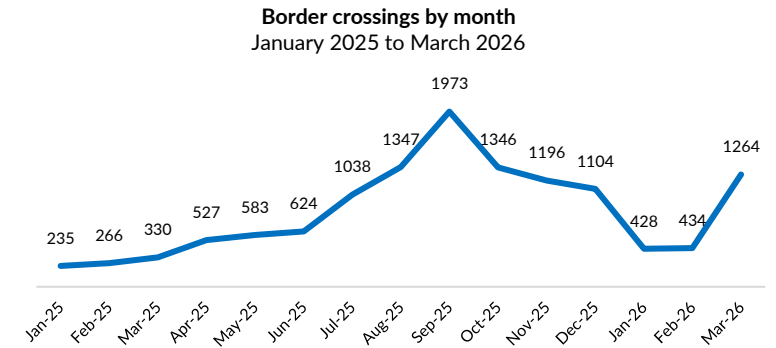


UNHCR has an established monitoring presence at the Mokransky-Domanove BCP through its partner Right to Protection (R2P) to conduct protection interviews with people arriving to understand their travel routes, experiences, intentions and needs, as well as to provide basic protection support and referrals as needed.

Other entities regularly present at the BCP include the local social service department, a representative of the Office of the Ombudsperson, and NGOs (Helping to Leave, Caritas Volyn, and Pluriton), in addition to the law enforcement bodies.

Key border crossing trends:

- From January-March 2026, 2,126 Ukrainians arrived through the Domanove corridor, which is 61% higher than during the same period of 2025. In Q1/2026, 113 children were among the arrivals (5% of overall arrivals).
- In Q1/2026, a surge in arrivals was recorded in March 2026, likely owing to improved weather conditions facilitating the movement of people. This increase nevertheless, compared to Q4/2025, 1,520 less people arrived in Q1/2026.
- The duration of travel depends on the place of origin and is reported to last on average between 2 to 3 days. Arrival through this corridor requires valid Ukrainian documents, which may include return certificates, typically obtained at the Ukrainian consulate in Minsk.
- In late March 2026, departures from Belarus to Poland were reportedly inhibited for people without a Russian international passport. Instead, they re-routed their travel through Mokransky-Domanove BCP.


Key monitoring findings:

In Q1 of 2026, border monitors conducted 388 interviews with people arriving through the Domanove corridor, i.e. with 18% of all arrivals during this period.

- 72% of respondents were female.
- 50% of respondents were above 60 years of age.
- 5% of respondents were travelling with children.

Most respondents, 94%, travelled from the temporarily occupied territories (TOT) of Ukraine (primarily from Kherson and Zaporizhzhia oblasts, followed by Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts). Respondents arriving from the Russian Federation and from Belarus each accounted for 3% of the total.

Situation at the BCP: The Mokransky-Domanove BCP is officially closed and not operational for regular two-way border crossings. It only accepts arrivals of Ukrainians. At the BCP, the entry interviews with various state services can vary from half an hour to several hours.

- During this process, families are kept together, and children await the completion of interviews with their parents.
- The BCP is equipped with wheelchairs and a golf cart to assist people with disabilities and older people to cross the border, alongside trolleys for luggage. These devices are however only available for the last 900 m of the route between the two BCPs.
- In Q4 2025, following coordinated efforts of authorities and humanitarian actors to improve reception conditions, the waiting area at the BCP was upgraded and the service area outside the BCP is now fully operational.

Main reasons for movement: In Q1/2026, the primary reason for travel was family-related, with the majority of respondents (76%) citing family reunification. The need for documentation was the second most common reason, reported by 37% of respondents. Concerns about the future and security were also significant, mentioned by 34% and 28% respectively. Other notable reasons included access to medical services (27%) and access to pensions (21%). Additionally, 8% of respondents indicated fear of conscription by the Occupying Power. Less frequently reported reasons were access to education (3%), as well as persecution and passport-related issues, each mentioned by about 1% of respondents.

Duration of stay and intentions: In Q1/2026, on average, 46% of interviewed people intended to stay permanently with the highest share reported in March at 53%. Only 3% of respondents were undecided about the duration of stay, which is 6% decrease compared to Q4/2025. 51% of respondents planned to resolve and address different needs during their short- to medium-term stay in Ukraine controlled territories (9% increase compared to Q4 2025). Among respondents who were uncertain about the period of their stay or planned short- to medium-term stays, 82% intended to return to the TOTs after resolving documentation, pension or family-related issues, while 18% planned to move onward to other countries.

Situation upon arrival: Outside of the BCP, a representative of the Ombudsman's office as well as NGOs, including R2P, stay in one building, offering their services and support to arrivals, including information, counselling, legal assistance, as well as cash, sim-cards and train tickets for some vulnerable people. A representative of the local social protection department issues a document confirming the date of crossing that people may use to apply for IDP registration at their final destination. NGO-run transport (provided by Helping to Leave and Caritas Volyn) helps people to reach the main transit point in Kovel (90 km from the BCP), from where people move onwards, with the majority reporting to be travelling to stay with relatives, while only 2% of respondents needed alternative accommodation. In case of late arrivals, people may be offered to spend a night in a site in village of Kortelisy (7 km from the BCP) with transport offered by present NGOs.

