Refugee and migrant children in Greece
As of 31 March 2020

**Key figures**

- **44,300** estimated number of refugee and migrant children across Greece. Among them, **4,884 unaccompanied**
- **99** accompanied children have been returned to Turkey, in the framework of the EU - Turkey Statement (20 March 2016 – 31 March 2020)
- **60** unaccompanied children received international protection in Greece on first instance during 2020 (Jan-Feb 2020)

It is estimated that **13,000** refugee and migrant children of school age (4-17 years old) across Greece are enrolled in formal education (as of January 2020, source: Education Sector Working Group)

73% of children 4-17 years old residing in apartments with their families or shelters and hotels for unaccompanied children are enrolled in Greek schools (as of January 2020)

37% of the total sea arrivals in 2020 were children. Among total sea arrivals 10% were unaccompanied children

The main countries of origin of children arriving by sea in Greece during Jan-Feb 2020 were Afghanistan (56%), Syria (26%), Iraq (4%), and other countries (14%).

It is estimated that 25,368 of all registered asylum applications in Greece during 2019 concerned children, accounting for 33% of all registered asylum application in the country during the year.

Note: Data concerning registered asylum applications as well as decisions on first instance during March 2020 have not yet been made available by the Greek Asylum Service

*data may be adjusted upon final validation by the Asylum Service

**Secondary analysis of data by the following sources: MoMP, MoE, MoCP, Hellenic Police, EKKA, Greek Asylum Service, IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF. The estimated total number of refugee and migrant children in Greece includes also figures on self-settled population receiving cash assistance from UNHCR in urban locations in Greece.**

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**Child sea arrivals March 2019 – March 2020**

- Total children sea arrivals
- Total unaccompanied children sea arrivals**

**Unaccompanied children**
- **376** in March 2019
- **528** in March 2020

**Accompanied children**
- **2960** in March 2019
- **2803** in March 2020

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**Child Asylum Applications January - December 2020**

- **37%** of the total sea arrivals in 2020 were children. Among total sea arrivals 10% were unaccompanied children

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**Number of available places in long term accommodation for UAC (shelters and Supported Independent Living programme (SIL), March 2020)**

- **1515** places in shelters
- **172** places in SIL

**Number of available places in temporary accommodation for UAC (safe zones and UAC hotels, March 2020)**

- **300** places in safe zones
- **419** places in hotels for UAC

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**Total number of UAC in need of long term accommodation (March 2020)**

- **3197**

Out of the estimated 4,884 unaccompanied children in Greece, approximately 3,197 (including 331 in protective custody) are still in need of long-term accommodation

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**Percentage of children per location February 2020**

- Apartments and hotels for families: 32%
- Reception and Identification Centers: 27%
- Open sites (accommodation sites): 25%
- Self settled, informal arrangement and other: 11%
- Shelters for UAC and SIL: 3%
- Hotels for UAC: 1%
- Safe zones for UAC: 1%

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**Based on referrals to EKKA**