

# ITALY Sea arrivals dashboard

## Overview

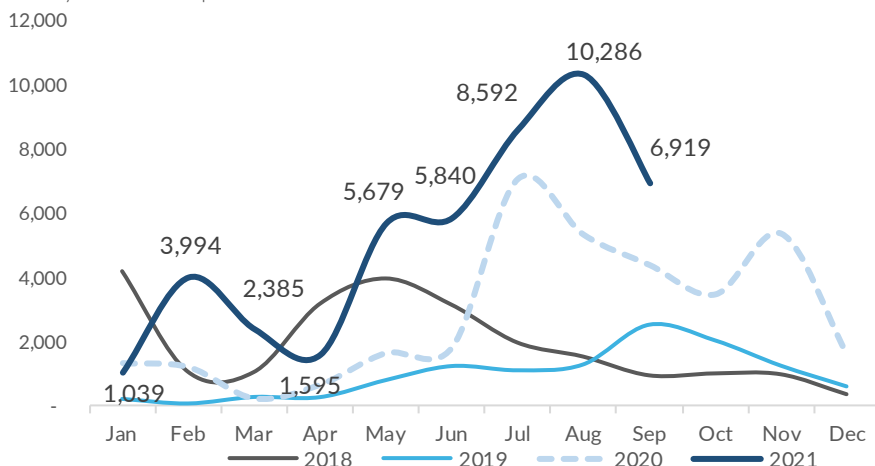
In the first nine months of 2021, 46,329 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea, compared to 23,726 in the same period last year.

In September 2021, 6,919 refugees and migrants reached the shores of southern Italy, compared to 4,387 (+93%) and 2,498 (+711%) in 2020 and 2019 respectively. The vast majority (4,677) arrived in Sicily, most commonly on the island of Lampedusa, where more than half of the total arrivals were recorded (3,585) and 100 out of 197 disembarkations took place. A further increase in the number of arrivals to Calabria was registered in September; 27 disembarkations took place in the Region accounting for 2,007 new arrivals. During the month, a total of 150 persons also disembarked in Sardinia and 85 in Apulia.

**46,329** Jan - Sep 2021<sup>1</sup>  
**23,726** Jan - Sep 2020<sup>1</sup>

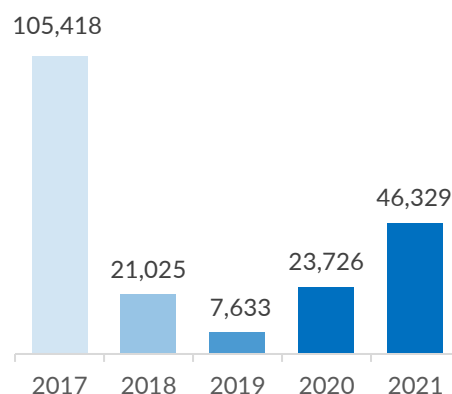
## Monthly sea arrivals

January 2018 to September 2021



## Yearly sea arrivals

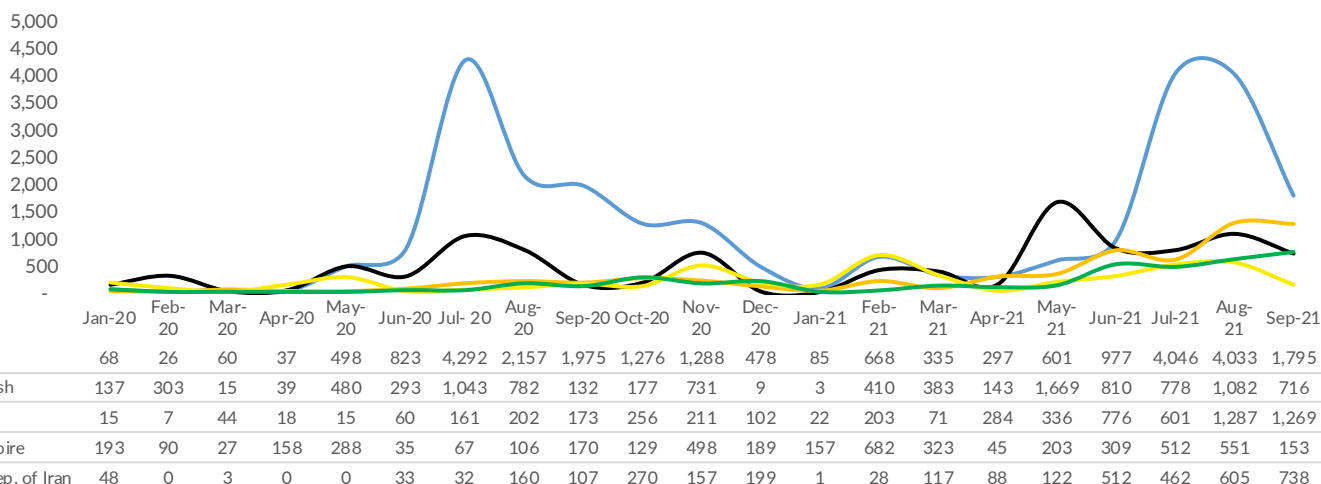
January to September, 2018-2021



## Nationality of arrivals

To date in 2021, the most common country of origin recorded among refugees and migrants reaching Italian shores is Tunisia (28%), followed by Bangladesh (13%), Egypt (10%), Côte d'Ivoire (6%), the Islamic Republic of Iran (6%), Iraq (4%), Guinea (4%), Eritrea (4%), Morocco (3%) and Sudan (3%). In line with August 2021, Egyptian nationals constituted the second largest nationality of arrival in September, accounting for 18 per cent of the total arrivals (an increase compared to the previous month in which they accounted for 13 per cent of the monthly total). A steady increase in the arrival of Iranian and Iraqi nationals is observed since the beginning of the summer season.

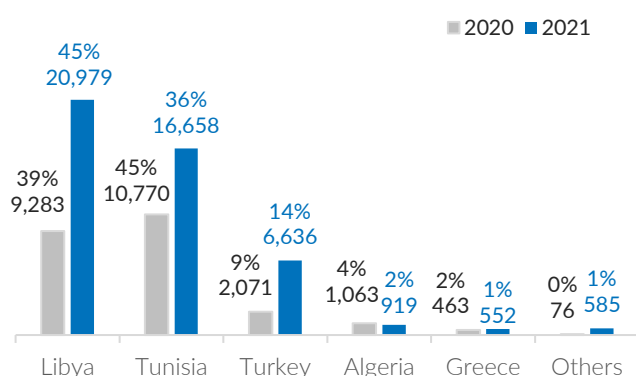
### Most common nationalities of arrivals - January 2020 to September 2021



## Country of embarkation

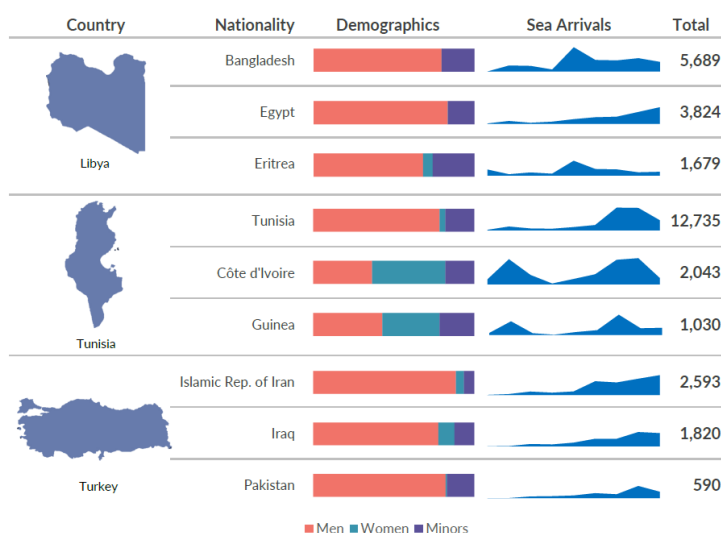
To date in 2021, 45 per cent of sea arrivals in Italy (20,979 persons) departed from Libya, followed by 36 per cent (16,658 persons) departing from Tunisia, 14 per cent (6,636 persons) departing from Turkey, 2 per cent (919 persons) departing from Algeria, 1 per cent (552 persons) departing from Greece and 1 per cent (585 persons) departing from other countries (Egypt, Lebanon, Montenegro and Albania). The majority of persons departing from Libya originated from Bangladesh, while the majority of those departing from Tunisia originated from Tunisia and those embarking in Turkey originated from the Islamic Republic of Iran.

January to September 2020 - 2021



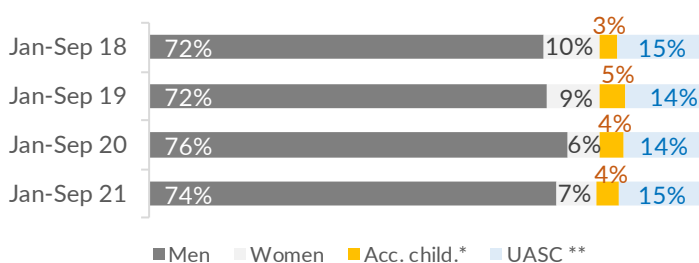
Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100% exactly

Top 3 nationalities by country of embarkation, January to September 2021



## Demographics of arrivals

January to September 2018 - 2021



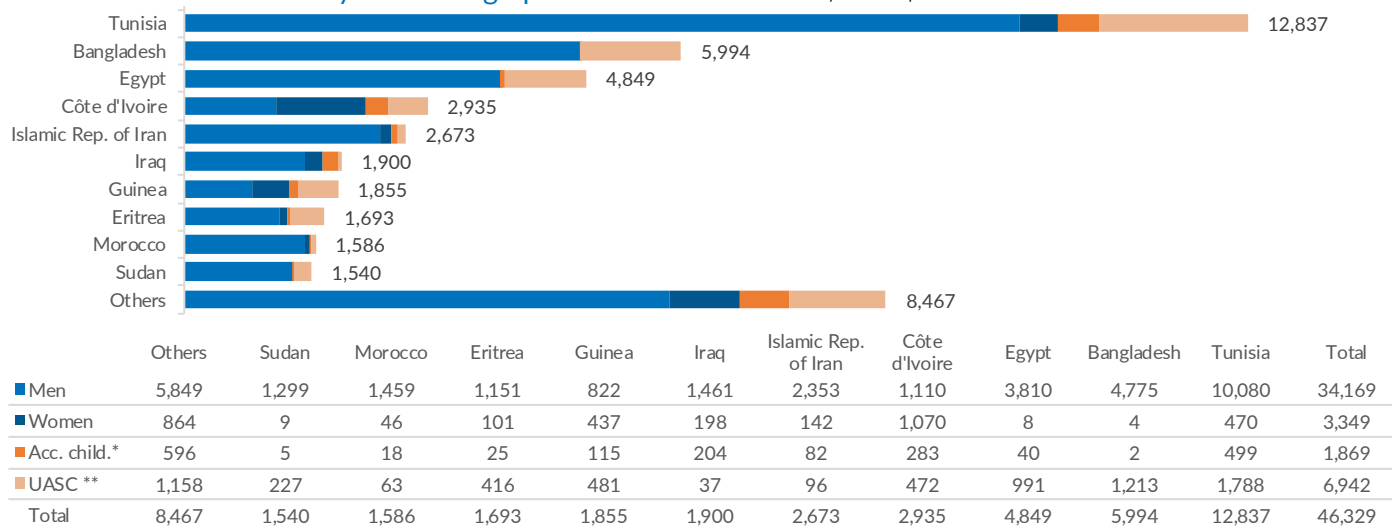
Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100% exactly

From 1 January to 30 September 2021, most sea arrivals were adult men (74%), followed by unaccompanied and separated children (UASC, 15%), adult women (7%) and accompanied children (4%).

In the first nine months of the year, 3,349 adult women reached Italian shores, the vast majority of whom originated from Côte d'Ivoire (1,070) followed, to a lesser extent, by Tunisia (470) and Guinea (437).

In the same period, 6,942 UASC arrived in Italy by sea: the most common nationalities recorded are Tunisia (1,788), Bangladesh (1,213), Egypt (991), Guinea (481), Côte d'Ivoire (472), and Eritrea (416).

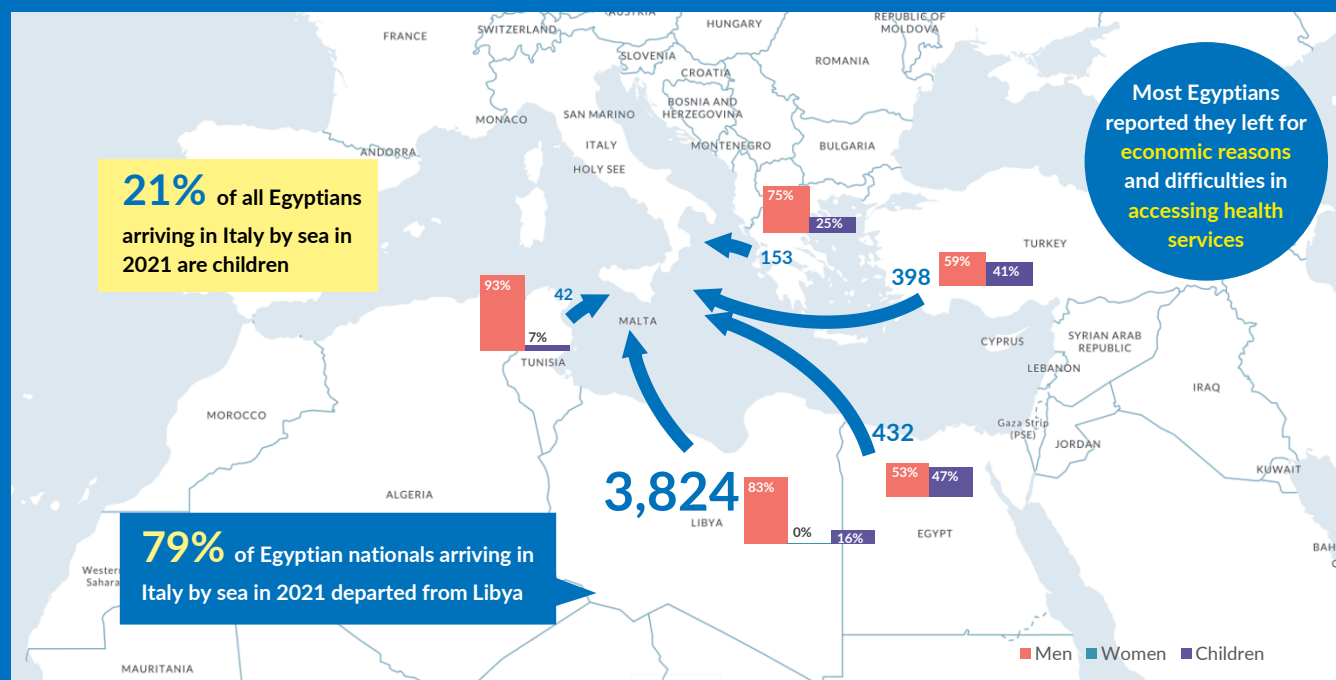
### Nationality and demographics of arrivals – January to September 2021



\* Accompanied children \*\* Unaccompanied and separated children

## Quarterly focus

### Egyptian nationals



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Please note that children in this map refers to both accompanied and unaccompanied children. The accompanied/unaccompanied children breakdown by country of embarkation is unavailable. Due to rounding percentages may not sum to 100% exactly.

### Profiles

- To date in 2021, 4,849 Egyptians reached Italian shores. This is already the **highest number of yearly Egyptian sea arrivals** ever recorded since 2013, outnumbering the previous record high of 2016 (4,230). It is also a significant increase compared to recent years (255 in 2018; 186 in 2019; 1,264 in 2020). Some 830 Egyptian nationals reached Italy between June and September 2021.
- The vast majority (79%) of Egyptian sea arrivals this year **are adult men**. Only eight Egyptian adult women arrived in all of 2021. Children account for 21% of the total, of which 20% are unaccompanied or separated, while 1% travel accompanied.
- Between 2013 and 2016, unaccompanied and separated children represented the major demographic group of Egyptian nationals entering Italy, ranging from 42% to 65% of the total. A change has been observed in recent years as well as in 2021 so far, as the **ratio of adults versus unaccompanied and separated children has become more balanced** and in line with total sea arrivals trends.<sup>2</sup>
- UNHCR staff at disembarkation sites noted that most Egyptian nationals reported they left Egypt because of **economic hardship** and because of the increasing difficulties in accessing health services through the Egyptian National Health System, which further deteriorated as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. This seems to be corroborated by the significant presence of **persons with specific needs** who require medical attention upon arrival.

### Routes

- Notwithstanding the **resumption of departures from Egypt**, which had not been recorded since 2016 except for two minor and exceptional cases in 2017 and 2019, at present, Libya remains the preferred country of embarkation for Egyptian nationals, as the Egyptian coast and territorial waters are reportedly still under strict surveillance by national authorities.
- Departures from Libya** are usually organized by local smugglers, who arrange for the persons to cross into Libya, where they have to wait in safe houses for some time before attempting the crossing. Egyptian nationals arriving in Italy recently reported that approximately 300 persons originating from Syria and Sudan were sharing the safe house with them, as smugglers sort new arrivals mainly according to common languages and/or religious and cultural backgrounds.
- Departures from Egypt** are usually arranged through the use of small dinghies which reach waiting fishing boats anchored at high seas. The fishing boats are then used for the sea crossing.

<sup>2</sup> For further details, see the *Demographics of arrivals* section at page 2 of this dashboard.