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# AVAILABLE SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON IRREGULAR MIGRATION, THE NEED FOR AND METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY



**SUPPORT FOR MIGRATION AND ASYLUM  
MANAGEMENT IN UKRAINE (IMMIS)**



Ministry  
of Internal Affairs  
of Ukraine



State  
Migration Service  
of Ukraine

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## THE PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

is to estimate the number of migrants (foreign citizens and stateless persons) staying in Ukraine without legal grounds, create an algorithm for estimating the number of irregular migrants in the following years, develop recommendations on the migration management to Ukraine and counteraction to irregular migration.

## RELEVANCE OF THE STUDY

- Lack of reliable estimates of the number of foreigners living in Ukraine without any legal grounds.
- A strong need among users in relevant data regarding irregular migration in order to arrange measures aimed to prevent violation of the migration legislation, including development of regularization programmes.
- Distribution of obviously exaggerated information on the number of irregular migrants, promotes the spread of migrant-related phobias and allows for irregular migration to be misused in political dialogue.

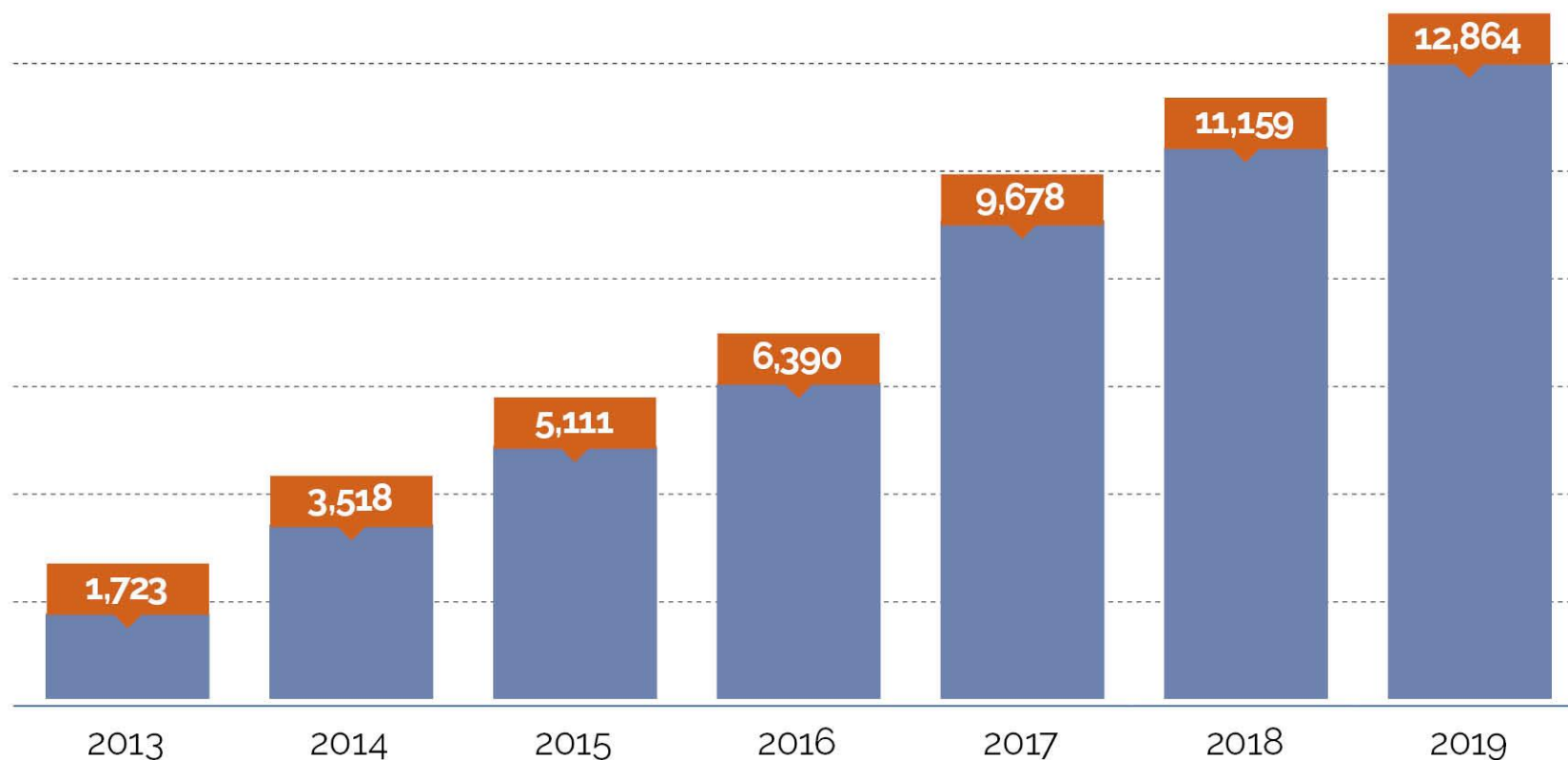
## **OFFICIAL DATA SOURCES FOR IRREGULAR MIGRATION**

- Data of the State Migration Service of Ukraine.
- Data of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine.

## **DOWNSIDES OF THE OFFICIAL DATA SOURCES ON IRREGULAR MIGRATION**

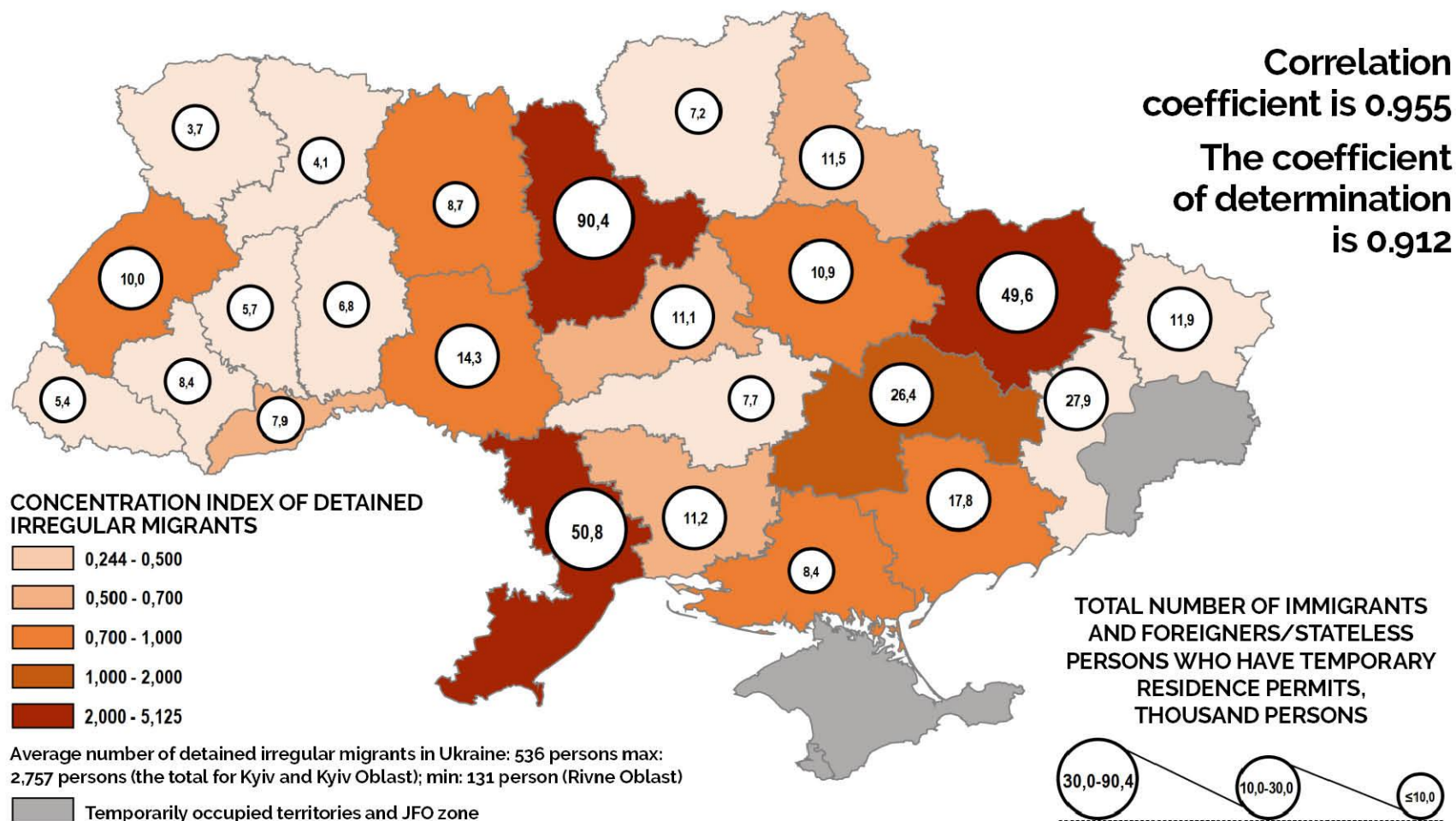
- gaps in coverage of irregular migrants;
- existing double records;
- limited data regarding the composition of irregular migrants, lack of information on important sociodemographic characteristics.

## NUMBER OF IRREGULAR MIGRANTS IDENTIFIED BY THE STATE MIGRATION SERVICE OF UKRAINE FROM 2013 TO 2019



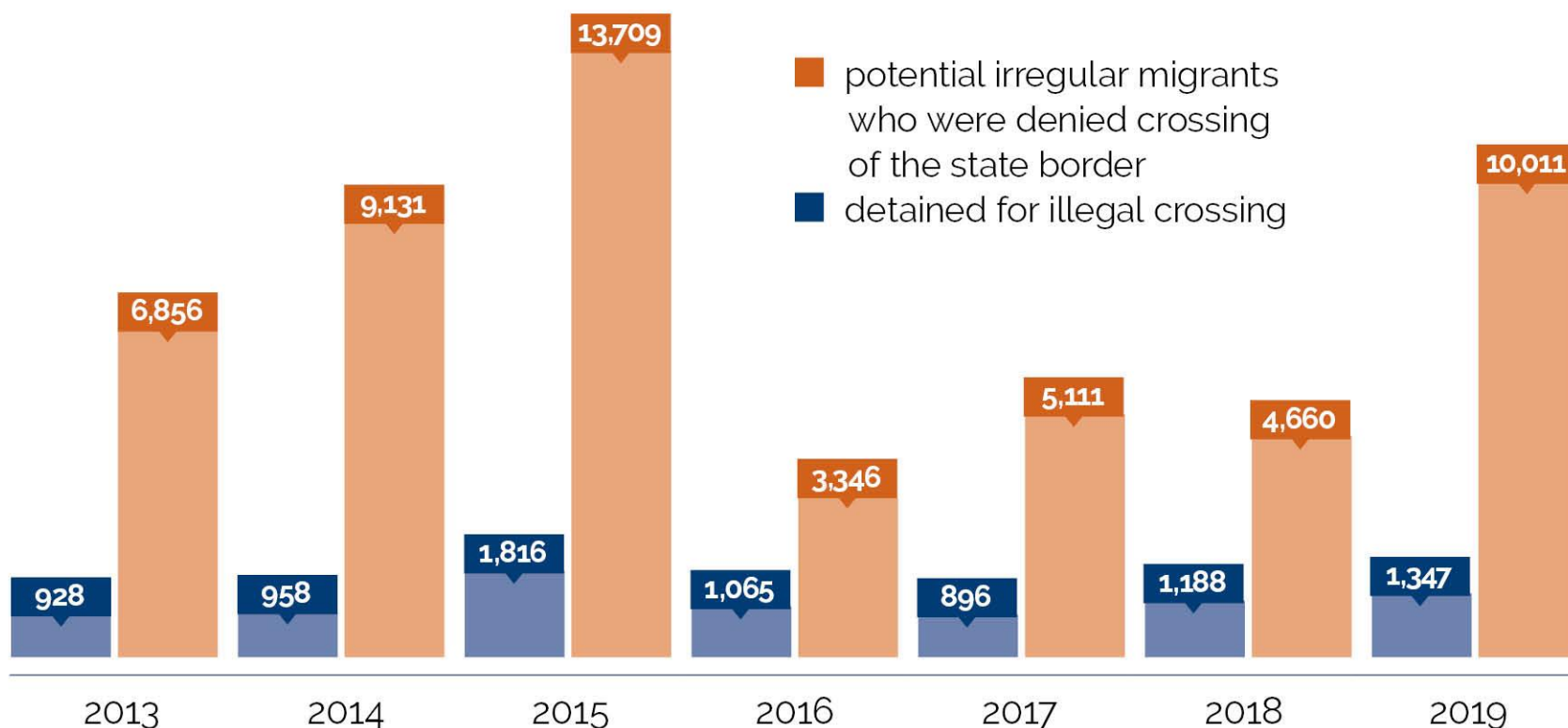
Source: the State Migration Service of Ukraine

## BREAKDOWN OF DETAINED IRREGULAR MIGRANTS, IMMIGRANTS, FOREIGNERS AND STATELESS PERSONS WHO TEMPORARILY STAY IN UKRAINE, BY REGIONS, 2019



Source: the State Migration Service of Ukraine

## DYNAMICS OF THE NUMBER OF IRREGULAR MIGRANTS DETAINED FOR ILLEGAL CROSSING OF THE STATE BORDER BY AUTHORITIES OF THE STATE BORDER GUARD SERVICE OF UKRAINE, AND POTENTIAL IRREGULAR MIGRANTS WHO WERE DENIED CROSSING OF THE STATE BORDER IN 2013-2019



Source: the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine

## ELEMENTS OF THE STUDY

- ▶ A written survey among the heads of the SMS territorial units
- ▶ **Surveys of experts:**
  - leaders of migrant communities;
  - civil servants;
  - representatives of non-governmental organizations;
  - representatives of international organizations.
- ▶ **Surveys of migrants:**
  - Absence of Ukrainian citizenship.
  - Being at least 18 years old.
  - Uninterrupted stay in Ukraine for at least 2 months for purposes other than a job with a diplomatic mission, international organization or representative offices of foreign companies.

**Focus groups  
in MACs and TACs**



**Surveying migrants  
through social networks**

## GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE OF THE STUDY

Kyiv-Odesa-Kharkiv-Mukachevo-Lviv-Lutsik-Chernihiv  
MAC-TAC

## ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED BY THE SURVEYED EXPERTS

- all-Ukrainian and regional **associations of migrants from 10 national groups** (including community of African immigrants from different countries of the continent), and **multinational community** of MAC residents in Mukachevo;
- **4 state authorities:** the SMS (including administrations of all MACs and TACs), the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine, National Police, Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights;
- **two international organizations** (UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, and the ILO), and **five non-governmental organizations** (Rokada Charitable Foundation, The Right to Protection, The Tenth of April, NEEKA and Caritas Ukraine);
- certain individuals whose line of work involves working with migrants.

## THE SCOPE OF FIELD WORKS

Type of work	Minimum numbers stipulated in assignments	Number actually achieved	Implementation level*
A written survey among the Heads of the SMS territorial units	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>100%</b>
Interviewing the experts	<b>35</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>149%</b>
Questionnaire survey (direct interviewing) of migrants	<b>100</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>84%</b>
Conducting focus-groups with migrants (number of focus groups/number of persons involved)	<b>6/48</b>	<b>1/8</b>	<b>17%</b>
Surveying migrants through social networks	<b>-</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>x**</b>
The total number of surveyed migrants (including focus group participants; excluding community leaders)	<b>148</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>125%</b>

Notes.

\* Implementation level means a ratio of the number of implemented measures to the minimum numbers prescribed the assignments.

\*\* Impractical value due to the method applied in the table