



IRCC's Rapid Evaluation of the Ukraine Response

P2P Conference

Evaluation Division
November 21, 2023



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada

Canada

Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET)

Launched in 2022, IRCC created the Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET) measures, ensuring Ukrainian nationals and their family members can come to Canada temporarily, and were able to work and study during their stay.

Federal CUAET measures included temporary accommodations, settlement services, financial assistance, and chartered flights to Canada.

Provinces also offered unique supports.

1,191,549

CUAET Applications **Received**

882,070

CUAET Applications **Approved**

196,802

CUAET Holders **Arrived**

Evaluation Context

Evaluation division was engaged in Summer 2023, with the purpose of gathering evidence from IRCC, the Government of Canada, provinces and territories, stakeholders and clients to provide real-time results to inform key questions.

The evaluation questions focused primarily on:

- Effectiveness of the **design** of the Ukraine response, including program **management, governance and partnerships**
- **Capacity** of IRCC and government partners to administer the Ukraine Response
- CUAET holders **accessing and benefiting** from federal and provincial settlement and integration services

Evaluation Methodology

Focusing on information from March 2022 to March 2023, the evaluation team applied a mixed-method approach, using several data collection and analysis tools to assess each of the evaluation questions:

Interviews

- 60+ semi-structured interviews were conducted with:
 - IRCC
 - Other Government Departments – CBSA, ESDC, Service Canada, PHAC, etc.
 - Representatives from Provinces and Territories
 - Stakeholders – SPOs, Red Cross, etc.

Document Review

- An in-depth review of relevant documents, including internal documentation, public announcements, operational guidance and reports.

Evaluation Methodology

Focusing on information from March 2022 to March 2023, the evaluation team applied a mixed-method approach, using several data collection and analysis tools to assess each of the evaluation questions:

Administrative Data

- Socio-demographic analysis of CUAET holders who arrived in Canada, between March and December 2022
- Analysis of IRCC-funded settlement service usage (iCARE)

Survey of CUAET Holders

- Sent to 67,351 adult CUAET holders between February 20 and March 8, 2023.
- A total of 15,348 individuals completed the survey with a 23% response rate.

Challenges and Adaptations

Relied on internal expertise to administer methodologies

Focus on understanding and mapping CUAET initiatives

Balance between timely information vs. capturing all situations



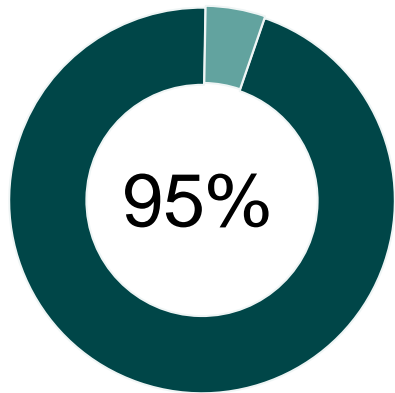
Rapid need for information

Creation of a new stream for a refugee-like population

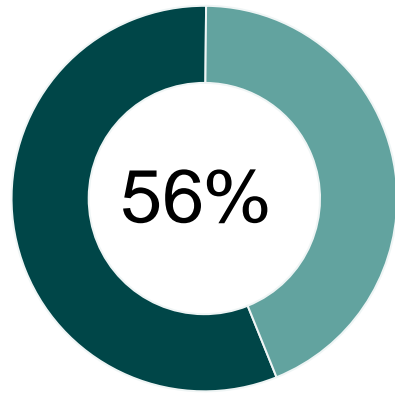
'Unlimited' number of arrivals

Profile of CUAET holders

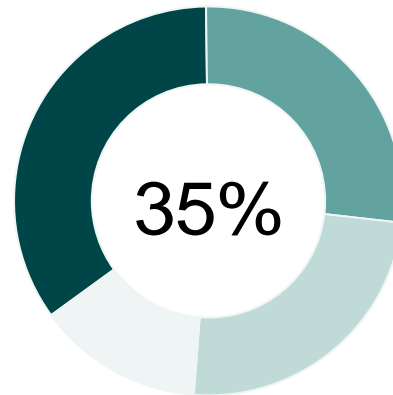
Based on administrative data as of December 11, 2022, 88,456 individuals arrived in Canada via CUAET measures.



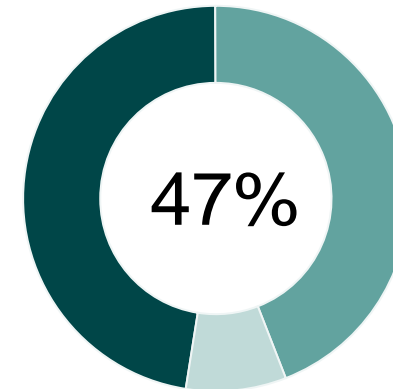
Almost all have **Ukrainian Citizenship**, with 5% from other countries.



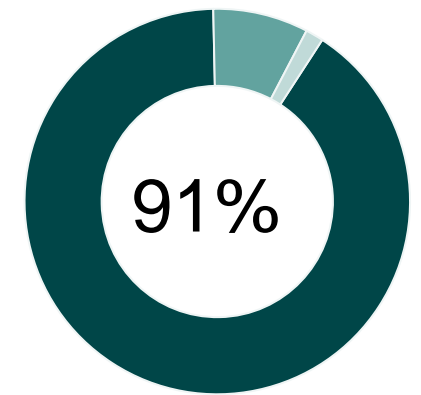
Over half are **female**.



Over one third are between the **ages of 20 and 34**; 27% aged 35 to 49; 24% under the age of 20; 14% over 50.



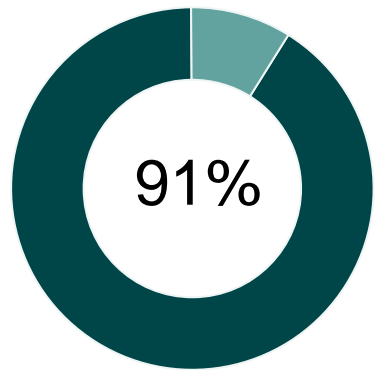
Almost half were **married or common law**; 44% were single and 8% were separated, divorced or annulled.



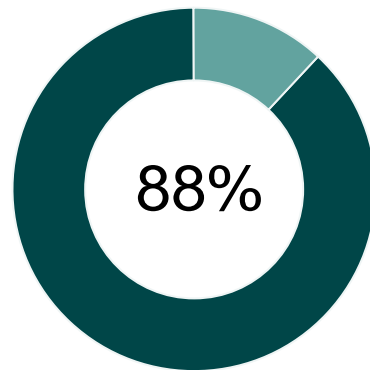
A majority self-declared a knowledge of **English**, with 8% unspecified and 2% French.

Profile of CUAET holders

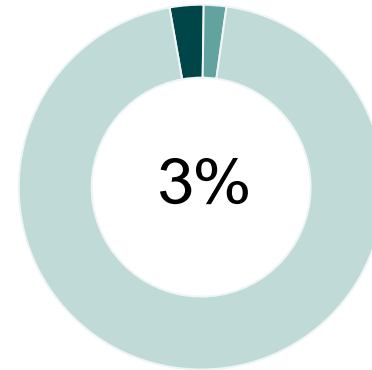
Based on the survey of CUAET holders, the following additional socio-demographic information was obtained.



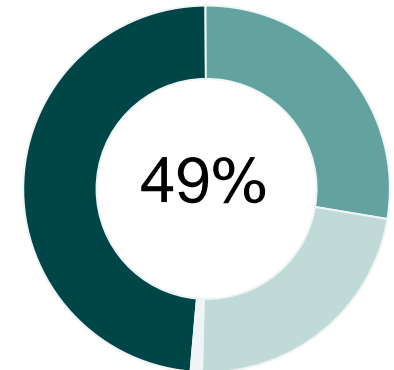
Almost all had **post-secondary education** – 16% were college educated, 28% had a Bachelor's degree, 45% had a Master's degree and 2% had a Doctorate degree.



A majority identified their ethnicity / race as **white**.



3% self-identified as **2SLGBTQI+**.



Almost half completed the survey in **Ukrainian**, with 28% completing the survey in Russian, 23% in English, and 1% in French.

Summary of Results

Effectiveness of the **design** of the Ukraine response, including program **management, governance and partnerships**

- There was strong collaboration among partners.
- There was a lack of a central focal point and slow communication flow in IRCC during the early stages of the response.
- The CUAET measures are perceived by some as unfair and inequitable, particularly in comparison to other humanitarian responses and services offered to other temporary residents.

Lessons Learned

- A formal working group with representation from key stakeholders is beneficial for timely information-sharing, decision-making and issues management.
- It is essential to have up-to-date and consistent client information to facilitate reporting and analysis.

Summary of Results

Capacity of IRCC and government partners to administer the Ukraine Response

- The rapid nature of the response created limited planning time.
- Providing large-scale humanitarian support through a temporary resident model placed a strain on IRCC and partner resources.
- Substantial modifications to policies, programs, and services were required across all levels of government.

Lessons Learned

- Ensuring priorities and operational capacities are adequately considered during emergency response situations to effectively support planning and resourcing to address the situation.

Summary of Results

CUAET holders
**accessing and
benefiting** from
federal and
provincial
settlement and
integration services

- While most surveyed CUAET holders respondents reported **living in Ontario or Alberta**, other provinces across Canada are attracting individuals and experiencing regional distribution through CUAET.
- Over half (55%) of adult CUAET holders in Canada have **accessed at least one IRCC-funded settlement service**, suggesting that a sizable portion are getting settlement support early in their integration journey.
- A majority (71%) of surveyed CUAET holders reported **working in Canada**, most commonly in the sales/services and trades/transport sectors.
- While not unique to the CUAET population, finding **affordable and adequate housing is a challenge**.

Questions?

Anticipated release of Evaluation Report and Management Response in April 2024

Where to find completed IRCC Evaluations:

English: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/corporate/reports-statistics/evaluations.html>

French: <https://www.canada.ca/fr/immigration-refugies-citoyennete/organisation/rapports-statistiques/evaluations.html>

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