

LATVIA

SURVEY WITH REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE: NEEDS,
INTENTIONS, AND INTEGRATION

MARCH - MAY 2024

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Cover photo: A commemoration of the first anniversary of the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation in Rezekne, Latvia. © IOM 2023

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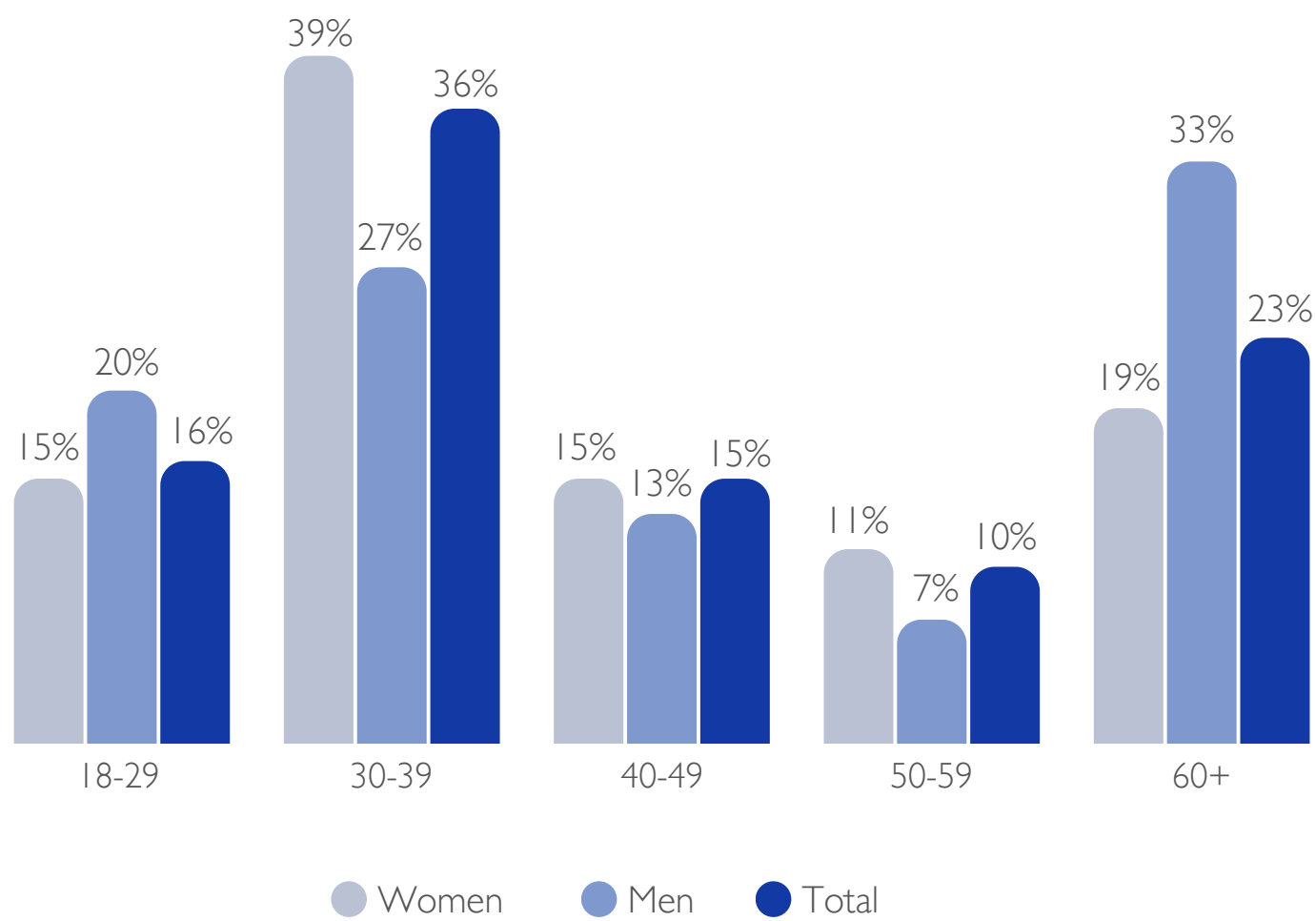
From 1 March to 16 May, IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) in Latvia interviewed a total of 111 individuals as part of the Surveys with Refugees in the Ukraine Response Region. The results from these interviews are presented in the following pages.

In analysing employment status, the active population includes both employed individuals and those who are unemployed and actively seeking work. The inactive population consists of individuals who are neither employed nor looking for employment. It is important to note that the sample is not representative of all displaced populations from Ukraine in Latvia, and the results should be considered indicative rather than definitive. For more information, please refer to the Methodology on page 6.

KEY FINDINGS

- 67% of respondents were active, while 33% were inactive;
- Barriers to employment included language challenges (69%), limited job opportunities (50%), familial obligations (35%), and unrecognized qualifications (41%);
- Top needs included financial support (75%), general information (25%), health services (23%), and medicine (22%);
- 90% of respondents or members of their household had chronic diseases or serious medical conditions, 31% experienced difficulty walking or climbing steps, and 19% had visual impairments;
- Inclusion challenges included financial issues (53%), lack of employment (51%), housing problems (26%), and language barriers (23%).

SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

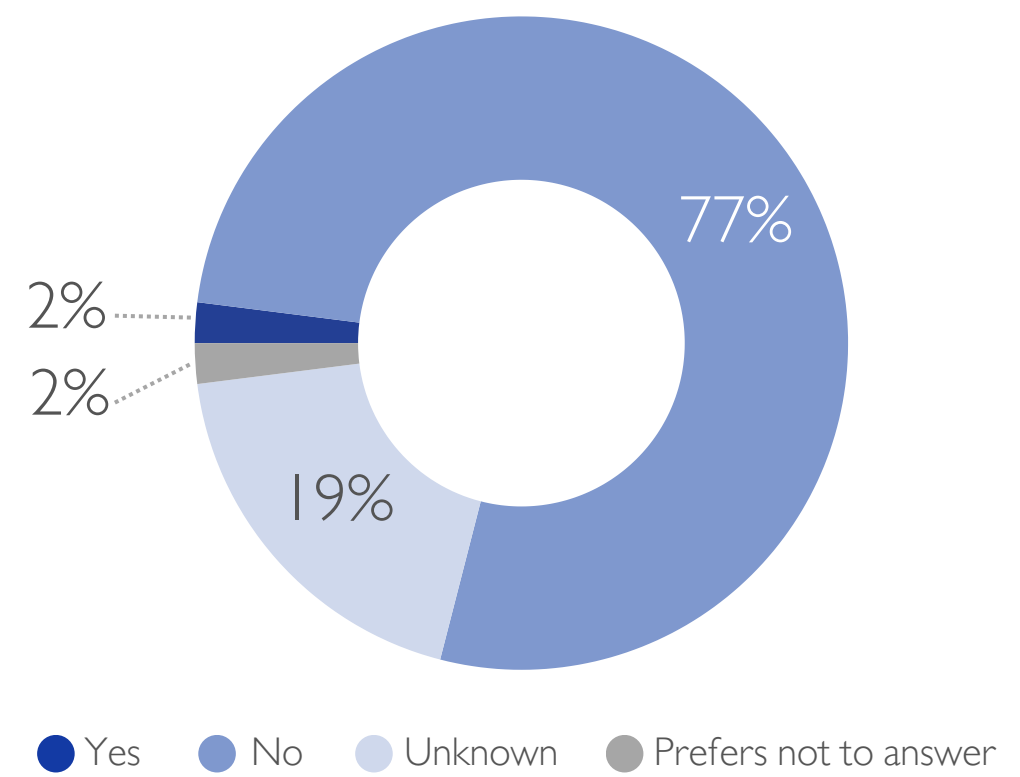


Respondents with children (%) n=109

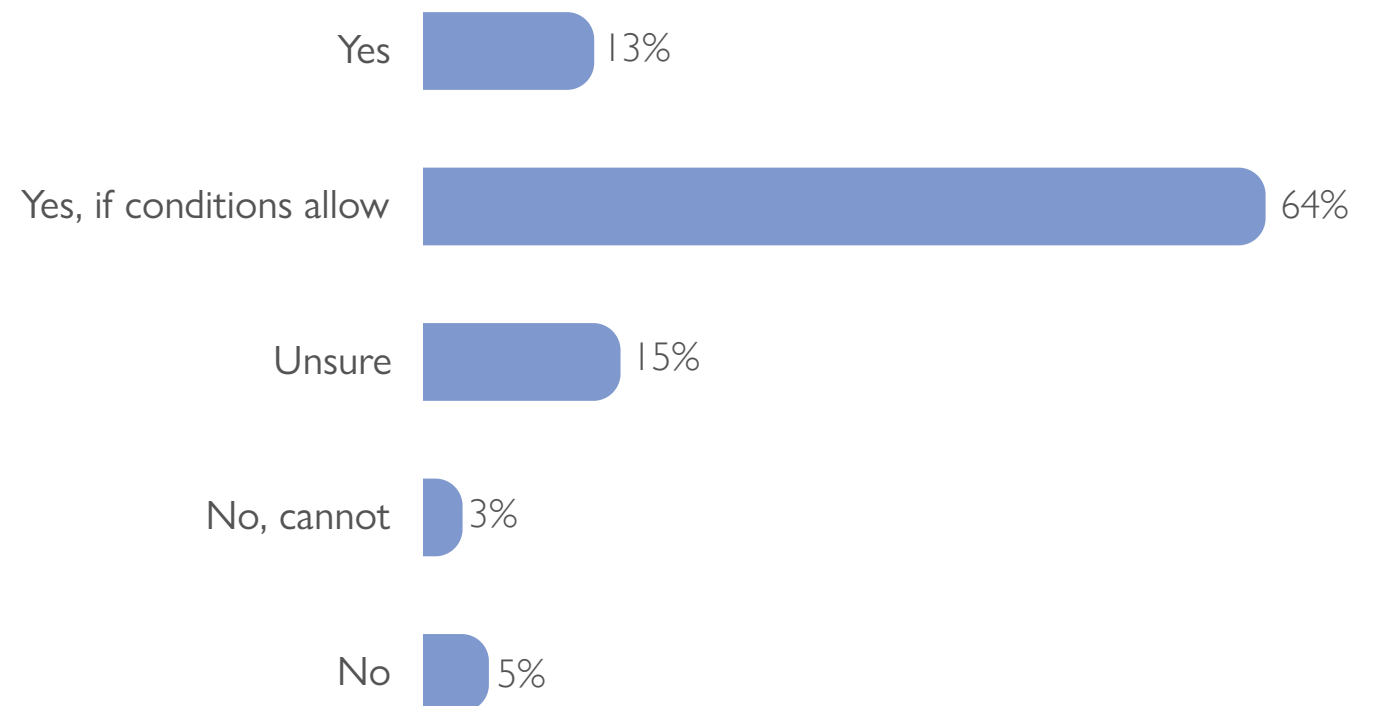


INTENTIONS AND NEEDS

Intentions to leave Latvia within 6 months (%) n=109

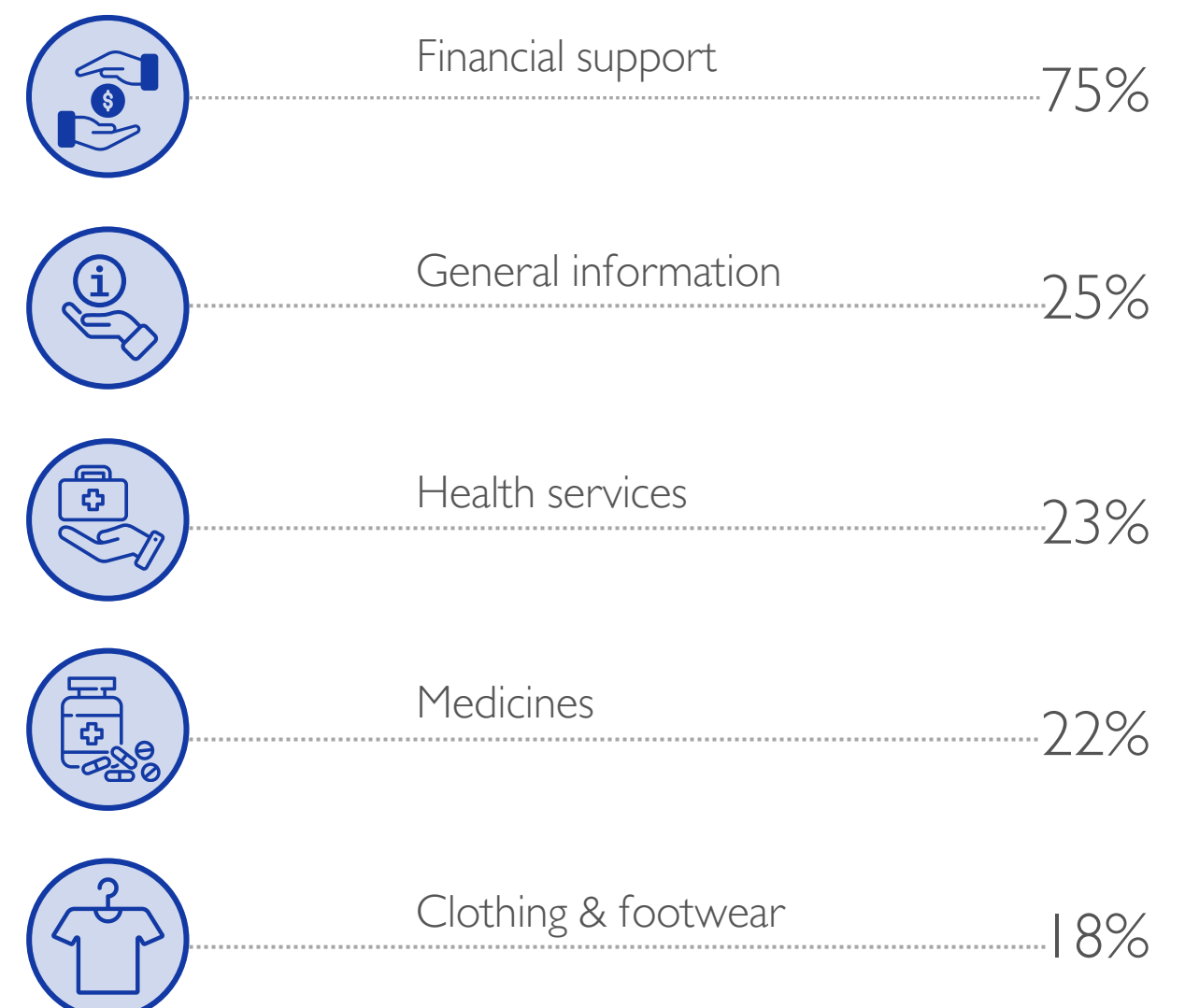


Desire to return home (%) n=109



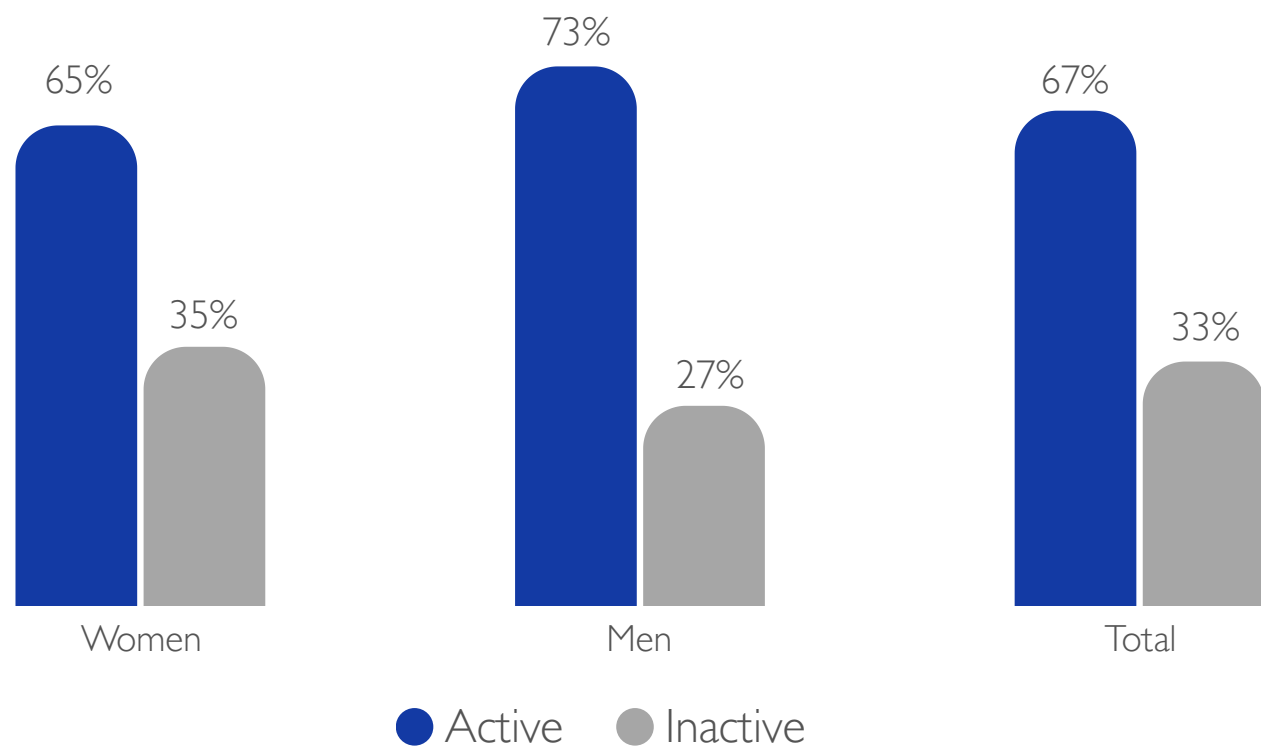
Top priority needs (%) n=109

Multiple answers possible

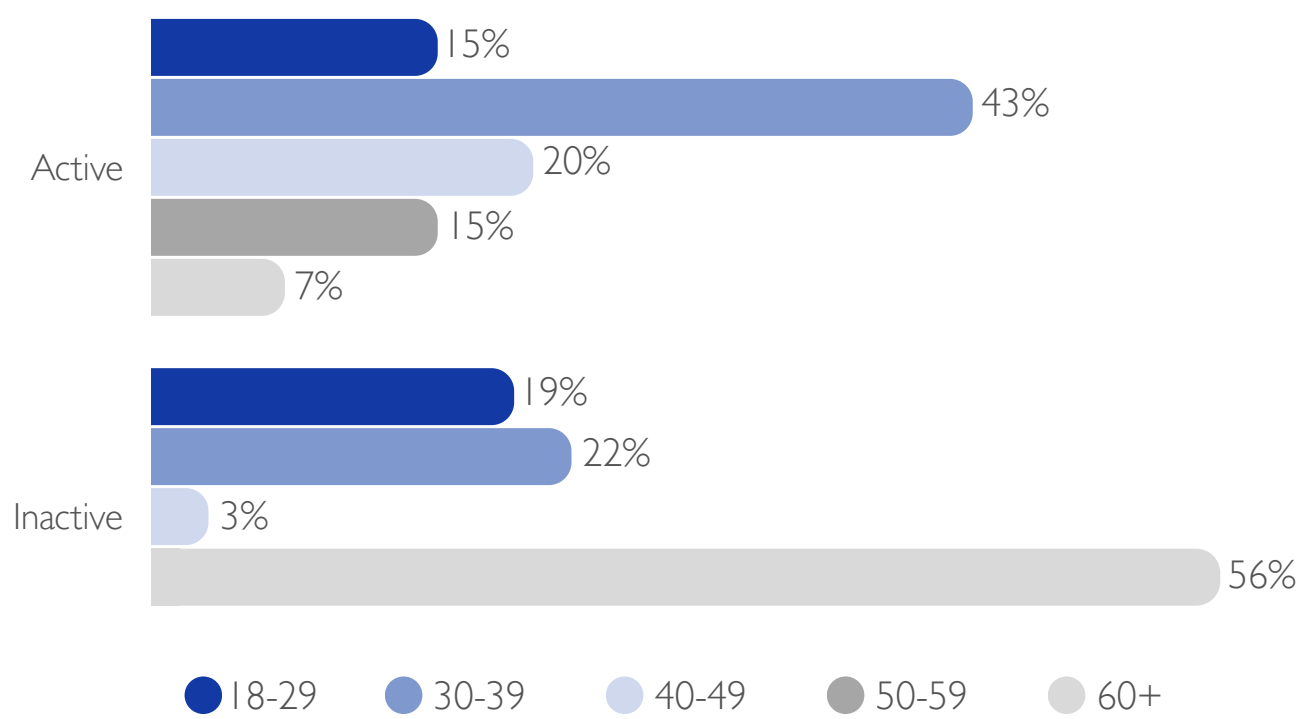


ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

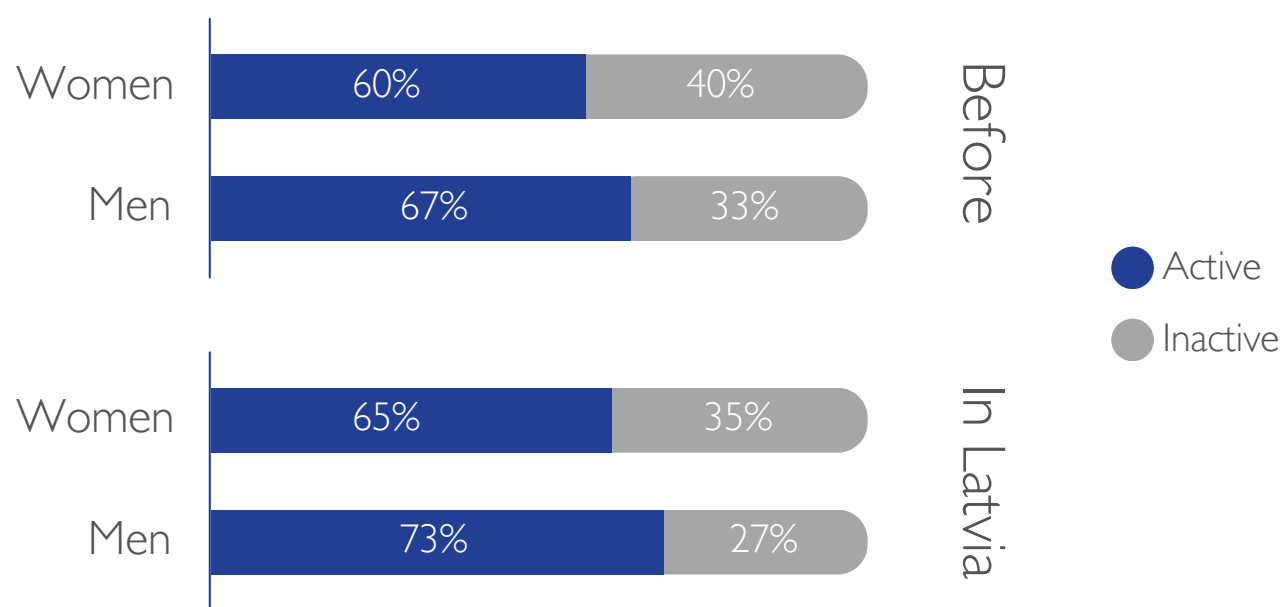
Active and inactive population by gender (%) n=109



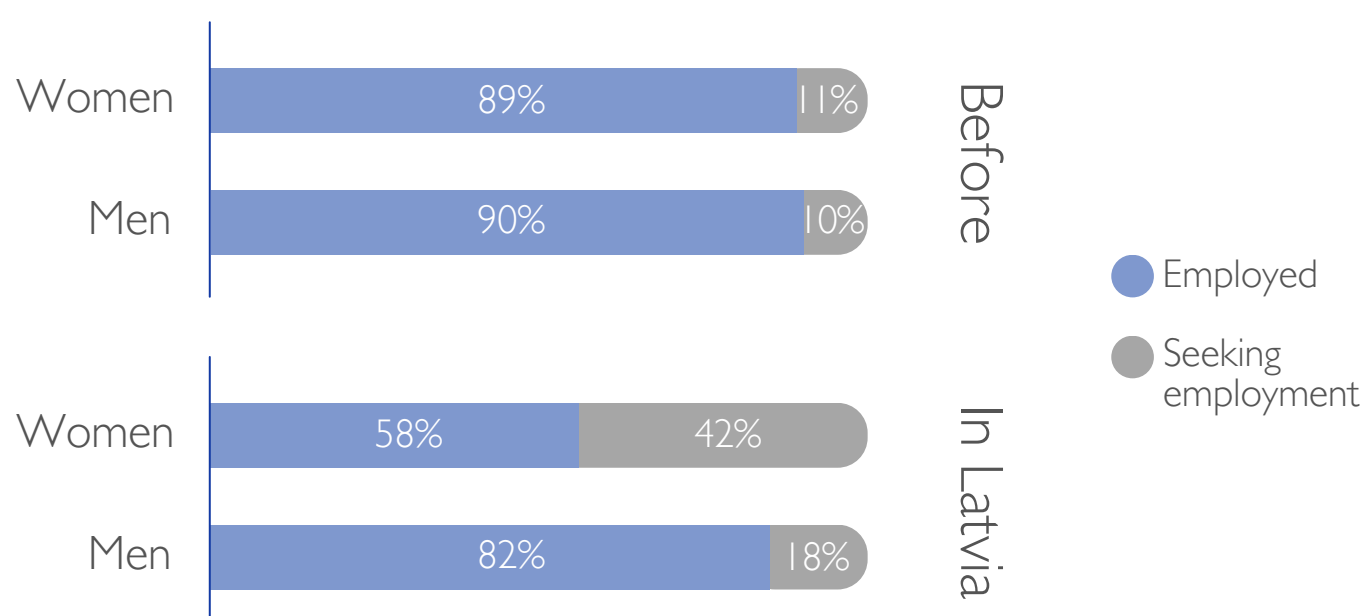
Active and inactive population by age (%) n=109



Active and inactive population before displacement and in Latvia, by gender (%) n=109

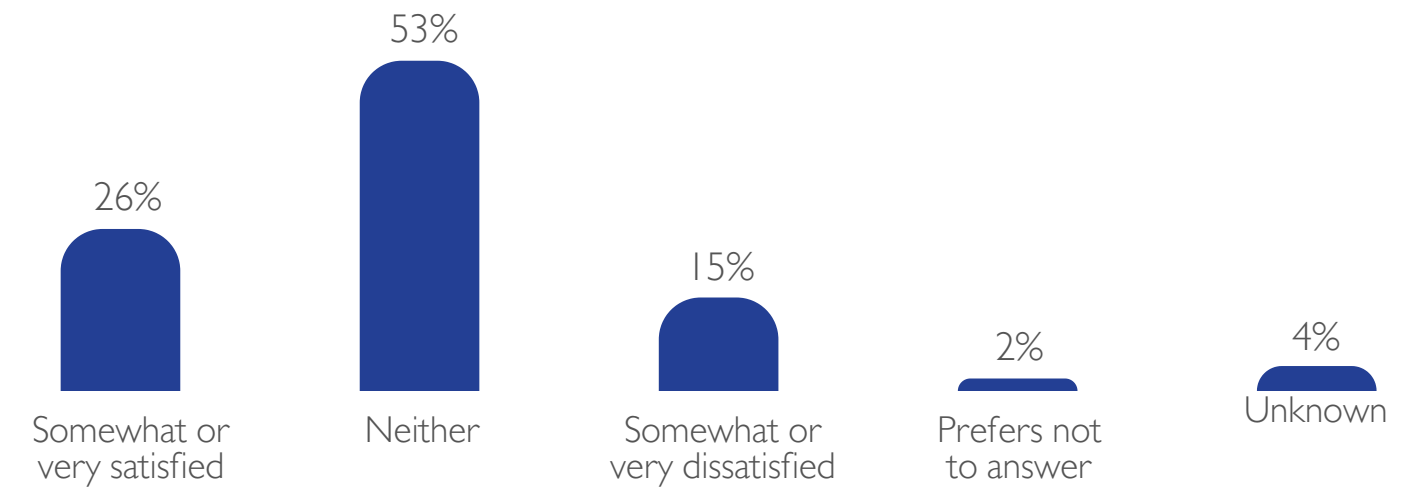


Employment within active population before displacement and in Latvia, by gender (%) n=73



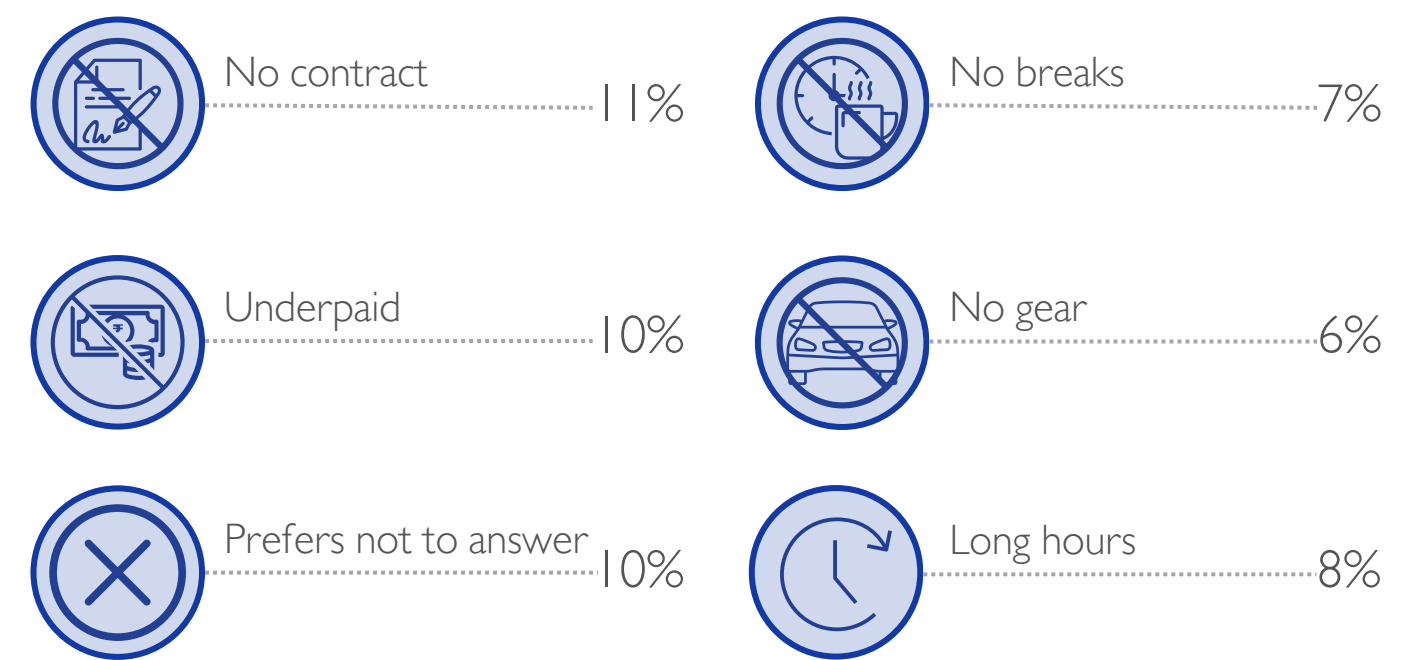
EMPLOYMENT IN THE COUNTRY OF DESTINATION

Employment satisfaction (%) n=111



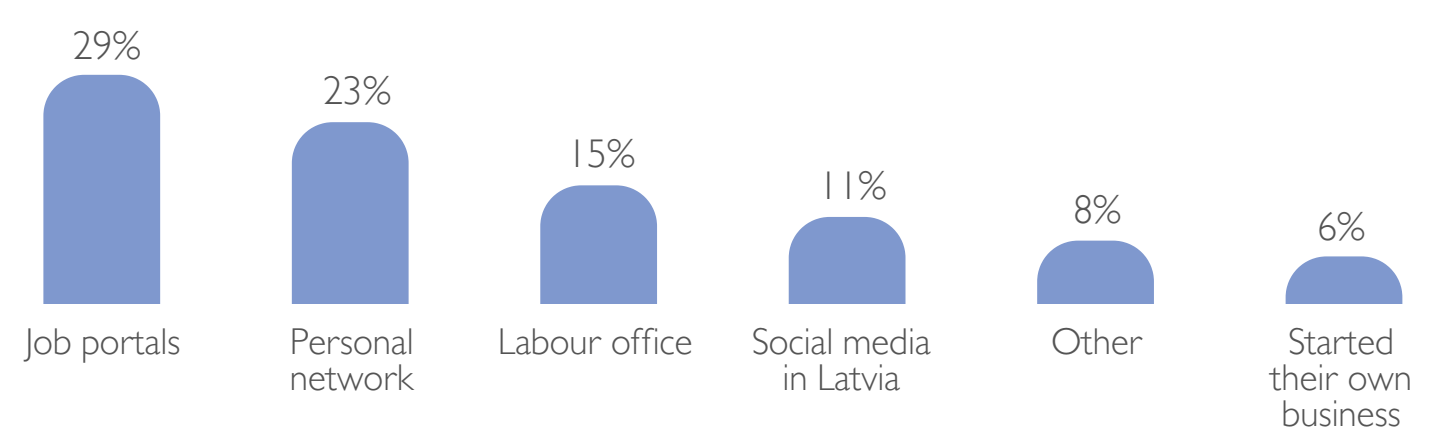
Problems at work (%) n=111

Multiple answers possible



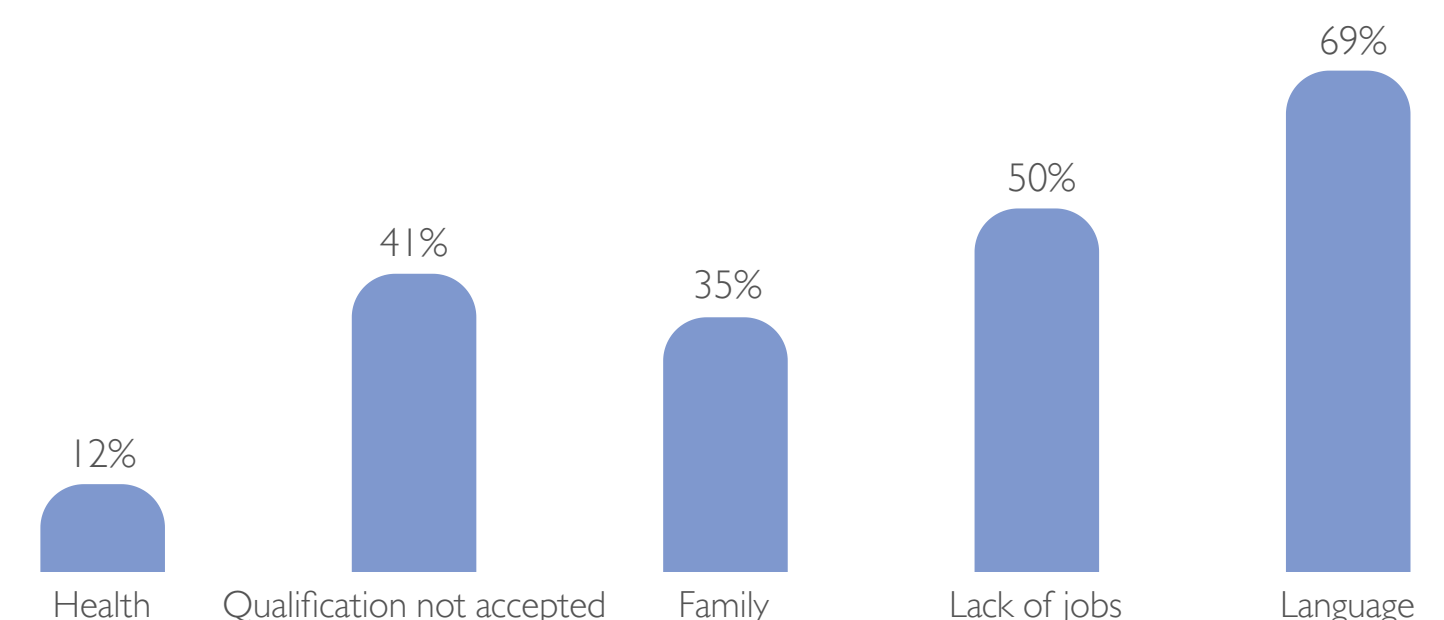
Top means of finding employment (%) n=47

Multiple answers possible



Barriers while looking for employment (%) n=26

Multiple answers possible



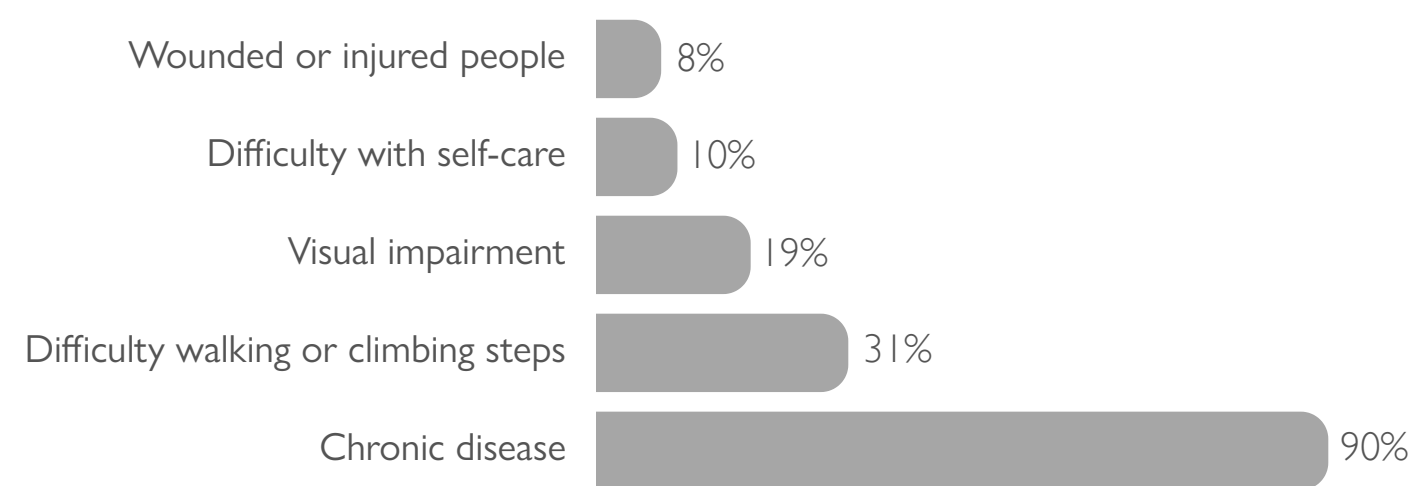
ACCESS TO HEALTH-CARE AND EDUCATION

Serious health conditions in the household (%) n=108

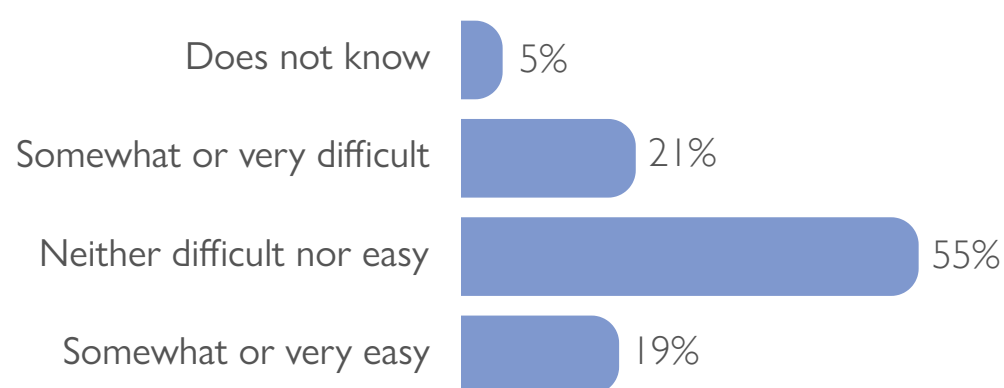


Serious health conditions (%) n=108,

Multiple answers possible

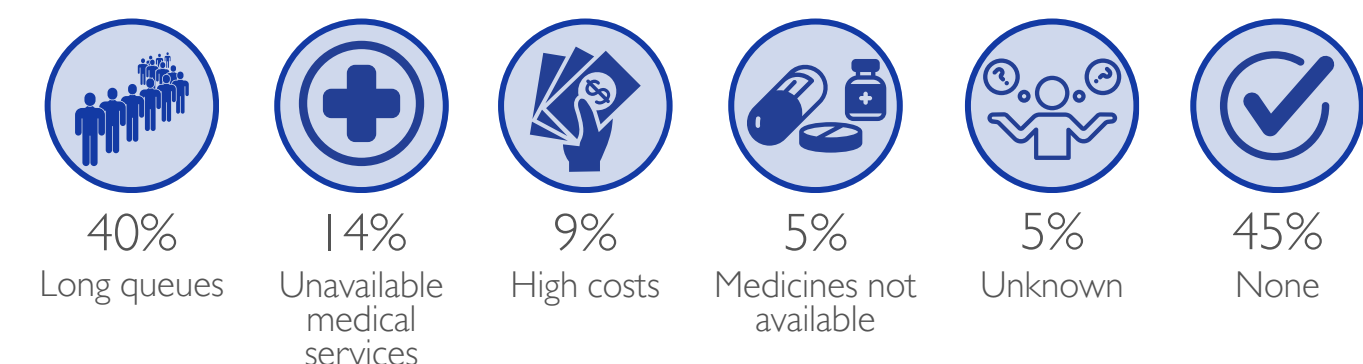


Ease of visiting a doctor (%) n=109

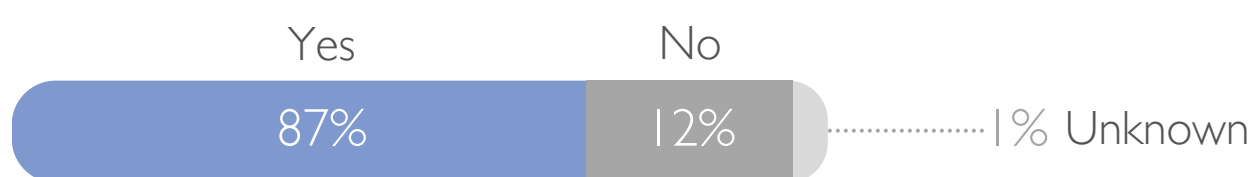


Obstacles accessing healthcare (%) n=109

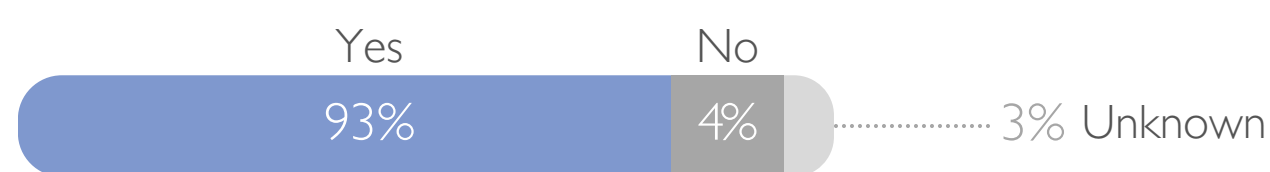
Multiple answers possible



GP registration (%) n=109



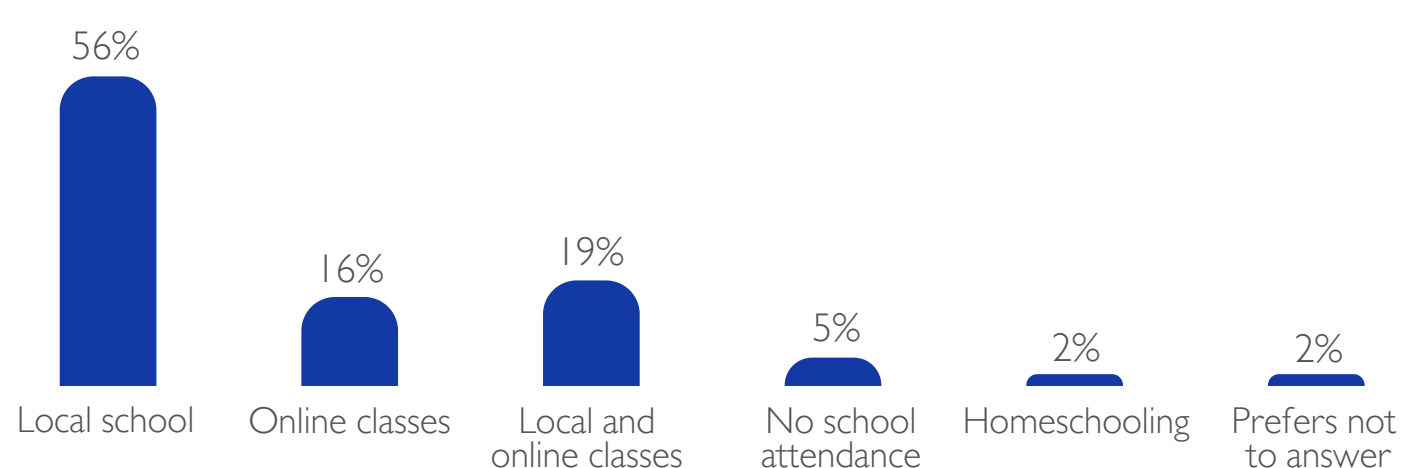
GP or pediatrician registration for children (%) n=58



Use of mental health counselling (%) n=109



Enrollment in school (%) n=43



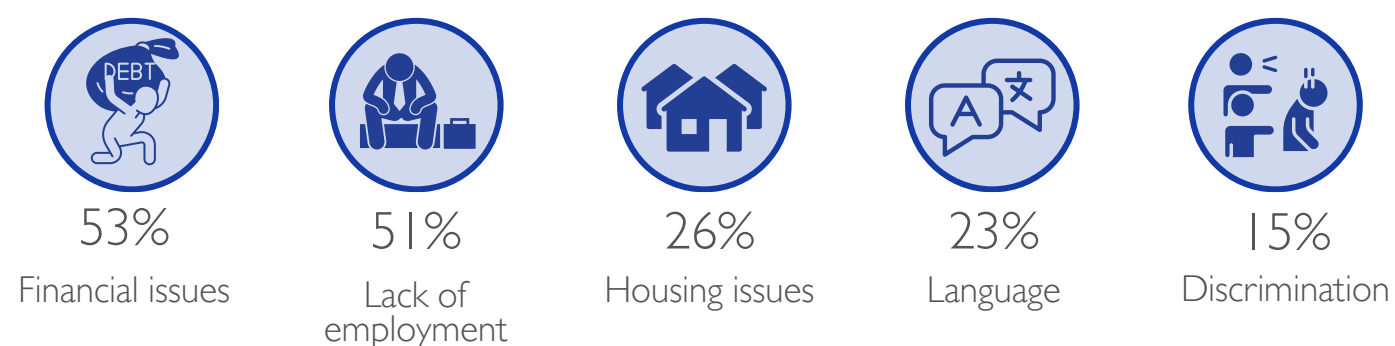
SOCIAL INTEGRATION

Unequal treatment (%) n=109

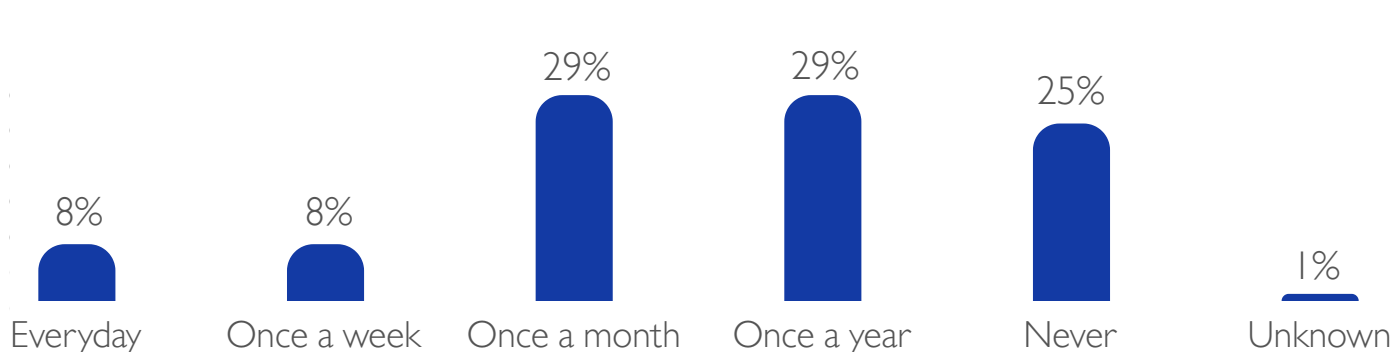


Inclusion challenges (%) n=109

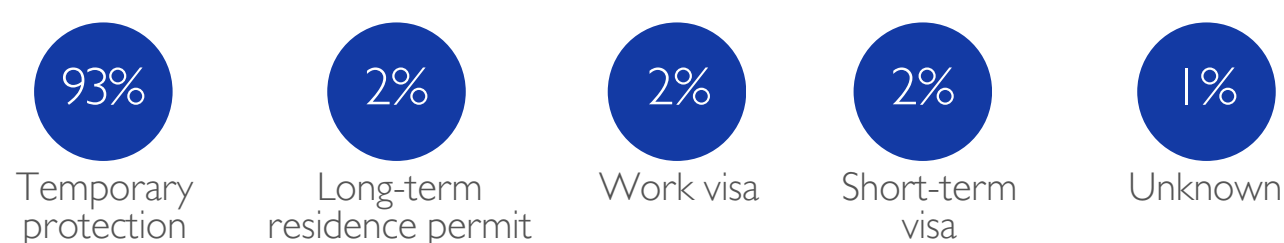
Multiple answers possible



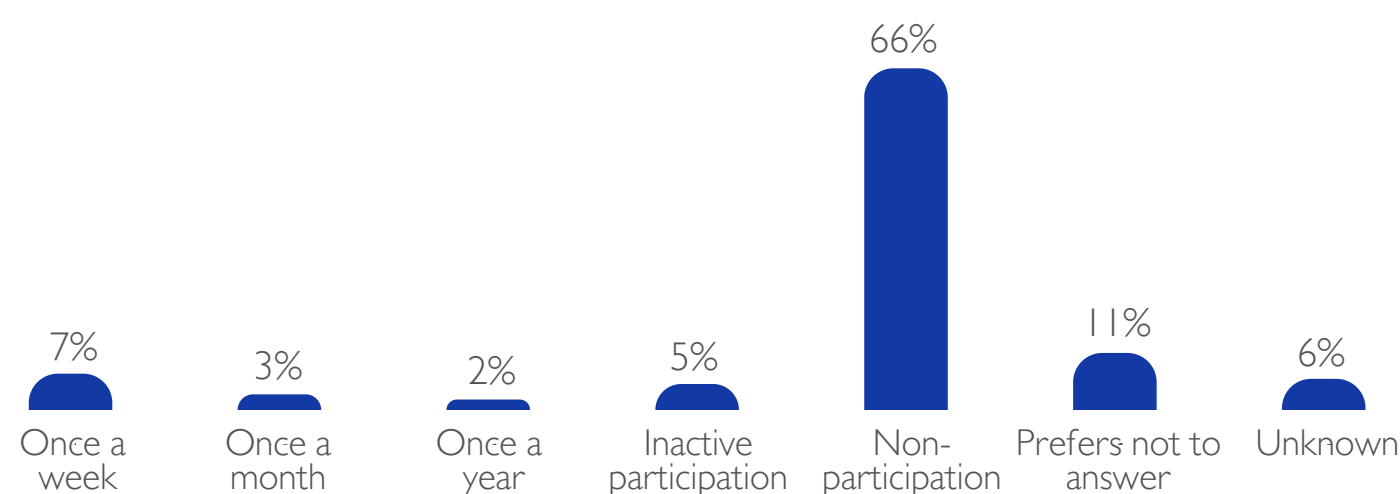
Sharing meals with locals (%) n=109



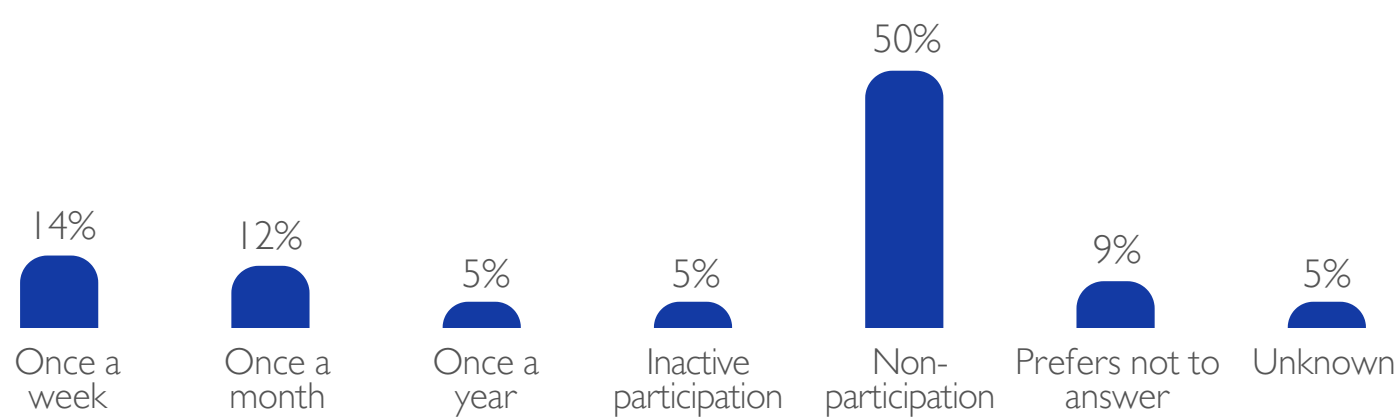
Migration status (%) n=109



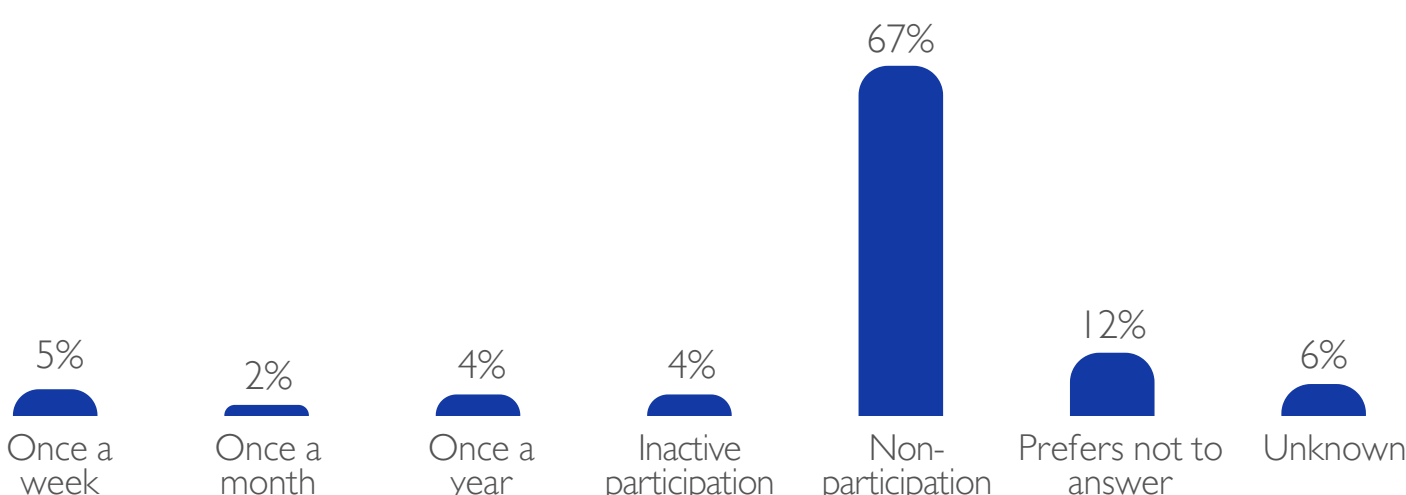
Participation in work groups (%) n=109



Participation in hobby groups (%) n=109



Participation in political groups (%) n=109



IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a system to track and monitor displacement and population mobility. It is designed to regularly and systematically capture, process and disseminate information to provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of displaced populations, whether on site or en route.

Since April 2022, IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix has been regularly surveying individuals who are residing in the eleven countries included in the Regional Refugee Response Plan for Ukraine. The aim of the survey is to improve the understanding of their profiles, displacement patterns, intentions and needs. The survey is deployed in 6 countries neighbouring Ukraine – Belarus, Hungary, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, and Slovakia, and other 5 countries in Europe, particularly impacted by the arrivals of refugees from Ukraine, including Bulgaria, Czechia, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

Face-to-face surveys were conducted by three trained enumerators, with adult refugees from Ukraine (18+ years-old). Surveys were collected by phone, on the streets, and at selected locations (collective centres, bus stations, IOM and NGO premises, shopping malls, dormitories, and the Embassy of Ukraine in Latvia) in six cities of Latvia. The survey is anonymous and voluntary, administered after obtaining consent from the respondent. Respondents can stop the survey at any time. In Latvia, the questionnaire is available in English, Ukrainian and Russian, and the preferred language is determined by the interviewee. Only fully completed surveys are considered for analysis.

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 mechanism in place.

ABOUT THE SURVEY

AIM

To improve the understanding of the profiles of refugees from Ukraine residing in Latvia, including their displacement patterns, intentions and needs.

TARGET POPULATION

The analysis focuses on the needs and intentions of refugees from Ukraine in Latvia.

LOCATION AND EXECUTION

Face-to-face surveys were conducted by six trained enumerators stationed at selected locations in six cities in Latvia. Surveys are conducted in English, Ukrainian and Russian with the help of a mobile application.

REGIONAL DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

The survey is deployed in 11 countries: 6 neighboring countries (Belarus, Hungary, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia), and 5 other countries (Bulgaria, Czechia, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) impacted by the arrival of refugees from Ukraine.



LIMITATIONS

The sampling framework was not based on verified figures of refugees from Ukraine entering through all land border points or staying in the various regions where the surveys are conducted, due to the lack of baseline information.

The geographic spread of enumerators deployed captures six of nine counties in Latvia. Whilst the overall results cannot be deemed as representative, the internal consistency of data collection in each country and at the regional level suggests that the current sampling framework produces findings of practical value.

While every attempt was made to capture all types of locations, the operational reality of fieldwork was confronted with different levels of accessibility of transit and stay locations, including the different availability of possible target individuals to comfortably spend 10-20 minutes responding to the questionnaire depending on a mix of personal conditions. Other factors more related to the conditions at a specific location and period, such as organizational changes in the entry and transit areas from national authorities, or weather conditions, also play a role.



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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 of 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 in the country of displacement; 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 refugees from Ukraine.

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