



FACT SHEET



# GENDER DATA ON REFUGEES AT A GLANCE: THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Photo: Aurel Obreja, UN Women Moldova

This factsheet provides up-to-date data about the demographic profiles of refugees from Ukraine hosted by the Republic of Moldova. It is the first in a series that will examine the changing situation and provide data and evidence on the gender dimension of the current humanitarian crises as additional new data become available. It was produced by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) in close cooperation with the Border Police of the Republic of Moldova.

## BACKGROUND

On 24 February the Government of the Republic of Moldova declared a state of emergency, following the outbreak of hostilities in neighboring Ukraine. Authorities established a special regime of entry and exit from the country, special measures for the protection of refugees, the protection of the population and of the country's institutions. The Government has declared its readiness to receive refugees from Ukraine and is cooperating with the UN, as well as local and international organizations to respond to the unfolding crisis. The Government has set up a Crisis Management Centre under the Prime Minister's Office, which is supported by partners in this plan. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is coordinating the Refugee Coordination Forum (RCF)

established in the first weeks of the emergency, taking a multi-sectoral approach to the ongoing interventions, ensuring complementarity to government responses.

Since Russia's invasion, more than 3.3 million refugees<sup>1</sup> have fled Ukraine, the vast majority being women and children. Most of the refugees fled to Poland, Romania, Moldova, Hungary and Slovakia. According to the Border Police data, as of 18 March 2022, Moldova had welcomed in its territory about 355,426 refugees, out of whom more than 320,000 were citizens of Ukraine.



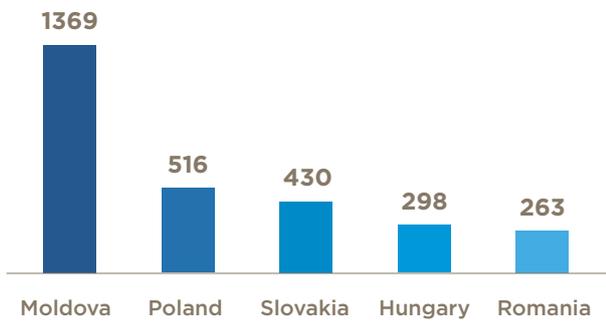
**355,426**  
TOTAL REFUGEES

**320,000** UKRAINIAN REFUGEES

Moldova along with Poland have received the highest number of refugees per 10,000 inhabitants: there are 1369 refugees per 10,000 in Moldova and 516 refugees per 10,000 in Poland.

<sup>1</sup> Data as of 18 March 2022, <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine>

Figure 1. Number of refugees per 10 000 inhabitants, by country



Note: UN Women calculation based on UNHCR data, as of 18 March 2022, <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine>

### REFUGEES DATA BY SEX

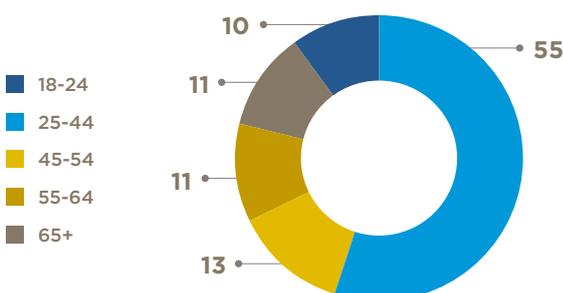
As of 10 March, there were **106,000 of Ukrainian refugees** hosted in different regions across the country. Data provided by Moldova's Border Police shows that around 70,000 women and girls and 36,000 men and boys are currently in Moldova. **Women and girls are the majority and account for two thirds of Ukrainians people displaced in Moldova.**



**WOMEN AND GIRLS MAKE UP 66% OF ALL REFUGEES HOSTED IN MOLDOVA**

Women make up 80% of the adult population of refugees (18+), with 1 in 2 women aged 25-44 years. The breakdown of adult women refugees by age cohorts reveals that 1 in 10 are woman aged 65 and above. This specific group of women are exposed at a higher risk of age – specific vulnerabilities; therefore, humanitarian responses should consider the demographic profiles of refugees in addressing the specific needs of different group of women and men.

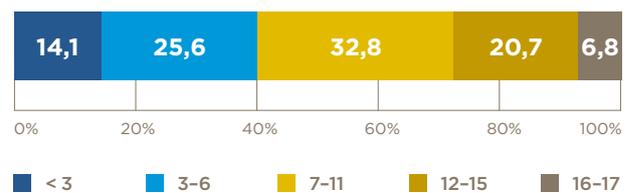
Figure 2. Women refugees by age, %



**ALMOST 54,000 CHILDREN HAVE ENTERED MOLDOVA SINCE THE ESCALATION OF WAR**

As of 10 March, Moldova was hosting more than **48,000 child refugees under the age of 18**, which represents 46% of all refugees residing in the country. Among all children, the largest cohort is those aged 0-6 years accounting for 40%. Every third child is aged between 7 and 11 years old and every fifth child is a young teenager. In absolute terms, there are around 7,000 children under the age of 3; 12,000 are aged 3 to 6 years; and 16,000 are of primary school age.

Figure 3. Distribution of children by age groups, %



**Girls account for 49% among the youngest children (<11 years) and up to 53% among the teenagers.** Overall, adolescent girls represent 10% of women refugees. Adolescent girls, single women travelling alone or with children, pregnant and elderly women are among those who are particularly at risk and require a coordinated and effective protection response.

On average, there are 42 children under 6 years per 100 women refugees, or 77 children under 11 years per 100 women refugees. Women are shouldering an immense burden of childcare compounded with stress, fear, psychological distress, limited access to basic services and heightening risk for sexual and gender-based violence, and human trafficking.

### FILLING GENDER DATA GAPS

The availability of timely and high-quality data can help to understand how better to respond to the specific needs of different groups of women and men affected by crises and conflicts. UN Women, in partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Border Police of Moldova has initiated additional data collection to assess the needs and vulnerabilities of refugees. This will be used to inform a Rapid Gender Assessment on the situation in Ukraine.