

Cash Assistance Update



© UNHCR/ Socrates Baltagiannis



Ahmad Zaki, an asylum-seeker from Afghanistan, is doing his shopping at a local grocery in Tripoli where he lives with his wife and their five children. The monthly cash assistance is part of the EU co-funded ESTIA programme and allows refugees to meet their basic needs, contributing at the same time to local economy.

Overview

In July 36,066 eligible refugees and asylum-seekers (17,521 families) received cash assistance in Greece, in 93 locations.

UNHCR provides cash assistance in Greece, as part of the ESTIA programme, funded by the European Commission. Cash assistance restores dignity and empowers asylum-seekers and refugees who can now choose how to cover their basic needs. It also contributes directly to the economy of the host community through the purchase of services and goods. UNHCR in Greece works with the Greece Cash Alliance partners the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and METAdrasi.

36,066

Number of individuals assisted ¹

17,521

Number of cash cards ¹

3.8 M €

Cash distributed (Euros) ¹

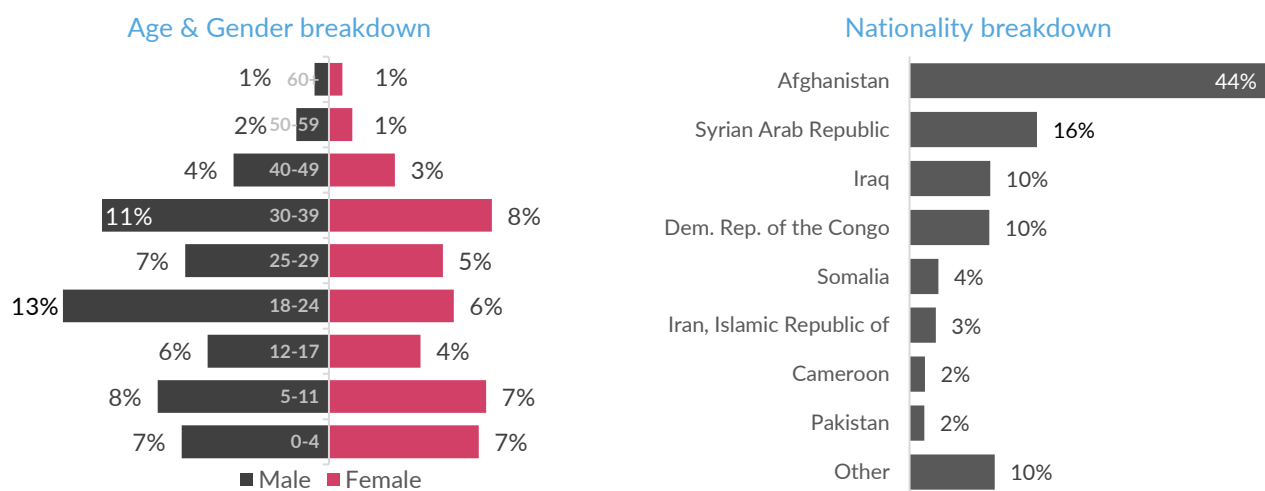
Demographics of Refugees and Asylum-Seekers Assisted with Cash

Since April 2017, 204,908 eligible individuals have received cash assistance in Greece at least once. Eligibility is assessed on the basis of one's date of entry in the country, legal status and current location. As per the announcement of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum (MMA), as of 1st July 2021 cash assistance will no longer be provided to asylum seekers who are self-accommodated.

Of the 36,066 individuals who received cash assistance this month, 600 have international protection in Greece. Out of 17,521 families, 24% were women, 36% men and 40% children.

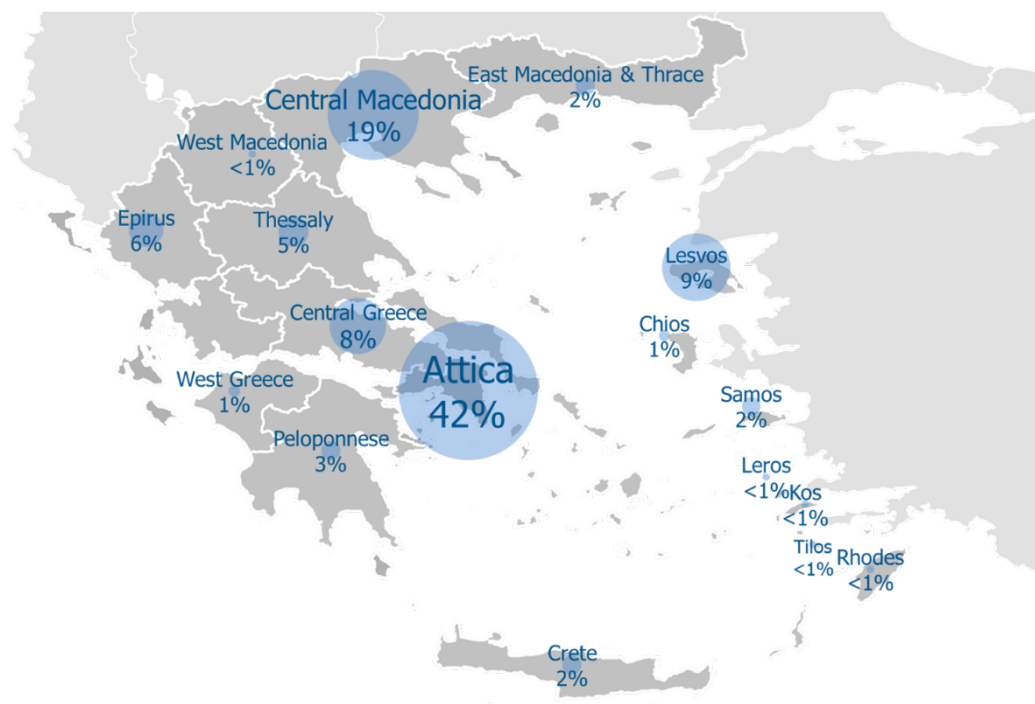
30% of all who received cash assistance this month were families of five members or more and a further 29% were single adults. 80% of individuals in the cash assistance scheme are from, Afghanistan, Syrian Arab Republic, Iraq and DRC.

The amount of cash assistance distributed to each household is proportionate to the family size. It ranges between 75 euros for an individual in catered accommodation, to 490 euros for a family of six members or more in self-catered accommodation.



Location of Individuals Receiving Cash Assistance

Asylum-seekers and refugees receiving cash assistance reside in 93 locations in Greece. 42% of those receiving cash assistance are located in Attica, with 13% currently on the islands and a further 19% in Central Macedonia.



Partners



Co-funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund of the European Union