

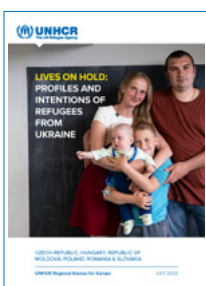


UNHCR/R.Kostrzynski

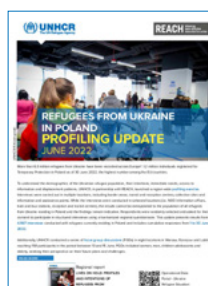
INTRODUCTION

More than 7.1 million refugees from Ukraine have been recorded across Europe¹. Close to 1.4 million individuals registered for Temporary Protection in Poland as of 12 September 2022, the highest number among the EU countries. To understand the demographics of the Ukrainian refugee population, their intentions, immediate needs, access to information and their displacement patterns, UNHCR, in partnership with REACH, launched a region-wide [profiling exercise](#). Interviews were carried out in multiple locations, including border areas, transit and reception centres, collective sites and information and assistance points. While the interviews were conducted in selected locations (i.e. NGO information offices, train and bus stations, reception and transit centers), the results cannot be extrapolated to the population of all refugees from Ukraine residing in Poland and the findings remain indicative. Respondents were randomly selected and asked for their consent to participate in structured interviews using a harmonized regional questionnaire. This update presents results from [3,854 interviews](#) conducted with refugees currently residing in Poland and includes cumulative responses from [1 to 31 July 2022](#). The approach employed enables for a month to month comparison.

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Regional report
**LIVES ON HOLD:
PROFILES AND
INTENTIONS OF
REFUGEES FROM
UKRAINE**
July 2022



Report from June:
**REFUGEES FROM
UKRAINE IN POLAND
- PROFILING UPDATE**
June 2022



Operational Data
Portal - Ukraine
Refugee Situation:
POLAND

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

As in June (see [here](#)), most of the July respondents plan to stay in Poland. This - together with expected influx of new refugees in the coming months - poses special challenges to Polish institutions and humanitarian actors.

Consequently, the majority of refugees interviewed in July (60%) intend to stay in Poland. This is especially common among respondents from Zhytomyrska (75%), Khmelnytska (75%) and Volynska (69%) oblasts, while respondents from Zaporizka, Kyiv and Dnipropetrovska oblasts plan to return to Ukraine more often than others (35%, 26% and 25% respectively, compared to 20% on average). Among those planning to return to Ukraine, the most common motivation is to temporarily be with their family (22%) - with the intention of returning to Poland at a later date.

22% of the refugees travel with at least one person with special needs - most often with person with disability (11%) or with serious medical condition (7%). 15% travel with at least one elderly person - and they more often declare the need for medical or material support.

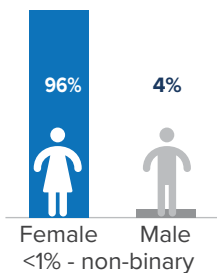
Financial support, access to employment and accommodation remain the most frequently reported immediate needs, followed by in-kind assistance and medical treatment. With the arrival of winter, access to housing risks becoming even more challenging, as less hosting options may be available, coupled with the difficulties caused by raising energy prices².

DEMOGRAPHY

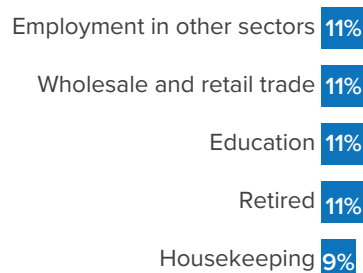
The refugees interviewed in July are mostly Ukrainian women travelling with members of close family (mainly with children/ infants and/or other adult women), with high level of education (more than half of respondents holding university degree) and diverse professional experience.

74% of respondents were travelling with other people, of whom 93% with close family. More than a half (58%) are with at least one child or infant and 15% with at least one person aged 60 or more. On average, respondents were travelling with 2 other people.

Gender breakdown



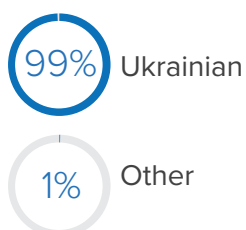
Top 5 pre-displacement employment status



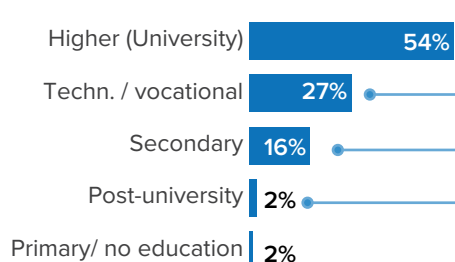
Age differences in employment:

- Unemployment is most frequent among youngest respondents, 18-24 y.o. (27%, n=276) and retirement, not surprisingly - among ones 60 y.o. and older (73%, n=515).

Nationality



Highest level of education



by age group

	18-24	25-39	40-59	60+
Higher (University)	50%	61%	53%	42%
Techn. / vocational	15%	23%	29%	41%
Secondary	33%	13%	16%	14%
Post-university	1%	2%	2%	3%

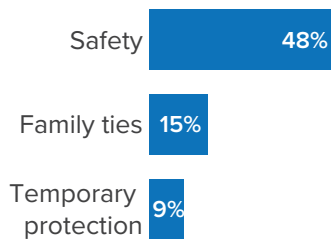
FUTURE PLANS

Most of the respondents (60%) are currently planning to stay in Poland. The most common motivation to stay (indicated by 48%) is safety, followed by family ties (15%). The intention to stay is especially high among refugees traveling with people with special needs (71%) and among those from Zhytomyrska, Khmelnytska and Volynska oblasts (75%, 75% and 69% respectively). One fifth of respondents (20%) reported intent to return to Ukraine. 13% plan to move elsewhere to another country, with Germany, UK and Netherlands being the most frequently reported destinations.

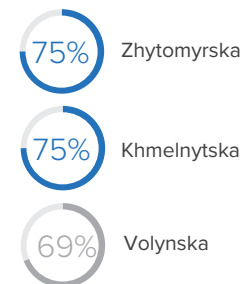
Intentions: Stay in Poland

60% of respondents plan to stay in Poland

Top 3 reasons for staying (n=2,317)



Top 3 oblasts of origin by intention to remain in Poland*



Top 3 oblasts of origin by intention to return to Ukraine*



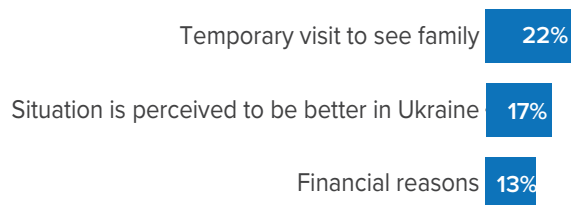
* % shows the proportion of respondents from an oblast intending to stay in Poland or return to Ukraine

Intentions: Return to Ukraine

Among the respondents interviewed in July, one fifth planned to return to Ukraine - most often temporarily to visit their family, but often also for financial reasons or because in their perception the situation in the country is already better. Highest proportion of those planning to return is among respondents from Zaporizka, Kyiv and Dnipropetrovska oblasts.

20% of respondents plan to return to Ukraine, of which **82%** to the oblast of origin. **71%** have concerns about returning.

Main reasons for return (n=768)

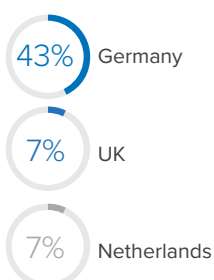


Intentions: Moving Onward

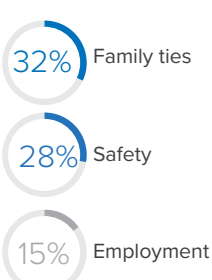
13% of respondents reported intention to move to another country - most often by bus (50%) or plane (23%). Family ties are the most common motivation to move, especially among people with relatives outside Ukraine (motivation for 56% from them).

13% of respondents plan to move to another country

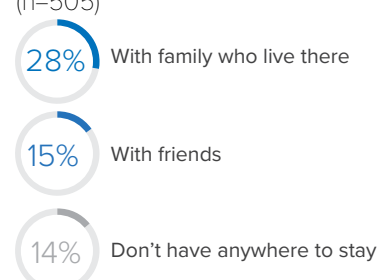
Top final destinations (n=505)



Top reasons for moving elsewhere (n=505)



Top accommodation arrangement for those moving onward (n=505)

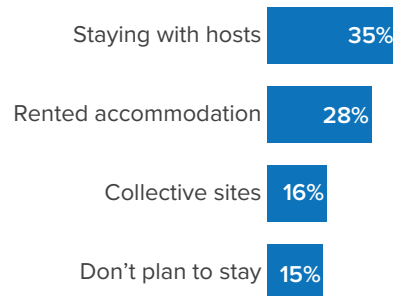


ACCOMMODATION

The majority of refugees interviewed are staying with hosts (35%) or in rented accommodation (28%), while 16% stay in collective sites.

There is a significantly higher proportion of respondents staying with hosts among those who travel with close family (30%), than among those who do not (20%). In addition, people travelling with at least one person with special needs more often reside in collective sites (22%) than those with no person with special needs (16%).

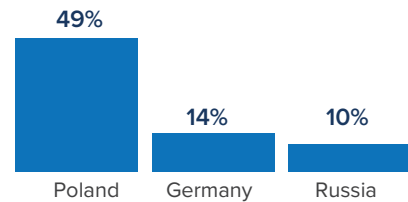
Top 5 current/planned accommodation types



SUPPORT NETWORKS

32% of respondents have relatives residing outside Ukraine

Top 3 countries of relatives (n=1,224)

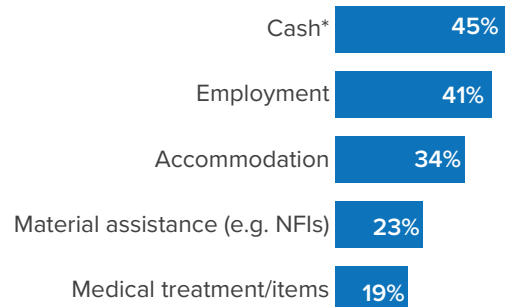


PRIORITY NEEDS

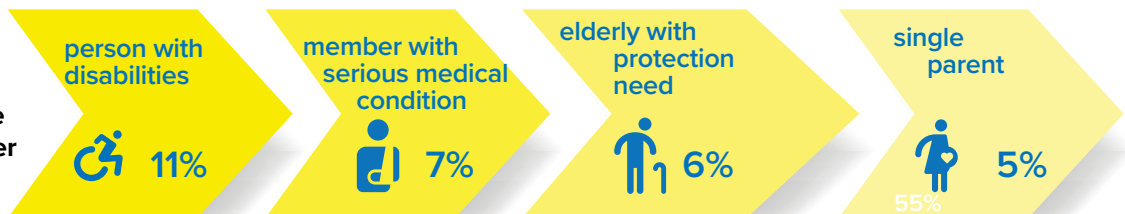
Cash, employment and accommodation are most often mentioned as priority needs. Material assistance and medical treatment is needed by one fifth of respondents.

- Cash is more often a priority need among those travelling with elderly (60% compared to 46%).
- Those travelling with elderly also more often express need for medical treatment (35%, compared to 18% of those without elderly).
- Medical treatment is also more often needed among household with people with special needs (37% compared to 16%).

Most frequently reported basic needs



22% of households have at least one member with special needs



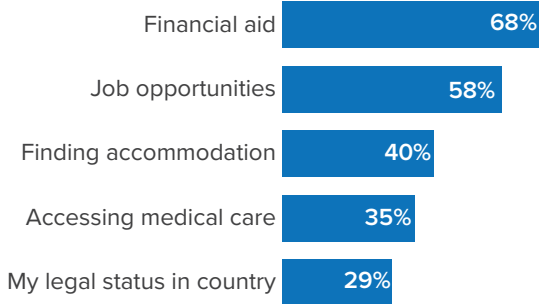
* While cash is the priority basic need reported by refugees, it covers several underlying needs. Future reports will explore what these underlying needs are.

INFORMATION NEEDS

Those who expressed information needs most often indicated the need to receive information about financial aid, job opportunities and finding accommodation. Social media and messaging apps are preferred methods for communication, especially Facebook, Viber, and Telegram.

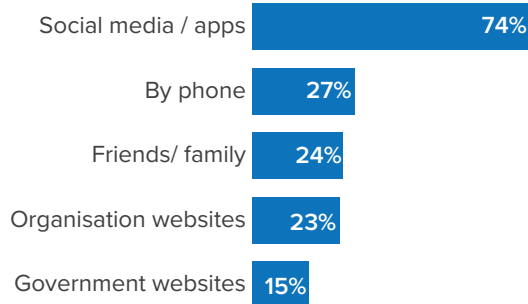
Top 5 reported information needs*

N=2392



Preferred methods of receiving information*

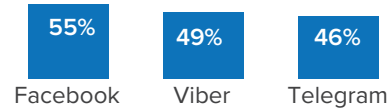
N=2732



38% of respondents did not answer the question about the need for information.

*multiple responses permitted. The sum might exceed 100%. Shows percentages among respondents who answered this question.

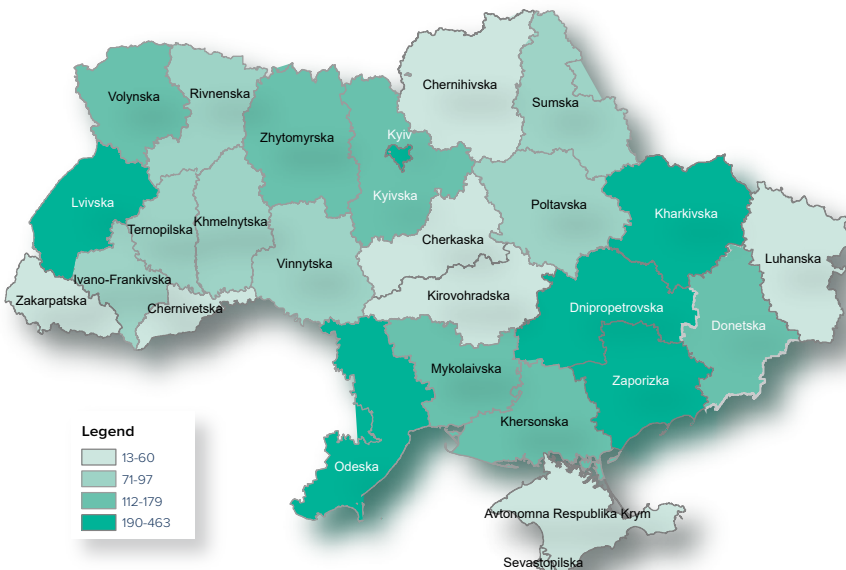
Preferred social media channels*



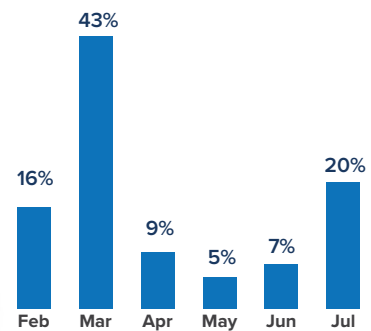
ORIGIN & ARRIVAL

The majority of respondents (59%) left their place of origin between late February and March. 100% have national passport or national ID with themselves (of whom 78% biometric, 22% non-biometric or did not tell). 10% were internally displaced within Ukraine prior to leaving the country. Most respondents come from Kyiv, Kharkivska and Dnipropetrovska oblasts.

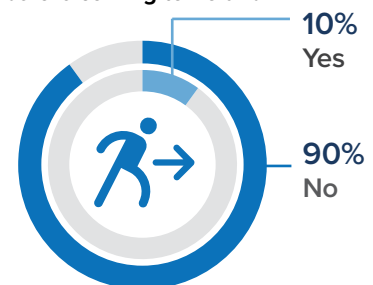
Most frequent oblasts of origin



Month of departure



Were internally displaced before coming to Poland





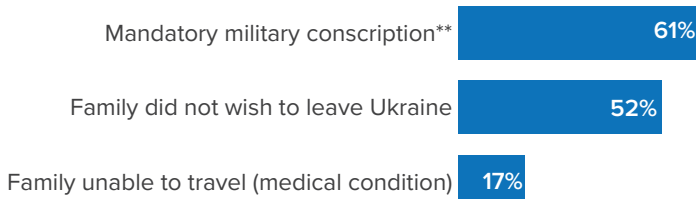
FAMILY SEPARATION

Most of respondents were separated from immediate family members since the onset of war. This was most often caused by the martial law preventing men aged 18-60 to leave the country or the fact that family members did not wish to or could not leave Ukraine.

89% of respondents were separated from immediate family members

Top 3 reasons for separation

(n=3,413)*



*Multiple responses permitted. The sum might exceed 100%.

**Military conscription applies to martial law in place in Ukraine which prevents men from 18-60 from leaving the country, however it does not imply that those who remained are in active military service.

Limitation of findings

- Non-probability sampling was applied and therefore the results cannot be extrapolated to the population of all refugees from Ukraine residing in Poland.
- Conflict is ongoing and rapidly changing, and population movements continue, therefore results might differ significantly in the next round of data collection.
- Data was collected only in certain regions, including border areas in Podkarpackie and Lubelskie voivodships, as well as major cities like Warszawa, Kraków, Wrocław, Lublin and Poznań - the situation might differ in other regions and smaller cities.

Endnotes

- 1 [UNHCR Operational Data Portal for Poland](#)
- 2 [UNHCR Operational Data Portal for Poland](#)

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