

28 March 2023

Largest survey to date of Ukrainians in Ireland who found protection from war *Subject – “Integration”*

Moderator:

Ganna Bazilo,

Co-Founder and Director
of Ukrainian Action in Ireland

Presented by:

Olena Redrugina,

Co-Founder and Director
of Ukrainian Action in Ireland

Agenda



Ukrainian Action in Ireland



Partners



Demographic



Why Ireland?



Integration



Children



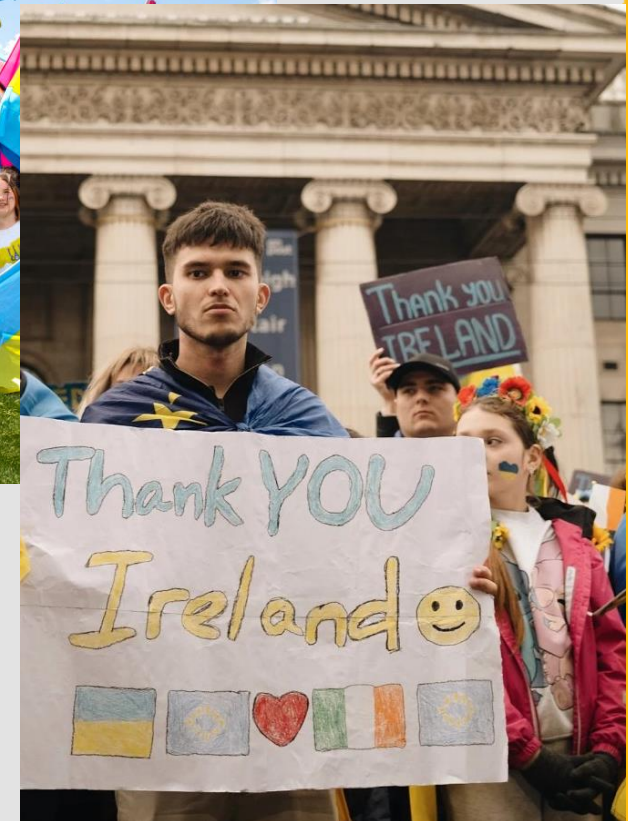
Impact of war



Going back to Ukraine

Ukrainian Action in Ireland (UACT)

- UACT is a registered non-profit set up by Ukrainian and Irish volunteers as a response to the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine caused by Russia's full scale invasion
- Our mission is to be the Ukrainian voice and action in Ireland



Ukrainian Action in Ireland (UACT)

- Our community events and social media channels reach out to over 30 000 Ukrainians in Ireland
- UACT priorities of work:
 - Contribute to integration of Ukrainians into the Irish society
 - Advance Irish-Ukrainian cultural and educational collaboration
 - Provide humanitarian and life-saving relief to Ukrainians experiencing hardship



Partners and gratitude

- The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Youth and Integration (DCEDYI)
- H.E. Ambassador Larysa Gerasko and the Embassy of Ukraine in Ireland
- Guinness Enterprise Centre
- Ukraine Civil Society Forum and its members
- Untold Ukraine
- Partners and individuals who shared survey in their social media channels
- Ukrainian Action Communication and Management Team



An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth



Immigrant
Council of
Ireland

Larysa Gerasko, H.E. Ambassador of Ukraine in Ireland



Nicola Tickner, DCEDIY Senior Statistician Head of Data and Analytics Unit



An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth

Why survey?

- Survey is a way to give **voice** to Ukrainians to express their needs and views
- First Survey of Ukrainians was conducted in May 2023 – UACT was the *first* organisation in Ireland to ask Ukrainians about their needs
- Other channels of learning about the needs of Ukrainian community:
 - Ukrainian Community Center Rathmines
 - Rallies for peace, anti-war protests
 - Clean-ups and cultural events
- We are in a unique position to share insights about Ukrainian community by combining qualitative and quantitative data

Survey details

Data collection method: online questionnaire

Data collection period: 27 Jan 2023 – 08 Feb 2023 (12 days)

Target audience: Ukrainians in Ireland who found protection from war

Distribution method: social media, Telegram chats and groups, Youtube video, personal messages, printed QR codes

Language of questionnaire: Ukrainian

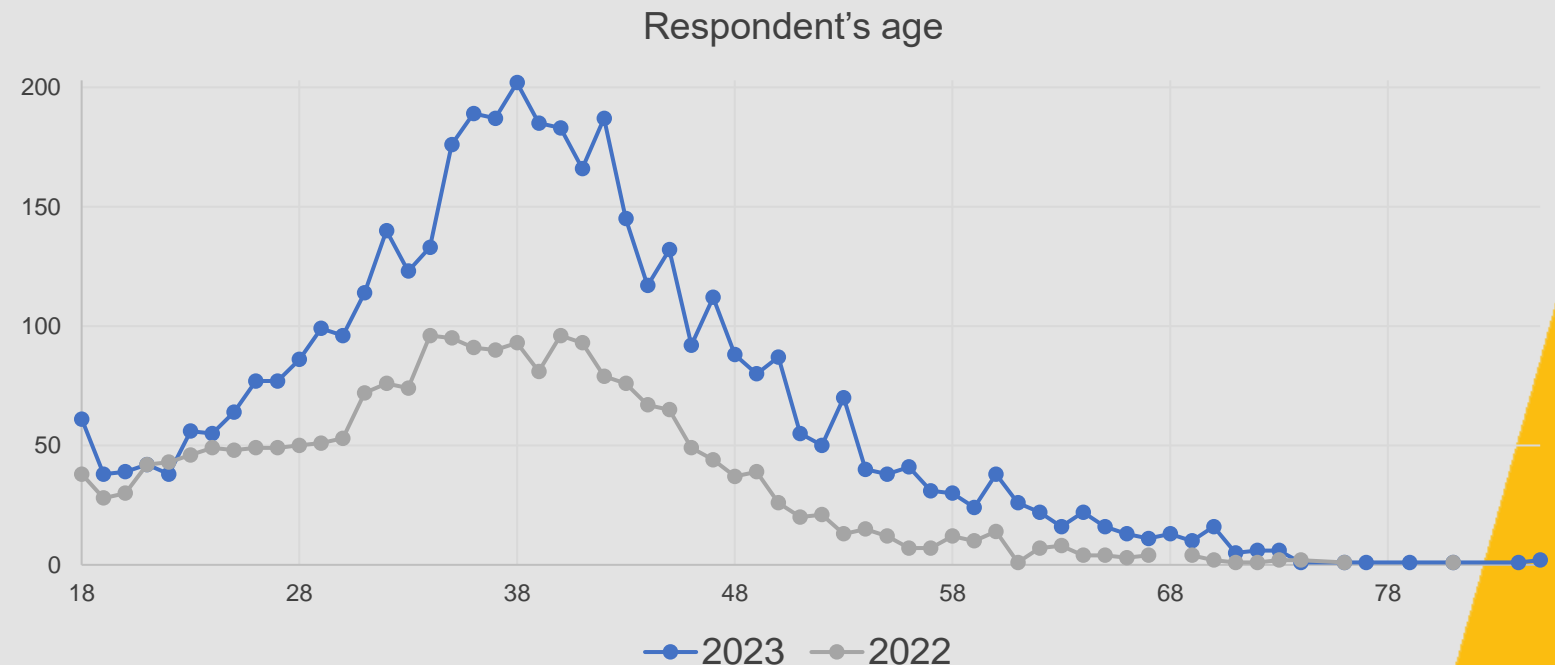
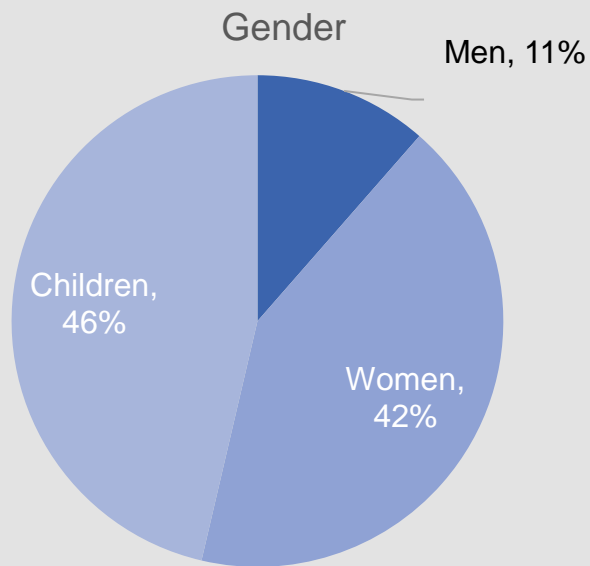
Languages of responses: Ukrainian, russian, English

Demographic

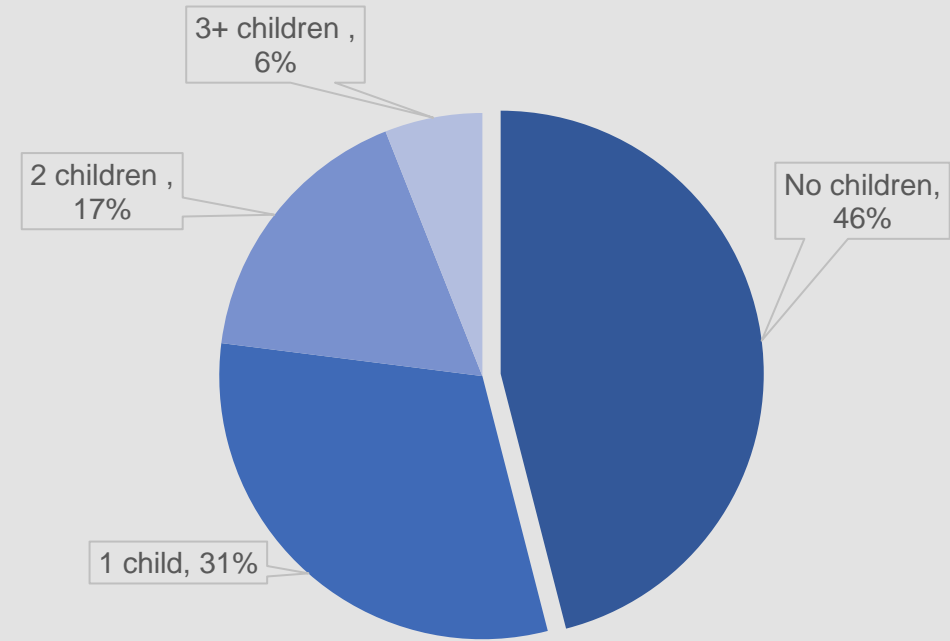
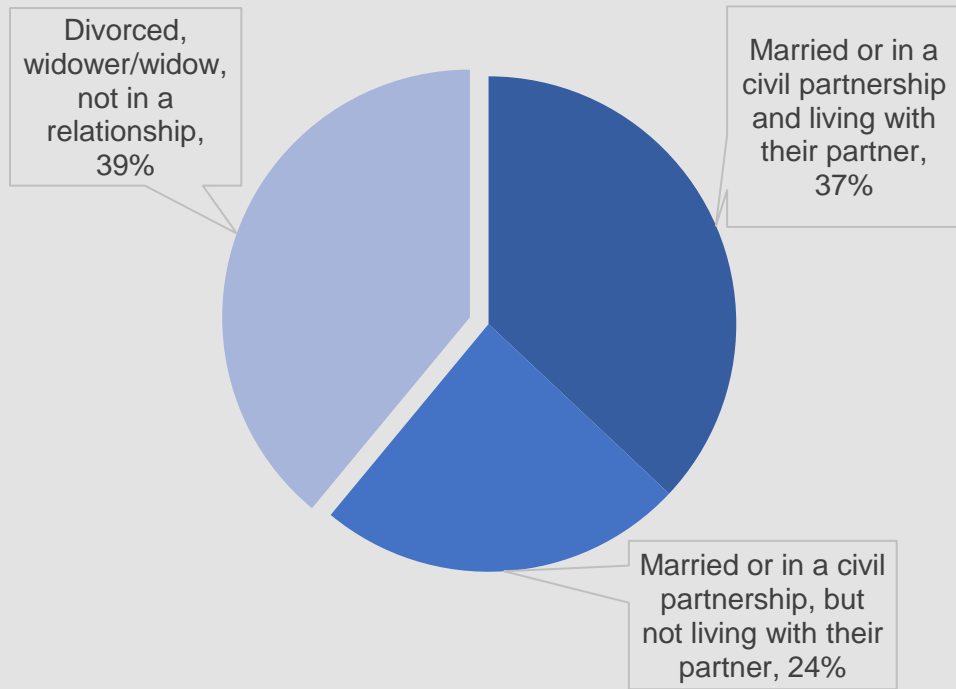


Demographic: totals, gender and age

- 4273 adults participated in Survey
- 3665 children
- Overall 7938 people, which is 10% of all Ukrainians that requested temporary protection in Ireland (12% from estimated number of people staying in state)



Demographic: family status



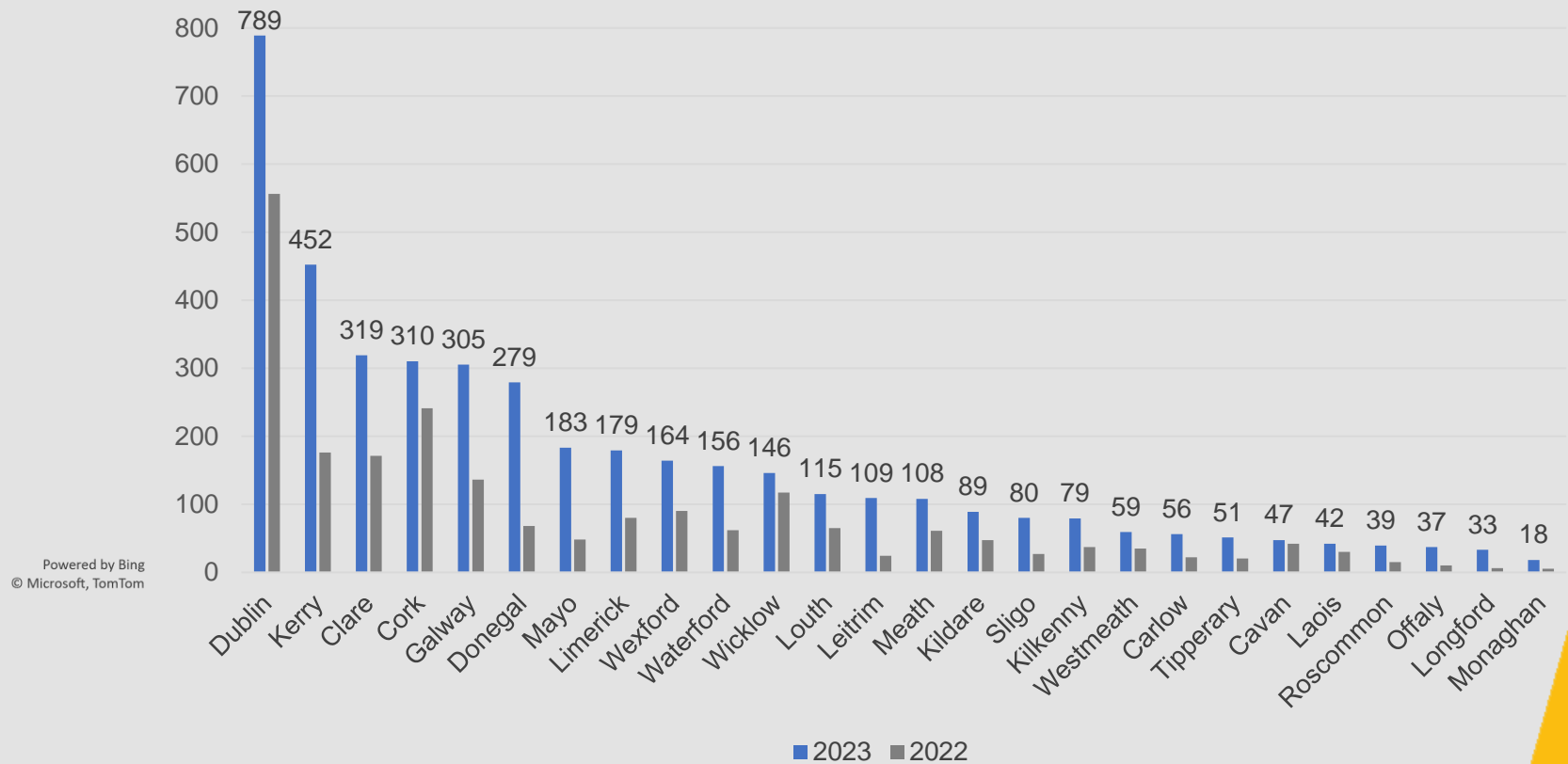
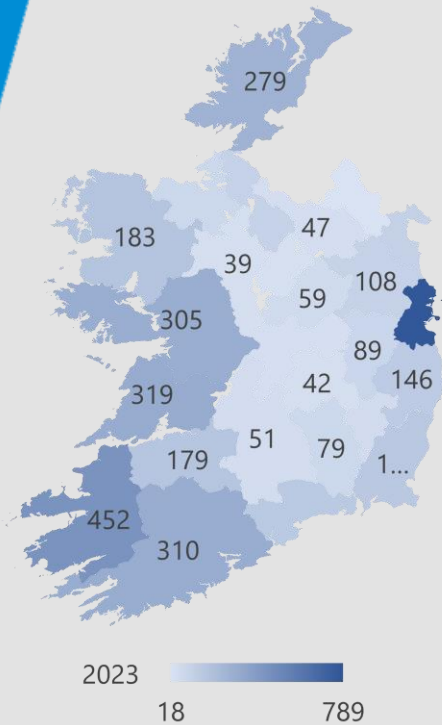
**Distribution is the same as in 2022*



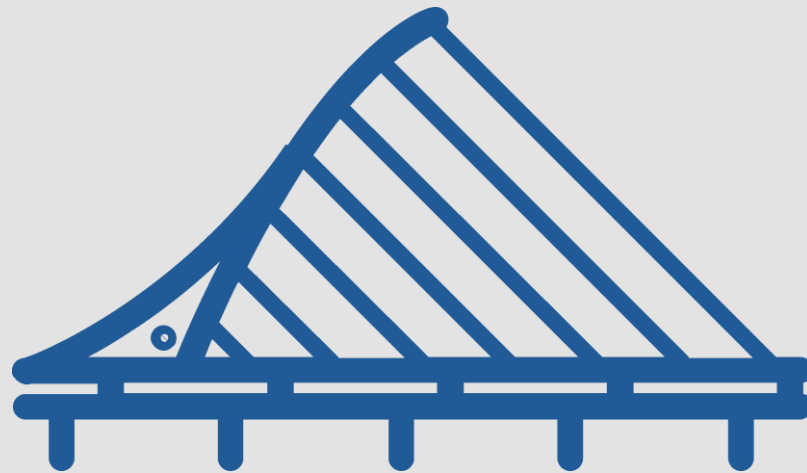
54 % of respondents have children under 18

Demographic: location & status

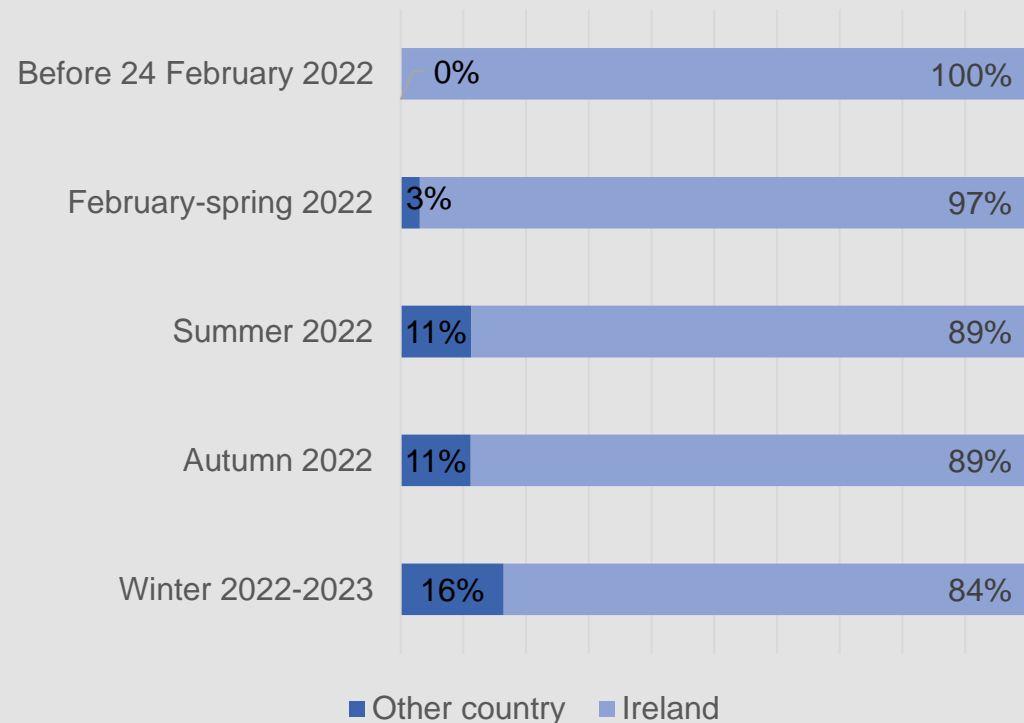
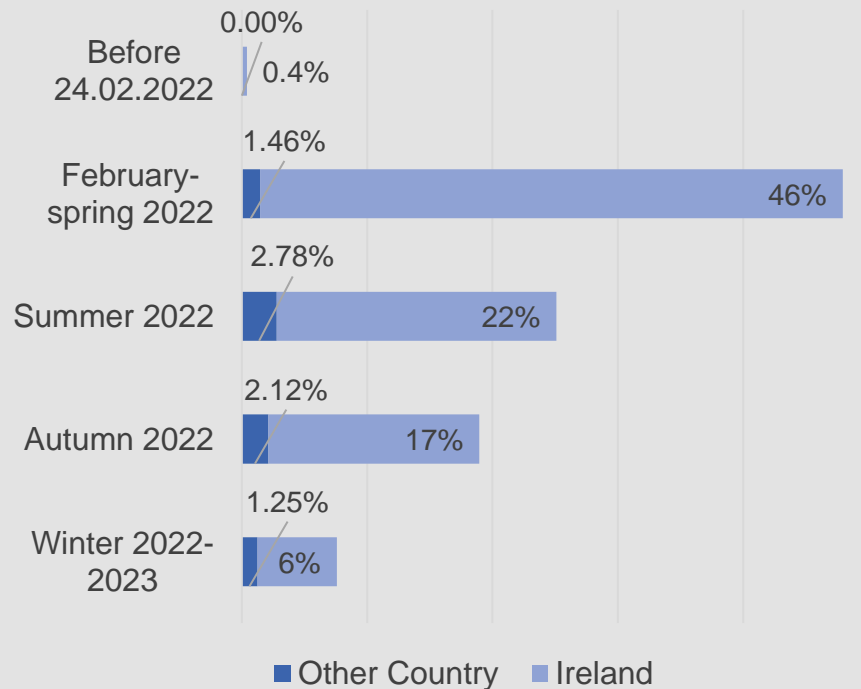
99% of respondents have temporary protection status in Ireland



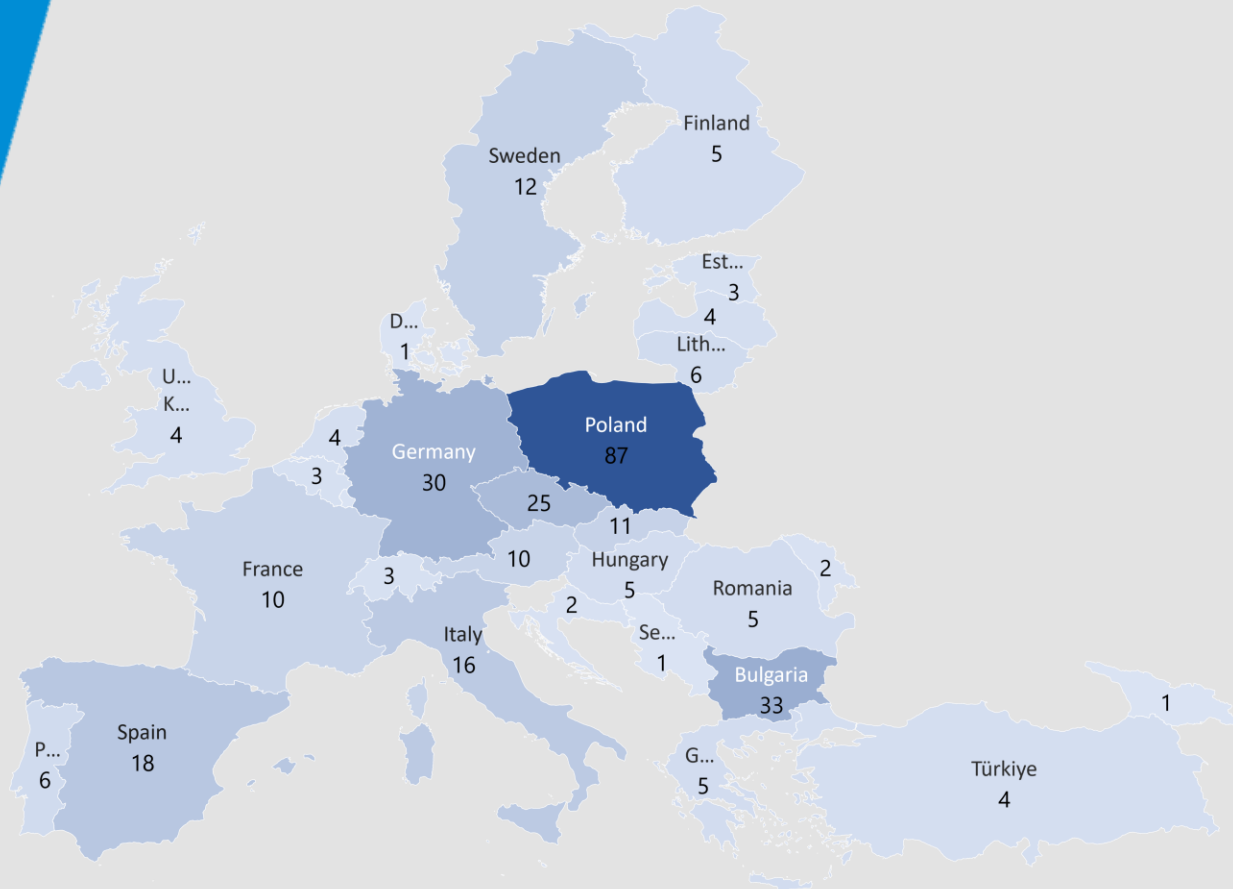
Why Ireland ?



First temporary protection respondents received...



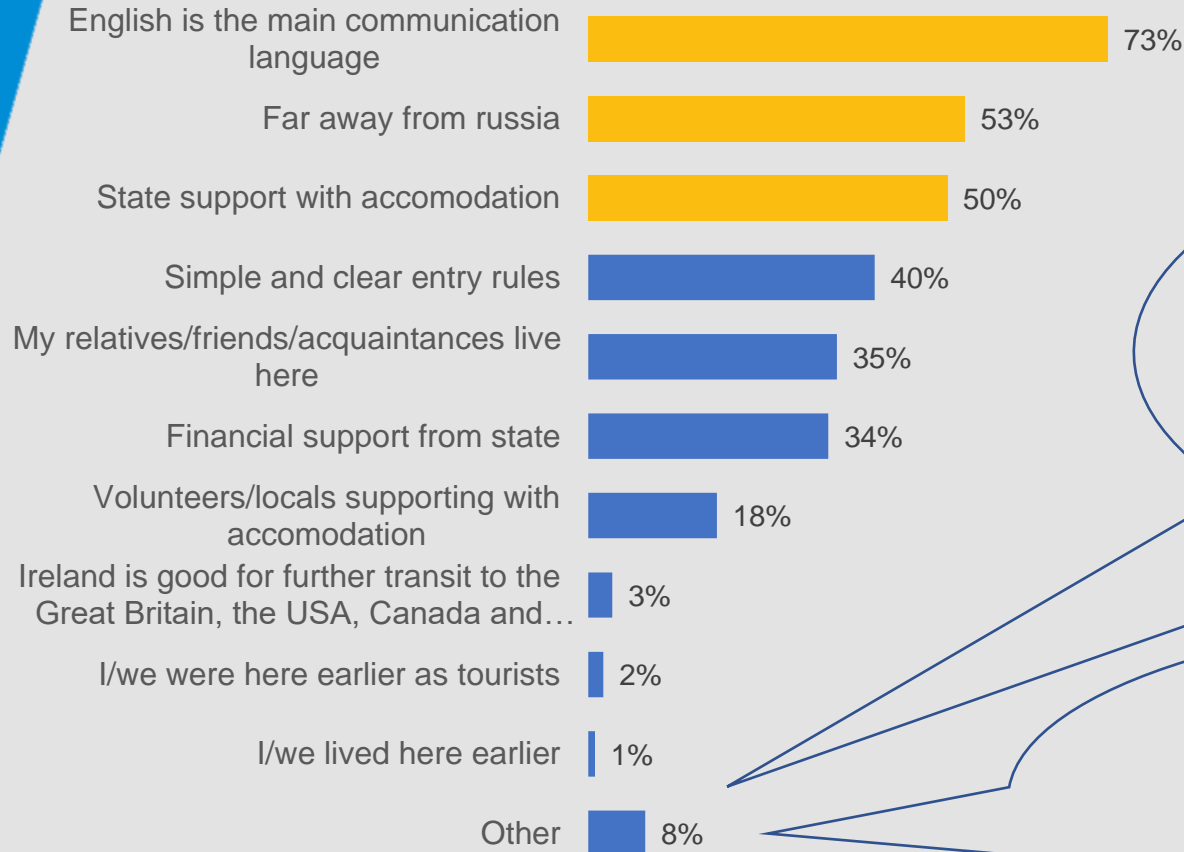
If Ireland was not the first country, it was...



...for the following reasons that they moved on:

- Totally unknown language
- Lacking employment opportunities
- Bureaucracy
- (some regions) lack of support from people around
- (some regions) too close to russia
- Family reunion in Ireland

Why Ireland?



Other answers:
Similar history & mentality
Mild climate
Very kind people

*“It was my dream to visit Ireland”
“I was in love with this country from childhood”
«My husband always loved Ireland. He celebrated St.Patrick’s day every year”*

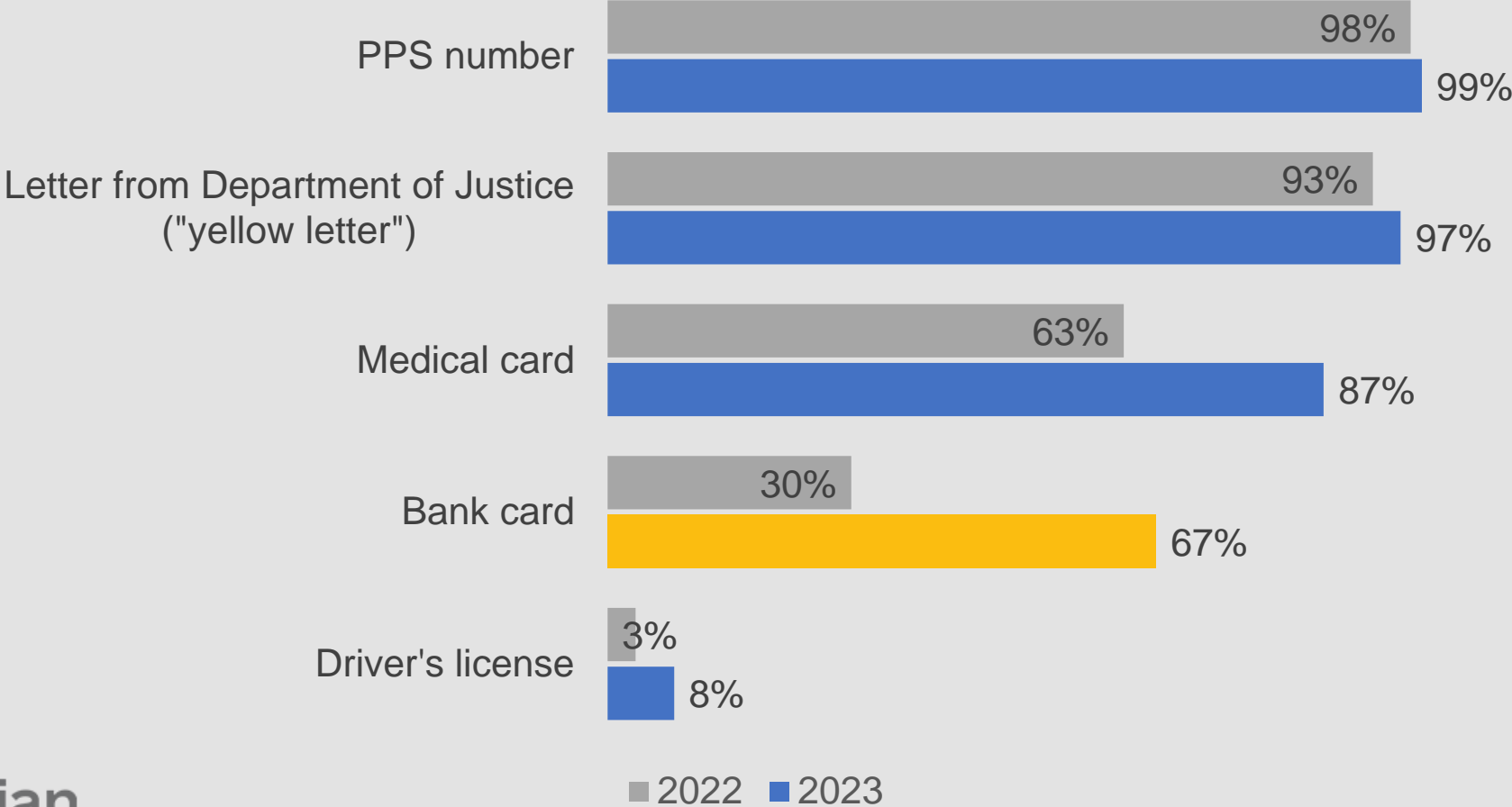
“By accident, we met people from Ireland during our journey away from war in Ukraine”

“God directed me and my family”

Integration



Integration: Documents received in Ireland

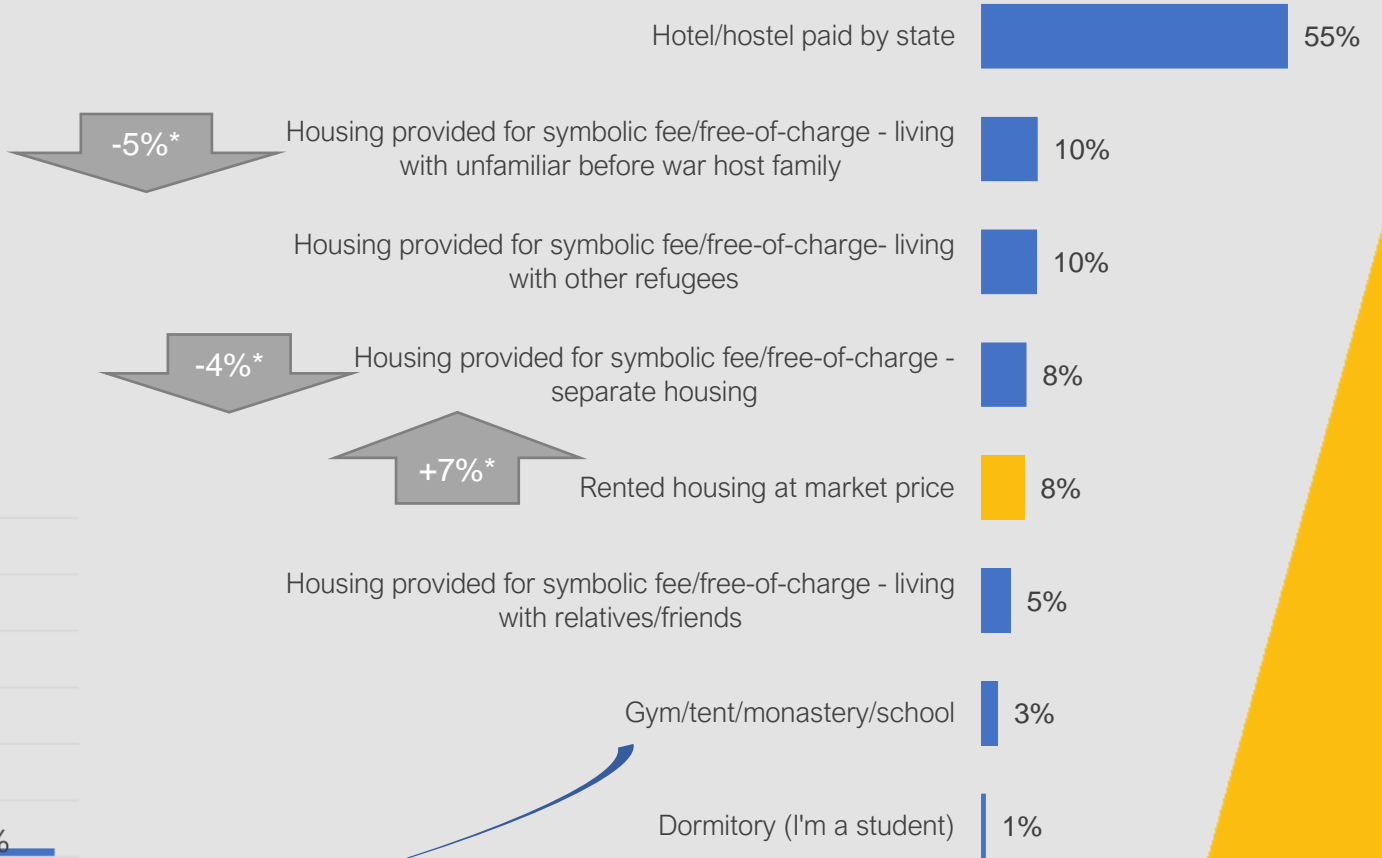
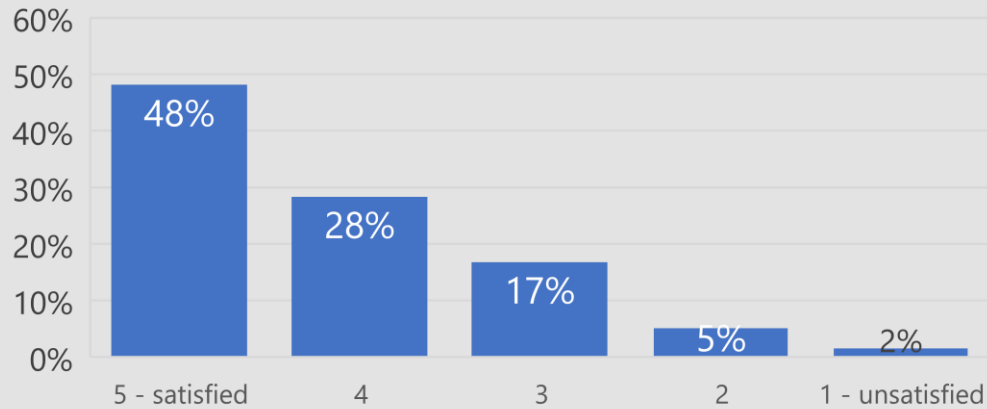


Integration: Accommodation



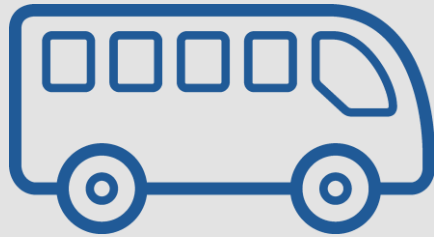
55% respondents are living in the hospitality-type accommodation

Accommodation satisfaction



Every third respondent lives in a host provided accommodation

Integration: Transport



Public transport
48%



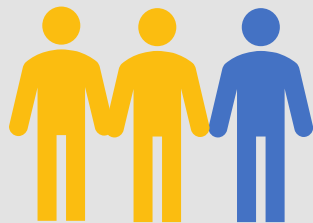
By foot
33%



Own car
15%

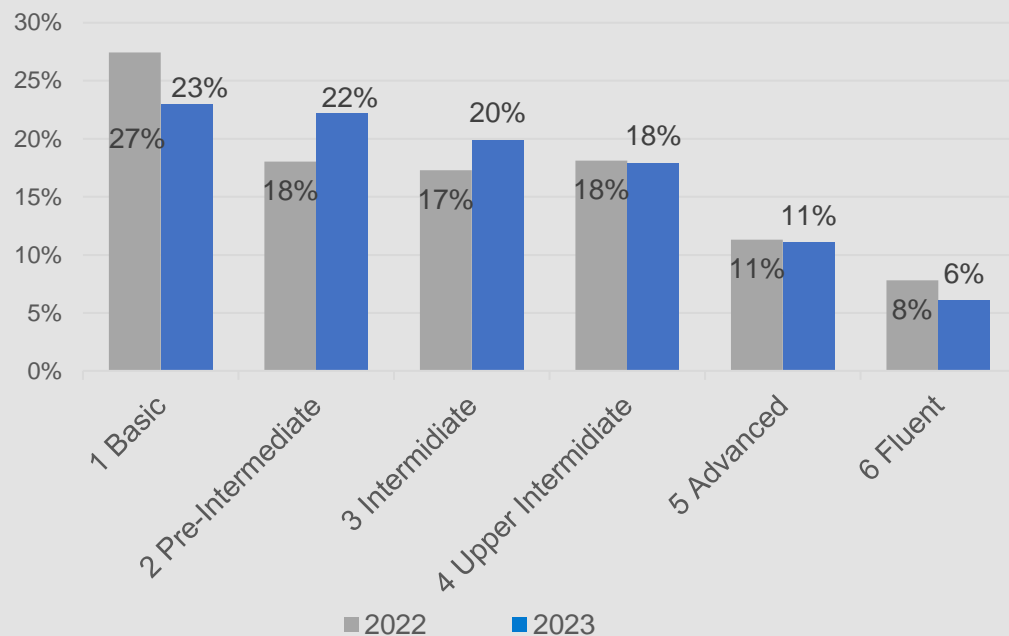


Bicycle
3%

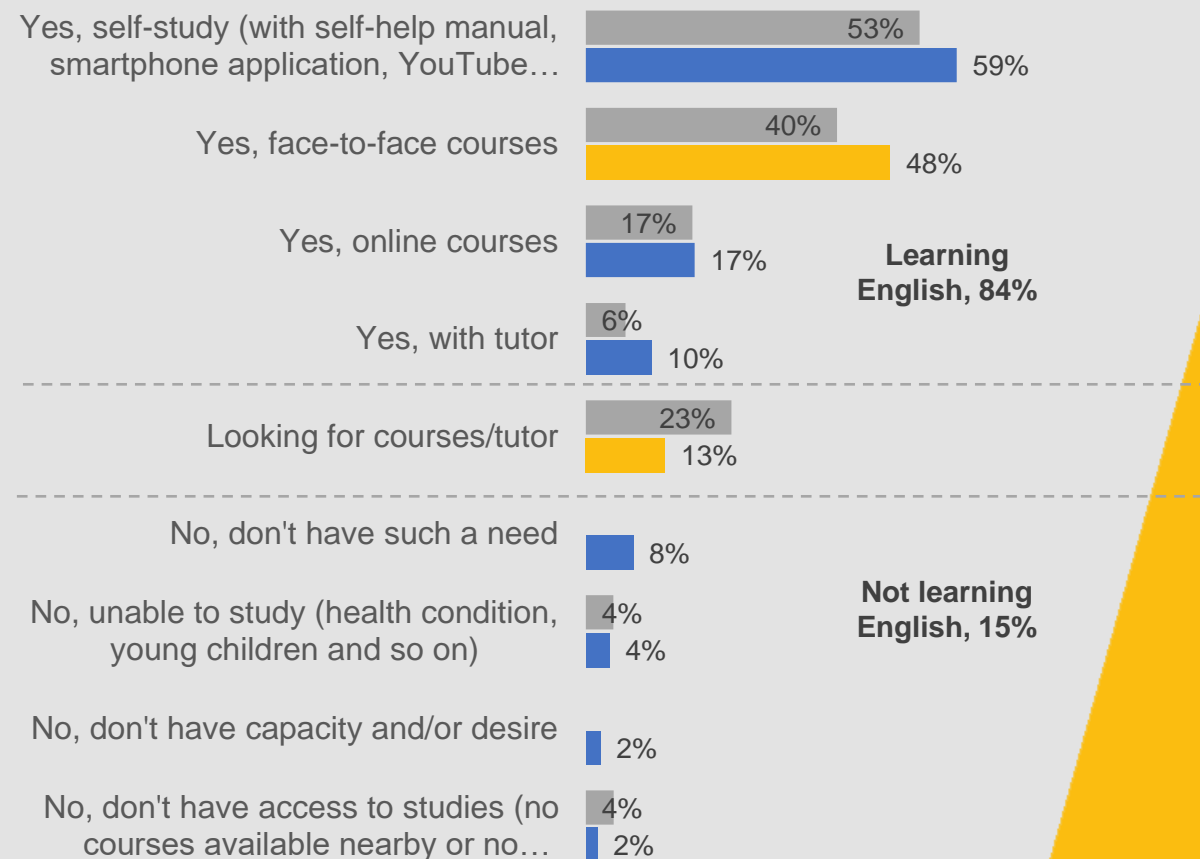


2 out of 3 respondents mentioned issues with public transport, details in full report

Integration: English



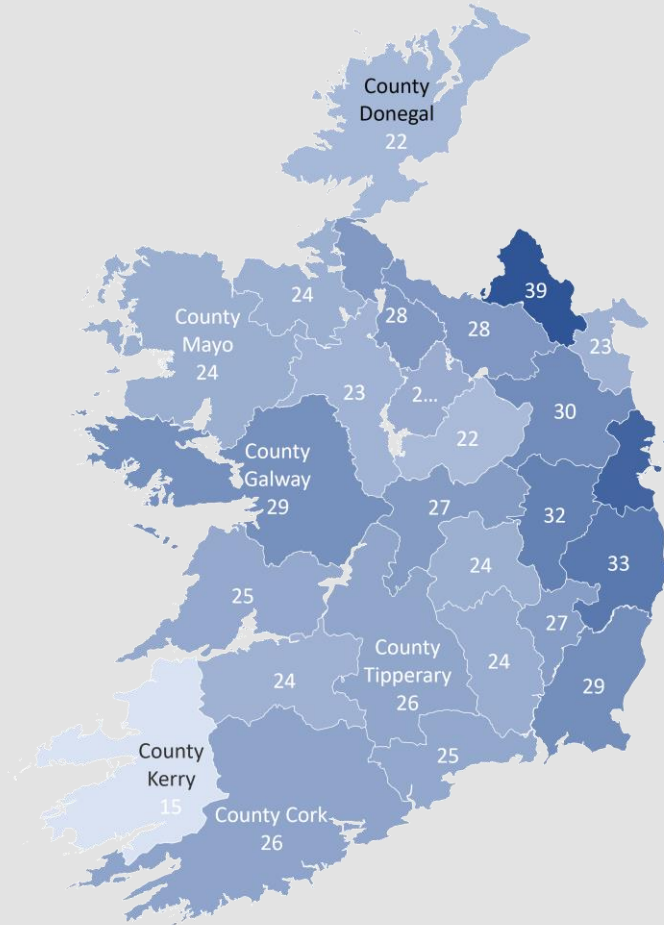
Studying English



Every third respondent speaks English above average level

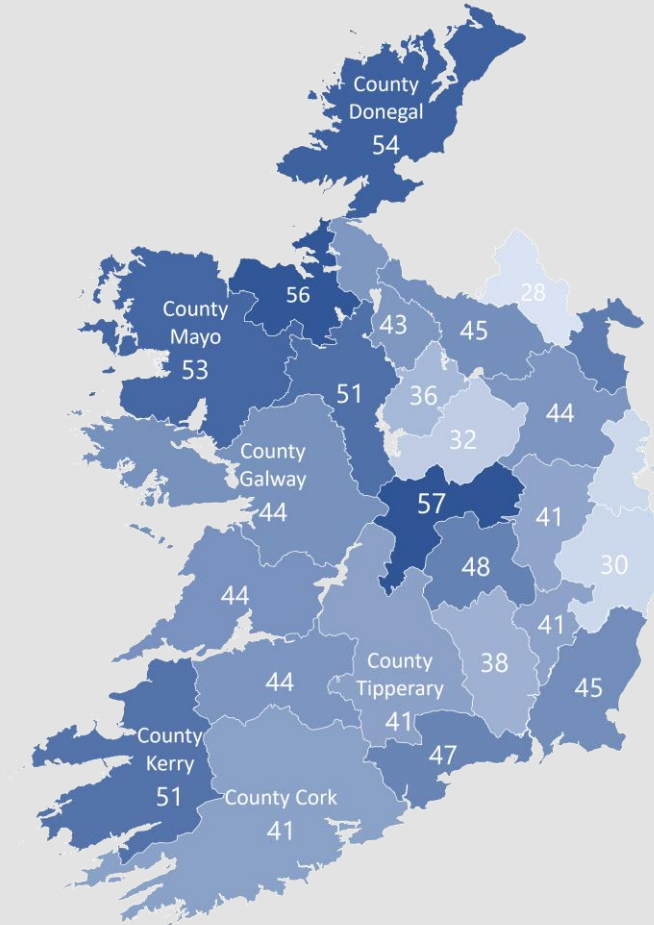
Integration: Employment

% of employed respondents



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% of jobseeking respondents



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Integration: Employment

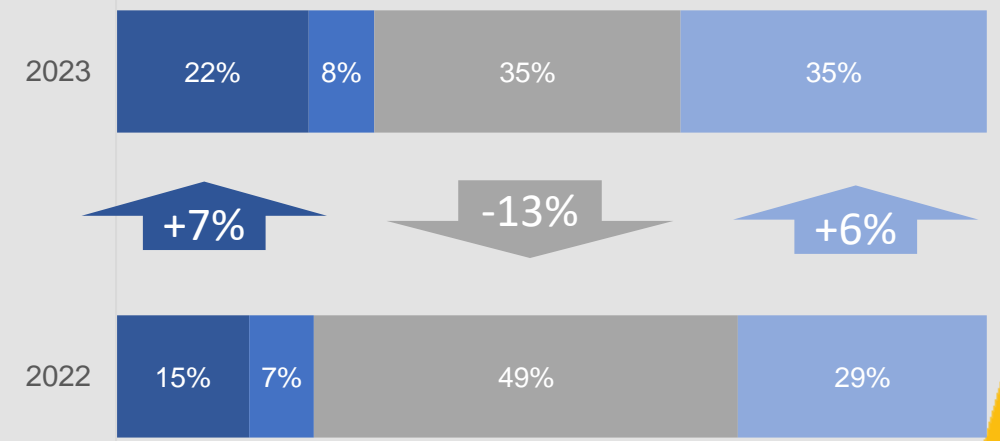


Have a job and not looking for another, 22%

Have a job, but looking for another, 7.5%

job seeking, 35%

Don't have a job and not looking for one, 35%



- Have a job and not looking for another
- Have a job and look for another
- Don't have a job and look for one
- Don't have a job and do not look for one

More information in full report – correlation with: location, language proficiency, accommodation type, health self-assessment, age, gender, number of children

* Compared to 2022

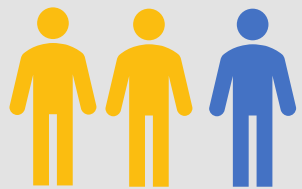
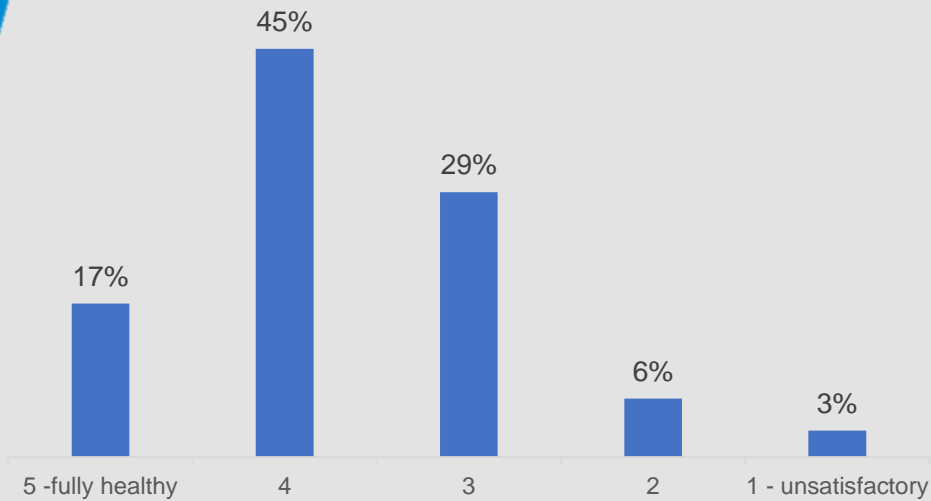
-5%*

+5%*

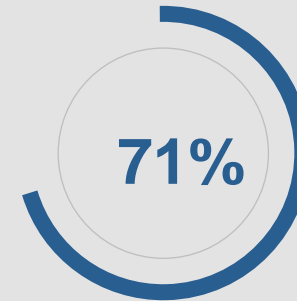
+10%*

Integration: Medical services

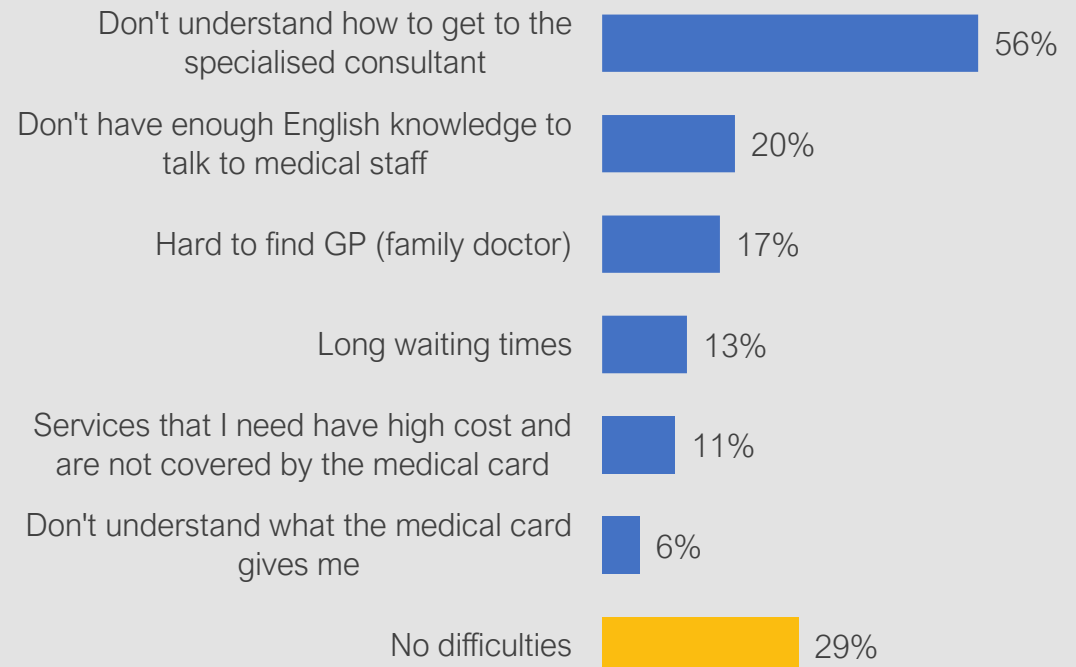
Health self-assessment



2 out of 3 respondents interacted with medical services in Ireland

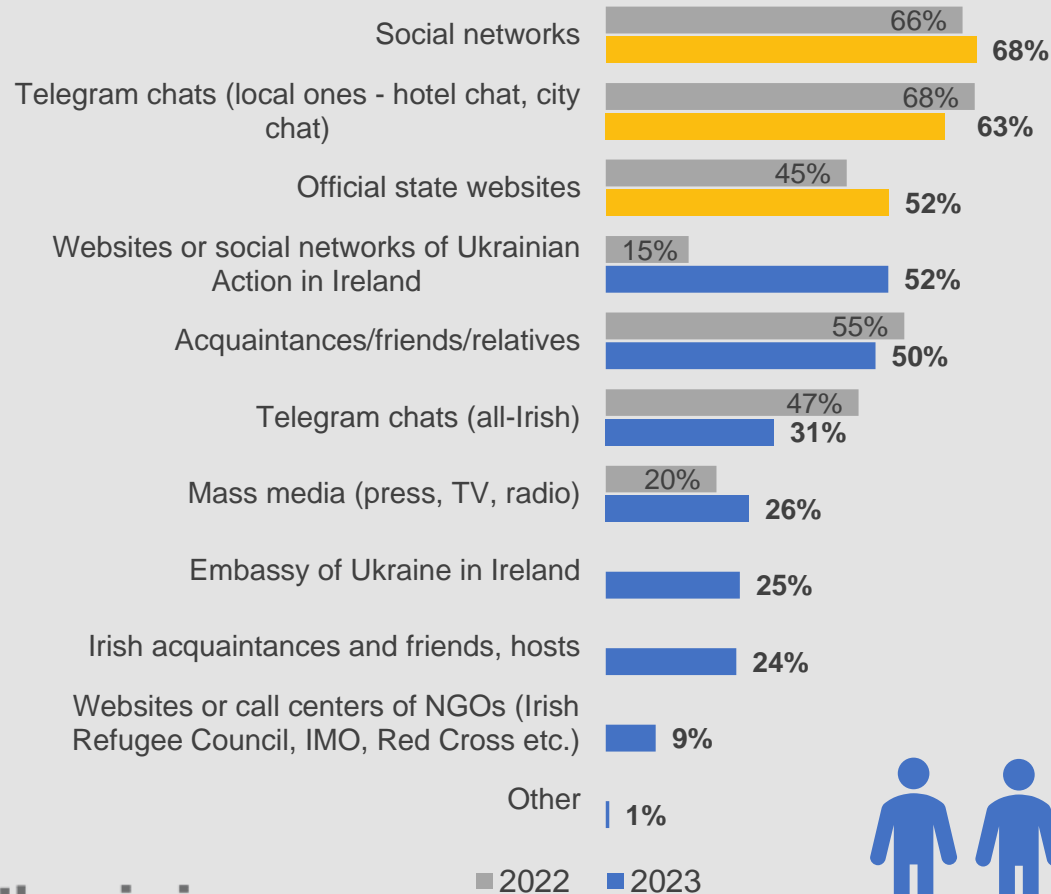


71% of them faced certain challenges

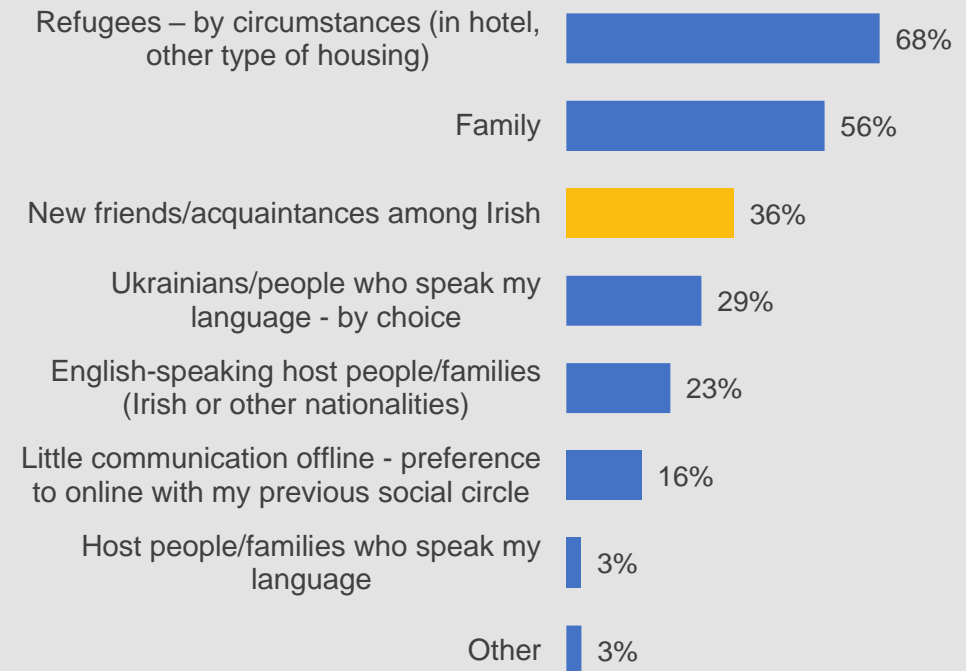


Sources of information and communication

Sources of information

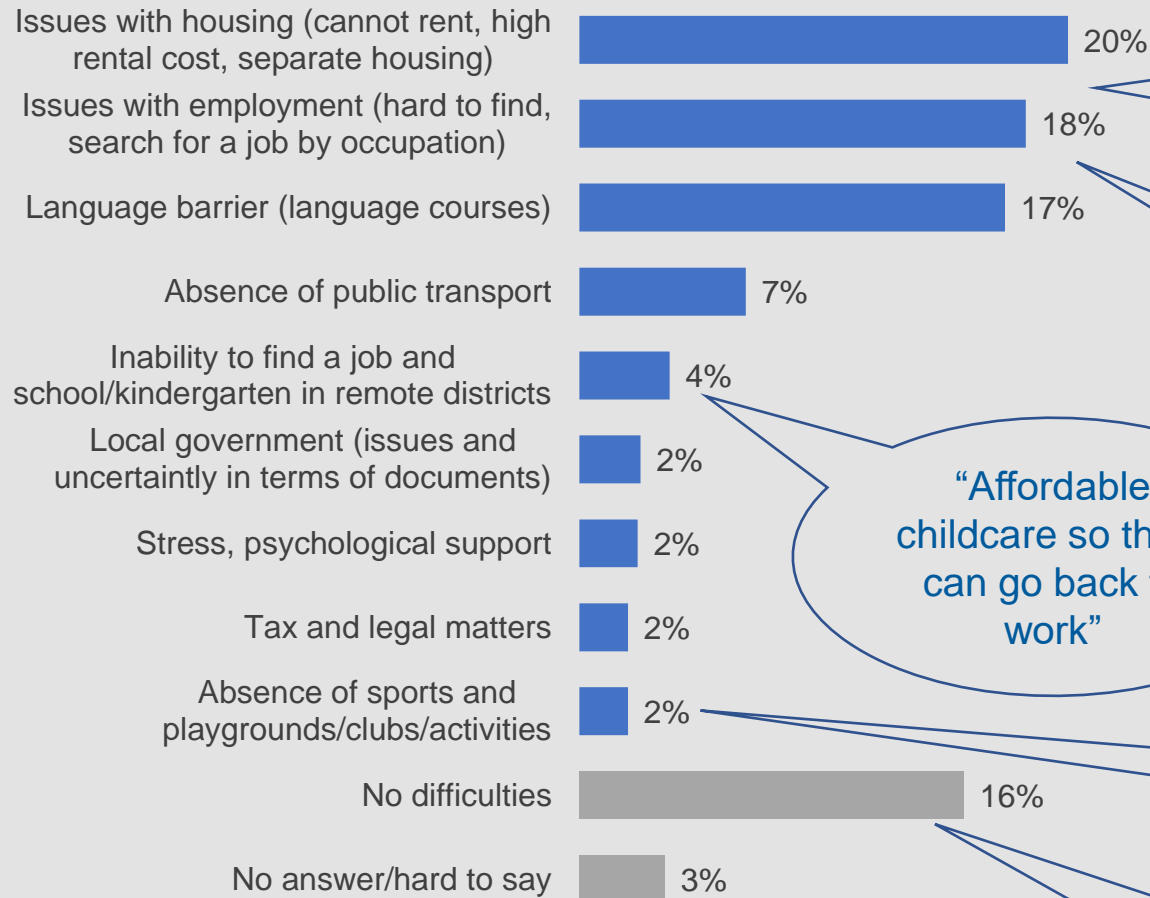


Daily communication



Every third Ukrainian has an Irish person in regular communication
It is more typical for younger people where English proficiency is higher

Integration: Biggest challenges



“Everything is great compared to living in a war zone. But we stay with our hosts for more than a year now and we feel that we need to move on – and we have nowhere to go”

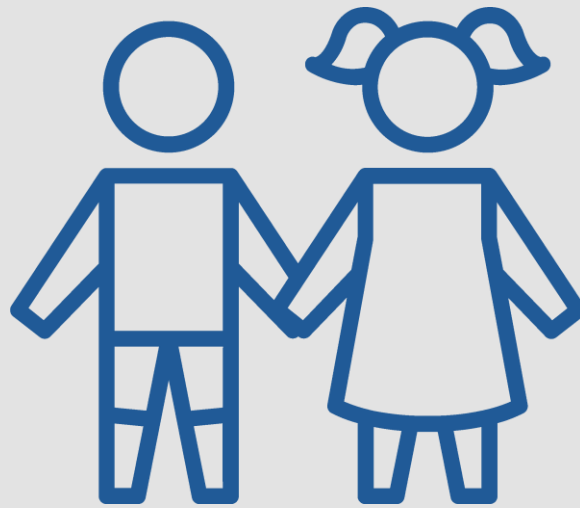
“Affordable childcare so that I can go back to work”

“It would be great to get help with job search. I can’t find what I want, but I don’t know what other options do I have”

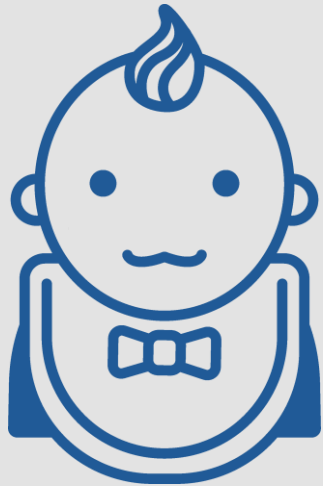
“It would be great to have access to any afterschool activities”

“All is good, thank you!”

Children



Children: age distribution



Pre-school age

0 - 4

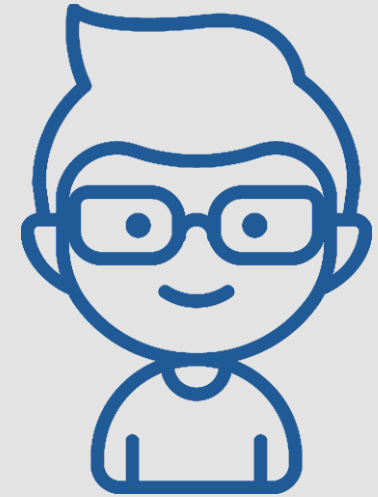
18%



Primary school age

5 - 12

52%

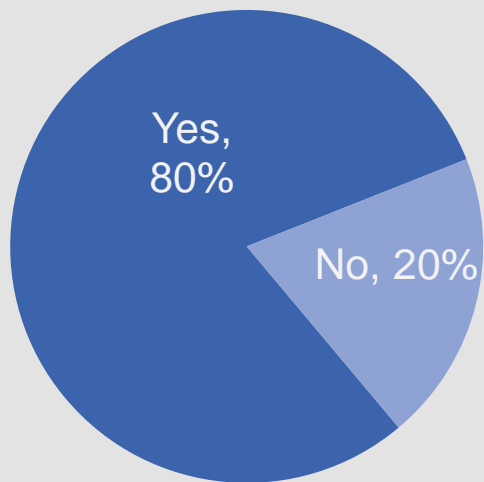


Secondary school age

13 - 17

30%

Children: happiness

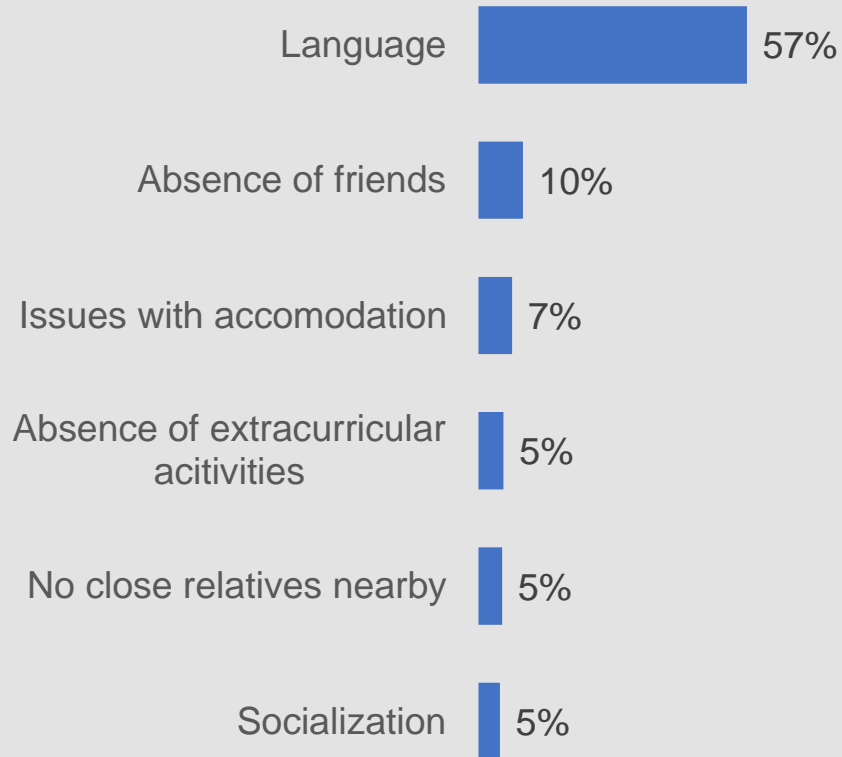


80% of children are happy in Ireland
(according to their parents)

“Misses home”
“We had everything in Ukraine, our life was better”
“Misses family, friends and teachers”
“Had lots of interests at home – no activities around in Ireland”
“They love Ukraine”

“Bullying at school from both children and teachers”
“No personal space, no place to go”
“No friends”
“Everything is temporary, children crave stability”

Children: challenges



Clear correlation with parent's further plans:

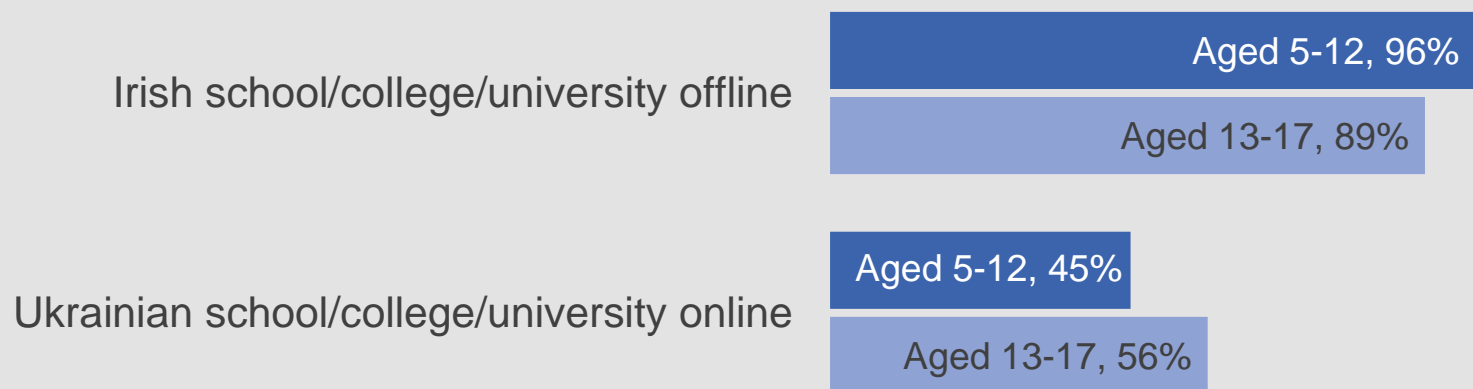
68% of children whose parents plan to **return to Ukraine** when there is an opportunity are happy

76% of children whose parents **do not have specific plans** are happy.

91% of children whose parents decided to stay **permanently** in Ireland are happy.

Children: education status

99% of children in the age 5-17 attending a school



43% of children study in two schools – Irish offline and Ukrainian online

Children studying in one school are happier than children studying in two schools (82% and 75% accordingly)

Guidance on continuing education

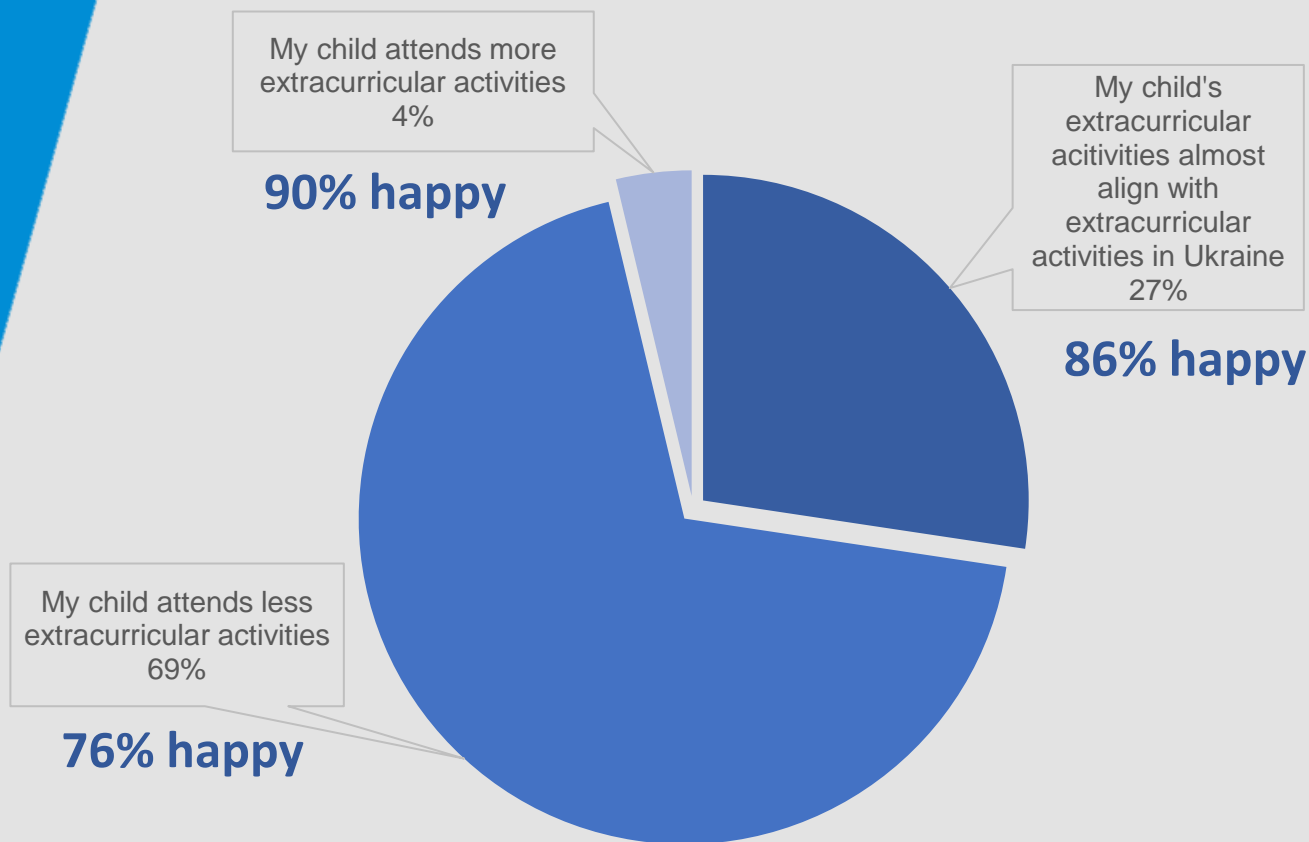
Observation:

Lots of questions from Ukrainians on process for students that are already studying and those who are going to proceed education this year. No guidance is available yet, issue is time-sensitive

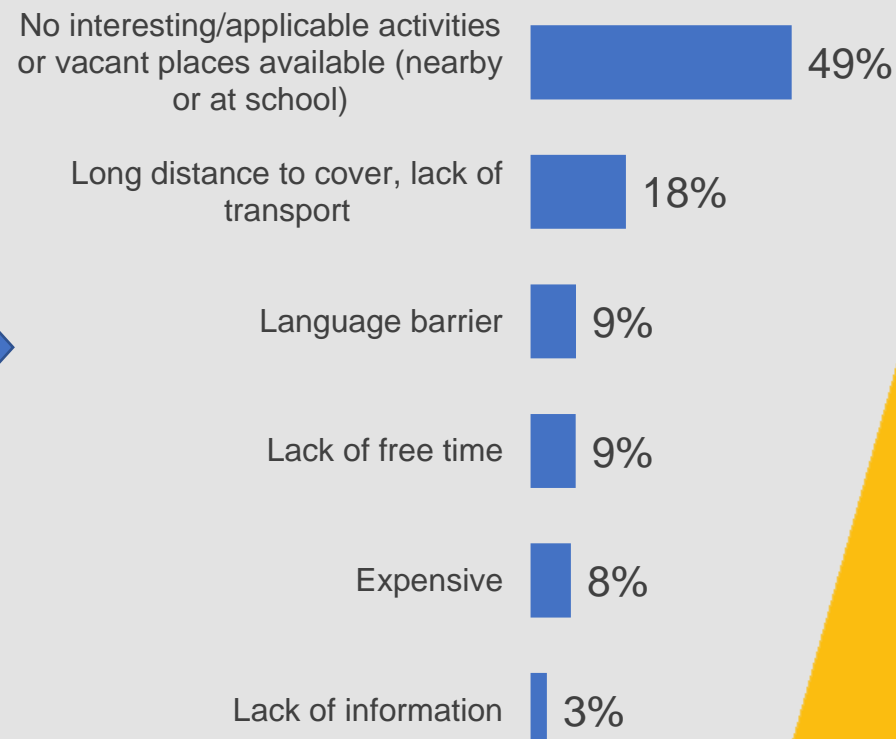
What could help:

Clear guidance how Ukrainian children with Ukrainian documents that are living in Ireland can continue education in Irish colleges or universities

Children: afterschool activities



Reasons



Mental health support for children

Observation:

We regularly receive requests to recommend a psychologist that works with kids.

Last year Ukrainian Action launched a project to unite all qualified Ukrainian psychologists in Ireland. While we achieved the goal, the group turned out to be small, and only a few people work with children. Those people are normally fully booked and not available to accommodate new requests

“Parents are more likely to ask for help for their children than for themselves, but there are no programs available”

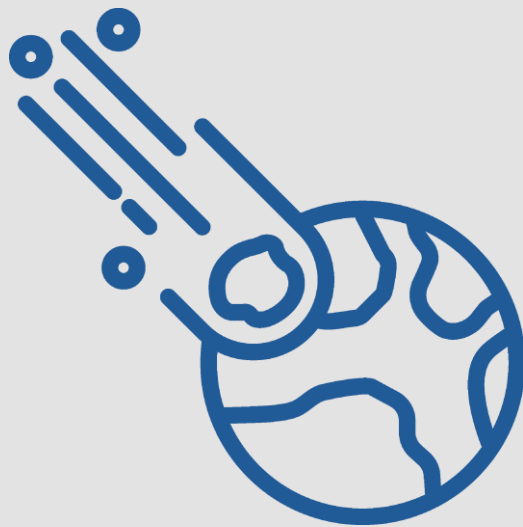
*Kateryna Chudnenko,
Project lead in ‘Ukrainian
Psychologists in Ireland’*

What could help:

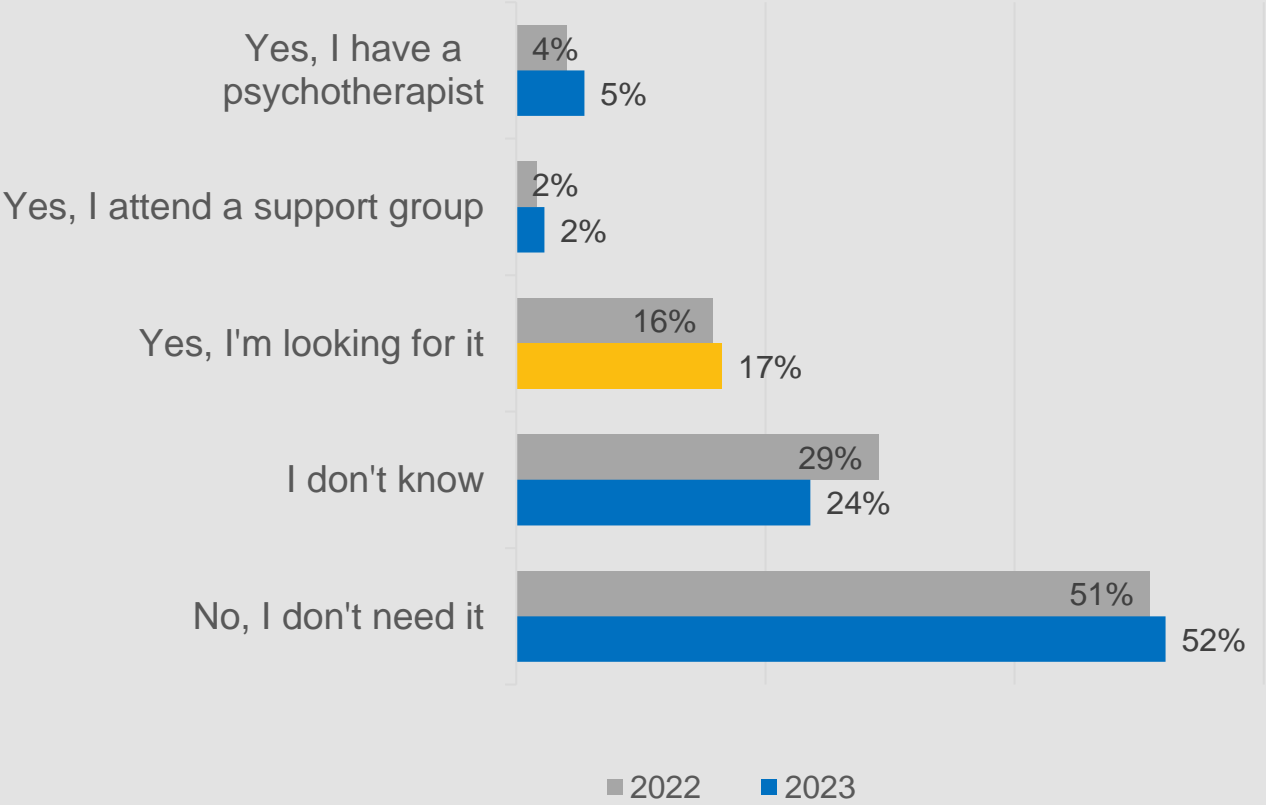
Access to mental health support for children

“My young teenage son needs help from psychologist. It would be great if school could provide one so that he does not think it was me who sent him”

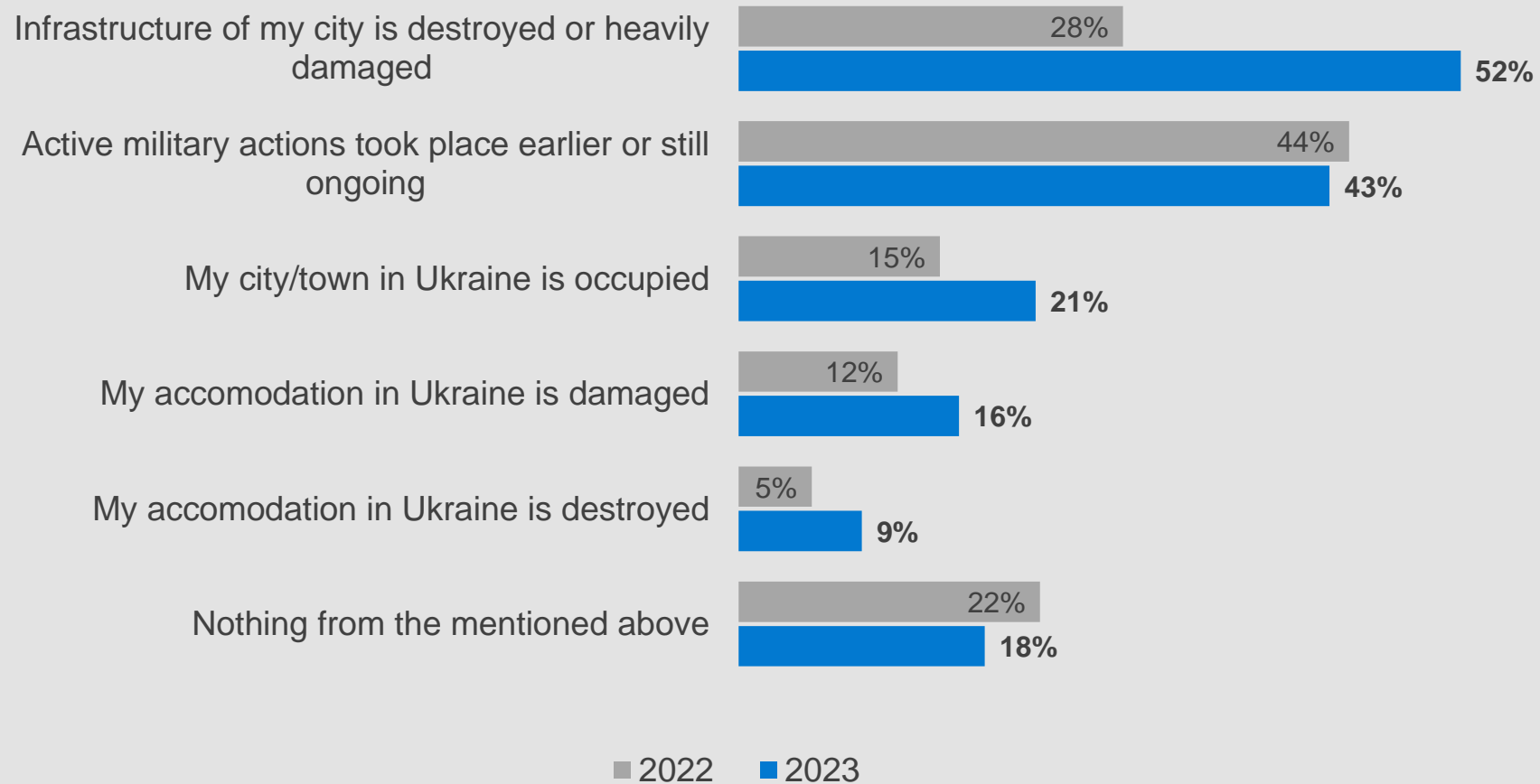
Impact of war



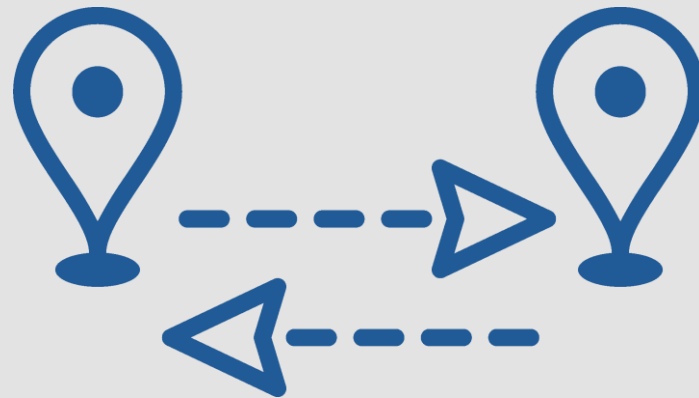
Impact of war: psychological support



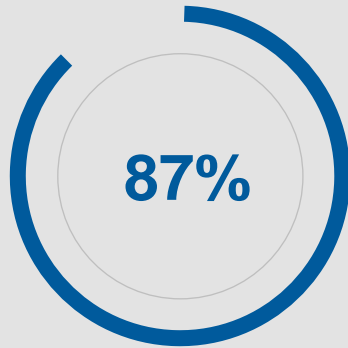
Impact of war: situation in Ukraine



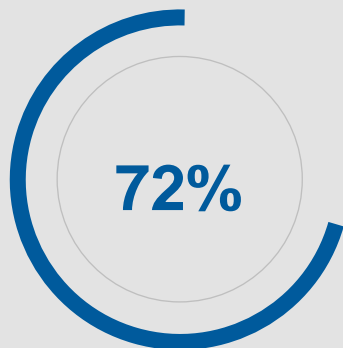
Going back to Ukraine



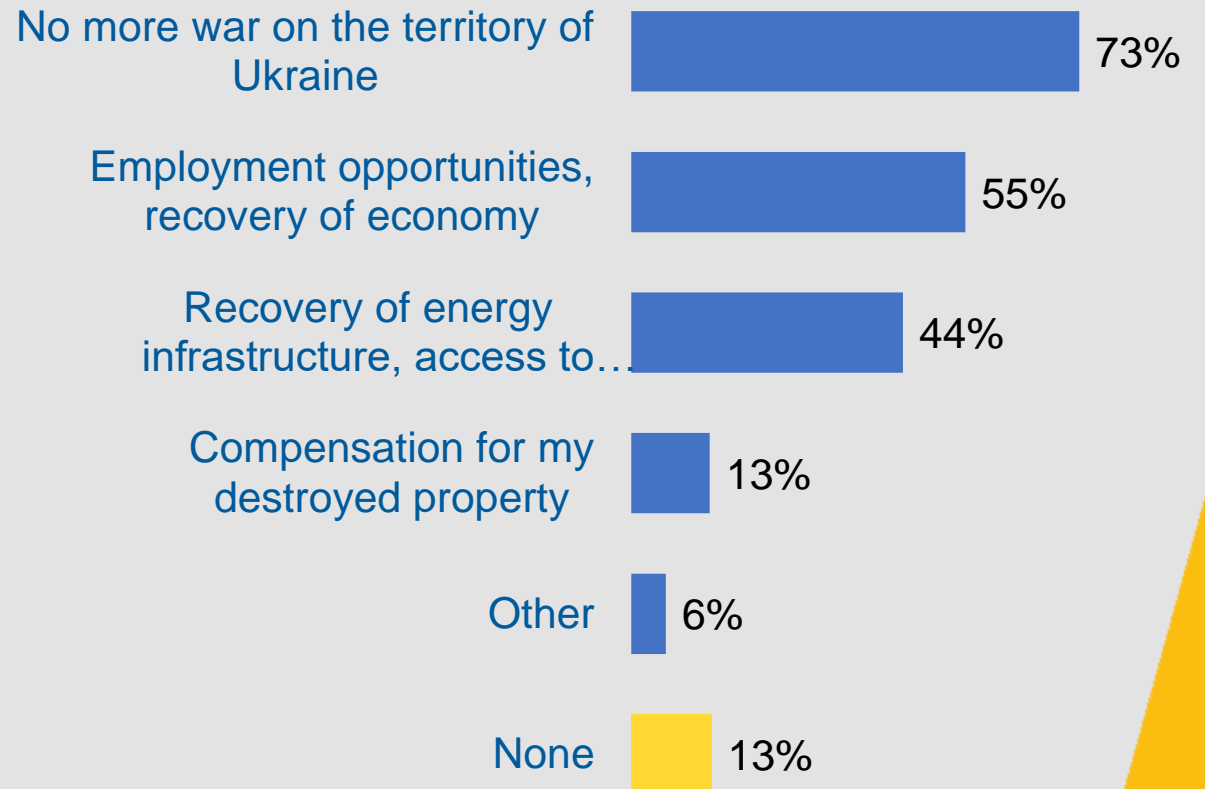
What should happen in Ukraine so that you can go back?



87% of respondents can name at least one factor that will prompt them to consider going back to Ukraine



72% of those who decided to *stay in Ireland* can name at least one factor that will prompt them to go back



More data is available in full report

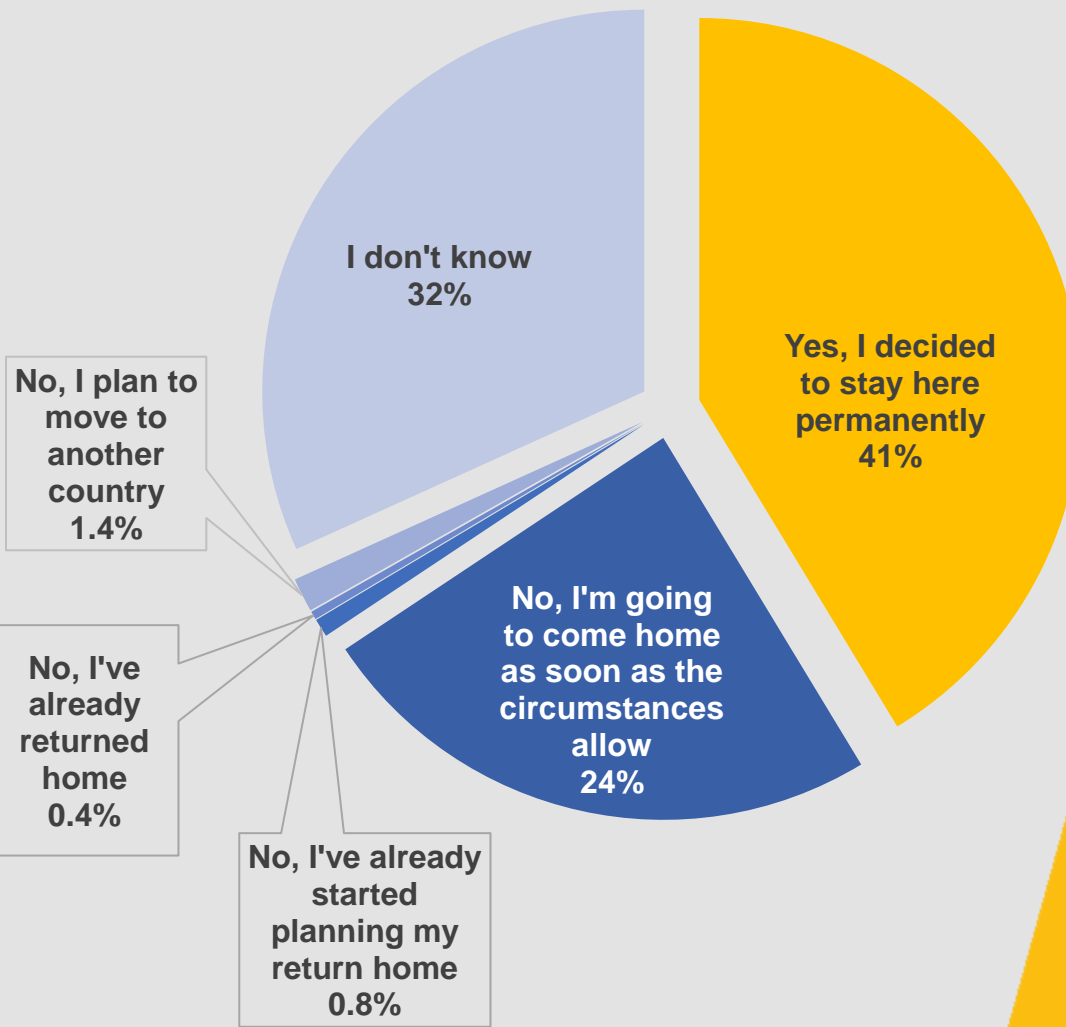
What makes you want to go back to Ukraine?



Plans to remain in Ireland

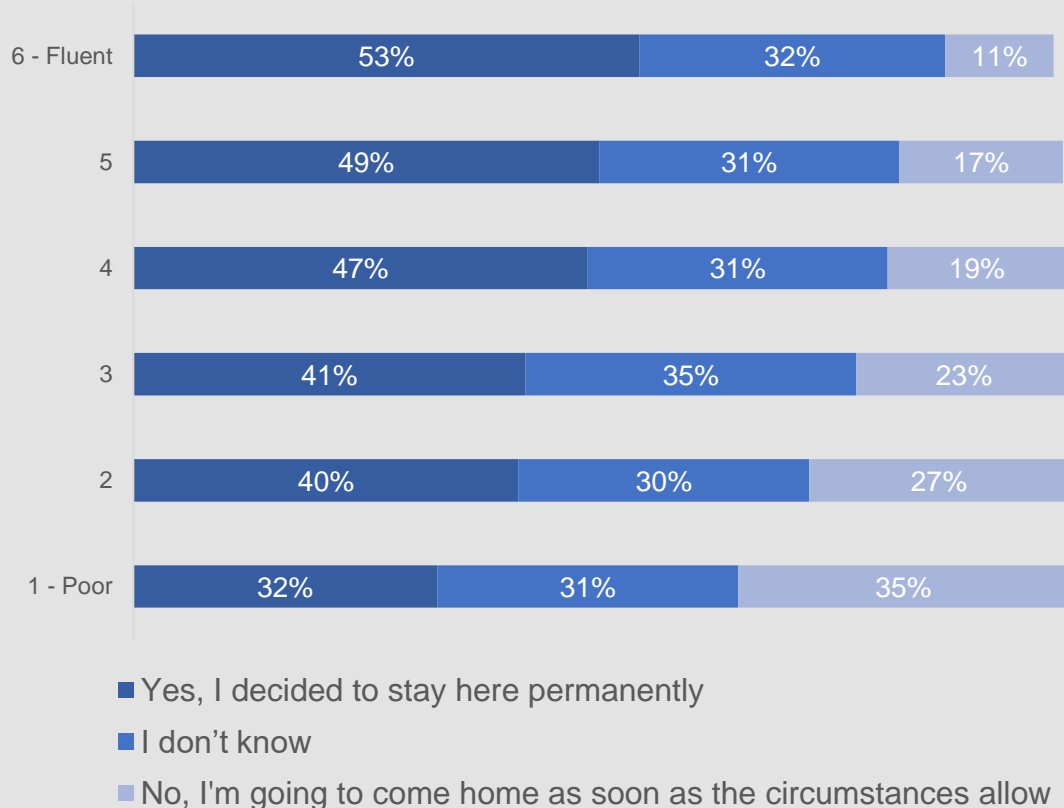
“Can’t find a job in Ireland even though my English is good”
“I want to rent my own accommodation. I want to cook for my children and see them happy, not crying”
“Poor medical services”

“My family was waiting”
“Never planned to emigrate”
“I am tired, I want to go home”

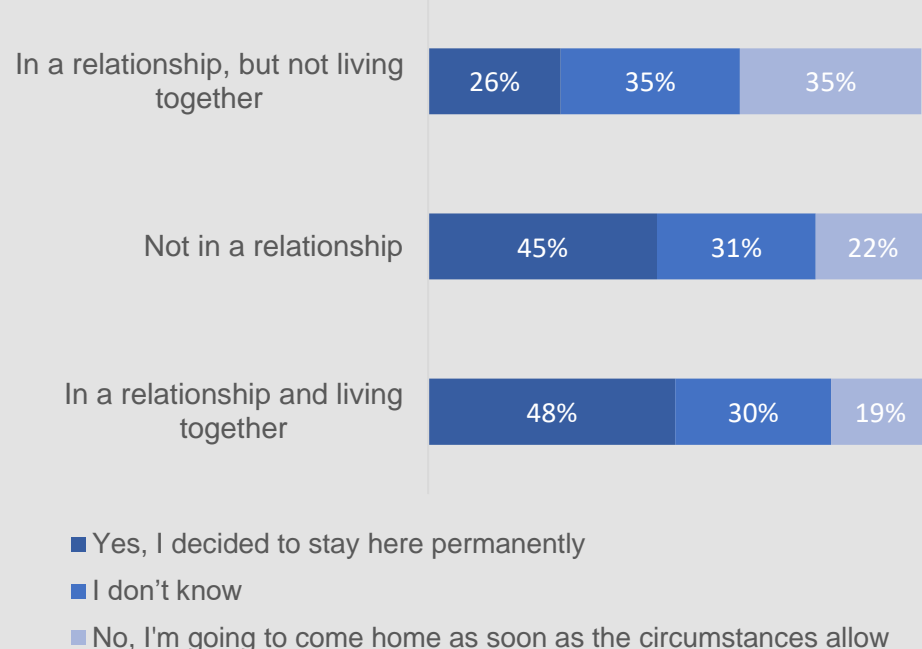


Plans to remain in Ireland

Language fluency and further plans



Marital status and further plans

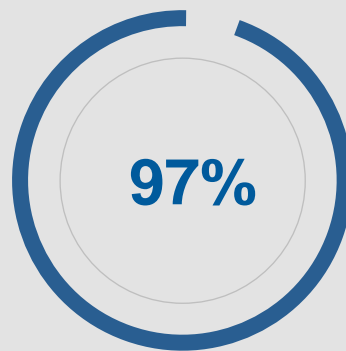


Healthy, safe and grateful



Healthy

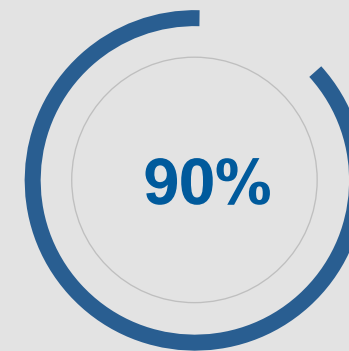
90% of respondents self-evaluated their health as average or above



Safe

97% respondents feel safe in Ireland

(more information in full report)



Grateful

90% of respondents responded with words of gratitude on a question “what would you like to say to Ireland people and government”

Thank you

“Ireland did everything for us and then some more”



Q&A