

Malta

January – March 2024

Overview

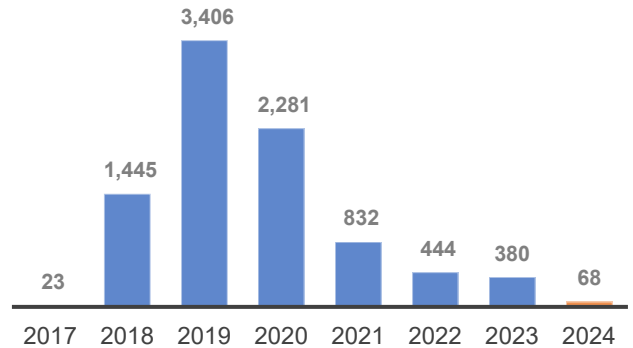
Between January and March 2024, there were 68 sea arrivals in Malta (including three medical evacuations). 2024 data on sea arrivals constitutes a significant decrease from the 380 arrivals in 2023, 444 in 2022, 832 in 2021 and 2,281 in 2020. All sea arrivals departed from Libya.

Of the first quarter arrivals 32% (22) were Pakistani, 22% (15) were Syrian, 21% (28) were Bangladeshi, 12% (8) were Eritrean, 4% (3) were Ghanaian, 4% (3) were Ethiopian, other nationalities comprised 4% (3).

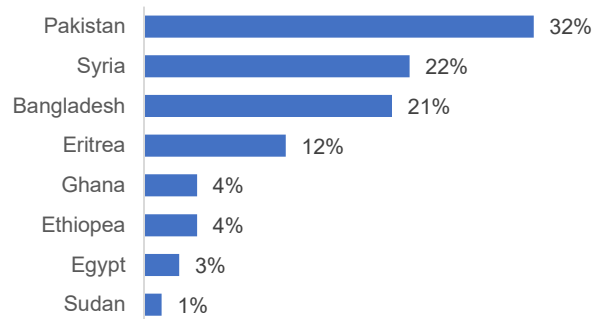
The above marks a slight change in the composition of nationalities of arrivals in comparison to 2023, where 62% of arrivals were Bangladeshi, 14% were Syrian and 7% were Guinean.

UNHCR's protection team attends and monitors disembarkations, providing support to the authorities and giving initial information on reception and asylum procedures to all new arrivals.

Sea Arrivals per Year 2017 - 2024

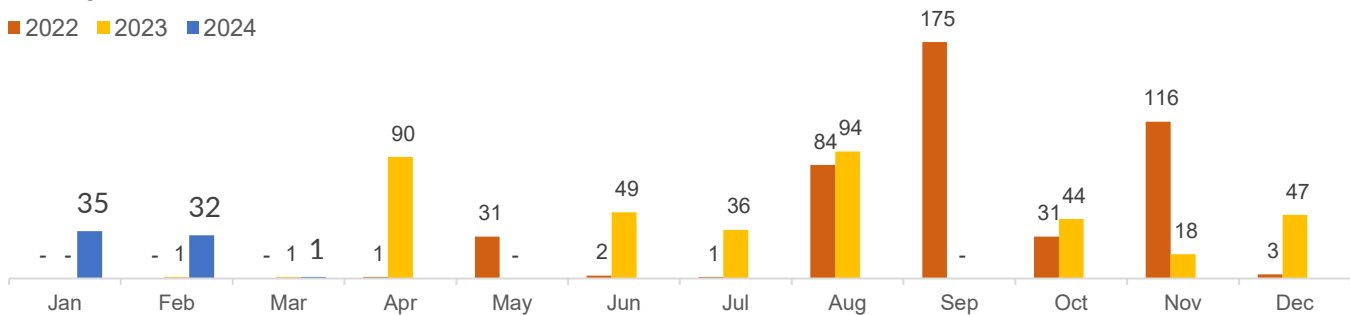


Sea Arrivals Nationalities as of 31 March 2024



Monthly Sea Arrivals

■ 2022 ■ 2023 ■ 2024



Arrivals Demographics

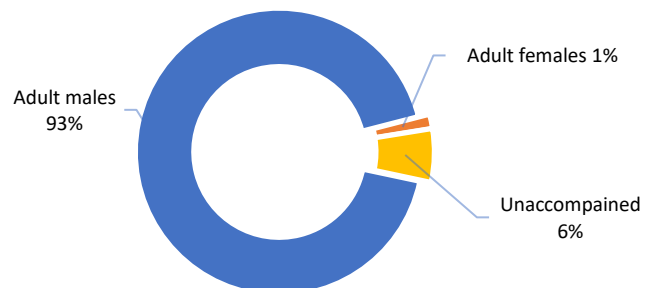
In the first quarter of 2024, an increasing majority of arrivals were adult males: 93% (63 individuals) compared to 90% (342) in 2023 and 80% in 2022.

The adult female sea arrivals constitute 1% (1 individual), and 6% (4 individuals) were alleged unaccompanied minors at the time of disembarkation.

Anyone claiming to be an unaccompanied child then underwent age assessment procedures at the Agency for the Welfare of Asylum Seekers.

Sea Arrivals by Gender/Age January - March 2024

January - March 2024

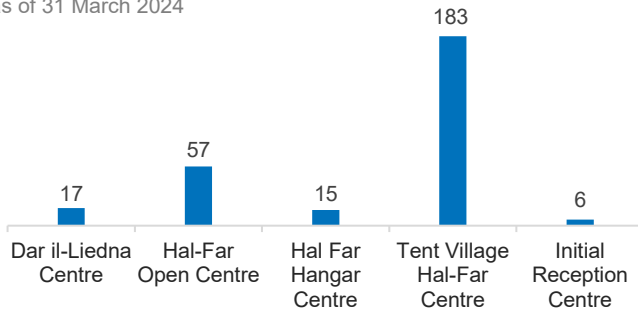


AWAS Population Demographics

As of March 31, 2024, 273 individuals resided in open reception centres in Malta, therefore the occupancy rate stood at 9%. An additional 236 individuals resided in the community and benefited from social assistance. Some 87% (229 individuals) of the population in the reception centres were adult males, constituting the majority, of them 183 individuals resided in the Hal-Far Tent Village.

Population in Reception Centres

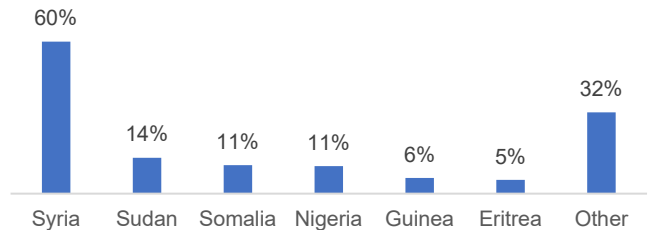
as of 31 March 2024



Population in reception facilities: **273** / Capacity: **2,964**

Nationalities in Open Centres

as of 31 March 2024



UNHCR has not received detention data since September 2021

Asylum Applications and Decisions

In the first quarter of 2024, the International Protection Agency processed 163 first-time applications and issued 427 decisions. The recognition rate (grants of Refugee Status or Subsidiary Protection) stood at 10% (45 individuals), compared to 15% (313) in 2023, whilst the rejection rate stood at 21% (90 individuals). Temporary Humanitarian Protection (THP) was granted to 3 individuals.

Otherwise closed cases stood at 67% (287 cases) of total 427, referring to decisions comprising of administrative closures (35), Dublin closures (34), applications that are explicitly (12) or implicitly withdrawn (135) and inadmissible applications (37).

Analysis shows that the average waiting time for a substantive first instance decision (grant or rejection) issued in the first quarter of 2024 was 2 years.

International Protection was granted on average after 2.5 years for Syrians, 3 years for Eritreans.

The average time for rejected cases stood at 2.8 years for Sudanese, 3 years for Syrians, 2.7 years for Somali.

Situation of Persons fleeing Ukraine

January - March 2024

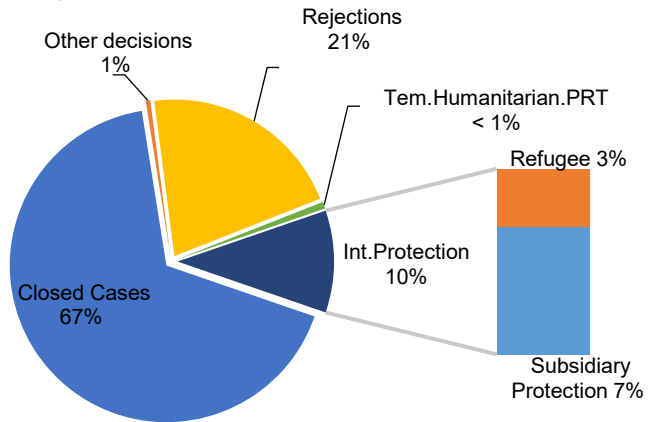
The International Protection Agency granted 107 Temporary Protection Certificates in 2024 to eligible persons fleeing the war in Ukraine. Cumulatively, 2,668 certificates have been issued since February 2022.

Most of the beneficiaries in the first quarter of 2024 are Ukrainian nationals, except one adult male having received temporary protection being from Turkiye. Women and children account for about 72% (77) of the certificates issued while the rest (30) issued to adult men.

For more data, please see UNHCR's [Data Portal for the Ukraine Refugee Situation](#).

Asylum Decision Statistics

January - March 2024



Granted international protection

Nationalities as of March 2024

