

SPAIN Arrivals dashboard

Overview

By 31 May, a total of 6,819 refugees and migrants entered Spain representing a 75% of increase compared to the same period last year. The majority of arrivals in 2017 have reached the country by sea (4,161 or 61%), double the arrivals by sea during the same period in 2016.

In 2017, as in 2016, most sea arrivals disembarked at the Spanish mainland, after being rescued in the Mediterranean or the Strait of Gibraltar. 3,709 disembarked on the Andalusian shores, 138% more than in the same period last year. Refugees and migrants have also arrived by sea in 2017 to the Eastern coast, Canary Islands and the enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla (155, 113, 52 and 123 respectively). While most boats departed from the Moroccan coast (Al-Hoceimas, Assilah, Nador, and Tangiers), some also departed from Algeria.

All land arrivals entered either through Melilla (1,496) or Ceuta (1,162) and represent an increase of 50% compared to same period in 2016.

6,819

total arrivals January to May 2017 ¹

4,161

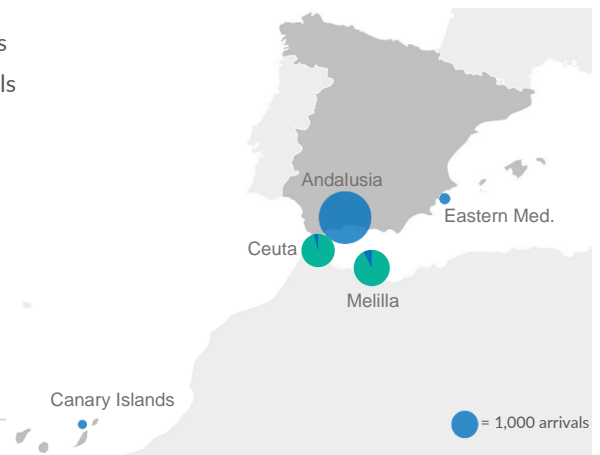
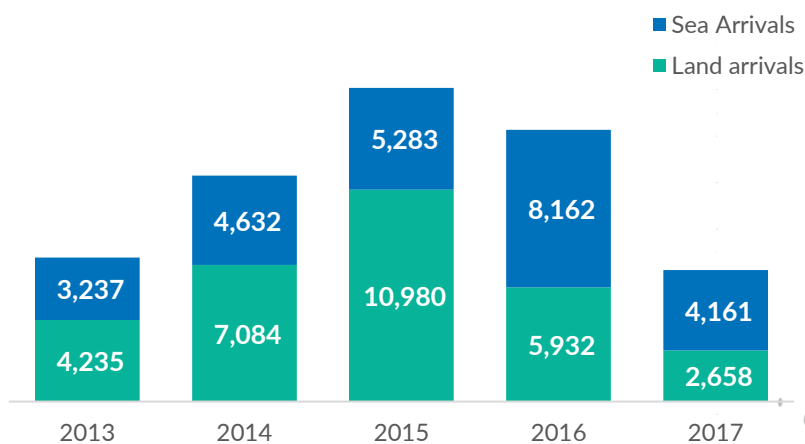
sea arrivals ¹

2,658

land arrivals ¹

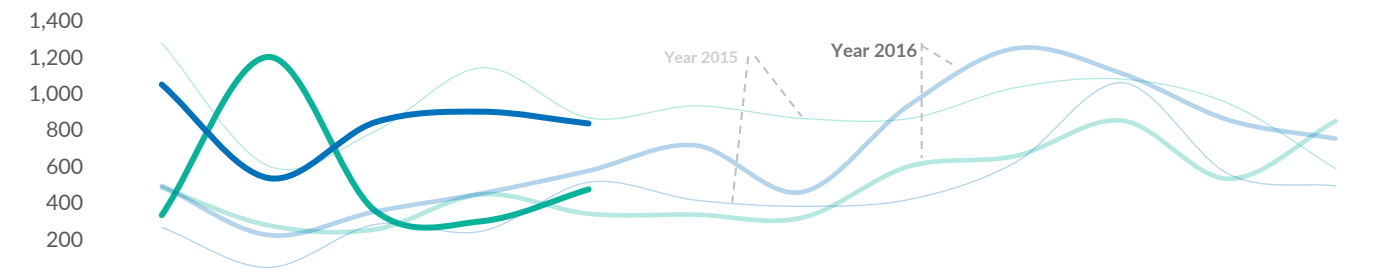
Arrivals by year – 2013 to 2017

Arrivals by location – Jan to May 2017



Monthly trend of sea and land arrivals – 2015 to 2017

The higher proportion of sea arrivals compared to land arrivals (61% versus 39%) during the first five months of 2017 is consistent with 2016, but represents a shift from previous years in which land arrivals exceeded arrivals by sea. Except for a surge in arrivals by land in February, the rate of land arrivals by month is consistent with the same period in 2016.

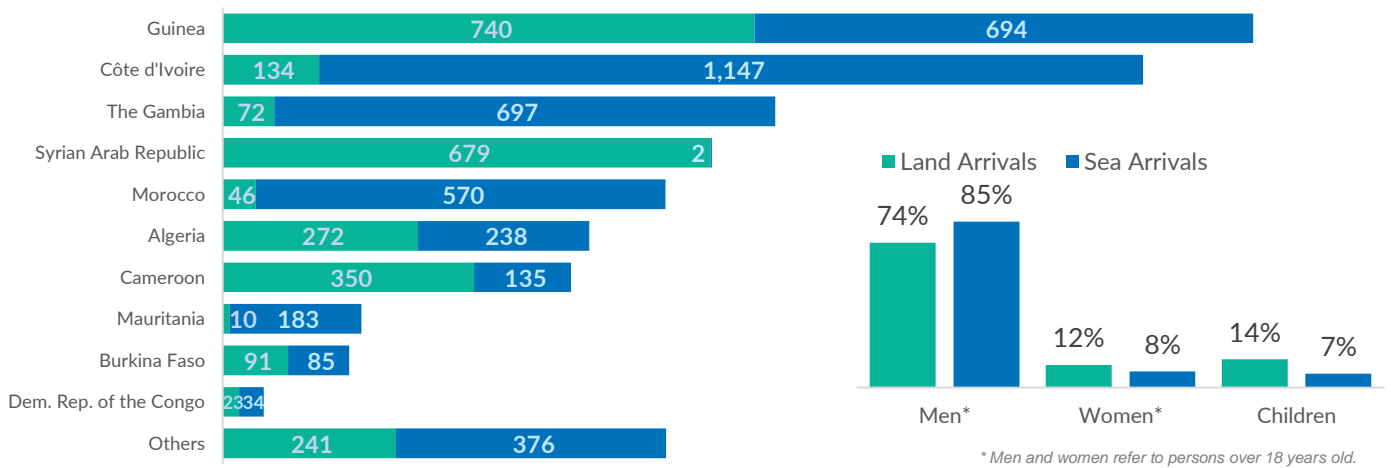


	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Land 2015	1,276	602	793	1,142	866	932	863	862	1,032	1,079	945	588	10,980
Land 2016	483	275	253	446	339	334	317	599	656	851	531	848	5,932
Land 2017	331	1,201	355	298	473	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,658
Sea 2015	264	44	280	243	512	414	380	417	621	1,059	557	492	5,283
Sea 2016	492	222	351	451	575	715	458	934	1,248	1,110	854	752	8,162
Sea 2017	1,049	535	842	900	835	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,161

Most common nationalities of arrivals in 2017

In 2017, most arrivals originated from West African countries, namely Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire and The Gambia (1,434 or 21%, 1,281 or 19%, 769 or 11% respectively). Other arrivals originated from North Africa and the Middle East, particularly the Syrian Arab Republic, Morocco and Algeria (681 or 10%, 616 or 9% and 510 or 7% respectively).

Arrivals from Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia and Morocco were more likely to arrive by sea, while those from the Syrian Arab Republic predominately arrived by land. Refugees and migrants from Guinea and Algeria arrived in similar numbers by land and sea.



As in previous years, arrivals in 2017 were predominantly young men (81%). Of those arriving by land, a relatively higher proportion were women and children (12% and 14% respectively). Notably, 72% of Syrian arrivals were women and children who travelled by land to Melilla in order to avoid other dangerous sea routes. In general, most land arrivals originating from sub-Saharan African countries were young men who jumped over the border fences. Women and children travelling by land most commonly hide inside vehicles crossing the border.

Monthly trend of the nationalities of arrivals – 2015 to 2017

Between January 2016 and May 2017, the five most common nationalities of sea and land arrivals to Spain are Guinean, Ivorian, Gambian, Syrian and Moroccan (4,067 or 19%, 3,192 or 15%, 1,764 or 8%, 2,608 or 12% and 1,593 or 8% respectively). While Guinean arrivals remained comparable to 2015 and 2016, with a surge in February 2017, the relative increase in Ivorian arrivals continues during 2017. Particularly significant is the increase of arrivals from The Gambia in late 2016 and 2017. Syrian arrivals had decreased towards the end of 2015, however they have increased again since August 2016 and the Western Mediterranean route has thus become the second most frequently used EU entry point for Syrians.

