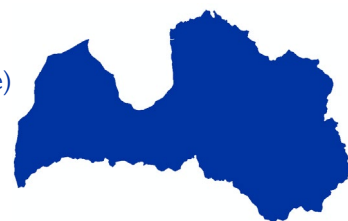


997 SURVEYS CONDUCTED



3 Regions
(Latgale, Rīga, and Vidzeme)
9 cities and towns



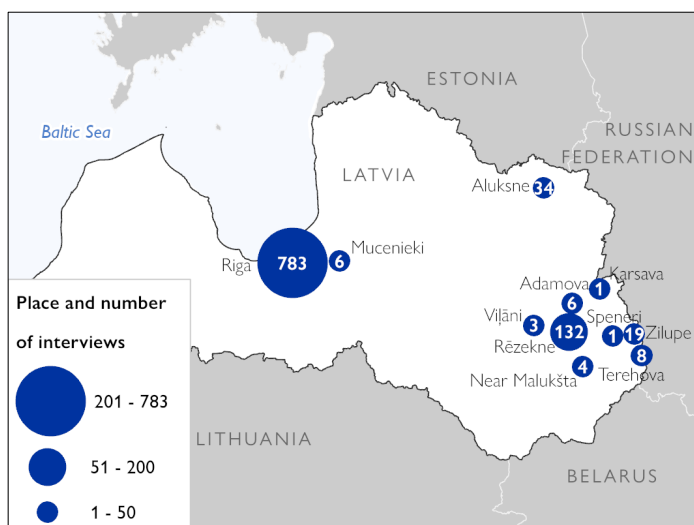
Since 24 February 2022, Ukrainians and Third Country Nationals (TCNs) have been fleeing from Ukraine to neighbouring and other European countries as a result of the war. From the beginning of the war in Ukraine until 20 December, a total 218,080 Ukrainian nationals were reported at entry through Latvia’s external (non-EU) borders by the Latvian Ministry of Interior, and 43,893 have been registered by Latvian Ministry of Interior (CAK - [Civil Support Information Registry](#)) for temporary protection. Also, a total of 34,840 are believed to be present in the country.

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 997 surveys collected between 01 July to 02 December 2022. Data collection was made in 9 different cities; the majority of the surveys (74%) were collected in transit places of the capital Rīga (N=783), followed by Rēzekne (N=132), and Aluksne (N=34).

KEY FINDINGS

- Most respondents were women (61%)
- 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 (27%), from Estonia (8%), or by flight (3%). Less the 1 per cent entered via Belarus.
- Out of the 997 respondents, 52 per cent declared applying for temporary protection or asylum while 47 per cent declared not having applied yet.
- When asked about their usual place of residence in Ukraine, 29 per cent reported to be arriving from Kharkivska, 15 per cent from the Donetska, 14 per cent from Luhanska, 14 per cent from Khersonska.
- 13 per cent of respondents declared that they experienced unfair and/or unequal treatment after leaving Ukraine

Map 1. Location of interview in Latvia (N=997)



SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Between the 1st of July and the 2nd of December, IOM’s DTM conducted 997 interviews with refugees from Ukraine and TCNs in 3 regions, and 12 cities in Latvia.

Out of all 997 respondents, 995 were Ukrainians, while two were from Latvia and the Russian Federation.

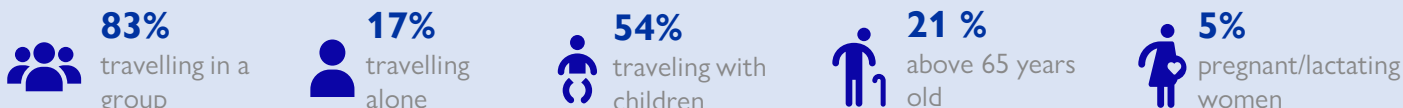
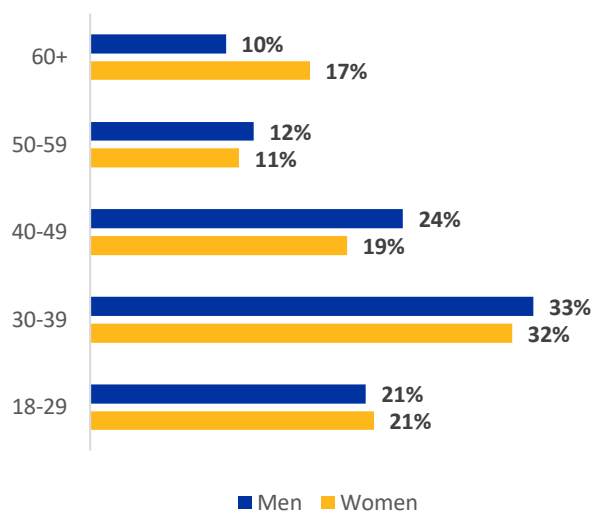


Figure 1. Age distribution of respondents, by gender (%)



Sixty-one per cent of the respondents were women, while men were 39 per cent. Almost one third of respondents were between 30 and 39 years of age (32%) followed by those between 19 and 29, and between 40 and 49 (21% each). The average age for women (42) in the sample was slightly higher than the men's (40).

Fifty-four per cent of the respondents were traveling with children. Twenty-four per cent of all children (221) were younger than five years old and 76 per cent were between 5 and 17 years old (40% girls and 36% boys).

GROUP COMPOSITION AND TRAVEL MODE

Table 1. Mode of travel by gender (multiple answers possible)

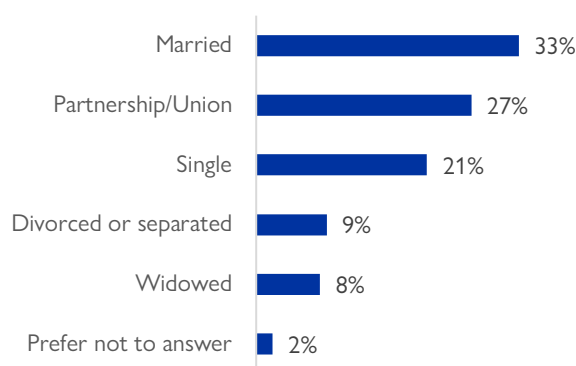
Travelling in a group/alone	Women	Men	Total
Alone	77	98	170
With immediate family/household members	498	254	752
Friends and Neighbours	71	49	120
With other relatives	34	24	58
Other/Prefer not to answer	3	3	6

MARITAL STATUS

A third (33%) of the respondents declared being married while another 27 per cent were in a partnership or union. Twenty-one per cent were single and other nine per cent were divorced or separated. The remaining respondents were either widowed (8%), or preferred not to answer (2%).

Almost half of the female respondents reported being in a partnership (43%) and the majority of males being married (59%). Of the respondents, women were 19 times more likely to be widowed in comparison to men; as well as twenty-one times more likely to be in a partnership or union. They were also found to be in a higher rate of being widowed (13%), in comparison to men (1%). In contrast, more men were married (59%) at the time of the interview vis-à-vis women (16%).

Figure 2. Marital status of respondents %



Eighty-three per cent of the sample declared to be travelling in a group, in comparison with the other 17% who were travelling alone.

Out of the 83 per cent of respondents travelling in a group, 91 per cent were travelling with immediate family/household members, 15 per cent with friends and neighbours, and seven per cent with other relatives. One per cent was travelling with other or preferred not to answer

PERSONS WITH SERIOUS HEALTH CONDITIONS OR SPECIFIC NEEDS TRAVELLING WITH RESPONDENTS

Over one fourth of the respondents (26%, or N= 252) said that their group/household included persons with serious health conditions or specific needs. Another seven per cent did not know, and the remaining 67 per cent reported that there were no person, including the respondent, in the group with any serious health condition.

More specifically, 20 per cent of the sample reported to have in their group (including themselves) at least one person with a chronic disease. Another, eight per cent with people feeling worried, nervous anxious or depressed. This was followed by people travelling with pregnant or lactating women (5%), and people that experienced violence or abuse (2%).

Figure 3. Persons of the group (including respondents) with serious health conditions (%)

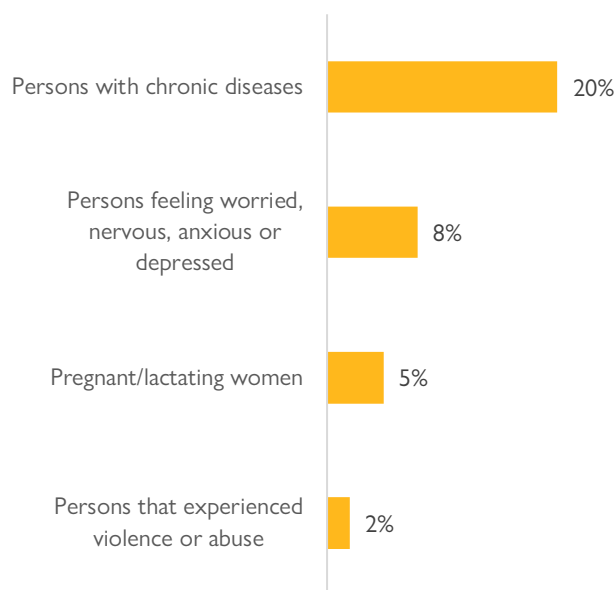
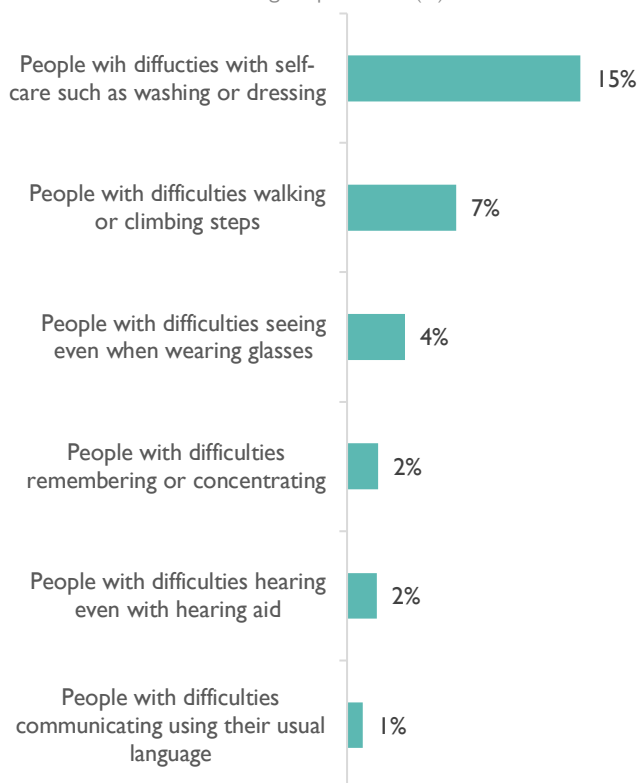


Figure 4. Persons with specific difficulties in the group, including respondents (%)



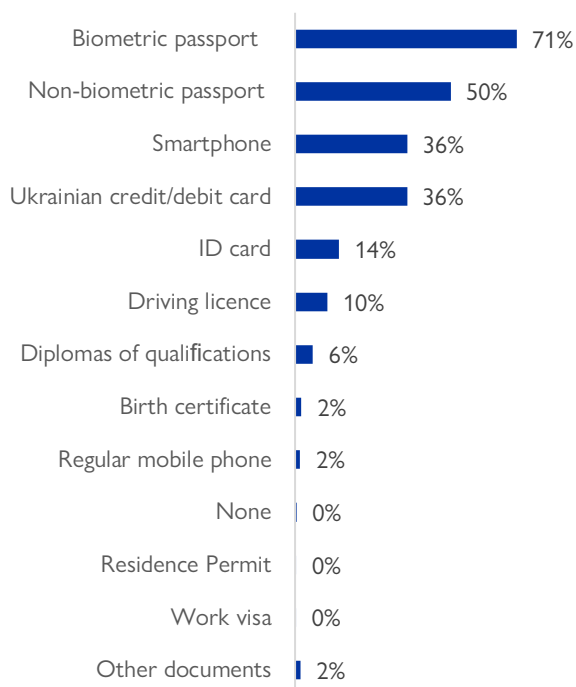
For respondents reporting some sort of health conditions, the questionnaire also included the short set of questions on functioning and disability as defined by the Washington Group.* The most frequently reported difficulties among the respondents and their group were difficulties with self-care (15%), followed by difficulties in walking or climbing steps (7%), those related to seeing even if wearing glasses (4%), difficulties remembering or concentrating (2%), difficulties hearing even if using hearing aid (2%), and difficulties in communicating once usual language (1%).

*The questionnaire included the Washington Group Short Set on Functioning (WGSS) questions (<http://www.washingtongroup-disability.com/>), which ask respondents about difficulties they may have while doing certain activities because of a health problem. This includes having either a lot of difficulty or no ability at all to perform any of six domains of functioning, namely, seeing, hearing, mobility, cognition, communication, or self-care.

DOCUMENTS AND OTHER ITEMS POSSESSED

About 71 per cent of respondents declared being in the possession of their biometric passport (*Zagranpasport*), 50 per cent had a non-biometric passport (*Vnutrennij* passport), 36 per cent had a smartphone, and another 36 per cent had a Ukrainian credit/debit card. Moreover, 14 per cent declared to have an ID card at the time of the interview, followed by 10 per cent who had a driving licence, and another 6 per cent who had school/diplomas of their qualifications. Lastly, only 36 respondents declared to be travelling with a birth certificate and regular mobile phone (each 2%). About two per cent of respondents declared to be in possession of other documents (not specified).

Figure 5. Documents and other items possessed at the moment of the interview, multiple answers possible (%)

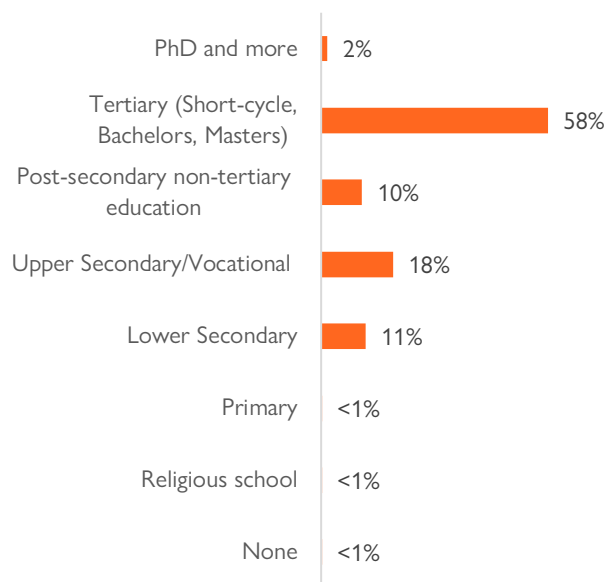


LEVEL OF EDUCATION

More than half of the refugees from Ukraine (58%) had completed a tertiary education. Twenty-nine per cent have an upper secondary/vocational (18%) or lower secondary (11%) level of education. 10 per cent claimed to have a post-secondary non-tertiary level of education, and 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 (269 participants), business, administration and law (126 participants) and education (91 participants). The share of men (65%) that studied Engineering, manufacturing and construction was almost double than that of the women (35%) interviewed.

Figure 6. Highest level of education achieved (%)



LANGUAGES SPOKEN BY RESPONDENTS

The majority of respondents declared speaking either Ukrainian (54%) or Russian (46%) as the main language in their household. Less than one per cent spoke Armenian or Roma as first language.

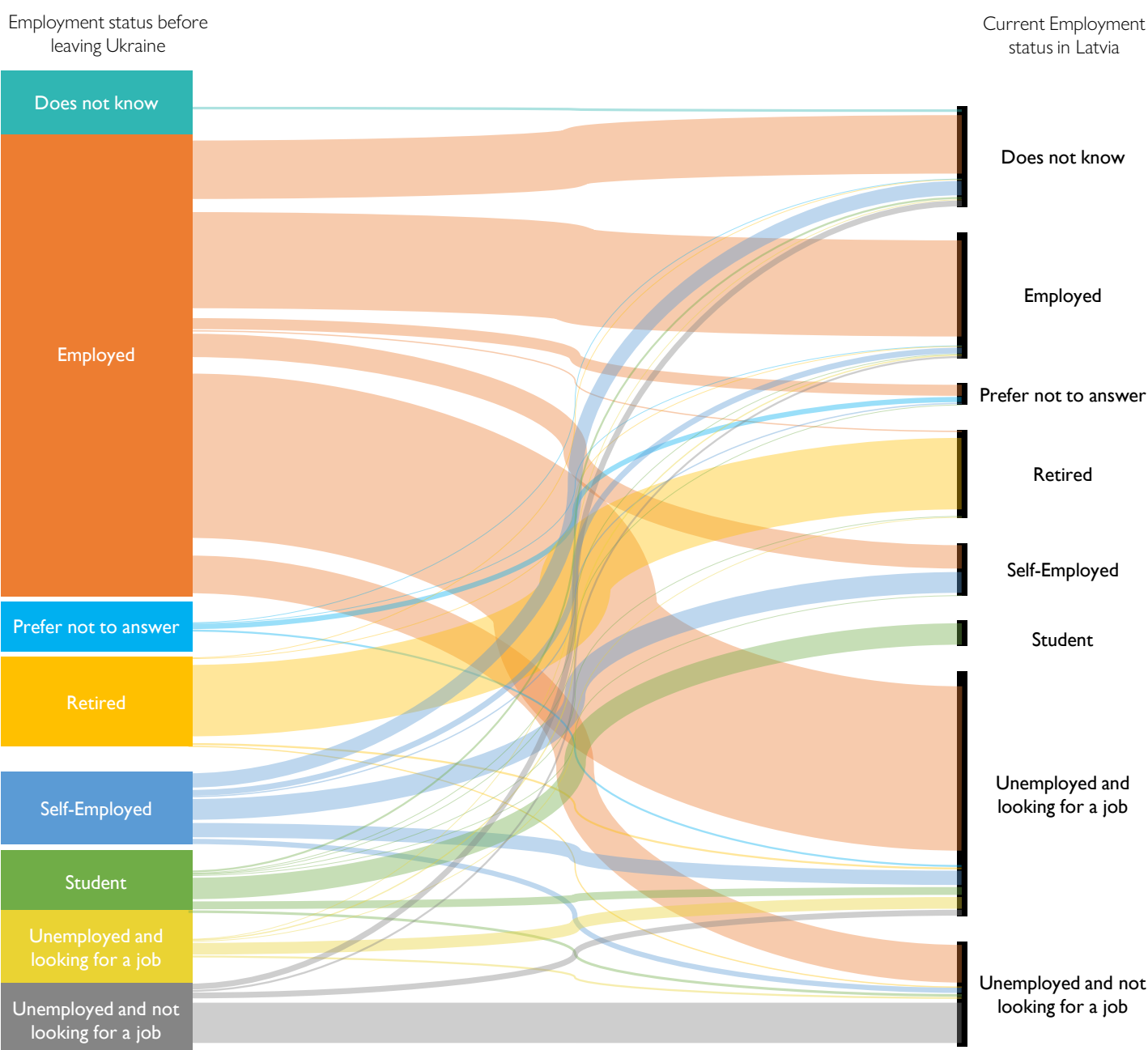
Additionally, 52 per cent of respondents claimed to speak Russian as an additional language, followed by Ukrainian (44%), English (17%), German (2%), and French (1%). Other languages stated were Polish and Latvian (each with less than 1%).

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

When asked about their employment status before leaving Ukraine, almost two thirds of Ukrainian respondents (61%) declared being employed, 12 per cent were retired, 10 per cent were self employed, eight per cent were unemployed and not looking for a job, and six per cent were still pursuing their studies. Only three per cent were unemployed and looking for a job. However, these numbers were noticeably different when asked about their current

employment in Latvia. Thirty-two per cent declared being unemployed and looking for a job, while the share of employed and self employed decreased to 17 per cent and seven per cent respectively. The share of those declaring to be unemployed and looking for a job increased from three per cent before the journey to 32 per cent while in Latvia.

Figure 8. Comparison of the employment status of respondents before the journey and while in Latvia (%)

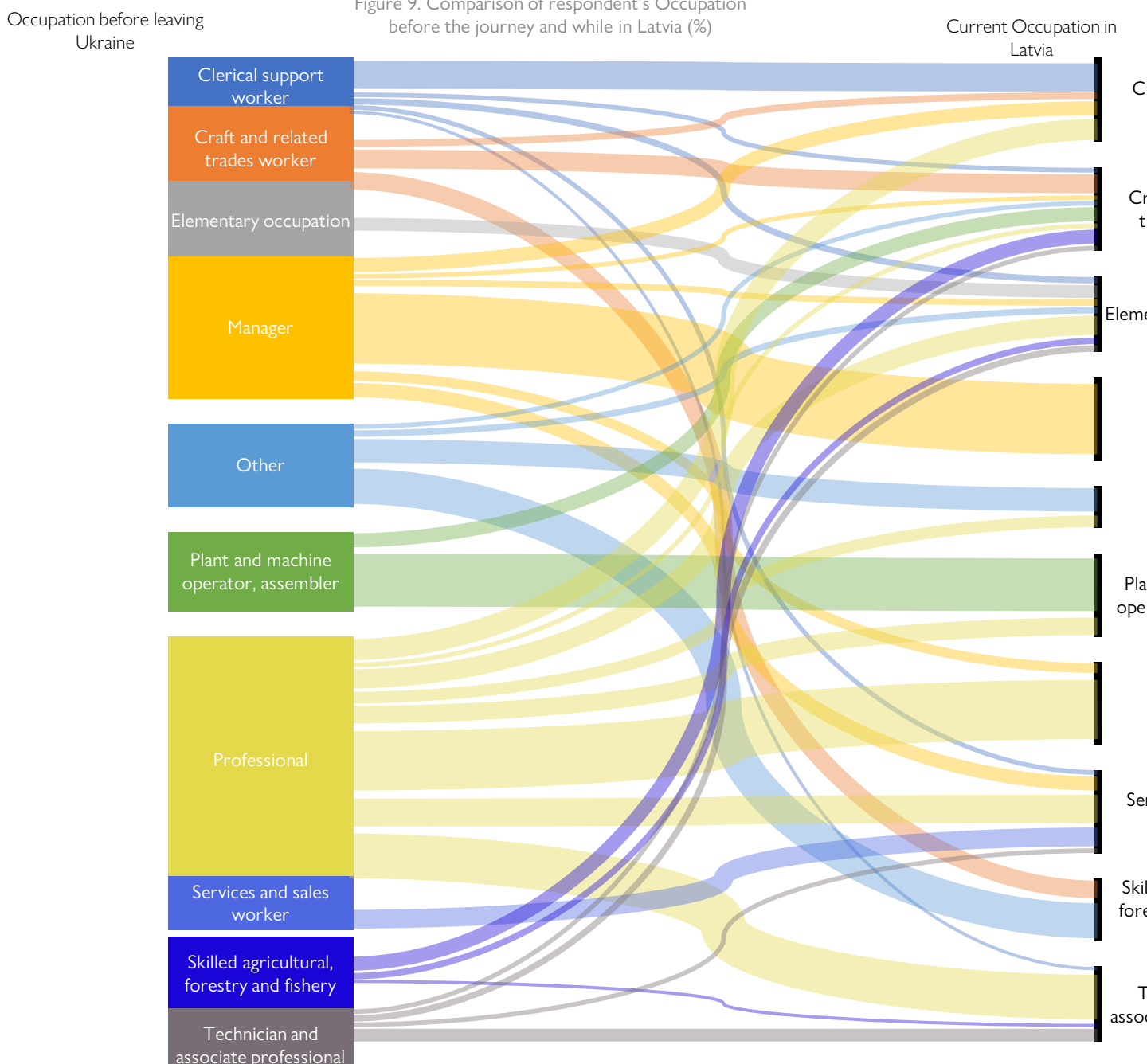


OCCUPATION

Out of the 234 respondents that were employed or self employed at the moment of the survey, 66 per cent were working as either professional workers (e.g. lawyer, doctors, nurses, teachers, accountants), clerical support workers, craft and related trade workers, managers, plant and machine operators/assemblers, or service and sales workers (each 11%). This was followed by those who worked in

elementary occupations (e.g. cleaners, mining/ construction labourers, street vendors, refuse workers), and as technician and associate professionals (e.g. sales and purchasing agents, religious associate professionals) (each 10%). Lastly Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery worker (e.g. gardeners, farmers, fishers, gatherers) constituted eight per cent of the sample.

Figure 9. Comparison of respondent's Occupation before the journey and while 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 (27%), from Estonia (8%), by flight (3%). Less than 1 per cent entered through Belarus.

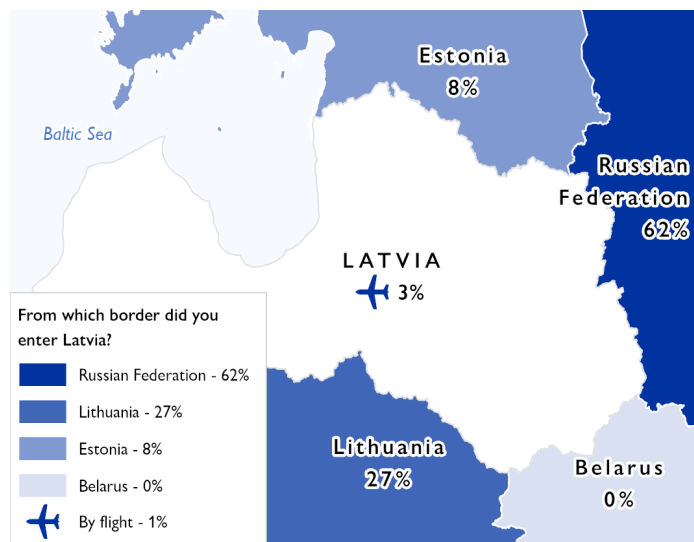
PROTECTION APPLICATIONS

Out of the 997 respondents, 52 per cent applied for asylum or temporary protection, while 47 per cent declared not having registered for protection in Latvia. Among those that answered “No” (N=471), 55 per cent were planning to leave Latvia soon while another 22 per cent declared wanting to register sometime in the future. Eight per cent answered that they did not know how to apply to either temporary protection or asylum.

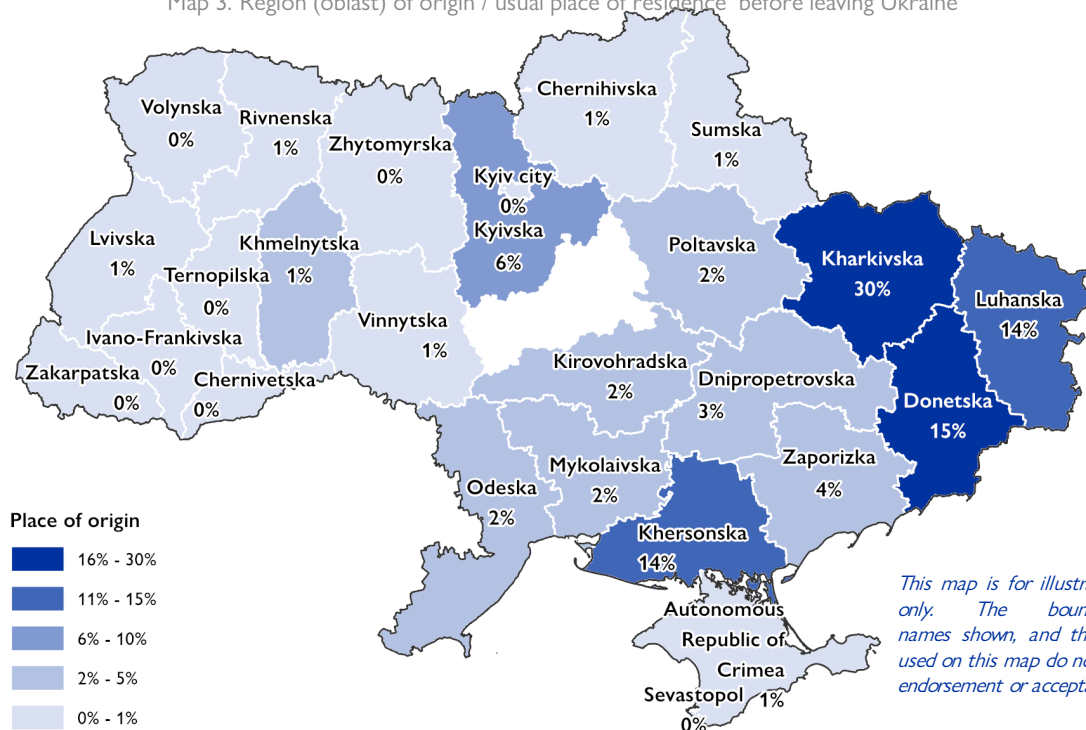
PLACE OF HABITUAL RESIDENCE IN UKRAINE

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, 30 per cent reported to be arriving from Kharkivska, 15 per cent from the Donetska, 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 2 . Border of entry to Latvia (%)



Map 3. 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.

TRAVEL INTENTIONS OF THE RESPONDENTS

Over a third (34%) of respondents interviewed declared their intention remain in Latvia in either in their current location (32%) or a different location within Latvia (2%). Twenty-nine had the intention to move elsewhere in Europe or outside of Europe. Twenty-six per cent reported a desire to return to Ukraine. The remaining 11 per cent could not specify any plan regarding the destination when asked.

Figure 10. Final intended destination (%)

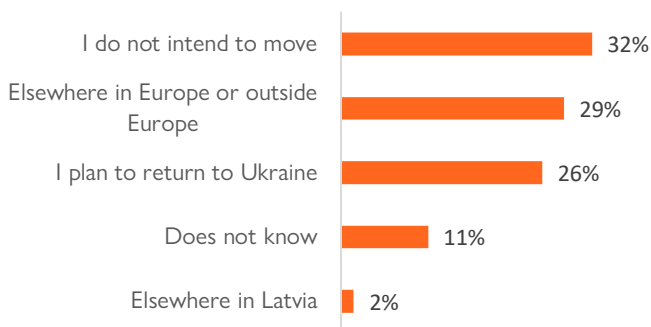
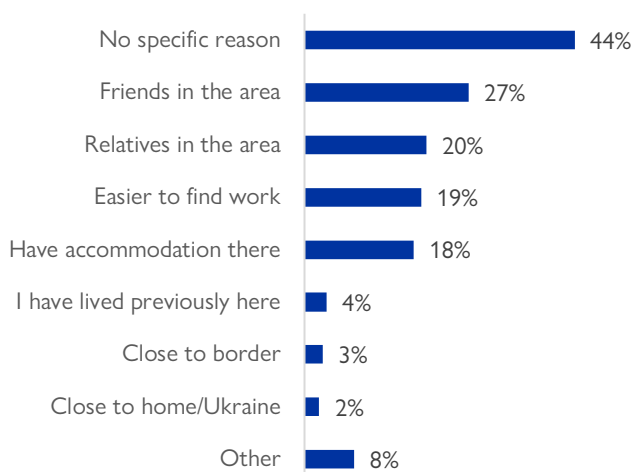


Figure 11. Reasons to choose Latvia as final intended destination, multiple answers possible (%)*



* Among those who reported the intention to stay in Latvia

Out of the 26 per cent that declared their intention to return to Ukraine, 31 per cent were reporting to returning to Kharkiva, 14 per cent to Kyivska, 10 per cent to Khersonska and 9 per cent to Donetsk.

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

When it is safe to do so	22%
If not in a day, in less than 2 weeks	21%
In a day	8%
Does not know	7%
Between 1 and 2 months	2%
Between 2 weeks and 1 month	2%
Between 2 and 6 months	2%

Twenty-two per cent of respondents said they will be moving when it is safe to do so, while 29 per cent indicated that they are planning to move in less than 2 weeks. Seven 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 Poland (11%) were the top mentioned countries of final destinations, followed by Finland (8%), Netherlands (7%), Norway and Czechia (each 6%).

Among those who reported their intention to stay in Latvia (N= 339), almost half (44%) declared not having a specific reason or not having a choice for staying. Others chose Latvia because they have friends (27%) or family and relatives (20%) in the country. The decision was job related for 19 per cent who declared that it is easier to find a job in Latvia.

Intended final destination in Europe or outside Europe*



* Among those who reported the intention to move elsewhere

MAIN NEEDS

Financial support (72% of positive responses) and transportation support (49%) were the first two main important needs expressed at the time of the interview by respondents. This was followed by the need for employment (46%), support to return home (40%), language courses (38%), and general information (40%).

Figure 13. Top main needs at the moment of interview
*multiple answers possible

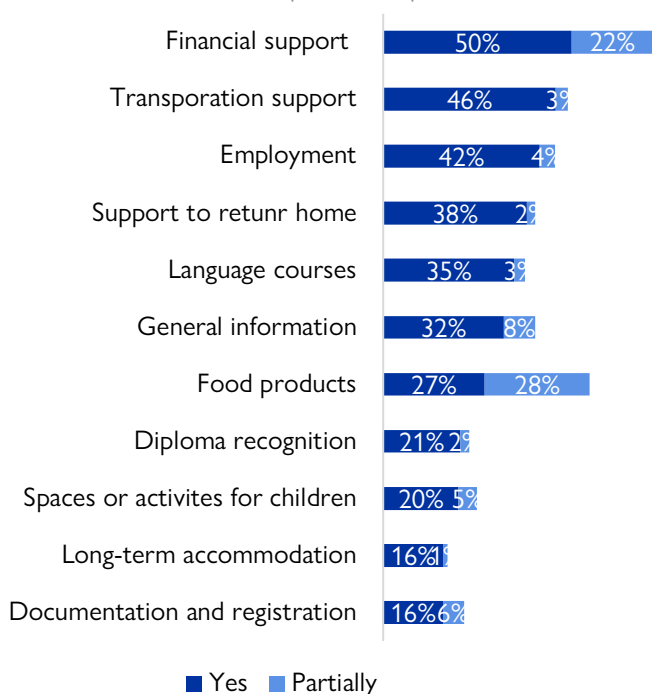
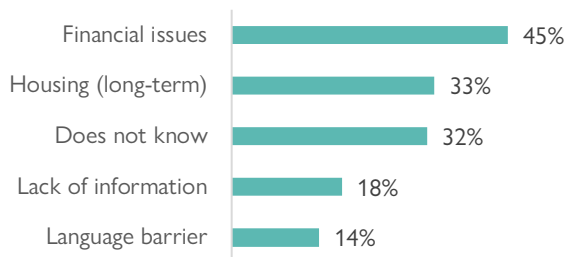


Figure 12. Top 5 main challenges listed by respondents (%)
*multiple answers possible



When asked about the 3 main challenges encountered while in Latvia, 45 per cent of the respondents declared that financial issues were one of the main challenges, followed by challenges finding long-term housing (32%), lack of information (18%), and language barrier (14%). Thirty-two per cent responded that they were not sure.

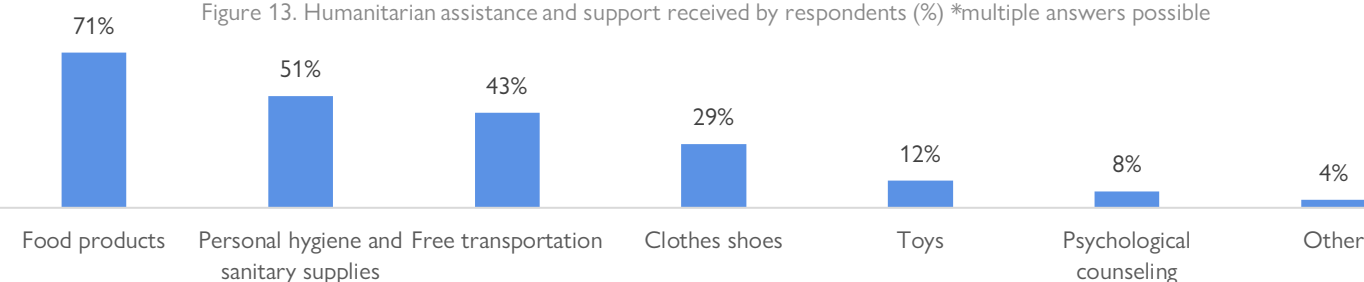
Additionally, 13 per cent of respondents declared that they had experienced an unfair and/or unequal treatment after leaving Ukraine, related to aspects such as nationality, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, religion. Another seven per cent did not know and two per cent preferred not to answer. Seventy-eight per cent did not report to have had any of such experiences.

About 16 per cent of respondents were not able to withdraw money from an ATM or make payments using their debit/credit card. Moreover, more than half (58%) were not able to exchange any cash brought from Ukraine and Fifty-seven per cent did not have a bank account in a Latvian bank under their name.

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. Seventy-one per cent indicated that they had received help with food as the main support, followed by personal hygiene and sanitary products (51%), free transportation (43%), clothes or shoes (29%), toys for children (12%), psychological counselling (8%) and others (4%).

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





Riga, July 2022 © IOM Latvia.

Table 2. Accommodation of respondents in Latvia (%)

Type of accommodation in Latvia	% of respondents
An apartment/house rented on the open market	29%
Organized reception centre	22%
Hotel/Hostel	22%
Do not know (just arrived)	10%
An apartment/house from friends or family	7%
An apartment/house rented from friends or family	4%
An apartment/house of a resident that you don't need to pay for	3%
Prefer not to answer	1%
Other	2%

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 July-02 December 2022). The data should not be generalized to represent the whole displaced population outside Ukraine. This report focuses mainly of refugees from Ukraine; TCNs, although being a target in principle, could not be met by enumerators due to 1) their small number, 2) their utilisation of different services vis-à-vis refugees from Ukraine, 3) language barrier since enumerators could only speak Ukrainian and Russian.

Table 3. Location of the interview (%)

Location of interview	% of respondents
Collective centre	57%
Bus station	24%
Humanitarian center	7%
Transit/registration centre	6%
Rented/free house/apartment	2%
Open space	2%
Hotel	1%
Border crossing point	1%
Train station	1%