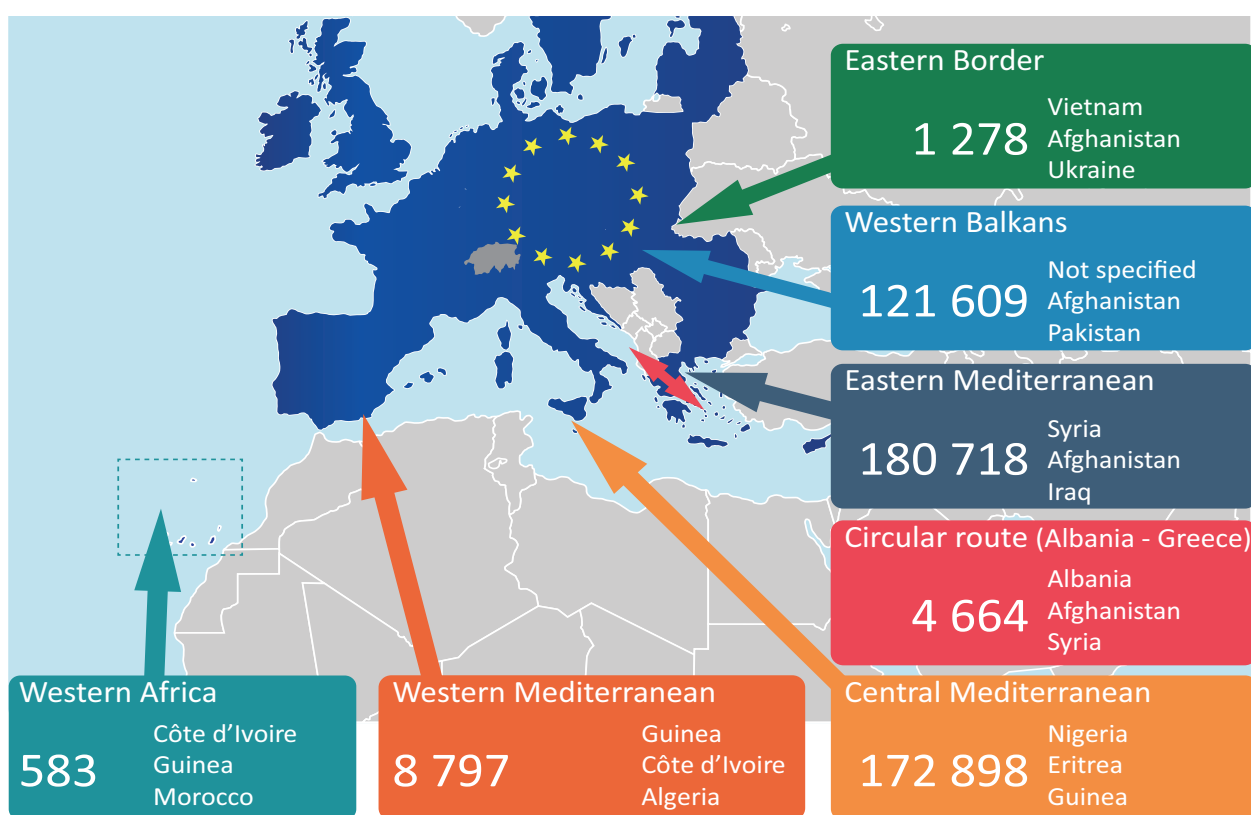


## Recent migration flows to the EU

### Detections of illegal border crossings in the EU (January – November 2016)

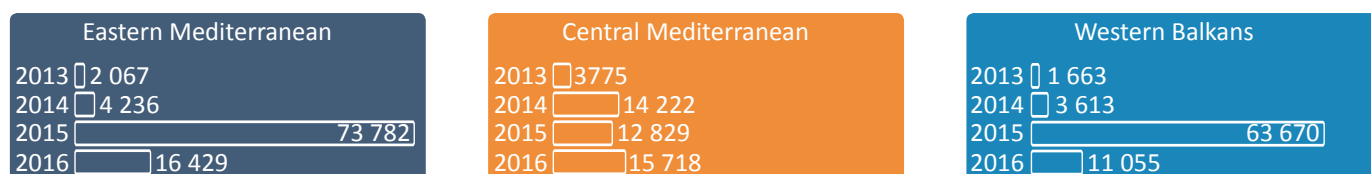
Frontex, the EU border surveillance agency, collects data on detections by national border-control authorities of illegal crossings of the EU's external borders. External borders are those between Member States and third countries, as well as between Schengen Associated Countries (Norway, Iceland and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



The map shows the routes of illegal entries into the EU during the period January to November 2016. For each route, the box shows the number of entries and the top three nationalities of migrants.

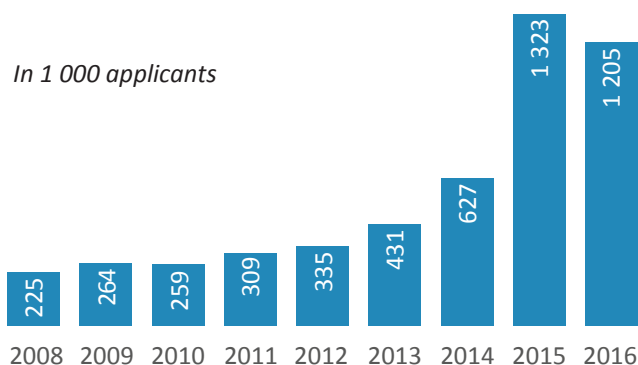
### Monthly average number of detections of illegal border crossings in the EU

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



## Asylum applicants in the EU-28

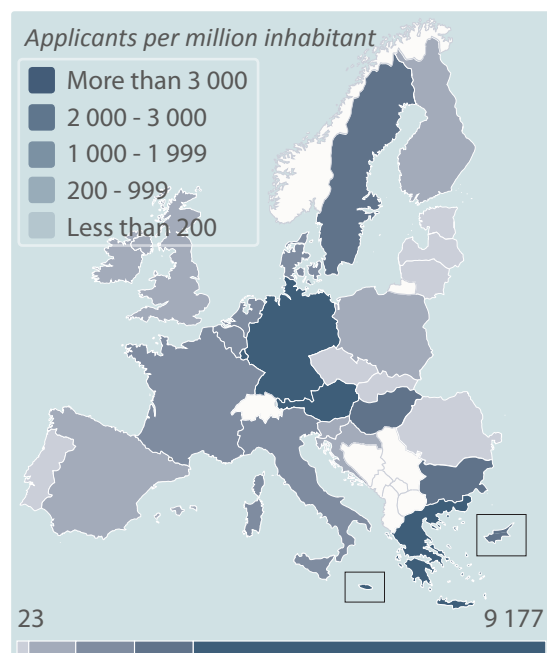
The bar chart shows the number of asylum applicants in the European Union. 'Applicants' refers to anyone applying for asylum or similar protection – as defined in the Qualification Directive – or included in an application as a family member. The table shows the breakdown of those Member States which together represent more than 90% of the total requests for asylum in 2016.



<i>In 1 000 applicants</i>	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
DE	77	127	203	477	745
IT	17	27	65	84	112
FR	61	66	64	76	76
AT	17	18	28	88	39
EL	10	8	9	13	37
UK	29	31	33	40	35
HU	2	19	43	177	29
SE	44	54	81	162	27
BG	1	7	11	20	19
Others	76	75	90	185	85

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 year 2016. The EU average is 2 369 applicants per million inhabitants. The bar below the map shows the range of applicants within the Member States.

The horizontal bar chart shows the top 20 countries of origin for the year 2016. The value in parenthesis represents changes with respect to 2015; a positive value shows an increase, and a negative a decrease (e.g. there was a decrease of 40 000 applicants from Syria in 2016).



*Top 20 countries of origin*

Syria	329	(-40)
Afghanistan	182	(1)
Iraq	126	(1)
Pakistan	47	(-1)
Nigeria	44	(13)
Iran	40	(14)
Eritrea	33	(-1)
Albania	30	(-38)
Russia	26	(4)
Somalia	19	(-2)
Bangladesh	16	(-3)
Gambia	15	(3)
Guinea	13	(7)
Serbia	13	(-17)
Ukraine	11	(-11)
Kosovo*	11	(-61)
Morocco	11	(5)
Algeria	11	(2)
Turkey	11	(6)
Côte d'Ivoire	11	(5)

*In 1 000 applicants*

Previous editions of this Infographic were issued in September 2015 ([PE 565.905](#)) and in April 2016 ([PE 580.893](#))

**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.

**Data source:** Frontex and Eurostat January 2017. Data on asylum for 2016 are not fully complete, as some Member States have not yet reported the number of applicants for the month of December 2016. Therefore the final number reported could be higher, once more data become available.

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