Aegean Islands Weekly Snapshot

Arrivals
This week, 18 people arrived on the Aegean islands, an increase from last week’s 5 arrivals but a decrease from last year’s 36 arrivals, during the same period.

The average daily arrivals on all islands this week equaled 3, compared to 1 in the previous week.

Departures to the mainland
Lesvos received the highest number of arrivals (11), followed by the Dodecanese islands (5). Chios and Samos received no arrivals.

This week, 764 refugees and asylum-seekers, once authorized by the authorities, departed from the Aegean islands to the mainland.

Present Population on the Islands
Some 9,700 refugees and asylum-seekers reside on the Aegean islands. Of those, 7,100 (73%) 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 (14%) and Somalia (9%).

Women account for 20% of the population, and children for 24% of whom nearly 7 out of 10 are younger than 12 years old.

Approximately 8% of the children are unaccompanied or separated, mainly from Afghanistan.

Departure to the mainland includes: 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.

Arrivals

Entry Points by Sea

Sea Arrivals 2020  Sea Arrivals 2021

10 - 16 May  17 - 23 May  24 - 30 May  31 May - 06 Jun  07 - 13 Jun

34  103  56  72  36

10 - 16 May  17 - 23 May  24 - 30 May  31 May - 06 Jun  07 - 13 Jun

305  328  553  893  764

Sea Arrivals 2020  Sea Arrivals 2021

10 - 16 May  17 - 23 May  24 - 30 May  31 May - 06 Jun  07 - 13 Jun

7,138 (73%)  1,004 (10%)  1,599 (16%)

Reception Centers  ESTIA  Other*

Afghanistan  48%
Syrian Arab Republic  14%
Somalia  9%
Dem. Rep. of the Congo  8%
Palestine  6%
Other  15%