



2 BCPs
2 Registration centres
1 Hotspot

185 interviews



94% Female



6% Male

Since 24 February 2022, an increasing number of refugees from Ukraine and other third-country nationals (TCNs) entering Slovakia has been registered as a result of the war in Ukraine. As of 9 August, Slovak authorities have reported 668,195 border crossings from Ukraine, out of whom 95 per cent were reported to be refugees from Ukraine and 5 per cent other (TCNs). At the same time, 401,945 border crossings to Ukraine have been reported since 28 February 2022 ([UNHCR](#)).

This report is based on a survey launched by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) with persons crossings to Ukraine from Slovakia since mid-April, and presents an analysis based on 185 surveys collected between 19 April and 31 July 2022 by IOM Slovakia trained enumerators. Individuals crossing into Ukraine are not necessarily returnees and conclusions on definitive trends cannot be drawn. The sample is not representative of all persons crossing to Ukraine, and results should only be considered as indicative.

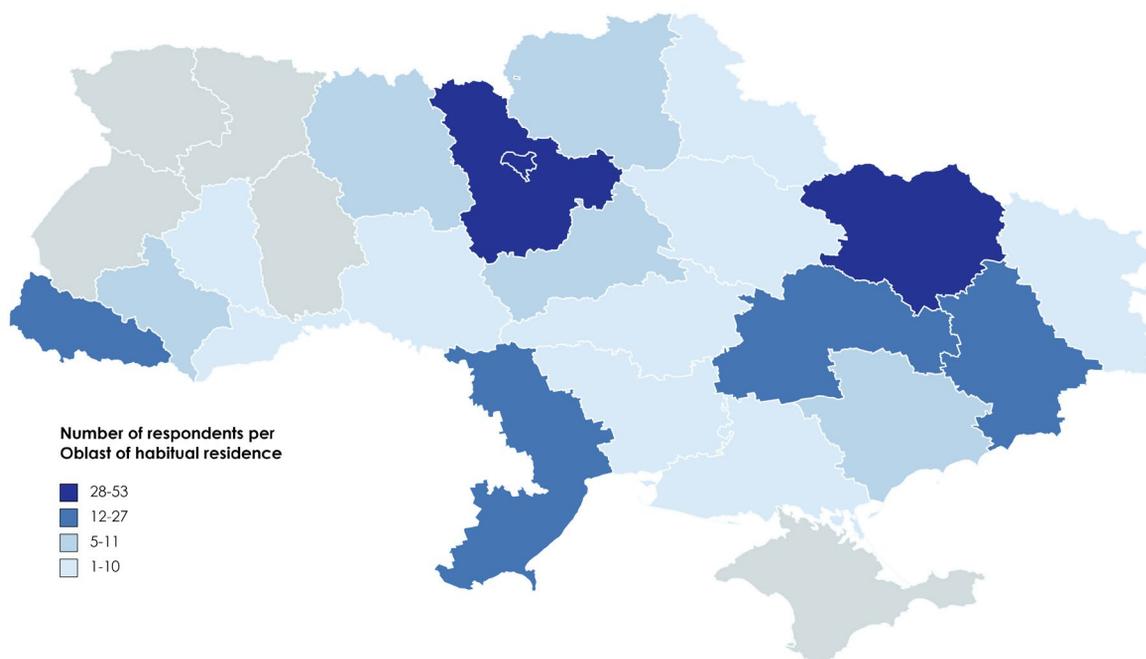
Introduction

Since mid-April 2022, IOM carried out surveys with Ukrainians and TCNs crossing back into Ukraine at two Border Crossing Points (BSPs) in Vyšné Nemecké and Ubl'a, at the Michalovce and Humenné Registration Centres and at the Čiervená Hvezda Hotspot in Kčsice.

Between 19 April and 31 July 2022, 185 surveys were conducted. All the respondents were originally from Ukraine. Most of the respondents were women (174 or 94% of the total), with 11 men interviewed in total (6%).

The top five regions of respondents' habitual residence before leaving Ukraine were Kyivska (29%), Kharkivska (15%), Dnipropetrovska (8%), Donetsk (8%) and Zakarpatska (8%) region.

Fig. 1: Regions/Oblasts of habitual residence



This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown, and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

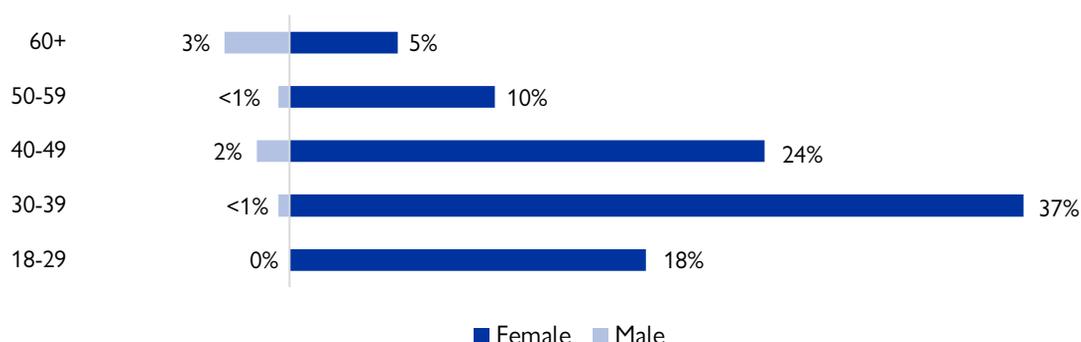
Demographic profile

Women accounted for 94 per cent of all respondents in the sample. The average age of women was 39 years, while it was 59 for men. The breakdown of adult refugees by age cohorts reveals that more than a third (37%) of surveyed individuals were women aged 30-39 years (68 women interviewed in total). The second largest age cohort was represented by women between 40 and 49 years old (44 women or 24% of the total sample).

Older women represented 5 per cent of the sample (10 women over 60 years old), compared to 3 per cent of older men (6 men older than 60).

Regarding men in the sample, 6 out of 11 are older than 60, with one man in the 30-39 cohort, three men between 40 and 49 and one man in the 50-59 cohort.

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



Crossing back to Ukraine

Almost half of the respondents (49% of the total) were crossing back to Ukraine with the same group/household they fled with. Moreover, 23 per cent of the respondents were crossing back alone as they did when they left, while 19 per cent were crossing back alone but left Ukraine with a group.

Finally, 8 per cent were returning with part of the group they left with, and the remaining 1 per cent was crossing back with a different group.

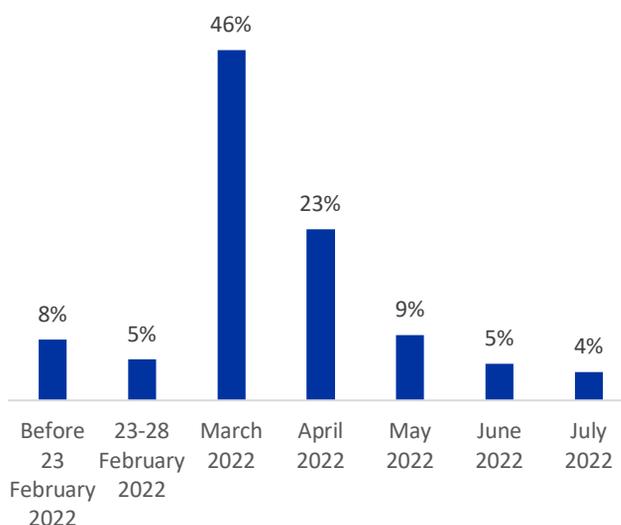
Out of the respondents travelling with a group, a large majority were doing so with immediate family members (91% of the respondents returning with a group). In addition, 9 per cent of the sample was crossing back with friends and old neighbours and 7 per cent was travelling with other relatives.

Most of the respondents reportedly left Ukraine because of the war, with more than two-thirds (69% of the total) who left between March and April 2022.

Slightly less than a tenth of the respondents (8% of

the total) left Ukraine before the beginning of the war on 23 February 2022, while a similar number of people only left in June or July 2022 (9%).

Fig. 3: Time/month of leaving Ukraine (%)



Country of displacement

Around **three-quarters** of the respondents (73% of the total) spent most of their time outside Ukraine in Slovakia, while others stayed in Germany (10%) and Hungary (6%). In particular, respondents who stayed in Slovakia were mostly hosted in Košice (36%) Prešov (19%) and Žilina (12%).

Seventy-one per cent of the respondents have entered or exited Slovakia only once, with 5 per cent who have done it twice and 4 per cent more than two times. Reportedly, 15 per cent of the respondents have not crossed Slovakia borders since 24 February 2022.

Main intentions

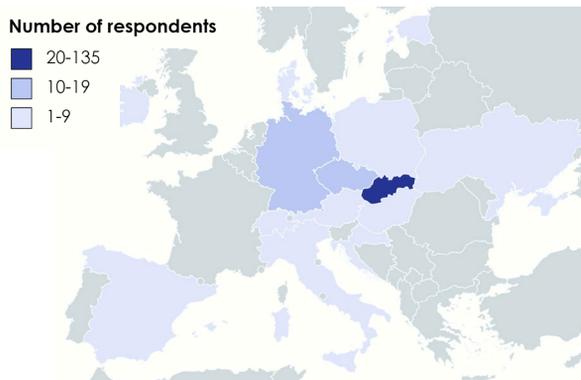
Three-quarters of the respondents planned to go back to their oblast of habitual residence. For those who were planning to reach another region, Zakarpatska (44%), Kyivka and Lvivska (both 12%) were the three oblasts of destination most frequently mentioned. The reasons behind the choice of reaching a different oblast than that of habitual residence included the fact that the respondent's house was damaged or destroyed (23%), that the respondent's family moved to another location (21%) and the location of origin was unsafe (19%).

About 74 per cent of the respondents reported they planned to stay in the house where they used to live in the past. Other types of accommodations include relatives' houses (10%), hotels (8%), friends (5%) and organised reception centres (1%).

Fig. 5: Intention to stay in Ukraine or to make a short visit (%).



Fig. 4: Countries where the respondent spent most of the time outside Ukraine, by number of respondents



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Most respondents were travelling by bus to cross back into Ukraine (64% of the total), while others were crossing into Ukraine on foot (15%), with their private car (13%) and by train (8%).

Almost half of the respondents intended to remain in Ukraine (49%), while 28 per cent were only returning for a short visit and the remaining ones did not know yet how long they were going to stay (19%) or preferred not to answer the question (4%).

For those returning for a short visit, the majority were planning to stay for less than a month: 40 per cent for only a few days and 42 per cent for around a week. Twelve per cent reported the intention to stay for around a month, while only 2 per cent planned to stay more than a month, with 4 per cent did not to answer this question.

Fig.6: Expected length of stay in Ukraine (% of those planning a short visit)



Reasons for planning to stay in Ukraine or to do a short visit

Most of the respondents planning to stay in Ukraine (49% of the sample) reported that the situation had improved in their place of origin/habitual residence (51% of those intending to stay in Ukraine). Other reasons that were mentioned by respondents who intended to remain in Ukraine included the desire to reunite with family members (21%), but also the fact of not having enough resources to cover for their living costs (21%), the difficulty in getting a job (13%) and other reasons (8%).

Smaller numbers of respondents also mentioned the following reasons: challenges in finding shelter/accommodation (7%), the situation improved in other regions (6%), caring responsibilities in Ukraine (4%), return to work in essential services (2%), challenges in access to education (2%),

challenges in getting humanitarian assistance (1%) and return after taking family members to safety (1%).

Among the respondents who were intending to do a short visit in Ukraine (28%), the main reasons mentioned was the intention to meet family members (48%). In addition, more than a third were going back to collect some personal belongings left in Ukraine (37%). Other reasons to do a short visit in Ukraine included the need to provide some help to other family members or friends in the country (19%), to bring supplies to people there (4%), to help other family members or friend to reach the border (2%), and others (12%). It is worth noticing that 8 per cent of the respondents crossing into Ukraine for a short visit did not want to share the reasons for this move.

Fig. 7: Reasons for respondents who intended to stay in Ukraine (% , multiple answers possible)

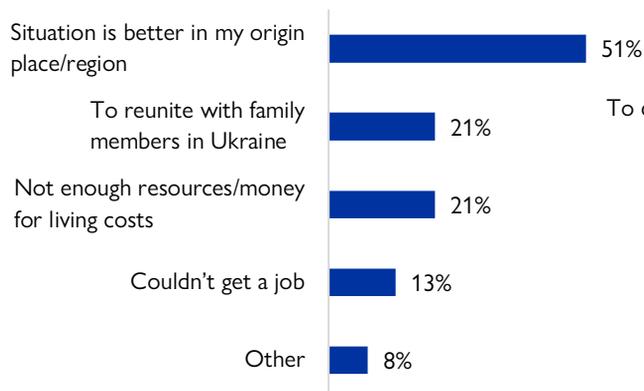
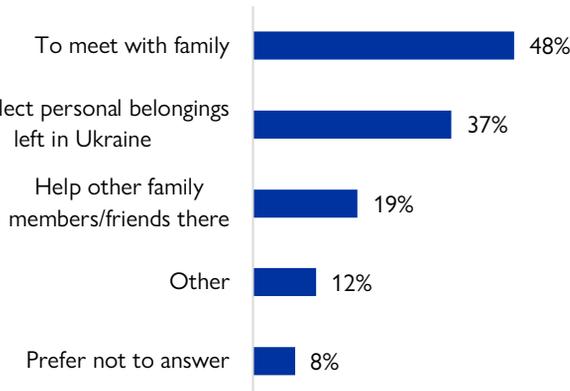


Fig. 8: Reasons for respondents intending to do a short visit (% , multiple answers possible)

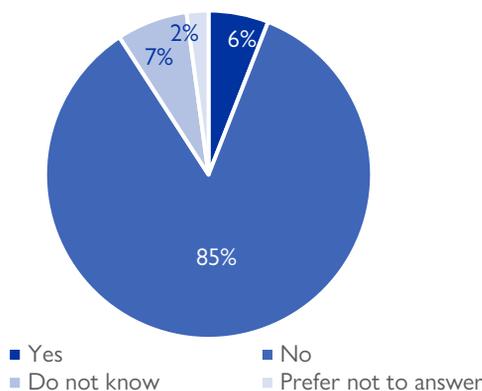


Unfair treatment

Despite not being mentioned by the respondents as one of the reasons behind their return to Ukraine, 6 per cent reportedly experienced unfair or unequal treatment due to nationality, ethnicity or gender since they left Ukraine.

On the other hand, 85 per cent reported that they did not experience any of these behaviours towards them or a member of their family. In addition, 7 per cent did not know whether they had experienced unfair or unequal treatments, while 2 per cent did not wish to answer the question.

Fig. 9: Did you experience any unfair or unequal treatment due to nationality, ethnicity or gender? (%)



Most immediate needs

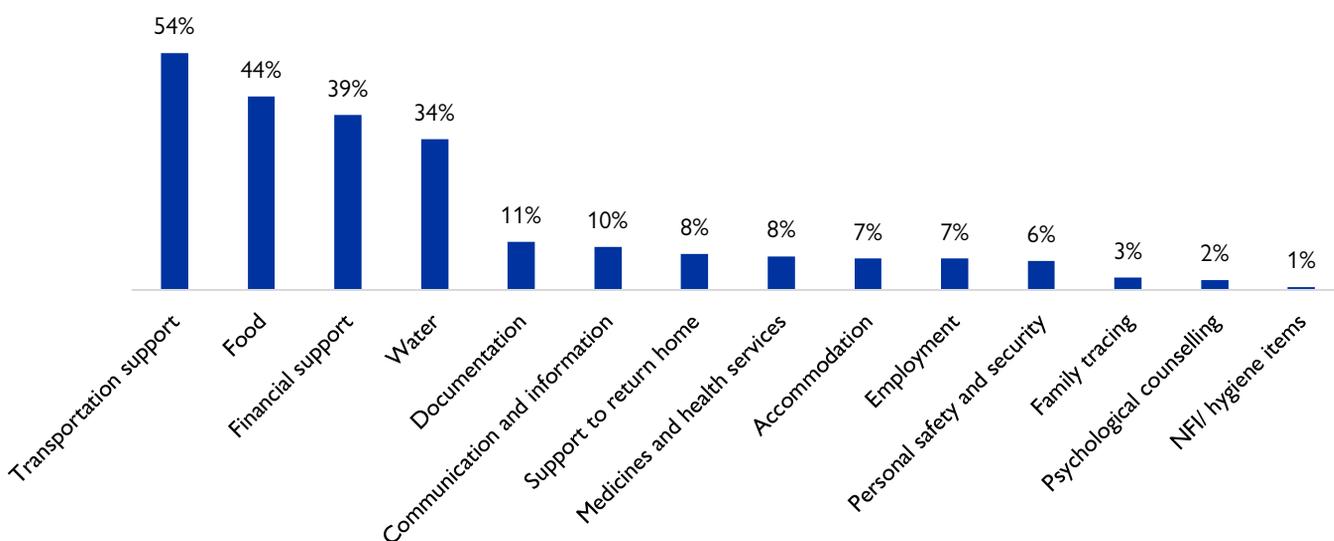
More than half of the respondents mentioned transportation support as one of the most urgent needs at the moment of the interview (54% of the total). Among other needs, support with food was mentioned by 44 per cent of the respondents, financial support by 39 per cent, and access to water that was mentioned by approximately a third of the respondents (34%).

Other needs that respondents have mentioned included support with documentation, consular and legal services (11%), communication and information

support (10%), support to return home (8%), access to medicines and health services (8%), accommodation (7%), employment (7%), personal safety and security (6%), family tracing (3%), psychological counselling (2%) and non-food items (NFI) and hygiene items (1%).

Notably, 11 per cent of the respondents declared they had no need for specific support at the moment of the interview.

Fig. 10: Main reported needs at the moment of the interview (% , multiple answers possible)



Note:

Documentation includes legal and consular services (information and assistance).

Communication and information refers to support to communicate with others in Ukraine and elsewhere.

Support to return home refers to the intention to be able to return to the origin location as soon as the security situation in Ukraine will allow.

Accommodation includes Immediate (48 hour) Accommodation and Accommodation longer than 48 hours.

Personal safety and security refers to protection from instances of violence, harassment, theft, exploitation and reporting of incidents, grievances, assaults.

Methodology

This report summarizes the results of displacement surveys initiated by IOM to assess the profiles and intentions of Ukrainians and TCNs met while crossing from Slovakia into Ukraine.

The survey was based on IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), a system to track and monitor displacement and population mobility, and it was designed to capture the main displacement patterns – origin country and region – for refugees 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 relative to the permanence in Ukraine and to intended final destination; it gathers information regarding a set of main needs that the respondents expressed as more pressing at the moment of the interview.

Only adults (18+) were approached, and the questionnaire was proposed only to migrants and refugees who arrived in Slovakia after 24 February 2022. Respondents were approached in a simple random sample by enumerators at selected border points between Slovakia and Ukraine and other registration centres and hotspots in Slovakia. Face-to-face surveys were conducted in Ukrainian, Russian and English by trained teams of enumerators. Data were collected and stored through a mobile application.