

RELEASE 19/2025

The 2023 Census of Population, Households, and Dwellings

Population migration

Migration or resettlement of the population is the spatial movement of the population from one place to another. People who are in migration are called migrants, and, depending on the context, emigrants or immigrants.

The census identified a contingent of usual residents who moved to Montenegro - immigrants, as well as persons who, for reasons of education, work or other reasons, left Montenegro for more than a year - emigrants. The answer was collected on the basis of the person's statement. Emigrants from the census are presented in the Release *Enumerated citizens of Montenegro working, studying or staying outside Montenegro*, while immigrants, i.e. persons who immigrated, and who represent part of the population of Montenegro, are the subject of this release.

In Montenegro, out of the total population, 500 889 or 80.3% of people never stayed abroad for a year or longer, while 122 744 or 19.7% are immigrants, that is, people who once lived or stayed abroad for at least one year.

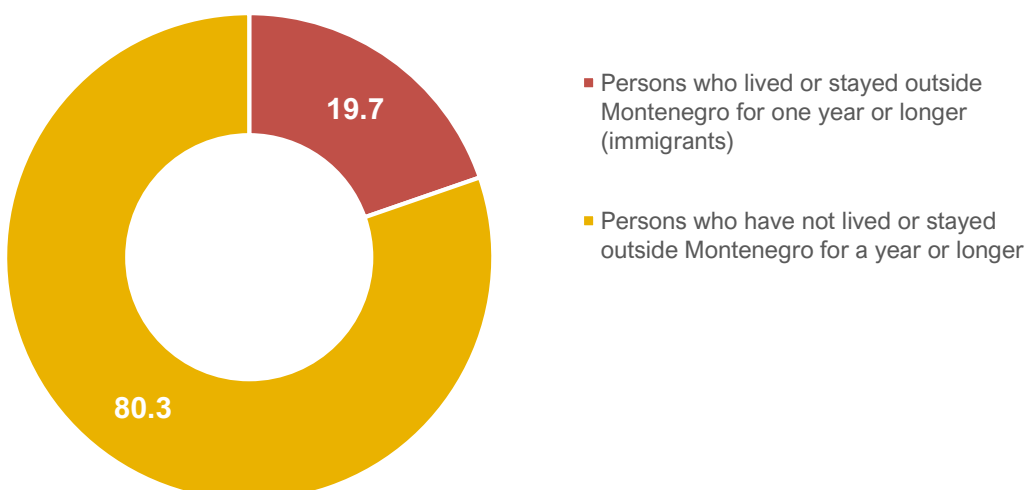
Of the total number of immigrants, 63 779 or 52.0% are women, and 58 965 or 48.0% are men.

Looking at citizenship, 59.6% of immigrants have Montenegrin citizenship, while 35.3% are foreign citizens.

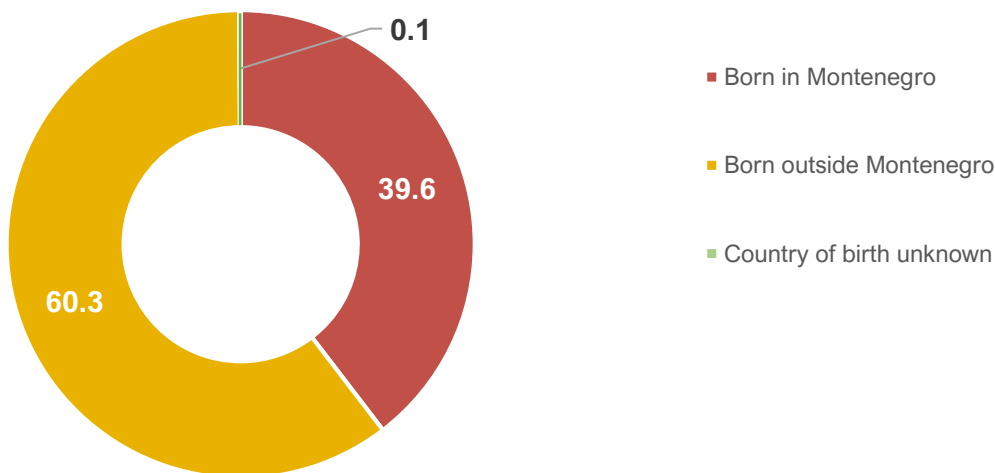
Most immigrants immigrated to Montenegro from Serbia, 44 303, followed by Bosnia and Herzegovina, 16 082, and the Russian Federation, 14 853.

According to the immigrants' statement, the most common reason for immigrating to Montenegro is family reason, so about 48.8% of people came to Montenegro for family reasons; 16.8% of immigrants came for economic reasons, 14.6% because of war conflicts in the area of the person's previous place of residence, and 4.4% for education.

Graph 1. Population according to stay outside Montenegro for one year or longer, %



Graph 2. Persons who lived or resided outside Montenegro for one year or longer (immigrants), by country of birth, in %



Graph 3. Persons who lived or resided outside Montenegro for one year or longer (immigrants), according to citizenship, in %

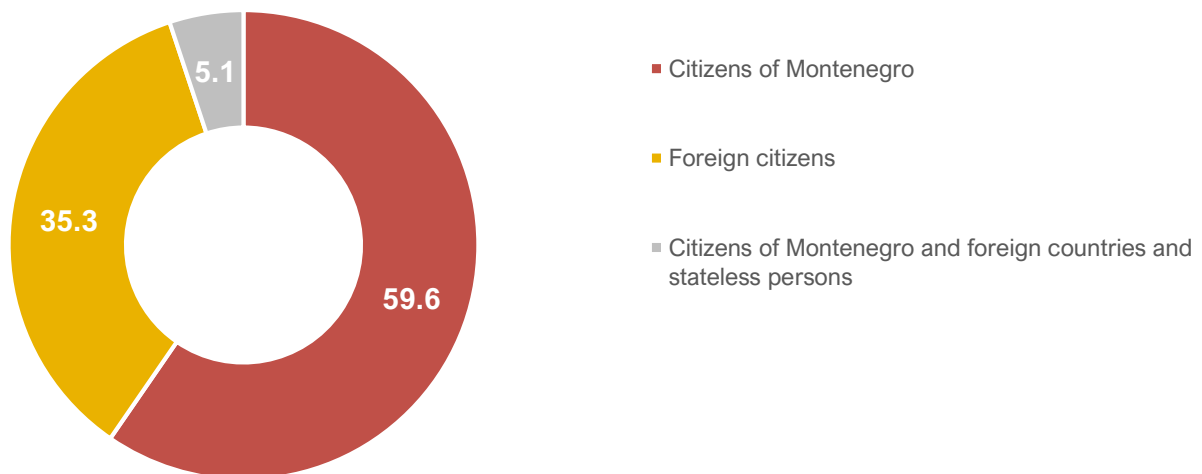


Table 1. Immigrants, by country of birth, citizenship and sex

	Total	Sex		In %	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
Total	122 744	58 965	63 779	48.0	52.0
Immigrants by country of birth					
Born in Montenegro	48 643	28 690	19 953	59.0	41.0
Born outside Montenegro	73 945	30 213	43 732	40.9	59.1
Country of birth unknown	156	62	94	39.7	60.3
Immigrants by citizenship					
Citizens of Montenegro	73 162	37 275	35 887	50.9	49.1
Citizens of Montenegro and foreign countries	6 270	2 201	4 069	35.1	64.9
Citizens of foreign countries	43 268	19 468	23 800	45.0	55.0
Stateless persons	44	21	23	47.7	52.3

Table 2. Immigrants, by country of origin and municipality of residence in Montenegro

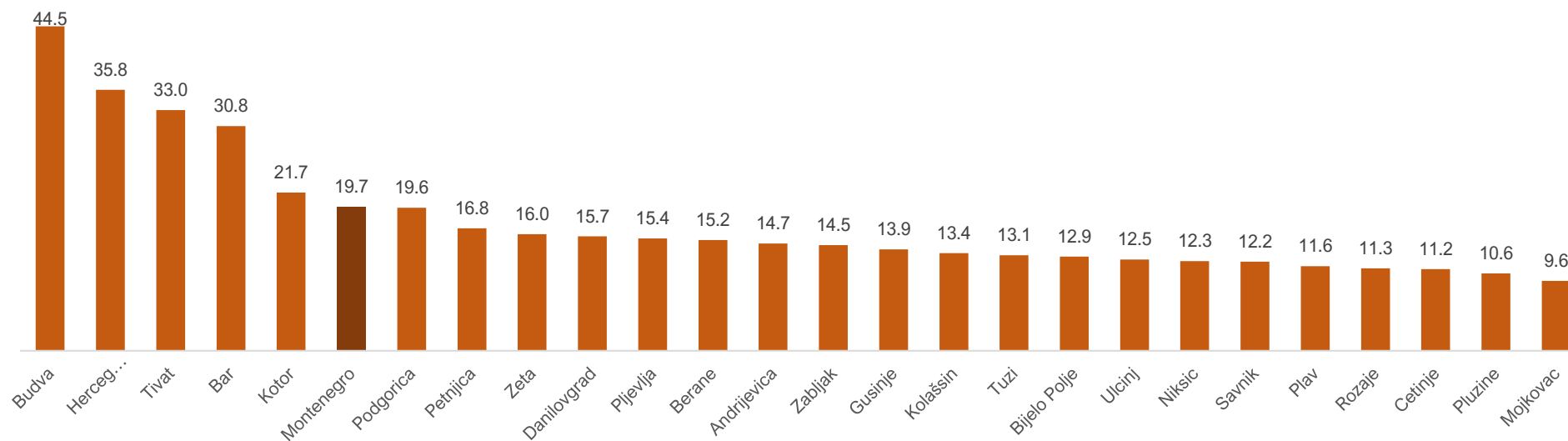
Country of origin	Montenegro	Municipality of usual residence in Montenegro											
		Andrijevica	Bar	Berane	Bijelo Polje	Budva	Cetinje	Danilovgrad	Gusinje	Herceg Novi	Kolasin	Kotor	Mojkovac
Total	122 744	575	14 109	3 743	5 000	12 212	1 620	2 918	545	11 039	898	4 931	649
Serbia	44 303	336	4 174	1 956	2 212	3 882	623	1 166	17	3 452	490	2 139	362
Bosnia and Hercegovina	16 082	62	1 166	328	506	1 050	164	519	46	2 323	132	612	77
Russian Federation	14 853	z	2 884	37	134	3 942	145	156	-	2 086	27	555	z
Germany	7 007	40	957	315	844	238	36	185	40	239	43	118	48
Kosovo	6 024	20	747	509	160	232	60	177	151	125	27	93	15
Croatia	5 964	12	636	70	109	250	91	150	z	1 127	49	383	33
United States of America	3 282	z	424	24	48	117	71	55	153	104	16	102	10
Ukraine	2 986	z	883	z	z	974	z	23	-	310	z	114	z
Turkey	2 457	-	160	z	72	387	z	43	z	74	10	55	-
Albania	1 777	10	82	25	20	17	z	38	35	11	z	z	z
Italy	1 629	z	139	z	17	74	62	40	z	95	z	136	z
North Macedonia	1 550	z	139	44	55	105	25	50	11	102	z	68	z
Slovenia	1 428	z	91	40	133	38	29	46	14	63	12	44	36
Switzerland	1 282	z	212	51	146	66	17	25	z	56	z	35	15
France	1 254	z	171	33	80	33	27	32	14	49	z	33	z
Great Britain	861	z	54	z	z	54	29	16	-	74	z	57	z
Luxemburg	854	-	156	64	93	z	-	-	z	z	-	z	-
Sweden	807	-	114	18	76	42	18	13	z	17	z	z	z
Belarus	735	-	168	-	z	221	10	z	-	124	-	18	-
Austria	688	-	61	10	17	33	z	19	z	31	z	28	z
Netherlands	584	z	55	13	34	22	z	17	15	116	z	24	-
Denmark	392	31	27	79	47	21	z	z	z	17	z	z	z
Canada	384	z	42	z	10	14	z	z	z	43	z	20	-
Australia	333	z	32	z	z	24	11	z	z	22	z	18	z
Belgium	330	z	31	z	19	15	z	z	z	z	-	z	-
Other countries	4 558	12	464	81	134	340	136	115	z	349	35	241	19
Unknown	340	z	40	14	20	z	10	z	z	16	z	z	z

Table 2. Immigrants, by country of origin and municipality of usual residence in Montenegro

/continued/

Country of origin	Municipality of usual residence in Montenegro												
	Niksic	Petnjica	Plav	Pljevlja	Pluzine	Podgorica	Rozaje	Savnik	Tivat	Tuzi	Ulcinj	Zabljak	Zeta
Total	8 084	835	1 054	3 720	231	35 119	2 617	191	5 397	1 702	2 560	427	2 568
Serbia	3 336	67	230	2 057	92	13 329	1 006	99	1 626	145	394	254	859
Bosnia and Hercegovina	1 816	32	72	983	116	4 647	168	25	680	69	187	56	246
Russian Federation	496	13	z	39	z	3 202	11	29	933	z	60	24	46
Germany	538	171	137	187	z	1 464	587	z	165	209	293	19	125
Kosovo	256	33	207	30	-	1 802	250	z	138	200	603	z	186
Croatia	329	z	z	91	z	1 644	z	z	745	25	76	18	89
United States of America	152	z	177	19	z	1 053	15	z	73	377	234	z	34
Ukraine	11	-	-	z	-	439	-	z	158	z	15	z	14
Turkey	20	14	z	19	-	1 207	114	-	203	26	33	-	z
Albania	16	z	37	10	z	276	17	z	29	280	241	-	608
Italy	142	z	17	10	-	705	z	z	43	46	43	z	23
North Macedonia	76	10	z	23	z	552	93	z	62	15	45	z	36
Slovenia	121	53	20	47	-	526	13	z	34	14	z	z	33
Switzerland	105	62	12	13	z	244	44	-	38	49	66	z	11
France	82	43	11	z	-	382	36	z	31	45	40	z	83
Great Britain	47	-	-	z	-	446	z	z	47	z	z	z	z
Luxemburg	z	271	z	z	-	91	69	z	z	34	37	-	-
Sweden	56	z	22	38	-	243	55	-	z	22	30	z	z
Belarus	23	-	-	-	-	145	-	-	22	-	z	-	z
Austria	40	z	z	14	z	256	21	-	34	27	14	z	60
Netherlands	29	z	25	13	-	116	30	-	24	z	18	z	z
Denmark	z	z	z	19	-	98	z	-	z	z	z	-	z
Canada	28	-	z	z	-	137	z	z	21	z	10	z	z
Australia	16	-	z	z	-	130	z	-	11	13	19	-	z
Belgium	z	10	z	-	-	170	15	-	13	z	z	-	10
Other countries	308	15	24	79	z	1 713	47	z	244	60	55	13	60
Unknown	21	z	z	10	z	102	10	-	z	z	26	z	z

Graph 4. Persons who lived or resided outside Montenegro for one year or longer (immigrants) in the total population by municipality, in %



Graph 5. Persons who lived or resided outside Montenegro for one year or longer (immigrants), according to the country they come from (countries from which more than 1 000 persons immigrated are shown)

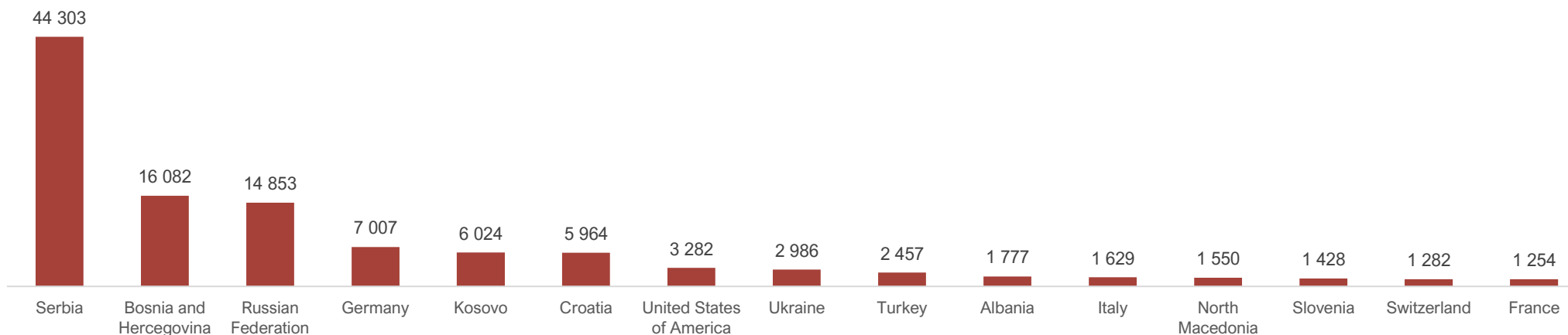
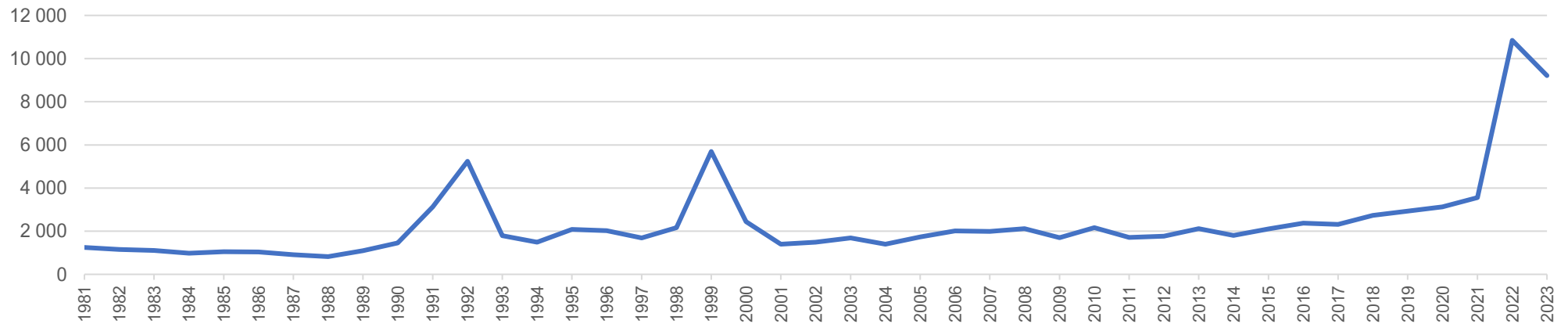


Table 3. Immigrants by year of arrival in Montenegro, and country of origin

Country of origin	Total	Year of arrival in Montenegro												
		2023	2022	2021	2020	2015-2019	2010-2014	2005-2009	2000-2004	1995-1999	1990-1994	1985-1989	Before 1985	Unknown
Total	122 744	9 215	10 846	3 560	3 126	12 460	9 572	9 558	8 425	13 636	13 103	4 919	19 395	4 929
Serbia	44 303	1 053	792	758	849	3 757	4 346	4 853	4 539	6 752	2 817	2 314	9 703	1 770
Bosnia and Hercegovina	16 082	162	147	125	138	832	770	872	714	1 660	5 708	965	3 439	550
Russian Federation	14 853	3 171	5 911	781	451	1 513	955	728	224	375	133	51	44	516
Germany	7 007	679	446	290	257	1 607	443	503	701	487	317	242	912	123
Kosovo	6 024	71	66	62	77	279	218	306	342	2 302	281	242	1 114	664
Croatia	5 964	108	85	35	47	135	78	82	95	857	2 043	383	1 852	164
United States of America	3 282	523	306	224	229	675	373	372	176	100	52	47	96	109
Ukraine	2 986	415	1 407	168	100	416	250	50	27	26	21	z	z	103
Turkey	2 457	982	361	202	131	349	64	51	56	45	z	z	15	185
Albania	1 777	26	34	39	32	201	197	172	120	134	612	z	z	171
Italy	1 629	126	51	50	80	310	298	244	160	155	64	16	50	25
North Macedonia	1 550	40	27	23	26	129	157	158	91	60	140	128	503	68
Slovenia	1 428	73	55	34	40	126	75	52	52	50	247	138	461	25
Switzerland	1 282	143	72	44	59	200	128	112	151	109	116	41	96	11
France	1 254	119	63	60	45	264	122	108	63	32	44	60	235	39
Great Britain	861	64	44	43	48	127	98	113	66	62	83	40	47	26
Luxemburg	854	159	55	37	37	148	95	80	189	18	z	z	z	24
Sweden	807	120	44	37	38	161	59	78	62	44	75	14	33	42
Belarus	735	122	302	82	30	76	53	20	11	z	z	-	-	27
Austria	688	74	43	32	39	116	85	33	48	35	49	z	111	z
Netherlands	584	63	38	21	20	69	69	85	72	24	18	z	91	z
Denmark	392	39	z	16	15	44	59	47	65	12	15	z	50	z
Canada	384	39	27	34	20	53	51	43	39	20	z	12	36	z
Australia	333	27	27	z	z	63	33	18	33	14	12	21	58	z
Belgium	330	46	34	35	35	60	41	17	13	z	10	z	z	19
Other countries	4 558	756	378	304	267	718	438	340	284	223	196	157	360	137
Unknown	340	15	z	z	z	32	17	21	32	23	25	z	46	102

Graph 6. Persons who lived or resided outside Montenegro for one year or longer (immigrants), by year of migration to Montenegro (since 1981)



Graph 7. Persons who lived or stayed outside Montenegro for one year or longer (immigrants), by year of migration to Montenegro, and the country from which they moved (since 1981)

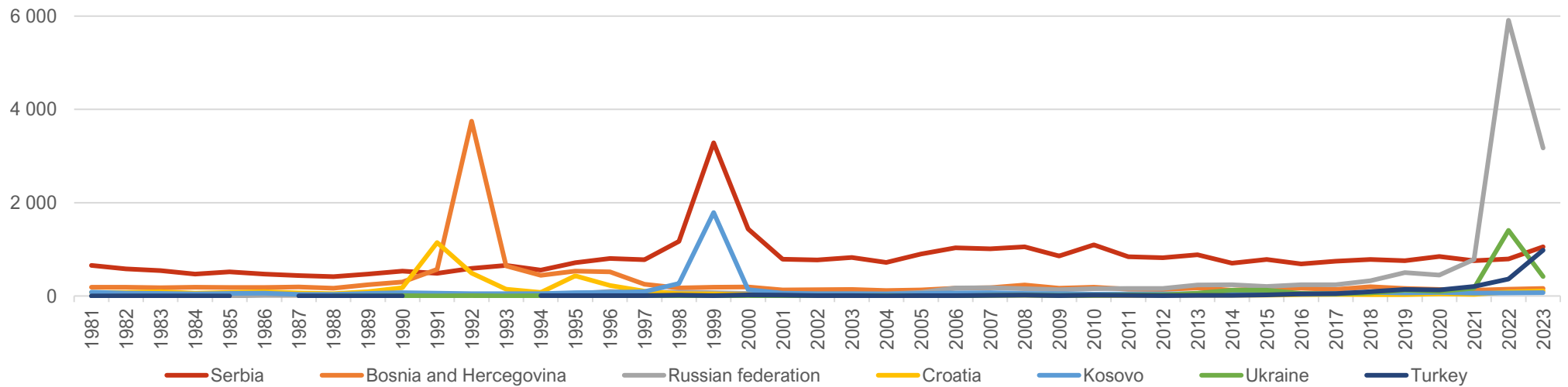


Table 4. Immigrants by age, and by municipality of usual residence in Montenegro

Age	Montenegro	Municipality of usual residence in Montenegro											
		Andrijevisa	Bar	Berane	Bijelo Polje	Budva	Cetinje	Danilovgrad	Gusinje	Herceg Novi	Kolasin	Kotor	Mojkovac
Total	122 744	575	14 109	3 743	5 000	12 212	1 620	2 918	545	11 039	898	4 931	649
0-9	4 625	z	811	49	91	896	48	44	z	461	14	154	z
10-19	5 247	z	887	99	185	839	38	69	z	488	12	195	z
20-29	11 056	31	1 287	306	429	1 223	144	207	39	681	53	459	38
30-39	22 140	66	2 563	499	663	2 996	285	458	75	1 854	129	927	68
40-49	22 314	84	2 450	639	894	2 488	272	514	91	1 947	157	875	112
50-59	20 268	114	2 273	805	1 017	1 578	264	511	122	1 782	168	826	140
60-69	19 128	157	2 134	708	949	1 298	287	520	121	1 827	196	792	151
70 and over	17 966	113	1 704	638	772	894	282	595	79	1 999	169	703	119

Table 4. Immigrants by age, and by municipality of usual residence in Montenegro

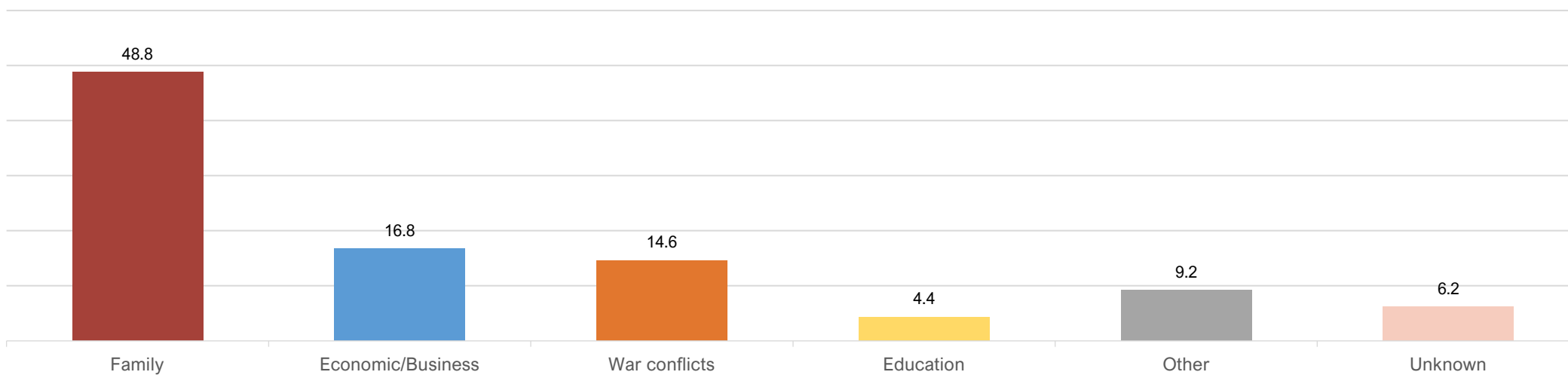
/continued/

Age	Municipality of usual residence in Montenegro												
	Niksic	Petnjica	Plav	Pljevlja	Pluzine	Podgorica	Rozaje	Savnik	Tivat	Tuzi	Ulcinj	Zabljak	Zeta
Total	8 084	835	1 054	3 720	231	35 119	2 617	191	5 397	1 702	2 560	427	2 568
0-9	106	43	26	36	z	1 122	210	z	271	67	116	z	32
10-19	171	52	32	47	z	1 281	212	z	275	109	146	z	62
20-29	532	60	84	228	z	3 843	298	z	433	205	264	19	172
30-39	1 156	85	152	472	21	6 927	447	14	1 136	289	431	67	360
40-49	1 390	135	212	611	32	6 579	460	28	1 029	355	415	73	472
50-59	1 520	195	212	712	45	5 412	453	43	800	291	420	75	490
60-69	1 556	158	181	861	65	4 836	325	34	767	231	408	105	461
70 and over	1 653	107	155	753	58	5 119	212	49	686	155	360	73	519

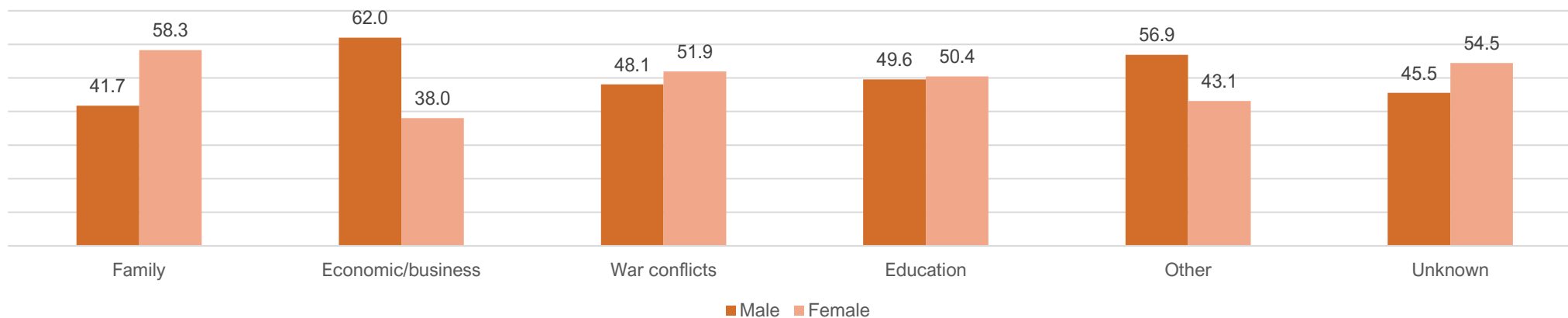
Table 5. Immigrants, by reason of arrival/return, and by sex

Country of origin	Montenegro	Reason for arrival/return to Montenegro					
		Economic/Business	Family	War conflicts	Education	Other	Unknown
Total	122 744	20 592	59 914	17 946	5 376	11 298	7 618
Sex							
Male	58 965	12 767	25 013	8 625	2 665	6 426	3 469
Female	63 779	7 825	34 901	9 321	2 711	4 872	4 149

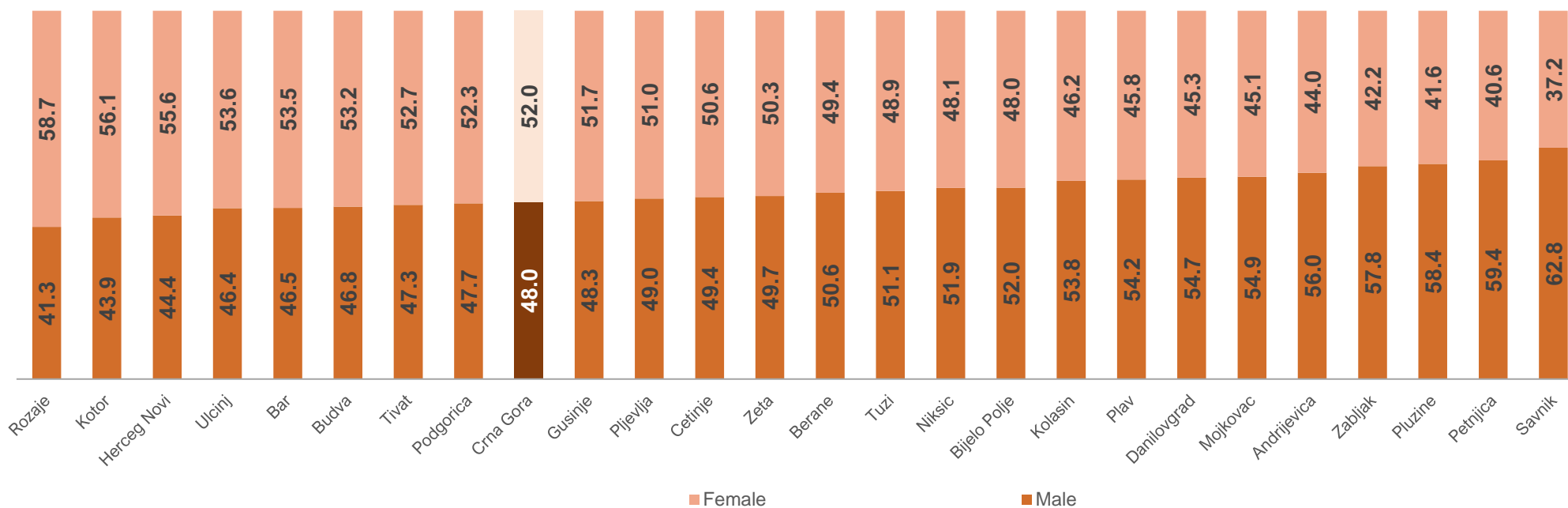
Graph 8. Persons who lived or stayed outside Montenegro for one year or longer (immigrants), by reason of migration to Montenegro, in %



Graph 9. Persons who lived or stayed outside Montenegro for one year or longer (immigrants), by reason of migration to Montenegro, and by sex, in %



Graph 10. Sex structure of persons who lived or stayed outside Montenegro for one year or longer (immigrants) by municipality, in %



METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

Pursuant to the Law on Census of Population, Households, and Dwellings, the census covered the following persons:

- Montenegrin citizens with the place of permanent or temporary residence in Montenegro regardless of whether they are present in the place of residence or temporarily reside in another place in Montenegro or abroad;
- Foreigners with permanent or temporary residence in Montenegro and foreigners with their usual place of residence in Montenegro.

The Census of Population, Households, and Dwellings was implemented in period from 3 to 30 December 2023, in line with the Methodology for Preparation, Organization, and Implementation of the Census. The 2023 Census Methodology is in line with the international standards which determine common rules for collecting the data on population, out which the most important are:

- Conference of European Statisticians Recommendations for the 2020 Censuses of Population and Housing prepared by UNECE;
- Regulation No 763/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 on population and housing censuses, as well as other implementation regulations with the respect of the European Statistics Code of Practice.

The census was implemented according to the situation as on 31 October 2023, at midnight, which is considered to be the reference moment of the census.

The census was done in the traditional manner, by the interview method, using paper questionnaires, 'door-to-door' approach.

Migrations

Migration or resettlement of the population is the spatial movement of the population from one place to another. Persons who migrate are called migrants, and depending on the context they are called emigrants or immigrants.

Common term 'Municipality' is used in this release for 25 local self-government units, for the capital Podgorica, royal capital Cetinje, and the remained 23 local self-government units with the status of municipality.

Pursuant to the Law on Official Statistics and Official Statistical System, Article 54-61 (Official Gazette of Montenegro No. 018/12 of 30 March 2012, 047/19 of 12 August 2019), and internal rule of Statistical Office, the data with frequency of occurrence less than 10 are protected and they are marked with "z". Additionally, other data are marked and protected with the same symbol to prevent indirect recognition of census units (secondary protection).

When using the data, state: "Data source: Statistical Office of Montenegro - MONSTAT"

Symbols:

"-" No occurrence

"z" Protected data

More data, as well as detailed methodological explanations can be found under section: [The 2023 Population Census](#)