LATVIA

NEW ARRIVALS: NEEDS AND INTENTIONS OF REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE

MARCH - MAY 2024

IOM UN MIGRATION | GLOBAL DATA INSTITUTE DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX

Publisher

Cover photo: During winter, IOM enhanced support to collective centres and provided winterization items and partitions for privacy to those displaced by the war in Dnipro, Ukraine. © IOM 2024
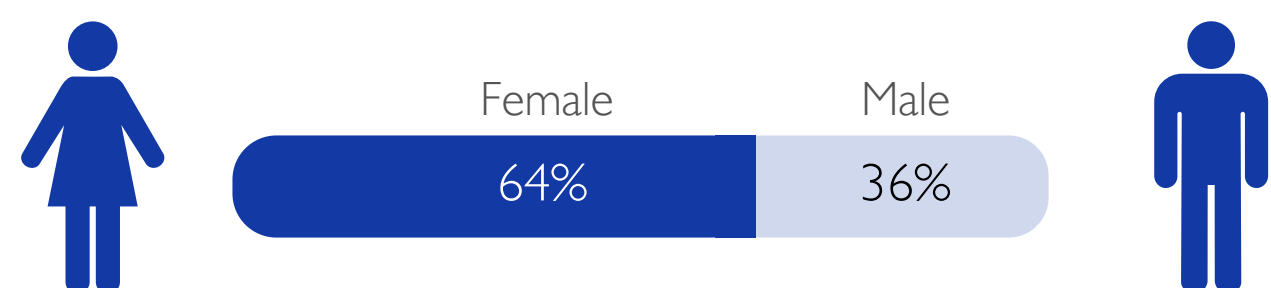
From 12 March to 28 April, IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) in Latvia interviewed a total of 101 individuals as part of the New Arrivals survey. The results from these interviews are presented in the following pages. This survey provides findings on the needs and intentions of newly arrived refugees from Ukraine who have been in Latvia for three months or less. It is important to note that the sample is not representative of all displaced populations from Ukraine in Latvia, and the results should be considered indicative rather than definitive. Results may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding and multi-select questions. For more information, please refer to the Methodology on page 5.
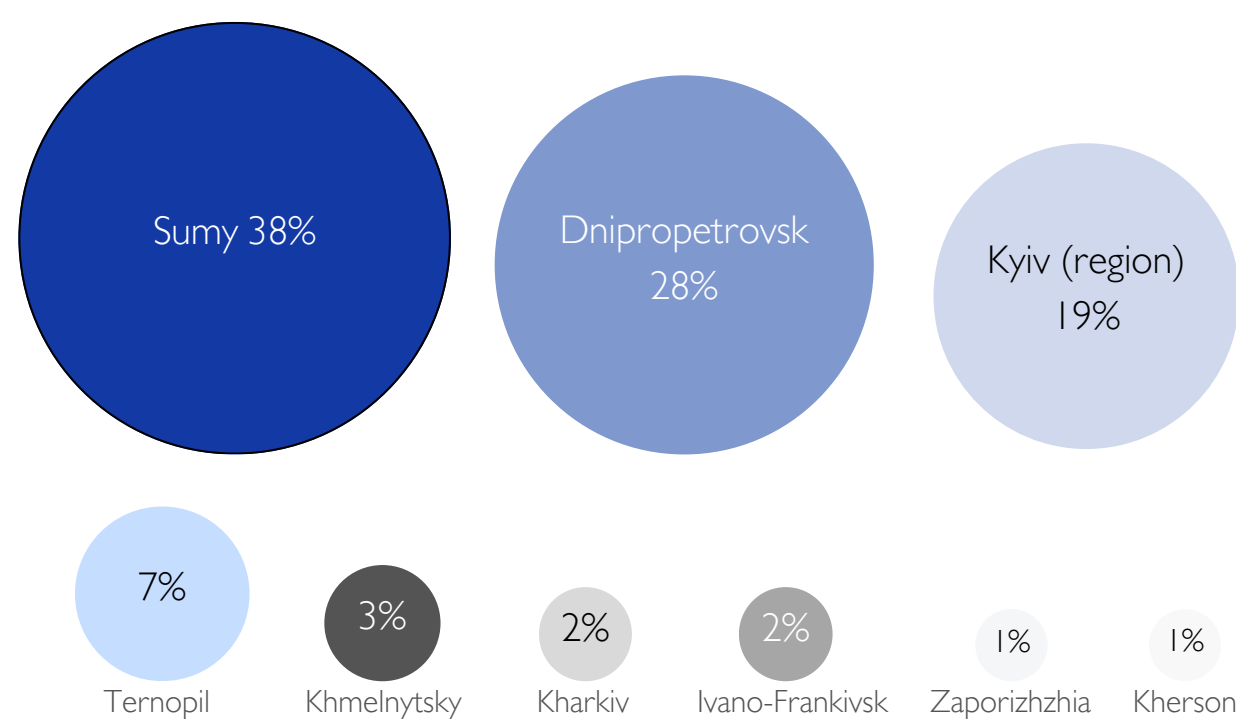
KEY FINDINGS

- 101 Ukrainian respondents: 64% women, 36% men.
- Top oblasts of residence: Sumska (38%), Dnipropetrovska (28%), Kyivska (19%)
- Movement intentions: moving to another country (94% of both men and women), no intentions to move (4% of women and 3% of men), moving to the place of origin (2% of women), moving within current country (3% of men).
- Countries of final destination: Poland (77%), Norway (9%), Finland (8%), Austria (2%), Albania (1%), Czechia (1%), Netherlands (1%).
- Priority needs in the destination country: financial support (88%), long-term accommodation (42%), food supply (37%), health services (19%), general information (13%).

SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Female and male respondents (%) n=101

Female 64%   Male 36%

Previous oblast of residence (%) n=101

Sumy 38%
Dnipropetrovsk 28%
Kyiv (region) 19%

Ternopil 7%
Khmelnytsky 3%
Kharkiv 2%
Ivano-Frankivsk 2%
Zaporizhzhia 1%
Kherson 1%

Respondents by age and gender (%) n=101

Age	Women	Men	Total
18-29	1%	3%	1%
30-39	21%	5%	16%
40-49	32%	11%	25%
50-59	21%	25%	23%
60+	25%	56%	35%

● Women ● Men ● Total
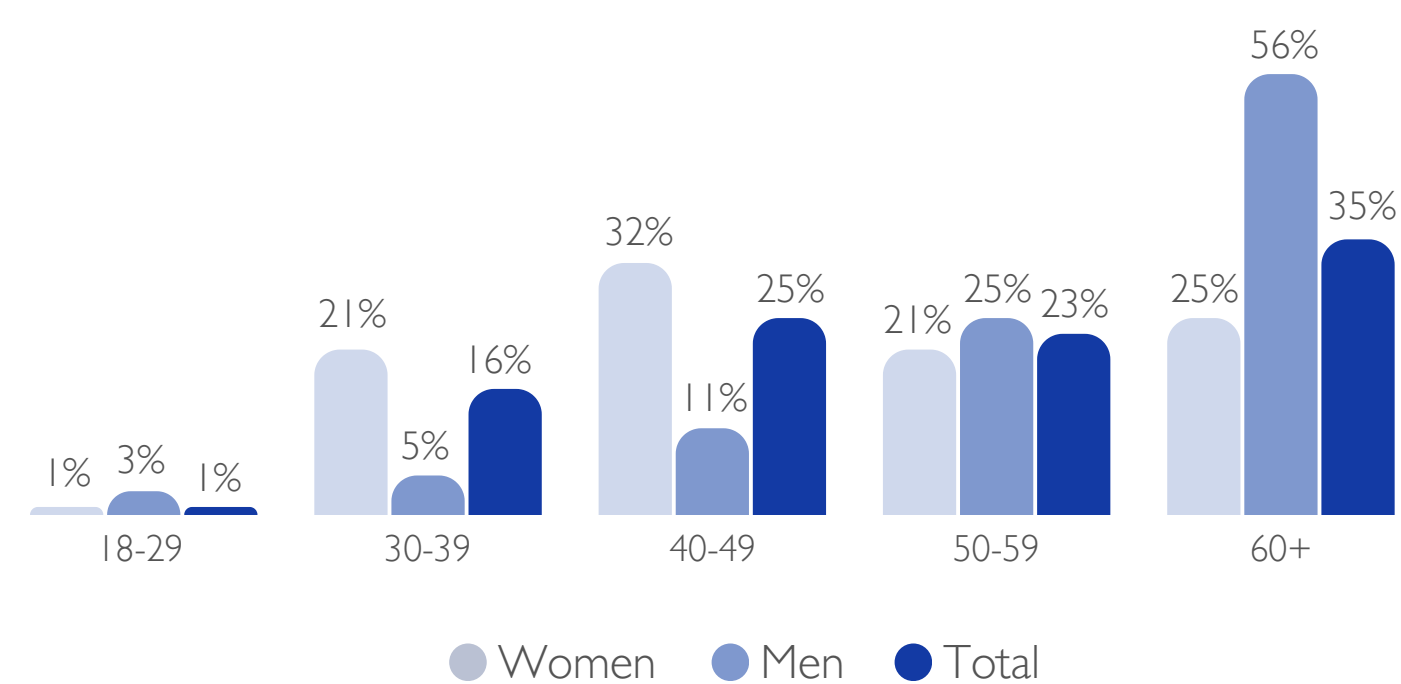
Respondents who previously held IDP status (%) n=101

IDP before 2022 91%   Non-IDP 9%

INTENTIONS

Movement intentions by gender (%) n=101

	Women	Men	Total
Another country	94%	94%	94%
No intentions to move	4%	3%	4%
Place of origin in Ukraine	2%		1%
Within current country		3%	1%

● Women ● Men ● Total
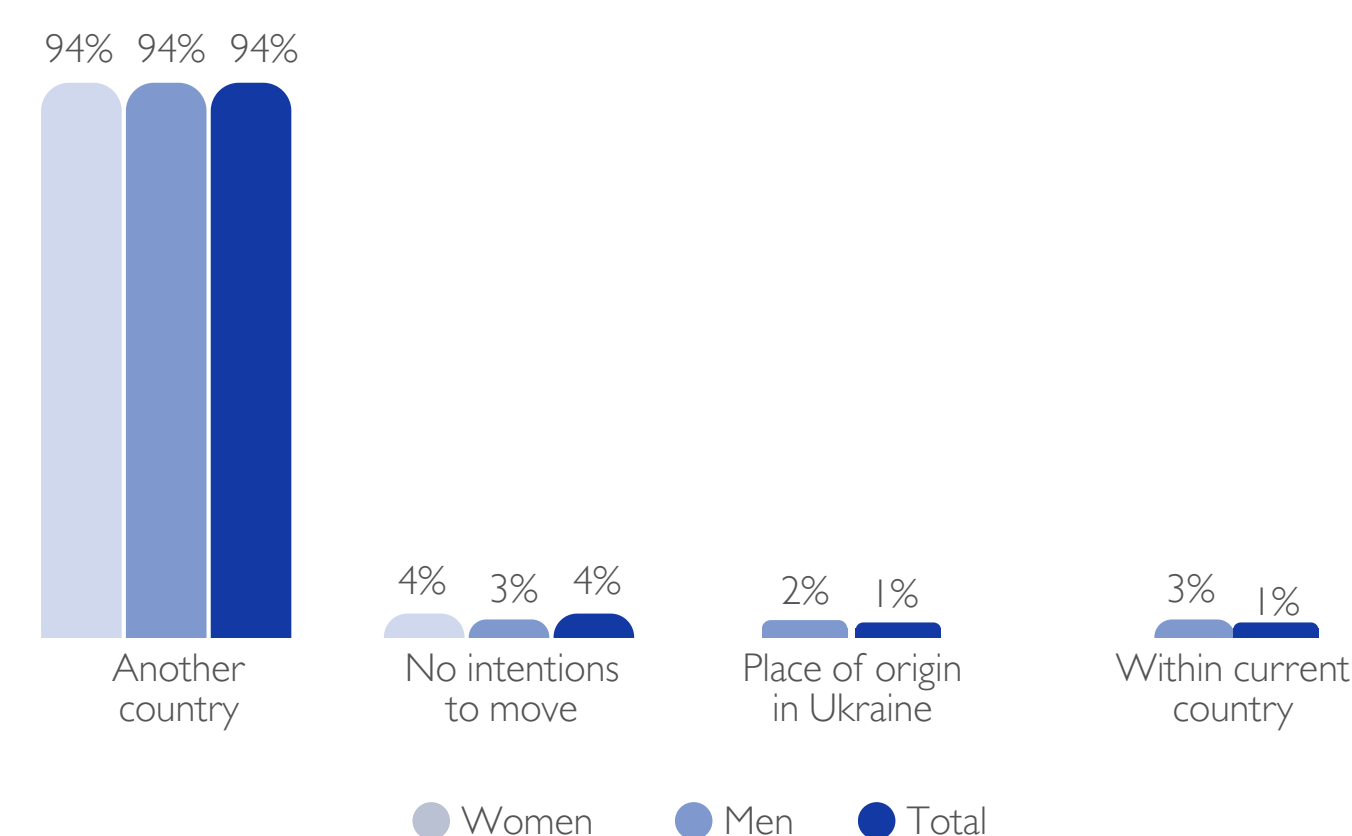
Desire to return to the home country by gender (%) n= 100

	Women	Men	Total
Yes	76%	67%	73%
Yes, if conditions allow	5%	8%	6%
No	3%	8%	5%
No, cannot	3%		1%
Unsure	16%	14%	15%

● Women ● Men ● Total
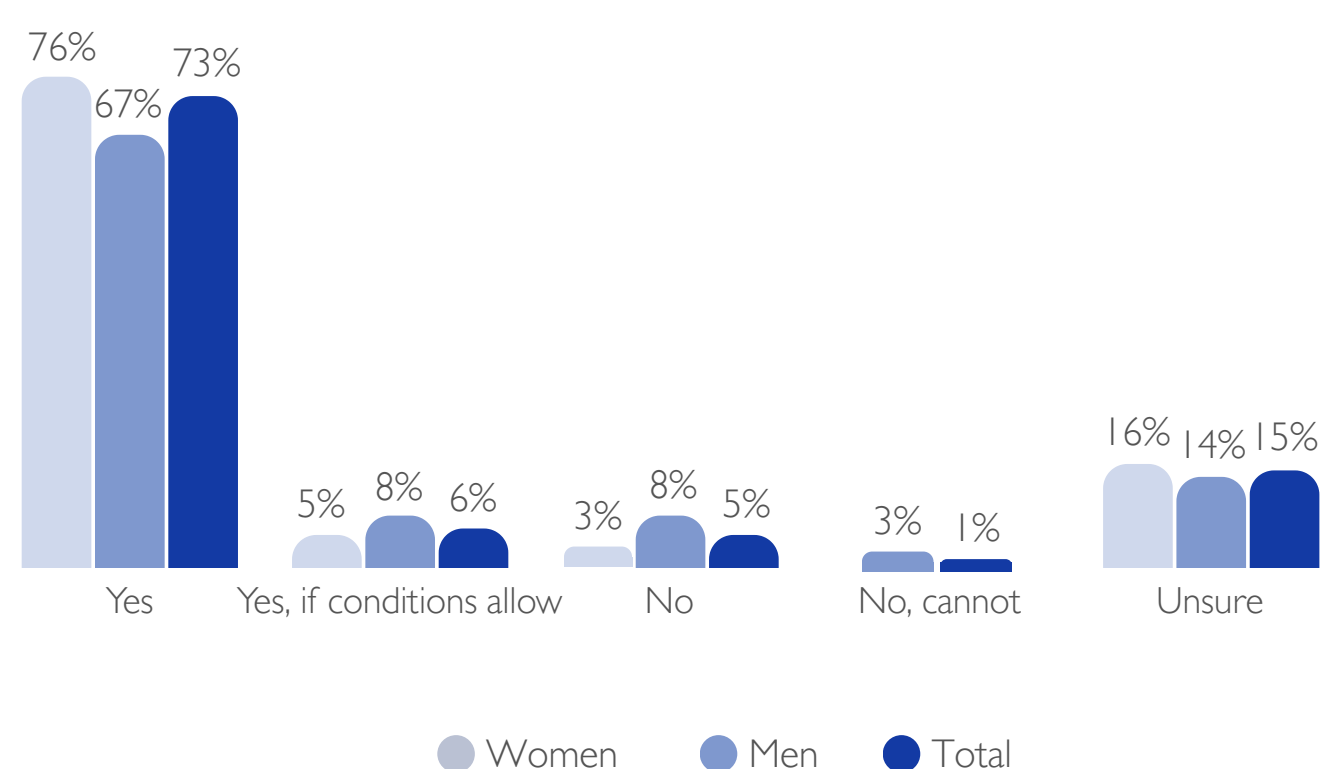
Country of final destination (%) n=95

5%
8%
9%
77%

● Poland ● Norway ● Finland ● Other
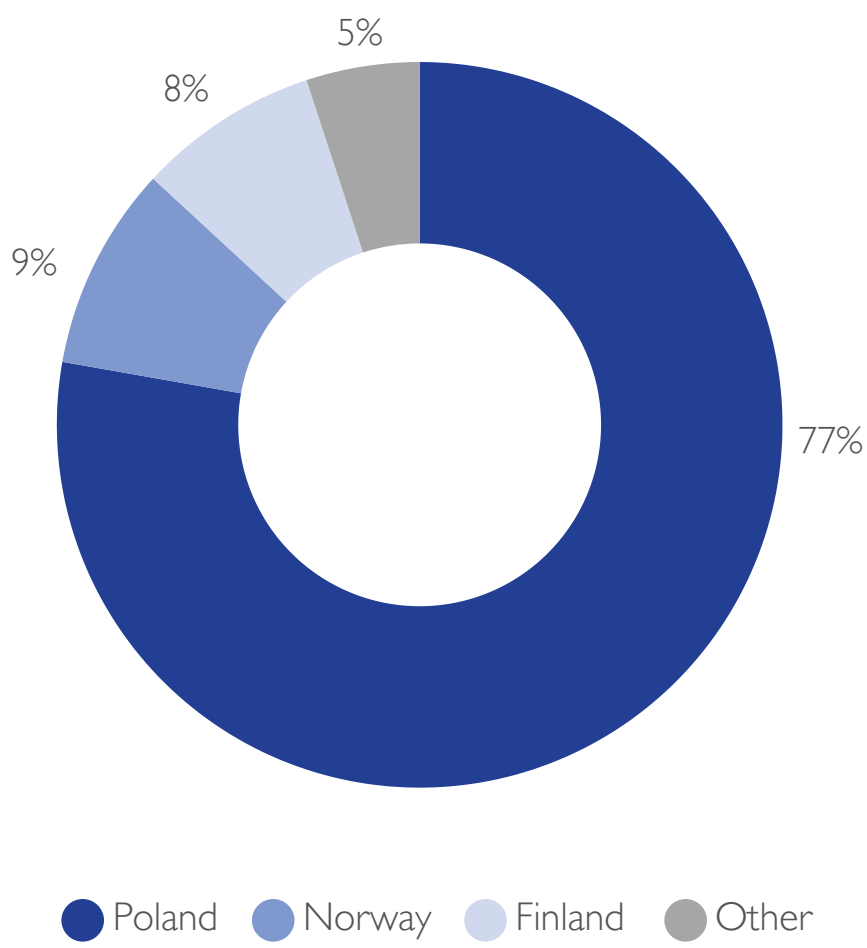
Reasons to choose final destination, by gender (%) n=101

| Friends | Relatives | Other people there | Job opportunity | Close to Ukraine | No reason |

43% 17% 34% | 34% 61% 44% | 9% 11% 10% | 6% 11% 8% | 5% 3% | 3% 2%

● Women ● Men ● Total
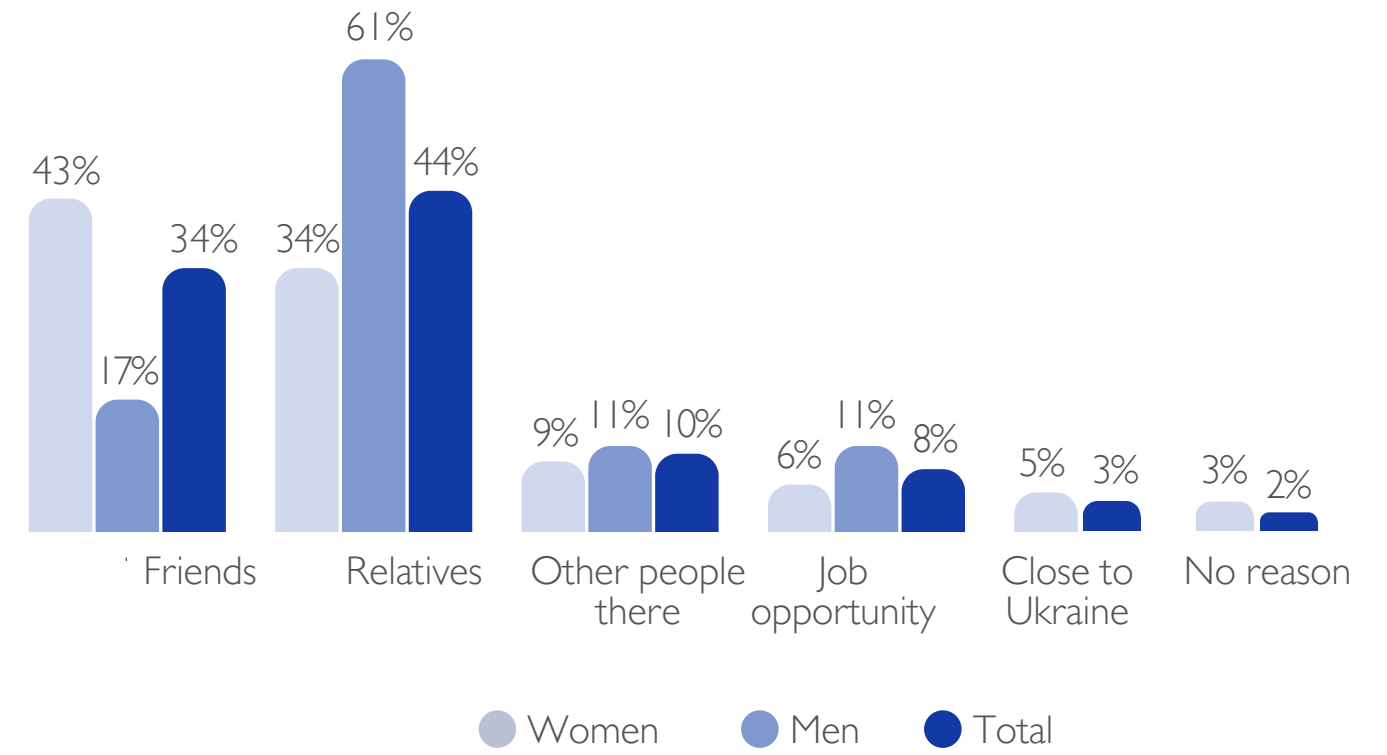
Reasons for the journey, by gender (%) n=101
Multiple answers possible

War: 100% 100% 100%
Economic reasons: 43% 33% 40%
Limited basic services: 31% 39% 34%
Personal violence: 11% 11% 11%
Natural disaster: 5% 3%
Environmental change: 2% 3% 2%
Avoiding military service: 3% 1%

● Women ● Men ● Total
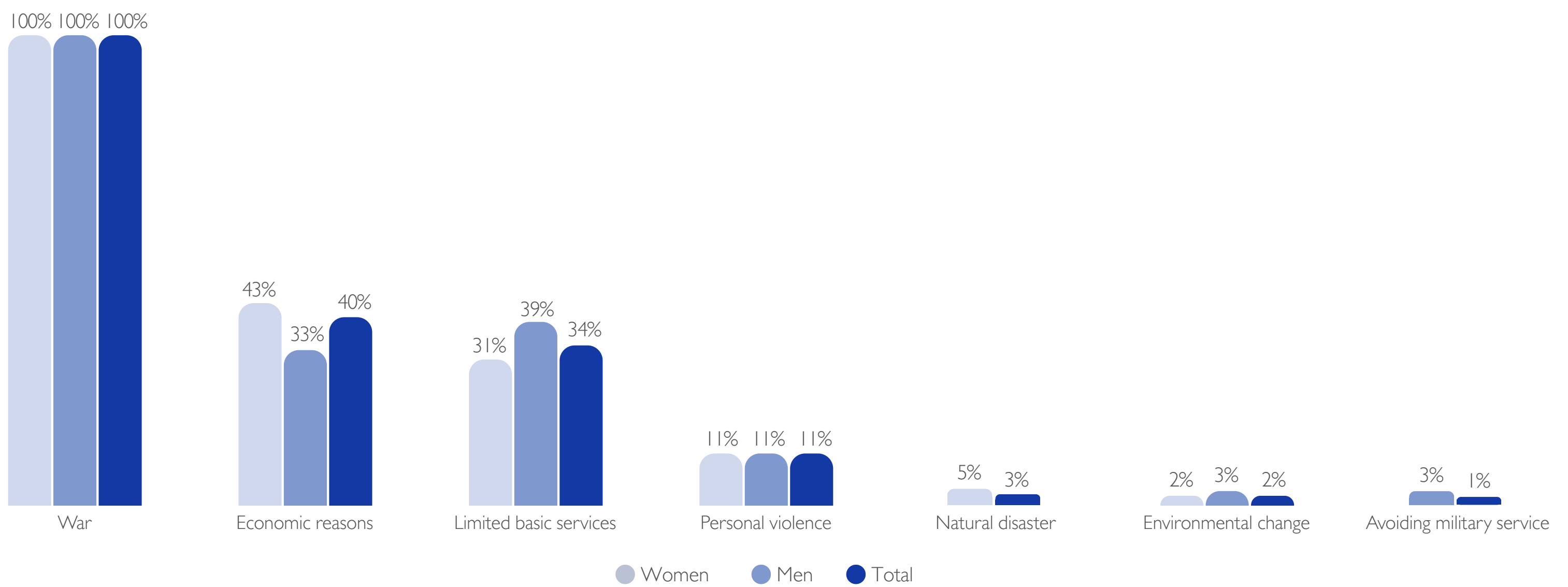
PRIORITY NEEDS AND RECEIVED ASSISTANCE

Priority needs in Latvia (%) n=101
Multiple answers possible

88% Financial support
42% Long-term accommodation
37% Food supply
19% Health services
13% General information
12% Short-term accommodation
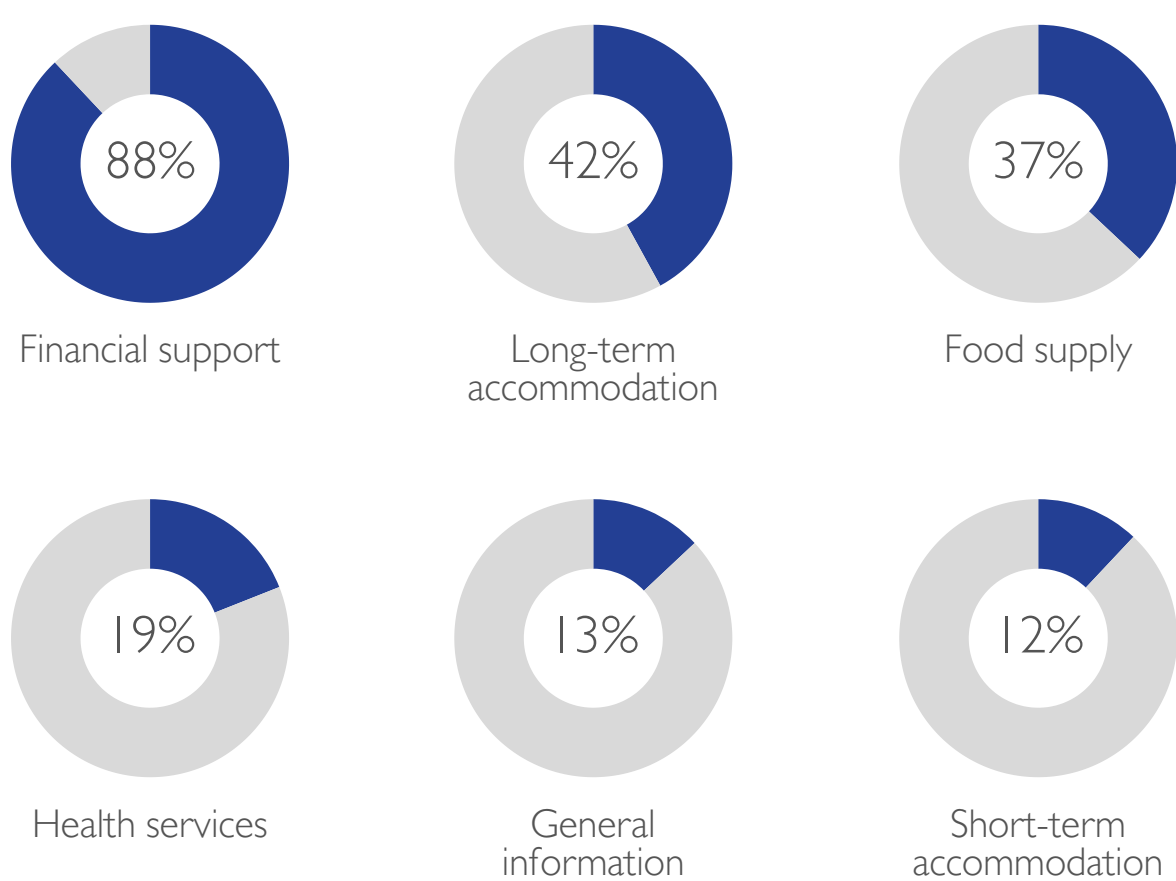
Assistance received (%) n=101
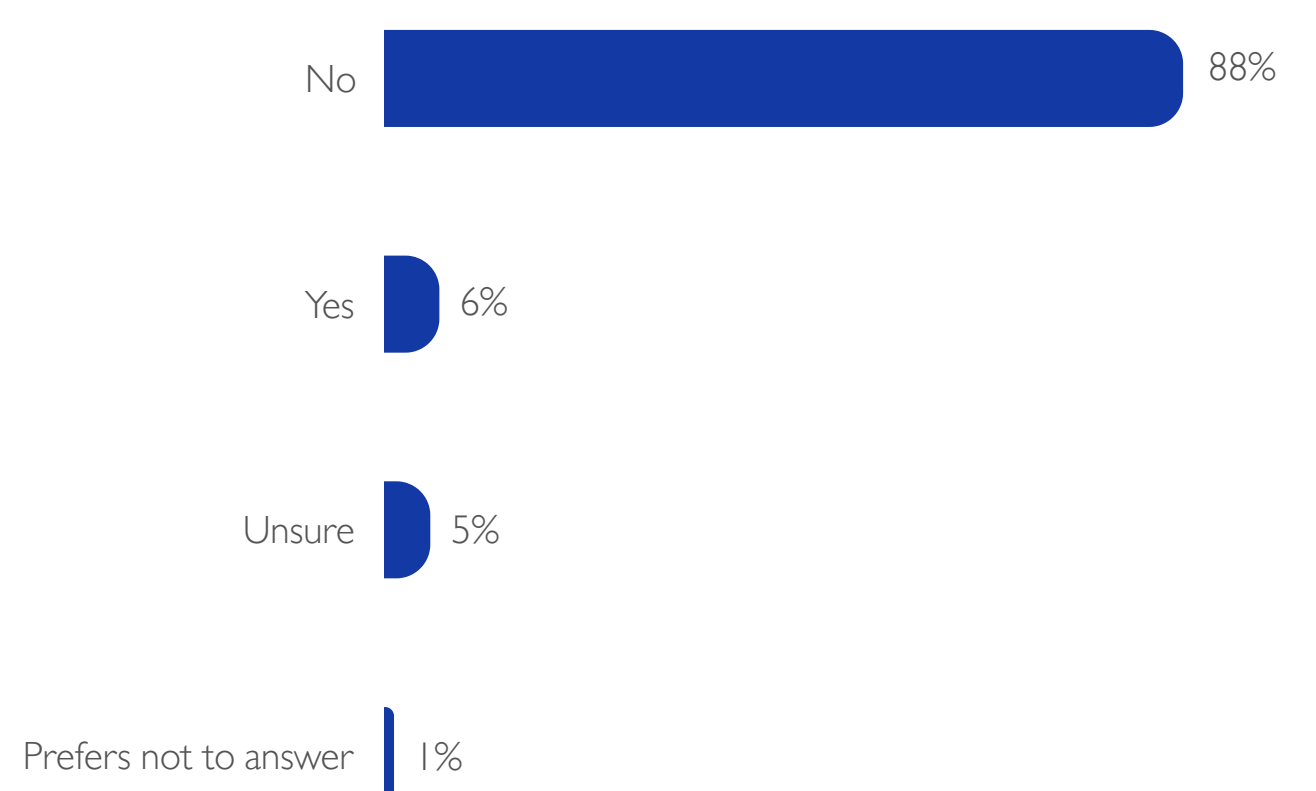
No — 88%
Yes — 6%
Unsure — 5%
Prefers not to answer — 1%

METHODOLOGY

IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a system to track and monitor displacement and population mobility. It is designed to regularly and systematically capture, process and disseminate information to provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of displaced populations, whether on site or en route.

Since April 2022, IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix has been regularly surveying individuals who are residing in the eleven countries included in the Regional Refugee Response Plan for Ukraine. The aim of the survey is to improve the understanding of their profiles, displacement patterns, intentions and needs. The survey is deployed in 6 countries neighbouring Ukraine – Belarus, Hungary, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, and Slovakia, and other 5 countries in Europe, particularly impacted by the arrivals of refugees from Ukraine, including Bulgaria, Czechia, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

Face-to-face surveys were conducted by two trained enumerators, with adult refugees from Ukraine (18+ years-old). Surveys were collected by phone, on the streets, and at selected locations (collective centres, bus stations, IOM and NGO premises, shopping malls, dormitories, and the Embassy of Ukraine in Latvia) in four cities of Latvia. The survey is anonymous and voluntary, administered after obtaining consent from the respondent. Respondents can stop the survey at any time. In Latvia, the questionnaire is available in English, Ukrainian and Russian, and the preferred language is determined by the interviewee. Only fully completed surveys are considered for analysis.

Prior to the start of the survey, all enumerators were trained by IOM on DTM standards, the use of Kobo application, IOM approach to migrants' protection and assistance, the ethics of data collection and the provision of information and referral mechanism in place.

ABOUT THE SURVEY

AIM
To improve the understanding of the profiles of refugees from Ukraine newly arrived to Latvia (spent 3 or less months in displacement) including their displacement patterns, intentions and needs.

TARGET POPULATION
The analysis focuses on the needs and intentions of refugees from Ukraine newly arrived to Latvia (spent 3 or less months in displacement).

LOCATION AND EXECUTION
Face-to-face surveys were conducted by two trained enumerators stationed at selected locations in four cities in Latvia. Surveys are conducted in English, Ukrainian and Russian with the help of a mobile application.

REGIONAL DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS
The survey is deployed in 11 countries: 6 neighboring countries (Belarus, Hungary, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia), and 5 other countries (Bulgaria, Czechia, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) impacted by the arrival of refugees from Ukraine.

LIMITATIONS

The sampling framework was not based on verified figures of refugees from Ukraine entering through all land border points or staying in the various regions where the surveys are conducted, due to the lack of baseline information.

The geographic spread of enumerators deployed captures four of nine counties in Latvia. Whilst the overall results cannot be deemed as representative, the internal consistency of data collection in each country and at the regional level suggests that the current sampling framework produces findings of practical value.

While every attempt was made to capture all types of locations, the operational reality of fieldwork was confronted with different levels of accessibility of transit and stay locations, including the different availability of possible target individuals to comfortably spend 10-20 minutes responding to the questionnaire depending on a mix of personal conditions. Other factors more related to the conditions at a specific location and period, such as organizational changes in the entry and transit areas from national authorities, or weather conditions, also play a role.

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DTM

Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a system to track and monitor displacement and population mobility. The survey form was designed to capture the main displacement patterns of refugees of any nationality fleeing from Ukraine because of the war. It captures the demographic profiles of respondents and of the group they are travelling with, if any; it asks about intentions relative to the intended destinations and prospects in the country of displacement; it gathers information regarding a set of main needs that the respondents expressed as more pressing at the moment of the interview. Since the onset of the war in Ukraine, several IOM's DTM tools were deployed in countries neighbouring Ukraine and in other countries particularly impacted by the new arrivals of refugees from Ukraine.

For more information, please consult:
https://dtm.iom.int/responses/ukraine-response