Context & Methodology

Almost three million refugees have fled Ukraine since the escalation of conflict on 24 February 2022. From among them, 616,592 have been displaced to Romania (UNHCR). The number of people crossing has fluctuated in the days since the escalation, and it can be anticipated that it will vary with the intensity and geography of conflict in the next days or weeks.

To understand the drivers of displacement and intentions of refugees, 631 interviews were conducted with people crossing from Ukraine into Romania. Interviews were conducted at every border checkpoint and certain reception centers, and began on 28 February. This factsheet includes cumulative responses from 28 February to 29 March. Following this data collection, select interviewees will be contacted for long-form qualitative interviews to gain a longitudinal understanding of their experience of displacement.

Interviewees were selected purposively to gain a broader understanding of experiences and intentions, and results should therefore be considered indicative.

The data collection tool was modified after the deployment and therefore the sample size differs for certain questions; for some of them, the sample size is provided.

Demography

Gender of the respondent

Female	503	**83%**
Male	106	**17%**

Nationality of the respondent

Ukrainian	**92%**
Russian	**3%**
Other	**5%**

Respondents reporting travelling with the following population groups[1]

Children 0-5 years of age	35%
Children 6-18 years of age	58%
Elderly (65+ years of age)	11%
Pregnant and lactating women	0.25%
Persons with disabilities	1%
Women traveling alone	4%

Number of people traveling with respondents

Alone	**11%**
1 - 4	**74%**
5 +	**15%**

Most reported pre-displacement employment status of respondents[2]

Wholesale and retail trade	12%
Education (including students and teachers)	10%
IT (computer technology)	5%
Retired	5%

Origins and Arrivals

99% of respondents reported holding a passport

Reasons for leaving the area of origin[1, 3]

Active conflict (incl. troops) in the settlement	**59%**
Damage in or near the settlement	**31%**
Worry that active fightings will come to the settlement	**23%**

Most frequent regions (oblasts) of origin[4]

Kyiv	151	24%
Odessa	103	16%
Kharkiv	100	16%
Mykolaiv	89	14%

Reason for selecting border crossing[4]

Most direct route to border	**44%**
Most convenient for future plans	**16%**
Shorter queues at the crossing	**10%**
Other reasons	**15%**

Most frequently reported modalities of border crossing[4]

Foot	237	**39%**
Car	230	**38%**
Bus	81	**13%**
Train	14	**2%**

Intentions

Top 3 intended destination countries of respondents

Germany	**20%**
Romania	**18%**
Poland	**7%**

42% of respondents intending to stay in Romania plan to stay in the country as long as conflict in Ukraine continues

19% of respondents intending to stay in Romania don't know how long they will stay in the country

Reported drivers for selection of destination country by respondents[4]

Family/friends in location of arrival	**43%**
Meeting displaced family or friends	**14%**
Job or livelihood opportunities there	**9%**
Advised by family or friends	**5%**

Reported accommodation type in destination country by respondents[4]

Staying with family/friend	**38%**
Don't know where to stay	**25%**
Collective centre	**10%**
Rented accommodation	**9%**

[1]Multiple responses permitted. The sum might exceed 100%. [2] Top four choices indicated by respondents. [3] Top three choices indicated by respondents. [4] Top four choices indicated by respondents.