



# MAGYC

Migration Governance and Asylum Crises

## Maps of Asylum Seekers' Sites

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**MAGYC:** The MAGYC (**Migr**Ation **G**overnance and **AsYlum C**risis) project seeks to assess how migration governance has responded to the recent “refugee crises” and has since been influenced by it, and how crises at large shape policy responses to migration. This four-year research project (2018–2022) brings together twelve international partners: the Hugo Observatory from the University of Liège (Coordinator), Sciences Po, the University of Economics in Bratislava, the GIGA institute of Global and Area Studies, Lund University, the IDMC, SOAS University of London, the University of Milan, the Lebanese American University, the University of Macedonia, Sabanci University, IfPO/CNRS.

**Website:** [www.themagycproject.com](http://www.themagycproject.com)



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## D5.1. Maps of Asylum Seekers' Sites

### Version History:

Version No.	Date	Changes
1	31/08/2019	Initial version submitted as deliverable D5.1 to the European Commission
2	15/04/2020	Revised version re-submitted, reviewers' comments respected: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Map of the EU28 updated (IT, UK, CY, LUX added), map of Italy added</li><li>- Annex attached, definition and typology of asylum seekers' sites listed</li><li>- Technical details concerning methodology and references added</li><li>- Differences related to similar datasets and the added value highlighted</li><li>- New layout (MAGYC official) with the list of the authors, reviewers and suggested citation.</li></ul>
3	20/05/2020	ISBN Number was included

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### Introduction

Recent years in Europe have witnessed an abrupt increase in asylum seeker arrivals, most of them filing the applications in Germany and Sweden with Slovakia being the least favored country in the Union. Mapping the uneven distribution of these asylum seekers across Europe appears to be an important yet daunting task. So far, few initiatives have been launched to map the concentration of refugee camps (for example Global Detention Project, closethecamps.org initiative by Migreurop network). However, those datasets focus on rather one type of refugee settlement, and have been missing also the data for recent years, particularly the post-2015 data series which might be crucial given that much of the refugee relocations happened in most recent five years. Moreover, there has been quite a lot refugee data collection done at lower spatial scale (some done at the national level such as IAB-BAMF-SOEP Refugee Sample in Germany, other data strictly kept at municipality level) but those have not been reconciled across Member States yet. Last but not least, the datasets concentrate on reconciliation of official capacities yet do not allow to correct for overcapacity. In the light of all these shortcomings, the quantitative analysis performed on the existing datasets is compromised and the estimates (Braun, Lang and Hochschild 2016<sup>1</sup>; Braun and Hochschild 2017<sup>2</sup>; Lang et al. 2019<sup>3</sup>) might be challenged on their interpretation power.

The aim of this report is to fill in the missing gaps in the data collection, particularly to provide an updated version of dataset that would map besides detention centers also the other refugee settlements and would focus on most recent years and real capacities of those settlements. This report marks the completion of Task 1 - Mapping the concentration of asylum seekers and refugees - within the WP5 of the MAGYC project that addresses data gaps in mapping refugees' and asylum seekers' concentrations. We reconciled publicly available data of all types of facilities hosting asylum seekers on the continuum of the asylum application process. Our objective was to include all the facilities where the freedom of movement is not completely restricted, which is, again, an attempt to move forward from the data collection within the Global Detention Project and the closethecamps.org database. Hence, the notion "asylum seekers' site" represents an umbrella term comprising all such facilities – arrival centres, accommodation centres, detention centres and other. The compilation of available data on capacities, facility types and coordinates of asylum seekers' sites allows detecting concentration hotspots

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<sup>1</sup> Braun, A., Lang, S. and Volker Hochschild (2016). Impact of Refugee Camps on Their Environment: A Case Study Using Multi-Temporal SAR Data. *Journal of Geography, Environment and Earth Science International* 4(2):1-17. ISSN 2454-7352.

<sup>2</sup> Braun, A., Hochschild, V. (2017). Potential and Limitations of Radar Remote Sensing for Humanitarian Operations. *Journal for Geographic Information Science* 5(1): 228-243. ISSN 2308-1708.

<sup>3</sup> Lang, S. et al. (2019). Earth observation tools and services to increase the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance. *European Journal of Remote Sensing*. DOI: 10.1080/22797254.2019.1684208.

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across the EU and analysing these hotspots further in Task 2 (Estimating the socioeconomic effects of asylum seekers and refugees with regard to concentration and time) and Task 3 (Searching for tipping points - Case studies of the most refugee concentrated areas across Europe) within the WP5. The detection and analysis of these hotspots are crucial for the project since they represent potential challenges for governance of refugee integration. By comparing different success and failure stories of concentration governance, we plan to draw policy recommendations for successful migration governance and contribute to the discussion on redistribution quota, as well as on socioeconomic effects of migration and asylum over time and space.

### Methodology

In order to collect the data, we have reached out first to local authorities (immigration offices, ministries, municipalities) in the EU Member States (for example data for Italy was taken from the SIPROIMI system - Protection System for Beneficiaries of International Protection and for Unaccompanied Foreign Minors, under the Ministry of Interior). The data requested comprise the following:

- location of the facility (geographical coordinates, i.e. address);
- type of the facility;
- form of the facility (legal / illegal);
- official capacity of the facility;
- real capacity of the facility as per registered number of asylum seekers accommodated in the facility at the end of the year, 2014 through 2018.<sup>4</sup>

In many cases, where the data was not complete mostly due to the sensitivity of the data (address of facilities), we turned to local and international NGOs, UNHCR, IMF, European Commission, and also checked out various available project-driven data collections, media posts and press releases. In several cases, publicly available data was verified per phone or email with representatives of the respective data collecting agencies or organizations. For instance, in case of Cyprus, the collected information was verified by a representative of the Refugee Council Cyprus. The data for Luxembourg was consulted with representatives of UNHCR and the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. In the following, we list the links employed within the data collection:

### Austria

- <https://www.bmi.gv.at/303/behoerden.aspx>
- [https://www.parlament.gv.at/PAKT/VHG/BR/AB-BR/AB-BR\\_03235/imfname\\_706371.pdf](https://www.parlament.gv.at/PAKT/VHG/BR/AB-BR/AB-BR_03235/imfname_706371.pdf)
- <https://stephaniekrisper.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Anfragebeantwortung-6.pdf>

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<sup>4</sup> The data can be found in an Excel file available on demand.

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### Cyprus

- <http://www.asylumineurope.org/reports/country/cyprus/types-accommodation>
- [http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/asylumservice05\\_en/asylumservice05\\_en?OpenDocument](http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/asylumservice05_en/asylumservice05_en?OpenDocument)
- <https://cyrefugeecouncil.org/>

### Germany

- <http://www.bamf.de/DE/DasBAMF/Aufbau/Standorte/ASinAnkunftszen trum/ankunftszentren-node.html>
- [https://rathaus.dortmund.de/dosys/gremrech.nsf/0/F95D1744F21268C9C125809F003C851C/\\$FILE/06284-16+-Ankunftszentren+des+BAMF.doc.pdf](https://rathaus.dortmund.de/dosys/gremrech.nsf/0/F95D1744F21268C9C125809F003C851C/$FILE/06284-16+-Ankunftszentren+des+BAMF.doc.pdf)

### Italy

- <https://www.sprar.it/progetti-territoriali-3-2>
- <https://www.asylumineurope.org/reports/country/italy/reception-conditions/housing/conditions-reception-facilities>

### Luxembourg

- [https://maee.gouvernement.lu/content/dam/gouv\\_maee/ministère/rapports-annuels/Rapport-annuel-2018.pdf](https://maee.gouvernement.lu/content/dam/gouv_maee/ministère/rapports-annuels/Rapport-annuel-2018.pdf)
- <https://ona.gouvernement.lu/dam-assets/pdf/guide-tout-savoir-dpi-bpi-communes.pdf>
- [https://maee.gouvernement.lu/content/dam/gouv\\_maee/directions/d8/publications/statistiques-en-matière-d-asyle/Bilan-2019-Asile-Immigration-et-Accueil.pdf](https://maee.gouvernement.lu/content/dam/gouv_maee/directions/d8/publications/statistiques-en-matière-d-asyle/Bilan-2019-Asile-Immigration-et-Accueil.pdf)
- [https://www.emnluxembourg.lu/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Annual-report-on-migration-and-asylum\\_2018\\_EN.pdf](https://www.emnluxembourg.lu/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Annual-report-on-migration-and-asylum_2018_EN.pdf)

### Malta

- <https://www.asylumineurope.org/reports/country/malta/reception-conditions/access-forms-reception-conditions/types-accommodation>
- <http://www.mecmalta.com/emmcomm.html#3>
- <http://peacelab.org/services/immigrants-shelter/>

### Portugal

- <https://www.asylumineurope.org/reports/country/portugal/types-accommodation>

### Spain

- [http://www.congreso.es/l12p/e10/e\\_0106947\\_n\\_000.pdf](http://www.congreso.es/l12p/e10/e_0106947_n_000.pdf)

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- <http://www.madrid.org/cs/Satellite?blobcol=urldata&blobheader=application%2Fpdf&blobkey=id&blobtable=MungoBlobs&blobwhere=1352808410362&ssbinary=true>
- <https://www.asylumineurope.org/reports/country/spain/types-accommodation>
- [http://extranjeros.mitramiss.gob.es/es/ProteccionAsilo/car/docs/Carta\\_de\\_Servicios\\_2018\\_2021\\_en.pdf](http://extranjeros.mitramiss.gob.es/es/ProteccionAsilo/car/docs/Carta_de_Servicios_2018_2021_en.pdf)
- <https://www.asylumineurope.org/reports/country/spain/access-territory-and-push-backs>

### United Kingdom

- <https://www.gov.uk/immigration-removal-centre/brook-house-gatwick>
- <https://insidetime.org/irc-immigration-removal-centres/irc-larne-house-immigration-removal-centres/>
- <http://www.justice.gov.uk/contacts/prison-finder/morton-hall>
- <https://www.justiceinspectrates.gov.uk/hmiprisons/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2019/04/Manchester-Airport-residential-STHF-web-2019.pdf>
- <http://www.aviddetention.org.uk/immigration-detention/places-detention/tinsley-house-irc>
- <https://www.nao.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Yarls-Wood-Immigration-Removal-Centre.pdf>
- <https://web.archive.org/web/20080905122608/http://www.bia.homeoffice.gov.uk/managingborders/immigrationremovalcentres/colnbrook>
- <https://www.asylumineurope.org/reports/country/united-kingdom/detention-asylum-seekers/detention-conditions/place-detention>
- <https://www.asylumineurope.org/reports/country/united-kingdom/detention-asylum-seekers/detention-conditions/place-detention>

**Other sources** (used for Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg)

- <https://www.globaldetentionproject.org/regions-subregions/europe>
- <https://en.closesthecamp.org/>
- <https://www.coa.nl/mycoa/en/node/4239>
- <http://www.suz.cz/co-delame/provoz-zarizeni/>
- <https://www.minv.sk/?fotogalerie-2&galeria=zariadenia-migracneho-uradu>
- <https://www.fedasil.be/en/reception-centres>

### **Main findings and discussion notes**

The maps have been drawn using the online tool Datawrapper. Online versions of the maps enable zooming for the purpose of a better visualization. Furthermore, the online maps include basic data for each location, such as data on addresses, types of facilities, capacities, number of people in 2018. The detailed dataset is rather extensive and is available on demand.

In the Tables attached below we demonstrate the collected data for all 27 European Union Member States plus the United Kingdom. The size of the dots in the maps represents the number of registered and accommodated asylum seekers within a site – the bigger the dot, the more asylum seekers are located in the facility. Different colors indicate different facility types. For countries with more than 15 location sites (totaling 12 EU Member States), data are mapped separately as well.

As per the main result (Map 1), asylum seekers are relatively evenly distributed within the following countries: Belgium, Netherlands, and Ireland. In Italy, this applies both to the peninsula as well as to isles of Sicily and Sardinia.

Most of the European countries is thus suffering from unequal distribution of asylum seekers. The highest concentrations were registered as follows: Germany (areas in North-West, Bamberg), Austria (Upper Austria, Lower Austria), Greece (Thessaloniki, Athens, several islands in the eastern parts), Finland (southern parts of the country), France (southern and northern parts of the country – Marseille, Toulouse; Paris area; Lyon area), Poland (Warsaw area, Bezwola), Sweden (southern and eastern part), and Denmark (e.g. Holstebro, Sandholm, Avnstrup).

During the data reconciliation process, the research team had to face several challenges. For instance, the authorities addressed often responded evasively, providing only publicly available information which were limited. For example, the German authorities directed only to the location of arrival centers and argued that asylum seekers are then redistributed to private residences whose locations and capacities are not disclosed for security reasons.

Thus, despite all the efforts, our database is marked by several issues as follows:

1. Types of facilities vary by Member State what makes the reconciliation challenging;
2. Real capacities change every single day so the date when the refugee headcount is collected at a particular site matters;
3. Many asylum seekers get accommodated in private homes;
4. Time series data on asylum seekers' sites are poorly stored, our data cover only 2018;
5. Stats on unofficial sites are not stored by official authorities.

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In order to circumvent the first issue, we have looked into the definitions of different facility types based on a local organization system, which is specific for each member state. The respective typologies can be found in the Annex.

As for the second issue, we have decided to collect the data at the end of the year what we would like to reiterate that it was an utterly arbitrary decision.

Security issues restrict our database to obtain and disclose the addresses of many private homes the refugees stay in. To circumvent this issue, we suggest to obtain the number of refugees at a very low spatial scale, rather than the coordinates of their settlements. This task will be subject to further research also within the MAGYC project.

As for the stats on unofficial sites, we were able to recover those from various media posts. However, since by 2018 most of those settlements had been cleared (for example The Jungle in Calais), we decided eventually to exclude them from the database since their impact on local communities might be short-lived and per se restricted.

All data utilized comes from publicly available sources.

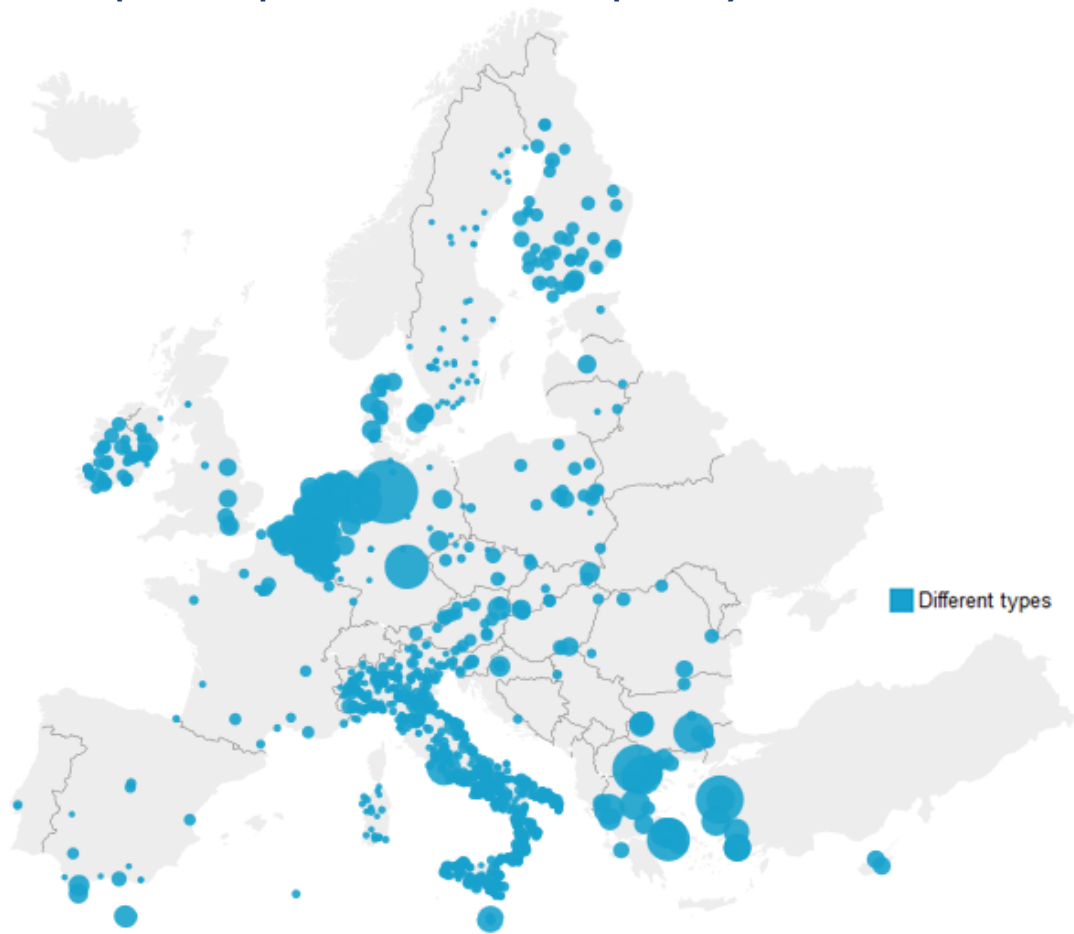
### **Conclusion**

Our results show the disproportions of refugee concentration amongst Member States; when on one side the asylum seekers' sites are more or less evenly distributed and on the other side most Member States are marked by uneven distribution of asylum seekers.

Unlike other studies, our dataset made an effort to map the real post-refugee-crisis capacities of refugee settlements at the end of 2018 across all Member States. Moreover, it maps also various types of asylum seeker' sites.

In conclusion, we suggest to extend our research to local municipalities and collect the asylum seekers concentration per smallest available spatial unit, preferably city districts or standardized LAU2 units. Limits of our dataset resulting from ever changing numbers and even locations of the settlements need to be considered any time the dataset is used.

**Map 1. European Union 2018: Map of asylum seekers' sites**



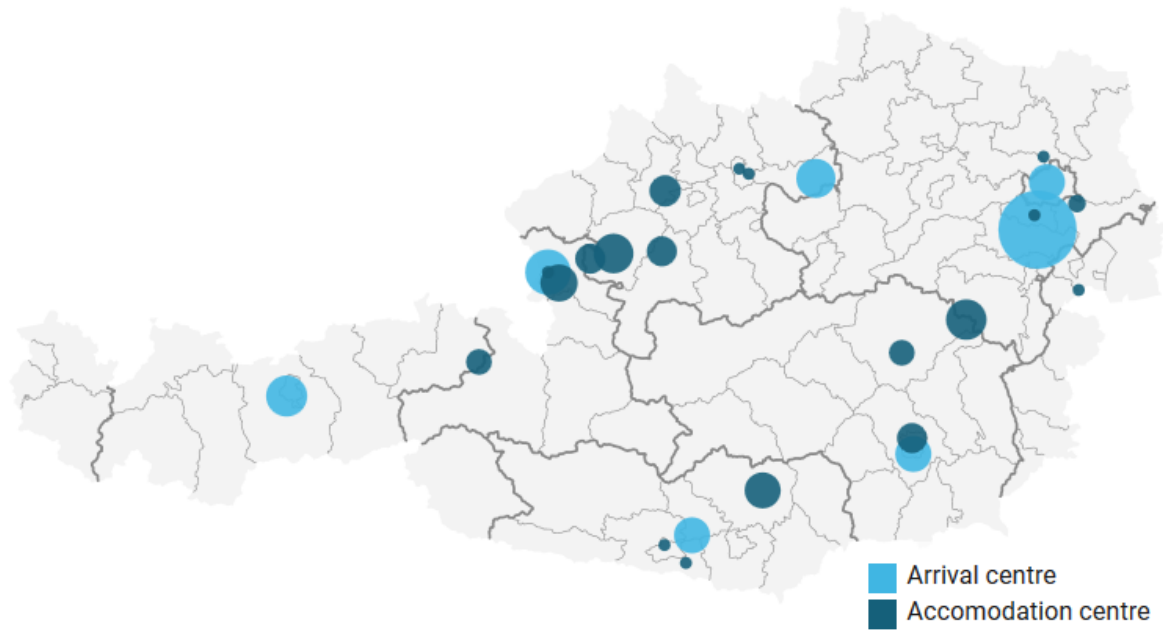
*MAGYC - Migration Governance and Asylum Crises: H2020 Research Project*

Map: Size of the symbol is based on capacity (small circle for NA). Last update: April 2020

• Created with Datawrapper

**Online:** <https://datawrapper.dwcdn.net/fdIOi/2/>

**Map 2. Austria 2018: Map of asylum seekers' sites**



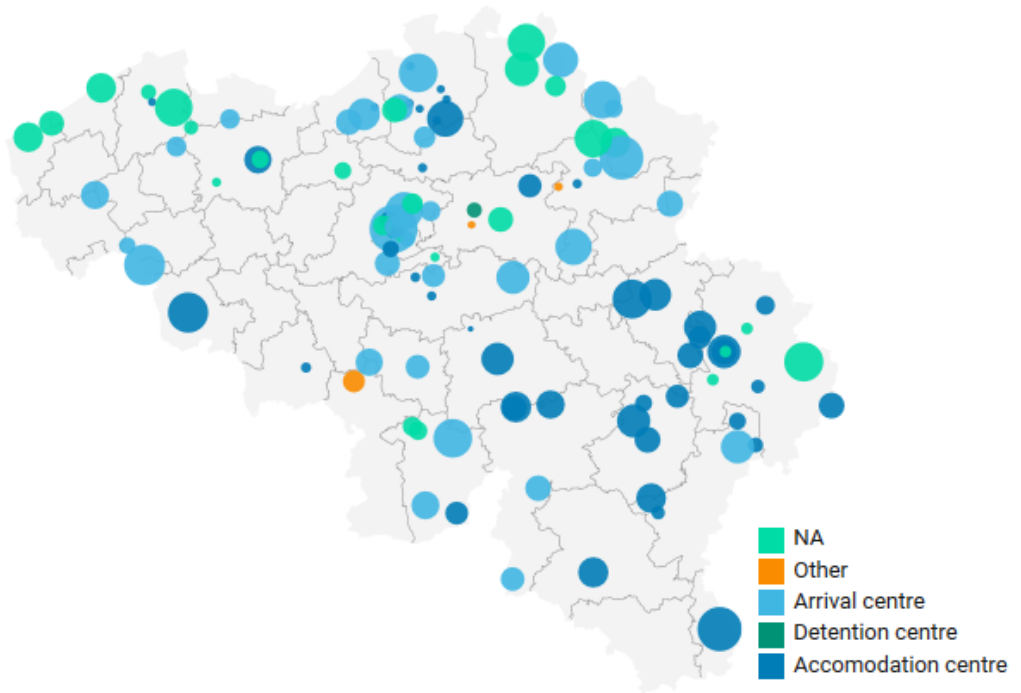
MAGYC - Migration Governance and Asylum Crises: H2020 Research Project

Map: Size of the symbol is based on capacity (small circle for NA) • Map data: Statistik Austria  
• Created with Datawrapper

**Online:** <https://datawrapper.dwcdn.net/nsaFA/4/>

## D5.1. Maps of Asylum Seekers' Sites

### Map 3. Belgium 2018: Map of asylum seekers' sites

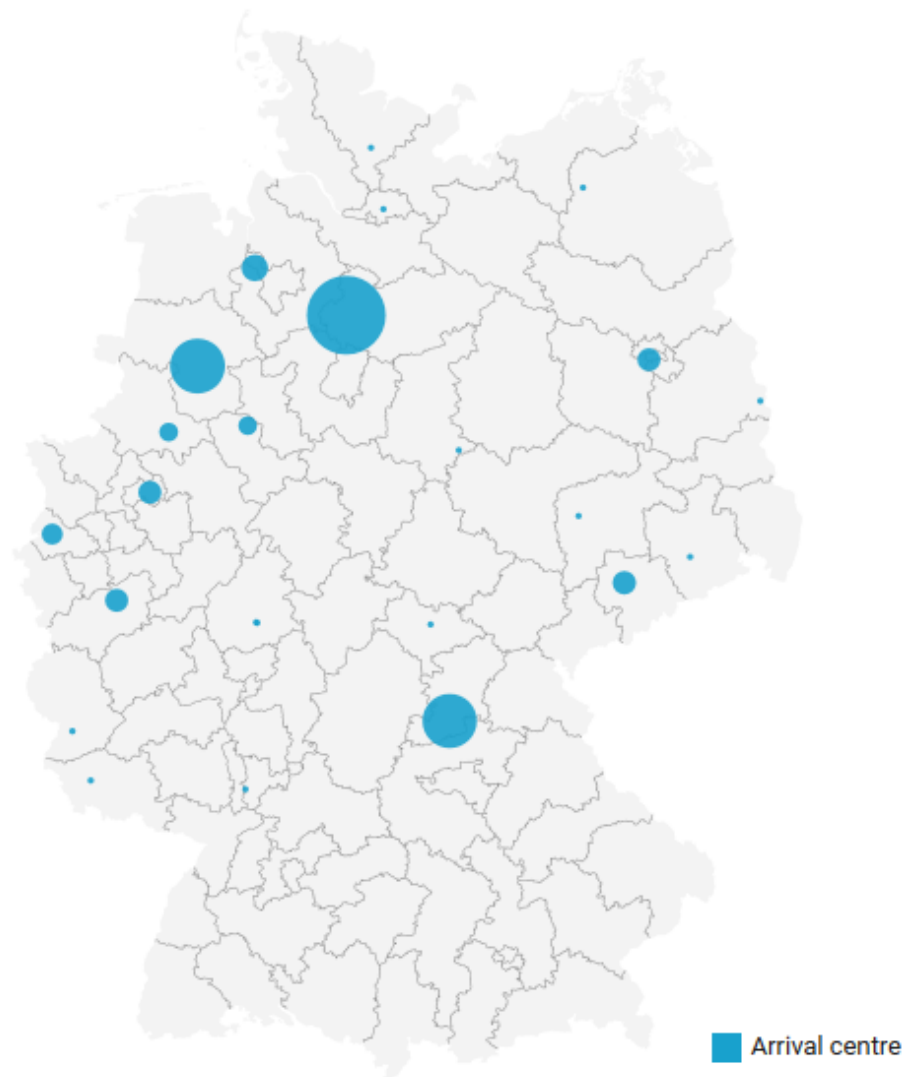


MAGYC - Migration Governance and Asylum Crises: H2020 Research Project

Map: Size of the symbol is based on capacity (small circle for NA) - Created with Datawrapper

Online: <https://datawrapper.dwcdn.net/kaNU7/3/>

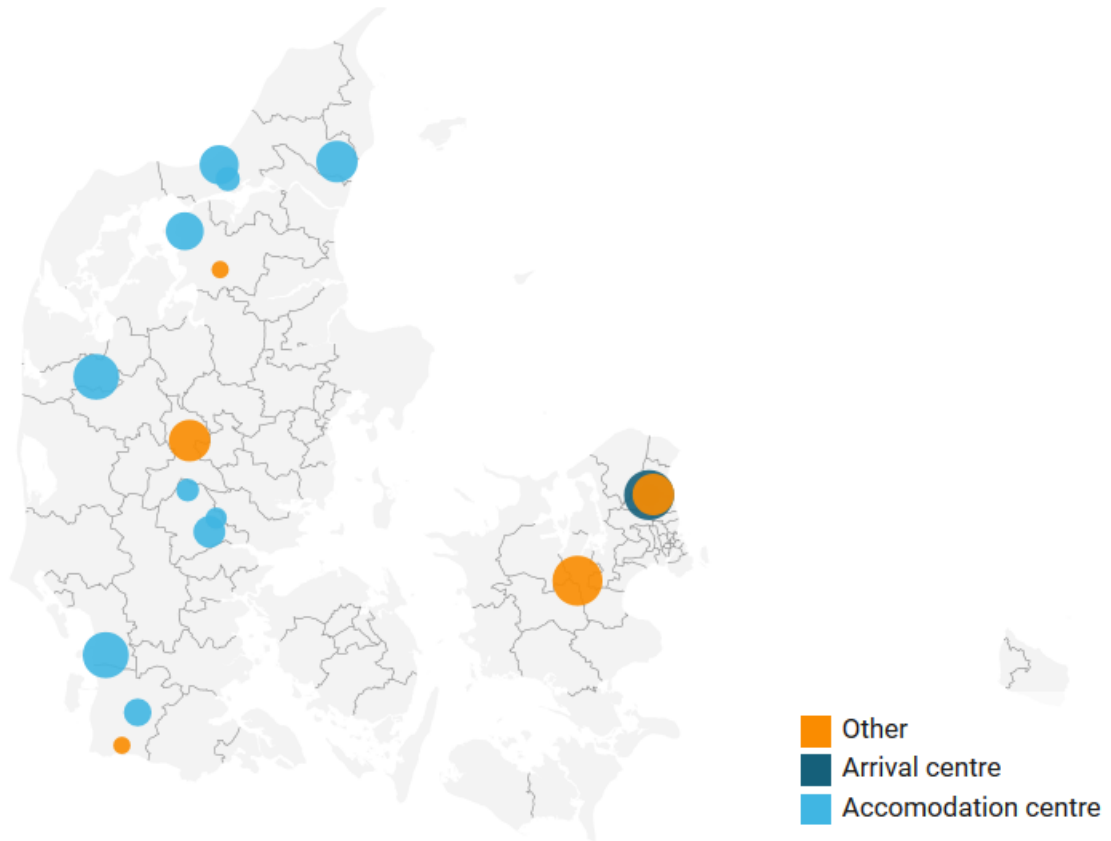
**Map 4. Germany 2018: Map of asylum seekers' sites**



*MAGYC - Migration Governance and Asylum Crises: H2020 Research Project*  
Map: Size of the symbol is based on capacity (small circle for NA) • Map data: OSM  
• Created with Datawrapper

**Online:** <https://datawrapper.dwcdn.net/o7oMb/4/>

**Map 5. Denmark 2018: Map of asylum seekers' sites**

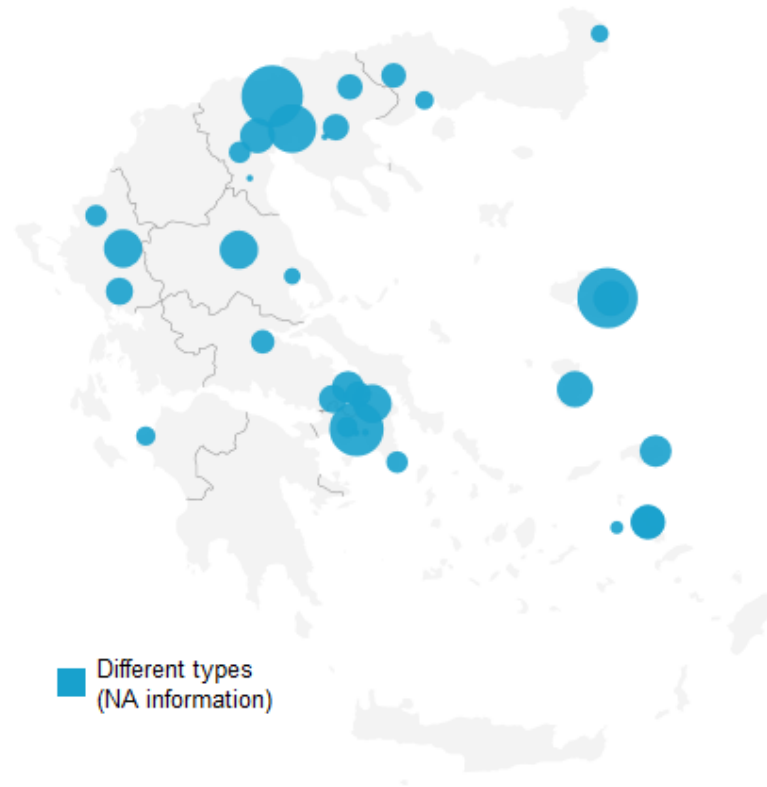


MAGYC - Migration Governance and Asylum Crises: H2020 Research Project

Map: Size of the symbol is based on capacity (small circle for NA) • Created with Datawrapper

**Online:** <https://datawrapper.dwcdn.net/3Cxls/3/>

**Map 6. Greece 2018: Map of asylum seekers' sites**

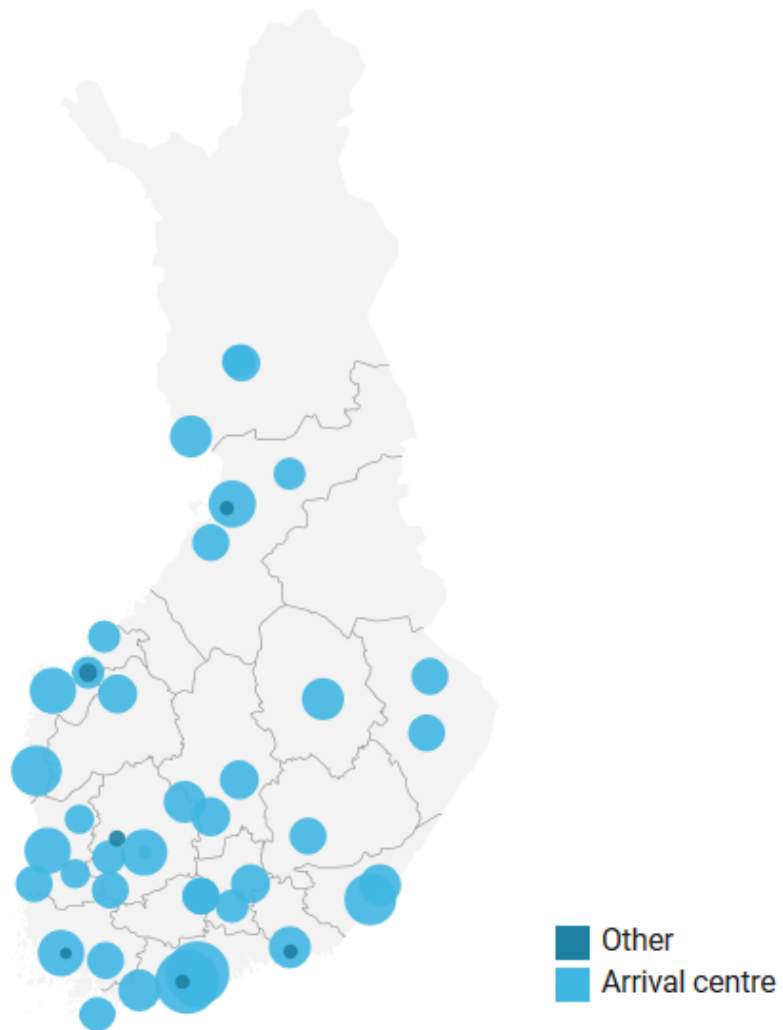


*MAGYC - Migration Governance and Asylum Crises: H2020 Research Project*

Map: Size of the symbol is based on capacity (small circle for NA) • Created with Datawrapper

**Online:** <https://datawrapper.dwcdn.net/u8mR6/4/>

**Map 7. Finland 2018: Map of asylum seekers' sites**

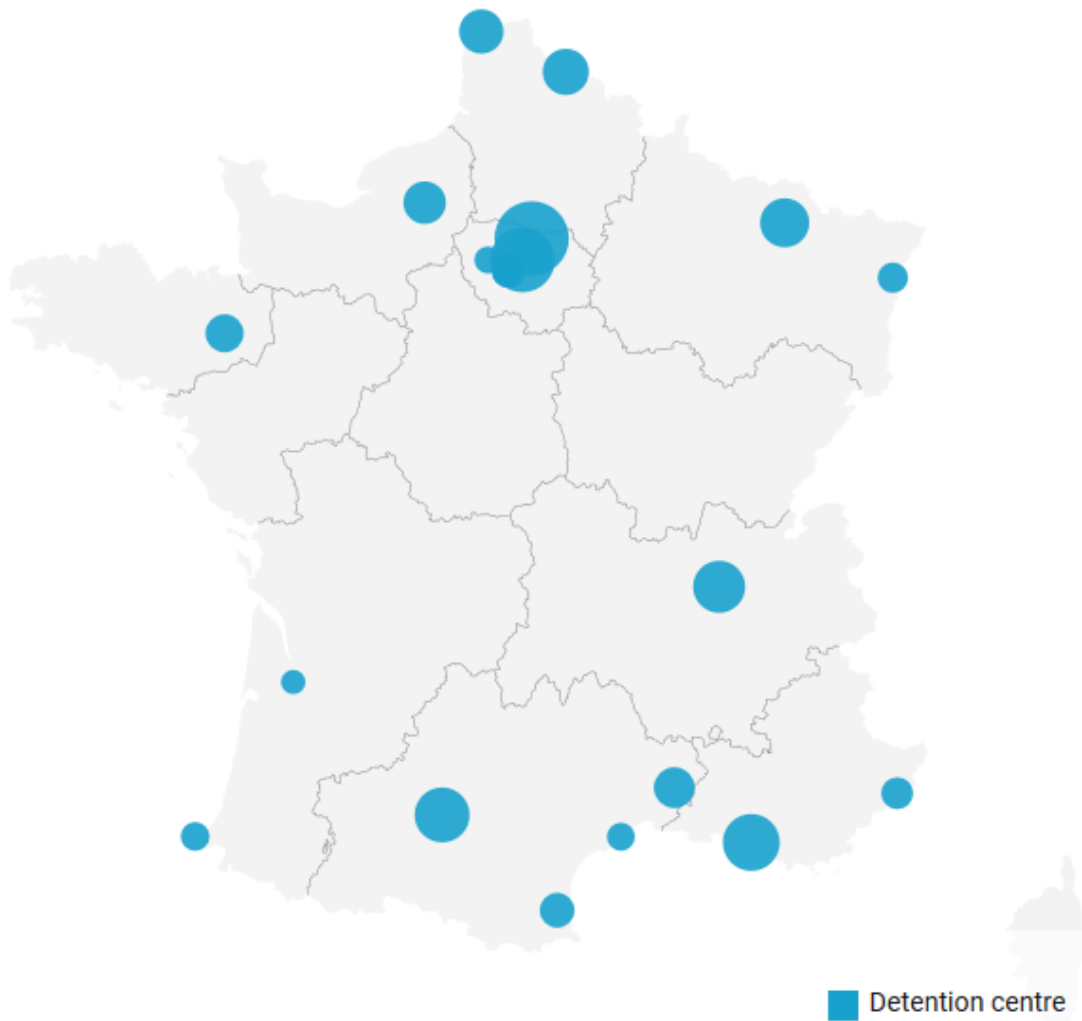


*MAGYC - Migration Governance and Asylum Crises: H2020 Research Project*

Map: Size of the symbol is based on capacity (small circle for NA) • Created with Datawrapper

**Online:** <https://datawrapper.dwcdn.net/yExeY/3/>

**Map 8. France 2018: Map of asylum seekers' sites**

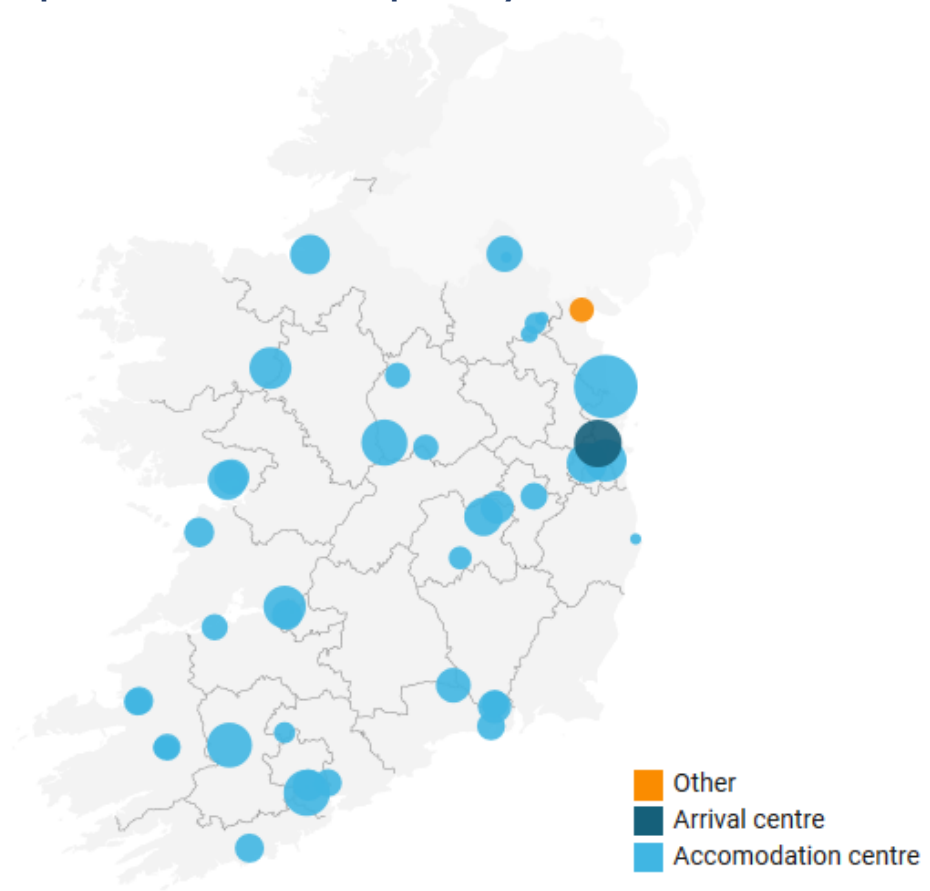


*MAGYC - Migration Governance and Asylum Crises: H2020 Research Project*

Map: Size of the symbol is based on capacity (small circle for NA) • Created with Datawrapper

**Online:** <https://datawrapper.dwcdn.net/TWZEQ/3/>

**Map 9. Ireland 2018: Map of asylum seekers' sites**

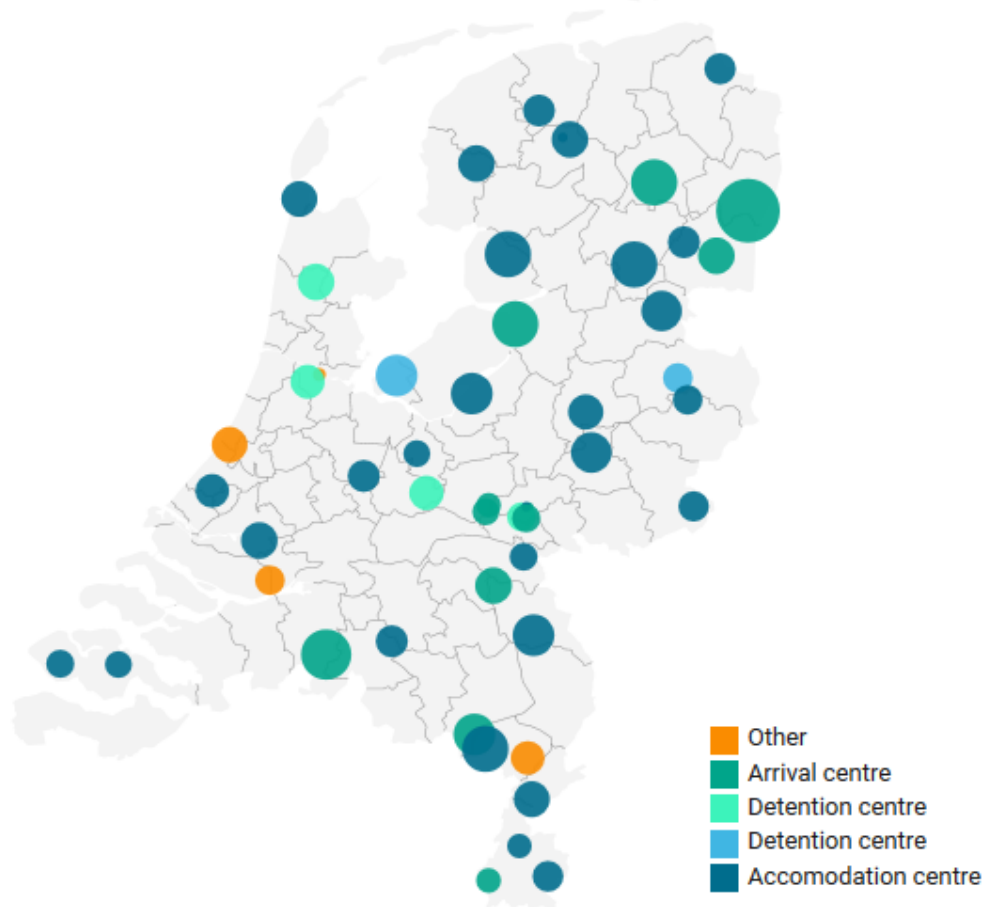


*MAGYC - Migration Governance and Asylum Crises: H2020 Research Project*

Map: Size of the symbol is based on capacity (small circle for NA) • Created with Datawrapper

**Online:** <https://datawrapper.dwcdn.net/zhUxZ/3/>

**Map 10. Netherlands 2018: Map of asylum seekers' sites**

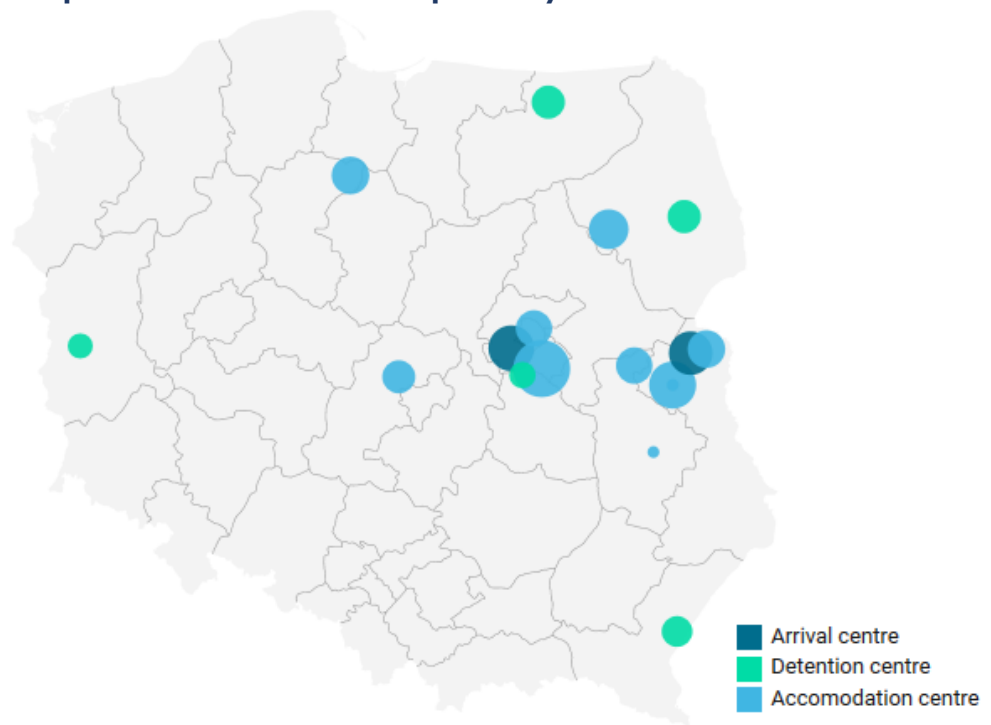


*MAGYC - Migration Governance and Asylum Crises: H2020 Research Project*

Map: Size of the symbol is based on capacity (small circle for NA) - Created with Datawrapper

**Online:** <https://datawrapper.dwcdn.net/940N8/3/>

**Map 11. Poland 2018: Map of asylum seekers' sites**

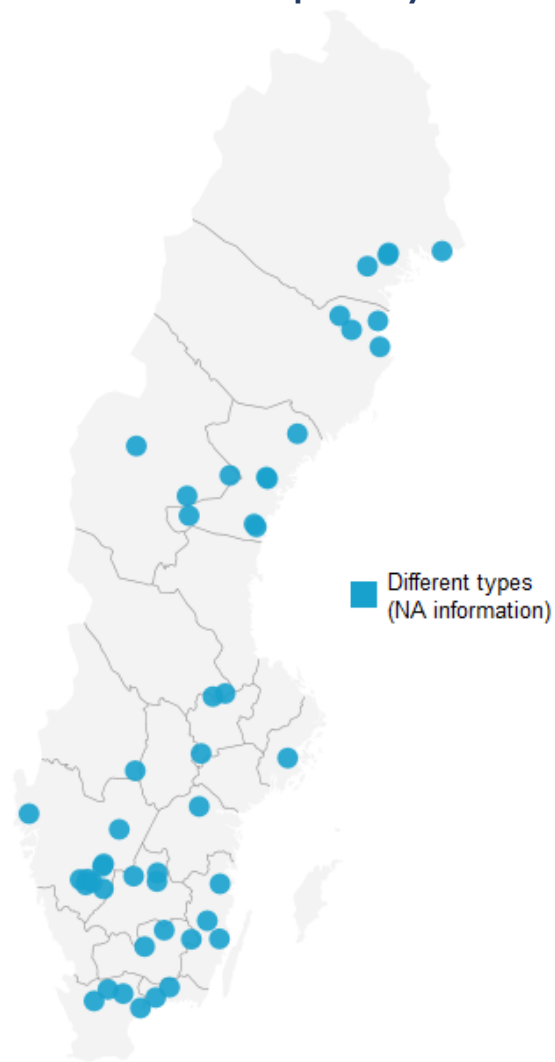


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Map: Size of the symbol is based on capacity (small circle for NA) - Created with Datawrapper

**Online:** <https://datawrapper.dwcdn.net/QpMcN/3/>

**Map 12. Sweden 2018: Map of asylum seekers' sites**



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Map: Size of the symbol is based on capacity (small circle for NA) • Created with Datawrapper

**Online:** <https://datawrapper.dwcdn.net/gK62f/3/>

**Map 13. Italy 2018: Map of asylum seekers' sites**



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Map: Size of the symbol is based on capacity (small circle for NA) - Created with Datawrapper

**Online:** <https://datawrapper.dwcdn.net/vQYY2/3/>

## D5.1. Maps of Asylum Seekers' Sites

### Annex A: Typology of Asylum Seekers' sites

State	Local type	Database type	Notes
Austria	Verteilungsquartiere	Arrival centre	Centre for registration of arriving asylum seekers, one for each state in Austria
	Betreuungsstelle	Accommodation centre	
	Sonderbetreuungsstelle	Accommodation centre	
Germany	AnKER-Einrichtung	Arrival centre	Special care centre, e.g. centre for unaccompanied minors "Arrival, decision and return center" - new type since 2018
	Ankunftszentrum	Arrival centre	
Italy	Progetti territoriali (servizi di accoglienza integrata del SIPROIMI)	Reception centre	Reception project (center) for asylum seekers and unaccompanied minors By the end of 2018, four hotspots were operating on Italian coastline, down from five in 2017. These Hot Spots are potential place of detention (453 in 2018)
Malta	Centro di Primo Soccorso ed Accoglienza (CPSA)	Arrival centre	
Portugal	Reception centre	Accommodation centre	
	Centro de Acolhimento para Refugiados	Arrival centre	
Spain	Casa de Acolhimento de Crianças Refugiadas	Arrival centre	For children
	Centro de Acogida a Refugiados	Arrival centre	
	Centro de Estancia Temporal de Inmigrantes	Accommodation centre	
Luxembourg	Centro de Atención Temporal de Extranjeros	Other	First medical attention, food distribution, registration
	Centre de premier accueil (phase 1): Ancienne Logopédie de Strassen	Arrival centre	Facility receives new asylum seekers, permanent reception, stay for a maximum of 48 hours.
	Accueil d'urgence (phase 2): Actuellement ancien site CREOS à Mersch	Arrival centre	
Slovak Republic	Accommodation centre	Accommodation centre	Accommodation can take several weeks or months, here.
	Arrival centre	Arrival centre	
Czech republic	Pobytový tábor	Accommodation centre	
	Integračné stredisko	Other	Integration centre
	Záchytné stredisko policajtov	Detention centre	Police detention centre - closed
	Pobytová střediska	Accommodation centre	
Netherland	Integrační azylová střediska	Other	Integration centre, 4-20 flats
	Zařízení pro zajištění dizinců	Detention centre	
	Přijímací střediska	Arrival centre	Closed
	centre	Other	
Belgium	Detention centre	Detention centre	For unaccompanied minors
	Asylum seekers' centre	Accommodation centre	
	Process reception location (POL)	Arrival centre	
	Reception centre	Arrival centre	
	Integration centre/ Centre for unaccompanied minors	Other	
	Centre pour illégaux/Centre for illegals	Accommodation centre	