



6 Collective/registration centres
5 Transit locations
 (bus/train stations, open spaces)
2 Public/private accommodation

265 interviews

63% Female

37% Male

Since 24 February 2022, an increasing number of refugees and third-country nationals (TCNs) entering Latvia has been registered as a result of the war in Ukraine. As of 29 July, 116,462 entries of Ukrainian nationals from Latvia's external (non-EU) borders were reported by the Latvian Ministry of Interior. Also, a total of 35,730 have applied for temporary protection in the country so far.

This report is based on a survey on displacement patterns, needs and intentions launched by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM). All interviews were conducted face-to-face by IOM Latvia by trained enumerators with adult refugees and TCNs fleeing Ukraine. This report presents an analysis based on 265 surveys collected between 1 July and 29 July 2022.

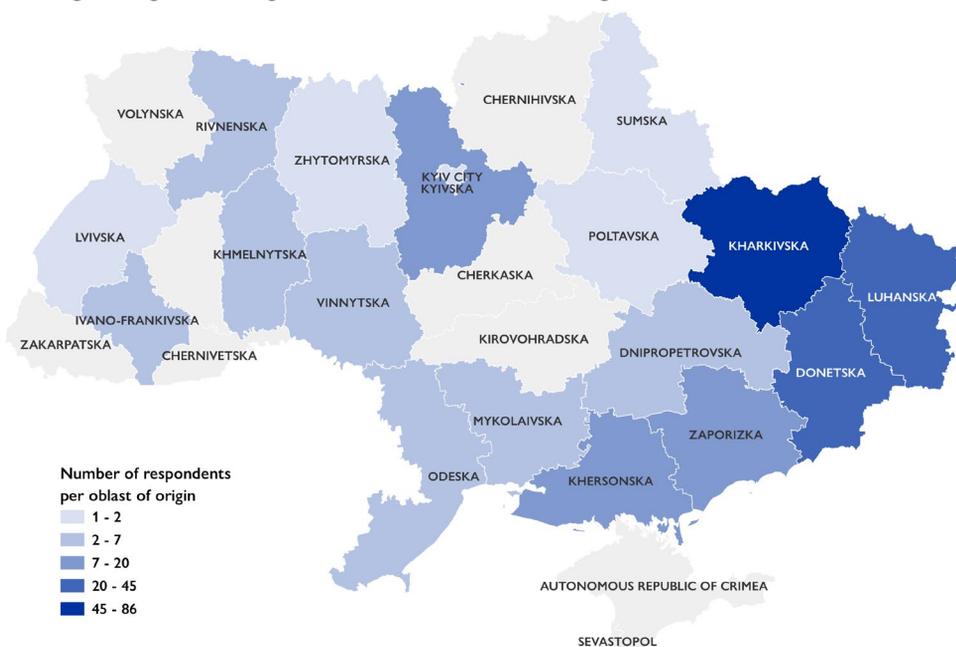
Demographic profile

Between 1 July and 29 July 2022, IOM conducted 265 displacement patterns, needs and intentions interviews with refugees from Ukraine and other TCNs in 6 different municipalities of 3 regions of Latvia – Riga, Latgale and Vidzeme. More than half of the surveys (55%) were collected in transit places of the capital Riga (collective and registration centers, bus and train stations, other open spaces). Another 33 per cent of the surveys were collected in the eastern region of Latgale and in particular in entry and transit points in Rēzekne, Karsava, Malukšta and Viļāni, and the remaining 12 per cent were collected in the city of Alūksne in the Vidzeme region bordering Estonia and the Russian Federation. More than half of

respondents reported to have entered Latvia from the Russian Federation (56%), followed by those who entered from Lithuania (32%), from Estonia (8%), from Belarus or by flight (4%).

Out of all 265 respondents, 99 per cent were Ukrainian refugees and 1 per cent TCNs (2 observations from the Russian Federation). The top four regions of origin of respondents were Kharkivska (32%), Donetska (17%), Luhanska (15%), and Khersonska (8%). More than two thirds (68%) of respondents originated from an urban location. About 52 per cent of respondents declared to speak Russian as main language at home, and the remaining 48 per cent to speak Ukrainian.

Fig. 1: Regions of origin or habitual residence – refugees from Ukraine and other TCNs



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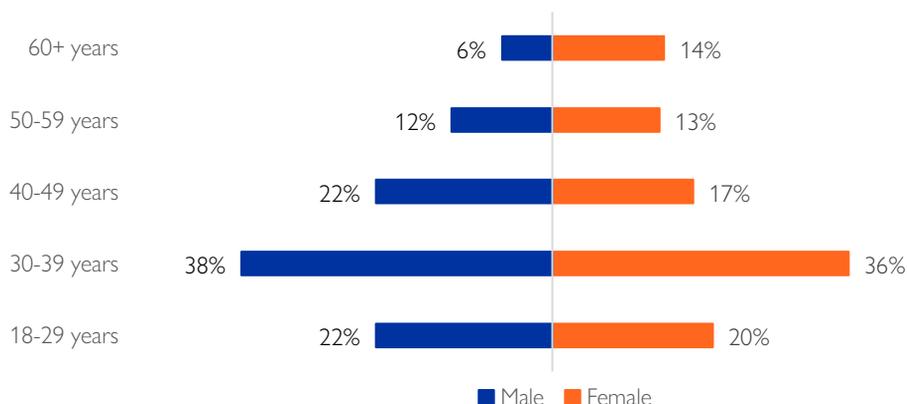
Women and girls accounted for 63 per cent, while men and boys were 37 per cent of the total sample. The average age of women was 42, while it was 39 for men.

The breakdown of adult refugees by age cohorts reveals that the largest cohort was aged 30-39 years, with 36 per cent for females and slightly higher at 38 per cent for males. This is followed by the individuals

aged 18 to 29 years old (22% of women and 20% of men). Older women represented 14 per cent of the sample (23 women aged over 60), compared to 6 per cent of older men (6 men older than 60 years old).

The youngest among the respondents are 19 years old and the oldest are in their eighties, all of whom are female.

Fig. 2: Age distribution of respondents, by gender (%)



The largest part of the respondents reported travelling in a group (80%), with a small portion travelling alone (20%). The average size of the group was comprised of 3 people. Out of those travelling in a group, 89 per cent were on the move with immediate family or household members, 7 per cent with friends and neighbours and 3 per cent travelled with other relatives. Most of the people travelling in a group were accompanied by one or two more people (32%), by three additional people (25%), by four people (15%), while the remaining 19 per cent was travelling with 5 or more people.

Almost two thirds (64%) of the respondents travelling in a group reported to be travelling of at least one child, and 13 per cent of them were travelling with older people. About 23 per cent of the sample reported to be travelling with a person with a serious health condition or specific need. Among them, 50 persons reported to have or to be travelling with

someone with a chronic disease, 20 persons had difficulties in seeing even if wearing glasses, 7 had difficulties in hearing even if using hearing aid, 20 had difficulties in walking or climbing steps, 5 had difficulties in remembering or concentrating, 1 had difficulties in self-caring, 2 in communicating using their usual language. One woman was pregnant, and 8 persons were reported to be wounded or injured.

Among the people travelling with children, 56 per cent are travelling in a group with one child, 33 per cent in a group with two children, and 10 per cent in a group with three or more children.

For the respondents travelling with older persons, 57 per cent are travelling with one person older than 60 years old, 36 per cent with two elderly and 7 per cent with three or more elderly. Additionally, two older persons were travelling alone.



80% travelling in a group
20% travelling alone



64% at least 1 child in the group
for those travelling in a group



13% at least 1 older person (60+ years) in the group
for those travelling in a group



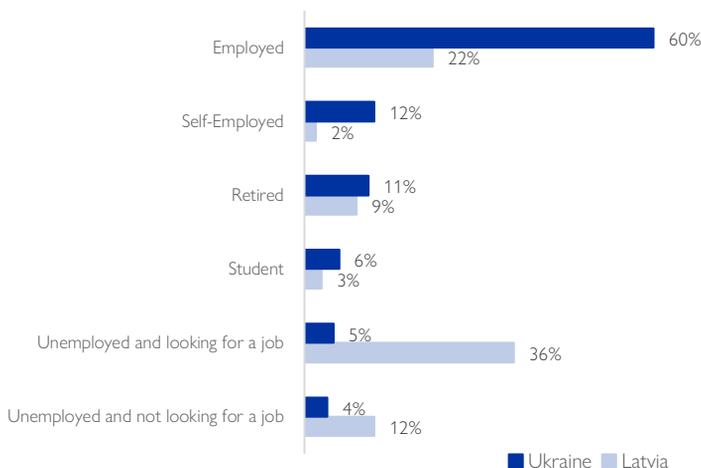
23% at least 1 person with a serious health condition or special need

Employment Status

More than half of respondents reported they were employed (60%) in Ukraine, 12 per cent were self-employed and 11 per cent were retired. Among respondents who were unemployed in Ukraine, five per cent were looking for a job while four per cent were not.

In Latvia, respondents who were unemployed and looking for a job made up the biggest share (36%), followed by those employed (22%). Six per cent of respondents reported they were students in Ukraine; in Latvia, this dropped to 3%.

Fig. 3: Current and previous employment status (%)

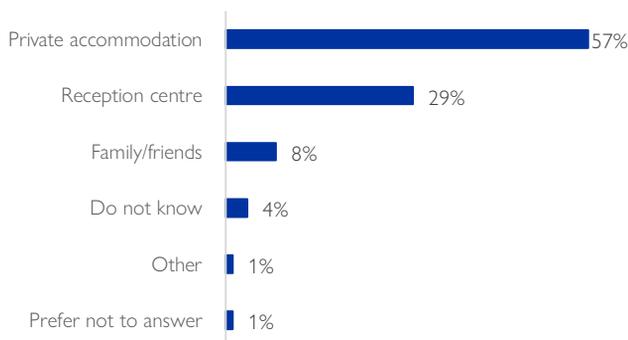


Accommodation Type

Questions regarding where respondents were staying and where they intended to stay were included in the survey. More than half of respondents (57%) reported renting private accommodation (hotel/hostel, apartment or house rented), followed by those staying in organized reception centres (29%), or hosted by family, friends or local residents (8%), and those with other types of accommodation or that just arrived at the time of the interview.

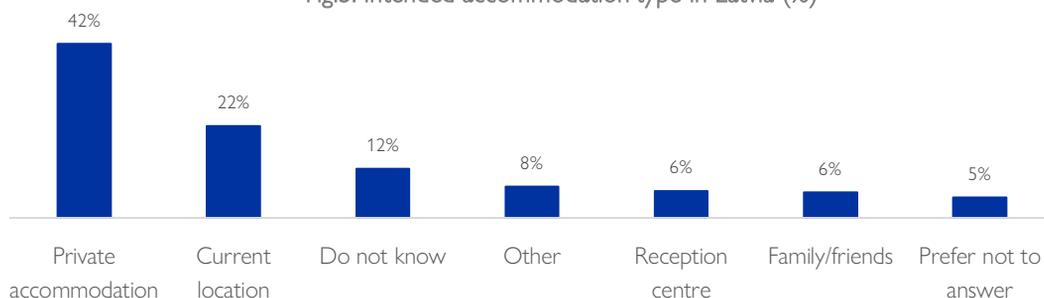
Most respondents expressed their intention to rent private accommodation (42%), 22 per cent plan to stay at their current accommodation and 12 per cent do not know where they plan to stay. Other accommodations that respondents intended to stay in are reception centres and family and friends (both at 6%). Among respondents who reported their intentions to stay in private accommodation, a

Fig. 4: Current accommodation type in Latvia (%)



quarter plan to stay there for a year. Of the 58 respondents who plan to stay in their current accommodation, 76 per cent intended to stay there for less than three months and 53 per cent of respondents who intended to stay in organized reception centres plan to stay there for less than three months.

Fig.5: Intended accommodation type in Latvia (%)



Main needs

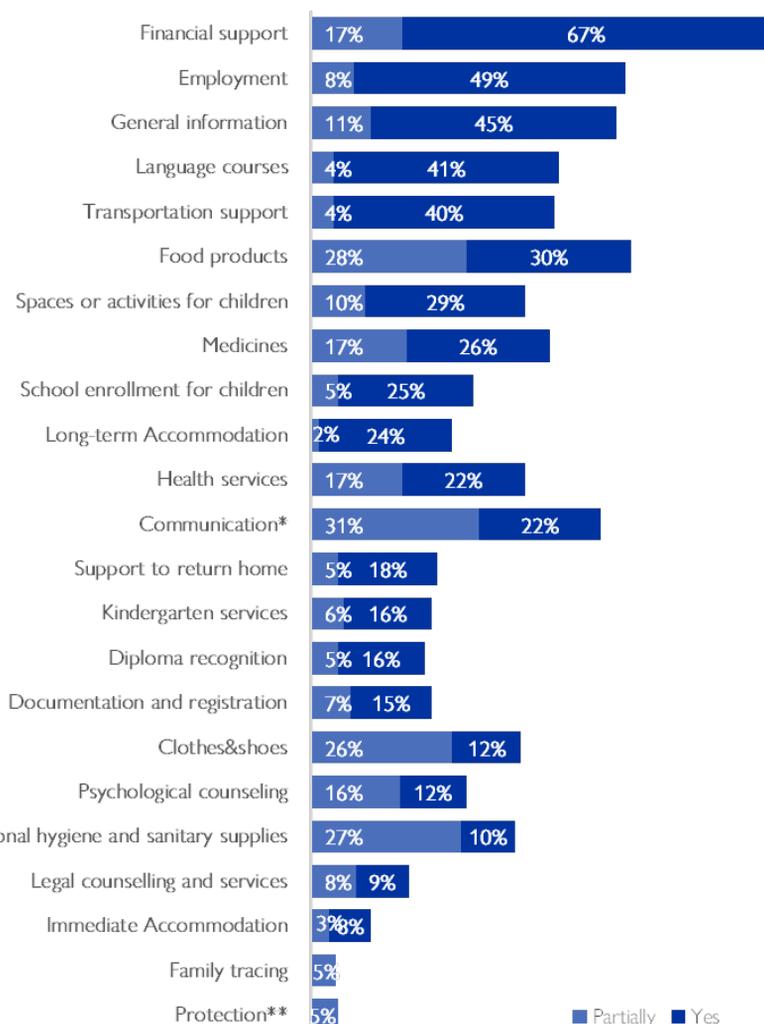
Financial support (67% of positive responses) and employment (49%) were the first two main important needs expressed at the time of the interview by respondents, followed by the need to receive more general information about the developments in Ukraine and abroad (45%), the support for language courses of the local language (41%) and the support for transportation (40%).

Needs of people travelling with children or older people

The most urgent needs were also recorded for 213 respondents travelling with at least one child or an older person. For these respondents, the top three most urgent needs were financial support and education (both at 71%) and information and communication support (69%). The next most urgent necessity was supportive services for children (56%). Other pressing needs reported by half of respondents were assistance with securing employment, access to medicine and health services (47%), transportation support (43%), and accommodation (35%).

Less than a third of respondents mentioned needing assistance with obtaining food (32%) and support with documentation and legal services (31%). Finally, clothes and other NFI (24%), support to return home (19%), mental health services (15%), and legal counselling and services (10%) were reported by respondents as other urgent concerns.

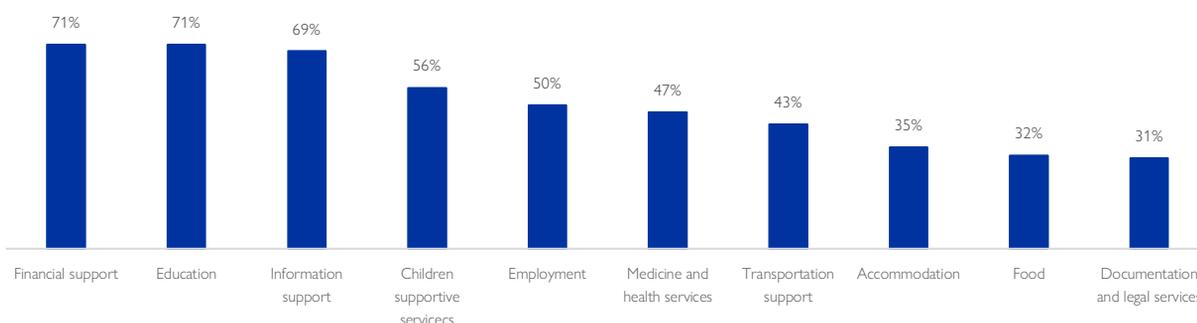
Fig. 6: Main needs at the moment, by share of positive responses



* *Communication with others in Ukraine and elsewhere*

** *Protection* from instances of violence, harassment, theft, exploitation and reporting of incidents, grievances, assaults.

Fig. 7: Top 10 urgent needs for respondents travelling with at least one child and/or older person (%)



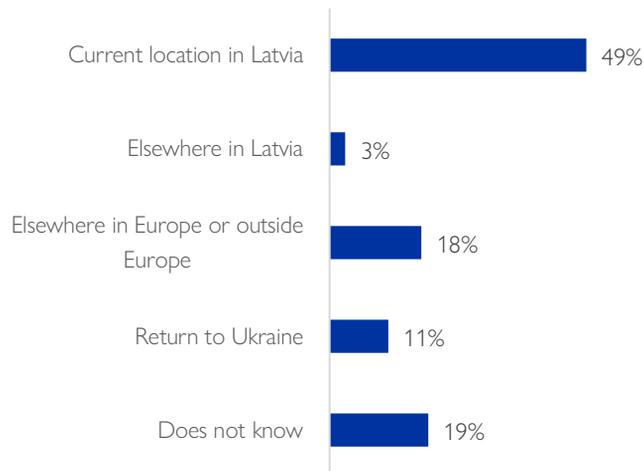
Main intended destination

The most common intended final destination for respondents was the current location in Latvia (49%) or another location in the country (3%). Eighteen per cent of respondents indicated they intended to reach another country in Europe or elsewhere, while 11 per cent indicated they intended to return to Ukraine. Additionally, 19 per cent of the sample could not specify their long-term intentions.

Of the 46 respondents who intended to move to another country in Europe or elsewhere, the biggest share reported Germany (30%) followed by Finland, Lithuania and the Netherlands (9% each). Other destination countries included Poland (6%), Austria, Czechia, Estonia, Norway, Russian Federation, United Kingdom (4% each) and others (11%).

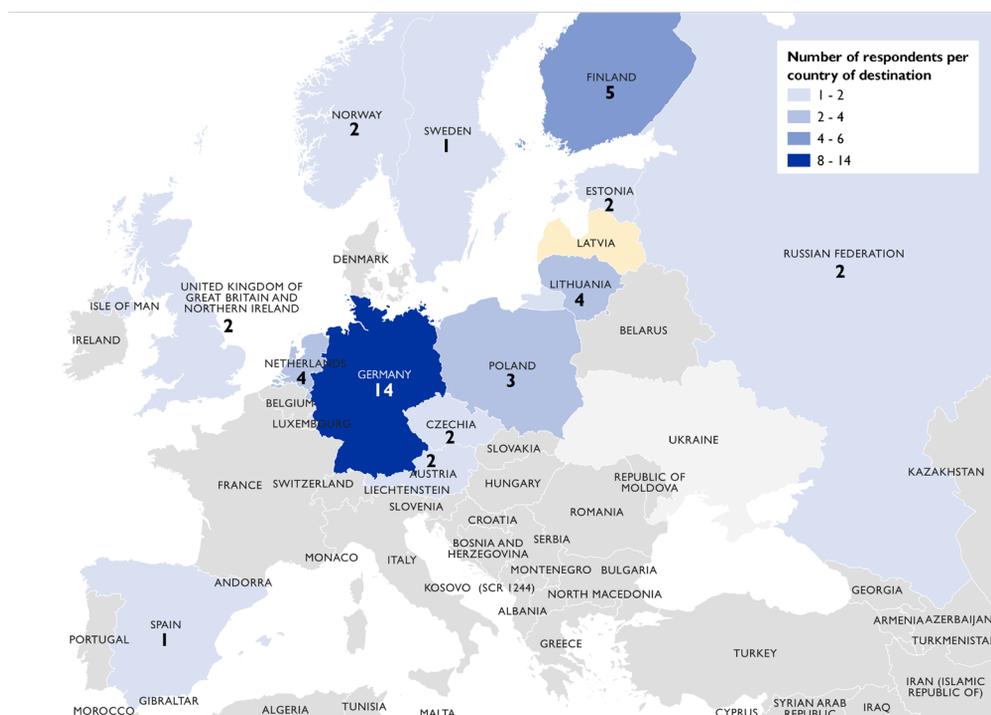
Overall, more than two thirds (67%) of respondents reported that they plan to remain in Latvia for approximately one year, five per cent planned to stay

Fig. 8: Intended final destination (%)



about 6 months and four per cent planned to stay a month in the country.

Fig. 9: Main intended countries of destination of respondents in Latvia



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Challenges and access to financial services

All 265 respondents were asked to define three main challenges up until the time of the survey. The top three choices expressed by respondents were housing (42%), financial issues (40%), and language barrier (19%).

Other challenges reported by respondents were lack of information (17%), legal documentation (i.e. obtaining a visa or work permit, getting diplomas and university degree recognized) (11%), and access to services (5%).

About 17 per cent of respondents reported that he/she was not able to withdraw money from an ATM or make payments with cards, and 65 per cent were not able to exchange cash they brought with them. Also, about 43 per cent of respondents had an account open in a Latvian bank, while the remaining who did not either were intending to open it or were not interested because they planned to leave the country.

Support Received

About 71 per cent of all refugees in the sample reported to have received some kind of support or humanitarian assistance, 28 per cent did not receive any support and 1 per cent preferred not to answer.

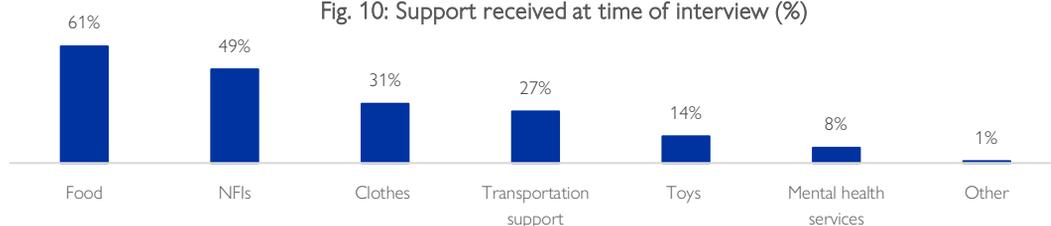
The majority of respondents (61%) indicated that

Tab. 1: Reported challenges up until time of interview

Challenges	No. of responses (n=265)
Housing (long-term)	111
Financial issues	105
Language barrier	50
Lack of information	44
Legal documentation	29
Access to services	13
Discrimination	9
Xenophobia	6
Hunger	5

they had received help with food as the main support, followed by non-food items (49% received personal hygiene and sanitary products and 31% clothes or shoes), transportation (27%), toys for children (14%), mental health services (8%) and others (1%).

Fig. 10: Support received at time of interview (%)



Methodology

IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a system to track and monitor displacement and population mobility. It is designed to regularly and systematically capture, process and disseminate information to provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of displaced populations, whether on site or *en route*. These surveys are part of IOM's DTM activities to monitor the displacement, intentions and most immediate need of the Ukrainian refugees and TCNs fleeing from Ukraine into neighbouring countries and other European countries since 24 February 2022.

Surveys are collected in selected entry and transit locations, registration and reception centres identified to be the most frequently used by refugees and other TCNs leaving from Ukraine. In Latvia, surveys were conducted in Ukrainian and Russian by IOM's DTM trained teams of enumerators on a mobile application. The interviews are anonymous and conducted one-on-one with respondents, provided they consent to be interviewed after a brief introduction. Only adults (18 years and above) were interviewed.

The survey form was designed by IOM to capture the main displacement patterns for refugees of any nationality fleeing from Ukraine because of the war. It captures the demographic profiles of respondents and of the group they are travelling with, if any; it asks about intentions relatively to the permanence in Latvia and to intended final destination; it gathers information regarding a set of main needs at the moment of the interview.

The data presented in this document are representative of the individuals surveyed in the covered locations and during the indicated timeframe. The data should not be generalized to represent the whole displaced population outside Ukraine.