Aegean Islands Weekly Snapshot

**Arrivals**

This week, 99 people arrived on the Aegean islands, an increase from last week’s 26 arrivals but a decrease from last year’s 2,385 arrivals during the same period.

The average daily arrivals on all islands this week equaled 14, compared to 4 in the previous week.

**Departures to the mainland**

This week, 584 asylum-seekers departed, once authorized by the authorities, from the Aegean islands to the mainland. Of those, 58 were transferred by the Government with the support of UNHCR to ESTIA apartments currently managed by UNHCR and the Ministry of Migration and Asylum (MMA).

**Present Population on the Islands**

Some 26,500 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 (6%).

Women account for 21% of the population, and children for 31% 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, 14 people were moved, of whom 8 to ESTIA on the mainland and 6 to ESTIA on the island.

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