

Refugees in Germany – health care challenges

A Challenge for the city „Essen“

Over 65 million people on our earth on the run from war and poverty.

Most refugees often live in the immediate neighboring countries. But many are making their way to Europe, especially to Germany.



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Head of Youth, Education and Social Affairs in Essen

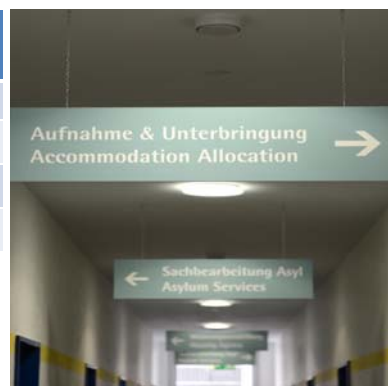


Development of applications for asylum in Germany and in the City of Essen (in numbers)

2014	2015	2016
Germany	Germany	Germany
202.000	475.000	1.000.000
Essen	Essen	Essen
1.300	4.500	4.600

More than 22.000 refugees are currently living in Essen.

9.756 from Syria, 4.870 from Iraq, 2.250 from Afghanistan and around 2000 from Africa. Approximately 2.000 of these are in urban housing.



Refugee Center at the Office for Social Affairs and Housing



Countries of origin of refugees in asylums and project flats in Essen → 3.295 humans (status 2017/06/16)

Occupancy of asylum seekers and project apartments Currently on 16.06.2017 = 3.295 persons

Project apartments	1.308
Temporary accommodation	2.000
Serbien	149
Mazedonien	112
Bosnien-Herzegowina	19
Kosovo	33
Albanien	113
Russische Föderation	58
Georgien	33
Armenien	60
Syrien	925
Irak	543
Iran	89
Afghanistan	306
Algerien	25
Guinea	86
Nigeria	149
Marokko	33
Eritrea	76
Ghana	58
Ägypten	26

Accommodations in Essen



Capacity

- 650 and more places
- to 50 places

Occupancy

- rd. 20%
- rd. 40%
- rd. 60%
- rd. 80%
- rd. 100%
- Intended institutions
- Institutions without capacity and occupancy data

Example for Accommodations in Essen



Accommodation for about 500 people



Bedroom and Livingroom for 4 persons



Community kitchen

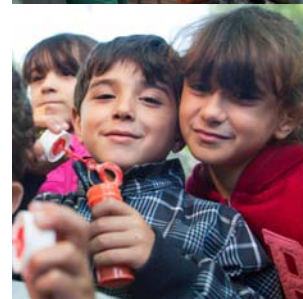


Bathrooms with showers



Quintessence of health report 2016

- Humans with or without migration background show only minor differences in their physical health
- There are a few references with the result, that humans with migration background have a poorer condition of mental health
- Many people with a migration background drink less alcohol, than the local community, but they underexercise and eat more unhealthy food.
- Humans with migration background rarely make demands on health care programs.



Quintessence of health report 2015 - Spectrum of diseases

- The spectrum of diseases mostly conform to the spectrum of non migrated humans
- In a few countries of origin, infectious diseases like TBC and HIV are predominant
- The most frequent causes of death are, like in Germany, not the infectious diseases but cancer diseases and cardiovascular diseases
- The mental stress level for people with migration background is high



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First medical care in primary institutions

- First checkup
- Attendance to acute diseases in primary institution or admission to the hospital
- Vaccination appropriate to STIKO- advice (Permanent vaccination committee)
- Exclusion from tuberculosis



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**Journal of Health Monitoring 2017, RKI (Robert Koch Institutes)
„status of health of asylum seekers in Germany“**

- Priority needs in sectors of mental and chronic diseases
- Non accompanied underage refugees suffer traumatic experiences on the run twice as often as accompanied underage refugees
- An early and low-threshold access to the health care system must be secured



Special challenges in the medical care of refugees

- A medical system with ambulant and stationary treatment and therapies is not known
- Preventive medical checkups, especially for pregnant women, are not known
- Status of vaccination not known
- Battlefield injuries are insufficiently treated in the country of origin
- Marks of violence need to be identified



Thank you
for your kind
attention !

