Aegean Islands Weekly Snapshot

Arrivals

This week, 87 people arrived on the Aegean islands, an increase from last week’s 46 arrivals but a decrease from last year’s 373 arrivals during the same period.

The average daily arrivals on all islands this week equaled 12, compared to 7 in the previous week.

Departures to the mainland include i) transfers within IOM AVRR, ii) transfers of UASCs to State-run facilities, iii) transfers both to open reception facilities/sites and ESTIA II apartments in the mainland organised and supported by the Government and iv) those who depart on their own means (following the lift of geographical restriction).

*Other includes other facilities and self-accommodated. 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.

Present Population on the Islands

Some 17,500 refugees and asylum-seekers reside on the Aegean islands. Of those, 13,500 (77%) reside in the permanent and temporary Reception and Identification Centers (RICs).

The majority of the population on the Aegean islands are from Afghanistan (48%), Syria (17%) and Somalia (8%).

Women account for 21% of the population, and children for 27% of whom nearly 7 out of 10 are younger than 12 years old.

Approximately 6% of the children are unaccompanied or separated, mainly from Afghanistan.

Entry Points by Sea

Lesvos received the highest number of arrivals (82), followed by the Dodecanese islands (5). Chios and Samos received no arrivals.

This week, 238 refugees and asylum-seekers, once authorized by the authorities, departed from the Aegean islands to the mainland.