In 2021, people arriving is down 93.9%, compared to 2020. In January 9 boats made it to the Greek islands, carrying a total of 188 people. Arrivals has decreased 8.3% compared to December, boats arriving is down 30.8%. Demographics on the islands: Men 52%, Women 21% and Children 27%.

Total arrivals are down by 93.9% compared to same month in 2020. 32 boats started their trip towards the Greek islands in January, carrying a total of 803 people. 9 boats made the trip, carrying a total of 188 people, the rest, 23 boats, 615 people, were picked up by the Turkish Coast guard, most of these boats had been pushed back by Greek Coast Guard.

In 2021 23 boats have been stopped on their way towards Greece, 615 people have been arrested. Boats arriving on the Greek island has been reduced due to the Greek governments pushback tactics, boats picked up by TCG has increased for the same reason. Also the COVID-19 pandemic have had a huge impact. Population on the islands is 16231.
In January 595 people were transported to mainland, from the Greek islands. Transfers have increased 20.9% compared to December, when 492 people were transported. In the last 12 months population on the Aegean islands has decreased by 61.2%, from 41816 to 16231 people. The Greek government have drastically reduced the population on the Greek island in 2020, population is now the same as in beginning of August 2019.

Official capacity on the islands is 16489 people. Today’s population is almost on max capacity. In the end of January 2020 total population was 41816, one year later its 16231, population has decreased by 25585 people in 12 months on the Greek Islands, living conditions in the camps remains the same, or even worse, ihuman.
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 by Greek officials before being forced back across borders, or into the sea.

In January Aegean Boat Report have registered 10 pushback cases in the Aegean Sea, involving 169 children, women and men who tried to reach safety in Europe. Many of them had already arrived on the Greek Aegean islands, arrested by police, forced back to sea and left drifting in life rafts, 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 actions.

Of 10 registered pushback cases in January, 6 of these cases was performed by using rescue equipment/life rafts, 77 people, children, women and men was placed in a total of 7 life rafts, and left helplessly drifting at sea by the Hellenic Coast Guard (HCG), a systematic use of rescue equipment as a deportation tool. The Turkish coast guard picked up 583 people floating in the Aegean Sea, in 21 cases in January, 47.6% of these cases had been pushed back by the Greek coast guard.