

URBAN INCLUSION SURVEY

Data collected on 1 August – 20 October 2022



**6 Counties**  
**8 Municipalities**  
**16 Enumerators**

**2,095 Interviews**

**77% female** **23% male**

Starting on 24 February 2022, the war in Ukraine triggered an unprecedented humanitarian crisis and generated large scale displacement both within Ukraine and to the neighbouring countries. As of 28 October 2022, almost 3.4 million persons were internally displaced in Ukraine,<sup>1</sup> and starting from 13 November 2022, over 90 thousands individual refugees from Ukraine were recorded in Romania.<sup>2</sup>

This report is based on 2,095 valid surveys collected by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) in Romania with adult refugees from Ukraine between 1 August and 20 October 2022.

Please note that this is not yet a representative sample and results should be taken as indicative.

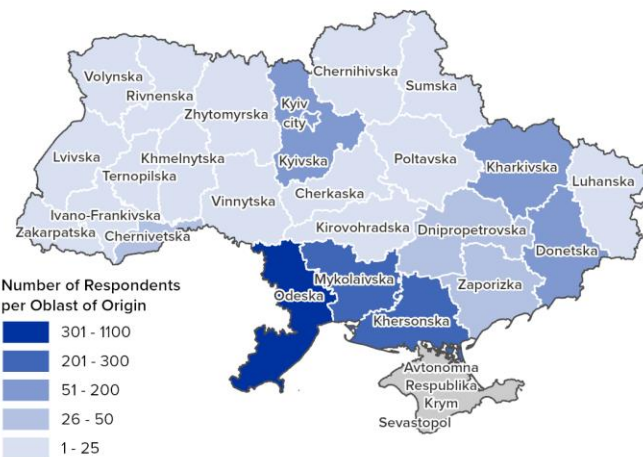
<sup>1</sup>IOM's Ukraine — *Displacement Report - Area Baseline Report (Raion level)* — Round 15 (17-28 October 2022)

<sup>2</sup>UNHCR Individual refugees from Ukraine recorded in Romania: *Ukraine Refugee Situation (unhcr.org)*

**SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE**

The report is based on 2,095 interviews conducted by IOM Romania between 1 August and 20 October mainly at collective centres, transit centres, bus stations, train stations, accommodation spaces, and other public places (schools, parks, malls, etc.), with Ukrainian citizens living in Romania. Counties where interviews have taken place included Bucharest, Constanța, Tulcea, Iași, Galați, and Suceava. The main five origin oblasts were Odeska (52%), Mykolaivska (11%), Khersonska (10%), Kharkivska (5%), and Kyivska oblast (4%)

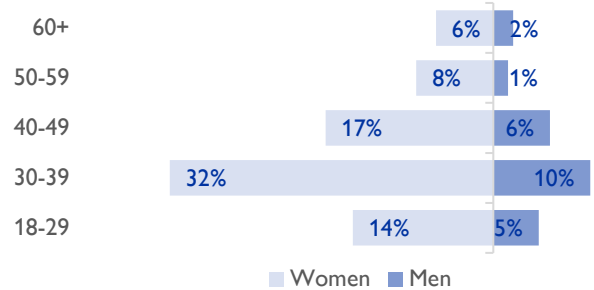
**Fig. 1 Region of origin of respondents**



*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.*

Women represented 77 per cent of responses. Thirty-two per cent of all respondents were women aged 30-39 years. The largest group of male respondents were aged 30-39 (10%).

**Fig. 2 Gender and age disaggregation of respondents (%)**



More than half of the respondents had higher education (65%), followed by 23 per cent who had technical and vocational training, whilst one per cent said they had primary education and 11 per cent secondary education.

**Tab. 1 Education level of respondents (%)**

Primary education	1%
Secondary education	11%
Technical and vocational training	23%
Higher education	65%

Of the total number of respondents, 88 per cent said they were travelling in a group (with family, friends, relatives, or acquaintances). Sixty-five per cent reported at least one child in the group, whilst 18 per cent stated they were travelling with at least one elderly person.

**65%** reported at least 1 child in the group

**18%** travelling with at least 1 elderly person (60+ years)

**88%** travelling in a group  
**12%** travelling alone

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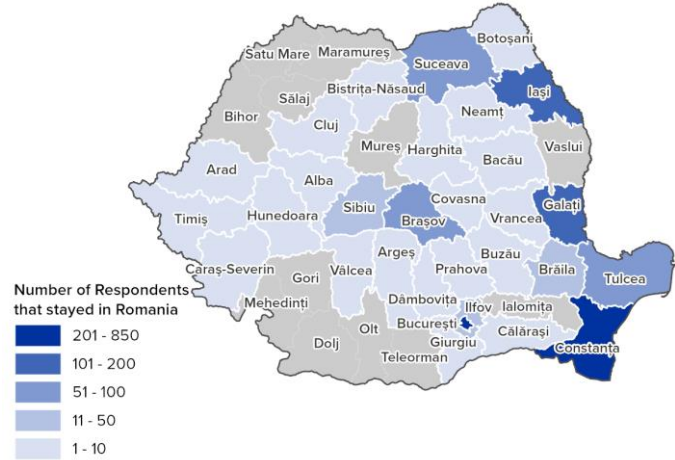
SOCIETAL INCLUSION

As the Urban Inclusion Survey was designed with the objective of understanding Ukrainian nationals' social inclusion profile, challenges, and needs, several survey questions targeted the main activities (recreational and performed routinely), errands, and main actions performed by Ukrainian citizens since their arrival in Romania.

The main counties in which respondents reported staying included Constanta (39%), Bucharest (29%), Galati (8%), and Iasi (8%). Less mentioned counties were Suceava (3%), Brasov (3%), Tulcea (3%), and others, such as Sibiu, Ilfov, or Braila (Figure 3).

The most performed activities amongst respondents were: using public transportation (74%), going shopping for clothes (62%), going to a local religious centre (46%), going to eat at a restaurant (39%), and getting a haircut (36%). Twenty-four per cent of the respondents said they have pursued individual educational activities. The least performed activities among the interviewed group were joining the local volunteer/civic society group (18%), attending socio-cultural activities (17%), going to the movies (9%), and performing sport activities (7%).

Fig. 3 Reported county of stay



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Fig. 4 Since you arrived in Romania, which of the following activities have you done? (%)

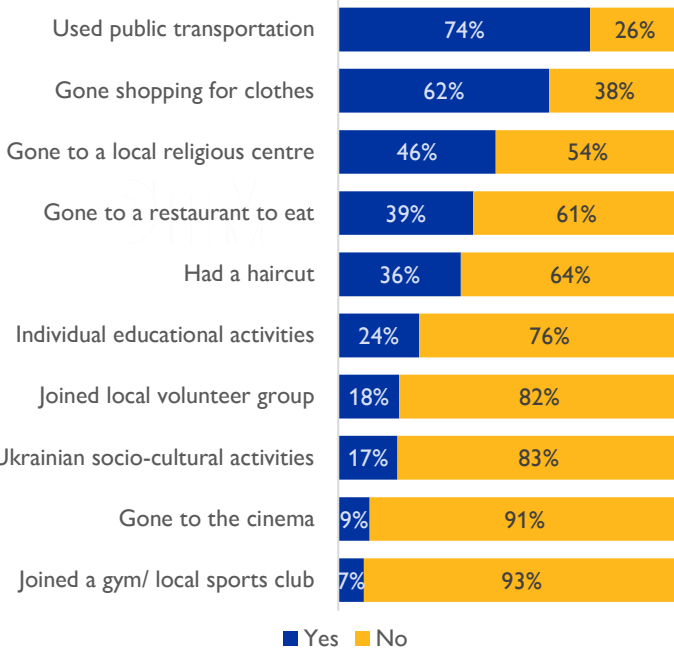


Figure 5 shows that 96 per cent of the respondents reported that they do their own shopping regularly (i.e., at least once per week) and 93 per cent that they cook their own food. The majority of the respondents also see friends in person (77%). However, less than 40 per cent go to work (38%) and take their children to school (30%).

Of the performed actions since arrival described in Figure 6, the most commonly selected option was that of applying for welfare benefits (67%). Secondly reported, respondents said they sought to register with the local health centre (44%). Thirty-four per cent mentioned they applied for a job and 29 per cent that they have taken Romanian language classes.

Fig. 5 Regular errands and activities (%)

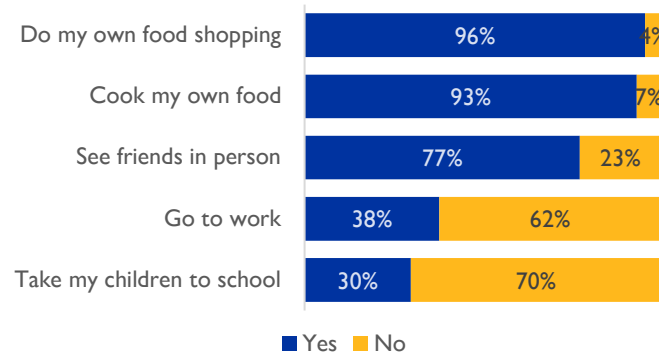
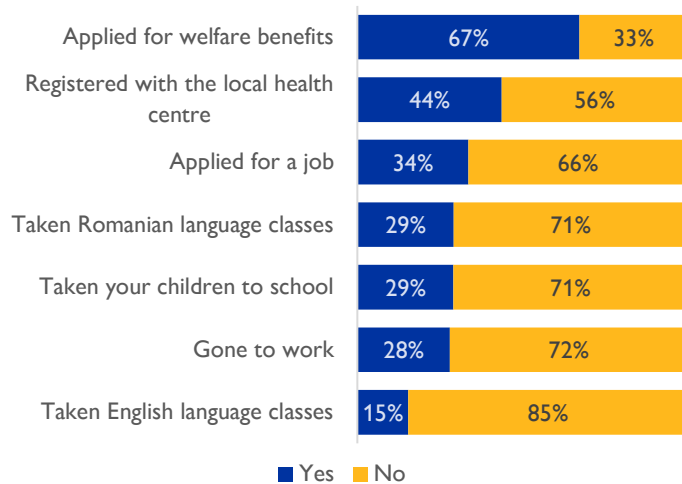


Fig. 6 Actions performed since arrival in Romania (%)



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NEEDS BASED INCLUSION

The analysis of the inclusion-related aspects revealed specific challenges and needs raised by the respondents. More specifically, in addition to challenges in accessing benefits, many respondents were concerned that the benefits would not be sufficient to survive off (66%). Moreover, when it comes to challenges to accessing humanitarian aid, language barrier (66%), the laborious system (65%), and not knowing how to access these benefits (55%) were among the most voiced obstacles (Figure 7).

Fig. 7 Are you experiencing any of the following challenges when accessing benefits? (%)

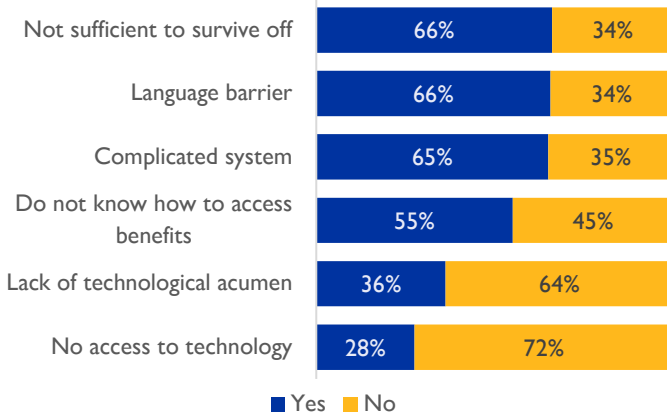


Figure 8 shows the main information sources indicated by interviewees. Messaging apps (e.g., Telegram or WhatsApp) and word of mouth were the most popular information sources (78% and 73%, respectively). The social media platform Facebook was also among the most cited sources of information (56%). Respondents reported they relied less on official Ukrainian and Romanian government websites (28%) in comparison to other information options.

Fig. 8 Main information sources (%)

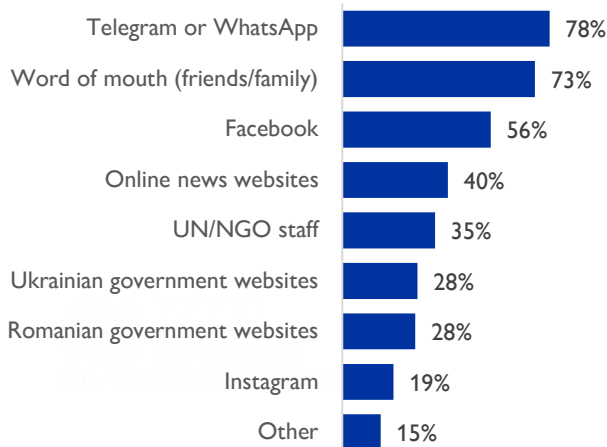
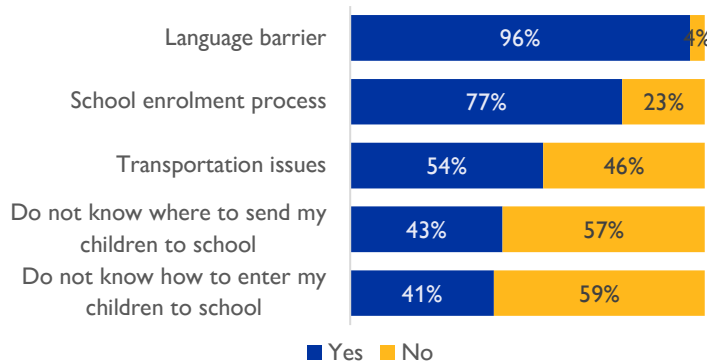


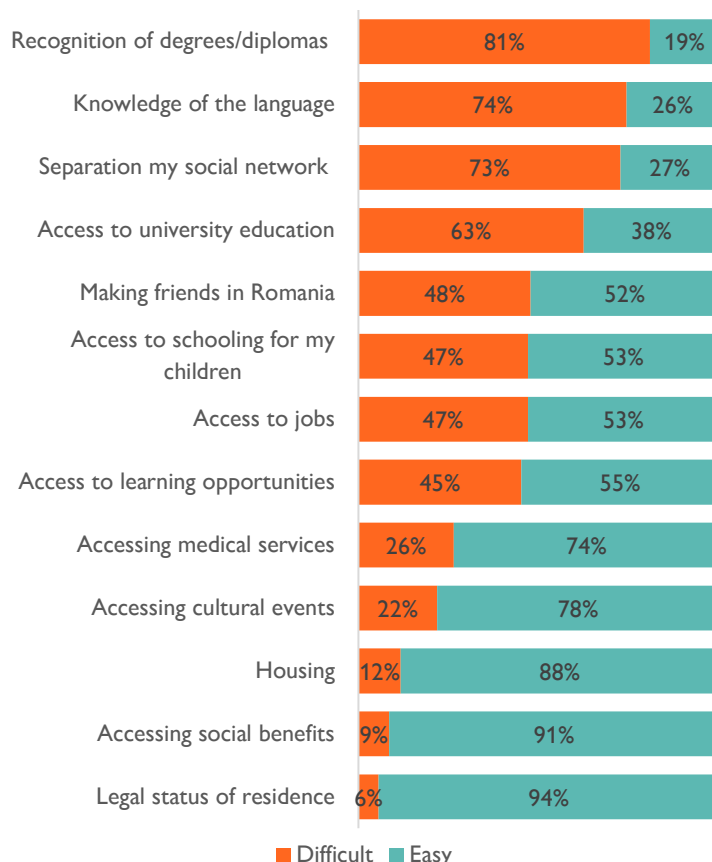
Figure 9 shows that the access to children's education services is especially challenging for Ukrainian nationals because of the language barrier – 96% have indicated this as an obstacle. Other reported challenges are connected to the school enrolment process (77%), transportation issues (54%), or respondents not knowing where to send children to school (43%) or how to enter them to school (41%).

Fig. 9 Are you experiencing any of the following challenges in accessing education for your children? (%)



The least straightforward actions reported by respondents (Figure 10) include the difficulty of having degrees/diplomas recognised (81%), learning and speaking in Romanian (74%), separation from one's social network in Ukraine (73%), access to university education (63%), making friends in Romania (48%), access to schooling and access to jobs (47%), as well as access to personal development and learning opportunities (45%). Other difficulties, less voiced, include accessing medical services (26%), or accessing cultural events and programmes (22%). Least mentioned challenges were finding housing (12%), accessing social benefits (9%) and acquiring legal status of residence (6%).

Fig. 10 Can you please tell us how straightforward the following have been during your stay in Romania? (%)



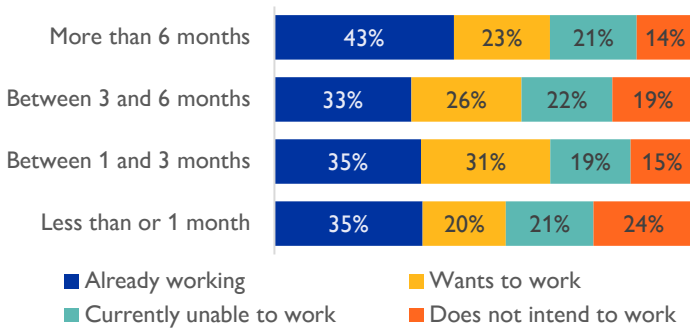
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LABOUR

Figure 11 presents respondents' employment status and the intention to work, according to their duration of stay in Romania. The majority of the respondents who said they were already working (43%) have been in Romania for more than six months. Thirty-one per cent, the larger part of those who want to work, reported staying in Romania between one and three months. Those who said they are currently unable to work manifest the least variation between durations of stay (from 19% to 22%). Amongst those currently unable to work, there are persons taking care of children, on maternity leave, retired, disabled, or who are taking care of a sick or disabled relative. The results suggest that staying for a longer period of time increases the likelihood of wanting to work and/or finding a job.

Fig. 11 Duration of stay and employment status/ intention to work in Romania (%)



Among the difficulties in finding jobs were: the language barrier (89%), lack of knowledge of where to find jobs (70%), the lack of available and/or appropriate jobs (61%), or being unsure of how to apply (51%) (Figure 12).

Fig. 12 Difficulties in finding jobs (%)

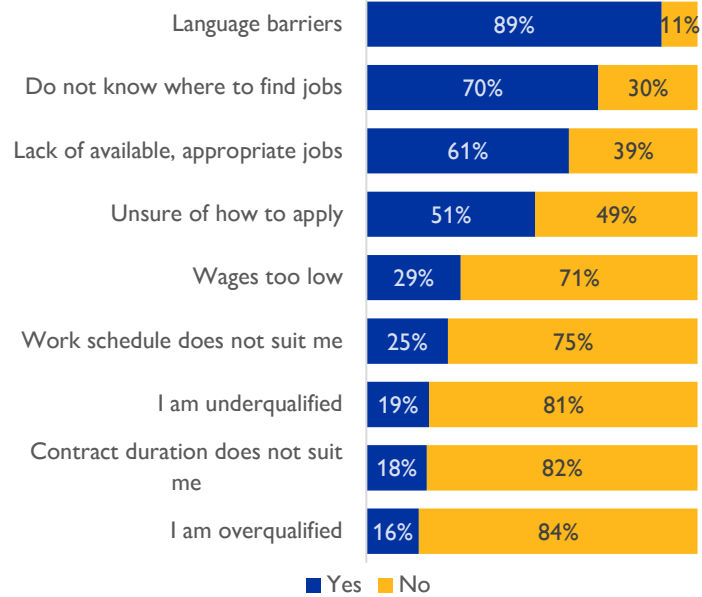
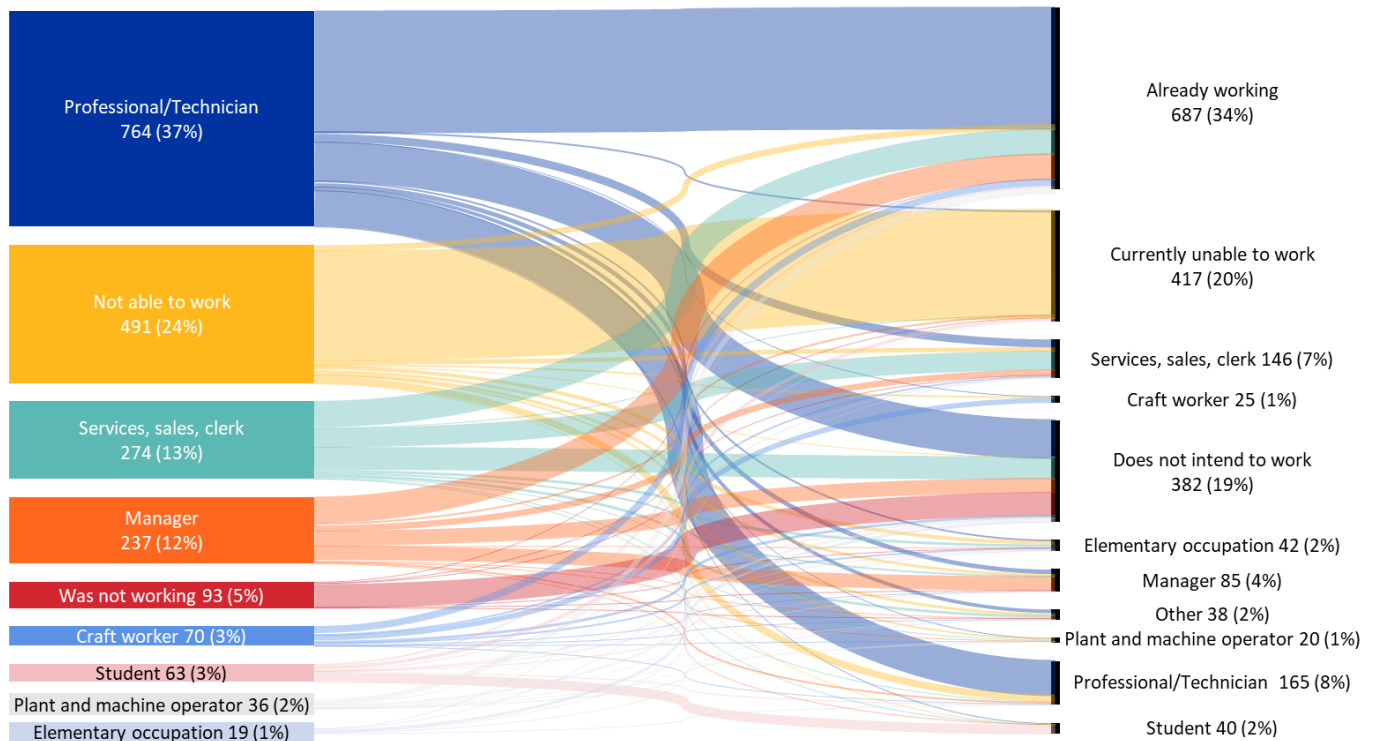


Fig. 13 Previous professional category compared to desired professional category in Romania



\*Professional/Technician includes lawyers, doctors, teachers, nurses, dental assistants, etc.

\*Craft worker includes construction worker, electrician, food processing, auto repair

\*Elementary occupation includes cleaner, labourer in manufacturing or agriculture

\*Currently unable to work includes those who are full time carers, are unable to work due to chronic health conditions, are retired, etc.

## METHODOLOGY

The 2,095 interviews used in this report were collected by a team of 16 enumerators deployed in six counties in Romania: Bucharest, Constanta, Iasi, Suceava, Tulcea, and Galati. Four interviews were conducted in other counties, including Botosani and Mures. The majority of the interviews were held with respondents in Bucharest (38%) and Constanta (32%). Enumerators included a mix of Ukrainian (9) and Romanian (7) nationals. Out of the total, 13 spoke Russian and/or Ukrainian, and three were English speakers, being accompanied by at least one Ukrainian/Russian speaker during interviews. All enumerators were trained on the ethics of data collection and provision of information. All of the active enumerators received training in protection, concerns and safer referrals as well as prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, with further trainings scheduled. The questionnaire was available in English, Russian and Ukrainian and the preferred language of questioning was determined by the respondent.

Tab. 2 County in which the interview was conducted

County	Number
Bucharest	790
Constanta	680
Tulcea (Isaccea)	189
Iasi	184
Galați	172
Suceava (Radauti, Siret, Suceava)	76
Other	4

The interviews were conducted with Ukrainian citizens who reported staying mainly in private rented flats provided free (57%). Others reported staying in private rented flats at their own expense (18%), in collective centres (10%), free hotel accommodation (7%), accommodation provided by a host family (4%), or staying in hotels (2%).

Of all the respondents, 39 per cent indicated they stayed in Romania between three and six months, 35 per cent between one and three months and 19 per cent for less than a month. Seven per cent of the respondents said they stayed in Romania for more than six months.

## LIMITATIONS

The sampling framework was not based on verified figures of Ukrainian refugees and TCNs staying in various counties or sub-counties across Romania. This was due to the limited availability of baseline information. The geographic spread of enumerators deployed and locations targeted captures most of the key regions and locations in Romania. Whilst results cannot be deemed representative, the internal consistency within the data suggests that the findings of the current sampling framework have practical value.

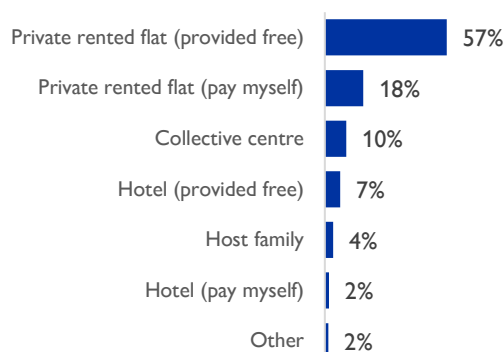
While in previous reports (i.e., Crossings to Ukraine), locations such as border crossing points and transit points (bus stations, train stations) were among the most plausible locations to conduct interviews, in this current setting the interviews were conducted with

Of the main location types in which the interviews were conducted, collective centres represented the majority of the total (43%). Secondly, interviews were conducted in transit centres (34%). Other locations included public places in which respondents could be found, such as schools, bus and train stations, BCPs, parks, and accommodation spaces.

Tab. 3 Type of location in which the interview was conducted

Location type	Number
Collective centre	904
Transit centre	715
School	82
Bus station	65
Border crossing point	54
Park	41
Train station	41
Refugee camp	35
Hotel	35
Other	123

Fig. 14 What type of accommodation are you staying in?



respondents in locations that could reflect inclusion-related aspects. As a result, the interviews were conducted in various location types, based on availability, in a less organised form.

Not all enumerators spoke the language of the individual they were interviewing. The questionnaire was available in Ukrainian, Russian and English, so respondents could be able to read and answer questions themselves if they wanted to. All responses were checked for any systematic issues by enumerator and this process did not identify any problems.