Sea Arrivals Dashboard

Overview

In 2020, a total of 9,714 refugees and migrants arrived in Greece by sea. The majority are from Afghanistan (35%), Syria (23%) and the Democratic Republic of Congo (10%). More than half of the population are women (23%) and children (36%), while 41% are men.

Arrivals in December, at 246 slightly increased in comparison to November when 225 people had arrived on the islands. Arrivals during 2020 are 84% lower than those in 2019.

Lesvos received the majority (48%) of all new arrivals, during 2020, followed by the Dodecanese islands (21%), Samos (15%), Chios (12%), other islands (2%) and Crete (2%).

Monthly Arrivals 2018 to 2020

Demographics

Similar to last year, over one-third of arrivals in 2020 are children. Of those, more than 6 out of 10 are below the age of 12. Additionally, 14% of all children were registered upon arrival as unaccompanied or separated, mainly from Afghanistan, Syria and Somalia. Some 39% of arrivals are men between 18 and 39 years old. Only 3% of arrivals are 50 years old or older.

1Arrival figures for Greece are provided by the Hellenic Police. Figures are subject to future adjustment and should not be considered final. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.
Demographics (continued)

The majority of new arrivals in 2020 are from Afghanistan (3,417), Syria (2,207) and the Democratic Republic of Congo (1,004). Similar to last year, the majority of arrivals from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq arrived in family groups.

Entry points

During 2020, the majority of refugees and migrants in Greece arrived on Lesvos (4,700), the Dodecanese islands (2,005) and Samos (1,473). In December, refugees and migrants arrived on three islands. Lesvos received the highest number of people from Afghanistan comparing to the overall number of sea arrivals in Greece in 2020, whilst Samos and the Dodecanese islands continue to receive the majority of people originating from Syria.