Aegean Islands Monthly Snapshot

Arrivals

This month, 3,136 people arrived on the Aegean islands, a decrease from last month’s 6,163 arrivals but an increase from last year’s 1,851 arrivals during the same period.

The average daily arrivals on all islands this month equaled 101, compared to 199 in the previous month.

Departures to the mainland

The majority of January’s arrivals to the Aegean islands are from Afghanistan (50%), Syria (21%) and the Democratic Republic of Congo (6%).

Women account for 23% of January’s arrivals and children for 38% of whom more than 6 out of 10 are younger than 12 years old.

Approximately 15% of the children are unaccompanied or separated, mainly from Afghanistan, Syria and Somalia.

The estimated number of refugees and migrants residing on the Aegean islands is 41,200, as of end of January 2020.

Monthly Arrivals and Estimated Population

Entry Points by Sea

Lesvos received the highest number of arrivals (1,853), followed by Samos (562), the Dodecanese islands (557) and Chios with (164) people.

This month, 3,576 asylum-seekers departed, once authorised by the authorities, from the Aegean islands to the mainland. Of those, 1,438 were transferred by the Government with the support of UNHCR to open reception facilities/sites and to ESTIA apartments currently managed by UNHCR.