Surveys of Arriving Migrants from Ukraine (SAM - UKR)

Factsheet: 2 February 2023
Based on responses received between 11 April 2022 and 12 January 2023
On 11 April 2022, the EUAA in partnership with OECD launched the Surveys of Arriving Migrants from Ukraine (SAM - UKR).

The goal of this project is to collect data directly from displaced people fleeing the war in Ukraine into the EU, on their journey, vulnerability, needs, future aspirations, registration process, family situation and current situation.

The survey is voluntary and anonymous and is available in English, Ukrainian and Russian. Displaced people participate online, using their own mobile phones.

Data collected will be used to provide situational updates to European policymakers and will enable services to be better tailored for refugees from Ukraine.
Key findings

5,317 eligible responses were received between 11 April 2022 and 12 January 2023.
Some 96% are Ukrainian citizens and 4% are non-Ukrainians residing in Ukraine before the war started. Some 78% are female and 79% are aged between 18 and 44 years. Only 2% are over 65.

Most respondents are highly educated and were employed before the war started.
Some 73% have a Bachelor’s or Master’s and 76% were employed. The most common languages spoken, other than Ukrainian, are Russian and English, followed at a distance by Polish, German, French.

Most respondents have reached their preferred destination country when they participated in this survey.
The main relevant factors in choosing a destination country were work opportunities and family and friends. The majority lived in private housing hosted by national families or by their family members or friends. The average satisfaction with living conditions is slightly positive at 3.6 (on a scale 1 to 5), as well as for access to education at 3.5 (on a scale 1 to 5).

Some 66% of respondents registered for Temporary Protection in their preferred destination country.
Some 10% did not register yet, but intend to and about 10% registered for a residence permit. Only 7% registered for a legal status in another country before arriving to their current location.
Demographics

5,317 Respondents

Ukrainian citizens
N = 5,112 | 96 %

Non-Ukrainian residents in Ukraine
N = 205 | 4 %

Age respondents
18 – 44 years = 4,162/ 79 %
45 – 64 years = 1,007/ 19 %
65+ = 126/ 2 %

78 % Prefer not to say = 2 %
Other = 1 %

Age children
0 – 4 years = 989/ 22 %
5 – 11 years = 2,007/ 45 %
12 – 17 years = 1,475/ 33 %

Where were you living?

Where did you enter the EU?

Other country, 610
Moldova (118), Latvia (79), Estonia (37), Estonia (37), Russia (26), Germany (18), Bulgaria (16), Lithuania (14), Belarus (11), etc

Note: Respondents included non-EU countries
Qualifications

What languages do you speak?
(Top 10 languages)
(Multiple answers were possible)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ukrainian</td>
<td>3791</td>
<td>32.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian</td>
<td>3243</td>
<td>29.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>2040</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polish</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romanian</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkish</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What is the highest level of education you have obtained so far?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic secondary education</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>19.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete secondary education</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>20.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete higher education</td>
<td>534</td>
<td>45.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional education</td>
<td>1250</td>
<td>42.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's</td>
<td>1641</td>
<td>53.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master's</td>
<td>3791</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Languages spoken and current place
(For the languages spoken in the EU out of the top 10)


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Employment

 Were you employed before the war started?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>76 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>21 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I prefer not to say</td>
<td>3 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Job category in relation to current country
(for top 5 countries with highest participation in the survey, excluding ‘other’)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Romania</th>
<th>Poland</th>
<th>Czechia</th>
<th>Lithuania</th>
<th>Germany</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Managers</td>
<td>20 %</td>
<td>33 %</td>
<td>20 %</td>
<td>25 %</td>
<td>25 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>15 %</td>
<td>18 %</td>
<td>16 %</td>
<td>14 %</td>
<td>11 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>8 %</td>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Healthcare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(10 %)</td>
<td>(11 %)</td>
<td>(8 %)</td>
<td>(10 %)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What is your job category?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other professionals/occupations</td>
<td>32 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management, administration</td>
<td>20 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales, communication</td>
<td>16 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education, teaching</td>
<td>11 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare, life science</td>
<td>9 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical and construction workers</td>
<td>4 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I prefer not to say</td>
<td>2 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering, science, technology</td>
<td>2 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logistics, transport</td>
<td>1 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>1 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Have you reached your preferred destination country?

Yes, 3231, 74 %
No, 541, 12 %
I don't know, 600, 14 %

Where are you currently?

Where do you plan to go?
(only includes countries chosen 10 times or more)

- Germany: 65
- Canada: 62
- United Kingdom: 55
- Czechia: 52
- United States: 45
- Belgium: 33
- Poland: 28
- Ireland: 25
- Spain: 24
- Sweden: 20
- Lithuania: 20
- France: 20
- Netherlands: 17
- Malta: 16
- Austria: 16
- Romania: 15
- Norway: 15
- Switzerland: 13
- Finland: 13
- Portugal: 11
- Italy: 11
- Denmark: 11
- Slovenia: 10
What is most important for you in choosing a preferred destination country? (Multiple answers were possible)

- Work opportunities: 48%
- Family and friends: 46%
- Benefits and support: 25%
- Language spoken: 20%
- Other: 10%
- Meeting specific health needs: 9%

Other: Short distance from Ukraine, educational opportunities, free housing, safety, etc
Host countries (3/3)

Proportion of those currently in EU bordering countries with Ukraine, who consider they have reached their final destination:

- Poland, 66%
- Slovakia, 44%
- Hungary, 38%
- Romania, 72%

Proportion of those currently in EU+ non-bordering countries, who consider they have reached their final destination:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Proportion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malta</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czechia</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Croatia

Bulgaria

Latvia

Finland

Iceland

Poland, 66%

Slovakia, 44%

Hungary, 38%

Romania, 72%
Family situation

How many children/dependent adults do you have with you and in Ukraine?

- Zero: 1484
- One: 905
- Two: 236
- Three: 38
- Four: 11
- Five: 7
- Six: 4
- Seven or more: 38

How many children are with you?

- Zero: 3241
- One: 1155
- Two: 236
- Three: 38
- Four: 11
- Five: 7
- Six: 4
- Seven or more: 3

How many children have you left in Ukraine?

- Zero: 748
- One: 667
- Two: 660
- Three: 519
- Four: 239
- Five: 93

How many dependent adults are with you?

- Zero: 1155
- One: 1484
- Two: 905
- Three: 236
- Four: 38
- Five: 11
- Six: 7
- Seven or more: 4

Which kind of accommodation are you currently staying in?

- Private house hosted by a national family: 1031 (26 %)
- I reside in private housing on my own: 748 (19 %)
- Other: 667 (17 %)
- Private house hosted by family members/friends: 660 (17 %)
- I currently reside in a reception centre: 519 (13 %)
- I prefer not to say: 239 (6 %)
- I don't know: 93 (2 %)

Do you expect family members other than your partner or children to join you later?

- Yes: 1324 (32 %)
- No: 1605 (39 %)
- I don't know: 1052 (26 %)
- I prefer not to say: 123 (3 %)
Did you register for temporary protection, asylum, residence permit in any other country in the EU, before arriving to your preferred destination?

- Temporary Protection: 66%
- Residence permit: 10%
- I haven't but I intend to register: 10%
- No, I didn't: 5%
- I plan to register in a different country: 3%
- Asylum/International protection: 2%
- I prefer not to say: 2%
- Other: 2%
- I don't know: 1%

Top 5:
- Bulgaria: 19%
- Poland: 14%
- Germany: 12%
- Romania: 7%
- Lithuania: 6%
**Journey (1/2)**

What were the main reasons that made you leave? (Multiple answers were possible)

- Own decision to leave to escape military actions: 2009 (52%)
- Result of direct military attacks: 1882 (49%)
- Deprivation of basic needs, food, water, housing, etc: 1257 (33%)
- Fear of being personally targeted: 1183 (31%)
- Fear of sexual and/or gender based violence: 1049 (27%)
- Unemployment, poverty: 789 (21%)
- Fear of torture or punishment: 766 (20%)
- Other: 368 (10%)
- My home was destroyed: 356 (9%)
- Fear of being forced to use weapons: 230 (6%)
- Evacuations organised by the authorities: 194 (5%)

Where did you get information about your journey? (Multiple answers were possible)

- Other people abroad: 1755
- Social media: 1537
- Traditional media: 707
- NGOs, grassroots, organisations: 386
- Other: 293
- Government authorities: 141
- Smugglers: 174

Which modes of transportation did you use? (Multiple answers were possible)

- Bus: 1741
- Train: 1372
- Car (own car): 1330
- Airplane: 512
- Car (hitchhiked): 417
- Other: 43
- Prefer not to say: 174

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Journey (2/2)

Did you pay someone to help you escape Ukraine?

- No, I did not pay anyone: 2776 (76%)
- Yes, I paid someone: 759 (21%)
- I prefer not to say: 119 (3%)

Who did you travel with?

- With my family members: 1759 (48%)
- With my underage children only: 1338 (36%)
- Alone: 524 (14%)
- With people I met during the journey: 418 (11%)
- With people from my neighbourhood: 221 (6%)
- Other: 52 (1%)

During your journey in Ukraine, did you experience any of the following?

(Multiple answers were possible)

- No, none of the following: 1653
- Severe hardship during the journey: 1089
- Shooting, bombing or threat: 843
- Emotional abuse, threat of physical assault: 300
- Financial fraud or exploitation: 191
- Racism or xenophobia: 188
- Extortion, corruption or blackmailing: 127
- Robbery or theft: 102
- Physical assault or attacks: 82
- Sexual harassment: 64
- Imprisonment or detention: 41
- Human trafficking: 26
**Current situation**

How satisfied are you with your current situation?

- **Very satisfied**: 25%
  - Education for children: 12%
  - Access to medical care: 14%
  - Access to legal advice: 33%
  - Living conditions: 35%

- **Somewhat satisfied**: 41%
  - Education for children: 13%
  - Access to medical care: 16%
  - Access to legal advice: 35%
  - Living conditions: 33%

- **Neither satisfied nor unsatisfied**: 16%
  - Education for children: 16%
  - Access to medical care: 16%
  - Access to legal advice: 23%
  - Living conditions: 26%

- **Somewhat unsatisfied**: 13%
  - Education for children: 13%
  - Access to medical care: 15%
  - Access to legal advice: 14%
  - Living conditions: 13%

- **Very unsatisfied**: 8%
  - Education for children: 13%
  - Access to medical care: 13%
  - Access to legal advice: 12%
  - Living conditions: 12%

**Average satisfaction for those that reached their preferred destination and those that have not**

- Living conditions: 3.6 vs 3.7
- Access to legal advice: 3.2 vs 2.8
- Access to medical care: 3.2 vs 2.7
- Education for children: 3.5 vs 3.6

(Average satisfaction level on a Likert scale from 1 to 5)
Since the beginning of the war, have you returned to Ukraine?

- Frequently/Regularly (5+ times) 16 (1%)
- Occasionally (2-4 times) 107 (5%)
- Once 269 (12%)
- Never, but I plan to 1159 (50%)
- Never, and I don't intend to 787 (34%)

Temporary returns to Ukraine in relation to region where they lived in Ukraine

- Kyiv city: Yes - 26%
- East: Yes - 12%
- South: Yes - 15%
- Centre: Yes - 17%
- West: Yes - 18%
- North: Yes - 18%
- Bordering countries
- Non-bordering

Note: In this slide, temporary returns should be understood as back and forth movements.
How do you communicate with your family in Ukraine?
(Multiple answers were possible)

- Viber: 72%
- Telegram: 63%
- Phone calls, SMS: 44%
- WhatsApp: 38%
- Facebook: 32%
- Instagram: 26%
- Email: 8%
- Signal: 5%
- Skype: 5%

How do you keep up to date about the current situation in Ukraine?
(Multiple answers were possible)

- Telegram: 79%
- Facebook: 58%
- Instagram: 36%
- Viber: 34%
- Government authorities: 24%
- Television: 22%
- Other people: 21%
- WhatsApp: 12%
- NGOs, grassroots organisations: 10%
- Tik Tok: 9%
- Twitter: 7%
- Radio: 4%
- Newspapers: 4%
- Signal: 2%
Some 900 SAM-UKR survey respondents chose to share further information about their experiences of displacement in the form of a typed, free-text testimony. The text was processed and translated, and a qualitative analysis was performed to identify reoccurring themes. The following represents the top three themes identified in these testimonies.

**People:** Persons, children, family

“It is very difficult to live in another country. I have a son and two elderly people to support”.

“My city is under occupation, there was a lack of food and medicine, the whole city is surrounded by the military, people are kidnapped every day, people live in fear, and there is always fighting. So we decided to go with my mother and small children from the city, but the second part of my family stayed there.”

**Accommodation:** Housing and residence

“When we arrived, we were given free housing, but only for three months. I have been looking for work and housing, but housing prices are completely prohibitive”.

“Private sector agencies refuse to rent to Ukrainians. Even if I would have the capacity to pay for housing, I cannot get it, so this is also humiliating”.

**Assistance:** Aid, support, help

“I am sincerely grateful to everyone I met on my way in Romania, Hungary, Slovakia, Poland - it was unexpected and incredible support.”

“In my case, my family did not receive payments, we have not received any financial assistance. We are now in trouble because our savings are running out. The country we are in, promised us 80 euros for 2 adults and a child”

* Please note that these excerpts were selected from responses and are not representative of all respondents
The survey is ongoing and can be completed by displaced people from Ukraine [here](#).

The questionnaire will be re-launched in early February 2023 to include topics related to demographics, movements, life in Ukraine and reasons to leave, back and forth movements to Ukraine and life in the host countries.

An in-depth report on “[Forced displacement from and within Ukraine](#)”, co-authored by the EUAA, OECD and IOM was published on 28 October 2022 including results from the survey. Previous results were analysed in [factsheets](#), the last one published on 14 June 2022.

You can follow the project [page](#), to share and disseminate further information about the survey on social media.
The project aims to provide close-to-real-time situational awareness to EU+ countries.

The intermediate results shown in this factsheet are a work in progress. The survey is ongoing, and results may change with additional responses. Moreover, more systematic comparisons with other surveys may follow to calibrate these results.

Responses are collected via convenience sampling, which is not representative of the population. Due to the online mode of responding, the sample may be biased towards younger and more highly educated demographics. It is based on respondents who are aware of the survey, are able to access it through their smartphones, consent to the terms and choose to respond.

The geographical distribution of responses may be influenced by the dissemination of the survey.

The total number of responses is based on eligibility criteria, but responses to each individual question may differ due to the voluntary nature of the questionnaire. Answers are based on self-evaluation and personal opinion of the respondents.

All results are provisional and subject to this disclaimer.
Support is our mission

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