

AEGEAN BOAT REPORT

MONTHLY STATISTICS FEBRUARY 2024

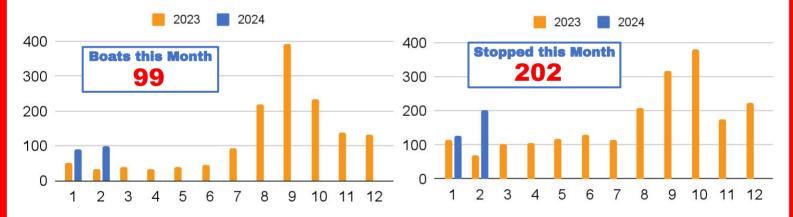
People Registered on Aegean islands



In 2024, people arriving is up 202.9%, compared to 2023. In February 99 boats was officially registered as arrived on the Greek islands, carrying a total of 3.437 people. Arrivals has increased 16.1% compared to January, boats arriving is up 11.2%. Demographics on the islands: Men 52%, Women 24% and Children 24%

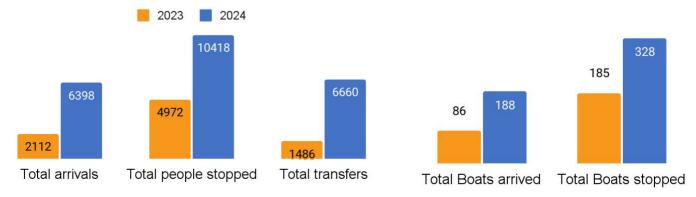
Boats Officially Arrived

Boats Stopped/Rescued by TCG



Arrivals has increased 364.5% compared to the same month in 2023. 301 boats started their trip towards the Greek islands in February, carrying a total of 9.939 people. 99 boats made the trip, carrying a total of 3.437 people, the rest, 202 boats, 6.502 people, were picked up by the Turkish Coast guard, 21.2% of these people had been pushed back by the Greek Coast Guard.

Total numbers so far this year



In 2024 328 boats have been stopped on their way towards Greece, 10.418 people have been arrested. Boats arriving on the Greek island has been reduced due to the Greek governments pushback tactics, on Greek islands and at sea, boats picked up by TCG has increased for the same reason. Population on the islands is 11.488 people.

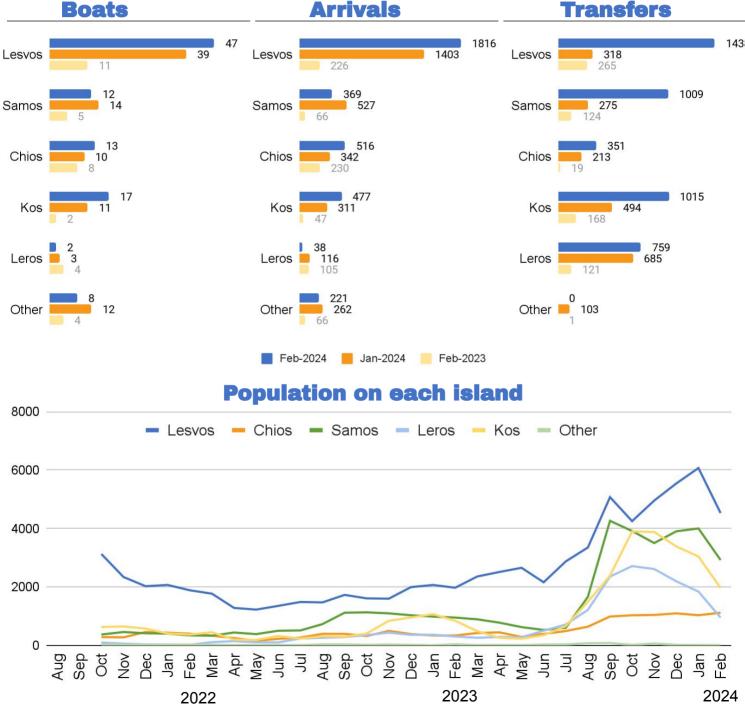


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Arrivals and transfers by island

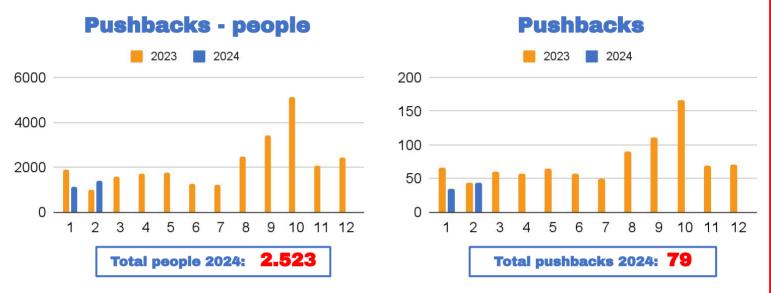
In February 4.572 people were transported to mainland, from the Greek islands. Transfers have increased 119% compared to January, when 2.088 people were transported. In the last 12 months population on the Aegean islands has increased by 158.9%, from 4.438 to 11.488 people. The Greek government are trying to reduce arrivals on the Greek islands by illegally pushing back people crossing from Turkey towards the islands in small rubber boats.



Official capacity on the islands is 18.755 people. Today's population is 7.267 people under max total capacity. In the end of February 2023 total population was 4.438, one year later its 11.488, population has increased by 7.050 people in 12 months on the Greek Islands. In the last 12 months 25.493 people have been pushed back by Greek authorities.

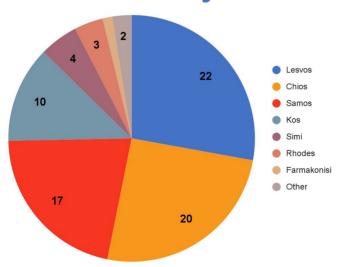
| Lesvos | 4532 | Kos | 1965 |
|--------|------|-------|------|
| Samos | 2921 | Leros | 950 |
| Chios | 1116 | Other | 4 |

It is the legal right of men, women or children to enter a country with or without paperwork, if they intend to apply for asylum. Pushbacks are the illegal practice of a state preventing them from doing so by stopping them entering its territory, or forcing them back across a border or into the waters of another state. The Greek government has hugely increased illegal pushbacks of refugees since March 2020, with some victims stating they have been beaten and robbed by Greek officials before being forced back across borders, or into the sea.

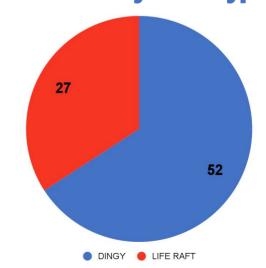


In Februar Aegean Boat Report have registered 44 pushback cases in the Aegean Sea, involving 1.379 children, women and men who tried to reach safety in Europe. Most of them was stopped at sea and forced back across the border, left helplessly drifting in boats and life rafts in the middle of the sea, illegally deported by the Hellenic Coast Guard(HCG), on orders from the Greek government, so far there has been no reaction from the EU on these illegal atrocities.

Pushbacks by island



Pushbacks by craft type



Of 44 registered pushback cases in February, 16 of these cases was performed by using rescue equipment/life rafts, 465 people, children, women and men was placed in 25 life raft, and left helplessly drifting at sea by the Hellenic Coast Guard, a systematic use of rescue equipment as a deportation tool. The Turkish coast guard and police picked up 6.502 people floating in the Aegean Sea and on Turkish beaches in 202 cases in February, 21.8% of these cases people had been pushed back by the Hellenic coast guard.