

653 INTERVIEWS



- 3** TRAIN STATIONS
- 1** BUS STATION
- 2** HELP/INFO/COMMUNITY CENTRES
- 2** COLLECTIVE ACCOMMODATIONS
- 1** FOOD AND NFI DISTRIBUTION EVENT

BACKGROUND

Since 24 February 2022, refugees from Ukraine and Third Country Nationals (TCNs) have been fleeing to neighbouring countries as a result of the war. 33,446 refugees from Ukraine and TCNs were registered in Hungary as of 10 January 2023, according to [UNHCR and the Hungarian Government](#).

This report is based on a survey on displacement patterns, needs and intentions, launched by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) in Hungary. All interviews were conducted face-to-face by IOM's DTM trained enumerators with adult refugees and TCNs fleeing Ukraine. The analysis is based on 653 surveys collected between 01 and 31 December 2022.

Interviews were carried out in various locations, such as Budapest (146) and Záhony – Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg County (507), and in various settings, including transit points (e.g., train and bus stations), the Help Center (run by the Budapest Municipality and IOM), the Info and Community Center (run by IOM and UNHCR), collective accommodations and a food and non-food items distribution event.

This sample is not representative of all persons fleeing from Ukraine in Hungary, and results should only be considered as indicative.

MAIN FINDINGS

- Women constituted 57% of respondents
- The largest age group was between 18-29 years old (44%)
- The 47% TCNs mostly originated from India (29%), Nigeria (10%), Azerbaijan (8%) and Pakistan (8%)
- The most common areas of origin were: City of Kyiv (21%), Kharkivska (17%), and Zakarpatska (10%)
- 64% of respondents travelled in a group and 60% were separated from at least some immediate family members
- 652 respondents had identification documents. The majority (97%) held passports
- 42% of respondents had an occupation in Ukraine, while 19% had a job in Hungary
- 48% of interviewees obtained bachelor or higher levels of education (i.e., Master's and doctoral studies)
- Transportation was the main reported need (45%)
- Where to find accommodation was the main information need (37%) and social media was the preferred communication means (79%)
- The top final intended destinations were Hungary (39%), Germany (22%) and Austria (7%)

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Figure 1: Ukrainian refugees and TCNs

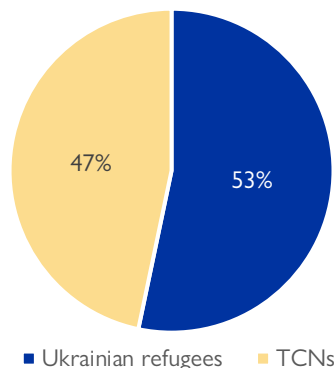
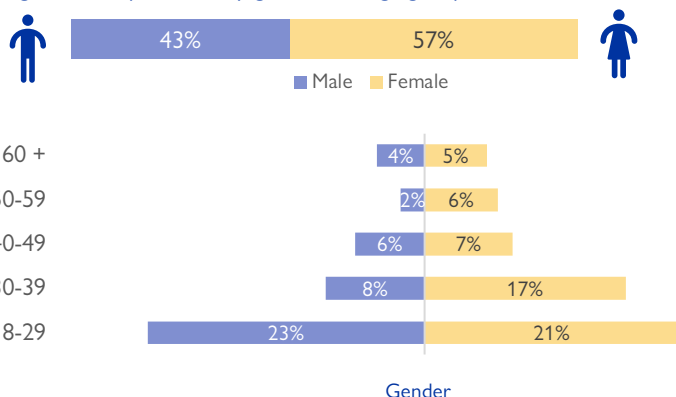


Figure 2: Respondents by gender and age groups



Women constituted 57 per cent of the interviewed population, while men 43 per cent. Among the age groups, respondents between 18-29 were at 44 per cent, whereas interviewees between 30-39 and 40-49 years old were at 25 and 13 per cent each. Eight and nine per cent were between 50-59 and above 60 years of age, respectively.

Most respondents were refugees from Ukraine (53%). The remaining 47 per cent were TCNs. Twelve (2%) Ukrainian refugees held other nationalities, the majority of which were from Hungary (7 people), followed by Afghanistan (1), Azerbaijan (1), Egypt (1), Germany (1) and Islamic Republic of Iran (1).

The four main countries of origin of TCNs were India (29%); Nigeria (10%); Azerbaijan (8%); Pakistan (8%).

Other mentioned nationalities were: Morocco (5%); Turkmenistan (5%); Iraq (4%); Türkiye (4%); Russian Federation (3%); Ghana (3%); Algeria (2%); Central African Republic (2%); People's Republic of China (2%); Uzbekistan (2%); Tajikistan (2%); Cuba (1%); Georgia (1%) and Israel (1%) (*note: the total sum is slightly lower than 100 as the numbers were rounded, avoiding decimals*).

REGIONS OF ORIGIN IN UKRAINE, TRANSPORT AND ARRIVAL IN HUNGARY

One hundred-thirty-six respondents reported the City of Kyiv as their area of origin in Ukraine, while 112 persons were from Kharkivska. Many interviewees also originated from Zakarpatska (67), Odeska (57), Dnipropetrovska (47) and Vinnytska (41).

Other mentioned regions of origin or habitual residence were: Ivano-Frankivska (19); Ternopilska (19); Donetska (18); Mykolaivska (18); Poltavska (17); Khersonska (15); Kyivska – Oblast (14); Sumska (13); Zaporizka (13); Cherkaska (9); Kirovohradska (9); Khmelnytska (6); Chernihivska (5); Lvivska

(4); Chernivetska (3); Rivnenska (3); Sevastopil – City (3); Volynska (2); Zhytomyrska (2); and Luhanska (1).

Most interviewees (85%) declared having left Ukraine by train. Seven, five and two per cent crossed by bus, car and on foot respectively. The remaining one per cent departed by minibus or plane. Concerning their arrival in Hungary, seventy-two per cent of respondents entered the country in December 2022.

Map 1: Region of origin/residence before leaving Ukraine

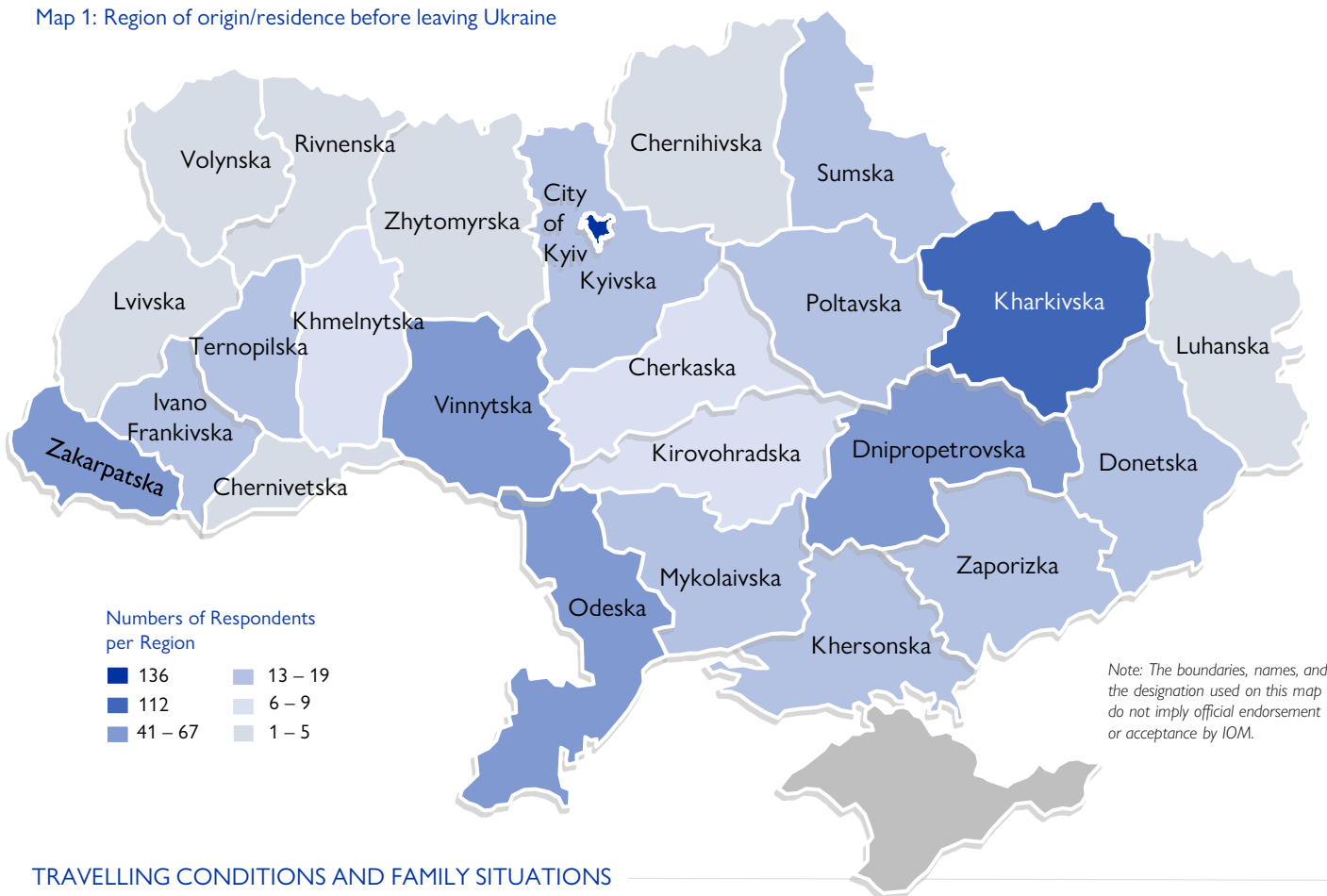
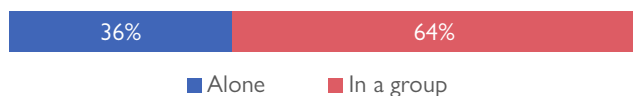

TRAVELLING CONDITIONS AND FAMILY SITUATIONS

Figure 3: Travelling alone or in a group



The majority of respondents travelled in a group, representing 64 per cent of the interviewed population, while 36 per cent left Ukraine alone. Travelling groups were composed in average by three persons and included: family (59%); friends and neighbours (42%); relatives (i.e., non-immediate family members) (9%); and unknown people (1%) (note: as multiple replies were allowed, the total is higher than 100%).

Figure 4: Separation from family due to the war in Ukraine



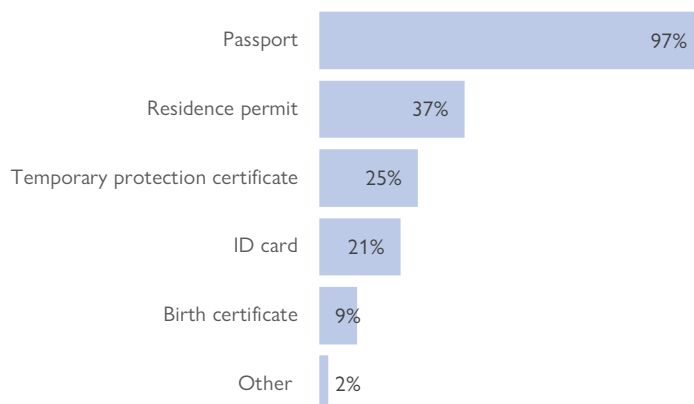
Most interviewees (60%) have been separated from at least some of their immediate family members as a result of the conflict and/or their departure from Ukraine. The remaining 40 per cent have not been separated from immediate family members. Seventy-eight per cent of respondents reported having relatives outside Ukraine, while twenty-two per cent do not have family elsewhere.

STATUS IN UKRAINE AND POSSESSED DOCUMENTS

All respondents except one reported having identification documents. Among these, 97 per cent had passports - either from Ukraine or their countries of origin - while 37 per cent had residence permits issued in Ukraine. Temporary protection certificates, ID cards and birth certificates were also held by 25, 21 and 9 per cent of interviewees respectively. Two per cent possessed other documents too, such as diplomas, pensions, and student cards.

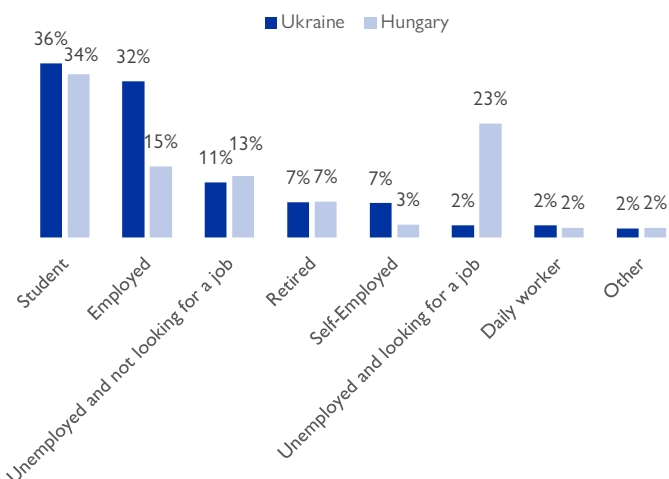
Besides the 347 respondents with Ukrainian citizenship, the 306 interviewed TCNs resided in Ukraine through student visas (186 people), residence (55), work (45) and family reunification (20) permits. The remaining people were refugees (2), tourists (1) and undocumented (1) in Ukraine.

Figure 5: Possessed documents



EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

Figure 6: Employment status in Ukraine and Hungary



Forty-two per cent of respondents reported having an occupation in Ukraine (32% employed; 7% self-employed; 2% daily worker), while 19 per cent stated having a job in Hungary (15% employed; 3% self-employed; 2% daily worker). The remaining percentages (58% in total in Ukraine and 79% in total in Hungary) declared being unemployed. (note: the total sum is slightly lower than 100 as some respondents chose not to answer)

Figure 7: Types of occupation in Ukraine and Hungary

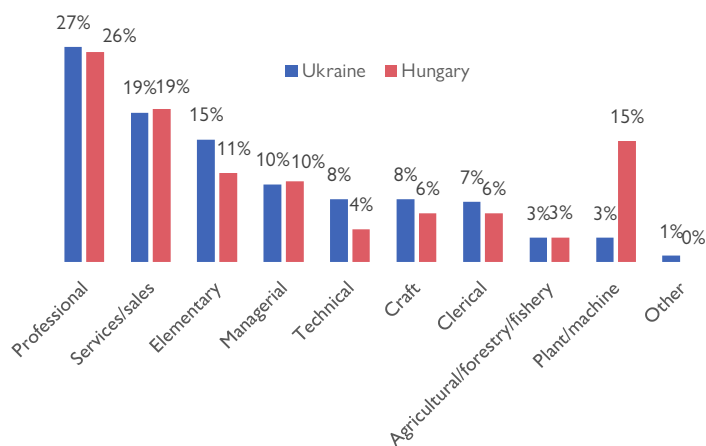
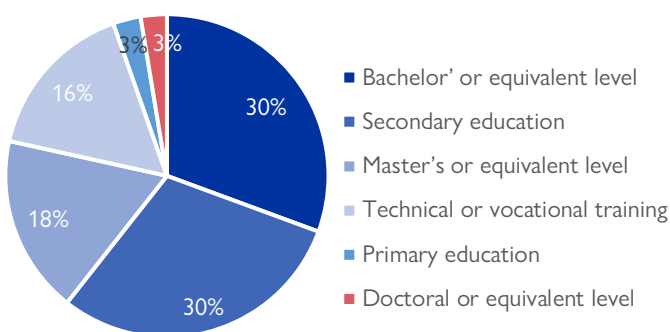


Figure 8: Obtained education



Most respondents reported having bachelor or secondary education (30% each), followed by master's (18%) and technical-vocational studies (16%). Three per cent each of interviewees pursued doctoral or primary education.

For respondents who declared having an occupation in Ukraine and/or Hungary, the following working categories were reported: i) professional (e.g., doctor, lawyer): Ukraine 27% - Hungary 26%; ii) services/sales (e.g., personal care, security service): Ukraine 19% - Hungary 19%; iii) elementary (e.g., cleaner, street vendor): Ukraine 15% - Hungary 11%; iv) managerial (e.g., director, senior official): Ukraine 10% - Hungary 10%; v) technical (e.g., sales agent): Ukraine 8% - Hungary 4%; vi) craft (e.g., metal worker, repairer): Ukraine 8% - Hungary 6%; vii) clerical (e.g., secretaries, customer service): Ukraine 7% - Hungary 6%; viii) agricultural/forestry/fishery (e.g. gardeners, farmers, fishers, gatherers): Ukraine 3% - Hungary 3% and ix) plant/machine (e.g., truck driver, miner): Ukraine 3% - Hungary 15%. One per cent (Ukraine) reported other occupations, such as volunteer work.

MAIN NEEDS AND SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Figure 9: Top needs



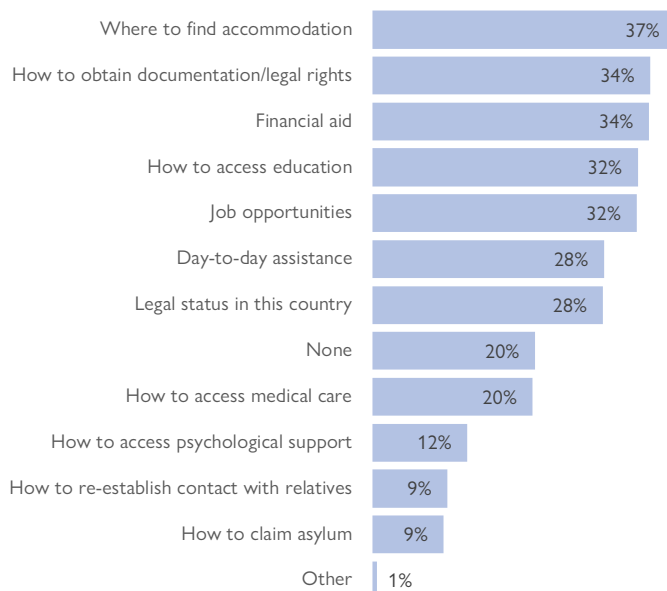
Note: Respondents could select multiple replies, hence the total is higher than 100%.

Transportation (45%); accommodation (43%); information on services (40%); legal advice (38%); education (32%); and employment (28%) were the top needs reported by respondents, based on various personal factors and external considerations.

For those who required legal advice, the following were concerned: residency status (42%); asylum status process (32%) and assistance in case of delay (26%) (note: respondents could select multiple replies. Hence, the total is higher than 100%).

Further mentioned necessities were: non-food items (NFIs) (26%); food (15%); cash (14%); medical treatment/items (12%); ways to contact relatives (9%); family reunification permits (5%); and psychosocial support (3%). Twelve per cent of respondents reported no needs, while one per cent required assistance with other matters, such as childcare and translation services.

Figure 10: Information needs

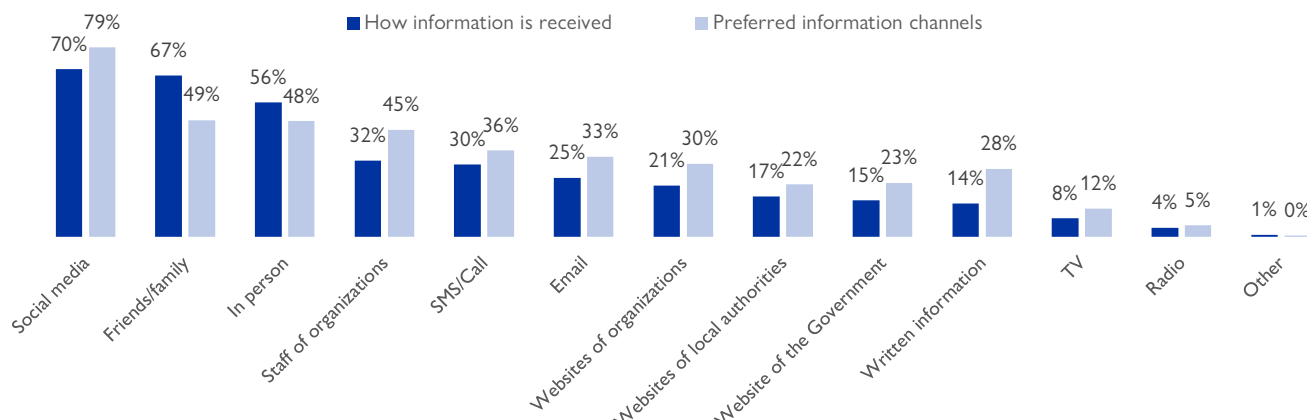


Note: Respondents could select multiple replies, hence the total is higher than 100%.

Respondents provided a variety of topics they needed information on, mostly including, among all: where to find accommodation (37%); how to obtain documentation/legal rights (34%); financial aid (34%); how to access education (32%); and job opportunities (32%).

Twenty per cent declared having no information needs, while one per cent mentioned other topics, namely onward movement from Hungary to different destinations.

Figure 11: How information is received vs. preferred information channels



Note: Respondents could select multiple replies. Hence, the total is higher than 100%.

Respondents indicated social media as main means through which they receive (70%) and prefer receiving (79%) information.

Ranking differs for other communication channels. For example, information received by family/friends (67%) was preferred only

by (49%) of interviewees, while information received by staff of organizations met along the way (32%) and via SMS/call (30%) and email (25%) was preferred by 45, 36 and 33 per cent of respondents, respectively.

PERSONAL/GROUP CONDITIONS

39 % of those travelling in a group had at least one child with them:

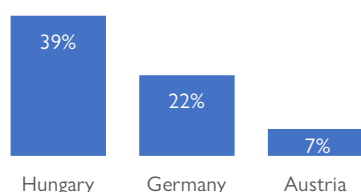
- 19% between 0-4 years old
- 55% between 5-14 years old
- 26% between 15-17 years old



8 % of those travelling with a group had at least one elderly person with them

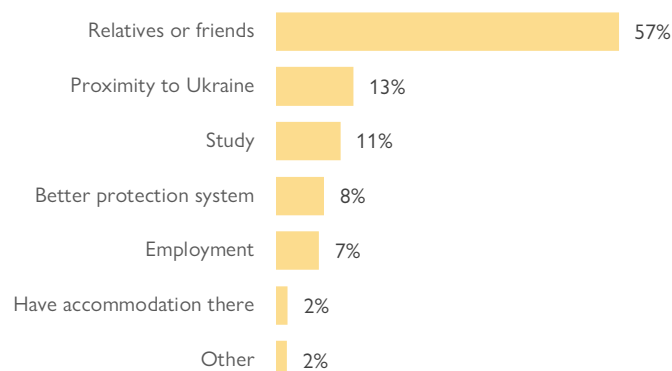
FINAL INTENDED DESTINATIONS AND REASONS FOR CHOOSING THEM

Figure 12: Top final destinations



The majority of interviewees (39%) planned to remain in Hungary, followed by Germany (22%) and Austria (7%). Other respondents were unsure about their destination or did not choose to disclose their intentions (3% and 2% respectively). Further aimed countries were: India (5%), Poland (4%), Switzerland (2%), Belgium, Central African Republic, Czechia, Finland, France, Italy, Pakistan, Portugal, Spain, the Netherlands and Turkmenistan (1% each) (*note: the total sum is slightly lower than 100 as the numbers were rounded, avoiding decimals*).

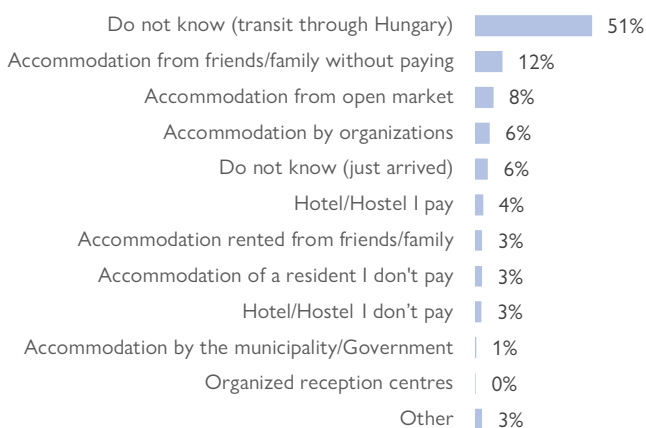
Figure 13: Reasons informing decisions on final destinations



The main reasons for the final intended destinations were: relatives/friends (57%); proximity to Ukraine (13%); study (11%); better protection system (8%); and employment (7%).

CONDITIONS AND INTENTIONS RELATIVE TO HUNGARY

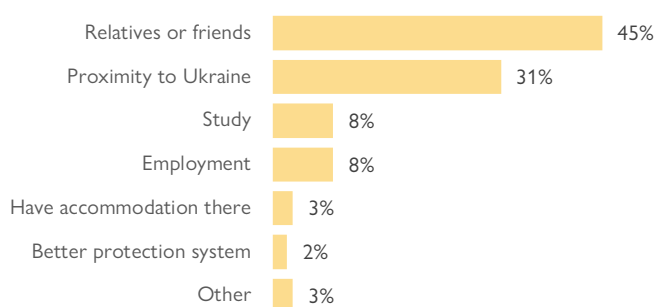
Figure 14: Where respondents stay in Hungary



Many respondents did not report a place of stay in Hungary, as they were transiting through the country (51%) or had just arrived (6%).

Others declared residing in rented accommodations (e.g., on the open market – 8% and from friends/family - 3%), in houses/flats provided for free (e.g., by friends/family – 12%; grassroot/international organizations – 6%; residents – 3%; and by the municipality/Government – 1%). The rest mentioned staying in hotel/hostels at their own expenses (4%) or for free (3%) and in other locations, such as the ones provided through jobs (3%).

Figure 15: Reasons informing Hungary as final destination



For most respondents, relatives/friends and proximity to Ukraine (45% and 31% respectively) were the main reasons defining their intention to remain in Hungary.

The majority of interviewees declared wanting to stay in Budapest (81%) and most planned to reside in private accommodations (42%) (including hotels or places provided by private/civic initiatives), with relatives or friends (19 and 13% respectively) or in locations recommended by the authority (6%).

Forty-three per cent of respondents did not know how long they would remain in Hungary, while 38 per cent foresaw staying in the country "until the end of the war". For the 19 per cent who estimated an approximate length of time, the average period of stay was 34 days.

METHODOLOGY

IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) 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.

This survey is part of IOM's DTM activities to monitor the displacement, intentions and most immediate needs of the Ukrainian refugees and TCNs fleeing from Ukraine to EU Member States and continuing onward to other countries since 24 February 2022. Surveys were collected, among others, in selected transit locations, in information centres and collective accommodations, identified to be the most frequently used by refugees and TCNs who have left Ukraine.

In Hungary, surveys were undertaken in Ukrainian, Russian, Hungarian and English by IOM's DTM trained teams of enumerators on a mobile application. The interviews are anonymous and carried out one-on-one with respondents, provided they consent to be interviewed after a brief introduction. Enumerators trained on ethics of data collection, information provision and protection principles, approached people fleeing from Ukraine, to verify their willingness to conduct the survey, which was only addressed to adults (18+).

The survey form was designed by IOM to capture the main

displacement patterns for refugees fleeing from Ukraine because of the war. It 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 Hungary and to intended final destinations; and it gathers information regarding a set of main needs.

Various settings were identified to conduct surveys (*see page 1 for specific locations*), to maximise the number of interviews, and reach out to different profiles of individuals. While in transit points, such as train/bus stations, the flow of people was higher and interviewees were randomly surveyed (having the same likelihood compared to others to be selected), in other settings, such as the Help and Info-Community Centres, collective accommodations and distribution events, respondents were intentionally identified.

Among the limitations encountered during data collection were the reduced time to carry out surveys at transit points and the presence of only eight enumerators at the moment of the interviews.

To address the aforesaid shortcomings, and cover different viewpoints, a mixed sampling strategy guided the data collection exercise. Consequently, this analysis does not proportionally represent the whole population and results cannot be deemed representative of a full picture of displacement outside Ukraine and towards Hungary and other countries.



DTM Enumerator at a food and NFI distribution event organized in Budapest, Hungary. © IOM Hungary 2022

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This publication was made possible through support provided by the United States Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM), the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) and the Swiss State Secretariat for Migration (SEM). Some rights reserved.

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