Aegean Islands Weekly Snapshot

Arrivals
This week, 55 people arrived on the Aegean islands, a decrease from last week’s 99 arrivals and from last year’s 2,951 arrivals during the same period.

The average daily arrivals on all islands this week equaled 8, compared to 14 in the previous week.

Departures to the mainland

Present Population on the Islands
Some 25,400 refugees and asylum-seekers reside on the Aegean islands. The majority of the population on the Aegean islands are from Afghanistan (47%), Syria (19%) and DRC (7%).

Women account for 21% of the population, and children for 30% of whom nearly 7 out of 10 are younger than 12 years old.

Approximately 7% of the children are unaccompanied or separated, mainly from Afghanistan.

Shielding against Covid-19
To ‘shield’ the older and immune-compromised asylum-seekers from the risk of COVID19, UNHCR is currently prioritizing their transfer out of the island RICs into ESTIA apartments on the islands or the mainland and hotels on the islands. This week, 15 people were moved, of whom 4 to ESTIA on the mainland and 11 to ESTIA on the island.

Entry Points by Sea
Crete received the highest number of arrivals (50), followed by the Dodecanese islands (5). Lesvos, Chios and Samos received no arrivals.

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

*Other departures includes i) transfers within IOM AVRR, ii) transfers of UASCs to State-run facilities, iii) transfers both to open reception facilities/sites and closed centres in the mainland organised and supported by the Government and iv) those who depart on their own means (following the lift of geographical restriction). **The Emergency Site and Without Shelter include the former Moria residents, affected by the fires. ***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.