

UKRAINIANS AND THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONALS CROSSING BACK TO UKRAINE

Hungary | Latvia | Poland | Republic of Moldova | Romania | Slovakia

REGIONAL ANALYSIS
JANUARY – MARCH 2024



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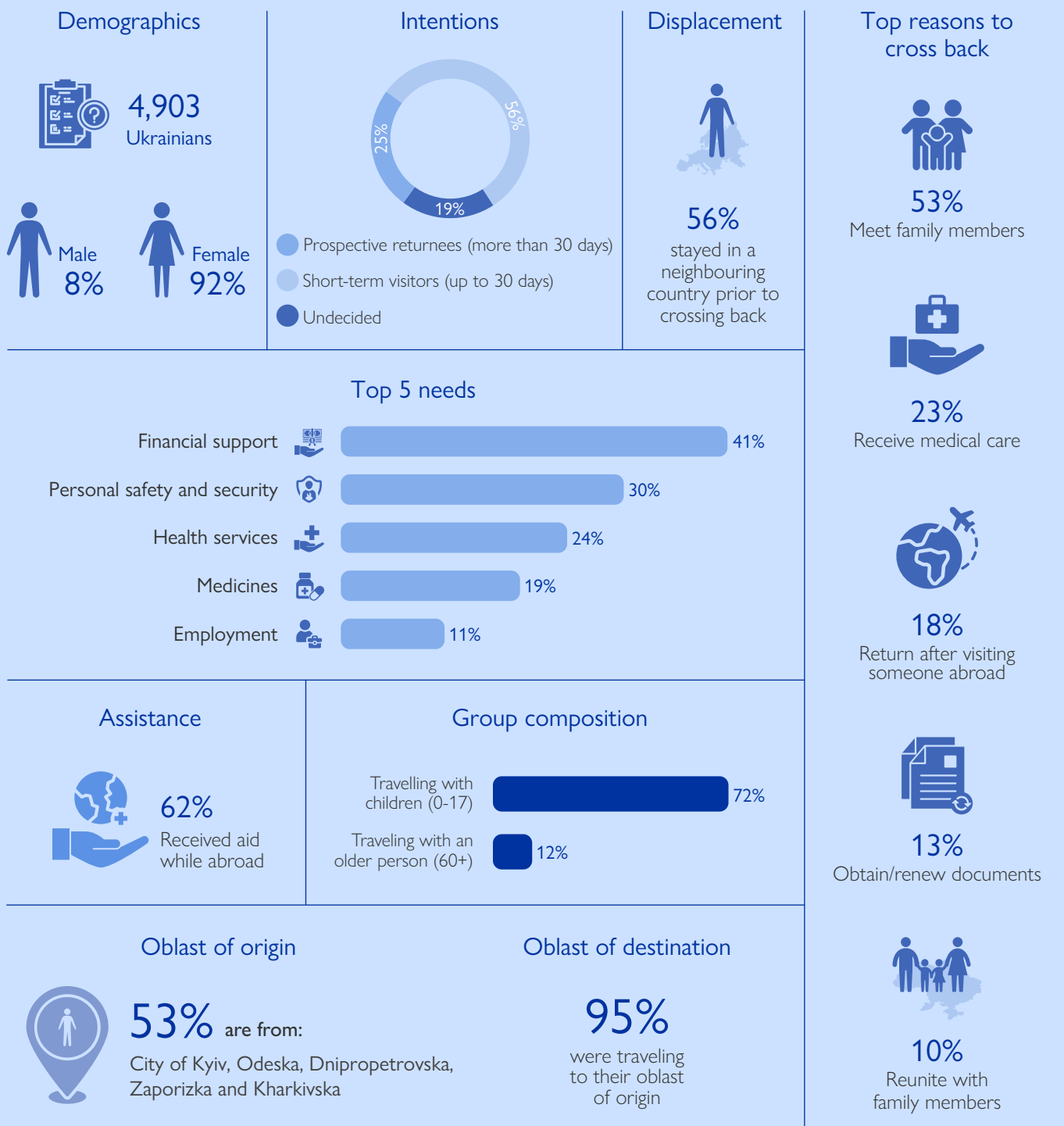
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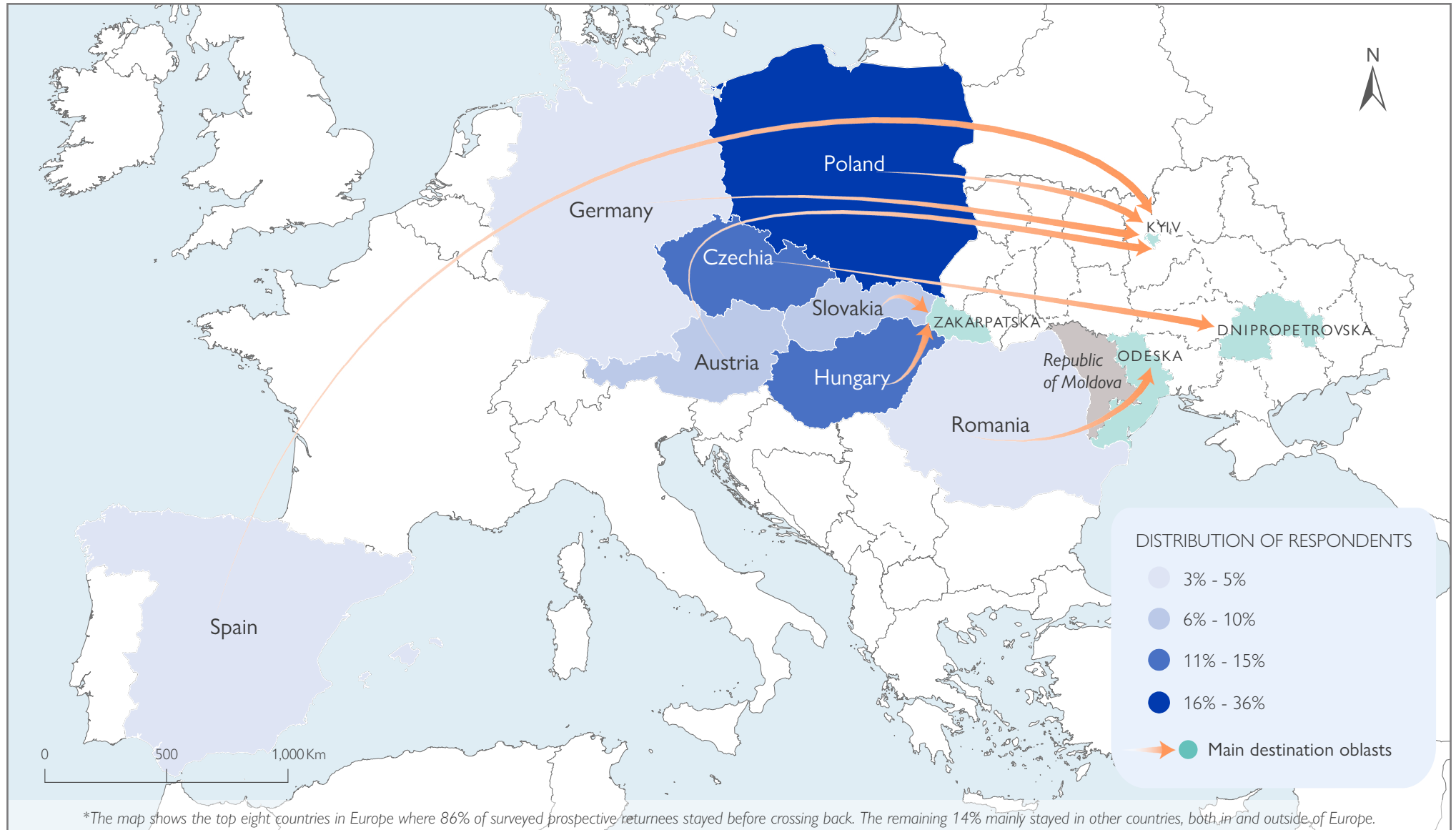
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KEY FINDINGS

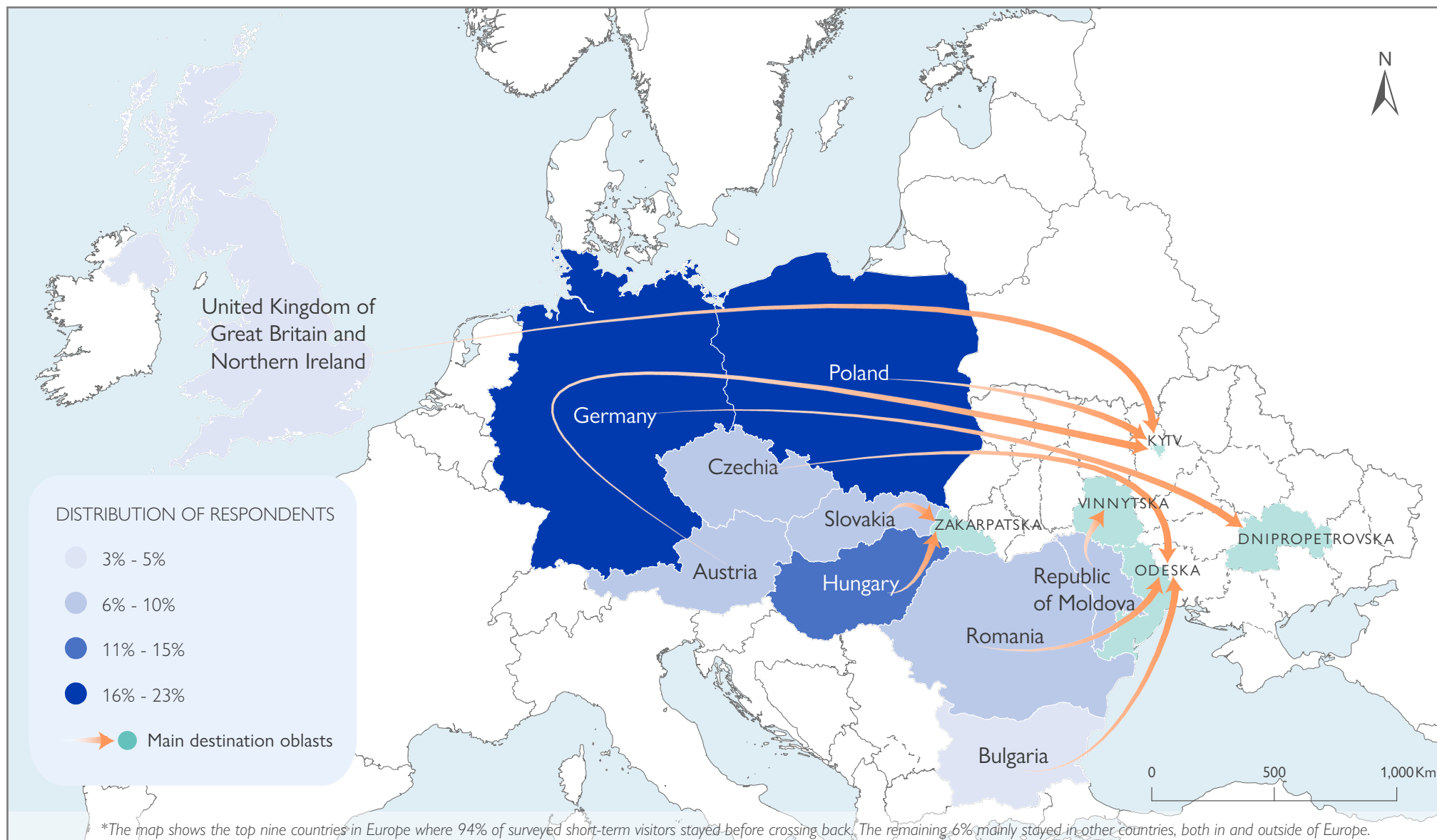


MAP 1. TOP OBLASTS OF INTENDED DESTINATION IN UKRAINE BY COUNTRY OF DEPARTURE AMONG PROSPECTIVE RETURNEES, JANUARY – MARCH 2024 (W, %)



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MAP 2. TOP OBLASTS OF INTENDED DESTINATION IN UKRAINE BY COUNTRY OF DEPARTURE AMONG SHORT-TERM VISITORS, JANUARY – MARCH 2024 (W, %)



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1. INTRODUCTION

About 3.5 million people were internally displaced in Ukraine as of April 2024 (IOM Ukraine, 2024b) and about 5.9 million refugees were recorded across Europe as of mid-May 2024 (UNHCR, 2024). As of April 2024, almost 4.7 million persons were estimated to be returnees in Ukraine after a period of previous displacement; of them, about 27 per cent (or 1.15 million) were returnees from abroad (IOM Ukraine, 2024c).

The number of total border crossings from Ukraine into neighbouring countries from February 2022 until May 2024 reached over 32 million and almost 28 million border crossings were registered in the opposite direction by Ukraine's border authorities (UNHCR, 2024). While some persons returning to Ukraine from abroad intend to remain, others may be engaging in short visits to Ukraine or pendular movements between border areas for a variety of reasons.¹

This report presents evidence on persons crossing back to Ukraine from abroad distinguishing between those who aim to remain in the country for longer periods and those who plan to pay a short visit. Individuals planning to spend 0 to 30 days in Ukraine are categorized as “short-term visitors,” while those intending to stay longer than one month are identified as

“prospective returnees.” The analysis is based on 4,938 surveys collected by DTM between January and March 2024 with adult individuals travelling to Ukraine from the neighbouring countries. About 99 per cent of them were Ukrainians, and 1 per cent Third-Country Nationals (TCNs). Results are rounded to the nearest whole number; hence, some results may fall slightly below or above 100 per cent.

Sections 2 to 7 focus on the 4,903 surveys with Ukrainian nationals met at the border areas of neighbouring countries to Ukraine: Hungary (125), Poland (361), Republic of Moldova (1,800), Romania (1,287), and Slovakia (1,330). Results are weighted for the number of border crossings into Ukraine from each country during the data collection period. In Section 8, evidence on persons interviewed while crossing back is complemented with data on returnees from abroad collected by DTM in Ukraine.

The report also discusses the different profiles of Ukrainian nationals surveyed in Latvia (Section 9). Additionally, it contains a section dedicated to TCNs crossing into Ukraine from abroad (35 interviews, Section 10). The report ends with a short section elaborating on the [Methodology](#).



My daughter and I live in Czechia. We have received humanitarian aid, such as clothes and shoes, food, and personal hygiene products there.

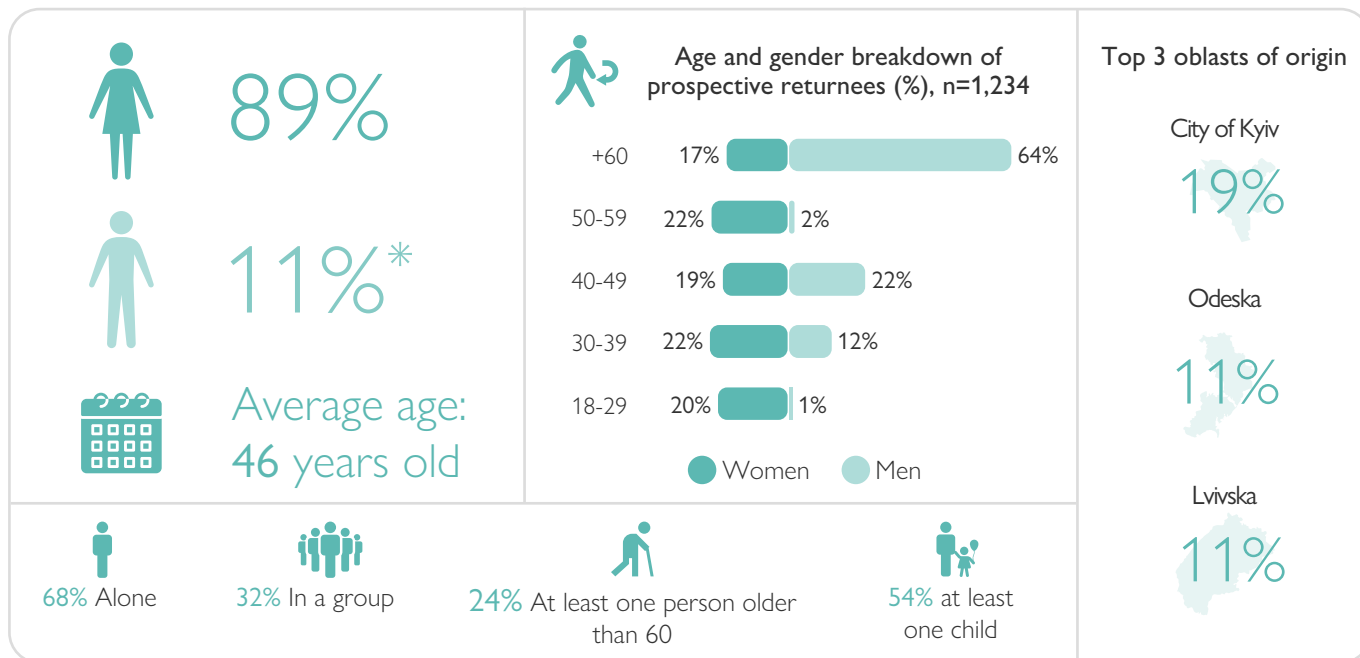
Forty-year-old woman going to Zakarpatska oblast from Slovakia



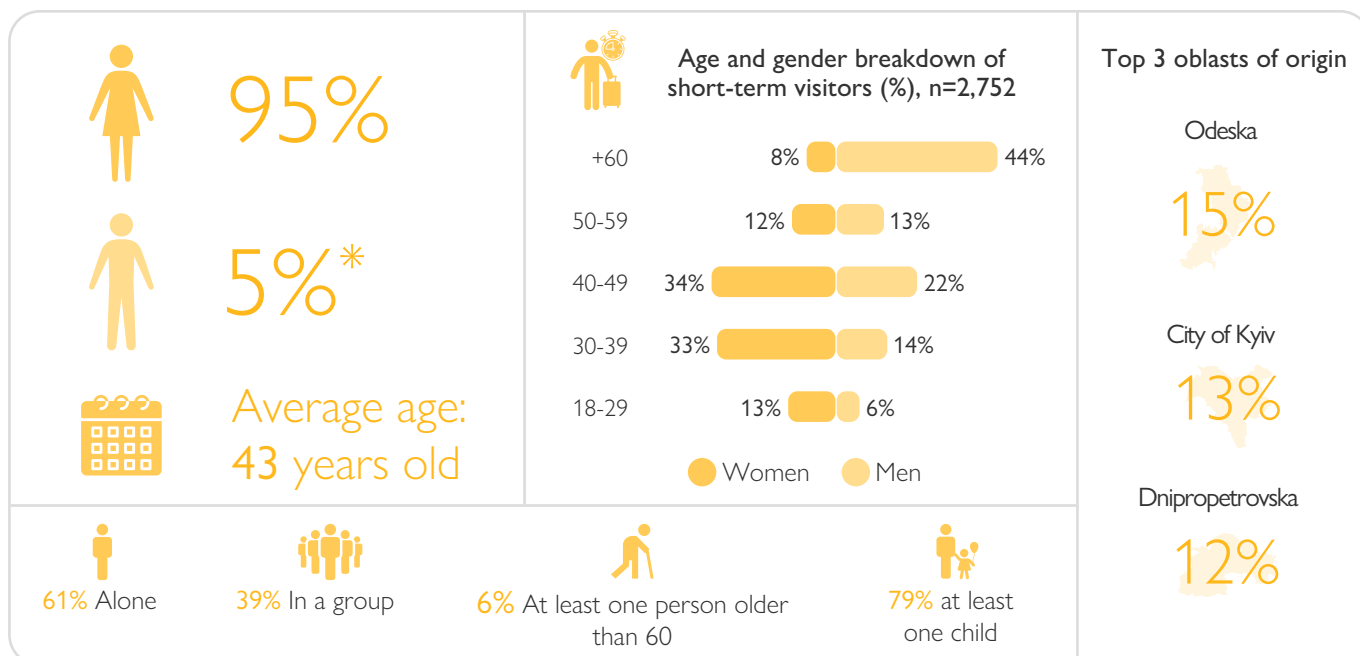
1. The IOM glossary defines return as “the act or process of going back or being taken back to the point of departure”, which can take place within a country's territorial borders, or between a country of destination or transit and a country of origin.

2. SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

PROSPECTIVE RETURNEES (25% OF RESPONDENTS IN Q1 2024)



SHORT-TERM VISITORS (56% OF RESPONDENTS IN Q1 2024)



*The small proportion of men crossing back into Ukraine compared to women is likely influenced by the legal restriction on men's ability to leave Ukraine again if desired. With the declaration of Martial Law across the entire country in February 2022, the Ukrainian government prohibits "able-bodied" men of conscription age from leaving the country (with some exceptions). Overall, eight respondents preferred not to indicate their gender.

3. INTENTIONS AND REASONS TO CROSS BACK

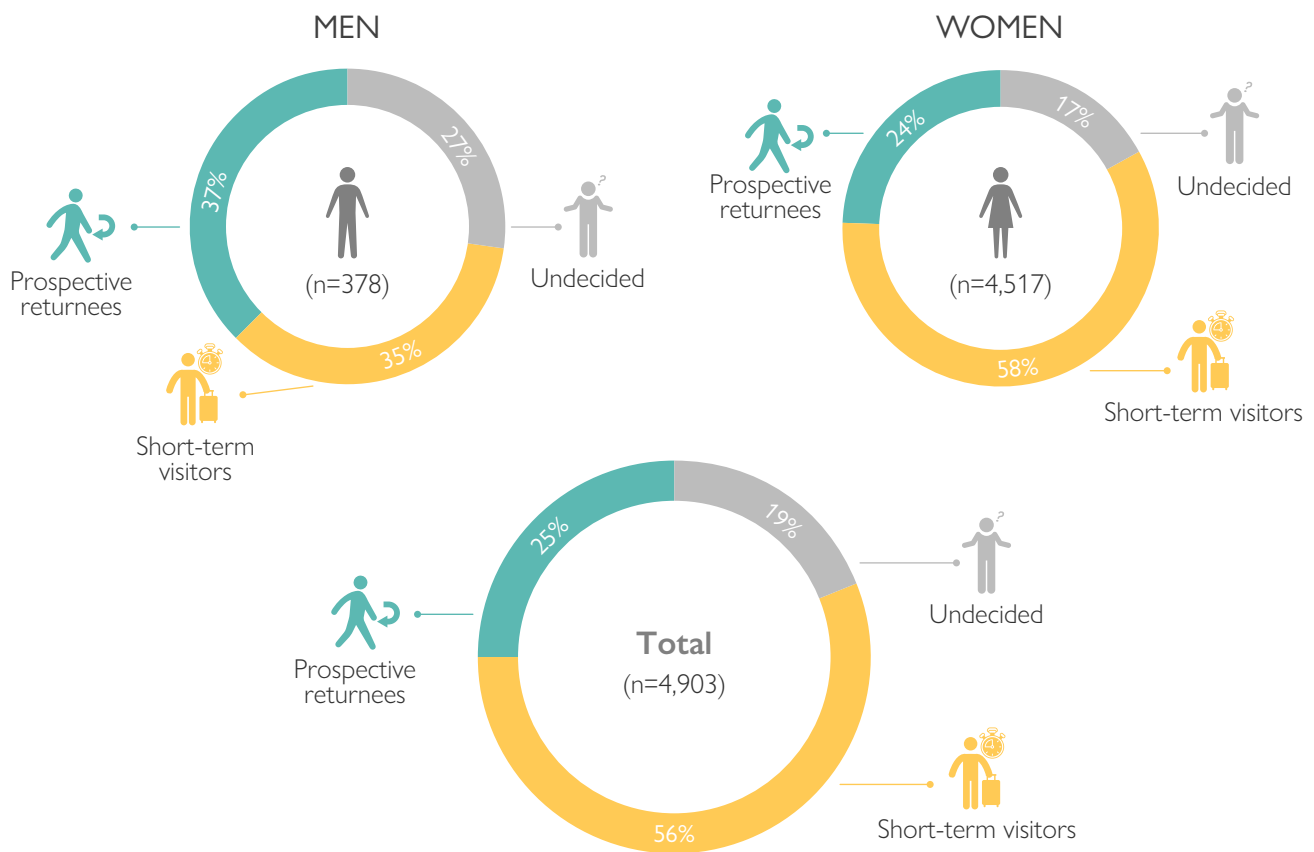
SHORT VISIT OR PROSPECTIVE RETURN

Over half of Ukrainian respondents (56%) were short-term visitors and 25 per cent were prospective returnees. Another 19 per cent were unsure about the length of their stay. Almost all (97%) of those who planned to stay longer than 30 days stated the intention to “remain indefinitely” in Ukraine.

Almost three out of five women (58%) planned to return to Ukraine for a short visit, while only one-third of men (35%)

were returning for a short period. One in four women (24%) intended to stay in Ukraine for a longer time (more than thirty days), compared to 37 per cent of men. Men were more likely to be unsure of how long they planned to stay (27% compared to 17% of women). The share of women who intended to go to Ukraine for a short visit was higher than their male counterparts (35%).

Figure 1. Intentions to stay or visit Ukraine for a short period, by gender and total (w, %)



Most respondents planned to stay at their own houses in Ukraine (78% overall), while others report to be going to their relatives' place (14%), or that they would find other private solutions or stay with friends (7%). One per cent of respondents did not

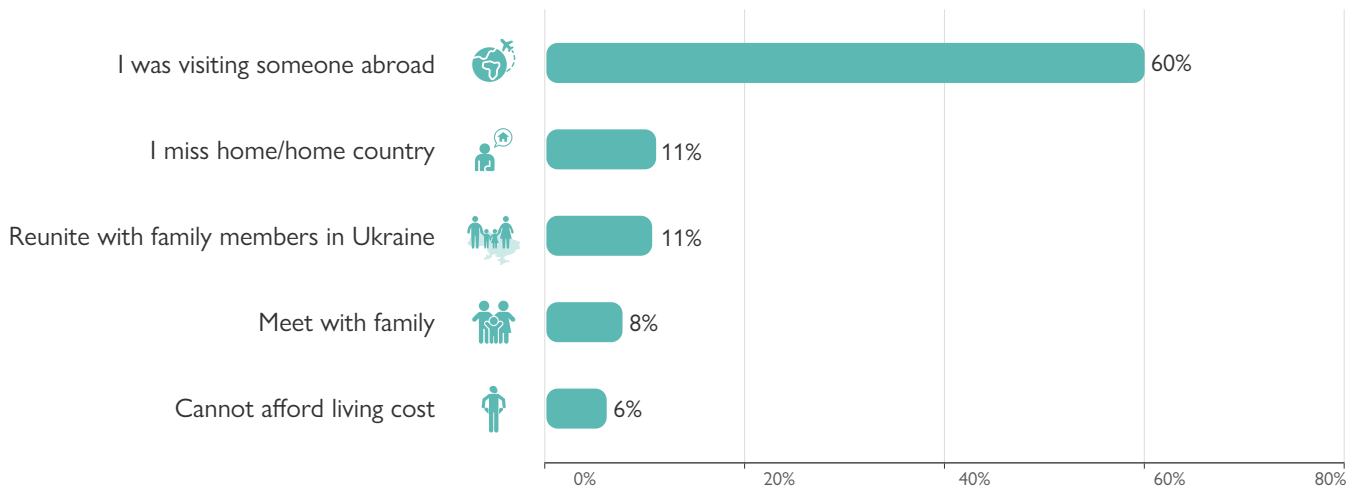
yet have plans for their accommodation. The share of those planning to be hosted by relatives was higher among short-term visitors (17%) than prospective returnees (2%).

REASONS

Among prospective returnees, three out of five (60%) travelled outside of Ukraine for a short term to visit relatives or close friends abroad (and thus had left Ukraine with the intention to return quickly). Among those who were abroad for a longer period, 11 per cent wanted to return to Ukraine because they missed their place of origin and another 11 per cent wanted to reunite with family members in Ukraine.

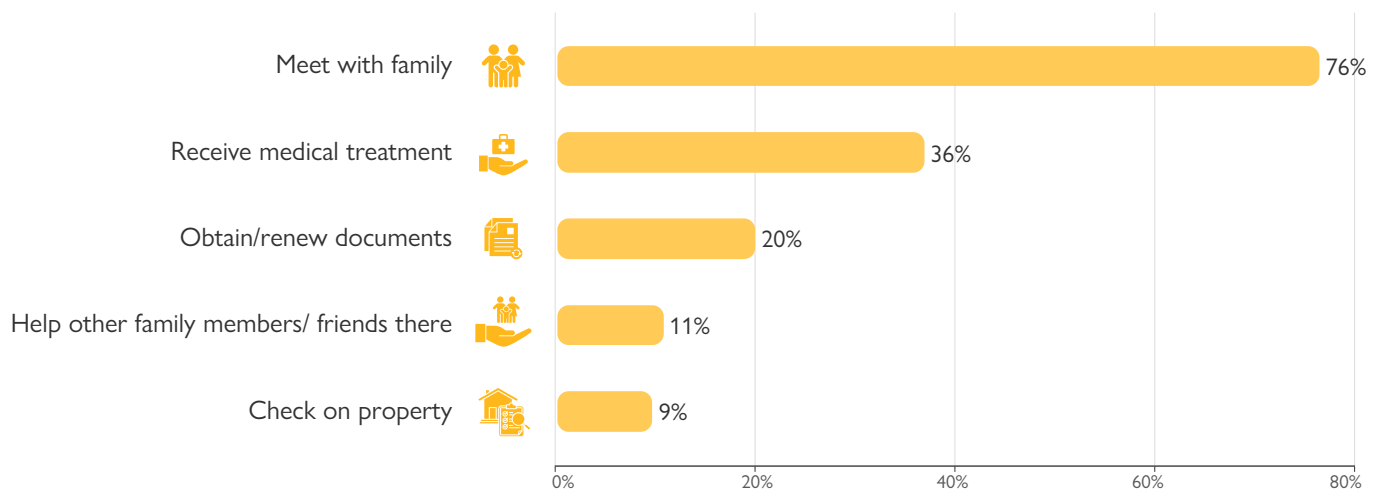
Short-term visitors were aiming to visit family members in more than three-quarters of the cases (76%). Additionally, over one-third (36%) were seeking medical care (including doctor visits and examinations from specialists such as paediatricians, dentists, gynaecologists, and others) and one in five (20%) needed to obtain or renew identity documents (biometric passport, diplomas, licenses, etc.).

Figure 2. Top 5 reasons to stay in Ukraine, prospective returnees (w, %), n=1,234



Multiple answers possible

Figure 3. Top 5 reasons for a short visit to Ukraine, short-term visitors (w, %), n=2,752



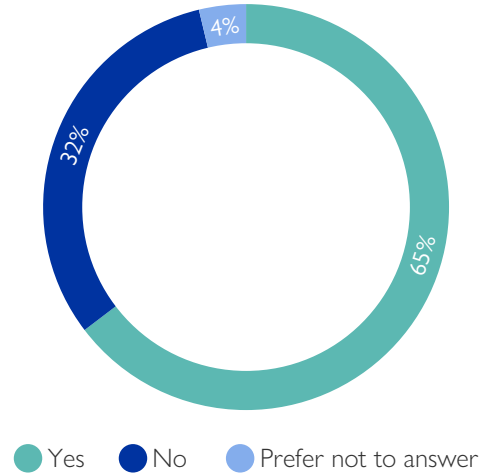
Multiple answers possible

PLANS UPON ARRIVAL

Among prospective returnees, almost half (48%) planned to return to the job they had before displacement upon arrival to their destination in Ukraine. The intention to return to a previous job was much more common among women (51%) compared to men (26%). One in five (19%) prospective returnees plan to continue their retirement upon arrival in Ukraine. Men predominantly were retired (59%) compared to women (14%). Twelve per cent of prospective returnees were unemployed and aimed to look for a job in Ukraine. Women crossing back were much more likely to be looking for a job (13%) compared to men (1%). Small percentages of respondents planned to care for family (4%), study (2%), or be on parental leave (1%). Fourteen per cent of respondents were unsure of their arrangements upon arrival in Ukraine.

Almost two-thirds (65%) of respondents who intend to return for a longer period (prospective returnees) expected to be reunited with their family once they arrived at their final destination in Ukraine.

Figure 4. Proportion of prospective returnees who expected to reunite with family upon arrival in Ukraine (w, %), n=1,234



IOM staff interview a refugee from Ukraine in the Republic of Moldova. © IOM 2024



I am going to Ukraine to check the results of the surgery I had in Ireland, and to repair my apartment that was damaged in a rocket attack.

Forty-four-year-old woman going to Kyivska oblast from Poland



4. TIME OUTSIDE OF UKRAINE

LOCATION AND LENGTH OF STAY ABROAD

More than half (56%) of all respondents spent most of their time outside of Ukraine in one of the five neighbouring countries where they were surveyed.

The rest stayed in other countries in Europe (43%), and only 2 per cent spent their time in displacement outside Europe. Czechia (10%), Austria (8%), Germany (5%), Spain (3%), and Italy (2%) were the main displacement countries among the prospective returnees. Germany (15%), Czechia (9%), Austria (5%), the United Kingdom (4%), and Bulgaria (3%) were the top host countries among those intending to pay a short visit.

Prospective returnees were slightly more likely to have spent their time in the neighbouring country in which they were surveyed while crossing back compared to short-term visitors (61% vs 57%).

Respondents had first been displaced from Ukraine and went abroad on average 467 days (about 16 months) prior to the time of the interview. Those who plan to return for a short visit on average had been in displacement for more than twice as long (19 months) compared to those who were returning for a longer time (7 months).

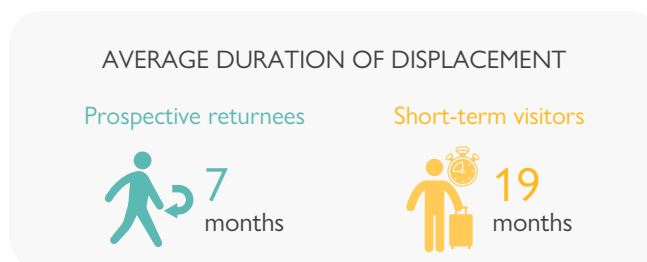


Figure 5. Location of displacement while outside of Ukraine, by return intention (w, %)



RECEIVED ASSISTANCE

Over three out of five (62%) Ukrainian respondents received humanitarian assistance while abroad. Close to nine out of ten (89%) respondents crossing from the Republic of Moldova to Ukraine had received assistance while abroad. Among those crossing back in Romania, almost seven out of ten (69%) had received aid while abroad, followed by 62 per cent crossing back from Poland, 52 per cent from Hungary, and 47 per cent from Slovakia.

Prospective returnees, those who aim to return and remain in Ukraine, reported at substantially lower rates that they have received humanitarian assistance (26%) compared to those crossing back for a short period (79%). More women received humanitarian assistance than men (64% versus 43%).

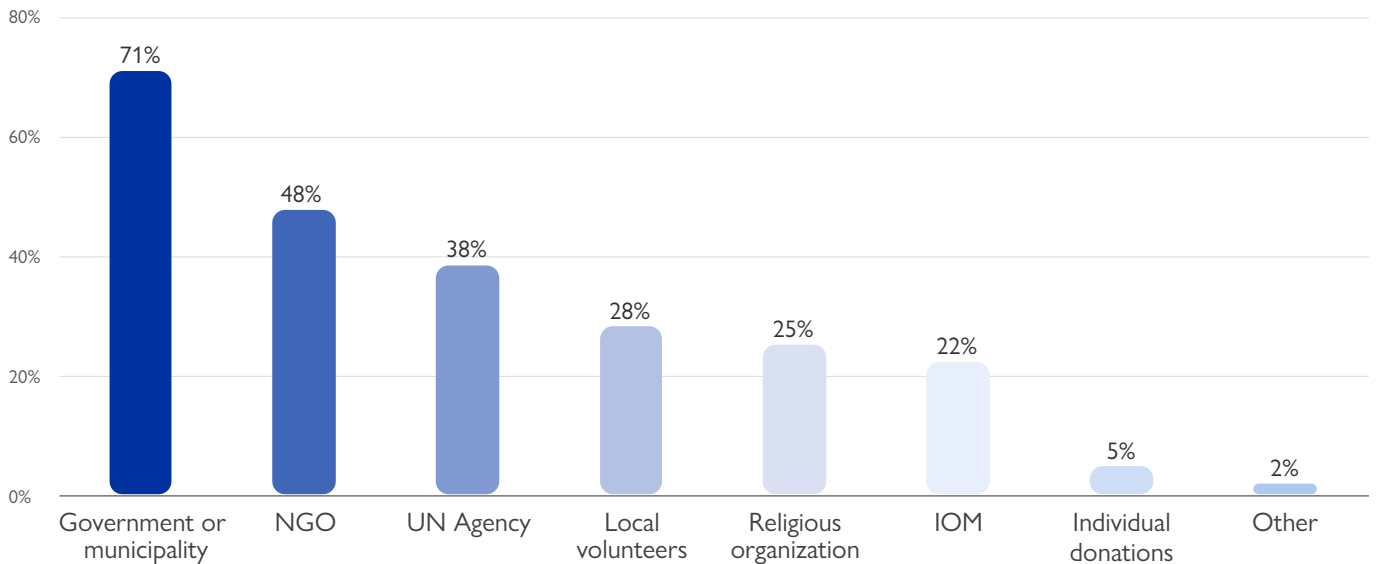


This is not necessarily due to a short reach of humanitarian actors to those in need of support, as only a minority (5% of respondents) had difficulties receiving support when they asked for it. Rather, prospective returnees may have higher income levels overall compared to short-term visitors, and thus do not require humanitarian assistance as frequently as short-term visitors. Among the issues preventing those from receiving support were lack of information, language barriers, or specific services not being offered (namely health-care services).

Among the 62 per cent of respondents who received some type of humanitarian assistance while outside of Ukraine, the most common source of assistance was from the government or municipality in the host country (71% of respondents). Just under half of respondents received aid from non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and 38 per cent from a United Nations

(UN) agency. Almost three in ten Ukrainians surveyed (28%) were beneficiaries of assistance from local volunteers, one-fourth (25%) from a religious organization, and one in five (22%) from IOM. A small proportion of respondents received assistance from individual donations (5%) or another source (2%).

Figure 6. Institution from which respondents received humanitarian assistance abroad (w, %), n=3,040



Multiple answers possible

ENTRIES TO AND EXITS FROM UKRAINE

The difference between the two groups was also reflected in the frequency of crossings to Ukraine among respondents: short-term visitors reported having entered and exit Ukraine on average more frequently than prospective returnees. Four out of five (81%) short-term visitors entered and exit Ukraine

two or more times since February 2022 compared to half (54%) of prospective returnees. Prospective returnees were more likely to report that they were entering Ukraine for the first time since they first left Ukraine (8% compared to 2% of short-term visitors).



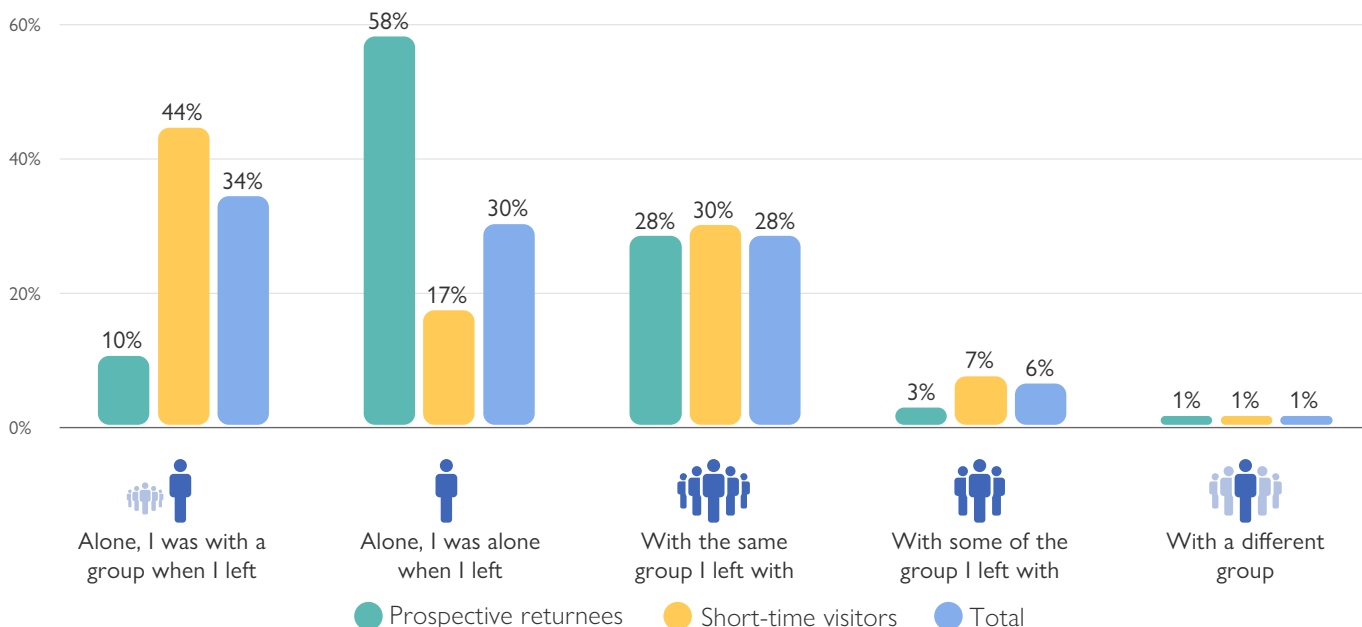
IOM provides support to refugees in the border region of Hungary. © IOM 2024

GROUP COMPOSITION

Almost two-thirds (64%) of respondents travelled alone and just over one third (36%) moved in a group. Short-term visitors were slightly more likely to be accompanied by the same group with whom they left Ukraine than prospective returnees (30% versus 28%), while short-term visitors were much more likely to have left Ukraine in a group and be crossing back alone compared to prospective returnees (44% versus 10%).

versus 28%), while short-term visitors were much more likely to have left Ukraine in a group and be crossing back alone compared to prospective returnees (44% versus 10%).

Figure 7. Group composition upon crossing into Ukraine, by return intention and total (w, %), n=4,903



Seven out of ten (72%) of all Ukrainian respondents crossed back with at least one child (<18 years old) and 12 per cent with a group member aged 60 or older. Short-term visitors were more likely to be traveling with children than prospective returnees (79% versus 54%), while prospective returnees were more likely to have an older person (60+ years) in their group (24% compared to only 6% of short-term visitors).

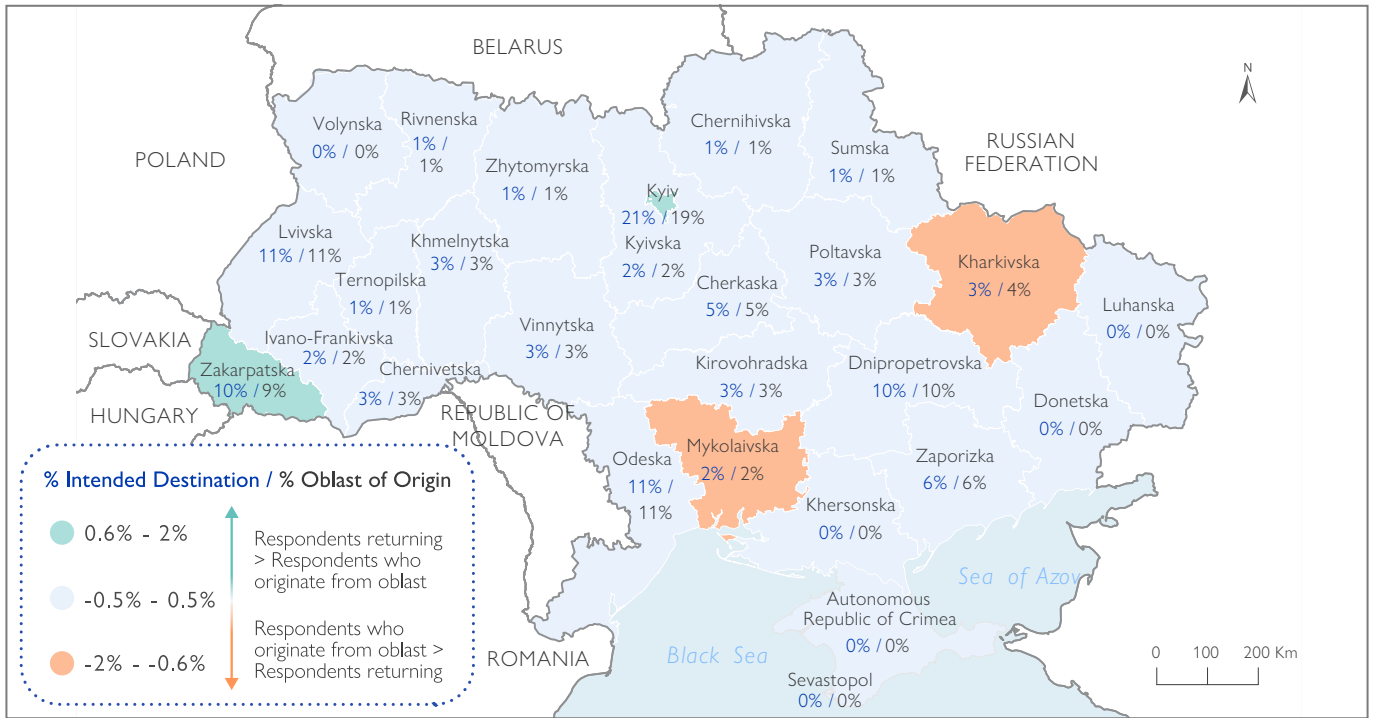
Significant differences were found in the group composition of women and men responding to this survey while crossing back to Ukraine. Women were more likely to be accompanied by at least one child (76% compared to 38% of men) while men were significantly more likely to be with an older group member (60% compared to 7% of female respondents).



IOM staff survey Ukrainians and TCNs crossing back to Ukraine at the Záhony train station, Hungary. © IOM 2024

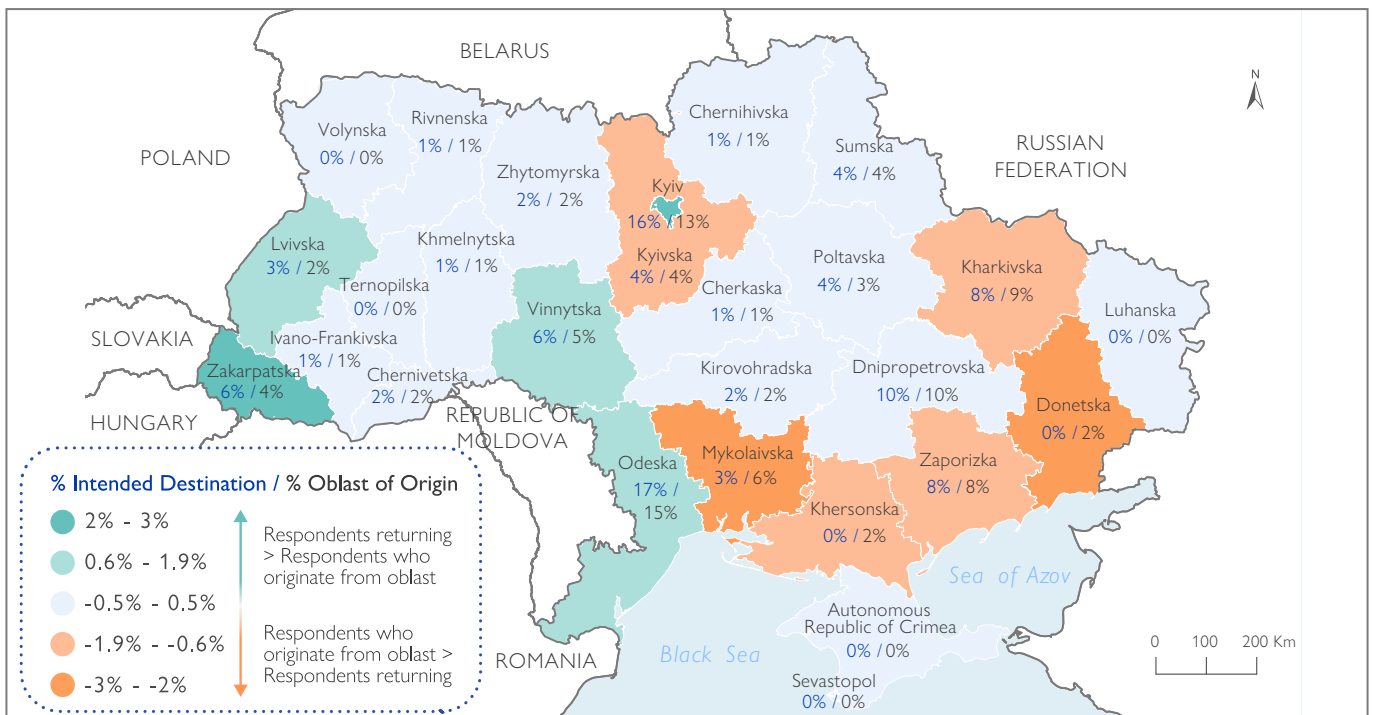
5. OBLASTS (REGIONS) OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION

MAP 3. NET DISPLACEMENT: OBLAST OF INTENDED DESTINATION AND OBLAST OF ORIGIN IN UKRAINE, PROSPECTIVE RETURNEES, JANUARY – MARCH 2024 (W, %)



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MAP 4. NET DISPLACEMENT: OBLAST OF INTENDED DESTINATION AND OBLAST OF ORIGIN IN UKRAINE, SHORT-TERM VISITORS, JANUARY – MARCH 2024 (W, %)



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Over half (53%) of Ukrainian respondents originated from five oblasts before leaving the country: the city of Kyiv (14% of respondents), Odeska (14%), Dnipropetrovska (10%), Zaporizka (8%), Kharkivska (7%).

Thirty per cent of respondents originated from oblasts in the eastern part of Ukraine, while one-fifth (20%) were from the south and 16 per cent from the western region. Fourteen per cent were from the city of Kyiv. One in ten respondents were originally from the center (11%) or the northern (10%) regions of Ukraine.

Eighty-five per cent of respondents intended to reach their oblast of origin, while 13 per cent were traveling to a different

oblast (and 2% did not know). The share of those going to a different oblast than that of their origin was higher among short-term visitors (13%) than among prospective returnees (3%). The most common reasons respondents travelled to an oblast other than their original oblast were because of safety (42%), their home was damaged, destroyed, or occupied (25%), or their family was in another oblast (22%), among other reasons.

Among those who were not returning to their oblast of origin, the city of Kyiv (27%), Zakarpatska (14%), and Lvivska (11%) were the top 3 destinations.



Individuals crossing at the Záhony train station situated at the Ukrainian-Hungarian border. © IOM 2024

6. NEEDS AND EXPECTATIONS UPON RETURN

PRIORITY NEEDS

Financial support was the most common need among respondents upon arrival to respondents' destination in Ukraine: more than one two out of five (41%) of respondents indicated that financial support was among their top needs. Ukrainian respondents also point to personal safety and security (30%), health services (24%), medicine (19%), support with finding a job (11%), and general information (10%) as their main needs upon arriving in Ukraine.

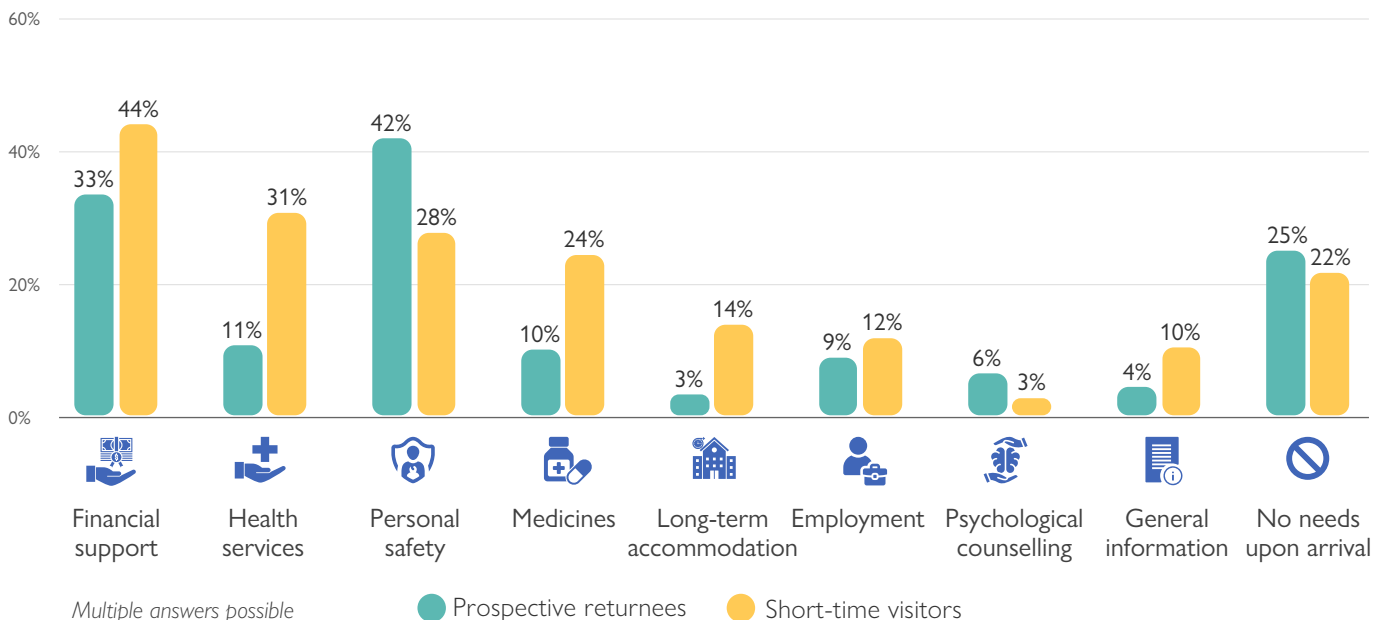
Country by country results differ widely in the frequency of reported needs among Ukrainian respondents: these variations – besides sampling differences due to field constraints – could be due to factors pertaining to the personal characteristics of the refugee populations in each of the neighbouring countries on one side, and to factors linked to the national context in terms of rights and services granted to refugees from Ukraine under the national temporary protection schemes, to the pre-existing level of public infrastructures (in terms of public services, for example), and to the local labour market structure, on the other side.

Among Ukrainian respondents crossing back from neighbouring countries, their top three needs upon arrival in Ukraine were:

- **Hungary:** financial support (73%), long-term accommodation (30%), and food (29%).
- **Poland:** personal safety and security (43%), financial support (37%), and medicine (24%).
- **Republic of Moldova:** financial support (43%), personal safety and security (22%), and health services (16%).
- **Romania:** health services (39%), financial support (39%), and general information (29%).
- **Slovakia:** general information (23%), health services (23%) and medicine (16%).

Moreover, short-term visitors report slightly higher levels of needs overall than prospective returnees. This can be linked to issues that short-term visitors aim at solving during the visit in Ukraine (such as the access to health services or the renewal of expired documents). Larger proportions of short-term visitors reported the need for financial support, health services, medicine, long-term accommodation, employment, and general information. Prospective returnees were more likely to seek support with personal safety and psychological counselling.

Figure 8. Top needs by return intention (w, %), n=4,903



Overall, the level of needs reported by respondents while crossing back to Ukraine was lower than the rate of needs

reported by those who were interviewed when leaving Ukraine or during their displacement outside of the country.²

2. IOM's DTM Ukraine Response Dashboard on Needs, Intentions and Integration Challenges.

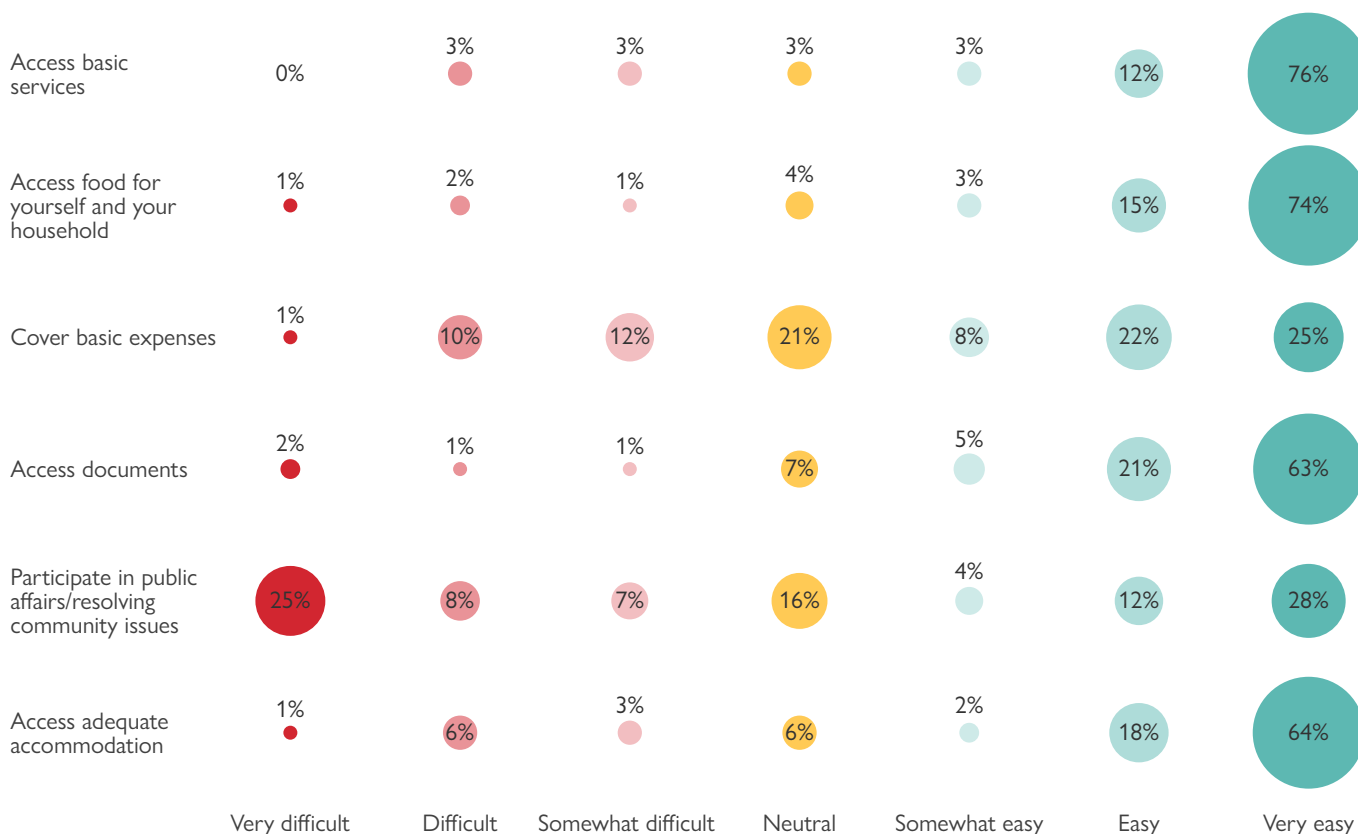
EXPECTATIONS

Ukrainian respondents who intended to return for a longer time (prospective returnees) were asked about their expectations regarding meeting basic needs, access to services, and their ability to participate in public affairs once they arrived at their destination in Ukraine.

A vast majority of respondents expected access to basic services (91%), food (92%), identity and education documents (90%), and accommodation (84%) would be somewhat easy,

easy, or very easy. Prospective returnees were much less confident that they would be able to cover basic expenses or participate in public affairs; only about half expected these two to be somewhat easy, easy, or very easy (55% and 44%, respectively). Over one out of five Ukrainians crossing back (23%) expected covering basic expenses to be either very difficult, difficult, or somewhat difficult. Two out of five (40%) prospective returnees expected participating in public affairs to be very difficult, difficult, or somewhat difficult.

Figure 9. Expectations upon arrival to destination in Ukraine among prospective returnees (w, %), n=1,208

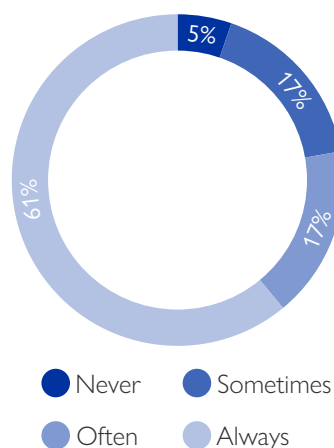


A majority of Ukrainians crossing back who intended to stay for more than 30 days were expecting to experience serious security incidents as a result of the war very often (61% reported “always”). Seventeen per cent expected to experience security events often once they arrived in Ukraine. Seventeen per cent of respondents expected to sometimes confront serious dangers, while 5 per cent never expected to encounter a security risk incident as a result of the war once they returned to their destination.

“ I have Temporary Protection in Austria. I am going to Ukraine to renew my documents. ”

Fifty-five-year-old woman traveling to Kyiv via Hungary

Figure 10. Expectations on the frequency of serious security incidents as a result of the war once arrived at destination (w, %), n=1,145



7. UNEQUAL TREATMENT

Nine per cent of Ukrainians crossing back said they and/or a family member experienced unfair or unequal treatment based on nationality, ethnicity, or gender since they left their usual place of residence in Ukraine. The vast majority of respondents did not encounter such experiences (89%), while two per cent did not provide an answer.

Women reported experiencing discrimination at higher rates (10%) compared to men (3%). Respondents with refugee (14%) and EU Temporary Protection (11%) status reported

experiencing unequal treatment at higher rates compared to those who were abroad with short-term migration arrangements (6%) and student (4%) and work (2%) visas.

Instances of unequal treatment were low or non-existent among respondents crossing back to Ukraine from Hungary (0%), the Republic of Moldova (0%), and Romania (1%). In contrast, 14 per cent of respondents crossing back from Poland and 8 per cent from Slovakia reported having experienced some type of unequal treatment while abroad.



DTM enumerators survey refugees from Ukraine in Slovakia. © IOM 2023

8. RETURNEES FROM ABROAD

The main profiles and needs of Ukrainians surveyed while crossing back into the country align with those of Ukrainians who have already returned to Ukraine from abroad (who were surveyed in [Round 16 of IOM's General Population Survey \(GPS\)](#)).³

Among all returnees from abroad surveyed upon their return,⁴ 92 per cent were women while men represented 8 per cent of returnees. On average, they spent around 188 days (6 months) abroad, which was similar to the average length of displacement of Ukrainians who remained within the country (143 days). On average, 448 days (15 months) had passed since they returned to Ukraine.

Similar to what Ukrainians surveyed while crossing back declared, the vast majority of returnees who had been displaced abroad stayed in European Union countries (86%) before returning, and almost half of them (47%) in countries neighbouring Ukraine. The main countries of displacement were Poland (37%), Germany (13%), Czechia (7%), Italy (6%), Bulgaria (3%), and France (2%).

The primary oblasts of return were not concentrated in specific areas and were spread out throughout the country, with the main regions of return being the capital Kyiv City (18%), and the surrounding Kyivska Oblast (10%), Dnipropetrovska Oblast (9%) in the east, Odeska Oblast (9%) in the south of the country, and Lvivska Oblast (8%) in western Ukraine. The primary needs of the returnees from abroad included food, mentioned by 20 per cent of respondents, followed by reconstruction materials for shelter repairs (5%), and medicines (3%) ([IOM Ukraine, 2024a](#)).⁵

Among the Ukrainians who returned to their locations of origin after displacing abroad, the vast majority (93%) intended to remain in their current location, only five per cent were considering moving elsewhere, and 3 per cent were unsure of their plans. In contrast, among Ukrainians who returned from abroad to a different location (and thus remain in displacement in Ukraine), only 53 per cent planned to settle in their current location.⁶ Thirty-two per cent intended to return to their place of origin and five per cent considered moving elsewhere. Ten per cent were unsure of their intentions ([IOM Ukraine, 2024b and 2024c](#)).



IOM workers provide non-food items and schooling materials in Budapest, Hungary. © IOM 2022

- In April 2024, as part of GPS Round 16, IOM estimated about 4.7 million returnees in Ukraine: 76 per cent were returnees after internal displacement while the remaining 24 per cent (1.15 million) was returning from abroad ([IOM Ukraine, 2024c](#)).
- Including those who returned from abroad to their place of origin as well as those who returned from abroad but remain in internal displacement in Ukraine.
- For more granular data on conditions of return for selected oblasts in Ukraine please see the Conditions of Returns Assessment Factsheet, Round 7 (May 2024). For a more comprehensive discussion on returns from abroad and from within the country, please check the DTM Ukraine Returns Report, GPS Round 16.
- 339,000 Ukrainians returned from abroad to a location different from their location of origin in Ukraine. These individuals are still in displacement and thus part of the IDP stock. They are not part of the 1.15 million returnees from abroad.

9. TRANSITING THROUGH THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

During and beyond the first quarter of 2024, DTM also conducted the Survey with Refugees in the Ukraine Response Region in Latvia, collecting 109 surveys with Ukrainian nationals between January and 26 May 2024. The results from this survey can aid in gaining insight into Ukrainians' length of stay and group composition in Latvia.

On average, Ukrainians in Latvia had been in the country 607 days (approximately 20 months). Seventy-two per cent of the Ukrainian respondents were women and 28 per cent were men. Half of respondents (48%) had at least one child with

them in Latvia, while 23 per cent had at least one older person (60 years and above).

The vast majority of respondents were residing in Ukraine before arriving in Latvia (traveling through the Russian Federation to arrive in Latvia). Small percentages of respondents were in Poland (6%), Czechia (1%), the Russian Federation (1%), and Sweden (1%) before arriving in Latvia.

Almost half (48%) of respondents originated from Kharkivska oblast, followed far behind by Donetska oblast (8%), Zhytomyrska (7%), and Zaporizka (7%) oblasts. The remaining 29 per cent of respondents originated from 12 other oblasts.

10. THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONALS

Alongside Ukrainian nationals, TCNs were also surveyed while crossing into Ukraine. TCNs represent 1 per cent of all surveys collected in first quarter of 2024. Among the 35 TCNs interviewed, almost nine out of ten (89%) originally left Ukraine because of the war and four out of five (83%) had resided in Ukraine for over 5 years before leaving.

Most TCNs were surveyed at border crossing points (BCPs) with Ukraine in the Republic of Moldova (15 individuals) and in Romania (11). A smaller number were met in Slovakia (5) and Hungary (4).⁷

The top five nationalities are: Russian Federation (10 individuals), Republic of Moldova (9), Azerbaijan (3), Georgia (2), and Türkiye (2). Contrary to Ukrainian respondents, the gender breakdown of TCNs was more balanced: 49 per cent were men and 51 per cent were women.

Most (27 individuals or 77%) intended to reach the same place of residence they had before displacement abroad. Most TCNs interviewed were heading to the city of Kyiv (9 individuals), Odeska oblast (8), and Kharkivska oblast (4).

Seventeen out of the 35 TCNs were crossing back into Ukraine for a short visit, while nine intended to stay longer (prospective returnees) and the remaining 9 were unsure of the length of their stay in Ukraine.

Many TCNs travel to Ukraine to take exams, resume their study path or just take one exam in presence (6 individuals). Moreover, others reported the intention to visit family members left behind (7) and renew documents (5).

“

I am returning to Ukraine to study.

Twenty-five-year-old Indian man going to Vinnytska oblast from Hungary

”

7. This is due, among other things, to the language skills of DTM enumerators deployed in different countries. While most enumerators speak Ukrainian and Russian, in addition to the local language, a smaller proportion speak English, Arabic, and other languages that are needed to interview TCNs.

11. METHODOLOGY

Since March 2022, IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) has been regularly surveying individuals who are crossing back to Ukraine from neighbouring countries. The aim of the survey is to improve the understanding of their profiles, displacement patterns, intentions and needs. The survey is deployed in five countries neighbouring Ukraine – Hungary, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, and Slovakia.

Face-to-face surveys are conducted by a network of more than 70 trained enumerators deployed at selected exit points and transit locations close to the border points with Ukraine. The survey is anonymous and voluntary, administered only after obtaining consent from the respondent. Respondents can stop the survey at any time. The questionnaire is available in Ukrainian, Russian, Romanian and English, and the preferred

language is determined by the interviewee. Only fully completed surveys are included in the analysis.

Since March 2023, the survey has also been deployed in Latvia to collect information on Ukrainian refugees who were met at border areas and are intending to move through the Russian Federation to reach occupied areas in western Ukraine.

Since July 2023, the survey section dedicated to intentions was adjusted to reflect more updated understanding of the dynamics of movements from and to Ukraine. A question on “length of stay in Ukraine” measured in number of days has been added (“forever” and “does not know” were also possible). For the purpose of this report, short-term visitors are those who report the intention to remain in Ukraine for 30 days or less, while prospective returnees are those who report the intention to remain for more than 30 days or “forever” in Ukraine.

LIMITATIONS

The sampling framework could not be based on verified figures of refugees from Ukraine and TCNs exiting towards Ukraine through all land border points where the survey took place. Such verified figures are not consistently available nor are they comparable for all neighbouring countries. The geographic spread of enumerators deployed captures a wide range of locations and modes of travel. Nevertheless, the accessibility of different transit points fluctuates and not all individuals crossing have time (10 to 20 minutes) to respond to the survey. 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 faster in transiting through BCPs.

Results for Ukrainians met in neighbouring countries are weighted for the number of border crossings by Ukrainian nationals into Ukraine from each country during the data collection period. Results for Ukrainians crossing into the Russian Federation and for TCNs crossing back to Ukraine are not weighted.

Whilst the overall sample cannot be deemed as representative, the consistency of data collection in each country and at the regional level suggests that the current sampling framework produces findings of practical value.



IOM distributes school-related non-food items in the border region of Hungary. © IOM 2024

RESOURCES

IOM Regional Office Vienna

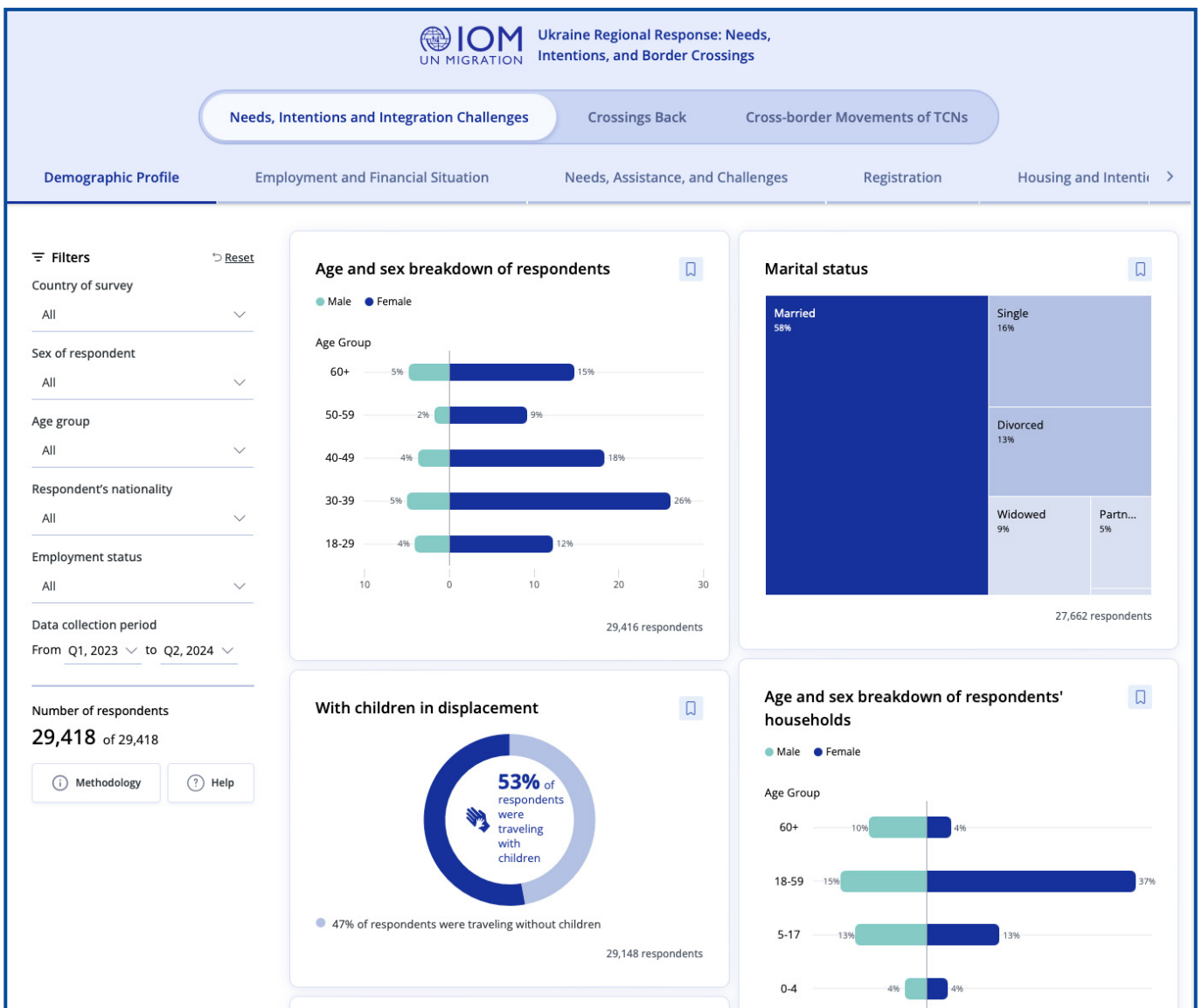
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IOM Ukraine

- 2024a. "Conditions of Return Assessment Factsheet — Round 7," DTM, IOM Ukraine, May 2024.
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UNHCR

- 2024. 'Ukraine Refugee Situation portal,' UNHCR, <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine?s=09>.



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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 destinations and prospects of permanence abroad or return; 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.