

June 2021

ROUND 03



**31 Municipalities**  
in  
**6 Cantons**



**113**  
locations  
covered



**2,589 migrants**  
outside reception,  
out of 2,591 identified  
in total

On 10 June 2021, a third joint data collection exercise was conducted by IOM Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), with the Service for Foreigners' Affairs<sup>1</sup> (SFA), provide an estimation of the migrant and asylum seeker<sup>2</sup> population (stock) present in the country and that are not accommodated or registered in any official Temporary Reception Centres (TRCs) at a given point in time. This data exercise complements the data collection of migrants and asylum seekers who are registered and accommodated in the TRCs.

The data collection was implemented by ten teams for a total of 44 enumerators and 5 SFA staff, and carried out in six Cantons, for a total of 113 locations: 66 locations in 8 Municipalities in Una-Sana Canton, 24 locations in 10 Municipalities in Tuzla Canton, 10 locations in 5 Municipalities in Canton Sarajevo, 9 locations in 4 Municipalities in Herzegovina – Neretva Canton, 3 locations in 3 Municipalities in Canton 10, and 1 location in 1 Municipality in West Herzegovina Canton (see [Map](#) at p.2).

## DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE AND LOCALIZATION

The total number of migrants identified in the covered locations was 2,591 out of which **2,589 stated that they were not accommodated in any of official TRCs in BiH.**

The number of migrants observed in this 3<sup>rd</sup> Round is in line with the previous two conducted in March and April 2021. The variations in the observed migrant presence among the three rounds conducted so far can be explained by some factors influencing the data collection. Round 1 (held on March 17) was characterized by a lower number of migrants observed (1,927), probably due to the adverse weather conditions during the day of the data collection, as well as to the lower number of staff employed and locations visited. Round 2 and 3 (held on April 30 and June 10, respectively) were characterized by more favorable weather conditions that may have contributed to a greater presence in outside locations of migrants, and the data collection involved more staff and locations. It is however interesting to note that from Round 1 to Round 3, out of the total number of migrants observed, **the number of migrants who declared that they were not accommodated in TRCs has increased: 91 percent in Round 1, 97 percent Round 2, and 99 percent in Round 3.**

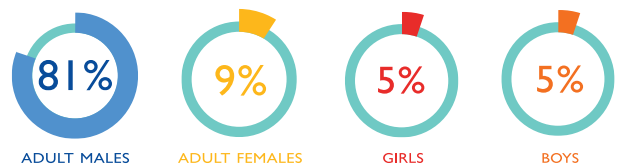
**Afghanistan (49%) and Pakistan (26%) are the two main declared nationalities<sup>3</sup>** with the highest number of persons outside of TRCs in BiH. Overall, these two national groups make up 75 per cent of total migrants without accommodation in TRCs. Other declared nationalities include Algeria, Morocco, Islamic Republic of Iran, Bangladesh, Somalia, Eritrea, India, Iraq, Tunisia, Turkey, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Nepal.

Sex disaggregated data show that **most migrants outside TRCs are adult males (2,097)**, followed by adult females (227), boys (131), and girls (129). Overall, adult males represent the 81 per cent of total migrant population identified outside TRCs in BiH. In line with previous rounds, **most children are from Afghanistan (88%)**, followed by those from Islamic Republic of Iran (5%) and Pakistan (3%), while for all other nationalities, the number of boys and girls is significantly lower.

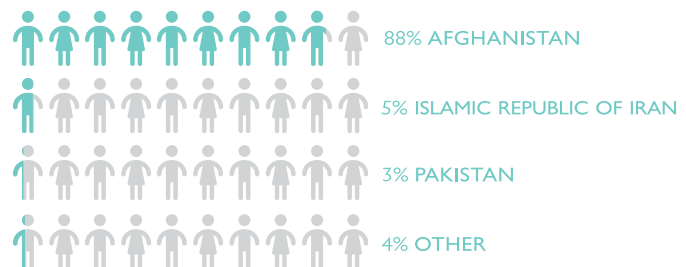
Out of 2,591 migrants without accommodation in TRCs, **2,266 reported that they entered BiH from Serbia**, 175 from Montenegro, and 127 from Croatia, while for 27 migrants this information is unknown. Most migrants (2,248) entered BiH by foot, followed by other means of transportation such as bus (292), and taxi (25).

In Round 2 and 3, an additional question on the type of location where migrants are staying was introduced. Most of the migrants observed were found in abandoned buildings (46%), followed by private accommodation (20%) both paid and for free, in outside locations (16%), including bus station, train station and other, in other non-specified locations (10%), in paid hostels (5%) and in makeshift barracks or tents (2%). It is worth emphasizing that, in most cases, the locations where migrants were observed are those where they actually live, with the exception of outside locations such as bus and train stations, where they are met while in transit to other places.

### SEX DISAGGREGATED DATA



### MOST CHILDREN ARE FROM



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 Temporary Reception Centres.

2. As no document check was carried out during the data collection to confirm the statements, migrants include asylum seekers and refugees.

3. Nationalities reported in this report are those self-reported by migrants.



MIGRANT PRESENCE OUTSIDE RECEPTION

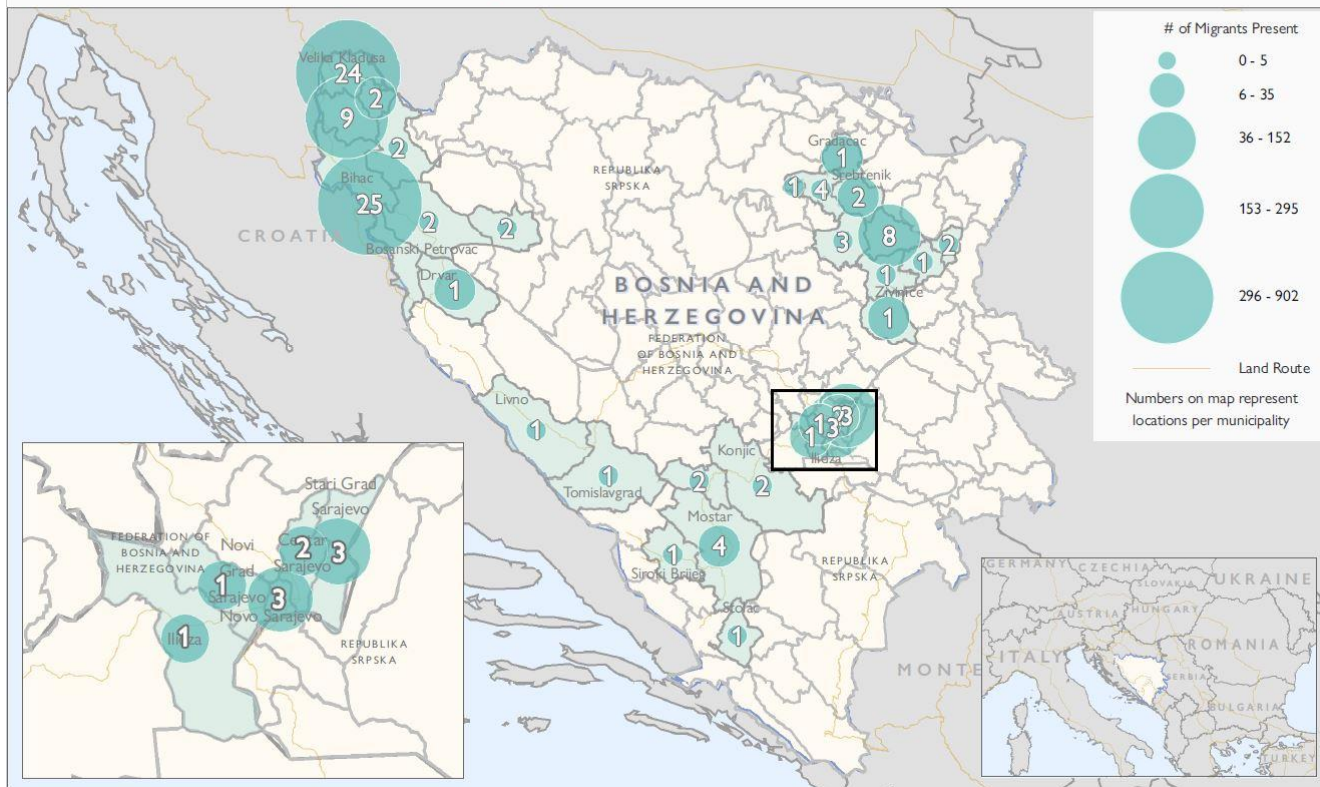
113 Assessed locations in

Bosnia and Herzegovina  
10 June 2021

est. **2,589** MIGRANTS OUTSIDE TRANSIT  
RECEPTION CENTERS\*

**6**  
Cantons

**30**  
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

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

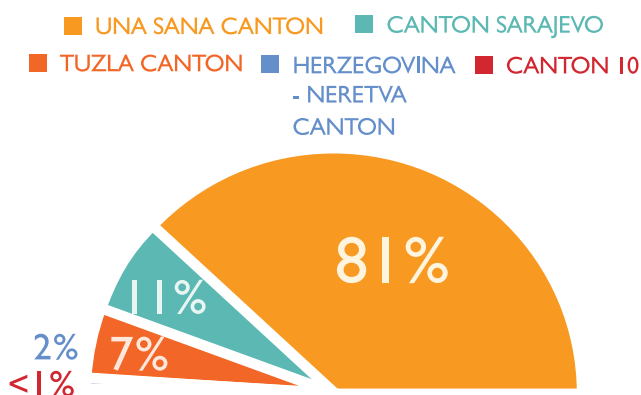
Most migrants outside TRCs were found in Una-Sana Canton (USC), while a smaller number was present in Canton Sarajevo (CS), Tuzla Canton (TC), Herzegovina – Neretva Canton (HNC) and Canton 10. No migrant was found in the covered location of the West Herzegovina Canton (WHC). In USC there were 2,086 migrants (81% of the total), in CS - 275 (11%), TC - 181 (7%), in HNC - 40 (2%), and in Canton 10 – 7 (less than 1 %). Migrants from Morocco were the only national group present in all Cantons, except WHC.

REFERRAL AND INFORMATION

Only 100 (less than 4%) out of 2,589 migrants outside TRCs declared to be interested in being referred for accommodation in one of the centres. On average, most migrants have spent more than three months in BiH (62%). Furthermore, in line with the previous two rounds, migrants were also asked to report on the number of days spent outside TRCs and more than 50 per cent confirmed they have spent more than three months in the country outside the centres.

Round 3 introduced a new set of questions on migrants' knowledge of alternative options offered by humanitarian actors in BiH. Of the total number of migrants observed, 1,659 migrants (64%) were aware of the option for assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) to their country of origin (CoO), offered by IOM, while 76 migrants stated that they would be interested in having information on AVRR, as they were not aware of it. Also, only 30 migrants (approximately 1%) stated they were interested in returning to their CoO via AVRR.

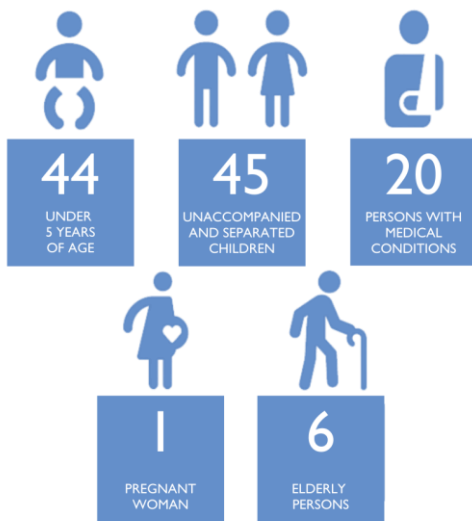
It is interesting to note that less than 1 per cent of migrants (25) would be interested in receiving information on legal pathways to and grounds for stay in BiH, while more than 50 per cent of migrants (1,334) would be interested in information on legal pathways to and grounds for stay in Europe.



## HEALTH ISSUES AND VULNERABILITIES

The questionnaire also captures information on specific individual conditions and vulnerable groups among the observed population. The following vulnerable groups were identified: 45 unaccompanied children, 44 children under five years old, 20 persons with medical issues, 6 elderly above 60 years old, 1 pregnant woman and 1 person with physical disability. All of them were referred to either accommodation centres or, where available, to the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), for further medical assistance.<sup>4</sup>

### IDENTIFIED VULNERABLE GROUPS



## INTENDED DESTINATIONS

In line with previous rounds, most migrants reported that their intended final destination at the time of the data collection was Italy (41%), followed by Germany (35%), France (14%), Belgium (7%), and Croatia (1%). Italy, Germany and France alone make up 90 per cent of intended final destinations mentioned by migrants.

### INTENDED FINAL DESTINATION



4. DRC has outreach teams that are distributing food, NFIs and providing medical assistance on the spot to migrants in BiH.

5. For more information on the methodology, please refer to the extended methodology available on IOM BiH webpage.

## METHODOLOGY<sup>5</sup>

The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a system to capture and monitor displacement and population movements, designed to capture, process and 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 03

#### Geographical coverage

30 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.

#### 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 3 was carried out on the 10 June 2021.

#### Enumerators

Ten teams for a total of 44 enumerators (31 M, 13 F), with language skills in English, Arabic, Dari, Farsi, Turkish and Pashto, together with the SFA local staff, for a total of five inspectors (3M, 2F) that facilitated access to some locations.

#### 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. The questionnaire was made of five main sections: Total estimated presence of migrants outside TRCs in one location; Sex and age breakdown for the top 5 nationality groups; Main vulnerabilities and Health issues; Main Routes, Transport, Destinations; Interest in being referred to TRCs.

#### 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, due to:
  - the limited number of staff available to IOM - despite the increase in the number of personnel engaged compared to Round 1.
  - The existing restrictions in place to certain locations. This especially applies to the Una-Sana Canton.
- The SFA presence during 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.