Tunisia is primarily a transit country for most migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers. This population arrives by air, land and sea, through regular and irregular channels, often with the aim of moving onward to Europe.

Individuals rescued at sea, intercepted, or arrested on the grounds of irregular stay or attempted irregular departure, are often referred to humanitarian actors by the authorities, and are then profiled, to obtain individuals' demographic data and to identify protection issues and specific needs.

1,413 persons profiled since Jan 2018

Entry points to Tunisia

- By Air: 14%
- By Land: 32%
- By Sea: 54%

Country of Origin

- Central African Republic: 23%
- Eritrea: 14%
- Somalia: 8%
- Guinea: 8%
- Sudan: 6%
- Mali: 5%
- Cameroon: 4%
- Other: 32%

Referrals

- Asylum-seekers referred to UNHCR: 45% (640)
- Migrants referred to IOM: 50% (705)
- Ongoing counselling - pending referral: 5% (68)

Vulnerability profile

- Victim of trafficking: 16% (233)
- Victim of torture: 9% (127)
- SGBV survivor: 3% (47)
- Medical condition/under specific treatment: 7% (94)
- Person with disabilities: 0% (5)
- Pregnant or lactating woman: 3% (47)

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Demographic profile

- 75%: 60+
- 25%: 0-1 month
- 64.6%: 1-6 months
- 9.6%: 6-12 months
- 0.1%: more than a year
- 0.4%: 0-12 months

Transit through Libya

62% (872) individuals transited through Libya

Length of stay in Libya

- 0-1 month: 68%
- 1-6 months: 16%
- 6-12 months: 13%
- more than a year: 1%

Impact of transit through Libya

95% (825) of those who transited through Libya experienced some form of violence or abuse (torture, ill-treatment in detention, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), etc.)

Future intentions at the time of profiling

- Seeking asylum: 45% (640)
- Remain in Tunisia without seeking asylum*: 34% (478)
- Onward movement: 9% (127)
- Undecided: 8% (106)
- Returning to country of origin: 4% (62)

*Reasons for this include, most commonly, to earn money for onward migration; less commonly to earn money to avoid going home with nothing.