

# MIXED MIGRATION FLOWS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

Compilation of Available  
Data and Information

December 2019





International Organization for Migration (IOM)

The UN Migration Agency

**DTM**



 [migration.iom.int](http://migration.iom.int)  
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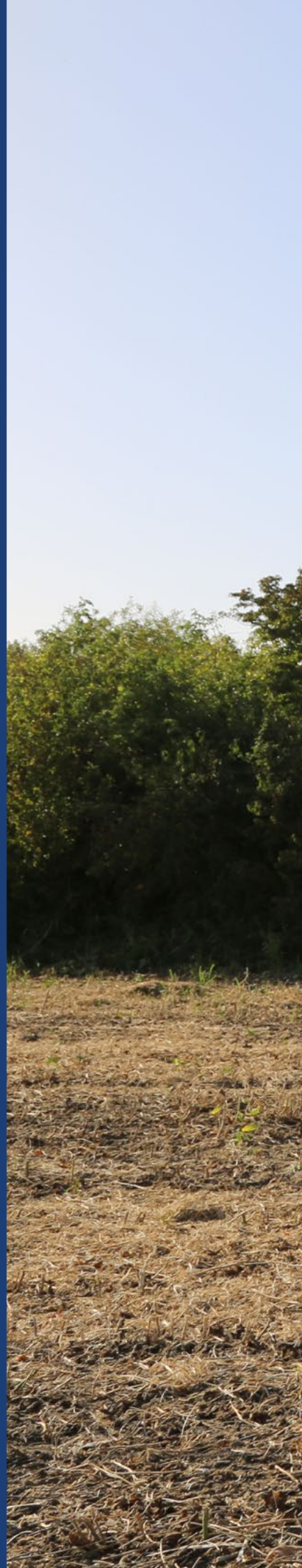
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\* References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).





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

## HIGHLIGHTS

A total of 128,536 migrants and refugees arrived in Europe through different land and sea routes between January and December 2019, 13 per cent less than the same period of 2018 when 147,673 sea and land arrivals were reported, 32 per cent less than the 188,372 arrivals registered in this period of 2017 and 67 per cent less than the 390,456 registered during this period in 2016.

There were 81,147 registered arrivals via the **Eastern Mediterranean route** (63% of the total) in Cyprus, Bulgaria and Greece in 2019. Another 32,513 arrivals were registered via the **Western Mediterranean route** (25%) leading to Spain in the same period, and 14,876 were registered crossing the **Central Mediterranean route** (12%), arriving by sea to Italy and Malta. This shows that the Eastern Mediterranean route continues to surpass both the Western and Central Mediterranean routes as the main route taken by migrants and refugees travelling to Europe by sea and land, as it has done each month since February 2019. In the same period of 2018, the Western route was recorded as the most active with 65,325 arrivals (44% of the total). On the Eastern route there were 57,543 registered arrivals (39%) and the on Central route there were 24,815 registered arrivals (17%).

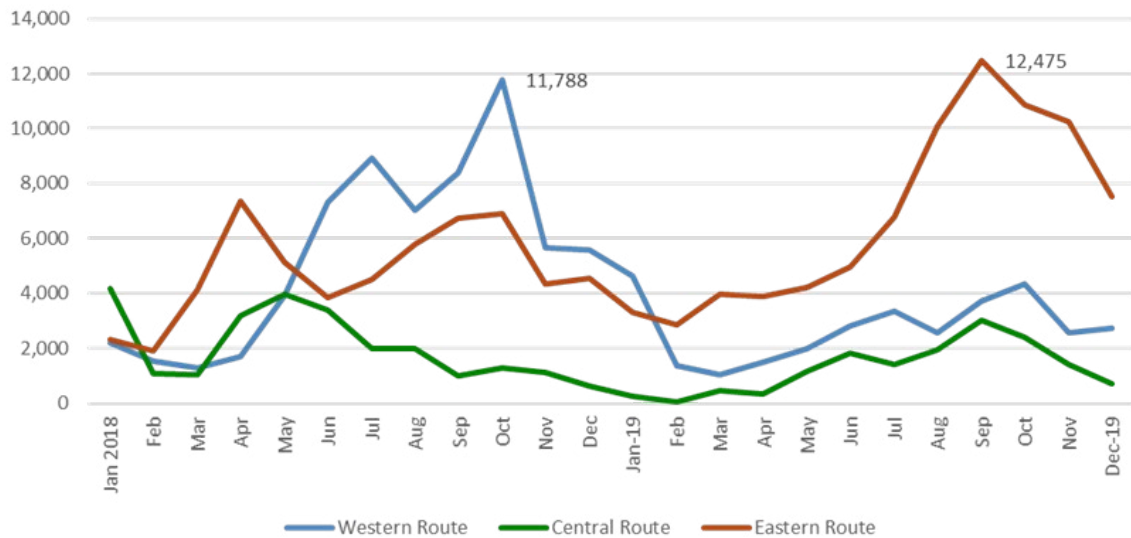
Between January and December 2019, Hellenic Authorities reported 71,386 new arrivals, which makes **Greece** the top arrival country in Europe so far in 2019. Arrivals this year in Greece are 42 per cent higher than the 50,215 registered in 2018, and over two times the 35,052 reported in 2017. Of all registered arrivals of migrants and refugees into Greece between January and December 2019, 62,445 arrived by sea and the remaining 8,941 were by land. According to available data, the most frequently registered nationality of arrivals by sea between January and December 2019 was Afghanistan (44%) followed by the Syrian Arab Republic (25%), Iraq (5%) and others (read more [here](#)).

A total of 32,513 migrants and refugees were registered entering **Spain** in 2019, which is half of the 65,325 registered in the period of 2018 and 13 per cent more than the 28,707 registered in the same period of 2017. Among the total arrivals to Spain in 2019, 80 per cent arrived by sea and the remaining 20 per cent arrived by land to the Spanish autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla on the north coast of Africa. According to the information reported by the Spanish Ministry of Interior, the main nationalities among arrivals by sea between January and November 2019 are Morocco (30%), Algeria (15%), Mali (9%) and others (46%) (read more [here](#)).<sup>1</sup>

**Italian** authorities reported the arrivals of 11,471 migrants and refugees between January and December 2019. Arrivals in this period have decreased by 51 per cent compared to the 23,370 registered in 2018 and are just 10 per cent of the 119,639 registered arrivals to Italy in the same period of 2017. The most frequently registered country of origin for those arriving at Italy in 2019 has been Tunisia (23%), followed by Pakistan (10%), Côte d'Ivoire (10%), and other African and Southern Asian countries (see more [here](#)). In addition, there were 3,405 registered arrivals in **Malta** between January and December 2019, over twice the 1,445 registered in 2018. According to available data from national authorities, Sudan is the most frequently reported nationality at arrival between January and December 2019 (39%), followed by Eritrea<sup>2</sup> (7%) and Nigeria (6%) (see more [here](#)).

In addition to first-arrival countries, authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania and Montenegro in the Western Balkans region have observed a significant increase, registering a total of 40,958 new apprehensions in all three countries in 2019. This is 28 per cent more than the 32,111 reported in 2018 and significantly more than the 2,314 registered in the same period of 2017.

Figure 1: Arrivals to Europe by month via the Western, Central and Eastern Mediterranean routes, 2018-2019.



1 Excluding nationality data for arrivals to Spain in December 2019 which is not yet available.  
2 The information on nationality breakdown provided in this report is based on the nationality declared by migrants as reported by the Maltese authorities.



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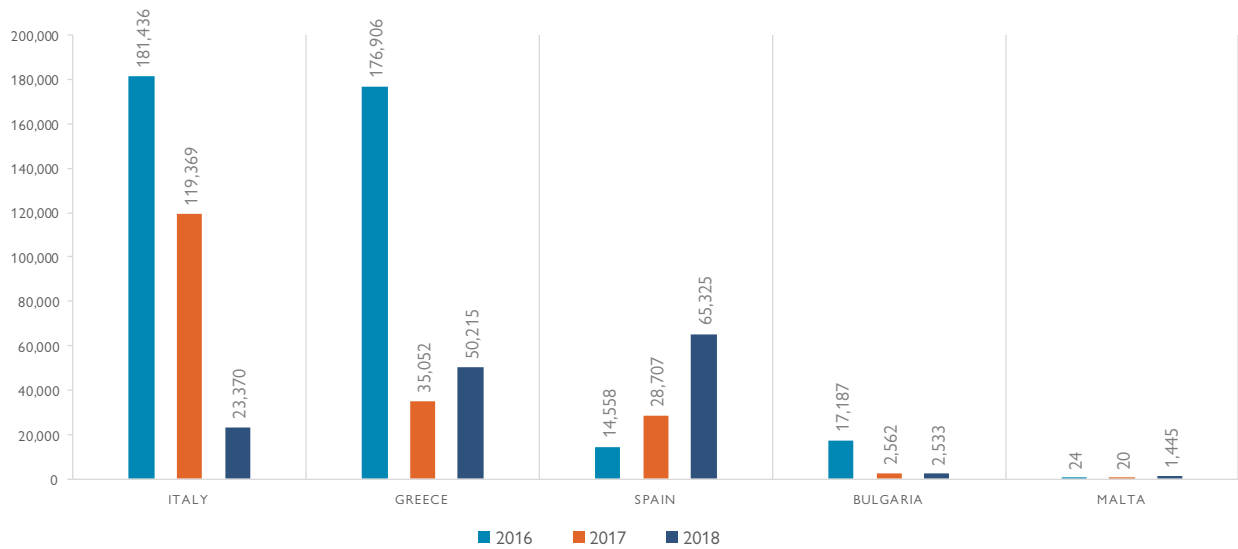
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The Italian Coast Guard rescues migrants bound for Italy. Francesco Malavolta/  
IOM 2014

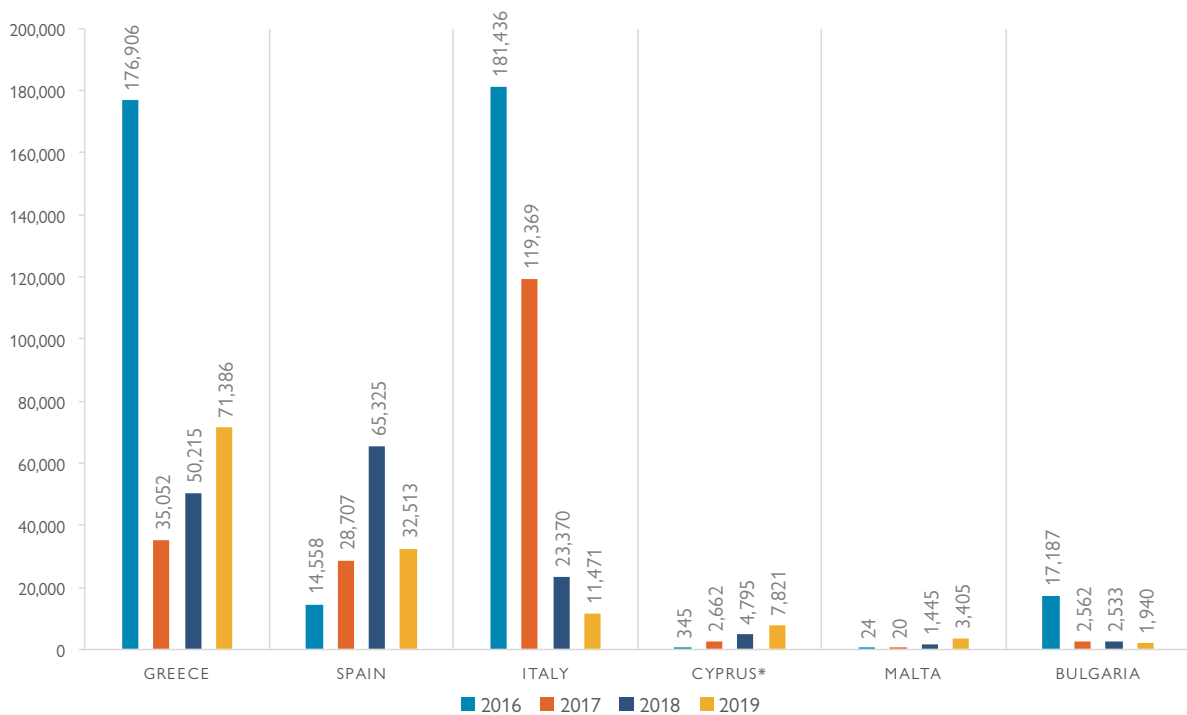
## OVERVIEW OF ARRIVALS & REGISTERED IRREGULAR APPREHENSIONS

Figure 2: Arrivals in Greece, Spain, Italy, Cyprus, Malta and Bulgaria, 2016–2019.



\*Data for Cyprus have been adjusted from previous reports/periods with newly available government data.

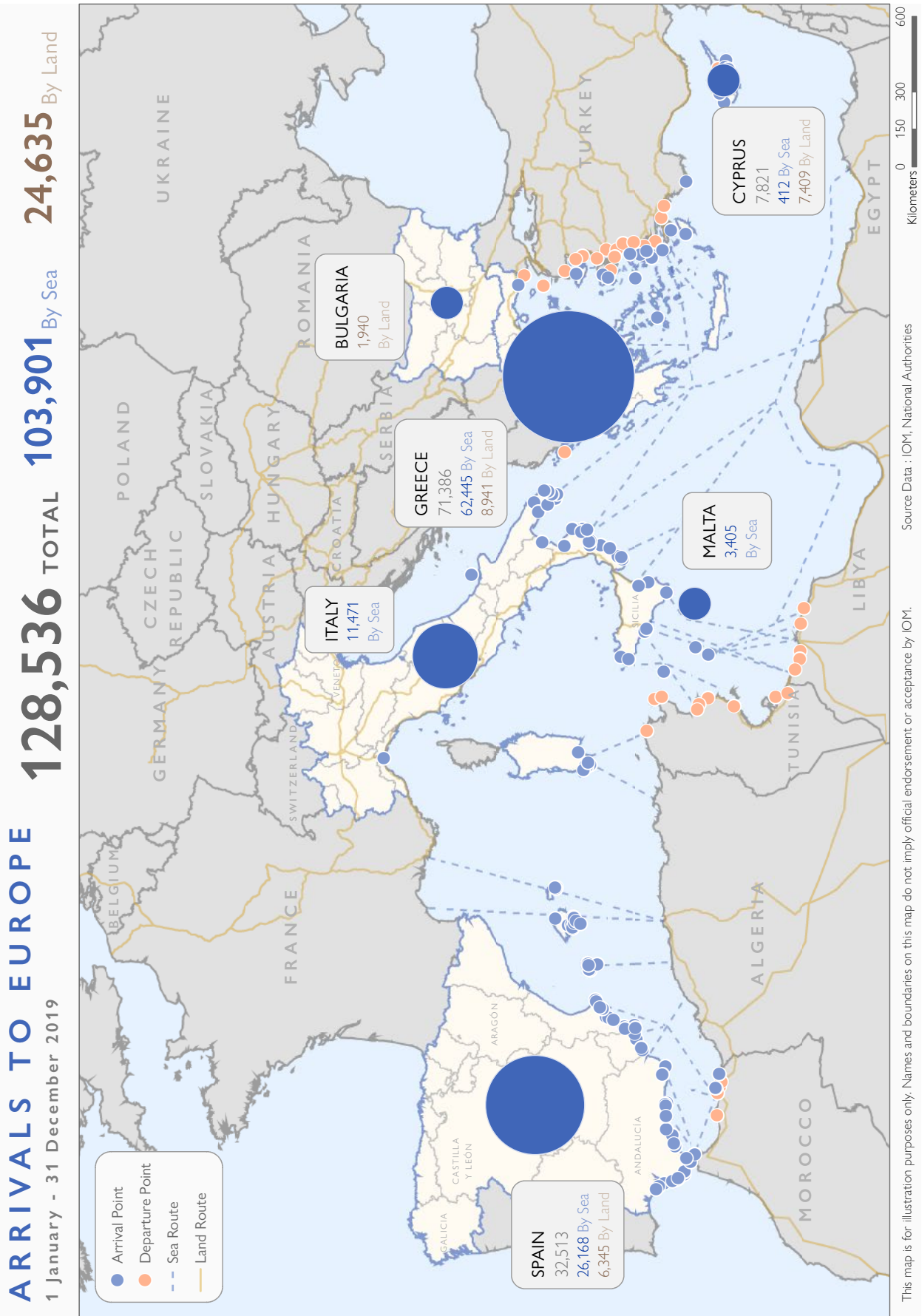
Figure 3: Registered irregular apprehensions in the Western Balkans and other transit countries/areas, 2017–2019.



\* References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

## OVERVIEW MAPS

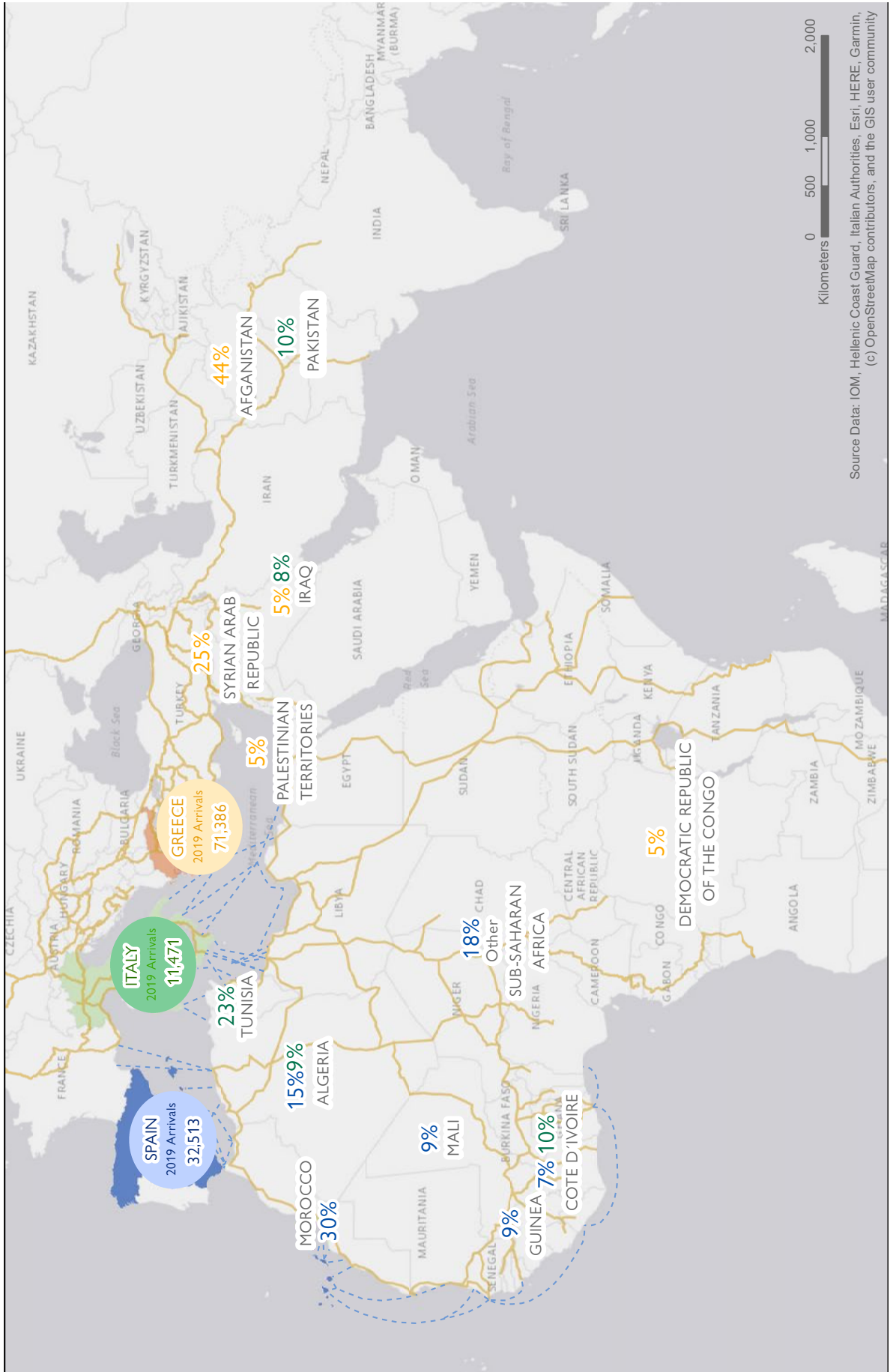
Map 1: Arrivals in Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Spain between January and December 2019.



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

## OVERVIEW: COUNTRIES OR AREAS OF ORIGIN

Arrivals to Greece, Italy and Spain according to available data from 01 January to 31 December 2019\*



Source Data: IOM, Hellenic Coast Guard, Italian Authorities, Esri, HERE, Garmin, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community

\* Excluding nationality data for arrivals to Spain in December 2019, which is not yet available.



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

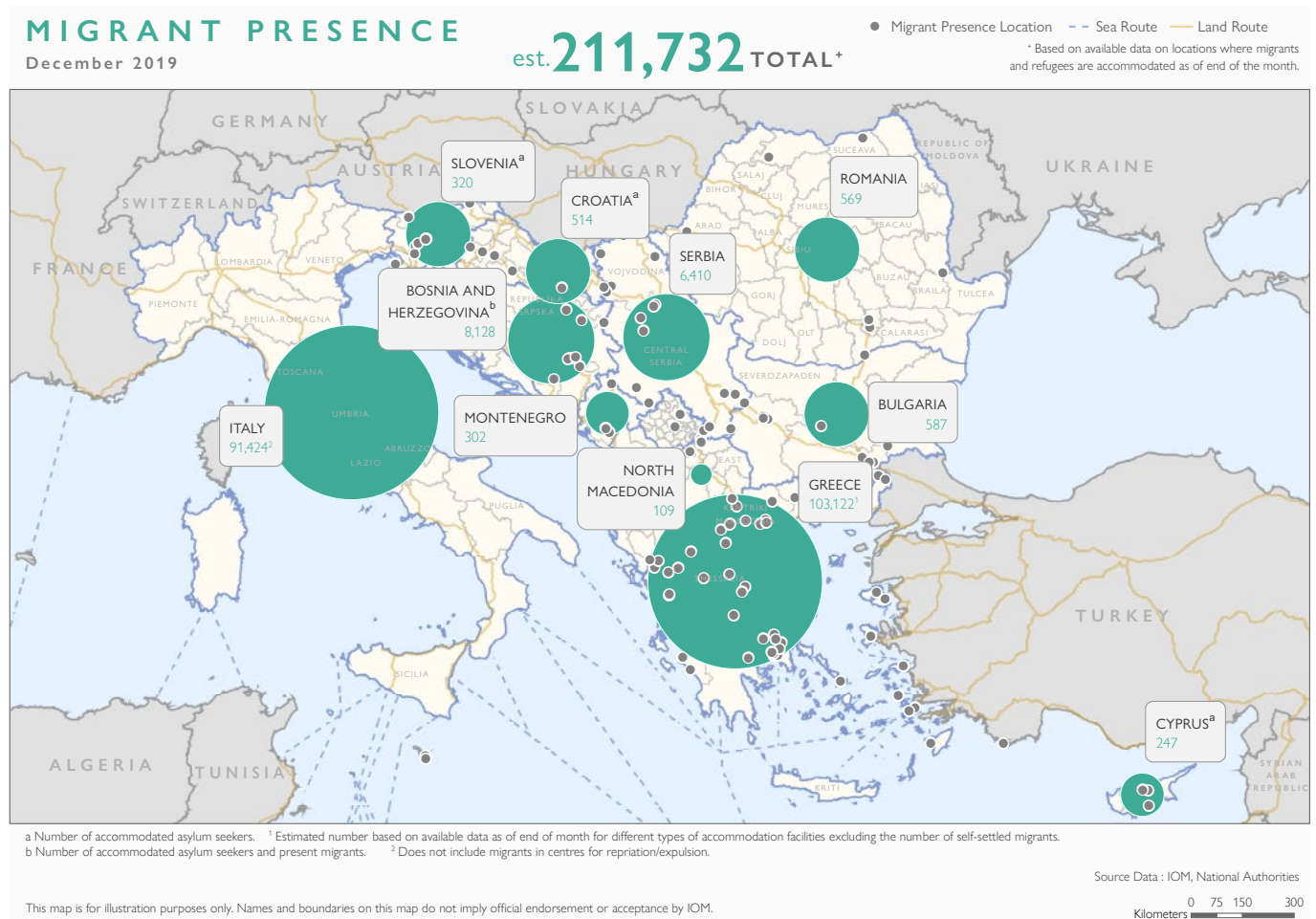


Table 1: Presence of migrants and asylum seekers in reception as of the end of December, comparison 2017–2019.

Country	Dec-17	Dec-18	Dec-19
Greece <sup>3</sup>	54,225	63,083	103,122
Bosnia and Herzegovina	175	4,291	8,128
Bulgaria	973	690	587
Croatia <sup>4</sup>	508	326	514
Cyprus	297	246	247
Montenegro	190	100	302
North Macedonia	40	35	109
Romania	758	385	569
Serbia	3,979	4,617	6,410
Slovenia <sup>4</sup>	228	266	320
Italy	183,681	135,858	91,424

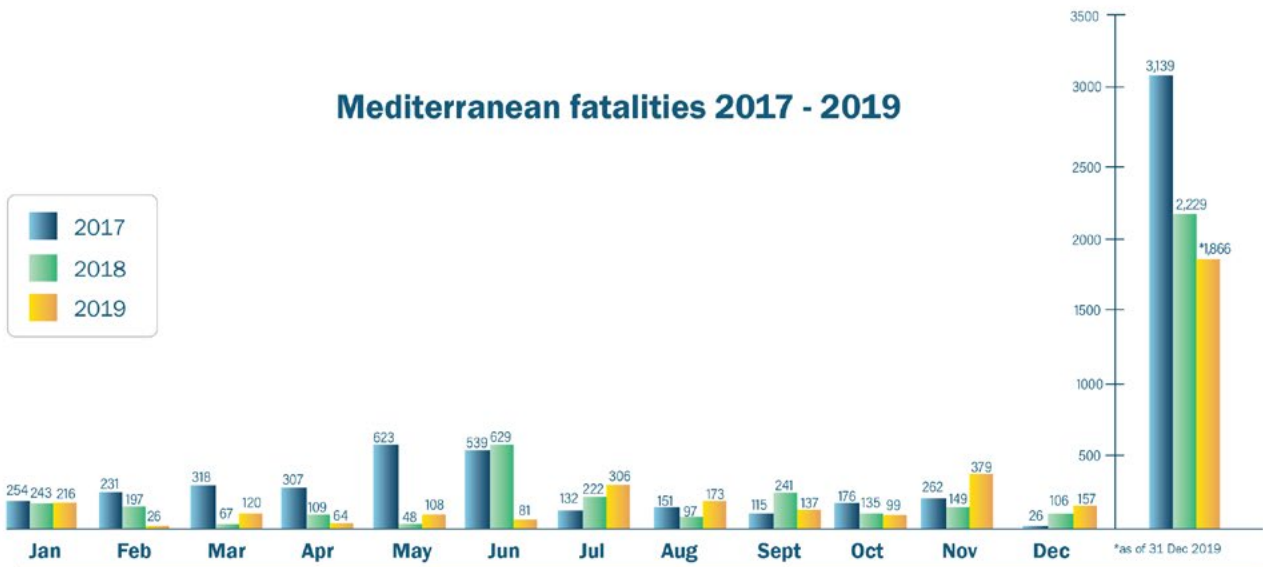
<sup>3</sup> Data for Greece excludes self-settled migrants and asylum seekers.

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

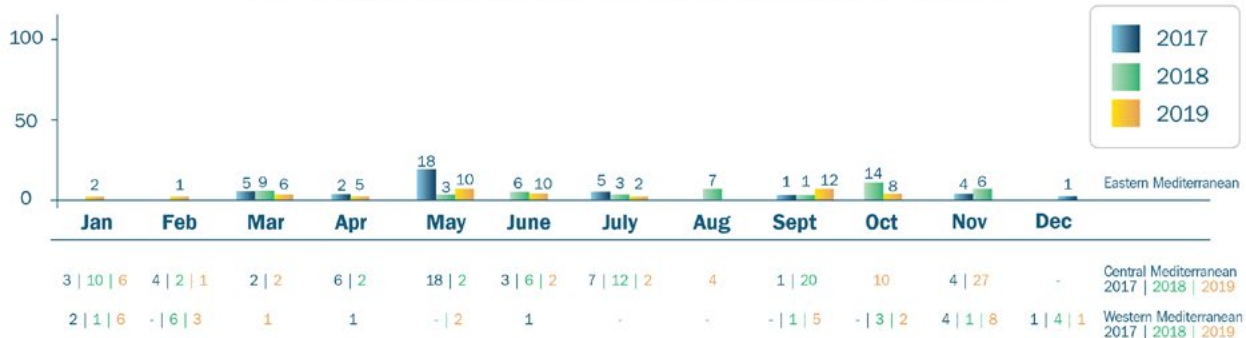
Map 4: Missing Migrants: Fatalities/Missing in the Mediterranean and Aegean Seas.



### Mediterranean fatalities 2017 - 2019



### Child fatalities in the Mediterranean 2017 - 2019



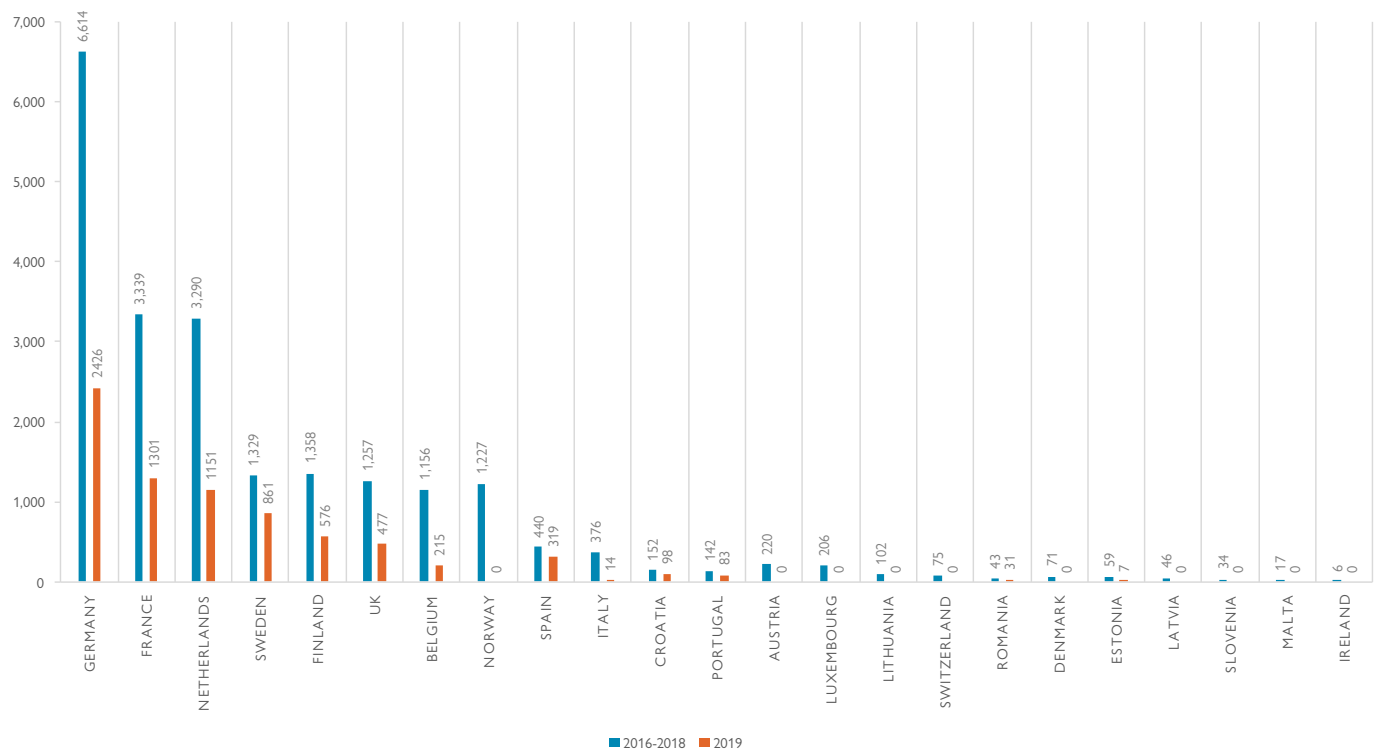
\*Data for child fatalities on the Central Mediterranean route is incomplete as most bodies are never recovered. The true number is not known. Map is for illustrative purpose. Boundaries and names used and designations shown do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

## EU – TURKEY STATEMENT AND THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

In response to the arrival of almost one million migrants and refugees from the Middle East and Africa through the Eastern Mediterranean route in the second half of 2015 and the first three months of 2016, the European Union (EU) and Turkey agreed on a plan to end irregular migration flows from Turkey to the EU on 18 March 2016. 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 so far, between April 2016 and December 2019, is 29,118.

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 were 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 was 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 between July and September 2019 (26,852) are higher than the totals of the first and second quarter this year (8,162 and 10,286, respectively). Arrivals in Greece in the fourth quarter of 2019 (26,086) and for 2019 overall (71,331) are higher than those reported in Spain (9,621 in Q4 and 32,513 in 2019) and in Italy (3,838 in Q4 and 11,471 in 2019 so far).

Figure 4: Number of Syrian refugees resettled from Turkey to Europe (EEA) between April 2016 and December 2019.<sup>5</sup>



<sup>5</sup> The figure includes the number of refugees from the Syrian Arab Republic assisted by IOM Turkey through the 1:1 resettlement scheme as well as other bilateral programs.

# COUNTRIES OF FIRST ARRIVAL

## SPAIN

### Developments during the reporting period

During the reporting period (1–31 December), Spanish authorities registered the arrivals of a total of 2,738 migrants and refugees, representing an increase of 7 per cent compared to arrivals in the previous month (2,556) and just half (51%) of the arrivals in December last year, when a total of 5,578 individuals arrived in Spain using sea and land routes.

Between January and December 2019, the total number of individuals that have reached Spain by sea and land route is 32,513. The arrivals registered in this period represent a decrease of 50 per cent compared to the same period in 2018, when a total of 65,325 arrivals were recorded.

### Demographic profile

According to the information reported by the Spanish Ministry of Interior, the main nationalities among arrivals by sea between January and November<sup>7</sup> 2019 are Morocco (30%), Algeria (15%), Mali (9%), Guinea (9%) and non-specified nationals from Sub-Saharan countries (18%), followed by 19 per cent of other nationalities.

During the same period in 2018, the most popular nationalities reported were Morocco (23%), Guinea (11%), Mali (10%), Algeria (8%) together with a large proportion of non-specified nationals from Sub-Saharan countries (33%).

Based on IOM estimates from DTM flow monitoring data of 2019, 80 per cent of all arrivals by sea are adult males, 13 per cent are adult females and the remaining 7 per cent are children.

Figure 7: Nationality breakdown of sea arrivals to Spain between January and November 2019.<sup>7</sup>

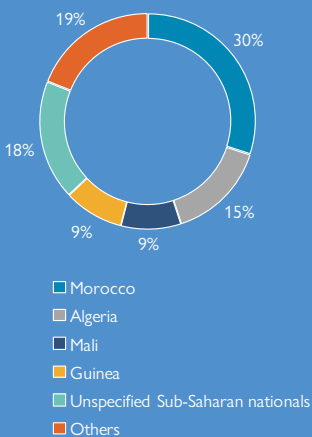


Figure 5: Sea and land arrivals to Spain between January and December, comparison 2016–2019<sup>6</sup>

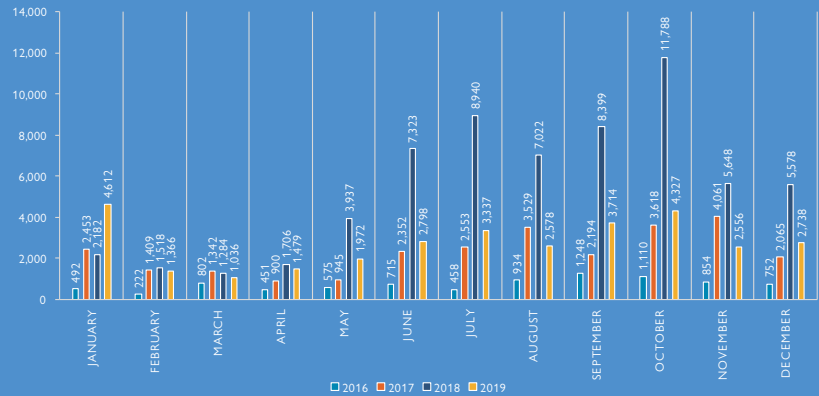


Figure 6: Land and sea arrivals registered in Spain each month, 2019

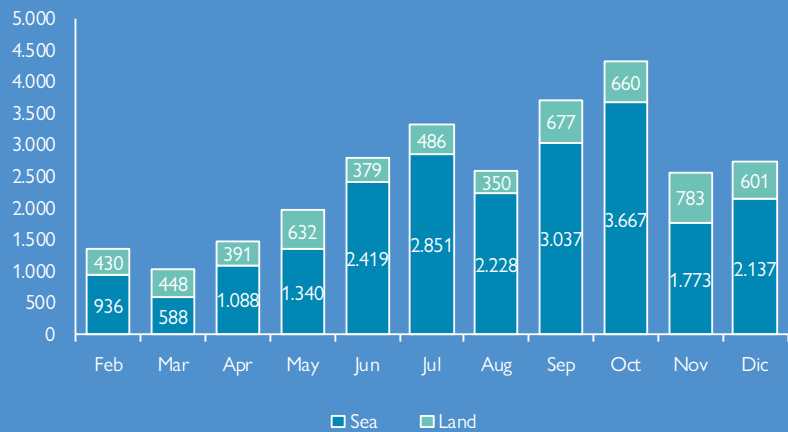


Figure 8: Nationality breakdown of sea arrivals to Spain between January and December 2018.

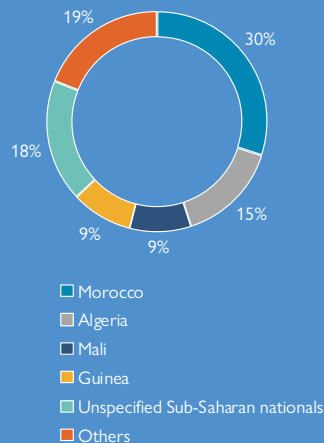
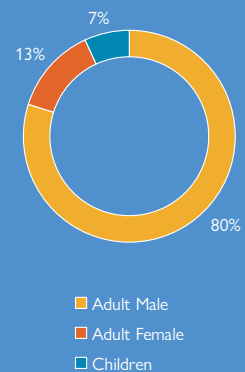


Figure 9: Age/Sex breakdown of sea arrivals between January and December 2019, estimates based on DTM flow monitoring data.<sup>8</sup>



<sup>7</sup> Based on available nationality data for 23,157 individuals entering Spain between January and November in 2019. Data on nationalities for arrivals in December are not yet available.

<sup>8</sup> Calculation is based on available information for a total of 16,313 sea arrivals (62% of the total of 26,168 sea arrivals registered in Spain between January and December 2019).

### Main entry points

Based on DTM monitoring data, an estimated 78 per cent (2,137) of migrants and refugees who arrived in Spain in December 2019 used different sea routes to the Spanish islands and the peninsular coasts. The remaining 22 per cent (601 individuals) arrived in Spain by land, by reaching the cities of Ceuta and Melilla.

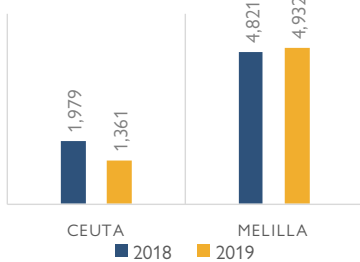
From the total number of sea and land arrivals between January and December 2019, some 41 per cent reached the coasts of Andalusia, and another 8 per cent arrived at the Canary Islands by using the Western African sea Route. A further 24 per cent arrived at the autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla on the northern coast of Africa, mostly by land (81%) and the remaining by sea (19%).

### Land arrivals in Ceuta and Melilla

In December 2019, a total of 601 individuals were recorded entering through the borders of Ceuta and Melilla, the two Spanish autonomous cities located in Northern Africa, which is 23 per cent less than the 783 individuals registered in the previous month. Of the total, 86 arrivals were registered in Ceuta (14%) and the other 515 (86%) in Melilla. The total number of land arrivals this month represents an increase of 6 per cent when compared to the same month in 2018, when a total of 565 arrivals were apprehended by the Spanish authorities.

Still, the overall number of land arrivals between January and December this year (6,345) is slightly less (-7%) than the 6,800 entries registered in the same period of 2018.

Figure 11: Arrivals in Ceuta and Melilla, comparison 2018–2019.



### Resettlement

From the beginning of the first National Resettlement Program which initiated in June 2016 until now, IOM has assisted the resettlement to Spain of 2,263 refugees. The last arrivals were registered in September 2019, when 825 refugees were resettled from Turkey, Jordan and Israel under the second Spanish National Resettlement Program.

As of September 2019, Spain officially launched the third national resettlement program, financed by the Spanish Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security. The program has a duration of 18 months and it is expected to facilitate the resettlement of 1,200 refugees from the following countries: Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Lebanon, Niger and Turkey. No arrivals under this program have been registered in its initial phase between September and December 2019.

### Sea arrivals

The reported 2,137 arrivals by sea registered in December 2019 are less than half of the arrivals in the same month in 2018 (5,013) and almost the same as the arrivals by sea in December 2017 (2,371). The 26,168 sea arrivals reported between January and December are 55 per cent less than the arrivals in the same period in 2018 (58,525) and 17 per cent more than the sea arrivals between January and December 2017 (22,414).

The migrants and refugees who arrived in December 2019 by sea travelled in 94 embarkations, which is a bit more than the estimated 63 embarkations registered in the previous month and less than the 156 embarkations registered in December 2018. Since the beginning of 2019, the Spanish authorities have reported to have intercepted a total of 1,192 vessels. This is 44 per cent less than the number of embarkations registered in the same period last year, when a total of 2,115 embarkations were intercepted on their way to Spain (923 vessels less).

Figure 10: Sea arrivals to Spain by month, comparison 2015–2019.

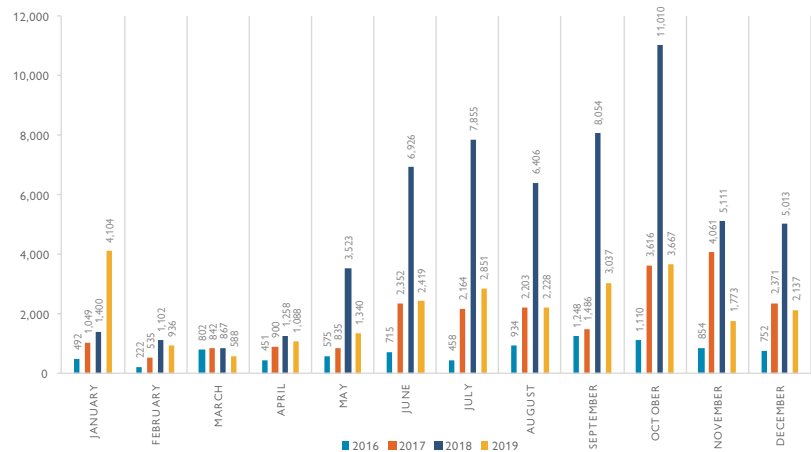
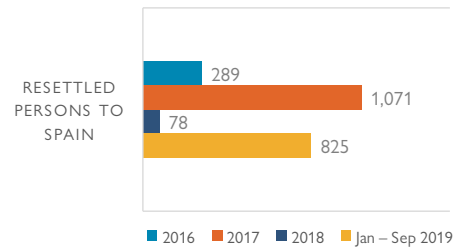
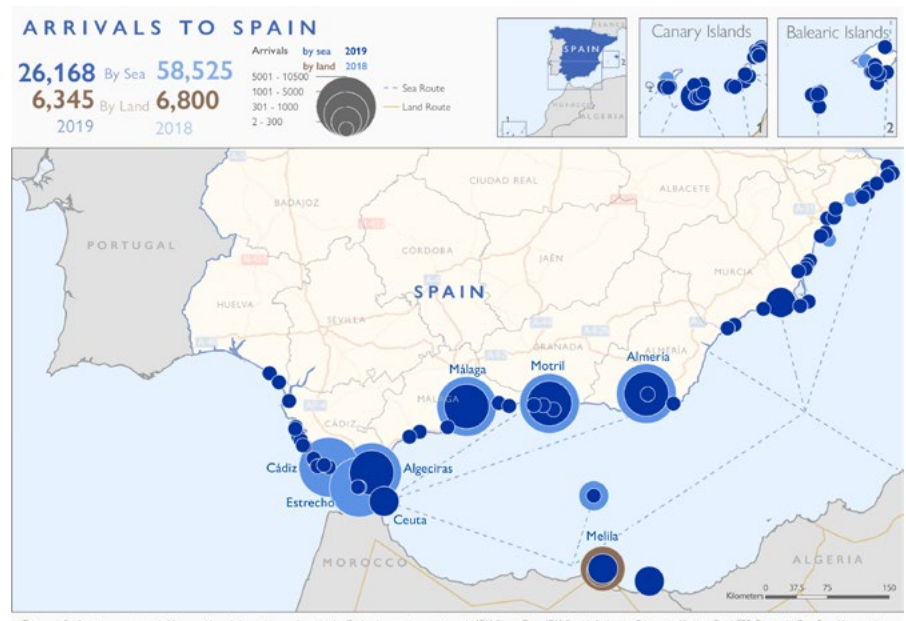


Figure 12: Resettlements of nationals from the Syrian Arab Republic to Spain, 2016–2019.



Map 5: Main arrival points in Spain, 2018 and 2019.



# ITALY

## Developments during the reporting period

During December 2019, authorities in Italy registered a total of 589 new arrivals, which is a 52 per cent decrease compared to the 1,232 reported in November 2019. Arrivals in December 2019 are 64 per cent more than the 359 in December 2018, 75 per cent less than the 2,327 of December 2017 and it is just 7 per cent of the 8,047 registered in December 2016.

A total of 11,471 migrants and refugees were reported to have arrived in Italy between January and December of 2019. This is a 51 per cent decrease in comparison with the same period of 2018 when 23,370 arrivals were registered and is 10 per cent of the 119,369 reported between January and December 2017. Arrivals in Italy this year are the lowest reported on record since DTM began collecting this data in 2014.

According to the available data shared by the Italian Ministry of Interior (MOI),<sup>9</sup> most migrants and refugees arrived in 2019 so far are adult males (71%), with the rest being adult females (9%), accompanied children (5%) and unaccompanied and separated children (15%).

Tunisia represents the first declared nationality for registered migrants arriving in Italy in 2019, with 2,654 individuals (23% of the total). Other main reported countries of origin are Pakistan (10%), Côte d'Ivoire (10%), Algeria (9%), Iraq (8%) and others of Africa and Southern Asia. Tunisians also made up the biggest national group of arrivals between January and December 2018 (22% of the total), followed by migrants from Eritrea<sup>10</sup> (14%), Iraq (7%), Sudan (7%) and Pakistan (7%).

Migrants and refugees that arrived by sea in Italy between January and December 2019 departed more often from Libya (36%) and Tunisia (32%). Other main reported countries of departure are Turkey (16%), Algeria (8%) and Greece (8%).<sup>11</sup> This year for the first time since 2011 Tunisia has surpassed Libya as the main country of departure until the beginning of October; although departures from Tunisia decreased in November and December compared to previous months, the country is still the departure of one third of all registered arrivals.

Figure 14: Age/Sex breakdown of registered arrivals by sea, January–December 2019

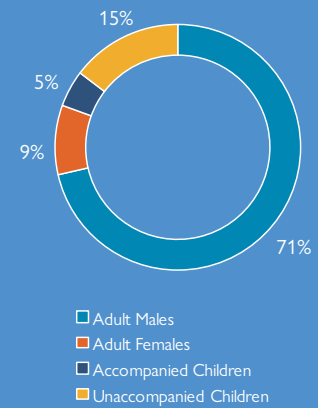


Figure 15: Nationality breakdown of registered arrivals by sea in Italy between January and December 2019.

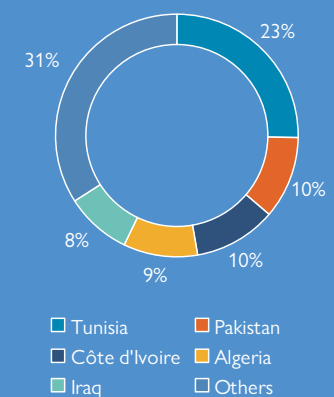
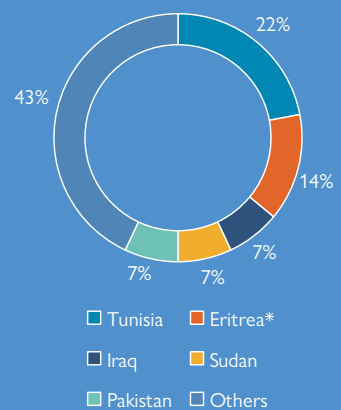
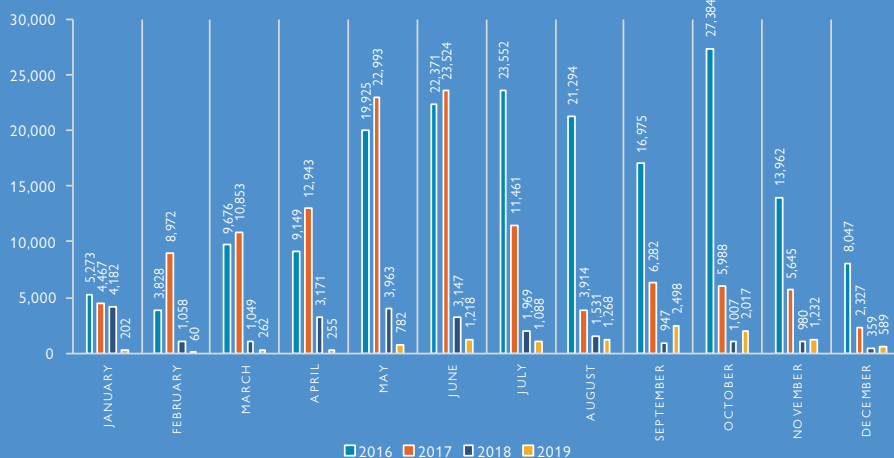


Figure 16: Nationality breakdown of registered arrivals by sea in Italy between January and December 2018.



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

Figure 13: Monthly arrivals in Italy by sea, 2016–2019.



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

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

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

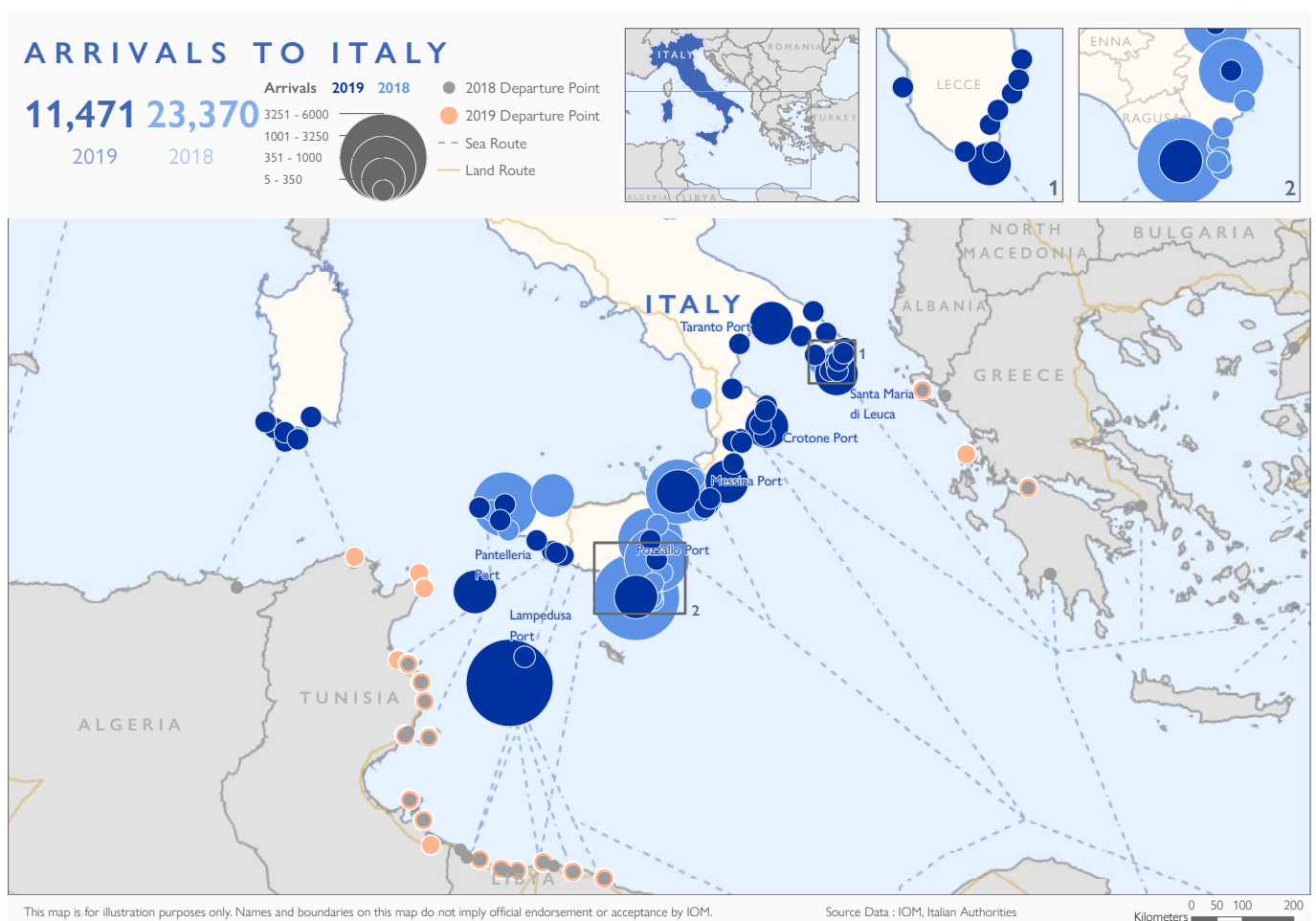
4 December – After the Ministry of Interior's approval, the vessels Alan Kurdi and Ocean Vikings disembarked 121 migrants at the ports of Messina (Sicily) and Pozzallo (Sicily). Specifically, the first vessel disembarked 61 migrants, and the second 60. The migrants were rescued in two operations in the Central Mediterranean sea (more [here](#)).

23 December – Following the Ministry of Interior's approval, the vessel Ocean Vikings disembarked 159 migrants in Taranto (Apulia). The migrants rescued will be relocated in France, Germany, and Portugal (more [here](#)).

29 December - The vessel Alan Kurdi disembarked 32 migrants in Pozzallo (Sicily), following the Ministry of Interior's approval. The migrants were onboard for 4 days, after they were rescued from a rubber boat in distress coming from Libya. (more [here](#)).

## Known entry & exit points

Map 5: Main entry points to Italy, 2018 and 2019.



Since the beginning of the year, 439 single landing events were reported by Italian authorities. Most recorded disembarkations took place in Sicily (63% of the total) and particularly in Lampedusa and Pantelleria. The remaining number of events were registered in Sardinia (Porto Pino, Sant'Antioco, Cagliari), Apulia (Leuca, Gallipoli) and Calabria (Crotona e Roccella Jonica).

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 from Slovenia. The main reported nationalities of migrants entering Italy by land are Pakistan and Afghanistan.

It is well reported by media and organizations in the field, including IOM, that some migrants try to exit the country and reach other European destinations. Ventimiglia consistently remains the most popular transit place for migrants and refugees who are trying to cross the border with France, followed by Bardonecchia (Italy/France), Como (Italy/Switzerland) and, to a lesser extent, Bolzano (Italy/Austria).

## Relocation within Europe

After the closure of the EU relocation mechanism, IOM supports Italian authorities in the procedures to relocate some of the migrants and refugees arriving by sea to other EU countries. In 2019, IOM Italy assisted the relocation of 230 individuals to France and 132 to Germany; main nationalities were Sudan (25%), Côte d'Ivoire (12%), Cameroon (10%) and Nigeria (10%).

So far in 2019, IOM has also assisted the transfer of 31 children to the United Kingdom within the framework of the DUBS project. Since the beginning of the project (April 2018), a total of 44 children were transferred to the UK with IOM support.

Map 6: Distribution of migrants in reception centres in Italy by region, December 2019.



## Resettlement and Humanitarian Corridors

IOM Italy manages a resettlement program financed by the Ministry of Interior, under which 471 refugees were assisted so far in 2019: 79.2 per cent of them are nationals from the Syrian Arab Republic with the rest being from Sudan, Eritrea<sup>12</sup>, Ethiopia and others. Departures took place from Lebanon, Jordan, Sudan and Libya.

Over the past three years, a consortium of faith-based organizations has been organizing self-funded humanitarian corridors in agreement with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Italian Ministry of Interior. A total of more than 2,700 migrants and refugees have been admitted in Italy since February 2016, with beneficiaries granted reception and integration services by the promoting organizations.

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

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

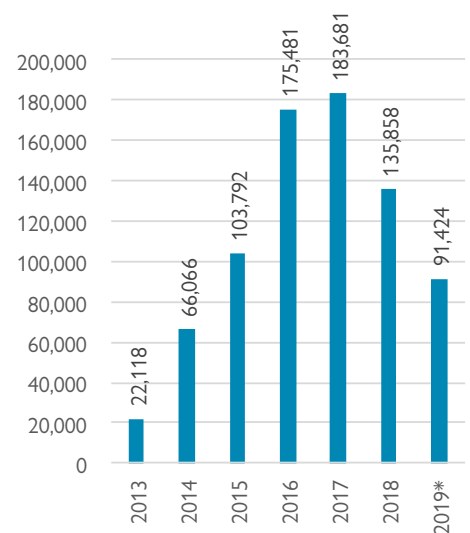
## Migrants in reception centres

According to the data provided by the Italian Ministry of Interior, the total number of migrants hosted in reception centres of various types throughout the country is 91,424 in December 2019. This is a 33 per cent decrease compared to December 2018. Out of the total, 27 per cent of migrants and refugees are hosted in second-level reception centres (SIPROIMI) while the rest are 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 legislative changes which have also affected the criteria to be granted a shelter in the reception system.

The number of unaccompanied migrant children in dedicated reception facilities is also decreasing. According to the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, around 6,369 Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) were in reception at the end of November 2019, which represents a 66 per cent decrease compared to November 2018 (18,508). Children coming from Albania, Egypt, Pakistan, Côte d'Ivoire and the Gambia represent more than half of all unaccompanied migrant children registered and present in residential or family care.

Figure 17: Occupancy in reception centres for migrants and refugees in Italy at the end of the year, 2013–2019.



\*Data as of end of December 2019.  
Source: Italian MOI. Note: this data does not include CPR (centres for forced repatriation).



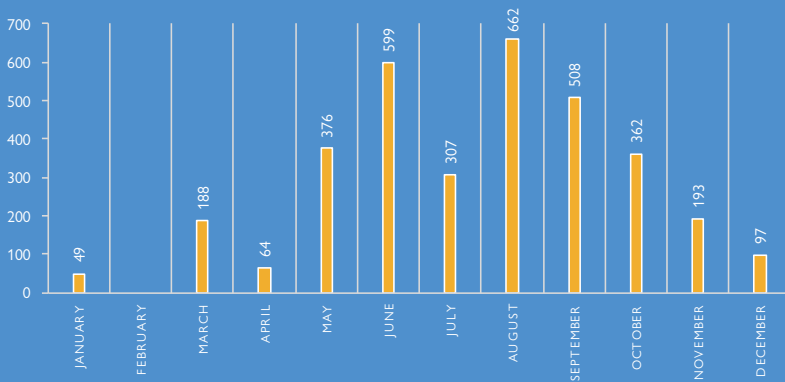
# MALTA

## Developments during the reporting period

During the reporting period (1–31 December 2019), 97 migrants disembarked in Malta. The registered arrivals were the result of one rescue operation, coordinated by the Armed Forces of Malta (AFM) at the beginning of the month. Arrivals in December 2019 are approximately half of the 193 reported during the previous month this year (1–30 November 2019), and approximately 63 per cent less than the 263 arrivals registered in December 2018.

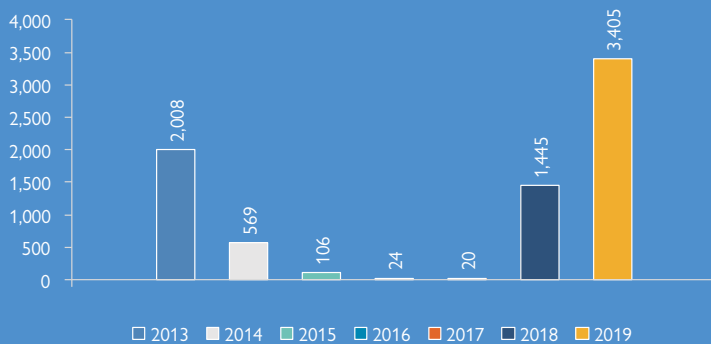
According to the data provided by the Maltese Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security (MHAS), a total of 3,405 migrants arrived in Malta in 2019. This is more than twice the estimated arrivals for 2018 (1,445). According to available official data and IOM estimates, total arrivals in Malta in 2019 have exceeded the yearly totals registered since 2013.

Figure 18: Arrivals in Malta, January–December 2019.<sup>13</sup>



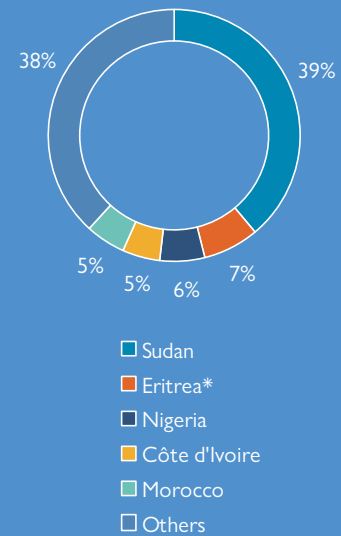
According to available data from the MHAS, in 2019, Sudan was by far the most frequent reported nationality at arrival (39%), followed by Eritrea<sup>14</sup> (7%), Nigeria (6%), Morocco (5%), Côte d'Ivoire (5%), and about 30 other nationalities. Most disembarked migrants were adult males (71%), followed by children (24% of the total) and adult females (5%). Just over half of all children were reported to be unaccompanied (53%).<sup>15</sup>

Figure 19: Arrivals in Malta, 2013–2019.<sup>16</sup>



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

Figure 20: Arrivals in Malta by nationality, January–December 2019.<sup>17</sup>



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

13 Source: Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security and IOM.

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

15 Information on sex and age is available only for arrivals since late June 2019 (1,895 individuals, or 56% of all arrivals registered in 2019).

16 Source: Government of Malta – National Statistics Office, Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security – and IOM.

17 Source: Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security and IOM.

# GREECE

## Developments during the reporting period

During this reporting period (1–31 December 2019), Hellenic authorities registered 6,952 migrants and refugees who arrived in Greece by sea and land. This is 26 per cent less than the previous month, when 9,365 arrivals were registered, almost two times the 3,954 reported in December 2018, and more than two times the 2,845 reported in December 2017.

Between January and December 2019, 71,386 migrants and refugees have been registered. This is 42 per cent more than the 50,215 in 2018 and more than twice the 35,052 reported in 2017. Thirteen per cent of all migrants and refugees registered arriving in Greece so far in 2019 crossed into the country through land routes and the remaining 87 per cent arrived by sea.

Afghanistan was the most commonly reported country of origin in 2019, declared by 43 per cent of registered migrants and refugees arriving by sea to Greece. Other countries and areas of origin include the Syrian Arab Republic (25%), followed by Iraq (5%), the Palestinian Territories (5%), and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (5%). The remaining 17 per cent are distributed among 60 other countries/areas of origin. In the same period of 2018, the most frequently reported countries or areas of origin were Afghanistan (29%), the Syrian Arab Republic (23%), Iraq (18%), the Palestinian Territories (4%) and Democratic Republic of the Congo (4%).

Figure 21: Arrivals in Greece each month, 2016–2019.

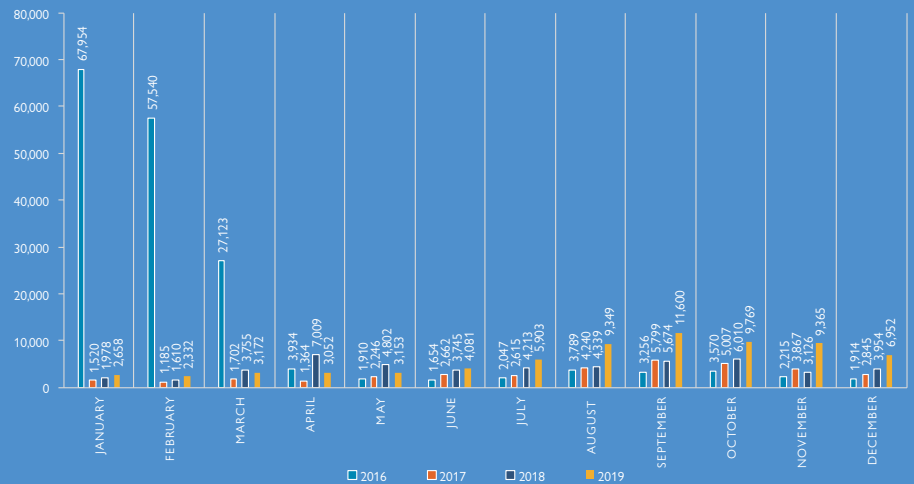


Figure 22: Arrivals by sea and by land in Greece between January and December 2017–2019.

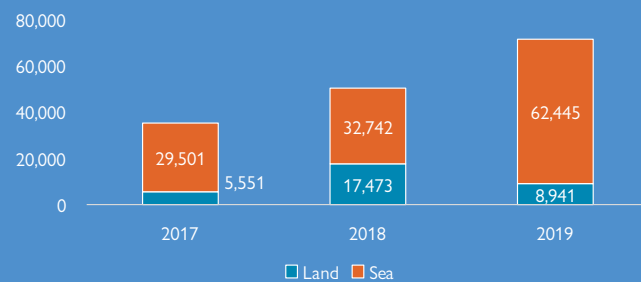


Figure 23: Countries/areas of origin breakdown of registered arrivals by sea in Greece between January and December 2019.

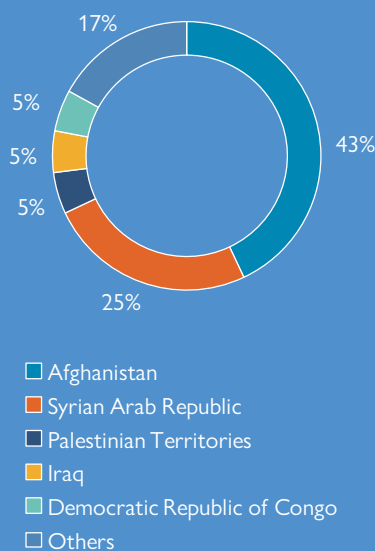
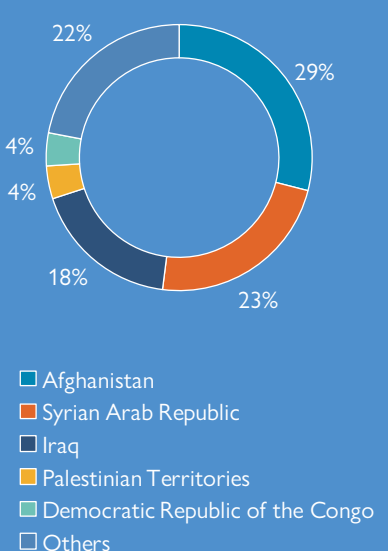


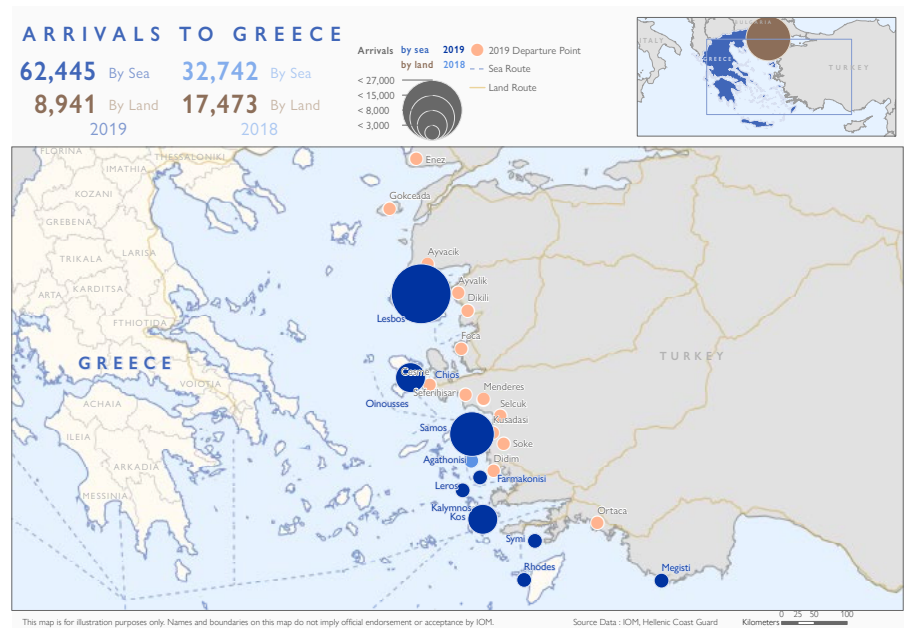
Figure 24: Countries/areas of origin breakdown of registered arrivals by sea in Greece between January and December 2018.



### Known entry points

According to the available data for December 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 also (1–30 November). Available data indicates that the majority of those who arrived in the country by land in 2019 travelled from the Edirne province in Turkey to the Evros region in Greece.

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



### Migrant presence

According to the latest available data from IOM Athens and national authorities there were an estimated 103,122 migrants and refugees in different accommodation facilities on the Greek mainland and islands at the end of December 2019, an increase (4%) compared to the 99,251 reported at the end of the previous reporting period (November 2019) and a 72 per cent increase compared to the 60,083 registered at the end of December 2018. An estimated 41 per cent of people in official reception facilities in Greece at the end of December 2019 were registered in facilities on the islands, while the remaining 59 per cent were registered in different types of shelters on the mainland. Since May 2019 when 68,714 were reported, more accommodated migrants and refugees have been reported each month in Greece than any month since DTM began collecting this information in 2016.

Table 2: Types of facilities in Greece and occupancy at the end December 2019.

Type of facilities	Number of accommodated migrants and refugees
Islands	41,899
Open Accommodation Facilities on the mainland	24,110
UNHCR Accommodation scheme on the mainland	21,620
EKKA UAC	5,301
Reception and Identification Centers on the mainland (Evros)	380
Detention Centers on the mainland	2,914
Hotels in the mainland	6,898
<b>Total</b>	<b>103,122</b>

Map 7: Distribution of migrants in reception centres in Greece by region, December 2019.

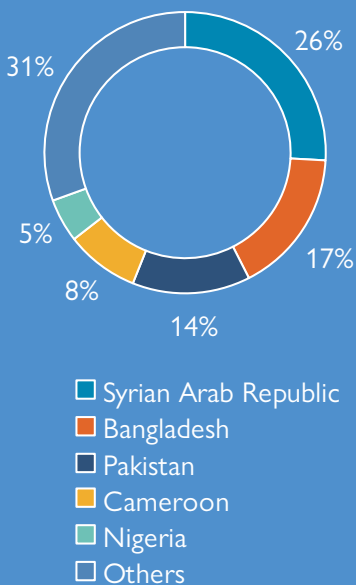


# CYPRUS

## Developments during the reporting period

According to available data from authorities in Cyprus, 487 arrivals were recorded in December 2019. Of these, 454 arrived by land via the Green Line from the northern part of the island and the remaining 33 arrived by sea. Overall, this represents a decrease of 40 per cent from the 813 arrivals reported in November 2019, and it marks one of the lowest numbers of monthly arrivals in 2019. Nevertheless, a total of 7,821 arrivals have been registered this year (January–December), which is almost 1.5 times the 4,795 reported in 2018 and three times the 2,662 reported in 2017.

Figure 26: Nationality breakdown of land arrivals in Cyprus in December 2019.



In 2019, migrants and refugees arriving by land were most frequently registered as nationals of Syrian Arab Republic (31%), followed by Cameroon (14%), Bangladesh (12%), Pakistan (12%), Georgia (4%), and others (28%). Most were adult males (72%), some were adult females (14%) and the remaining were children (13%).

Figure 27: Nationality breakdown of land arrivals in Cyprus between January and December 2019.

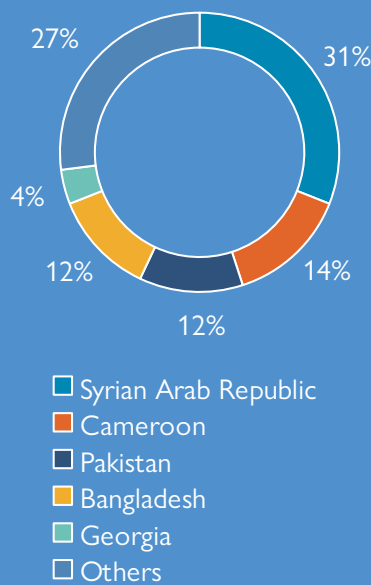


Figure 25: Arrivals in Cyprus between January and December, comparison 2017–2019.

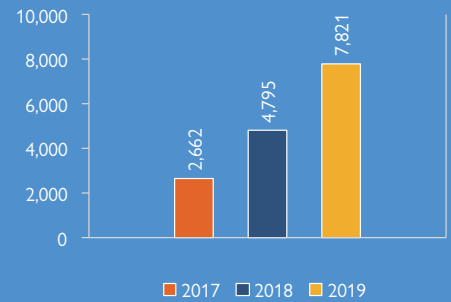
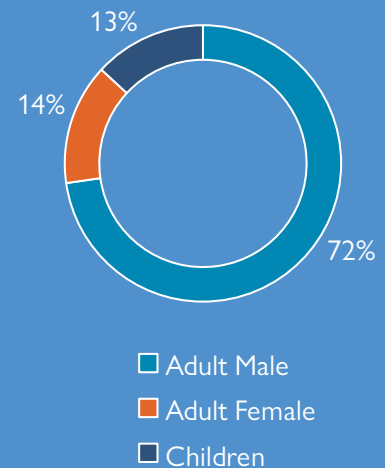


Figure 28: Sex/age breakdown of land arrivals in Cyprus between January and December 2019.



## Migrant presence

As of the end of December 2019, 247 migrants and asylum seekers were reportedly accommodated in the Kofinou Reception Facility in Cyprus, consistent with previous months in 2019. The highest reported number of accommodated in 2019 was 255 in January, and the lowest was 214 in July.

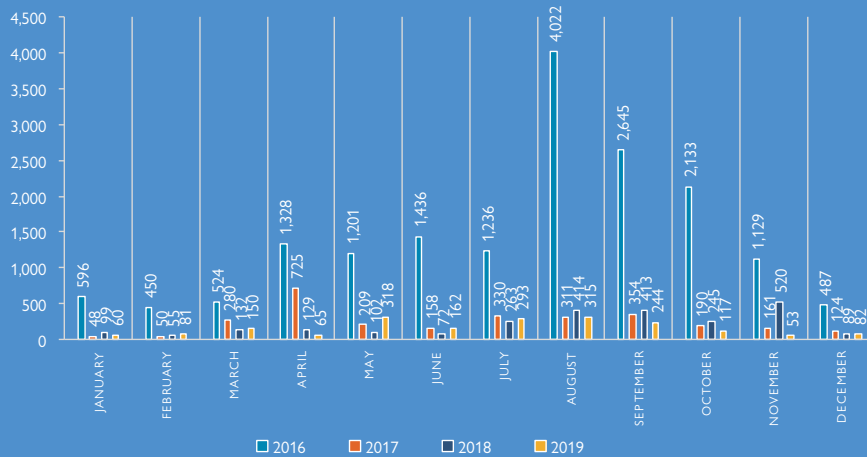
# BULGARIA

## Developments during the reporting period

In December 2019, Bulgarian authorities have reported the apprehension of 87 new irregular migrants. Of these, there were 35 apprehensions inside the country, 28 apprehensions on exit from the country, and 19 apprehensions were on entry at the border with Turkey. Furthermore, there were 5 apprehensions at the border with Greece.<sup>18</sup>

Between January and December 2019, there have been 1,940 new apprehensions. This is 23 per cent less than the 2,533 apprehensions registered between January and December 2018. The monthly average of new apprehensions in Bulgaria in 2019 was 162 and has ranged from a minimum of 55 in November to a maximum of 318 in May.

Figure 29: Number of new irregular migrants apprehended in Bulgaria each month, comparison 2017–2019.



## Migrant presence

As of 29 December 2019, an estimated 587 migrants and asylum seekers were accommodated in different reception facilities in Bulgaria, slightly more than the 541 reported as of 28 November 2019, yet is less than the 690 reported one year previously (30 December 2018).

Table 3: Reception facilities in Bulgaria with information on occupancy and capacity, as of the end of December 2019.

Accommodation facility	Capacity	Currently Accommodated
<b>Facilities run by the State Agency for Refugees<sup>19</sup></b>		
Open Reception Centre in Banya	70	0
Open Reception Centre in Sofia – Ovcha Kupel	860	124
Open Reception Centre in Sofia – Vrazhdebna	370	164
Open Reception Centre in Sofia – Voenna Rampa	800	50
Closed Reception Centre in Harmanli	2,710	117
Closed Reception Centre in Sofia – Busmantsi	60	10
<b>Facilities run by the Ministry of Interior<sup>20</sup></b>		
Closed Reception Centre in Lyubimets	350	
Closed Reception Centre in Busmantsi	400	122
Closed Reception Centre in Elhovo (temporarily closed due to renovation)	N/A	
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,940</b>	<b>587</b>

<sup>18</sup> Those registered at the border with Greece are not included in total arrivals to avoid potential double counting, considering that these individuals may have been already recorded as arrivals in Greece.

<sup>19</sup> As of 26 December.

<sup>20</sup> As of 29 December.

Figure 30: Nationality breakdown of migrants registered at entry in Bulgaria between January and December 2019.

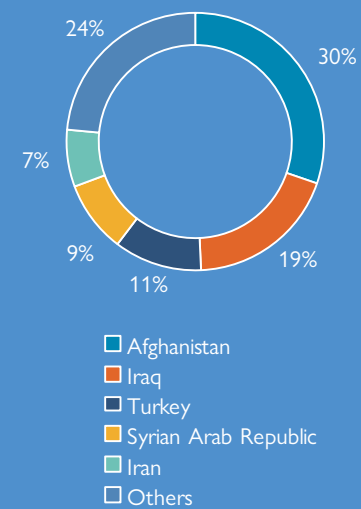
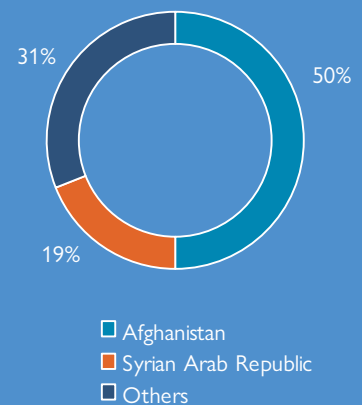
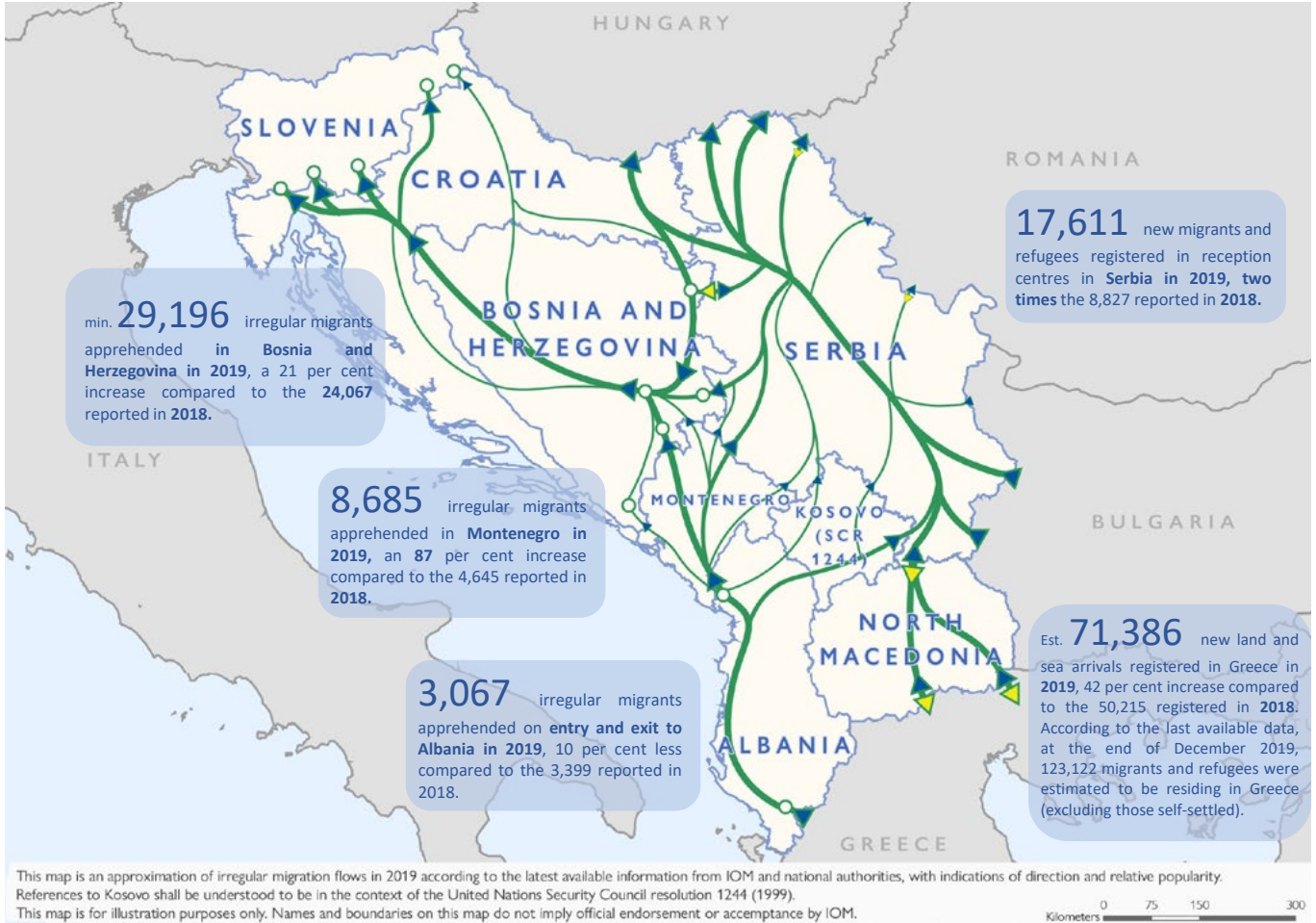


Figure 31: Nationality breakdown of migrants apprehended within Bulgaria between January and December 2019.



## WESTERN BALKANS AND OTHER TRANSIT COUNTRIES/AREAS

Map 8: Western Balkans map with figures of irregular migrant apprehensions and arrivals in December 2019.



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

# ALBANIA

## Developments during the reporting period<sup>21</sup>

During this reporting period (1–31 December 2019), there were 31 reported apprehensions on entry to Albania in the Gjirokastrer region, much less than the 180 reported in November 2019. The 453 apprehensions on entry in October was the most reported on entry in one month since DTM activities began in Albania in January 2016. A similar number of entries was recorded in the same month last year (32 in December 2018). Between January and December 2019, a total of 1,735 apprehensions on entry were recorded, 7 per cent more than the 1,627 recorded in 2018.

Additionally, 160 individuals were apprehended on exit<sup>22</sup> in their attempt to exit to Montenegro via the Shkoder region, more than the 107 reported in November 2019, yet almost as many as the 185 reported in October which was the highest reported amount on exit since November 2018 when 205 were registered. Overall, 1,332 apprehensions on exit were recorded during 2019 which is 25 per cent less than the 1,772 recorded in 2018.

Individuals registered between January and December 2019 most frequently originated from the Syrian Arab Republic (30%), followed by Iraq (23%), Morocco (10%), Afghanistan (10%), Pakistan (9%) and others (18%). Available data for the same period of 2018 indicates a relative decrease in the presence of Syrian nationals (53% between January–December 2018) and a relative increase in Iraqi nationals (9% between January–December 2018).

Figure 32: Registered irregular migrants on entry in Albania each month, 2016–2019.

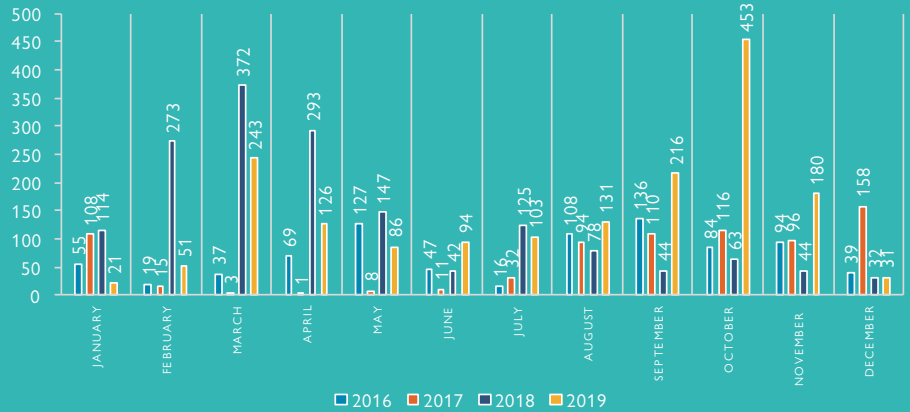


Figure 33: Registered irregular migrants on exit in Albania each month, 2018–2019.

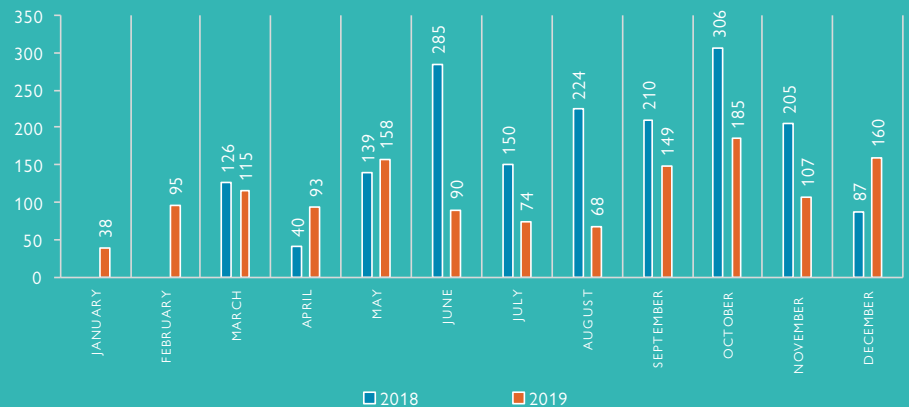


Figure 34: Nationality breakdown of registered irregular migrants between January and December 2019.

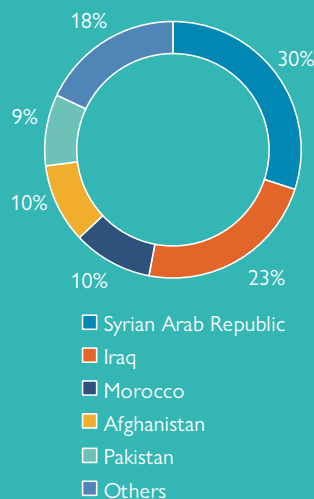
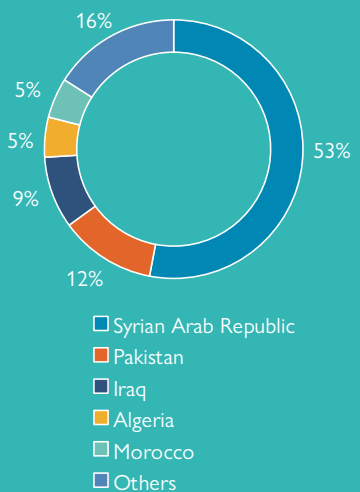


Figure 35: Nationality breakdown of registered irregular migrants between January and December 2018.



21 IOM collects data from two major Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) in Albania, one in the Gjirokastra region and one in the Shkodra region. There are other smaller points and irregular border crossings that are not included in this summary.

22 In March 2018, DTM established a Flow Monitoring Point in the north of Albania to capture outgoing flows towards Montenegro. For more information about incoming and outgoing flows in 2018, check [here](#).

# BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

## Developments during the reporting period

During December 2019, Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities (Ministry of Security of BiH) reported 1,100 new irregular migrants, less than the 1,925 reported in the previous month (November 2019) and one third of the 3,326 reported in October 2019. The average number of migrants arriving each week since the beginning of 2019 is 561.

Between January and December 2019, 29,196 new arrivals have been reported. This is 21 per cent more than the 24,067 reported in 2018 and significantly more than the 755 reported in 2017.<sup>23</sup>

The most commonly reported country of origin of individuals entering Bosnia and Herzegovina between January and December 2019 was Pakistan (33%), followed by Afghanistan (14%), Iraq (8%), Morocco (8%), the Syrian Arab Republic (7%), Bangladesh (7%) and others (23%). Between February and December 2018,<sup>24</sup> nationals of Pakistan were also the most frequent (33%), followed by migrants and refugees from the Islamic Republic of Iran (15%), the Syrian Arab Republic (12%), Afghanistan (12%), Iraq (9%) and others (19%).

Between January and September 2019, nationals of Pakistan were the most frequent among irregular arrivals in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This changed in October and November, where nationals of Afghanistan were the most frequently reported, and again in December 2019, when Morocco was the most commonly reported nationality. The number of both Afghan and Pakistani nationals registered in the country decreased significantly during the same month. Additionally, since September 2019, IOM detected a significant increase in the number of unaccompanied children from Egypt amounting to total of 348 for 2019. Of these, 75 per cent of unaccompanied children from Egypt entered Bosnia and Herzegovina in the fourth quarter of the year, with the highest monthly total in November (163 arrivals).

Figure 36: Registered irregular entries in Bosnia and Herzegovina between January and December 2019.

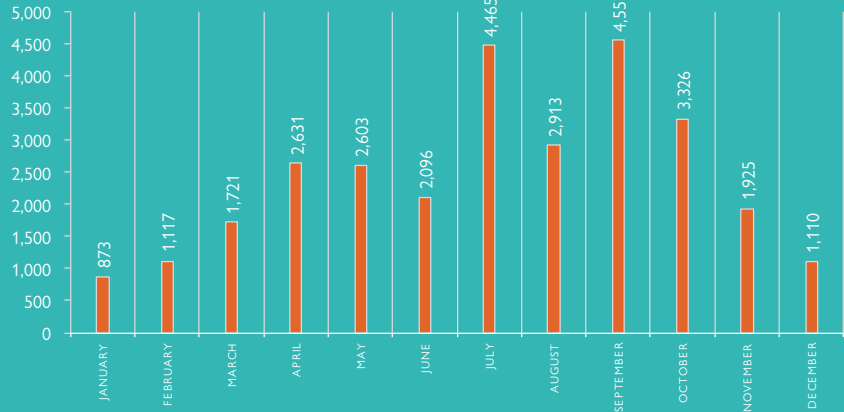


Figure 37: Irregular entries to Bosnia and Herzegovina, weekly arrivals in 2019.

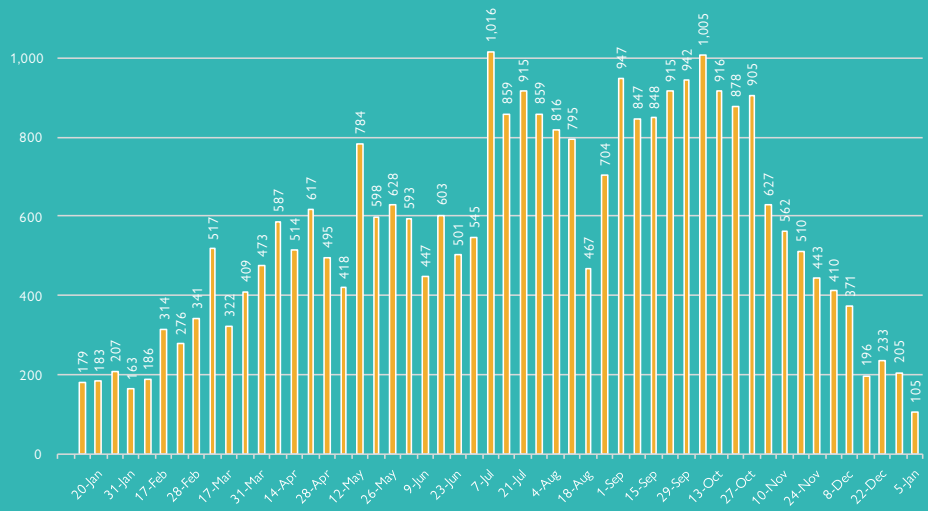


Figure 38: Nationality breakdown of migrants registered in Bosnia and Herzegovina between January and December 2019.

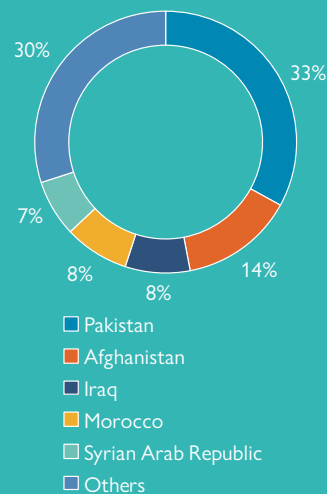
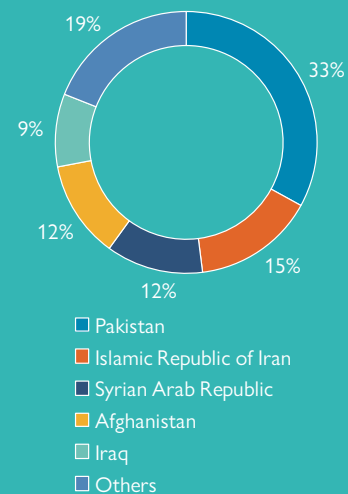


Figure 39: Nationality breakdown of migrants registered in Bosnia and Herzegovina between February and December 2018.



23 Total figures of arrivals to Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2017 and 2018 have been slightly adjusted from previous reports according to data provided by the Ministry of Security.

24 Nationality data for January 2018 is not available, hence the summary refers to the period between February and December 2018.



### Migrant presence

According to the data received from IOM and partner agencies working in the field, there were an estimated 8,128 migrants and refugees residing in the country as of 29 December 2019, a decrease since 24 November when 8,852 were recorded. Of the 4,152 people residing in the official reception facilities or who registered a private address as a requirement for their asylum claim, 74 per cent of individuals were adult males, 5 per cent adult females and 21 per cent children. Among the children, 57 per cent were registered as unaccompanied and separated.<sup>25</sup>

Migrants and refugees present in the country as of 29 December were nationals of Pakistan (47%), Afghanistan (19%), Iraq (8%), Egypt (5%), the Islamic Republic of Iran (4%) and others (17%).<sup>26</sup>

Figure 40: Nationality breakdown of accommodated migrants and refugees as of 29 December 2019.

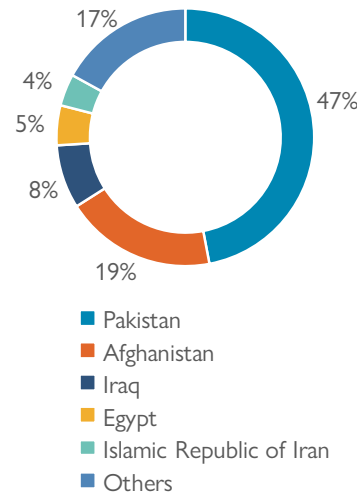
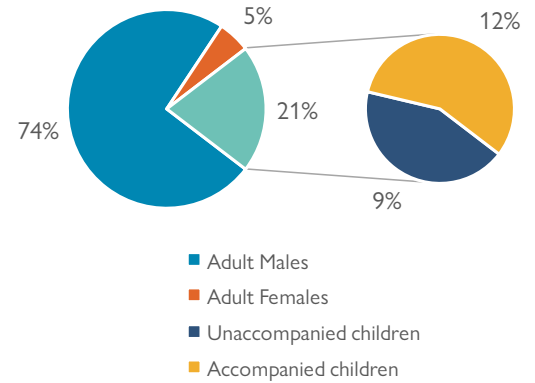
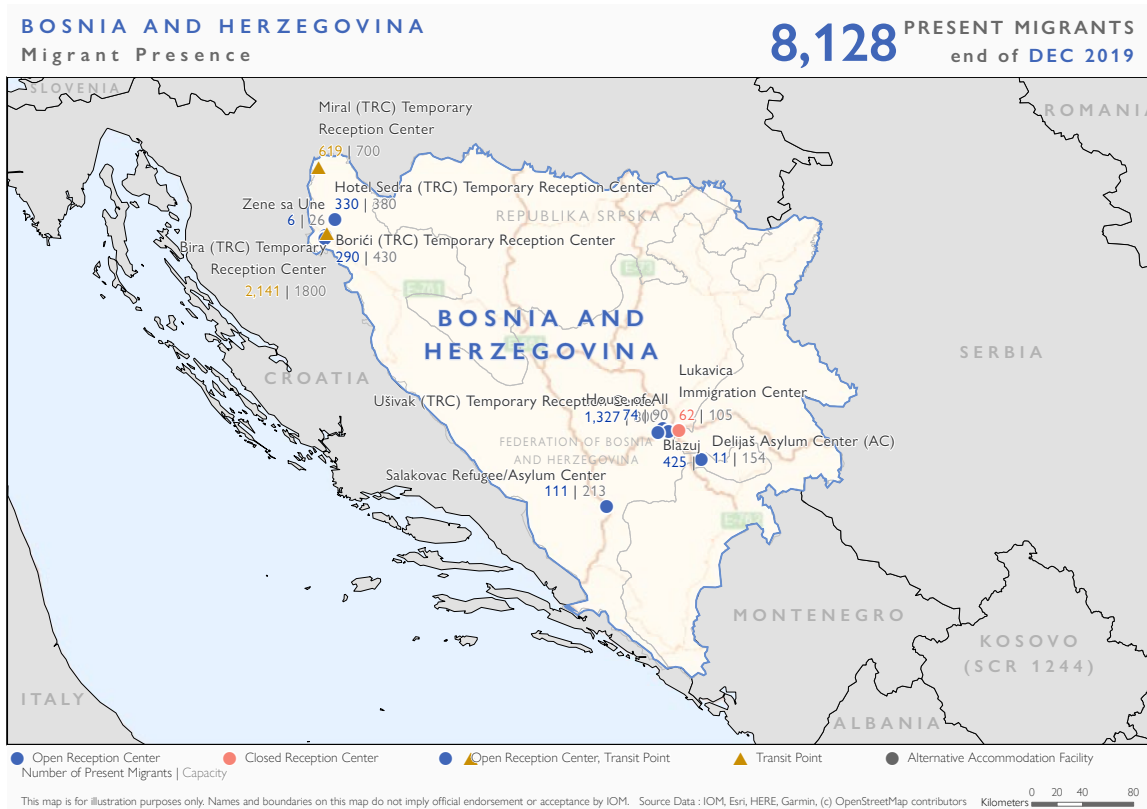


Figure 41: Age/sex breakdown of accommodated migrants and refugees as of 29 December 2019.



Map 9: Accommodation facilities in Bosnia and Herzegovina with information on occupancy and capacity, December 2019.



25 SADD not available for estimated number of migrants and refugees residing outside the official reception systems in privately arranged accommodation or squatting.

26 Nationality data does not include the number of migrants and refugees residing outside the official reception systems in privately arranged accommodation or squatting.

# CROATIA

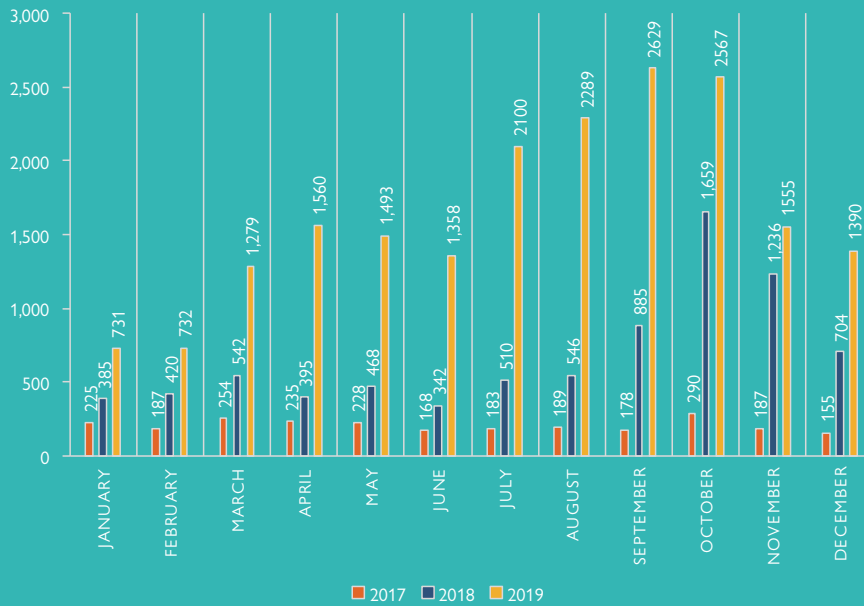
## Developments during the reporting period

Based on available data from the Croatian Ministry of Interior, a total of 1,390 irregular migrants were apprehended in December 2019, 11 per cent less than the 1,555 apprehended during November 2019. The number of apprehensions in December this year is 97 per cent more than the 704 reported in December 2018 and over almost nine times the 155 recorded in December 2017.

Of those apprehended in Croatia in December 2019, 237 (17%) were apprehended in Primorsko-Goranska county on the way to the Slovenian border. Additionally, 198 (14%) were apprehended in Vukovarsko-Srijemska county which borders Serbia, and 192 (14%) were apprehended in Zagrebicka county bordering Slovenia.

Between January and December 2019, authorities in Croatia apprehended a total of 19,683 irregular migrants, 143 per cent more than the 8,092 apprehended in the same period of 2018 and more than almost eight times the 2,479 registered by the end of December 2017.

Figure 42: Number apprehended migrants in Croatia each month, 2017–2019.



Pakistan (21%) and Afghanistan (17%) are the most common origin countries reported by registered migrants between January and December 2019, followed by Iraq (9%), Turkey (9%), the Syrian Arab Republic (6%) and others (38%). Compared to the same period last year, a decrease is observed in the proportion of nationals of the Islamic Republic of Iran (11% in 2018, 4% in 2019). Likewise, an increase in the proportion of nationals of Pakistan is observed (14% in 2018, 21% in 2019).

Figure 43: Country or area of origin of irregular migrants apprehended in Croatia, January to December 2019.

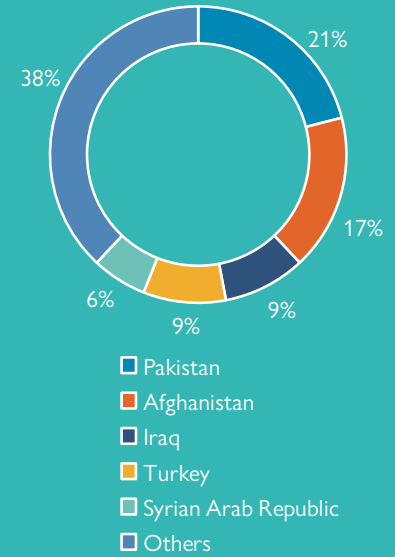
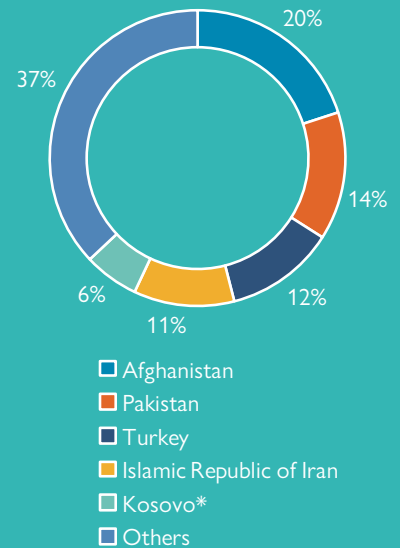


Figure 44: Country or area of origin of irregular migrants apprehended in Croatia between January to December 2018.



\*References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

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



### Migrant presence

By 30 December 2019, a total of 514 asylum seekers were accommodated in reception centres in Croatia, 9 per cent more than the 471 reported at the end of November 2019. Of these, 425 migrants and asylum seekers were accommodated in the open reception centre in Zagreb, 73 were accommodated in the open reception centre in Kutina and 16 in the closed reception centre in Ježevo.

Table 4: Reception facilities in Croatia with information on occupancy and capacity as of the end of December 2019.

Accommodation facility	Capacity	Number of accommodated migrants and asylum seekers
Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers in Zagreb	300 (600)*	425
Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers in Kutina	100	73
Reception Centre for Foreigners (Ježevo)	90	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>590 (790)</b>	<b>514</b>

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

# MONTENEGRO

## Developments during the reporting period

During this reporting period (1–31 December 2019), authorities in Montenegro registered 631 new migrants and refugees,<sup>27</sup> 34 per cent less than the 961 reported in the previous month (November 2019). The 1,220 reported in October 2019 was the highest number of reported apprehensions in Montenegro since DTM activities began in January 2016. Of the 631 arrivals in December, 609 were registered on entry to Montenegro and the remaining 22 were registered on exit. In the same month last year, December 2018, just 245 new migrants and refugees were registered in Montenegro.

Since the beginning of the year, authorities registered a total of 8,695 migrants and refugees, of which 8,257 were on entry and 438 were on exit. This is 87 per cent more than in 2018 when 4,645 were reported, and more than ten times the 807 reported in 2017.

In 2019 the reported country of origin of registered migrants was most commonly Morocco (34%), followed by the Syrian Arab Republic (21%), Algeria (15%), Iraq (7%), Pakistan (5%) and others (18%). Nationals of the Syrian Arab Republic were the most frequent among those registered each month in Montenegro between April 2018 and May 2019. Since June 2019, nationals of Morocco have been the most frequent, and were the majority among those registered in November and December 2019 (56% and 73% respectively).

Figure 46: Country or area of origin of registered migrants between January and December 2019.

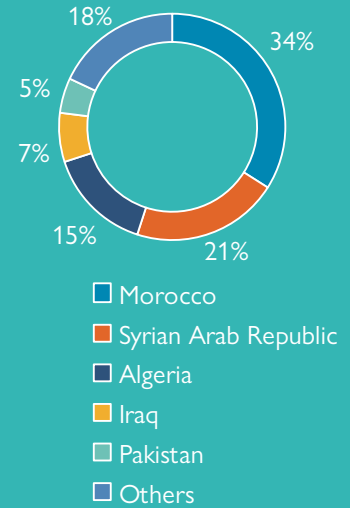


Figure 47: Country or area of origin of registered migrants between January and December 2018.

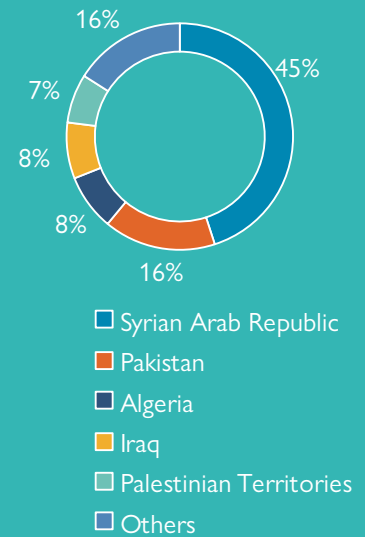
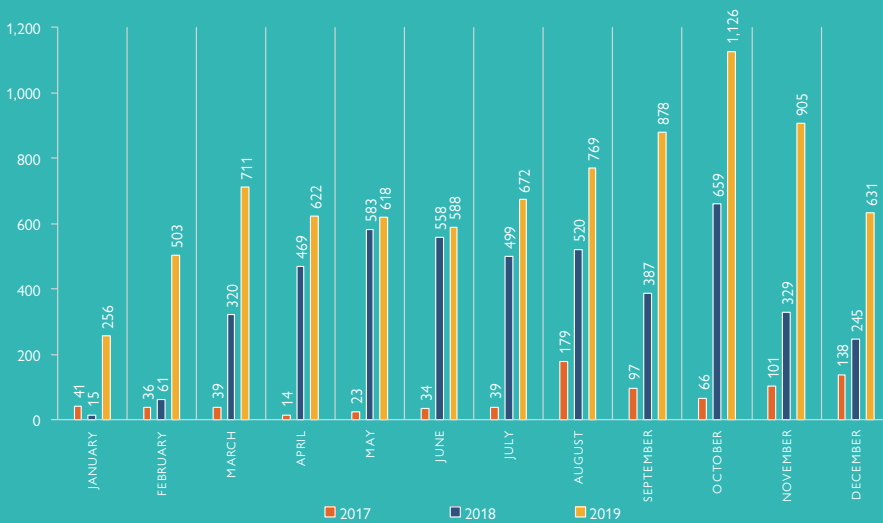


Figure 45: Registrations on entry to Montenegro registered each month, 2017–2019.



## Migrant presence

As of 25 December 2019, there were 302 migrants and asylum seekers accommodated in the reception facilities, less than the 397 reported as of 27 November 2019.

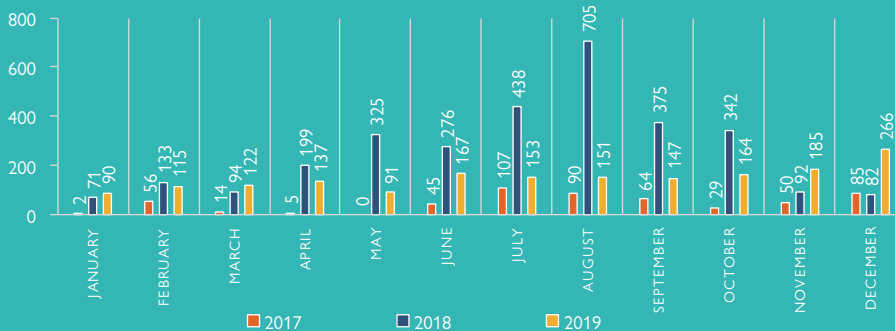
27 IOM monitors the ingoing and outgoing flow of reception centers in and near Sputz in the south and Pljevlja in the north. The number of first-time registered migrants and refugees in these centres is used as a proxy for arrivals into Montenegro.

# NORTH MACEDONIA

## Developments during the reporting period

During this reporting period (December 2019) 266 new arrivals were registered in North Macedonia, which represents a 44 per cent increase compared to the previous reporting period (November 2019) when 185 arrivals were reported. By the end of December, total of 1,788 migrants have been registered arriving to the country in 2019. There were almost three times as many new arrivals in December 2019 when compared to December 2018, when 92 arrivals were reported.

Figure 48: Apprehensions of irregular migrants entering North Macedonia each month, 2017–2019.



Based on the monthly report for the month of December, the Red Cross mobile teams in the area of Gevgelija provided assistance to 1,419 persons which excludes the Transit reception center Vinojug located in the vicinity of the southern border with Greece, while the mobile team covering the areas of the villages Lojane, Vaksince, Lipkovo all located in the close vicinity of the northern border with Serbia assisted 1,692 persons, this number excludes the Transit Reception Centre Tabanovce.

According to available data, migrants and refugees from Afghanistan (34%) were the most frequent of those registered by authorities between January and December 2019, followed by Pakistan (22%), the Syrian Arab Republic (7%), Bangladesh (6%), Algeria (6%), and others (25%). According to the available data for 2018,<sup>28</sup> the most frequently reported nationality was the Islamic Republic of Iran (62%), followed by Afghanistan (12%), Pakistan (10%), Iraq (8%), Libya (4%) and others (4%). A decrease in the proportion of Iranian nationals is observed this year so far, together with an increase in the proportion of Afghan and Pakistani nationals.

## Migrant presence

According to available data, the total number of accommodated migrants and refugees in North Macedonia as of 31 December 2019 is 109, similar to previous months. The number of accommodated migrants throughout 2019 ranges from a minimum of 37 reported in January to a maximum of 146 reported in July.

Table 5: Capacity and current occupancy of accommodation facilities in North Macedonia as of 31 December 2019.

Name of Accommodation Facility	Capacity*	Currently Accommodating
“Vinojug” Transit Centre—Gevgelija (Greece—North Macedonia Border)	1,100–1,200	12
Tabanovce Transit Centre (North Macedonia—Serbian Border)	1,100	9
Vizbegovo – Reception center for Asylum Seekers	150	79
Gazi Baba – Reception Center for Foreigners	120	10
Vlae – Safe House	25–30	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,495–2,600</b>	<b>110</b>

Figure 49: Nationality breakdown of registered irregular migrants between January and December 2019.

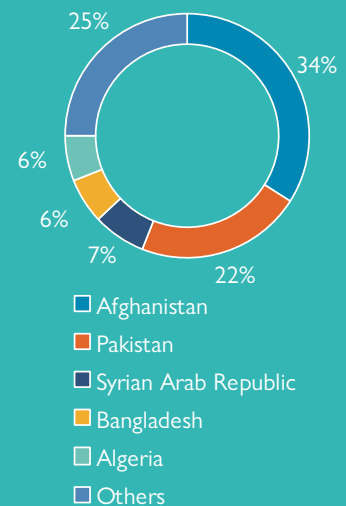
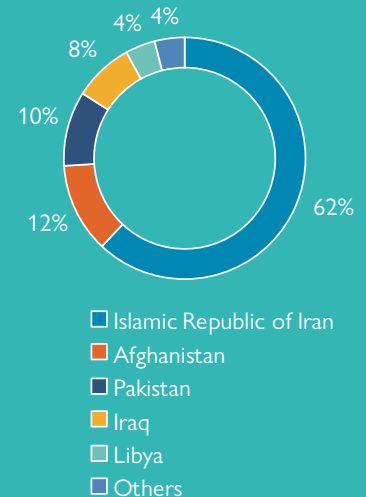


Figure 50: Nationality breakdown of registered irregular migrants between January and December 2018.



28 Nationality data is available for 2,746 of 3,132 arrivals between January and December 2018.

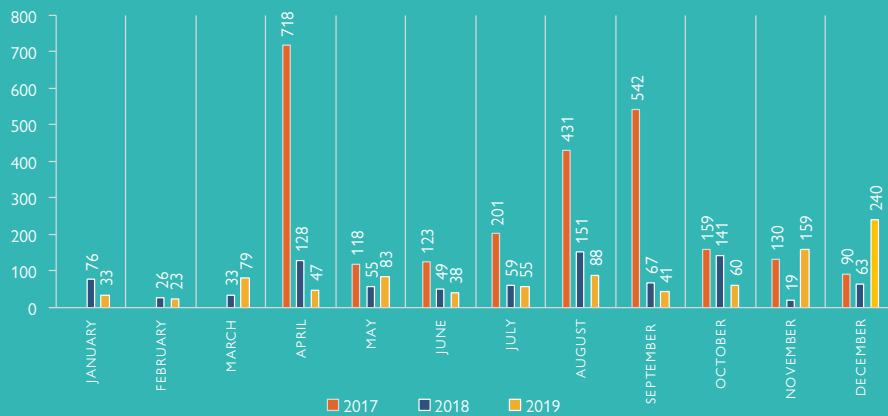
# ROMANIA

## Developments during the reporting period

In December 2019, Romanian authorities apprehended a total of 240 migrants and asylum seekers. Of these, 179 apprehensions were on exit from the country mainly towards Hungary (Arad, Timis and Satu-Mare county) and 61 were on entry, intercepted entering from Bulgaria (Giurgiou). This is the highest reported number of apprehensions in Romania since 542 were reported on entry and exit in total in September 2017, and 42 per cent of all reported apprehensions in Romania in 2019 occurred in the last two months of the year (November–December 2019).

Between January and December 2019, there have been 734 migrants and asylum seekers apprehended on exit, an 18 per cent increase on the 622 reported in 2018. There have also been 212 apprehended on entry in 2019, a 13 per cent decrease on the 245 reported in 2018.

Figure 51: Registered irregular migrants in Romania each month, 2018–2019.



According to the available data,<sup>29</sup> between January and December 2019 nationals of Iraq constitute the largest group (41%), followed by those from the Syrian Arab Republic (12%), Afghanistan (10%), the Islamic Republic of Iran (9%), Turkey (6%), and others (22%).

Of the 706 migrants registered between January and December 2019, 71 per cent were adult males, 16 per cent adult females and 13 per cent children.

## Migrant presence

As of 26 December 2019, there were 569 migrants and asylum seekers registered as residing in state-run accommodation facilities in Romania, 182 more than the 387 reported at the end of November 2019 and 184 more than the 385 registered at the end of the same month last year, December 2018. Most migrants were in the asylum centres located in Bucharest (130), followed by Somcuta Mare (95) and Radauti (93).

Figure 52: Nationality breakdown of migrants apprehended between January and December 2019.

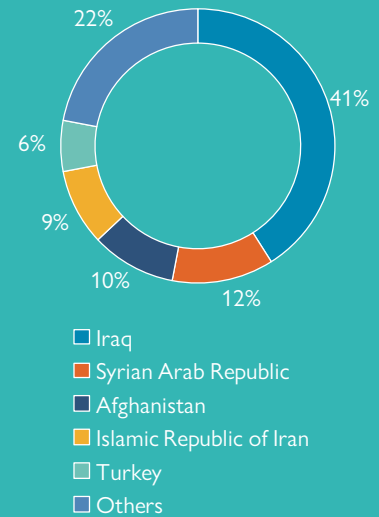
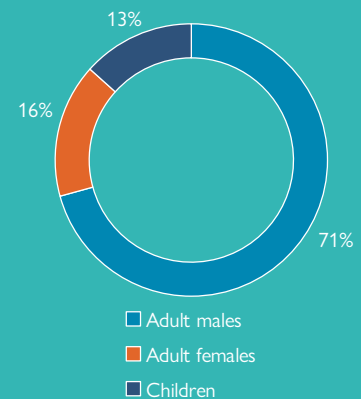


Figure 53: Age/sex breakdown of apprehended migrants between January and December 2019.



<sup>29</sup> Based on available nationality data for 925 apprehended migrants and asylum seekers in Romania in 2019.

# SERBIA

## Developments during the reporting period

In December 2019, 2,219<sup>30</sup> new migrants and refugees were registered in Reception Centres (RC) in Serbia, which is a 19 per cent decrease compared to the previous month (2,745), and a 250 per cent increase on the reported number for the same month last year, December 2018 (635). While 60 per cent of new arrivals irregularly entered Serbia from North Macedonia, part of those coming from Albania via Kosovo<sup>31</sup> grew to 25 per cent this month.

Total registrations between January and December this year were 17,611, which is two times the 8,827 registered in 2018 and over three times the 5,435 registered in the same period of 2017.

Those registered in December 2019 were most frequently from Afghanistan (53%), followed by arrivals from Syrian Arab Republic (24%), Morocco (7%), Pakistan (5%), Algeria (3%) and others (8%). Registrations of nationals of Afghanistan have been increasing each month since July 2019, when 190 were registered, to December 2019 where 1,184 have been registered (53% of the total), whilst registrations of nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh have become less frequent over the same period.

According to a UN partner agency, 1,713 new arrivals to Serbia were identified in December 2019. Of these, 60 per cent arrived from North Macedonia (down from 65% in November), 5 per cent from Bulgaria (down from 7%), while 25 per cent arrived from Albania (up from 15%) and 10 per cent from other destinations. Among them, 13 per cent were UASC.

## Migrant presence

The number of migrants and refugees in Serbia on 31 December according to the Serbian Commissariat for Refugees and Migration (SCRM) was 6,410. Around 1,101 were observed residing outside the official reception system: some 298 in Belgrade City Center and another 803 in border areas with Croatia, Hungary and Bosnia and Herzegovina. By the end of last month, November 2019, this total was 5,253 and so has increased by 22 per cent this month. It is the highest reported number since 5 July 2017. The reported nationalities of present migrants on 31 December is Afghanistan (52%), then the Syrian Arab Republic (12%), Iraq (6%), Pakistan (6%), Bangladesh (6%), the Islamic Republic of Iran (5%), and others (11%). Most are male adults (76%), then children (17% including 5% UASC) and female adults (7%).

Figure 54: Arrivals in Serbia each month each month, 2017–2019.

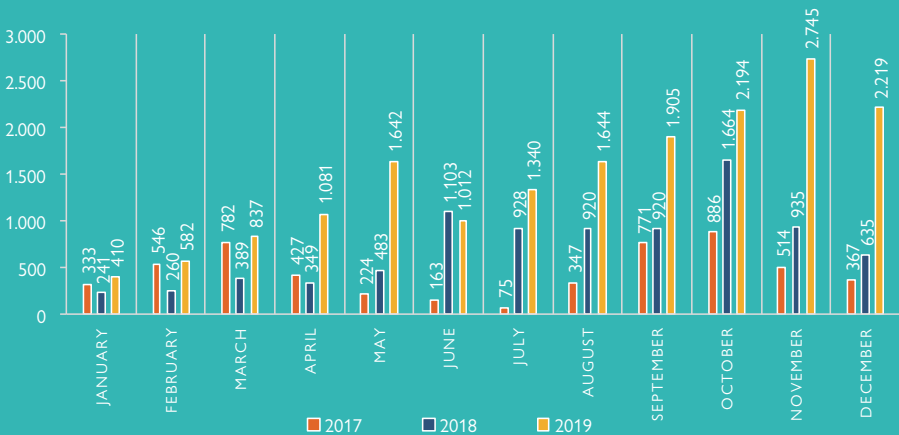
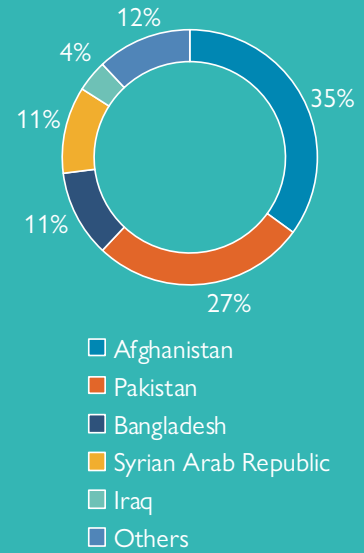


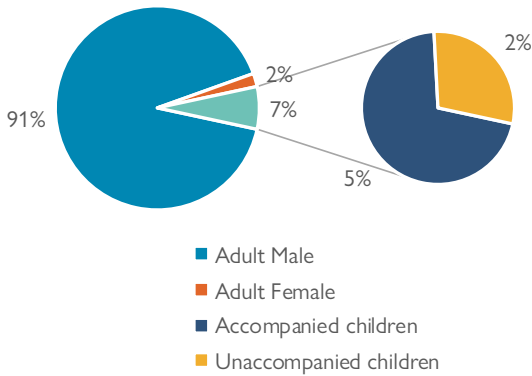
Figure 55: Nationality breakdown of registered migrants and refugees in Serbia between January and December 2019.



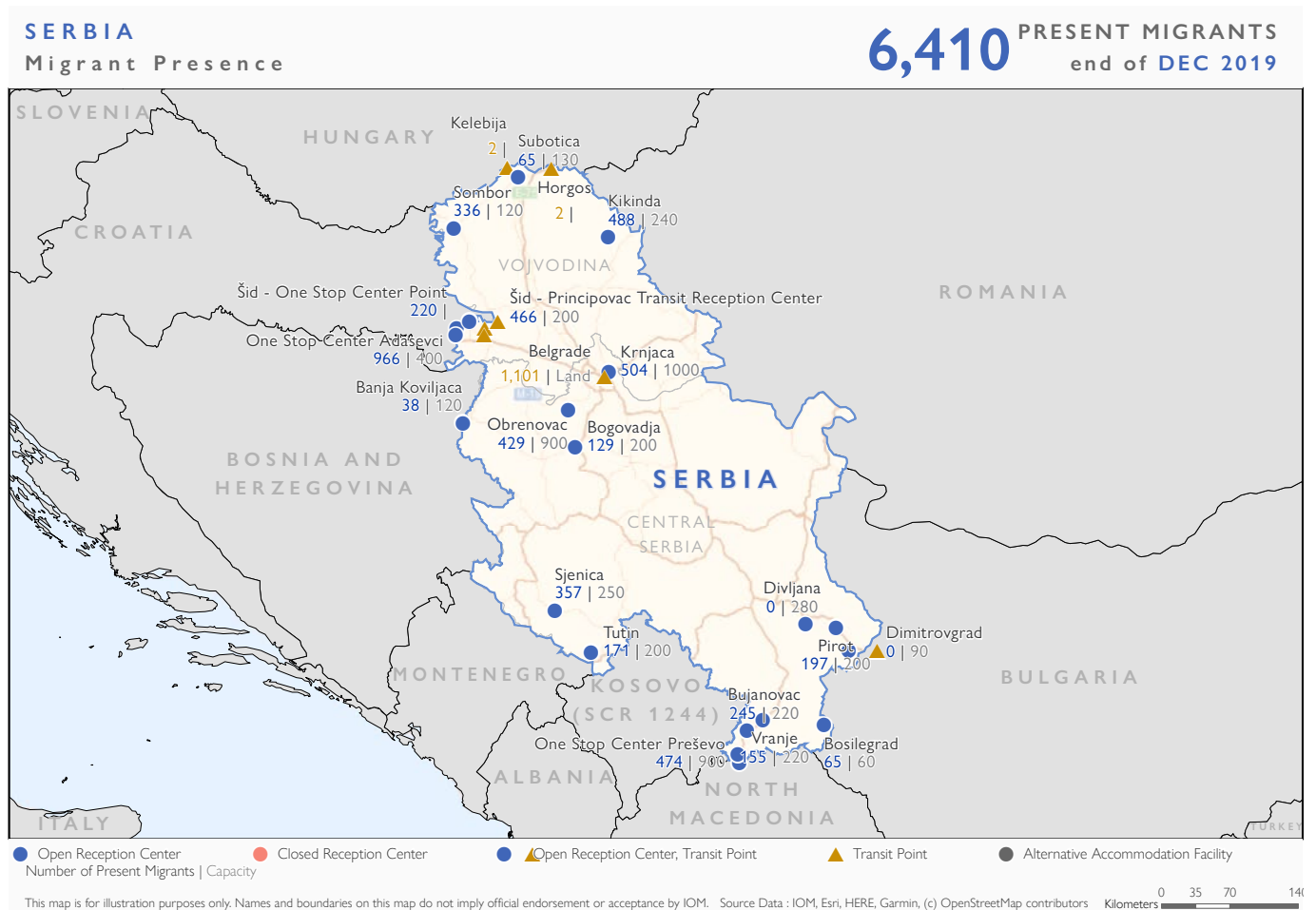
30 This is the total of newly registered migrants excluding Asylum Centres.

31 References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of the United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

Figure 56: Age/sex breakdown of registered arrivals between January and December 2019.



Map 11: Accommodation facilities in Serbia with information on capacity and occupancy, December 2019.



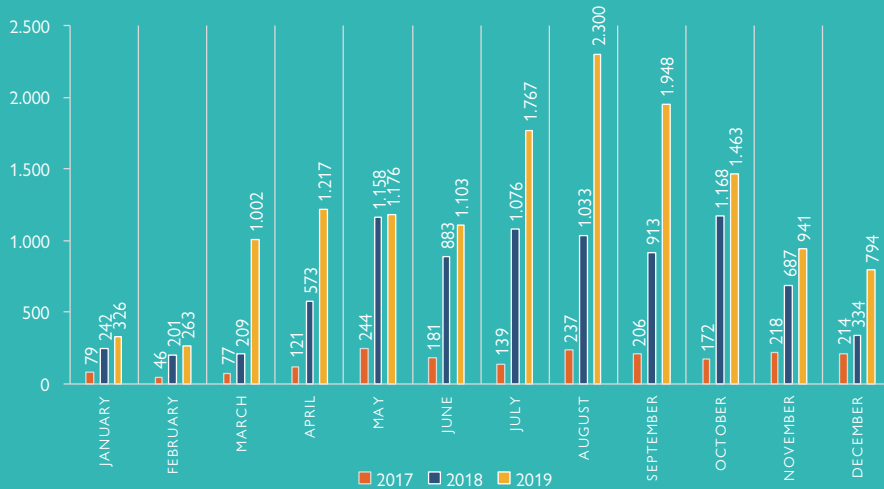


# SLOVENIA

## Developments during the reporting period

In December 2019, authorities in Slovenia apprehended 794 irregular migrants, 19 per cent less than the 941 reported in November 2019 and 46 per cent less than the 1,463 reported in October. Between January and December 2019, 14,300 irregular migrants were apprehended by Slovenian authorities, 69 per cent more than the 8,477 reported in the same period of 2018 and more than seven times the 1,934 reported in the same period of 2017. The following highlights are from this reporting period (1-31 December 2019).

Figure 57: Apprehensions of irregular migrants entering Slovenia each month, comparison 2017–2019.



According to available data between January and December 2019,<sup>32</sup> Pakistan and Algeria were the most commonly reported origin countries registered (25% and 14% respectively). Afghanistan (13%), Morocco (10%) and Bangladesh (10%) were the remaining origin countries reported in the top five nationality groups registered. Pakistani nationals were also the most frequently reported in the same period of 2018<sup>33</sup> (28%), followed by nationals of Afghanistan (12%), Algeria (11%), the Islamic Republic of Iran (9%), the Syrian Arab Republic (8%) and others.

Figure 58: Nationality breakdown of registered irregular migrants between January and December 2019.

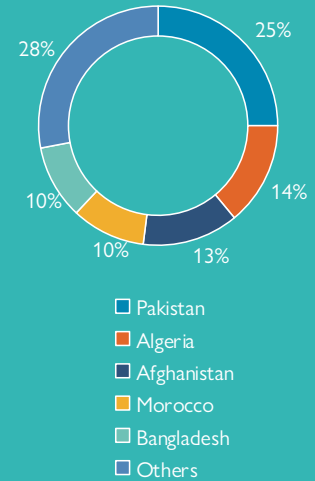
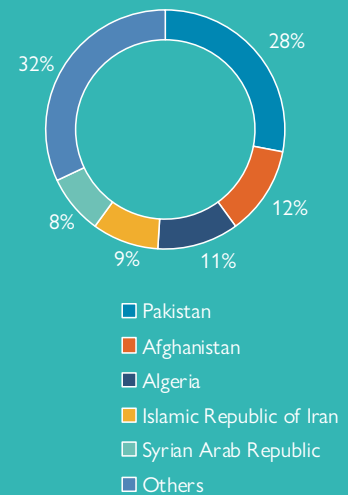


Figure 59: Nationality breakdown of registered irregular migrants between January and December 2018.



## Migrant presence

As of 31 December 2019, there were 320 migrants and asylum seekers accommodated in different facilities around the country, similar to the 336 accommodated at the end of November 2019. The lowest reported number in 2019 was 288 on 16 January, and the highest was 580 on 30 April.

December 5 - The Administrative Court has decided that several documents pertaining to treatment of migrants and asylum seekers on the state border are public information, ordering the Interior Ministry, or the police, to disclose them (source: [Dnevnik](#)).

December 15 – According to the Slovenian statistical office, there were 250,000 immigrants in Slovenia at the start of 2018, or 12% of the country's population. In the last ten years, 15,000 residents acquired Slovenian citizenship, of whom 70% citizens of countries of former Yugoslavia (source: [STAT](#)).

December 17 - Sustainable development NGO Terra Vera has carried out a project promoting cooperation between immigrants, refugees and established Slovenian designers. The results of the year long Akupara initiative, a creative incubator of handicrafts, design, cooperatives and cultural production, were presented in Maribor (source: [STA](#) ; [RTV SLO](#)).

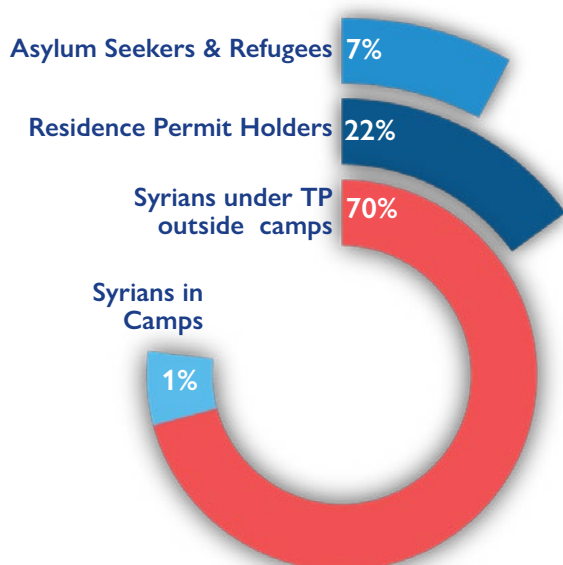
December 20 - Police processed more than 15,200 irregular crossings of the border by the end of November 2019, which represents some 70% increase compared to the same period in 2018. A total of 3,640 migrants have asked for international protection ([policija.si](#); [UOIM](#)).

December 20 - Members of the task force examining the impact of irregular migration in municipalities bordering Croatia met with mayors of the area. Interior minister Poklucar stated that the number of migrants on the Western Balkan route, which has increased by 71 percent in 2019, will continue to grow next year (source: [RTV SLO](#), [STA](#)).

32 Nationality data is available for 12,690 of 14,300 total registered arrivals to Slovenia Jan–Dec 2019.

33 Nationality data is available for 7,362 of 8,477 total registered arrivals to Slovenia Jan–Dec 2018.

## TURKEY



### Background and Latest Figures

According to the latest available figures from the Turkish Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM), there are currently over 3.9 million foreign nationals present in Turkish territory seeking international protection. Most are Syrians (3,576,370\* 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 decreased by 45,996 in comparison to December 2018 (3.9 million foreign nationals).

In addition, there are 1,101,030\* foreign nationals present in Turkey holding residency permits, including humanitarian residency holders. Compared to December 2018, this is an increase of 247,756 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.

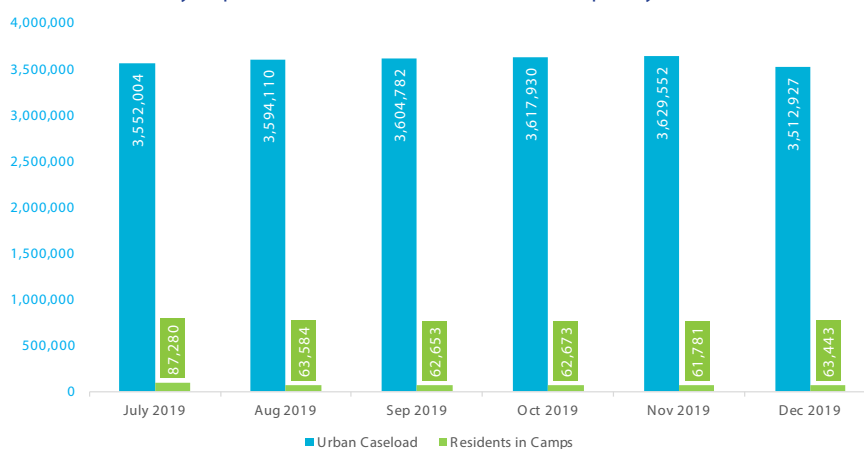
\*Data source DGMM, 31.12.2019  
\*\*Data source UNHCR, 28.02.2019<sup>1</sup>

### Syrians under Temporary Protection

Turkey's temporary protection regime grants the 3,576,370\* Syrian nationals the right to legally stay in Turkey as well as some level of access to basic services. The vast majority - 3,512,927\* 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 63,443\* Syrians live in formal camps, the majority of which are located close to the Syrian border. Compared to December 2018 when 13 temporary accommodation centers were hosting migrants in Turkey, only seven remain operational with six no longer in service. As a result, 80,009 fewer Syrians currently reside in the centers.

\*Data source DGMM, 31.12.2019

### 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.

\*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 1,101,030 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.

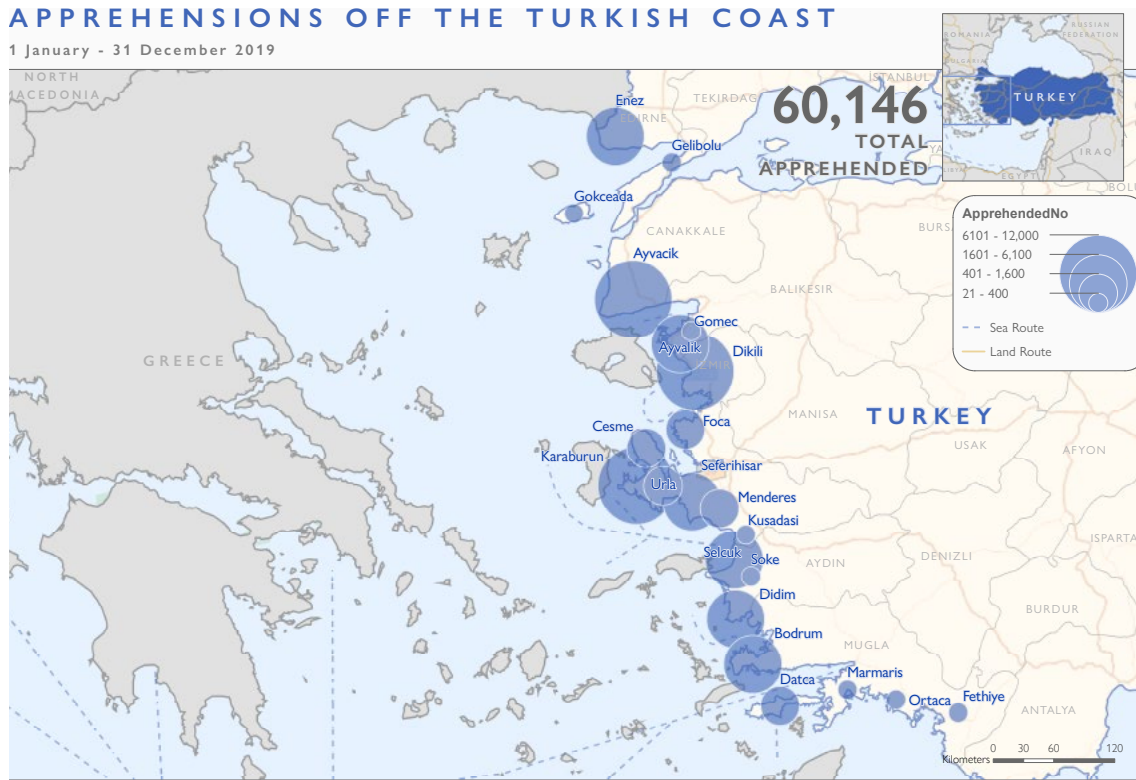
Nationality	Percentage#
Afghanistan	46%
Iraq	39%
Islamic Republic of Iran	11%
Somalia	2%
Others	3%

<sup>1</sup> 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 3,768 irregular migrants and one fatality in December 2019. Comparing to December 2018, there is an increase of 1,188 apprehended individuals, when 2,580 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).

Map 12: Apprehensions off the Turkish coast, January–December 2019.



Apprehensions/Rescues by Turkish Coast Guard Statistics for 2019  
(1 January - 31 December 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
September	321	324	11,638	11,673	1	1	12	13
October	357	359	12,382	12,392	3	3	19	19
November	191	194	6,325	6,401	-	-	5	5
December	107	109	3,765	3,768	1	1	-	-
Total	1,762	1,778	60,819	61,028	33	33	77	81

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, Senegalese, Congolese, Iraqis, Central African, Somali, South African, and Kuwaiti.

\*Data source TCG, 31.12.2019

## Apprehended Persons on Land\*

Apprehensions by Turkish Land Forces (1 - 31 December 2019)			
Entry		Exit	
Syrian Arab Republic	9,640	Greece	2,918
Greece	1,964	Syrian Arab Republic	52
Islamic Republic of Iran	24	Bulgaria	9
Bulgaria	4	-	-
Total	11,632	Total	2,979

According to the Turkish Armed Forces (TAF) daily figures, 14,611 irregular migrants were apprehended during December 2019 at Turkey's borders with the Syrian Arab Republic, Greece, the Islamic Republic of Iran 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 December 2018, when 16,744 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 December 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 9,692 apprehended persons. In comparison to previous month there is an increase in the irregular border entries from Syrian Arab Republic to Turkey (2,377). In November 2019, 7,263 irregular entries of individuals were recorded at this border.

\*Data Source TAF, 31.12.2019



### 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)

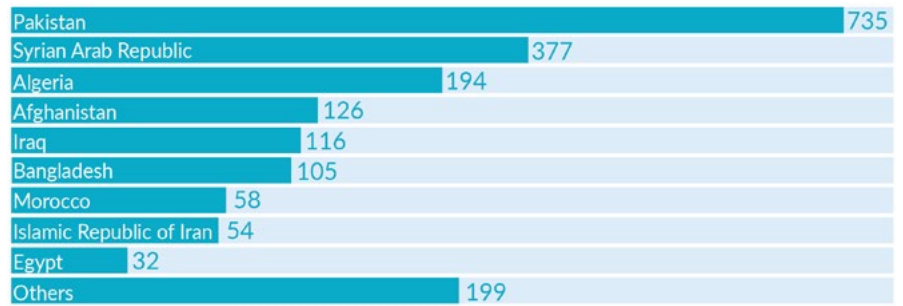
Known exit points by land: Edirne (to Greece and Bulgaria), Kırklareli (to Bulgaria)

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, 1,996\* migrants and refugees have been readmitted to Turkey from Greece between 4 April 2016 and 31 December 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 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,

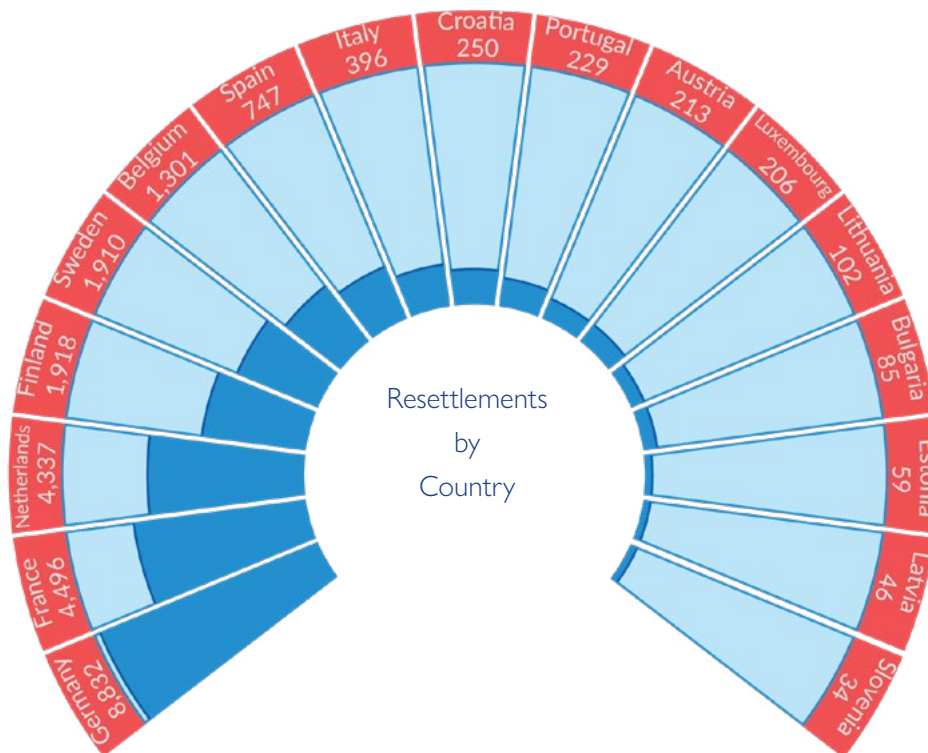
India, Sierra Leone, Yemen, Congo, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Comoros, Niger, Sudan, Jordan, Uzbekistan, Togolese Republic and Zimbabwe.

\*Data source DGMM, 31.12.2019

## 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 31 December 2019, there are 25,161\* persons that have been resettled under this instrument, with primary resettlement destinations being Germany, France, the Netherlands and Finland.

\*Data Source DGMM, 31.12.2019



mpmturkey@iom.int

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

## KOSOVO<sup>34</sup>

In Kosovo<sup>34</sup>, there were 226 new registered migrants in December 2019, half of the 460 registered in November which was more than any previous month since DTM activities began in the area in December 2015. Between January and December 2019, there has been a total of 2,038 newly registered arrivals, with a monthly average of 170 whereas in 2018 this average was 40 and in 2017 this was just 13.

This year (January–December 2019) the most frequently registered country or area/place of origin was the Syrian Arab Republic (45%) followed by Iraq (28%), Morocco (8%), Algeria (5%), the Palestinian Territories (4%) and others (10%). In 2018, the most frequently registered was also the Syrian Arab Republic (40%), followed by Turkey (13%), the Palestinian Territories (13%), Algeria (7%), Morocco (6%) and others (21%).

Figure 60: Irregular entries into Kosovo<sup>34</sup> registered by month, 2017–2019.

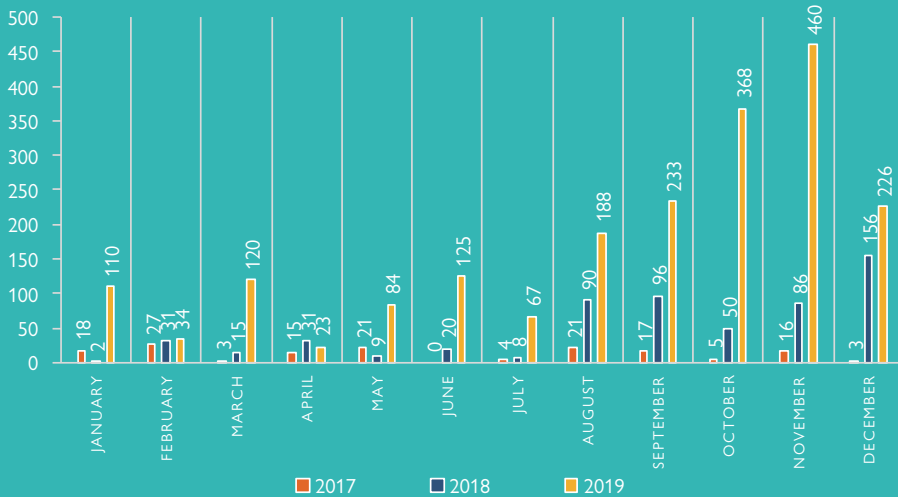


Figure 61: Countries or areas/places of origin of irregular entrants between January and December 2019.

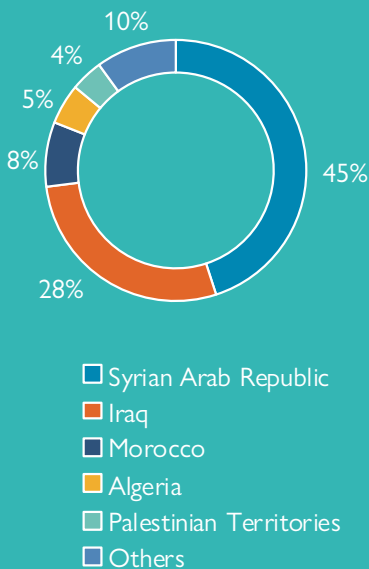
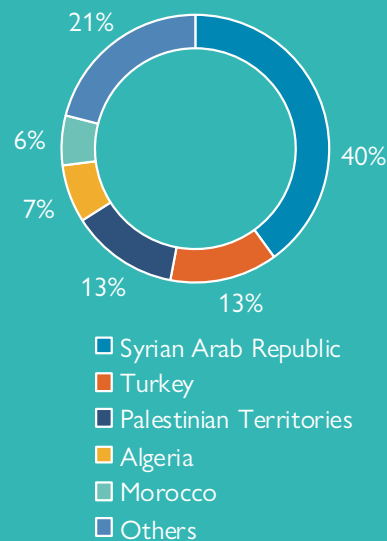


Figure 62: Countries or areas/places of origin of irregular entrants between January and December 2018.



<sup>34</sup> References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

## CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN - OTHER COUNTRIES

### LIBYA

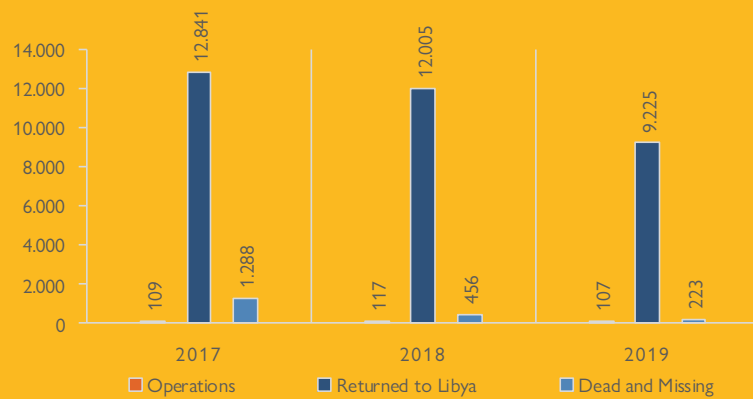
#### Developments during the reporting period

Between January and December 2019, 107 incidents were reported by the Libyan Coast Guard in which a total of 9,225 migrants were returned to Libya; 223 migrants are estimated to have died or gone missing during the same reporting period.

Available data for 2019 indicate a 23 per cent decrease in the number of reported operations this year compared to the same period in 2018, when 140 operations were reported and a 26 per cent decrease when compared to 145 operations reported at the end of December 2017. The number of returned migrants between January and December 2019 (9,225) is 40 per cent less than the 15,438 returned in the same period last year, and 51 per cent less than the 18,900 returned to Libya between January and December 2017.

The estimated number of dead and missing migrants between January and December 2019 (223) is lower than the 588 estimated to

Figure 63: Rescue operations by the Libyan Coast Guard between January and December 2017–2019.

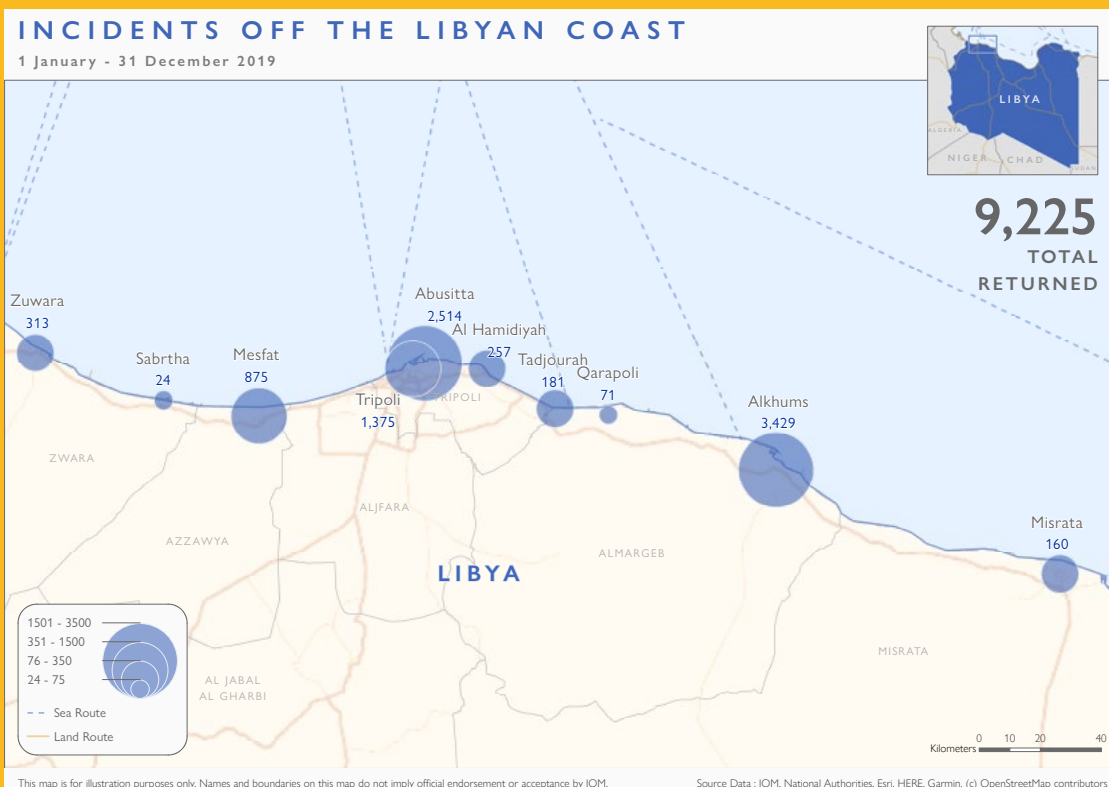


have died in front of Libyan shores between January and December 2018 (62% less), and 86 per cent less than the 1,601 reported to have gone missing in the same period of 2017. The proportion of those reported to have died in the first nine months of 2019 calculated as a share of those returned over the same period has also slightly decreased in comparison to the same period last year, from

3.8 per cent to 2.4 per cent.

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 13: Incidents off the Libyan coast and number of returned migrants, January–December 2019.



# NIGER

During December 2019, a total of 52,092 individuals were observed transiting through the seven active Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) in Niger, <sup>35</sup> an average of 1,680 individuals per day and of which 69 per cent were adult males, 20 per cent were adult females, and 11 per cent were children. This daily average is slightly less than the daily average of November 2019 (1,707 per day and a total of 51,198). The main reasons cited for movement in December 2019 have been economic migration, seasonal migration, and short-term local movement (in descending order).

There were 15,252 individuals recorded leaving Niger whilst 10,292 were recorded entering. Most of these movements were observed in Arlit (35%) and Dan Barto (20%), mostly internal. Some ingoing and outgoing movements were also recorded at Seguedine/Madama (11%) and Dan Issa (15%) whilst movements registered at Magaria (12%) and Tahoua (6%) were also mostly internal.

Figure 64: Flows observed in Niger, December 2019.

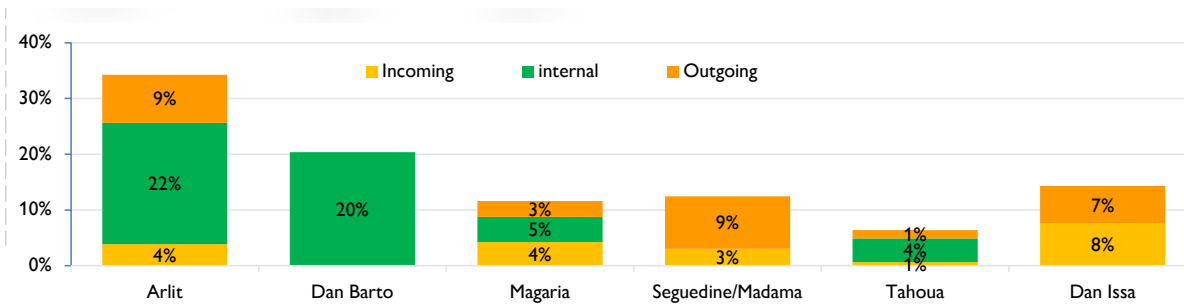
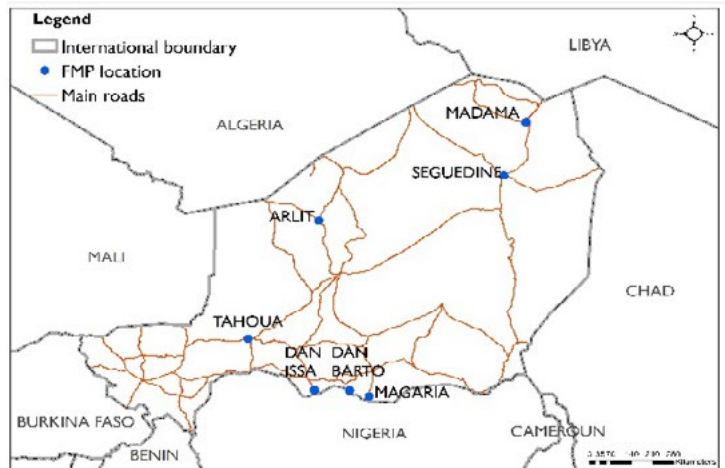


Figure 65: Profile of migrants interviewed in Niger, December 2019.



Map 14: DTM Flow Monitoring presence in Niger.



35 All data and figures on Niger are extracted from the IOM Niger 'Population Flow Monitoring' reports available [here](#).



# ABOUT

## Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)

IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a suite of tools and methodologies designed to track and analyse human mobility in different displacement contexts in a continuous manner; to provide critical information to decision-makers and responders during crises, and contribute to better understanding of population flows. Firstly conceptualized in 2004 to monitor internal displacement in Iraq, it has since been adapted for implementation in over 60 countries, including in contexts of conflict, natural disaster, complex emergencies and protracted crises. More information about the Methodological Framework in DTM operations can be found on the [global displacement.iom.int](http://global.displacement.iom.int).

## DTM Europe

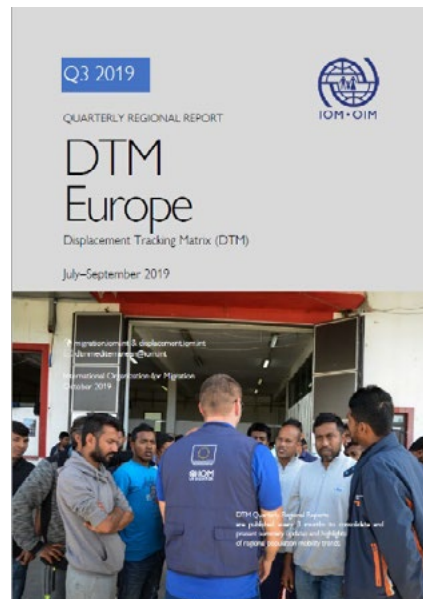
In 2015, DTM established a Flow Monitoring System to gather and disseminate information about the migrant populations moving through the Mediterranean, up the Western Balkan Route and through the Northern Route into Europe. This includes monthly flows compilation reports, quarterly regional overviews and datasets on migration flows in countries of first arrival and other countries along the route in Europe. All data is collated by IOM through consultations with ministries of interior, coast guards, police forces and other relevant national authorities, and it is displayed and regularly updated on the IOM's [Flow Monitoring Europe Geoportals](http://Flow Monitoring Europe Geoportals).

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. The analyses of data collected since 2015 is also available on the [Flow Monitoring Europe Geoportals](http://Flow Monitoring Europe Geoportals).

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

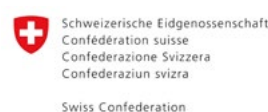
[Europe – Mixed Migration Flows to Europe – Quarterly Overview \(July – September 2019\)](#)

[Europe — Refugee and Migrant Children in Europe - Overview of Trends \(January — June 2019\)](#)



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:



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The depiction and use of boundaries, geographic names, and related data shown on maps and included in this report are not warranted to be error free nor do they imply judgment on the legal status of any territory, or any endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries by the IOM.