

# Cash Assistance Update



Fartun Hussein, a twenty-one-year-old asylum-seeker from Somalia, waits her turn to register and receive her cash card at the Urban Cash Centre of Athens. Fartun arrived in Greece by crossing Evros river in November 2019. She now lives with her husband and their baby in a friend's house in Athens and they receive monthly cash assistance as part of the EU co-funded ESTIA programme.

## Overview

In February, 64,726 eligible refugees and asylum-seekers (37,245 families) received cash assistance in Greece, in 115 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.

**64,726**

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

**37,245**

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

**7.1 M €**

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

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

Since April 2017, 197,651 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.

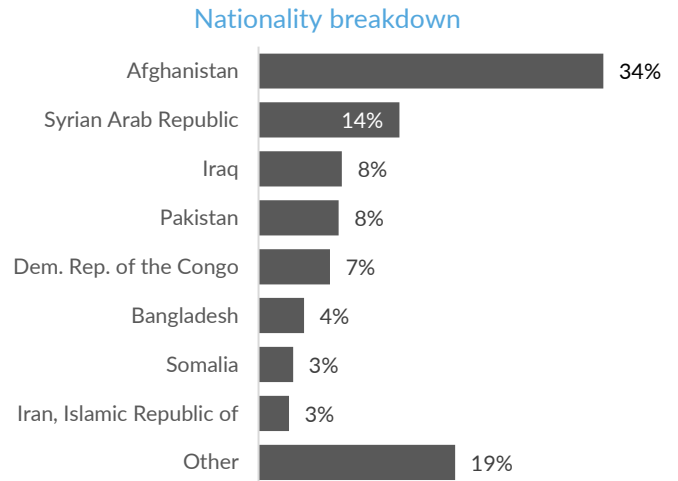
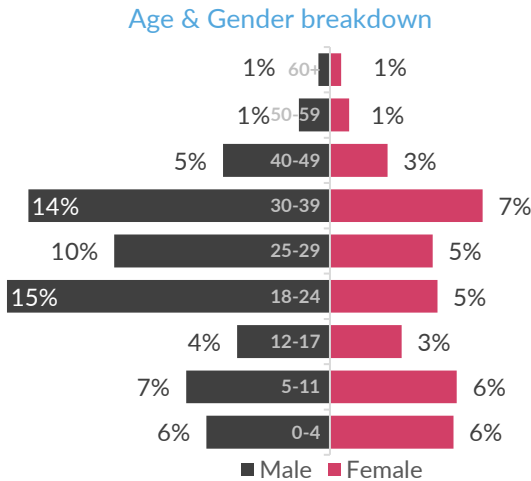
Of the 64,726 individuals who received cash assistance this month, 4,700 have international protection in Greece. Out of 37,245 families, 21% were women, 47% men and 32% children.

15 March 2021

<sup>1</sup> Source: Greek Cash Alliance during February 2021. 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.

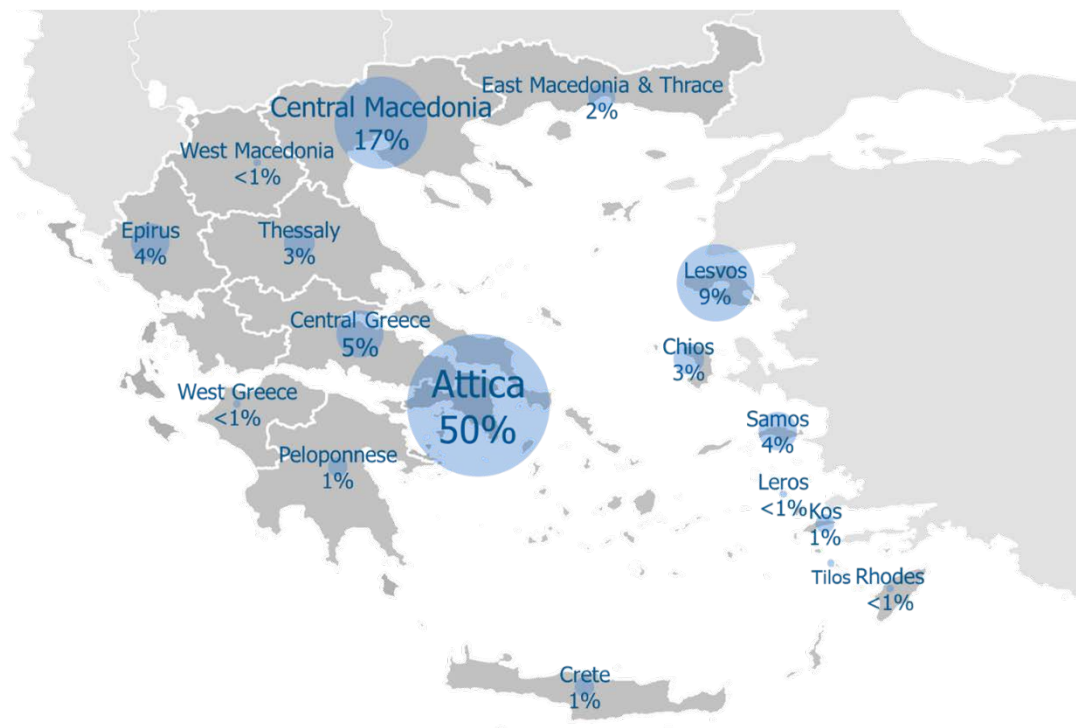
24% of all who received cash assistance this month were families of five members or more and a further 41% were single adults. 64% of individuals in the cash assistance scheme are from, Afghanistan, Syrian Arab Republic, Iraq and Pakistan.

The amount of cash assistance distributed to each household is proportionate to the family size. It ranges between 75 euros for an individual in catered accommodation, to 490 euros for a family of six members or more in self-catered accommodation.



## Location of Individuals Receiving Cash Assistance

Asylum-seekers and refugees receiving cash assistance reside in 115 locations in Greece. 50% of those receiving cash assistance are located in Attica, with 17% currently on the islands and a further 17% in Central Macedonia.



### Partners



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