

172
Migrants interviewed

94% Male
6% Female

647
Migrants registered
by the Border Police from October 2024
through December 2024

Top **5** countries of origin of respondents

Islamic Republic of Iran **24%**

Morocco **24%** Afghanistan **19%**

Occupied Palestinian Territory **7%** Algeria **5%**

74% Single
23% Married

*Multiple answers possible

27
Average age

This report is based on a questionnaire administered through KoBo toolbox, which provides insights into the profiles, experiences, needs, routes travelled and intentions of migrants transiting through Montenegro. Data was collected from 1 October to 31 December 2024. IOM surveyed 172 migrants at the Reception Center Božaj, and active transit locations such as bus stops or at key entry and exit locations (Rožaje and Pljevlja) throughout the country.



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

MAP

The map above shows the routes travelled, including entry and exit points by migrants interviewed in this sample. The main known points of entry into Montenegro are the border crossing Božaj (from Albania), border crossing Kula and Hajla mountain area (from Kosovo¹),

border crossing Dobrakovo as well as reported crossing in the areas of Vuča and Jabuka (from Serbia). The main exit and entry points reported by the respondents into Bosnia and Herzegovina, is the border crossing Metaljka alongside seldom reported crossing through Vračenovići.

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¹References to Kosovo shall be understood in the context of UN Security Council Resolution 1244

JOURNEYS

On average, respondents had been travelling for 18 months since leaving their country of origin. The average length of stay in Montenegro was nine days.

Entries from Albania (52%) and Kosovo¹ (44%) increased from 58 per cent and 37 per cent, respectively. Serbia (4%) has stayed consistent from Q3, which recorded four per cent. The average length of stay in Montenegro was nine days.

Forty-eight per cent of respondents stated that they did not register their stay. Ninety-eight per cent of those not registered stated that they did not plan to register their stay in Montenegro at all.

Migrants were asked if they had used a facilitator in order to cross into Montenegro.



Figure 1: Rates and costs of facilitation (n=172)

Montenegro saw an 8 per cent increase in facilitation rates from Albania to Montenegro in Q4, compared to the 43 per cent recorded from Q3. The average cost of facilitation saw an increase of 70 EUR from the 420 recorded in the last quarter.

The survey asked migrants how they moved across Montenegro. Ninety-eight per cent stated that they had taken a bus to travel between some key locations, and 42 per cent stated that they had taken a taxi at some point during their stay in Montenegro.

Respondents were also asked what social media and instant messaging services they used to organise their journeys to other parts of Europe.

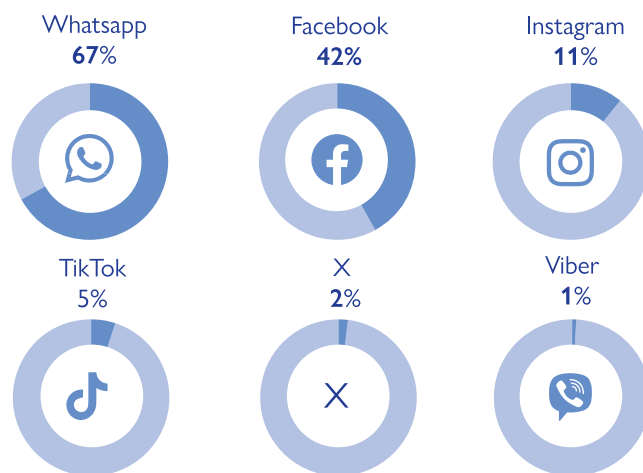


Figure 2: Most used social media and instant messaging services (n=172)
(multiple answers possible)

MAIN NEEDS

Non-food items increased 19 per cent from the 9 per cent recorded in the quarter 3 to 28 per cent in this quarter. The need for food and water decreased by 9 per cent compared to quarter 3, which reported 27 per cent. Meanwhile, the need for medical assistance increased by 10 per cent from the 5 per cent recorded in the last quarter.



Figure 3: Six main reported needs (n=172)
(multiple answers possible)

ACCOMMODATION

Figure 4 shows the most frequent types of accommodation respondents slept in whilst travelling through Montenegro.

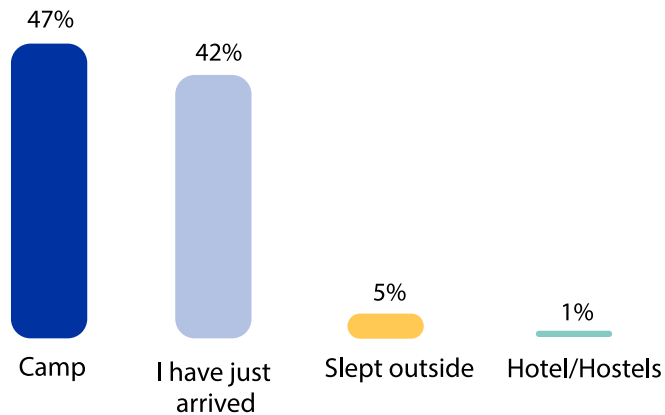


Figure 4: Accommodation in Montenegro (multiple answers possible) (n=172)

INTENDED DESTINATION COUNTRIES

Figure 5 shows a percentage breakdown of the top five intended countries of destination.

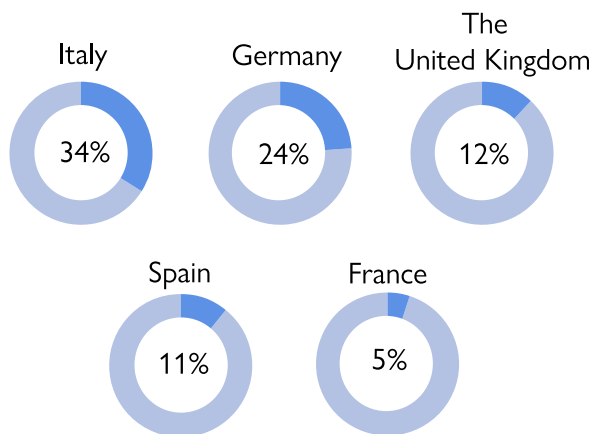


Figure 5: Top five intended destinations (n=172)

Figure 6 shows a breakdown of the four main reasons respondents selected these countries of destination.

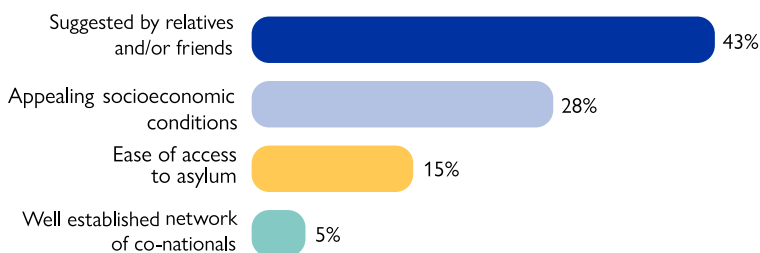


Figure 6: Top four reasons for choosing intended destination country (n=172)

METHODOLOGY

This report uses a survey 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 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 anonymous, 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 were collected from 1 October to 31 December 2024 in RC Božaj and at transit locations such as Rožaje and Pljevlja.

LIMITATIONS

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

1. Collected data are 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. DTM focal point and enumerators are based in the reception center Božaj, as well as at exit locations in Pljevlja, and 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 stations.
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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