



MIGRANT PRESENCE

OUTSIDE TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES
IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



April 2022

ROUND 12



30 Municipalities in 7 Cantons in FBiH and 5 regions in RS





339 migrants outside TRCs, out of 339 mapped in total

On 20 April 2022, the twelfth joint data collection exercise was conducted by IOM Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), together with the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA), ¹ and the support of the Red Cross Society BIH (RCSBH) to collect information on the number of migrants and asylum-seekers² present in the country. The purpose of the exercise was to provide an estimation of the migrant population (stock) that was not accommodated or registered in any official Temporary Reception Centres (TRCs) at any given date. Fourteen teams were deployed for a total of 39 enumerators (27 males and 12 females), plus 11 SFA staff (8 males and 3 females), 13 RCSBH staff (8 males and 5 females). The data collection exercise was implemented in 7 Cantons of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH) and in 5 regions in the Republika Srpska (RS) entity. A total of 223 locations³ 46 different municipalities were visited: 68 locations in 5 municipalities in Una-Sana Canton, 42 locations in 5 municipalities in Sarajevo Canton, 32 locations in 10 municipalities in Tuzla Canton, 23 locations in 4 municipalities in Herzegovina — Neretva Canton, 4 locations in 4 municipalities in West Herzegovina Canton, 4 locations in 1 municipality in Bosnian Podrinje Goražde Canton, 1 locations in 1 municipality in Canton 10, 8 locations in Zvornik, 7 locations in Višegrad, 6 locations in Bijeljina, 4 locations in Kozarska Dubica, 3 locations each in Bratunac, Foča, Rudo and Vlasenica, 2 locations each in Gradiška, Novi Grad, Rogatica and Srbac, and 1 location each in Banja Luka, Kostajnica, Milići and Prijedor (see Map on p.2).

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE AND LOCALIZATION

The total number of migrants observed in the locations covered was 339, all of whom stated that they were not accommodated in any of the official TRCs in BiH.

The number of migrants observed in Round 12 remains relatively low, in line with the previous round. This can be partly explained by the dynamics related to migrants' routes which often imply a rapid change of the same which can lead to not covering all the locations where migrants tend to habitually reside. In Round 12 77.1 per cent of locations were found empty which is slightly higher compared to the previous round. As in previous rounds, the number of migrants who declared that they were not hosted in any reception centre remains 100 per cent.

Pakistan (40.1%) and Afghanistan (29%) are the two main declared nationalities⁴ of the observed migrants residing outside of TRCs in BiH, followed by Morocco (6.6%), Bangladesh (4.8%), Iraq (3.3%), Algeria and the Islamic Republic of Iran (2.7% each), and Cuba (2.4%). Other declared nationalities include Egypt (1.8%), India and the Syrian Arab Republic (1.5% each), Republic of Congo (1.2%), Gambia, Tunisia, Turkey, Palestinian Territories and Sri Lanka with less than 1 per cent each.

Nationals of Panama and Cote d'Ivoire who were first mapped during Round 11 were not observed during this round, indicating that there is a constant change in nationalities and routes taken. Furthermore, Cuban nationals who had not been mapped in Round 11, despite being the third nationality registered in the reception facilities in BiH, in this round represent 2.4 per cent of the migrants observed residing in outside locations in BiH.

Sex and age disaggregated data show that most migrants outside TRCs are adult males (293), followed by adult female (19), boys (12) and girls (10). Overall, adult males represent 88 per cent of the migrant population identified outside TRCs in BiH.

Most of the children are from Afghanistan (45.5%), followed by Iraq (22.7%), Egypt (18.2%), the Syrian Arab Republic (9.1%) and Morocco (4.5%).

1.The SFA, within the Ministry of Security (MoS), is the responsible party for the registration of all foreigners on the territory of BiH. The MoS is also formally responsible for the management of the Immigration Centre and the Temporary Reception Centres.

2. As no document check was carried out during the data collection, migrants include asylum seekers and refugees.

Most of the observed migrants (314, or 92.6% of the total) reported that they entered BiH from Serbia 8, (or 2.4%) entered from Montenegro, while for 17 (or 5%) migrants this information is unknown.

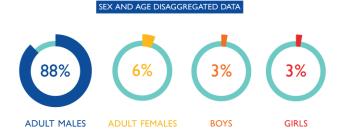


1,046 migrants assisted in TRCs*

3,229 extra beds available in TRCs

* Data refer to 20 April 2022

On the type of locations covered, the vast majority of migrants observed were found in outside locations (39.9%), including bus and train stations, followed by abandoned buildings (31.8%), other not defined locations (12.1%), paid private accommodation (7.1%), paid hostels and private accommodation that they can use for free (4% each), bus stations (5%), paid hostels and paid private accommodation (3.2% each), and makeshift barracks or tents (0.9%). Interestingly, the percentage of migrants mapped into makeshift shacks or tents is significantly lower than in the previous round by more than 4 per cent. According to the methodology used, migrants residing in paid hostels are counted in the number of people who do not reside in official TRCs in BiH. However, it should be emphasized that places are available in TRCs. Migrants can decide not to reside in TRCs, despite the best efforts of IOM, SFA and other humanitarian actors to inform them of the assistance available in the TRCs.



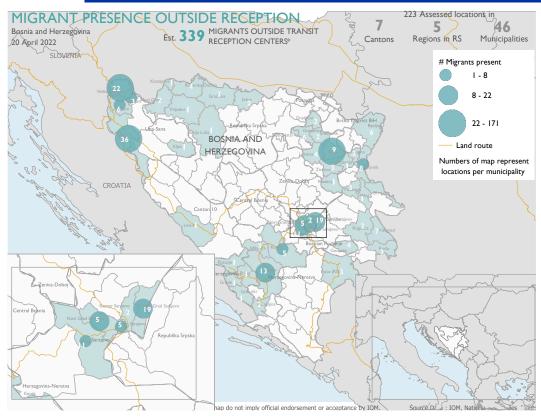
- 3. Number of locations visited refers to the number of micro locations which are characterized by unique geo-referenced coordinates. In 172 out of the 223 locations visited, (77.1%), there were no migrants present.
- 4. Nationalities in this report are those self-reported by migrants.



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MAIN PROVINCES OF ORIGIN AS REPORTED BY THE MIGRANTS FROM AFGHANISTAN



In Round 12, out of the 97 migrants from Afghanistan, 72 (74%) reported to be from Kabul province, followed by 16 from Nangarhar (17%), 4 from Parwan (4%), 2 from Paktya (3%), and for 2 of them this information is unknow.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

Most of the migrants outside TRCs (76.1%) were found in Una-Sana Canton (USC), an increase of 8 per cent from the previous round, followed by 10 per cent in Tuzla Canton (TC), 8.8 per cent in the Sarajevo Canton (SC), 3.5 per cent in Herzegovina – Neretva Canton (HNC), 1.5 per cent in the entity of Republika Srpska. No migrants were observed in Bosnian Podrinje Canton, Canton 10 and Western Herzegovina Cantons.

The questionnaire captures information on specific individual conditions and vulnerable groups among the observed population. The following vulnerable groups were identified which represent 4.1 per cent of the total migrant population mapped outside reception facilities in BiH: 4 persons with medical problems including scabies and visible bruises, 4 children under 5 years of age, 3 women travelling alone, 2 unaccompanied children between 15 and 17 years of age, and 1 elderly person over 60 years of age.

The data collection also aimed to identify the type(s) of medical problem(s) among the migrants staying outside TRCs, based on the observation made by the enumerators. This is to understand if there are unmet health needs, and if migrants in need had received assistance in the two weeks prior to the data collection. Of the 4 migrants observed, who declared they needed medical assistance in the past two weeks, all of whom declared they could not receive it.

HEALTH ISSUES AND VULNERABILITIES 4 PERSONS WITH MEDICAL PROBLEMS 4 CHILDREN UNDER SYEARS OF AGE 1 UNACCOMPANIED AND SEPRAYATD CHILDREN SETWEN IS AND 17 YEARS OF AGE OVER 60 YEARS OF AGE



MIGRANT PRESENCE

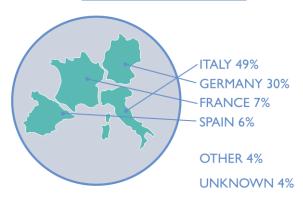


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INTENDED DESTINATIONS



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In Round 12, the country that emerged as the main intended final destination was Italy (48.7%), which was mentioned by almost half of the migrant population interviewed with a 10 per cent increase compared to the previous round. It was followed by Germany (30.4%), France (7%) and Spain (5.9%). For both Pakistani and Afghan nationals, the main intended destination is Italy, with 69.4 per cent and 46.4 per cent respectively, both followed by Germany, while for Moroccan nationals the main intended destination is Germany representing the 50 per cent of the total.

REFERRAL INFORMATION

In round 12, a quarter of migrants (25.6%) reported spending between 6 months and a year in BiH, 24.7 per cent said they spent between 2 weeks and a month, 17.1 per cent less than 2 weeks , 12.1 per cent between 3 and 6 months, 10.3 between one and two years, 5.6 per cent more than 2 years (a decrease of 7.3% compared to previous round), 2.9 per cent between one and three months, and for 1.5 per cent the information is unknown. Overall, 15.9 per cent of the mapped migrants said they had stayed in BiH for more than 1 year, which is a 24 per cent decrease compared to previous round.

Furthermore, 42 per cent of the migrants met during Round 12 declared to be aware of the option for assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) to their country of origin offered by IOM, which is 10 per cent less than the previous round. Lastly, 12 migrants expressed interest in information on legal pathways to be able to stay in BiH, representing only 3.5 per cent of the total migrants observed.

LENGTH OF STAY IN BIH



6. For more information on the methodology, please refer to the extended methodology available on IOM DTM Global portal..

METHODOLOGY⁶

The IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a system to capture and monitor displacement and population movements, and to disseminate information regularly and systematically. In BiH, DTM is collecting data on transits/apprehensions by nationality at entry points, and data on the number of migrants present in Temporary Reception Centres (TRCs). These data have been collected since 2017 as part of the broader DTM Europe monitoring of mixed migration flows through the Western Balkan and the Mediterranean routes to Europe. Since 2021, DTM in BIH is also collecting data on migrants' presence outside reception centers and individual Flow Monitoring Surveys with migrants in reception.

Design of the data collection - Round 11

Geographical coverage

In Round 12, 46 Municipalities in seven Cantons of the FBiH and in five regions of RS entity were chosen by IOM for their well-known high presence of migrants. The total number of locations visited takes into account micro locations. Micro locations shall be understood as unique locations with specific geographic coordinates.

Target population

Foreign nationals travelling through or stranded in BiH outside TRCs. Migrants who are already accommodated in an official TRCs were excluded from the count.

Time frame

Round 12 was carried out on the 20 April 2022.

Enumerators

Fourteen teams for a total of 34 enumerators (24 M, 10 F), with language skills in English, Arabic, Dari, Farsi, Turkish and Pashto, together with 13 staff from the Red Cross Society BiH (8M, 5 F), 11 inspectors from SFA local staff (9 M, 2 F).

Data collection methods

The questionnaire is available in paper form and as an online/mobile Kobo form in English. All data are collected and stored in a Kobo server managed by IOM HQ in Geneva. The questionnaire is made of five main sections: Total estimated presence of migrants outside TRCs in one location; Sex and age breakdown for the top 5 nationality groups; Main vulnerabilities and Health issues; Main Routes, Transport, Destinations; Interest in referral and further information.

Limitations

IOM builds on its already established presence in a selected number of municipalities in BiH and on its activities covering the whole country to provide an estimate of the stock of the migrant population outside TRCs at a specific point in time. The data collection exercise was conducted within the context of the following limitations:

- 1. Geographical coverage was limited to a select number of locations in BiH. Since the inception of the project in 2021, thanks to the addition of a cantons in FBiH and five regions in the entity of RS, IOM's range of action and geographical coverage has significantly increased. Nevertheless, some key locations may not yet have been visited.
- The SFA's presence during the data collection exercise facilitates access to some locations but may hinder migrants' participation in other locations and/or may cause some bias in migrants' replies to the questions.

Although IOM is committed to constantly and accurately monitor the locations where migrants tend to usually reside - thanks also to the support of other humanitarian organizations working in the field - these change rapidly, in line with the seasons and routes, but also for other factors (for instance smuggling and trafficking networks, nationality and visa regimes, and so on) which have a significant impact on the number of migrants identified through the data collection exercise.

