Refugee Arrivals from Ukraine into Poland

Context & Methodology

More than 6.5 million refugees have fled Ukraine since the escalation of conflict on 24 February 2022. From among them, 3,544,995 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, 10,678 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 25 May. Following this data collection, select interviewees will be contacted for long-form gualitative 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



employment status of respondents²

Wholesale and retail trade	17%	
Education (including		
students and teachers)	11%	
Unemployed	9%	
Retired	8%	

★ Origins and Arrivals

100% of respondents reported holding a passport

Reasons for leaving the area of origin^{1,3}

Damage in or near the settlement Active conflict (incl. troops) in the		
settlement		
Worry that active fighting will	35%	
come to settlement in next days		

Reason for selecting border crossing²

Chose randomly Most direct route to border	30% 24%	
Someone else in the	21%	
group made the decision Most convenient for future plans	17%	

Respondents reporting travelling with the following population groups¹

76% respondents travelling with children of which 21% were under 5

10% respondents travelling with older persons (65+ years of age)

4% travelling with persons with disabilities

Number of people traveling with respondents

Alone	
1 - 4	
5 +	

17%	
74%	
9%	

Most frequent regions (oblasts) of origin⁴

Kyiv	18%
Kharkiv	11%
Dnipropetrovsk	11%
Lviv	9%
Donetsk	8%

Most frequently reported modalities of border crossing²

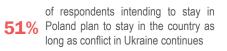
Bus	40%	
Foot	27%	
Train	18%	
Car	14%	

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→ Intentions

Top 5 intended destination countries of respondents

Poland	48%	
Germany	16%	
Spain	5%	
Denmark	3%	•
France	3%	•



of respondents intending to stay in 33% Poland don't know how long they will stay in the country

Reported drivers for selection of destination country by respondents^{1, 2}

Pre-displacement linkages to the location of arrival	39%	
(for example family or friends)		
Destination close to Ukraine	38%	
Advised by reception center	11%	
Job/livelihoods opportunities at destination	10%	

Reported accommodation type in destination country by respondents

Staying with family/friend Found host through social media/volunteer	24% 24%	
Rented accommodation	22%	
Don't know yet	7%	
Accommodation provided by authorities	7%	

¹Multiple responses permitted. The sum might exceed 100%. ² Top four choices indicated by respondents. ³ Top three choices indicated by respondents. ⁴ Top five choices indicated by respondents.

