

# EUAA

## Surveys with Arriving Migrants from Ukraine

### LIFE IN THE HOST COUNTRY – REGISTRATION AND RECEPTION

Thematic Fact Sheet – Issue 1, June 2023

Date of issue: 14 June 2023

## Key points



### Demographics

Respondents of SAM-UKR survey are mainly women, aged between 18 and 44 years and of Ukrainian nationality. Most are highly educated with around two thirds having completed tertiary education. Some 9 in 10 were employed in Ukraine before the war.



### Satisfaction with the provision of most support services is moderately positive

About half of the respondents reported being 'somewhat satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with most support services available to them. Knowing the local language and actively accessing the services was associated with higher satisfaction.



### Most respondents have legal protection, while 44 % reside currently in rented accommodation.

About 86 % of respondents have registered for temporary protection, while 31% have applied for international protection. Almost one in two respondents reported that they live in rented accommodations, either room (12 %) or apartment (32 %), which has more than doubled compared to the reported housing situation upon their arrival in EU+ countries.



### Displaced persons from Ukraine continue to face multiple urgent needs

Their most pressing declared needs are: language learning, financial support and employment. Access to basic necessities still remains an issue albeit for around a third of them, while the majority require more support to integrate into the host countries.



If you were living in Ukraine before the onset of the war, you can participate in this survey:

[Tell us your story](#)

## Introduction

The EUAA, in partnership with the OECD, launched an updated version of the Surveys with Arriving Migrants from Ukraine (SAM-UKR) on 9 February 2023. This new version refines the previous questionnaire and focuses on more pertinent aspects given the evolution of the war in Ukraine.

The main goal of SAM-UKR is to collect data directly from forcibly displaced persons from Ukraine into the EU, providing valuable, reliable and comparable data across the EU+ on important indicators that offer situational awareness and support tailoring migration policy, reception and registration processes. The survey is voluntary, anonymous and available online in English, Ukrainian and Russian.

New topics approached with the survey include secondary movements, life in Ukraine and reasons to leave, return intentions and back-and-forth movements, life in the host country – registration, reception, education, employment, satisfaction and urgent needs.

## Demographics

**Respondents are mainly female, aged between 18 and 44 and Ukrainian**

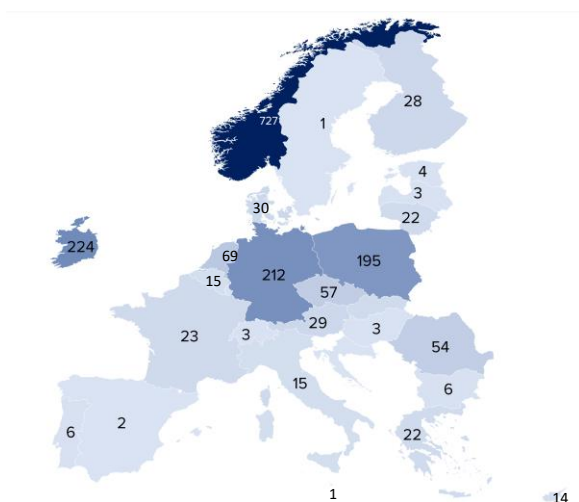
Between 9 February and 17 May 2023, the SAM-UKR revamped survey collected 2 142 eligible responses. Respondents were predominantly female (77 %), aged between 18 to 44 years (72 %) with a mean age of 39 years, of Ukrainian nationality (98 %) and were living in Ukraine before the onset of the war (94 %). Other most common nationalities registered were Russian, Belarusian and Uzbek.

More than half of the respondents have children with them (53 %) and some 15 % care for dependent adults, such as elderly or persons with disabilities and/or serious health conditions. Most children are aged 11 to 17 (43 %), followed by children aged 6 to 10 (32 %) and very young children, aged 0 to 5 years (24 %). Following the same trend as in previous SAM-UKR reports, few elderly people (65+) answered the survey (3 %), possibly indicating lower willingness or capability of older people to leave Ukraine and/or also to participate in this online survey.

**Respondents are highly educated, and most were employed before the start of the war**

SAM-UKR survey respondents are highly educated with some 60 % having completed tertiary education (38 % have a Master's degree, 22 % have a Bachelor's degree and 2 % have a PhD) and 89 % being employed in Ukraine before the war started. Considering that the war has been ongoing for more than a year, and that it is still unknown for how long forcibly displaced persons from Ukraine will remain in their host countries, most adults will need to search for work and a job, contributing to the labour market force in the host country. The respondents' occupations before the war were diverse. The most common occupation was sales and communication (12 %), education and teaching (11 %), management and administration (10 %) and economics and finance (10 %).

The following map (Fig. 1) shows the distribution of respondents in the EU+ countries when they participated in the survey, with higher numbers of participants being in Norway, mainly due to a strong support from national immigration services in the dissemination of the survey, followed by Ireland, Germany and Poland. Due to this stratification not being proportional to the numbers of Temporary Protection registrations in the EU countries, weights were applied on all responses as a post-stratification method to reach a more proportional sample and accurate analysis (see Methodological note).

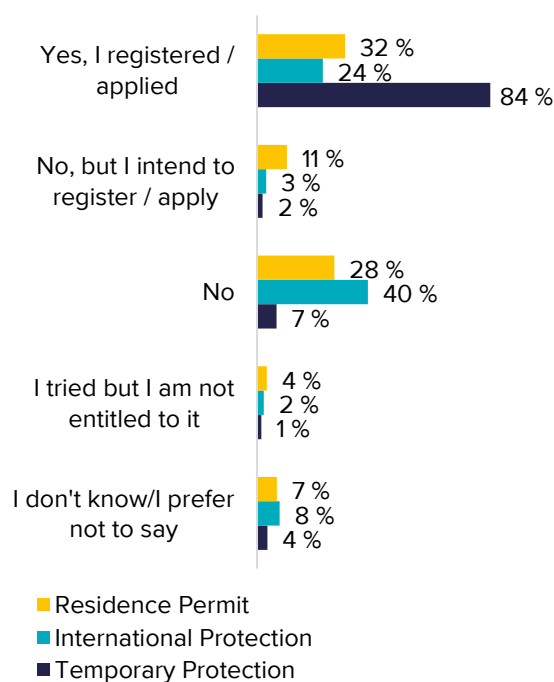


**Figure 1:** Location of SAM-UKR respondents upon participation in the survey

## Registration and reception

### Most respondents have access to some form of legal protection

Some 84 % of those who responded with at least one of the categories<sup>1</sup> (Temporary Protection, International Protection and Residence Permit) reported having registered for temporary protection (see in Fig. 2). Other forms of legal protection were also used, with some 24 % of respondents having applied for International Protection, therefore highlighting that some respondents (22 %) have applied for both forms of protection. Some 32 % of respondents have applied for residence permit, while 11 % stated that they have not registered but intend to proceed. A sizeable minority (17 %) have applied for the two forms of protection and for the residence permit.



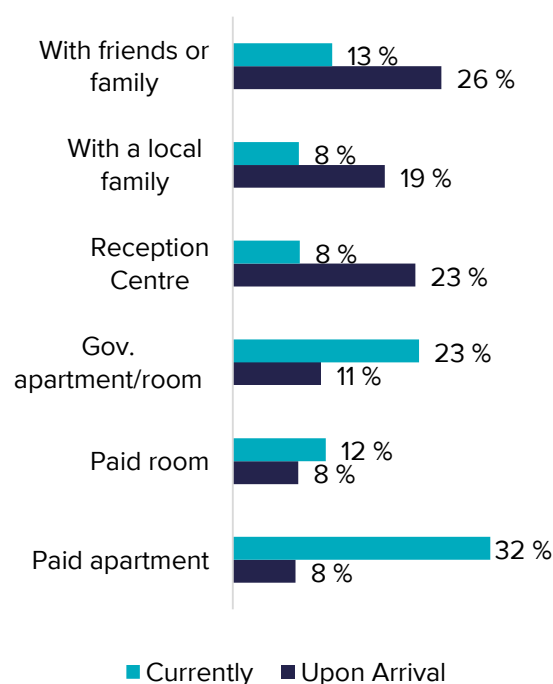
**Figure 2:** Protection Status of SAM-UKR respondents

While the vast majority of respondents (86 %) had not registered for Temporary Protection (TP) or applied for International Protection in any place other than their current location, some 6 % of respondents had registered for TP elsewhere. Out of those, the main countries where respondents registered for TP before their current country were Germany (18 %), Poland

(10 %) and Romania (8 %) or other EU countries with shares below 4 %.

### Change of accommodation type over time, most respondents currently live in private accommodation

Upon their arrival in Europe, respondents were commonly hosted by friends or family (26 %), or stayed in a government-provided housing/reception centre (23 %), while about 16 % reported having rented a room or apartment at their own costs (see Fig. 3).



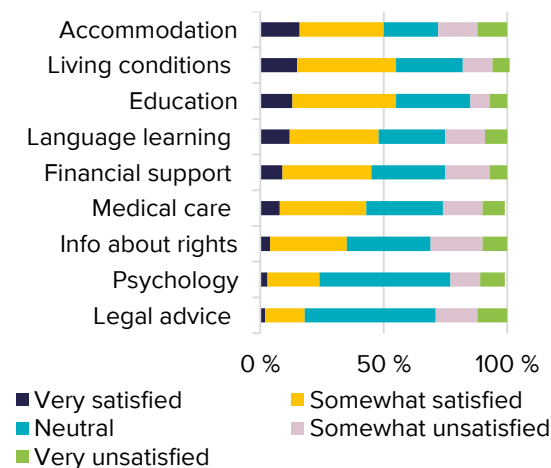
**Figure 3:** Housing type upon arrival and currently

Currently, however, at the time of responding to the survey, more than two fifths of respondents were paying for their own accommodation, nearly a third (32 %) in rented apartments and 12 % in a rented room. Around one fifth of respondents lives in government-provided accommodation (23 %), while one tenth stays with friends or family (13 %). The share of respondents stating that they sustain the economic burden of their accommodation more than doubled from 16 %, upon arrival, to 43 % at the time of participating. On the other side, accommodation with friends and relatives (13 %), local hosting family (8 %), or in collective reception centre (8 %) halved, suggesting a shift from emergency reception solutions to more stable arrangements.

## Satisfaction

### Moderately positive satisfaction with provision of most support services

Satisfaction with provision of support services among respondents varied significantly: about one in every two respondents were 'broadly satisfied'<sup>2</sup> with Education, Living conditions, Language learning and Accommodation support as opposed to just one in four for Psychological support and one in five for Legal advice. At the same time, between 15 % and 31 % of respondents were 'broadly unsatisfied'<sup>3</sup> with the support provided, highlighting the need for further improvements across the board, as seen in Fig. 4. Furthermore, some services such as accommodation, show a polarised experience with a high share of both 'broadly satisfied' and 'broadly unsatisfied' respondents, indicating that the quality of provision of the same service can be uneven.



**Figure 4:** Satisfaction with the provision of services

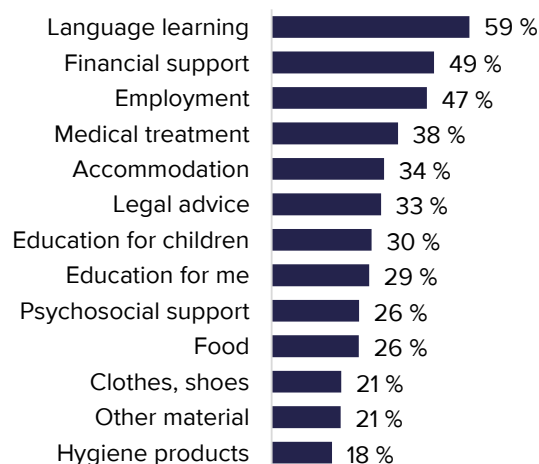
Satisfaction tended to be marginally higher for respondents who spoke the local language, showing the widespread benefits of further mitigating the language barrier. Satisfaction tended to be higher also for those respondents who actively used each service as opposed to those who did not but were aware of their availability. This suggests that the actual provision of services tended to be more satisfactory than respondents' perceptions of these services.

## Urgent needs

### Learning the local language, financial support and finding a job are the most pressing needs<sup>4</sup>

Needs beyond the very basic ones were recognised as the most pressing by most

respondents. However, two distinct profiles emerge from the data: a smaller but important group (36 %) were in urgent need of at least one basic necessity<sup>5</sup>, and a larger group of respondents who have probably already secured the basic necessities and felt a more urgent need for services such as employment and language learning (52 %) or had no pressing needs at all (11 %). Fig. 5 shows the percentage of respondents identifying each need as pressing.



**Figure 5:** Most pressing needs by share of respondents. Multiple choices were allowed.

Groups with distinct profiles had also specific needs: respondents with underage children had a more pressing need for their children's education (46 % vs 6 % for other respondents); financial support was needed by more respondents who have not yet reached their preferred destination (60 % vs 45 %) or who were not employed at the time of the survey (57 % vs 39 % for those employed), although it remained a pressing need for a consistent minority of respondents in employment.

### Displaced persons from Ukraine continue to face multiple very pressing needs

Close to 9 in 10 respondents recognised at least one of the needs presented to them as pressing with a median of four out of 13 needs having been recognised as pressing. Even more, about one in three respondents identified six or more needs as pressing, indicating multiple layers of precarity. The average number of needs identified as pressing was also higher for those who had not (yet) reached their preferred country of destination (4.6 vs 3.9), for those with underage children in their care (4.1 vs 3.5),<sup>6</sup> and at lower difference for those who knew the local language (4.2 vs 4.0).<sup>7</sup>

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> In this question, respondents could provide multiple answers (but max 1 per category). This paragraph illustrates the percentages of responses out of those who answered at least one of the categories.

<sup>2</sup> 'Broadly satisfied' combines the 'somewhat satisfied' and 'very satisfied' ratings. Respondents had to indicate their satisfaction level by choosing one of several options ('Very satisfied', 'Somewhat satisfied', 'Neither satisfied nor unsatisfied', 'Somewhat unsatisfied', 'Very unsatisfied').

<sup>3</sup> 'Broadly unsatisfied' combines the 'somewhat satisfied' and 'very unsatisfied' ratings.

<sup>4</sup> Pressing needs combines the ratings 'urgent' and 'very urgent'. Respondents had to indicate how urgent their need was for specific areas of support by choosing one of several options ('Not applicable', 'Not urgent', 'Urgent', 'Very urgent').

<sup>5</sup> Basic necessities cover the categories *Food, Clothes & Shoes, Other material assistance, Hygienic products*. The 36 % refers to the share of respondents who indicated an 'urgent' or 'very urgent' need for at least one of these categories.

<sup>6</sup> The categories with and without children do not include the indicator Education for children. The maximum number of needs for these groups is therefore 12. The number of needs for those with children would be higher given how salient needs around education for children was for them. Indeed, when including Education for children in the analysis, those with children with them had an average of 4.6 pressing needs vs 3.5 for those without children.

<sup>7</sup> The analysis was run also with 'very urgent' as the only indicator for pressing needs to check the robustness of the results under different assumptions. Differences between the groups remain under this scenario as well but the number of pressing needs is correspondingly lower: a median of one need was recognised as 'very urgent' by respondents under this scenario with about one in five respondents having three or more 'very urgent' needs.

## Methodological note

The SAM-UKR survey collects data from forcibly displaced adults from Ukraine following Russia's invasion in February 2022, since 8 April 2022. The survey is voluntary, anonymous, available online in English, Ukrainian and Russian and self-administered using a device with internet access.

The questionnaire includes 38 questions, organised in five sections. A privacy policy and data protection notice are available for consultation on the survey platform, in English. An ethics self-assessment was conducted to ensure compliance with fundamental ethical principles of surveying vulnerable populations.

The dissemination strategy comprises a multi-channel approach including EUAA's professional networks with national authorities, international organisations, OECD's networks, the EUAA and OECD's websites and social media pages, sponsored campaigns on Facebook, organic posts on Facebook groups and pages, posters and flyers in national migration centres and reception places, and EUAA's operational staff deployed in the Member States where the EUAA provides operational support.

Considering the voluntary nature of the survey and the wide dissemination strategy, the sampling process originated a non-probabilistic sample, possibly biased towards persons with digital literacy and smartphone ownership, internet access and adequate reading literacy. Moreover, the sampling was influenced by the distinct levels of support from Member States at different times. Nonetheless, to offer insightful results an effort to reach a proportional sample was made along with the dissemination strategies, and post-stratification of data using weights was performed during the analysis when appropriate. Population data on Temporary Protection was collected from Member States and guided the weighting factors which were estimated per EU country. Data quality evaluation was established using eligibility criteria for sample inclusion/exclusion, internal validity and duplicate monitoring. The SAM-UKR survey delivers regular outputs – reports, factsheets and dashboards aiming to provide close-to-real time situational awareness to EU+ countries.

This thematic factsheet focuses on specific themes explored in the survey and is produced with intermediate results. The survey is still ongoing, and trends may change with additional responses and the evolution of the situation on the ground.

### **SAM-UKR Thematic Fact Sheet, Issue 1 2023**

This document is produced by the EUAA's Situational Awareness Unit (SAU) on the basis of data collected in the context of the Surveys with Arriving Migrants from Ukraine. This document is based on data until 17 May 2023.

List of terms and abbreviations:

SAM-UKR	Surveys with Arriving Migrants from Ukraine
EU+	European Union Member States plus Norway and Switzerland

