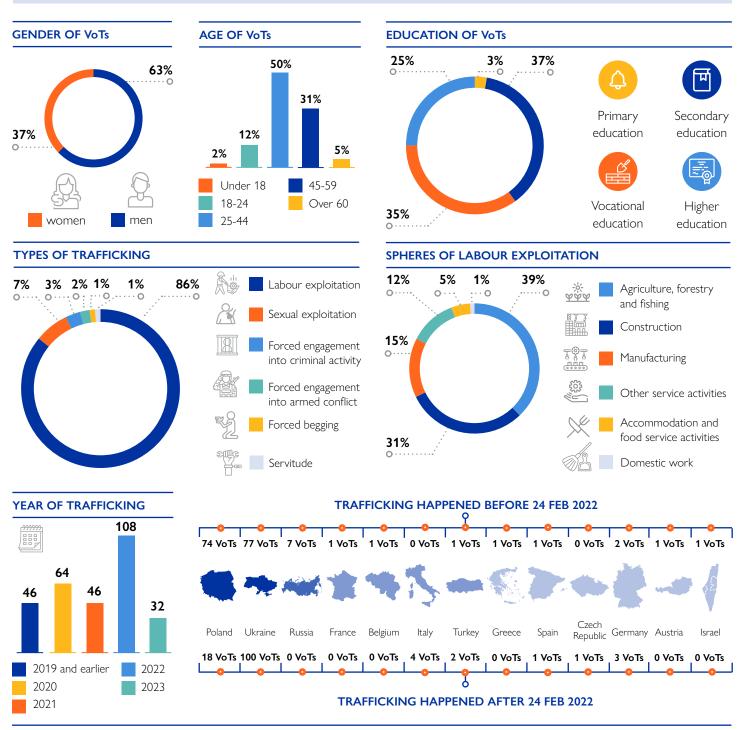
TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS: IOM UKRAINE CASELOAD (January-September 2023)

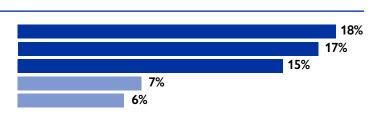


During 1 January–30 September 2023, IOM identified and assisted 296 victims of trafficking (VoTs). 24% of them were internally displaced. A total of 19,954 VoTs received comprehensive assistance based on individual needs between January 2000–September 2023.



MOST POPULAR RECRUITMENT METHODS

During migration/on displacement route
Through friends or social events
Through online advertisement
At working place
Through social networks







Petro¹, 38, survivor of trafficking for exploitation in armed conflict

Petro and his family were forced to move from Donetsk in 2014 to another city in the Donetsk region. When they had already established life in a new place, the war came to their home again —their city began to be bombed. Petro moved his wife and child to another city while he remained to take care of the property. Over time, the Russian military established control over the city.

At first, Petro and his neighbour hid in a basement under a house; when the Russian military began to go from house to house and enumerate the remaining population, Petro was taken away. The soldiers took his documents and brought Petro and five other men to the forest and forced them to dig trenches. The men dug from morning until late at night every day, without rest and with inadequate water and food.

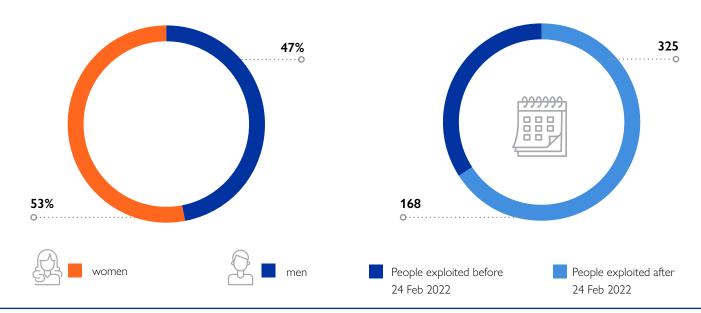
This situation continued for a month. The men were exhausted, but the soldiers came for them every morning and, under threat, took them again to the forest. If someone tried to refuse, they threatened to shoot them. Only after they had

completed a large section of the forest were their passports returned, but with the threat that they would be taken away if they needed them again.

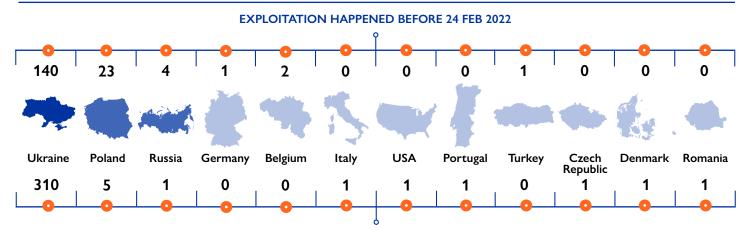
The Ukrainian government regained control over the city within a month, and demining works started in the area. Petro's family was able to return home. However, during active hostilities, shells flew into the yard of their house, breaking the windows, doors, roof and fence and destroying the summer kitchen. A local volunteer organization advised Petro to contact a regional IOM partner organization. After applying, Petro received comprehensive assistance from IOM, which included replacement of broken windows and provision of warm blankets, winter shoes and clothing, as well as food.

The family used up all their savings, and it wasn't easy to provide even basic needs. The family is rebuilding the house little by little, renovating it as much as they have strength and ability. Petro helps residents who return to the city to repair housing, board up windows, chop firewood, and do other work for little money.

During 1 January-30 September 2023, IOM additionally identified and assisted 493 people, who suffered from forced labour without the signs of human trafficking:



COUNTRIES OF EXPLOITATION



EXPLOITATION HAPPENED AFTER 24 FEB 2022

