

Irregular Migration Trends Towards the EU – Q1 2026

All charts are based on data from Frontex and the Spanish Ministry of the Interior, with analysis by the Spanish Institute for Migration Analysis.

-39%

In the first three months of 2026, the number of controls fell by 39% compared with the same period in 2025.

Irregular Crossing Detections at EU External Borders Q1 2026

Eastern Mediterranean

6,455
Jan-Mar 2026

-34%
Jan-Mar 2026 / Jan-Mar 2025



Top Nationalities

Central Mediterranean

6,162
Jan-Mar 2026

-33%
Jan-Mar 2026 / Jan-Mar 2025



Top Nationalities

Western Mediterranean

4,402
Jan-Mar 2026

+66%
Jan-Mar 2026 / Jan-Mar 2025



Top Nationalities

Western African route

1,640
Jan-Mar 2026

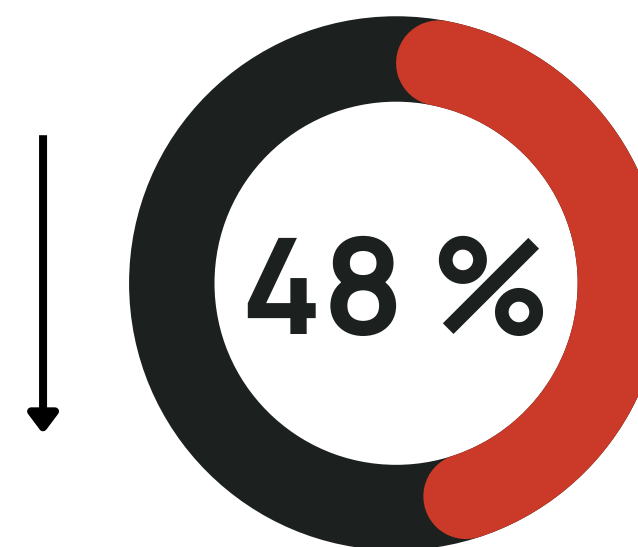
-83%
Jan-Mar 2026 / Jan-Mar 2025



Top Nationalities

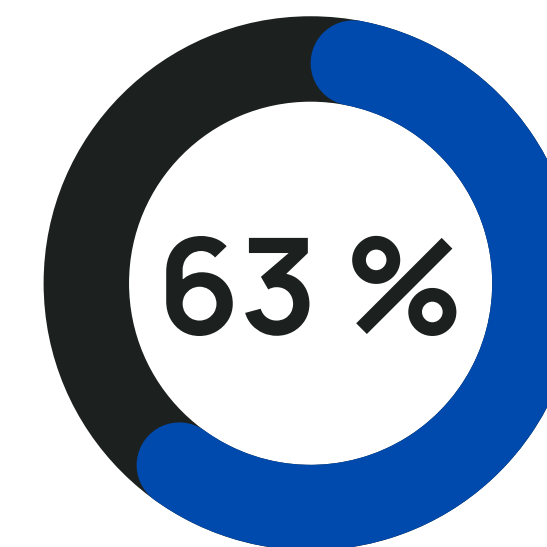
Arrivals to Spain by Sea and Land Routes

Total migrants arriving in Spain by sea and land routes



11,988 => 6,218

Total migrants arriving in Spain by sea



11,609 => 4,352

Highlights

- Adverse weather conditions along major migration routes towards the EU, together with agreements with transit countries such as Senegal and Mauritania, are contributing to the decline in irregular border crossings.
- The situation in the Middle East could lead to new population movements in the coming months.