



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 February 5th 2021

		2019			2020												Total 2019
		Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Total	
EU	Germany	11.165	8.360	19.525	13.250	11.040	7.865	5.625	4.495	5.615	8.595	8.165	10.480	9.830	10.165	95.125	142.510
	Spain	13.850	10.495	24.345	14.395	14.210	7.960	60	55	7.095	8.985	10.305	7.590	6.310	5.620	82.585	115.190
	France	10.345	9.700	20.045	11.790	9.980	6.040	170	2.925	5.825	6.540	6.845	8.345	8.735	7.775	74.970	138.290
	Greece	10.315	8.215	18.530	9.210	8.510	2.320	0	650	3.380	4.710	2.255	1.595	1.595	1.340	35.565	74.915
	United Kingdom	3.940	3.755	7.695	4.220	3.760	2.575	1.175	2.085	2.265	2.795	3.165	3.975	2.980	3.350	32.345	44.315
	Italy	3.340	2.485	5.825	2.955	3.040	850	120	890	1.500	1.810	930	1.055	2.915	2.590	18.655	35.005
	Sweden	1.805	1.710	3.515	1.835	1.455	1.465	855	785	785	1.000	1.200	1.205	975	925	12.485	23.150
	Netherlands	2.075	1.935	4.010	1.955	1.505	1.010	270	340	650	1.195	1.420	1.490	1.405	1.225	12.465	22.540
	Belgium	2.070	1.860	3.930	2.230	1.625	895	170	225	320	710	1.070	1.365	1.435	1.510	11.555	23.140
	Austria	870	1.050	1.920	1.370	945	730	305	575	925	1.005	1.285	1.345	1.580	1.345	11.410	11.010
	Cyprus	1.175	750	1.925	875	1.285	790	55	30	790	670	335	635	815	725	7.005	12.695
	Romania	370	580	950	405	320	335	60	55	270	335	495	485	1.050	1.170	4.980	2.455
	Slovenia	265	165	430	210	130	150	15	445	470	460	500	325	260	235	3.200	3.615
	Bulgaria	95	80	175	80	35	70	60	25	90	250	405	580	595	740	2.930	2.075
	Malta	510	295	805	340	285	105	0	20	165	265	215	200	355	290	2.240	4.015
	Croatia	180	195	375	170	145	80	30	15	50	265	180	95	170	245	1.445	1.270
	Ireland	285	295	580	305	240	175	30	15	40	105	110	165	125	65	1.375	4.740
	Finland	200	215	415	215	205	130	50	30	50	105	170	135	200	85	1.375	2.455
	Poland	260	220	480	250	235	85	10	30	40	65	85	165	190	190	1.345	2.765
	Denmark	200	190	390	195	160	110	35	45	100	120	130	145	140	135	1.315	2.645
	Luxembourg	160	180	340	165	120	120	25	25	60	110	110	165	135	0	1.035	2.200
	Portugal	190	195	385	185	130	120	5	10	35	65	45	45	95	65	800	1.735
	Czech Republic	115	105	220	85	90	40	15	20	35	105	65	80	95	100	730	1.575
	Slovak Republic	5	15	20	20	15	10	10	10	20	50	30	25	15	30	235	215
	Lithuania	35	110	145	20	25	5	0	5	20	15	25	25	15	55	210	625
	Latvia	20	10	30	10	5	25	5	0	5	10	5	25	20	10	120	180
	Hungary	30	25	55	20	25	5	5	10	5	0	5	0	5	10	90	470
	Estonia	5	5	10	5	10	0	0	0	0	5	5	5	5	5	40	100
	Total	63.875	53.195	117.070	66.765	59.530	34.065	9.160	13.815	30.605	40.345	39.555	41.745	42.045	40.000	417.630	675.895
Not EU	Switzerland	1.030	960	1.990	1.100	925	835	280	310	500	935	865	1.030	1.030	1.070	8.880	12.600
	Norway	205	160	365	220	165	100	30	30	60	130	200	135	135	70	1.275	2.205
	Total	1.235	1.120	2.355	1.320	1.090	935	310	340	560	1.065	1.065	1.165	1.165	1.140	10.155	14.805
Total		65.110	54.315	119.425	68.085	60.620	35.000	9.470	14.155	31.165	41.410	40.620	42.910	43.210	41.140	427.785	690.700

First asylum applications in the EU , Norway and Switzerland from December 2019 - November 2020

	2019	2020											Total
	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	
Syrian Arab Republic	6.485	8.615	6.935	4.670	1.970	2.300	4.480	6.625	5.760	6.735	6.565	6.200	67.340
Afghanistan	5.930	6.925	6.070	2.405	755	1.240	2.785	3.490	3.820	4.950	5.475	5.320	49.165
Venezuela	4.000	5.045	5.120	2.990	80	160	2.800	3.735	3.555	2.375	1.915	1.600	33.375
Colombia	3.715	5.235	4.865	2.900	65	105	2.420	2.960	3.280	2.455	2.090	1.725	31.815
Iraq	2.225	2.705	2.265	1.430	930	865	1.095	1.905	1.660	1.895	1.755	1.865	20.595
Pakistan	1.910	2.045	2.130	1.115	205	460	1.165	1.425	1.470	1.635	2.125	2.035	17.720
Turkey	1.830	2.295	1.720	1.145	475	530	925	1.285	1.470	1.805	1.655	1.475	16.610
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1.505	1.605	1.385	870	695	565	355	785	800	1.130	785	1.005	11.485
Bangladesh	1.140	1.375	1.215	610	90	410	715	885	1.015	1.140	1.545	1.180	11.320
Eritrea	970	1.140	1.210	800	285	505	725	1.060	1.100	1.240	1.145	1.115	11.295
Others	24.350	30.865	27.585	15.935	3.780	6.870	13.435	16.990	16.295	17.245	17.970	17.410	208.730
Total	54.060	67.850	60.500	34.870	9.330	14.010	30.900	41.145	40.225	42.605	43.025	40.930	479.450

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. Figures for December 2020 are not yet available for all EU countries. 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 (1st half of 2020) related to country Area, Population and GDP

Source: EUROSTAT, situation by February 5th 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 1st 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	47.890	22%	358.327	8%	83,0	16%	2.624	20%
	2	Spain	43.775	20%	498.504	11%	46,9	9%	1.125	9%
	3	France	36.730	17%	549.060	13%	67,0	13%	1.830	14%
	4	Greece	24.070	11%	131.912	3%	10,7	2%	213	2%
	5	United Kingdom	16.080	8%	247.763	6%	66,6	13%	1.742	13%
	6	Italy	9.355	4%	301.291	7%	60,4	12%	1.541	12%
	7	Sweden	7.180	3%	449.896	10%	10,2	2%	314	2%
	8	Netherlands	5.730	3%	37.824	1%	17,3	3%	548	4%
	9	Belgium	5.465	3%	30.668	1%	11,5	2%	339	3%
	10	Austria	4.850	2%	83.944	2%	8,9	2%	281	2%
	11	Cyprus	3.825	2%	9.249	0%	0,9	0%	19	0%
	12	Romania	1.445	1%	239.068	5%	19,4	4%	278	2%
	13	Slovenia	1.420	1%	20.277	0%	2,1	0%	44	0%
	14	Malta	915	0%	315	0%	0,5	0%	10	0%
	15	Ireland	805	0%	70.601	2%	4,9	1%	149	1%
	16	Finland	680	0%	337.547	8%	5,5	1%	156	1%
	17	Poland	650	0%	313.851	7%	38,0	7%	673	5%
	18	Denmark	645	0%	43.162	1%	5,8	1%	180	1%
	19	Luxembourg	515	0%	2.595	0%	0,6	0%	37	0%
	20	Croatia	490	0%	56.539	1%	4,1	1%	66	1%
	21	Portugal	485	0%	88.847	2%	10,3	2%	203	2%
	22	Bulgaria	360	0%	110.995	3%	7,0	1%	87	1%
	23	Czech Republic	285	0%	78.874	2%	10,6	2%	216	2%
	24	Slovak Republic	85	0%	49.026	1%	5,5	1%	106	1%
	25	Lithuania	75	0%	65.412	1%	2,8	1%	56	0%
	26	Hungary	70	0%	93.013	2%	9,8	2%	170	1%
	27	Latvia	50	0%	65.519	1%	1,9	0%	35	0%
	28	Estonia	15	0%	45.347	1%	1,3	0%	25	0%
EU - Total			213.940	100%	4.379.426	100%	513,5	100%	13,069	100%
Not EU		Switzerland	3.950	2%	41.285	1%	8,5	2%	326	2%
		Norway	605	0%	323.787	7%	5,3	1%	250	2%
Not EU - Total			4.555	2%	365.072	8%	13,9	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 first six months of 2020 Germany received the highest number of first asylum applications in the EU, followed by Spain and France. 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 (1st half of 2020) related to area size

Source: EUROSTAT, situation by February 5th 2021

Table 2: Number of first asylum applications 1st 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	2.905	60,6	915	315
2	Cyprus	414	8,6	3.825	9.249
3	Luxembourg	198	4,1	515	2.595
4	Greece	182	3,8	24.070	131.912
5	Belgium	178	3,7	5.465	30.668
6	Netherlands	151	3,2	5.730	37.824
7	Germany	134	2,8	47.890	358.327
8	Spain	88	1,8	43.775	498.504
9	Slovenia	70	1,5	1.420	20.277
10	France	67	1,4	36.730	549.060
11	United Kingdom	65	1,4	16.080	247.763
12	Austria	58	1,2	4.850	83.944
	TOTAL EU-28	49	1,0	214.200	4.467.087
13	Italy	31	0,6	9.355	301.291
14	Sweden	16	0,3	7.180	449.896
15	Denmark	15	0,3	645	43.162
16	Ireland	11	0,2	805	70.601
17	Croatia	9	0,2	490	56.539
18	Romania	6	0,1	1.445	239.068
19	Portugal	5	0,1	485	88.847
20	Czech Republic	4	0,1	285	78.874
21	Bulgaria	3	0,1	360	110.995
22	Poland	2	0,0	650	313.851
23	Finland	2	0,0	680	337.547
24	Slovak Republic	2	0,0	85	49.026
25	Lithuania	1	0,0	75	65.412
26	Latvia	1	0,0	50	65.519
27	Hungary	1	0,0	70	93.013
28	Estonia	0	0,0	15	45.347
	Norway	2	0,0	605	323.787
	Switzerland	96	2,0	3.950	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 (1st half of 2020) related to population size

Source: EUROSTAT, situation by February 5th 2021

Table 3: Number of first asylum applications 1st 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	4.367	10,5	3.825	0,9
2	Greece	2.244	5,4	24.070	10,7
3	Malta	1.854	4,4	915	0,5
4	Spain	933	2,2	43.775	46,9
5	Luxembourg	839	2,0	515	0,6
6	Sweden	702	1,7	7.180	10,2
7	Slovenia	682	1,6	1.420	2,1
8	Germany	577	1,4	47.890	83,0
9	France	548	1,3	36.730	67,0
10	Austria	547	1,3	4.850	8,9
11	Belgium	477	1,1	5.465	11,5
	TOTAL EU-28	417	1,0	214.200	513,9
12	Netherlands	332	0,8	5.730	17,3
13	United Kingdom	241	0,6	16.080	66,6
14	Ireland	164	0,4	805	4,9
15	Italy	155	0,4	9.355	60,4
16	Finland	123	0,3	680	5,5
17	Croatia	120	0,3	490	4,1
18	Denmark	111	0,3	645	5,8
19	Romania	74	0,2	1.445	19,4
20	Bulgaria	51	0,1	360	7,0
21	Portugal	47	0,1	485	10,3
22	Lithuania	27	0,1	75	2,8
23	Czech Republic	27	0,1	285	10,6
24	Latvia	26	0,1	50	1,9
25	Poland	17	0,0	650	38,0
26	Slovak Republic	16	0,0	85	5,5
27	Estonia	11	0,0	15	1,3
28	Hungary	7	0,0	70	9,8
	Norway	114	0,3	605	5,3
	Switzerland	462	1,1	3.950	8,5

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: 4.367 applications per million inhabitants, 10,5 times the EU average (417 applications per million inhabitants). Greece and Malta ranked second and third (5,4 and 4,4 times the EU average). The Netherlands ranked 12th in the EU with 332 applications per million inhabitants.

First Asylum Applications in Europe (1st half of 2020) related to GDP size

Source: EUROSTAT, situation by February 5th 2021

Table 4: Number of first asylum applications 1st 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	199,3	12,2	3.825	19
2	Greece	113,3	6,9	24.070	213
3	Malta	95,3	5,8	915	10
4	Spain	38,9	2,4	43.775	1.125
5	Slovenia	32,4	2,0	1.420	44
6	Sweden	22,9	1,4	7.180	314
7	France	20,1	1,2	36.730	1.830
8	Germany	18,3	1,1	47.890	2.624
9	Austria	17,3	1,1	4.850	281
10	Belgium	16,1	1,0	5.465	339
	TOTAL EU-28	16,0	1,0	214.200	13.078
11	Luxembourg	13,9	0,8	515	37
12	Netherlands	10,5	0,6	5.730	548
13	United Kingdom	9,2	0,6	16.080	1.742
14	Croatia	7,4	0,5	490	66
15	Italy	6,1	0,4	9.355	1.541
16	Ireland	5,4	0,3	805	149
17	Romania	5,2	0,3	1.445	278
18	Finland	4,4	0,3	680	156
19	Bulgaria	4,1	0,3	360	87
20	Denmark	3,6	0,2	645	180
21	Portugal	2,4	0,1	485	203
22	Latvia	1,4	0,1	50	35
23	Lithuania	1,3	0,1	75	56
24	Czech Republic	1,3	0,1	285	216
25	Poland	1,0	0,1	650	673
26	Slovak Republic	0,8	0,0	85	106
27	Estonia	0,6	0,0	15	25
28	Hungary	0,4	0,0	70	170
	Norway	2,4	0,1	605	250
	Switzerland	12,1	0,7	3.950	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 February 5th 2021

Table 5: Overview of all indicators of country size related to number of first asylum applications 1st 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	23,6	60,6	4,4	5,8
2	Cyprus	10,4	8,6	10,5	12,2
3	Greece	5,4	3,8	5,4	6,9
4	Luxembourg	2,3	4,1	2,0	0,8
5	Spain	2,1	1,8	2,2	2,4
6	Belgium	1,9	3,7	1,1	1,0
7	Germany	1,8	2,8	1,4	1,1
8	Slovenia	1,7	1,5	1,6	2,0
9	Netherlands	1,5	3,2	0,8	0,6
10	France	1,3	1,4	1,3	1,2
11	Austria	1,2	1,2	1,3	1,1
12	Sweden	1,1	0,3	1,7	1,4
	TOTAL EU-28	1,0	1,0	1,0	1,0
13	United Kingdom	0,8	1,4	0,6	0,6
14	Italy	0,5	0,6	0,4	0,4
15	Ireland	0,3	0,2	0,4	0,3
16	Croatia	0,3	0,2	0,3	0,5
17	Denmark	0,3	0,3	0,3	0,2
18	Romania	0,2	0,1	0,2	0,3
19	Finland	0,2	0,0	0,3	0,3
20	Bulgaria	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,3
21	Portugal	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1
22	Czech Republic	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1
23	Lithuania	0,1	0,0	0,1	0,1
24	Latvia	0,1	0,0	0,1	0,1
25	Poland	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1
26	Slovak Republic	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
27	Estonia	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
28	Hungary	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
	Norway	0,2	0,0	0,3	0,1
	Switzerland	1,3	2,0	1,1	0,7

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.