



Asylum Trends

Appendix: Eurostat data

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First asylum applications in the EU, Norway and Switzerland in 2019 and 2020

Source: EUROSTAT, situation by May 6th 2021

		2019		2020													Total 2019
		Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	
EU	Germany	8.360	8.360	13.250	11.040	7.865	5.625	4.495	5.615	8.595	8.165	10.480	9.830	10.165	7.460	102.585	142.510
	Spain	10.495	10.495	14.395	14.210	7.960	60	55	7.095	8.985	10.305	7.590	6.310	5.620	3.800	86.385	115.190
	France	9.700	9.700	11.790	9.980	6.040	170	2.925	5.825	6.540	6.845	8.345	8.735	7.775	6.815	81.785	138.290
	Greece	8.215	8.215	9.210	8.510	2.320	0	650	3.380	4.710	2.255	2.345	1.595	1.340	1.550	37.865	74.915
	United Kingdom	3.755	3.755	4.220	3.760	2.575	1.175	2.085	2.265	2.795	3.165	3.975	2.980	3.350	0	32.345	44.315
	Italy	2.485	2.485	2.955	3.040	850	120	890	1.500	1.810	930	1.055	2.915	2.590	2.560	21.215	35.005
	Netherlands	1.935	1.935	1.955	1.505	1.010	270	340	650	1.195	1.420	1.490	1.405	1.225	1.265	13.730	22.540
	Sweden	1.710	1.710	1.850	1.450	1.475	850	795	795	1.015	1.210	1.240	1.175	930	835	13.620	23.150
	Austria	1.050	1.050	1.370	945	730	305	575	925	1.005	1.285	1.345	1.580	1.345	1.525	12.935	11.010
	Belgium	1.860	1.860	2.230	1.625	895	170	225	320	710	1.070	1.365	1.435	1.510	1.365	12.920	23.140
	Cyprus	750	750	875	1.285	790	55	30	790	670	335	635	815	725	490	7.495	12.695
	Romania	580	580	405	320	335	60	55	270	335	495	485	1.050	1.170	1.045	6.025	2.455
	Slovenia	165	165	210	130	150	15	445	470	460	500	325	260	235	270	3.470	3.615
	Bulgaria	80	80	80	35	70	60	25	90	250	405	580	595	740	535	3.465	2.075
	Malta	295	295	340	285	105	0	20	165	265	215	200	355	290	165	2.405	4.015
	Ireland	295	295	305	240	175	30	15	40	105	110	165	125	65	160	1.535	4.740
	Croatia	195	195	170	145	80	30	15	50	265	180	95	170	245	90	1.535	1.270
	Poland	220	220	250	235	85	10	30	40	65	85	165	190	190	160	1.505	2.765
	Finland	215	215	215	205	130	50	30	50	105	170	135	200	85	85	1.460	2.455
	Denmark	190	190	195	160	110	35	45	100	120	135	155	145	135	100	1.435	2.645
	Luxembourg	180	180	165	120	120	25	25	60	110	110	165	135	115	155	1.305	2.200
	Portugal	195	195	185	130	120	5	10	35	65	45	45	95	65	100	900	1.735
	Czech Republic	105	105	85	90	40	15	20	35	105	65	80	95	100	65	795	1.575
	Slovak Republic	15	15	20	15	10	10	10	20	50	30	25	15	30	35	270	215
	Lithuania	110	110	20	25	5	0	5	20	15	25	25	15	55	35	245	625
	Latvia	10	10	10	5	25	5	0	5	10	5	25	20	10	30	150	180
	Hungary	25	25	20	25	5	5	10	5	0	5	0	5	10	0	90	470
	Estonia	5	5	5	10	0	0	0	0	5	5	5	5	5	5	45	100
	Total	53.195	53.195	66.780	59.525	34.075	9.155	13.825	30.615	40.360	39.570	42.540	42.250	40.120	30.700	449.515	675.895
Not EU	Switzerland	960	960	1.100	925	835	280	310	500	935	865	1.030	1.030	1.070	890	9.770	12.600
	Norway	160	160	220	165	100	30	30	60	130	200	135	135	70	65	1.340	2.205
	Total	1.120	1.120	1.320	1.090	935	310	340	560	1.065	1.065	1.165	1.165	1.140	955	11.110	14.805
Total		54.315	54.315	68.100	60.615	35.010	9.465	14.165	31.175	41.425	40.635	43.705	43.415	41.260	31.655	460.625	690.700

First asylum applications in the EU , Norway and Switzerland from January 2020 - December 2020

	2020												Total
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Syrian Arab Republic	8.625	6.935	4.675	1.970	2.300	4.485	6.630	5.765	6.830	6.575	6.255	5.335	66.380
Afghanistan	6.925	6.070	2.410	755	1.240	2.785	3.490	3.820	4.990	5.500	5.325	4.060	47.370
Venezuela	5.045	5.120	2.990	80	160	2.800	3.735	3.555	2.375	1.920	1.605	1.090	30.475
Colombia	5.235	4.865	2.900	65	105	2.420	2.960	3.280	2.455	2.090	1.725	1.055	29.155
Iraq	2.710	2.270	1.435	935	865	1.100	1.905	1.655	1.880	1.765	1.865	1.325	19.710
Pakistan	2.040	2.130	1.115	205	460	1.165	1.420	1.470	1.830	2.125	2.035	1.435	17.430
Turkey	2.295	1.720	1.145	475	530	925	1.280	1.470	1.840	1.655	1.475	1.010	15.820
Eritrea	1.140	1.210	800	290	510	730	1.060	1.110	1.260	1.185	1.140	870	11.305
Bangladesh	1.375	1.215	610	90	410	715	890	1.015	1.260	1.555	1.180	975	11.290
Somalia	1.320	1.195	670	230	340	545	995	990	1.140	1.270	950	1.050	10.695
Others	31.160	27.780	16.115	4.235	7.110	13.245	16.780	16.115	17.520	17.605	17.505	13.285	198.455
Total	67.870	60.510	34.865	9.330	14.030	30.915	41.145	40.245	43.380	43.245	41.060	31.490	458.085

Figures are sorted by total in 2020. Figures are rounded to the nearest multiple of 5. Figures include applications from EU citizens. "0" means data not yet available. The last column in the uppermost table is based on yearly data from Eurostat. Because of the aforementioned rounding to multiples of 5 there are small differences with the monthly data.

In 2020 Germany registered the highest number of applications, followed by Spain and France. Syrian Arab Republic, Afghanistan and Venezuela are the most important countries of origin in the influx of first asylum applications in the EU.

Special Theme: First Asylum Applications in Europe (2nd half of 2020) related to country Area, Population and GDP

Source: EUROSTAT, situation by May 6th 2021

Introduction

Biannually the influx of asylum seekers in Europe is related to three indicators of country size: Area, Population and GDP. This way, it's easier to compare the asylum influx between small, medium, and large countries.

Table 1: Number of first asylum applications compared to country area, population and GDP in the 2nd half of 2020

	Rank	Country of asylum	Number of Applications	% share in EU	Country area (sq km)	% share in EU	Inhabitants (million)	% share in EU	GDP	% share in EU
EU	1	Germany	54.695	23%	358.327	8%	83,2	16%	2.624	20%
	2	France	45.055	19%	549.060	13%	67,3	13%	1.830	14%
	3	Spain	42.610	18%	498.504	11%	47,3	9%	1.125	9%
	4	United Kingdom	16.265	7%	247.763	6%	67,0	13%	1.742	13%
	5	Greece	13.795	6%	131.912	3%	10,7	2%	213	2%
	6	Italy	11.860	5%	301.291	7%	59,6	12%	1.541	12%
	7	Austria	8.085	3%	83.944	2%	8,9	2%	281	2%
	8	Netherlands	8.000	3%	37.824	1%	17,4	3%	548	4%
	9	Belgium	7.455	3%	30.668	1%	11,5	2%	339	3%
	10	Sweden	6.405	3%	449.896	10%	10,3	2%	314	2%
	11	Romania	4.580	2%	239.068	5%	19,3	4%	278	2%
	12	Cyprus	3.670	2%	9.249	0%	0,9	0%	19	0%
	13	Bulgaria	3.105	1%	110.995	3%	7,0	1%	87	1%
	14	Slovenia	2.050	1%	20.277	0%	2,1	0%	44	0%
	15	Malta	1.490	1%	315	0%	0,5	0%	10	0%
	16	Croatia	1.045	0%	56.539	1%	4,1	1%	66	1%
	17	Poland	855	0%	313.851	7%	38,0	7%	673	5%
	18	Denmark	790	0%	43.162	1%	5,8	1%	180	1%
	19	Luxembourg	790	0%	2.595	0%	0,6	0%	37	0%
	20	Finland	780	0%	337.547	8%	5,5	1%	156	1%
	21	Ireland	730	0%	70.601	2%	5,0	1%	149	1%
	22	Czech Republic	510	0%	78.874	2%	10,7	2%	216	2%
	23	Portugal	415	0%	88.847	2%	10,3	2%	203	2%
	24	Slovak Republic	185	0%	49.026	1%	5,5	1%	106	1%
	25	Lithuania	170	0%	65.412	1%	2,8	1%	56	0%
	26	Latvia	100	0%	65.519	1%	1,9	0%	35	0%
	27	Estonia	30	0%	45.347	1%	1,3	0%	25	0%
	28	Hungary	20	0%	93.013	2%	9,8	2%	170	1%
EU - Total			235.540	100%	4.379.426	100%	514,3	100%	13,069	100%
Not EU		Switzerland	5.820	2%	41.285	1%	8,6	2%	326	2%
		Norway	735	0%	323.787	7%	5,4	1%	250	2%
Not EU - Total			6.555	3%	365.072	8%	14,0	3%	576	4%

Table 1 shows the number of first asylum applications, country area size, inhabitants and GDP per country. The table is arranged by the number of asylum applications in decreasing order. In the second six months of 2020 Germany received the highest number of first asylum applications in the EU, followed by France and Spain. The Netherlands ranked 8th within the EU.

It is clear from table 1 that there are substantial differences in ranking when one takes into account the respective country area, inhabitants and GDP of the European countries. In the next subsection, these differences will be related to the number of asylum applications in more detail.

First Asylum Applications in Europe (2nd half of 2020) related to area size

Source: EUROSTAT, situation by May 6th 2021

Table 2: Number of first asylum applications 2nd half of 2020 related to country area size

Rank	Country of asylum	Application per 1000 sq km	In relation to Total EU 28 = 1	Number of Applications	Country area (sq km)
1	Malta	4.730	89,6	1.490	315
2	Cyprus	397	7,5	3.670	9.249
3	Luxembourg	304	5,8	790	2.595
4	Belgium	243	4,6	7.455	30.668
5	Netherlands	212	4,0	8.000	37.824
6	Germany	153	2,9	54.695	358.327
7	Greece	105	2,0	13.795	131.912
8	Slovenia	101	1,9	2.050	20.277
9	Austria	96	1,8	8.085	83.944
10	Spain	85	1,6	42.610	498.504
11	France	82	1,6	45.055	549.060
12	United Kingdom	66	1,2	16.265	247.763
	TOTAL EU-28	54	1,0	235.920	4.467.087
13	Italy	39	0,7	11.860	301.291
14	Bulgaria	28	0,5	3.105	110.995
15	Romania	19	0,4	4.580	239.068
16	Croatia	18	0,3	1.045	56.539
17	Denmark	18	0,3	790	43.162
18	Sweden	14	0,3	6.405	449.896
19	Ireland	10	0,2	730	70.601
20	Czech Republic	6	0,1	510	78.874
21	Portugal	5	0,1	415	88.847
22	Slovak Republic	4	0,1	185	49.026
23	Poland	3	0,1	855	313.851
24	Lithuania	3	0,0	170	65.412
25	Finland	2	0,0	780	337.547
26	Latvia	2	0,0	100	65.519
27	Estonia	1	0,0	30	45.347
28	Hungary	0	0,0	20	93.013
	Norway	2	0,0	735	323.787
	Switzerland	141	2,7	5.820	41.285

Table 2 relates the number of first asylum applications to the area size of the European countries and is arranged in decreasing order. By indexing the Total EU-28 figure as 1, it shows how many times more or less applications a country received relative to the EU average.

The largest number of asylum applications in Europe in relation to its area size is Malta (2.905 per 1.000 sq km) which receives 60,6 times more applicants than the EU average (49 per 1.000 sq km). Cyprus and Luxembourg ranked second and third at some distance with 8,6 and 4,1 times more applications than the EU average. The Netherlands ranked 6th in the EU with 3,2 times the EU average.

First Asylum Applications in Europe (2nd half of 2020) related to population size

Source: EUROSTAT, situation by May 6th 2021

Table 3: Number of first asylum applications 2nd half of 2020 related to population size

Rank	Country of asylum	Application per million inhabitants	In relation to Total EU 28 = 1	Number of Applications	Inhabitants (million)
1	Cyprus	4.133	9,0	3.670	0,9
2	Malta	2.896	6,3	1.490	0,5
3	Greece	1.287	2,8	13.795	10,7
4	Luxembourg	1.262	2,8	790	0,6
5	Slovenia	978	2,1	2.050	2,1
6	Austria	908	2,0	8.085	8,9
7	Spain	900	2,0	42.610	47,3
8	France	669	1,5	45.055	67,3
9	Germany	658	1,4	54.695	83,2
10	Belgium	647	1,4	7.455	11,5
11	Sweden	620	1,4	6.405	10,3
12	Netherlands	460	1,0	8.000	17,4
	TOTAL EU-28	458	1,0	235.920	514,7
13	Bulgaria	447	1,0	3.105	7,0
14	Croatia	258	0,6	1.045	4,1
15	United Kingdom	243	0,5	16.265	67,0
16	Romania	237	0,5	4.580	19,3
17	Italy	199	0,4	11.860	59,6
18	Ireland	147	0,3	730	5,0
19	Finland	141	0,3	780	5,5
20	Denmark	136	0,3	790	5,8
21	Lithuania	61	0,1	170	2,8
22	Latvia	52	0,1	100	1,9
23	Czech Republic	48	0,1	510	10,7
24	Portugal	40	0,1	415	10,3
25	Slovak Republic	34	0,1	185	5,5
26	Estonia	23	0,0	30	1,3
27	Poland	23	0,0	855	38,0
28	Hungary	2	0,0	20	9,8
	Norway	137	0,3	735	5,4
	Switzerland	676	1,5	5.820	8,6

Table 3 provides an overview of the number of first asylum applications in relation to population size.

Cyprus received the most applications in the EU in relation to its population size: 4.307 applications per million inhabitants, 10,3 times the EU average (416 applications per million inhabitants). Greece and Malta ranked second and third (5,4 and 4,3 times the EU average). The Netherlands ranked 12th in the EU with 329 applications per million inhabitants.

First Asylum Applications in Europe (2nd half of 2020) related to GDP size

Source: EUROSTAT, situation by May 6th 2021

Table 4: Number of first asylum applications 2nd half of 2020 related to GDP size

Rank	Country of asylum	Application per billion PPS	In relation to Total EU 28 = 1	Number of Applications	GDP
1	Cyprus	191,2	10,6	3.670	19
2	Malta	155,1	8,6	1.490	10
3	Greece	64,9	3,6	13.795	213
4	Slovenia	46,8	2,6	2.050	44
5	Spain	37,9	2,1	42.610	1.125
6	Bulgaria	35,7	2,0	3.105	87
7	Austria	28,8	1,6	8.085	281
8	France	24,6	1,4	45.055	1.830
9	Belgium	22,0	1,2	7.455	339
10	Luxembourg	21,3	1,2	790	37
11	Germany	20,8	1,2	54.695	2.624
12	Sweden	20,4	1,1	6.405	314
	TOTAL EU-28	18,0	1,0	235.920	13.078
13	Romania	16,5	0,9	4.580	278
14	Croatia	15,7	0,9	1.045	66
15	Netherlands	14,6	0,8	8.000	548
16	United Kingdom	9,3	0,5	16.265	1.742
17	Italy	7,7	0,4	11.860	1.541
18	Finland	5,0	0,3	780	156
19	Ireland	4,9	0,3	730	149
20	Denmark	4,4	0,2	790	180
21	Lithuania	3,0	0,2	170	56
22	Latvia	2,9	0,2	100	35
23	Czech Republic	2,4	0,1	510	216
24	Portugal	2,0	0,1	415	203
25	Slovak Republic	1,7	0,1	185	106
26	Poland	1,3	0,1	855	673
27	Estonia	1,2	0,1	30	25
28	Hungary	0,1	0,0	20	170
	Norway	2,9	0,2	735	250
	Switzerland	17,9	1,0	5.820	326

Table 4 shows the number of first asylum applications related to GDP size in PPS arranged in decreasing order. PPS stands for Purchasing Power Standard, this is a mathematical method used to compare GDP sizes of different countries by eliminating the different price levels. Due to rounding in the calculation of the results for “TOTAL EU-28” the value can diverge somewhat from the expected (non-rounded) result.

Cyprus, Greece and Malta were the number one, two and three with respectively 12,2, 6,9 and 5,8 times the EU average. The Netherlands ranked 12th with 0,6 times the EU average.

Overview of indicators: Area, Population and GDP

Source: EUROSTAT, situation by May 6th 2021

Table 5: Overview of all indicators of country size related to number of first asylum applications 2nd half of 2020

Rank	Country of asylum	Average	Index figure area In relation to Total EU 28 = 1	Index figure population In relation to Total EU 28 = 1	Index figure GDP In relation to Total EU 28 = 1
1	Malta	34,8	89,6	6,3	8,6
2	Cyprus	9,0	7,5	9,0	10,6
3	Luxembourg	3,2	5,8	2,8	1,2
4	Greece	2,8	2,0	2,8	3,6
5	Belgium	2,4	4,6	1,4	1,2
6	Slovenia	2,2	1,9	2,1	2,6
7	Netherlands	1,9	4,0	1,0	0,8
8	Spain	1,9	1,6	2,0	2,1
9	Germany	1,8	2,9	1,4	1,2
10	Austria	1,8	1,8	2,0	1,6
11	France	1,5	1,6	1,5	1,4
12	Bulgaria	1,2	0,5	1,0	2,0
	TOTAL EU-28	1,0	1,0	1,0	1,0
13	Sweden	0,9	0,3	1,4	1,1
14	United Kingdom	0,8	1,2	0,5	0,5
15	Romania	0,6	0,4	0,5	0,9
16	Croatia	0,6	0,3	0,6	0,9
17	Italy	0,5	0,7	0,4	0,4
18	Denmark	0,3	0,3	0,3	0,2
19	Ireland	0,3	0,2	0,3	0,3
20	Finland	0,2	0,0	0,3	0,3
21	Czech Republic	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1
22	Lithuania	0,1	0,0	0,1	0,2
23	Latvia	0,1	0,0	0,1	0,2
24	Portugal	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1
25	Slovak Republic	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1
26	Poland	0,1	0,1	0,0	0,1
27	Estonia	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1
28	Hungary	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
	Norway	0,2	0,0	0,3	0,2
	Switzerland	1,7	2,7	1,5	1,0

Table 5 shows an overview of asylum influx by averaging (equally weighted) the three indexes from tables 2-4.

Malta received 23,6 times the EU average number of asylum applications in relation to its country size – area, population and GDP. Cyprus followed with 10,4 times the EU average. The Netherlands ranked 9th, receiving 1,5 times as many applications than the EU average.