

# Cash Assistance Update



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Vahida Qasemi, a 30-year-old asylum seeker from Afghanistan, makes a traditional Afghan bread called naan, for her family at her home in Heraklion city in Crete. The family of eight that was forced to leave Afghanistan and had to overcome a traumatic journey to Greece, lives in a rented apartment in Heraklion and receives monthly cash-assistance, as part of the EU co-funded ESTIA programme.

## Overview

In August, 85,035 eligible refugees and asylum-seekers (44,325 families) received cash assistance in Greece, in 119 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.

# 85,035

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

# 44,325

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

# 8.6 M €

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

## Demographics of Refugees and Asylum-Seekers Assisted with Cash

Since April 2017, 187,133 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.

Of the 85,035 individuals who received cash assistance this month, 5,952 have international protection in Greece. Out of 44,325 families, 22% were women, 42% men and 36% children.

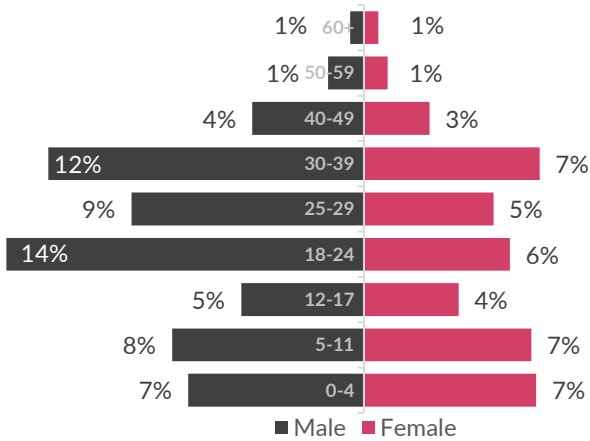
17 September 2020

<sup>1</sup> Source: Greek Cash Alliance during August 2020. Figures are subject to future adjustment and should not be considered final. Due to rounding, some totals may not correspond with the sum of the separate figures.

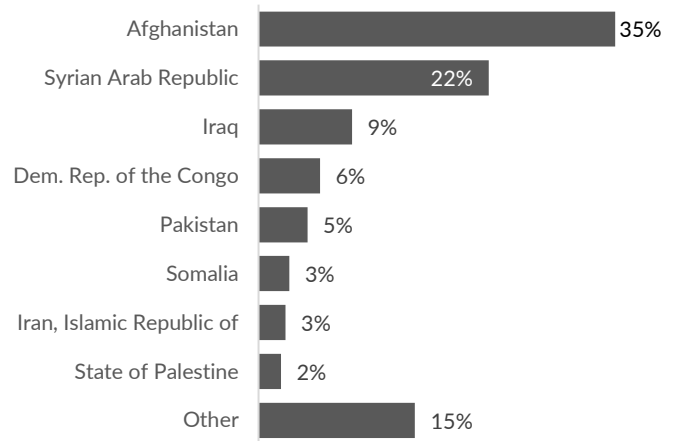
29% of all who received cash assistance this month were families of five members or more and a further 35% were single adults. 72% of individuals in the cash assistance scheme are from, Afghanistan, Syrian Arab Republic, Iraq and Democratic Republic of Congo.

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.

Age & Gender breakdown

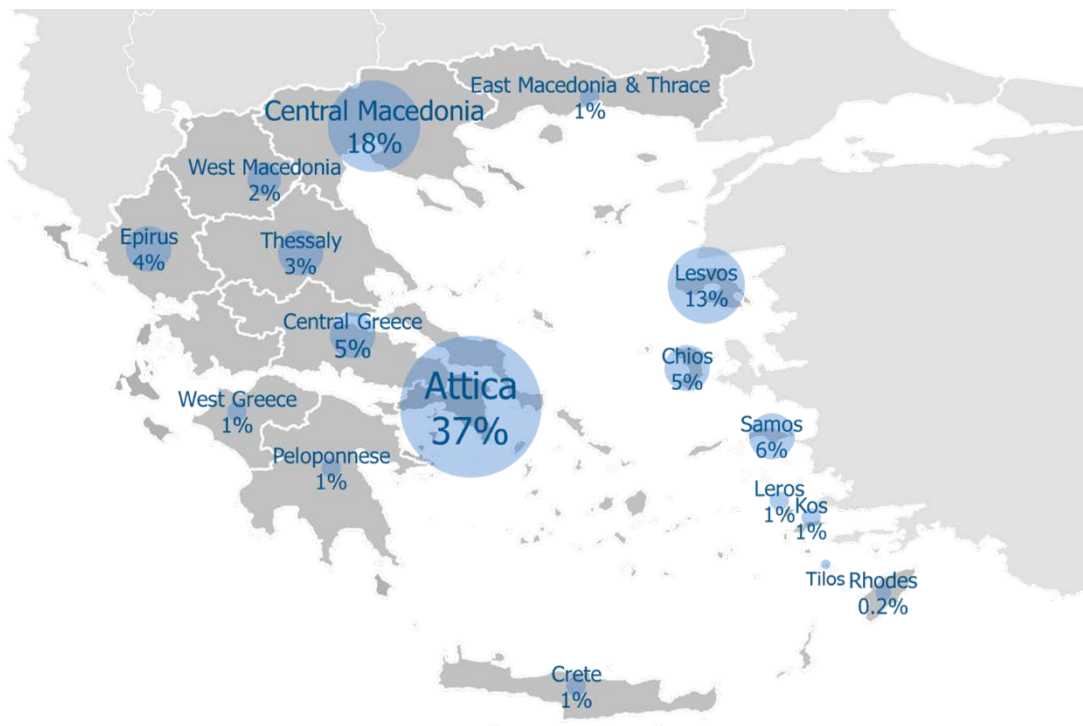


Nationality breakdown



## Location of Individuals Receiving Cash Assistance

Asylum-seekers and refugees receiving cash assistance reside in 119 locations in Greece. 37% of those receiving cash assistance are located in Attica, with 29% currently on the islands and a further 18% in Central Macedonia.



## Partners



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