Aegean Islands Weekly Snapshot

Arrivals

This week, 865 people arrived on the Aegean islands, a decrease from last week’s 1,288 arrivals but an increase from last year’s 644 arrivals during the same period.

The average daily arrivals on all islands this week equalled 124, compared to 184 in the previous week.

Entry Points by Sea

The Dodecanese islands received the highest number of arrivals (495), followed by Lesvos (141), Chios (136) and Samos with (93) people.

Departures to the mainland

This week, 729 asylum-seekers departed, once authorised by the authorities, from the Aegean islands to the mainland. Of those, 83 were transferred with the support of UNHCR to ESTIA apartments, currently managed by UNHCR.

Present Population on the Islands

Some 41,600 refugees and asylum-seekers reside on the Aegean islands. The majority of the population on the Aegean islands are from Afghanistan (49%), Syria (19%) and Somalia (6%).

Women account for 22% of the population, and children for 34% of whom more than 6 out of 10 are younger than 12 years old.

Approximately 14% of the children are unaccompanied or separated, mainly from Afghanistan.

* Other departures includes i) transfers within IOM AVRR, ii) transfers of UASCs to State-run facilities, iii) transfers to open reception facilities/sites organised and supported solely by the Government and iv) those who depart on their own means (following the lift of geographical restriction). **Other includes other facilities, self-accommodated and arrivals from the 28th of February that were not registered by the Greek authorities. Statistics regarding Returns in the framework of the EU-Turkey Statement, can be found in UNHCR’s data portal.

Data Sources: Population data – UNHCR estimates based on enrolment; Arrivals/Departures – Hellenic Police, Hellenic Coast Guard.

Figures are subject to future adjustment based on consolidated figures provided by authorities. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.