

GREECE Accommodation update



Ahmed, 42, and his wife Jasmin, 33, stand on the balcony of their apartment in the city of Chania, north-west Crete, rented under the Emergency Support To Integration and Accommodation (ESTIA) programme.

Overview

By the end of April 2018, UNHCR had created 24,487 places in the accommodation scheme as part of the ESTIA programme. These were in 4,163 apartments and 27 buildings, in 21 cities across Greece.

The Accommodation Scheme¹ provides rented housing to vulnerable asylum-seekers and refugees in Greece. Urban accommodation helps restore a sense of normalcy and provides better access to services, including education and health. People are additionally supported by social workers and interpreters who help them access medical services, employment, language courses and recreational activities.

24,487

Number of accommodation places

4,190

Number of units

97%

Occupancy rate²

Demographics

In total, since November 2015, 47,297 individuals have benefitted from the accommodation scheme. 21,002 people were accommodated as of the end of April 2018, 3,536 of whom are recognized refugees. 48% of the residents are children. The vast majority of those accommodated are families, with the average family size of four people. One in four residents have at least one of the vulnerabilities that make them eligible for the accommodation scheme. The three most common vulnerabilities are:

9%

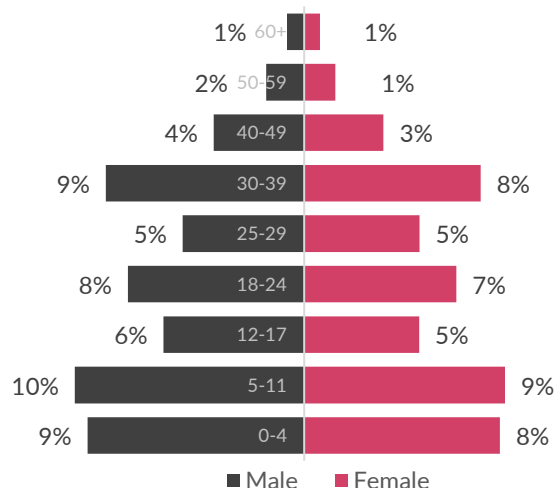
Serious medical condition

4%

Single parent or caregiver with minor children

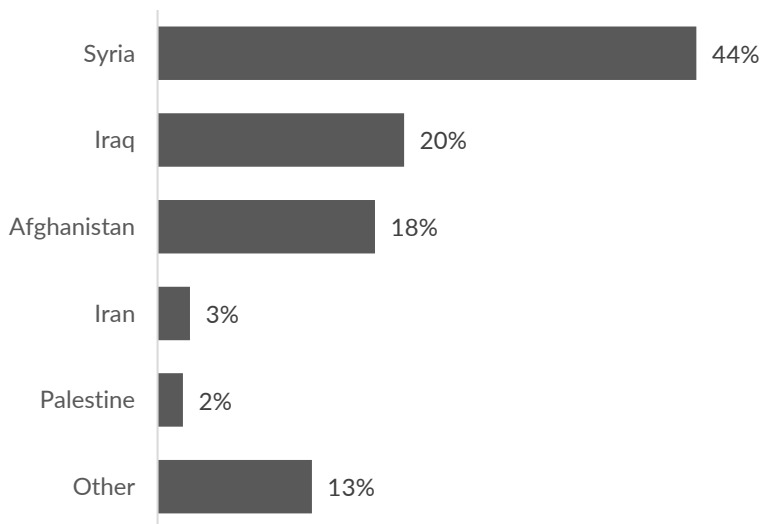
4%

Woman at risk including woman in pregnancy or having recently birth



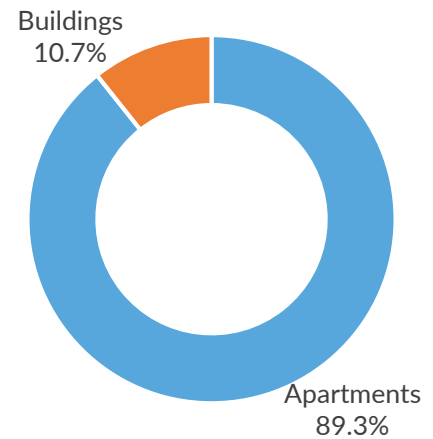
Demographics

The vast majority, 87% of individuals in the accommodation scheme are Syrian, Iraqi, Afghan, Iranian or Palestinian. However, the individuals accommodated as of the end of April 2018 speak 30 different languages as a mother tongue.



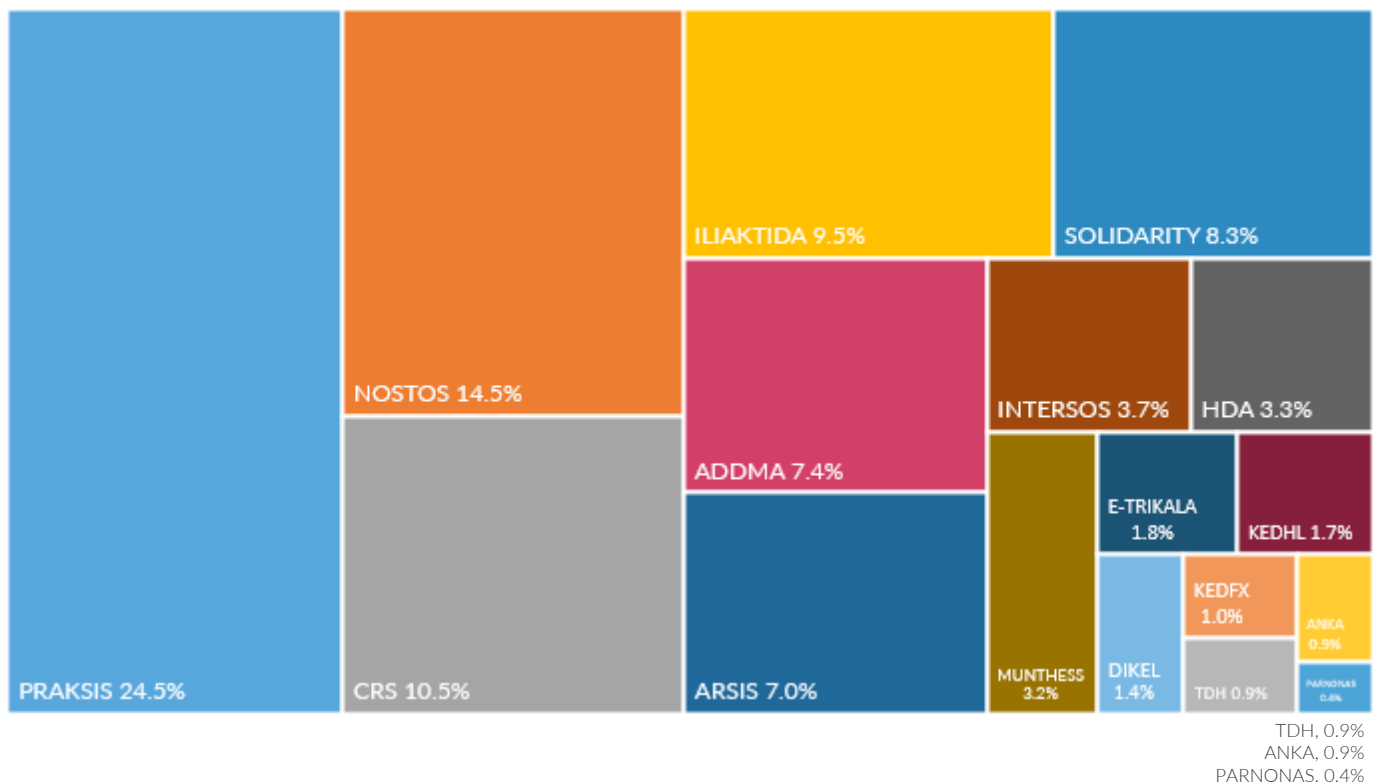
Accommodation Type

Over four in five accommodation units are apartments, followed by buildings.



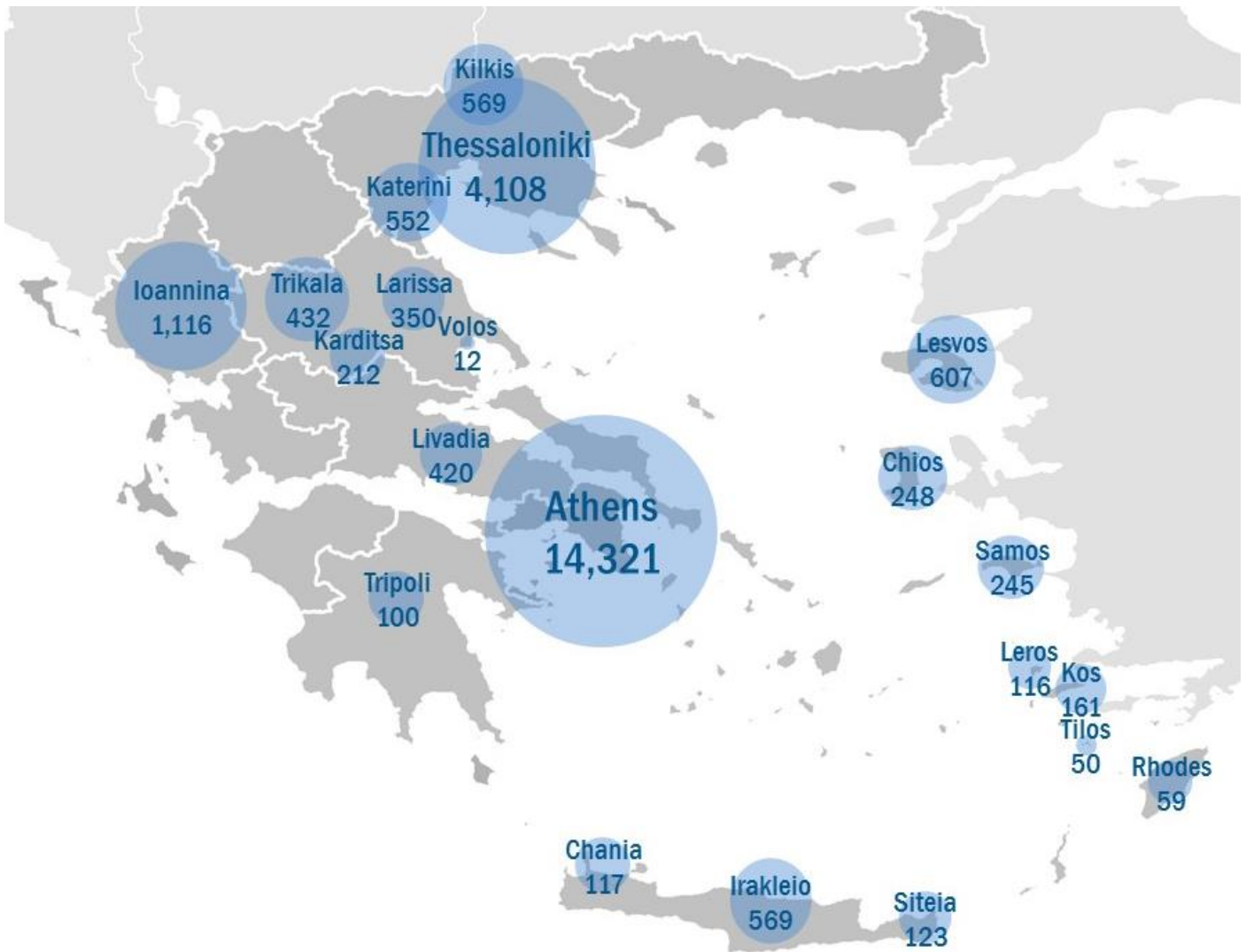
Partners

At the end of April 2018, UNHCR is implementing the accommodation scheme through 17 partnerships with 8 NGOs Praksis, Iliaktida, CRS, Arsis, Solidarity Now, Nostos, Intersos, Tdh, and 9 municipalities Athens (ADDMA), Thessaloniki (MUNTHESS), Livadia (KEDHL), Trikala (E-TRIKALA), Karditsa (ANKA), Larissa (DIKEL), Nea Philadelphia - Nea Chalkidona (KEDFX), Tripoli (PARNONAS) and a consortium of municipalities in Crete (HDA). In total, partners managed by UNHCR provided 100% of the accommodation places in Greece. Partners GCR and METAdrasi also provide social, legal and interpretation support.



Location of accommodation

Accommodation for asylum seekers and recognized refugees is provided in 14 cities in mainland and 7 islands. Over half, 58% of the accommodation places are located in Athens, 35% in the rest of mainland, and 6% on the islands.



Total beneficiaries

In total, since November 2015, 47,297 individuals have benefitted from the accommodation scheme.

UNHCR's Accommodation Scheme is part of the ESTIA programme (Emergency Support to Integration and Accommodation) of the E.U. Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid (ECHO).

47,297

Total number of individuals accommodated



Funded by
European Union
Civil Protection and
Humanitarian Aid