



**105**

Migrants interviewed



**57%**

of respondents reported the use of facilitation



**70%**

Travelled throughout the country by walking



**59%**

Travelled by bus



**39%**

Travelled by taxi

(Multiple answers possible)



**1,947**

SCRM recorded in September 2024

This report provides insights into the profiles, experiences and journeys of migrants transiting through the Republic of Serbia. Data was collected from 1 to 30 September 2024 together with the Commissariat for Refugees and Migration of the Republic of Serbia (SCRM). The sample consists of 105 interviewed migrants in Asylum Centres (AC) Sjenica, (AC) Krnjaca, (AC) Obrenovac and Reception Centres (RC) Bujanovac, (RC) Presevo.

In September 2024, the SCRM reported a total of 1,947 recorded migrants. In August 2024, the total number of migrants recorded by SCRM was 1,879.

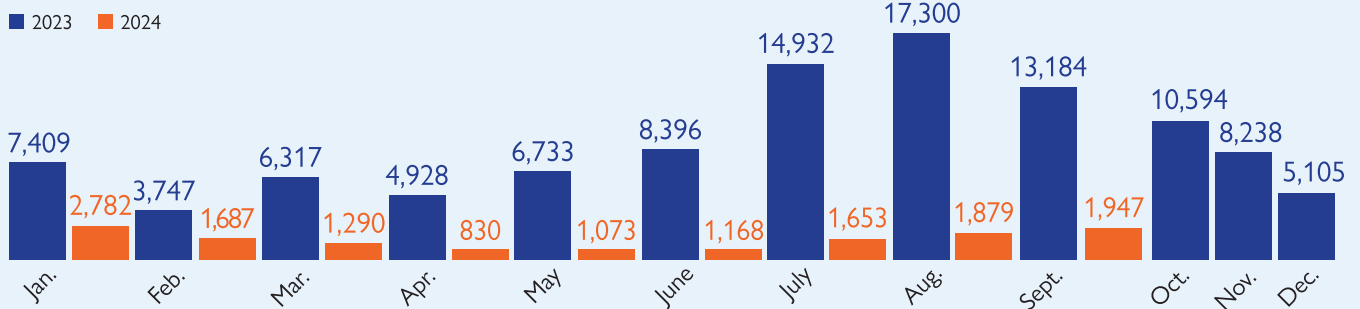


Figure 1: SCRM recorded number of migrants per month

**PROFILES**

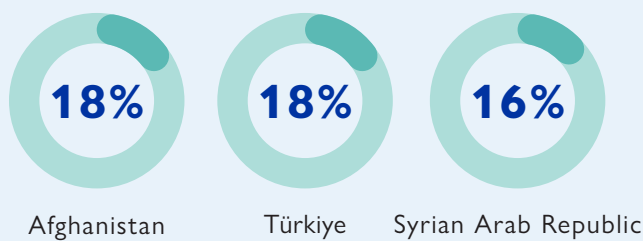


Figure 2: Top five countries of origin (n=105)

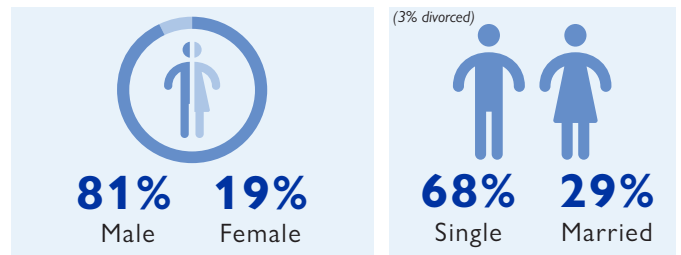


Figure 3: Disaggregation by sex (n=105)

Figure 4: Marital status (n=105)

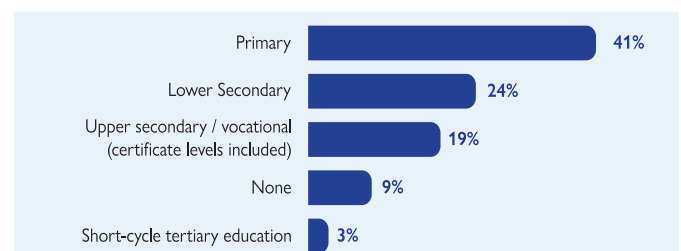
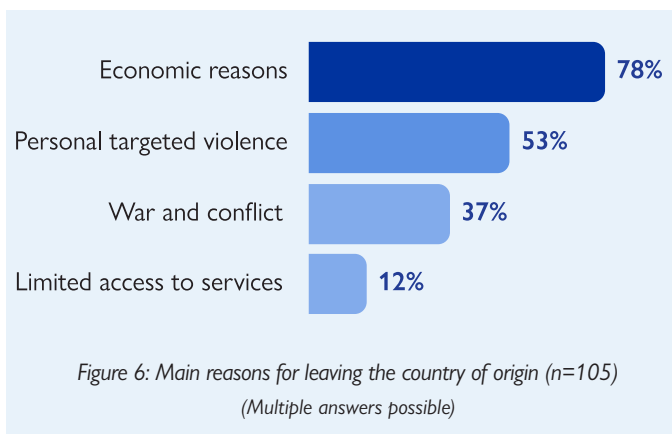


Figure 5: Highest level of educational attainment (n=105)

## REASONS FOR LEAVING



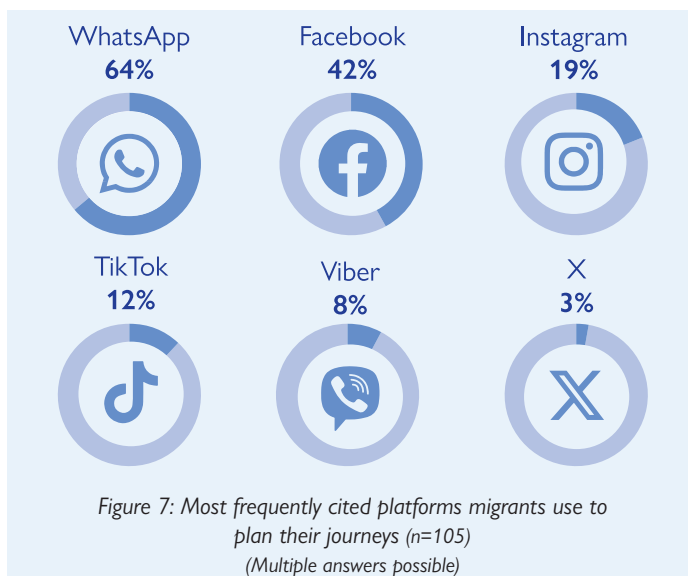
## JOURNEYS

The borders of Bulgaria and North Macedonia continue to be the primary points for irregular entries into Serbia. In this month, 39 per cent of respondents irregularly entered from Bulgaria and 34 per cent from North Macedonia. Twenty-three per cent entered via the airport, mainly Turkish nationals.

Fifty-seven per cent of respondents reported that they paid facilitators to cross borders during their journey. Over half of the interviewed used such services to enter Serbia from Bulgaria, as well as North Macedonia. The majority (78%) of the overall sample reported travelling with a group out of which over a third (35%) did so with facilitators.

Forty-four per cent of respondents reported to have attempted and failed at least once to exit Serbia to irregularly reach other countries. Thirty-three per cent of those attempts were made with a facilitator. Out of all attempted crossings, 42 per cent were to Hungary and reported the reason for failing as being returned by the authorities. Key informants revealed increased migrant presence again in the north of the country. The majority (73%) reported being returned or apprehended by the authorities as the reason for their return, and 13 per cent reported readmission into the country from which they attempted to cross.

Ten per cent of the sample reported exclusively walking, and not using any other form of transport. Key informants suggest this depends on factors such as the weather conditions, financial possibilities, and the police patrols.



## INTENDED DESTINATION

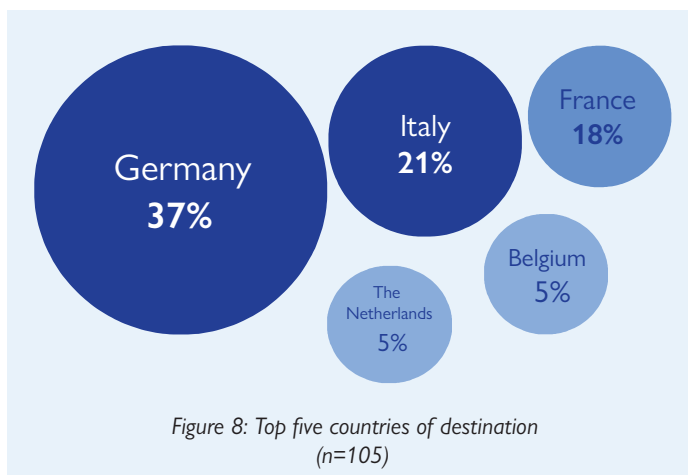


Figure 9 shows the three most frequently cited reasons for choosing the intended destination countries.

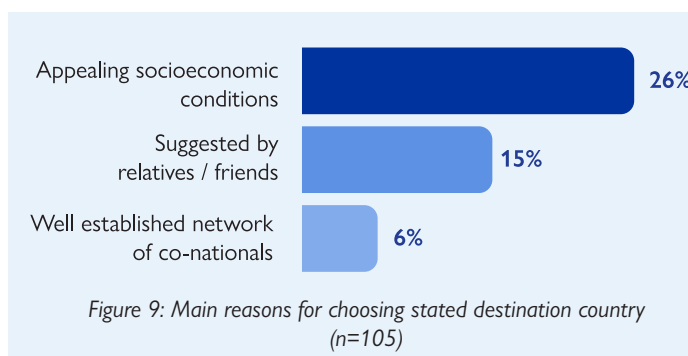
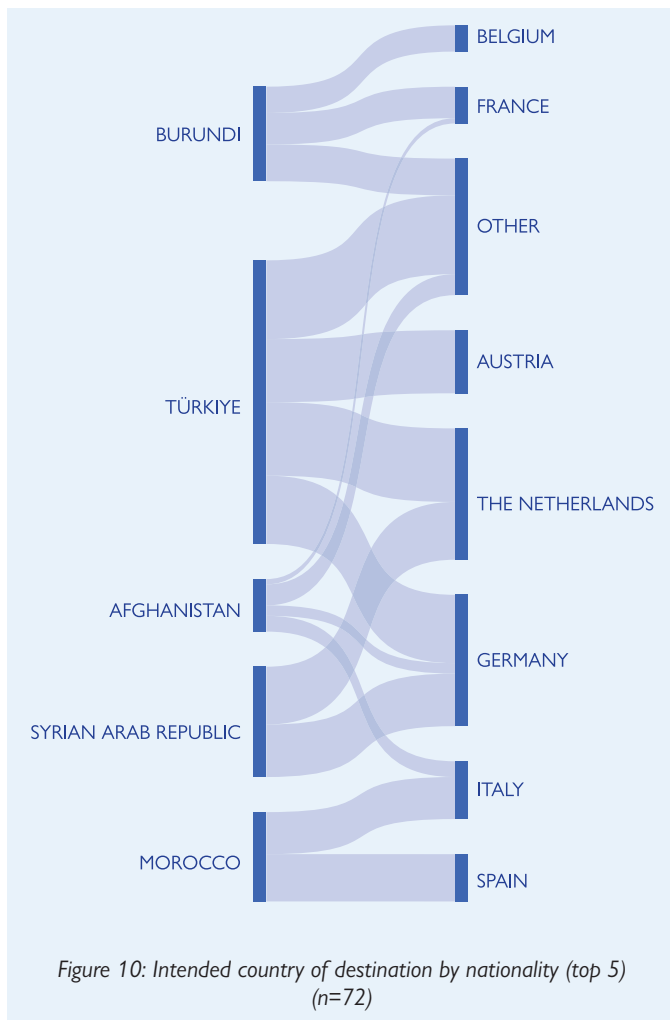


Figure 10 below shows the top 5 nationalities and their intended destinations.



## METHODOLOGY

This report uses a multi-source and multi-method approach with the aim of providing insights into the profiles, experiences, needs, movement patterns and intentions of migrants transiting through Serbia.

Some information which serves as context or explanation for particular concepts or trends are repetitive in each report, as it is important for new readers to be able to understand the information.

### Survey interviews with migrants

The questionnaire is administered via Kobo Toolbox and collects information on the age, sex and nationalities of respondents, information about their journeys to Serbia, recorded numbers information and movement modalities within the country. The survey is anonymized, voluntary and respondents do not receive compensation for participation. Respondents can choose not to answer any question and can withdraw their consent at any moment.

Data was collected from 1 to 30 September 2024 in RCs/ACs (AC Sjenica, AC Krnjaca, AC Obrenovac, RC Bujanovac, RC Presevo).

### Key informant interviews

Key informants can help provide information on the modus operandi of migrant mobility. The purpose of the key informant interviews is to contextualize the quantitative data gathered through the survey.

## LIMITATIONS

The data collection is conducted in the context of the following limitations:

1. The data is based on a convenience sample of migrants in the survey locations during the time frame indicated and can therefore not be generalized to the broader population of migrants in Serbia, or anywhere else.
2. The data collection is limited to the RCs/ACs. Entry points, bus stations, and railroads are known locations of migrant movements, however, in Serbia IOM and SCRMI did not collect data at such locations.