

# LONGITUDINAL SURVEY OF PEOPLE DISPLACED FROM UKRAINE AND THOSE RETURNED

Understanding changes in movement patterns, needs,  
integration and intentions of return



**IMPACT** Shaping practices  
Influencing policies  
Impacting lives

# Longitudinal Survey: Research objectives



## Refugees

1. What are the movement trajectories of people displaced from Ukraine by the war? What is the decision-making process to stay vs. move on?
2. What are the specific challenges respondents face in the locations they decide to settle?
3. What are the facilitators and barriers to integration at the local level?



## Returnees to Ukraine

1. What is the decision-making process of respondents on returning and settling back in Ukraine? What were the predictors of their return upon their arrival?
2. What are the main differences in the situations of those returnees to Ukraine who came back to the pre-war settlements vs. those who returned elsewhere?
3. What are the intentions and future aspirations of those returned?

## Donors & Partners:

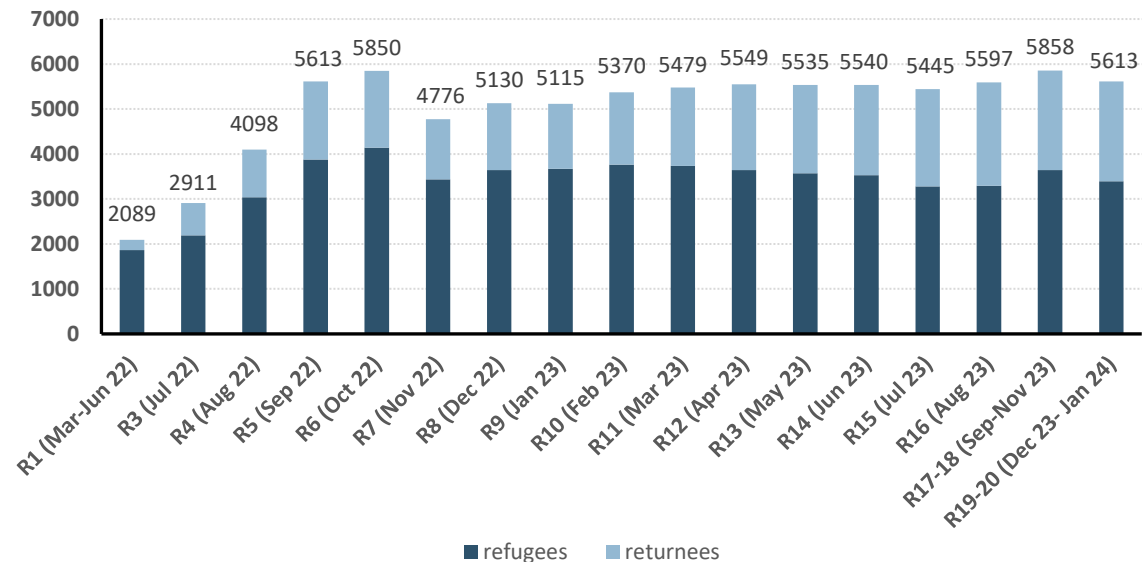


# Longitudinal Survey: Methodology and limitations

## Survey sampling

- Data collection during border crossing in Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Moldova (Feb 2022 – Sep 2022)
- Online campaigns in Viber, Facebook, and Kyivstar (Oct 2022 - Dec 2023)
- Consent collection in train stations in Ukraine (Jan 2024 - ongoing)

Respondents per round



## Longitudinal interviews

- Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI)
- Trained enumerators conduct interviews in respondents' mother tongues (UKR/RUS)
- 21 Rounds of data collection (including pilots R1 & R2). R22 is ongoing.
- Multi-sectoral questionnaire

## Specific rounds

- Save the Children collaboration: 48 consultations with children, 8 FGDs with Caregivers and Host Communities, 36 interviews with key informants
- OECD Module on diploma recognition
- Debt module of questions

## Data Analysis

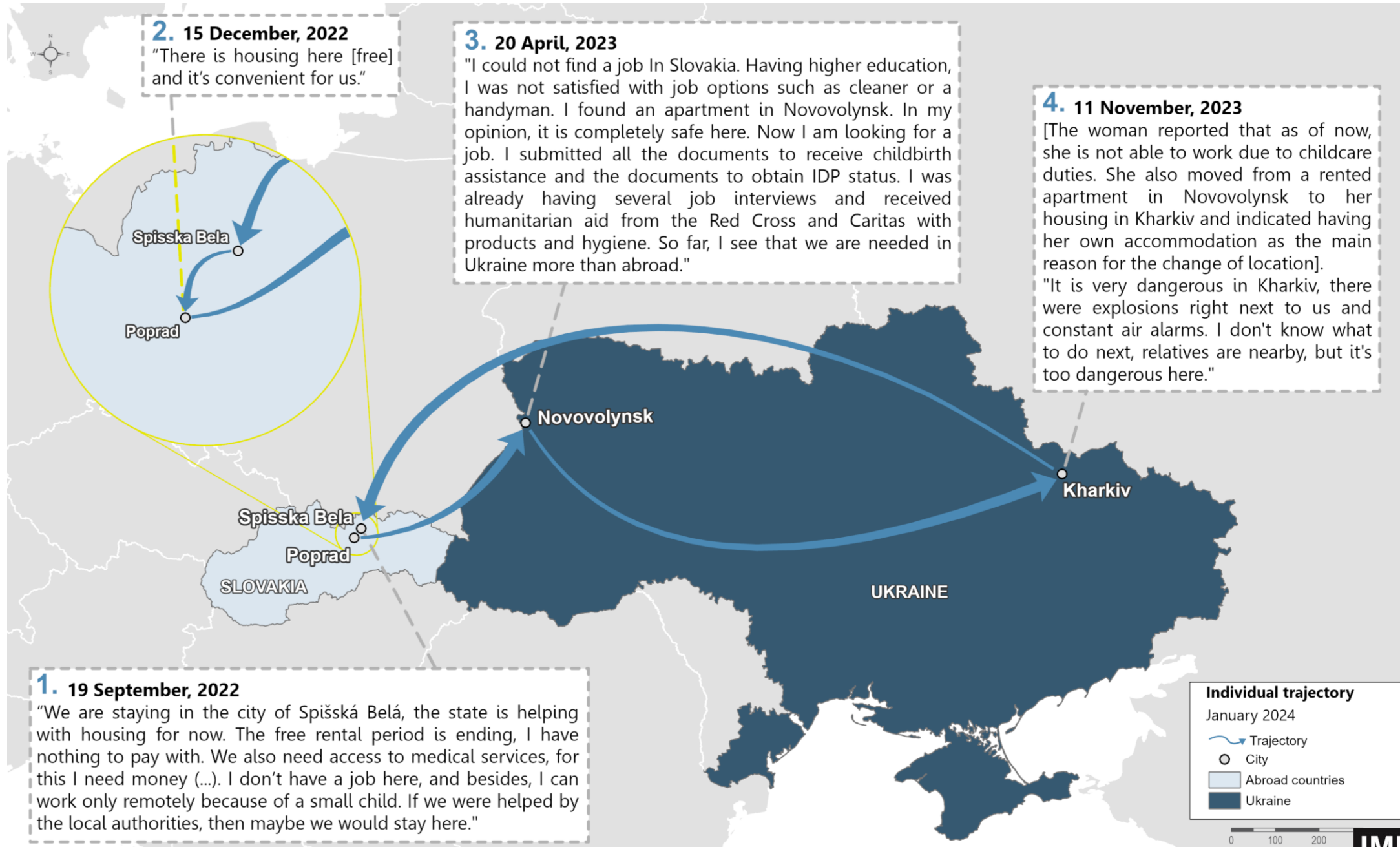
- Macro-Data
- Longitudinal Frequency Tables
- Cohort tables
- Alluvial tables
- Advanced Statistical Analysis

## Limitations

**Given the non-random sampling strategy, the results are not statistically representative and must be interpreted as indicative.**

**Back, but not necessarily home:  
refugee experiences upon returning  
to Ukraine and becoming IDPs.**

[At the beginning of March 2022, a single mother from Kharkiv with a newborn child crossed the Uzhorod-Vyšné Nemecké border with Slovakia]



# Sample size of Round 20 and terminology in use

## Samples

A snapshot of the situation of returnees to Ukraine:



**Data collection:** 20 Dec 2023 - 4 Jan 2024 (Round 20)



**Size:** 2,217 phone interviews with former refugees  
*(out of which 1,802 are home returnees and 415 - IDPs)*

Annual dynamics based on the cohort of the same returnee to Ukraine respondents who engaged in each of the four following survey rounds:



**Data collection:** 13 Jan – 6 Feb 2023 (Round 9), 19-30, May 2023 (Round 13), 17 Aug – 10 Sept 2023 (Round 16), and 20 Dec 2023 – 4 Jan 2024 (Round 20)



**Size:** 745 phone interviews

## Definitions

All references to terms should be interpreted as follows: :

**Returnees to Ukraine** – all respondents of the Longitudinal Survey who returned to Ukraine from abroad after leaving Ukraine due to the outbreak of war in February 2022.

**Home returnees (former refugees)** – the subset of *Returnees to Ukraine* – respondents who returned to their pre-war settlements of permanent residence after coming back from abroad.

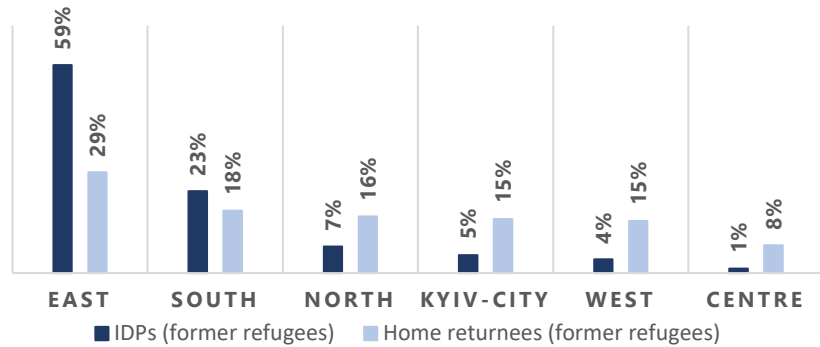
**IDPs (former refugees)** – the subset of *Returnees to Ukraine* – respondents who returned to a settlement other than the pre-war and became internally displaced people (IDPs) upon their return from abroad.

# Summary of key findings

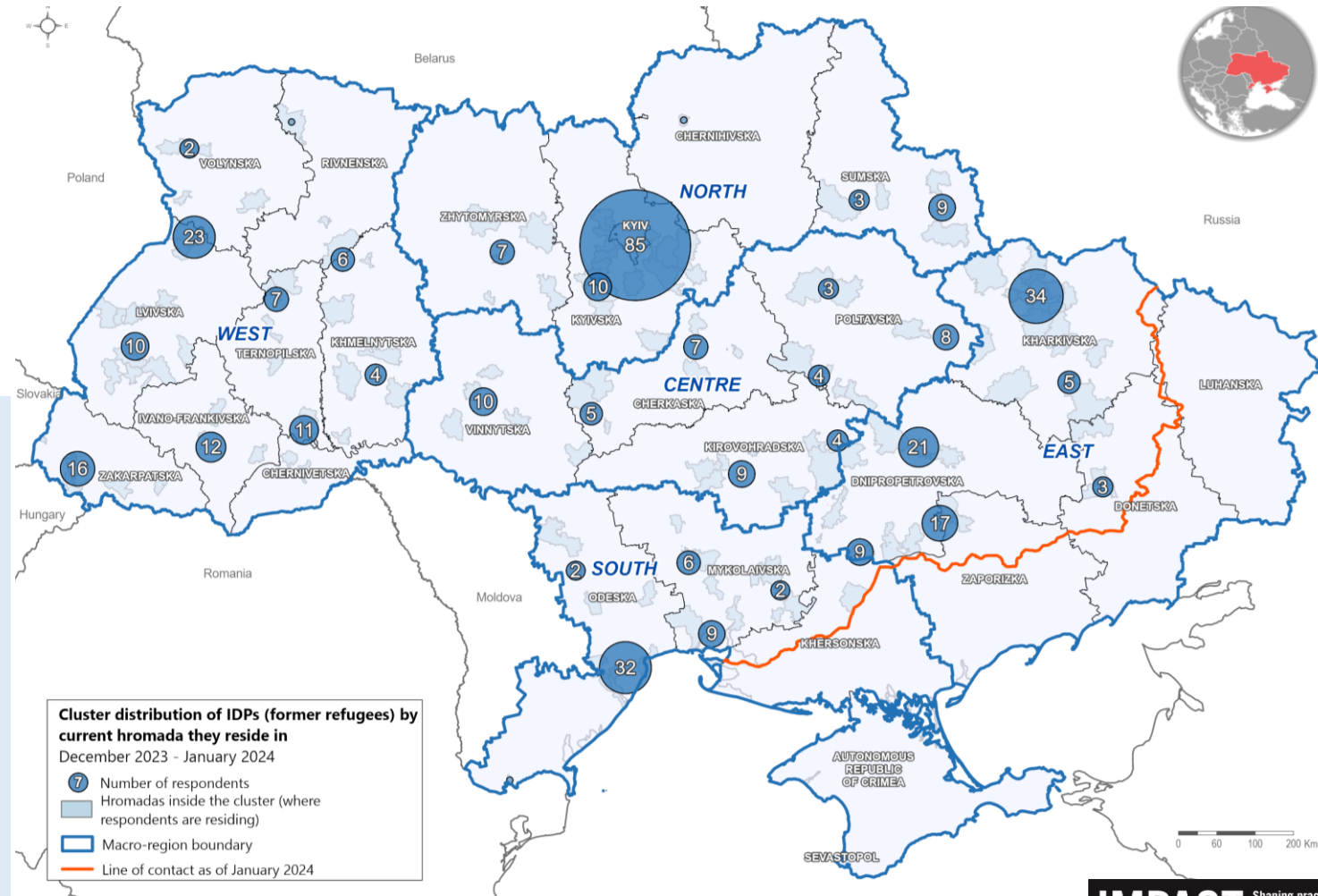
# I. Returnees to Ukraine are coming back directly to their home settlements (81%) or the same macro-region of their home settlement (40% of IDPs –former refugees-). Those are predominantly the most war-affected regions of Ukraine (Eastern and Southern).

Macro-region of origin of IDPs (former refugees) and home returnees (former refugees)

Round 20, Dec 23 / Jan 24 (n= 2,217)



Current hromadas of IDPs (former refugees)



81%



of returnees to Ukraine returned to their home settlements

19%

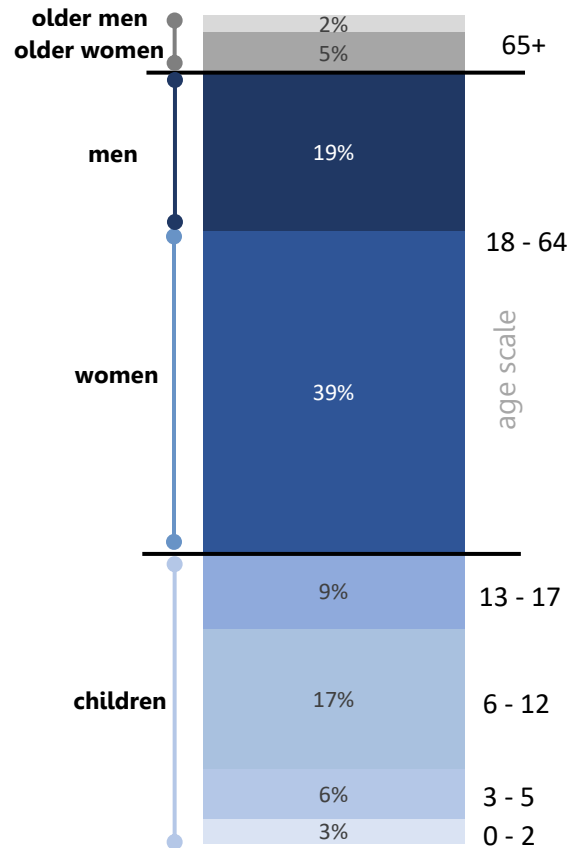


of returnees to Ukraine returned elsewhere in the country

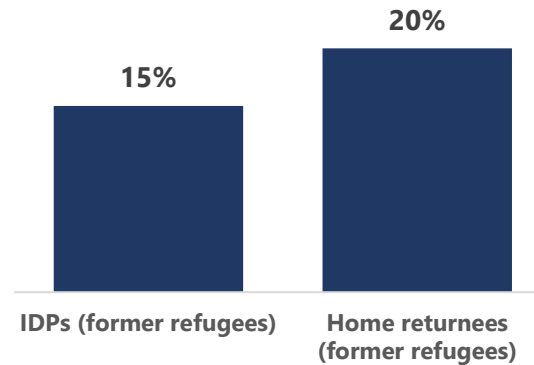


## II. Upon return, the composition of IDP (former refugee) households is marked by fewer adult men and more single caregivers than in home returnee (former refugee) households

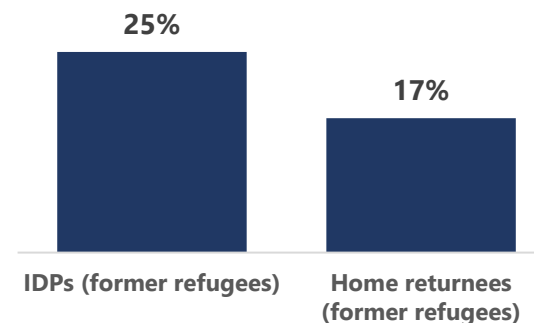
Returnees' to Ukraine household composition



Proportion of 18-64 years old men in returnees to Ukraine households



Proportion of single caregivers among surveyed returnees to Ukraine



**Reunification with family is more frequently reported as an unmet need by surveyed IDPs, indicating possible barriers to family reunification upon return to places that are not home settlements.**

### III. IDPs (former refugees) reported relying more heavily on social security and IDP payments

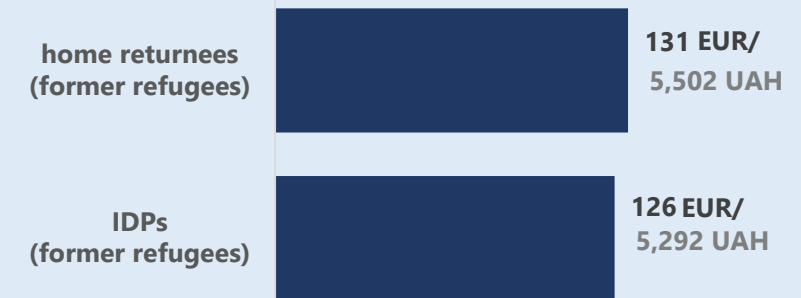
62% 

of IDPs (former refugees) were residing in rented accommodation, with 99% of them paying both rent and utility bills.

90% 

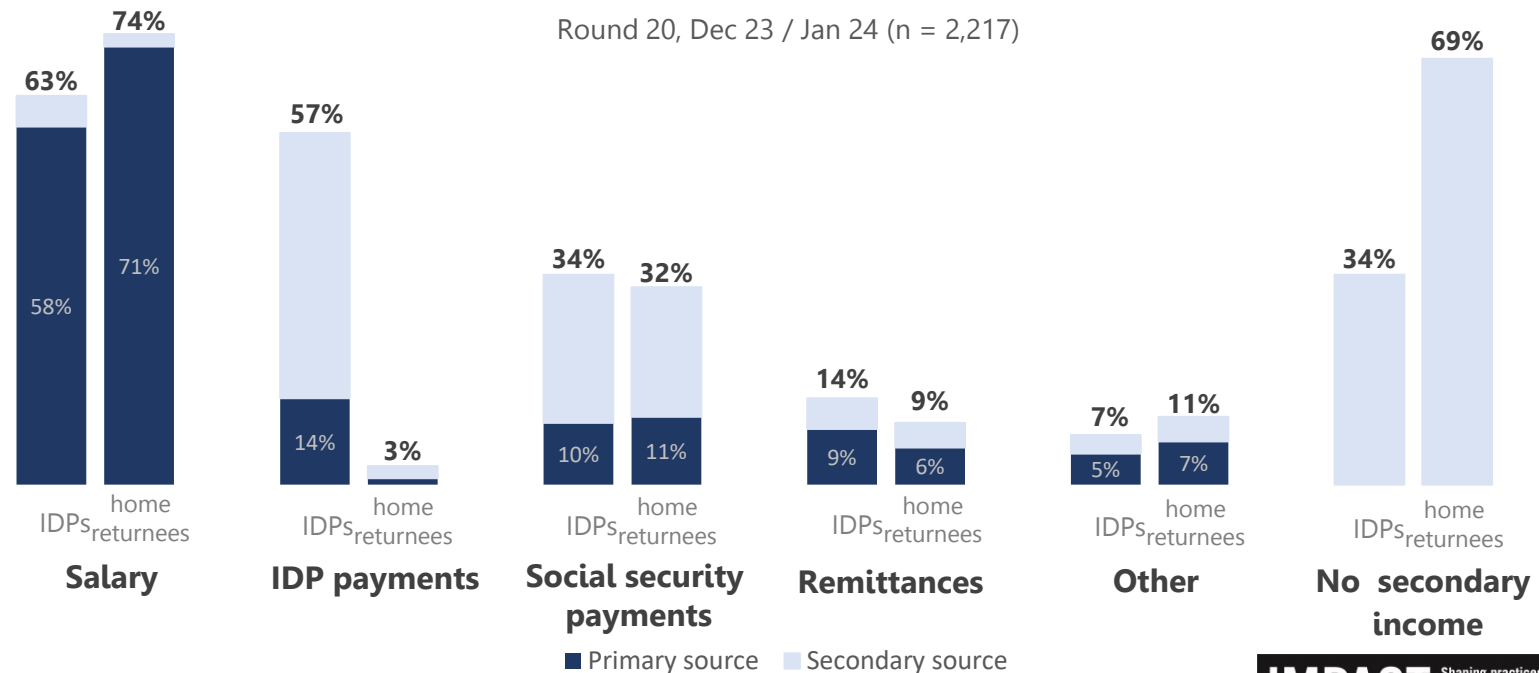
of home returnees (former refugees) were residing in their own accommodation with 96% of them paying only utility bills and 2% not paying any cost for housing.

Median income per capita for returnees to Ukraine



#### Sources of income for returnees to Ukraine

Round 20, Dec 23 / Jan 24 (n = 2,217)

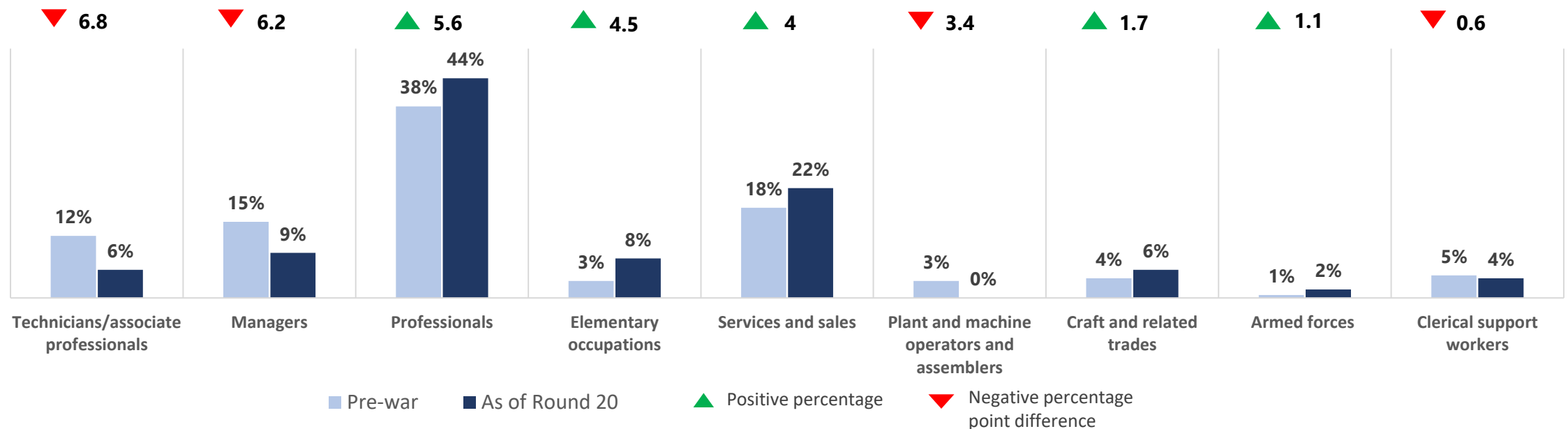


# IDPs (former refugees) were reported to be less frequently employed than home returnees (former refugees)

**49%** of surveyed working-age IDPs are employed  
**57%** of surveyed working-age home returnees are employed

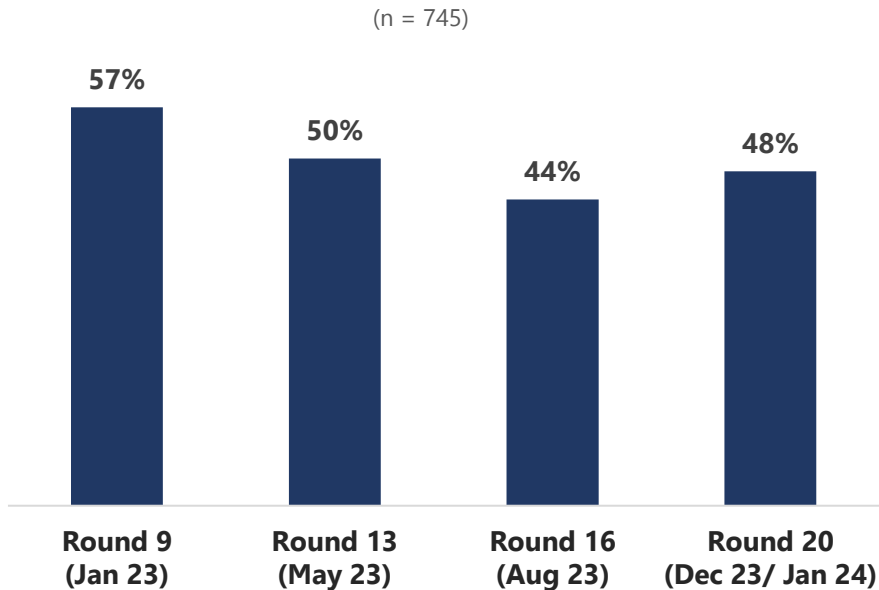
Pre-war and current occupation categories of employed IDPs (former refugees), ordered by the percentage point difference

Round 20, Dec 23 / Jan 24 (n= 177)

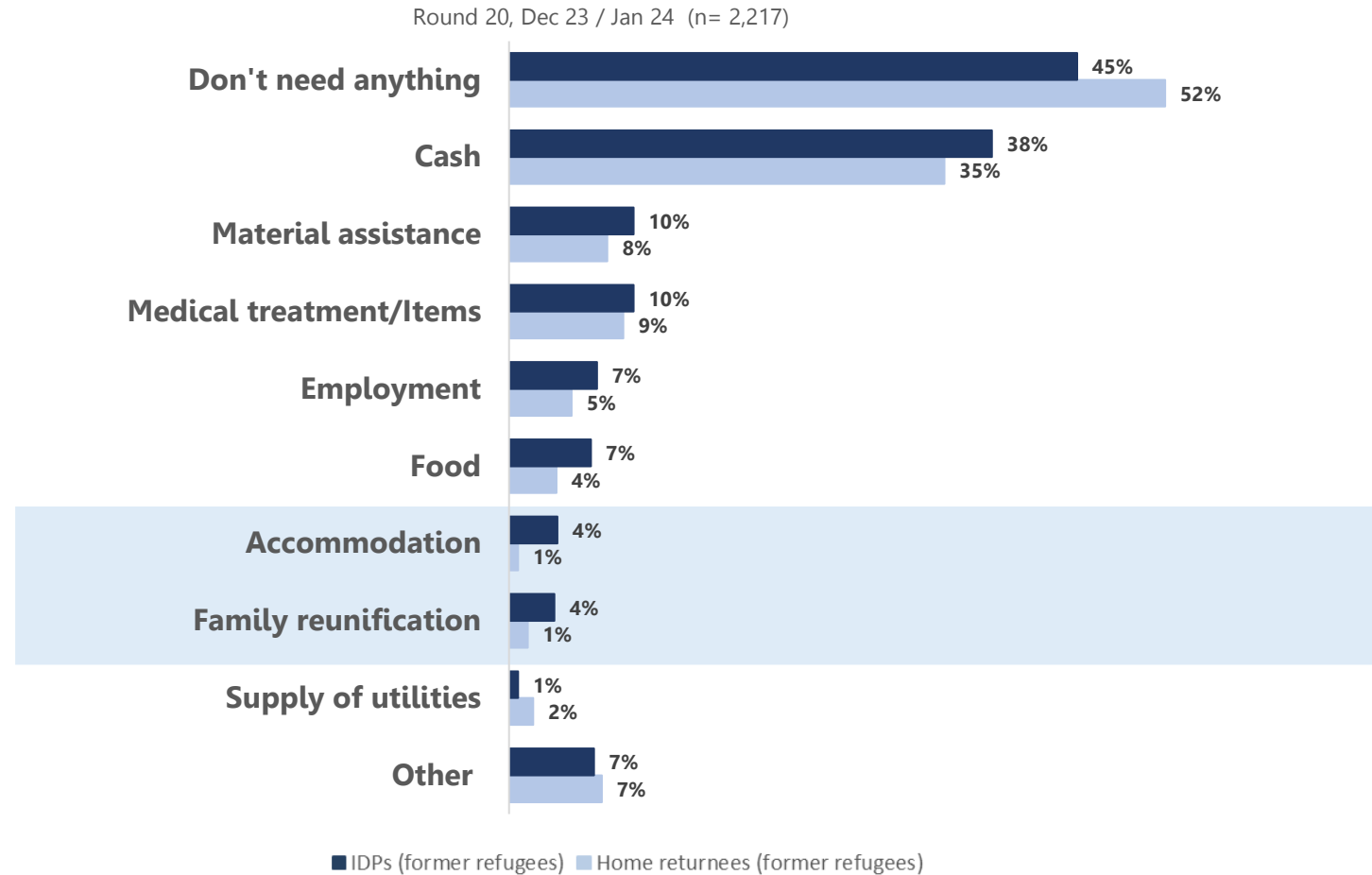


# The proportion of households reporting at least one unmet urgent need remained high among both groups of former refugees across all 2023 year

Share of returnees to Ukraine reported having unmet urgent needs, over time



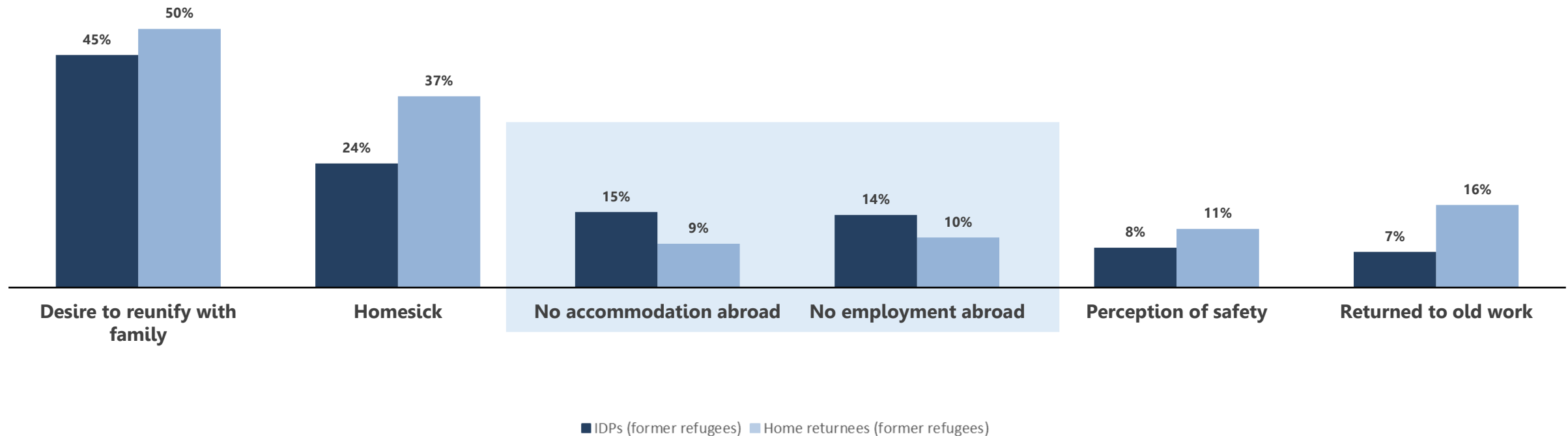
Returnees' to Ukraine unmet urgent needs




## IV. IDPs (former refugees) were pushed to return by lack of opportunities abroad as they struggled to secure stable employment and housing abroad more frequently than home returnees (former refugees)

### Top Six reasons to return from abroad for IDP returnees and home settlement returnees

Round 20, Dec 23 / Jan 24 (n= 2,217)



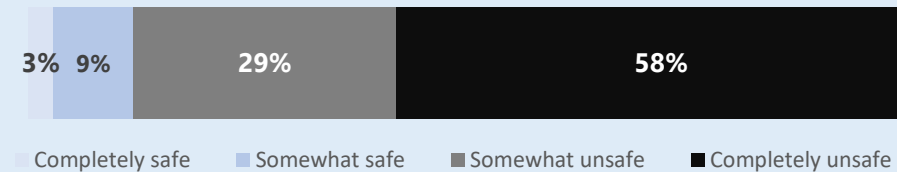
# V. IDPs (former refugees) more frequently face house damage and safety concerns in their home settlement

17% 

of IDPs (former refugees) have reported damage to their housing or land with 8% reporting housing or land destruction.

Perception of safety of IDPs (former refugees) in their home settlement

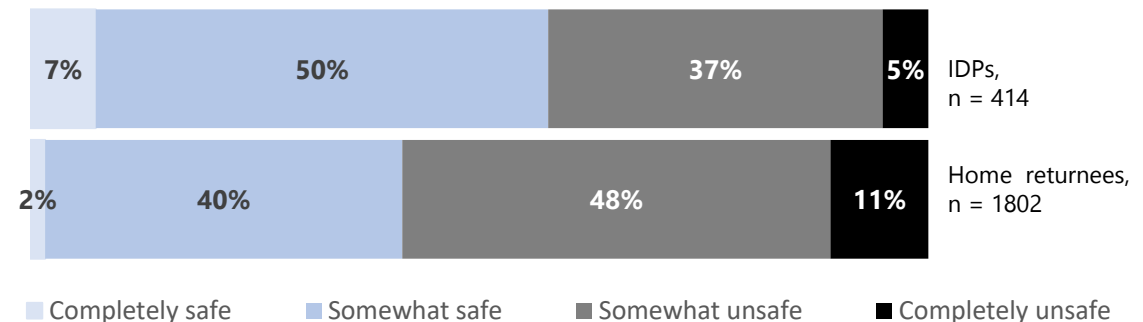
Round 20, Dec 23/ Jan 24 (n = 414)



5% 

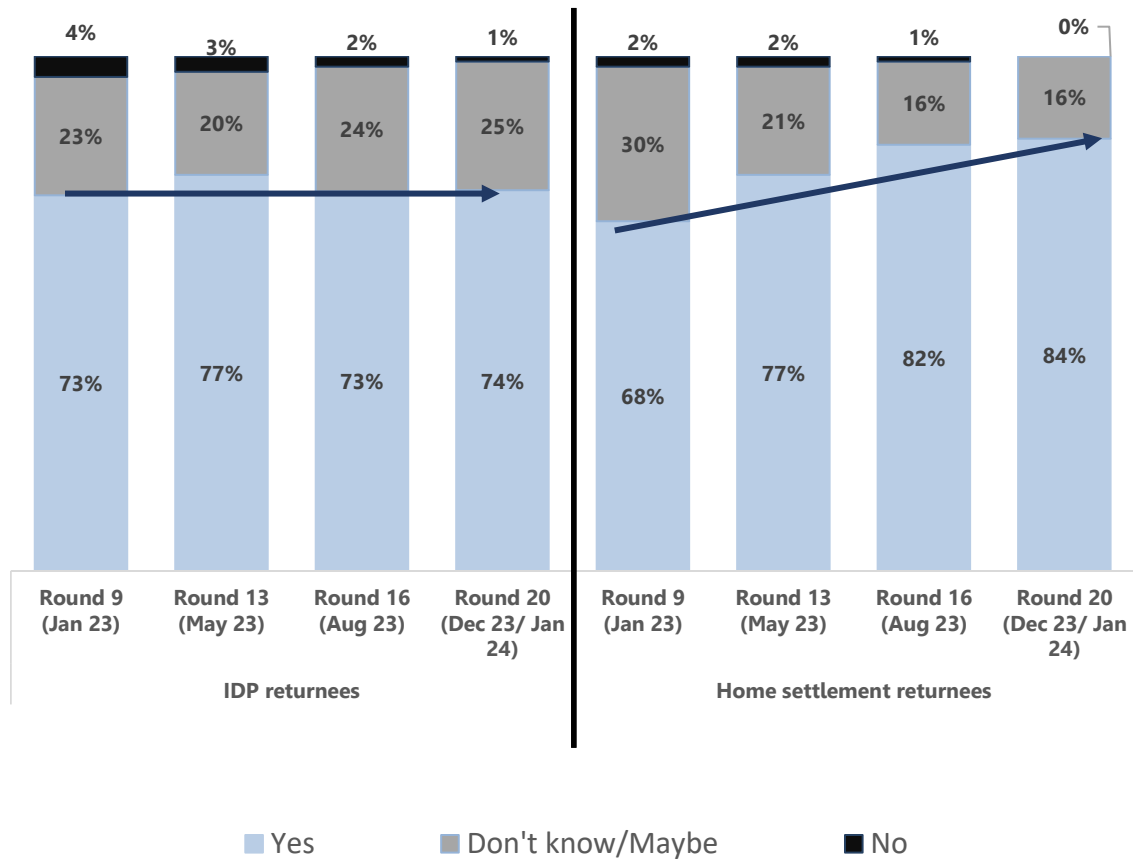
of home returnees (former refugees) have reported damage to their housing or land with 1% reporting housing or land destruction

Perception of safety of IDPs (former refugees) and home returnees (former refugees) in their current location



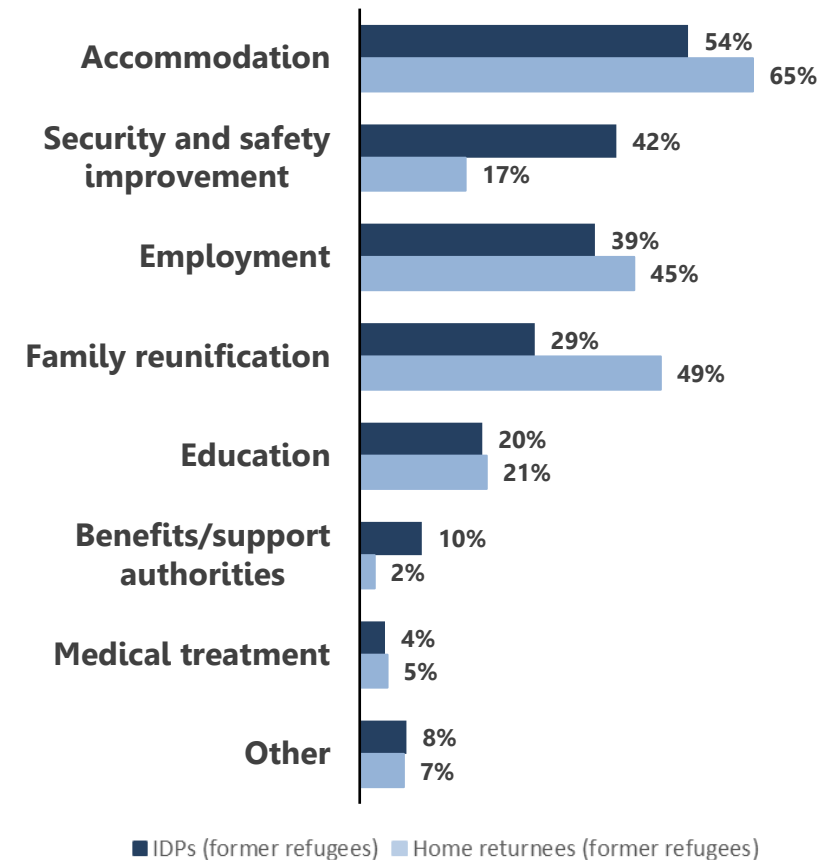
# The level of certainty for staying in the current location remained almost the same over the year for IDPs (former refugees) and increased noticeably for home returnees (former refugees)

## Intentions to stay in the current location for the next 3-6 months



## Reason for staying, % of IDP and home returnees who indicated an intention to stay

Round 20, Dec 23 / Jan 24 (n= 1,782)



# Summary

Longitudinal Survey of Ukrainian Refugees, Round 20 – December 2023 – January 2024: Summary of key findings

- Many respondents from the IDP (former refugee) sub-sample have **come back to Ukraine due to push factors** such as a lack of housing or employment in their host country abroad
- IDP (former refugee) respondents are reportedly **more reliant on external financial support** (e.g., IDP payments), and their working-age population **is less frequently employed** than home returnees.
- Less sustainable sources of income for IDPs (former refugees) are coupled with the fact that they **overwhelmingly rely on renting and paying the full cost of accommodation** in Ukraine.
- For most surveyed IDPs (former refugees), going back to their settlements of origin and own housing is not an option: at least **one in six IDPs (former refugees) reported their housing as damaged or destroyed**, while most perceived their home settlements as completely unsafe.
- Such **security and safety** considerations are **frequent self-reported reasons** for staying in the current settlement for **IDPs (former refugee) respondents**, who nevertheless report the intention to remain in their current settlement in a relatively lower proportion than home returnees (former refugees).



# Longitudinal Survey: Outputs and Data

## Dashboard

[Longitudinal survey results dashboard – Rounds 21-22](#)

## Dataset extracts

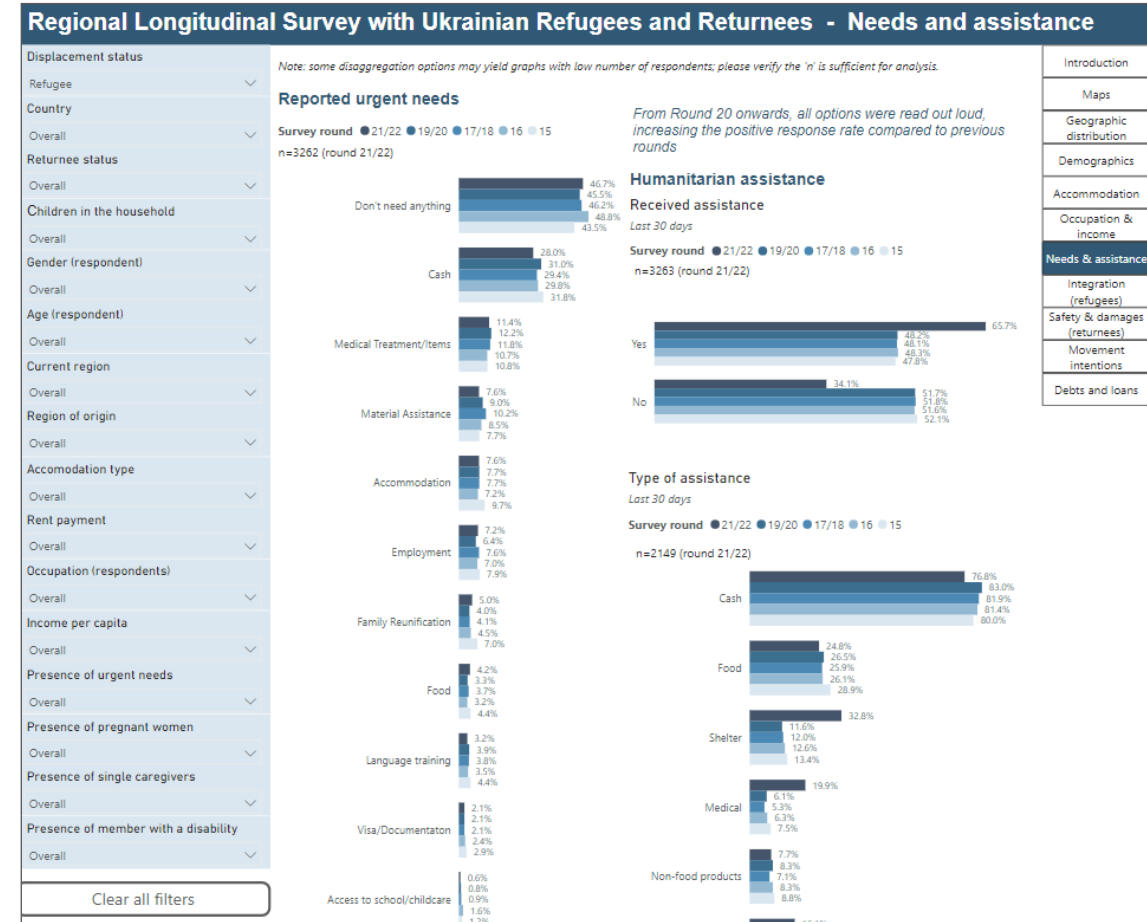
- Longitudinal frequency tables
- Refugee and returnee data

## Outputs

- [Longitudinal Factsheet: Round 13 \(Ukrainian version\)](#)
- [Longitudinal Factsheet: Round 14 \(Ukrainian version\)](#)
- [Longitudinal Factsheet: Round 15 \(Ukrainian version\)](#)
- [Longitudinal Factsheet: Round 16 \(Ukrainian version\)](#)
- [Longitudinal Factsheet: Round 17 \(Ukrainian version\)](#)

## Thematic Outputs:

- [Longitudinal Brief: Round 18 – Reasons for return \(Ukrainian version\)](#)
- [Longitudinal Situation\\_Overview: Round 19 – Poland Refugees \(Українська версія\)](#)
- [Longitudinal Situation\\_Overview: Round 20 – Back to Ukraine, but not home \(Українська версія\)](#)



For any questions on the  
Longitudinal Study please contact



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