Socio-Economic Insights Survey

Preliminary Results

DISCLAIMER

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Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

Overview

What is SEIS?

- The Socio-Economic Insights Survey (SEIS) is a comprehensive and multi-sectoral assessment aimed at understanding and addressing the needs of refugees
- SEIS 2025 is the 4th iteration of the survey in Romania

Acknowledgements

- SEIS is conducted within the framework of the Refugee Response Plan
- SEIS is developed, implemented and analyzed by **UNHCR, The UN Refugee Agency** and the **Centre for Comparative Migration Studies (CSCM)**
- Research methodology has been reviewed and endorsed by the **Romanian National Institute of Statistics**

Overview

Methodology

- **Target population:** refugees from Ukraine living in Romania
- **Mode:** face-to-face and online household interviews
- **Data collection:** September – October 2025, collected by enumerators from CSCM

- **Sample size:** 602 household interviews conducted across 23 counties and Bucharest
- **Sampling method:** stratified random sampling, based on three databases

- Data weighting has been implemented

Demographics

Regional Refugee Response
for the Ukraine Situation

DEMOGRAPHICS

Household Characteristics

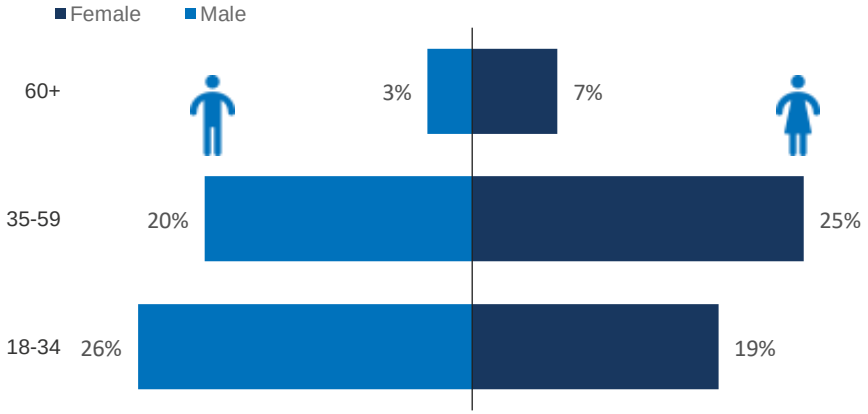
599 Households

2.7 HH size

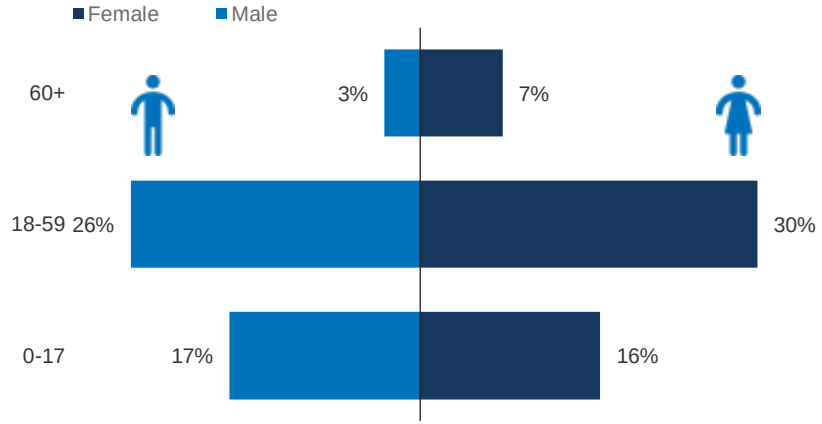
45 years

1,667 Household Members

Respondent distribution by age and gender | n = 599



Population distribution by age and gender | n = 1,603



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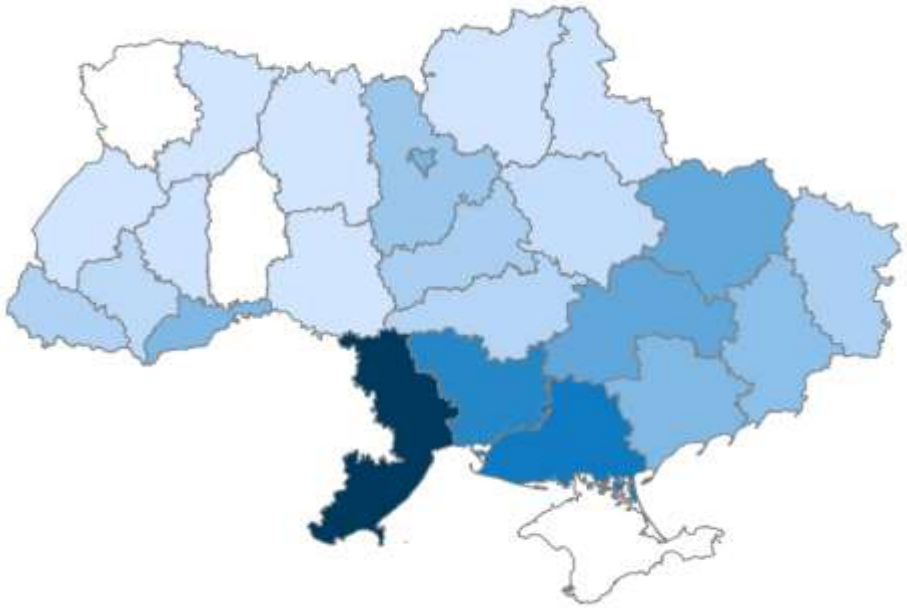
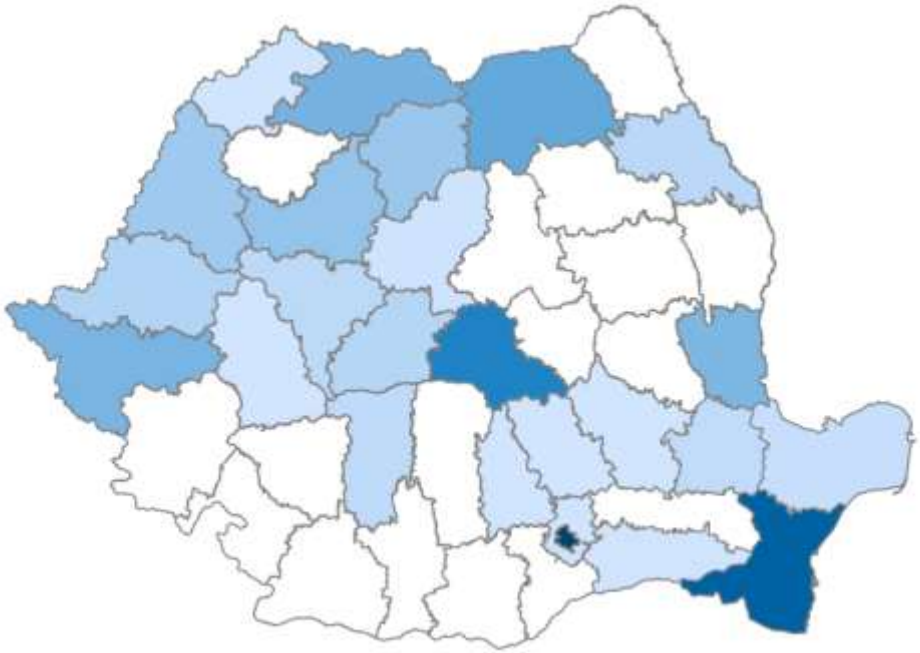
Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

DEMOGRAPHICS

Location





Top 3 oblasts of origin of respondents:

1. Odeska (43%)
2. Khersonska (9%)
3. Mykolaivska (8%)

Top 3 counties of residence of respondents:

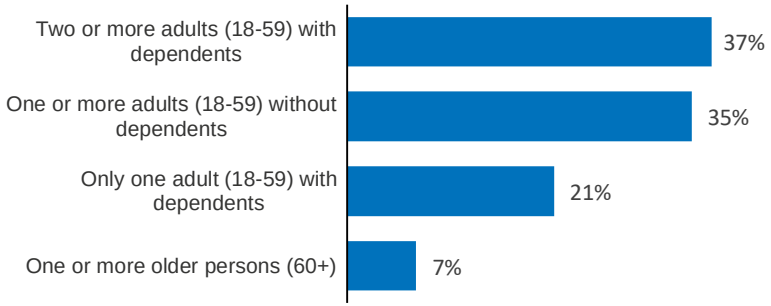
1. Bucharest (37%)
2. Constanta (19%)
3. Brasov (9%)

DEMOGRAPHICS

Household Characteristics

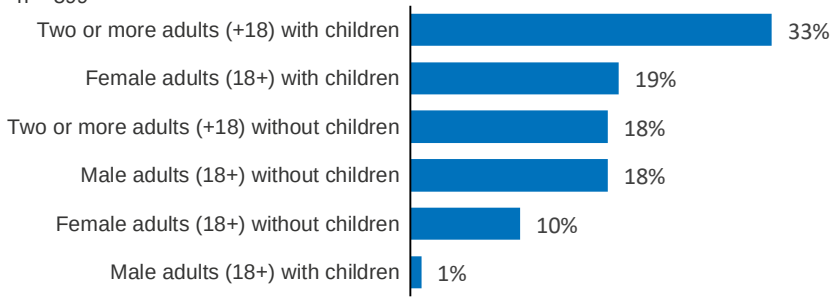
Household Typology 1

n = 599



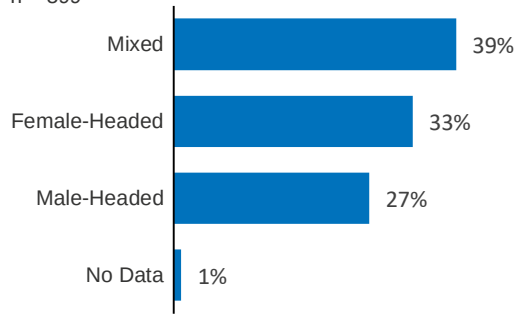
Household Typology 2

n = 599



Household Typology 3

n = 599



54%

HH with children

11%

HH with infants

8%

HH with pregnant or breastfeeding women

17%

HH with disability

9%

Individuals with disability

49%

HH with chronic illness

29%

Individuals with chronic illness

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Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

Protection

Regional Refugee Response
for the Ukraine Situation

PROTECTION

Legal Status

96%

HHs have been granted TP

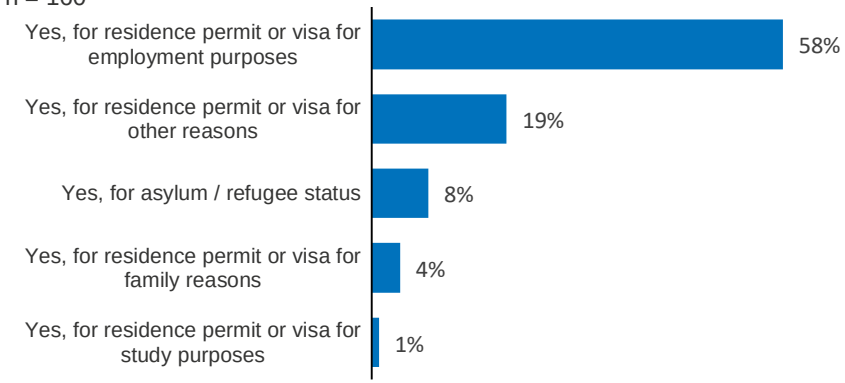
27%

HHs intend to apply for another legal status

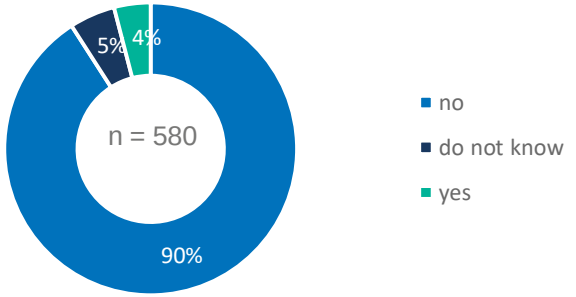
in the next 12 months

Type of legal status refugeed intend to apply for in the next 12 months

n = 160



Difficulties during the application/reissuance process (In 2025)



Top 3 difficulties during application/extension process:

- Long queues
- Lack of language interpretation services
- Did not have the required documents

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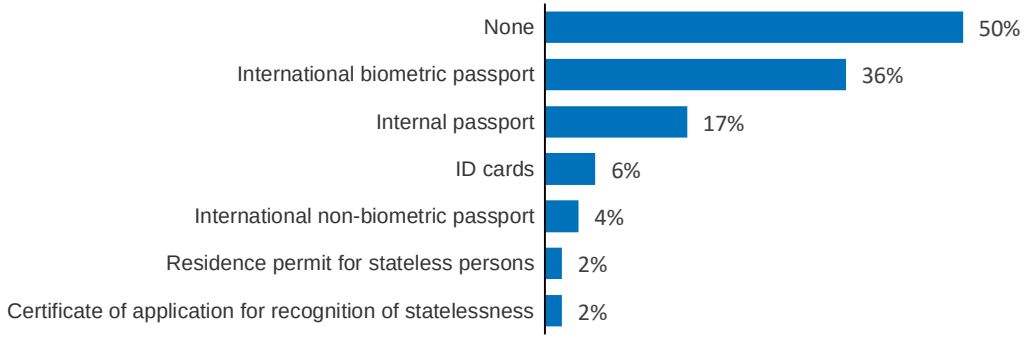
Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

PROTECTION

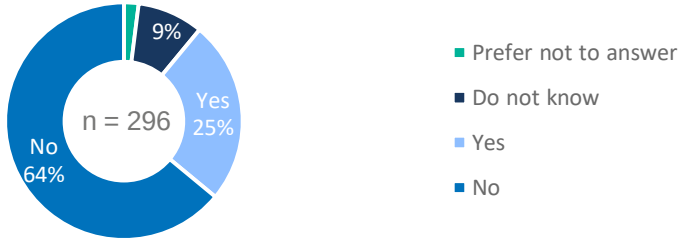
Legal Status

Identity documents that needed replacement*

n = 599

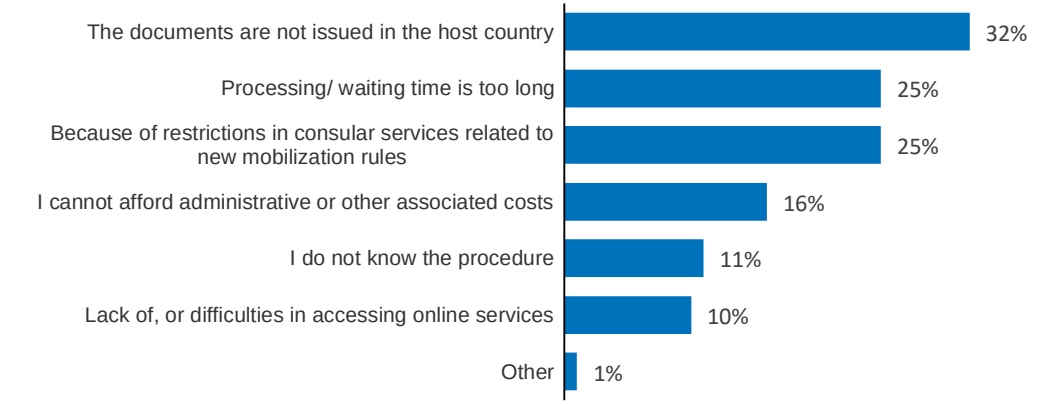


Ability to replace/renew identity documents in Romania



Barriers to replacing/renewing documents in host country*

n = 189



*Multiple choice question – percentages might exceed 100%

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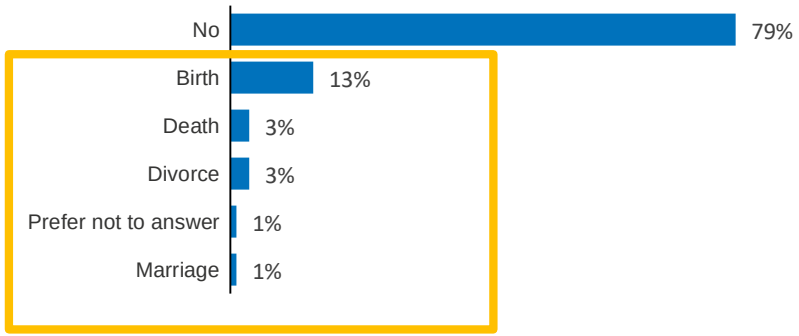
Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

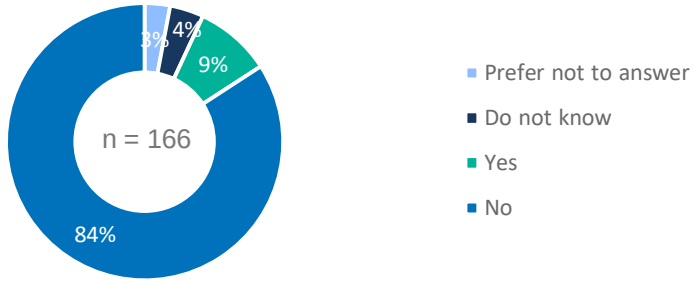
PROTECTION Civil Status

Changes to family composition / civil status

n = 599



Challenges registering the events with the civil authorities in Romania



Challenges faced in registering these event(s) with the civil authorities:

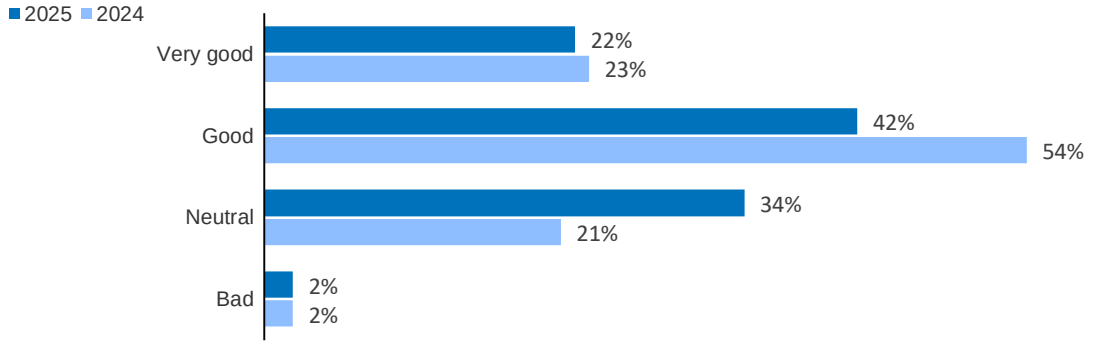
- Long waiting times
- Language barriers
- Lack of supporting documents in host country

PROTECTION

Social Cohesion

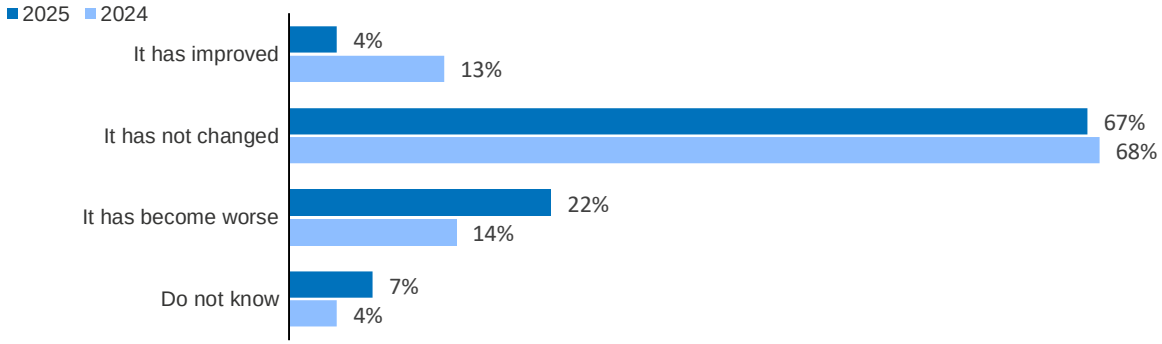
Relationship between refugees and host community | 2024-2025

n = 599



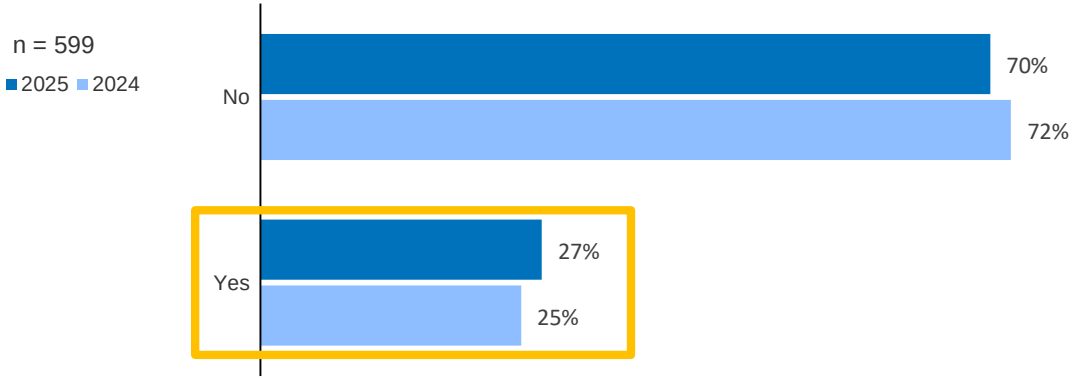
Changes in the relationship between refugees and host community | 2024-2025

n = 599



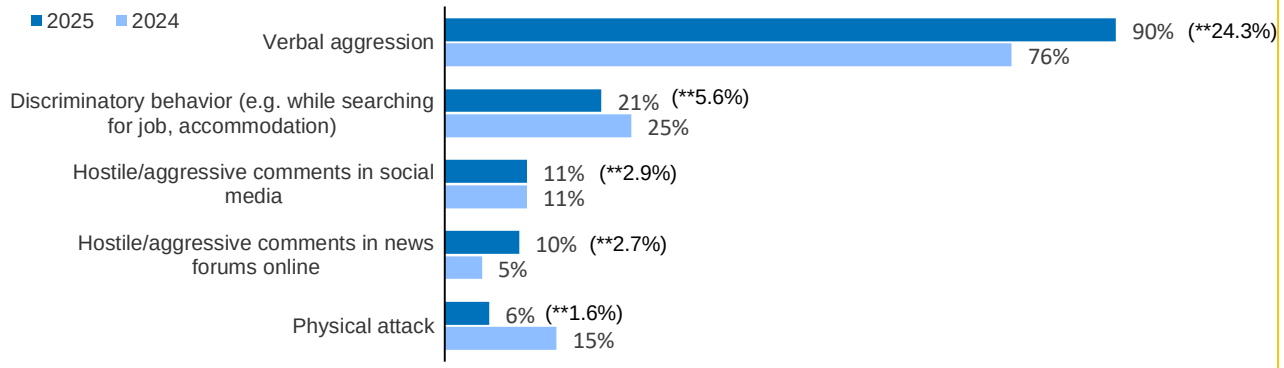
Experience of hostile behaviours or attitudes from host community in the last 12 months

n = 599



Type of hostile behaviours or attitudes from host community in the last 12 months*

n = 164



*Multiple choice question – percentages might exceed 100%
** Percentage out of the total number of households

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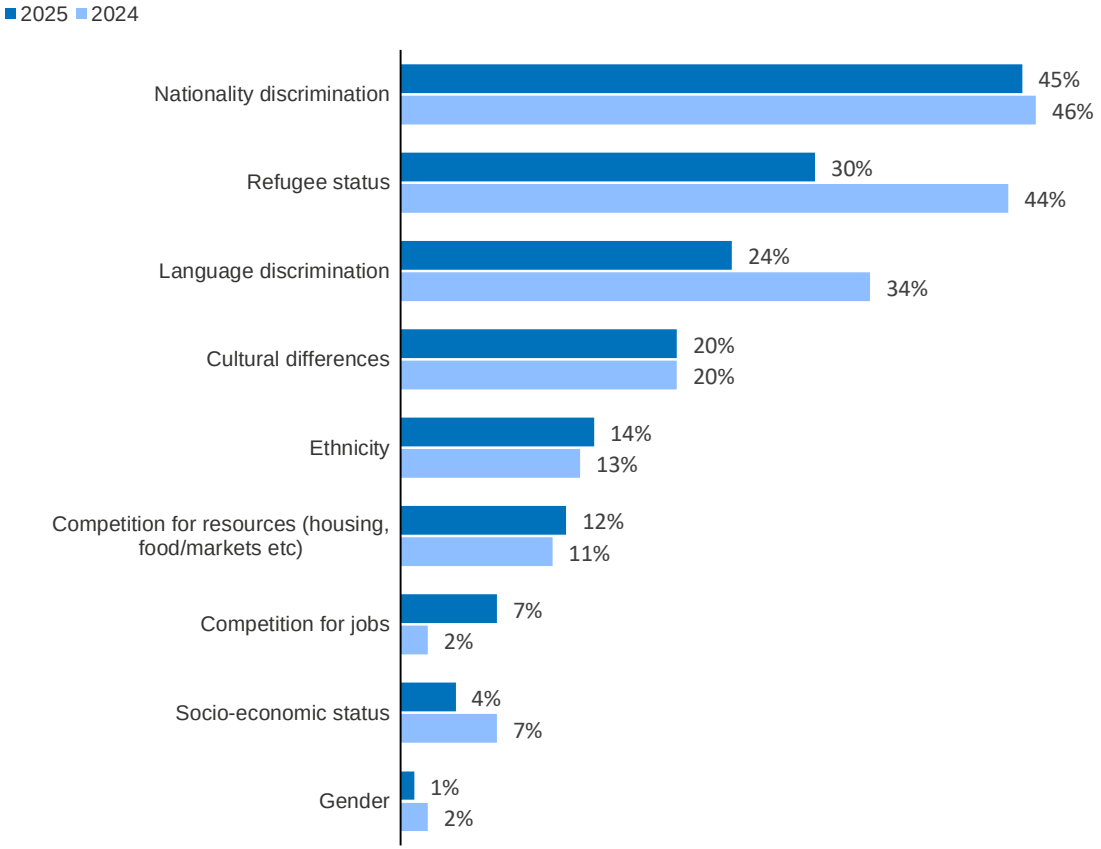
Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

PROTECTION

Social Cohesion

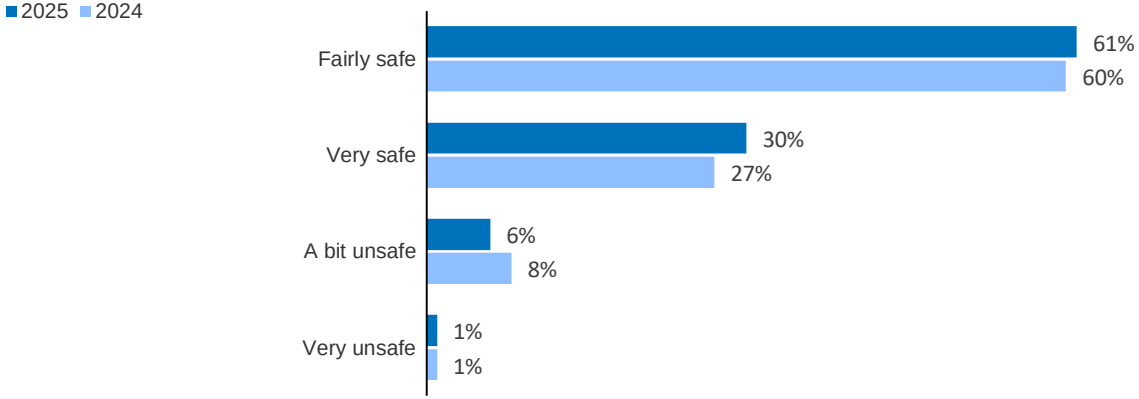
Assumed reasons for hostile behaviours or attitudes from host community*

n = 164



Feeling of safety walking alone in neighbourhood after dark

n = 599



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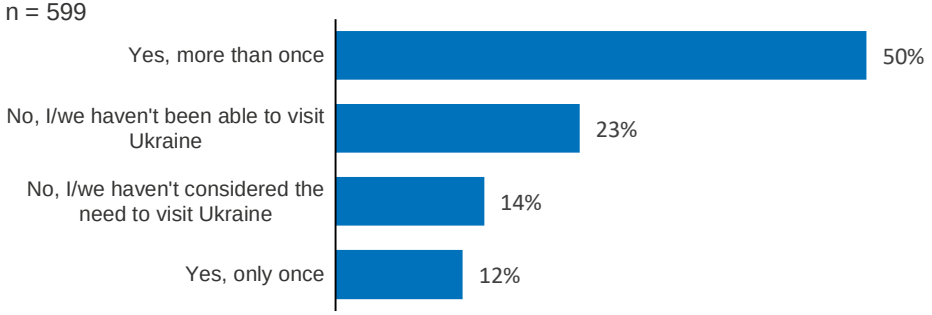
Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

PROTECTION Returns

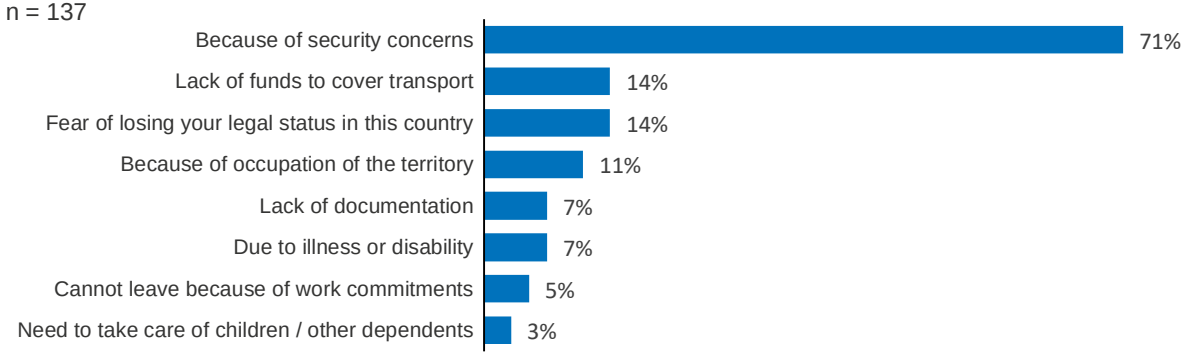
Visits back to Ukraine

n = 599



Reasons for not being able to visit Ukraine*

n = 137

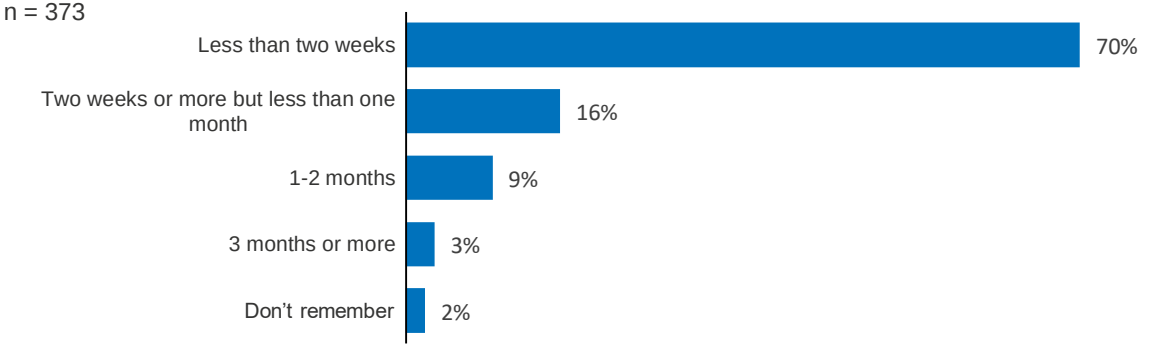


Top 3 reasons for visiting Ukraine*

n = 373

Length of stay during last visit

n = 373



*Multiple choice question – percentages might exceed 100%

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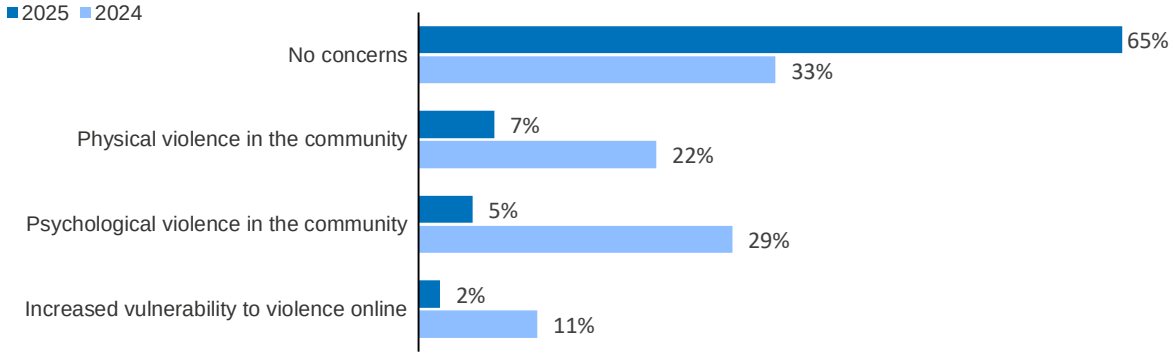
Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

PROTECTION

Child Protection

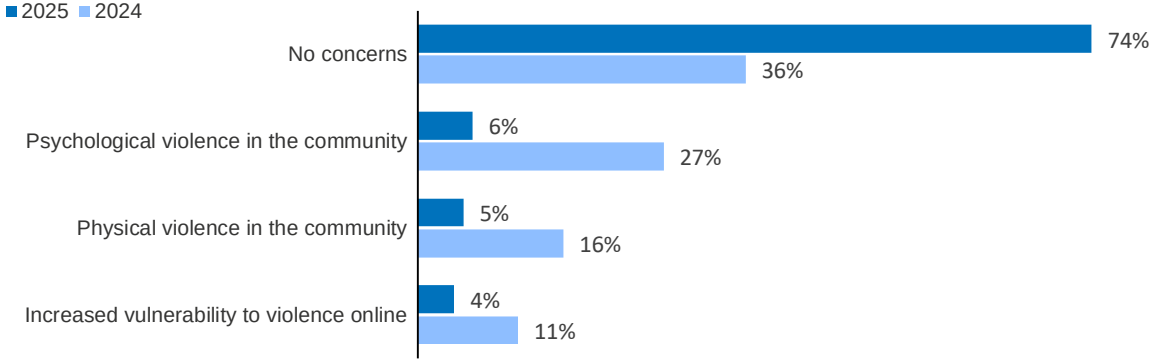
Top 3 most serious risks faced by girls under 18 in your neighbourhood*

n = 212



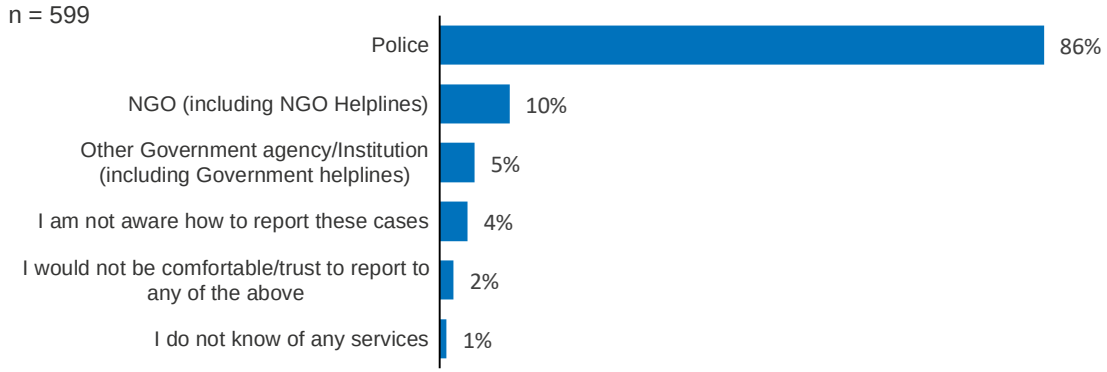
Top 3 most serious risks faced by boys under 18 in your neighbourhood*

n = 214



Organisations refugees feel safe to contact to report a case of violence against children

n = 599



14%

HH have looked after a child that was not member of the nuclear family

*Multiple choice question – percentages might exceed 100%

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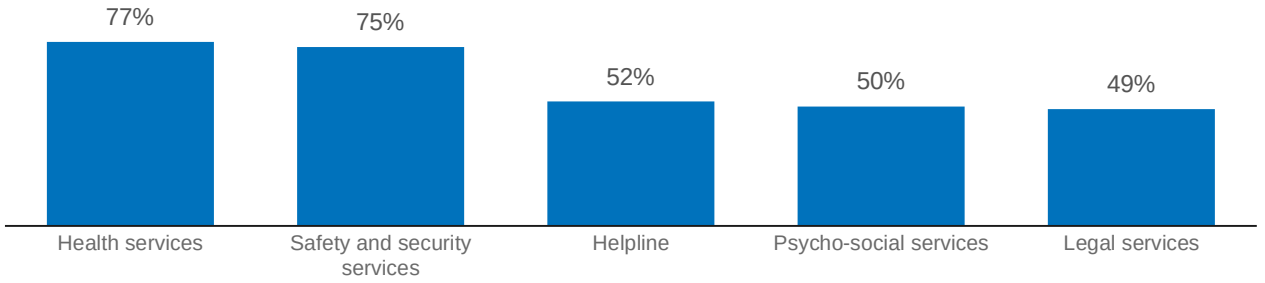
Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

PROTECTION Gender-Based Violence

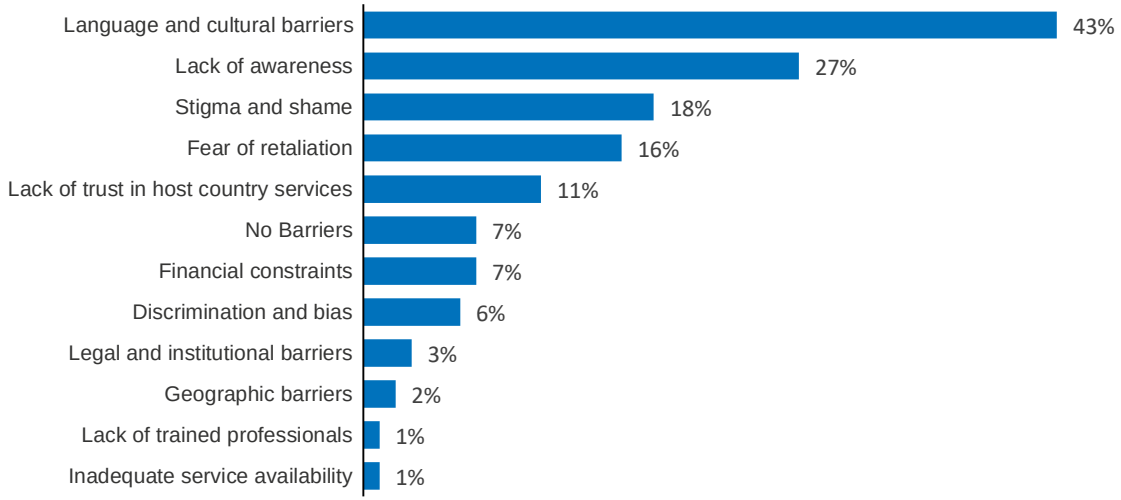
Awareness of GBV services*

n = 599



Main barriers to accessing GBV services

n = 599



*Multiple choice question – percentages might exceed 100%

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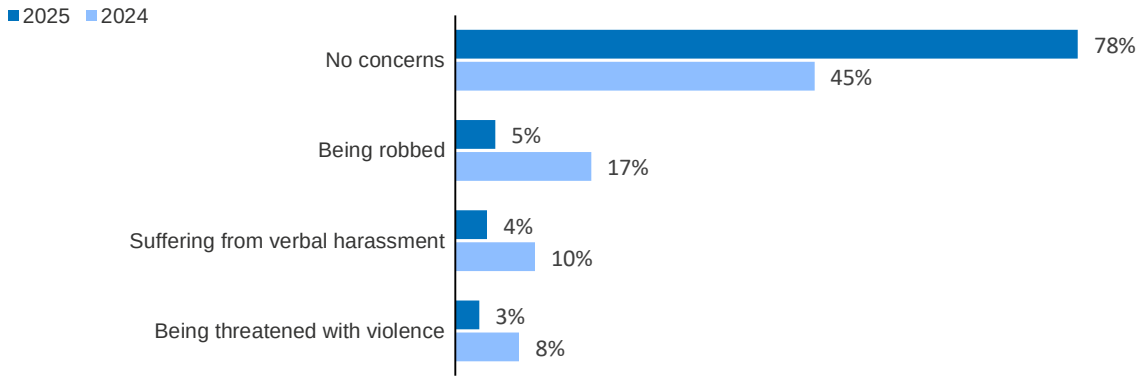
Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

PROTECTION

Security concerns women and men

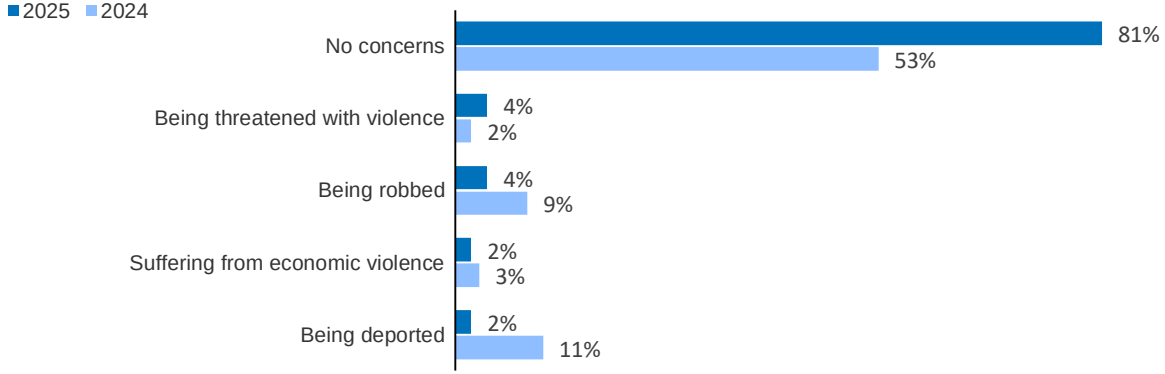
Top main safety and security concerns for women in area of residence*

n = 481



Top main safety and security concerns for men in area of residence*

n = 426



*Multiple choice question – percentages might exceed 100%

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Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

PROTECTION

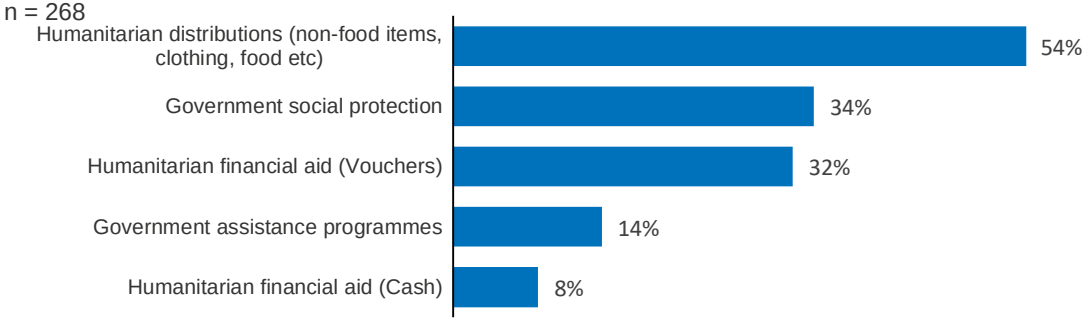
Accountability to the Affected Population

45%

HH have received aid in the last 3 months

Type of aid received*

n = 268



23%

HH which have received aid were not satisfied with the aid received

Type of aid HHs were dissatisfied with:

- Humanitarian distributions (non-food items, clothing, food etc)
- Government assistance programmes
- Government social protection

Main reasons for dissatisfaction:

- Assistance received was insufficient or not frequent enough
- The assistance delivered was not what the household needed the most (not useful)

*Multiple choice question – percentages might exceed 100%

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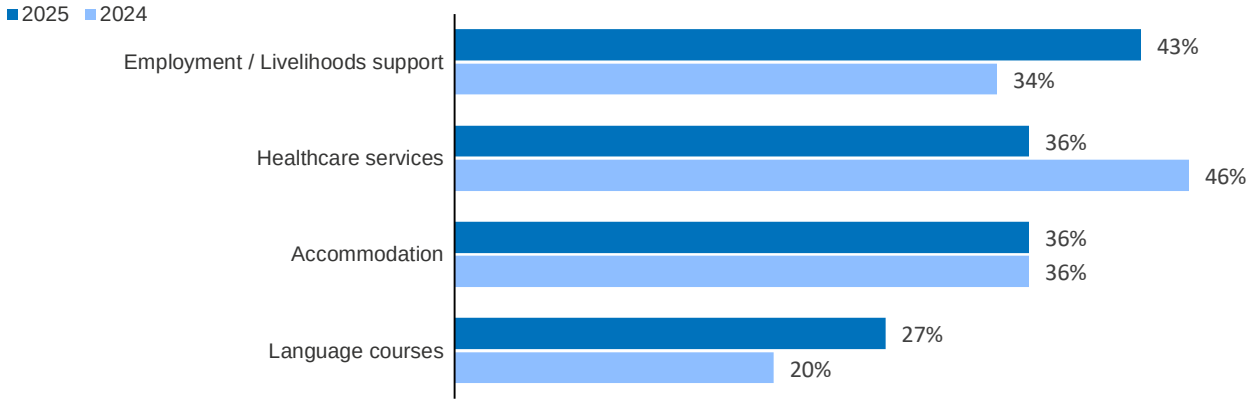
Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

PROTECTION

Accountability to the Affected Population

Top 3 needs of the household*

n = 599



79%

HH are not facing any challenges in accessing the information they need (including information on rights and entitlements and access to services)

85%

HH have access to safe and confidential reporting channels to obtain information, seek assistance or report issues including sensitive issues within the community

*Multiple choice question – percentages might exceed 100%

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Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

Socio-Economic Inclusion & Livelihood

Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INCLUSION & LIVELIHOOD

Employment

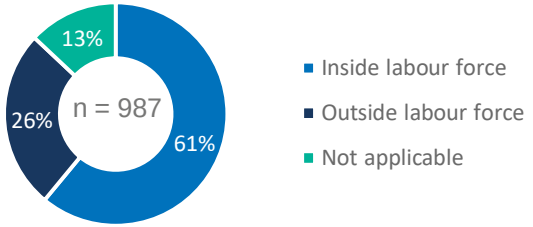
987

Refugees of working age*

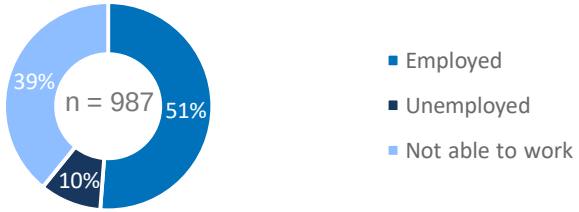
58%

Refugees have a bachelor degree or above

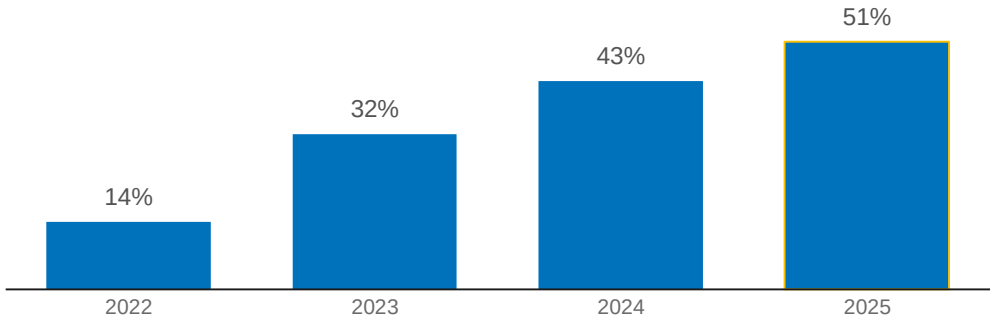
Labour force



Employment



Percentage of refugees from Ukraine in employment | 2022-2025



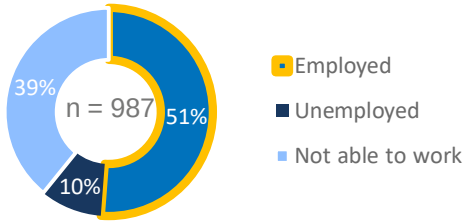
***Working age:** women aged between 16 and 63 years; men aged between 16 and 65 years

Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

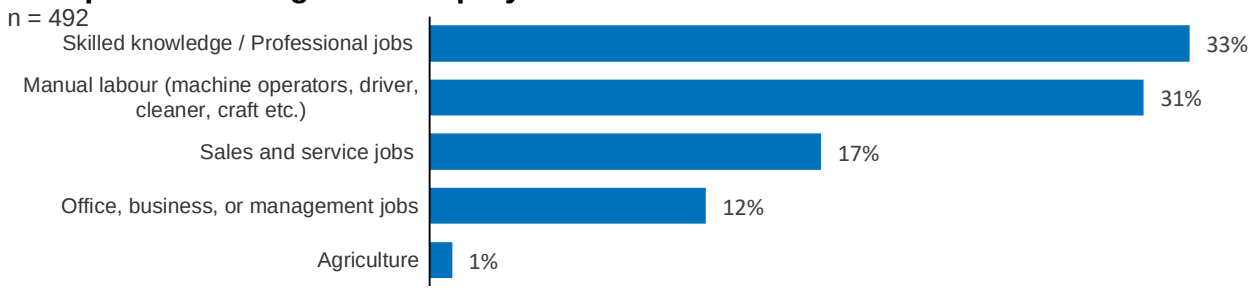
SOCIO-ECONOMIC INCLUSION & LIVELIHOOD

Employment Profile

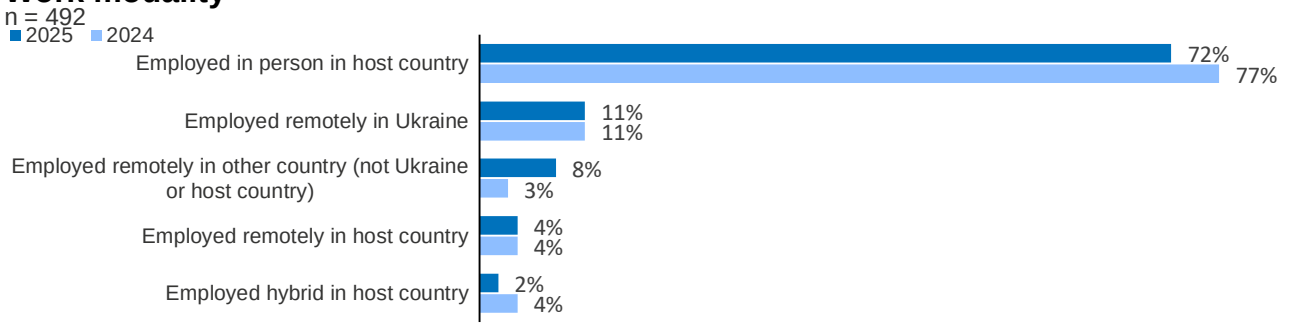
Employment



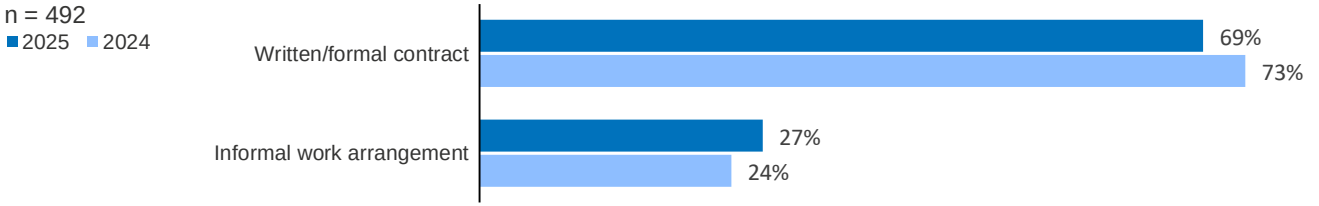
Occupation of refugees in employment



Work modality



Type of contract



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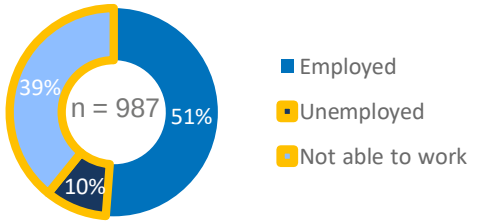
Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INCLUSION & LIVELIHOOD

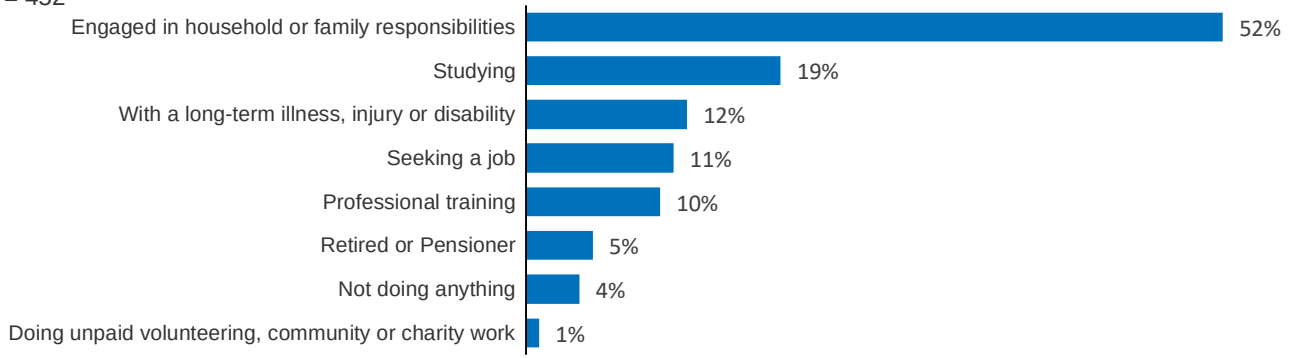
Employment Profile

Employment



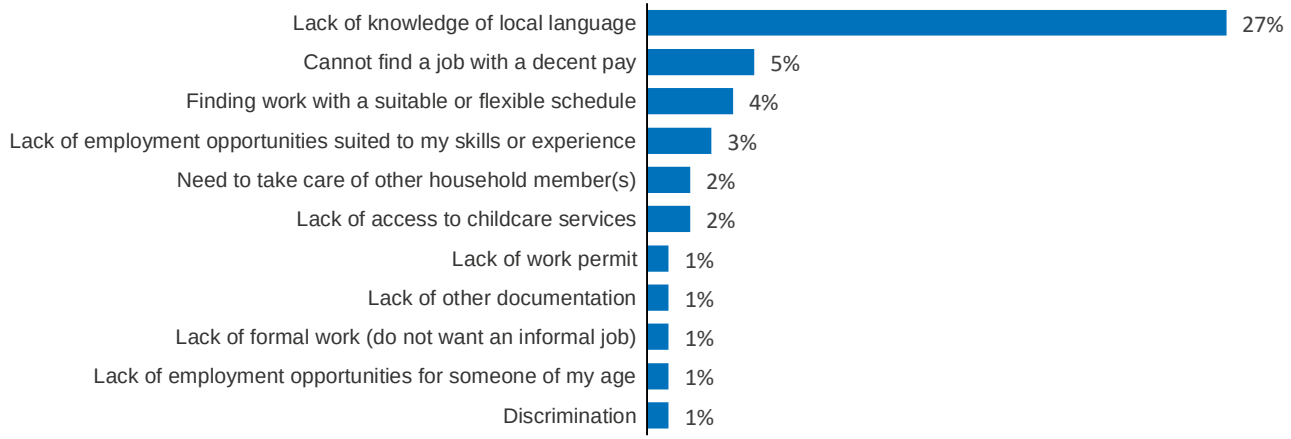
Main activity of people not working*

n = 452



Barriers finding work*

n = 971



*Multiple choice question – percentages might exceed 100%

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Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INCLUSION & LIVELIHOOD

Economic Capacity

90%

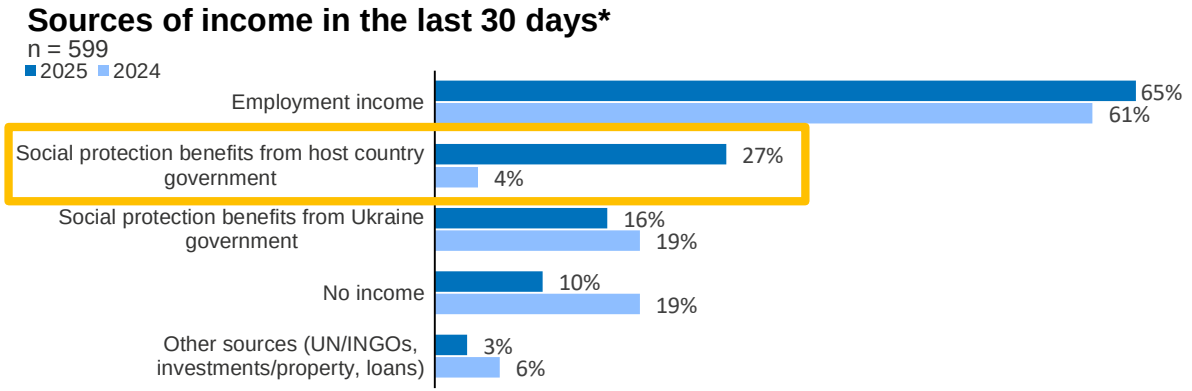
HHs have a bank account

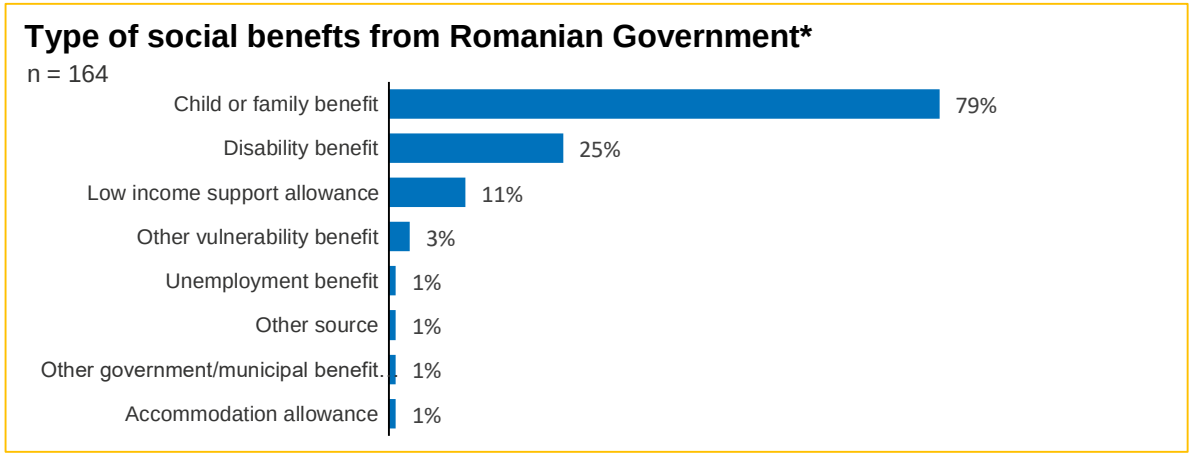
65%

HHs have no savings or savings sufficient for up to 1 month

40%

HHs have had a decrease in income in the past 12 months





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Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INCLUSION & LIVELIHOOD

Livelihood Coping Strategy Index (LCSI)

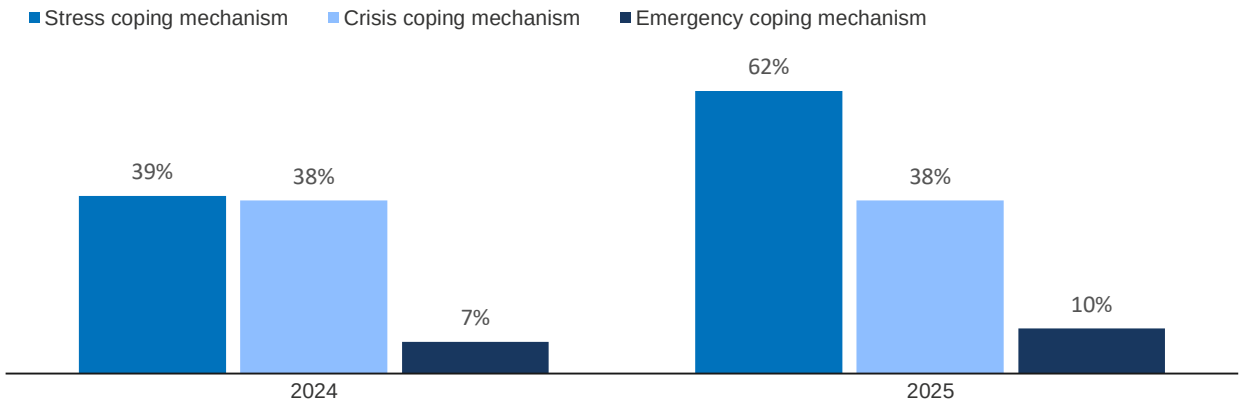
- **Stress coping mechanisms** are actions households take over the past 30 days to manage immediate financial challenges, often at the expense of future stability (i.e. households spent savings, sold household or productive assets, or resorted to buying food on credit or borrowing it)
- **Crisis coping mechanisms** are actions households take over the past 30 days that directly impact their long-term productivity and well-being (i.e. reduced essential health or education expenditures, withdrew children from school due to lack of food or money, or sold their house or land)
- **Emergency coping mechanisms** are extreme actions that households take over the past 30 days when faced with severe resource shortages, often resulting in irreversible consequences (i.e. household migrated or became displaced, involved school-aged children in income generation, or engaged in high-risk or dangerous work)

73%

HHs are using at least one coping strategy,

compared to 84% in 2024

Households adopting coping mechanisms | 2024-2025



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Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INCLUSION & LIVELIHOOD

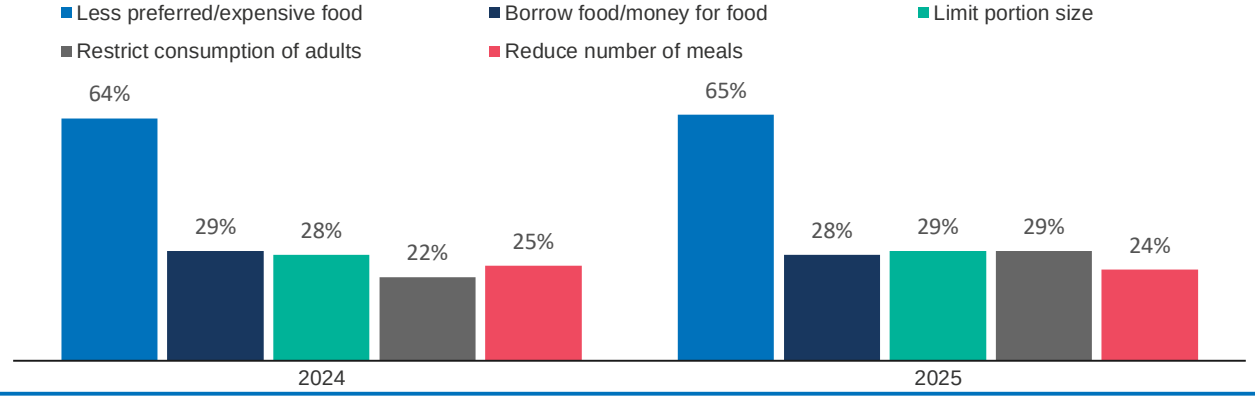
Reduced Coping Strategy Index (LCSI)

- The reduced Coping Strategies Index (rCSI) is an indicator used to compare the hardship faced by households due to a shortage of food. The index measures the frequency and severity of the food consumption behaviours the households had to engage in due to food shortage in the 7 days prior to the survey.

9.15 rCSI Score

Indicative of moderate food insecurity, compared to a score of **12** in 2024, indicative of severe food insecurity

Households adopting food coping mechanisms* | 2024-2025



Severe material and social deprivation (SMSD) rate

- The severe material and social deprivation rate (SMSD) is an EU indicator that shows an enforced lack of necessary and desirable items to lead an adequate life. The indicator distinguishes between individuals who cannot afford a certain good, service or social activities.

34%

HHs face severe material and social deprivation, compared to **17%** in Romania, and **6.4%** at EU level

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Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

Education

Regional Refugee Response
for the Ukraine Situation

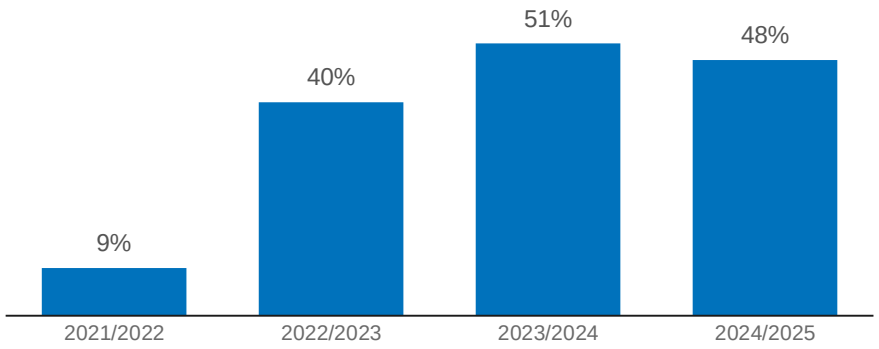
Education

Children Aged 4 to 18 Years

86%

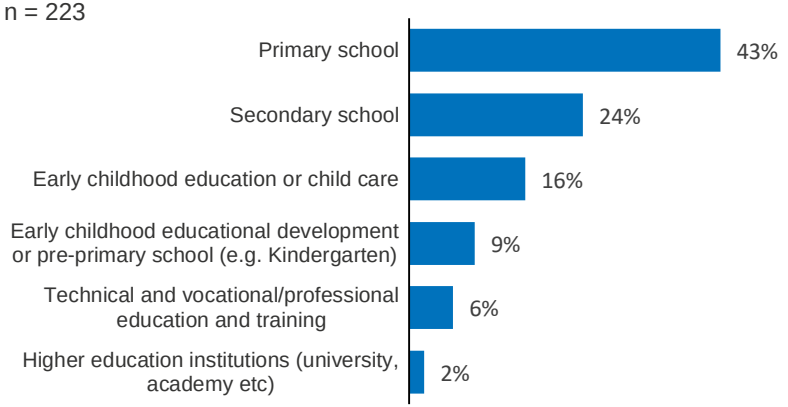
Of children are attending education, either in person or online

Children attending education in Romania | 2021 - 2025

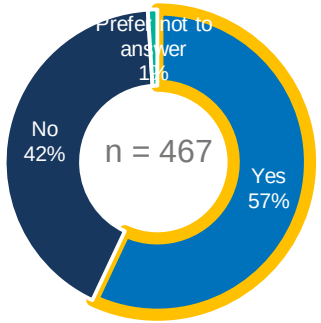


Level of education the child is attending | 2024/2025

n = 223

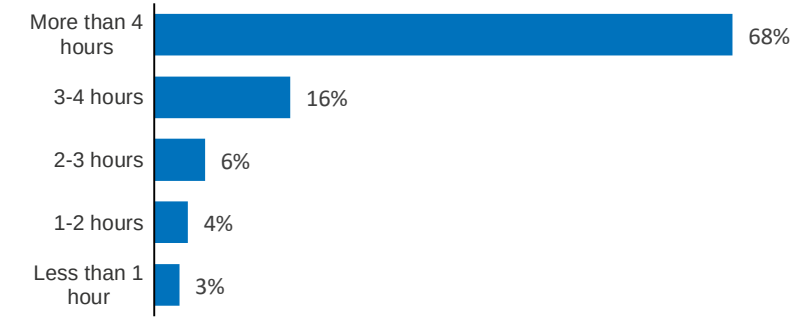


Remote/online learning | 2024-2025



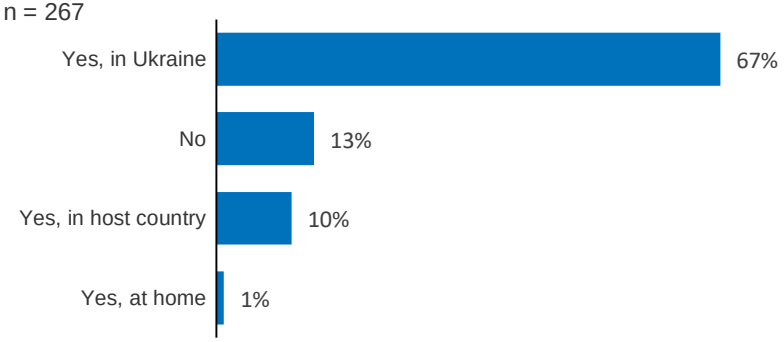
Time spent online learning per day in 2024/2025

n = 267



Type of remote learning in 2024/2025

n = 267



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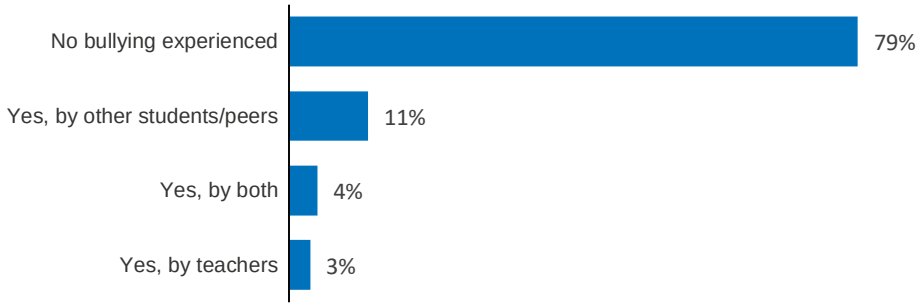
Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

Education

Children Aged 4 to 18 Years

Experience of bullying at school

n = 223

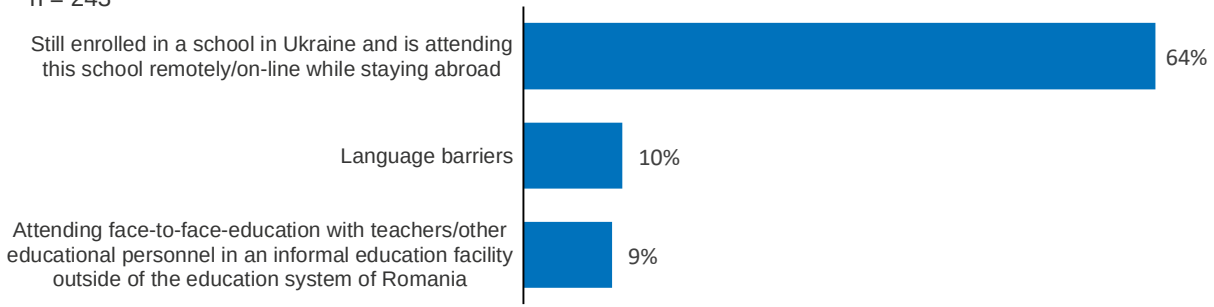


52%

Of children are not attending education in the Romanian national system

Top 3 reasons children are not attending education in Romania*

n = 243



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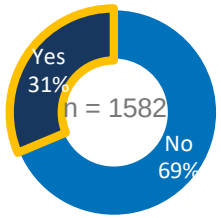
Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

Health

Regional Refugee Response
for the Ukraine Situation

Health Access and needs

Individuals in need of healthcare services



65%

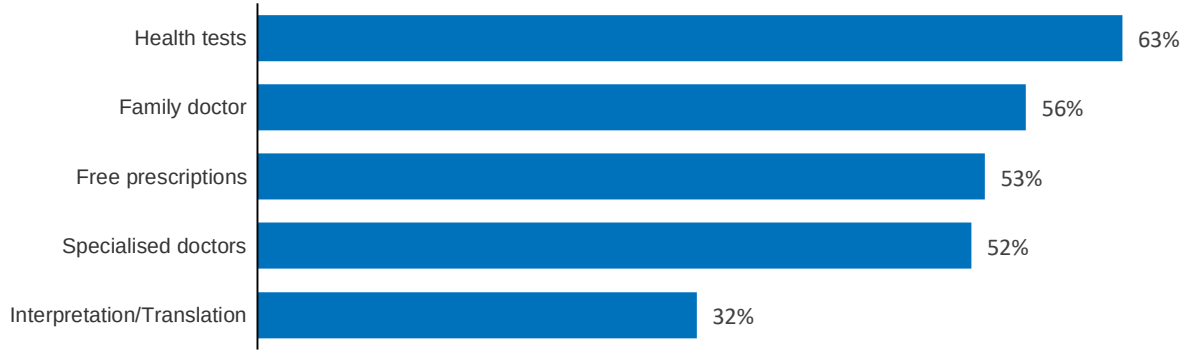
Of people in need of healthcare services were able to access the needed services

Top 3 barriers to accessing healthcare:

- Language barriers
- Unable to make appointment
- Could not afford clinic fee

Top 5 health needs of the household*

n = 599



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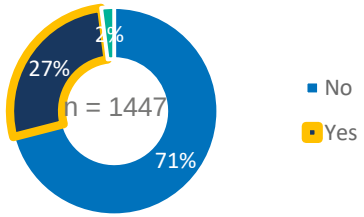
Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

Health MHPSS

Individuals in need of MHPSS

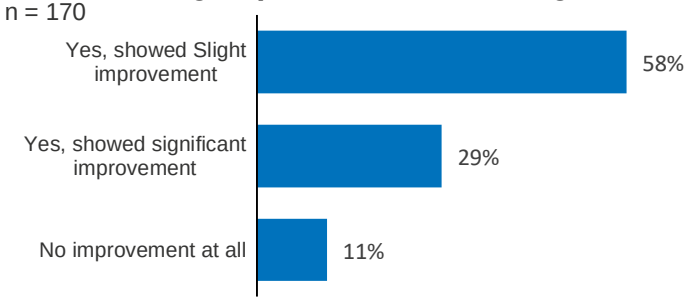


45%

Of people in need of MHPSS have tried to find support, as opposed to **33%** in 2024

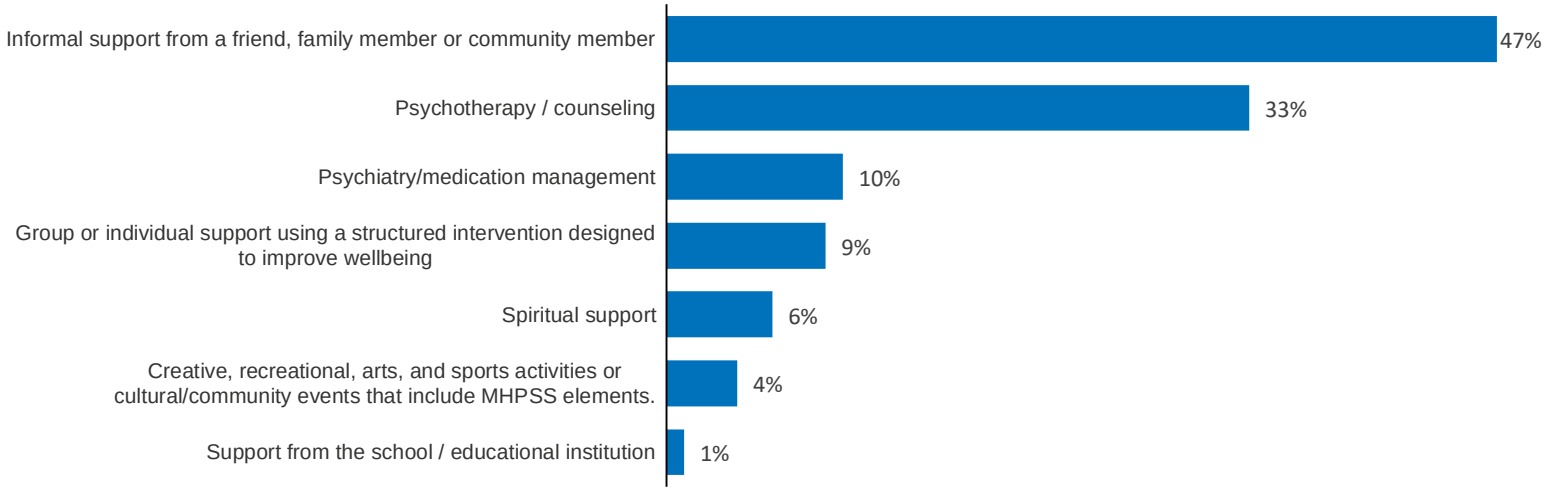
Did wellbeing improve after receiving MHPSS

n = 170



Type of MHPSS received

n = 174



Top 3 barriers accessing MHPSS:

- None
- Language barriers
- Did not know where to go

*Multiple choice question – percentages might exceed 100%

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Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

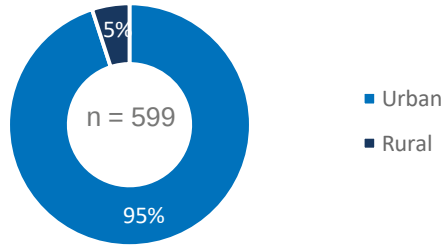
Accommodation

Regional Refugee Response
for the Ukraine Situation

Accommodation

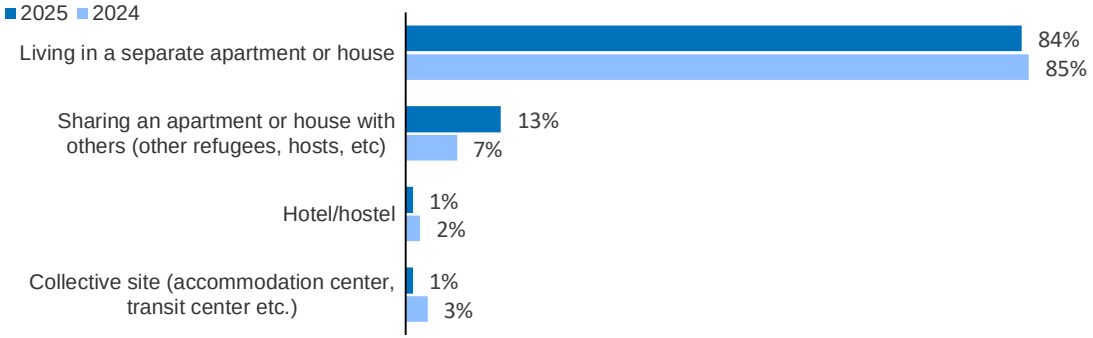
Security of tenure

Rural vs urban areas



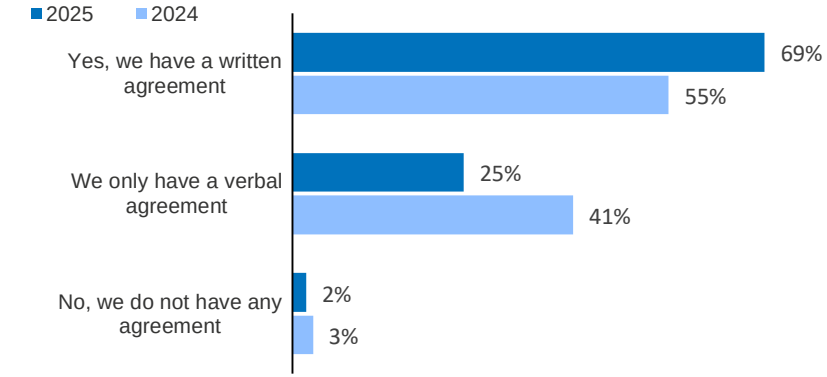
Type of accommodation

n = 599



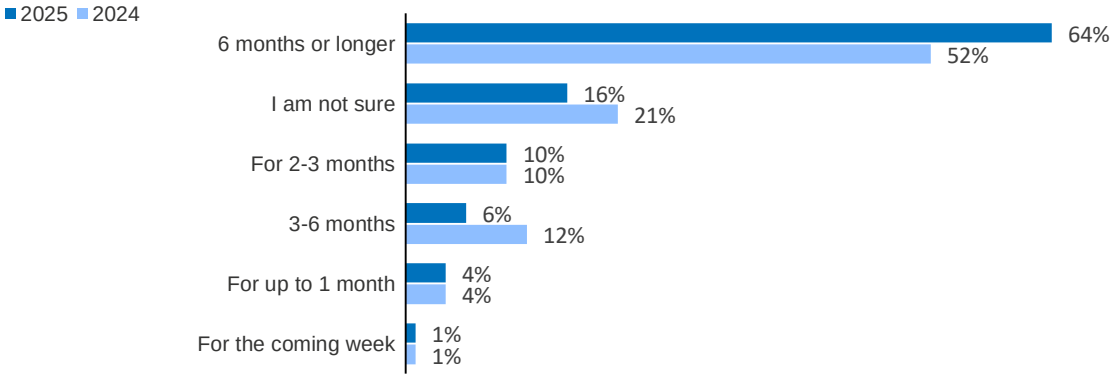
Type of accommodation agreement

n = 599



How long the respondents believe they can stay in their accommodation

n = 599



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