

SLOVAKIA

Surveys with Refugees from Ukraine: Needs, Intentions and Integration Challenges



January – March 2023
Country Report & Data Analysis

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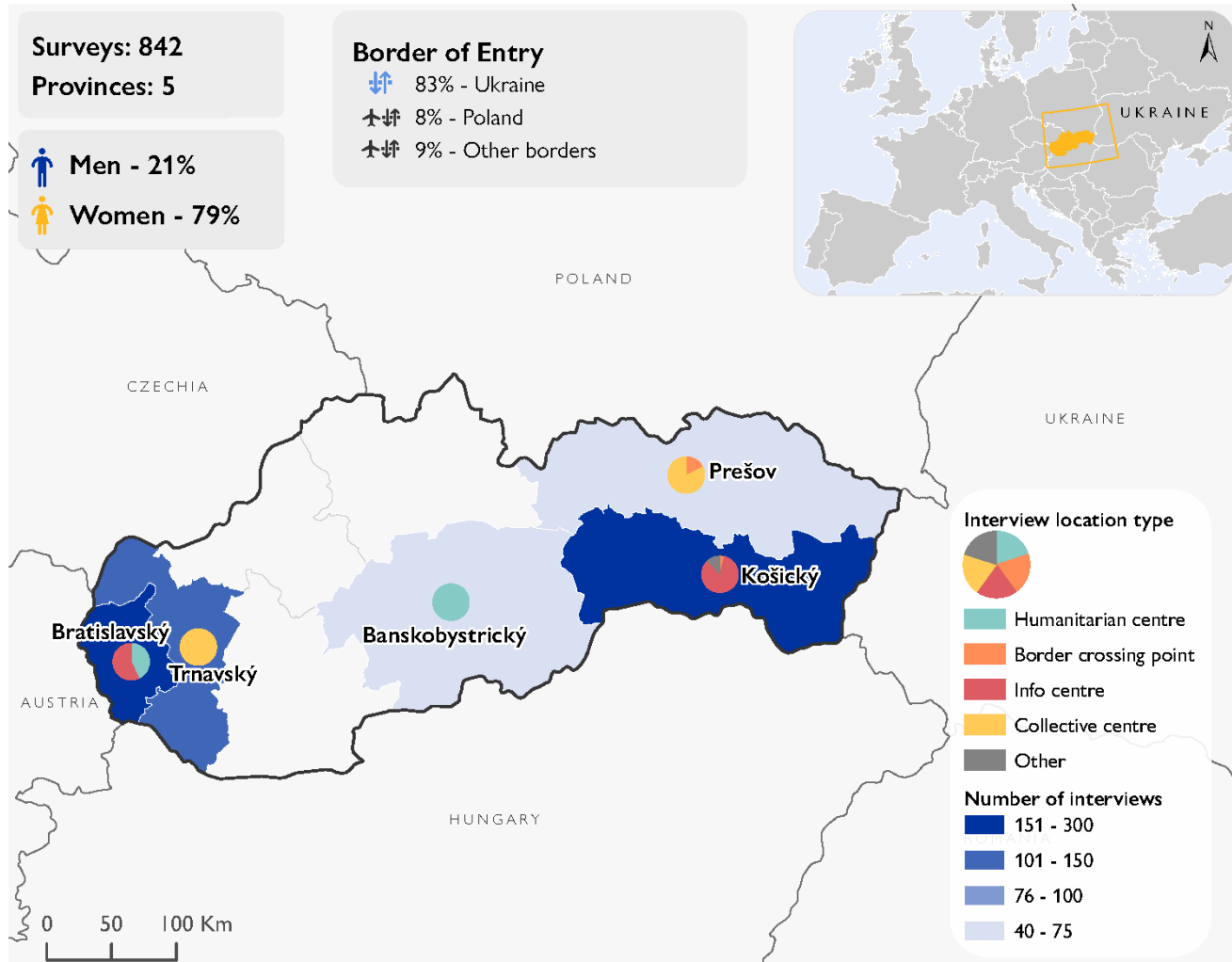
TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Socio-Demographic Profile	5
Oblast (region) of origin	5
Gender and age	6
Marital status	6
Children in care	6
Documents possessed at the time of interview	7
Average time spent outside Ukraine since initial displacement	7
2. Intentions	8
Intention to move elsewhere or stay in current location	8
Intended length of stay in current location	8
Intended oblast of destination in Ukraine and reasons to go back	9
Immediate needs upon return	9
Intended country of destination	10
Reasons for selecting elsewhere in Slovakia or other countries as destination	10
3. Education and Employment: Profile and Prospects	11
Main spoken language and other spoken language(s)	11
Education level and type of training completed	11
Employment status before leaving Ukraine versus current	12
Reasons not to be looking for a job	13
Current job and	13
Sector of employment before leaving Ukraine and now	13
4. Registration and Inclusion Services	14
Current migration status	14
Current accommodation	14
Ability to cover expenses	15
Access to finances	15
Access to education	15
Consular services	15
5. Immediate Needs and Assistance Received	16
Immediate needs at the moment	16
Assistance received in Slovakia	16
Areas in which information is needed to get more assistance	17
Channel of receiving information	17
6. Challenges in the Country of Displacement	18
Experiences of discrimination	18
Inclusion challenges	18
7. Current Group Composition	19
Travelling alone or in a group	19
Travelling with persons with health conditions and disabilities	19
Travel mode	19
8. Methodology	20
Country-level implementation and limitations	20

KEY FINDINGS

- **Top oblasts of origin:** Kharkivska (22%), Dnipropetrovska (11%), Donetska oblast (11%) and Kyiv city (11%)
- **Intention to move:** 84% have no intentions to move, 5% want to move to a different country (Top 3 destinations were: Czechia, Germany, Canada), 4% would like to get back to their region of origin in Ukraine.
- **Education level:** 50% completed tertiary, 7% post secondary and 32% upper secondary education.
- **Employment status:** 30% employed and 34% unemployed respondents
- **Immediate needs:** Financial support (49%), health services (47%), medicines (36%), support with employment (24%)
- **Inclusion challenges:** Financial issues (43%), employment opportunities (26%), language barriers (26%), long term housing (20%)

Map I: Slovakia, border crossing points, surveys deployed & locations



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1. Socio-Demographic Profile

Oblast (region) of origin

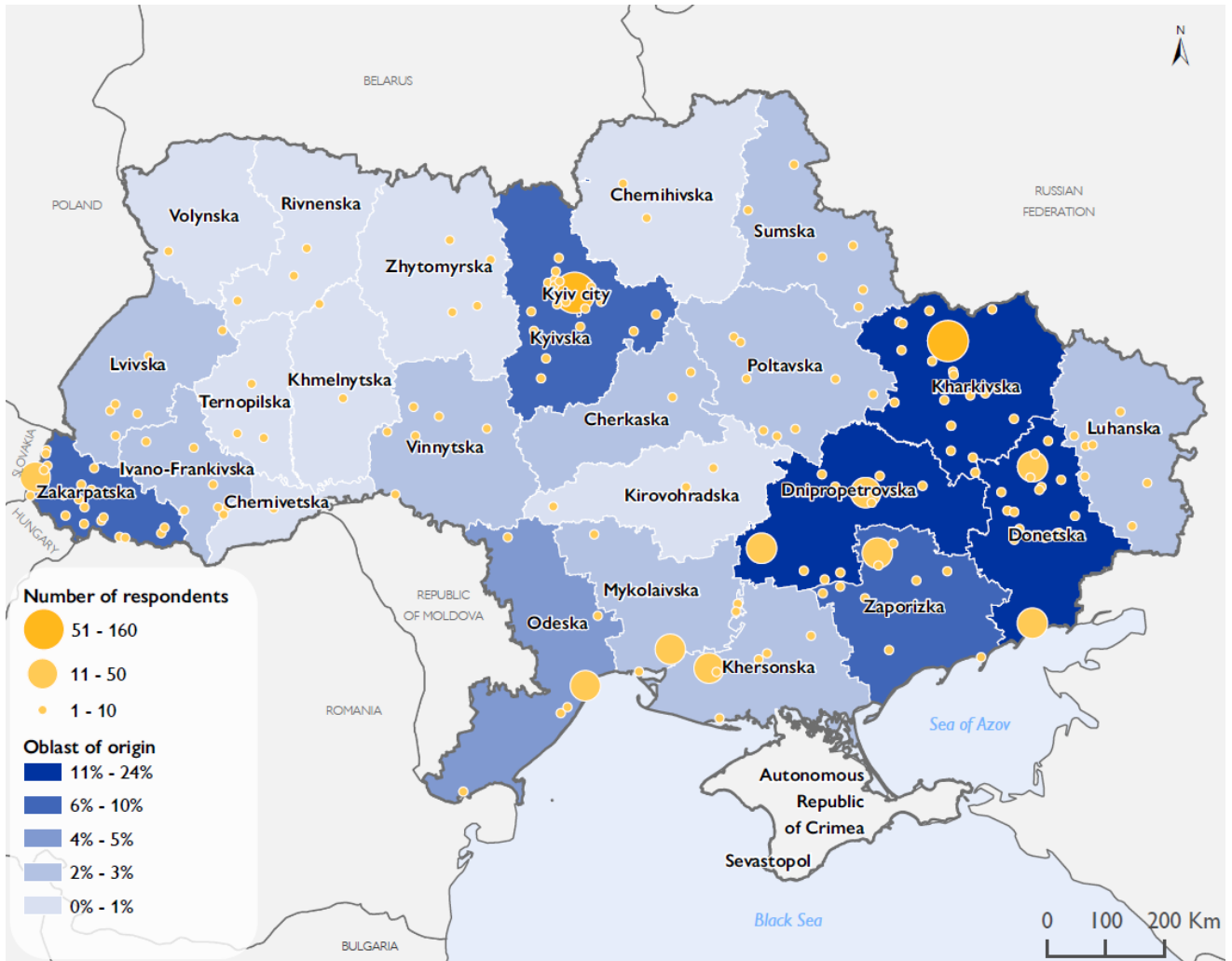
Respondents interviewed for this survey came from almost all the regions of Ukraine, but the most pointed at oblasts of origin were in the eastern parts of the country.

More than a half of the respondents (56%) were from only four regions of origin or habitual residence before leaving Ukraine.

These were Kharkivska (22%), Dnipropetrovska (11%), Donetsk oblast (11%) and Kyiv city (11%). Relatively high proportion of respondents originally came from another three regions, namely Zakarpatska oblast bordering with Slovakia with eight per cent respondents, Zaporizka oblast

with seven per cent and Kyivska oblast with over five per cent of respondents.

The remaining 24 per cent of respondents interviewed for this survey came from 18 different regions of origin in Ukraine: Odeska (4%), Luhanska, Mykolaivska, Poltavska, Khersonska and Sumska oblast (2% of respondents each), Lvivska, Vinnytska, Ivano-Frankivska, Cherkaska, Rivnenska, Chernihivska, Zhytomyrska, Kirovohradska, Khmelnytska oblast (1% of respondents each) and Ternopiiska, Chernivetska and Volynska oblast with less than one per cent of respondents in each of them.



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Gender and age

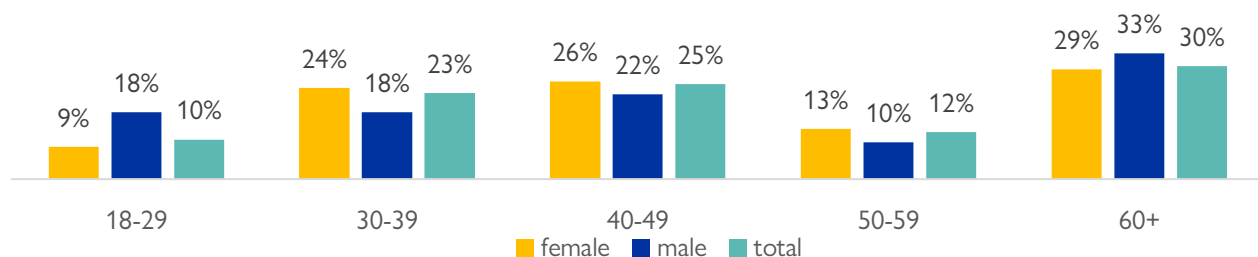
About 79 per cent of respondents were female and 21 per cent male.

Regarding the age distribution of respondents, the largest age group was composed of people aged 30 – 49 years, who accounted for almost a half of the sample (48%). Seniors aged more than 60 years made up 30 per cent of the total sample and the average age of the respondents

was 48 years.

Adults younger than 30 years accounted for only 10 per cent of the total sample of respondents, however, these respondents made up for 18 per cent of male population compared to nine per cent of female population in the sample.

Figure 1: Age distribution of respondents by gender and total (%)



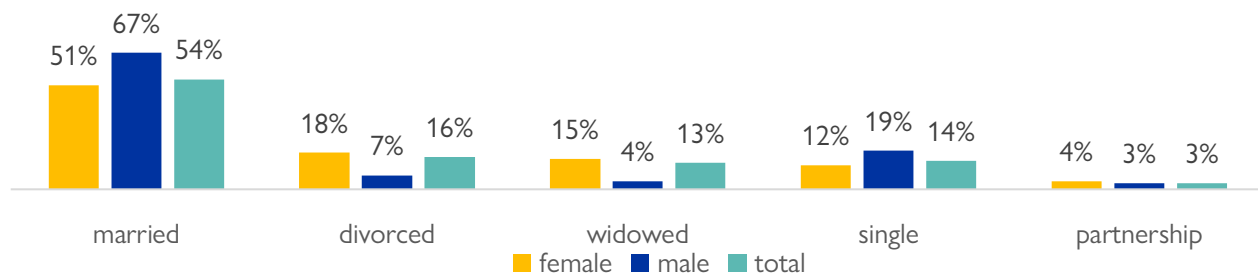
Marital status

More than half of the total sample of respondents stated they were married (54%). Sixteen per cent of all the respondents were divorced, 14 per cent single and 13 per cent widowed. One respondent decided not to answer this question.

When analyzing the marital status information disaggregated

by gender, higher proportion of female respondents were widowed (15%) or divorced (18%) as opposed to male respondents, out of whom were widowed or divorced 11 per cent of the total male sample. However, males were single slightly more often (19% of male sample), compared to female (12% of female sample).

Figure 2: Marital status of respondents by gender and total (%)



Children in care

Fifty-two per cent of the respondents stated they have own children or that they take care of children under the age of 18.

Out of those respondents who have or take care of children (440 respondents), 91 per cent answered these children were currently with them in Slovakia. Four per cent of the respondents said the children were still in Ukraine and five per cent of respondents had children in the destination country they were heading to.

One per cent of respondents stated that the children were

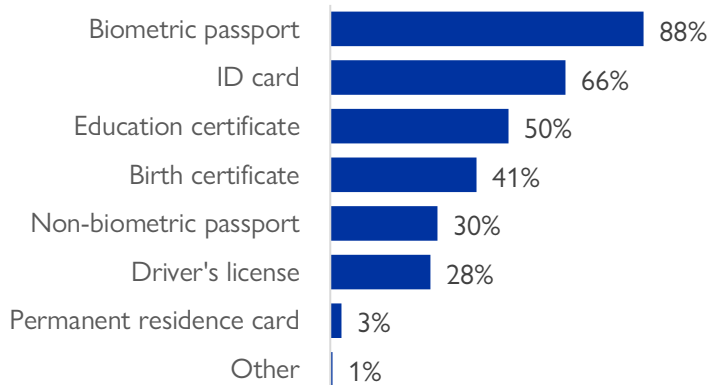
not together, and thus some of them were with the respondents while the others were either in Ukraine or in the destination country.

Looking at the answers from men and women separately, a difference could be observed. While 93 per cent of women said the children were travelling with them and only seven per cent were in other countries, it was 19 per cent of men who had children either in Ukraine (9% of male respondents) or in the destination country (10% of male respondents).

Documents possessed at the time of interview

Respondents were interviewed on the types of documents they carried with themselves when coming from Ukraine to Slovakia. Majority of respondents had their biometric passports with them (88%). Other frequently mentioned documents were national ID cards (66% of respondents), education certificates (50% of respondents) and birth certificates (41% of respondents). Thirty per cent of respondents stated they brought their non-biometric passports and 28 per cent had their driver's license with them.

Figure 3: Documents in possession at the time of interview (%)*



*Multiple responses were possible for this question.

Average time spent outside Ukraine since initial displacement

To assess the approximate duration of displacement, the difference between respondent's initial date of displacement from Ukraine and the date of interview can be compared. The time spent outside of Ukraine reported by the respondents corresponds to the conflict development, with more than a half of the respondents (58%) being displaced from Ukraine since the first three months following the outbreak of the conflict.

Five per cent of the respondents were displaced since

before 2022, with 8 respondents who spent 10 or more years living outside of Ukraine. Twelve per cent of the respondents were interviewed shortly after their initial displacement, showing that people are continuously leaving Ukraine to seek assistance in Slovakia.

When comparing this data to the time spent in Slovakia, there were only slight differences between the amount of time spent outside Ukraine and the time since first arriving to Slovakia.

Table 1: Approximate time spent in displacement until date of interview (%)

Date of the initial displacement	Approximate time spent until date of interview	% of respondents
Before 2022	2 – 14 years	5%
January 2022	14 months	2%
February 2022	13 months	6%
March 2022	12 months	42%
April 2022	11 months	10%
May 2022	10 months	3%
June 2022	9 months	3%
July 2022	8 months	2%
August 2022	7 months	2%
September 2022	6 months	2%
October 2022	5 months	2%
November 2022	4 months	3%
December 2022	3 months	3%
January 2023	2 months	2%
February – March 2023	Less than 2 months	12%

2. Intentions

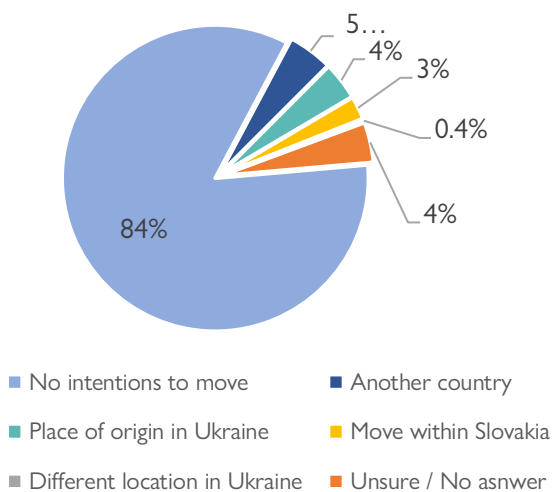
Intention to move elsewhere or stay in current location

Eighty-four per cent of all the respondents claim they have no intentions to move to a different location. Five per cent want to move to a different country, four per cent of respondents intend to move back to their place of origin in Ukraine and only three respondents out of the total intend to move to a different location within Ukraine.

These proportions were about the same for both men and women, looking at the data disaggregated by gender. Based on these results, however, men are twice as likely to consider moving to another country than women. Eight per cent of men (N=176) chose this option as opposed to four per cent of women (N=670).

Four per cent of all the respondents were unsure about their future intentions or preferred not to answer this question.

Figure 4: Respondents' intentions to move (%)



Intended length of stay in current location

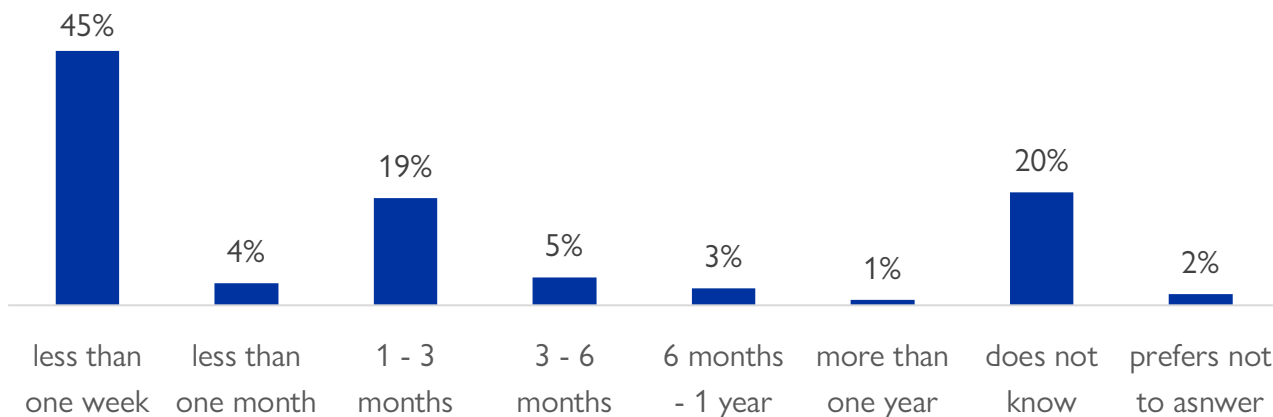
Respondents who intend to move within Slovakia, back to their place of origin in Ukraine, or elsewhere (N=98) were asked about how long they intended to stay in the current location.

Forty-five per cent stated they intended to stay less than one week and another four per cent less than one month, as the current location was only a transit point for them.

Twenty-four per cent of respondents replied they would stay between one and six months and four per cent were planning on staying more than six months in the location at the time of the interview.

More than 20 per cent of respondents were unsure of their length of stay and another two per cent decided not to answer this question.

Figure 5: Intended length of stay in the current location at the time of interview (%). (more than one answer was possible)



Intended oblast of destination in Ukraine and reasons to go back

Out of those respondents who intended to return to Ukraine (N=37), 92 per cent planned to go back to their oblast of origin, while eight per cent (3 respondents) wanted to reach a different region in Ukraine. Two of these respondents mentioned Kyiv city, and one respondent stated Vinnytska oblast as an intended destination.

The most mentioned reason for returning to Ukraine, either to the oblast of origin or to another oblast, was the improved situation in the destination region of Ukraine. Thirty-six per cent of respondents indicated this answer, followed by 22 per cent intending to return to reunite with their family and relatives. Sixteen per cent of respondents stated that they plan to return to Ukraine

because of lack of resources for living in Slovakia or not enough money to pay for the living costs in the country.

When looking at the responses of men and women individually, some differences can be observed in the stated reasons for return. Twenty-two per cent of men (N=9) were intending to return for each of the following reasons: they were unable to find shelter or accommodation, they couldn't find a job in Slovakia or they indicated to have care responsibilities in Ukraine. Maximum one of their female counterparts (N=28), on the other hand, selected any of these responses. Men were also more likely to return to Ukraine to bring their family to safety (11%).

Multiple responses were possible for this question.

Table 2: Reasons for choosing Ukraine as intended destination, by gender and total (N=37) (%).
(more than one answer was possible)

Reason for destination choice	Men (%)	Women (%)	Total (%)
Situation is better in the destination region	22%	36%	32%
Reunite with family or relatives	11%	25%	22%
Lack of resources/money for living	22%	14%	16%
No shelter / accommodation	22%	4%	8%
Care responsibilities in Ukraine	22%	4%	8%
Bringing family to safety	11%	4%	5%
Lack of job opportunities	22%	0%	5%
Exiting to do groceries / shopping	0%	4%	3%
Work in essential services in Ukraine	0%	4%	3%
Short visit to bring supplies to Ukraine	0%	4%	3%
Short visit to check on property	0%	4%	3%
Short visit to get health care	0%	4%	3%
Other reasons	11%	18%	16%
Do not wish to answer	0%	7%	5%

Immediate needs upon return

Out of those intending to go back to Ukraine, either to their oblast of origin or to another location in Ukraine (N=37), 43 per cent indicated they would need cash support upon their return. Twenty-four per cent of respondents replied they would need help with their medical needs, 19 per cent with finding housing and 11 per cent with job placement in Ukraine.

Three respondents stated they would need assistance with receiving information (8%) and 2 respondents with transport (2%).

Twenty-seven per cent of interviewees intending to return to Ukraine answered they do not need any immediate support and 14 per cent were unsure of the type of support they would need.

Intended country of destination

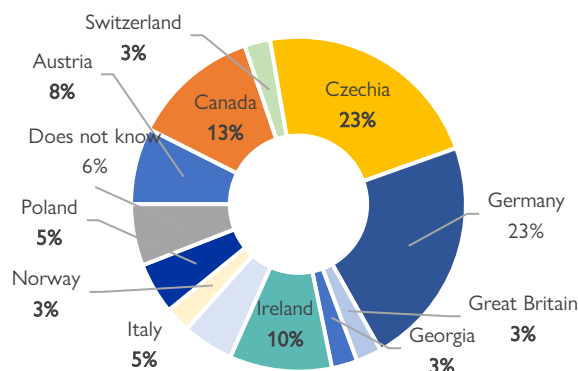
Out of the respondents who intend to move to another country (N=40), 35 per cent mentioned countries neighbouring with Slovakia. These were Czechia (23%), Austria (8%) and Poland (5%).

Twenty-three per cent of the respondents were planning to move to Germany, 13 per cent to Canada and another ten per cent to Ireland.

Two respondents (5%) mentioned Italy, and Switzerland, Great Britain, Georgia and Norway were mentioned by one respondent each (3%).

Six per cent of respondents were undecided on their country of destination.

Figure 6: Intended country of destination (%). N=40



Reasons for selecting elsewhere in Slovakia or other countries as destination

Respondents intending to move elsewhere in Slovakia (N=21) or to another country (N=40) were asked about the reasons for their destination choice.

Forty-three per cent of the respondents chose better job opportunities as the primary reason for their decision. Other commonly chosen answers were a better protection system (21%), reuniting with relatives (20%) or having friends (15%) in the destination location.

Data disaggregated by gender showed several differences in reasons for the destination choice between men (N=18) and women (N=43). While for men the top reasons were the job opportunities (56%) and relatives in the location (33%), women considered the protection system much more important (26%) and made their choice based on having arranged accommodation (14%) or receiving a job offer before moving (9%) as well.

Table 3: Reasons for choosing elsewhere in Slovakia or another country as destination, by gender and total (N=61) (%)

Reason for destination choice	Men (%)	Women (%)	Total (%)
Better job opportunities	56%	37%	43%
Better protection system	11%	26%	21%
Family or relatives in the area	33%	12%	20%
Friends in the area	17%	14%	15%
Have accommodation or shelter there	6%	14%	13%
Job offer received there	6%	9%	8%
Close to home / Ukraine	0%	9%	7%
Lived there before	6%	0%	2%
Expired assistance in current location	0%	2%	2%
Accommodated through local authorities	0%	2%	2%
Other people in the area	0%	2%	2%
School for children	0%	2%	2%
Other reasons	0%	9%	7%
No specific reason	0%	2%	2%

3. Education and Employment: Profile and Prospects

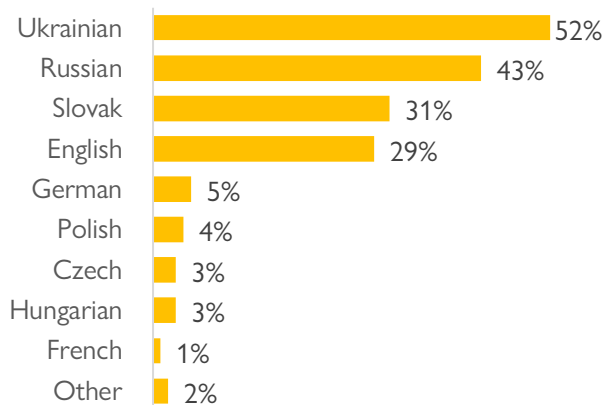
Main spoken language and other spoken languages

Fifty-two per cent of the respondents use Russian language as their main language spoken at home. Ukrainian language was chosen as a primary language by 47 per cent of respondents. Other primary languages mentioned among the respondents were Slovak (4 respondents), Polish, Roma, Romanian and Vietnamese (each stated by one respondent).

When asked about other languages spoken, 52 percent of all respondents mentioned Ukrainian and 43 per cent mentioned Russian language. This suggests that 99 per cent of the respondents speak Ukrainian language, and 95 per cent speak Russian. In addition to these, 31 per cent of respondents named Slovak and 29 per cent English language as a secondary language they speak fluently.

More than one answer was possible in this question.

Figure 7: Other spoken languages (%). (more than one answer was possible)



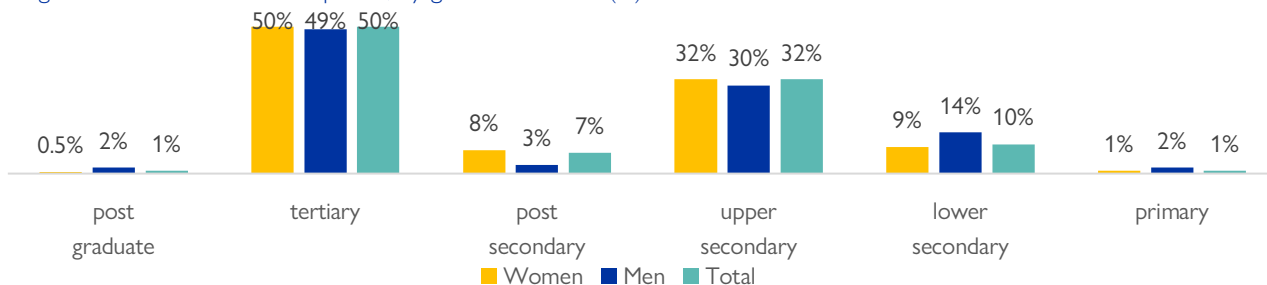
Education level and type of training completed

Out of all the respondents interviewed in this survey, 99 per cent have completed higher than primary education at the time of the interview. Forty-one per cent of respondents completed secondary education, seven per cent post-secondary education and 50 per cent tertiary education.

Women (N=670) were more likely to complete post-

secondary education (8%), as opposed to their male counterparts (N=176), out of whom only three per cent completed this level of education. On the other hand, men were four times more likely to complete post-graduate education (2%) than women (0.5%).

Figure 8: Education level completed, by gender and total (%)

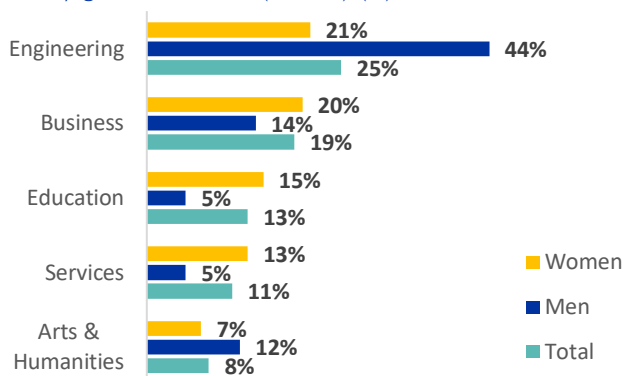


As per the areas of education in upper secondary and higher completed education (N=751), engineering was the most mentioned type of training completed, both by men and women. Nineteen per cent of respondents studied in the field of business, 13 per cent in education, 11 per cent in services and 8 per cent in arts and humanities.

Male respondents (N=146) were more likely to study in the fields of engineering (44%), arts and humanities (12%) or agriculture and forestry (9%), as opposed to female respondents (N=605), who more often selected education (15%), services (13%) or health and welfare (10%) as the type of training they completed.

The top five types of training are presented in the figure.

Figure 9: Top 5 types of training completed in higher education levels, by gender and total (N=751) (%)



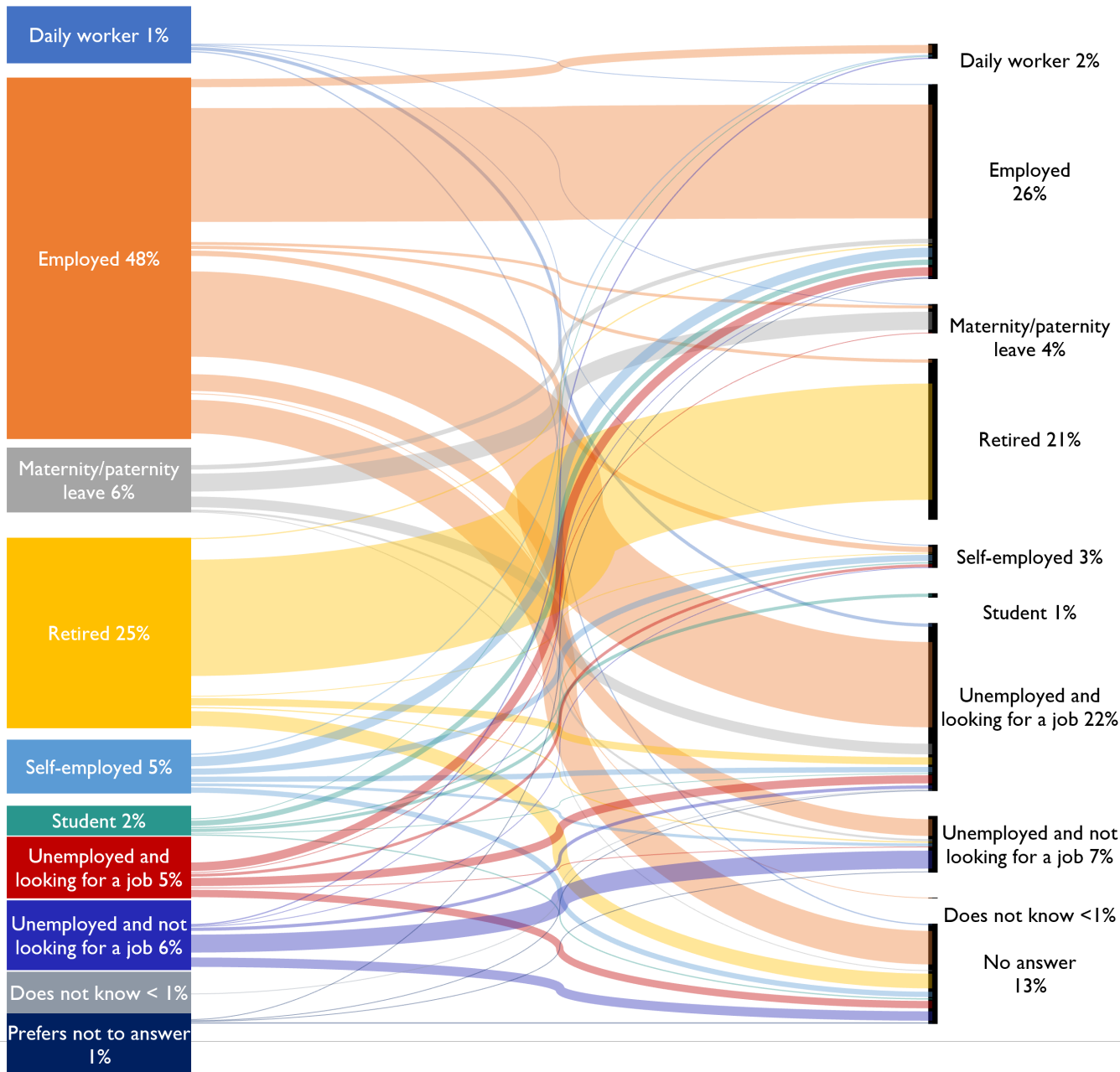
Employment status before leaving Ukraine versus current status

Thirty per cent of the refugees from Ukraine surveyed were employed (contracted) in Slovakia by the end of March 2023. Another four per cent were self-employed and two per cent employed as daily workers. Thirty-four per cent of respondents stated they were unemployed.

This represents a twenty-four per cent drop in employment

compared to the status of the respondents before leaving Ukraine, when 48 per cent were employed with another five per cent self-employed and one per cent of daily workers. The unemployment rate of the respondents was three times lower in Ukraine compared to at the time of interview in Slovakia.

Figure 10: Employment status before leaving Ukraine and current employment status (%)



Reasons not to be looking for a job

Nine per cent of the respondents stated they were unemployed and not looking for a job at the time of the interview. This represents almost doubled number compared to the employment status before displacement from Ukraine.

The respondents who decided to be unemployed in Slovakia (N=63) stated their reasons for doing so.

Current job

Out of the respondents who are currently either employed, self-employed or daily workers (N=264), most managed to find work with help of friends (41%). Seventeen per cent were able to find a job through an agency in Slovakia, and six per cent through Ukrainian agency (working remotely). Job advertising internet

Thirty-eight per cent indicated they have care responsibilities towards other family members that prevent them from working. The second most often stated reason was a medical condition (30%). Respondents also indicated their plans to leave the country (6%) and having enough support and/or savings not to need to work (5%).

Seventeen per cent of respondents chose not to answer this question.

websites were helpful only to seven per cent of the respondents.

Out of these respondents, 72 per cent also indicated they are aware of the benefits they are eligible for based on their employment status while 26 per cent were unaware of them at the time of the interview.

Sector of employment before leaving Ukraine and now

When comparing the sector of employment of the respondents before leaving Ukraine (N=462) and those respondents who were employed at the time of the interview (N=264), it can be observed that although the proportion in some sectors did not change, there were

significant changes in other sectors. In education, 13 per cent of respondents were employed as opposed to three per cent currently, for example. The proportion of person employed in accommodation, food services and domestic work grew, and it doubled in manufacturing.

Table 4: Top 15 sectors of employment before leaving Ukraine and currently (%)

Sector of employment	Before leaving Ukraine (%) N=462	Currently (%) N=264
Education	13%	3%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	10%	12%
Wholesale, retail and repair	10%	8%
Human health & Social work	8%	2%
Construction	8%	9%
Manufacturing	8%	19%
Financial insurance	5%	1%
Information & Communication	4%	5%
Transporting / Storage	3%	1%
Administrative support	2%	3%
Agriculture	2%	2%
Professional & Scientific sector	2%	1%
Accommodation & Food services	1%	6%
Domestic work	1%	4%
Other services / Activities	7%	16%

4. Registration and Inclusion Services

Current status

Out of the total of 842 respondents interviewed, 88 per cent said they already registered for temporary protection or applied for any protection or refugee status with national authorities of Slovakia.

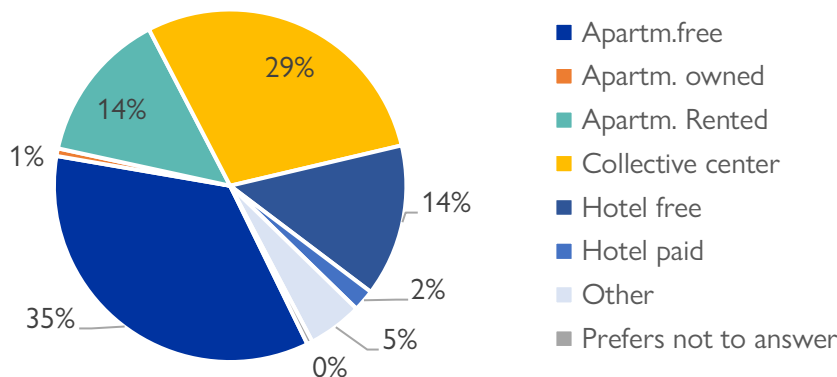
Among those who did not apply or register (12%), five per cent of respondents claimed not to be eligible for such protection status, three per cent plan to leave Slovakia and two per cent still plan to register.

Remaining two per cent had other reasons for not registering, were denied the status or said they did not know how to apply.

Current accommodation

Respondents were asked about the type of accommodation they lived in at the time of the interview. The results showed that 78 per cent of the respondents live in accommodations without a need to pay for rent or for accommodation fees. Among them, 35 per cent live in apartments, 29 per cent in collective centers and 14 per cent in hotels or hostels.

Figure 12: Current type of accommodation of respondents (%)

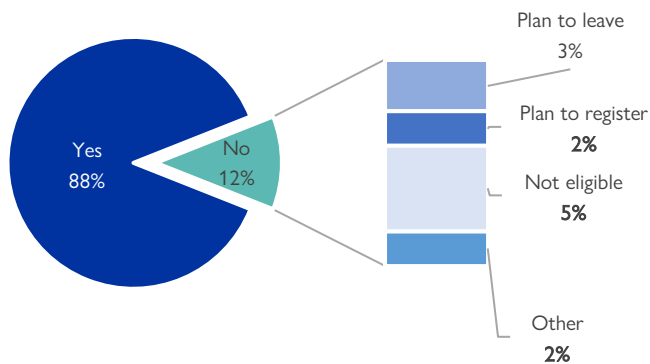


Thirty-two per cent of the respondents want to stay in their current accommodation until they manage to return to Ukraine. Another 30 per cent responded they would like to keep living there for as long as it would be possible and 11 per cent stated they would not move to a different accommodation for as long as they do not need to pay for rent.

Less than one per cent of respondents replied they will stay in the accommodation until they find a job, when asked this question.

Twenty per cent of respondents were unsure about their

Figure 11: Applied / registered for international protection (%)



Results also showed that 14 per cent of respondents were staying in apartments rented on the market and two per cent were paying for hotel accommodation.

Less than one per cent of the respondents stated they live in apartment or house they own.

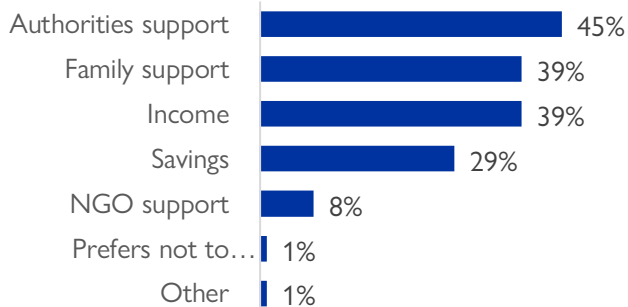
expected length of stay in the current accommodation.

Sixty-one per cent of the total of respondents estimated for how long they had been staying at their current accommodation.

Out of these respondents (N=520), 14 per cent have been living there for less than one month at the time of the interview, eight per cent between 1–3 months and another 16 per cent for 3–6 months. Sixty-two per cent of those who responded to the question had been staying in the same place for over six months.

Ability to cover expenses

Figure 13: Sources of income to cover expenses (%)
(more than one answer was possible)



Fifty-seven per cent of the total respondents claim their average income is sufficient to cover the monthly expenses they have in Slovakia, with 42 per cent claiming the opposite. Respondents who answered the question about different means of paying for their daily expenses (N=552) mostly mentioned own savings (29%), income from work (39%), support from their family and relatives (39%) and support from authorities and government (45%). Eight per cent of the respondents cover their expenses from the support of NGOs and humanitarian organizations.

Multiple responses were possible in this question.

Access to finances

Respondents who have been in Slovakia for more than 3 months (or answered they settled in the country) were asked a series of follow-up questions regarding their inclusion. To evaluate the access to finances, we asked them whether they were able to withdraw money using their foreign debit or credit cards in Slovakia. Eighty per cent of these respondents (N=581) had no issues accessing their

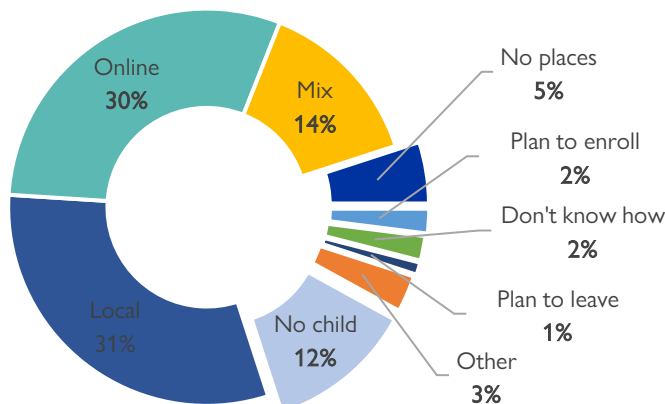
finances using foreign cards and 73 per cent opened a personal account in the local bank in Slovakia. Out of those who did not open a local account (27%), majority of respondents claimed they do not need one (17%) and another four per cent were planning to open one at the time of the interview.

Access to education

Fifty-five per cent of the respondents already settled in country have responded to the question about having children enrolled to local or Ukrainian schools (N=312). Out of these, 30 per cent have children attending Ukrainian school in online mode. Thirty-one per cent of respondents claimed to have their children enrolled in the local schools in Slovakia, with another 14 per cent attending both local school and online education from Ukraine.

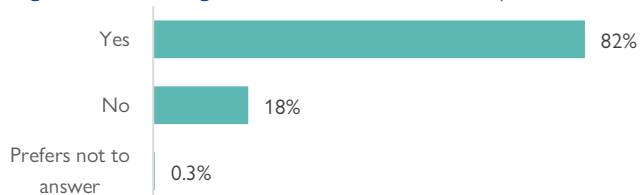
Out of those who do not have children enrolled at any school (13%), more than five per cent stated there were no places at the schools for their children. Twelve per cent of respondents of this question did not have children of school age.

Figure 14: Having children enrolled in schools (%)



Consular services

Figure 15: Knowing how to contact consular representatives (%)



Out of the respondents who have been settled in the country for over 3 months (N=581), 82 per cent said they know how to contact their consular representatives, however, only 17 per cent already reached out to them. Eighteen per cent of the respondents did not know how to contact their consular representatives at the time of the interview.

5. Immediate Needs and Assistance Received

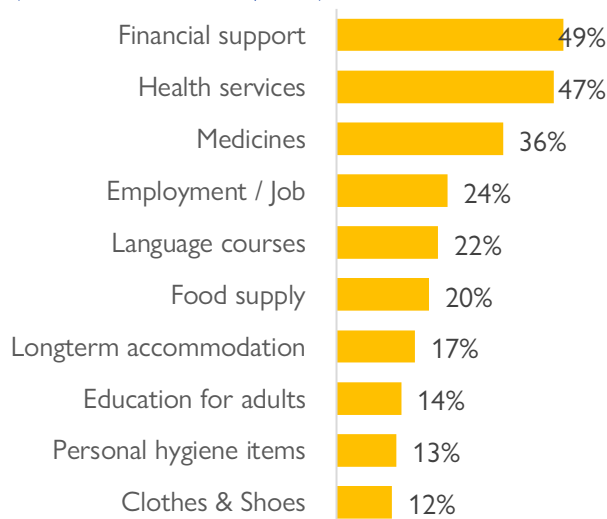
Immediate needs at the moment

Respondents were asked to name their current priority needs at the moment of interview.

Close to half of the respondents named need for financial support, followed by 47 per cent expressing need for health services and 36 per cent for medicines. Support with employment and job search would appreciate almost a quarter of the respondents (24%). Interviewees also mentioned need of language courses (22%) and further education courses for adults (14%). Twenty per cent mentioned need for food supplies and 17 per cent of respondents would appreciate support with finding long-term accommodation in Slovakia. Among the top 10 priority needs, personal hygiene items (13% of respondents) and clothes and shoes (12% of respondents) were also mentioned.

Thirteen per cent of respondents said they do not need any urgent support at the time of interview.

Figure 16: Top 10 priority needs at the moment (%). (more than one answer was possible)



Assistance received

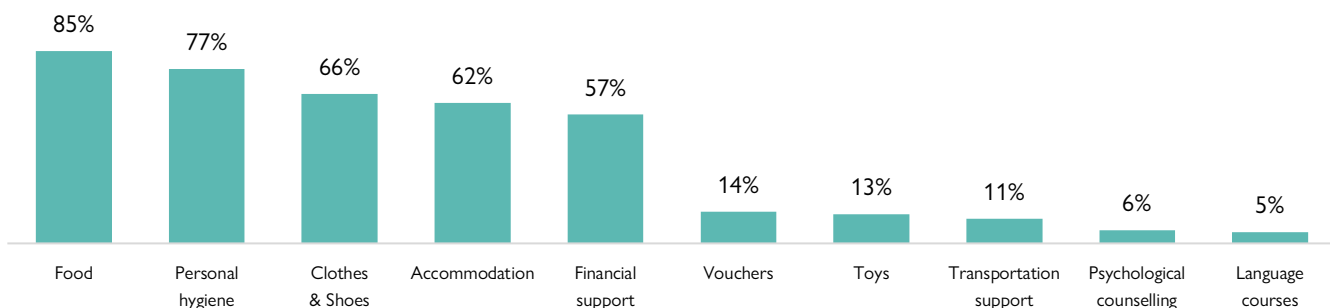
Eighty-three per cent of the interviewed respondents have received some kind of humanitarian assistance during their journey prior to the interview. Out of these respondents (N=699), 85 per cent have received meals or food items, 77 per cent received personal hygiene items and 66 per cent

were helped with clothes and shoes.

Sixty-two per cent of interviewees answered they were assisted with accommodation and more than half of them (57%) also stated they received financial support.

More than one answer was possible in this question.

Figure 17: Top 10 types of assistance received by respondents (N=699) (%). (more than one answer was possible)



Ninety per cent of the respondents indicated that they knew where to seek humanitarian assistance, with less than ten per cent not having this information. At the same time, majority of the respondents who have been in Slovakia for

longer time or indicated they were settled in Slovakia (N=581) claimed they have not experienced any difficulties when receiving humanitarian support. It was stated by almost 91 per cent of the respondents.

Areas in which information is needed to receive more assistance

The respondents who stated they did not know where to seek assistance (10% of the total sample of respondents) indicated the areas they would need more information in order to receive the assistance.

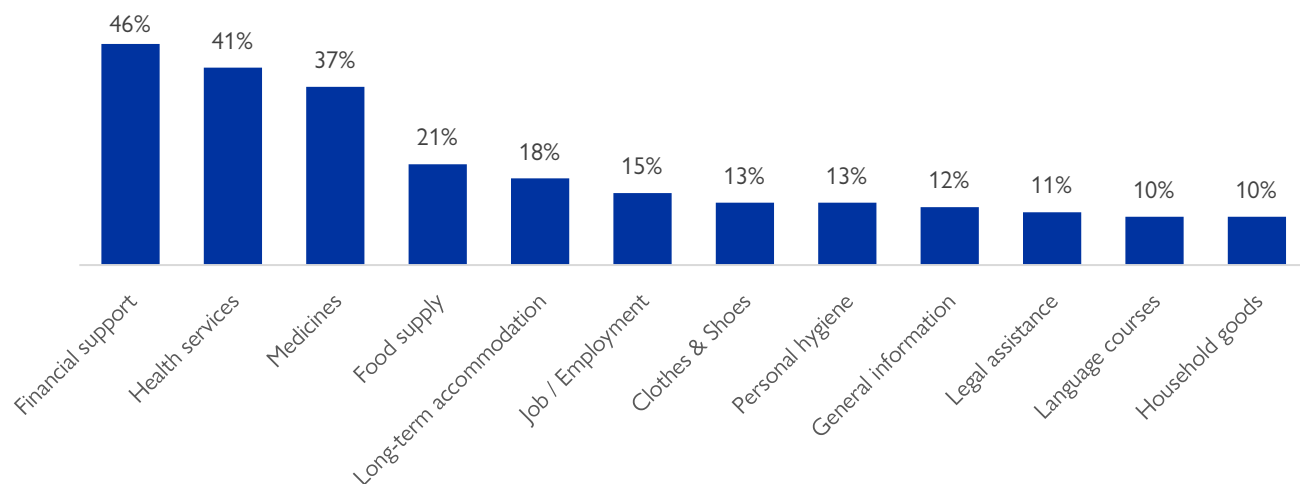
On top of the list was information about financial support with 46 per cent of respondents selecting this option. Interviewees further named information about health

services (41%), medicines and medical supplies (37%) as the areas they are missing information on.

Information on food supplies (21%), long-term accommodation (18%) or job and employment opportunities (15%) were all named by more than ten respondents.

Multiple responses were possible in this question.

Figure 18: Top 12 areas in which information on assistance is needed (N=82) (%). (more than one answer was possible)



Channels for receiving information

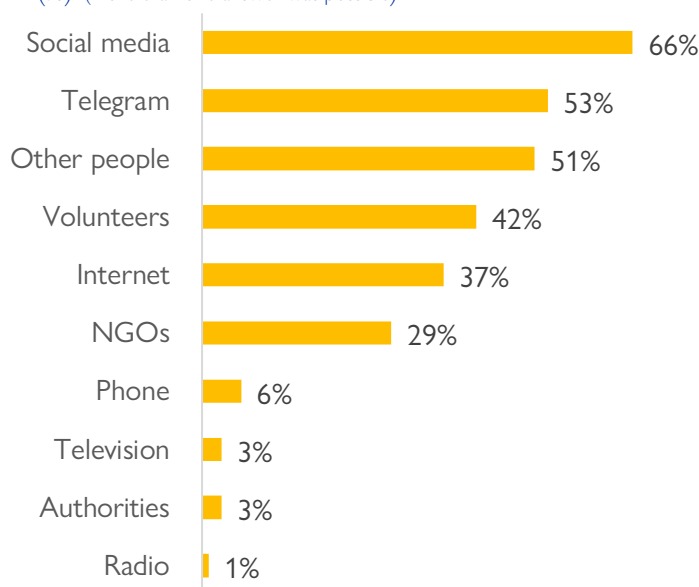
Based on the answers received from the respondents, most of the information on humanitarian assistance and other updates for persons displaced from Ukraine is shared online. Sixty-six per cent of the interviewees indicated they get the information from social media, followed by 53 per cent mentioning Telegram and 37 per cent naming internet websites or search engines.

Fifty-one per cent of respondents said they get the information from other people and 42 per cent from volunteers working with displaced persons.

Non-governmental organizations proved to be another important source of information for the persons who left Ukraine, with 29 per cent of the respondents indicating this option.

Authorities (3%), television (3%) and radio (1%) were ranked the last in the list of channels used for receiving information by the respondents.

Figure 19: Channels of receiving information by respondents (%). (more than one answer was possible)



6. Challenges in the Country of Displacement

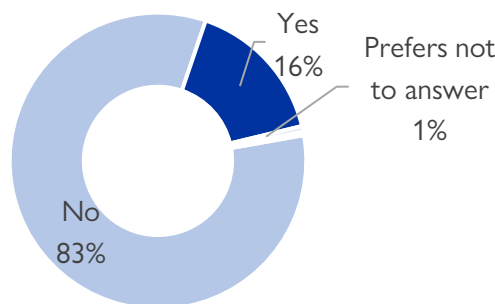
Experiences of discrimination

Eighty-three per cent of the respondents claim they did not experience any forms of discrimination during their journey or so far in Slovakia.

On the other hand, 16 per cent mentioned experiencing situations of discrimination in the country of displacement. Among the specific cases, the respondents often mentioned situations of discrimination due to the language barrier, verbal attacks from locals based on the nationality of respondents or attitudes received from persons in healthcare or administrative positions.

Less than one per cent of respondents could not tell whether they experienced discrimination.

Figure 20: Reported experience of discrimination (%)



Inclusion challenges

The respondents who have been living in Slovakia for more than 3 months (settled in Slovakia) were asked about the inclusion challenges they face.

For these respondents (N=581), the five most mentioned challenges were financial issues (43%), lack of suitable job opportunities and language barrier (26% each), finding long-term housing solutions (20%) and overall access to social services and administration services (18%).

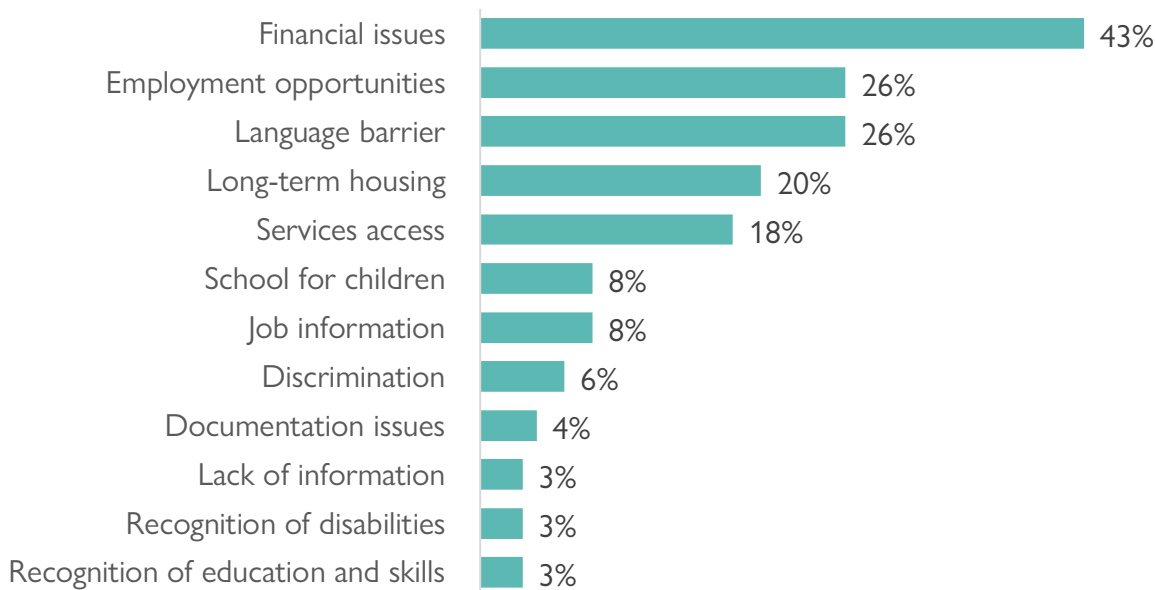
More than five per cent of respondents also mentioned challenges regarding finding school or preschool for children

(8%), getting information on job opportunities or employment options (8%) and experiencing discrimination in accessing information or services (6%).

Three per cent of respondents stated they experience obstacles or challenges in getting their disabilities recognized in the administrative system of Slovakia, or in having their professional skills, education diplomas or university credits recognized.

More than one answer was possible in this question

Figure 21: Top 12 inclusion challenges perceived by respondents (N=581) (%). (more than one answer was possible)



7. Current Group Composition

Travelling alone or in a group

Seventy-three per cent of respondents travelled in group when leaving Ukraine and coming to Slovakia.

According to the data, men were more likely to travel alone than women, with 33 per cent of male population selecting this option, as opposed to 25 per cent of female population.

Ninety per cent of those respondents who travelled in group (N=620) stated they were travelling with their

immediate family members and 18 per cent with other relatives. Three per cent of respondents also stated they were travelling with neighbors and one per cent with colleagues.

Children under 18 years were present in 71 per cent of the groups.

Figure 22: Travel group (N=620) (%). (more than one answer was possible)



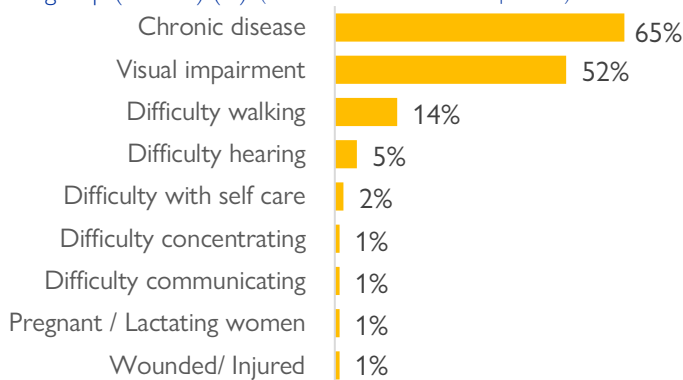
Travelling with persons with health conditions and disabilities

Based on the information provided by the respondents, sixty-five per cent of those travelling in a group (N=620) were travelling with at least one person with chronic disease or serious medical condition.

Fifty-two per cent of these respondents were travelling with a person with visual impairment and 14 per cent with those having difficulty walking or climbing stairs.

Among other mentioned health conditions and disabilities of the persons displacing from Ukraine to Slovakia were difficulties hearing or even using hearing aid (5%) and difficulties taking care of themselves, including washing or getting dressed (2%).

Figure 23: Persons with serious health conditions in travel group (N=620) (%). (more than one answer was possible)

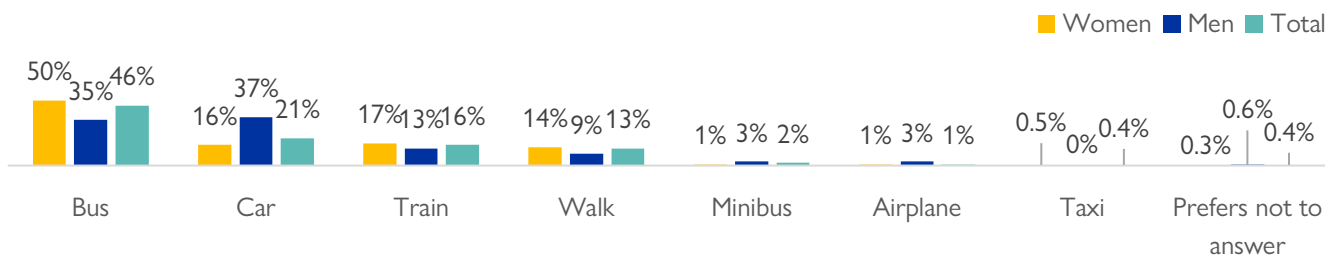


Travel mode

Most of the interviewees reached Slovakia by bus (46%). Twenty-one per cent used car and 16 per cent took a train. Thirteen per cent of respondents stated they came to Slovakia on foot.

Looking at the data disaggregated by gender, men travelled by car more than twice as often than women (37% of men as opposed to 16% of women). On the other hand, 14% of women stated as their mode of travel to Slovakia walking, as opposed to nine per cent of men.

Figure 24: Travel mode, by gender and total (%).



8. Methodology

This report is based on a survey of displacement patterns, needs and intentions conducted by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) in the 11 countries included in the Regional Response Plan for Ukraine in 2023: 6 countries neighbouring Ukraine – Belarus, Hungary, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania and Slovakia – and other 5 countries particularly impacted by the arrivals of refugees from Ukraine since the start of the war in February 2022 – Bulgaria, Czechia, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

The analysis presented in this report is based on data collected between January and March 2023 through a network of more than 150 enumerators, with various timelines and specific survey tools –depending on the country context. Nevertheless, the sampling approach, main definitions and features of the survey tool make country-level datasets comparable.

Face-to-face surveys were conducted by trained enumerators with adult refugees from Ukraine and other TCNs (18 years of age and above). Prior to the start of the survey, all enumerators were trained by IOM on DTM standards, the use of Kobo application, IOM approach to migrants' protection and assistance, the ethics of data collection and the provision of information and referral mechanisms in place.

Respondents were approached in a simple random sample by enumerators at selected entry, exit, transit points and accommodation centres. In border crossing point areas, both persons entering/exiting by car, by bus, by foot and by train were interviewed.

The survey was anonymous and voluntary. Surveys were administered only if consent from the respondent was given. The respondent could stop the survey at any time.

The questionnaire was available in Ukrainian, Russian, English and Romanian language. The preferred language was determined by the interviewee. All responses were checked for any systematic issues by enumerator and this process did not identify any problems.

Only fully completed surveys were taken in account for this report.

Country-level implementation and limitations

The sampling framework was not based on verified figures of refugees from Ukraine and TCNs entering through the various BCPs or staying in the various regions (counties, districts, rayons) across each of the country where surveys were conducted. This is due to the limited availability of comparable baseline information across countries. The geographic spread of enumerators deployed and locations targeted captures most of the key arrival, transit and destination points. Whilst results cannot be deemed representative, the internal consistency within the data within each country and at the regional level suggests that the findings of the current sampling framework have practical value.

Whilst every attempt was made to capture all types of arrivals at the BCPs, the operational reality of fieldwork was confronted with different levels of accessibility of BCPs and other transit and stay locations and the different availability of possible target individuals to comfortably spend 10-20 minutes responding to the questionnaire depending on a mix of personal conditions. For example, it is easier to interview persons travelling by bus and other types of group transportation than those in private vehicles who tend to be fast in transiting through BCPs and travel onwards. Other factors more related to the conditions at a specific location and period – organizational changes in the entry and transit areas from national authorities, weather conditions, also play a role.

In Slovakia, DTM was activated in March 2022. The data for this report were collected between 15 February and 31 March 2023. Overall, 842 valid surveys were collected by a team of 17 enumerators (8 female and 9 male) deployed in 5 different provinces.

Thirty-six per cent of surveys were collected in Bratislava, 36 per cent in Kosice, 17 per cent in Trnava, nine per cent in Presov and 6 per cent in Banska Bystrica region. Enumerators were approaching respondents in information centers, aid centers, humanitarian aid distribution centers, transit points, collective centers and at BCPs. The interviews have been conducted in Russian and Ukrainian languages.

DTM

Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a system to track and monitor displacement and population mobility. The survey form was designed to capture the main displacement patterns – origin country and region – 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 relative to the intended final destination and prospects of permanence in the country of the survey/first reception; it gathers information regarding a set of main needs that the respondents expressed as more pressing at the moment of the interview.

Since the onset of the war in Ukraine, several IOM's DTM tools were deployed in countries neighbouring Ukraine and in other countries particularly impacted by the new arrivals of migrants and refugees from Ukraine.

For more information, please consult: <https://dtm.iom.int/responses/ukraine-response>

DTM is part of IOM's Global Data Institute.