



UNHCR leads and coordinates with partners the Inter-agency **Protection Monitoring of Refugees in Greece**. From January to December 2024, UNHCR, funded and operational partners conducted interviews with beneficiaries of international protection, temporary protection status holders, and asylum-seekers. This report highlights the key findings from **548 interviews** conducted primarily with recognized refugees and subsidiary protection status holders.

At a glance

- Palestinian, Syrian, Afghan, Cameroonian and Iranian are the top five nationalities.
- Nearly two out of three refugees expressed their intention to stay in Greece for the following year, similar to 2023.
- Obtaining the required documentation to live and work legally in Greece remains challenging, mainly in opening a bank account, acquiring a social insurance registration number (AMA) and a social security number (AMKA).
- Employment, accommodation, financial assistance, Greek language courses, and education were reported as the top five needs.
- Half of the respondents were unemployed, primarily due to a lack of opportunities for legal employment, challenges in obtaining documentation, insufficient daycare for children, or difficulty in identifying job opportunities.
- The top three obstacles to living independently are the high cost of housing, unemployment, and Greek language barriers.
- Half of the respondents had completed secondary education; 17% had tertiary level education.
- One out of four refugees have faced obstacles in accessing health services.

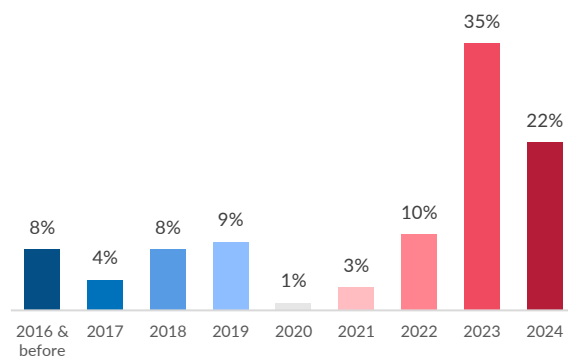


DEMOGRAPHICS

The top five nationalities among the respondents were Palestinian, Syrian, Afghan, Cameroonian and Iranian. Of those interviewed, 64% were male and 36% female. Regarding household type, 70% were single, 15% couples and 10% single-headed households.

Nearly two out of three refugees expressed their intention to stay in Greece for the following year, similar to 2023.

Year of arrival in Greece





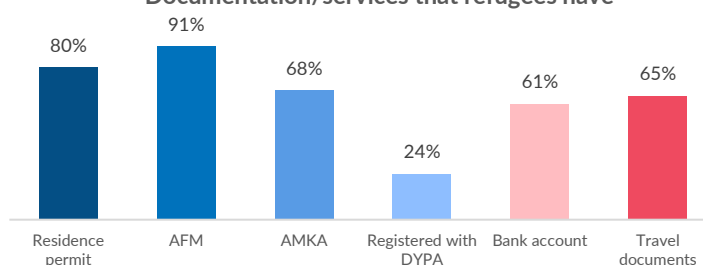
DOCUMENTATION

To live and work in Greece legally, refugees need a residence permit (ADET), a social security number (AMKA), a tax registration number (AFM), a social insurance number (AMA), and a bank account.

Challenges in obtaining the required documentation persist. Although there was a slight increase in the number of refugees obtaining ADET (80% in 2024 vs. 71% in 2023) and AFM (91% in 2024 vs. 86% in 2023), only 61% of those interviewed had a bank account. The percentage of refugees with AMKA has significantly decreased from 77% in 2023 to 68% in 2024. Additionally, nearly half of the respondents have obtained AMA.

The top three documentation issues for which refugees sought support were TaxisNet codes¹ (52%), bank accounts (50%), and AMKA (46%).

Documentation/services that refugees have

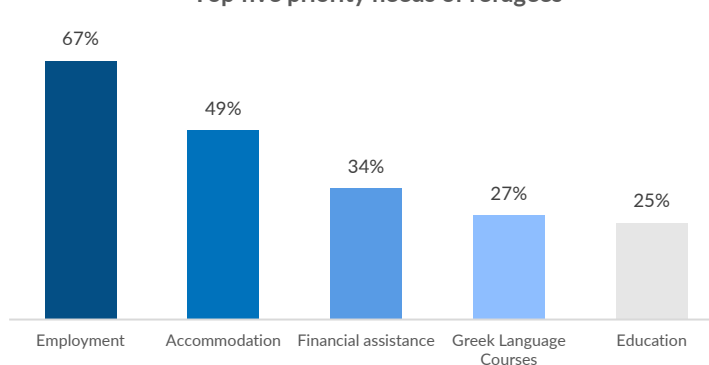


PRIORITY NEEDS

In 2024, the top five needs of the refugees interviewed, were employment (67%), accommodation (49%), financial assistance (34%), Greek language courses (27%), and education (25%).

In 2023, more refugees reported employment (76% in 2023), accommodation (58% in 2023), financial assistance (39% in 2023), Greek language courses (31% in 2023), and documentation (26% in 2023) as priority needs, except for education, where the percentage remained almost the same (23% in 2023).

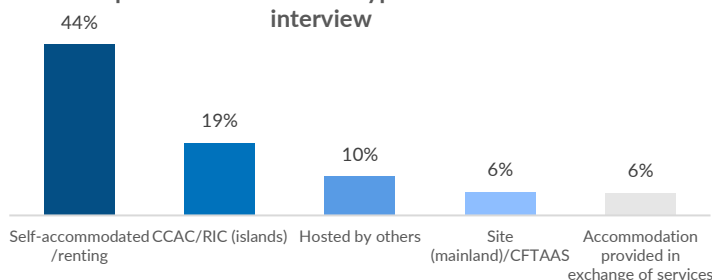
Top five priority needs of refugees



ACCOMMODATION

At the time of the interview, 44% of refugees were self-accommodated or were renting, a percentage similar to 2023, when it was 41%.

Top five accommodation type at the time of interview



¹ Credentials that allow individuals to access various public administration services online

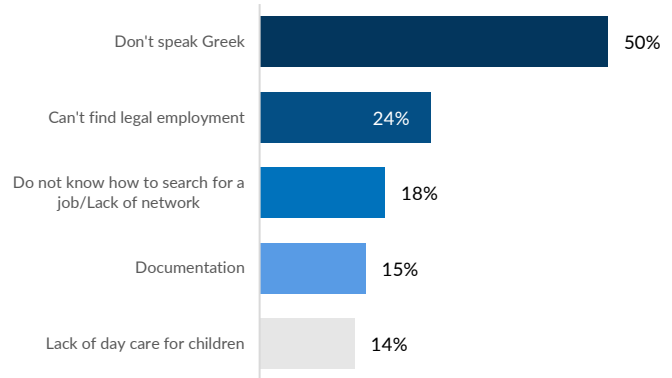


EMPLOYMENT

At the time of the interview, half of the respondents were out of work. Of those who reported to be working or occasionally working, nearly 60% were engaged in elementary occupations, while 69% had a signed contract—a considerable increase compared to 55% in 2023.

Not speaking Greek remains the main impediment to employment, while one in four reported not being able to find a legal occupation. Not knowing how to look for a job, documentation issues, and lack of day care for children complete the top five challenges.

Biggest challenges refugees face in finding a job



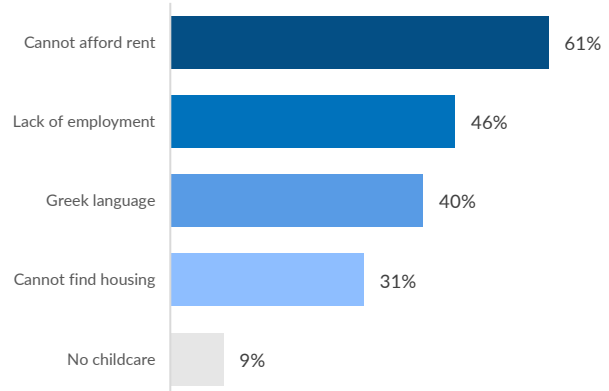
SELF-RELIANCE

The top three obstacles to living independently remain the same as in 2023: high rent in relation to refugees' financial situation, lack of legal employment opportunities, and Greek language barriers.

As in 2023, nearly one in three respondents stated that they purchase food using their own means, some of them in addition to other sources of support.

However, they also reported that their financial situation has deteriorated. In addition to employment (37%), many respondents still rely on savings, informal work, State support, NGOs, or other forms of assistance.

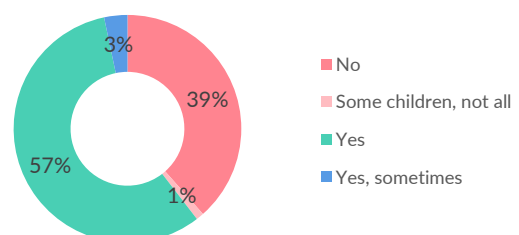
Obstacles refugees face to living independently



EDUCATION

Nearly one third of the refugees interviewed had upper secondary education, while 17% had university-level education. The rate of school-aged children living with their families and attending formal education saw a considerable decrease, from 74% in 2023 to 57% in 2024.

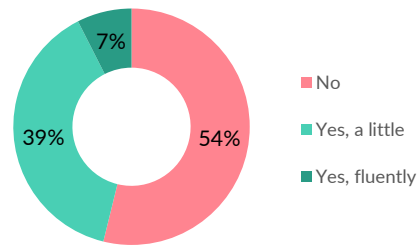
Refugee children attending public school



LANGUAGES

Nearly half of the refugees interviewed do not speak Greek whereas only 30% of refugees have taken Greek language courses. The main reasons cited for not enrolling in Greek language courses are the lack of information about available classes and the unavailability of the classes themselves.

Refugees speak Greek

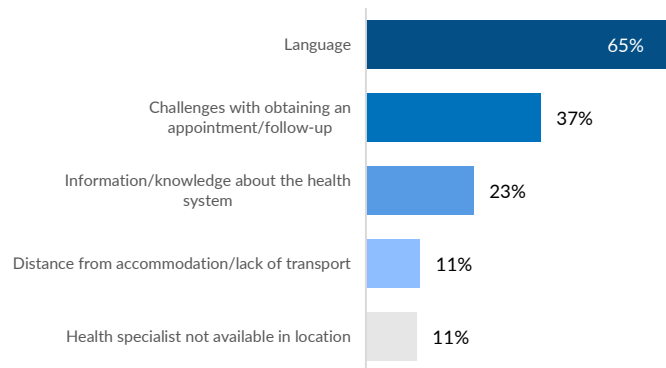


HEALTH & VULNERABILITIES

Similarly to 2023, one out of four found difficulty in accessing healthcare, mainly due to language barriers, challenges to secure appointments and lack of information on the healthcare system.

At the same time, 20% of refugees or their family members have vulnerabilities, mainly suffering from chronic illnesses, mental health issues and physical disabilities.

Obstacles refugees' face in accessing health services
Percentages are calculated out of those who faced obstacles

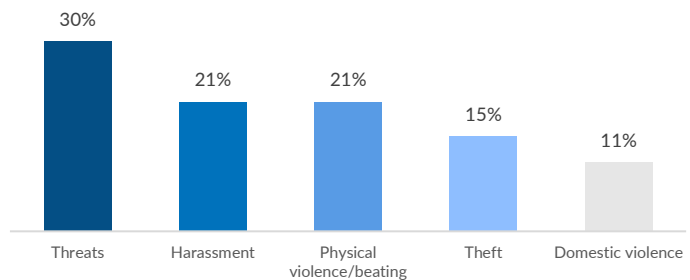


SAFETY

In 2024, 14% have experienced a situation in which they felt in danger or subject to abuse since their arrival in Greece, similarly to 2023. Threats, harassment, physical violence, threat and domestic violence were named as the main forms of violence.

Top five risks or dangers refugee experienced in the last 12 months in Greece

Percentages are calculated out of those who experienced a situation



With the participation of (in 2024):



Other participants:

