Children in the urban setting
Thessaloniki

UNHCR Field Office Thessaloniki
June 2023
**Children in Greece**  
**March 2023**

**28,160** refugee and asylum-seeker's children in Greece

### Country of Origin:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Children in Greece by Location:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CFTAAsSs</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCACs/RICs</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UAC/SSPUAM (various locations)</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Breakdown by age groups:

- 0-5: 34%
- 6-12: 39%
- 13-17: 27%

### Breakdown by sex:

- Boys: 54%
- Girls: 46%

- Based on UNHCR estimates and data provided by authorities
Based on UNHCR estimates and data provided by authorities, there are 24,000 refugees and asylum seekers. Of these, 75% are refugees, and 25% are asylum seekers.

Key points:

1 out of 4 refugees in Greece fall under the Area of Responsibility of Field Office Thessaloniki.

Geographically dispersed self-accommodated population.

1 out of 3 refugees is a Temporary Protection holder (Ukraine situation).

Main nationalities: Syria, Ukraine, Afghanistan, Iraq.

- Based on UNHCR estimates and data provided by authorities
Living conditions in urban Thessaloniki

- Families with children in Thessaloniki: mainly recognized refugees (including beneficiaries of Temporary Protection), few asylum-seekers after ESTIA
- Self-accommodated
- Lack of accommodation programmes
- Homeless and living in precarious conditions: difficult to reach out (only one street work team in Thessaloniki)
- More challenging for families with rejections
- For UAC: NERM
UNHCR outreach efforts

- Cooperation with community centers, Municipalities and other actors (RAO)
- Cooperation with Refugee Led Organizations
- UNHCR Refugee outreach teams
- Compilation of the Interagency Protection Monitoring Tool
- Help-Desk: many requests from urban population
- Facilitation and participation to Working Groups
- Coming soon: Visit shops and meeting points of refugees to discuss challenges and share information
Needs assessments and response

- Basic needs: food and children's diapers. Accommodation.
- Case management, PSS
- Need of day care for children to allow the parents to work
- Meaningful access to education

**Local UNHCR Response:**
- Donations of non-food items (including diapers) to community centers.
- Cooperation with PRAKIS for the programme “Promoting resilience of refugee children at risk, Inc. GBV survivors, in the urban settings”
- CWC: share leaflets and information on services available to meeting points of refugees.
- UNHCR support to urban population: Employability programmes, Legal support, Self-help groups for Ukrainian refugees, support to GBV survivors.
- Close cooperation with NERM.