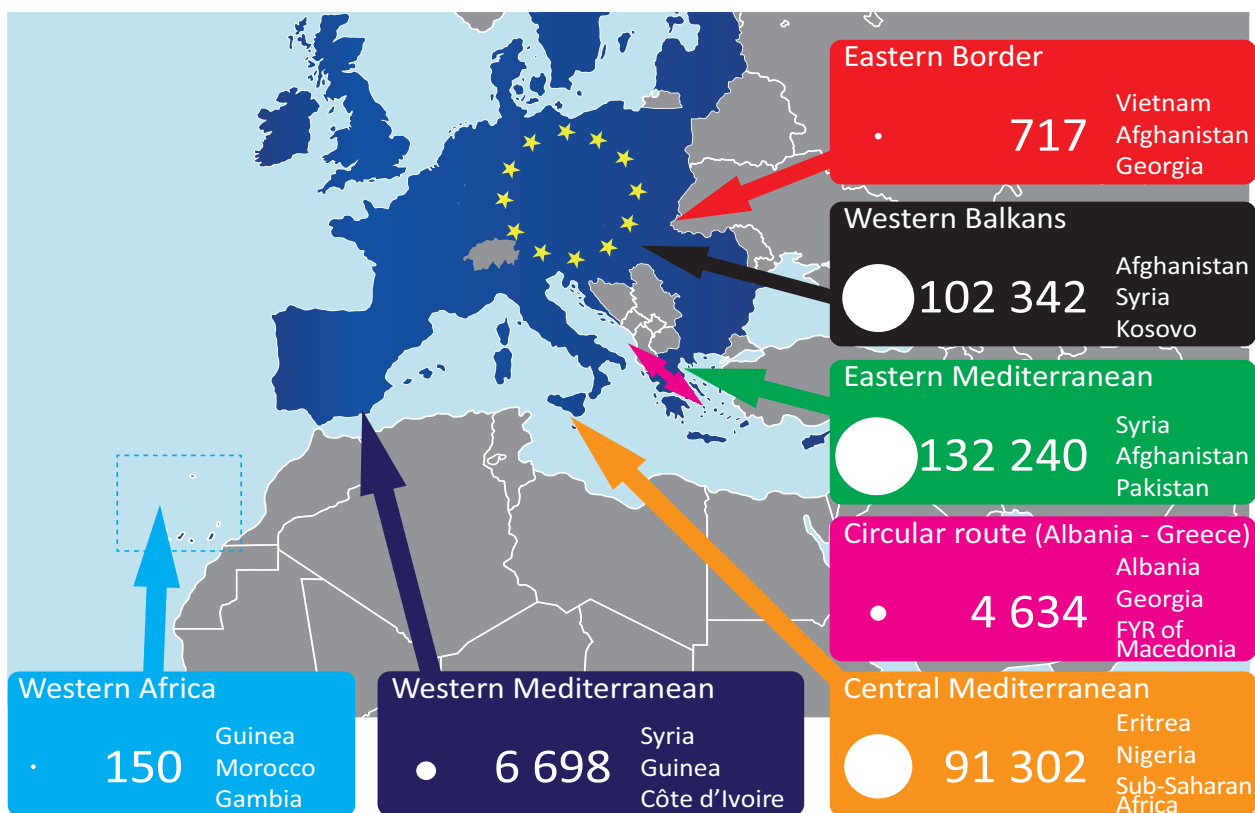


Recent migration flows to the EU

Detections of illegal border crossings in the EU (January – June 2015)

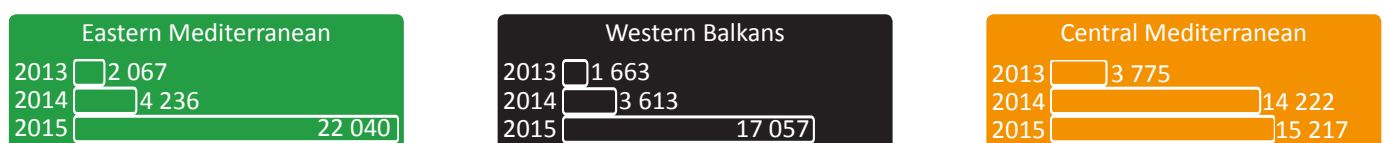
Frontex, the EU border surveillance agency, collects data on detections by national border-control authorities of illegal crossings of the EU's external borders. External borders are those between Member States and third countries as well as between Schengen Associated Countries (Norway, Iceland and Switzerland) and third countries.



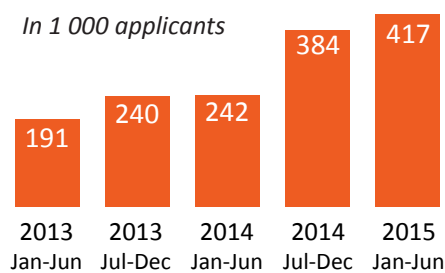
The map shows the routes of illegal entries into the EU during the first six months of 2015. For each route, the box shows the number of entries and the top three nationalities of migrants.

The boxes below show the recent changes in numbers on the most frequent routes: Eastern Mediterranean, Western Balkans and Central Mediterranean. The other routes are not shown as the figures do not indicate major changes in the numbers of illegal entries.

Monthly average number of detections of illegal border crossings in the EU



Asylum applicants in the EU28

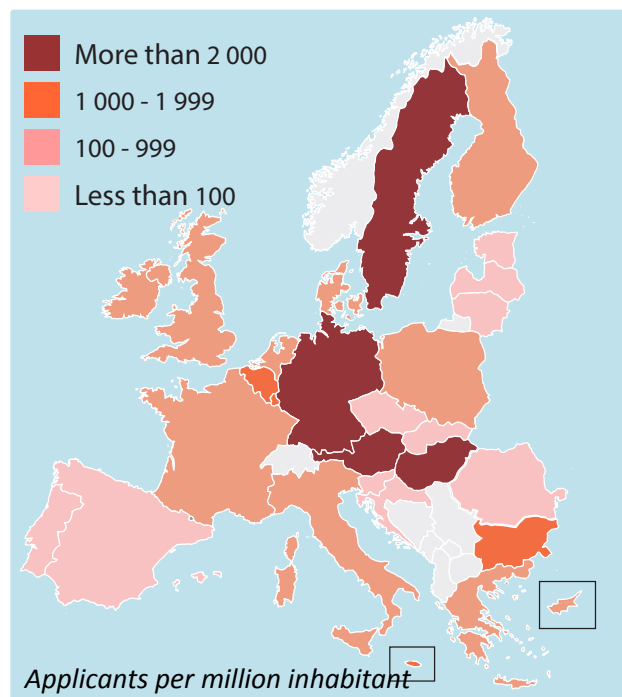


The bar chart shows the number of asylum applicants in the European Union. ‘Applicants’ refers to anyone applying for asylum or similar protection – as defined in the Qualification Directive – or included in an application as a family member. Data are divided by six month period. The table shows the breakdown of the ten Member States which together represent 90% of the total requests for asylum in the first six months of 2015. The values for 2015 will be higher once data for all Member States are available. The following countries have not yet reported numbers for June 2015: Czech Republic, Denmark, Ireland, Spain, Croatia, Cyprus, Austria, Portugal and Romania.

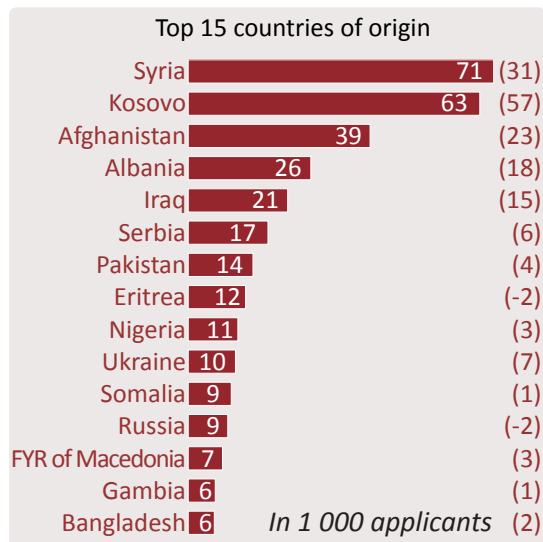
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In 1 000 applicants	2013		2014		2015
	Jan-Jun	Jul-Dec	Jan-Jun	Jul-Dec	Jan-Jun
DE	49	78	78	125	172
HU	12	7	5	37	67
FR	33	33	32	32	32
IT	10	16	25	40	31
SE	19	35	32	49	29
AT	8	9	9	19	21
UK	15	16	15	17	12
BE	11	10	10	13	12
Others	34	35	36	52	42

The map shows the relative weight of the number of applicants per million inhabitants in the ‘country of arrival’ (the EU Member State in which asylum has been requested) for the period January to June 2015. The EU average is 823 applicants per million inhabitants.



The horizontal bar chart shows the top 15 countries of origin for the period January to June 2015. The value in parenthesis represents changes with respect to the same period of 2014; positive value shows an increase, negative a decrease (e.g. there was an increase of 31 000 applicants from Syria in the first half of 2015 compared to the same period in 2014).



Notes. Asylum is a form of international protection given by a state on its territory to someone who is threatened by persecution on grounds of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular group or political opinion in their country of origin or residence. In the EU, this consists of refugee status as defined in the [UN Geneva Refugee Convention](#), plus subsidiary protection for persons who do not qualify as refugees but in respect of whom substantial grounds exist that the person concerned, if returned to their country of origin, would face a real risk of suffering serious harm as defined in the [Qualification Directive](#).

Not all those who cross the EU’s external borders illegally will seek asylum, or indeed qualify under the definition above. They thus form part of the broader category of ‘irregular immigrants’, i.e. those who do not fulfil, or no longer fulfil, the conditions of entry as set out in Article 5 of the Schengen Borders Code or other conditions for entry, stay or residence in that Member State.

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