

July 2021

ROUND 04



**31 Municipalities**  
in  
**6 Cantons**



**190**  
locations  
covered



**1,876 migrants**  
outside TRCs,  
out of 1,879  
identified in total

N.B. The numbers should be considered as indicative as they may be subject to adjustment.

On 15 July 2021, a fourth joint data collection exercise was conducted by IOM Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), with the Service for Foreigners' Affairs<sup>1</sup> (SFA), and legal guardians whose participation was facilitated by Save the Children (SCI) to provide an estimation of the migrant and asylum-seeker<sup>2</sup> population (stock) present in the country and that are not accommodated or registered in any official Temporary Reception Centres (TRCs) at a given point in time. Ten teams were established for a total of 33 enumerators (22 M, 11 F), plus 10 SFA staff (8 M, 2 F) and 9 legal guardians from SCI (4 M, 5 F). The data collection exercise was implemented in six Cantons, for a total of 190 locations<sup>3</sup>: 101 locations in 7 Municipalities in Una-Sana Canton, 39 locations in 10 Municipalities in Tuzla Canton, 30 locations in 6 Municipalities in Canton Sarajevo, 16 locations in 4 Municipalities in Herzegovina – Neretva Canton, 2 locations in 2 Municipalities in Canton 10, and 2 locations in 2 Municipalities in West Herzegovina Canton (see [Map](#) at p.2).

## DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE AND LOCALIZATION

The total number of migrants identified in the locations covered was 1,879 out of which **1,876** stated that they were not accommodated in any of official TRCs in BiH.

The number of migrants observed in this Round 04 is in line with the previous three rounds conducted in March, April and June 2021 (see [here](#))<sup>4</sup>. Variations in the presence of migrants observed during the period since March can be explained by some factors influencing the data collection, such as the number of staff employed and of the places visited, and the weather conditions. The number of migrants observed in Round 04 was lower than expected considering the good weather conditions of the summer season. However, similar to what has happened in the past, the increased presence of SFA staff in this round, with one SFA staff per team deployed, may have contributed to a lower presence of migrants in outside locations, or could indicate that a higher number of migrants managed to cross the border with the European Union (EU). Nevertheless, in line with the previous three rounds conducted, **the number of migrants who declared that they were not accommodated in reception centres**, out of the total number of migrants observed, **has gradually increased: 91 per cent in the first round, 97 per cent in the second round, 99 per cent in the third round, and almost 100 per cent in the fourth round.**

Afghanistan (42%) and Pakistan (32%) are the **two main declared nationalities**<sup>5</sup> with the highest number of persons outside of TRCs in BiH, followed by Morocco with 8 per cent. Other declared nationalities include Eritrea, Algeria, Bangladesh, Egypt, Islamic Republic of Iran, Somalia, India, Iraq, Libya, Nepal, Tunisia, Cuba, Turkey, Ghana. It is interesting to note that **the nationalities of Cuba and Ghana were observed for the first time in Round 04.**

Sex and age disaggregated data show that **most migrants outside TRCs are adult males (1,440)**, followed by adult females (191), boys (140), and girls (101). Overall, **adult males represent 77 per cent of total migrant population identified outside TRCs in BiH.** In line with previous data collection rounds, **most children are from Afghanistan (77%)**, followed by Pakistan (18%), Egypt and Iran (13% each). For all other nationality groups, the share of boys and girls is significantly lower.

1. The SFA, within the Ministry of Security (MoS), is the responsible party for the registration of all foreigners on the territory of BiH. The MoS is also formally responsible for the management of the Immigration Centre and the Temporary Reception Centres.

2. As no document check was carried out during the data collection to confirm the statements, migrants include asylum seekers and refugees.



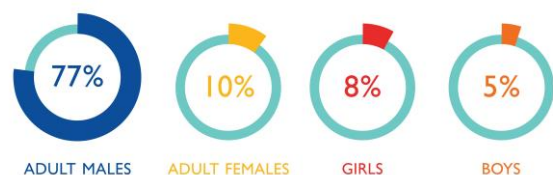
**3,473** migrants assisted in TRCs

**1,957** extra beds available in TRCs<sup>6</sup>

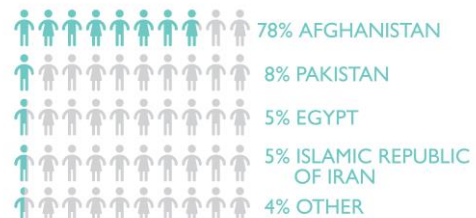
Out of 1,876 migrants without accommodation in TRCs, **1,811 reported that they entered BiH from Serbia**, 59 from Montenegro, while for 6 migrants this information is unknown. Most migrants (1,191) entered BiH by foot, followed by other means of transportation such as bus (648), and taxi (2). For 35 migrants means of transportation is unidentified.

On the type of location where migrants were observed, **most of the migrants observed were found in abandoned buildings (34%)**, followed by outside locations (23%) including bus and train stations, private accommodation they could use for free (11%) and by paying a rent (7%), makeshift barracks or tents (5%), paid hostels (2%) and other non-specified locations (19%). It is worth emphasizing that, in most cases, the locations where migrants were observed are those where they actually live, with the exception of outside locations such as bus and train stations, which instead indicate their transit to other places.

### SEX AND AGE DISAGGREGATED DATA



### MOST CHILDREN ARE FROM



3. Number of locations visited refers to the number of micro locations which are characterized by unique geo-coordinates. Of the 190 locations visited, in 62 there were no migrants present.

4. Previous reports are accessible on the [Europe | Flow monitoring](#) webpage, under the "All reports" section, searching for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

5. Nationalities reported in this report are those self-reported by migrants

6. The numbers refer to data as of July 15, 2021.



July 2021

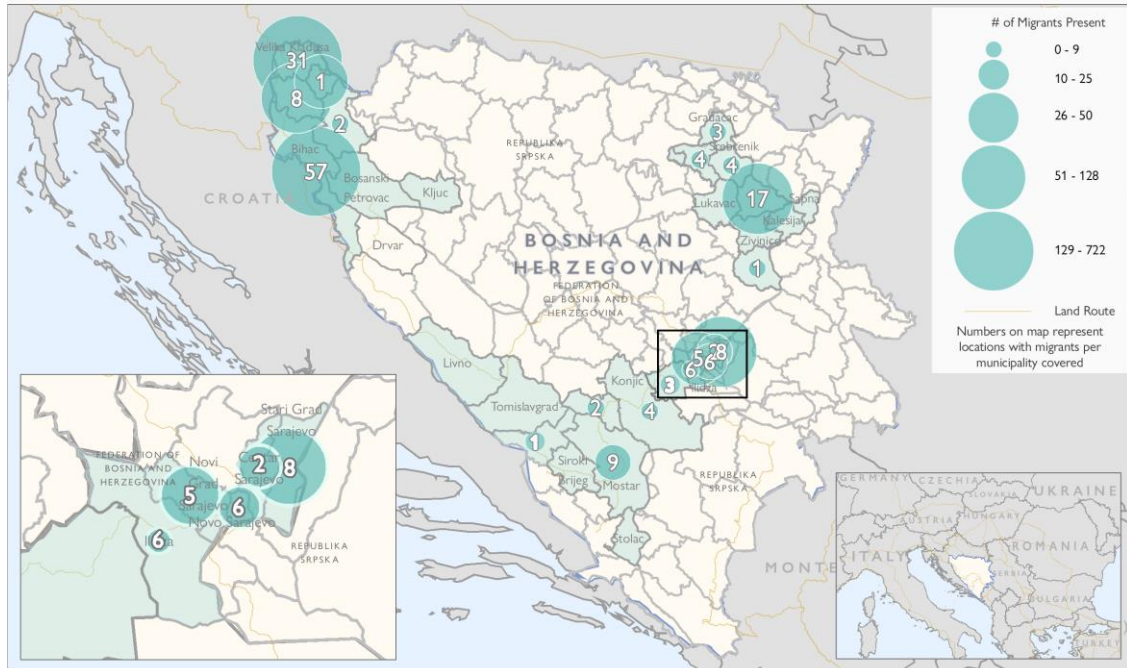
ROUND 04

**MIGRANT PRESENCE OUTSIDE TRCs**

Bosnia and Herzegovina  
15 July 2021

est. **1,876** MIGRANTS OUTSIDE TRANSIT  
RECEPTION CENTERS\*

190 Assessed locations in  
**6** Cantons  
**31** Municipalities



This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

Source Data : IOM, National Authorities

**GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION**

Most migrants outside TRCs were found in Una-Sana Canton (USC), while a smaller number was present in Canton Sarajevo (CS), Tuzla Canton (TC), and Herzegovina – Neretva Canton (HNC). No migrants were found in the covered locations of the West Herzegovina Canton (WHC) and Canton 10 instead. In USC there were in total 1,509 migrants (81% of the total), in CS - 194 (10%), TC - 147 (8%), in HNC - 26 (1%).

**HEALTH ISSUES AND VULNERABILITIES**

The questionnaire captures information on specific individual conditions and vulnerable groups among the observed population. In this round, **new categories were introduced, such as women travelling alone, and the age breakdown of the unaccompanied children.** The following vulnerable groups were identified: **46 children under five years old, 45 unaccompanied children between 15 and 17 years old, 11 persons with medical problems (3 rashes, 2 stomach pains, 1 back pain, 1 foot problem, 1 ankle injury, 1 joint fracture, 1 skin problem, 1 pregnancy-related gastrointestinal disorder, 1 unknown), 9 women travelling alone, 8 elderly persons above 60 years, 8 unaccompanied children under 15 years old and 3 pregnant women.**

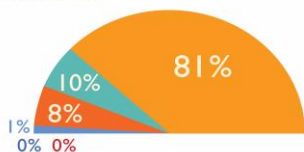
The data collection also aimed to identify the type(s) of medical problem(s) among the migrants staying outside TRCs, based on the observation made by the enumerators. This is **to understand if there are unmet health needs, and when and if migrants in need had received assistance in the weeks prior to the data collection.** Of the 71 migrants observed, who declared they needed medical assistance in the past two weeks, **more than 50 per cent (36) stated they could not receive it.**

**INTENDED DESTINATIONS**

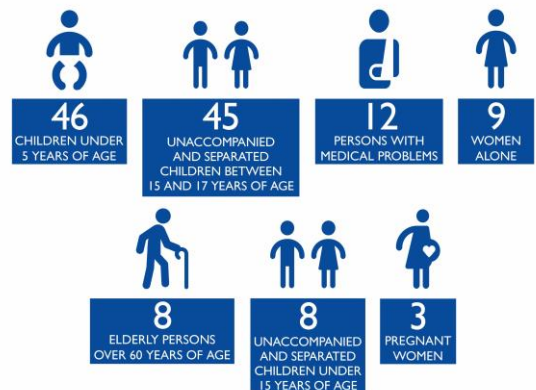
Unlike the previous rounds, the country that emerges as the main intended final destination is Germany (46%), while Italy and France follow mentioned by 35 and 12 per cent of the migrants respectively. The three countries alone make up 94 per cent of the intended final destinations mentioned by migrants.

**GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION**

- UNA SANA CANTON
- CANTON SARAJEVO
- TUZLA CANTON
- HERZEGOVINA - NERETVA CANTON
- CANTON 10
- WEST HERZEGOVINA CANTON



**HEALTH ISSUES AND VULNERABILITIES**





July 2021

ROUND 04

INTENDED DESTINATIONS



REFERRAL FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Compared to the previous round, the percentage of migrants who spent more than three months in BiH decreased from 63 to 47 per cent, while the percentage of migrants who reported they spent more than 90 nights out of reception in BiH has slightly increased from 60 to 66 per cent.

Furthermore, through an additional question introduced in Round 04, migrants declared that they had spent an average of 54 days without access to basic services (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Food and Non-food items), being out of reception and not able to access organized distribution by humanitarian actors in the country.

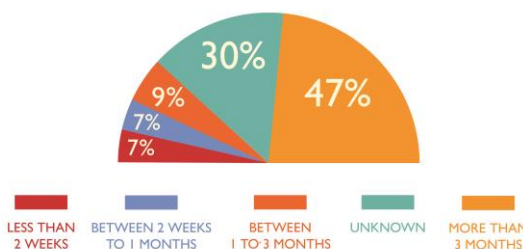
Nevertheless, only 31 (less than 2%) out of 1,876 migrants outside TRCs declared to be interested in being referred for accommodation in one of the centres.

In Round 03 and 04 a new set of questions was also introduced on migrants' knowledge of alternative options offered by humanitarian actors in BiH. The percentage of migrants aware of the option for assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) in their country of origin (CoO), offered by the IOM, has almost halved, from 64 to 37 per cent of the migrants observed.

29 migrants stated that they would be interested in having information on the AVRR, as they were not aware of it previously. Also, only 14 migrants (less than 1% of the total) declared that they were actually interested in returning to their CoO through AVRR.

Six migrants expressed an interest in staying in BiH, while 24 per cent of migrants (453) interviewed would be interested in information on legal paths and grounds for staying in Europe.

LENGTH OF STAY IN BIH



METHODOLOGY<sup>6</sup>

The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a system to capture and monitor displacement and population movements, also to disseminate information regularly and systematically. In BiH, DTM is collecting data on transits/apprehensions by nationality at entry in the country and the number of migrants present in the Temporary Reception Centres (TRCs) since 2017 as part of the broader DTM Europe monitoring of mixed migration flows and presence through the Western Balkans to Europe.

Design of the data collection – Round 04

Geographical coverage

31 Municipalities in six Cantons of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH) in BiH, chosen by IOM for their well-known high presence of migrants. The total number of locations visited in Round 04 is higher than in previous rounds, as micro locations have been considered, unlike previously, when very close locations were grouped together. Micro locations shall be understood as unique locations with specific geographic coordinates.

Target population

Foreign nationals travelling through or stranded in BiH outside TRCs. Migrants who are already accommodated in an official TRCs were excluded from the count.

Time frame

Round 04 was carried out on the 15 July 2021.

Enumerators

Ten teams for a total of 33 enumerators (22 M, 11 F), with language skills in English, Arabic, Dari, Farsi, Turkish and Pashto, together with the SFA local staff, for a total of five inspectors (8M, 2F), and 9 legal guardian from SCI (4 M, 5 F) that facilitated access to some locations.

Data collection methods

The questionnaire was available in paper form and online/mobile Kobo form in English. All data were collected and stored in a Kobo server managed by IOM HQ in Geneva. The questionnaire was made of five main sections.

Limitations

IOM builds on its already established presence in a selected number of Cantons in BiH to provide an estimate of the stock of the migrant population outside TRCs at a specific point in time. The data collection exercise was conducted within the context of the following limitations:

- Geographical coverage was limited to a selected number of locations in a selected number of Cantons, due to:
  - the limited number of staff available to IOM - despite the engagement of SFA and SCI staff in the data collection exercise.
  - The existing restrictions in place to certain locations. This especially applies to the Una-Sana Canton.
- The SFA presence during the data collection exercise provides access to some locations but may hinder migrants' participation in other locations and/or may cause some bias in migrants' replies to the questions.

6. For more information on the methodology, please refer to the extended methodology available on IOM BiH webpage.