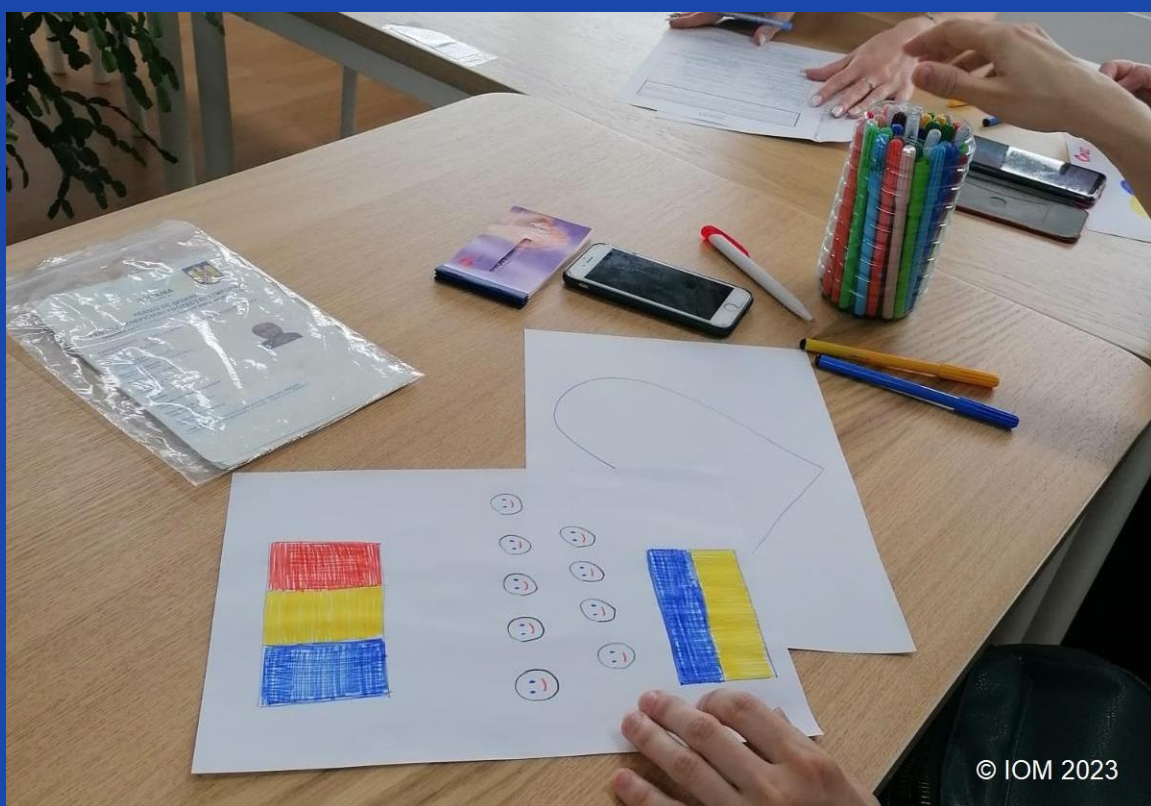


ROMANIA

Surveys with Refugees from Ukraine: Needs, Intentions & Integration challenges



April - June 2023
Country Report & Data Analysis

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This publication was made possible through the support provided by Council of Europe Development Bank, U.S Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM), the German Federal Foreign Office, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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This report was issued without formal editing by IOM.

Cover photo: "Ukrainian children draw pictures during a social voucher distribution by IOM Romania in Oradea". © IOM 2023

Citation: International Organization for Migration (IOM), May 2023. DTM Romania "Surveys with refugees from Ukraine: needs, intentions and integration challenges" IOM, Bucharest. For more information on terms and conditions of DTM reports and information products, please refer to: <https://dtm.iom.int/terms-and-conditions>

Release date: 16 August 2023



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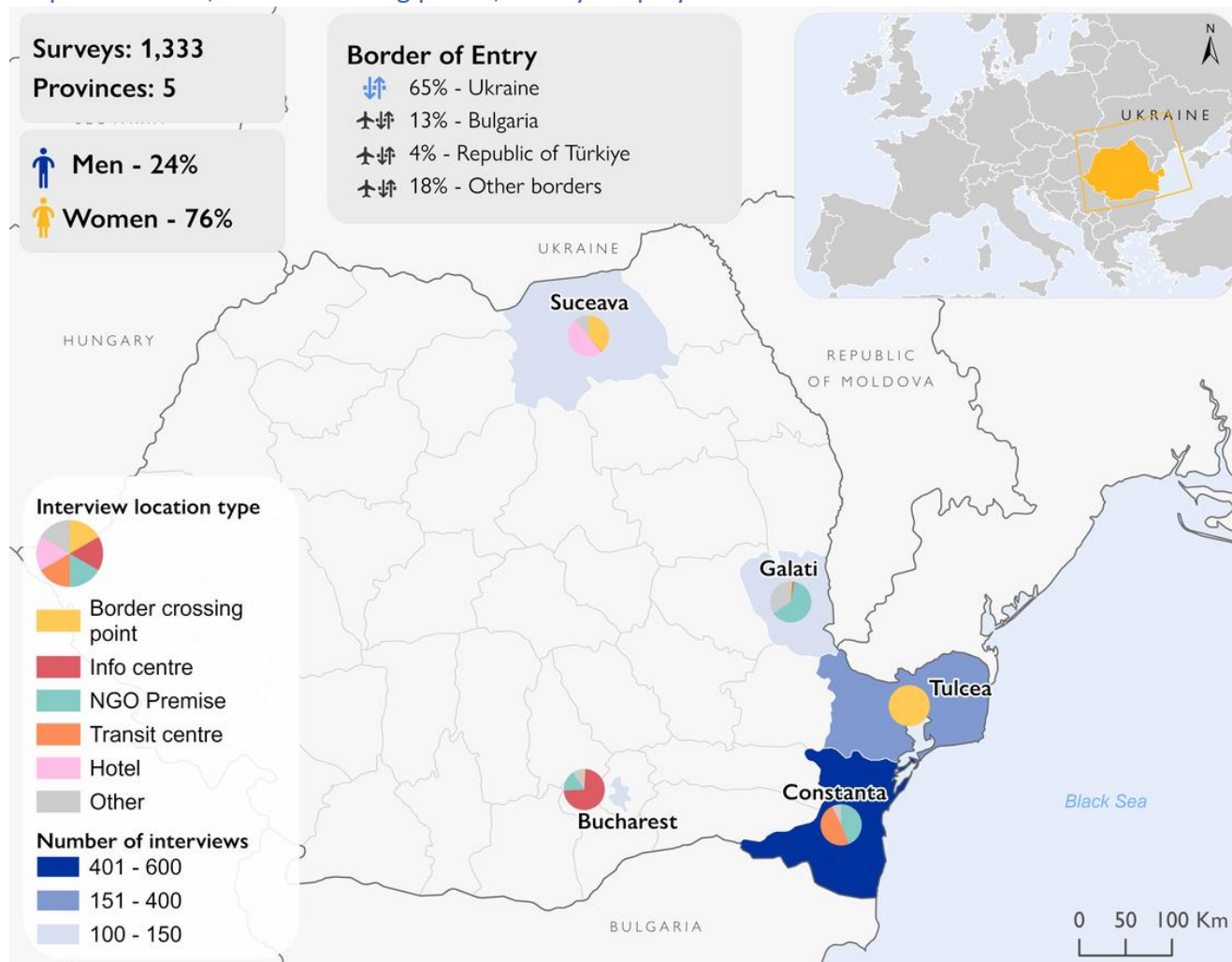
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KEY FINDINGS

- **High inclusion rate:** 78% applied to EU temporary protection, 68% of the UA children are enrolled in a school, 50% registered to healthcare services.
 - **Employment status:** unemployed and not looking for a job (35%), applied for a job (23%), employed (22%), retirement or student status (22%).
 - **Intention to stay:** already settled (44%), yes (37%), does not know (7%), transiting (8%) Ukrainian residence (3%).
 - **Top areas of assistance received*:** food supplies (54%), accommodation (48%), sanitary supplies (47%) or financial support (47%).
 - **Top inclusion challenges*:** housing (15%), financial issues (14%) language (13%), lack of information (12%).
 - **Main needs*:** financial support (54%), general information (51%), health services (34%), long term accommodation (34%) and food supplies (28%).
- *more than one answer possible

Map 1: Romania, border crossing points, surveys deployed & locations



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 IOM

TRENDS IN THE FIRST HALF OF 2023

- **Needs**

In Q2 (Quarter 2 April-June 2023) an increase in the need of long-term accommodation was reported, from 12 per cent in Q1 (Quarter 1 January-March 2023), to 34 per cent in Q2. This is due to policy changes regarding the accommodation benefits offered to the Ukraine residents (UA residents).

Another need that registered a downward trend was the demand for health services, which was reported by only 34 per cent of the respondents in Q2, compared to 50 per cent in Q1. Basic needs such as financial support or general information remained at same level.

- **Types of assistance received**

The main types of assistance received remained stable between the two quarters, with slight changes in how the assistance was distributed to the respondents. If in Q1 the main types of assistance received were accommodation support (57%), financial support (56%) and food supplies (56%), in Q2, the main types of assistance received included food supplies (54%), accommodation support (48%) and sanitary supplies (47%).

- **Ease of access of services and benefits**

Q2 registered a five per cent decrease in the perceived ease in accessing housing, from 91 per cent in Q1 to 86 per cent in Q2.

On the other hand, the process of obtaining status of residence was deemed easier by four per cent of the UA nationals surveyed (87% in Q2 compared to 83% in Q1).

- **Challenge in accessing benefits**

Overall challenges in accessing benefits are reported by fewer Ukrainian respondents, 34 per cent of the respondents' reporting challenges in accessing benefits in Q2, compared to 92 per cent in Q1, with the highest challenge encountered in Q2 being the lack of enough to survive of, reported by 11 per cent of the surveyed UA nationals, compared to 24 per cent in Q1.

- **Job statements**

The main challenge in finding a job remains, for both quarters, language barrier, reported by 23 per cent of

the surveyed UA nationals, fewer than in Q1, when it was reported by 58 per cent of the respondents. Also, comparing the data on the perceived ease in finding a job between the two quarters, Q2 shows decrease in the perceived difficulty in finding a job.

The share of those finding it easy has remained stable, while those that find the situation not applicable to them have registered a seven per cent increase. This translates in a decrease of Ukrainian citizens interacting with the labour market on Q2 compared to Q1.

- **Employment evolution**

The percentage of UA citizens working or looking for a job has also decreased in quarter 2 compared to quarter 1 from 52 per cent to 44 per cent. The percentage of people not willing to work has also shown a decrease in quarter 2 compared to quarter 1 from 45 per cent to 35 per cent. This is explained by the higher coverage of students or retirees that have entered Romania, 21 per cent compared to three per cent.

- **Consular services accessed**

Ten per cent more people have reached consular support in Quarter 2 compared to Q1, from 23 per cent in Q1, to 33 per cent in Q2. Also, compared to Q1, when only 58 per cent knew how to access consular services, in Q2 62 per cent of the surveyed UA nationals have knowledge on that.

- **EU temporary protection**

Quarter 2 reports fewer applications for EU temporary protection status, from 86 per cent to 78 per cent.

- **Stay/ leave**

Even if the overall applications for EU temporary protection status decreased, the percentage of respondents stating that they have already settled increased from 32 per cent in Q1 to 44 per cent in Q2. When it comes to their plan to settle in Romania, 37 per cent of the surveyed respondents stated that they plan to do so in the near future, 14 per cent less than in Q1, when 51 per cent declared their intention to settle.

An overall image of the quarter 1 report can be seen by accessing the Q1 report available at the following [link](#).

I. Socio-Demographic Profile

Oblast (region) of origin

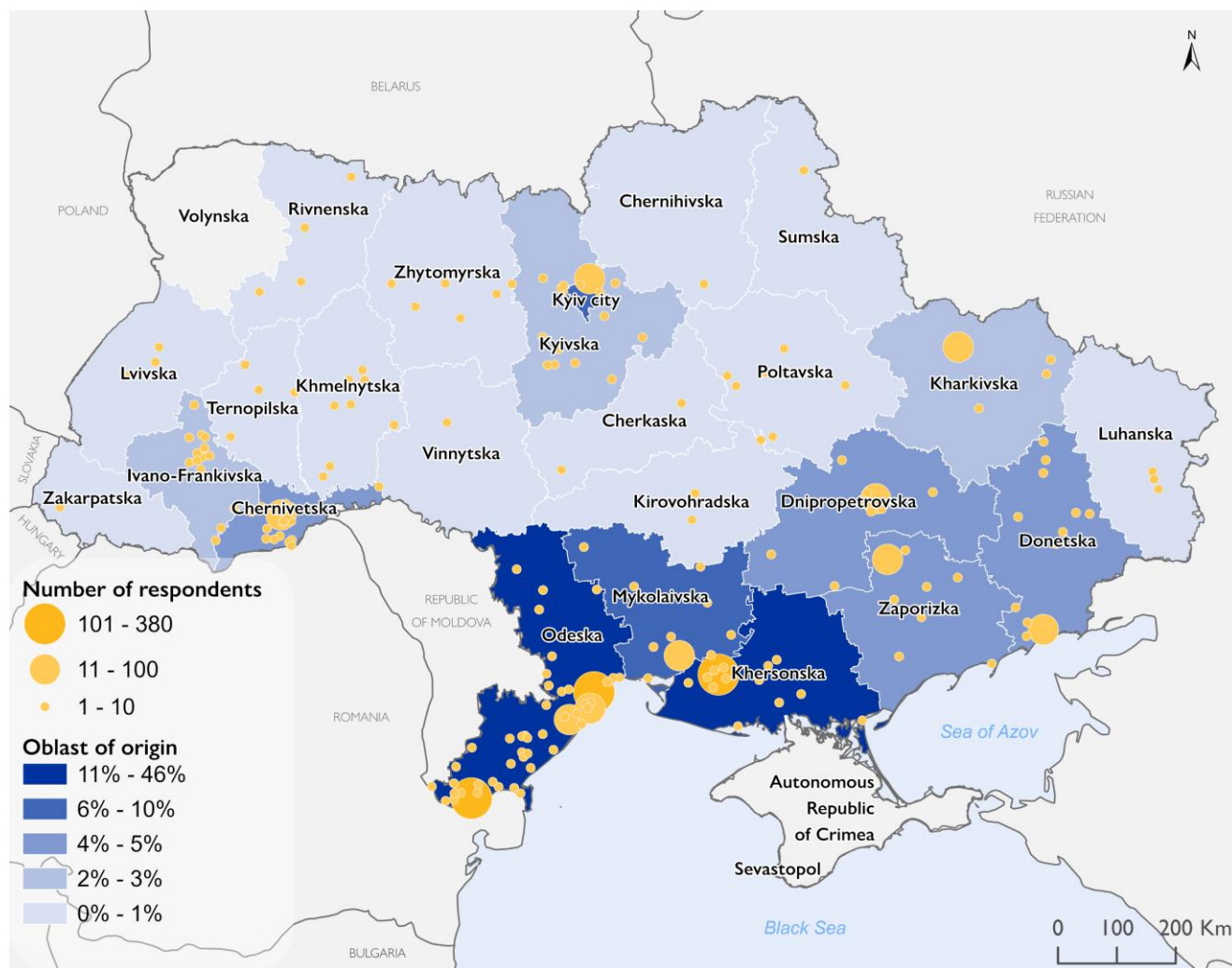
The respondents crossing the border included over 99 per cent Ukrainian nationals, (1333) and under one per cent Third-Country Nationals (TCNs). As seen in the map below, respondents came from all over Ukraine, the majority of them (72%) had their main residence of origin in only four regions from Ukraine.

The top oblasts of origin were Odeska (46%), Khersonska

(13%), Mykolaivska (7%), Kyiv (6%), followed by Chernivetska, Zaporizka with five per cent, Donetsk and Dnipropetrovska with four per cent.

The other oblasts of origin mentioned covered a little over 11 per cent of the answers and included Kharkivska (2%), Kyivska (2%), Ivano-Frankivska, Khmelnytska, Zhytomyrska, Poltavska and Lvivska with one per cent.

Map 2: Oblast of origin before leaving Ukraine (%)



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Profiles & Needs of the refugees from Odeska oblast (region)

Given that almost half of the UA citizens that participated in the survey pointed at Odeska as oblast of origin (46%), a special analysis on their needs and integration challenges was developed.

- **Needs**

Compared to the general UA population surveyed, Odeska residents reported similar needs. The main two needs for both were general information, 55 per cent of the Odeska residents reporting it, compared to 26 per cent in the case of population from the other oblasts, and financial support, reported by 54 per cent of the Odeska residents and 29 per cent of the respondents of the other oblasts .

- **Assistance received**

When it comes to the types of assistance received, Odeska residents reported differences in the forms of assistance received. Mainly, 50 per cent of the Odeska residents received assistance with accommodation, while 26 per cent of the surveyed residents from other oblasts received accommodation assistance. The main form of assistance received by the residents of other oblasts resided in food supplies (31%), while for the Odeska residents it was the second most received form of assistance (49%).

- **Health services**

When comparing the perceived ease of access of medical services, 61 per cent of the UA residents and 65 per cent of the Odeska residents found the process easy. As for actually accessing healthcare services, only 46 per cent of the Odeska residents, and 50 per cent of the other UA residents have accessed them.

- **Job statements**

Similar to UA citizens from the other oblasts/ regions, language represents a main barriers in accessing a job, even so, it is reported by only 18 per cent of the surveyed Odeska residents compared to 31 per cent of the other UA nationals.

- **Consular support and services**

The data analysed shows that Odeska residents lack information on how to contact consular representatives

compared to the residents of the other oblasts, only 36 per cent of the Odeska residents declaring that they know how to contact consular representatives, compared to 54 per cent of the other UA residents. As for the actually reaching for consular support, 29 per cent of the UA residents have reached for consular support, while only 19 per cent of the Odeska residents have done so.

- **EU temporary protection**

Most of the surveyed UA nationals that have answered this question (35% of the UA citizens and 53% Odeska residents) have EU temporary protection status (95 per cent of the UA residents aside from Odeska, and 97 per cent of the Odeska). When asked if they plan to register to any form of protection, 70 per cent of the UA residents from the other oblasts plan to do so, and 87 per cent of the Odeska region will apply for any form of protection status.

- **Travel intentions**

When asked about their travel intentions, 53 per cent of the Odeska residents stated that they have already settled in Romania, while 34 per cent plan to do so. In comparison, 40 per cent of the UA nationals from the other oblasts plan to settle in Romania, while 36 per cent have already settled. Fifteen per cent of the UA residents from other oblasts are only transiting Romania, while only one per cent of the Odeska residents are in this situation. This shows a higher intention to remain in Romania compared to the residents of other oblasts.

Conclusions

Even if the data shows similarities between the Odeska residents and the other UA nationals originated in other oblasts, it can be seen that those residing in Odeska are better integrated in the labour market, have better access to benefits and are more prone to remaining in Romania for a long period of time. Also, Odeska residents report more needs in terms of financial support or general information compared to the residents of the other oblasts.

Gender and age

Out of all 1333 respondents surveyed, 76 per cent were women and 24 per cent were men, while less than one per cent unwilling to answer. The average age for the entire group is 42 years old.

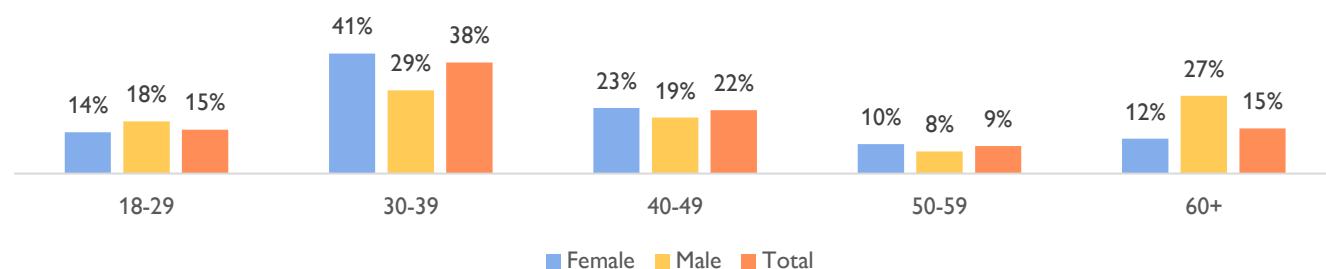
As for the age coverage, 88 per cent (N = 893) of all the women surveyed were of working age, and 55 per cent (N = 233) of the men surveyed fell into the same category.

Out of all age groups, most respondents surveyed, both

male and female, are aged between 30-39 years old, with 41 per cent females and 29 per cent males in that category.

The smallest age groups, for both male and female respondents, were 50-59 (9%), followed by 60+ years old (15%), and 18-29 years old (15%). Even so, amongst the elderly UA nationals aged 60+, males represented 27 per cent, 15 per cent more than women.

Figure 1: Age by gender and total

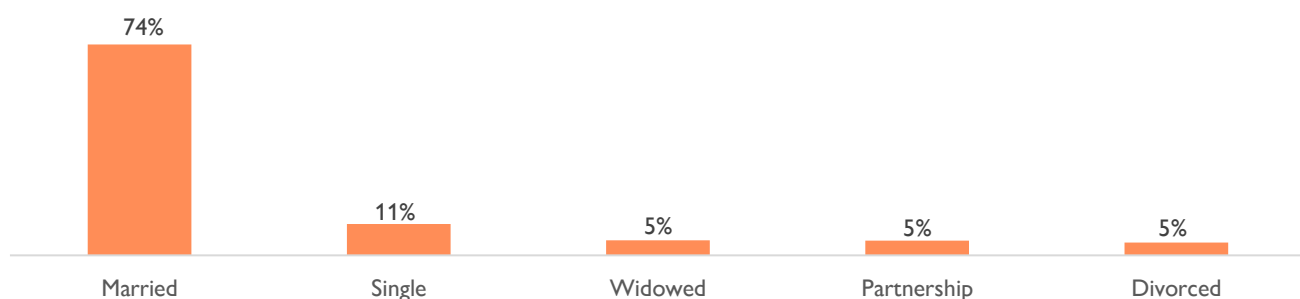


Marital status

Most UA nationals that answered the survey were married, with 74 per cent, followed by 11 per cent of them that declared that they were single. Out of all respondents that declared that they were single, most were aged between 18

and 29 years old (45%). Out of all respondents that declared themselves widowed, 29 per cent were above the age of 60 years old, six per cent were aged between 50-59 years old.

Figure 2: Marital status



Documents possessed at the time of interview

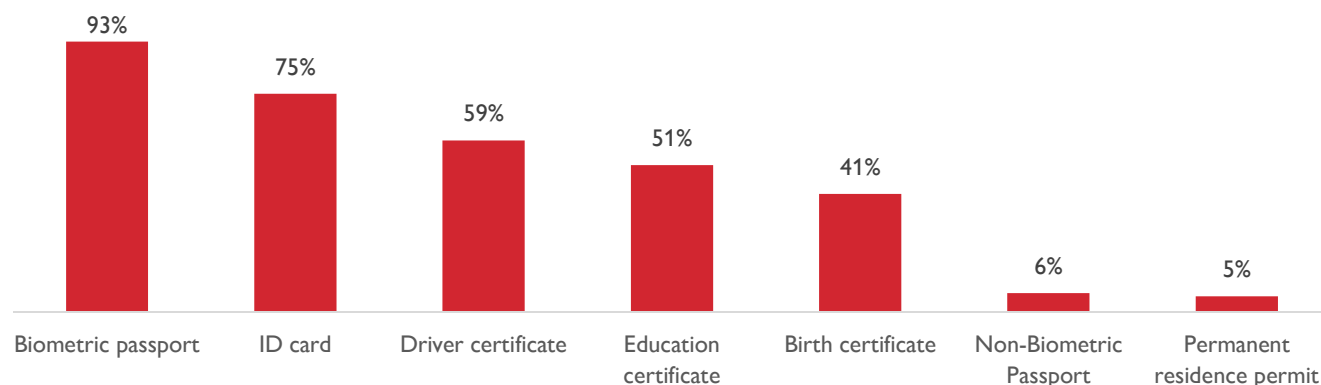
Most respondents (93%) travelled with their biometric passport, while 75 per cent travelled with their ID card (respondents were able to select more than one answer, hence percentages amount to over 100%).

Other documents possessed included driver's certificate (59%), education certificate (51%), birth certificate (41%).

A small percentage of respondents interviewed (12%) brought with them a non-biometric passport (6%), five per cent had a residence permit with them.

Less than one per cent had other documents such as marriage certificates, residence permits or diplomas at the time the interview was conducted.

Figure 3: Documents possessed at the time of the interview (%) (N = 1333)
(more than one answer possible)



Average time spent outside Ukraine since initial displacement

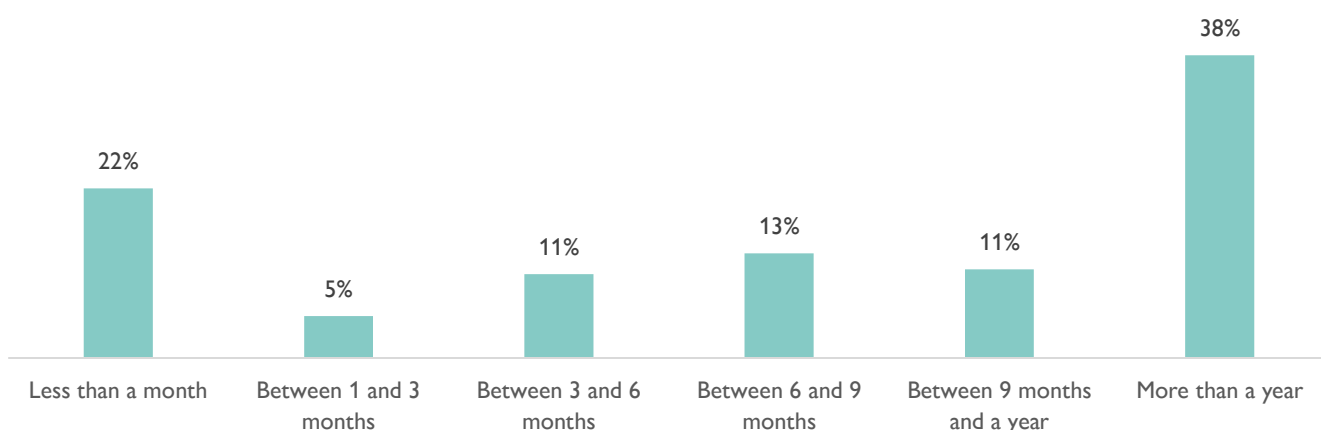
As more than a year has passed since the start of conflict, the April-June report 2023 (Q2) shows data elapsed on a longer period of time compared to the [January-March 2023 report \(Q1\)](#). The number of displacement days varies from over a year to less than a month, with an average of 256 days spent outside of Ukraine, with over a month and a half more compared to quarter 1 (Q1).

Most surveyed UA nationals were displaced more than a year ago (38%), February (6%) and March 2022 (24%) registering the most UA national entrances in the country

(30%), close to the start of the war.

Another 11 per cent of the respondents have stayed in Romania for 9 months to a year until they were surveyed, followed by 13 per cent of the UA nationals that have spent between 6 and 9 months in displacement without being surveyed. The other respondents have spent between 3 and 6 months since displacement until they were surveyed (11%), and between 1 and 3 months (5%). An important 22 per cent of UA nationals have spent less than a month in Romania, as a result of the conflict.

Figure 4: Approximate time spent in displacement until date of interview (%)



2. Intentions

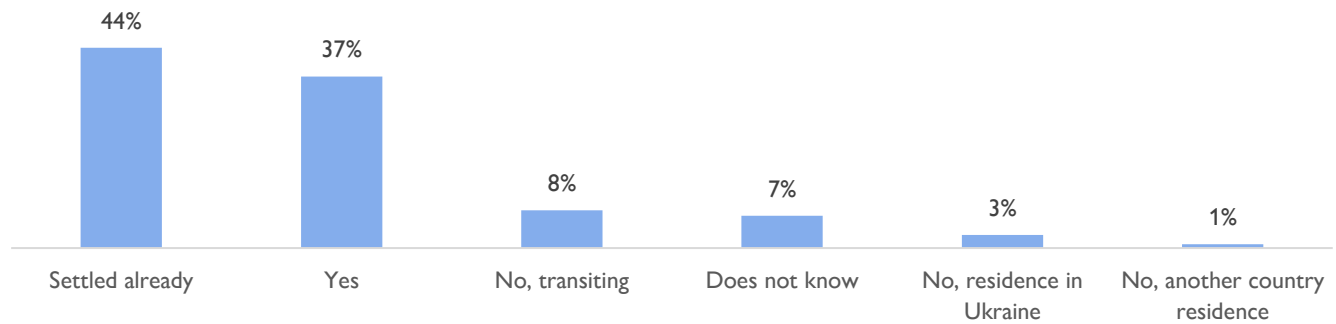
Intentions to move elsewhere or stay in current location

Out of the total 1333 respondents, 44 per cent stated that have already settled in Romania, while 37 per cent mentioned that they want to do so in the near future. Only eight per cent were in transit and seven per cent have not decided yet.

Out of those that stated that they plan to settle, but have not settled yet, it is important to mention that they have already spent a few months (between 1 and 3) in the

country of destination to assess the ease and level of integration. Those answering that they do not know if they want to settle or not have just arrived in the country. Another three per cent stated that they do not plan to settle, as they have UA residency, while another one per cent do not want to settle because they have residency in another country.

Figure 5: Intentions to move elsewhere or stay in current location (%)(N = 1333)

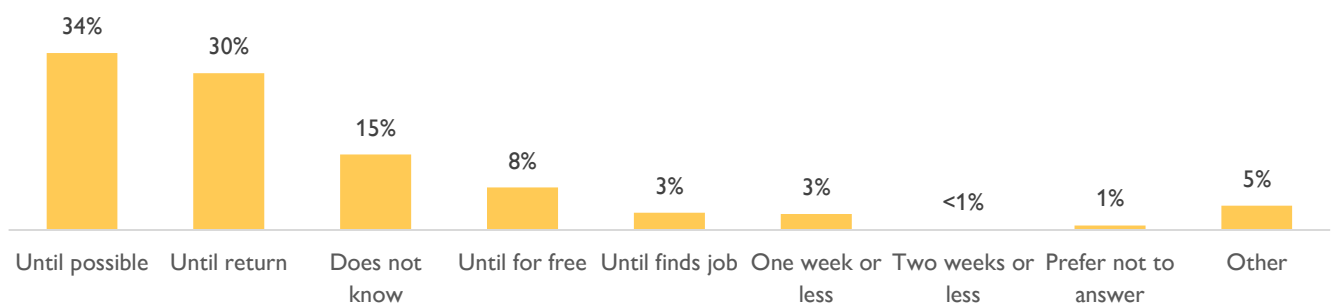


Intended length of stay in current location

For those intending to stay in their current location, figure six illustrates the time they plan to spend there. Most respondents (34%) stated that they plan to stay in their current location for as long as possible, while 30 per cent stated that they want to remain in the same place until their return home. Fifteen per cent of the surveyed Ukrainian citizens stated that they do not know until when they will

reside in the current location. As some UA nationals are relying on a housing program, they stated that they will remain in the same place until it is supported by the local officials (8%). Almost 13 per cent stated various periods of time for staying in the current location, from less than a week for those in transit (3%), until they find a job (3%) or other various periods of time (5%).

Figure 6: Intended length of stay in current location (%)(N = 1333)



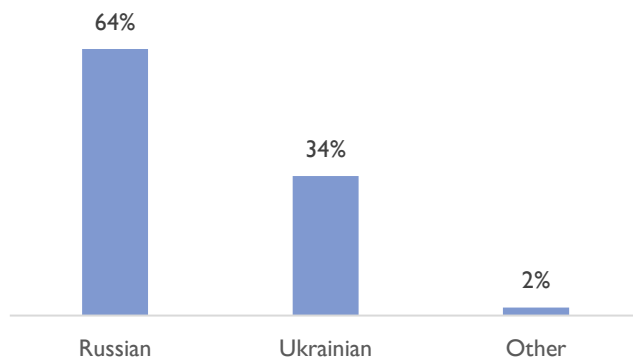
3. Education and Employment: Profile and Prospects

Main language spoken

About 64 cent of the surveyed UA nationals chose Russian as the main language spoken at home, followed by 34 per cent that have chosen Ukrainian as their main language spoken in the house.

A remaining of two per cent spoke other languages such as Romanian, Bulgarian, Rroma, English, Gagauz or French.

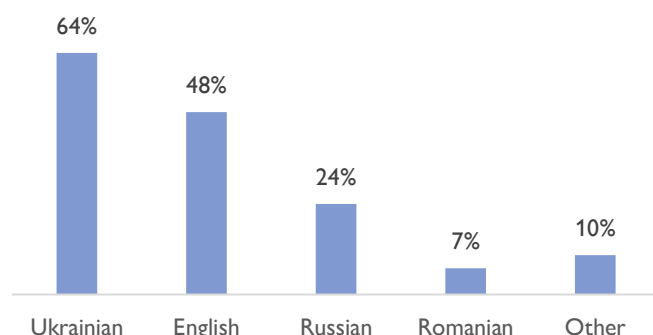
Figure 7: Main language spoken (%)



Other spoken languages

The main additional language spoken at home is Ukrainian, with 64 per cent of the respondents declaring it as a second language, while 48 per cent of the UA national have stated that their other language used is English. Other second languages spoken include Russian, with 24 per cent of the respondents speaking it, Romanian, used as a second language by seven per cent of the interviewees. Other second languages spoken (10%) include German, Bulgarian, French, Polish Spanish, Turkish Baltic Languages, and Hungarian.

Figure 8: Other spoken languages (%) (more than one answer possible)



Level of fluency

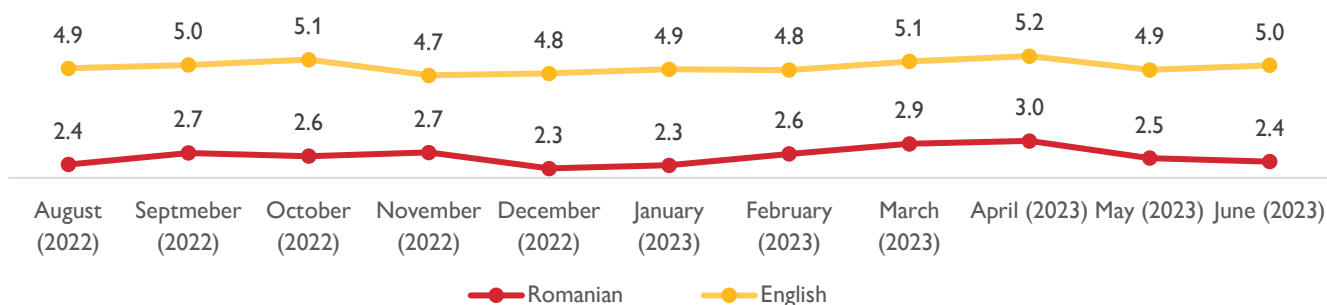
As seen in Figure 8 regarding the second language, less than half of the incoming UA nationals speak English, while only seven per cent speak Romanian.

As for the level of confidence for Romanian and English,

Figure 9 shows a low level of Romanian and an average level for English.

Over time, the level of confidence for both English and Romanian have remained constant.

Figure 9: Romanian and English evolution of confidence levels – longitudinal analysis (%)

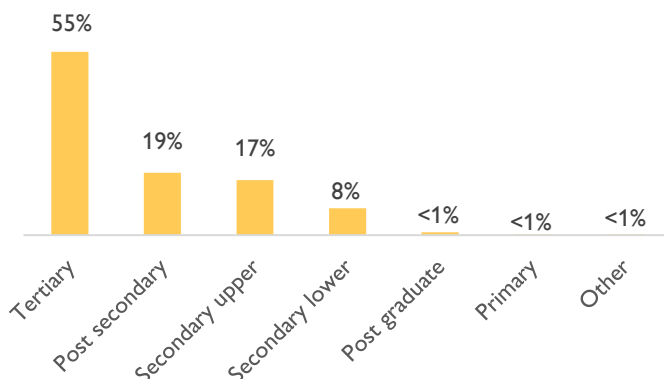


Education level

The levels of education of the surveyed UA nationals vary, covering all levels, from primary (less than 1%), secondary (25%) with secondary lower (8%), secondary upper (17%) and post-secondary (19%). Over 55 per cent of the surveyed UA nationals have tertiary education, while less than one per cent has post graduate education.

Because the men are underrepresented, a gender comparison by education is not considered feasible.

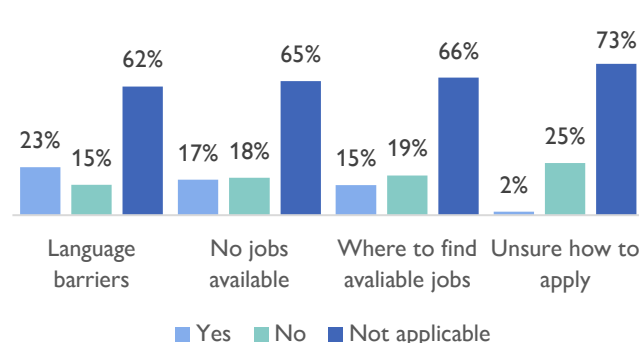
Figure 10: Education level (%)



Employment statements

Figure 11 shows the main challenges faced by UA citizens in the process of finding employment, the language barrier being the primary challenge faced by 23 per cent of the respondents (35% less compared to Q1). Other important challenges that made the employment process difficult were the lack of available jobs (17%) or the lack of knowledge of where to find available jobs (14%).

Figure 11: Employment statements (%)



Employment status

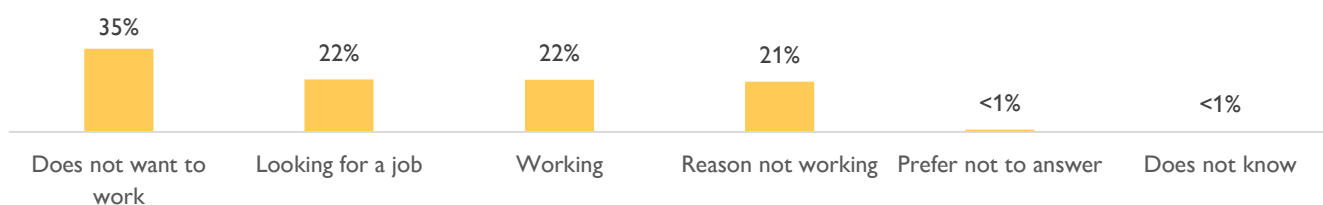
The labour market participation intention of the UA nationals surveyed shows that over two per cent of the respondents are already working (new job in Romania or online work), while one per cent of them do not know or prefer not to answer this question. Over 35 per cent of the respondents stated that they do not want to work, out of which 13 per cent did not mention the reason, and 22 per cent because they are unable to work due to childcare. Out of those that do not want to work, and that answered the question regarding their financial situation, 49 per cent stated that are receiving financial support from family, 24 per cent rely on support from NGO's, 22 per cent rely on their savings, and three per cent rely on support from local authorities.

According to the data, almost 23 per cent of the Ukrainians interviewed are looking for a job and 22 per cent were already working.

When asked about the ease with which the UA national have been able to navigate the labour market, out of the respondents that answered this question (N = 571), 68 per cent declared that the situation did not apply to them, while 19 per cent described the process as difficult.

Compared to the data from Q1, Q2 shows a decrease in the share of those people who do not want to work (from 45% in Q1 to 35% in Q2). In Quarter 2 the number of UA citizens being registered as retired or as student increased from three per cent to 21 per cent.

Figure 12: Employment status (%)



4. Registration and Inclusion services

Consular services

The ease with which Ukrainian citizens have access to consular and protections services, as well as primary services such as schooling for their children or healthcare shows a high degree of inclusion in a society. Out of the UA nationals who answered questions regarding the consular services (N = 582), 62 per cent stated that they know how to contact their consular representative, demonstrating a four-percentage increase since Q1. On the other hand, only 33 per cent actually needed to contact the consulate, indicating a 10-percentage increase compared to Q1.

Figure 13: Knows how to contact a consular representative (%) (N = 582)

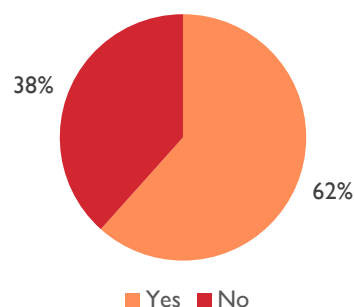
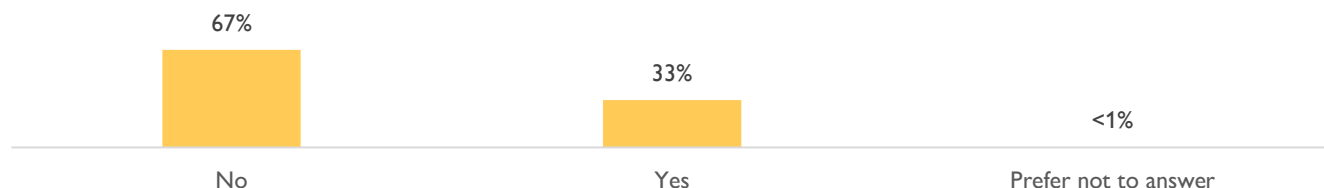


Figure 14: Contacted consular representatives (%) (N = 582)



Access to finances

Compared to Q1, when over 90 per cent of the surveyed respondents stated that they were able to withdraw money from their bank account, Q2 shows a six per cent increase in the number of UA citizens able to access their finances. When asked if they have a bank account at a local bank, 73 per cent indicated that they do have one, while 27 per cent declared that they do not have a local bank account.

Out of those that do not have a local bank account, 63 per cent indicated that there is no need for a local account, while 12 per cent stated that they plan to open one. Another eleven per cent are not opening one because they plan to leave, while nine per cent are not eligible. A small percentage (4%) have not opened a bank account because they do not know how to.

Figure 15: Able to withdraw money (%) (N = 582)

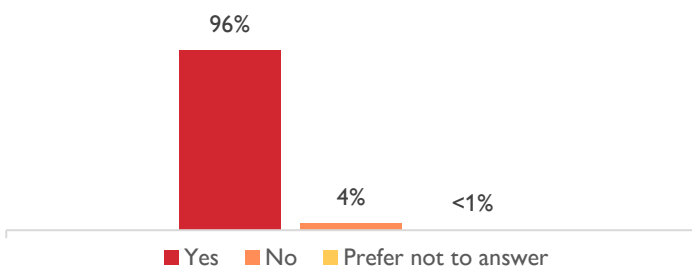
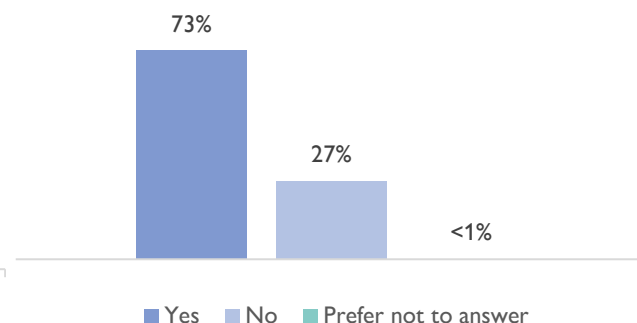


Figure 16: Has personal bank account (%) (N = 582)

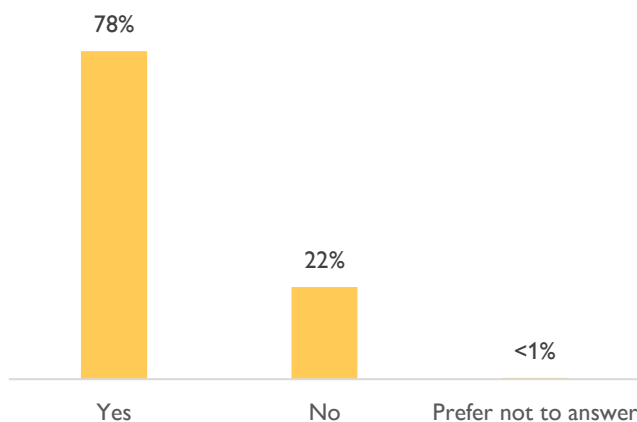


EU temporary protection applications

Out of all the UA nationals that answered the question assessing their current migration status (N = 582), 96 per cent stated that they have Temporary Protection status (with 61 per cent more compared to Q1). Up to four per cent of the respondents who answered this question have either irregular status, refugee status, student or work visa or short-term entry visa.

An assessment of their intention to apply for receiving EU temporary protection, shows that 78 per cent (eight per cent less than in Q1) of the UA citizens intend to do that, as shown in figure 17. Out of those who do not intend to apply for EU temporary protection status (22%), 49 per cent plan to leave soon and 39 per cent plan to do so in the near future. The remaining 12 per cent were denied, are not eligible or do not know how to apply.

Figure 17: Applied for EU temporary protection (%)



Intention to remain in current country and application for the EU temporary protection status

According to the collected data, 98 per cent of those that settled and 73 per cent of those that plan to settle applied for EU temporary protection. An important share are the UA nationals who are yet to decide if they plan to settle in Romania or leave to another country. Seventy-nine per cent of the respondents in this situation already applied for EU temporary protection status.

According to additional data collected from enumerators, Ukrainian citizens that do not know if they want to settle in the country have just arrived and are planning to stay for a little while to see if they manage to become part of the community: find a job, find accommodation, find schooling for children, establish a social circle of friends, among others.

Figure 18: Intention to remain (%)

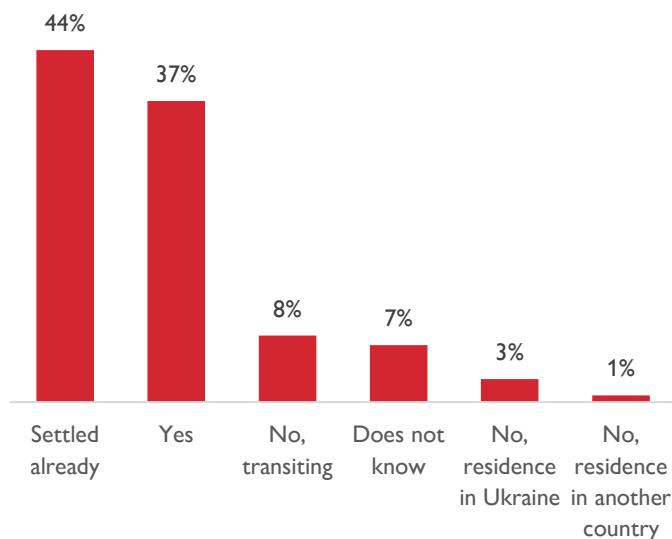
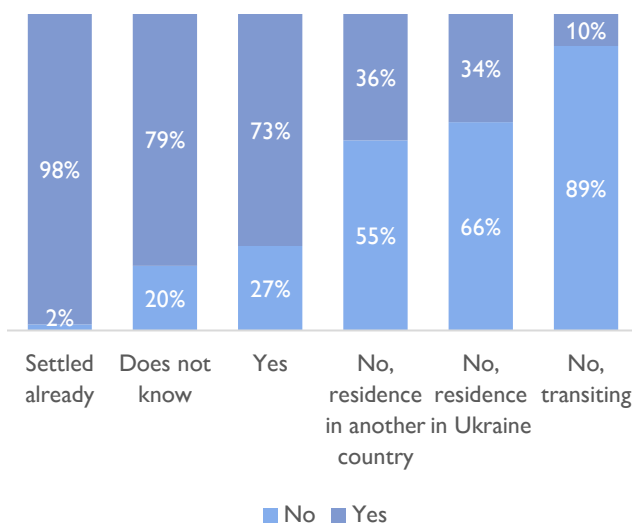


Figure 19: Intention to remain and EU temporary protection status (%)

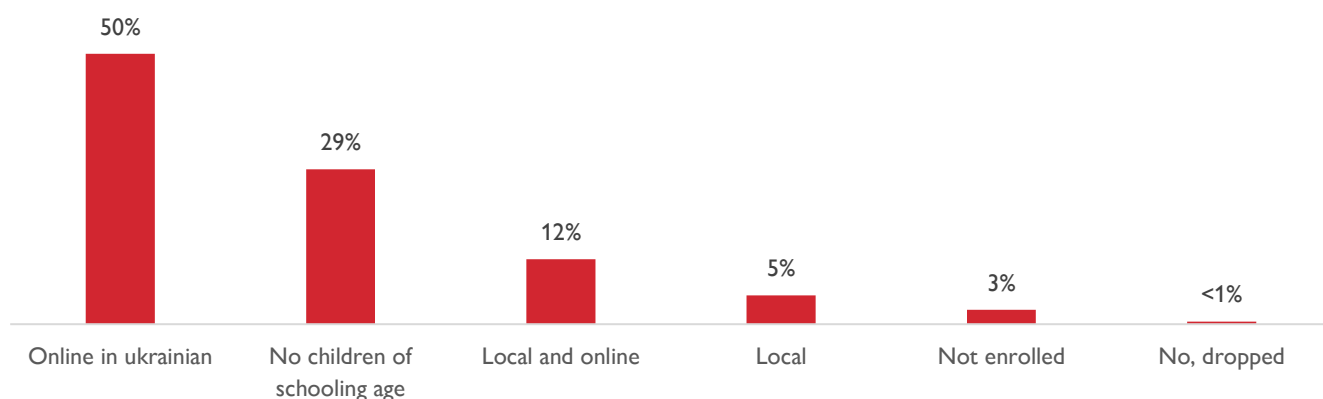


School enrolment

The respondents who arrived accompanied by children and settled in Romania have gone through the process of enrolling them into school programs. Figure 20 shows that 50 per cent of the children of schooling age are enrolled in a school that hold classes online, in Ukrainian. Twenty-nine per cent of those that have answered this question do not have children of school age. Around 12 per cent of the

Ukrainian children attend both online and local classes, and up to five per cent attend a local school. Three per cent of the UA children are not enrolled in a schooling program for various reasons such as being in transit, not knowing the steps necessary for the enrolment process or other, non-specified situations. Most children enrolled in an education program are attending classes online and in Ukrainian.

Figure 20: Has enrolled children in an education facility (%) (N = 412)

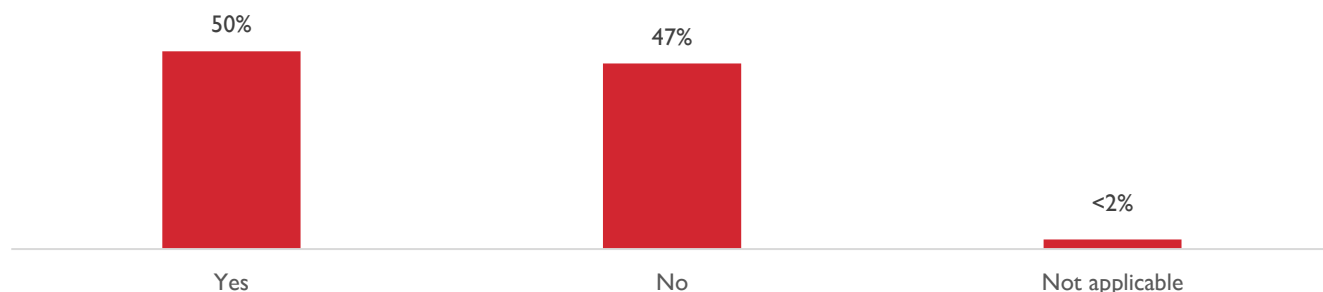


Health services

Figure 21 shows the percentage of Ukrainian citizens that have accessed health services since their arrival in Romania. As a result, a little over 50 per cent of the respondents have accessed, over the last months, healthcare services, with 10 per cent less compared to quarter 1. When it comes to the ease of access of healthcare or medical services, further

analysis shows that such services proved straightforward to access. According to the data collected, access to healthcare and medical services is obtained easily. Sixty-one per cent (with a 10-percentage decrease compared to Q1) of respondents considered access to medical services or prescriptions as easy.

Figure 21: Healthcare registration (%) (N= 572)



5. Immediate Needs and Assistance Received

Immediate needs in country of destination

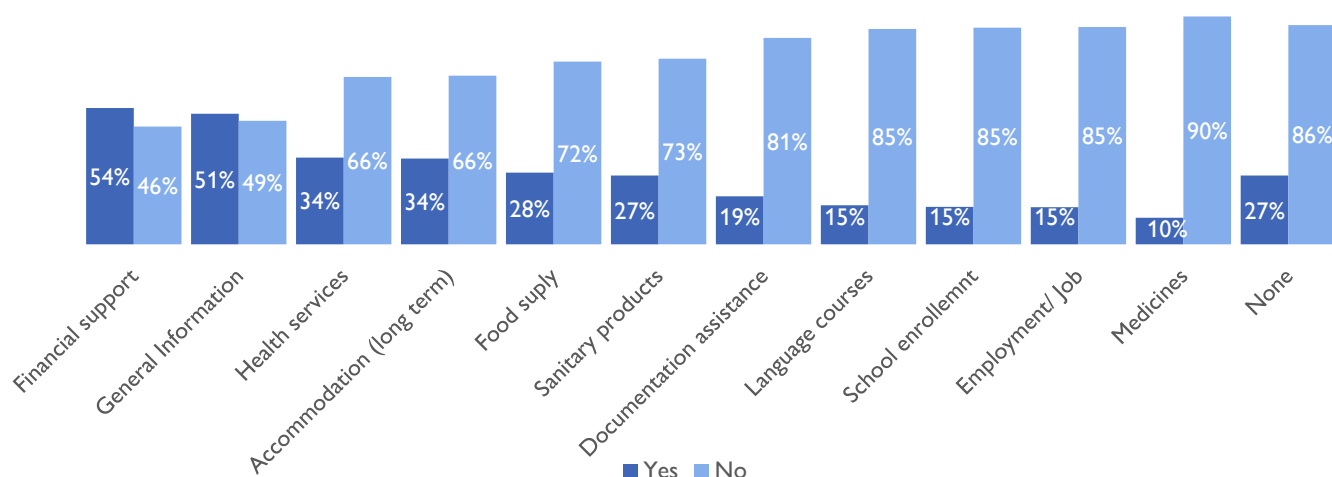
The 'Needs, Intentions, and Integration challenges' survey explores the inclusion challenges and needs experienced by the Ukrainian nationals, as they evaluate them. This report represents a three months analysis of the situation of Ukrainian citizens in Romania. Figure 22 shows the main needs declared by the surveyed UA nationals, and includes basic needs such as financial support, food supply, sanitary supplies, health services, medicine or clothing items. Other needs reported focused on language classes, general information or documentation assistance.

The top five needs mentioned by most respondents were financial support (54% in Q2, compared to 57% in Q1), general information (51%), health services (34% in Q2

compared to 50% in Q1), long term accommodation (34%) and food supplies (28 per cent in Q2 compared to 36 per cent in Q1). Compared to the needs reported in Q1, most of them remained somewhat similar, but Q2 reports an increased in long term accommodation, from 12 per cent in Q1 to 34 per cent in Q2. This is a result of the change in the accommodation aid policy as in Romania.

A longitudinal analysis of the main needs shows that since the beginning of the data collection (March 22), some of the main reported needs have changed, the need of language classes and of employment falling from the top five needs reported. For more information on the Q1 report, please go to the following [link](#).

Figure 22: Main needs in country of destination (%)



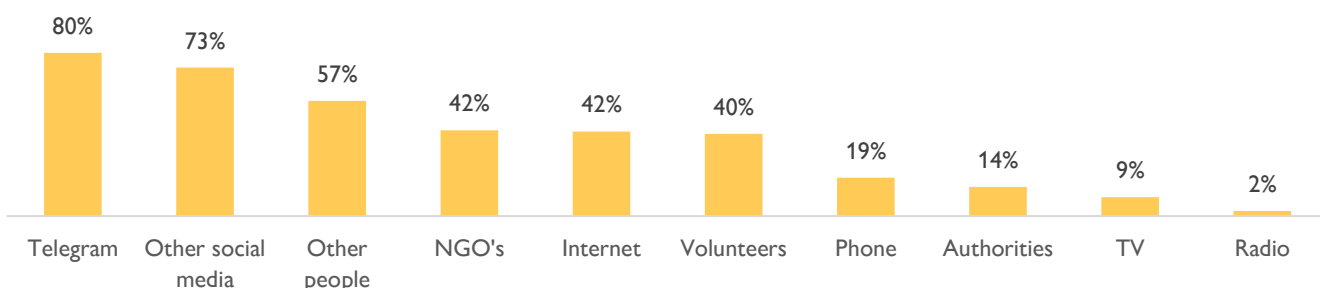
Areas where more information for assistance is needed

Table 1 shows what are the main types of assistance where information is still needed. For a better management and distribution of this information, the channels most common among UA nationals should be used. Figure 23 shows that Telegram (80%) and other social media platforms (73%) are the top information sources used. Compared to Q1 when the Internet was one of the top three main sources of information, in Q2 it was replaced by other people (57%) and NGO's (42%). The least used sources of information are radio (2%), TV (9%), and local authorities (14%).

Table 1: Information on assistance needed

Information type	Percentage
General information	15%
Financial support	14%
Accommodation (long term)	11%
Health services	9%
Sanitary products	7%

Figure 23: Main information channels used (%) (N = 1345)

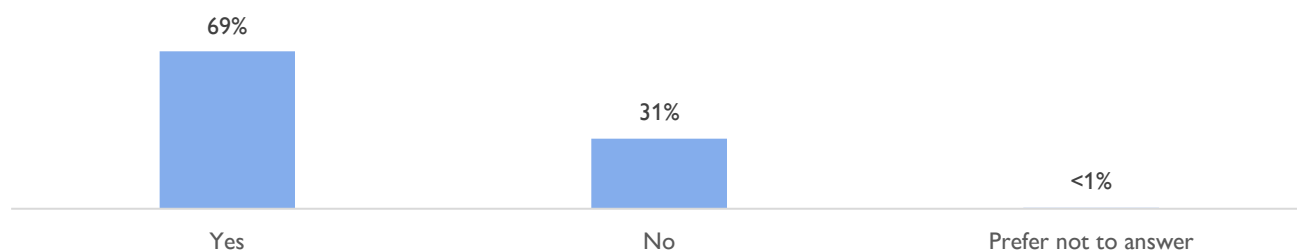


Assistance received

Starting February, this year, the survey included questions regarding the rate of assistance received by the Ukrainian citizens. Out of all the data collected (N = 1333), 69 per cent of the respondents have declared that they have received assistance. The types of assistance received

includes food supplies (54%), accommodation (48%), sanitary products (47%) and financial support (42%). Other forms of assistance provided included vouchers, transport, language courses, clothes and toys. This shows that the main survival needs of the Ukrainian nationals are being met.

Figure 24: Assistance received (%)

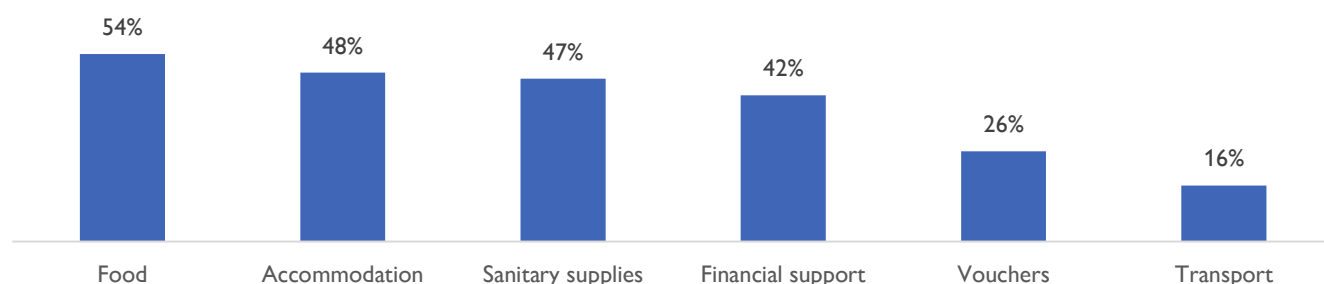


Types of assistance received

Although there are needs that are not met and challenges that require considerations, the Ukrainians interviewed by DTM enumerators had received different kind of assistance such as accommodation, financial support, access to social

benefits, and good connections with the local population. Other forms of assistance include employment, toys for those with children, language classes, psychological counselling, free transport, translators and information.

Figure 25: Types of assistance received (%)



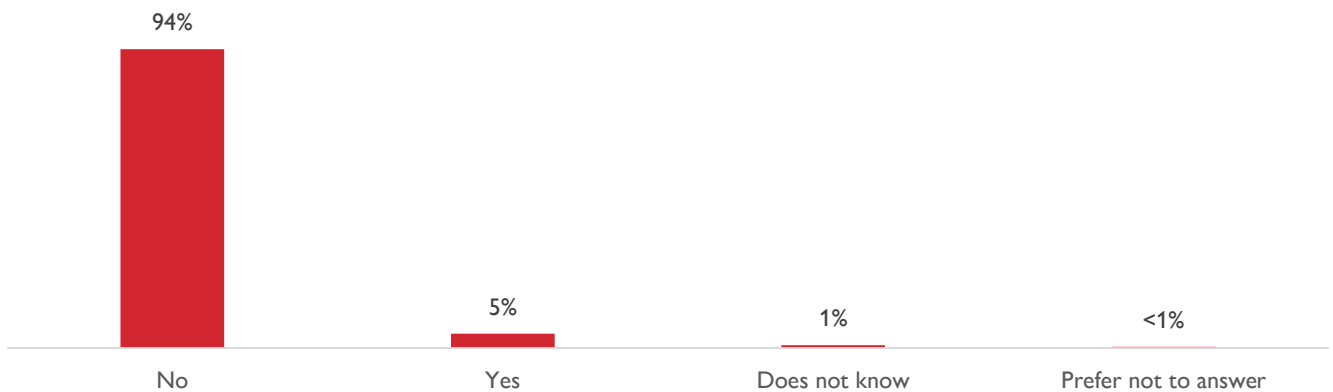
6. Challenges in Country of Displacement

Experienced discrimination

Data on Figure 26 shows the reported discriminatory occurrences experienced by the Ukrainian nationals. As shows, 94 per cent of the surveyed respondents did not declare any form of discrimination or harassment. another five per cent surveyed declared verbal harassment,

discrimination due to nationality or inappropriate behaviour. According to reports from the field enumerators, many UA national returning to Ukraine either for a short visit or for long term, are grateful to the support offered by local authorities and national or international NGOs.

Figure 26: Has experienced discrimination (%)

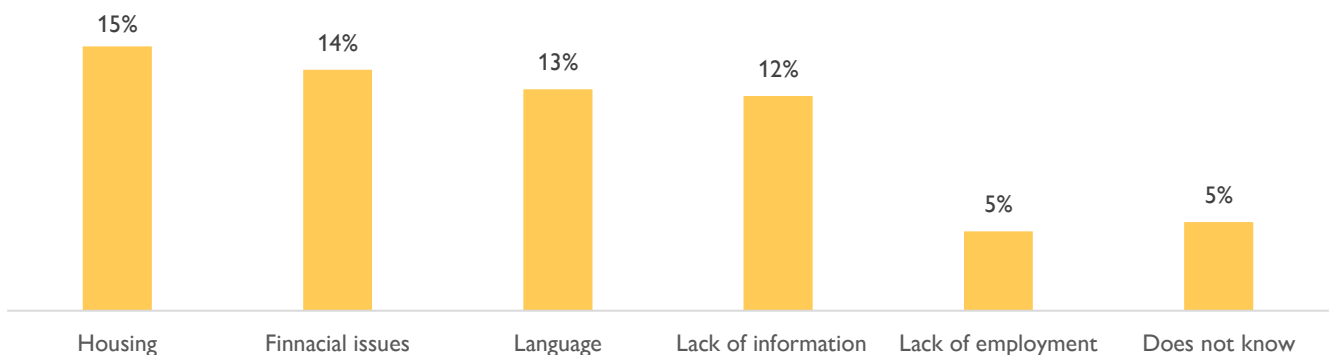


Inclusion challenges

Fifteen per cent of the respondents have indicated the lack of housing as an inclusion challenge (a challenge not registered in the Q1 report). Other inclusion challenges included financial issues, reported by 12 per cent of the respondents, language, indicated by 13 per cent of the surveyed UA nationals, or the lack of information, reported

by twelve per cent of the surveyed UA citizens. Other, less common inclusion challenges, were employment (5%), lack of information regarding employment (3%), school access (3%), security concerns (2%), access to social services (1%) or discriminatory behaviour (1%), documentation issues (1%).

Figure 27: Main inclusion challenges (%)



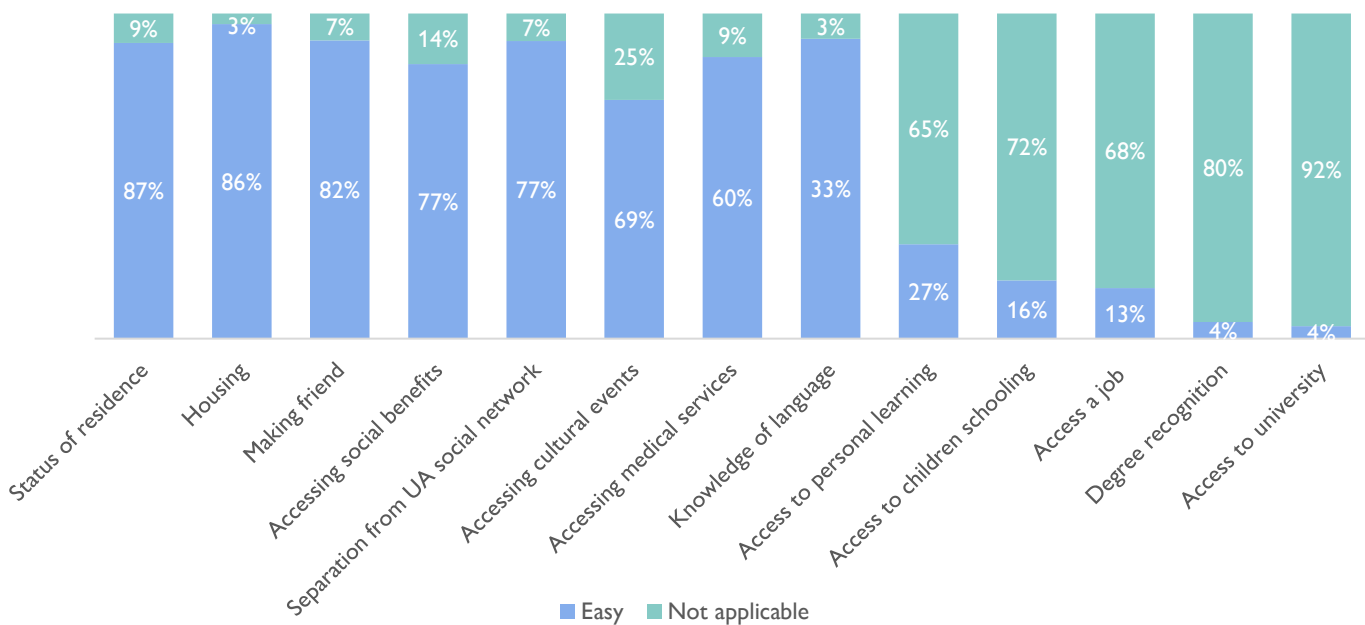
Access to services and benefits

The benefits made available by local authorities and NGOs are designed to ease the inclusion process of Ukrainian nationals and to meet their needs. As shown in the data presented in Figure 25, Romania offers a wide range of benefits and assistance such as accommodation, food, financial support, sanitary supplies, etc.

According to the data in Figure 22, main needs such as housing, status as residence, social benefits, medical services and cultural events are reported as easy to access.

Most services are considered easy to access, even if the people needing them are fewer than the average, such as children education, where 72 per cent of the interviewed Ukrainian citizens do not need children education facilities, access to universities or degree recognition. Another reason for which access to such services is not considered relevant by the respondents deals with their intentions to stay in Romania on short term.

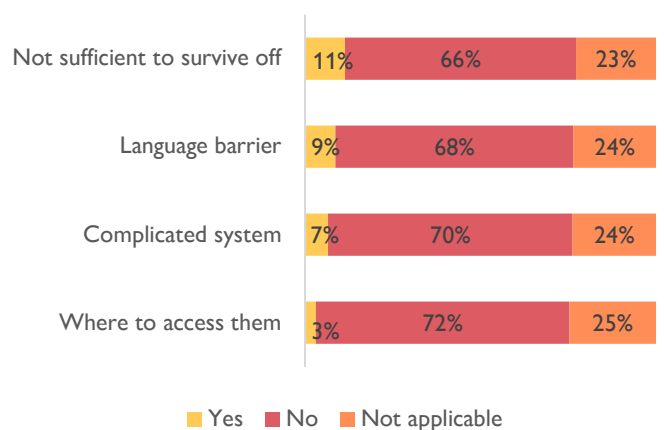
Figure 28: Ease of access to services and benefits(%)



Challenges accessing benefits

Figure 29 presents the main challenges in accessing services and basic benefits. Eleven per cent considered that the benefits provided did not fully cover their existing needs, while nine per cent consider language as a barrier in accessing basic needs, while 68 per cent did not consider it a barrier. Another seven per cent of the surveyed respondents considered that the system of accessing benefits is complicated to navigate. A lack of knowledge regarding the information related to access to benefits was experienced by three per cent of the surveyed UA nationals. Compared to Q 1, Q2 shows a smaller share of respondents reporting challenges in accessing benefits.

Figure 29: Main challenges in accessing benefits (%)



7. Current Group Composition

Travel mode

Out of all the UA nationals that have entered Romania in the last quarter, 83 per cent of them were traveling in a group, while 17 per cent of them came alone. Out of those travelling as a group (N = 1107), 80 per cent were accompanied by family members, 16 per cent of them were accompanied by relatives, two per cent by neighbours. Another two per cent of the respondents came accompanied by colleagues or preferred not to say.

Figure 30: Travel mode (%)

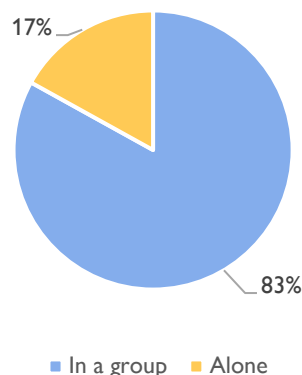
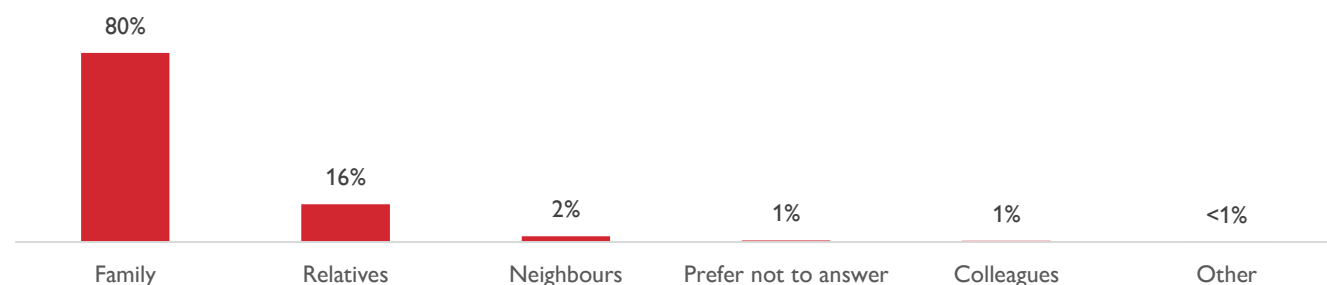


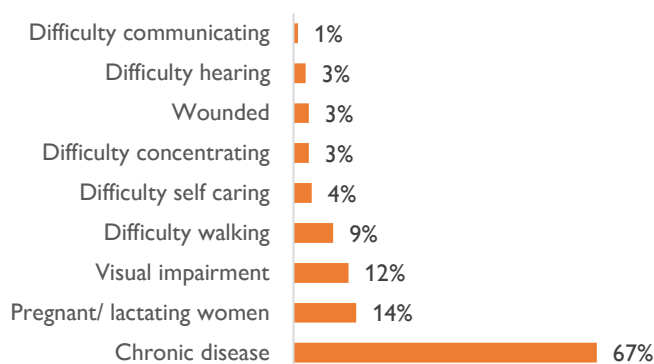
Figure 31: Group composition (%) (N = 1107)* (more than one answer possible)



Travelling with persons with health conditions and disabilities

When asked about the health status on the group, 76 per cent stated that they did not have a person with health problems in their group. Another 22 per cent answered that they are accompanying at least one person with health conditions or disabilities. The most common health conditions involved chronic diseases (67%), visual impairment (12%), movement difficulties (9%) or self-caring difficulties (3%).

Figure 32: Health conditions (%) (N = 294)



Conclusions

Given that the accommodation policies have changed, so has the need for accommodation, a greater percentage of UA nationals reporting it compared to quarter 1. Aside from that, the overall assessment of their experience in Romania is positive and reports regarding perceived discrimination are almost absent. However, there are still challenges to overcome and the linguistic barrier is one of the main. By impeding the non-mediated communication with the local population, it restricts the access of the UA nationals to labour market, education, or social benefits. Therefore, further efforts should focus on overcoming it.

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 April and June 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. in account for this report.

The methodology for collecting the data was the same methodology used for the data collection process for the quarter 1 report, when the data collection span between January and March 2023. For the Quarter 1 report, please click on the following [link](#).

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 that 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.

Whilst the geographic spread of enumerators deployed captures most of the key arrival, transit and destination points in Romania, the sampling framework needs to be updated based on the continually improving baseline information before results can be deemed representative.

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.

