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ZA POSLOVE  
SA STRANCIMA  
SERVICE FOR  
FOREIGNERS'  
AFFAIRS



# MIGRANT PRESENCE OUTSIDE TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTRES IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

January 2022

ROUND 09



DRUŠTVO CRVENOG KRSTAKRKA BOSNE I HERCEGOVINE  
ОПШТИНО УДРУЖЕЊЕ ЦРВНОГ КРСТА БОСНЕ И ХЕРЦЕГОВИНЕ  
RED CROSS SOCIETY OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



**48 Municipalities**  
in  
**7 Cantons in FBiH**  
and **5 regions in RS**



**205**  
locations  
covered



**366 migrants**  
outside TRCs,  
out of 367  
mapped in total

On 19 January 2022, the ninth joint data collection exercise was conducted by IOM Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), together with the Service for Foreigners' Affairs<sup>1</sup> (SFA), and the support of the Red Cross (RC) Federation of BiH (FBiH) to collect information on the number of migrants and asylum-seekers<sup>2</sup> present in the country. The purpose of the regular 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 any given date. Thirteen teams were deployed for a total of 38 enumerators (28 males and 10 females), plus 10 SFA staff (7 males and 3 females) and 10 RC staff (6 males and 4 females). The data collection exercise was implemented in 7 Cantons of the FBiH and, for the first time, in 36 locations in Republika Srpska (RS) entity. A total of 205 locations<sup>3</sup> in 48 different municipalities were visited: 76 locations in 5 municipalities in Una-Sana Canton, 34 locations in 6 municipalities in Sarajevo Canton, 32 locations in 10 municipalities in Tuzla Canton, 19 locations in 4 municipalities in Herzegovina – Neretva Canton, 4 locations in 4 municipalities in West Herzegovina Canton, 2 locations in 2 municipalities in Bosnian Podrinje Goražde Canton, 2 locations in 2 municipalities in Canton 10, 7 locations in Zvornik, 5 locations in Višegrad, 4 locations in Bijeljina, 3 locations in Bratunc, 3 locations in Rudo, 2 location in Banja Luka, 2 locations in Foča, 2 Locations in Rogatica, and 1 location in Gradiška, Kostajnica, Kozarska Dubica, Milići, Novi Grad, Prijedor, Srbac and Vlasenica respectively (see Map on p.2).

## DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE AND LOCALIZATION

The total number of migrants observed in the locations covered was **367**, out of which **366** stated that they were not accommodated in any of the official TRCs in BiH.

The number of migrants observed in Round 09 remains relatively low, which is in line with the previous round. This can be explained by the fact that the temperature was particularly cold on the day of the exercise. Moreover, the number of staff involved was lower due to the ongoing COVID-19 epidemiological situation, with fewer locations visited in the Cantons FBiH. However, it is important to underline that for the first time the data collection was also conducted in the RS entity, with the aim of increasing the geographical coverage of DTM activities in the country. As in the previous rounds, the number of migrants who declared that they are not hosted in any reception centre represents almost 100 per cent in Round 09.

Afghanistan (32.8%) and Pakistan (30.3%) are the two main declared nationalities<sup>4</sup> of the observed persons residing outside of TRCs in BiH, followed by Morocco (10.5%), the Islamic Republic of Iran (7.4%) and Iraq (5.2%). Other declared nationalities include Algeria (3.6%), India (1.6%), and as well as Cuba, the Gambia and the Syrian Arab Republic (1.4%) and the Republic of Congo, Libya, Bangladesh, Egypt, Tunisia and Ghana with less than 1 per cent. Compared to the previous round, there was a significant increase in the number of migrants from Pakistan and Iraq, with an increase of 5.6 per cent and 3.7 per cent respectively, while there was a reduction in the number of Egyptians and Moroccans, by 5.6 per cent and 3.9 per cent, respectively.

### 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.

Sex and age disaggregated data show that **most migrants outside TRCs are adult males (325)**, followed by adult female (15), boys (13) and girls (10). Overall, adult males represent 89 per cent of the migrant population identified outside TRCs in BiH, which is the highest percentage recorded since the start of the activity in March 2021. **Most of the children are from Afghanistan (44%), followed by Iraq (26%),** the Islamic Republic of Iran (13%), Syrian Arab Republic (13%) and Morocco (4%).



**2,001** migrants assisted in TRCs\*

**2,279** extra beds available in TRCs

\* Data refer to 19 January 2022

In Round 09, out of the 119 migrants from Afghanistan, **62 (52.1%)** reported to be from Kabul province, followed by 53 from Nangarhar (44.5%), and 4 from Kunduz (3.4%). Unlike previous rounds, no other provinces were recorded.

**Most of the observed migrants (304, or 83% of the total) reported that they entered BiH from Serbia**, 40 from Montenegro, 3 from Croatia, while for 19 migrants this information is unknown.

On the type of locations covered, **most of the migrants observed were found in abandoned buildings (40.7%)**, followed by private accommodation that they can use for free (23.2%), outside locations including bus and train stations (16.9%), paid hostels (16.4%), makeshift barracks or tents (1.4%), other type of locations (0.82%) and lastly paid private accommodation (0.5%). 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. **However, it should be emphasized that places are available in TRCs. Migrants can decide not to reside in TRCs, despite the best efforts of IOM, SFA and other humanitarian actors to inform them of the assistance available in the TRCs.**

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 205 locations visited, in 152 there were no migrants present.  
4. Nationalities in this report are those self-reported by migrants.



**DTM**  
THE UN MIGRATION AGENCY

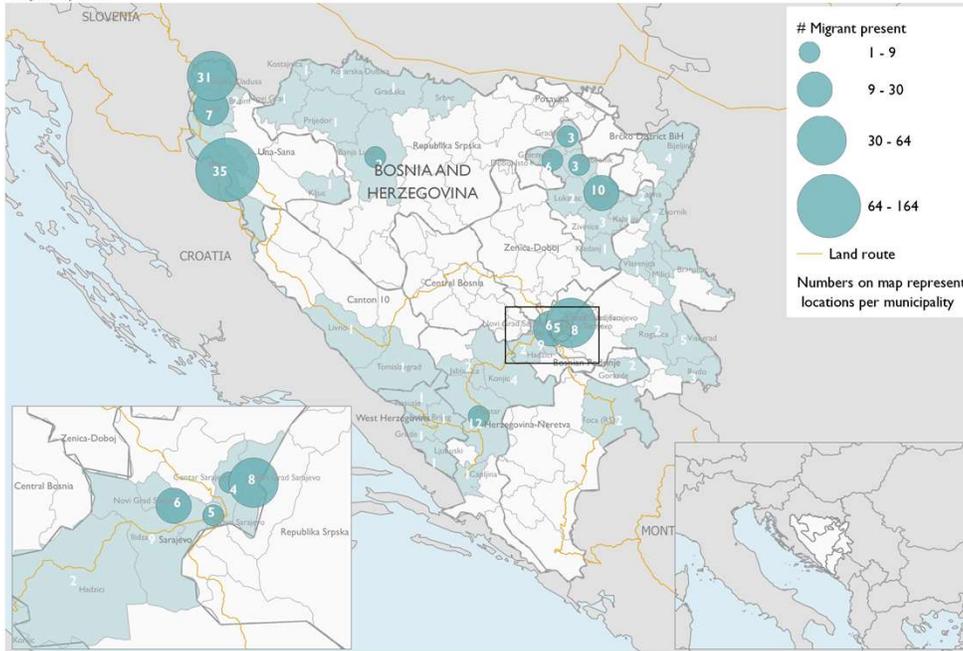


**MIGRANT PRESENCE OUTSIDE RECEPTION**

Bosnia and Herzegovina  
19 January 2022

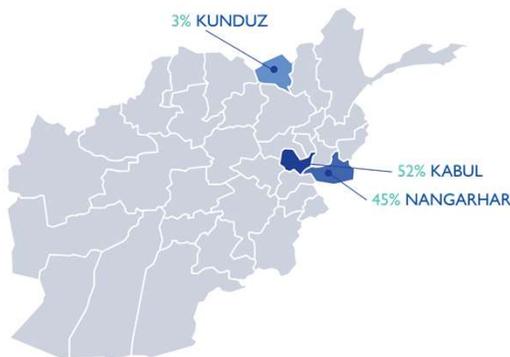
Est. **366** MIGRANTS OUTSIDE TRANSIT  
RECEPTION CENTERS\*

205 Assessed locations in  
**7** Cantons in FBiH  
**5** Regions in RS  
**48** Municipalities



This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM. Source Data : IOM, National Authorities

**MAIN PROVINCES OF ORIGIN AS REPORTED BY  
THE MIGRANTS FROM AFGHANISTAN**



**GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION**

Over 67 per cent of the migrants outside TRCs were found in Una-Sana Canton (USC), with smaller proportions of 20 per cent in Sarajevo Canton (SC), 9.6 per cent in in the Tuzla Canton (TC), 2.5 per cent in Herzegovina – Neretva Canton (HNC) and less than 1 per cent the RS entity. No migrants were observed in Canton 10, Bosnian Podrinje and Western Herzegovina Cantons. Unlike the previous round, the percentage of migrants observed in SC decreased by 10 per cent while in USC and TC it increased by 5.4 and 4.2 per cent, respectively. As seasons and routes change, the locations where migrants tend to habitually reside change and to keep its pre-established list of locations up to date and reflect the current presence of migrants in BiH, IOM plans to conduct a mapping exercise, mainly in SC, to identify new locations where migrants tend to stay, as 74 percent of the locations visited were found empty in Round 09.

**HEALTH ISSUES AND VULNERABILITIES**

The questionnaire captures information on specific individual conditions and vulnerable groups among the observed population. The questionnaire captures information on specific individual conditions and vulnerable groups among the observed population. The following vulnerable groups were identified which represent 4.4 per cent of the total migrant population mapped outside reception facilities in BiH: **7 persons with medical problems** (2 with back pain, 2 with scabies, 1 with broken arm, 1 with feet problems and 1 with injuries presumably due to violence by the border police), **6 children under five years old**, **2 unaccompanied children under 15**, and **1 pregnant woman**.

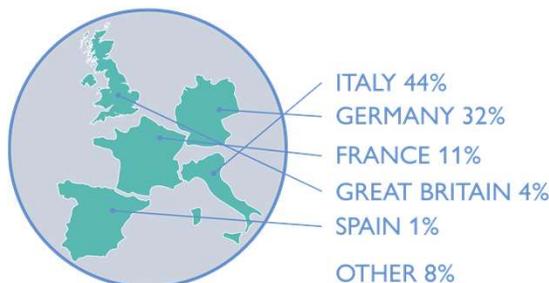
The data collection also aimed to identify the type(s) of medical problem(s) among the migrants staying outside TRCs, based on the observation made by the enumerators. This is to understand if there are unmet health needs, and if migrants in need had received assistance in the two weeks prior to the data collection. **Of the 5 migrants observed, who declared they needed medical assistance in the past two weeks, 4 said they could not receive it.** It is worth mentioning that one migrant said he attempted suicide several times during his journey. In accordance with the outreach referral mechanism existing in the country, IOM teams promptly directs migrants in need of immediate medical assistance and/or psychosocial support to the competent local authorities and other humanitarian actors.

**HEALTH ISSUES AND VULNERABILITIES**





INTENDED DESTINATIONS



INTENDED DESTINATIONS

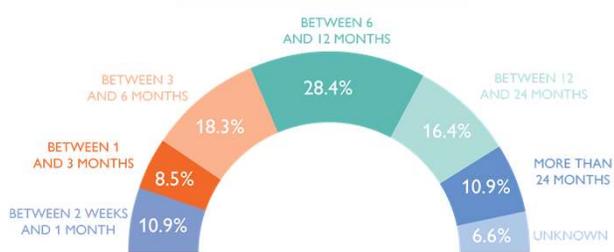
In Round 09, the country that emerged as the main intended final destination was Italy (44%), followed by Germany (32%) and France (11%). This is in line with previous rounds, with Italy being the main intended destination.

In Round 09, Italy, Germany and France were mentioned by all three major national groups (Afghans, Pakistanis and Moroccans). Most of the citizens of Afghanistan intend to go to Italy (52%), followed by Germany (40.3%) and France (5%). Most of the citizens of Pakistan intend to go to Italy (53.6%), followed by Germany (20.9%) and France (16.4%). Half of the Moroccan citizens interviewed intended to go to Italy (50%), followed by the United Kingdom (18.4%) and France (15.8%).

REFERRAL INFORMATION

In Round 09, over a quarter of migrants (28.4%) reported spending between six months and one year in BiH, 18.3 per cent reported spending between three and six months in BiH, 16.4 per cent reported spending between one and two years in BiH, 10.9 per cent spent between two weeks and one month, and 10.9 per cent of migrants spent more than two years in BiH. Furthermore, 63 per cent of the migrants met during this round declared to be aware of the option for voluntary return and assisted reintegration (AVRR) to their country of origin offered by IOM, which is similar to the share of the previous round. Lastly, nine migrants expressed interest in information on legal pathways to be able to stay in BiH, representing only 2.4 per cent of the total migrants observed.

LENGTH OF STAY IN BIH



6. For more information on the methodology, please refer to the extended methodology available on IOM DTM Global portal.

METHODOLOGY<sup>6</sup>

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 09

Geographical coverage

48 Municipalities in seven Cantons of the FBiH and five regions of RS entity, 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 09 was carried out on the 19 January 2022.

Enumerators

Ten teams for a total of 28 enumerators (21 M, 7 F), with language skills in English, Arabic, Dari, Farsi, Turkish and Pashto, together with the SFA local staff, for a total of 10 inspectors (7 M, 3 F), one per each team, that facilitated access to some locations, and 10 staff from the FBiH RC (6 M, 4 F).

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 FBiH and on its activities covering the whole country 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 select number of locations in BiH. Since the inception of the project in 2021, thanks to the addition of a canton in FBiH and five regions in the entity of RS, IOM's range of action and geographical coverage has significantly increased. Nevertheless, some key locations may not yet have been visited. Other existing limitations are mainly due to existing restrictions in some locations, notably for USC in FBiH and the RS entity, as mobile teams were only established in December 2021.
2. The limited number of enumerators available, despite the involvement of SFA and RC in the data collection exercise, due to the current epidemiological situation of COVID-19 in BiH.
3. The SFA's presence during the data collection exercise facilitates access to some locations but may hinder migrants' participation in other locations and/or may cause some bias in migrants' replies to the questions.