LOCAL INTEGRATION
CZECH REPUBLIC

MINISTERSTVO VNITRA
ČESKÉ REPUBLIKY

UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

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Cover photo:
Sisters Maria and Daryna are decorating ceramic products at the leisure centre in Zlín.
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Contents

Central Bohemian Region	10
Hradec Králové Region	20
Karlovy Vary Region	26
Liberec Region	30
Moravian-Silesian Region	36
Olomouc Region	42
Pardubice Region	46
Plzeň Region	52
Praha	58
South Bohemian Region	74
South Moravian Region	80
Ústí nad Labem Region	88
Vysočina Region	98
Zlín Region	102

The integration of foreigners into Czech society **is an important, long-term and complex process.** Its goal is to ensure newcomers can live, work and participate fully in Czech society. The integration policy of the Czech Republic is focused first and foremost on the reduction of barriers that foreigners may encounter. **Successful integration strengthens the sense of belonging and helps create a common identity.** This is essential for long-term security, stability and prosperity for all.

It is important to **coordinate actions not only at the national level but also with local actors, whose cooperation is essential for success.** Since 2008, the involvement of municipalities in implementing projects funded by the Ministry of the Interior has significantly contributed to mutual understanding and coexistence at the local level.

After the arrival of a large number of Ukrainians post-2022, cooperation with municipalities developed even further. **UNHCR joined us in 2023 to strengthen support in the regions.** Its contribution to the ministerial fund on local integration has allowed for a higher number of Temporary Protection holders from Ukraine to benefit from integration activities.

T**he Ministry of the Interior appreciates these efforts to support the integration of foreigners into local communities.** In many cases, municipalities have become important active partners in the process of integrating foreigners. Their work is an invaluable asset for all involved and they deserve our sincere thanks.

Pavla Novotná

Director of Department of Asylum and Migration Policy

Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic

Refugee integration is a **dynamic, two-way process in which individual refugees, governments and society collaborate to build a cohesive community.** This process begins from day one and requires the necessary conditions for refugees to participate actively in all aspects of economic, social, cultural and civic life in the host country. In Czechia, the government is successfully implementing comprehensive regulations and procedures to facilitate the integration of refugees.

Since 2008, the Ministry of the Interior has administered the national fund on integration at the local level. **Over the past two years, UNHCR in the Czech Republic has partnered with the ministry to collaborate with and assist local municipalities in strengthening their efforts toward inclusion and social cohesion.** Through this partnership, a joint project supports municipalities across all 14 regions of Czechia in implementing a range of integration initiatives, from one-off events to regular activities. These initiatives target individuals, refugee communities and the broader host society, focusing on key areas such as language classes, community outreach, individualised integration support, social and cultural exchange and the integration of children, youth and adults into Czech society. **The project underscores the critical importance of partnership and collaboration with local institutions in the shared effort to create sustainable and effective solutions for refugee integration.**

This booklet provides a synopsis of the activities undertaken in various municipalities. We deeply appreciate our partnership with the Ministry of the Interior, the support of local administrations and the enthusiastic contributions of all social workers, who are paving the way for successful integration.

Ajmal Khybari

Head of UNHCR Office Czech Republic

For its relatively small size, the **Czech Republic has received an above-average number of mainly Ukrainian refugees.** Although Germany and Poland currently host the largest number of Ukrainian refugees in terms of total numbers, the **Czech Republic has long been the leading country in terms of the number of refugees per capita.**

There are around 368,500 temporary protection holders in the Czech Republic (July 2024). This is an impressive result for a country with only 10.67 million inhabitants. One of the reasons for this success is that municipalities and local authorities have been an integral part of the reception and integration process from the very beginning.

Because of the essential role of integration at the local level, activities in all 14 regions, including the capital city of Praha, have been financially supported by the joint project of he Ministry of the Interior and UNHCR.

Liberecký kraj
Ústecký kraj
Královéhradecký kraj
Karlovarský kraj
Praha
Pardubický kraj
Středočeský kraj
Olomoucký kraj
Moravskoslezský kraj
Plzeňský kraj
Kraj Vysočina
Jihočeský kraj
Jihomoravský kraj
Zlínský kraj

UNHCR collaborates with several NGO partners who are crucial in the integration process. In 2024, these partners included the following:

- **OPU** provides legal assistance, integration support and advocacy in issues related to forced migration. UNHCR also funds integration activities through OPU's social workers to promote inclusion into the local community.

- **Romodrom** focuses also on Ukrainian refugees of Roma ethnicity through its mobile teams which offer specifically tailored help to Roma refugees, ensuring their integration and addressing their unique needs.

- **Slovo21** disseminates information to refugees, helping them understand their rights and available services as well as through the UNHCR educational project Hello Czech Republic implemented by the partner NGO.

- **proFem** offers comprehensive and specialized services for survivors of gender-based violence, including an emergency shelter, psychosocial counseling, legal assistance and educational programs. proFem has campaigns and support initiatives to raise awareness about gender-based violence and provide support to affected individuals.

- **La Strada** conducts field trips to monitor collective facilities accommodating migrants focusing on addressing unpaid wages, working conditions and other malpractices reported by Ukrainian refugees to provide pre-action notices and mediation between employers and employees. La Strada has a dedicated anti-trafficking SOS hotline to combat human trafficking, providing immediate assistance and resources.

- **SIMI** provides information and legal counseling to asylum seekers at Praha Václav Havel Airport through regular visits by a lawyer, who informs them about procedures, rights and options. Additionally, they offer legal and social counseling, including assistance with labor market integration, housing and healthcare and conduct outreach activities to support refugee integration in accommodations.

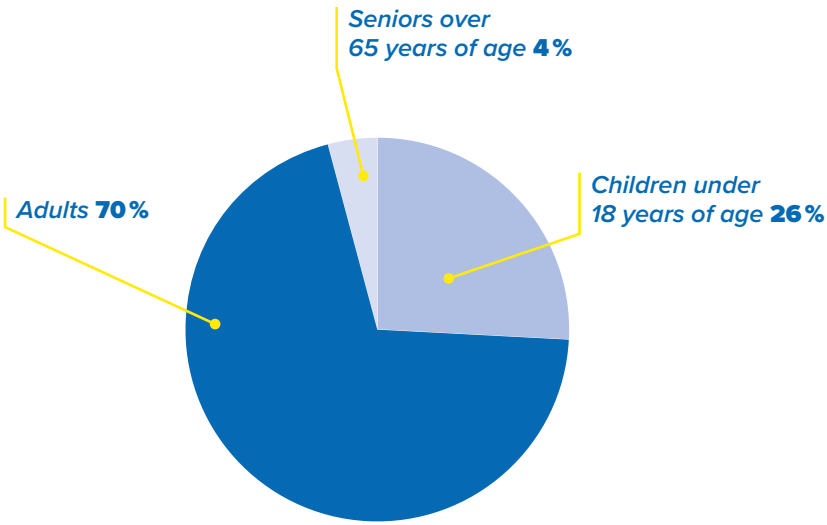
Central Bohemian Region

Středočeský kraj

The Central Bohemian Region is hosting some **51,200 Temporary Protection holders from Ukraine,** according to data from 2024.[i]

- Representing 14% of all refugees who seek protection in the Czech Republic due to the war in Ukraine, **the second highest share of all regions**.
- Women make up 45%.

Seventy percent of adults in the Central Bohemian Region are of working age, of whom 60% are women.



Key NGO partners working with UNHCR in the Central Bohemian Region are OPU, Romodrom, Slovo21, proFem and La Strada.

Jointly with the Ministry of the Interior, UNHCR funded the following projects in 2024:

BUŠTĚHRAD

In the municipality of Buštěhrad, Ukrainian refugees are supported with access to housing, healthcare, education, and social integration through language classes, psychological assistance, cultural activities, and summer camps. The project involves **extensive community engagement with local schools and volunteers** aiming at better integration and reduction of prejudice. The project is **focusing especially on vulnerable groups** such as seniors, mothers with children, and those with special needs.

“Besides Czech and Ukrainian children, we also had kids from Romania, Russia and Thailand at the summer camp this year. Regardless of nationality, they were already communicating very well with each other.”

Dana Mocová, Buštěhrad

VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES ČESKÝ BROD – DOUBRAVČICE

vzkvétání
škol českobrodska

Various activities are organised to help Temporary Protection holders integrate in Českobrodsko: Czech language courses, weekend stays with Czech language lessons, suburban summer camps, creative and relaxation workshops, yoga, Latin and country dance lessons and visits to theatres and museums. **Each of these activities has its target group** and all are very popular.

Various activities help Temporary Protection holders to integrate in Českobrodsko.

LOUKOVEC

In the village of Loukovec, local integration is supported by organising various cultural and community activities. These include a municipal ball, which gathers locals and newcomers; summer cultural events and small day camps; and traditional festive celebrations, including a trip to Mělník combined with a Halloween event. The project promotes social cohesion, reduces language barriers and fosters a sense **of community.**

MLADÁ BOLESLAV

In Mladá Boleslav, the project provides psychological, social, legal and vocational counselling, as well as language courses, to support the integration of foreigners, especially Ukrainian refugees. Mladá Boleslav supports refugee children in their **integration into the education system,** focusing on the **systemic removal of barriers** and providing methodological support in this process. The annual Festival of Cultures plays an important role in integration. Representatives of all communities living in Mladá Boleslav have the opportunity to take part.

“The Festival of Cultures was attended by children from local schools and in the afternoon by the general public. We were able to reach hundreds of people.”

Markéta Tomčíková, Mladá Boleslav

MĚLNÍK

The project in Mělník supports the integration of Ukrainian refugees into mainstream society by providing a **wide range of activities.** It provides job seekers with job opportunities, helps them secure adequate housing, education and recreation, and provides up-to-date information. It also **helps Ukrainian refugees access health services** and provides interpreters for medical appointments.

TÝNEC NAD SÁZAVOU

Týnec nad Sázavou offers Czech language courses to Ukrainian refugees, with weekly classes at two locations. The lessons, which began in 2022, have been attracting high interest among Ukrainian Temporary Protection holders. **The longer Ukrainian refugees stay in the country, the higher their motivation to improve their Czech language skills**. Thanks to the Czech lessons, most Ukrainian refugees in Týnec nad Sázavou have found jobs and can communicate in the shops and at work. **People feel they fit in here.** Most are mothers with children or old people from Ukraine, who have chosen to live here.

“The biggest success for me is that the students are independent units - they can speak and understand Czech. Two students even got new driver’s licenses - even though the test was in Czech. One of my students has successfully completed an online course to become a teaching assistant, and the students have had job interviews without an interpreter. Many of them are already working.”

Czech teacher, Týnec nad Sázavou

“Thanks to learning Czech, I was able to find a job within my qualification, shop easily, make friends with people. I want to thank everyone I met when I came here. I would also like to sincerely thank my beloved Czech teachers.”

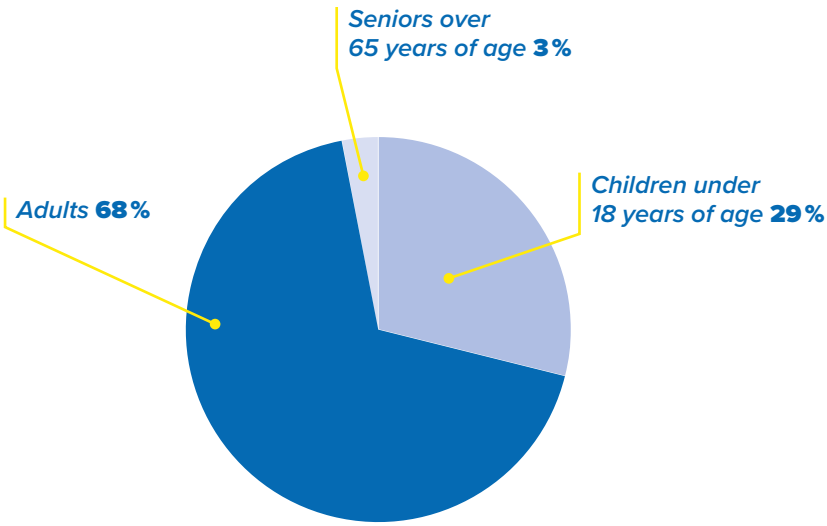
Marianna, student

Hradec Králové Region

Královéhradecký kraj

Hradec Králové Region has welcomed some **16,100 Temporary Protection holders from Ukraine,** according to data from 2024.[i]

- Representing 4% of all refugees who seek protection in the Czech Republic due to the war in Ukraine.
- Women make up 42%.
- Children under eighteen represent 29%, **the highest share of all regions.** Three percent of the population are seniors over 65 years of age, **the lowest share of all regions.** Sixty-eight percent of adults in Hradec Králové Region are of working age, of whom 59% are women.



Key NGO partners working with UNHCR in the Hradec Králové Region are OPU, Romodrom, Slovo21.

Jointly with the Ministry of the Interior, UNHCR funded the following projects in 2024:

HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ

In Hradec Králové, **comprehensive integration support** is implemented by Caritas Hradec Králové, sub-contracted with funds to organise the project activities. These aim to help refugees with housing, legal and financial self-reliance, healthcare and education. Translation, interpretation and accompanying services **help refugees navigate unfamiliar environments and integrate into society.**

DVŮR KRÁLOVÉ NAD LABEM

In the city of Dvůr Králové, **integration and social inclusion activities** are organised by the Dvůr Králové Regional Charity. Services include Czech language courses, psychological support, employment assistance and community-building activities. Having an established community significantly **simplifies refugees' orientation, independence and socio-cultural integration.**

”Accompanying refugees to government offices, doctors, and sometimes even schools is very important. This is a time-consuming but very effective form of assistance that has proven to be very successful in Hradec Králové.”

> *Václav Hrček, Hradec Králové*

“We’ve been able to build a great community of people, and we’re proud of that. This summer, a young man had to be transported by helicopter to a regional hospital and the family was left stranded. They had all the help they could get from us, and the response from the local community was immediate. Everyone who could help did help.”

> *Lenká Holá, Dvůr Králové Regional Charity*

”In the summer of 2024, I arrived in the Czech Republic with my daughter. Within four days, the organisation helped us to register with the labour office, accompanied us to the insurance office, found a doctor, opened a bank account, helped us arrange humanitarian aid and enrolled our daughter in school. Thank you all for your humanity and professionalism.”

> *A client of Dvůr Králové Regional Charity*

Summer events of the Dvůr Králové Regional Charity

VRCHLABÍ

In the municipality of Vrchlabí, **counselling and integration support is provided via advisory and interpretation services.** Ukrainians, who may have lived in the city for a long time or themselves come as refugees, act as **field integration workers.** Their involvement **eliminates the language barrier** and brings field integration workers closer to the refugees. This is because **they have experienced what it is like to start a new life in another country.**

Vrchlabí and its surroundings have a number of large accommodation facilities, meaning that refugees from different social groups are concentrated in one place. This could have led to tensions but thanks to the project, **Vrchlabí was able to manage the situation.**

“The project enabled us to carry out individual fieldwork in places with a high concentration of refugees, thus preventing the emergence of places with the characteristics of socially excluded localities.”

Adéla Cupáková, project coordinator

A ceramic workshop for mothers with children, Vrchlabí

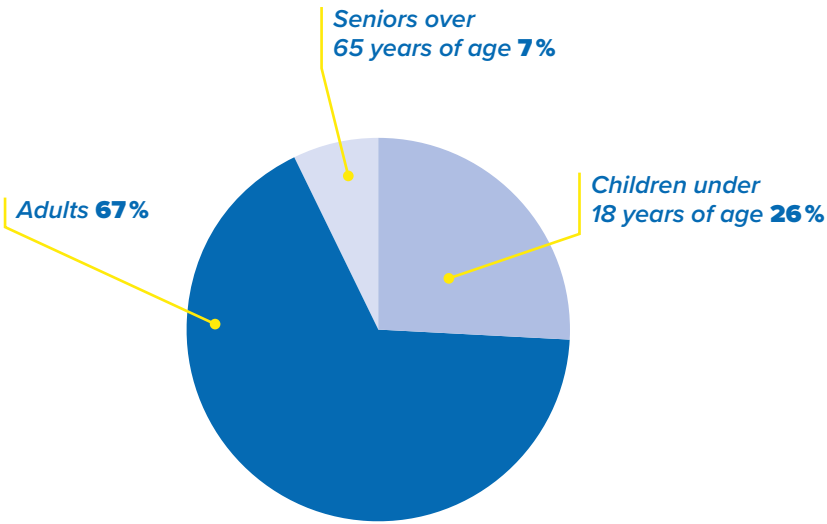
Karlovy Vary Region

Karlovarský kraj

Karlovy Vary Region, is hosting some **13,200 Temporary Protection holders from Ukraine,** according to data from 2024.[i]

- Representing 3% of all refugees who seek protection in the Czech Republic due to the war in Ukraine – one of the lowest share of all regions.
- Women make up 50%, the highest percentage of all regions of the Czech Republic.

Karlovy Vary Region has **the highest percentage of senior citizens.** Two-thirds (67%) of working-age adults are women, also **the highest percentage for all regions.**



Key NGO partners working with UNHCR in Karlovy Vary region are Romodrom, Slovo21 and Amiga.

Jointly with the Ministry of the Interior, UNHCR funded the following projects in 2024:

OSTROV

Ostrov emphasises **intensive adaptation and integration** to prevent potential conflicts. The town has organised language courses for adults and Czech-Ukrainian meetings to promote **peaceful coexistence.** A coordinator for Ukrainian refugees helps with housing, finding jobs, accessing social services and organising leisure activities.

MARIANSKOLÁZEŇSKO

In the Mariánskolázeňsko region, Ukrainian refugees are supported through language courses, psychological support and integration assistance to help them **navigate the local education and healthcare systems,** find employment and adapt socially and culturally. Key components include organising group meetings, psychological support, language courses tailored to healthcare and education professionals and summer camps, where Ukrainian **children can enhance their Czech language skills.**

“One of the biggest successes has been the creation of a space where people from a variety of backgrounds can come together to work on solutions to local problems.”

Daniela Morávková, Manager, Mariánskolázeňsko

“The project enabled us to overcome barriers and find a common language between the two countries. Not only did I learn Czech, but I also made new friendships that have been very enriching.”

Iryna, participant in an integration project, Mariánskolázeňsko

“It’s hard to move a big rock with just one finger. But if you use all your fingers, if you use the power of your hand, you can move mountains!”

Oksana, Chairwoman of UKRSPOLEK

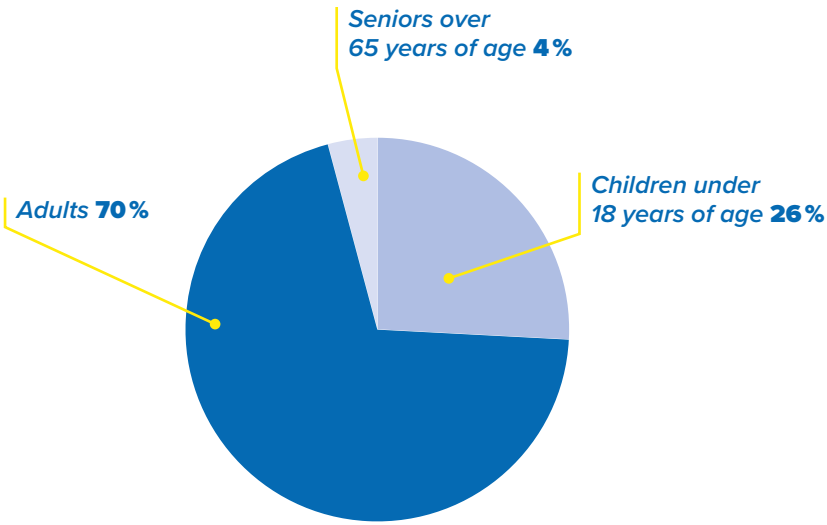
Group meeting, Mariánskolázeňsko

Liberec Region

Liberec Region has welcomed some **14,900 Temporary Protection holders from Ukraine,** according to data from 2024.[i]

- Representing 4% of all refugees who seek protection in the Czech Republic due to the war in Ukraine.
- Women make up 47%.

Seventy percent of adults are of working age, of whom 63% are women.



Key NGO partner that collaborates with UNHCR in the Liberec Region is Amiga.

Jointly with the Ministry of the Interior, UNHCR funded the following projects in 2024:

ČESKÁ LÍPA

Česká Lípa focuses on **educational and sports activities for children and adults.** Afternoon activities and summer camps in the suburbs are particularly good for helping children to make new friends. The **annual basketball tournament** also plays an important role in socialisation. Kindergarten and primary school staff appreciate the opportunity to work with tutors and interpreters. The language barrier remains an obstacle but the situation is improving every year.

“We want the children to learn to use Czech in real situations. One day of the camp was dedicated to cooking. The children naturally picked up the names of ingredients and utensils while working in the kitchen.”

Jaroslava Letáková, Česká Lípa

“People from all over the world live and work in Česká Lípa and basketball is very popular here. Besides the established Mongolian teams, players from other nationalities joined the annual tournament in 2024.”

Radek Studený, Česká Lípa

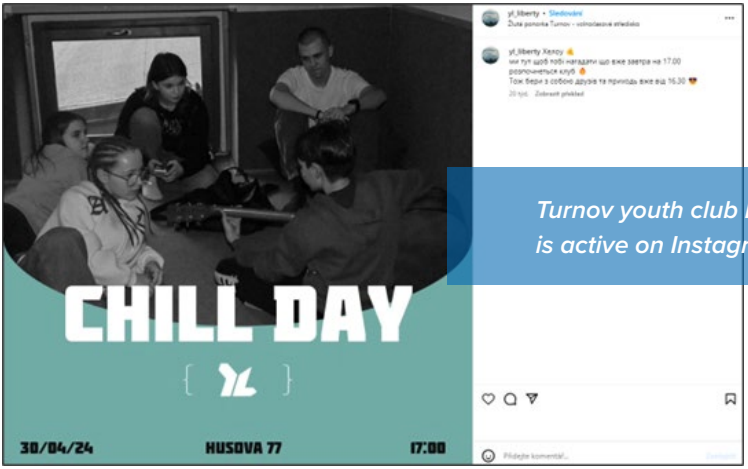
LIBEREC

The city of Liberec offers Temporary Protection holders language courses, summer camps and other activities. Individual counselling and cultural and recreational activities promote **adaptation and integration into the local community.** The city also provides support in the areas of education and career counselling to improve labour market opportunities. These services aim to **facilitate social integration and improve newcomers' quality of life.**

TURNOV

Turnov offers Czech language courses, suburban summer camps, cultural days and family reunions. In schools, parents and children can meet the special education teacher to get a **better understanding of the Czech school system.** In Turnov, they try to work with young people who, regardless of nationality, tend to be more difficult to attract. This work has led to the creation of the **Liberty Leisure Club for youth.**

Sporting activities for children in Turnov



Turnov youth club Liberty is active on Instagram

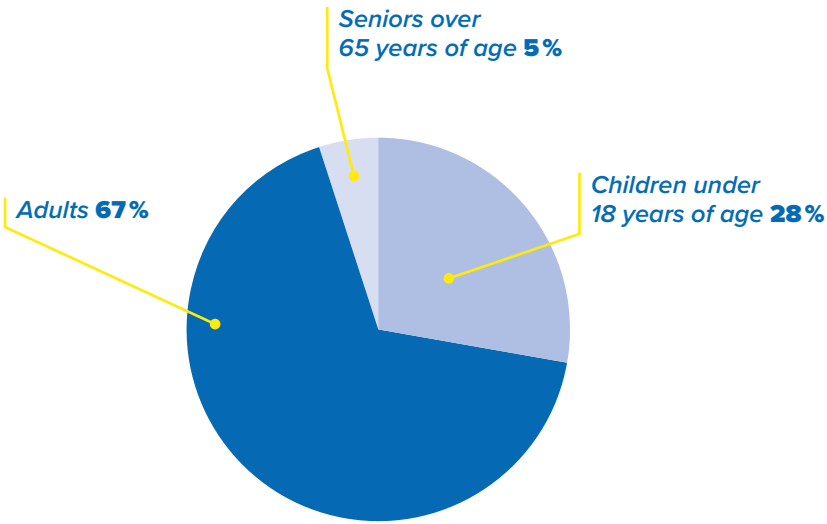
Moravian-Silesian Region

Moravskoslezský kraj

The Moravian-Silesian Region is hosting some **20,300 Temporary Protection holders from Ukraine,** according to data from 2024.[i]

- Representing 6% of all refugees who seek protection in the Czech Republic due to the war in Ukraine.
- Women make up 45%.

Out of the adults of working age, 62% are women.



The key NGO partner working with UNHCR in the Moravian-Silesian Region is OPU.

Jointly with the Ministry of the Interior, UNHCR funded the following projects in 2024:

HAVÍŘOV

Havířov focuses on professional and counselling services, Czech language classes, integration activities and free psychological support. Havířov responds to the **real needs of Ukrainians living in the city,** which are **identified by city representatives through an annual survey.** A club where Ukrainian and Czech parents meet with their children is also part of the project.

A club for teenagers in the Havířov town library addresses the previous lack of leisure activities for this age group.

“By being flexible and responsive, we’ve seen the Ukrainians grow to trust us and our services.”

Markéta Radová, Project Manager, Havířov

“The project has been a very important step in the integration of Ukrainians into everyday life in the Czech Republic. Refugees receive important information, Ukrainian children are actively involved in groups of Czech children and people who have difficulties with Czech do not fear the language barrier, as they are accompanied when visiting various authorities. For those who need it, we also offer free professional psychological help.”

Olha Matiash, coordinator of the Ukrainian community and psychologist, Havířov

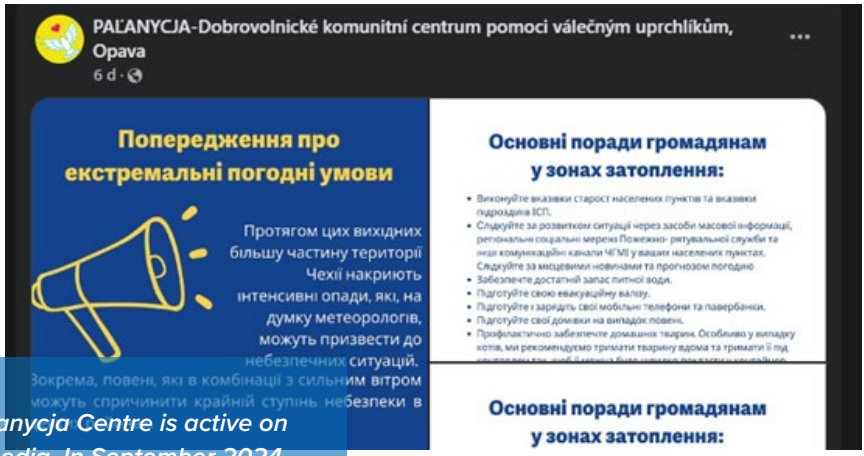
OPAVA

Opava [si ty]

In Opava, an **important pillar of the integration project is the Paľanycja Centre,** a safe place where people can spend time together and learn **mutual tolerance.** Ukrainians get to know a new country and language, while Czechs try to help them to understand, orient themselves and adapt. In the **youth club,** teenagers can spend their free time, make new friends, use the space for their own projects and tutoring and socialise with Czech teenagers. Everyone looks forward to the summer adventure weekend, an intensive adaptation in nature, **connecting Ukrainian and Czech youth.**

"The Paľanycja Center has become a place where we feel at home! We are happy to celebrate the holidays and to remind the children of their traditions. We also have a self-help group where, together with our psychologist, we try to make sense of everything and move on with our lives. All this gives us strength and the feeling that we are participating in Ukraine's victory!"

Tetiana,
a volunteer at the Paľanycja Centre



The Paľanycja Centre is active on social media. In September 2024, it provided regular updates on the floods that hit the city of Opava, among other places.

Ukrainian pride at the Paľanycja Centre

OSTRAVA

OSTRAVA!!!

In Ostrava, the project focuses on adaptation and problem prevention. Ukrainians with Temporary Protection hold positions as **”prevention workers”.** Typically, refugees need to be accompanied to offices, doctors and schools. Psychologically, this is helpful, as **many of the newly arrived need support during their first visits to institutions.**

“Many people are afraid to communicate with Czechs. But communication is necessary to ensure that people are not left isolated and without the help they need. Accompanying them is very helpful. People from Ukraine trust us because we are from Ukraine.”

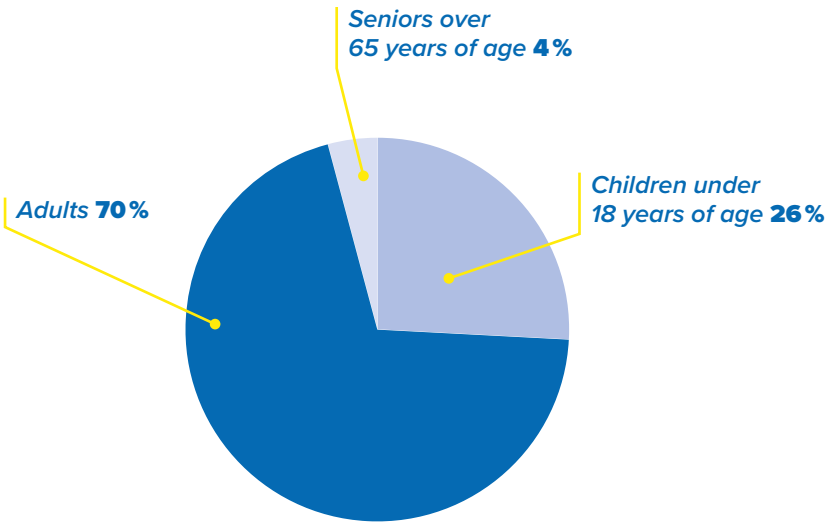
Olena and Yuriy, prevention workers

Olomouc Region

Olomouc Region is hosting some **11,600 Temporary Protection holders from Ukraine,** according to data from 2024.[i]

- Representing 3% of all refugees who seek protection in the Czech Republic due to the war in Ukraine – one of the lowest shares of all regions.
- Women make up 46%.

Seventy percent of adults are of working age, of whom 62% are women.



Key NGO partner that collaborates with UNHCR in Olomouc Region is La Strada.

Jointly with the Ministry of the Interior, UNHCR funded the following projects in 2024:

PŘEROV

Interpreting services, language courses for children and suburban summer camps are the main activities of the integration project in Přerov. The **language courses help Ukrainian children to integrate into society, overcome the language barrier** and prepare themselves for school. The suburban camps give children a **social life during the summer holidays,** with active leisure including sports and trips to the countryside.

“During the language course, the children continued to learn the Czech language. The aim was to make their integration into the primary school curriculum easier and smoother.”

Kamila Burianová
Director of the Primary School Přerov, Trávník 27

“We want to continue organizing these activities in the future, as we have had a positive response to them in previous years.”

Romana Pospíšilová,
Head of the Department,
Municipality of Přerov

“The camp in the suburbs has not only given the children opportunities to make new friends or meet old ones but it has also made it easier for them to adapt to their new environment. It contributed significantly to the improvement of their psychological state, which had been disturbed by the war in their home country.”

Michal Pospíšil,
Director of the Přerov Primary School,
U Tenisu 4

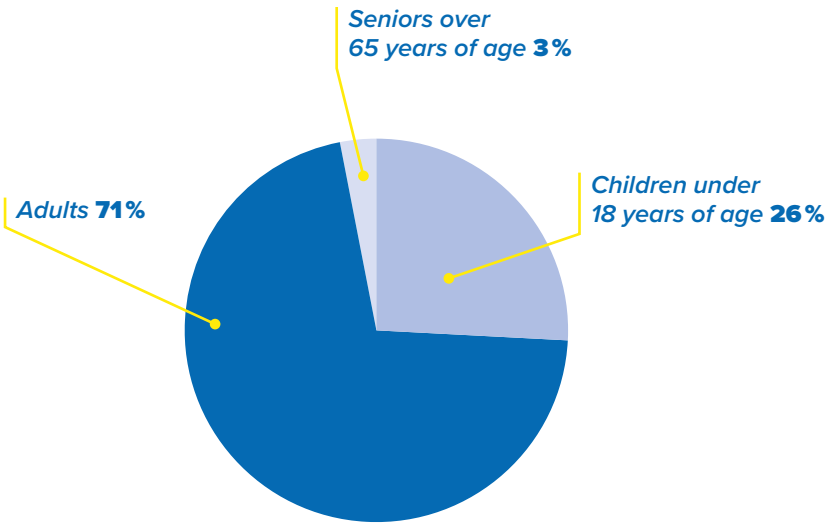
Pardubice Region

Pardubický kraj

Pardubice Region has welcomed some **16,600 Temporary Protection holders from Ukraine,** according to data from 2024.[i]

- Representing 5% of all refugees who seek protection in the Czech Republic due to the war in Ukraine.
- Women make up 44%.

Out of the adults of working age, 59% are women.



Key NGO partner working with UNHCR in Pardubice Region is Slovo21.

Jointly with the Ministry of the Interior, UNHCR funded the following projects in 2024:

CHOCEŇ

Choceň

Choceň focuses on **joint events involving Ukrainians and locals.** The Ukrainian children find that participating in organised events greatly improves their Czech language. But the program is not rigidly organised and **the choice of activities is left to the children,** so they do not feel forced to do anything. Adult participants also benefit.

"The organised events have helped us get to know other families. We share experiences and when we meet, we have something to discuss. We used to just say 'hi' but now we have a lot of friends in Ukrainian and Czech families."

A regular participant from Ukraine

"Friendly relations between Czech and Ukrainian children continue even after the event has ended."

Michal Marek, the coordinator of the project in Choceň

LETOHRAD

In Letohrad, the **Centre for Assistance to Foreigners, a regional charity in Ústí nad Orlicí,** helps Ukrainian holders of Temporary Protection. Integration activities aim to support the **independence of the clients.** Czech language classes are an important part. Capacity constraints mean they are held online but this improves access. Classes are held at different times of the day for those who work shifts.

One of the employees at the centre is Táňa, herself a Temporary Protection holder. She quickly found her way into the Czech environment:
"We offer a comprehensive package of services to our clients. We provide them with all the information needed to function normally in society, including the things we take for granted: regular payments, school attendance or shopping."

At work and play in Letohrad

LITOMYŠL

A **Ukrainian-Czech choir called Sonjašnyk** has become a **pillar of the integration** project in Litomyšl. The original idea was to teach Czech through singing and to help Ukrainians connect with the Czech community. But over time, it has proved its worth as a **psychological support** to all involved. By organising concerts, the **choir raises money for humanitarian and medical aid for Ukraine.**

Another important activity in Litomyšl is **psychological support for children and adults.** To help refugees understand Czech law and ways, it is essential to accompany and interpret for them, as well as to provide individual counselling. Meanwhile, leisure clubs and summer holiday camps help to keep children and young people engaged.

PARDUBICE

In Pardubice, the flagship of the integration project is the **Community Club.** An **informal space for learning Czech,** it is also the place where children can spend meaningful free time and get all the information they need, including professional counselling.

"The long-term work in the Community Club has proven to be successful in integrating families who came to Pardubice in connection with the war. The families soon become independent and integrate themselves into mainstream society: they find an apartment, they find a job and their children go to school."

Jana Procházková, project coordinator

“When we left Ukraine, we became ‘nobody’. Women without a home, without men, without work, without hope. But now we can say that we have become ‘somebody’ again - we are Sonjašnyk.”

A member of Sonjašnyk

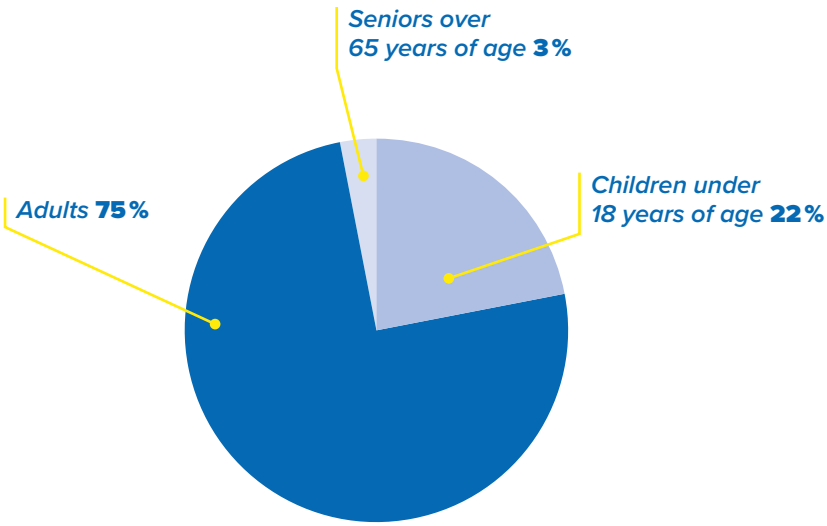
Plzeň Region

PLZEŇSKÝ KRAJ

Plzeň Region has welcomed some **30,400 Temporary Protection holders from Ukraine,** according to data from 2024.[i]

- Representing 8% of all refugees who seek protection in the Czech Republic due to the war in Ukraine.
- Women make up 49%.

Plzeň region has the highest share of adults of working age (76%), of whom 62% are women.



Key NGO partners working with UNHCR in Plzeň region are OPU and Slovo21.

Jointly with the Ministry of the Interior, UNHCR funded the following projects in 2024:

KAŠPERSKÉ HORY

The Municipality of Kašperské Hory organizes **city camps,** which **significantly improved language knowledge** of the participants and opened door for a mutual communication and **new friendships** between refugee children and their Czech friends. Municipality of Kašperské Hory also organizes Czech language courses for adults to **overcome the language barrier** and better understand the local environment and cultural differences.

"I had not hoped that this would happen to me and that I would be able to work again in some way other than as a cleaner. My dream is to work with children."

Viki, Kašperské Hory

"At the summer camp, you can make a friend for life."

Kristýna, Kašperské Hory

TACHOV

In Tachov, the project aims to support the integration of Temporary Protection holders and other foreign nationals in cooperation with NGOs, such as Člověk v tísni or Kotec. It includes Czech **language courses, preventive activities and community engagement,** focusing on reducing social tensions and improving integration.

STARÝ PLZENEC

In cooperation with the **YMCA of Pilsen, Starý Plzenec** focuses on supporting the integration of Temporary Protection holders. It offers a **range of activities,** including Czech language courses, pre-school programs and various leisure activities. In addition, the project provides educational support, administrative assistance and community-building events to further facilitate **refugees' adaptation and inclusion into local society.**

PLZEŇ

Pomáhající Plzeň

Plzeň helps foreigners integrate by carrying out four main activities. The most important is **Czech language tuition for adults and children,** including intensive **summer courses** that help children to improve their skills before they start school. Integration meetings help foreigners make contact with the local community. Craft courses combine creative activities and opportunities for informal Czech language improvement and are open to all age groups. **Legal counselling** is also an important part of the project, helping foreigners find their way in the Czech legal system.

"About 40,000 foreigners currently live in Plzeň, making up about one-fifth of the city's total population. Ensuring their smooth integration is therefore of the utmost importance. It would be impossible to do everything on our own and with our own financial resources. Thanks to the project's support, we can offer a number of activities that help integration."

Jiří Šrámek, City of Plzeň Councillor for Social Affairs and Active Elderly Life

Participants of Czech language courses:

"Veronika's teaching methods are effective and intensive, which is convenient if you have little time. It is always fun, dynamic, theatrical, comic and self-deprecating."

Volodymyr Pichak

"All students are engaged in the lesson. All are in dialogue with the teacher or with other students. We read, talk and write a lot. I already have three notebooks filled with texts. We laugh about funny topics and feel sad when we talk about serious topics. We constantly study Czech traditions and holidays, which is important for integration."

Galina Pavliuk

"Before I started studying Czech, I had a mixture of grammar and conversation in my head. I didn't know how to use it in everyday life. Now I understand the logic of Czech grammar and I am no longer afraid to speak Czech. It has improved my quality of life and helps me a lot at wor."

Iryna Krasinska

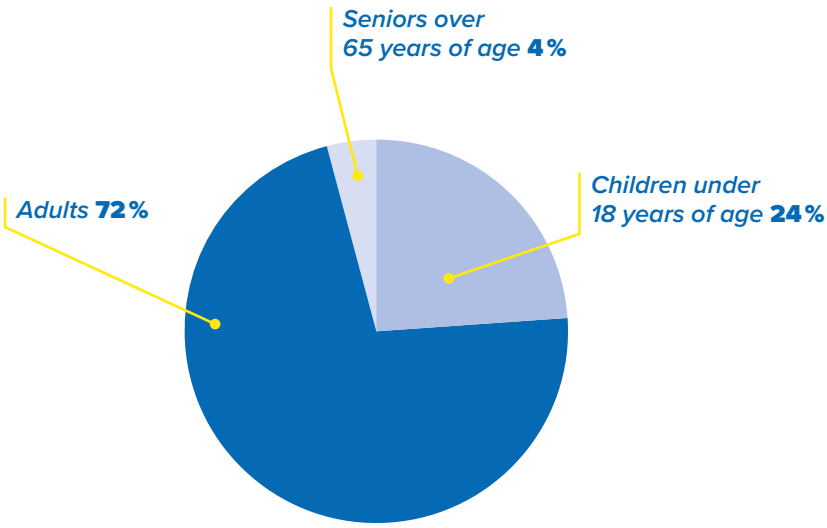
Summer language courses for children, Plzeň

Praha

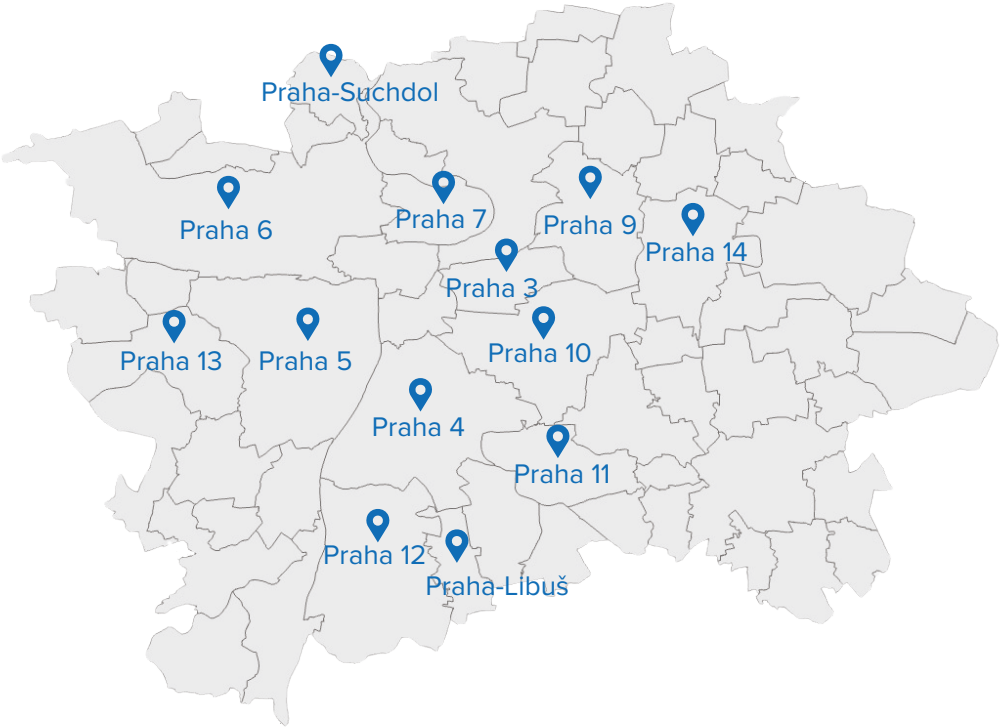
Praha is hosting some **94,600 Temporary Protection holders from Ukraine,** according to data from 2024.[i]

- Representing 26% of all refugees who seek protection in the Czech Republic due to the war in Ukraine - **the highest share of all regions.**
- Women make up 46%.

Praha Region has the **second highest share of adults of working age** (72%), of whom 60% are women.



Key NGO partners working with UNHCR in Praha region are OPU, SIMI, Romodrom, Slovo21, proFem, AMIGA and La Strada.



PRAGUE FOR ALL

Prague for all promotes **civic participation and the integration of foreigners in the Czech capital.** As the number of foreigners, especially those with Temporary Protection, has increased, overcoming barriers to communication and sharing values has become crucial. The project responds to the needs of the growing number of foreigners and seeks to **strengthen relations between locals and newcomers.** Through educational activities, counselling and civic empowerment, it creates an environment where different communities can meet, understand each other and contribute to the development of the city.

PRAHA 3

The Praha 3 project has three main parts. Firstly, **refugee coordinators** (people originally from Ukraine but familiar with Czech society and fluent in Czech) accompany and interpret for refugees in various institutions. They operate the Praha 3 **hotline and information centre** and reach out to refugees through social media.

Secondly, in cooperation with the nonprofit organisation **META,** Praha 3 offers an **intensive Czech language summer course** for preschool children, as well as two clubs for primary school children.

And finally, the **Nová Trojka community centre** combines programs for children and parents. Support groups play an important role, providing psychological counselling for children, adolescents and parents.

“The courses gave the mothers an opportunity to have free time to learn Czech and to see a psychologist. The women realised they were not alone and that they could organise themselves. The children became more self-confident and their anxiety decreased.”

Anastasia Tsarenko, a lecturer and participant in the programs, a psychologist and mother of a four year old son

Intensive summer language class, META, Praha 3

PRAHA 4

MĚSTSKÁ ČÁST
PRAHA 4

Praha 4 offers Temporary Protection holders **language courses, cultural events and support services** for both adults and children. Praha 4 works with NGOs such as Slovo 21, InBáze and Centrum pro integraci cizinců. These partnerships enhance reach and effectiveness in fostering **integration and mutual understanding** between foreigners and the local community.

Theatre performance "Our New Classmate", Praha 4

Crochet Basket Making Workshop, Praha 4

PRAHA 5

Praha 5 helps individuals and groups to coexist with mainstream society. The project contributes to the **prevention of xenophobia,** the raising of foreigners' awareness and the development of their communication skills. Teaching Czech to children directly in schools is very effective. Integration events and creative workshops also contribute to developing **positive relations in society.**

"The greatest success is that the project continues without interruption every year. Most of the participants are very interested in the activities. Without the project, they would not be able to further deepen and improve their acquired knowledge and experience with Czech language and culture."

Barbora Mikolášková, project coordinator

Creative workshop, Praha 5

Czech language courses for adults, Praha 5

PRAHA 6

The project in Prague 6 is implemented by **Marjánka Primary School.** With its specialised team of teachers, the school has many years of experience in teaching Czech to foreigners and involving students in classroom teams. To motivate them and **make learning Czech** fun, the teachers use a **method that combines all the elements - grammar, speech, rhythm, visualisation, dramatisation and music.**

"There is no textbook on the Czech market that uses similar methods. This fact has been confirmed by dozens of teachers, who have attended our seminars all over the country."

Anna Slabá, deputy director of the Marjánka Primary School

Czech language teaching for foreigners at Marjánka Primary School, Praha 6

PRAHA 7

To improve refugees' language skills, Praha 7 uses **several proven components:** regular Czech classes in schools, intensive summer courses before children start school, language courses for adults and a foreign language column in the City Hall newspaper, Hobulet. What is new as of 2024 is that Praha 7 **institutionalised cooperation** with schools and kindergartens by creating the position of **"support coordinator" for pupils with a different mother tongue** and by holding regular meetings in this support network.

"It is important for us to join forces and support local organizations like Locika (therapies), Cirkusárna (New Circus), Altan Art (art workshops)."

Dům dobra (community centre for Ukrainians), Tomáš Taich, Social Inclusion Department, Praha 7

Foreign language column in the City Hall newspaper Hobulet

PRAHA 9

Praha 9 supports refugee integration in the local community. They run **summer camps for children** to enhance their Czech language skills, provide additional Czech language tutoring in schools and host a **multicultural festival called Barevná devítka.**

Multicultural festival Barevná devítka, Praha 9

PRAHA 10

Praha 10 is committed to supporting Temporary Protection holders through **various initiatives**, including language courses, summer camps, leisure activities, buddy programs, intercultural worker services and community events. Ukrainians are also offered **social and career counselling** and **psychosocial support.** Special attention is given to **vulnerable groups,** such as single parents, seniors and individuals with low language proficiency, to ensure their specific **needs are addressed.**

Summer activities for children, Berehyňa Association, Praha 10

PRAHA 11

Praha 11 is dedicated to cultural and community activities, intercultural and psychosocial support and information. In Praha 11, they have expanded their work to include **training aimed at reducing negative attitudes and prejudices towards Ukrainian refugees,** strengthening the intercultural competencies of key integration actors and promoting social cohesion.

"I came here with my son in May 2022 and we are still here. Thank you to my first Czech teacher, Mrs. Zdeňka, she is a wonderful person and teacher. I am very grateful to my interpreter, Mrs. Maria, who always helped us with many questions and accompanied us to the hospital, offices and parent meetings. A big thank you to the church in Donovalska Street, which gives us the opportunity to organize meetings for Ukrainians. We are also very grateful to psychologist Lucia, who provided psychological help. Only thanks to you we were able to adapt to a foreign country."

Nina Chantai, Praha 11

”One of the main directions in the development of the integration of foreigners is intercultural work. We have come to believe that it is not enough to provide information in Ukrainian on the internet or through leaflets and assume this will suffice for support. Newly arrived refugees from Ukraine appreciate the human presence of someone who speaks their language.

Intercultural work brings us many positive things, including a better knowledge of the needs of foreigners in the district. The authority can take a more responsible approach to providing information, counselling and other support for foreigners. Last but not least, we have opportunities to involve foreigners in the life of the district. In this way, we can show our friendliness and openness as an authority.”

Barbora Matysová, Praha 11 Municipal District Office

Conversation Club, Praha 11

PRAHA 12

The goal of Praha 12 is to provide intensive and comprehensive support for the integration of foreigners. Specifically, they run the **Spectrum Leisure Club,** where children choose among workshops to help them **practise their Czech through fun and creative activities.** There are suburban camps, intensive courses in Czech language and literature, film evenings and free Czech language summer camps.

PRAHA 13

Municipal employees, in cooperation with teachers and NGOs, have been working to integrate foreigners for 15 years. So integration is an integral part of local strategies and overall policy in Praha 13. The very duration of the work shows how important integration is. The project includes courses in the Czech language for children and adults, as well as community and social workers.

"The project builds trust in institutions and understanding of how things work here. We are now being approached by more and more people from Ukraine who need to solve problems with doctors, employment, courses or finding a school or kindergarten for their children. As time goes by, the same people are trying to get involved themselves and feel that they can make a positive difference where they live."

Tetiana Sheptun, Community Worker, Praha 13

Czech language lessons during summer holidays, Praha 13

PRAHA 14

Praha 14 focuses on the integration of foreigners and refugees, with an emphasis on **supporting Czech language classes,** multicultural education and children's activities. Through close cooperation with NGOs and schools, Praha 14 aims to **remove barriers to full integration and create an inclusive community.** They want to improve quality of life, help people find jobs and promote the mental health of affected families.

PRAHA-LIBUŠ

Praha-Libuš supports the integration of foreign nationals, including Temporary Protection holders, through a **range of activities.** These include summer day camps and integration trips for children, Czech language courses for both children and adults and multicultural public events. They collaborate with NGOs like Saparia and the Integration Centre Praha (ICP) and other nonprofit organisations offering **translation and cultural consultation services.**

PRAHA-SUCHDOL

In the Praha-Suchdol district, the **Community Center Půda** is at the heart of integration activities. It offers Temporary Protection holders free Czech language courses and intensive summer courses. And they benefit from the **services of an intercultural and community worker,** an interpreter, a Ukrainian-speaking psychologist, a Ukrainian doctor, a children's speech therapist and a legal advisor. Social activities include **cooking classes, classical music concerts and folk dances with Ukrainian artists.**

"This year, we focused mainly on the elderly, because they often live in isolation, do not learn the Czech language, and do not have access to health care. And children and youth, because Czech schools do not offer free summer camps for them during the holidays."

> *Zuzana Krumpholcová, director of the Půda Center and project coordinator*

Paintings by Larissa Matejová exhibited at the Půda Community Center in Praha-Suchdol. "We are happy to give Ukrainian artists the opportunity to present themselves here."

Zuzana Krumpholcová, director of the Půda Center and project coordinator

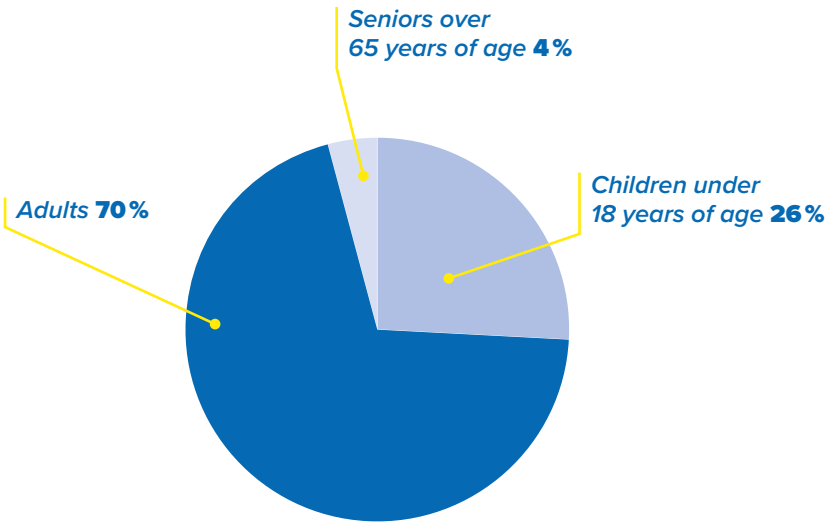
South Bohemian Region

Jihočeský kraj

The South Bohemian Region has welcomed some **17,300 Temporary Protection holders from Ukraine,** according to data from 2024.[i]

- Representing 5% of all refugees who seek protection in the Czech Republic due to the war in Ukraine.
- Women make up 45%.

Seventy percent of adults are of working age, of whom 61% are women.



Key NGO partners working with UNHCR in the South Bohemian Region are Romodrom, and La Strada.

Jointly with the Ministry of the Interior, UNHCR funded the following projects in 2024:

LIŠOV

In Lišov, the project focuses mainly on **teaching Czech to adults and young people** aged 15-18. Knowledge of Czech gives Temporary Protection holders a better chance in the labour market and helps them deal with administrative and social issues. As the refugees tend to come and go, Czech classes are **usually given at the basic level.** But teachers **also offer more advanced courses** to those who stay, enabling them to further improve their language skills.

ČESKÉ BUDĚJOVICE

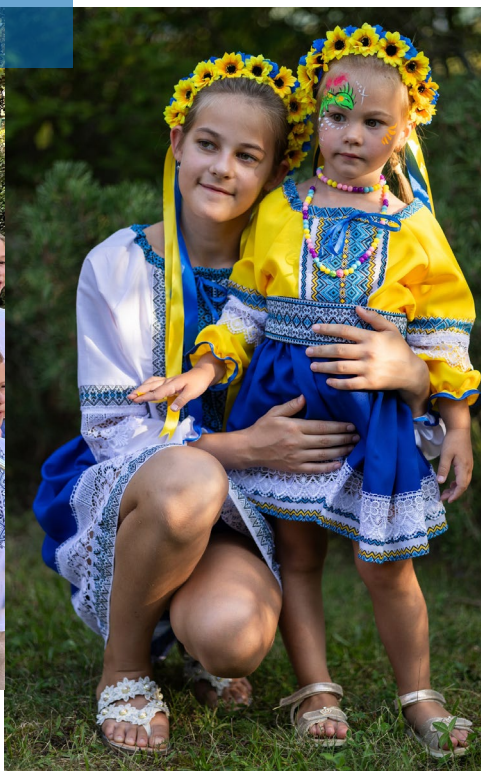
The central pillar of the project in České Budějovice is the **Ukrainian Community Centre Nadija.** With the help of a number of active volunteers, they create a **safe environment for refugees** from Ukraine to find support and a variety of recreational activities for children and adults.

Crucially, language classes give participants practical skills and **raise their confidence to integrate into Czech society.** But as well as the Czech classes, there are painting groups, art therapy, dancing and social projects. And a **Ukrainian psychologist** is on the premises to provide professional counselling to children.

“When I arrived from Ukraine with my young children, I felt lost and didn’t know where to start. I found a flyer for Nadija Ukrainian Community Center and decided to come. It was one of the best decisions I could have made. The center not only provided me with support, but also became a place where I found a new community and friends.”

Ekaterina Peklun,
České Budějovice

Ukrainian expression at the Nadija Community Centre, České Budějovice



ČESKÝ KRUMLOV

The project in Český Krumlov supports Ukrainian refugees through the **Infopoint Ukrajina – Koordinační centrum.** It helps with registration for Temporary Protection extensions, provides translation and interpretation services and facilitates access to housing, healthcare and employment. They also organise **community cultural events** and day camps for children during school holidays.

Language classes give participants the practical skills needed to live in a new country. This initiative not only improves participants' communication skills but also increases their **self-confidence** and enables them to integrate more easily into Czech society.

PÍSEK

Písek supports Ukrainian refugees with **counselling services, recreational activities and language courses.** With the help, they can find jobs, get health care and housing and settle their children in school. Interpreting for Ukrainian children in schools is also an important part of what Písek does.

“In 2024, I would like to highlight the ‘About You With You’ event. For several weeks we collected data in various ways about people from Ukraine who have settled in Písek. On March 22, we held a large panel discussion, the purpose of which was not only to analyze the results of the questionnaire together, but also to reflect on the way forward in terms of integration and support for newcomers.”

“We always try to involve newcomers in all our activities so that they can participate in the preparation, organization and hosting. In this case we used the help of Vasyl Kostyuk who did the graphic work for us. Our regular collaborator is also Anastasiia Kiktenko - a professional photographer.”

> *Helena Šedivá,*
> *Project Coordinator, Písek*

“When I came to the Czech Republic because of the war, I received help and shelter, but because of the lack of communication, I felt isolated and lonely. After six months I came to Písek and immediately started attending Czech classes. I also work as a tutor for children in the World in Písek project. While the mothers learn Czech and prepare their resumes, I take care of their children.

“It’s great that the organisers understand the needs of the women. Most of the time they are alone with their children and they can’t leave them. The organisers see the potential in the refugees and help them develop it. There are a lot of professional women among the Ukrainians but they need help in order to be more effective in their work.”

> *Veronika Aharova,*
> *project participant, Písek*

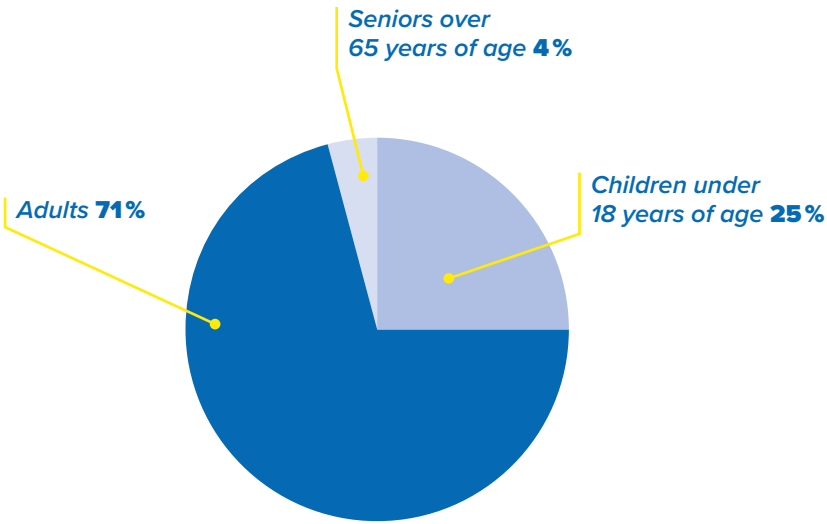
South Moravian Region

jihomoravský kraj

The South Moravian Region is hosting some **38,400 Temporary Protection holders from Ukraine,** according to data from 2024.[i]

- Representing 10% of all refugees who seek protection in the Czech Republic due to the war in Ukraine - **the third highest share of all regions.**
- Women make up 47%.

Seventy-one percent of adults are of working age, of whom 63% are women.



Key NGO partners working with UNHCR in the South Moravian Region are OPU, and Amiga.

Jointly with the Ministry of the Interior, UNHCR funded the following projects in 2024:

BLANSKO

Addressing an ongoing need for integration and adaptation, Blansko offers intensive **Czech language courses tailored to different levels,** children's leisure clubs, one-day family trips and children's events to promote **community cohesion.** It collaborates with NGOs, making the most of their expertise and resources to increase the effectiveness of integration activities.

BRNO

In Brno, they give methodological support to intercultural workers, online workshops to assist with school applications and advice on recognition of qualifications. **Social workers keep track of vulnerable refugees,** address housing issues and support intercultural work, especially among Ukrainians and Russians. As well as accompanying and interpreting at government offices and hospitals, they provide mediation and assistance in situations of domestic violence. They **actively cooperate with the employment office and other local institutions.**

"The project succeeds in bringing together different cultural groups and creates an inclusive environment for all Brno residents. Everyone has the chance to be heard and respected, regardless of their cultural background. The integration of refugees into a new environment is not easy but our project provides support and services to help both refugees and institutions."

Martina Špicová, Coordinator for the Integration of Foreigners, Brno

BŘECLAV

The project “Integration of Foreigners in Břeclav” includes Czech language lessons, summer camps for Ukrainian children and various cultural and social events, e.g. International Children’s Day and the **International Football Tournament.** In 2024, there were two informational meetings on changes in the law regarding those granted Temporary Protection. In all activities, the **intercultural worker plays an important role.**

“Refugees from Ukraine may sometimes appear angry but this is not directed at the Czech Republic, only at the circumstances under which they were forced to leave their homes. Rather, they appreciate the help provided by the project in areas of culture, education and sports. The project makes it possible for them to better orient themselves through education and involvement in sports and culture. They appreciate getting to know Czech culture and gastronomy and find the project helpful. It not only helps them to survive but also makes them forget about Ukrainian problems for a while.”

Mária Dudar,
intercultural worker, Břeclav

The Amateur Cup, an international football tournament, Břeclav

IVANČICE

The recreation centre is at the heart of the project in Invačice, providing **accommodation for mothers with children.** It offers language classes, a kindergarten and a children's club, allowing mothers to go to work. Children from Ukraine and the Czech Republic have **bonded and formed friendships** through various activities.

"Thanks to the project, among other things we can run a much-needed kindergarten for children from Ukraine."
Lenka Dittrichová, Crisis Management, Ivančice

“At the beginning it wasn’t easy - the new children’s mentality, habits and education were different from ours. But I think in the end we can be proud of the fact that integration in Ivančice has been successful and continues to be successful.”

Lenka Dittrichová, Crisis Management, Ivančice

JEDOVNICE

In Jedovnice, the project offers **weekly Czech courses** to help refugees overcome language barriers and integrate into the local community. There are also community events with local partners. These collaborations are crucial to providing **comprehensive support,** including translation services, educational assistance and cultural exchanges.

LEDNICE

Lednice prides itself on organising various cultural events, for example an **educational afternoon about Czech and Ukrainian holidays.** Mothers with children of pre-school age organise this and whole families come together to taste traditional dishes and play games. The project in Lednice also involves a **Ukrainian Czech language teacher.** She motivates others to improve their language skills so they can find their way around offices and workplaces. Her lessons are thematic and **help a lot of Ukrainians,** who despite having university degrees are working outside their fields, to **find suitable jobs.**

Cultural events for families in Lednice

MORAVSKÝ KRUMLOV

Moravský Krumlov offers **community interpreting services** to help refugees overcome language barriers in key areas like healthcare, education and work. A skilled Ukrainian-speaking interpreter accompanies people to doctors' appointments, school meetings and government offices and also assists with job searches and workplace communication. This helps refugees **navigate situations more independently, reducing their need for intermediaries** who might take advantage of them.

ZNOJMO

The Znojmo project is aimed primarily at **assisting the most vulnerable.** The goal is to spread awareness of how things work in the Czech Republic. Providing interpreting services in offices, in particular the employment offices, is a day-to-day part of the job. An informal proactive approach is most effective and helps to **overcome some of the long-standing mistrust of public institutions.**

"Olena Stoianova has graduated from high school and will start studying at university in October. Her Czech is now so good that it is almost impossible to tell where she comes from. It is incredible how she has managed to soften her Ukrainian accent and how well she speaks Czech. When I asked Olena how satisfied she was with our help, she smiled and said: 'Ten stars out of ten'."

> *Mojmír Meister,*
> *secretary's office, Znojmo*

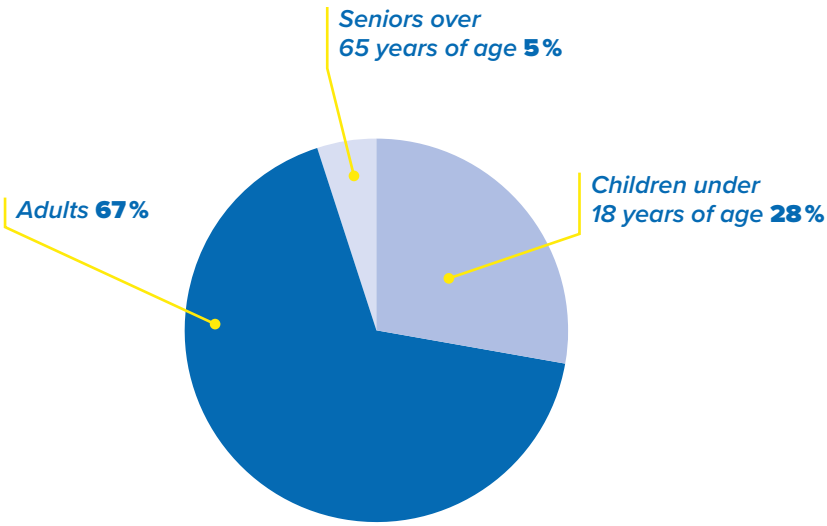
Ústí nad Labem Region

ústecký kraj

Ústí nad Labem Region has welcomed some **17,700 Temporary Protection holders from Ukraine,** according to data from 2024.[i]

- Representing 5% of all refugees who seek protection in the Czech Republic due to the war in Ukraine.
- Women make up 43%.

Sixty-seven percent of adults are of working age, the lowest share among regions, of whom 59% are women.



Key NGO partners working with UNHCR in the Ústí nad Labem Region are Slovo21, and Amiga.

Jointly with the Ministry of the Interior, UNHCR funded the following projects in 2024:

DĚČÍN

Děčín provides many services for Ukrainian refugees. These include **Czech language courses,** exercises with a Ukrainian tutor and summer camps. Psychological support is essential and the **library in Děčín has become a place where help can be found.**

"It is important for me to be able to help adults and children from Ukraine who have been affected by the war. They need psychological support, help and understanding during this difficult time."

Aleksandra Zolina,
psychologist, Děčín

The library in Děčín has also become a place where help can be found. "Since the very beginning of the war in Ukraine, we have been able to help people who are in a difficult situation in their lives to integrate as much as possible into Czech society through formal and informal education."

Miroslava Nedvedova,
Děčín Public Library

“While the younger generation is more easily integrated into society through work and school, the elderly often face isolation and loneliness. By providing various activities, we have enabled them not only to reestablish social contacts but also to become actively involved in the community. In particular, visiting castles has proven very popular.”

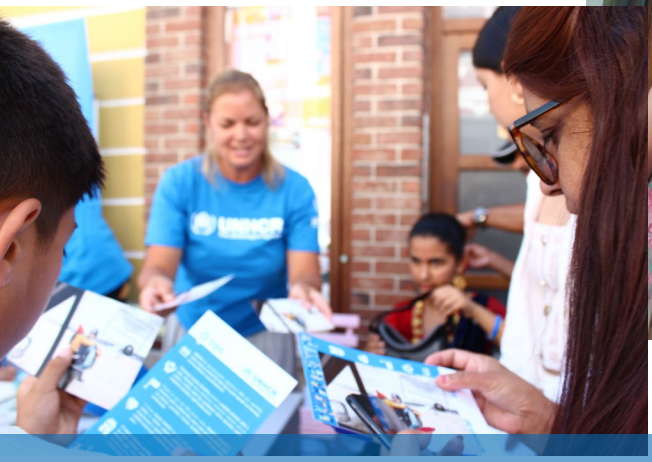
Petra Barborová, Manager of the Volunteer Center, Děčín

KADAŇ

Kadaň's work to integrate foreigners helps to create **friendly relations and reduce social exclusion.** Activities not only strengthen communication skills but also **connect differen nationalities and generations.** In Kadaň, they pay special attention to senior citizens from Ukraine, who are at high risk of isolation. It is encouraging to see them participating in activities that **help them cope with the psychological burden of being displaced by war.** The project also helps foreigners to find work, thus supporting their integration into society.

"The refugees from Ukraine received the most important things a foreigner needs in any country - Czech language lessons, psychological support, activities for children, youth and adults. They can make new friends not only among Ukrainians, but also among people of other nationalities."

Halyna Lepka,
a Ukrainian participant in the project



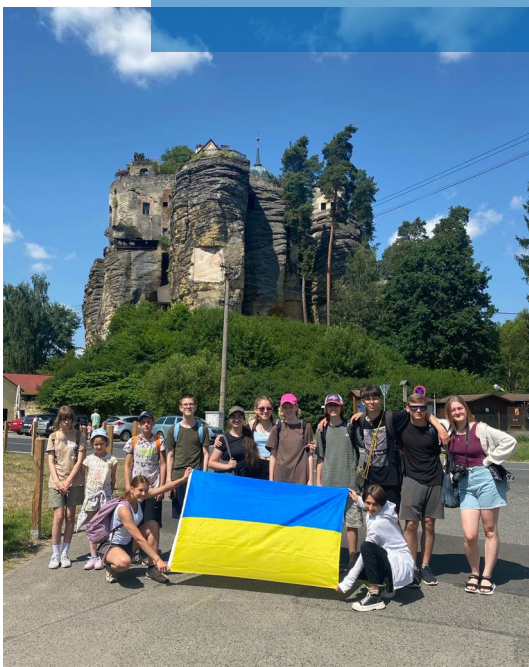
Multicultural Kadaň Festival

At the Multicultural Kadaň Festival, UNHCR set up a virtual reality booth.

UNION OF MUNICIPALITIES NORTH

In the Union of Municipalities North, they provide **comprehensive support to families, children and people with severe disabilities.** Beyond registered social services, they give counselling and coordinate assistance, helping refugees to meet their material needs and find jobs and housing. They regularly **deal with crisis situations and give emotional support,** professional counselling and help in communicating with institutions and doctors. They facilitate access to therapy, medical care, specialists and follow-up operations, as well as care during pregnancy and childbirth. **Support is available throughout the Šluknov region.**

Trip as part of the activities of the Union of Municipalities North



"The Šluknov region is at the end of the world but when a problem arises, we know how to cooperate and do useful work. In February 2022, we responded immediately to the situation in Ukraine, and social service providers and cities in the region worked together to create a network of support for individuals and families who stayed with us."

Monika Lampová, Union of Municipalities North

TEPLICE

Teplice supports the integration of Temporary Protection through a **range of activities,** including language courses, social and legal counseling, cultural and educational events, and psychological support. The goal is to **increase participants' self-sufficiency and** facilitate their integration into the community while **promoting mutual respect and understanding** within the municipality.

ÚSTÍ NAD LABEM

Ukrainian refugees look to the **Cultural Club in Ústí nad Labem** for support with various needs. The club provides opportunities for language learning, recreational activities and, above all, the chance to **meet people of the same age.** Intercultural workers help Temporary Protection holders with applications for humanitarian benefits, job searches and orientation in the Czech labour law system. Intercultural workers are linked to the public administration, which means foreigners get more direct assistance while the officials become more culturally sensitive. **Public institutions have become more open and friendly to foreigners thanks to this project.**

"I am 74 years old and I will probably never learn Czech. I am alone in the Czech Republic. My son is at war and I have no one to help me. But thanks to the intercultural workers, Ms. Olga and Ms. Nina, I am not afraid to go anywhere even if I don't understand."

Vira, Ústí nad Labem

“Ukrainian women who attend the senior club every week spend their free time with their peers, cooking, crafting, watching movies, playing games and going on trips. Although this place will not replace their homes, we are working hard to support their mental well-being and improve their quality of life.”

Eliška Kristková,
project coordinator, Ústí nad Labem

ŽATEC

The highlight in Žatec is the **Barevný Žatec festival,** which brings together local residents and representatives of minorities living in the town. It is mainly a **cultural program for children and adults,** with participants presenting their national dishes. The event is well received by the public.

Barevný Žatec festival

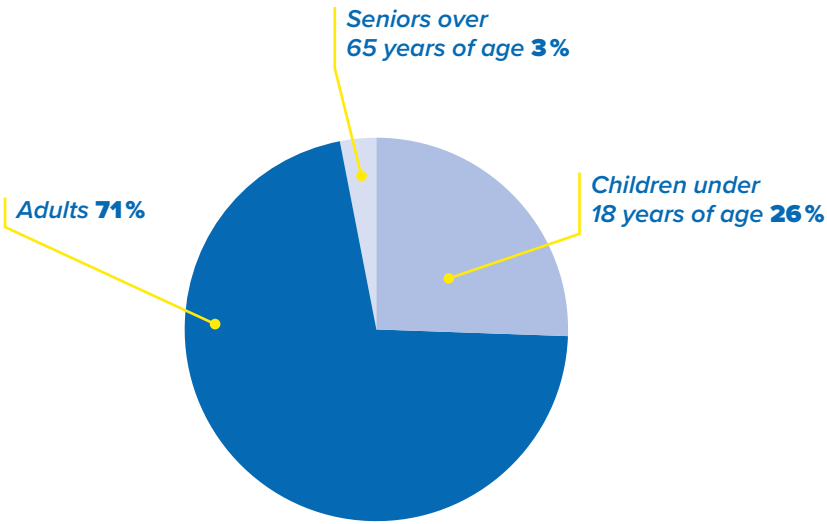
Vysočina Region

Vysočina Region has welcomed some **15,100 Temporary Protection holders from Ukraine,** according to data from 2024.[i]

Representing 4% of all refugees who seek protection in the Czech Republic due to the war in Ukraine.

Women make up 43%.

The share of adults of working age is the **second highest share of all regions,** out of which 58% are women.



Jointly with the Ministry of the Interior, UNHCR funded the following projects in 2024:

HAVLÍČKŮV BROD

In Havlíčkův Brod, the project has several elements. The first is teaching Czech in kindergartens. The **teaching is systematic and regular,** and the children learn in small groups in a playful way. Czech is also taught in primary schools. Pupils learn the basics, which they need to **function successfully at school.** Thanks to this, they are able to integrate these children into the collective of Czech children. The project includes afternoons devoted to Ukrainian, Mongolian and Vietnamese minorities.

"The presentation of the cultures and daily life of the minorities who have shared the same space in our region for decades has made it possible to establish contacts between cultures and, above all, to open up communication between all generations, regardless of nationality. Music, food, visual arts and customs proved good starting points to appreciate the richness of another culture and at the same time to become aware of common values and experiences."

Petra Šromová, project coordinator, Havlíčkův Brod

JIHLAVA

Jihlava

Jihlava pays **special attention to vulnerable groups such as seniors, mothers with young children, people with disabilities and the homeless.** They provide basic social counselling, organise orientation sessions on city life and facilitate informal meetings. They also work with NGOs who offer language courses, social rehabilitation and legal advice.

Humanitarian Aid Center, Jihlava/ Centrum humanitární pomoci, Jihlava

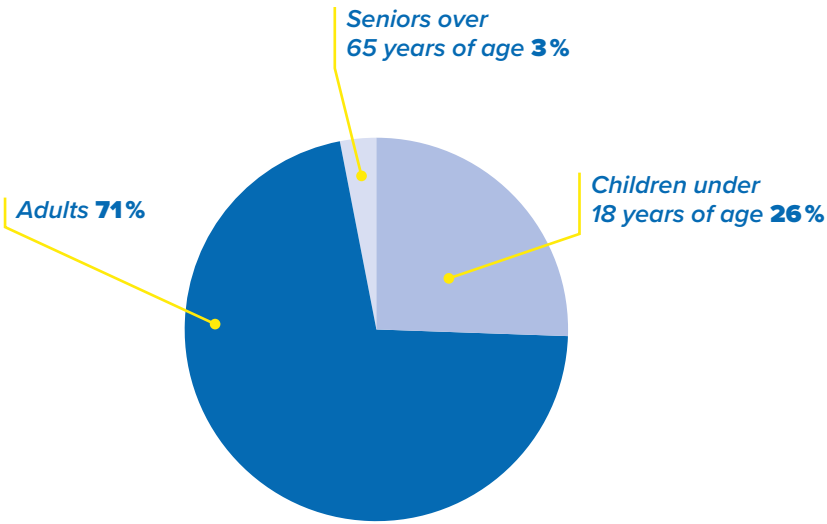
Zlín Region

Zlínský kraj
Kraj bez hranic

Zlín Region has welcomed some **11,100 Temporary Protection holders from Ukraine,** according to data from 2024.[i]

- Representing 3% of all refugees who seek protection in the Czech Republic due to the war in Ukraine, the lowest share among regions.
- Women make up 45%.

Seventy-one percent of adults are of working age, of whom 60% are women.



Jointly with the Ministry of the Interior, UNHCR funded the following projects in 2024

ROŽNOVSKO

Rožnovsko Region provides **language courses, psychological support, employment assistance and cultural integration events.** Partnerships with local NGOs allow us to make extra support and services available. Activities are designed to promote social inclusion, enhance language skills and encourage cultural exchange, ultimately **benefiting both the Ukrainian and local communities.**

VALAŠSKÉ MEZIŘÍČÍ

Valašské Meziříčí offers a wide range of activities aimed at **supporting Ukrainian families and their integration into the local community.** Ukrainian coordinators help at meetings with authorities, doctors and other services. For Ukrainian children, **psychological support is available, including psychotherapy, crisis intervention and individual support.** Recreational activities include Czech language summer camps, creative workshops and rock-climbing.

Leisure activities for children, Valašské Meziříčí

ZLÍN

Individual needs are uppermost when it comes to Zlín's integration activities. Many refugees find they have to change accommodation and the involvement of intercultural workers, who help in negotiations with landlords, is useful in this regard. For newcomers as well as those who have been living in the Czech Republic for a long time, Czech language courses contribute to their integration. **Parents of small children can use the children's playrooms and in the summer, the kids can enjoy camps.**

"In order for Ukrainians to be able to participate in working life in the Czech Republic, they need intensive help in learning the Czech language. Knowing Czech enables them to apply for jobs in the fields they studied in Ukraine."

Tatiana Chvalová, Czech language teacher

Creative hobbies for children, Zlín

[i] Data source: Ministry of the Interior, July 2024. The statistics do not include other refugee populations (asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection in the form of asylum or subsidiary protection from various countries of origin, including Ukraine) and other third-country nationals living in the Czech Republic.