Since 24 February 2022, an increasing number of Ukrainian refugees and third-country nationals (TCNs) entering Slovakia has been registered as a result of the war in Ukraine. As of 13 April 2022, Slovak authorities have reported 326,997 arrivals from Ukraine, out of whom 301,772 were Ukrainian refugees and 12,817 TCNs.

This report is based on a displacement patterns, needs and intentions survey launched by IOM’s Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM). Surveys are conducted face-to-face by trained enumerators with Ukrainian refugees and TCNs fleeing Ukraine after 24 February 2022. This report presents a rapid sectoral needs analysis based on 161 surveys with Ukrainian refugees and TCNs collected between 9 and 30 March 2022.

Socio-demographic profile

IOM conducted 161 displacement patterns, needs and intentions interviews with Ukrainian refugees and TCNs at 3 Points of Entry (PoE) at entry including Vyšné Nemecké, Uľaľa, Veľké Slemence, the Michalovce Registration Centre and Červená Hviezda Hotspot in Košice. The most common means of transportation to enter Slovakia were buses or minivans (49%), followed by private cars (23%) and trains (18%). Ten per cent of the refugees interviewed entered Slovakia by foot. Almost all surveys except one were carried out with Ukrainian refugees. One survey was conducted with a male TCN from Uzbekistan.¹

The top regions (oblast) of origin of all respondents were Kyiv (25%), Donetsk (16%), Kharkiv (16%), Dnipropetrovsk (13%).

Regions of origin – all respondents

Women and girls accounted for the vast majority of respondents, representing 88 per cent of the sample surveyed. In total, 12 per cent of the sample surveyed were male. One person preferred not to specify their gender identity.

¹ The share of TCNs among entries from Ukraine is higher. The low number of TCNs reached by the survey can be due factors related to the locations selected for the interviews, the time and languages spoken by enumerators.

IOM Slovakia – https://www.iom.sk/en
Displacement Tracking Matrix – DTM-Mediterranean@iom.int – https://displacement.iom.int/slovakia
Three per cent of the respondents (five persons) were adolescents between 15 and 17 years old.

The average age of men and women surveyed was 49 years old and 40 years old respectively. The breakdown of adult refugees by age cohorts reveals that 56 per cent of women were aged 18-39 years compared to 23 per cent of men in the same age groups. There were also three in ten elderly men among the total number of men surveyed, compared to one in ten among the total number of women surveyed.

Most respondents travelled to Slovakia from Ukraine within a group (88%), with the vast majority of those who were travelling in a group (81%) travelling with their relatives. The average group size was four persons, while 55 per cent of respondents who travelled in a group were in a group of three to five persons. In total, 12 per cent were travelling alone.

Of the sample, 16 per cent of respondents were travelling with at least one elderly person aged 60 and above.

**Main intended destinations**

More than half (57%) of the refugees in the sample reported Slovakia as the main intended destination, in particular Kosice (44% of those who reported Slovakia as their main intended destination), Presov (14%), Bratislava (5%), Trenčín (4%) and others (10%). For 23 per cent of those surveyed, the intended province/city of destination was not known.

Among other intended destinations there were Germany (14%), Italy (4%), Czechia (4%), Poland (2%) and a range of other countries in Europe (12%). About seven per cent did not yet know their intended final destination.

More than two thirds (68%) reported the intention to return to Ukraine in the long term, as soon as it is safe. Nevertheless, most individuals surveyed were unable to outline the planned length of stay in the country at the time of the interview. While in Slovakia, 34 per cent of the respondents planned to stay in a reception centre, 10 per cent with friends, 9 per cent with relatives and 9 per cent in private accommodation. The rest did not know yet or preferred not to disclose this information at the time of the interview.
Main needs identified
The survey included a question on the most immediate needs in Slovakia, asking respondents to rank a list of items. Support with transportation was the most immediate need expressed (70% of individuals surveyed highlighted this as a primary need, which suggests an immediate need for increased transportation assistance to temporary accommodation sites), alongside information and in communicating with others in Ukraine and elsewhere, and food assistance (64 and 65% respectively). In total, 64% of individuals surveyed also highlighted support with accommodation as a key need, followed by financial support (60%), and support to find employment (59%).

* It includes support to communicate with others in Ukraine and elsewhere
** It includes other NFI (hygiene and sanitary items)
*** It includes protection from instances of violence, harassment, theft, exploitation and reporting of incidents, grievances, assaults.
**** This refers to the intention to be able to return to the origin location as soon as the security situation in Ukraine will allow.

Methodology
IOM’s Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a 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 since 24 February 2022. They complement data from the national authorities regarding Ukrainian refugees and TCNs on entries from the Ukrainian-Slovak borders and their presence in the country. The surveys are collected in selected entry locations, registration centres and hotspots identified to be the most frequently used by refugees and TCNs leaving from Ukraine since 24 February 2022. Surveys are conducted by IOM’s trained teams of enumerators, and recorded on tablets into a Kobo application, connected with IOM servers in Geneva.

Surveys are conducted in English or Ukrainian.

The interviews are anonymous and conducted one-on-one with respondents, provided they consent to be interviewed after a brief introduction. Respondents are approached in a simple random sample by enumerators at selected entry, exit and transit locations. In border crossing point areas, both persons entering/exiting by car and by foot were interviewed.

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. The survey 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 Slovakia and to intended final destination; it gathers information regarding a set of main needs that the respondents expressed as more pressing 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 and should not represent a full picture of displacement outside Ukraine towards neighbouring countries.