NATIONAL SURVEY ON PEOPLE’S VULNERABILITY TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION IN THE CONTEXT OF WAR

October 2022
The survey was conducted by Info Sapiens at the request of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the UN Migration Agency, Mission in Ukraine with the financial support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The survey was conducted between July and August 2022. To achieve a national representation, the interviews were completed through the mobile phones of persons in Ukraine. The survey did not aim to reach Ukrainians abroad or persons in areas temporarily occupied in 2022 due to limited access to the Ukrainian mobile operators.

Answers were collected from 5,077 respondents, of whom 2,130 persons were men and another 2,947 were women. The sample represents the population aged above 16 years old in every oblast of Ukraine and the city of Kyiv but excludes residents of the non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

The designations employed and the presentation of material throughout the report do not imply expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IOM concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning its frontiers or boundaries and USAID.
HAVE YOU OR YOUR LOVED ONES BEEN AFFECTED BY THE FULL-SCALE WAR?

- **20.8 mln people** lost their income
- **16.4 mln family members** lost their job
- **8.2 mln people** could not afford basic things
- **7.8 mln families** experienced separation from close relatives or loved ones
- **15.6 mln families** experienced deterioration of mental health
An estimated **32 million people** suffered directly or indirectly from the impact of the war.
In this survey, IOM defined the percentage of people who were impacted by the war in cases when a person mentioned any of the following options: lost their income, lost their job, experienced deterioration of mental health, experienced separation from close relatives or loved ones, could not live a dignified life or afford basic things, experienced life in occupation, lost their savings, property or homes, faced death of close relatives or loved ones, experienced hunger.
IF A PERSON WHOM YOU TRUST OFFERED HIGHLY-PAYED JOB IN YOUR DESIRED AREA, WOULD YOU AGREE:

- 27% of respondents would accept at least one risky job offer abroad, as compared to 20% of such respondents in 2021.

- 13% of respondents would accept work in confinement without a possibility to leave the workplace freely, as compared to 8% of such respondents in 2021.

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IF YOU WERE TO MOVE ABROAD BECAUSE OF MILITARY ACTIONS, WOULD YOU AGREE:

- 39% to work in exchange for free accommodation and food
- 12% for free or cheap transportation with no direction
- 8% for free or cheap health care at institutions with no signboards or formal addresses
- 6% for free or cheap accommodation at a place that should not or cannot be checked
- 5% to move into a place where a rent rate or period are not discussed in advance
- 3% to give documents away (rather than merely show them) in order to receive humanitarian aid

THE MAJORITY OF THOSE WHO WOULD CHECK INFORMATION WOULD DO THAT ONLINE (72%), THROUGH A HOTLINE (68%) AS WELL AS WOULD CHECK A PERSON WHO HAS MADE SUCH AN OFFER OR A RELATED PROGRAMME/ORGANIZATION (60%).
VULNERABILITY OF THE POPULATION TO EXPLOITATION

LUHANSK OBLAST IS THE MOST AFFECTED BY THE WAR AND HAS THE BIGGEST NUMBER OF PEOPLE LEFT THE REGION.

IN 2021, RIVNE OBLAST HAD THE HIGHEST SHARE OF INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL MIGRANTS, THEREFORE THE POPULATION COULD BE MORE INCLINED TO ACCEPT RISKY OFFERS.

*The survey defines people «vulnerable» if they are likely to accept one or more risky offers abroad or in other settlements in Ukraine.

EVERY SECOND UKRAINIAN IS READY TO ACCEPT AT LEAST ONE RISKY OFFER, WHICH COULD LEAD TO EXPLOITATION, HUMAN TRAFFICKING OR VIOLENCE

The share of the vulnerable group among Ukraine’s population.

- 70-79%
- 60-69%
- 50-59%
PORTRAIT OF THE VULNERABLE GROUP

53% women

37% employed

51% aged 20 to 49 years

14% temporarily unemployed but seeking employment

13% had serious health issues

NO SPECIFIC FEATURES OF THE VULNERABLE GROUP WERE OBSERVED IN TERMS OF THE SIZE OF A SETTLEMENT, EDUCATION, INCOME OR EVEN DISPLACEMENT, APPARENTLY FOR THE REASON THAT THE WAR HAS IMPACTED ALMOST ALL POPULATION OF UKRAINE.

THE HIGH LEVEL OF READINESS TO TAKE A RISK WAS OBSERVED AMONG ALL STRATA OF THE POPULATION.
In your opinion, is there a risk of being exploited if you take one of job offers or other services / assistance?

- **40%** are aware of the risk of being used in the interests of others should they accept a risky offer.
- **39%** believe there is no risk if such an offer is treated with caution.
- **23%** have not heard of such risks.
- **5%** related to the situations which might happen abroad.
- **26%** related to the situations which might happen in Ukraine.
- **29% of people aged 15-29 years** believe that there is no risk when a risky offer is made by a trusted person or if it is treated with caution.
- **22% of people aged 60 years and more** do not believe in such risks at all.
To what extent do you think cases of exploitation, human trafficking or violence, may happen to you personally?

- 54% There is a low chance this can happen to me
- 32% It will never happen to me
- 8% There is a high chance this can happen to me
- 6% Difficult to answer/refusal

The level of confidence that exploitation, human trafficking or abuse and violence would never happen to them is higher among the surveyed men than women (35% and 29% respectively).
THE NATIONAL TOLL-FREE MIGRANT ADVICE AND COUNTER-TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

0 800 505 501
(toll-free from all landline phones in Ukraine)

527
(toll-free from all mobile phones in Ukraine)

FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL. DAILY FROM 8.00 A.M TO 8.00 P.M.

WWW.STOPTRAFFICKING.ORG
WWW.527.ORG.UA
@SafeMigrationBot