

Context & Methodology

More than 4 million refugees have fled Ukraine since the escalation of conflict on 24 February 2022. From among them, 2,362,044 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, 931 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 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	787	95%
Male	39	5%



Nationality of the respondent

Ukrainian	97%
Other	2%
Russian	1%



Respondents reporting travelling with the following population groups¹

Children 0-5 years of age	17%
Children 6-18 years of age	65%
Elderly (65+ years of age)	11%
Pregnant and lactating women	1%
Persons with disabilities	4%

Number of people traveling with respondents

Alone	7%
1 - 4	76%
5 +	17%



Most reported pre-displacement employment status of respondents²

Wholesale and retail trade	24%
Social services	14%
Education (including students and teachers)	10%
Health care	8%

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	72%
Damage in or near the settlement	30%
Worry that active fightings will come to the settlement	11%

Most frequent regions (oblasts) of origin²

Kyiv	224	24%
Kharkiv	137	15%
Donetsk	95	10%
Dnipropetrovsk	77	8%
Chernihiv	58	6%

Reason for selecting border crossing²

Chose randomly	31%
Someone else made the decision	26%
Most direct route to border	16%
Most convenient for future plans	11%

Most frequently reported modalities of border crossing²

Foot	359	43%
Bus	286	35%
Train	125	15%
Car	52	6%

Intentions

Top 3 intended destination countries of respondents

Germany	29%
Poland	18%
Spain	9%

14% of respondents intending to stay in Poland don't know how long they will stay in the country

79% 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 respondents^{1, 2}

Family/friends in location of arrival	35%
Advised by reception center	24%
Meeting displaced family or friends	10%
Advised by family or friends	9%

Reported accommodation type in destination country by respondents

Staying with family/friend	35%
Found host through social media/volunteer	26%
Don't know yet	13%
Accommodation provided by authorities	11%
Rented accommodation	5%

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