



32 Municipalities
in
6 Cantons



174
locations
covered



578* migrants
outside TRCs,
out of 585
mapped in total

* Out of which 207 in private accommodation

On 09 November 2021, a seventh joint data collection exercise was conducted by IOM Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), together with the Service for Foreigners' Affairs¹ (SFA), and the support of the Red Cross (RC) Federation of BiH (FBIH) to collect information on the number of migrants and asylum-seekers² present in the country. The purpose of the exercise was to provide an estimate of the migrant population (stock) that was not accommodated or registered in any official Temporary Reception Centres (TRCs) at a given point in time. Nine teams were established for a total of 28 enumerators (22 M and 6 F), plus 11 SFA staff (8 M and 3 F) and 10 RC staff (6 M and 4 F). The data collection exercise was implemented in 6 Cantons, in 32 Municipalities for a total of 174 locations: 77 locations in 7 Municipalities in Una-Sana Canton, 48 locations in 10 Municipalities in Tuzla Canton, 21 locations in 4 Municipalities in Canton Sarajevo, 22 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

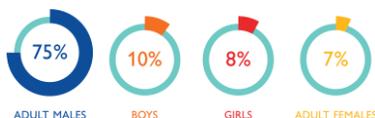
The total number of migrants identified in the locations covered was 585 out of which **578 stated that they were not accommodated in any of official TRCs in BiH.**

The number of migrants observed in Round 07 is lower than expected, however it can be explained by several factors that influenced the data collection, such as the staff employed and the number of locations visited, which limit the range of action, as well as the bad weather conditions, notably the severe floods that hit part of the country, particularly in the area of Sarajevo and Neretva-Herzegovina Cantons, which made some areas inaccessible. Furthermore, as noted in previous rounds, the presence of one SFA staff per team deployed may have contributed to a lower presence of migrants in outside locations. Lastly, 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 percent in the first round, 97 percent in the second round, 99 percent in the third round and nearly 100 percent for the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh rounds.

Afghanistan (50%) and Pakistan (20%) are the two main declared nationalities with the highest number of persons outside of TRCs in BiH, followed by Iran with 7 per cent and Egypt and Morocco equally at 5 per cent. Other declared nationalities include Algeria (2%), Iraq (2%), Syrian Arab Republic (1%), Bangladesh (1%), India, Turkey, and Ghana with less than 1 per cent. Unlike previous rounds, Iraq is not among the top 5 nationalities in Round 07.

Sex and age disaggregated data show that **most migrants outside TRCs are adult males (441)**, followed by boys (54), girls (44) and adult females (38). Overall, adult males represent 76 per cent of total migrant population identified outside TRCs in BiH. **Most of the children are from Afghanistan (80%)**, followed by Egypt (7%), Iran (6%), Iraq (6%), and Algeria (2%) in line with the Round 06, with the sole exception of Pakistan, which did not figure at all in this round.

SEX AND AGE DISAGGREGATED DATA



1. The SFA, within the Ministry of Security (MoS), is the responsible party for the registration of all foreigners on the territory of BiH, including the issuing of attestations of those expressing the intention to seek asylum. The MoS is also formally responsible for the management of the Immigration Centre and the Temporary Reception Centres.

From Round 04 an additional question was introduced to understand the main provinces of origin of the migrants originating from Afghanistan.

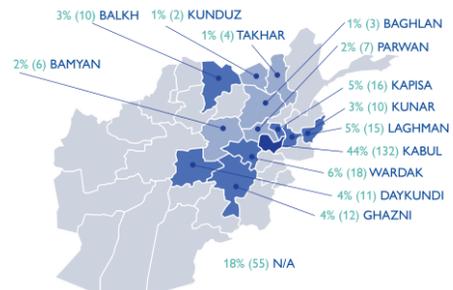


2,866 migrants assisted in TRCs

2,266 extra beds available in TRCs⁵

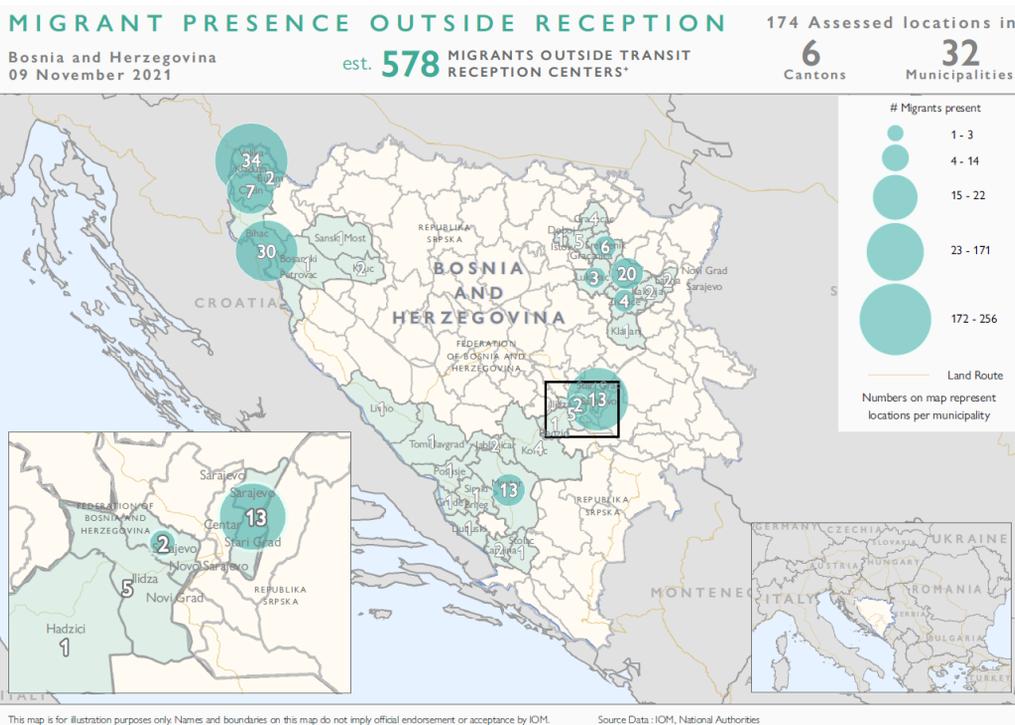
In Round 07, out of the 301 migrants Afghanistan, 132 (44%) reported to be from Kabul province, followed by 18 (6%) from Wardak, 16 (5%) from Kapisa, 15 (5%) from Laghman, 12 (4%) from Ghazni, 11 (4%) from Daykundi, 10 (3%) from Balkh, 10 (3%) from Kunar, 7 (2%) from Parwan, 6 (2%) from Bamyan, 4 (1%) from Takhar, 3 (1%) from Baghlan and 2 (1%) from Kunduz. For 55 migrants the province of origin is unknown (18%). It is interesting to note that the provinces of Baghlan and Kunduz, which in the previous rounds were respectively the second and third main provinces of origin, are the last two in this round.

MAIN PROVINCES OF ORIGIN AS REPORTED BY
THE MIGRANTS FROM AFGHANISTAN



Out of 578 migrants without accommodation in TRCs, 410 reported that they entered BiH from Serbia and 56 from Montenegro and 7 from Albania. While for 105 migrants this information is unknown. Similar to the previous rounds, the majority of migrants (70%) entered BiH by foot, which represents 15 per cent less than in the previous round, followed by other means of transport such as by bus (1%). In this round, no migrants reported having entered by taxi, compared to previous rounds. For 28 per cent of the migrants mapped, the means of transport is unknown.

2. As no document check was carried out during the data collection, migrants include asylum seekers and refugees.
3. Number of locations visited refers to the number of places identified by unique geo-coordinates. Of the 174 locations visited, in 104 there were no migrants present.
4. Nationalities in this report are those self-reported by migrants.



On the type of location where migrants were observed, out of the total number, 170 migrants were found in makeshift barracks or tents (29%) followed by 150 migrants in abandoned buildings (26%), 46 migrants in outside locations including bus and train stations (8%), 103 in private accommodation (18%), 66 private accommodation by paying a rent (11%), 38 in paid hostels (7%), and 5 in other non-specified locations (1%). It is worth emphasizing that, in most cases, the locations where migrants were observed are those where they actually reside, with the exception of outside locations such as bus and train stations, which instead indicate their transit to other places. According to the methodology used, migrants residing in paid hostels are counted in the number of people who do not reside in official TRCs in BiH, where they can be offered humanitarian assistance. It should therefore be emphasized that migrants deliberately decide not to reside in any of the existing centres as the IOM, SFA and other humanitarian actors inform them daily during the outreach activities of the possibility of being accommodated there.

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), as for the previous rounds. No migrants were found in the covered locations of the West Herzegovina Canton (WHC) and Canton 10 instead. In USC there were in total 449 migrants (78% of the total), in CS - 103 (18%), TC - 18 (3%), in HNC - 8 (1%).

HEALTH ISSUES AND VULNERABILITIES

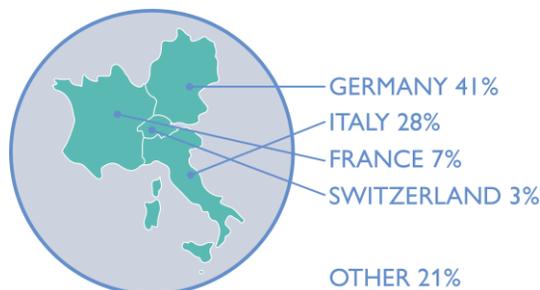
The questionnaire captures information on specific individual conditions and vulnerable groups among the observed population. The following vulnerable groups were identified which represent 11 per cent of the total migrant population mapped outside reception facilities in BiH: **26 children under five years old, 24 unaccompanied children between 15 and 17 years old, 8 persons with medical problems** (2 with scabies, 1 with frostbite of the legs, 1 with knee problems, 1 with decubitus, 1 with seasonal flu, 1 with toe pain), **1 pregnant woman, 1 unaccompanied children under 15 years old, 1 elderly persons above 60 years and 1 person with disabilities.**

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 36 migrants observed, who declared they needed medical assistance in the past two weeks, **80 per cent (29) said they could not receive it.**

HEALTH ISSUES AND VULNERABILITIES



INTENDED DESTINATIONS



INTENDED DESTINATIONS

In Round 07, the country that emerged as the main intended final destination is Germany (41%), followed by Italy (28%) and France (7%). In Round 07, unlike the previous round in which Italy featured, Germany is the only final destination mentioned by all three major national groups (Afghans, Pakistanis and Iranians).

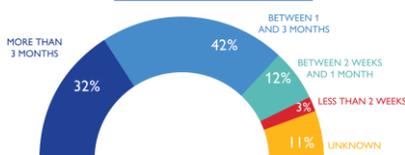
REFERRAL INFORMATION

In Round 07, the majority of migrants (42%) reported they have spent between one month and three months in BiH, while 32 percent reported spending more than three months, which represents a 37 percent decrease compared to Round 06. Furthermore, the percentage of migrants who declared having spent more than 90 nights out of reception in Bosnia and Herzegovina is 30 per cent, which is 7 per cent less than in the previous round.

As for the previous rounds, only 7 (less than 1%) out of 578 migrants outside TRCs declared to be interested in being referred for accommodation in one of the centres.

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 33 per cent of the migrants observed, which is 28 per cent less than in Round 06. Only 6 migrants stated that they would be interested in having information on the AVRR, as they were not aware of it previously. Also, only 2 migrants (less than 1% of the total) declared that they were actually interested in returning to their CoO through AVRR. Four migrants expressed an interest in staying in BiH, while 68 per cent of migrants (391) would be interested in information on legal paths and grounds for staying in Europe.

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 07

Geographical coverage

32 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.

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 07 was carried out on the 09 November 2021.

Enumerators

Ten teams for a total of 28 enumerators (22M, 6F), with language skills in English, Arabic, Dari, Farsi, Turkish and Pashto, together with the SFA local staff, for a total of 11 inspectors (8M, 3F), one per each team, that facilitated access to some locations, and 10 staff from the FBiH RC (6M, 4F).

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.

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 in the FBiH entity, covering approximately 25 per cent of the total territory. Existing limitations are mostly due to:
 - the limited number of staff available to IOM – despite the engagement of SFA and RC staff in the data collection exercise.
 - the existing restrictions in place to certain locations, this especially applies to USC.
- 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.

This time the data collection exercise was heavily affected by the severe floods that hit the country, reducing access to some of the locations where migrants usually reside and of which the IOM and other humanitarian partners are aware.