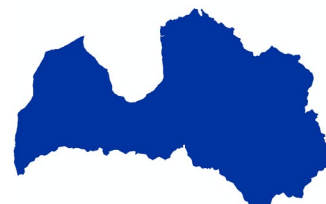


345 SURVEYS CONDUCTED


 62%
 Female

 38%
 Male

 2 Regions
 (Latgale and Rīga)
 9 cities and towns


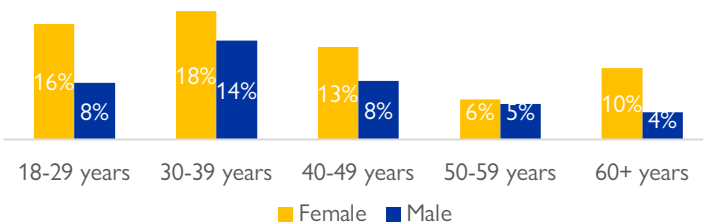
Since 24 February 2022, Ukrainians and Third Country Nationals (TCNs) have been fleeing from Ukraine to neighbouring and other European countries as a result of the war. From the beginning of the war in Ukraine until the the end of September, a total 170,919 Ukrainian nationals were reported at entry through Latvia's external (non-EU) borders by the Latvian Ministry of Interior, and 39,119 have been registered by Latvian Ministry of Interior (CAK - [Civil Support Information Registry](#)). Also, a total of 40,666 have applied for temporary protection in the country as of 30 September. 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's DTM trained enumerators with adult refugees fleeing Ukraine. This report presents an analysis based on 345 surveys collected between 1 August to 30 September 2022. Data collection was made in 9 different cities; the majority of the surveys (74%) were collected in transit places of the capital Rīga (collective and registration centres, bus and train stations, other open spaces). Another 26 per cent of the surveys were collected in the eastern region of Latgale. In particular, surveys were collected in entry and transit points in Rēzekne (15%), in Zilupe (5%), and other locations close to the border with the Russian Federation.

KEY FINDINGS

- Most refugees from Ukraine in the sample reported to have entered Latvia by land border from the Russian Federation (62%), followed by those who entered from Lithuania (24%), from Estonia (11%), from Belarus or by flight (3%).
- Out of the 345 respondents, 51 per cent declared not applying for temporary protection or asylum while 46 per cent applied for asylum and only one per cent applied for temporary protection.
- Almost half (42%) of the Ukrainian refugees interviewed declared their intention to choose elsewhere in Europe or outside of Europe as a their final intended destination. Twenty eight (28%) per cent plan to return to Ukraine while 22 per cent plan to stay in Latvia either in the same current location (20%) or a different location in Latvia (2%).
- About 8 per cent of respondents declared that they experienced an unfair and/or unequal treatment after leaving Ukraine

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Figure 1. Age distribution of respondents, by gender (%)



All respondents were refugees from Ukraine. Most (62%) of were women, while men were 38 per cent. Most respondents were between 30 and 39 years of age (31%) and between 19 and 29 years of age (24%), and the average age for women in the sample was the same as that of the men's (40).

Sixty-three per cent of the respondents were traveling with children. Almost 24 per cent of all children (388) were younger than five years old and 76 per cent were between 5 and 17 years old (41% girls and 34% boys).

More than a quarter (36%) of the respondents declared being married while another 31 per cent were in a partnership and 19 per cent were single. Almost half of the female respondents being in a partnership (49%) and the majority of males being married (71%).


 89%
 travelling in a group

 11%
 travelling alone

 63%
 traveling with children

 14%
 above 60 years old

GROUP COMPOSITION

The majority (89%) of Ukrainian refugees declared travelling in a group with an average of three persons per group and 11 per cent were travelling alone, with the majority of both shares of female (91%) and male (85%) respondents traveling in a group, composed of immediate family or household members (82%), friends and neighbours (12%) or relatives (5%).

Table 1. Travel mode, by gender

	Women	Men	Total
Alone	20	19	39
In a group	193	113	306

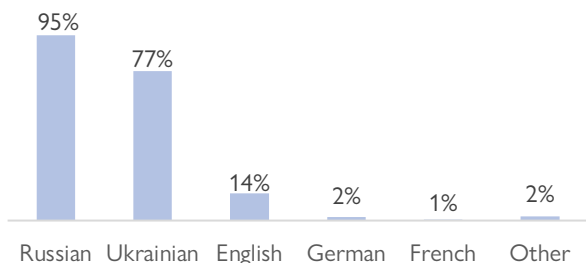
About 28 per cent of the sample reported to be travelling with a person with a serious health condition or specific need.

Among them, 92 persons reported to have or to be travelling with someone with a chronic disease, 27 said to be suffering from a psychological problems (anxiety and/or depression), 23 were pregnant or lactating women, another 23 declared having difficulties walking or climbing steps, 11 respondents experienced violence and abuse and 7 of the participants were injured or wounded during the interview.



LANGUAGES SPOKEN BY RESPONDENTS

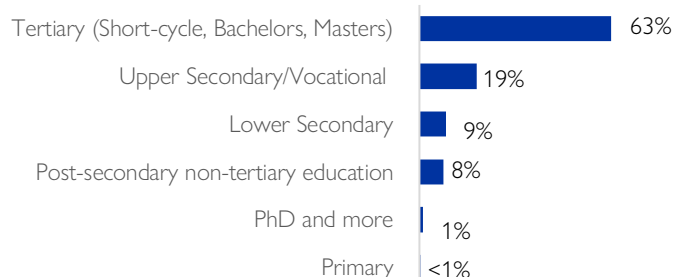
Figure 3. Languages spoken by the respondents, multiple answers possible (%)



The majority of respondents declared speaking two languages on average. Russian (95%) and Ukrainian (77%) were top languages spoken followed by English (14%), German (2%) and French (1%).

LEVEL OF EDUCATION

Figure 2. Highest level of education achieved (%)



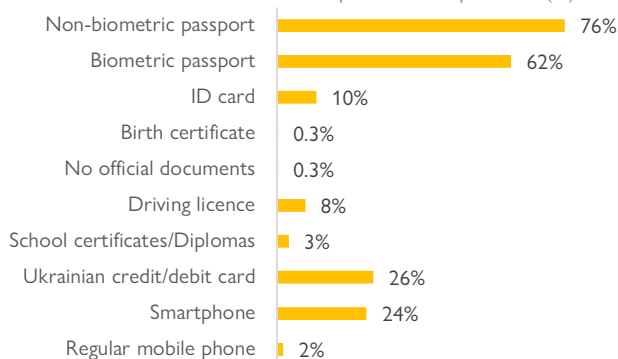
Almost two thirds of refugees from Ukraine (63%) had completed a short-cycle, a bachelor or a master's degree (64% of the share of female respondents and 61 per cent of the male participants), 28 per cent have an upper secondary/vocational (19%) or lower secondary (9%) level of education and only less than one per cent had a primary level as their highest level of education.

The top three subject of studies for respondents who completed a secondary or higher level of education were engineering, manufacturing and construction (37%), business, administration and law (14%) and education (9%). The share of men (54%) that studied Engineering, manufacturing and construction was more than the double than that of the women (22%) interviewed.

DOCUMENTS and other ITEMS POSSESSED

About 76 per cent per cent of respondents declared being in the possession of their non biometric passport (*Vnutrennij passport*), 62 per cent had a biometric passport (*Zagranpasport*), 10 per cent had the identity card and 8 per cent a driving license. Moreover, 26 per cent reported to have a Ukrainian credit and/or debit card, 24 per cent had a smartphone, and only 3 per cent reported to have school or university diplomas with them. Out of the 345 interviewed, only one person declared not having any of the official documents at the moment of the survey.

Figure 4. Documents and other items possessed at the moment of the interview, multiple answers possible (%)

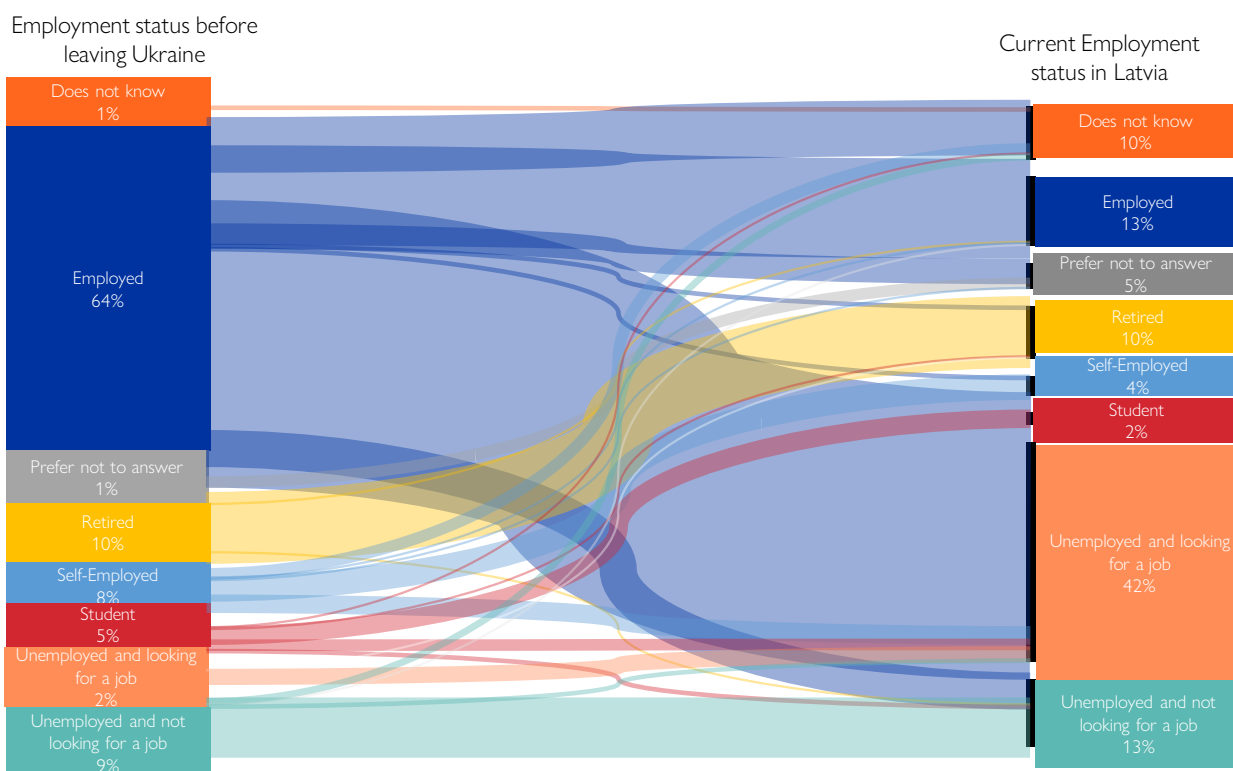


EMPLOYMENT STATUS

When asked about their employment status before leaving Ukraine, almost two thirds of Ukrainian respondents (64%) declared being employed, 10 per cent were retired, 9 per cent were unemployed and looking for a job, 8 per cent were self-employed and 5 per cent were still pursuing their studies. However, these numbers were noticeably different when asked about their current employment, 42 per cent declared

being unemployed and looking for a job in Latvia, while the share of employed and self-employed decreased to 13 per cent and 4 per cent respectively. The share of those declaring to be unemployed and not looking for a job increased from 9 per cent before the journey to 13 per cent while in Latvia, with the share of female respondents representing the majority (12%)

Figure 5. Comparison of the employment status of respondents before the journey and while in Latvia (%)



Out of the 59 respondents that were employed or self-employed at the moment of the survey, 55 per cent are working as a professional (e.g. lawyer, doctors, nurses, teachers, accountants), 19 per cent are technicians or associate professionals (e.g. sales and purchasing agents, religious associate professionals) and 12 per cent are working as managers (e.g. directors, senior officials).

In terms of desired sectors of work while in Latvia, 57 per cent of Ukrainian refugees had no preference, 6 per cent mentioned they could work in the construction field, 6 per cent in manufacturing and another 6 per cent in wholesale and retail trade.

The share of women mentioning manufacturing (7%) and retail (7%) was higher than the average, while men more frequently (14%) mentioned construction as their desired employment sector in Latvia.

When it comes to the preferred occupation in Latvia, 48 per cent had no preference and ready to take any available occupation, while another third (33%) mentioned that was aiming to work as professionals, 6 per cent as manager and 4 per cent as technicians or associate professionals (in line with their possessed qualifications).

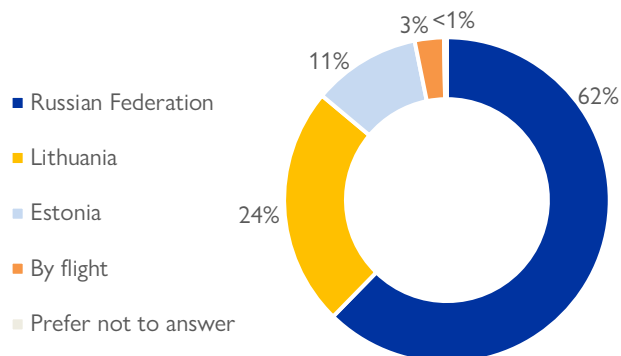
Figure 6: Which occupation would you like to work in Latvia?



BORDER OF ENTRY TO LATVIA

Most refugees from Ukraine in the sample reported to have entered Latvia by land border from the Russian Federation (62%), followed by those who entered from Lithuania (24%), from Estonia (11%), from Belarus or by flight (3%).

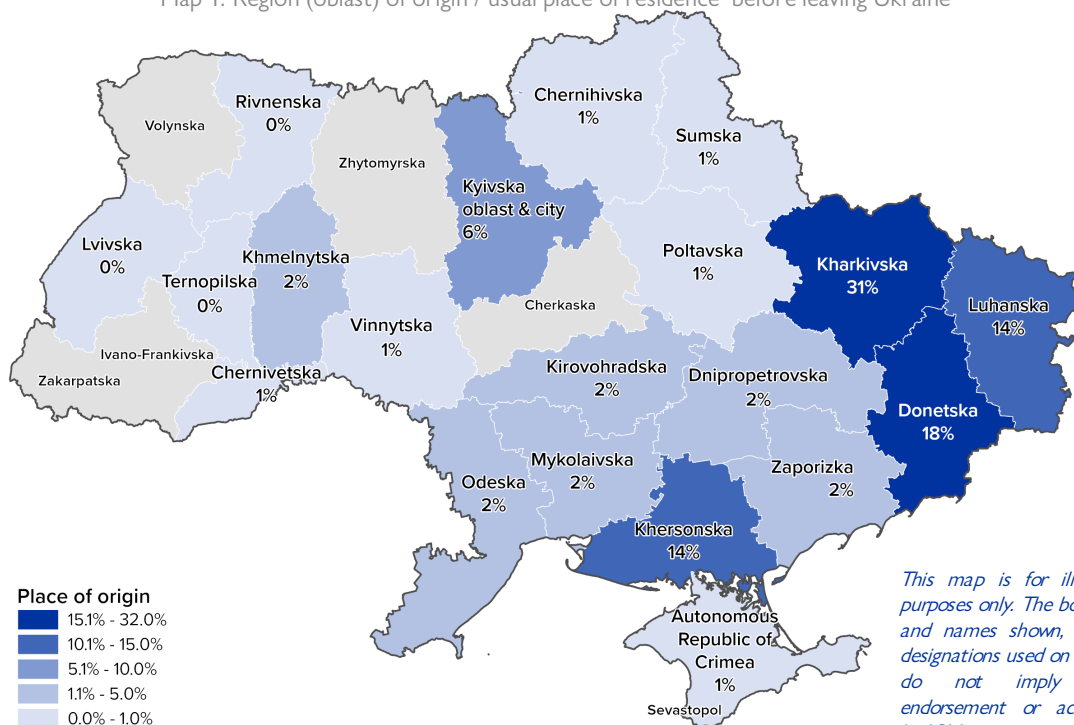
Figure 7 . Border of entry to Latvia (%)



PLACE OF HABITUAL RESIDENCE IN UKRAINE

Respondents were distributed in all parts of the country in terms of their region of usual residence before leaving Ukraine, with the majority coming from the northeastern region of the country. When asked about their habitual region of residence in Ukraine, 31 per cent reported to be arriving from Kharkiv oblast, 18 per cent from the Donetsk oblast, 14 per cent from Luhanska, 14 per cent from Khersonska. The majority (73%) started their journey from an urban location and 27 per cent from a rural location.

Map 1. Region (oblast) of origin / usual place of residence before leaving Ukraine



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.

PROTECTION APPLICATIONS

Out of the 345 respondents, 48 per cent applied for asylum or temporary protection, while 52 per cent declared not having registered for protection in Latvia. Among those that answered “No” (N=175), 73 per cent were planning to leave Latvia soon while another 10 per cent declared wanting to register sometime in the future.

Among those who declared to have already been registered their application with Latvian authorities, most reported to have been applied for asylum and not temporary protection, suggesting that the distinction between the two types of protection regimes may be not clearly evident for most of the refugees arriving from Ukraine into one European Union country.

TRAVEL INTENTIONS OF THE RESPONDENTS

Almost half (42%) of the Ukrainian refugees interviewed declared their intention to move elsewhere in Europe or outside of Europe. Twenty-eight per cent reported to be willing to return to Ukraine, while 22 per cent plan to remain in Latvia either in the same current location (20%) or a different location in Latvia (2%). The remaining 8 per cent could not specify any plan regarding the destination when asked.

Figure 8. Final intended destination (%)

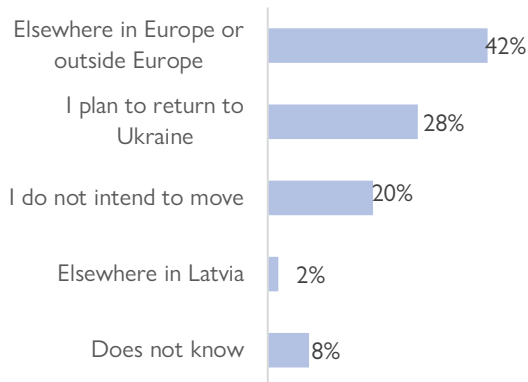
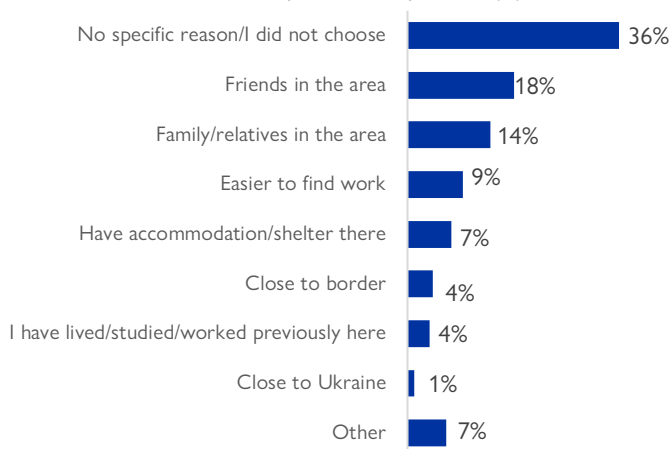


Figure 9. Reasons to choose Latvia as final intended destination, multiple answers possible (%)*



* Among those who reported the intention to stay in Latvia

Out of the 28 per cent that declared their intention to return to Ukraine, 24 per cent were reporting to returning to Kharkiva, 14 per cent to Donetska, 14 per cent to Khersonska and 13 per cent to Kyivska region.

Table 2. If you're planning to move, when?

If not in a day, in less than 2 weeks	45%
When it is safe to do so	32%
Does not know	8%
In a day	6%
Between 1 and 2 months	3%
Between 2 weeks and 1 month	3%
Between 2 and 6 months	2%

Forty-five per cent of the respondents indicated that they are planning to move in less than 2 weeks, while 32 per cent said they will be moving when it is safe to do so with 93 per cent of them intending to return to Ukraine and 8 per cent were still uncertain at the time of the interview.

For those who chose a location Europe or outside of Europe as their intended destination, Germany (28%) and Norway (9%) were the top mentioned countries of final destinations, followed by Czechia, Finland, Netherlands, Poland (8% each), and others (9%).

More than a quarter (36%) of those who mentioned Latvia as final destination declared that the choice was random or was due to the circumstances of the situation after the war. Others chose Latvia because they have friends (18%) or family and relatives (14%) in the country. The decision was job related for 10 per cent who declared that it is easier to find a job in Latvia.

The majority (81%) of those intending to stay in Latvia declared intending to remain around a year, 14 per cent reported they intend to stay around 2 months and 2 per cent are intending to stay in Latvia around a week.

Intended final destination in Europe or outside Europe*

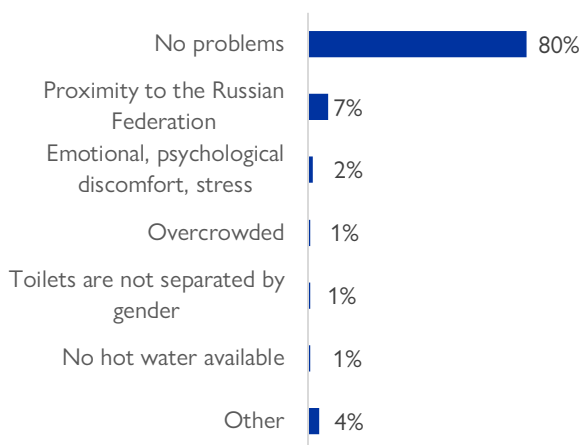


* Among those who reported the intention to move elsewhere

CURRENT ACCOMMODATION IN LATVIA

Almost one third of Ukrainians respondents to the survey (31%) were staying in an organized reception centre in Latvia, with the majority (92%) of them travelling with children. Another 23 per cent were living in a rented apartment or house at the time of the interview, 20 per cent were in hotels or hostels, 8 per cent were still unsure of their place of accommodation as they were just arrived in Latvia. Others were either staying with friends or family without paying (7%), or in an apartment or house rented from friends or family (4%) or in another free accommodation (4%).

Figure 10. Main challenges faced by respondents in current accommodation in Latvia, multiple answers possible (%)



INTENDED LENGTH OF STAY IN LATVIA

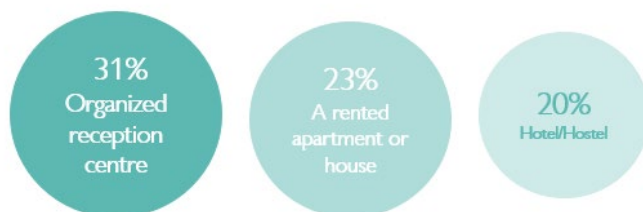
Table 3. How long do you intend to stay in Latvia?

Around a week	36%
Around a month	12%
Around 2 months	4%
More than 2 months	7%
Around a year	42%

About forty-two per cent of the Ukrainian refugees interviewed intend to stay around a year in Latvia while another 36 per cent intend to stay for a shorter period, around a week before they move elsewhere.

For the ones intending to stay for around a year, 88 per cent already applied for asylum or temporary protection, with the majority of them staying in Rīga (85%) and Latgale (9%) regions.

Figure 11. What type of location are you staying in in Latvia?



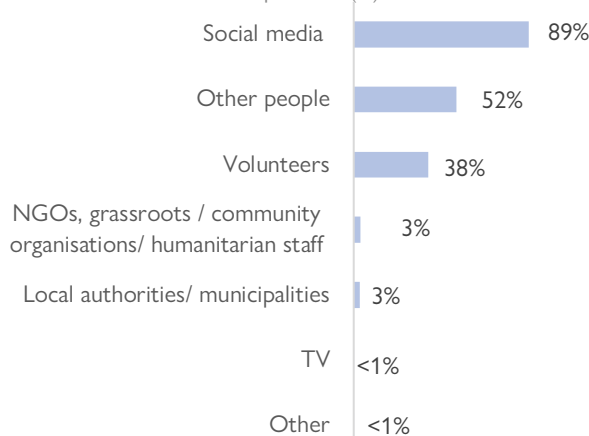
The majority of respondents (84%) declared not having any problems in their current accommodation, with all of these participants living in organized reception centres. (100%).

Some of the challenges that the Ukrainian refugees have faced in their current accommodation were the proximity to Russian Federation (8%), the emotional and psychological discomfort and stress from the war and the uncertainty of the situation (2%), lack of basic services (hot water 1%, no separation of toilets by gender 1%), overcrowding of the place (1%).

RESPONDENTS' SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The majority of respondents (89%) declared that they get the information about available support and services for displaced people from Ukraine from social media, while others got the information from other people (52%) or volunteers (38%).

Figure 11. The main sources of information, multiple answers possible (%)



MAIN NEEDS AND CHALLENGES

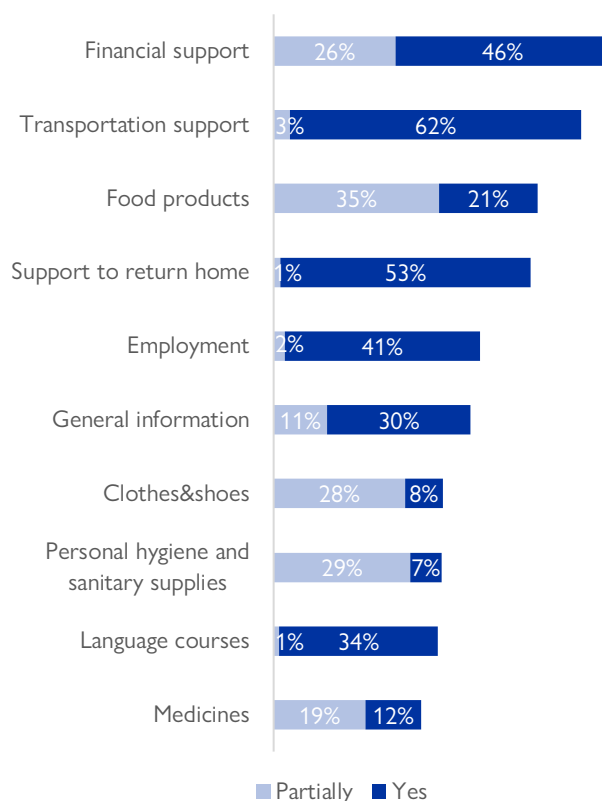
Financial support (71% of positive responses) and transportation support (65%) were the first two main important needs expressed at the time of the interview by respondents, followed by the need for food products (56%), support to return home (54%) and employment support (44%). It is worth noting that all respondents that expressed a need in terms of protection (1%) from violence, harassment, theft, exploitation, were travelling with children. For the 217 Ukrainian refugees travelling with children, financial support (75%), transportation support (66%), food products (55%), support to return home (53%) and the need to receive more general information about the developments in Ukraine and abroad (44%) were the main needs at the time of the interview.

When asked about the 3 main challenges encountered while in Latvia, 44 per cent of the respondents declared that financial issues were one of the main challenges, followed by challenges relative to housing problems (32%), lack of information (23%), language barrier (17%), regular status (7%) and issues with the recognition of professional skills, diplomas, university credits (5%). More than one third was not able to identify any specific challenge encountered in Latvia, as they were recently arrived in the country.

About 19 per cent of respondents were not been able to withdraw money from an ATM or make payments using their debit/credit card. Moreover, 66 per cent were not able to exchange any cash brought from Ukraine and another 66 per cent did not have a bank account in Latvian bank under their name, which could explain why financial support and issues was at the top of both the respondents needs and challenges.

Finally, about 8 per cent of respondents declared that they experienced an unfair and/or unequal treatment after leaving Ukraine, related to aspects such as nationality, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, religion. Another 3 per cent did not know and 1 per cent preferred not to answer. Eighty-eight per cent did not report to have had any of such experiences.

Figure 12. Top 10 main needs at the moment, by share of positive responses (%)



HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT RECEIVED

About 72 per cent of all refugees in the sample reported to have received some kind of support or humanitarian assistance, while 28 per cent did not receive any support before the interview. Almost all respondents (99%) indicated that they had received help with food as the main support, followed by personal hygiene and sanitary products (67%), free transportation (50%), clothes or shoes (37%), toys for children (17%), mental health services and psychological counselling (11%) and others (less than 1%).

Figure 13. Humanitarian assistance and support received by respondents (%)*



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 were 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 (01 August-30 September 2022). The data should not be generalized to represent the whole displaced population outside Ukraine.

The first report from surveys conducted in Latvia in June and July 2022 is available [here](#).



Ukraine's map on the information board of a distribution centre for Ukrainian refugees in Riga. July 2022 © IOM Latvia.