

CANARY ISLANDS, SPAIN

Escalating conflicts and displacement in the Sahel have forced an estimated 2.9 million people to flee. Facing protracted displacement, dire conditions in neighbouring host countries where they sought shelter, the continued economic impact of the COVID pandemic and a lack of viable alternatives, many continue to attempt risky sea journeys to Europe through the Canary islands.

In the first ten months of 2021, an estimate of 16,827 people arrived in the Canary Islands; an increase of 44,3% compared to the same period in 2020 (source from the Spanish Ministry of the Interior). By the end of August, 785 people died or disappeared on their way to the Canaries (IOM).

For further information:

Institutional Websites and NGOs

MINISTERIO DEL INTERIOR De ESPAÑA, INMIGRACIÓN IRREGULAR 2021

http://www.interior.gob.es/documents/10180/12745481/20_informe_quincenal_acumulado_01-01_al_31-10-2021.pdf/c6f9c76b-2bc0-4b4c-bd1e-4c44d9a82fbf

IOM_DTM, Western African Atlantic Route (January – June 2021)

<https://dtm.iom.int/reports/west-and-central-africa-%E2%80%94-irregular-migration-routes-europe-%E2%80%94-western-african-atlantic-0>

UNHCR, Spain Weekly Snapshot, 17 November 2021

<https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/86403>

Online Newspapers and Periodicals:

IOM, Alarming Loss of Life on Way to Canaries Worsens in 2021

<https://www.iom.int/news/alarming-loss-life-way-canaries-worsens-2021>

ALFA Y OMEGA, La ruta canaria sigue costando la vida a los migrantes

<https://alfayomega.es/la-ruta-canaria-sigue-costando-la-vida-a-los-migrantes/>

UNHCR, As Sub-Saharan crises force more to flee, UNHCR calls for stronger Mediterranean route response, 27 January 2021

<https://www.unhcr.org/news/press/2021/1/6011251c4/sub-saharan-crises-force-flee-unhcr-calls-stronger-mediterranean-route.html>

UNHCR and IOM saddened by latest tragedy off Canary Islands

<https://www.unhcr.org/news/press/2021/4/6089b0894/unhcr-iom-saddened-latest-tragedy-canary-islands.html>

VIDA NUEVA_ La Iglesia en Canarias rescata a los migrantes: invasión de humanidad

<https://www.vidanuevadigital.com/2020/11/09/la-iglesia-en-canarias-rescata-a-los-migrantes-invasion-de-humanidad/>