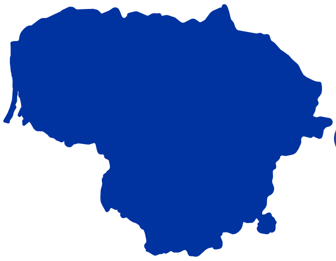
REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE AND TCNs

Survey on displacement patterns, needs and intentions | Data collected: 6 September – 11 November 2022



7 regions
13 municipalities

604 SURVEYS CONDUCTED

84% Female | **16% Male**

Since 24 February 2022, an increasing number of refugees and third-country nationals (TCNs) entering Lithuania have been registered by national authorities due to the war in Ukraine. Between February 24 and November 11, 69,659 refugees from Ukraine entered Lithuania. Out of this number, almost 25,000 refugees are under the age of 18 and 66 per cent are females. Ninety-nine per cent of persons registered at the Migration Department are citizens of Ukraine. The largest part of refugees from Ukraine were granted Temporary Protection. At least 4.000 have left the country or their place of residence is unknown. During October and November, the number of arriving refugees remained stable, with Lithuanian authorities registering between 80 and 120 new daily arrivals.

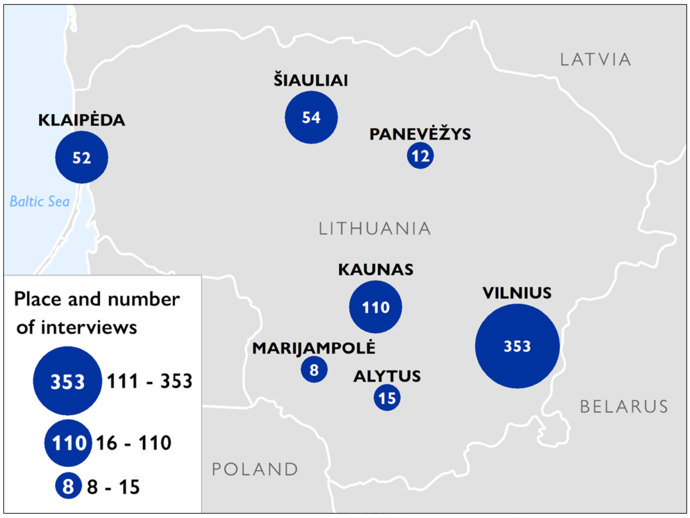
According to "Statistics Lithuania", 66 per cent of registered refugees are female and 34 per cent are male. Almost 25,000 of refugees are children below 18 years of age. More than half are enrolled into Lithuanian kindergartens and schools. According to Employment Service of Lithuania by 11 November 2022, 41 730 of Ukrainians are of working age (20-69 years old). Fifty per cent of this number were employed by 11 November 2022. Most Ukrainians are employed in the capital city Vilnius (6,607).

This report is based on a survey on displacement patterns, needs and intentions launched by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) in Lithuania in September 2022. All interviews were conducted face-to-face by IOM's DTM trained enumerators with adult refugees and TCNs fleeing Ukraine. This report presents an analysis based on 604 surveys collected between the 6th of September and the 11th of November 2022. The sample is not representative of all displaced populations from Ukraine into Lithuania, and results should only be considered as indicative.

KEY FINDINGS

- 84% of respondents were adult women
- 98% of respondents were Ukrainian refugees and 2% TCNs
- 57% reported the intention to return in Ukraine when safe to do so while 25% reported that they did not intend to move
- 85% of respondents were travelling with children
- Out of the respondents who were employed in Ukraine, 50% are currently employed in Lithuania, while 29% are currently looking for a job. Another 16% are unemployed and not looking for a job.
- Financial support (44%), health services (42%), personal hygiene supplies, medicine, and language courses (34%) were the main needs
- 34% had difficulties with language and in finding long-term housing; 32% reported financial issues as the main difficulties in moving to Lithuania

Map 1: Location of the survey (no. of responses)



15% travelling alone

85% travelling in a group

96% left Ukraine because of war

14% above 60 years old

2% pregnant/lactating women

TABLE OF CONTENTS

This publication was made possible through support provided by the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration of U.S. Department of State.

SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Between the 6th of September and the 11th of November, IOM's DTM conducted 604 interviews with refugees from Ukraine and TCNs in 13 municipalities, and 13 cities in Lithuania.

Out of all 604 respondents, 592 were Ukrainians and 12 were TCNs. TCNs were citizens of Belarus, India, Israel, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, the Republic of Moldova, and the Russian Federation.

GENDER AND AGE

Most respondents were adult women (84%), while men constituted 16 per cent of the sample. Two respondents preferred not to specify their gender.

The average age for women (40 years) in the sample was slightly lower than the men's (41 years). Most respondents were between 30 and 39 years of age (33%) and between 40 and 49 years of age (23%). The biggest group of women is that of those aged 30 to 39 years (36%), while among men the biggest group was aged between 18 and 29 years (32%).

MARITAL STATUS

A total of 56 per cent of the respondents were married, 23 per cent were single, nine per cent were widowed, seven per cent were divorced or separated and the other four per cent were in a partnership. The share of single persons was higher among men than among women (29% versus 21%), while women were more likely to be widowed than men in the sample (10% versus 4%).

Figure 1: Age of the respondents, by gender (%)

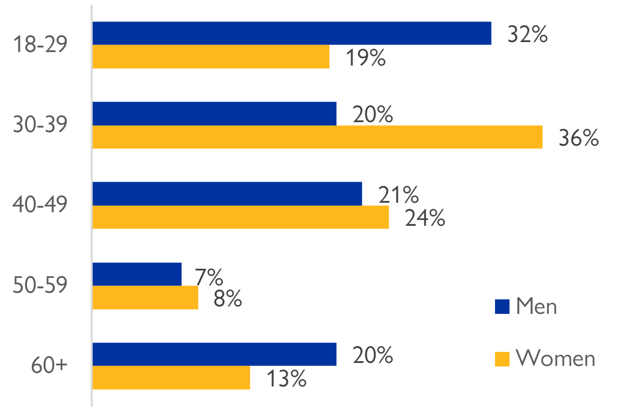
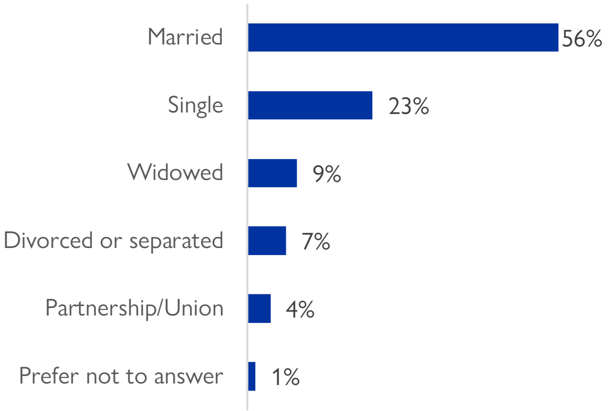


Figure 2: Marital status of respondents (%)



GROUP COMPOSITION AND TRAVEL MODE

Table 1: Mode of travel, by gender (multiple selection for group*)

Traveling in a group/alone	Women	Men	Total
Alone	63	24	87
In a group with immediate family/household members	416	68	484
In a group with relatives	19	1	20
In a group with Friends and Neighbours	24	4	28
In a group with others	3	1	4

*Due to the multiple selection, numbers do not add up to survey totals.

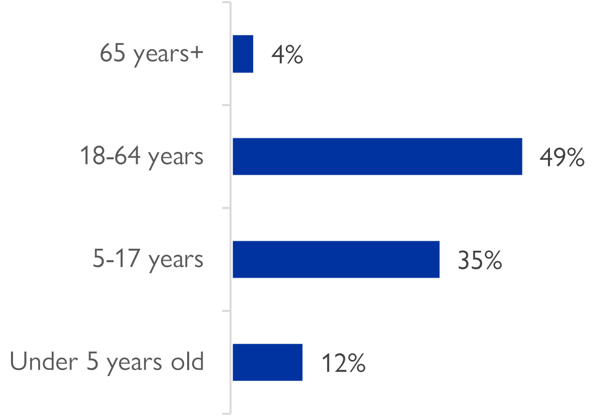
Eighty-five per cent of the sample declared to be travelling in a group, almost always composed by immediate family members (80%), while 15 per cent were travelling alone. The share of respondents travelling alone was higher among men than among women (25% versus 12%, respectively).

Overall, the average group size including the respondent was about 2.5 persons. Children below 18 years of age represented 47 per cent of all population tracked (respondents and the persons they were travelling with), followed by 37 per cent of women in their working age (37%), men in their working age (12%), and older women and men of 65 years or more (4% in total).

Table 2: Age and gender composition of respondents and the group they were travelling with

	F	M	Total
Under 5 years	92	89	181
5-17 years	237	278	515
18-64 years	545	172	717
65 years+	44	16	60
Total	918	555	1,473

Figure 3: Age composition of respondents and the group they were travelling with (N=1,473)



Sixty-eight per cent of participants indicated to be traveling with children (ages 0-17). Out of the 696 children travelling with respondents, 26 per cent were younger than five years old and 74 per cent were between 5 and 17 years old. Among them, 53 per cent were boys and 47 per cent girls.

Older persons, with 65 years or more, represented 5 per cent of all female and 3 per cent of all male persons in the group.

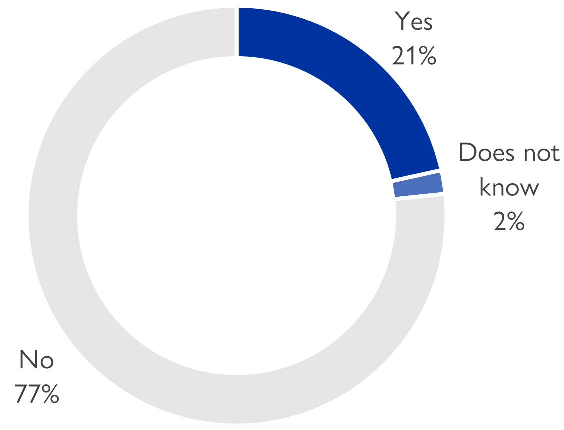
PERSONS WITH SERIOUS HEALTH CONDITIONS OR SPECIFIC NEEDS TRAVELLING WITH RESPONDENTS

More than one fifth of the respondents (21%, or N= 130) said that their group/household included persons with serious health conditions or specific needs. Another two per cent did not know, and the remaining 77 per cent did not reply to be in a group with at least one person with a serious health condition.

More specifically, 17 per cent of the respondents reported to have in their group (including themselves) at least one person with a chronic disease. Around five per cent reported that some were feeling worried, anxious, or depressed, two per cent were or were travelling with a pregnant or lactating woman. Other responses included some injured or wounded persons (3 observations) and persons who reported direct experience of violence and abuse (2 observations).

For respondents reporting some sort of health conditions, the questionnaire also included the short set of questions on functioning and disability as defined by the Washington Group.* The most frequently reported difficulties among the respondents and their group were those related to seeing even if wearing glasses (49 individuals or 8% of the sample), followed by difficulties in walking or climbing steps (21 individuals), difficulties remembering or concentrating (13), difficulties in communicating once usual language (10), difficulties hearing even if using hearing aid (10), and difficulties with self-care (9).

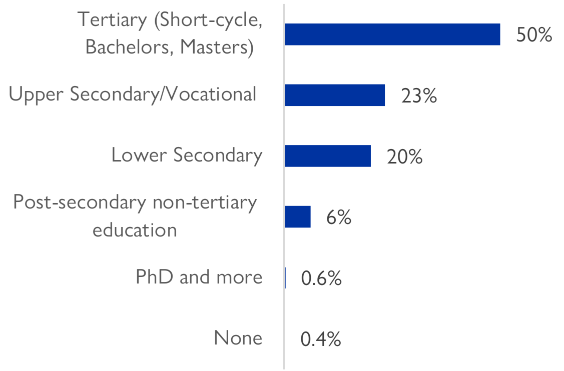
Figure 4: Individuals with serious health conditions or specific needs travelling with respondents (%)



*The questionnaire included the Washington Group Short Set on Functioning (WGSS) questions http://www.washingtongroup-disability.com/), which ask respondents about difficulties they may have while doing certain activities because of a health problem. This includes having either a lot of difficulty or no ability at all to perform any of six domains of functioning, namely, seeing, hearing, mobility, cognition, communication, or self-care.

EDUCATION LEVEL

Figure 5: Level of education (%)



Fifty per cent of individuals interviewed declared to have achieved tertiary education. Another 23 per cent completed upper secondary education, 20 per cent had a lower secondary education and six per cent had a post-secondary non-tertiary education. Only 0.4 per cent (one individual) of the sample indicated not receiving any form of education.

When it comes to the subject of study of the respondents with a secondary or higher level of education, the top five subjects indicated by the respondents were Engineering, manufacturing and construction and business, administration and law (16% each), health and welfare (10%) followed by Education, Services, and mathematics and statistics and services (each category with 8%).

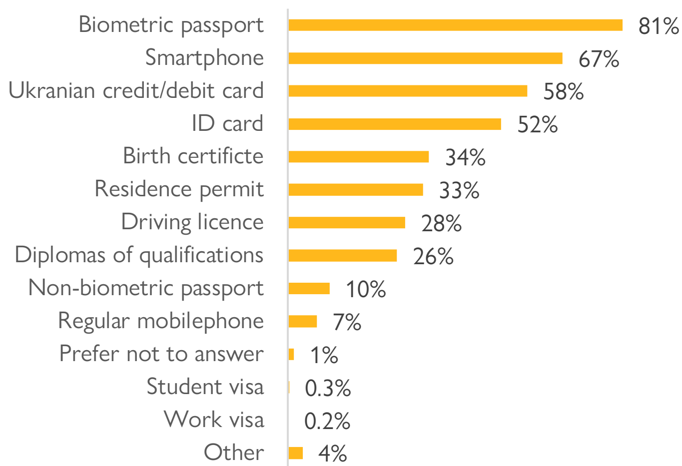
Table 3: Subject of education (%)

Subject of Study	No. of responses	%
Engineering, manufacturing and construction	97	16%
Business, administration and law	96	16%
Health and welfare	59	10%
Education	50	8%
Services	46	8%
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	46	8%
Information and Communication Technologies	15	2%
Arts and humanities	12	2%
Social sciences, journalism and information	9	1%
Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary	6	1%
Generic programmes and qualifications	4	1%

DOCUMENTS WITH THE RESPONDENTS AT THE TIME OF THE SURVEY

Most of the respondents (81%) travelled with their biometric passport, 67 per cent were in possession of their smartphone used for presenting identity cards, 58 per cent had a Ukrainian credit/debit card, 52 per cent reported to have a Ukrainian ID card and 34 per cent were in possession of their birth certificates. More than one third (33%) indicated that they had brought their residence permit/card, while 28 per cent had their driving licenses with them. Another 26 per cent of the sample had diplomas to prove their education-level or qualification attainment.

Figure 6: Which documents or items do you have with you? (%)
(multiple answers possible)



LANGUAGES SPOKEN

Out of the total sample, 59 per cent spoke Russian while the remaining 41 per cent indicated Ukrainian as the main language spoken in their households. One percent indicated that other languages including English and Surzhik (a mix of Ukrainian and Russian) were the main languages spoken in their households.

When asked about the other languages spoken, 53 per cent of respondents indicated that they spoke Ukrainian, 39 per cent spoke Russian, 29 per cent spoke English and 4 per cent spoke Lithuanian and German respectively.

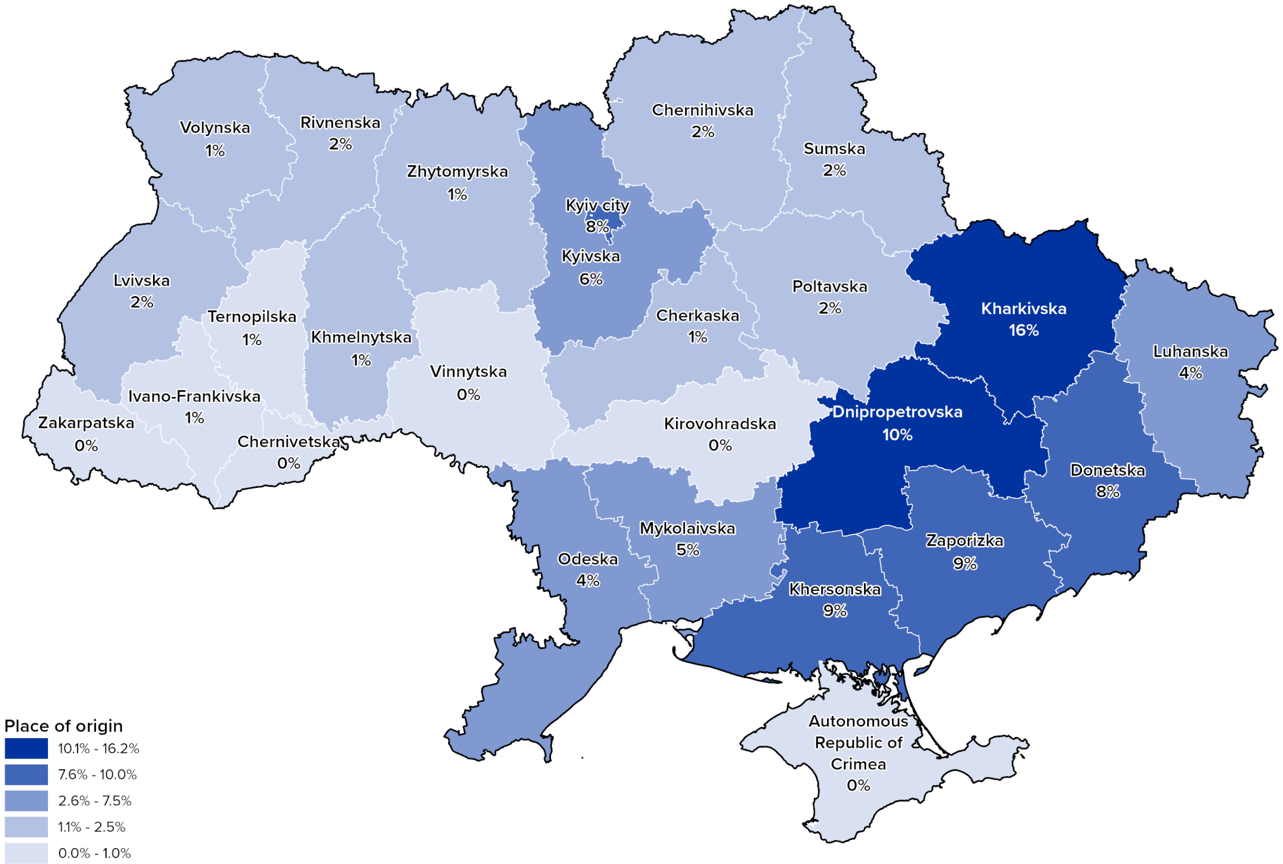
PLACE OF HABITUAL RESIDENCE IN UKRAINE

Respondents came from almost all regions of Ukraine, but with a majority from the eastern parts of the country.

The top five regions of origin or habitual residence before leaving Ukraine were Kharkivska (16%), Dnipropetrovska (10%), Zaporizhzka (9%), Khersonska (9%), the city of Kyiv (8%), and Doneska (10%).

Most of respondents (78%) indicated that their usual place of residence was an urban location, while the other 20 per cent used to live in a rural location. The other two per cent did not know, or preferred not to answer.

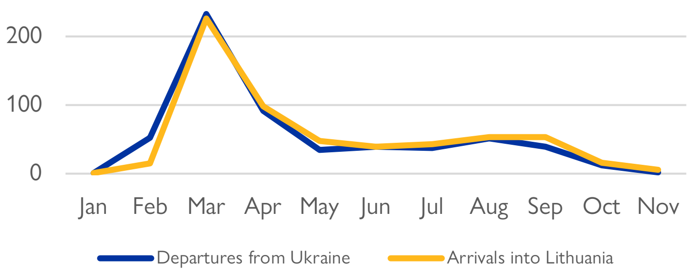
Map 2: Region (oblast) of origin / usual place of residence before leaving Ukraine (%)



This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the International Organization for Migration.

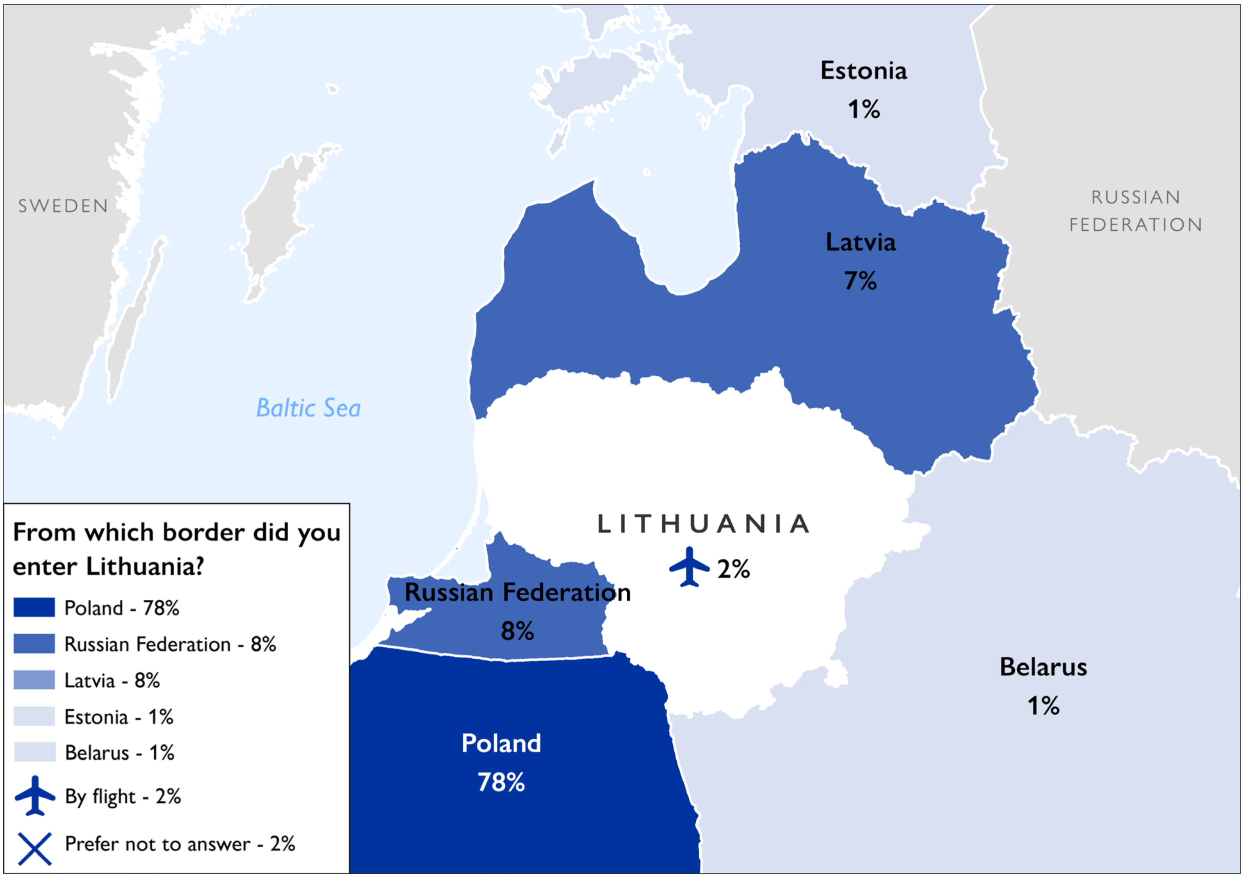
As expected, there is some time lag between the reported date of leaving Ukraine and the reported date of entering Lithuania. Among those who moved in 2022, more than half of all movements were reported to have happened between March and April: 55 per cent of respondents exited Ukraine, and 54 per cent of respondents entered Lithuania during this two-months period. Exits from Ukraine and arrivals in Lithuania continued at a lower level in the summer months, and only 13 per cent of the whole sample arrived in Lithuania since September 2022 when the data collection took place.

Figure 7: Month of exit from Ukraine and arrival in Lithuania



JOURNEY AND INTENDED FINAL DESTINATION

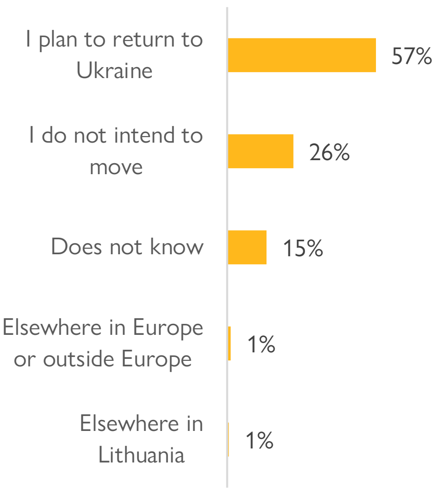
Map 3: Border of entry into Lithuania (%)



The majority of respondents entered Lithuania through the Polish border (78%), followed by eight per cent who entered through the Latvian border, and one per cent through the Belarusian frontier. Eight per cent reported to have entered from the Russian Federation and Estonia (1%) while another two per cent said they entered by air travel (origin not specified). The remaining 2 per cent of respondents (12 individuals), preferred not to answer this question.

Over half of the sample (57%) declared the intention to return to Ukraine as soon as it is safe to do so, while 26 per cent stated that they did not intend to move. A remaining 15 per cent did not know and only 1 per cent of all respondents declared that they intended to move elsewhere in Lithuania. Finally, one per cent would move elsewhere or outside of Europe (countries not specified).

Figure 8: Final intended destination (%)



PLAN TO RETURN TO UKRAINE

Of those planning to return to Ukraine, 10 per cent mentioned the intention to return to Kharkivska, 6 per cent to the city of Kyiv, and five per cent to Zaporizka, Dnipropetrovska, and Khersonska respectively. More than half of them (53%) reported that they intended to return "as soon as it is safe to do so", while another 11% did not know at the time of the survey. Three per cent reported the intention to move between 6 months and 1 year and between 2 and 6 months respectively. While two per cent intended to move after 12 months or more.

Figure 9: Reasons to return to Ukraine (more than one answer possible), N=520

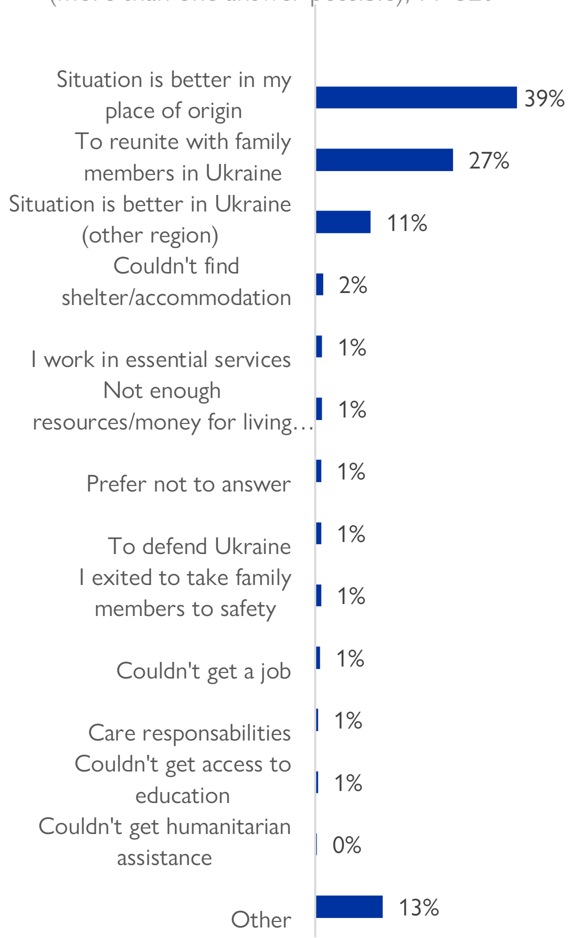


Figure 10: Intended location to return to Ukraine N=520

EXPERIENCES OF DISCRIMINATION DURING THE JOURNEY

Respondents were asked whether they had experienced any unfair/ unequal treatment related to aspects such as nationality, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, religion during the journey and while in Lithuania. About 20 per cent of the sample in Lithuania reported that they experienced a situation of unfair treatment or discrimination. This number also includes incidents of discrimination against Ukraine/Ukrainians from the side of the Russian speaking community present in the country. Three-thirds (75%) of respondents did not report of any of such experiences.

Those who travelled through the Russian Federation also reported issues at the border, including excessive waiting times with no access to any warm place for children and most vulnerable persons. Some respondents reported corporal inspections, humiliations and bad comments, and checks on any involvement of adult men in the military.

RESPONDENTS NOT INTENDING TO RETURN TO UKRAINE

Over one third of the 258 respondents (42% of the total 604 respondents) who did not intend to go back to Ukraine for the moment (intend to stay in Lithuania, did not know, or wanted to move elsewhere), the presence of family and relatives (28%) in the area was the biggest factor influencing this decision. Nearly one quarter of the 258 respondents stated other reasons, followed by having friends in the area (21%), no specific reasons (17%), ease of finding work (10%) and having lived, worked or studied there before (9%). Other reasons included the proximity to home/Ukraine (5%), having accommodation (3%) and the closeness to the border (1%).

Figure 12: Are you aware whether your family members/friends/acquaintances have real plans to relocate to Lithuania in the coming months? (%)

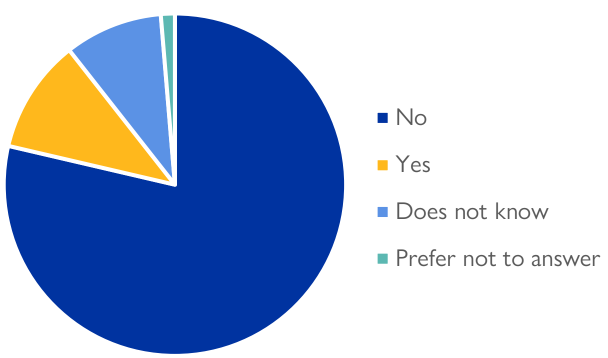
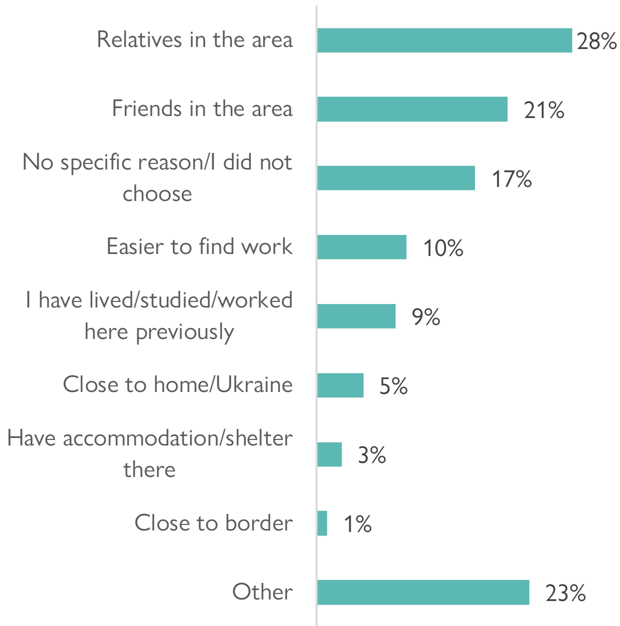


Table 4: Accommodation of respondents at the time of survey

Current Accommodation	N. of resp.	%
An apartment/house rented on the open market	311	51%
An apartment/house of a resident that you don't need to pay for	102	17%
An apartment/house from friends or family without paying	52	9%
Dormitory	46	7%
Hotel/Hostel	33	6%
An apartment/house rented from friends or family	26	4%
Temporary reception centre	12	2%
Do not know (just arrived)	5	1%
Prefer not to answer	4	1%
Other	13	2%

Figure 11. Reasons for those planning to stay or move elsewhere (%)
(more than one answer possible)



About 11 per cent of the sample reported that they were aware of real relocation plans to Lithuania amongst their relatives, friends or acquaintances. Out of the 61 respondents, each person knew between 1 to 15 people planning to relocate.

INCLUSION AND ACCESS TO SERVICES IN LITHUANIA

ACCOMMODATION

Over half of all respondents were renting an apartment or house in the open market (51%). Other frequently cited types of accommodation in Lithuania were apartments they were not liable for paying rent for (17%), staying with family/friends without paying (9%), dormitories (7%), hotels/hostels (5%) or an apartment/house rented from friends or family (4%).

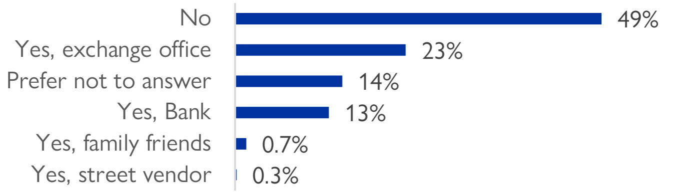
Another eight respondents (2%) were staying in a temporary reception centre. Other reasons were stated by the remaining two per cent of respondents.

The vast majority (580 out of 604 respondents or 96%) of respondents reported to have applied for temporary international protection. Of the 20 respondents that answered that they have not applied yet, 60 per cent declared that they are planning to register, 15 per cent claimed to be ineligible while one respondent was planning to leave Lithuania soon (5%). One fifth of respondents stated other reasons.

Most respondents (82%) declared to have an account in a Lithuanian bank. Among the ones that indicated not having one, two thirds planned to open one in Lithuania sometime in the future (66%).

Almost half (49%) of the sample was not able to exchange cash before leaving Ukraine. However, since leaving Ukraine, 79 per cent stated that they have been able to withdraw cash from an ATM or make payments using their own debit/credit.

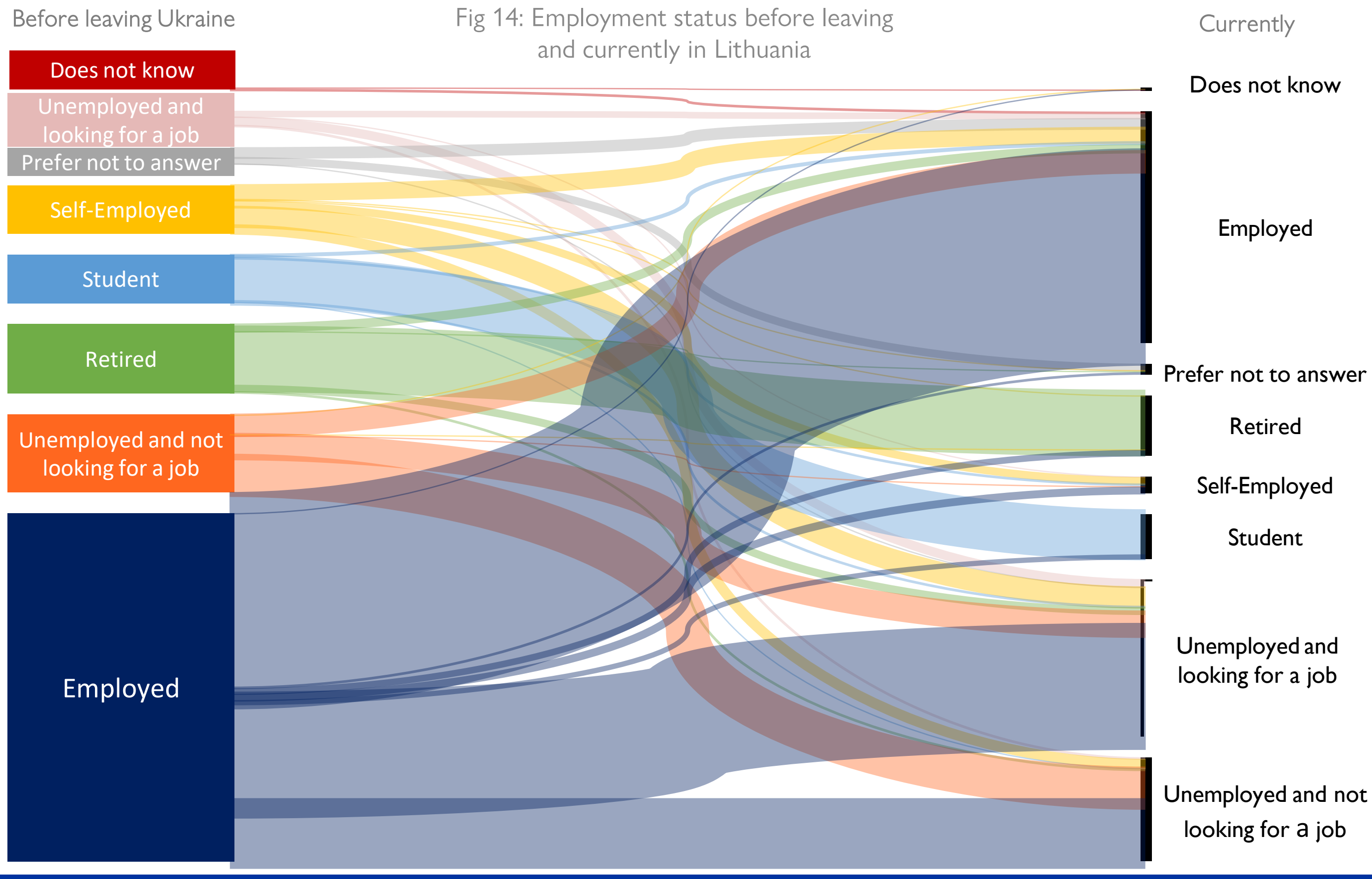
Figure 13: Ability to exchange cash since leaving Ukraine (%)



EMPLOYMENT

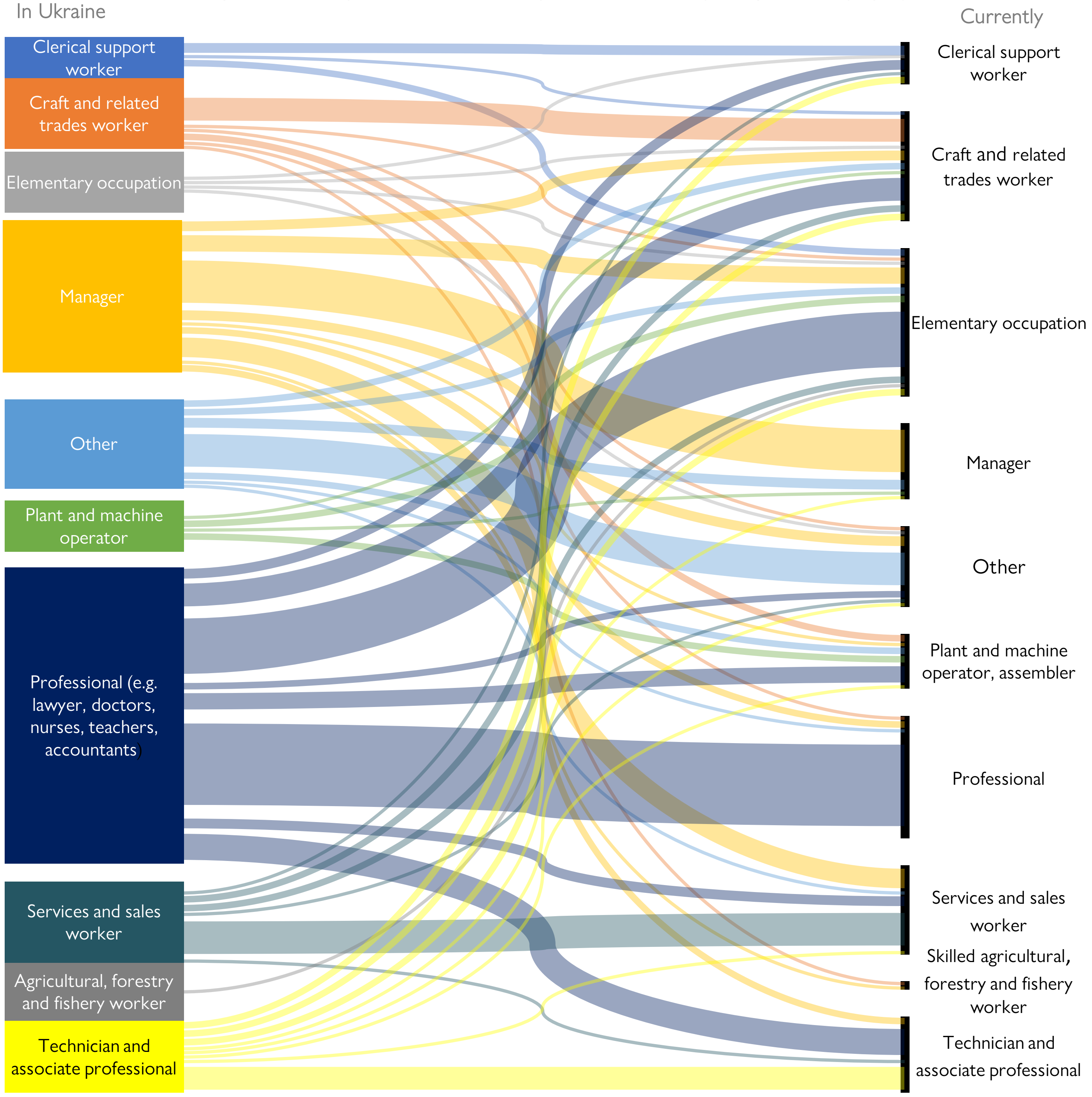
Over half (55%) of all respondents were employed before leaving Ukraine, 11 per cent were retired, 12 per cent were unemployed and not looking for a job and eight per cent were self-employed. Regarding their current employment status in Lithuania, just over one third (37%) were employed at the time of the survey, 25 per cent were unemployed and looking for a job, 17 per cent are unemployed and not looking for a job while 10 per cent are retired. Out of the respondents who were employed in Ukraine (335), 50 per cent were employed in Lithuania, while 29 per cent were currently looking for a job at the moment of the interview. Another 16 per cent were unemployed and not looking for a job. The rest were either retired (1%), students (1%) or did not know or preferred not to answer (each 1%).

Fig 14: Employment status before leaving and currently in Lithuania



Twenty-two per cent of the individuals surveyed were working as professionals in Ukraine, 11 per cent were managers, eight per cent had other occupations, and six per cent were occupied as services and sales workers. The main current occupations of respondents in Lithuania were: elementary occupation (22%), professional, craft and related trades, and services and sales (13% each), other and manager (14% each).

Fig 15: Past occupation an current occupation in Lithuania (among those employed)

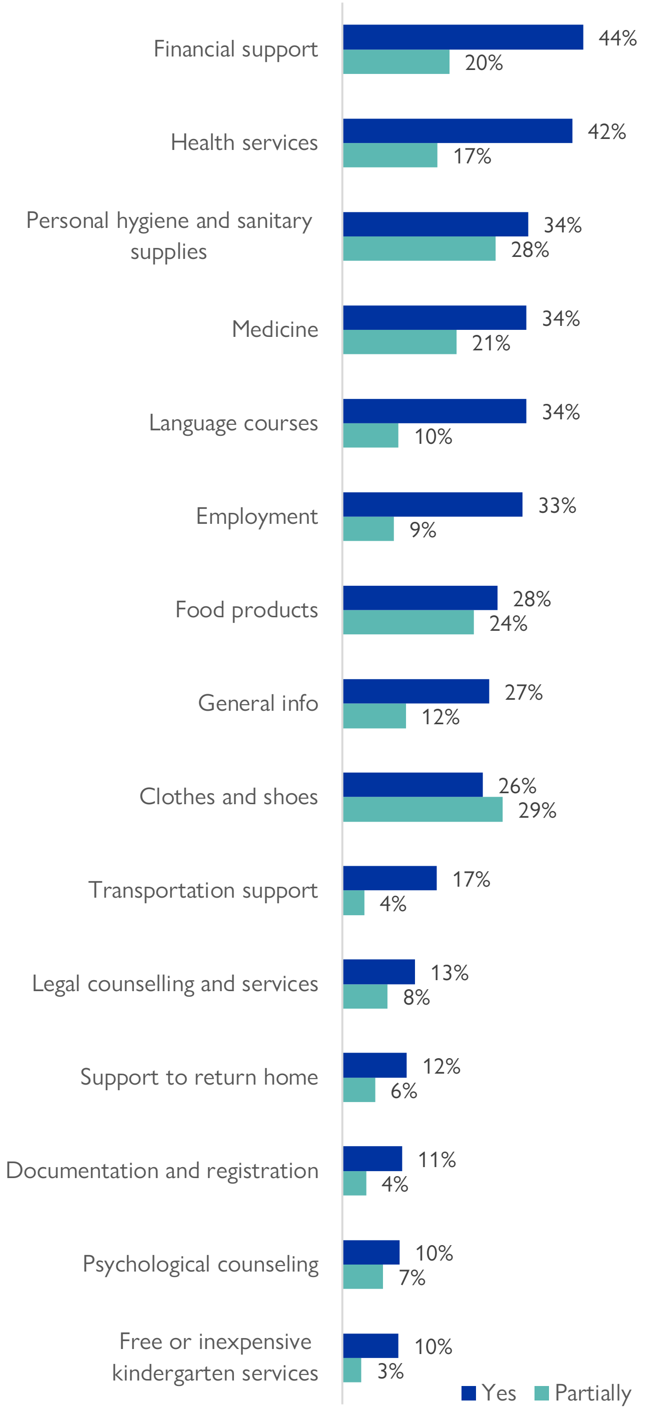


MAIN NEEDS AND CHALLENGES DURING THE JOURNEY

Financial support (44%), health services (42%) and personal hygiene, language courses and medicine (each 34%) were the three needs more frequently reported when interviewed. Other expressed needs were employment (33%), food products (28%) and general information (27%).

Other needs that were reported at the moment of the survey include clothes and shoes (26%), transportation support (17%), legal counselling and services (13%), support to return home (12%), and documentation registration (11%), psychological counselling, and free or inexpensive kindergarten services (each 10%).

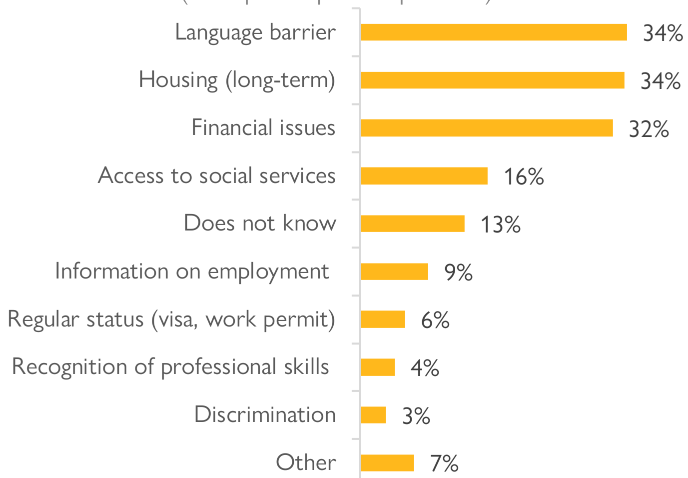
Figure 16: Top 15 main needs at the time of the survey (%) (multiple answers possible)



CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED IN LITHUANIA

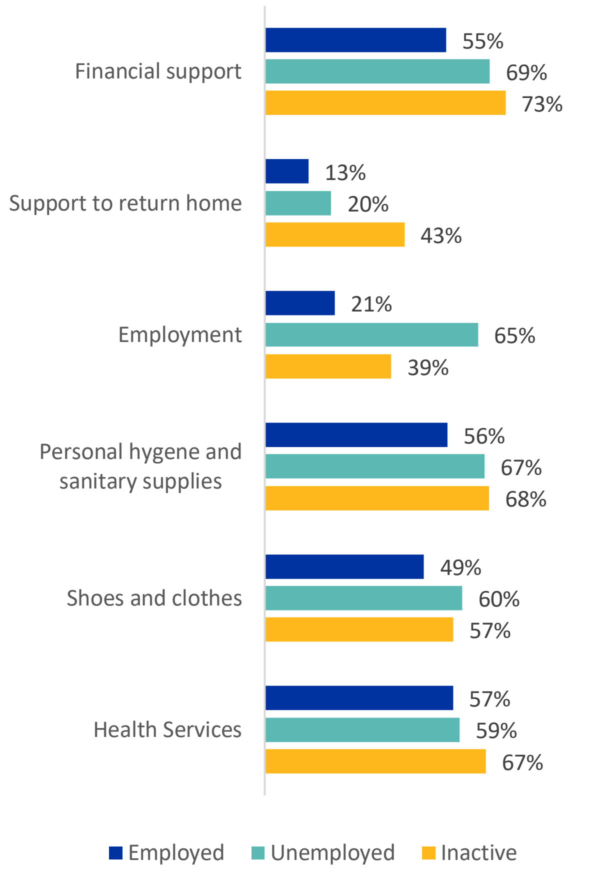
Language barrier and long-term housing were the most prevalent challenges reported when respondents were asked about difficulties they had encountered until now in Lithuania (more than one third, or 34% of respondents each). Other difficulties included financial issues (N=196), access to social services/administration (N=99) information on employment opportunities (N=53), regular status such as visas and work permits (N=5), and recognition of professional skills and diplomas (N=27). Lastly, 20 respondents reported discrimination among the main challenges met in Lithuania so far.

Figure. 17: Top 10 challenges encountered until now in Lithuania %
(multiple responses possible)



To understand whether there are specific needs expressed or challenges experienced by certain categories of respondents, the whole sample has been split into three main groups according to the current employment status of the respondents: employed (including self-employed), unemployed, and inactive (including students, retirees and those who did not specify). Respondents' positive replies "yes" and "partially yes" are summed up for the sake of clarity.

Figure 18: Top 6 needs disaggregated by employment status (% of positive replies)* (multiple answers possible)



MAIN NEEDS DISAGGREGATED BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS

The three groups seem to report some different patterns in terms of reported needs. Respondents who reported to be currently employed in Lithuania expressed a lower level of immediate needs to address than the group of those unemployed and of those who are inactive. Understandably, support in finding employment most frequently reported by the unemployed (65%) than by those inactive (39%) and those already in employment who may wish to find another occupation (21%).

Financial support is most frequently reported by the inactive (73% of them), than by the unemployed (69%) and by the employed (55%). Also, inactive persons seem to be more interested in finding support to return home (43% of them) than respondents who were unemployed (20%) or employed (13%) at the moment of the interview.

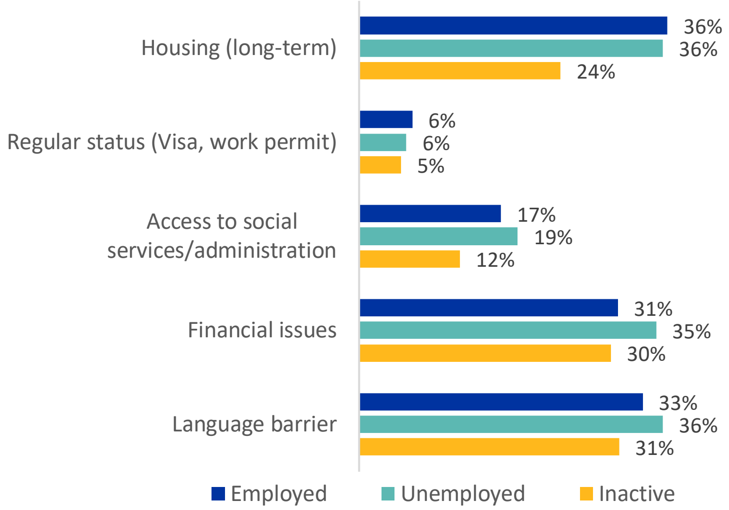
MAIN CHALLENGES DISAGGREGATED BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Challenges reported by refugees from Ukraine and TCNs in the sample are slightly more similar across respondents by employment status.

Long-term housing solutions remain one of the most prominent issue for more than one third of employed and unemployed respondents (36%), while it is less prominent among the inactive which include students who are provided accommodation in university dormitories (24%). Language barriers were reported as a challenge by similar shares of all employed (33%), unemployed (36%) and inactive (31%), with the issue being slightly perceived more by those who are looking for an employment for which knowing the Lithuanian language would be helpful.

Financial issues also have been reported by around one third of the unemployed (35%), and slightly less the employed (31%) and the inactive (30%), who could again count on either their entitlements as students or as retirees.

Figure 19: Top 5 challenges disaggregated by employment status (% of positive replies)* (multiple answers possible)*



* Both charts were calculated considering “yes” and “partially” as positive responses

METHODOLOGY

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. These surveys are part of IOM’s DTM activities to monitor the displacement, intentions and most immediate need of the Ukrainian refugees and TCNs fleeing from Ukraine into neighbouring countries and other European countries since 24 February 2022.

Surveys are collected in selected entry and transit locations, registration and reception centres identified to be the most frequently used by refugees and other TCNs leaving from Ukraine. In Lithuania, surveys were conducted in Ukrainian and Russian by IOM’s DTM trained teams of enumerators on a mobile application. The interviews are anonymous and conducted one-on-one with respondents, provided they consent to be interviewed after a brief introduction. Only adults (18 years and above) were interviewed.

The survey form was designed by IOM to capture the main displacement patterns 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 relatively to the permanence in Lithuania and to intended final destination; it gathers information regarding a set of main needs at the moment of the interview.

The data presented in this document are representative of the individuals surveyed in the covered locations and during the indicated timeframe. The data should not be generalized to represent the whole displaced population outside Ukraine in Lithuania or elsewhere.

Between the 6th of September and the 11th of November 2022, IOM conducted 604 displacement patterns, needs and intentions interviews with refugees from Ukraine and other TCNs in 13 cities in 13 municipalities, seven regions in Lithuania. Fifty-eight per cent of surveys were conducted in the capital city of Vilnius (mostly in NGO centres (88%), dormitories (4%) and other types of locations (8%)). Another 18 per cent of the surveys were collected in the Kaunas region, followed by nine per cent in the Šiauliai region, and another nine per cent in the Klaipėda region.

Table 5: Types of location covered by the survey

Location of the survey	N. of respondents	%
NGO centres	516	85%
Dormitory	17	3%
Rented/free house/apartment	17	3%
Transit/registration centre	13	2%
Collective centre	13	2%
University	11	1%
Open space	4	0.7%
Other	7	1%

The majority (82%) of the surveys were conducted in some humanitarian centres run by local NGO, three per cent in both Save the Children centres and dormitories. Two per cent took place in rented/free house/apartments, Transit/registration centres, and collective reception centres, respectively. And the remaining 6 per cent in different transit places (universities, open spaces, hotels, host family accommodations, and municipality premises).

DTM Enumerators conducting interviews in Vilnius in September. © IOM Lithuania 2022