



UK Boat Tracking Station – Illegal Maritime Arrivals From Safe Countries

Description

UK: ER Editor: Below is an encyclopaedic breakdown of **illegal migrants entering the UK via boat crossings** since the beginning of 2020, with some reporting going back to 2018. This all carefully documented by [MigrationWatchUK.org](https://www.migrationwatchuk.org).

When we see how helpful the UK government can be in allowing these practices to go on (see below for details), it's clear the eminently challengeable ship-them-to-Rwanda policy is no more than window dressing.

What you need to know:

- At least **10,948** people have crossed illegally in around 328 boats since the start of this year (up to 15 June 2022) – just over **double** the 5,087 that were reported during the same period in 2021.
- **28,526** were reported crossing during all of 2021 (3.4 times the number that were disclosed as illegally crossing by boat the year before: 8,466).
- In total, a **population the size of a large town** – at least **50,082 people** – have been detected coming illegally by boat since 1 January 2018.



Large numbers have already been **rejected** for asylum in Europe and 98% have no passport – often due to deliberate destruction of documentation (see [paper](#)). So the UK is, more and more, a **magnet** for **failed asylum claimants** who cannot be vetted for security purposes and who are often obstructing efforts of the authorities to identify them. As we saw with the Parson’s Green tube bombing and other crimes, this means a public safety nightmare. Here are [3 key facts to remember](#). We are the **only** think tank that is holding the government to account on this (*to make a donation, click [here](#)*).

Figure 1: Reported illegal arrivals by Channel crossing in small boats.

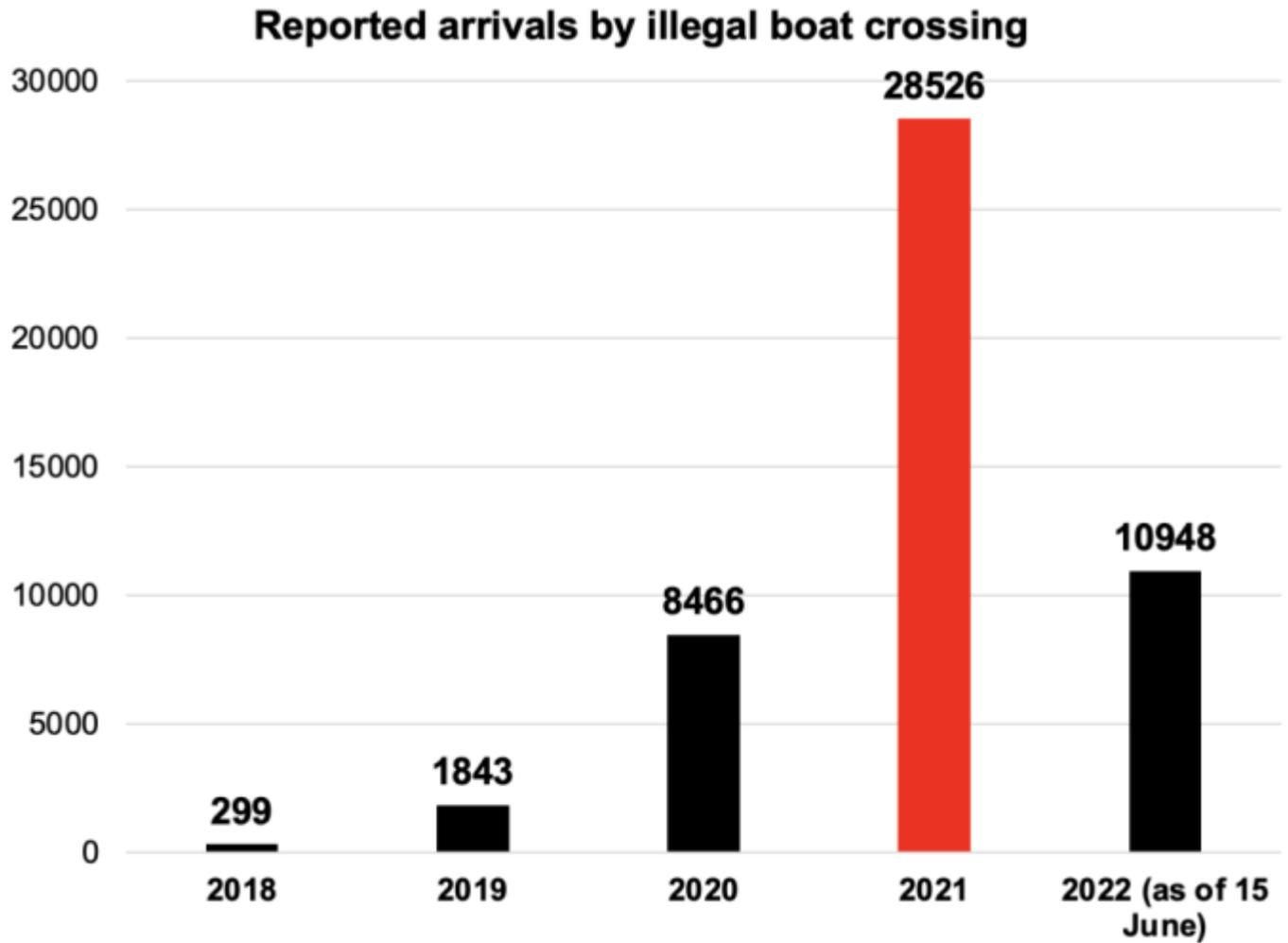
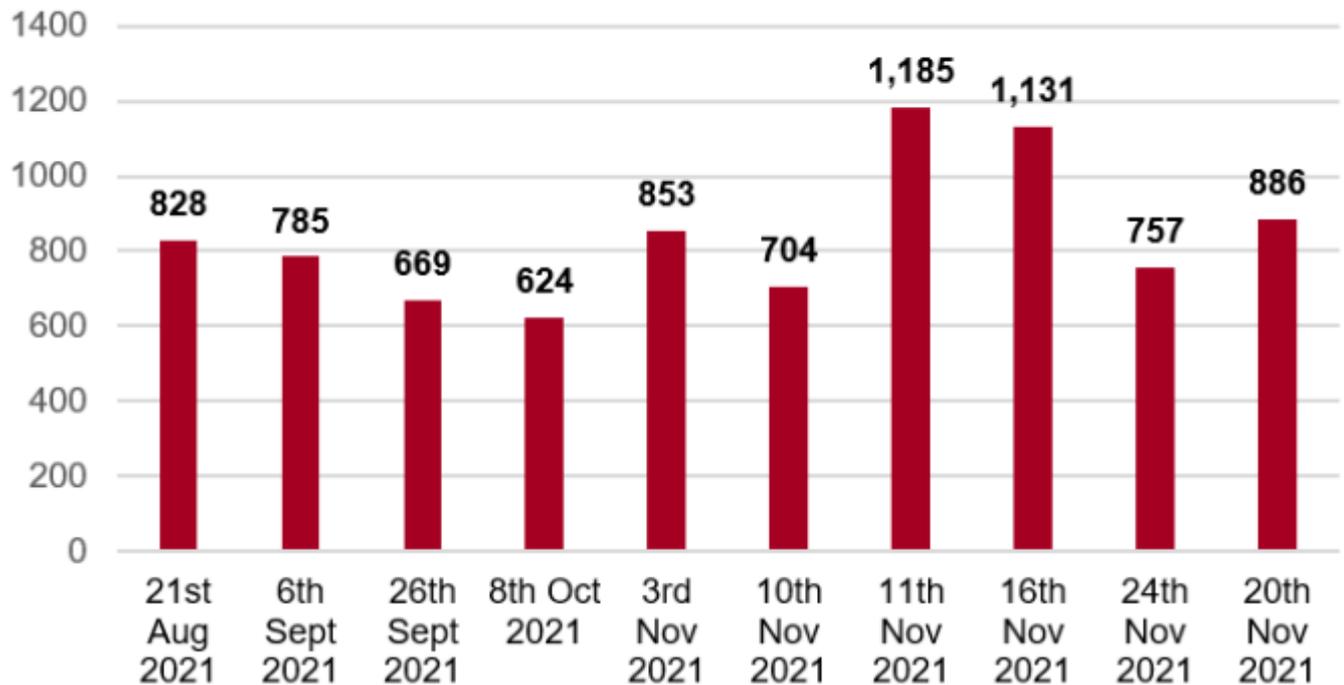


Figure 2 below shows that Thursday 11 November 2021 saw by far the highest ever daily number of illegal arrivals via this route – **1,185** in 33 boats, although 1,131 people illegally entered on Tuesday 16 November (the second highest). Saturday 20th November saw the third highest detected daily total – 886 people in 25 boats. As Figure 3 below shows, **November 2021 has been by far the worst month ever recorded, with nearly 6,900 people having crossed in illegal maritime journeys.**

Figure 2: Ten worst daily totals so far all occurred during the period from August to November 2021.

Highest reported daily totals: illegal boat entries



98% of those entering the UK via this unauthorised route claim asylum here. They tend to be served papers for their entry, then may be held for a few days in detention (and given a mobile phone) and are then bailed into **tax-payer funded accommodation into the community** while their asylum claim is considered.

This despite people not being able to be identified or vetted properly for security reasons due to having usually deliberately destroyed their documentation. Despite laws in place to penalise this, the government increasingly refuses to use them (see our [blog](#)).

Asylum rules provide the grounds for treating an asylum claim as **inadmissible to the UK asylum system** if a person has earlier presence in, or connection to, a safe third country. It also provides for the person to be removed to that or another safe third country, with that country's permission.

However, of the **15** enforced returns of individuals considered for removal on inadmissibility grounds between 1 January 2021 and 31 March 2022 (during a period when there were around **40,000 arrivals** by boat and lorry), **not one was to France.**

Between 1 January 2021 and 31 March 2022:

- **13,473 asylum claimants** were identified for consideration on inadmissibility grounds
- **12,277 individuals** were told removal was being considered in their case.
- **75 individuals were found to be inadmissible** because another country was judged to be responsible for the claim, owing to the claimant's previous presence in, or connection to, a safe country

- There were **15 enforced returns** of individuals considered for removal on inadmissibility grounds
- 6,573 individuals were subsequently admitted into the UK asylum process for substantive consideration of their asylum claim

The 15 returns were made to Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

For further information, including breakdowns of the data by quarter and nationality, see [Asy_09a and Asy_09b of the summary tables](#). See [Home Office summary](#).

Overall, asylum-related removals (ie. of those whose claims were rejected or whose application was deemed fit to be processed in another country) **plummeted from 18,000 in 2005 to just over 1,100 in the year to June 2021** (see our [report](#)). These figures includes all asylum claimants, not just those who entered the UK after traveling here in boats.

Please also help us to hold the government to account by checking each reported incident below in Annex A. Our Tracking Station is unique in enabling you to do so. If you identify a discrepancy in the figures below please contact: admin@migrationwatchuk.org

Border Force crews have said they were being used as a **'taxi service'** by illegal immigrants (see our [summary](#) and the [independent report itself](#)). **Yet the government allows it to continue, and encourages it by undermining enforcement.**

REPORTED FIGURES SINCE THE START OF 2018

As the release of official figures on this has been sporadic at best, the following estimates are based on both specific information released by the Home Office, and other bodies, and on individual media reports:

2018

299 people successfully crossed the Channel (see [Home Office figures](#), September 2020).

2019

1,843 people successfully crossed the Channel (see [Home Office figures](#), September 2020).|

2020

8,466 people were reported as having illegally crossed, while there were 15,600 recorded attempted crossings during 2020. For a breakdown of arrivals from the beginning of 2018 until the middle of 2020, see [Home Office figures](#) released in September 2020. In 2020, those from Iran, Iraq, Sudan, Syria and Eritrea were among the most common stated nationalities of those arriving ([Home Office summary](#)).

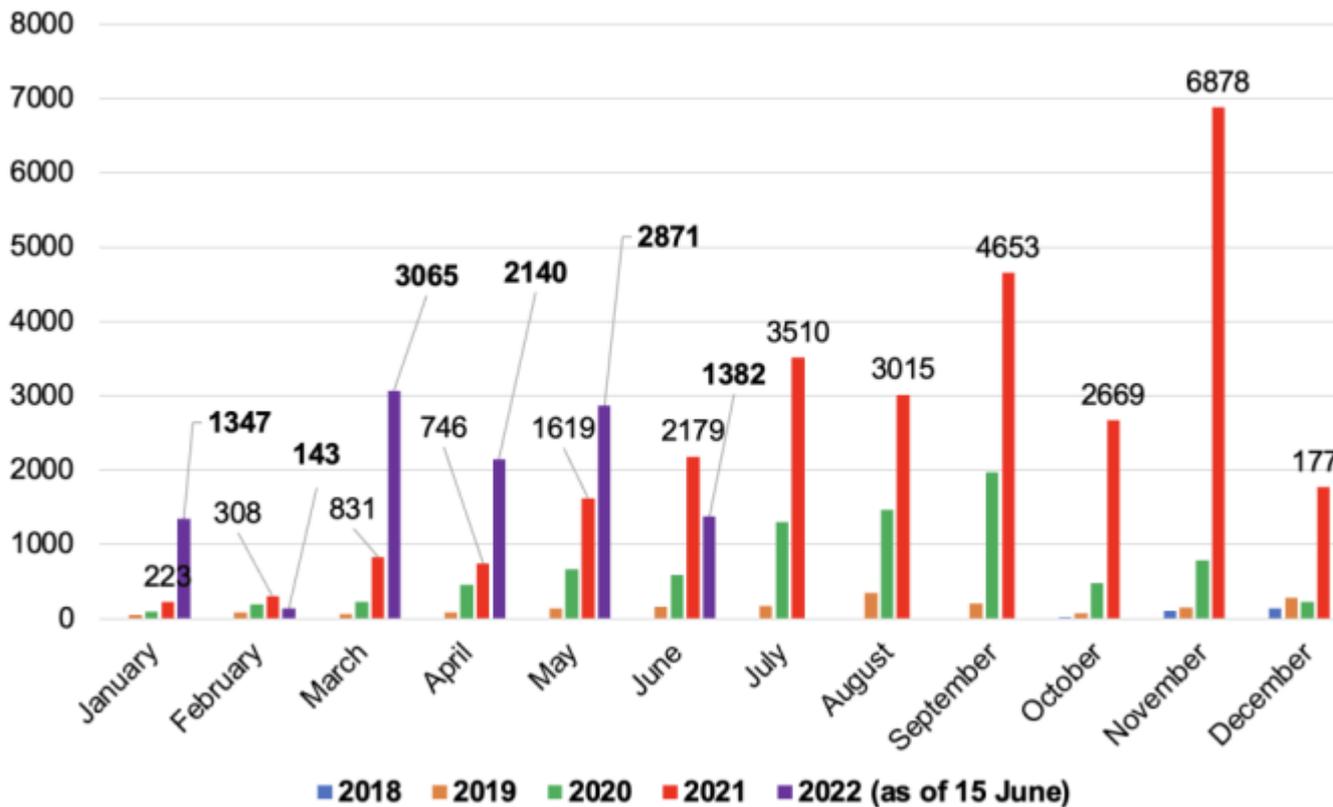
2021

At least **28,526** people were reported illegally arriving (see [Home Office illegal immigration statistics](#)).

2022

10,948 people reported crossing without prior permission in around 328 boats (by 15 June 2022).

Total reported: (January 2018 up to 15 June 2022) = **50,082**



What is the government doing about the crisis?

The Home Secretary said in October 2019 that these crossings would be an ‘infrequent phenomenon’ by Spring the following year. Yet crossings skyrocketed during 2020. By last autumn the government had suggested it had put an ‘operational plan’ with France and a Minister noted in Parliament: **“This Government will not rest until we have taken the necessary steps to completely end these crossings.”**

However, the number of people crossing continues to rise even after nearly **£200 million** of taxpayers’ money was paid to France since September 2014 to tackle illegal immigration (see [media report](#)). *This is hardly value for money.*

What happens to those who arrive?

The government is also spending around **£400 million of taxpayers’ money each year on ‘free’ accommodation for more than 60,000 asylum seekers** and failed claimants over the next decade (total of £4 billion in the ten years from mid-2019 – see [National Audit Office summary](#)). The number of

people housed has **tripled** since 2012 when it was around 20,000.

The number of people in such accommodation has increased recently from just below 50,000, in part as a result of measures put in place in the midst of the Covid pandemic but also due to the increase in illegal Channel crossings.

18,000 people are in hotels in what is known as 'contingency' or 'initial accommodation' set aside for people just after they claim asylum but are awaiting an allocation of more long-term housing (for more read this [piece](#)).

This despite the fact that, as Home Office sources admitted recently, **housing thousands of migrants in hotels creates a "pull factor"**.

The incentives are skewed so that they encourage, rather than discourage, illegal trips that often lead to asylum abuse (also see this [Home Office page](#) telling people what they will get if they claim asylum).

*Payments and the offer of free housing for those eligible while an asylum claim is being processed (and for thousands of failed claimants) **may serve to encourage** people to attempt the dangerous and needless journey.*

98% of those arriving claim asylum once landed, says the Home Office, even though they are traveling from a safe country from which protection is not required. However, **81% have been found by the authorities not to have a credible claim here in the UK.** The asylum route should be reserved only for the truly needy.

What should happen to stop these crossings?

In a scandalous incident in early June 2021, there were reports that a Border Force ship actually entered French waters and took on board migrants from a UK-bound dinghy. Lucy Moreton, from the Immigration Services Union, was [reported](#) as saying it was a **common tactic for migrants to threaten to throw someone overboard if a French vessel came too close, because migrants knew if they were picked up by a UK ship they were "as good as here"**.

The Independent Chief Inspector of Borders has confirmed that migrants dangle children overseas and threaten to drop them into the sea unless their illegal entry into the UK is allowed.

As one MP, a member of the House of Commons Home Affairs Select Committee, has said: **"The occupants of those boats are committing two crimes. One is trying to enter the UK illegally and the second is paying money to organised crime"**.

The criminal behaviour of those on board suggests that the UK needs to take tough actions in order to prevent entry. To do anything else just encourages illegal immigration and dangerous and sickening people-smuggling.

Instead of the boats being stopped and turned back to French waters, as they can and should be (e.g. under Article 25 of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea), many people are brought to the UK by the Border Force (or Coastguard) after being encountered in the Channel. French

vessels have even been seen shepherding unsafe boats into UK waters and abandoning them.

Annex A

2022 = 10,948 illegal immigrants were reported crossing in 328 boats (as of 15 June).

June 2022: Number of disclosed illegal arrivals by boat during month: **1,149** in at least 34 boats.

May 2022: Number of disclosed illegal arrivals by boat during month: **2,871** in just under 100 boats

April 2022: Number of disclosed illegal arrivals by boat during month: **2,140** in 58 boats.

- 20-30 April: It is not clear whether or not there were crossings. The authorities did not disclose any arrivals.
- 19 April: **263** migrants crossed in seven boats.
- 18 April: **88** migrants (in two boats) were reportedly brought ashore at Dover (see [media report](#)).
- 17 April: The Ministry of Defence, which took over monitoring the English Channel and the reporting of the figures from the Home Office on 13 April, says **76** migrants on two boats were brought to Dover (see [media report](#)).
- 16 April: **252** migrants, in seven boats, were detected in small boats and brought to the UK by the government (see [media report](#)).
- 15 April: **181** migrants illegally arrived in the UK on six boats (see [media report](#)).
- 14 April: **562** migrants reached the UK on 14 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 13 April: **651** migrants illegally cross to the UK on 18 boats, the day it was announced that people arriving this way could be sent to Rwanda (see [media report](#)).
- 12 April: **39** migrants reach the UK (see [media report](#)).
- 11 April: **28** people brought in one boat (see [media report](#)).
- 1 – 10 April: Silence from the Home Office and media on whether or not there were crossings

March 2022: Total number of disclosed illegal arrivals by boat during month: **3,065** in at least 95 boats

- 29 – 31 March: No reports of whether or not there were crossings
- 28 March: **386** migrants reach the UK on 12 boats. The French reportedly stop a further 101 people (see [media report](#)).
- 26-27 March: Unconfirmed yet whether or not there were crossings on these dates.
- 25 March: **77** illegal immigrants come to the UK in 2 boats while the French reportedly stop 128 people.
- 24 March: **190** people illegally arrive in the UK in 6 boats while the French reportedly stop 85 people.
- 23 March: **59** people cross to the UK in 3 boats while the French reportedly stop 12.
- 22 March: **394** illegally cross to the UK in 11 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 21 March: **213** people illegally arrive in the UK in 6 boats.
- 20 March: Unconfirmed whether or not there were crossings on this date.
- 18 March: **308** people come to the UK in 9 boats while the French are reported to have stopped 248.
- 17 March: Unconfirmed whether or not there were crossings on this date.
- 16 March: **279** people cross in 9 boats while the French reportedly stopped 25 people.

- 15 March: **405** people illegally cross to the UK in 12 boats while the French are reported to have stopped 538 people from successfully crossing (see [media report](#)).
- 14 March: **24** people illegally come to the UK in an unknown number of boats.
- 5 – 13 March: Unconfirmed whether or not there were crossings on these dates.
- 4 March: **99** people reached the UK on 3 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 3 March: **253** illegal immigrants come to the UK on 10 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 2 March: **148** illegal immigrants come to the UK on 4 boats (see [mediareport](#)).
- 1 March: **230** people illegally come to the UK on 7 boats. The French authorities stopped 105 people from reaching the UK (see [media report](#)).

February 2022: Total number of disclosed arrivals during month: **143** in around 5 boats

- 27 February: **132** people come to the UK on four boats (see [media report](#)).
- 13-26 February: Home Office does not report any migrant arrivals during period.
- 12 February. **11** migrants reported reaching the UK on a single boat (see [media report](#)).
- 1-11 February. Home Office does not report any migrant arrivals during period.

January 2022: Total number of reported arrivals during month so far: **1,347** in at least 46 boats.

- 27-31 January. Home Office does not report any migrant arrivals during period.
- 26 January: **39** more people taxied into Dover from France.
- 25 January: **183** people reach the UK after coming here without prior permission in seven boats.
- 24 January: **67** illegal migrants arrive in the UK on two boats (see [media report](#)).
- 23 January: **87** people, in three boats, were brought to the UK by the UK authorities after they set off from Northern Europe (see [media report](#)). The French reportedly stopped one boat with 10 people in it.
- 21-22 January: No reports yet of how many crossings there may have been, if any.
- 20 January: **25** people illegally come to the UK after crossing the English Channel (see [media report](#)).
- 18 January: **168** people crossed the English Channel and arrived illegally after travelling in six boats (see [media report](#)). The French authorities reportedly intercepted three events with 126 people prevented from making the crossing.
- 16-17 January: No clear reports of numbers on these dates.
- 15 January: **197** illegal immigrants cross the Channel in seven boats (see [media report](#)).
- 14 January: **118** illegal immigrants come to the UK in four boats while the French also prevent 97 people from crossing (see [media report](#)).
- 13 January: **271** illegal immigrants cross in at 10 boats. 60 migrants were picked up in the Channel by the French authorities (see [media report](#)).
- 12 January: **30** illegal immigrants crossed the Channel in an unknown number of boats (see [media report](#)). Tragically one man – reportedly a national of Sudan who was in his 20s – lost his life in the Channel (see [media report](#)).
- 10 January: **96** illegal immigrants crossed the Channel in three boats. Meanwhile, the French picked up 56 migrants on two boats after they got into difficulty (see [media report](#)).
- 4 January: **66** illegal immigrants arrive in two boats (see [media report](#)).
- 1-3 January: No reported crossings on these dates, possibly affected by inclement weather, including heavy rain on 2 January.

2021 = 28,526 illegal immigrants were reported crossing (compared with 8,466 in 2020) – see [Home Office bulletin](#), February 2022. About 28,400 of these are accounted for in reported incidents below and between 100 and 150 arrived on unknown dates.

December 2021 – Total number of reported arrivals during month: 1,770

- 27 December: **36** migrants cross the Channel illegally. The French authorities picked up 40 people who attempted the crossing (see [media report](#)).
- 25 December: **67** people illegally come to the UK after crossing the Channel in two boats, while the French authorities intercepted one boat (see [media report](#)).
- 22 December: **258** people come to the UK illegally after crossing the Channel in eight boats on Wednesday 22 December. The French authorities intercept five boats preventing 87 people from reaching the UK on both the 21st and 22nd (see [media report](#)).
- 21 December: **82** migrants illegally come to the UK on three boats (see [media report](#)).
- 20 December: Not known if anyone was reported crossing or not
- 19 December: **274** illegal immigrants come to the UK on 11 boats. French authorities reported to have stopped 178 people from making the illegal crossing (see [media report](#)).
- 18 December: Number of crossings as yet unknown
- 17 December: **358** people crossed in 10 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 16 December: **559** people were picked up off the Kent coast after making the crossing in 19 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 15 December: **36** migrants reported crossing the English Channel in one boat
- 5-14 December: Poor weather may have limited crossings although there may have been unreported, clandestine arrivals and likely were.
- 4 December – **100** illegal immigrants cross the Channel in three boats, while the French intercept no one (see [media report](#)).
- 1-3 December – The government and media have been silent on the number of people that may or may not have illegally crossed on these dates.

November 2021 – Total number of reported arrivals during month: 6,878

- 26-31 November -The government and media have been silent on the number of people that may or may not have illegally crossed on these dates.
- 25 November – **62** people entered the UK on two boats (see [media report](#)).
- 24 November – Tragedy struck when 27 people tragically died while attempting to get to the UK. There were also **757** reported illegal arrivals to the UK on 17 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 21-23 November – Awaiting confirmation of number of detected illegal arrivals on these dates.
- 20 November – **886** migrants illegally came to the UK on 28 boats (see [media report](#)). This is the third highest daily total ever recorded.
- 19 November – **14** migrants cross the Channel on a single boat (see [media report](#)).
- 18 November: **78** people on 4 boats illegally enter the UK after crossing the English Channel without permission (see [media report](#)).
- 17 November: **66** people come to the UK without authorisation by crossing the Channel on three boats (see [media report](#)).
- 16 November: **1,131** people reported to come to the UK illegally in 28 boats (see [media report](#)). This is the second highest daily total ever – after 11 November when 1,185 entered illegally.

- 15 November: **103** migrants come to the UK on four boats while the French authorities stopped 32 people from crossing (see [media report](#)).
- 12-14 November: We have had no confirmed reports of arrivals on these dates, although bad weather may have hindered illegal access to the UK.
- 11 November: **1,185** people entered the UK, in 33 boats, on this **new record-smashing day** (see [media report](#)).
- 10 November: **704** illegal immigrants entered the UK on at least 22 boats after crossing the Channel (see [media report](#)).
- 9 November: **504** illegal immigrants enter the UK via small boat, the ***eighth highest daily total ever*** (see [media report](#)).
- 8 November: **50** illegal immigrants arrived on two boats (see [media report](#)).
- 7 November: We have not received any confirmation yet of the number that arrived on these dates.
- 6 November: **29** illegal immigrants entered the UK on one boat (see [media report](#)).
- 4-5 November: We have not received any confirmation yet of the number that arrived on these dates.
- 3 November: **853** illegal immigrants come to the UK on 25 boats (more than 30 people per boat), the second highest ever recorded in a single day.
- 2 November: **456** illegal immigrants broke into the UK on 15 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 1 November: No reports yet about the number of people that illegally crossed the English Channel in small boats and broke into the UK as of yet. Watch this space!

October 2021 – Total number of reported arrivals during month: 2,669

- 27-31 October – We have had no reports from the Home Office or media about the number of people who broke in via this illegal route.
- 26 October – **145** illegal immigrants are ‘brought’ to the UK after crossing the Channel on five boats (see [media report](#)).
- 25 October – There have been no reports on the numbers that crossed on this date.
- 24 October – **29** migrants arrive on an unknown number of boats (see [media report](#)).
- 23 October – The Home Office says **35** migrants ‘reached the UK’ on two boats (see [media report](#)).
- 19-22 October – The Home Office have released no information on how many people were brought in by the ‘taxi service’ on these dates.
- 18 October – UK authorities bring **294** people to UK in ‘taxi service’ after they illegally crossed the Channel in 10 boats. The French prevented 298 people from coming in 8 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 17 October – **102** people illegally arrived in the UK in three boats, after they were ‘rescued’ or picked up by UK authorities such as the Border Force. The French prevented 90 people from crossing (see [media report](#)).
- 16 October – UK authorities brought **410** people to the UK after they came in illegal maritime events in 11 boats. The French intercepted at least seven boats, preventing 94 people from coming (see [media report](#)).
- 15 October: No word on the number of migrants who illegally entered on these dates.
- 14 October: **55** migrants reach the UK after illegally entering on two boats (see [media report](#)).
- 12-13 October: We await reports of the numbers that crossed on these dates.
- 11 October: **31** migrants came to the UK illegally on one boat (see [media report](#)).

- 10 October: **364** migrants illegally came to the UK on 11 boats – more than 30 people per boat (see [media report](#)).
- 9 October: **491** people illegally came to the UK after crossing the Channel on small boats (see [media report](#)).
- 8 October: **624** people crossed successfully to the UK – **the fourth highest number of people in one day ever** (see [media report](#)).
- 7 October: **89** migrants reach the UK on five boats (see [media report](#)).
- 1-6 October: Inclement weather seems to have reduced the number of crossings.

September 2021 – Total number of reported arrivals during month: 4,653

- 27-30 September – Awaiting update on the number of people that illegally crossed on these dates.
- 26 September – **669** people are reported crossing in illegal maritime events involving 22 boats, now the third highest daily total ever recorded (see [media report](#)).
- 25 September – **15** migrants arrive after crossing illegally in one boat (see [media report](#)).
- 24 September – **90** people arrive after illegally crossing in three boats from France (see [media report](#)).
- 23 September – The *BBC* said that no boats reportedly crossed on this date due to windy weather.
- 22 September – **459** people arrive in illegal maritime incidents on 14 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 21 September – **134** migrants reach the UK on five boats (see [media report](#)).
- 20 September – **123** people arrived on three boats (see [media report](#)).
- 19 September – **41** migrants reached the UK in one boat (see [media report](#)).
- 18 September – **426** illegal immigrants come on 14 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 17 September – **174** illegal immigrants reached the UK today on six boats. The French authorities intercepted 10 people on two boats (see [media report](#)).
- 16 September – **222** people illegally entered the UK after crossing the Channel in 10 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 15 September – The UK Border Force picks up **85** people who are attempting to enter the country illegally in four boats (see [media report](#)).
- 14 September – 11 illegal immigrants crossed in one boat (see [media report](#)).
- 13 September – **163** people reportedly crossed in seven boats (see [media report](#)).
- 12 September – **75** people reportedly arrived on four boats (see [media report](#)).
- 11 September – Awaiting confirmation of how many people crossed illegally on these days.
- 10 September – **67** people were reported as crossing on 2 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 9 September – **192** people arrived in the UK after illegally crossing the Channel on 5 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 8 September – **301** people reportedly arrived on 9 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 7 September: **456** people reported to have illegally crossed on 17 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 6 September: The Home Office says that around **785** illegals entered the UK after crossing the Channel in (the third highest daily total on record) – see [media report](#). 27 boats were involved.
- 5 September: **158** people are reported to have entered the UK illegally on four boats (see [media report](#)).
- 1-4 September: Awaiting more information about how many people crossed illegally (and how many people were helped to enter without proper authorisation by Border Force and others) during this period.

- Unknown dates – Media reports suggest there were at least seven other reported arrivals by illegal immigrants crossing the Channel in small boats (see [media report](#)).

August 2021: Total number of reported arrivals during month: 3,015

- 22-31 August – Awaiting more information about how many people crossed illegally (and how many people were helped to enter without proper authorisation by Border Force and others) during this period.
- 21 August – **828** illegal immigrants crossed the Channel in 30 boats – **the second highest ever** (see [media report](#)).
- 16-20 August – We need more information about how many people crossed illegally (and how many people were helped to enter without proper authorisation by Border Force and others) during this period.
- 15 August – **285** illegal immigrants came across the Channel on boats. The French reportedly intercepted seven attempts to cross the Channel, stopping 106 people from reaching the UK (see [media report](#)).
- 14 August – No clear information released about whether people illegally arrived or not on this date.
- 13 August – **25** people illegally crossed the English Channel on one boat (see [media report](#)).
- 12 August – **592** people illegally arrived in the UK (see [media report](#)). Tragically, a 27-year-old Eritrean man lost his life trying to reach the UK when his boat started to sink off the French coast.
- 5 August – Another **475** migrants reach the UK illegally on 15 boats, the fifth highest daily total ever after the previous day (see [media report](#)).
- 4 August – **482** migrants came to the UK illegally on 21 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 3 August – **281** illegal immigrants crossed the Channel to the UK in an unknown number of boats (see [media report](#)).
- 2 August – **44** migrants travel to the UK illegally via boat across the Channel (see [media report](#) and [video](#)).
- 1 August – No confirmation of whether or not there were Channel crossings on these dates.

July 2021 – Total number of reported arrivals during month: 3,510

- 27-31 July – No confirmation of whether or not there were Channel crossings on these dates. There may have been fewer crossings due to inclement weather.
- 26 July – **160** migrants came to the UK illegally on five boats (see [media report](#)).
- 25 July – **378** illegal immigrants cross the Channel in 12 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 24 July – No confirmation of the number of crossings on this date.
- 23 July – **37** illegals arrive in one boat (see [media report](#)).
- 22 July – **175** people came here illegally on 6 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 21 July – **219** illegal immigrants reached the UK on 11 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 20 July – **287** illegal immigrants reached the UK in 12 boats (see [media report](#) of Home Office confirmation of total).
- 19 July – **430** illegal immigrants reached the UK on 14 boats, setting a new record for the time (see [media report](#)). On both this date and 20th July a large number of migrants made beach landings rather than being brought into the Tughaven processing facility in Dover. Border staff complained that because ***‘the pressure of the volume of arrivals led to migrants being processed on the tarmac in full view of the public’***. They also complained there was no sun

lotion available for them for the hundreds of illegal migrants who arrived. On this day too, the Home Office ordered pizza for hundreds of those arriving (see submission by [Immigration Services Union](#)).

- 18 July – **241** illegal immigrants come to the UK on eight boats, brought to Dover by Border Force (see [media report](#)).
- 14-17 July – No confirmation by the Home Office of whether or not there were crossings on these dates.
- 13 July – **10** migrants illegally entered the UK after crossing on one boat (see [media report](#)).
- 12 July – **346** people illegally entered the UK after crossing the Channel in 15 boats making it the busiest year so far for such crossings (see [media report](#)).
- 11 July – **254** people illegally came to the UK on nine boats after crossing the Channel from Northern Europe (see [media report](#)).
- 9 July – **225** illegal immigrants cross the English Channel on ten boats (see [media report](#)).
- 8 July – **71** illegal immigrants reached the UK in two boats (see [media report](#)).
- 2 – 4 July – **605** people illegally arrive after crossing the Channel on 21 boats (see media reports [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).) This includes 201 on Friday 2nd, 192 on Saturday 3rd and 212 on Sunday 4th).
- 1 July – **72** illegal immigrants arrived after crossing the English Channel on two boats (see [media report](#)).

June 2021 – Total number of reported arrivals during month: 2,179

- 30 June – No confirmation yet on whether there were illegal crossings. Watch this space!
- 29 June – **150** illegal immigrants arrive in the UK on four boats (see [media report](#)).
- 28 June – **107** immigrants cross the Channel and illegally break into Britain on four boats (see [media report](#)).
- 27 June – **123** illegal immigrants crossed the English Channel on three boats (see [media report](#)).
- 26 June – **192** illegal immigrants cross the English Channel on 11 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 25 June – *It is unclear whether there were illegal crossings on this date or not.*
- 24 June – **85** illegal immigrants crossed the Channel in five boats, with some understood to have been brought to Dover by the Border Force patrol vessels Seeker and Speedwell (see [video](#) and [media report](#)).
- 19-23 June – *It appears that there were no reported crossings on these dates with inclement weather being cited by some as a reason.*
- 18 June – **14** illegal immigrants land at Dungeness in Kent (see [media report](#)).
- 17 June – **89** illegal immigrants cross the English Channel despite rainy weather, in four boats (see [media report](#)).
- 16 June – **59** people illegally arrive after crossing the Channel on three boats (see [media report](#)).
- 15 June – **80** illegal immigrants arrived on three boats (see [media report](#)).
- 14 June – **110** illegal Channel immigrants cross the Channel on five boats (see [media report](#)).
- 13 June – **96** illegal immigrants crossed the English Channel on six boats and were brought to Dover by the Border Force (see media report).
- 12 June – **39** illegal immigrants brought to Dover by UK authorities after they crossed the Channel in a single boat (see [media report](#)).
- 11 June – **27** illegal immigrants cross the English Channel (see [media report](#)).
- 10 June – **10** illegal immigrants successfully enter the UK after crossing the Channel without permission (see [media report](#)).

- 9 June – **179** people illegally came to the UK in six boats, escorted into Dover by the Border Force (see [media report](#)).
- 8 June – **64** illegal immigrants come to the UK in three boats (see [media report](#)).
- 7 June – **93** illegal immigrants cross to the UK on three boats (see [media report](#)).
- 6 June – Four boats carrying **89** illegal immigrants reached the UK (see [media report](#)).
- 5 June – The Home Office says no illegal immigrants crossed on this date.
- 4 June – **83** illegal immigrants cross the Channel in four boats (see [media report](#)).
- 3 June – **201** migrants illegally enter the UK after crossing the English Channel on eight boats (see [media report](#)).
- 2 June – **157** illegal immigrants reach the UK on six boats (see [media report](#)).
- 1 June – **132** illegal immigrants cross the English Channel on six boats, confirms government (see [media report](#)).

May 2021 – Total number of reported arrivals during month: 1,619

- 31 May – **71** illegal immigrants came to the UK on three boats (see [media report](#)).
- 30 May – **17** illegal immigrants brought to the UK by UK authorities after crossing the Channel (see [media report](#)).
- 29 May – **144** illegal immigrants cross the Channel to get to the UK in seven boats (see [media report](#)).
- 28 May – **336** people reach the UK in 19 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 27 May – **23** illegal immigrants brought to Dover by UK authorities after crossing English Channel in three boats (see [media report](#)).
- 21-26 May – *We have not seen confirmation of whether or not there were more crossings on these dates...*
- 20 May – **29** people illegally crossed the Channel to the UK on two boats (see [media report](#)).
- 16-19 May – *So far we have not seen confirmation of whether or not there were more crossings on these dates...*
- 15 May – **164** illegal migrants brought to Dover by Border Force after crossing the English Channel on eight boats (see [media report](#)).
- 14 May – *So far we have not seen confirmation of whether or not there were more crossings on this date.*
- 13 May – **199** migrants illegally reached the UK on nine boats (see [media report](#)).
- 12 May – *So far we have not seen confirmation of whether or not there were more crossings on these dates.*
- 11 May – **186** migrants arrive illegally on eight boats (see [media report](#)).
- 10 May – **43** migrants caught by the Border Force illegally entering the UK in one boat (see [media report](#) and [media report](#)).
- 9 May – **81** migrants illegally arrive on boats (see [media report](#)).
- 8 May – **49** migrants arrived via illegal Channel crossing (see [media report](#)).
- 3-7 May – *So far no confirmation of whether or not there were more crossings on these dates. Inclement weather may have lessened the chance for crossings.*
- 2 May – **92** migrants illegally crossed the Channel in four boats (see [media report](#)).
- 1 May – **185** migrants came to the UK illegally in nine boats (see [media report](#)).

April 2021 – Total number of reported arrivals during month: 746

- 30 April – **104** migrants reached the UK on four boats (see [media report](#)).
- 29 April – *No information yet on whether migrants entered illegally via the Channel in small boats on this date.*
- 28 April – Nine small boats carrying **209** illegal migrants crossed the English Channel and entered the UK (see [media report](#)).
- 22-27 April – *No clarification yet on whether migrants entered illegally via the Channel in small boats on this date.*
- 21 April – **27** illegal immigrants enter the UK after crossing the English Channel in small boats (see [media report](#)).
- 20 April – **132** people on six boats illegally came to the UK after crossing the Channel, confirmed the Home Office (see [media report](#)).
- 19 April – **113** migrants illegally cross the Channel in seven small boats (see [media report](#)).
- 15-18 April – *We've not yet seen confirmation of whether or not there were crossings on these dates*
- 14 April – **42** people illegally enter the UK after crossing the Channel on three boats (see [media report](#)).
- 13 April – **40** people arrived illegally in small boats via the Channel (see [media report](#)).
- 11-12 April – *We have not yet seen confirmation of whether or not illegal crossings took place.*
- 10 April – Despite choppy conditions, **5** migrants illegally came to the UK via the English Channel in a small craft (see [media report](#)).
- 9 April – **44** migrants illegally arrive via small boat. The French prevented two attempted crossings (see [media report](#)).
- 2-8 April – *No confirmation of whether or not there were crossings during this period, although 5 stowaways – believed to be from Morocco – were found in a ship which was headed for Dover.*
- 1 April – **30** illegal immigrants arrive in the UK via the Channel on a small boat. The French also prevented several crossings, though the figures provided by the French and UK authorities 'do not tally'. according to a [media report](#).

March 2021 – Total number of reported arrivals during month: 831

- 31 March – **81** illegal immigrants arrive via six small boats in the English Channel, including in one beach landing involving 12 people at Dungeness in Kent (see [media report](#)).
- 30 March – **148** migrants, including babies, reached the UK on Tuesday, the second highest total for a single day this year after the 183 that made it in six boats to the UK the previous week. At least five [boats were intercepted by Border Force](#) and brought into Dover Harbour with the migrants (see [media report here](#) and [here](#)).
- 26-29 March – No reports of whether or not there were arrivals that we have seen.
- 25 March – **77** illegal immigrants cross the English Channel in small craft (see [media report](#)).
- 24 March – **67** illegal immigrants come here on three boats (see [media report](#)).
- 23 March – **183** people arrive in small boats via this illegal route in six boats, **the third highest daily total ever** (see [media report](#)).
- 22 March – No reports of whether or not there were arrivals that we have seen.
- 21 March – **10** people enter the UK after illegally crossing the Channel. The French authorities are said to have prevented 96 people from coming (see [media report](#)).
- 10 – 20 March – There has been a lack of data on whether or not there were **crossings** during this period. The weather has been cited as a reason for there perhaps being less crossings.

- 9 March – French authorities said they intercepted at least 61 people trying to make the dangerous crossing, including 33 people on an 8 meter boat (see [media report](#)). It is not yet clear whether anyone reached the UK on that day.
- 8 March – **115** people illegally arrived aboard seven light vessels – the highest daily total in four months, since 10 November 2020 . French patrols picked up 38 others who were attempting to reach the English coast (see [media report](#)).
- 7 March – **50** people illegally enter the UK via the Channel in three small boats (see [media report](#)).
- 5 / 6 March – Awaiting confirmation as to whether there were any illegal crossings on these days.
- 4 March – **14** people are detected illegally crossing in one boat (see [media report](#)).
- 3 March – **20** people illegally cross the Channel as the Border Force dealt with two ‘incidents’ (see [media report](#)).
- 2 March – **66** migrants illegally arrived in four boats. French authorities also stopped 22 migrants in two boats from making the crossing, a government spokesman said (see [media report](#)).
- 1 March – We have not seen reports of incidents on this day either in the media or from the Home Office.

February 2021 – Total number of reported arrivals during month: 308

- 28 February – Whether any crossings took place on this day of good weather is unconfirmed at present.
- 27 February – **87** illegal immigrants arrived in four boats after crossing the English Channel (see [media report](#)). According to one media report, a French warship escorted the boat of about 10 men for more than an hour. The boat was then “rescued” by Border Force officials when it ran out of fuel.
- 26 February – **33** people were brought to Dover by UK Border Force after illegally crossing the Channel (see [media report](#)).
- 24-25 February – It is unclear whether there were any illegal crossings on these days or not.
- 23 February – **77** people illegally cross the Channel (see [media report](#)).
- 22 February – **49** illegal immigrants were picked up on the Channel but 126 people were stopped by French authorities the night before (see [media report](#)). French officials counted eight attempted crossings. Four boats made it to British waters. The other four were towed back to France after their engines failed. A ninth crossing was thwarted with the arrest near Calais of a 46-year-old Syrian people smuggler who told police he had been paid €500 to bring an inflatable dinghy, a motor and five life jackets from Germany, where he lived (see [media report](#)).
- 7 – 21 February – we await confirmation on whether there were any detected illegal arrivals during this two-week period or not. During this period, on 18 February, a Kuwaiti man who steered an overcrowded boat across the Channel with 11 other migrants on board was jailed for three years and nine months (see [media report](#)).
- 6 February – **49** migrants illegally arrive in small boats (see [media report](#)). The French reportedly stopped 92 other people from making the unauthorised crossing.
- 5 February – **13** illegal immigrants cross the Channel (see [media report](#)).
- 1 – 4 February – Awaiting confirmation on whether or not there were crossings on these dates.
- Unknown dates during February – **50** people appear to have illegally arrived on unknown dates (possibly 28 February)

January 2021 – Total number of reported arrivals during month: 223

- 29-31 January – No confirmation of whether or not there were or were not crossings.
- 28 January – **17** people illegally arrive in two boats; French authorities reportedly picked up 78 people on four boats (see [media report](#)).
- 19 – 27 January – Were there any illegal crossings during this period? The government have been silent.
- 17 / 18 January – Awaiting confirmation of any arrivals during this period.
- 16 January – Home Office says **36** migrants reach the UK in two boats while the French prevented 27 people making the crossing (see [media report](#)).
- 12-15 January – Awaiting data on whether or not there were crossings.
- 11 January – [The French authorities say two boats carrying 30 people got into difficulty and were returned to France (figure not included in total above) – see [media report](#)].
- 10 January – **57** people arrived, including 35 who were “rescued” from a boat near Beachy Head (ie. illegally crossed the Channel with the help of our own taxpayer-funded authorities) – see media report [here](#) and [here](#)).
- 9 January 2021 – **103** people illegally crossed the Channel (see [media report](#)).
- 3-8 January 2021 – We have not yet seen figures on reported crossings during this period.
- 2 January 2021 – A boat carrying around **10** people was intercepted and brought into Dover Marina in Kent (see [media report](#)).
- 1 January 2021 – [3 people attempted to cross on New Year’s Day. The asylum seekers – one suffering from hypothermia – were picked up by a French customs ship and taken to coastal town Boulogne-sur-Mer – not included in total above (see [media report](#))]

Unknown dates in 2021: 138 people arrived

2020 (whole year): **8,466** – see [Home Office bulletin](#), February 2022. 8,466 are accounted for incidents below and 5 arrived on unknown dates.

Breakdown by month – 2020

Quarter 4 sub-total. [Home Office figures released in March 2021](#) suggested the number of people crossing by boat in from October to December 2020 inclusive was **1,446**, 47 less than the total suggested by the reported incidents below. We use the Home Office figures as the basis of our headline 2020 estimate above while still providing a summary of incidents, as reported, below.

December 2020

- 31 December – 33 migrants illegally cross on four boats while Border Force also detected 23 more people attempting to enter the UK illegally at Newhaven after traveling on an afternoon ferry from Dieppe. The total crossing on New Year’s Eve was **56** (see [media report](#)).
- 27-30 December – Awaiting more information on arrivals during this period.
- 26 December – Arrivals are reported to have slowed over Christmas with the arrival of storm Bella, but on Boxing Day, **7** people reached the UK after illegally crossing the Channel (see media [report](#)).
- 15-25 December – Awaiting further information about crossings during the period.
- 14 December – **8** migrants detained after a yacht ran aground off Teignmouth in Devon (see

media [report](#)).

- 13 December – Awaiting further data.
- 12 December – **18** people cross the Channel illegally in two boats (see [media report](#)).
- 10/11 December – Awaiting data on whether or not there were crossings.
- 9 December – Home Office says **27** people crossed the English Channel on two boats (see [media report](#)).
- 8 December – We have no information on whether or not there were any detected crossings on this date.
- 7 December – **111** people reported to illegally cross the Channel in five boats. Meanwhile, the Clandestine Channel Threat Commander says the French prevented 35 people crossing ([media report](#)).
- 1-6 December – No information on whether or not there were crossings. We need more information.

November 2020

- 30 November – **16** migrants manage to reach the UK (see [media report](#)).
- 29 November – **2** people reached the UK in a kayak. French authorities say they prevented 19 people making the crossing (see [media report](#)).
- 28 November – **39** people reached the UK on three boats. France said it prevented 63 people from making the crossing (see [media report](#)).
- 26/27 November – **83** migrants reach the UK over the course of two days in six boats (see [media report](#)).
- 25 November – No information appears to have been reported about whether or not there were crossings on this day.
- 23 and 24 November – **54** migrants arrived in the UK after illegally crossing the English Channel. The first boat was brought into Dover Marina, Kent shortly after 9am. Approximately 14 men wearing coats, face masks and red life jackets were brought to shore on the back of Border Force vessel Speedwell. They were escorted up the gangway by immigration officers who wrapped blankets around them to keep warm. A smaller black Border Force dinghy then brought in around 15 more migrants at around 10.30am (see [media report](#)).
- 18 – 22 November – We await confirmation on whether or not there were crossings during this period.
- 17 November – **72** people were arrested in an anti-people smuggling operation after they were found crammed on a 30-metre fishing boat off the coast of East Anglia. Among those detained once it reached port were three crew members – a Latvian and two Ukrainian nationals – and 69 suspected illegal migrants of Albanian nationality. The boat had sailed from the Ostend area of Belgium (see [media report](#)).
- 13 – 16 November – Unclear if there were crossings for not during this period.
- 12 November – Unconfirmed number of migrants arrives via unauthorised cross-Channel route (see [media report](#)).
- 11 November – **76** migrants cross on four boats (see [news report](#)).
- 10 November – **159** people arrive in the UK in six boats. The French authorities stopped 30 migrants from coming (see [media report](#)).
- 9 November – **50** more migrants land in Britain via this unauthorised route. 15 migrants made it to shore at around 8am in Dungeness while a further 10 were detained in Deal. Border Force officials then picked up another 25 migrants who had gotten into difficulty, before bringing them to

shore in Dover (see [media report](#)).

- 8 November – **144** people reach the UK on 10 boats (see [report](#)).
- 7 November – No report on whether crossings detected on this day or not.
- 6 November – **40** people come to the UK via this unauthorised route from a safe country. Clandestine Channel Threat Commander Dan O'Mahoney said 60 people had been stopped from making the trip on both the 5 and 6 November (see [media report](#)).
- 5 November – **56** people arrive via the Channel illegally (see [media report](#)).
- 1-4 November – Information missing on whether or not there were any crossings.

October 2020

- 30-31 October – The media and Home Office fails to find out or reveal whether there were any crossings on these days.
- 29 October – A group of **11** Albanian migrants were found onboard a cargo ship at Southampton Docks after stowing away on a ship at Le Havre (see [media report](#)).
- **27 October** – ** A Kurdish-Iranian family tragically died when their overcrowded boat sank off the coast of France. Rasoul Iran-Nejad, his wife Shiva Mohammad Panahi, both 35, died along with their children Anita, nine, and Armin, six. Their baby son Artin, just 15 months old, is missing, presumed dead.*
- 25-28 October – The media and government fail to disclose / report on the numbers that may or may not have come during this period.
- 24 October – **33** people illegally cross the Channel (see [media report](#)).
- 19 October – **100** people are reported by the media to have arrived via this unauthorised and deadly route (see [report](#)).
- 18 October – **62** people illegally cross in an unknown number of boats (see [media report](#)). However, the French Navy intercepted 11 boats containing a total of 191 migrants trying to get across the English Channel (see [report](#)).
- 17 October – **170** people illegally cross to the UK from the Continent on 12 boats (see [media report](#)). A further 222 were reportedly prevented from crossing by the French authorities.
- 16 October – Border Force brought one boat carrying **27** people to Dover (see [media report](#)).
- 14 October – The British Army was forced to stop a live shooting exercise on a military range today after a group of **16** migrants landed a 9ft speedboat in the middle of target practice. They were seen by a spotter heading towards shore at Lydd Ranges near Dungeness on the remote Romney Marshes in Kent having traveled 21 miles across the English Channel. The boat made landfall inside a designated danger zone after continuing to travel towards the site following a 'check fire' being called, which saw the reservist unit of British Army soldiers temporarily stop firing (see [media report](#)).
- 10 -13 October – We await information of whether there were any detected crossings or not.
- 9 October – **56** migrants in three boats picked up by UK authorities and taken to Dover UK in three boats (see [news report](#)).
- 1-8 October – No information about this period has been published by the media or authorities.

Quarter 3 sub-total. [Home Office figures released in March 2021](#) suggested the number of people crossing by boat in from July to September 2020 inclusive was **4,520**, 224 less than the total suggested by the reported incidents below. We use the Home Office figures as the basis of our headline 2020 estimate above while still providing a summary of incidents, as reported, below.

September 2020

- 30 September – **23** people are reported crossing on two boats (see [report](#)).
- 29 September – **48** people illegally cross in three boats (see media report [here](#) and [here](#)).
- 22 September – **393** people are detected illegally crossing in 26 boats (see [media report](#)). French authorities say they took 88 migrants in seven boats back to France (see [report](#)).
- 20 September – UK Border Force Hunter vessel picks up **20** migrants and took them ashore to Dover, Kent (see [media report](#)).
- 16 September – **26** people arrive in two boats (see [report](#)).
- 15 September – **151** migrants arrive in 11 boats (see [media report](#)). 11 people were also returned to Calais after their boat got into difficulty in the Channel. The French authorities prevented three crossings involving 36 people on Tuesday, according to the Home Office (see [report](#)).
- 14 September – **165** migrants arrive in 12 boats. The French prevented 7 boats from crossing involving 54 people (see [media report](#)).
- 11 September – Border Force and Coastguard deal with 27 boats involving at least **319** migrants who arrived in Kent (see [media report](#)). Other reports suggest that the Coastguard ‘confirm[ed]’ as many as 52 boats arrived.
- 10 September – Authorities deal with incident/s involving at least **17** people (see [media report](#) and [media report](#)).
- 9 September – One boat crosses with unconfirmed number of occupants (see [media report](#)).
- 8 September – At least one boat is dealt with by the Home Office – carrying at least **7** occupants (see [media report](#)).
- 7 September – **223** people ‘picked up’ on 18 small boats. A further eight boats with 106 people on board were stopped by the French authorities from making the crossing, a Home Office spokesman said (see [media report](#)).
- 6 September – **21** migrants arrive on two boats (see [media report](#)).
- 3-5 September – The media does not report any incidents over this period.
- 2 September – **416** migrants arrive in 28 boats, far surpassing the previous daily record of 235 migrants in early August (see [media report](#)).
- 1 September – 18 boats arrive with more than **145** occupants (see [media report](#)).

August 2020

- 28-31 August – Four days of bad weather make conditions more difficult for crossings.
- 27 August – **26** people arrive in three boats (see [media report](#)).
- 22-26 August – We await updates from the government / media.
- 21 August – Home Office deal with one incident involving **5** people from Chad and Sudan (see [media report](#)).
- 20 August – **8** migrants brought to Dover in one boat. They purport to be from Nigeria, Guinea, Gambia and Sierra Leone (see [media report](#)).
- 19 August – **164** migrants arrive in Kent in eight boats (see [media report](#)).
- 17 August – Two boats carrying **33** people arrive in the UK via the Channel (see [media report](#)).
- 16 August – **112** migrants arrive in eight boats (see [media report](#)).
- 15 August – **65** people arrive in five boats (see [media report](#)).
- 14 August – **48** people arrive in four boats (see [media report](#)).
- 13 August – Five boats carrying **89** people were picked up (see [media report](#)).

- 12 August – **71** people in six boats brought to UK (see [media report](#)).
- 11 August – Another **96** people in seven boats crossed the Channel (see [media report](#)).
- 10 August – **18** migrants arrive in a boat (see [media report](#)).
- 9 August – **65** people arrive (see [media report](#)).
- 8 August – **151** people come in 15 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 7 August – **146** people arrive in 17 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 6 August – **235** migrants get to the UK in one day – a new record (see [media report](#) and [media report](#)).
- 5 August – At least **13** migrants arrive (see media reports [here](#) and [here](#)).
- 4 August – Eight boats carrying **120** migrants arrive (see media report [here](#)).
- 3 August – At least **3** migrants from Sudan found in a boat off Ramsgate (see [media report](#)).
- 1 August – At least one person enters the UK by small boat, including at St Margaret's Bay, Kent (see [video footage](#)).

July 2020

- 31 July – Nine boats carrying **96** migrants cross the Channel. The occupants of the boats presented themselves as Iranian, Syrian, Iraqi, Eritrean, Kuwaiti, Afghani, and Sudanese (see [media report](#)).
- 30 July – **202** migrants reached the UK – a then-record (see [media report](#)).
- 23 July – **86** migrants reach the UK in eight boats (see [media report](#)).
- 22 July – **43** migrants arrive on four boats (see [media report](#)). They described themselves as Egyptian, Algerian, Iranian, Iraqi, Kuwaiti, Sudanese and Pakistani nationals.
- 21 July – **159** migrants cross in 13 boats (see [media report](#)).
- 19 July – **200** migrants cross in the worst-ever day for crossings. They included someone trying to reach in a pedalo stolen from a French beach. The migrants, in about 40 vessels, were met by Border Force, backed up by the RNLI and police (see [media report](#)).
- 18 July – Another **65** migrants get to the UK in five incidents (see [media report](#)). The Home Office said the latest migrants presented themselves as being from a number of nationalities including Eritrean, Syrian, Iranian, Gambian, Bissau-Guinean and Malian.
- 17 July – Nine migrant boats carrying **137** people were met by the Border Force in the English Channel (see [news report](#)).
- 15 July – A total of **85** migrants were helped ashore by Border Force in six incidents in the Channel (see [news report](#)).
- 13 July – **32** migrants arrive via this illegal route in four small boats (see [news report](#)).
- 12 July – 360 illegal immigrants were caught attempting to cross on this day, the Home Office confirmed. A then-record **180** were able to get across (see [news report](#)).
- 11 July – **6** migrants come to the UK via the Channel (see [new report](#)).
- 7 July – **10** migrants brought to Dover early in the morning. They were understood to be Somali, Sudanese and Yemeni (see [news report](#)).

Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 total = (465 + 2030 =) 2,495 (see [Home Office figures released in March 2021](#)).

Quarter 2 sub-total = [Home Office statistics released in March 2021](#) indicate the Quarter 2 total was **2,030**, or 320 more than the sum of reported incidents below. We take this official figure as the basis of our above estimate, while continuing to include a summary of individual incidents, as reported, below.

June 2020

- 26 June – **99** migrants arrive in eight boats. Among them are Syrians and Iraqis (see media reports [here](#) and [here](#)).
- 24 June – **82** migrants in six boats were brought to the UK by Border Force after being met in the Channel. Those onboard the boats presented themselves as Iranian, Somalian, Syrian, Yemeni, Kuwaiti, Afghan, Egyptian, Indian, Iraqi. There were also individuals from Togo and Niger (see [news report](#)).
- 21 June – **28** migrants in two dinghies and a kayak were brought to the UK by Border Force after they crossed the Channel illegally from a safe country in Northern Europe. There were 24 males and four females. They were reported to be Sudanese, Iranian, Kuwaiti, Iraqi, Syrian and Ethiopian (see [media report](#)).
- 18 June – An unconfirmed figure of **30** more people are brought to the UK by Border Force after being found in two small boats in the Channel (see [media report](#)).
- 17 June – **42** people were brought to the Kent ports after Border Force vessels went to meet three small boats that were illegally crossing the Channel. They gave their nationalities as Afghan, Kuwaiti, Iranian, Iraqi, Yemeni, Syrian and Turkish (see [news report](#)).
- 15/16 June – **70** people brought into the Port of Dover by the Border Force after they crossed the Channel (see [media report](#)). They arrived in a spate of four incidents. A number of those arriving gave their nationalities as Cote D'Ivorian, Guinean, Kuwaiti, Iranian, Iraqi, Eritrean, Albanian, Sudanese and South Sudanese.
- 14 June – Border Force meets two boats carrying **17** migrants (see [media report](#)).
- 11 June – At least **8** migrants brought ashore after boat crossings. The Home Office has yet to confirm the number or nationalities. We will keep this updated if more information is released (see [media report](#)).
- 10 June – **44** migrants come including four people on two windsurfing boards tied together. They were reported to be Iranian, Iraqi, Yemeni, Afghani and Syrian nationals (see [media report](#)).
- 3 June – **167** come in one day on 8 boats, at that time a new record number for one 24-hour period (see [media report](#)). On this day, the largest boat so far seen contained 64 people (48 men and 16 women), which came in to land at Samphire Hoe beach near Dover (see [media report](#)).

May 2020

- 27 May – **60** migrants brought ashore yesterday after being [intercepted in the Channel](#) in four incidents (see [media report](#)).
- 26 May – Boats and kayak carry **80** people across Channel (see [media report](#)).
- 22 May – **13** people came to the UK via this route (see [media report](#)).
- 20 May – **64** migrants made it across the Channel in five boats (see [media report](#)).
- 17 May – A further **35** people were picked up in three boats (see [media report](#)).
- 16 May – **90** people brought to Dover by Border Force after they crossed in six boats (see [media report](#)).
- 13/14 May – Another **14** migrants reach Dover (see [media report](#)).

- 10 May – **17** migrants brought here after being encountered by the Border Force off the Kent coast. The Home Office said there were 11 men and six women on board who presented themselves as Iraqi nationals (see [media report](#)).
- 9 May – The Home Office picked up a further **82** migrants, seventy of whom were aboard inflatable boats, while 12 men were found at Dungeness on the Kent coast (see [media report](#)).
- 8 May – A record **145** migrants were brought to Dover after making the perilous journey across the English Channel. This is believed to be a new single-day record after 102 were picked up on February 7. Those picked up were Iranian, Iraqi, Kuwaiti, and Afghan nationals (see [media report](#)).
- 4 May – **16** migrants brought here after being encountered of the Kent coast by the Border Force (see [media report](#)).
- 3 May – **49** migrants were brought here after being encountered by the Border Force off the Kent coast (see [media report](#))

April 2020

- 27 April – **90** migrants brought here after being encountered in Channel (see [media report](#)).
- 25 April – **35** migrants brought here after being encountered in the Channel (see [media report](#)).
- 24 April – **76** migrants were brought to Dover by the UK Border Force (see [media report](#)).
- 17 April – **73** migrants cross the Channel. Those landing in Dover were given face masks amid concerns about reports of a coronavirus outbreak in migrant camps in Calais ([BBC News](#)).
- 9 April – A boat with **16** migrants brought here after being encountered in Dover area ([BBC News](#)).
- 7 April – **63** migrants in four boats brought to Dover ([BBC News](#))
- 4 April – Iranian, Iraqi, Kuwaiti, Syrian and Yemeni nationals were among the **53** people brought here after trying to cross the Channel. They were all taken ashore where they underwent medical checks and were passed to immigration officials, a government spokesman said. With the arrival of British Summer Time, such crossings were expected to become more frequent from now until the late autumn (see [report](#)).
- 2 April – **52** migrants, including five children, brought here after being encountered in the Dover area (see [report](#)).

Quarter 1 sub-total = Home Office figures released on 3 September 2020 indicate the Quarter 1 total was 49 less than the sum of reported incidents below. The Home Office total for Q1 = **465**. We take this official figure as the basis of our estimate, while continuing to include a summary of individual incidents below (see [Home Office figures](#), September 2020).

March 2020

- 27 March – Four small boats carrying **41** migrants were brought here after being encountered in the Channel ([BBC News](#)).
- 25 March – **95** migrants brought to Kent after crossing. They included Iranian, Iraqi, Afghan or Kuwaiti nationals. They were among more than 160 migrants, in six boats, who were caught crossing the Channel as fewer French patrols and warmer weather prompted an upsurge in attempts. 74 of those who attempted the crossing were caught by French authorities and returned to Boulogne ([The Times](#)).
- **23 March – Lockdown measures put in place in the UK to tackle Covid-19**

- 19 March – A total **39** migrants in three boats were stopped in vessels in the English Channel. Among them were said to be Iranian and Iraqi nationals (see media [report](#)).
- 17 March – **25** migrants brought here after crossing the English Channel (see [report](#)).
- 4 March – **28** people, in two boats (27 of them men), were brought here by the Border Force and taken to Dover where they were assessed medically and handed over to immigration officials (see [media report](#))

February 2020

- 7 February – **102** people brought here after being encountered in the English Channel – the highest number ever at that point since over 80 people arrived in one day in mid-2019. Five boats contained people said to be from Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Syria ([Sky News](#)).
- 6 February – **90** migrants were brought here after being encountered in the Dover area (in eight boats) while trying to reach the UK. The Home Office said all of those found, apart from the group detained by Kent Police, were taken to Dover where they were medically assessed before being transferred to immigration officials to be interviewed. They were said to be of Syrian, Yemeni, Egyptian, Iraqi, Senegalese, Malian and Guinean descent (see media [report](#)).

January 2020: Total for month as recorded by individual reported incidents = **94** migrants were brought to the UK after making the attempted crossing between 20 – 27 January, according to figures from the UK and French authorities (see media [report](#)).

Annex B – Other reported illegal entries since 2018

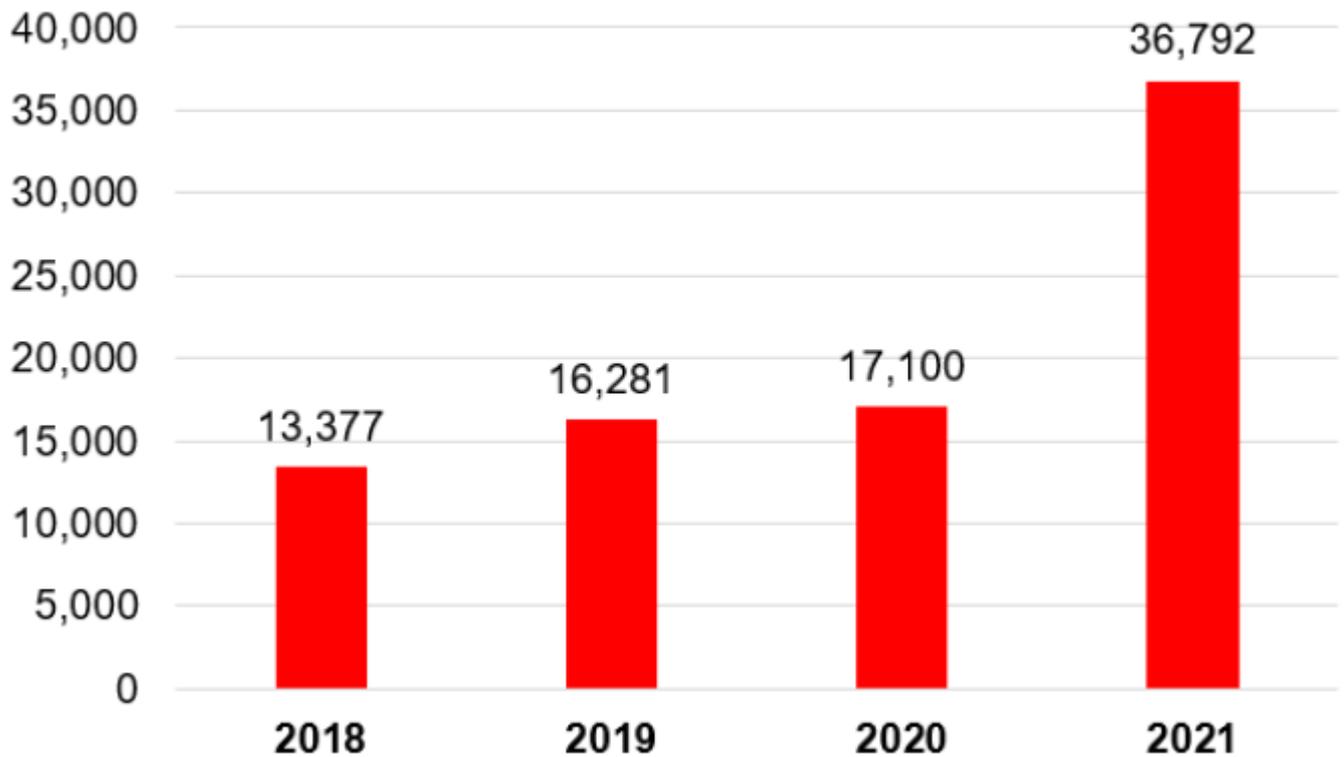
Information released by the Home Office suggests that the **48,700** who have arrived by small boat since the start of 2018 accounted for just over half of about **93,100** people who were detected having illegally arrived in the UK by all different routes, including hiding in the back of a lorry and arrivals by air without documentation (see Table 1 and Figure 1 below – numbers are derived from Home Office [policy statement](#), March 2021). However, we have not yet been given the figure for lorry arrivals during the first few months of 2021.

In 2021, illegal boat migrants accounted for more than three quarters of those illegally entering the UK (28,500 out of 36,800). See Home Office [bulletin](#) (February 2022) or for more see our [blog](#).

Table 1 / Figure 1: Detected illegal arrivals by mode of entry (Source: [Home Office policy statement](#), March 2021, p. 7, and Home Office [bulletin](#) and [statistics](#), published February 2022). NB this does not include probable visa and non-visa overstayers, which the former independent borders watchdog suggested could be running at as much as **300,000** per year (see our [briefing paper](#) on this topic).

Year	Reported illegal arrivals in UK by all routes
2018	13,377
2019	16,281
2020	17,100
2021	36,792
2022 (small boat reports only until 30 May 2022)	9,566
Total	93,116

Reported illegal arrivals in the UK by all routes



11th May 2020

Category

1. Crime-Justice-Terrorism-Corruption
2. Immigration & Multi-culti
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