

## 486 INTERVIEWS



- 4 TRAIN STATIONS
- 1 BUS STATION
- 2 HELP/INFO/COMMUNITY CENTRES
- 3 COLLECTIVE ACCOMMODATIONS
- 1 FOOD AND NFI DISTRIBUTION EVENT

### BACKGROUND

Since 24 February 2022, refugees from Ukraine and Third Country Nationals (TCNs) have been fleeing to neighbouring countries as a result of the war. 32,628 refugees from Ukraine and TCNs were registered in Hungary as of 21 December 2022, according to [UNHCR and the Hungarian Government](#).

This report is based on a survey on displacement patterns, needs and intentions, launched by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) in Hungary. All interviews were conducted face-to-face by IOM's DTM trained enumerators with adult refugees and TCNs fleeing Ukraine. The analysis is based on 486 surveys collected between 01 and 30 November 2022.

Interviews were carried out in various locations, such as Budapest (162) and Záhony – Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg County (324), and in various settings, including transit points (e.g., train and bus stations), the Help Center (run by the Budapest Municipality and IOM), the Info and Community Center (run by IOM and UNHCR), collective accommodations and the food and non-food items distribution event.

*This sample is not representative of all persons fleeing from Ukraine in Hungary, and results should only be considered as indicative.*

### MAIN FINDINGS

- Women constituted 56% of respondents
- The largest age group was between 18-29 years old (42%)
- The 37% TCNs mostly originated from India (23%), Morocco (13%), Nigeria (11%), and Turkmenistan (9%)
- The most common areas of origin were: City of Kyiv (22%), Kharkivska (16%), and Zakarpatska (11%)
- 53% of respondents travelled in a group and 68% were separated from at least some immediate family members
- 485 respondents had identification documents. The majority (95%) held passports
- 47% of respondents had an occupation in Ukraine, while 24% had a job in Hungary
- 66% of interviewees obtained bachelor or higher levels of education (i.e., Matser's and doctoral studies)
- Accommodation was the main reported need (46%)
- How to find a job opportunity was the main information need (36%) and social media was the preferred communication means (78%)
- The top final intended destinations were Hungary (34%), Germany (20%) and Austria (8%)

### DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Figure 1: Ukrainian refugees and TCNs

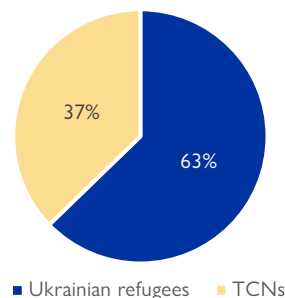
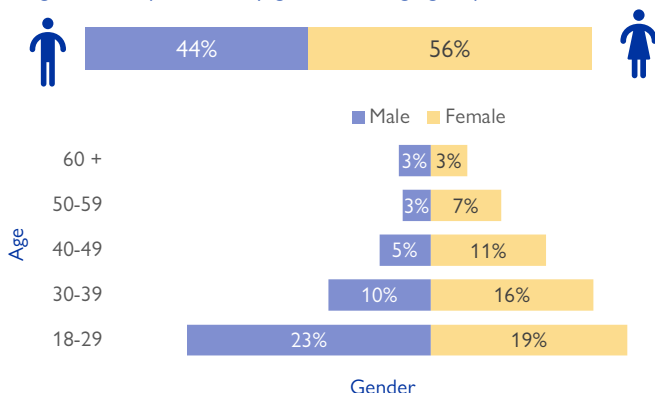


Figure 2: Respondents by gender and age groups



Women constituted 56 per cent of the interviewed population, while men 44 per cent. Among the age groups, respondents between 18-29 were at 42 per cent, whereas interviewees between 30-39 and 40-49 years old were at 26 and 16 per cent each. Ten and six per cent were between 50-59 and above 60 years of age, respectively.

Most respondents were refugees from Ukraine (63%). The remaining 37 per cent were TCNs. Eleven (2%) Ukrainian refugees held other nationalities, the majority of which were from Hungary (7 people), followed by Iraq (2), Libya (1) and Argentina (1).

The four main countries of origin of TCNs were India (23%); Morocco (13%); Nigeria (11%); and Turkmenistan (9%).

Other mentioned nationalities were: Republic of Türkiye (6%); Islamic Republic of Iran (5%); Azerbaijan (4%); Central African Republic (4%); Ghana (3%); Iraq (3%); Nepal (2%); People's Republic of China (2%); Russian Federation (2%); Uzbekistan (2%); Algeria (1%); Armenia (1%); Belarus (1%); Botswana (1%); Côte d'Ivoire (1%); Egypt (1%); Georgia (1%); Jordan (1%); Kenya (1%); Lebanon (1%); the Netherlands (1%); Tajikistan (1%); Tunisia (1%); Zambia (1%); and Zimbabwe (1%) (*note: the total sum is slightly higher than 100 as the numbers were rounded, avoiding decimals*).

REGIONS OF ORIGIN IN UKRAINE, TRANSPORT AND ARRIVAL IN HUNGARY

One hundred-nine respondents reported the City of Kyiv as their area of origin in Ukraine, while 76 persons were from Kharkivska. Many interviewees also originated from Zakarpatszka (52), Odeska (42), and Dnipropetrovska (38).

Other mentioned regions of origin or habitual residence were: Mykolaivska (16); Khersonska (14); Poltavska (14); Zaporizka (14); Ivano Frankivska (13); Lvivska (13); Chernihivska (12); Donetsk (9); Kyivska (9); Ternopilska (8); Cherkaska (7);

Kirovohradska (7); Sumska (7); Vinnytska (7); Chernivetska (6); Luhanska (5); Khmelnytska (3); Rivnenska (2); Zhytomyrska (2); and Volynska (1).

Most interviewees (84%) declared having left Ukraine by train. Six, five and three per cent crossed by bus, car and on foot respectively. The remaining two per cent departed by minibus or plane. Concerning their arrival in Hungary, sixty-nine per cent of respondents entered the country in November 2022.

Map 1: Region of origin/residence before leaving Ukraine



TRAVELLING CONDITIONS AND FAMILY SITUATIONS

Figure 3: Travelling alone or in a group



The majority of respondents travelled in a group, representing 53 per cent of the interviewed population, while 47 per cent left Ukraine alone. Travelling groups were composed in average by three persons and included: family (55%); friends and neighbours (44%); relatives (i.e., non-immediate family members) (11%); and unknown people (2%) (note: as multiple replies were allowed, the total is higher than 100%).

Figure 4: Separation from family due to the war in Ukraine



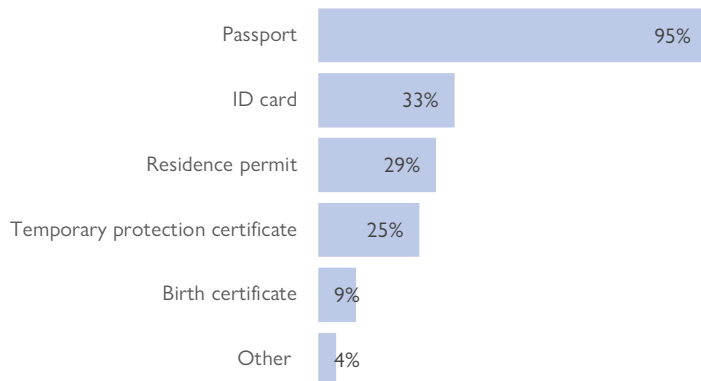
Most interviewees (68%) have been separated from at least some of their immediate family members as a result of the conflict and/or their departure from Ukraine. The remaining 32 per cent have not been separated from immediate family members. Seventy-two per cent of respondents reported having relatives outside Ukraine, while twenty-eight per cent do not have family elsewhere.

STATUS IN UKRAINE AND POSSESSED DOCUMENTS

All respondents except one reported having identification documents. Among these, 95 per cent had passports - either from Ukraine or their countries of origin, while 33 per cent had identity cards. Residence permits issued in Ukraine, temporary protection and birth certificates were also held by 29, 25 and 9 per cent of interviewees respectively. Four per cent possessed other documents too, such as driving licenses, pensions, student cards or certificates of release from the military service.

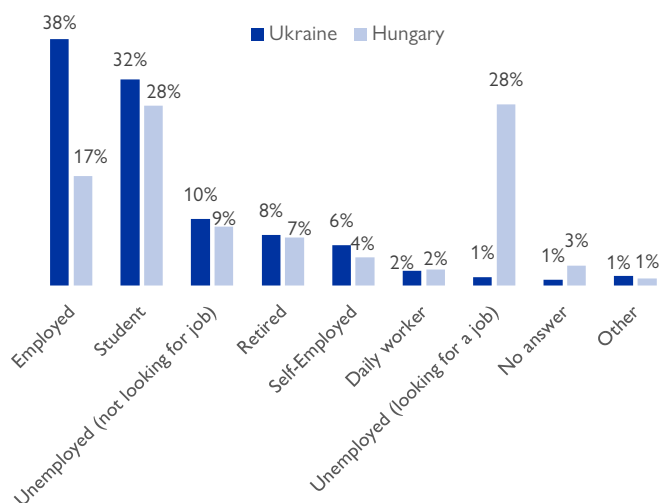
Besides the 305 respondents with Ukrainian citizenship, the 181 interviewed TCNs resided in Ukraine through student visas (94 people), residence (43)/work (23)/family reunification (13) permits. The remaining people were undocumented (4), tourists (3) and refugees (1) in Ukraine.

Figure 5: Possessed documents



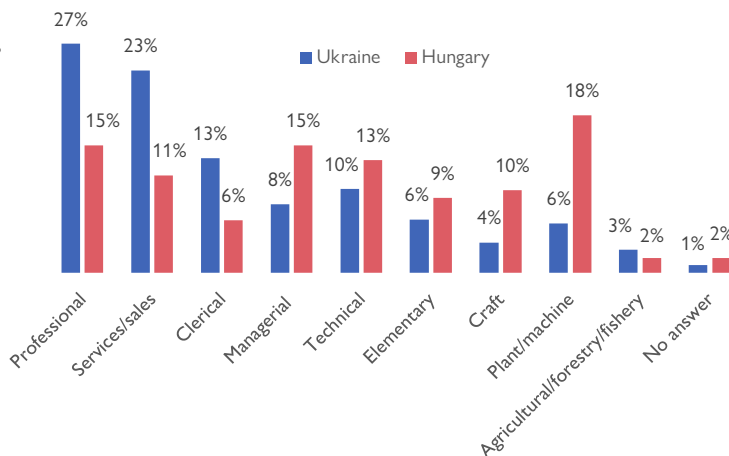
EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

Figure 6: Employment status in Ukraine and Hungary



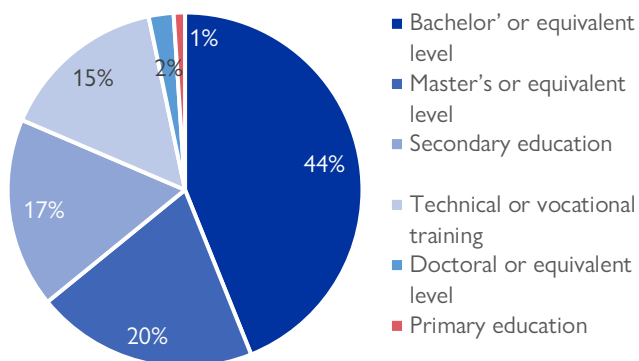
Forty-seven per cent of respondents reported having an occupation in Ukraine (38% employed; 6% self-employed; 2% daily worker), while 24 per cent stated having a job in Hungary (17% employed; 4% self-employed; 2% daily worker). The remaining percentages (53% in total in Ukraine and 76% in total in Hungary) declared being unemployed.

Figure 7: Types of occupation in Ukraine and Hungary



For respondents who declared having an occupation in Ukraine and/or Hungary, the following working categories were reported: i) professional (e.g., doctor, lawyer): Ukraine 27% - Hungary 15%; ii) services/sales (e.g., personal care, security service): Ukraine 23% - Hungary 11%; iii) clerical (e.g., secretaries, customer service): Ukraine 13% - Hungary 6%; iv) managerial (e.g., director, senior official): Ukraine 8% - Hungary 15%; v) technical (e.g., sales agent): Ukraine 10% - Hungary 13%; vi) elementary (e.g., cleaner, street vendor): Ukraine 6% - Hungary 9%; vii) craft (e.g., metal worker, repairer): Ukraine 4% - Hungary 10%; viii) plant/machine (e.g., truck driver, miner): Ukraine 6% - Hungary 18%; and ix) agricultural/forestry/fishery (e.g. gardeners, farmers, fishers, gatherers): Ukraine 3% - Hungary 2%. One per cent (Ukraine) and two per cent (Hungary) preferred not to specify their past and present employments.

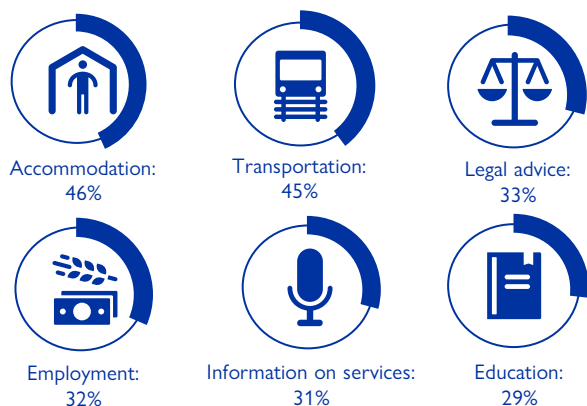
Figure 8: Obtained education



Most respondents reported having bachelor or master-level education (44% and 20% respectively), followed by secondary (17%) and technical-vocational studies (15%). Two and one per cent of interviewees pursued doctoral or primary education respectively.

MAIN NEEDS AND SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Figure 9: Top needs



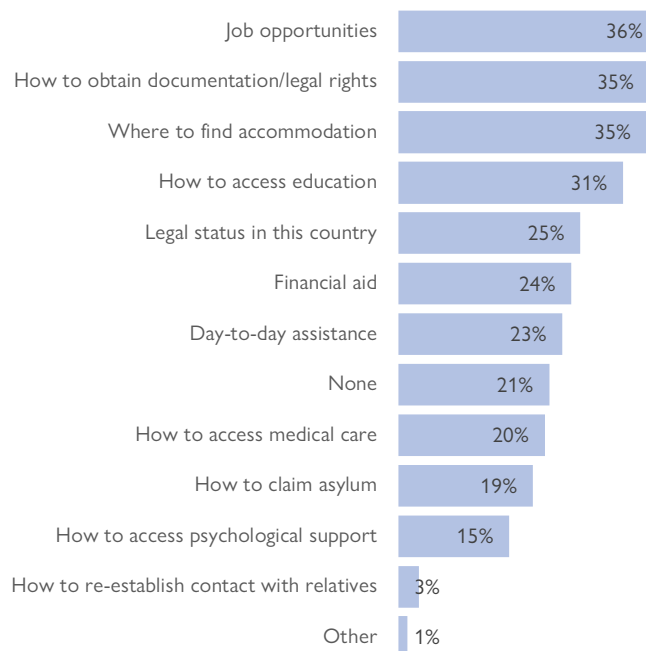
Note: Respondents could select multiple replies. Hence, the total is higher than 100%.

Accommodation (46%); transportation (45%); legal advice (33%); employment (32%); information on services (31%); and education (29%) were the top needs reported by respondents, based on various personal factors and external considerations.

The required legal advice concerned: residency status (55%); asylum status process (52%) and assistance in case of delay (18%); and other (1%), i.e., how students from Ukraine can continue their studies in Europe (note: respondents could select multiple replies. Hence, the total is higher than 100%).

Further mentioned necessities were: cash (14%); non-food items (NFIs) (14%); medical treatment/items (10%); food (7%); psychosocial support (4%); family reunification permits (4%); and ways to contact relatives (1%). Fifteen per cent of respondents reported no needs, while one per cent required assistance with other matters, such as language courses and cultural activities.

Figure 10: Information needs

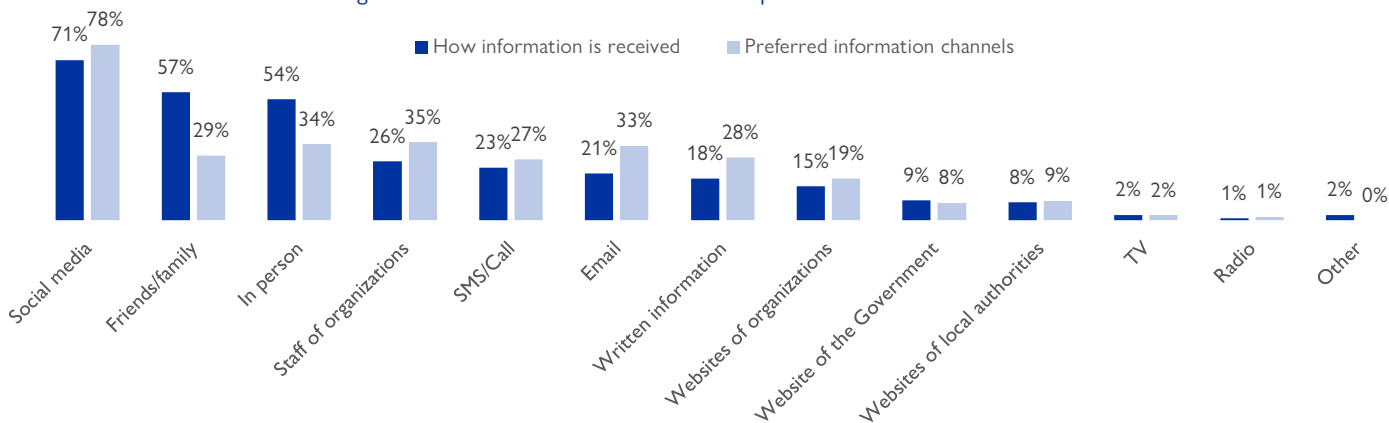


Note: Respondents could select multiple replies. Hence, the total is higher than 100%.

Respondents provided a variety of topics they needed information on, mostly including, among all: job opportunities (36%); how to obtain documentation/legal rights (35%); where to find accommodation (35%); and how to access education (31%).

Twenty-one per cent declared having no information needs, while one per cent mentioned other topics, such as integration services or onward movements from Hungary to different destinations.

Figure 11: How information is received vs. preferred information channels



Note: Respondents could select multiple replies. Hence, the total is higher than 100%.

Respondents indicated social media as main means through which they receive (71%) and prefer receiving (78%) information.

Ranking differs for other communication channels. For example, information received by family/friends (57%) was preferred only

by (29%) of interviewees, while information received by staff of organizations met along the way (26%) and via email (21%) and SMS/call (23%) was preferred by 35 and 33 per cent of respondents, respectively.

PERSONAL/GROUP CONDITIONS

**35 %** of those travelling in a group had at least one child with them:

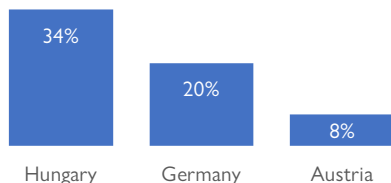
- 26% between 0-4 years old
- 58% between 5-14 years old
- 16% between 15-17 years old



**6 %** of those travelling with a group had at least one older person with them

FINAL INTENDED DESTINATIONS AND REASONS FOR CHOOSING THEM

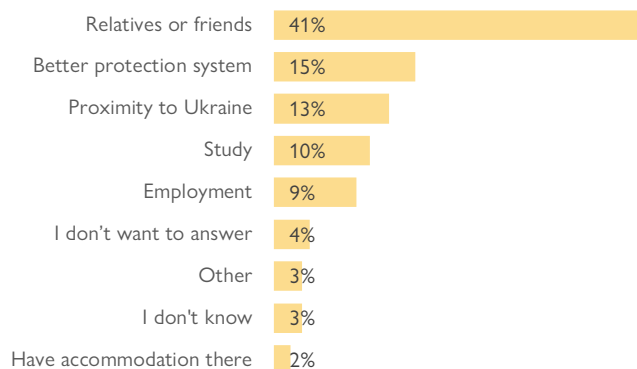
Figure 12: Top final destinations



The majority of interviewees (34%) planned to remain in Hungary, followed by Germany (20%) and Austria (8%). Other respondents were unsure about their destination or did not to disclose their intentions (3% each).

Further aimed countries were: France, Poland and Spain (3% each); India, the Netherlands, Portugal and Slovakia (2% each); Azerbaijan, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Ireland, Italy, Nepal, People's Republic of China, Republic of Türkiye, Romania, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom (1% each) (*note: the total sum is slightly lower than 100 as the numbers were rounded, avoiding decimals*).

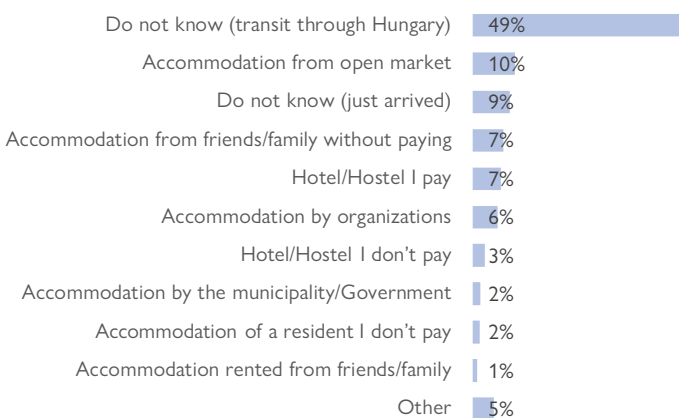
Figure 13: Reasons informing decisions on final destinations



The main reasons for the final intended destinations were: relatives/friends (41%); better protection system (15%); and proximity to Ukraine (13%).

CONDITIONS AND INTENTIONS RELATIVE TO HUNGARY

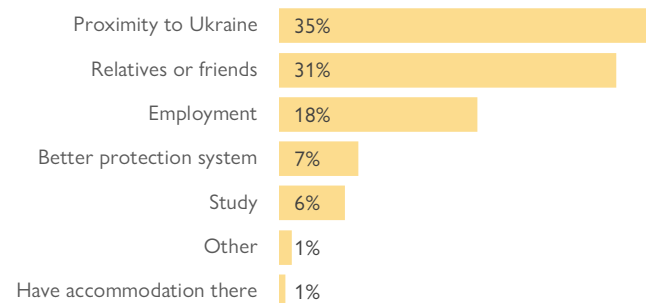
Figure 14: Where respondents stay in Hungary



Many respondents did not report a place of stay in Hungary, as they were transiting through the country (49%) or had just arrived (9%).

Others declared residing in rented accommodations (e.g., on the open market – 10% and from friends/family- 1%), in houses/flats provided for free (e.g., by friends/family – 7%; grassroot/international organizations – 6%; residents – 2%; and by the municipality/Government – 2%). The rest mentioned staying in hotel/hostels at their own expenses (7%) or for free (3%) and in other locations, such as the ones provided through jobs (5%).

Figure 15: Reasons informing Hungary as final destination



For most respondents (respectively 35%, 31% and 18%), proximity to Ukraine, relatives/friends, and employment were the main reasons defining their intention to remain in Hungary.

The majority of interviewees declared wanting to stay in Budapest (76%) and most planned to reside in private accommodations (42%) (including hotels or places provided by private/civic initiatives), with relatives or friends (18 and 12% each) or in locations recommended by the authority (15%).

Forty-seven per cent of respondents did not know how long they would remain in Hungary, while 43 per cent foresaw staying in the country "until the end of the war". For the 10 per cent who estimated an approximate length of time, the average period of stay was 36 days.

## 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.

This survey is part of IOM's DTM activities to monitor the displacement, intentions and most immediate needs of the Ukrainian refugees and TCNs fleeing from Ukraine to EU Member States and continuing onward to other countries since 24 February 2022. Surveys were collected, among others, in selected transit locations, in information centres and collective accommodations, identified to be the most frequently used by refugees and TCNs who have left Ukraine.

In Hungary, surveys were undertaken in Ukrainian, Russian, Hungarian and English by IOM's DTM trained teams of enumerators on a mobile application. The interviews are anonymous and carried out one-on-one with respondents, provided they consent to be interviewed after a brief introduction. Enumerators trained on ethics of data collection, information provision and protection principles, approached people fleeing from Ukraine, to verify their willingness to conduct the survey, which was only addressed to adults (18+).

The survey form was designed by IOM to capture the main

displacement patterns 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 relatively to the permanence in Hungary and to intended final destinations; and it gathers information regarding a set of main needs.

Various settings were identified to conduct surveys (*see page 1 for specific locations*), to maximise the number of interviews, and reach out to different profiles of individuals. While in transit points, such as train/bus stations, the flow of people was higher and interviewees were randomly surveyed (having the same likelihood compared to others to be selected), in other settings, such as the Help and Info-Community Centres, collective accommodations and distribution events, respondents were intentionally identified.

Among the limitations encountered during data collection were the reduced time to carry out surveys at transit points and the presence of only eight enumerators at the moment of the interviews.

To address the aforesaid shortcomings, and cover different viewpoints, a mixed sampling strategy guided the data collection exercise. Consequently, this analysis does not proportionally represent the whole population and results cannot be deemed representative of a full picture of displacement outside Ukraine and towards Hungary and other countries.



DTM Enumeratorat at the Information Center next to the Nyugati Train Station, in Budapest, Hungary. © IOM Hungary 2022

The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The designations employed and the presentation of material throughout the publication do not imply expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IOM concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning its frontiers or boundaries.

IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

This publication was made possible through support provided by the United States Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM), the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) and the Swiss State Secretariat for Migration (SEM). Some rights reserved.

This work is made available under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 IGO License ([CC BY-NC-ND 3.0 IGO](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/igo/)).

