# Small Boat Arrivals in English Channel Increase by 18%, Reaching 12,313 in 2024



Figures from the Home Office reveal an increased number of small boat arrivals crossing the English Channel this week. On Tuesday, 882 individuals were detected making the crossing in 15 boats, averaging 59 people per boat. This brings the total number of small boat arrivals in 2024 to 12,313, marking an 18% rise from 10,472 at the same point last year and a 5% increase from the 11,690 total in 2022.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak commented on the fluctuating daily numbers, noting variability in the channel crossings. Immigration remains a focal issue in the general election, with Nigel Farage of Reform UK terming it the "immigration election." Sunak emphasized that the total number of crossings had decreased by almost a third over the past 12 months.

In parallel, China is making strides in transitioning from fossil fuels to renewable energy. The nation recorded a 4.3% reduction in thermal power use in May year-on-year, the largest drop since 2022. This reduction was offset by a 39% rise in hydropower generation, spurred by heavy rains in Yunnan province, a major hydropower-producing region.