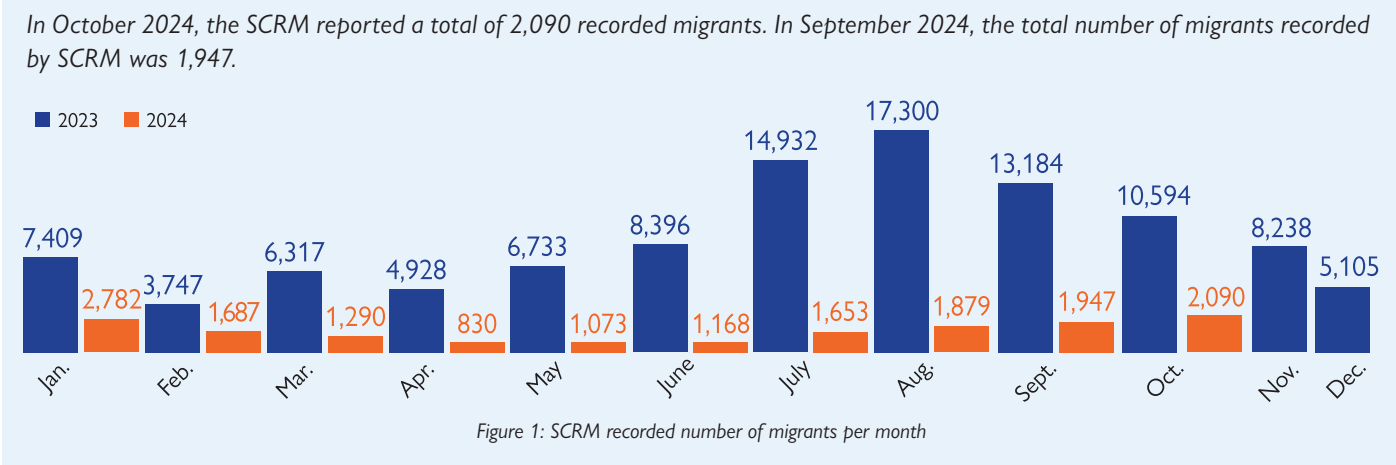
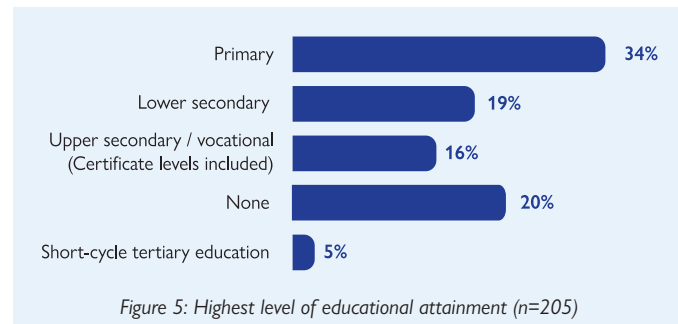
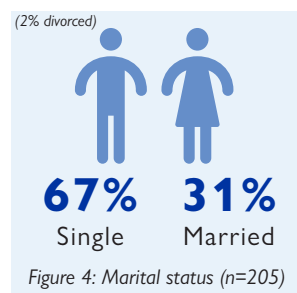
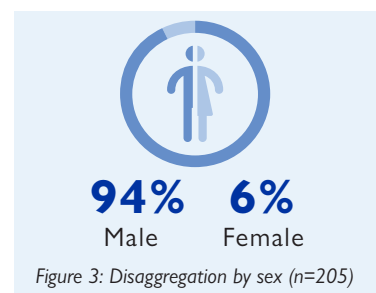
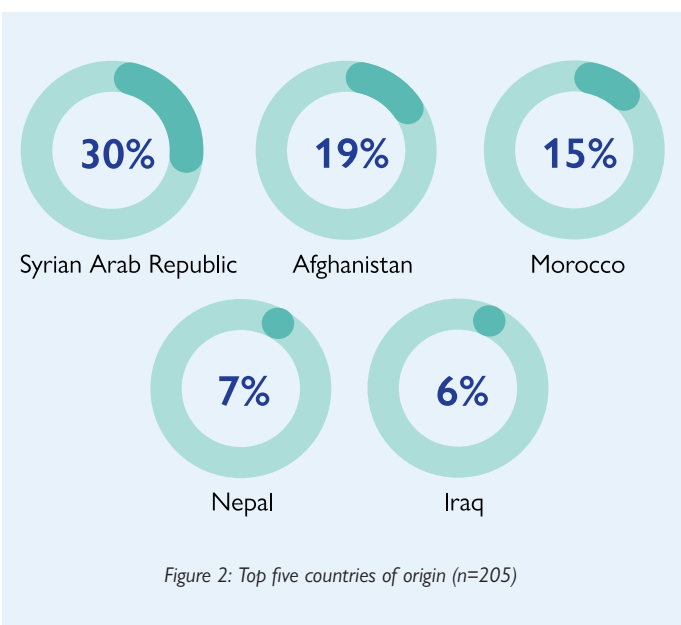


This report provides insights into the profiles, experiences and journeys of migrants transiting through the Republic of Serbia. Data was collected from 1 to 31 October 2024 together with the Commissariat for Refugees and Migration of the Republic of Serbia (SCRM). The sample consists of 205 interviewed migrants in Asylum Centres (AC) Krnjaca, (AC) Sjenica, and Reception Centres (RC) Bujanovac, (RC) Presevo.

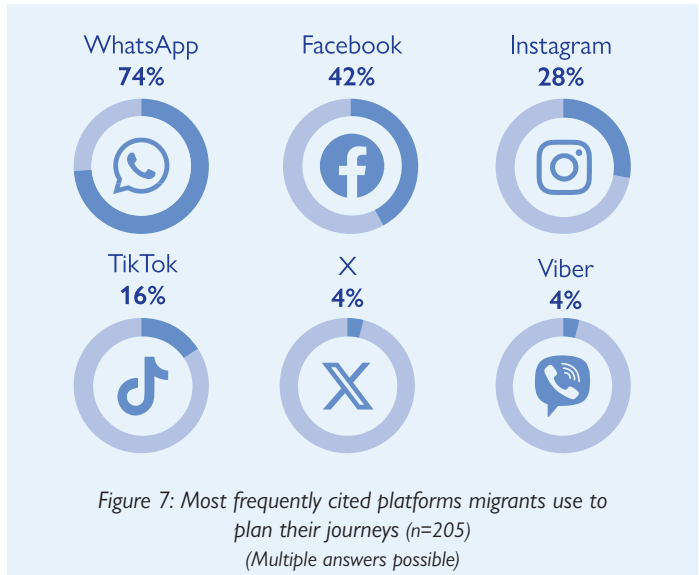
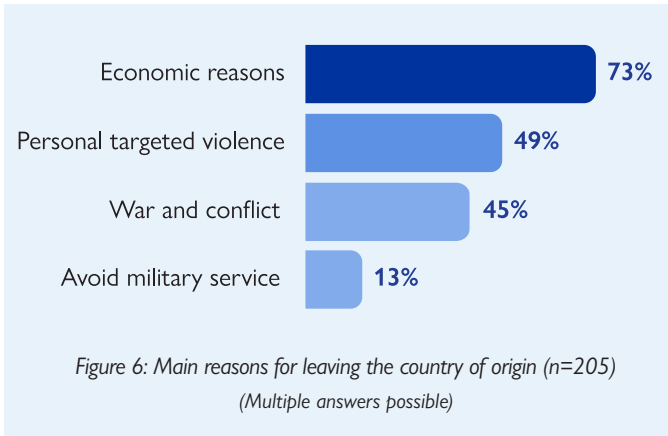


**PROFILES**



The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The designations employed and the presentation of material throughout the publication do not imply expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IOM concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning its frontiers or boundaries.

**REASONS FOR LEAVING**



**JOURNEYS**

In October 2024, the borders of Bulgaria and North Macedonia continue to be the primary points for irregular entries into Serbia. In this month, nearly half (48%) of the respondents irregularly entered from Bulgaria and 36 per cent from North Macedonia.

Sixty per cent of respondents reported that they paid facilitators to cross borders during their journey. The majority (77%) of entries from Bulgaria used facilitation services to irregularly enter. Half of the entries from North Macedonia were reported as facilitated. The majority (80%) of the overall sample reported travelling with a group out of which nearly half (47%) did so with facilitators. The reported average price for crossing the border into Serbia for October 2024, was 500 EUR.

Thirty per cent of respondents reported to have attempted and failed at least once to exit Serbia to irregularly reach other countries. The majority (79%) reported being returned or apprehended by the authorities as the reason for their return.

Out of all attempted crossings, more than half were to Hungary and reported the reason for failing as being returned by the authorities. In the previous months, key informants revealed increased migrant presence again in the north of the country, and this trend continues in October 2024.

Twelve per cent of the sample reported exclusively walking, and not using any other form of transport. Key informants suggested this depends on factors such as the weather conditions, financial possibilities, and the police patrols.

**INTENDED DESTINATION**

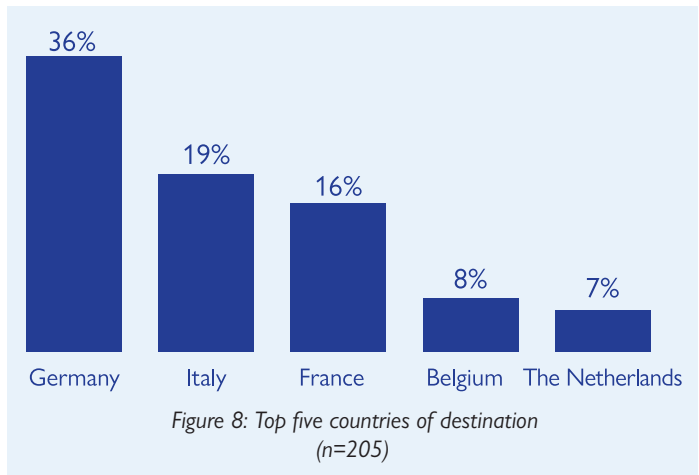


Figure 9 shows the three most frequently cited reasons for choosing the intended destination countries.

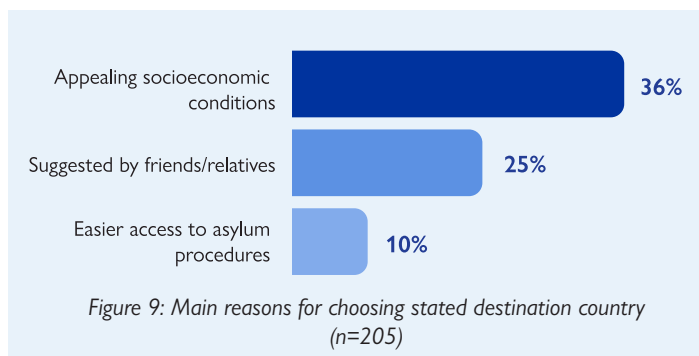
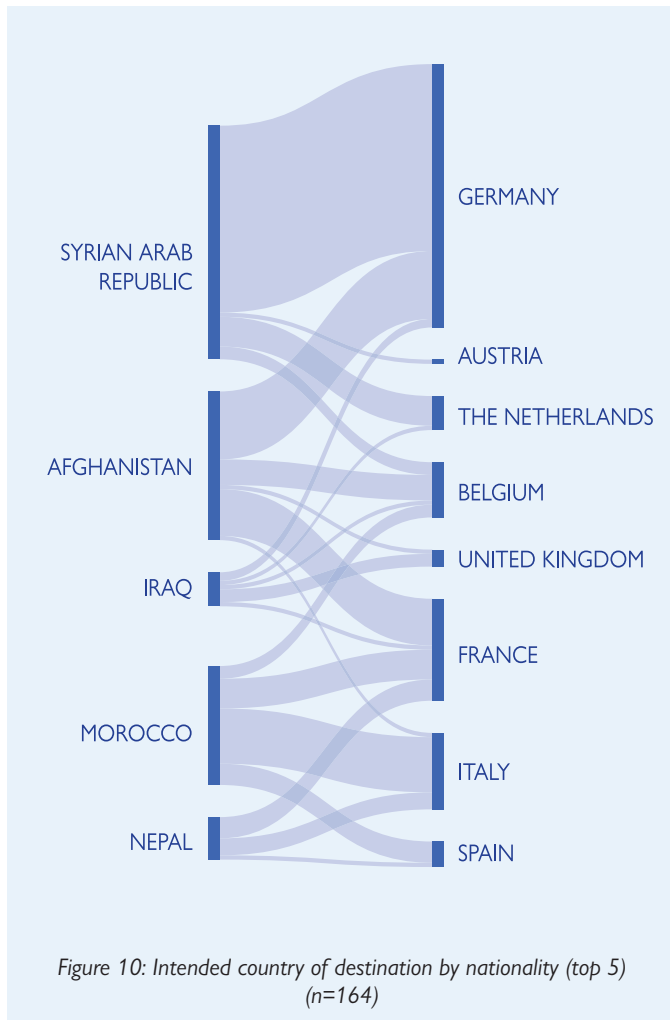


Figure 10 below shows the top 5 nationalities and their intended destinations.



## 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 Serbia.

Some information which serves as context or explanation for particular concepts or trends are repetitive in each report, as it is important for new readers to be able to understand the information.

### 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 Serbia, recorded numbers 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 to 31 October 2024 in RCs/ACs (AC Krnjaca (AC) Sjenica, RC Bujanovac, RC Presevo).

### Key informant interviews

Key informants can help provide information on the modus operandi of migrant mobility. The purpose of the key informant interviews is to contextualize the quantitative data gathered through the survey.

## LIMITATIONS

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

1. The 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 Serbia, or anywhere else.
2. The data collection is limited to reception and asylum centres, therefore data is not collected outside the centres.