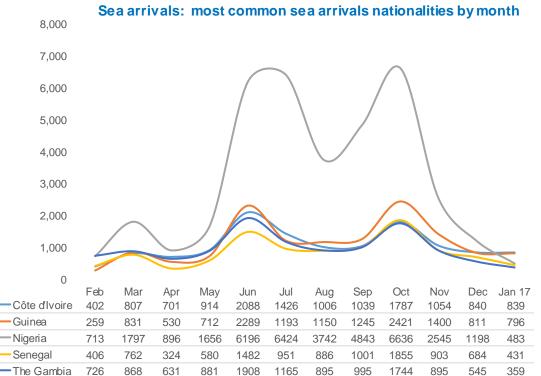


Between 1 and 31 January 2017, 4,467 persons arrived to Italy by sea. This is a slight decrease compared to sea arrivals at the end of January 2016 (5,273). As in previous years, monthly arrivals were comparatively lower during the winter, due to less favourable weather and sea conditions.

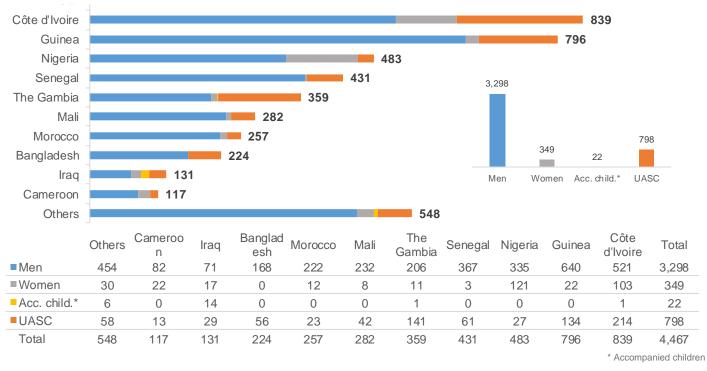
Trends in sea arrivals should be assessed over time, as fluctuations on a monthly basis may be linked to various factors, including weather and sea conditions or the situation in the countries of departure and origin. Geopolitical developments and the capacity of smugglers to organize departures may also affect sea arrivals.



Sea arrivals originate mainly from sub-Saharan Africa. In January 2017, 19 % of all arrivals originated from , Côte d'Ivoire, followed by Guinea (17%), Nigeria (11%), Senegal (10%), The Gambia (8%), Mali (6%), Morocco (6%), Bangladesh (5%). Irag (3%)and Cameroon This (3%). reflects a partial shift from the ten most common sea arrival nationalities recorded in 2016 (Nigeria, Eritrea, Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Senegal, Mali, Sudan, Bangladesh and Somalia). The arrival figure of Syrians (0.3%) remains low.

The charts below are based on figures from the Italian Ministry of Interior and UNHCR estimates. All figures are provisional and subject to change

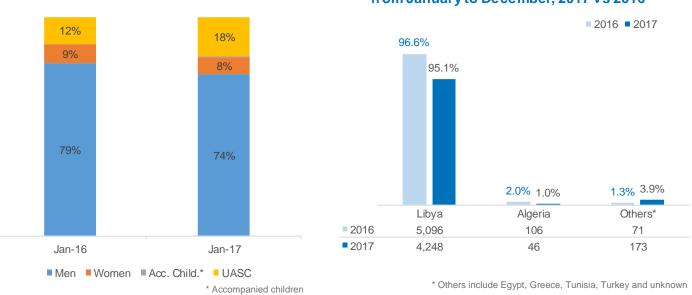




Most common nationalities of sea arrivals to Italy by gender and age

Most sea arrivals in January 2017 have been men (74%), followed by UASC (18%), adult women (8%) and accompanied children (0.5%). Consistent with last year, the proportion of women is significantly higher among Nigerian sea arrivals: one out of four Nigerians reaching Italian shores during the month was a woman. The number of Nigerian women registered at landing points in 2016 (11,009) had almost doubled, compared to numbers registered in 2015 (5,633).

Furthermore, consistent with last year, a significant number of sea arrivals in Italy unaccompanied and separated children (UASC). In January 2017, 798 UASC reached Italian shores (18% of all sea arrivals). While total sea arrivals in January 2017 have slightly decreased compared to January 2016, UASC arrivals have surged compared to the same period last year. UASC arriving by sea most commonly originate from Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, and Guinea. In January 2017, one out of four Ivoirian arrivals was an unaccompanied child, while 17% of all Guinean arrivals were UASC. More detailed information on UASC can be found on the Italy UASC dashboard.



Sea arrivals: gender and age Jan 2016 and Jan 2017

Country of embarkation from January to December, 2017 vs 2016

Libya remains the primary departure country for sea arrivals to Italy. Approximately 95% of individuals arriving in January 2017 crossed from Libya, while no one departed from Egypt. The majority of new arrivals disembarked following SAR operations conducted on the high seas. However, autonomous sea arrivals also occurred during the month of January 2017, with a small number of persons reaching southern Italy from Turkey, and to a lesser extent from Greece, Tunisia and Algeria. Furthermore, consistent wih what emerged towards the end of 2016, small groups of Iraqis and Syrians were intercepted onboard commercial ships at the Trieste port in northern Italy.