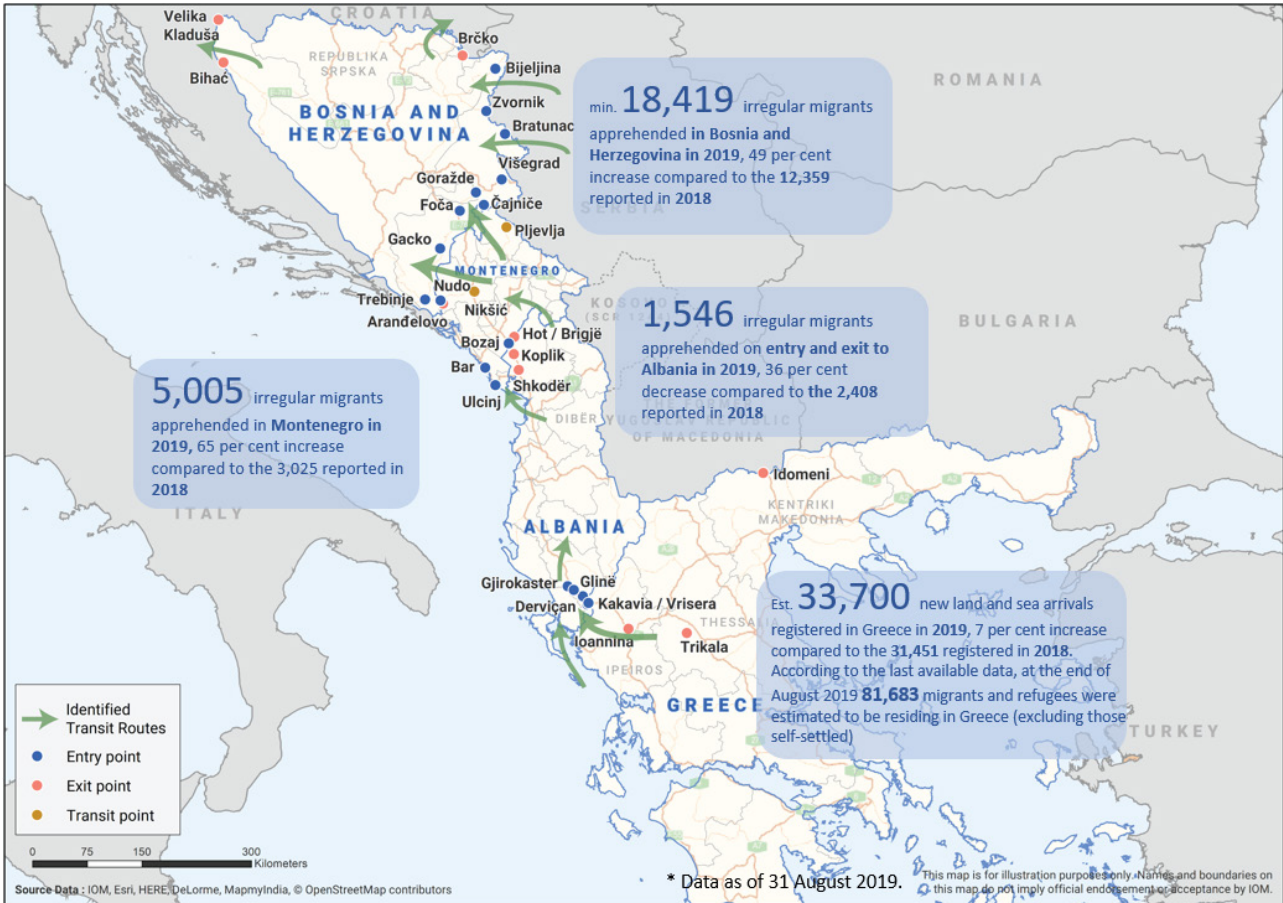
The 18 March 2016 EU-Turkey statement aims to replace disorganized and irregular migratory flows by facilitating organized and safe pathways to European countries. Specifically, the statement stipulates that for every Syrian returned to Turkey from the Greek islands, another Syrian will be resettled directly to Europe from Turkey. According to DGMM data released on 28 August 2019, there are 23,539\* persons that have been resettled under this instrument, with primary resettlement destinations being Germany, France, the Netherlands and Finland.

\*Data Source DGMM, 28.08.2019



mpmturkey@iom.int

## WESTERN BALKANS IN FOCUS



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



# ALBANIA

## Developments during the reporting period

During this reporting period (1 – 31 August 2019), there were 111 new apprehensions on entry into the country, 8 per cent more than the 103 reported in the previous month and 42 per cent more than the 78 reported in August 2018. These arrivals indicate irregular entries in the Gjirokaster region. Additionally, 48 individuals were apprehended on exit in their attempt to enter Montenegro from the Shkoder region, 35 per cent less than the 74 registered in the previous month (July 2019) and 79 per cent less than the 224 registered in August 2018.

Between January and August 2019, a total of 1,546 new irregular migrants were registered on entry to and exit from the country. This is 36 per cent less than the 2,408 reported on entry and exit in the same period of 2018, over five times the 272 reported on entry in the same period of 2017 and over three times the 478 reported in the same period of 2016.

Migrants registered between January and August 2019 were most frequently Iraqi nationals (34%), followed by those from the Syrian Arab Republic (25%), Pakistan (14%), Algeria (7%) and Morocco (7%). Available data for the same period of 2018 indicates a relative decrease in the presence of Syrian nationals (54% in 2018 vs. 25% in 2019). As in 2019, the breakdown between January and August 2018 also consists of Pakistan (11%), Iraq (9%), Algeria (6%) and Morocco (5%) as the most frequently reported countries of origin.

Figure 51: Registered irregular migrants on entry in Albania each month, 2016 – 2019.

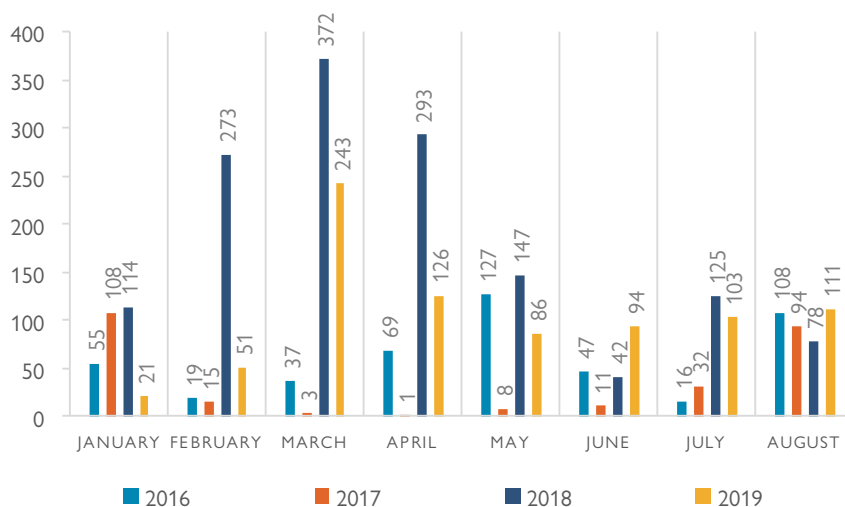


Figure 52: Apprehensions on exit and entry in Albania, January – August 2019.

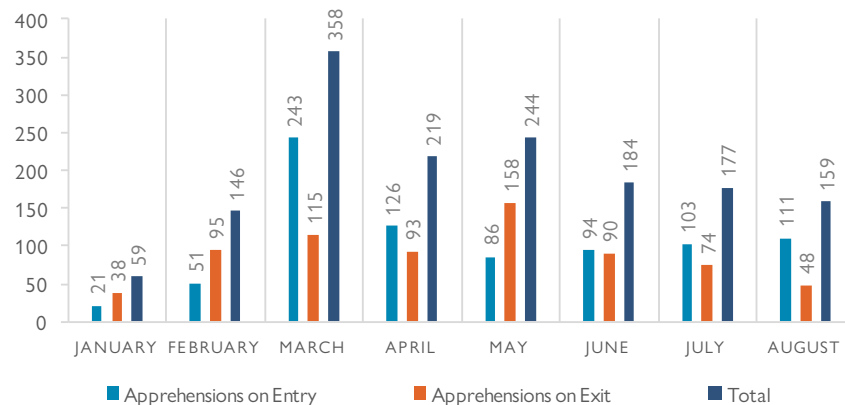


Figure 53: Nationality breakdown of registered irregular migrants between January and August 2019.

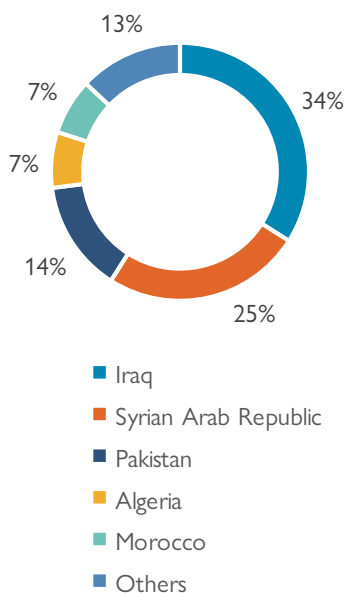
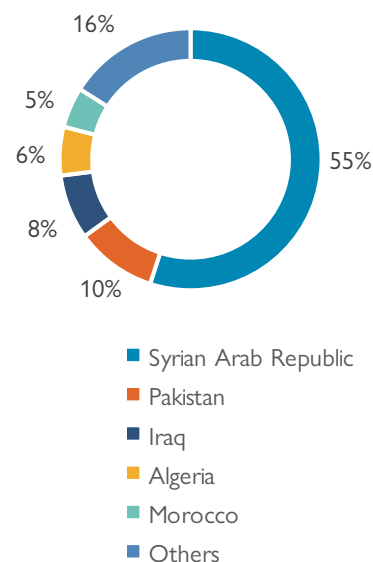


Figure 54: Nationality breakdown of registered irregular migrants between January and August 2018.





# BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

## Developments during the reporting period

During this reporting period (1 – 31 August) Bosnian authorities reported 3,729 new irregular migrants, a 2 per cent increase compared to the previous month when 3,649 arrivals were reported, and 33 per cent more than the 2,794 reported in August 2018. The average number of migrants arriving each week since the beginning of the year is 526, ranging from 141 in the first week of January to 816 in the first week of August.

Between January and August 2019, 18,419 new arrivals have been reported. This is 49 per cent more than the 12,359 reported in the same period last year and thirty-nine times more than the 476 reported between January and August 2017.

Available nationality breakdown reflects Pakistan as the most commonly reported origin country between January and June (41%), followed by Afghanistan (10%), Bangladesh (9%), Iraq (8%) and the Syrian Arab Republic (6%). When compared to the countries of origin reported between January and July 2018, Pakistani nationals also made up the majority (34%), followed by Syrians (14%), migrants from the Islamic Republic of Iran (14%), Afghanistan (10%) and Iraq (8%).

Figure 55: Registered irregular migrants in Bosnia and Herzegovina between January and August 2019.

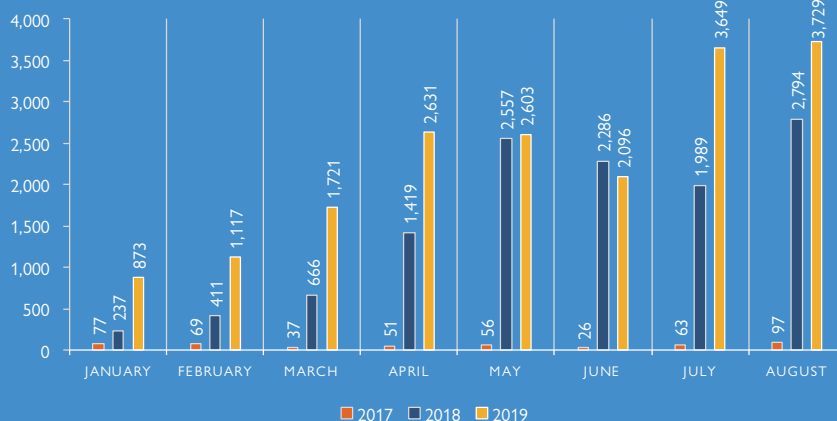


Figure 56: Irregular entries to Bosnia and Herzegovina, weekly arrivals in 2019.

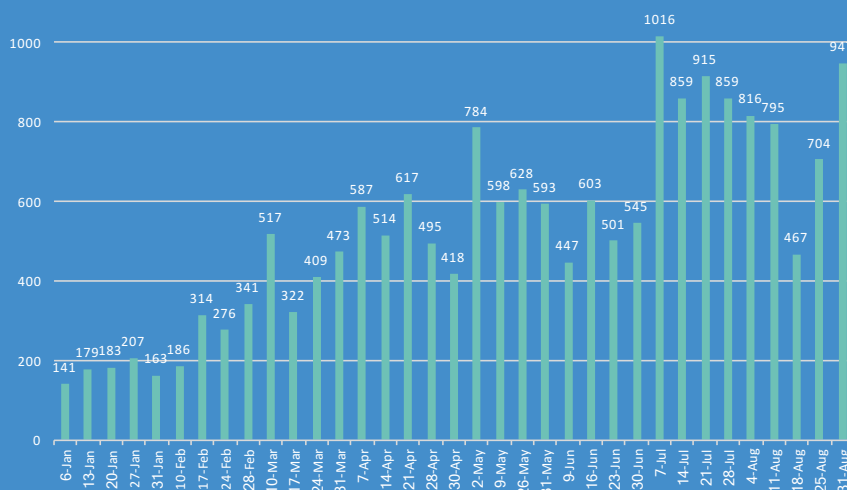


Figure 57: Nationality breakdown of migrants registered in Bosnia and Herzegovina between January and August 2019.

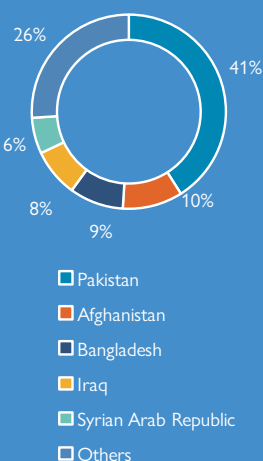
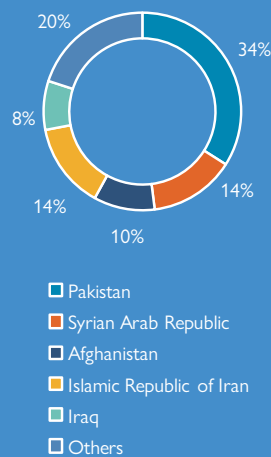


Figure 58: Nationality breakdown of migrants registered in Bosnia and Herzegovina between February and August 2018.



### Migrants presence

According to the data received from IOM and partner agencies working in the field in Bosnia and Herzegovina, there were 8,200 migrants and refugees residing in the country as of 25<sup>th</sup> August 2019, nine per cent more than the previous month when

7,523 were recorded. An estimated 75 per cent of individuals were adult males, 7 per cent adult females and 18 per cent children. Among the children, 243 were registered as unaccompanied and separated.

Thirty-three per cent of the migrants present in the country were of Pakistani origin, followed by Iraqi (15%), Syrian (11%), Afghani (9%), Iranian (8%) and others (24%)

Figure 59: Nationality breakdown of accommodated migrants and refugees at the end of August 2019.

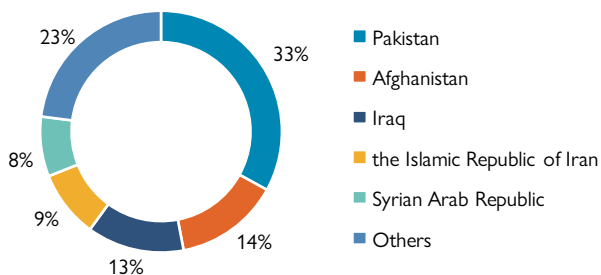
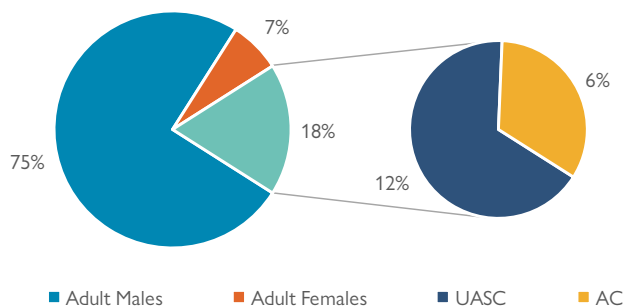
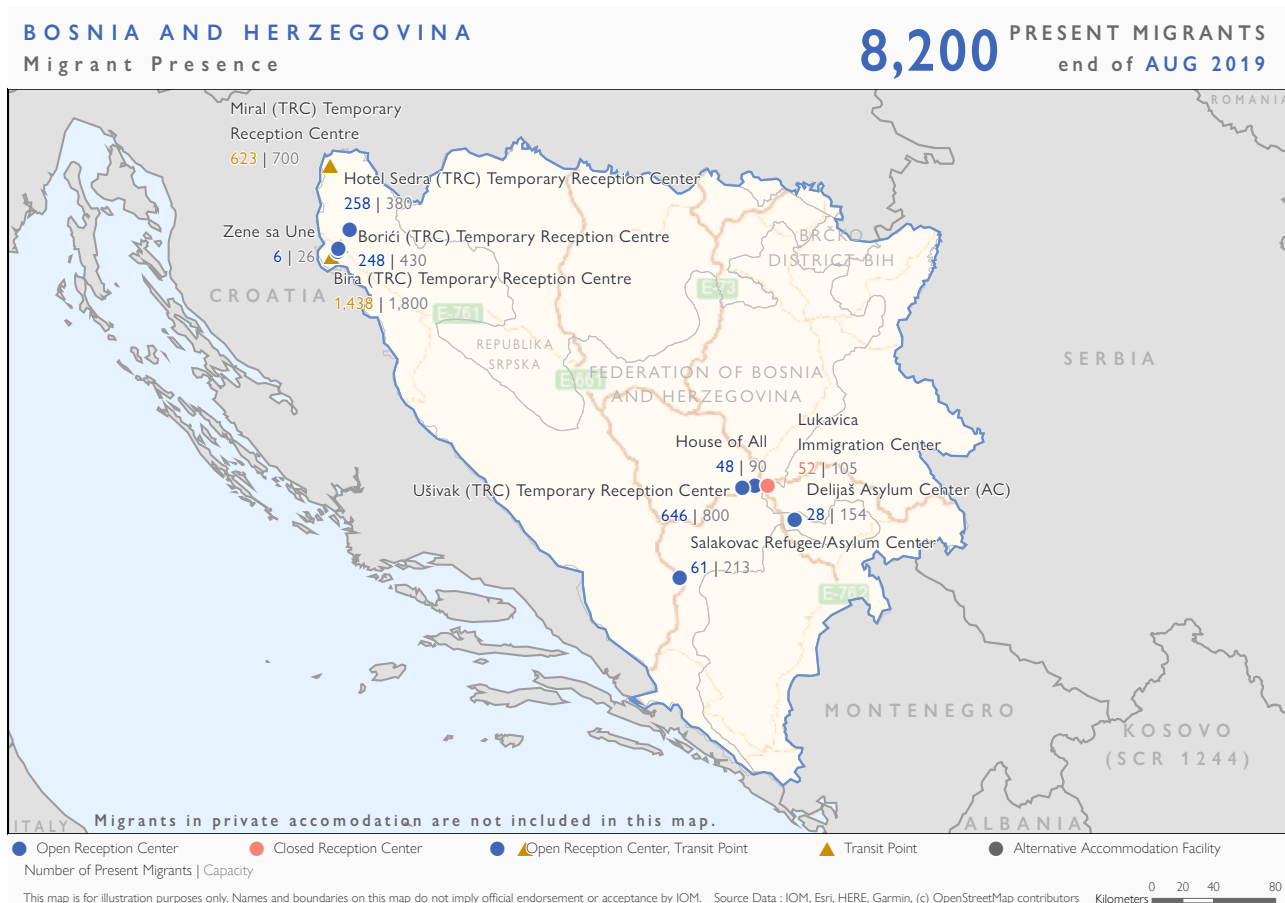


Figure 60: Estimated Age/Sex breakdown of accommodated migrants and refugees at the end of August 2019.



Map 16: Accommodation facilities in Bosnia and Herzegovina with information on occupancy and capacity, August 2019.



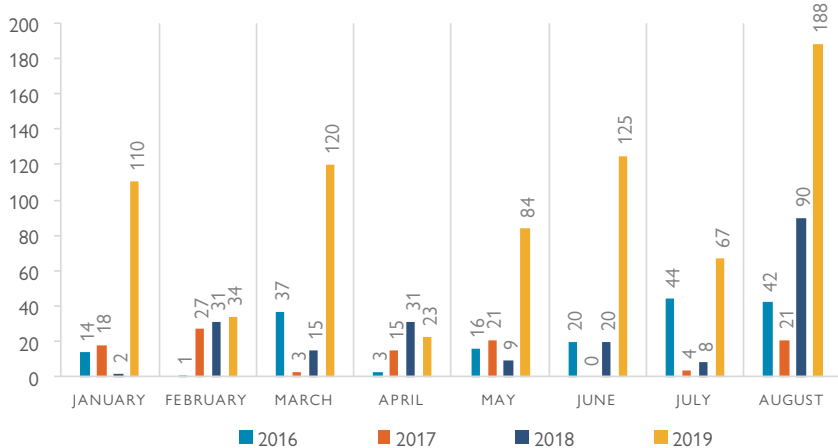
## KOSOVO (UNSCR 1244)<sup>29</sup>

### Developments during the reporting period

During this reporting period (1- 31 August 2019) authorities in Kosovo (UNSCR 1244/1999) have reported 188 new irregular entries in the country, which represent a marked increase compared to the previous months when 67 new irregular entries were reported, and double the arrivals from the same period last year. Most of the new arrivals in August are from Iraq, followed by Syrian Arab Republic and other countries of origin.

Since the beginning of the year, 751 irregular entries were reported in total. This is more than three times higher compared to 206 registered in the same period last year, seven times higher than the 109 registered in 2017 and four times higher than the 177 registered in the same period of 2016.

Figure 61: Arrivals of irregular migrants registered each month, 2016 – 2019.



### Presence of migrants and asylum seekers

As of 31 August 2019, 127 asylum seekers were present in Kosovo: 109 of them were citizens of Turkey, while others were from Turkmenistan, North Macedonia, the Syrian Arab Republic, Morocco and Ukraine. Out of the total number of asylum seekers

As in previous years, most of the migrants have entered the country through the green border with Albania.

Forty-three per cent of registered persons that have submitted an asylum application between January and August 2019 are from the Syrian Arab Republic. Iraq is the second most reported origin country declared by 27 per cent of asylum seekers this year, followed by Algeria (9%), Morocco (5%) and Palestinian Territories (5%). In contrast, Turkish nationals are the first group among asylum seekers between January and August 2018 (35%), followed by individuals coming from the Syrian Arab Republic (16%), Libya (11%), Palestinian Territories (9%) and Iraq (9%).

According to the available data as shared by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, 81 per cent of the total registered asylum seekers as of August 2019 are males, while 19 per cent are females. Out of the total, 18% per cent are children with family and 1% are unaccompanied children.

Figure 62: Nationality breakdown of registered migrants and asylum seekers between January and August 2019.

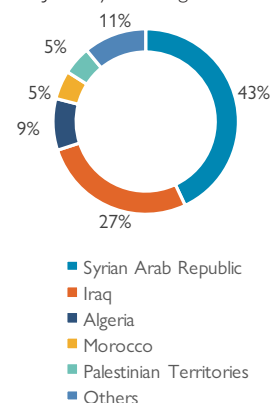


Figure 63: Nationality breakdown of registered migrants and asylum seekers between January and August 2018.

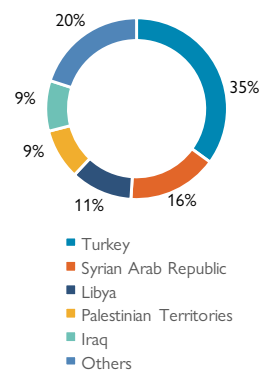


Figure 64: Sex breakdown of registered asylum seekers in 2019.

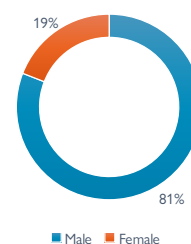
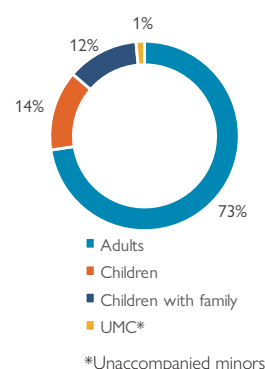


Figure 65: Age breakdown of registered asylum seekers in 2019.



<sup>29</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 August), authorities in Montenegro registered 769 new migrants and refugees, 14 per cent more than the 672 reported in the previous month (1-31 July). The number of registered migrants this month is 48 per cent higher than in August 2018 (520), over four times the number for August 2017 (179), and over 24 times the number for August 2016 (31).

Since the beginning of the year, authorities in Montenegro registered a total of 4,739 migrants at arrival. This is 57 per cent higher than the same period in 2018 when 3,025 were reported, and more than 11

times the 405 reported in the same period in 2017.

With the expansion of IOM's presence in the field, Montenegro DTM team established a new flow monitoring point in Pljevlja to track movements in the northern part of the country (between Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina) at the end of the first quarter of 2019. Based on available data, 23 individuals were first time registered in Pljevlja (and therefore included in the total new arrivals above) and 64 individuals were registered in the same location in their attempts to exit the country and continue their journey.

In 2019 so far (1 January – 31 August 2019), registered migrants were most commonly from Syrian Arab Republic (26%), followed by Morocco (22%), Algeria (17%), Iraq (11%), Pakistan (7%), and other countries (17%). In the same period of 2018, main reported nationalities were Syrian Arab Republic (44%), Pakistan (18%), Algeria (9%), Iraq (7%) and Morocco (5%). Syrian Arab Republic nationals were the most frequently reports throughout 2018, a trend that continues through 2019, although in 2017 arrivals to Montenegro were predominantly composed of Algerian (51%) and Moroccan (14%) nationals.

Figure 66: Arrivals to Montenegro registered each month, 2016 – 2019.

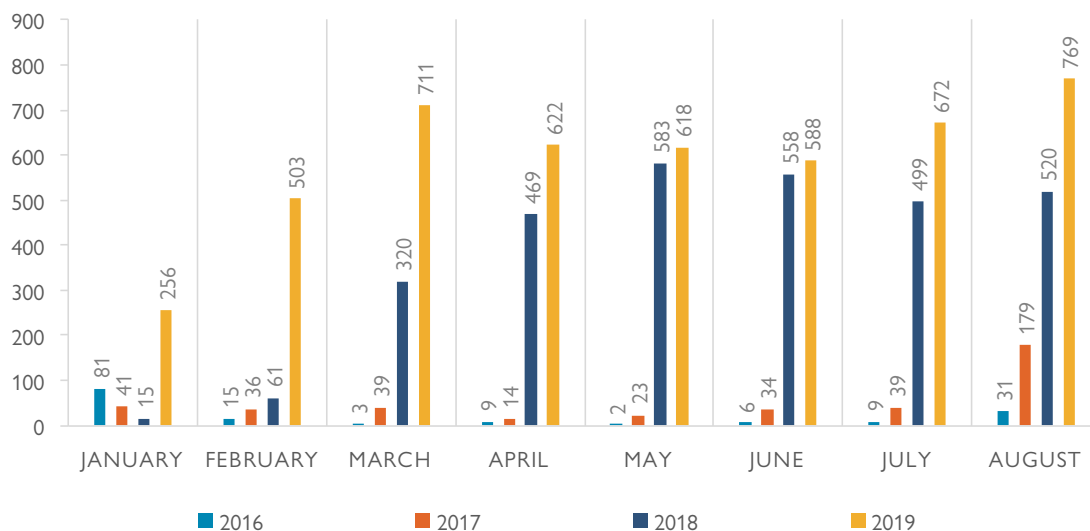


Figure 67: Nationality breakdown of registered migrants between January and August 2019.

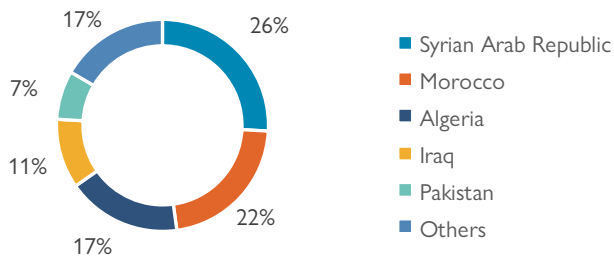
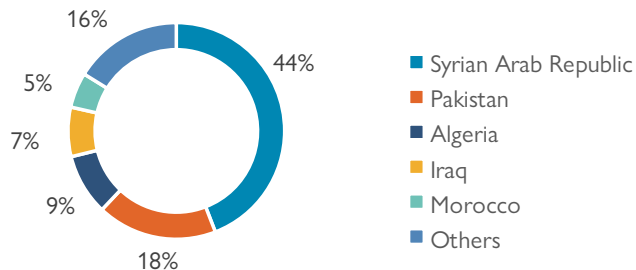


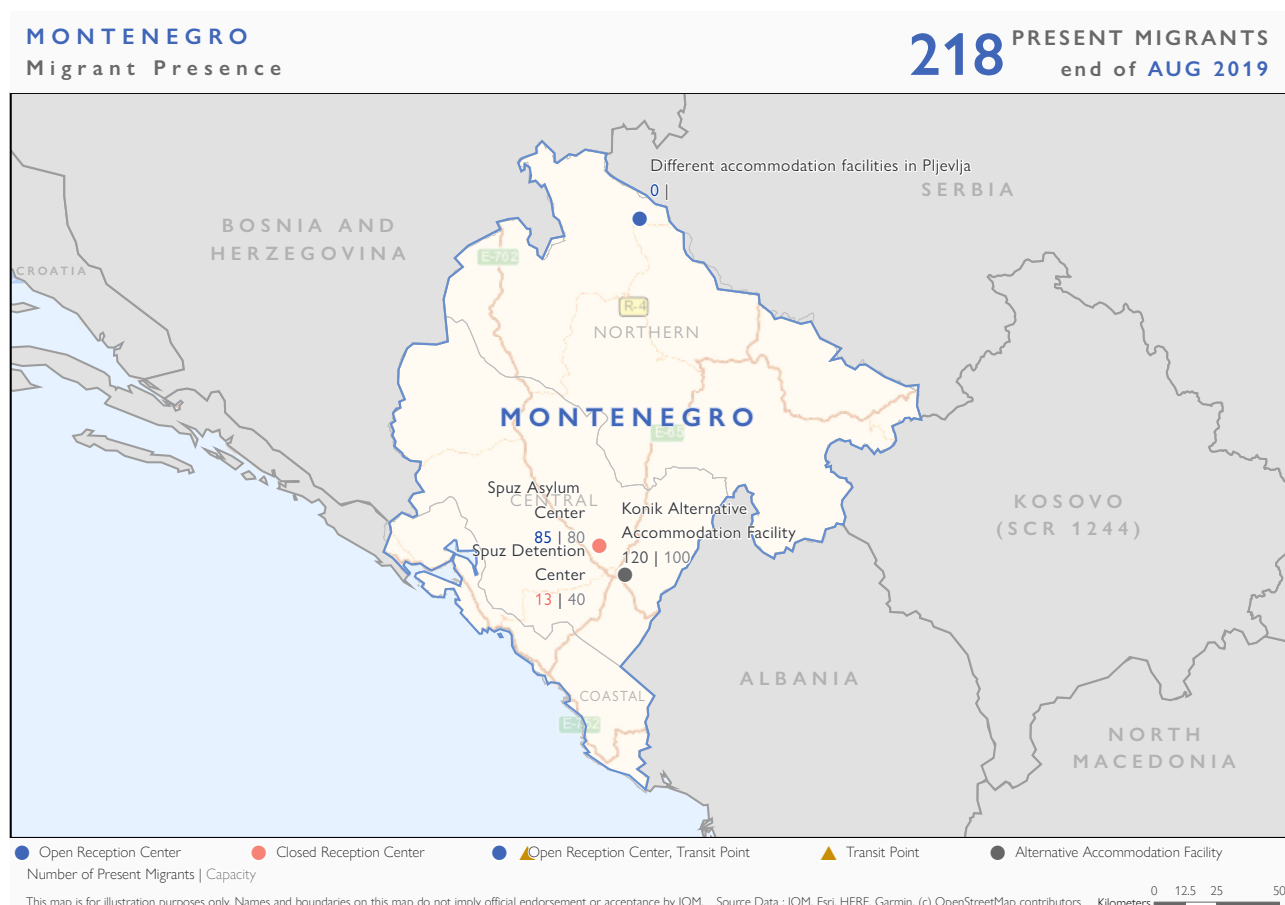
Figure 68: Nationality breakdown of registered migrants between January and August 2018.



### Migrant presence

At the end of August 2019, there were 218 migrants and asylum seekers accommodated in the reception facilities around the country, almost the same figure as the 216 accommodated at the end of the previous reporting period (1 – 30 July 2019).

Map 17: Accommodation facilities in Montenegro with information on occupancy and capacity, August 2019.



## CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN - OTHER COUNTRIES

### LIBYA

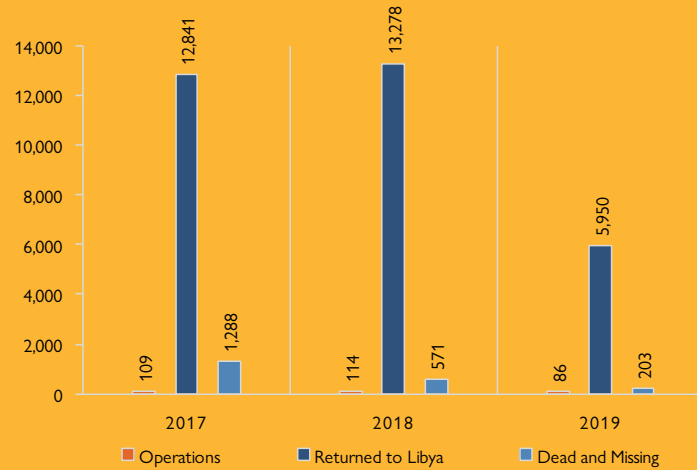
#### Developments during the reporting period

Between January and August 2019, 86 incidents were reported by the Libyan Coast Guard in which a total of 5,950 migrants were returned to Libya; 203 migrants are estimated to have died or gone missing during the same reporting period.

Available data for 2019 indicate a 25 per cent decrease in the number of reported operations this year compared to the same period in 2018, when 114 operations were reported and a 21 per cent decrease when compared to 109 operations reported at the end of August 2017. The number of returned migrants as of August 2019 (5,950) is 55 per cent less than the 13,278 returned in the same period last year, and 54 per cent less than the 12,841 returned to Libya between January and August 2017.

The estimated number of dead and missing migrants between January and August 2019 (203) is significantly lower than the 571 estimated to have died in front of Libyan shores between January and August 2018 (64% less), and than the

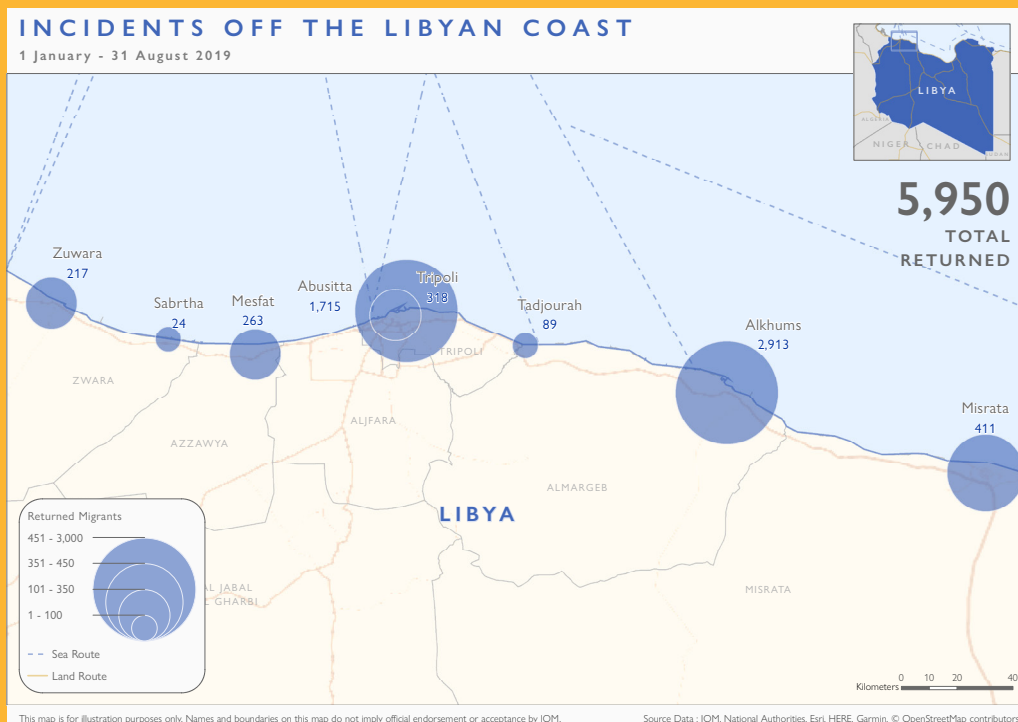
Figure 69: Rescue operations by the Libyan Coast Guard between January and August, 2017 – 2019.



1,288 reported to have gone missing in the same period of 2017. The relative number of those reported to have died in the first eight months of 2019 calculated as a share of those returned over the same period (3.4%) has also decreased in comparison to the same period last year, although at a slower pace (4.3 %).

A more complete estimation of the relative risk of those departing from Libya to reach Europe in terms of dead and missing migrants should also take into consideration the reported arrivals in Italy and Malta and the dead and missing migrants reported along the whole Central Mediterranean route.

Map 18: Incidents off the Libyan coast and number of returned migrants, January – August 2019.



## NIGER

During 31 August 2019, a total of 48,553 individuals were observed transiting through the 7 active Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) in Niger, which represents a 16 per cent decrease compared to the 58,002 reported in July.

An average of 1,566 individuals per day were recorded passing through the active FMPs during this month. Out of the total individuals observed, 72 per cent were adult male, 20 per cent were adult females and the remaining 8 per cent were children. The main reasons cited for movement are economic migration, short term local movement, seasonal migration and tourism (in descending order).

On a daily average, 562 individuals were leaving Niger while 414 individuals were entering Niger. Majority of these were observed in Arlit (21%) and Dan Barto (8%). To a lesser extent, internal movements were observed at Magaria (5%) and Tahoua (4%).

Sixty-two per cent of the flows were cross border: 41 per cent of these were observed between Niger and Nigeria, followed by 13 per cent with Algeria and 8 per cent with Libya. In August 2019, outgoing flows (17,412) were higher than incoming flows (12,825 individuals), but lower than outgoing flows tracked in July 2019 (19,025). The remaining 18,316 individuals observed were moving internally (38% of all observed movement during the month).

Figure 70: Profile of migrants interviewed in Niger, August 2019.

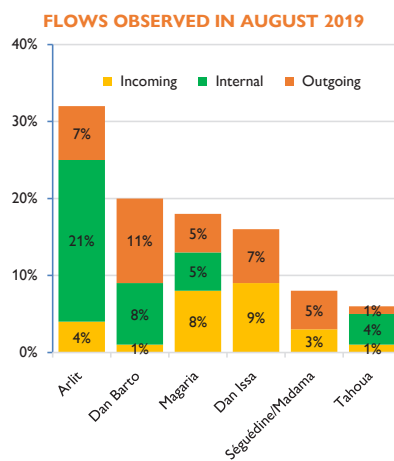
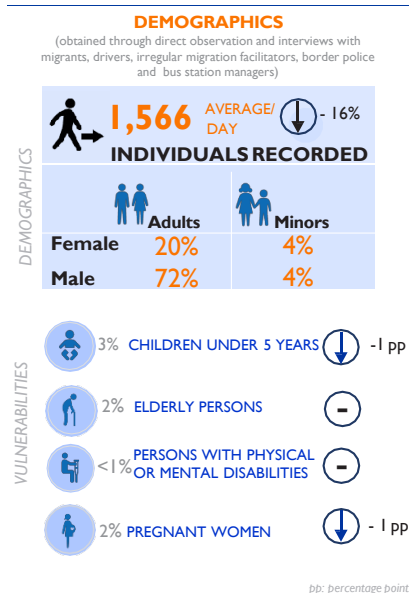
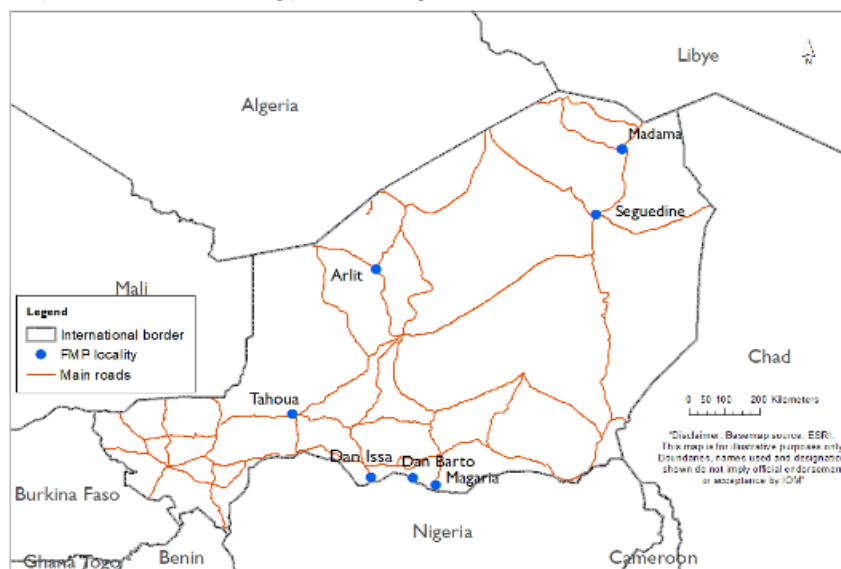


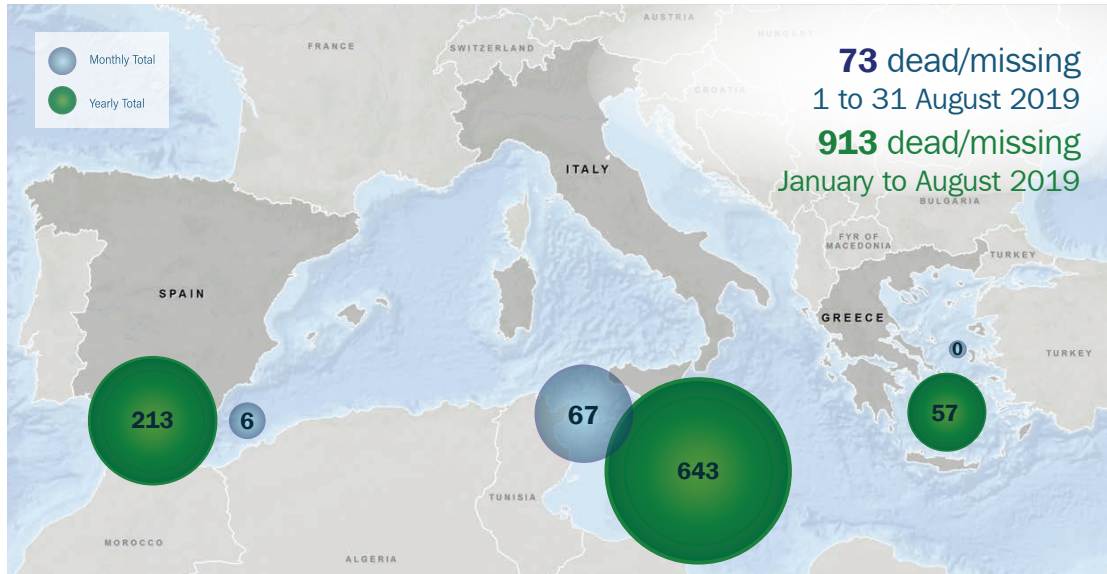
Figure 71: Flows observed in Niger, August 2019.



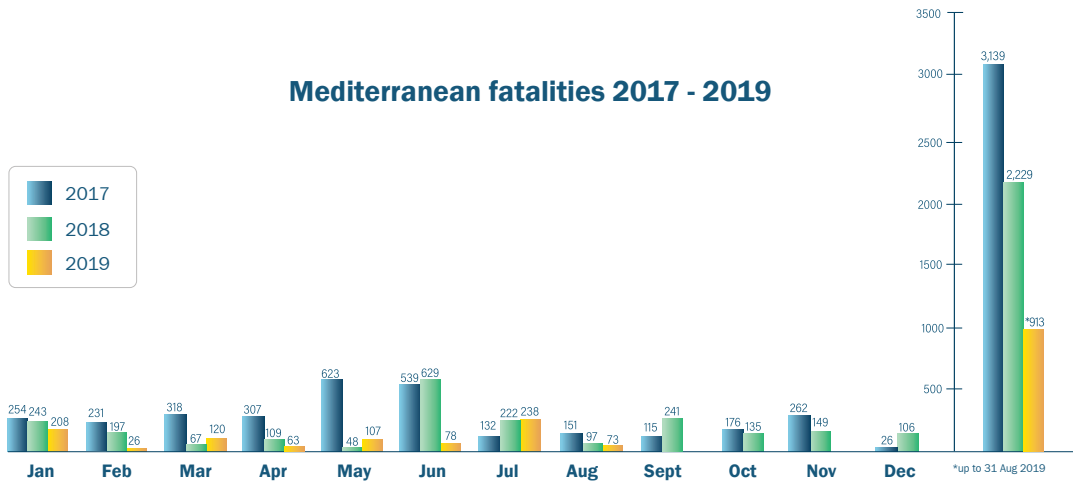
Map 19: DTM Flow Monitoring presence in Niger.



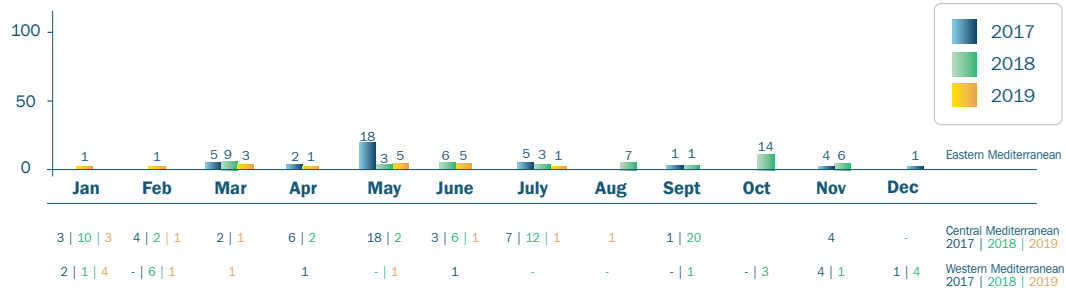
# MISSING MIGRANTS: FATALITIES/MISSING IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND AEGEAN



**Mediterranean fatalities 2017 - 2019**



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



\*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

The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a system to track and monitor displacement and population mobility. It is designed to regularly and systematically capture, process and disseminate information to provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of displaced populations, whether on site or en route. Flow Monitoring\* is one of DTM components developed to collect data on population movements at points strategically selected inside a country, a region or across different regions. The objectives of the Flow Monitoring exercise are to improve **understanding of profiles**, migration routes and migration drivers of population on the move, expand relevant actors' **awareness** of immediate and medium term needs of population on the move, to then inform humanitarian and resilience programs and to inform possible reintegration and development strategies and activities in the communities of origin or in other areas.

Regular updates on population movements to Europe across the Mediterranean, migrants presence in Western Balkans and published information products can be found at [Flow Monitoring Europe Geportal](#).

\*The Flow Monitoring activities do not aim at providing total numbers of migration stocks nor flows in each country or region.

### 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. The questionnaire also has a module with a set of questions on human trafficking, exploitative practices and abuse, including two indicators on sexual and physical violence. This data has been captured by IOM field staff in Greece, the Republic of North Macedonia, Serbia, Hungary, Croatia, Italy, Montenegro, Kosovo (UNSCR 1244), Albania, Spain, Bulgaria and Slovenia in different periods since October 2015. The analysis of data collected between 2015 and 2018 is available on the [IOM portal for Mediterranean](#).

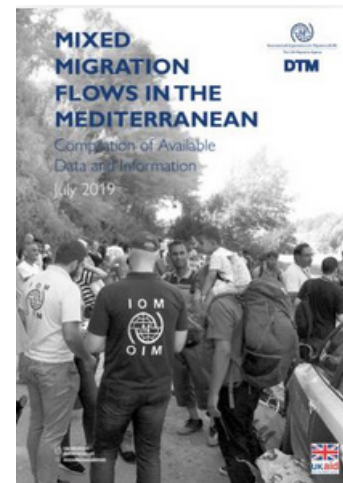
### About Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)

Displacement Tracking Matrix is a system to track and monitor displacement and population mobility, provide critical information to decision-makers and responders during crises, and contribute to better understanding of population flows. DTM was first conceptualized in 2004 to monitor internal displacement in Iraq and has since been adapted for implementation in over 70 countries, including in contexts of conflict, natural disaster, complex emergencies and protracted crises. More information about [DTM](#) and [Methodological Framework](#) used in DTM operations can be found on the global [displacement.iom.int](#).

### [Access to Education for Refugee and Migrant Children in Europe \(September 2019\)](#)



### [Mixed Migration Flows in the Mediterranean – July 2019](#)

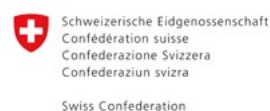


### [Europe – Mixed Migration Flows to Europe – Quarterly Overview \(April - June 2019\)](#)



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:

