

Context & Methodology

More than 3.2 million refugees have fled Ukraine since the escalation of conflict on 24 February 2022. From among them, 1,975,449 have been displaced to Poland (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, 242 interviews were conducted with people crossing from Ukraine into Poland. 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 16 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	139	97%
Male	5	3%



Respondents reporting travelling with the following population groups¹

Children 0-5 years of age	33%
Children 6-18 years of age	65%
Elderly (65+ years of age)	20%
Pregnant and lactating women	1%
Persons with disabilities	7%

Nationality of the respondent

Ukrainian	95%
Other	4%
Russian	1%



Number of people traveling with respondents

Alone	3%
1 - 4	75%
5 +	22%



Most reported pre-displacement employment status of respondents²

Wholesale and retail trade	21%
Education (including students and teachers)	9%
Social services	9%
Health care	6%

Origins and Arrivals

97% 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	33%
Worry that active fightings will come to the settlement	20%

Most frequent regions (oblasts) of origin²

Kyiv	72	30%
Kharkiv	38	16%
Dnipropetrovsk	25	10%
Lviv	17	7%

Reason for selecting border crossing²

Someone else made the decision	31%
Most direct route to border	20%
Chose randomly	15%
Shorter queues at the crossing	12%

Most frequently reported modalities of border crossing²

Foot	83	58%
Bus	30	21%
Car	16	11%
Train	14	10%

Intentions

Top 3 intended destination countries of respondents

Poland	35%
Germany	22%
Czechia	9%

17% of respondents intending to stay in Poland don't know how long they will stay in the country

83% of respondents intending to stay in Poland plan to stay in the country as long as conflict in Ukraine continues

Reported drivers for selection of destination country by respondents¹

Family/friends in location of arrival	53%
Job/livelihoods opportunities at destination	14%
Other reasons	10%
Advised by family	10%
Advised by reception center	8%

Reported accommodation type in destination country by respondents

Staying with family/friend	39%
Don't know where to stay	29%
Rented accommodation	12%
Accommodation provided by authorities	8%
Collective centre	6%

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