

Context & Methodology

More than 4.9 million refugees have fled Ukraine since the escalation of conflict on 24 February 2022 (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, 5,803 interviews were conducted with people crossing from Ukraine into Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania and Moldova. Interviews were conducted at every border checkpoint and certain reception centers, including railway stations, and began on 28 February. This factsheet includes cumulative responses from 28 February to 18 April. 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 89%
Male 11%



Nationality of the respondent

Ukrainian 95%
Other 2%
Russian 2%
Moldovan 1%



Respondents reporting travelling with the following population groups¹

Children 0-5 years of age 23%
Children 6-18 years of age 55%
Elderly (65+ years of age) 11%
Persons with disabilities 5%

Number of people traveling with respondents

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



Most reported pre-displacement employment status of respondents²

Wholesale and retail trade 16%
Education (including students and teachers) 12%
Retired 7%
Health care 7%

Origins and Arrivals

100% of respondents reported holding a passport

Sample distribution, by country of arrival

Poland 38%
Moldova 25%
Romania 21%
Slovakia 14%
Hungary 2%

Most frequent regions (oblasts) of origin³

Kyiv 19%
Mykolaiv 13%
Odesa 12%
Kharkiv 11%
Donetsk 9%

Reason for selecting border crossing²

Most direct route to border 31%
Most convenient for future plans 22%
Chose randomly 16%
Someone else made the decision 12%

Most frequently reported modalities of border crossing²

Foot 46%
Bus 26%
Car 16%
Train 9%

Intentions

Top 3 intended destination countries of respondents by arrival country¹

Country of arrival	Intended destination
Poland	1. Poland
	2. Germany
	3. Spain
Slovakia	1. Slovakia
	2. Germany
	3. Czech Republic
Hungary	1. Hungary
	2. Germany
	3. Italy
Romania	1. Germany
	2. Romania
	3. Turkey
Moldova	1. Moldova
	2. Germany
	3. Romania

Reported drivers for selection of destination country by respondents^{1,3}

Family/friends in location of arrival 48%
Destination is close to Ukraine 15%
Advised by the reception center 13%
Meet family/friends who already displaced there 13%
Other reasons 10%

Reported accommodation type in destination country by respondents³

Staying with family/friend 43%
Found host through social media/volunteer 14%
Don't know where to stay 13%
Rented accommodation 9%
Accommodation provided by authorities 7%

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