

# GREECE Cash assistance



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Syrian asylum seeker Muna sitting on the bed in their hotel room with her three daughters showing their cash card. Muna lost her husband in the war so decided to leave Syria alone with her three children. Cash assistance is widely viewed as the most effective form of assistance in displacement situations.

## Overview

In October, 33,595 eligible refugees and asylum seekers (15,153 households) 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), Samaritan's Purse, International Rescue Committee (IRC), Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and Mercy Corps.

# 33,595

Number of individuals assisted <sup>1</sup>

# 15,153

Number of cash cards distributed <sup>1</sup>

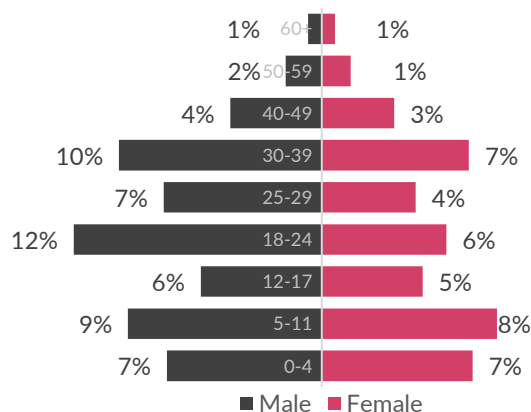
# 3.3 M €

Cash distributed (Euros) <sup>1</sup>

## Demographics of refugees and asylum-seekers assisted with cash

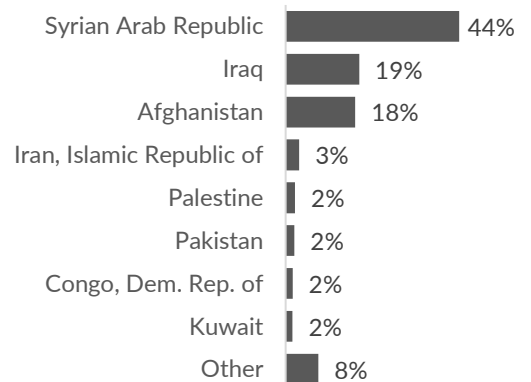
In total, since April 2017, 49,853 eligible individuals are estimated to have received cash assistance in Greece at least once. Eligibility is assessed on the basis of one's date of entry in the country, legal status and current location. In October, 15,153 households containing in total 33,595 individuals received cash assistance. Of those, 42% were children, 23% were women and 35% were men. One quarter of those provided cash assistance are families, with an average family size of four people.

The amount of cash assistance distributed to each household is proportionate to the family size. It ranges between 90 euros for an individual, to 550 euros for a family of seven members or more.



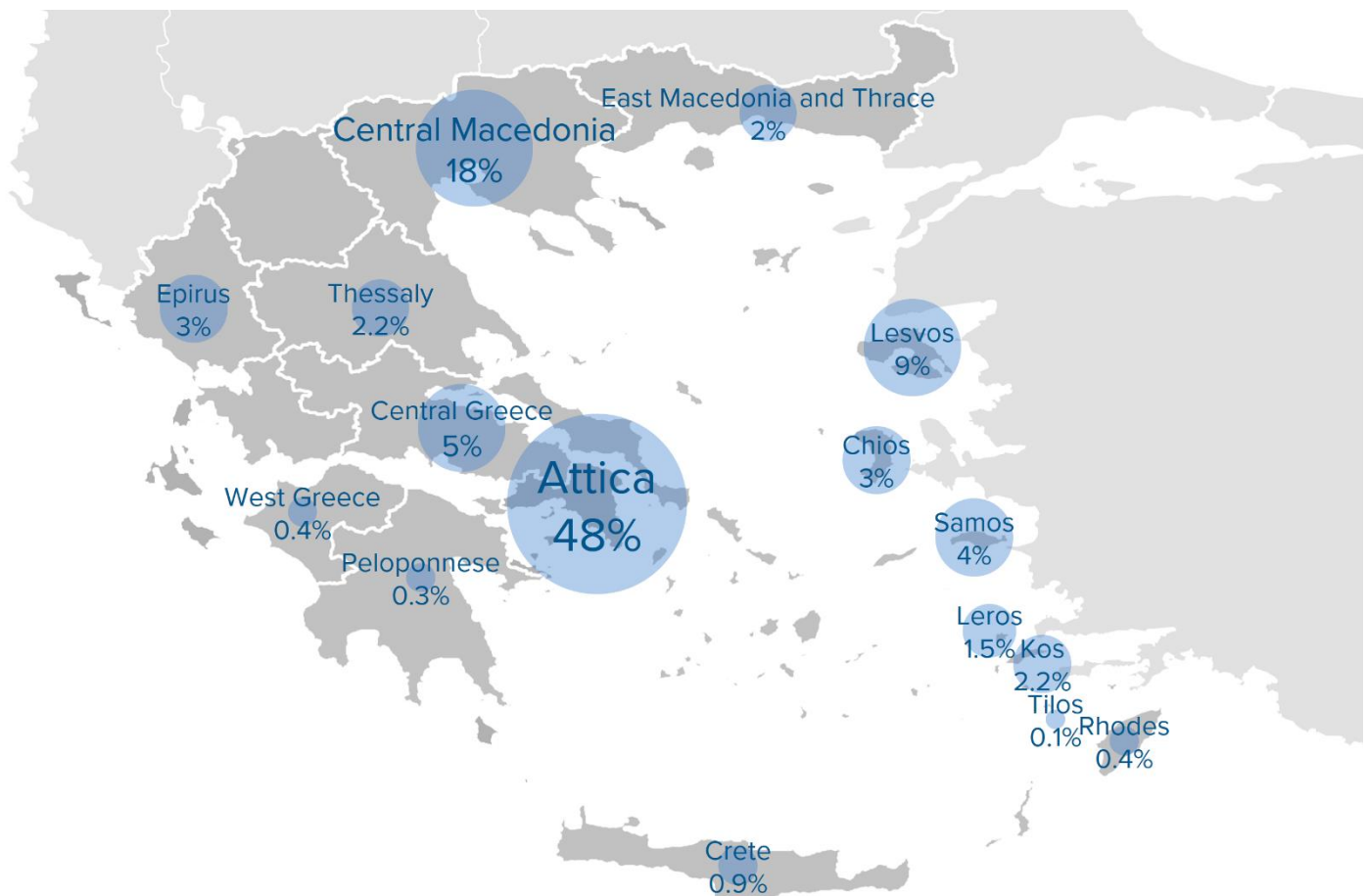
## Demographics of individuals receiving cash assistance

84% of individuals in the cash assistance scheme are Syrian, Iraqi, Afghan, Palestinian or Iranian.



## Location of individuals receiving cash assistance

Asylum-seekers and refugees receiving cash assistance reside in 93 locations in Greece. 47% of those receiving cash assistance are located in Athens, with 21% currently on the islands and a further 18% in Central Macedonia.



## Partners

