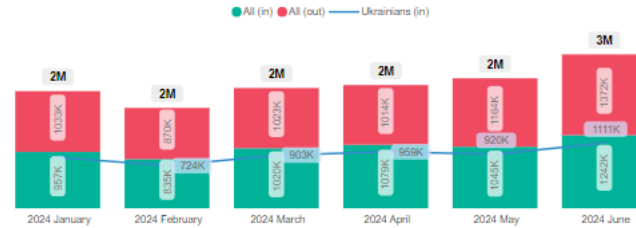


Since mid-March 2022, UNHCR and its local NGO partners Right to Protection (R2P), NEEKA, and The Tenth of April (TTA), have conducted [border monitoring at 30 crossing points](#) between Ukraine and Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania and Moldova.

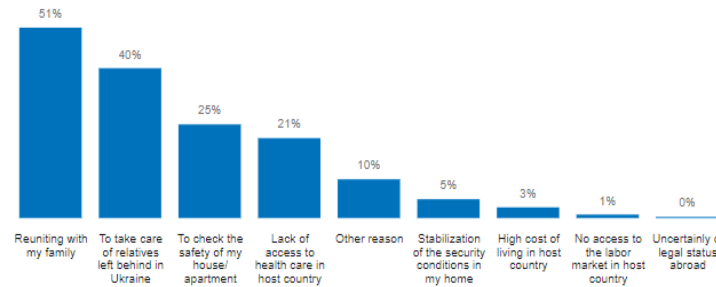
The monitoring findings are based on individual interviews conducted with people crossing the border, both those entering and exiting Ukraine and other observations made by the border monitors.

**Ukraine western border movement (in and out)**

**Key cross-border mobility trends**

- In the first half of 2024, there was a notable increase in cross-border movements from February onwards with a marked overall increase in cross-border mobility of 1.3 mio movements in Q2.
- During the first half of 2024, there was a greater outflow than inflow to Ukraine. In Q2, the main variation was observed in April with 65,000 more people entering Ukraine than exiting it. This was likely related to the Easter holiday in early May.
- The highest net outflow in Q2 and the entire first half of 2024 was observed in June. This is primarily due to summer vacation and seasonal work. These movements are expected to be for a temporary stay abroad.

**Border monitoring trends: Returns to Ukraine**

- During the first half of 2024, [family-related reasons](#) were the overriding reason for people to return to Ukraine at 91%, followed by the need to [check on property](#) left behind and [lack of access to health care](#) in host countries. Only 5% of respondents say they return due to stabilization in the security situation. In contrast, for the same period in 2023, 28% of respondents stated this reason for their return. There was little variation between Q1 and Q2.
- The [intended period of stay in Ukraine has changed](#). While in the first half of 2023, 21% said they intended to stay permanently, only 7% did so in the first half of 2024. Short-term stay intentions increased with 84% indicating that they intend to stay less than one month, while it was 36% a year ago. Comparing Q1 with Q2 of 2024, there is an increase in intentions of permanent stay from 6 to 9 per cent.

**Main reasons to return**


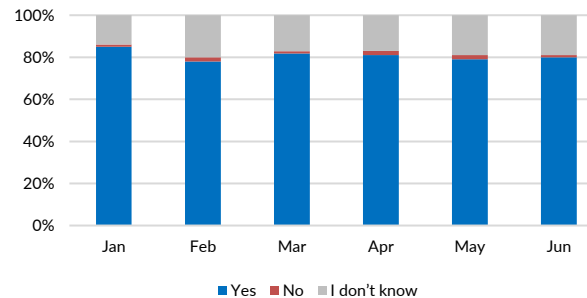
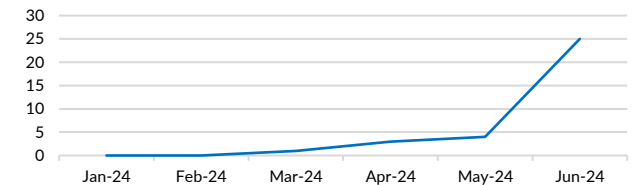
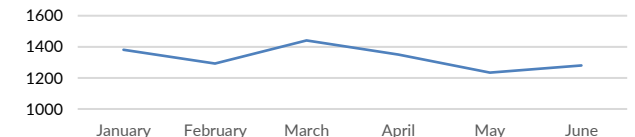
From January to June 2024, monitors conducted [19,345 individual interviews](#) at the borders. Of those 76% were departing, and 24% were entering Ukraine.

**Entering Ukraine:** 4,713 interviews were conducted with people entering Ukraine between January and June 2024. Of those, 83% were female and 16% were male respondents. 19% of respondents were above the age of 60 years.

**Departing Ukraine:** 14,632 interviews were conducted with people departing Ukraine. 72% of respondents were female and 29% male. 17% of respondents were above 60 years.

**Border monitoring trends: Departures from Ukraine**

- During the first half of 2024, on average, 29% of respondents said they were [departing the Ukraine for the first time](#) since 24 February 2022. In comparison, 2% more people reported a first-time departure in Q2, with a peak in May, potentially linked to the escalation in Kharkiv.
- 46% of surveyed individuals did not know the exact [period of their stay abroad](#). Between Q1 and Q2, those reported to be uncertain about their period of stay abroad declined by 7 per cent. At the same time, those reporting an intention to stay abroad permanently doubled between Q1 (6%) and Q2 (12%).
- On average, 81% indicate that they [intend to return to Ukraine should the situation stabilize](#), with little variations between Q1 and Q2.
- The [deterioration of the security situation has been the dominant reason for departures](#) reported throughout the first half of 2024 by 98% of respondents, with little variation between Q1 and Q2.
- Departures reported due to the risk of [forced conscription](#) increased in Q2 towards mid-May 2024 at over 3% and then reduced. Instead, irregular departures of men of conscription age, including in groups, have become more common in Q2.
- Of note is a rise in [departures due to lack of access to electricity, water and heating](#) in Q2 with modest increases in April and May and a stark increase to 25% in June 2024, possibly indicative of the impact of the energy black outs. Qualitative information from border monitors suggests that the majority of energy-related departures are intended to be short-term.

**Intention to return should the situation stabilize**  
 Jan to June 2024

**Departures due to lack of access to electricity, heating and water**  
 Jan to June 2024

**People supported at borders**  
 Jan to June 2024


The border monitoring teams provide information, legal assistance, protection counselling and social support to people leaving Ukraine to seek international protection as well as to those returning to Ukraine. During the first half of 2024, nearly [8,000 people received support at the borders](#). Of those, 52% were supported in Q1 and 48% in Q2.