

397
Migrants interviewed

27
Average age

96% Male
3% Female

72% Single
22% Married

*six per cent did not want to say or were divorced or widowed.

1,043
Migrants registered

by the Border Police from April through June 2024

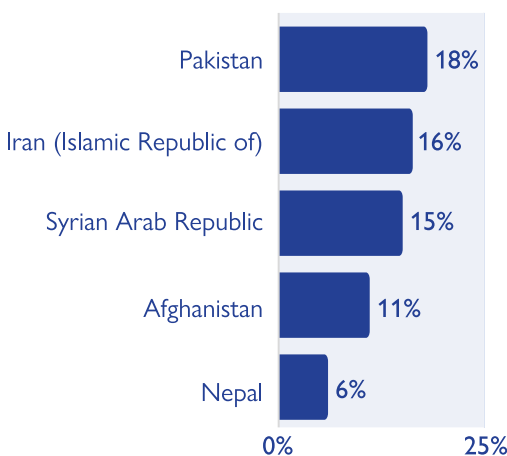
*one per cent stated "other"

This report, based on a questionnaire administered through a Kobo toolbox, provides insights into the profiles, experiences, needs, routes travelled and intentions of migrants transiting through Montenegro. Data was collected from 1 April to 30 June 2024. IOM surveyed 397 migrants in Reception Centers Božaj and Spuž, and active transit locations such as bus stops or at key entry and exit locations (Rožaje and Pljevlja) throughout the country.

PROFILES

The predominant nationalities transiting through Montenegro in the second quarter of 2024 were nationals of Pakistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Afghanistan, and Nepal. Most migrants on the move are single men. Men, who have families but travel alone, often attempt to reach Western Europe first, and then apply for asylum and family reunification. In this sample, 96 per cent were men, and overall, 72 per cent of the respondents were single. Most (72%) of the migrants passing through Montenegro fall between the ages 18 and 29.

Figure 1: Top five nationalities, n=397



Source: DTM Montenegro, Apr-Jun 2024, n=397

Map 1: Most prevalent routes travelled by migrants within Montenegro.




This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

JOURNEYS

In the previous quarter, 50 per cent of the respondents reported entering from Serbia, however, in this quarter the entries from Serbia significantly decreased to 28 per cent. Entries from Albania into Montenegro increased to 60 per cent from the 23 per cent of the previous quarter. Montenegro has observed a sharp rise in entries from Albania. This is not considered unusual as Albania is the main route; the increased entries from Serbia in the first quarter could potentially be explained with the centres closing in Serbia, paired with increased police patrols, which prompted migrants to move and reroute. The other known entry point was Kosovo* (11%). The main known points of entry into Montenegro are the border crossing Božaj (from Albania), border crossing Kula and Hajla mountain area (from Kosovo*), border crossing Dobrakovo as well as reported crossing in the areas of Vuča and Jabuka (from Serbia). The main exit point, and entry into BiH, is the border crossing Metaljka alongside less commonly reported crossing through Vračanovići.

 **18%**
of migrants being facilitated

 **30%**
of entries from Albania reported being facilitated

 **660€**
Average cost of facilitated entry

Eighteen per cent of the respondents reported having been facilitated across borders; 30 per cent of the facilitated respondents stated being facilitated from Albania. The reported average cost per (entry-) facilitation cost is 660 EUR per person, a 200 EUR increase compared to the first quarter. Most migrants (71%) interviewed at exit locations reported remaining in Montenegro less than 5 days on average.

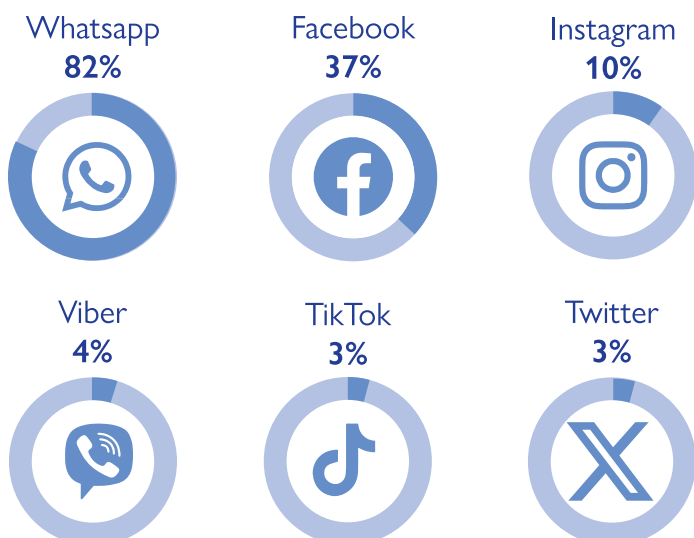
97%
by bus


66%
by foot


31%
by taxi


Migrants use mixed forms of transportation, with bus being the most commonly reported (97%), walking followed with 66 per cent, and taxi with 31 per cent.¹ Migrants reported using social media applications to communicate with facilitators and their family or people on the move.

Figure 2: Main means of communication on the journey

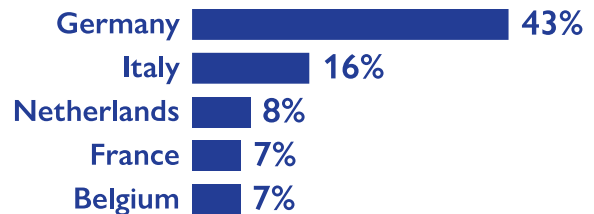


Source: DTM Montenegro, Apr-Jun 2024, n=397.

INTENDED DESTINATION

The top five destinations respondents were on the journey to reach were, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, France, and Belgium.

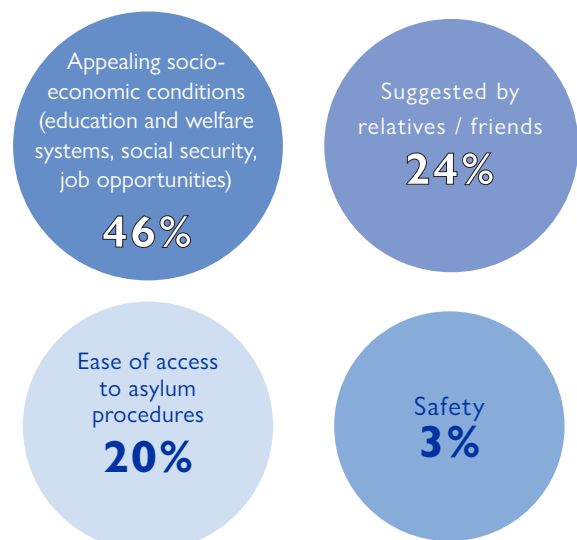
Figure 3: Main intended destinations



Source: DTM Montenegro, Apr-Jun 2024, n=397.

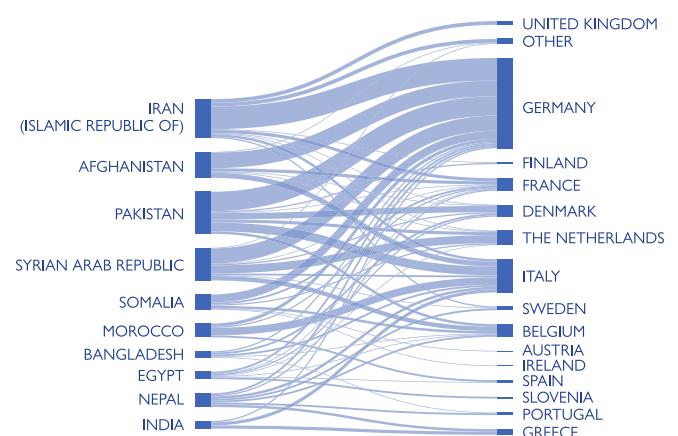
Destination countries are predominately chosen based on the appealing socioeconomic conditions the country offers, as well as networks of family, friends, and co-nationals who share the same religion, culture, and language. Asylum procedures and safety, are also important factors migrants consider.

Figure 4: Reasons for choosing the intended destination



Source: DTM Montenegro, Apr-Jun 2024, n=397.

Figure 5: Intended country of destination by nationality



Source: DTM Montenegro, Apr-Jun 2024, n=357.

¹ Multiple answers possible, therefore percentages amounting over 100%.

MAIN NEEDS

Migrants face vulnerable situations and endure substantial stress and hardship. Consequently, they have diverse needs, including access to food, accommodation, and medical assistance. In Montenegro, migrants have identified shelter, non-food items like clothing, and provisions of food and water as their primary requirements, among others outlined below.

Figure 6: The figures in the circles could perhaps be arranged in a more centred way and less asymmetrical way



Source: DTM Montenegro, Apr-Jun 2024, n=397.
More than 1 answer possible.

Compared to the first quarter, the need for shelter decreased by 27 per cent, and the need for cash assistance more than doubled. This could potentially be explained with the warmer weather which enables traveling migrants to sleep outside and transit quicker. The summer season attracts significant tourism to Montenegro which tends to drive up the prices, which could be a factor as to why respondents are in a bigger need for cash assistance.

METHODOLOGY

This report uses a multi-source and multi-method approach with the aim of providing insights into the profiles, experiences, needs, movement patterns and intentions of migrants transiting through Montenegro.

Survey interviews with migrants

The questionnaire is administered via Kobo Toolbox and collects information on the age, sex and nationalities of respondents, information about their journeys to Montenegro, registration information and movement modalities within the country. The survey is anonymized, voluntary and respondents do not receive compensation for participation. Respondents can choose not to answer any question and can withdraw their consent at any moment.

Data was collected from 1 April to 30 June 2024 in RC Božaj and AC Spuž as well as at transit locations such as Rožaje and Pljevlja.

LIMITATIONS

The data collection is conducted in the context of the following limitations:

1. This data is based on a convenience sample of migrants in the survey locations during the time frame indicated and can therefore not be generalized to the broader population of migrants in Montenegro, or anywhere else.
2. The data is collected by a DTM focal point based in reception center Božaj, one enumerator in Pljevlja, and one in Rožaje. The DTM focal point regularly visits all the key locations and monitors trends. Enumerators work four hours per day covering the main out of camp locations, such as bus/taxi stations, in those two cities on the north of Montenegro.
3. The data collection is limited to the areas migrants are known to enter transit and exit Montenegro. IOM continually monitors these locations with the support of local partners.

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International Organization for Migration (IOM), August 2024. DTM Montenegro – Quarterly Report Q2 (April-June 2024). IOM, Montenegro.

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