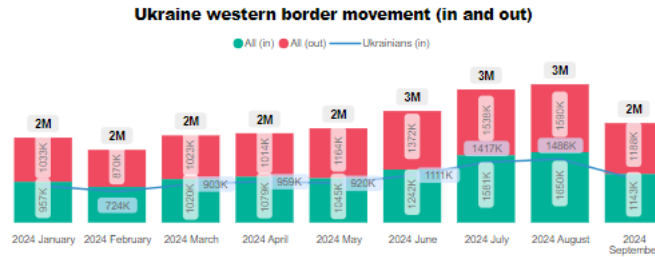


Since mid-March 2022, UNHCR and its local NGO partners Right to Protection (R2P), NEEKA, and The Tenth of April (TTA), have conducted [border monitoring at 30 crossing points](#) between Ukraine and Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania and Moldova.

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.



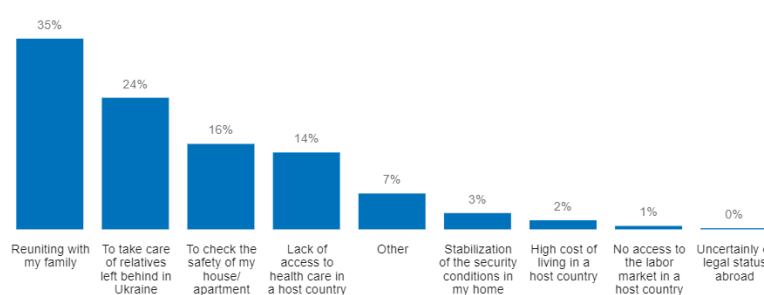
Key cross-border mobility trends

- From January to September 2024, there was a notable increase in cross-border movements from February to August, with a marked overall increase in cross-border movements of 1.7 million in Q3.
- In the first nine months of 2024, there was a greater outflow than inflow to Ukraine. In Q3, however, the inflow surpassed the outflow in July and August with 103,000 more people entering Ukraine than exiting it.
- In Q3, a stark reduction in cross-border mobility is observed starting September, with cross-border movements decreasing by nearly 1 million from August with a greater net outflow of 45,000 more people leaving than entering Ukraine, reversing July and August trends.

Border monitoring trends: Returns to Ukraine

- From January to September 2024, [family-related reasons](#) were the overriding reason for people to return to Ukraine, followed by the need to [check on property](#) left behind and [lack of access to health care](#) in host countries. Only 3% of respondents say they return due to stabilization in the security situation, compared to 5% at half-year.
- The [intended period of stay in Ukraine has changed](#). While in the first nine months of 2023, 22% said they intended to stay permanently, only 8% did so in the same period in 2024. Short-term stay intentions increased with 84% indicating that they intend to stay less than one month, while it was 44% a year ago. In September 2024, 16% reported that they intend to stay permanently in Ukraine, the highest number in 2024 thus far. Yet, short-term stays of less than a month remains most reported at 75%.

Main reasons to return



From January to September 2024, monitors conducted [26,215 individual interviews](#) at the borders. Of those 76% were departing, and 24% were entering Ukraine.

Entering Ukraine: 6,330 interviews were conducted with people entering Ukraine between January and September 2024. Of those, 84% were female and 16% were male respondents. 20% of respondents were above the age of 60 years.

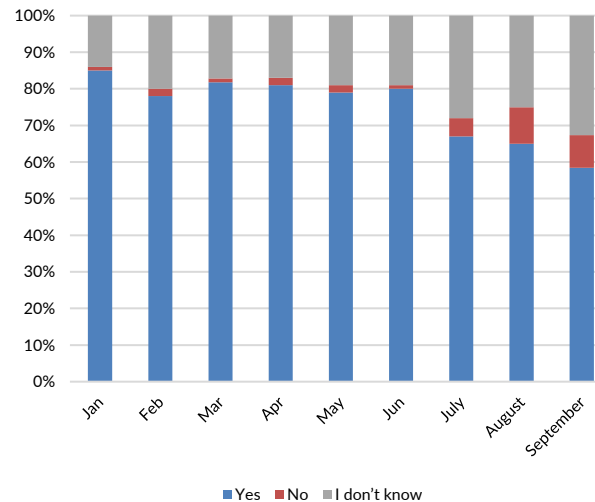
Departing Ukraine: 19,855 interviews were conducted with people departing Ukraine. 72% of respondents were female and 28% male. 16% of respondents were above 60 years.

Border monitoring trends: Departures from Ukraine

- From January to September 2024, on average, 27% of respondents said they were [departing Ukraine for the first time](#) since 24 February 2022. In comparison, 2% less people reported a first-time departure at Q2.
- During the first nine months of 2024, 51% of surveyed individuals did not know the exact [period of their stay abroad](#). In Q3, an average of 62% expressed such uncertainty, compared to 49% and 42% on average in Q1 and Q2 respectively. Those reporting an intention to stay abroad permanently doubled between Q1 (6%) and Q2 (12%) and reduced to an average of 8% in Q3.
- During the reporting period, on average, 75% indicate that they [intend to return to Ukraine should the situation stabilize](#). While there is little variation in Q1 (81%) and Q2 (80%), in Q3, the average dropped to 64%.
- The [deterioration of the security situation has been the dominant reason for departures](#) reported throughout the reporting period in 2024 by 98% of respondents, with little variation between the quarters.
- [Lack of access to electricity, water and heating](#) is the second most commonly reported factor contributing to decisions to depart Ukraine. Emerging as an important factor for departures in June 2024, in Q3, energy-related considerations for departures have constantly been reported as the 2nd most important factor.
- [Shelter and housing-related concerns](#) have risen to 20% in Q3 of 2024 as a third most important factor informing departure decisions, as compared to Q1 and Q2, when less than 4% of respondents noting this reason.

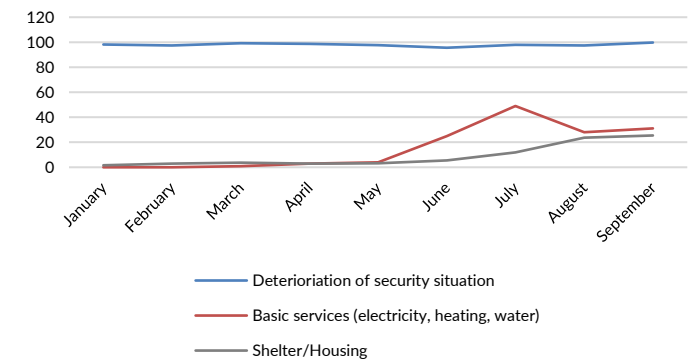
Intention to return should the situation stabilize

January to September 2024



Three main reasons for departure

January to September 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. From January to September 2024, over [12,500 people received support at the borders](#).