



30 Municipalities
in
6 Cantons



187
locations
covered



1,101 migrants
outside TRCs,
out of 1,104
mapped in total

On 28 September 2021, a sixth joint data collection exercise was conducted by IOM Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), together with the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA), and the support of the Red Cross (RC) Federation of BiH (FBIH) to collect information on the number of migrants and asylum seekers present in the country. The purpose of the exercise was to provide an estimation of the migrant population (stock) that was not accommodated or registered in any official Temporary Reception Centres (TRCs) at a given point in time. 10 teams were established for a total of 33 enumerators (24 males and 9 females), plus 10 SFA staff (7 males and 3 females) and 8 RC staff (6 males and 2 females). The data collection exercise was implemented in 6 Cantons, in 30 Municipalities for a total of 187 locations : 76 locations in 5 Municipalities in Una-Sana Canton, 42 locations in 9 Municipalities in Tuzla Canton, 44 locations in 5 Municipalities in Canton Sarajevo, 19 locations in 5 Municipalities in Herzegovina – Neretva Canton, 4 locations in 4 Municipalities in West Herzegovina Canton and 2 locations in 2 Municipalities in Canton 10 (see [Map](#) at p.2).

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE AND LOCALIZATION

The total number of migrants identified in the locations covered was 1,104 out of which **1,101 stated that they were not accommodated in any of official TRCs in BiH.**

The number of migrants observed in Round 06 is in line with the previous round, slightly lower than expected considering the period of the year, which precedes the harsh winter that characterizes the country, and the good weather conditions that occurred on the day of the data collection. The variations in the presence of migrants observed since the first round in March 2021 can also be explained by some factors that influenced the data collection, such as the staff employed and the locations visited, which limit the range of action, as well as weather conditions. With favorable weather conditions, migrants tend to be more mobile and transit faster through the country in an attempt to cross the border to the European Union (EU), and therefore are not observed in the locations visited considered to be of habitual residence, even if temporary. Furthermore, as noted in the previous rounds, the presence of one SFA staff per team deployed may have contributed to a lower presence of migrants in outside locations. However, in line with the previous five rounds, **the number of migrants who declared not to be accommodated in reception centres, out of the total number of migrants observed, continued to increase:** 91 per cent in the first round, 97 per cent in the second round, 99 percent in the third round, and nearly 100 percent for the fourth, fifth and sixth rounds.

Afghanistan (51%) and Pakistan (23%) are the two main declared nationalities with the highest number of persons outside of TRCs in BiH, followed by Iraq with 4 per cent. Other declared nationalities include Turkey (3%), Morocco (3%), Islamic Republic of Iran (3%), Algeria (3%), India (2%), Syrian Arab Republic (1%), Gambia (1%).

Sex and age disaggregated data show that **most migrants outside TRCs are adult males (824), followed by boys (11), girls (84) and adult females (78).** Overall, **adult males represent 75 per cent of total migrant population** identified outside TRCs in BiH. Most of the children are from Afghanistan (82%, which is 8 per cent less than in Round 05, followed by Iraq (7%), Egypt (5%), Pakistan (4%) and the Islamic Republic of Iran (2%).

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 in the country.

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

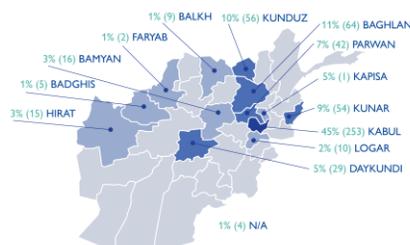


2,620 migrants assisted in TRCs

1,910 extra beds available in TRCs⁵

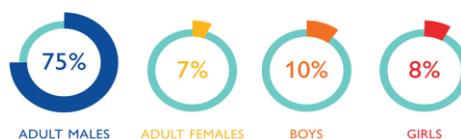
From Round 05 an additional question was introduced to understand the main provinces of origin of the migrants originating from Afghanistan. In Round 06, **out of the 564 migrants from Afghanistan, 253 (45%) reported to be from Kabul province**, followed by 64 (11%) from Baghlan, 56 (10%) from Kunduz, 54 (9%) from Junar, 42 (7%) from Parwan, 29 (5%) from Daykundi, 16 (3%) from Bamyán, 15 (3%) from Hirat, 10 (2%) from Logar and 9 (1%) from Blakh, 5 (1%) from Badghis, 5 (1%) from Kapisa and 2 (1%) from Faryab. For only 4 migrants the province of origin is unknown (1%).

MAIN PROVINCES OF ORIGIN AS REPORTED BY
THE MIGRANTS FROM AFGHANISTAN



Out of 1,101 migrants without accommodation in TRCs, **874 reported that they entered BiH from Serbia** and 165 from Montenegro. Similar to the previous rounds, **most migrants (85%) entered BiH by foot**, followed by other means of transportation such as bus (4%), and taxi (2%) which is 16 and 13 per cent, respectively, less than the previous round. For 9 per cent of migrants mapped the mean of transportation is unknown.

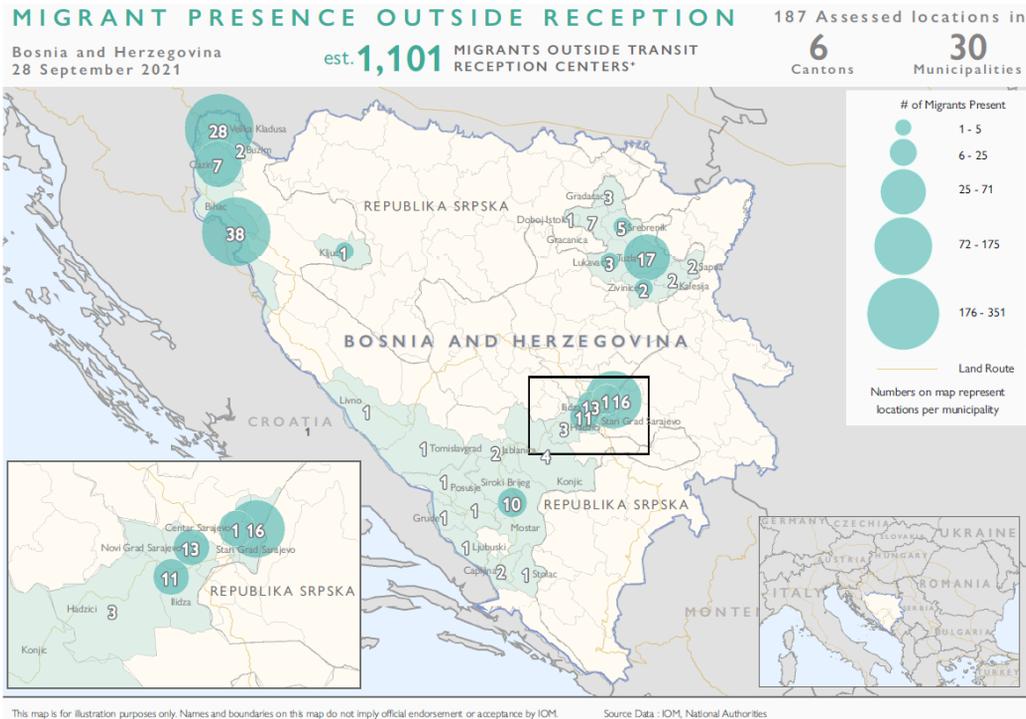
SEX AND AGE DISAGGREGATED DATA



3. Number of locations visited refers to the number of places identified by unique geo-coordinates. Of the 187 locations visited, in 91 there were no migrants present.

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

5. The numbers refer to data as of September 28, 2021.



On the type of location where migrants were observed, and in line with previous rounds, **most of the migrants observed were found in abandoned buildings (33%)**, followed by outside locations (24%) including bus and train stations, private accommodation they could use for free (10%) and by paying a rent (7%), paid hostels (5%), makeshift barracks or tents (5%), and other non-specified locations (16%). 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.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

Most migrants outside TRCs were found in Una-Sana Canton (USC) (888 migrants), while a smaller number was present in Canton Sarajevo (CS) (169), Tuzla Canton (TC) (35), and Herzegovina – Neretva Canton (HNC) (9). As for the previous rounds, no migrants were found in the covered locations of the West Herzegovina Canton (WHC) and Canton 10 instead.

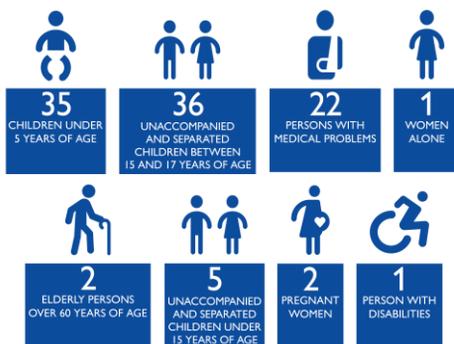
HEALTH ISSUES AND VULNERABILITIES

The questionnaire captures information on specific individual conditions and vulnerable groups among the observed population. **The following vulnerable groups were identified which represent 9 per cent of the total migrant population mapped outside reception facilities in BiH:** 35 children under five years old, 36 unaccompanied children between 15 and 17 years old, 22 persons with medical problems (7 with scabies, 3 with kidney, lung and stomach problems, 2 with back injuries, 2 with foot problems, 2 with dental problems, 1 with blister infection, 1 with diabetes, 1 with a leg problem, 1 in need of psychological support, 1 with tuberculosis), 2 pregnant women, 5 unaccompanied children under 15 years old, 1 woman travelling alone, 2 elderly persons above 60 years and 1 person with disabilities (amputated foot). 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 if migrants in need had received assistance in the two weeks prior to the data collection. **Of the 50 migrants observed, who declared they needed medical assistance in the past two weeks, 26 per cent (13) said they could not receive it.**

INTENDED DESTINATIONS

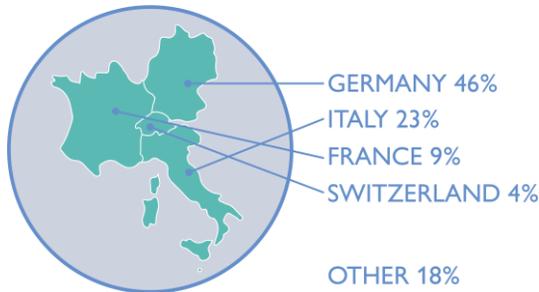
In Round 06, the country that emerged as the main intended final destination is Germany (46%), followed by Italy (23%) and France (9%). Italy is the only final destination mentioned by all three main national groups. The majority of Afghanistan nationals intend to go to Germany (54%), followed by Italy (19%) and Switzerland (9%). For migrants from Pakistan, the main intended destination is Italy (51%), followed by Germany (16%) and France (11%). For citizens from Iraq, the main intended destination is Germany (83%), followed by Spain (7%) and Italy (2%).

HEALTH ISSUES AND VULNERABILITIES





INTENDED DESTINATIONS



REFERRAL FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION

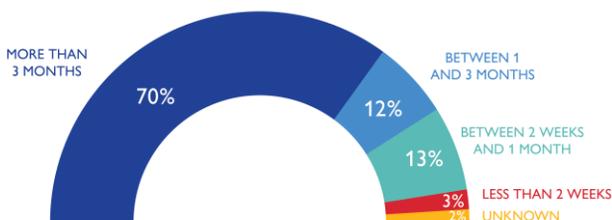
In Round 06, 69 per cent of migrants declared that they have spent more than three months in BiH which represents a 17 per cent increase compared to Round 05. On the contrary, the percentage of migrants who reported they spent more than 90 nights out of reception in BiH has almost halved from 80 to 37 per cent.

In Round 06, on average, migrants have spent 12 days without access to basic services (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Food and Non-food Items) over the last 30 days, being out of reception and therefore unable to access organized distribution by humanitarian actors in the country.

Nevertheless, only 7 (less than 1%) out of 1,101 migrants outside TRCs declared to be interested in being referred for accommodation in one of the centres, a share that is significantly decreasing from round to round.

Starting from Round 03, 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 IOM, is 61 per cent of the migrants observed. Only 124 migrants stated that they would be interested in having information on the AVRR, as they were not aware of it previously. Also, only 28 migrants (less than 3% of the total) declared that they were actually interested in returning to their CoO through AVRR. Twenty-two migrants expressed an interest in staying in BiH, while an increasing number of migrants (775) would be interested in information on legal paths and grounds for staying in Europe, which represent 70 per cent of migrants interviewed (+25% from previous round).

LENGTH OF STAY IN BIH



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

METHODOLOGY⁶

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 05

Geographical coverage

30 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 takes into account micro locations. 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 06 was carried out on the 28 September 2021.

Enumerators

Ten teams for a total of 33 enumerators (24 M, 9 F), with language skills in English, Arabic, Dari, Farsi, Turkish and Pashto, together with the SFA local staff, for a total of ten inspectors (8M, 2F), one per each team, that facilitated access to some locations, and 8 staff from the FBiH RC.

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:

1. Geographical coverage was limited to a selected number of locations in a selected number of Cantons in the FBiH entity, covering approximately 25 per cent of the total territory. The exercise does not cover locations in Republika Srpska and Brcko district. Existing limitations are mostly due to:

- a. the limited number of staff available to IOM – despite the engagement of SFA and RC staff in the data collection exercise.
- b. the existing restrictions in place to certain locations, this especially applies to USC.

2. The SFA' presence to 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.