

# GREECE Cash assistance



Mustafa Kousa Hasan, a refugee from Syria, shops for the family lunch at the open market of Trikala city, central Greece. Mustafa, Sultana and their two children receive financial aid from UNHCR's cash assistance, under the ESTIA programme. © UNHCR / Katerina Stavroula

## Overview

In December, 37,597 eligible refugees and asylum seekers (17,023 households) received cash assistance in Greece, in 92 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.

# 37,597

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

# 17,023

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

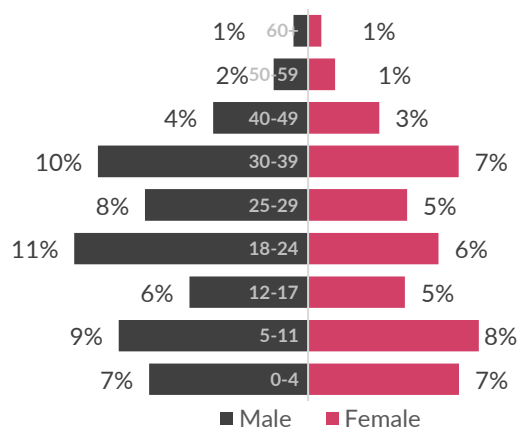
# 3.7 M €

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

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

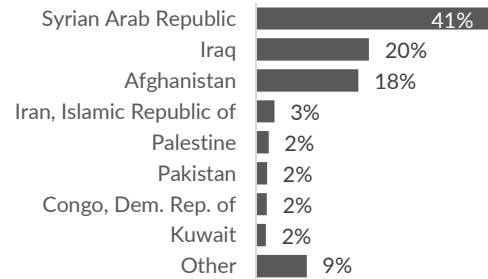
In total, since April 2017, 55,120 eligible individuals are estimated to have received cash assistance in Greece at least once. Eligibility is assessed on the basis of one's date of entry in the country, legal status and current location. Of the 37,597 individuals who received cash assistance this month, 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 in catered accommodation, to 550 euros for a family of seven members or more in self-catered accommodation.



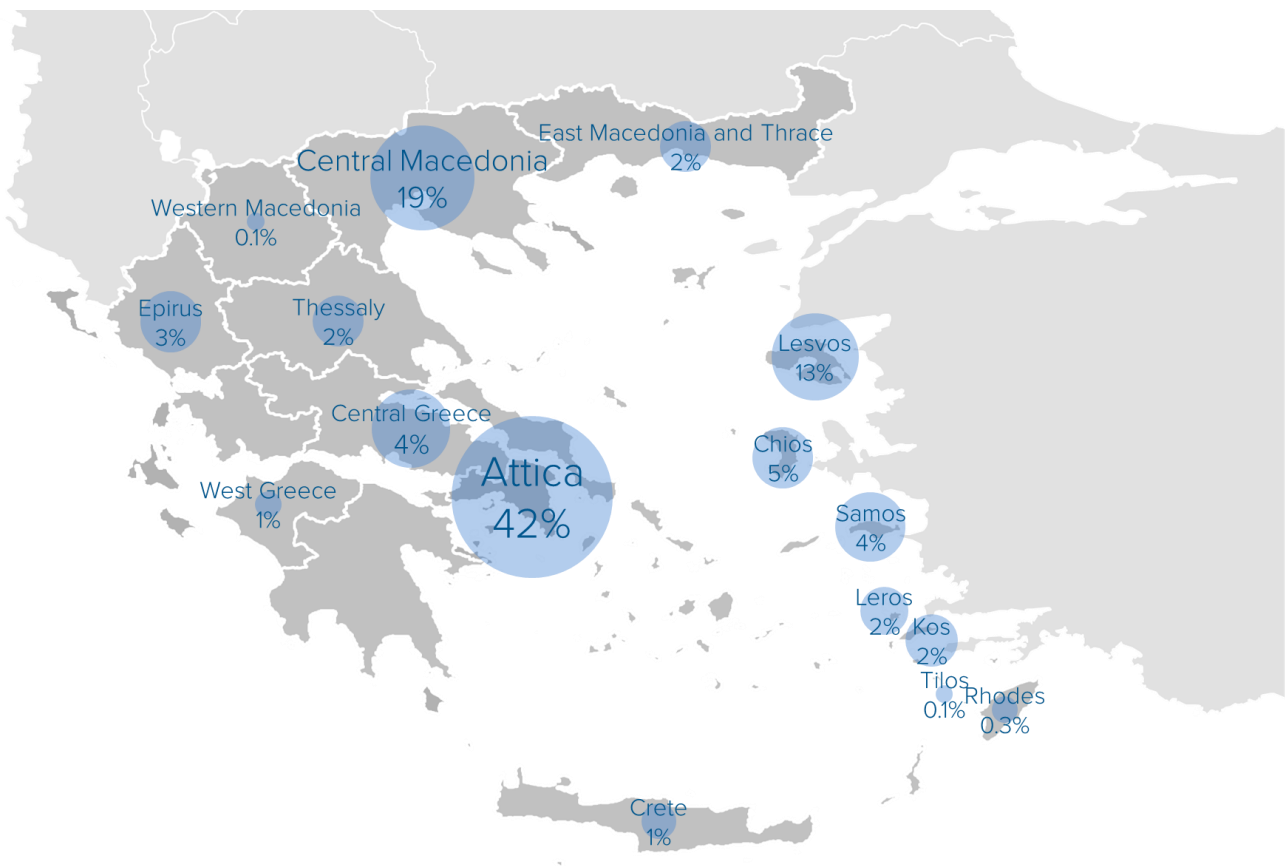
## Demographics of individuals receiving cash assistance

85% 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 92 locations in Greece. 42% of those receiving cash assistance are located in Athens, with 26% currently on the islands and a further 19% in Central Macedonia.



## Partners



## More information

The Greece Cash Alliance: Meeting Basic Needs through Harmonized Cash Assistance

ESTIA cash assistance and accommodation is funded by the European Commission