

Displacement surveys with refugees from Ukraine and TCNs crossing back to Ukraine – **2022 FACTSHEET**



2 border-crossing points
1 bus station

675 interviews



92% Women



8% Men

Since 24 February 2022, an increasing number of refugees and Third-Country Nationals (TCNs) entering Slovakia has been registered due to the war in Ukraine. As of 31 December 2022, Slovak authorities reported 1,090,124 arrivals from Ukraine out of whom 1,004,197 were Ukrainian refugees, 17,437 TCNs and the remaining 68,490 persons were EU nationals. According to the Border Police authorities, 875,589 people have crossed the border from Slovakia to Ukraine between 24 February and 31 December 2022, out of whom 91 per cent were Ukrainian nationals, eight per cent were EU nationals and less than one per cent were TCNs.

This factsheet is based on a Crossings Back to Ukraine survey addressing people crossing to Ukraine from Slovakia launched by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) since 19 April 2022. The interviews were conducted face-to-face by trained enumerators.

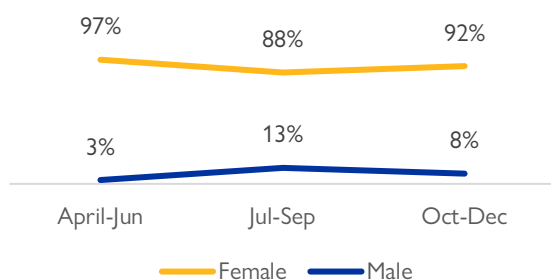
The 2022 FACTSHEET presents an annual analysis based on 675 surveys collected until 15 December 2022.

SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

The interviews were anonymous and voluntary, conducted one-on-one with respondents who declared a consent to be interviewed. Only adults (18+) were approached. The questionnaire was proposed to Ukrainian refugees and TCNs who have previously arrived in Slovakia after 24 February 2022.

Gender

Figure 1: Gender of respondents by period of interview



Women accounted for 92 per cent of all respondents between April and December 2022. When looking at the data disaggregated by periods of interview, the percentage of female respondents crossing back to Ukraine peaked at the beginning of the war (April - June 2022), with 97% per cent of respondents being women, and only three per cent - men. However, as the war prolonged, the share of female respondents waned, reaching its lowest point between July and September 2022 with 88 per cent female respondents as opposed to 13 per cent male respondents in the same period.

Oblasts (regions) of origin

The oblasts of origin remained relatively similar throughout the three different periods of analysis. For example, when looking at the total sample, the Top 3 oblasts of origin were Zakarpattia (30%), Kyivska (15%), and Kharkivska (12%). If disaggregating the data by period of analysis, these three regions remain within the Top 3 oblasts of origin. The only exception was found in the first period of interviewing when none of the respondents were from Zakarpattia region.

As for the country of usual stay before returning to Ukraine, majority of the respondents (82%) reported they were staying in Slovakia. Seventeen per cent of the respondent stayed in other European countries, including Germany (11 respondents) and the Czechia (10 respondents).

Table 1: Region of origin of respondents by period of interview and total (%)

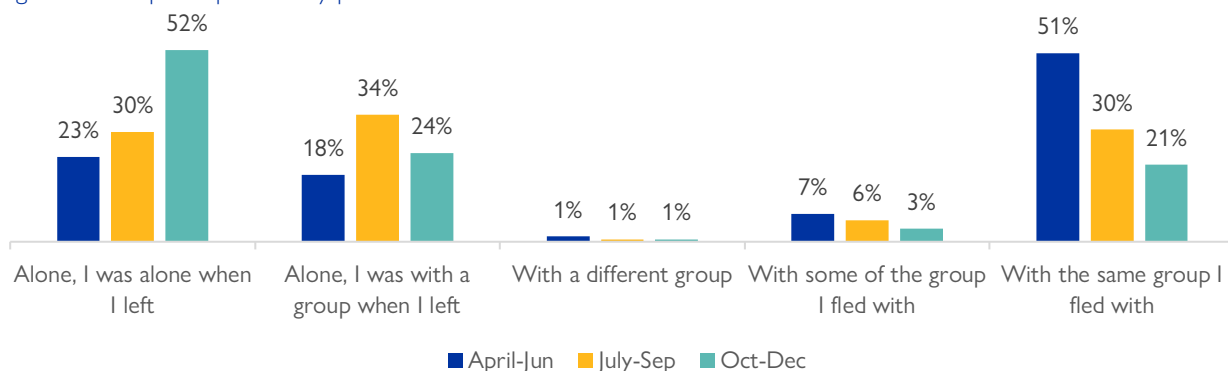
Oblast	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Total
Zakarpattia	0%	18%	46%	30%
Kyivska	25%	13%	11%	15%
Kharkivska	14%	14%	10%	12%
Dnipropetrovska	8%	6%	6%	6%
The city of Kyiv	7%	7%	5%	6%
Donetska	9%	7%	1%	4%
Odeska	7%	3%	3%	4%
Other	30%	32%	18%	23%

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Group composition

Forty-one per cent of respondents interviewed between April and June 2022 were returning to Ukraine individually, while the remaining 59 per cent were travelling back in a group. However, amongst these interviewed between July and September, the share of travelling individually increased to 64 per cent, while the share of those travelling in a group decreased to 37 per cent. The trend continued in the third period, where 78 per cent were travelling alone, and 24 per cent in a group.

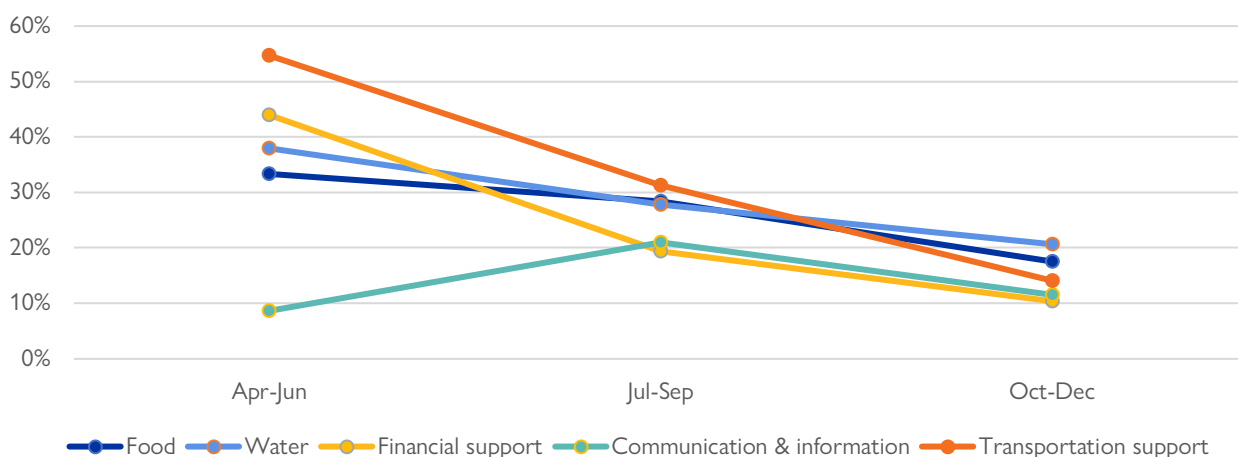
Figure 2: Group composition by period of interview



REPORTED NEEDS

The Top 5 needs reported in the three different periods remained relatively similar. Regardless of when the survey was conducted, food, water, financial support, communication & information support, as well as transportation, remained in the Top 5 needs. As the war progressed, higher shares of respondents reported having no needs. While only 12 per cent of respondents interviewed between April and June 2022 reported having no needs, 56 per cent of respondents affirmed having no needs between October and December 2022. Then, the share of respondents that reported having a need for financial support decreased from 44 per cent in the first period, to 10 per cent in the third. The same pattern was followed when looking at food, water, and transportation. The only exception to this was communication & information, which increased from nine per cent in the first period, to 21 per cent in the second period, decreasing once more in the third period to 11 per cent.

Figure 3: Top 5 reported needs by period of interview (%), *More than one answer was possible

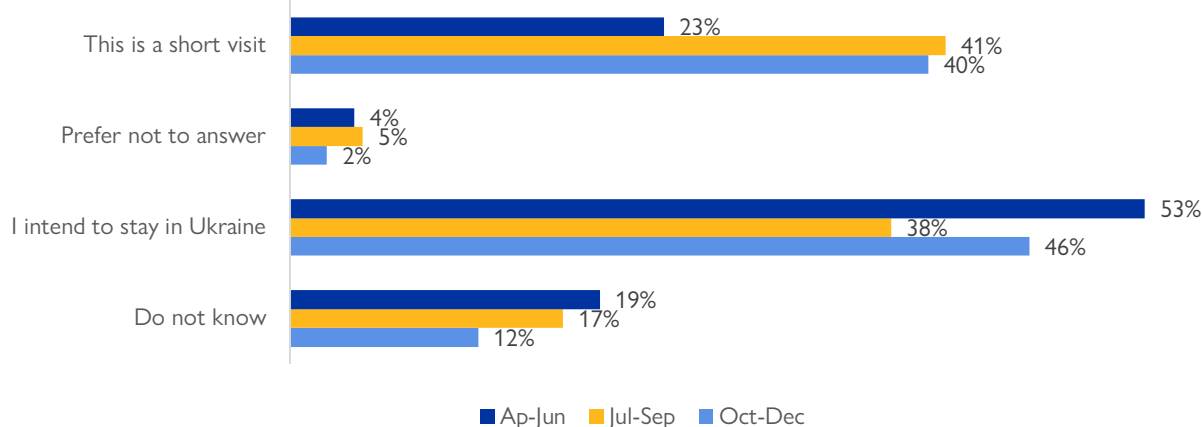


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INTENTIONS

Twenty-three per cent of respondents interviewed between April and June 2022 intended to stay in Ukraine for a short visit only. This percentage increased to 41 per cent when looking at those interviewed between July and September 2022; and 40 per cent when looking at those interviewed in the third period (Oct-Dec 2022). On the contrary, 53 per cent of respondents interviewed between April and June 2022 intended to stay in Ukraine in the long term. This percentage dropped to 38 per cent when looking at those interviewed during the second period and rose to 46 per cent with those interviewed on the third period. It can be observed that the level of uncertainty between the respondents was lowering as the time progressed, with only 12 per cent of respondents interviewed between October and December being unsure about their intended length of stay in Ukraine

Figure 4: Intended length of stay in Ukraine by period of interview (%)



METHODOLOGY

The surveys presented in this report are part of IOM’s DTM activities to monitor the displacement, intentions and most immediate needs of refugees from Ukraine and third-country nationals fleeing into countries neighbouring Ukraine since 24 February 2022.

The survey form was designed by IOM 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 socio-demographic profiles of respondents and of the group they are travelling with, if any; it asks about intentions relative to the permanence in Ukraine and to intended final destination; it inquires on the main reasons for the decision to cross back to and possibly remain in Ukraine; and it gathers information regarding a set of main needs that respondents expressed as more pressing at the moment of the interview

Interviews were conducted face-to-face by 15 IOM Slovakia trained enumerators in English, Ukrainian or Russian language at two Border Crossing Points (BCPs) in Vyšné Nemecké and Ubl'a and at a bus station in Košice.

LIMITATIONS

The data presented in this report assess the profiles and intentions of Ukrainians and TCNs met while crossing from Slovakia to Ukraine as overall percentages and figures. The sample is not representative of all persons crossing to Ukraine and results should only be considered as indicative, not representing all the returnees to Ukraine – after fleeing the country since 24 February 2022.

The individuals interviewed were not necessarily returnees and conclusions on definitive trends cannot be drawn.

DISCLAIMER

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