

78,671 TCNs ENTERED from Ukraine; 34,941 TCNs EXITED towards Ukraine
6,113 TCNs who arrived from Ukraine are PRESENT in the country

Since the onset of the war in Ukraine, people have been fleeing the crisis into the Republic of Moldova and other neighboring countries. This report presents findings based on cumulative and daily registrations by the General Inspectorate for Border Police (GIBP) and movements of refugees and other Third-Country Nationals (TCNs) entering from Ukraine to the Republic of Moldova from all Border Crossing Points (BCPs) since 24 February 2022 and exiting the country from all BCPs towards Romania and Ukraine, as well as via flights. In addition, this report presents data on those who entered and are still present in the country.

Between 24 February 2022 and 5 February 2023, 919,090 Ukrainian citizens and 1,010,713 TCNs entered the Republic of Moldova from all border control points. Almost 53 per cent of Ukrainian citizens entered from land BCPs with Ukraine, 13 per cent from land BCPs with Romania and 13 per cent arrived by plane. Only 8 per cent of crossing of TCNs were recorded from Ukraine, 61 per cent from Romania and 31 per cent arrived by plane.

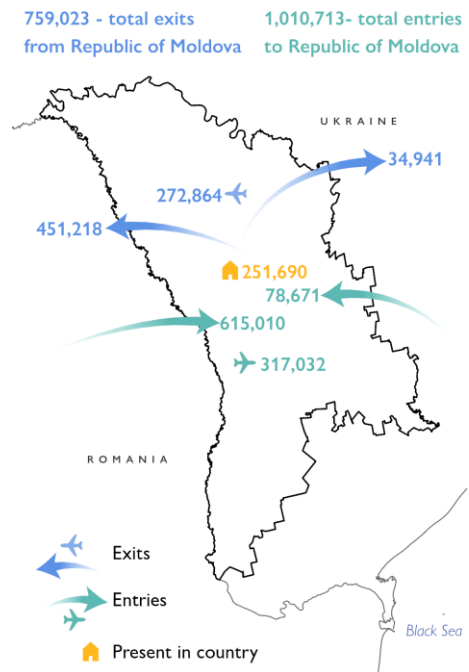
During the same period, 816,309 Ukrainian citizens and 759,023 TCNs left the Republic of Moldova. About 49 per cent of Ukrainian citizens were registered leaving the Republic of Moldova towards Ukraine, 42 per cent towards Romania and 9 per cent left by plane. Similarly, 5 per cent of all TCNs left the country towards Ukraine, 59 per cent toward Romania and 36 per cent left by plane.

As of 5 February, 102,781 Ukrainian refugees were recorded in the country. 251,690 TCNs were recorded: 6,113 of these TCNs had arrived from Ukraine.

Considering the current developments of the war in Ukraine, the growing needs of the displaced population and the local communities hosting them, this report focuses on the observable trends in the data on TCNs who entered the Republic of Moldova from Ukraine.

The graph in Figure 2 presents the number of TCNs who entered the Republic of Moldova through Ukraine BCPs, highlighting the two main peaks.

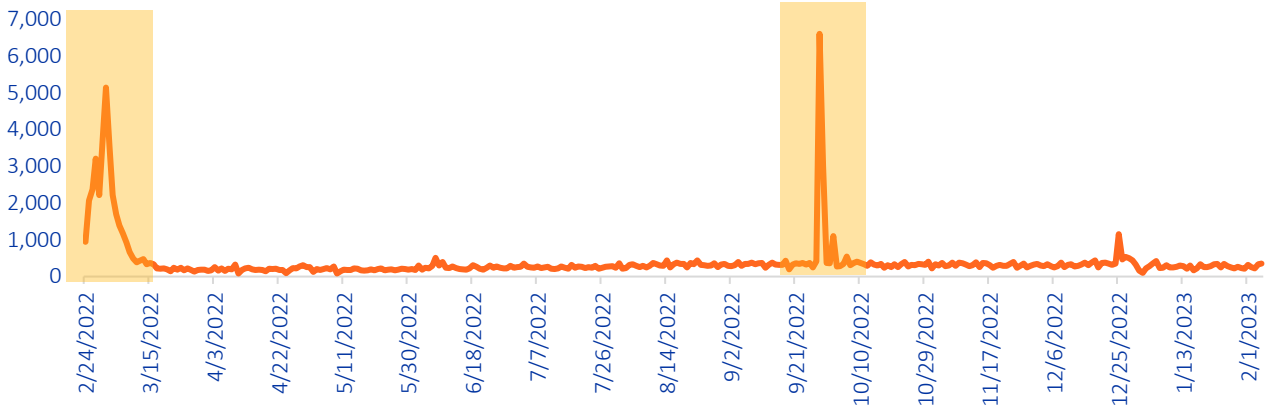
Figure 1: Movement of TCNs to and from the Republic of Moldova, from 24th of February 2022 to 15th February 2023



* TCNs comprise ten per cent of all entries to the Republic of Moldova from Ukraine.

A slight increase in entries was registered on 25 December 2022, on Christmas day, followed by a slight decrease on 31 December 2022, on New Year's eve.

Figure 2: Daily entries of TCNs from BCPs on UKR-MDA border from 24 February to 5 February 2023



Data Source: General Inspectorate for Border Police, Republic of Moldova
Note: Moldovan authorities declared a state of emergency and closed the Moldovan air space as of 24 February. The airspace was reopened on 25 March.

Mode of entry from Ukraine

The administrative data of the national authorities reveals that 30 per cent of all persons registered at BCPs upon entry into the Republic of Moldova from Ukraine have entered by foot, while the remaining 70 per cent entered by vehicles. The share of those entering by foot was 93 per cent for Ukrainian refugees and 7 per cent for TCNs.

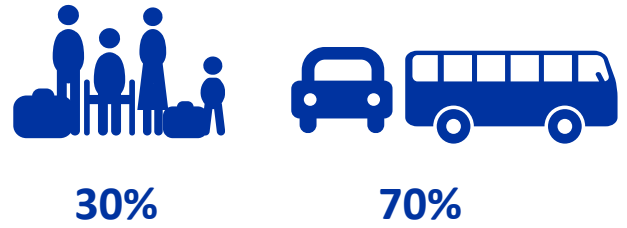
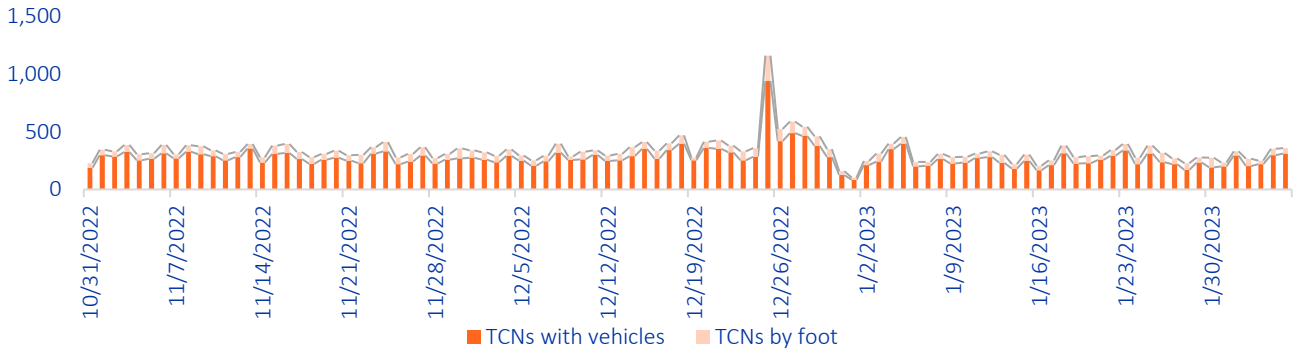


Figure 3: Daily entries of TCNs by means of transportation, during the past two weeks, from 31 Oct 2022 to 5 Feb 2023



Entries from Ukraine to the Republic of Moldova

Some 78,671 TCNs of 135 different countries of origin and nationalities were registered while entering from Ukraine since 24 February 2022: the majority were men (65%) followed by women (24%) and children* (11%). The top countries of origin of those entering the Republic of Moldova so far were Israel (19%), Azerbaijan and Russian Federation (10% each), Romania and Türkiye (8% each), China (5%), United States of America (USA) (4%), Georgia, Bulgaria and Armenia (3% each).

Figure 5: Entries of TCNs by age and gender disaggregation from BCPs on UKR-MDA border

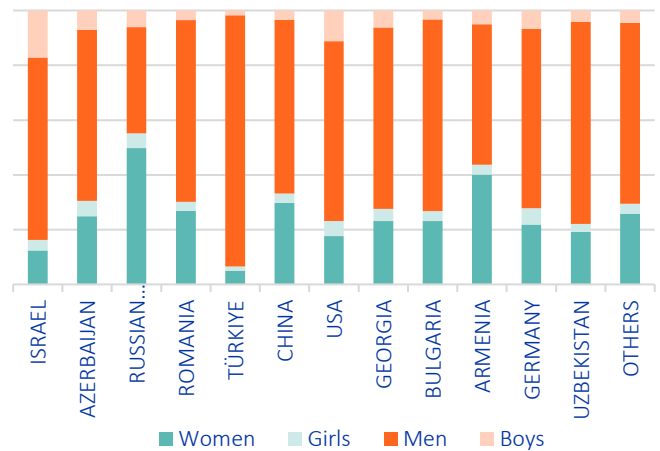


Figure 4: Number of entries of TCNs from BCPs on UKR-MDA border



* Children are below 18 years of age.

The highest shares of children were among nationals of Israel (36%), Azerbaijan (12%) and Russian Federation (10%), while the lowest shares were among nationals of France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Italy (1% each).

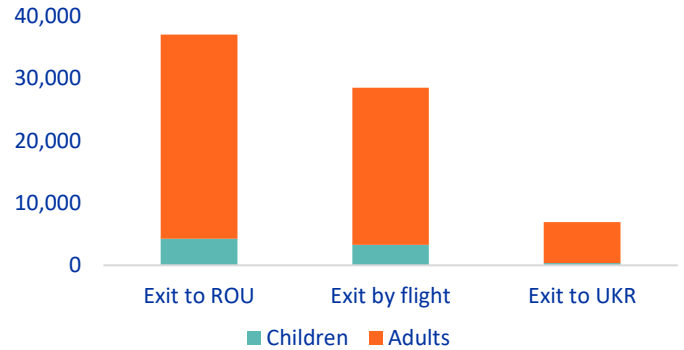
The highest shares of women were among nationals of Russian Federation (21%), Azerbaijan (11%), Romania (9%) China (6%) and Armenia (5%) while the lowest shares of women were among nationals from France, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Italy (1% each).

Exits from the Republic of Moldova to Romania, Ukraine, and via flights

Among those registered upon entry from Ukraine by national authorities in the Republic of Moldova since 24 February 47 per cent (37,058) TCNs have exited towards Romania during the reporting period, of whom 12 per cent (4,271) are children and 88 per cent (32,787) are adults. Out of 78,671 TCNs, 28,563 of them were reported to have left the country by flight and 6,937 TCNs were registered at exit BCPs towards Ukraine.



Figure 6: Number of TCNs exiting from MDA through BCPs, by age group



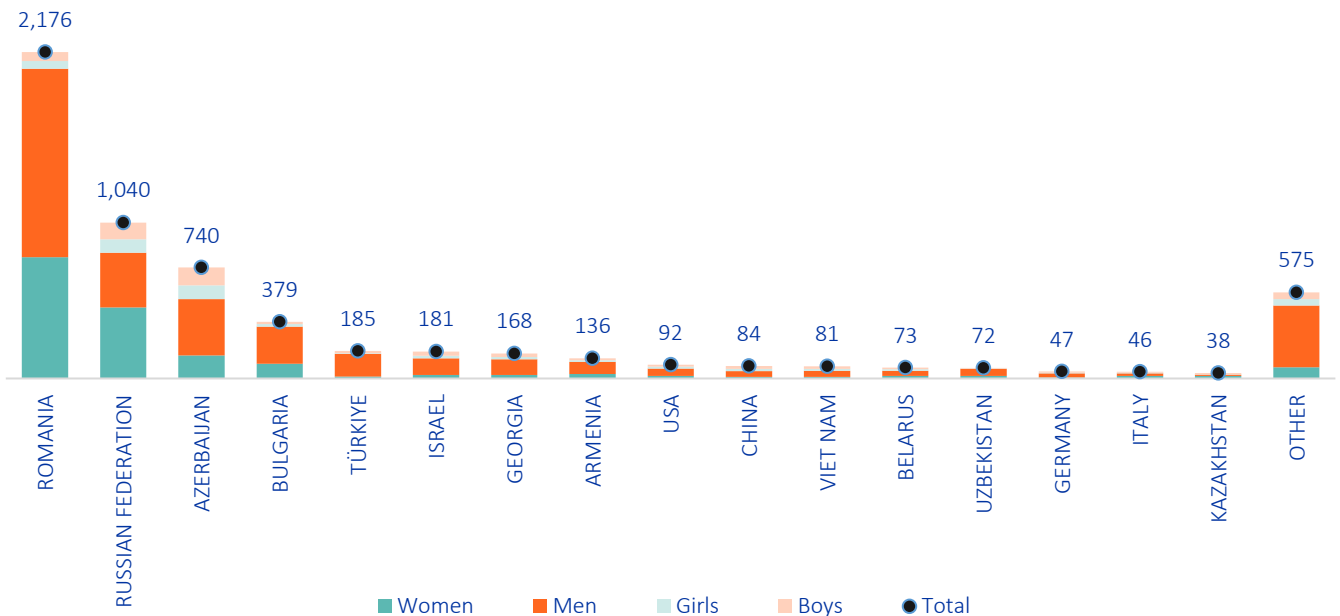
Presence in the country

As of 5 February 2023, around 89,249 refugees from Ukraine and TCNs who entered through the BCPs from Ukraine to the Republic of Moldova on or after 24 February 2022, are reported to currently be present in the country. The vast majority of those still in the country (83,136 individuals or 93%) are Ukrainian refugees and the remaining 7 per cent (6,113) are TCNs. Note that there are higher numbers of Ukrainians present in the country when entries from the Romanian borders are

counted as well. Among TCNs, 55 per cent were men, 30 per cent were women and the remaining 15 per cent were children.

Among TCNs currently in the Republic of Moldova, the reported top countries of origin were Romania (36%), Russian Federation (17%), Azerbaijan (12%), Bulgaria (6%), Türkiye, Israel and Georgia (3% each).

Figure 7: Distribution of TCNs entered from Ukraine and present in MDA as of 5 February 2023, by nationality, age and sex



For more updates on refugees from Ukraine in neighbouring countries, please visit: <http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine/location/10784>

Background information on Third-Country nationals' profiles and situation in Ukraine

Since the onset of the war in Ukraine, refugees from Ukraine and TCNs have been fleeing into neighbouring countries in high numbers. Many were forced to overcome a frequently shifting security situation, complicated transit routes, and conflicting or unclear information. Although there were no important geographical military advances during winter period 2022-2023, Russian attacks on major Ukrainian cities intensified causing heavy damage and repeated power outages across the country. The heaviest fighting continues to be centered in Eastern and Southern Ukraine, especially around Bakhmut in the Donetsk region. Deadly attacks continue putting lives in danger and damaging critical infrastructure. Millions have no access to essential services such as clean water, food, healthcare, sanitation, gas, and electricity. Destruction of property, infrastructure, and livelihoods continues to lead to displacement, increased vulnerabilities, and loss of life.

As of 15 February 2023, there were 627,205 border crossings¹ of TCNs from Ukraine into one of its neighbouring countries. More than half (53%) were reported to Poland, 22 per cent to Romania, 12 per cent to the Republic of Moldova, nine per cent to Slovakia, 4 per cent to Hungary, and less than one per cent to Belarus². The main reported nationalities varied by country of registration, possibly due to the geographical distribution of the residence of these persons before leaving Ukraine, and to the proximity and availability of travel connections to different countries of origin in Europe, North America, Central Asia and the Middle East. The majority of arrivals in Moldova are Azerbaijani, for example.

According to the latest UN DESA international migrant stock estimates, almost 5 million foreign nationals were present in Ukraine in 2020³. Of these, the majority were family members of Ukrainian citizens, as well as people of Ukrainian origin and their descendants who are eligible for Ukrainian citizenship. These are mostly nationals of the Russian Federation (more than half) and other post-Soviet countries⁴. Based on the latest released data from Ukraine's national authorities, 65 per cent of foreigners had a permanent residence status in the country and 35 per cent had a temporary permit to stay mostly for study or temporary work. In 2020, the largest number of employment permits was issued to citizens of Turkey (4,600), India (1,900), the Russian Federation (1,700), Belarus (1,300) and China (1,200). By professional groups, labour migrants were mostly executives and managers (60%), employed in trade and repair services, the information and telecommunication sector, construction and industry. The largest groups of foreign students in the 2020/2021 academic year were from India (24%), Morocco (11,5%), Turkmenistan (7%), Azerbaijan (6%), Nigeria (5,5%), China (5,3%) and other countries⁴. The number of refugees living in Ukraine remained insignificant (around 2000 people) and was gradually decreasing between 2015-2020. Ukraine is simultaneously the country of origin, destination, and transit for migrants with irregular legal status.

According to IOM's DTM surveys with refugees from Ukraine and TCNs in countries neighboring Ukraine and other European countries after 24 February 2022, TCN's overall top five needs were for transportation, accommodation, financial support, support with clothes and shoes and with food. Inside Ukraine, the most recent round of population surveys completed by IOM in January 2023 indicates that displaced persons in Ukraine are increasingly identifying financial assistance as an immediate need (from 55% to 75%). Data also shows increased demand for food over time (from 16% to 32% respectively). Other pressing needs reported were for clothes, shoes and other NFI but also medicine and health services (from 22% to 47% and from 27% to 37%)⁵.

Looking ahead, the future of the war in Ukraine remains uncertain. IOM recognizes that the needs of refugees from Ukraine are likely to look different than the needs of the previous 12 months as the war increasingly shifts towards protracted nature. IOM will continue to monitor needs and displacements through frequent DTM Assessments of the affected populations and continuously support the affected populations in a sustainable manner.

1. [IOM 2023 Appeal - Ukraine and Neighbouring Countries](#) released in February 2023.
2. ["DTM Regional Analysis, Displacement and Cross Border Movements of Third Country Nationals from Ukraine to Neighbouring Countries and in Europe"](#) released in February 2023.
3. Source: UN DESA, Population Division (2020). International Migrant Stock.
4. [Migration in Ukraine Facts and Figures, 2021](#) released in December 2021.
5. [Ukraine Crisis 2022: 6 Months Of Response](#), released in July 2022.