



International
Labour
Office
Geneva

Migrant Workers: The Case of Moldova



Department of Statistics

Conditions of Work
and Equality
Department

Labour
Migration
Branch

Migrant Workers: The Case of Moldova

Migrant Workers: The Case of Moldova

Copyright © International Labour Organization 2017

Publications of the International Labour Office enjoy copyright under Protocol 2 of the Universal Copyright Convention. Nevertheless, short excerpts from them may be reproduced without authorization, on condition that the source is indicated. For rights of reproduction or translation, application should be made to ILO Publications (Rights and Licensing), International Labour Office, CH-1211 Geneva 22, Switzerland, or by email: rights@ilo.org. The International Labour Office welcomes such applications.

Libraries, institutions and other users registered with a reproduction rights organization may make copies in accordance with the licences issued to them for this purpose. Visit www.ifrro.org to find the reproduction rights organization in your country.

ISBN 978-92-2-130227-8 (print)

ISBN 978-92-2-130228-5 (web pdf)

ILO Cataloguing in Publication Data

The designations employed in ILO publications, which are in conformity with United Nations practice, and the presentation of material therein do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the International Labour Office concerning the legal status of any country, area or territory or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers.

The responsibility for opinions expressed in signed articles, studies and other contributions rests solely with their authors, and publication does not constitute an endorsement by the International Labour Office of the opinions expressed in them.

Reference to names of firms and commercial products and processes does not imply their endorsement by the International Labour Office, and any failure to mention a particular firm, commercial product or process is not a sign of disapproval.

Information on ILO publications and digital products can be found at: www.ilo.org/publns.

Printed in Switzerland

This publication was produced by the Document and Publications Production,
Printing and Distribution Branch (PRODOC) of the ILO.

*Graphic and typographic design, layout and composition,
proofreading, printing, electronic publishing and distribution,*

PRODOC endeavours to use paper sourced from forests managed
in an environmentally sustainable and socially responsible manner

Code: DTP-SCR-REPRO

Acknowledgements

This technical report was prepared under the overall coordination and guidance of Mustafa Hakki Ozel from the ILO Department of Statistics and Natalia Popova from the Labour Migration Branch in the ILO Conditions of Work and Equality Department. The report was developed and the data analyses were carried out by Prof. Dr. Meltem Dayioğlu from the Department of Economics at the Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey.

Michelle Leighton, Chief of the ILO Labour Migration Branch, provided advice and support in preparing and reviewing of the draft. Valuable comments were provided by Mariya Aleksynska.

These analyses would have not been possible without the support of Manuela Tomei, Director, ILO Conditions of Work and Equality Department and Rafael Diez de Medina, Director, ILO Department of Statistics.

This technical report used data, gathered in the framework of the “Effective Governance of Labour Migration and its Skills Dimension” Project, funded by the European Union and implemented by the ILO. Thanks are also due to the National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova, which implemented the ILO labour migration module, designed by Elisa Benes, ILO Senior Statistician.

Foreword

Migration governance remains high on the agendas of most governments, particularly in Europe. The number of international migrant workers has reached more than 150 million, or over 73 per cent of all migrants of working age according to recent ILO global estimates. Policy responses can be credible and effective only if they are based on sound evidence. Yet, comprehensive official data on migrants and their characteristics, especially on those work-related ones, are still lacking, and those that exist are difficult to compare. Two main obstacles can be mentioned in this regard:

- absence of international statistical standards on the concepts and definitions, and common methodology, and
- lack of sufficient data collection systems in many countries.

The ILO plays a key role both in supporting and building the data collection capacity of national statistical offices around the world, as well as in promoting the development of international guidance on concepts, definitions, and common methodologies and approaches on labour migration statistics.

The ILO provides assistance to countries on the measurement of international labour migration through special modules attached to household surveys, in particular labour force surveys. In 2012, the ILO assisted the National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova in conducting module questionnaires on labour migration. The results of these efforts are analysed in the present working paper, with a specific focus on short-term migrant workers. Due to lack of data on short-term migration, this is a much less studied topic in labour migration. It is hoped that such analyses will lead to improved knowledge base, which could contribute to more targeted policy responses for this specific group of migrants and ensure the effective protection of their rights.

Manuela Tomei
Director,
Conditions of Work and Equality
Department

Rafael Diez de Medina
Director,
Department of Statistics

Table of Contents

- 1. Introduction 1
- 2. Data: The Labour Force Migration Survey..... 3
- 3. Size and Nature of Labour Migration 7
- 4. Socio-demographic Profile of Migrant Workers 11
- 5. Socio-economic Characteristics of Migrant Workers 21
- 6. Socio-Economic and Demographic Profiles of Short-term Migrant Workers 39
- 7. Socio-Economic and Demographic Profiles of Potential Migrant Workers 51
- 8. Conclusion 57
- Appendix A – Additional Tables 61
- Appendix B – Labour Force Migration Survey (Questionnaire) 65

1. Introduction

The Labour Force Migration Survey (LFMS) was conducted in the Republic of Moldova in the last quarter of 2012 in order to assess the extent of labour migration out of the country and to describe the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of migrant workers. Administered as a module of the regularly conducted Labour Force Survey (LFS), the LFMS was developed and implemented by the Bureau of Statistics of Moldova within the framework of the EU-funded project “Effective Governance of Labour Migration and its Skill Dimensions” and with the assistance of the International Labour Organisation. Questions in the module closely follow those developed by the ILO.

International conventions define a migrant worker as “a person who is to be engaged, is engaged, or has been engaged in a remunerated activity in a State of which he or she is not a national” (Article 2, International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, Resolution 45/158, 1990); in spite of this, countries differ in the ways in which they define and measure labour migration. The 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) recognized the need to develop international standards on labour-migration statistics, and the LFMS conducted in Moldova contributes towards these efforts while informing policymakers on the scale of labour migration and the characteristics of migrant workers from Moldova.

In discussing the findings of the LFMS, this report aims to present a profile of migrant workers in terms of demographic and socio-economic characteristics and to estimate the size and nature of labour migration out of Moldova. The report also discusses the types of information collected by the LFMS questionnaire, the main source of data for this report, and identifies areas that could be revised in order to obtain more robust data in the future. Following this short introduction, Section 2 of this report briefly describes the LFMS and presents key definitions used in the LFMS and throughout this report. Section 3 assesses the extent of labour migration out of Moldova and identifies the destination countries. The demographic and socio-economic characteristics of migrant workers are discussed in Sections 4 and 5, respectively. Section 6 focuses on short-term migrant workers who remain in host countries for less than a year, and Section 7 looks at potential migrant workers, i.e. individuals who were in Moldova at the time of the survey, but who planned to migrate in order to work or to look for work abroad within the six months that followed. Section 8 summarizes and concludes the report.

2. Data: The Labour Force Migration Survey

Conducted in the fourth quarter of 2012 as a module of the regularly administered LFS, the LFMS used three separate questionnaires to gather information on migrant workers (See Appendix). The target group in all three questionnaires consisted of individuals aged 15–64 years who had either left the country to work or look for work abroad within 24 months preceding the date of the survey or who intended to leave the country to work or look for work within six months following the survey. Questionnaire A collected information on household members living abroad; Questionnaire B on household members who had not been abroad in the previous 24 months, but who intended to migrate within six months following the survey date; and Questionnaire C on household members who had been abroad in the previous 24 months, but who had returned and were residing in Moldova at the time of the survey. Migrant workers were identified based on the purpose of their trip abroad: Individuals who were economically active abroad during the reference period of 24 months preceding the survey date were classified as migrant workers; individuals travelling abroad for leisure, study, health, or business were not.

LFMS data makes it possible to construct a number of different categories that can be useful in understanding the extent and nature of labour migration out of Moldova. This report uses the term “*current migrant worker*” to refer to an individual who was economically active, i.e. employed or looking for work in a foreign country at the time of the survey, whereas the term “*returned migrant worker*” (or “*returnee*”) is used to refer to an individual who had been economically active in a foreign country during the 24 months preceding the date of the survey, but who had returned to Moldova and was residing in the household at the time of the survey. Returnees are further divided into two groups according to whether or not they intended to leave Moldova again to work or look for work abroad within six months following the survey date. The sum of current and return migrant workers represents the total number of labour migrants, i.e. the number of Moldovan nationals leaving for foreign countries to work or to look for work in the 24 months preceding the date of the survey.

The length of time migrant workers spend abroad is of particular interest for gaining a better understanding of the phenomenon of labour migration. Accordingly, for the purposes of this report, “*long-term migrant workers*” are defined to include migrant workers who have spent 12 or more months abroad as of the survey date, as opposed to “*short-term migrant workers*”, who have spent less than 12 months abroad as of the survey date. Whereas returned migrant workers are classified based on the date of departure and date of return of their most recent migration episode, current migrant workers are classified based on the date of departure and the date of the survey, so that those who were in a host country for more than 12 months as of the survey date are classified as long-term migrant workers, and those who were in a host country for less than 12 months are classified as short-term migrant workers. This is done out of necessity, since even though current migrant workers may spend additional time abroad before returning to Moldova, their actual date of return is indeterminable. As a result, information on the average time migrant workers spend abroad during a specific migration episode will, unavoidably, be an underestimate.

While the report focuses mainly on individuals who have already migrated from Moldova for work, it also looks at individuals who may do so in the future. For this purpose, another group, “*potential migrant workers*”, is defined to include both individuals who have not migrated abroad for work in the 24 months preceding the survey (i.e. “*non-labour migrants*”), but who have expressed an interest in doing so within six months following the survey date, as well as returned migrant workers who have expressed the intention of leaving Moldova to work abroad again.

Table 2.1 presents a summary of the different categories of labour migration discussed in this report.

Table 2.1 Basic definitions of different groups of migrant workers

All Migrant Workers (a+b)	Current Migrant Workers + Returnees
Current Migrant Workers	Individuals who were abroad at the time of the survey working or looking for work
b. Returned Migrant Workers ("Returnees")	Individuals who were abroad during the 24 months preceding the survey working or looking for work but who have come back and were residing in the household at the time of the survey
b1. Intending to migrate in next 6 months	Return migrant workers who intended to go abroad to work or look for work within six months following the survey
b2. Not intending to migrate in next 6 months	Return migrant workers who did not intend to go abroad to work or look for work within six months following the survey
Non-Labour Migrants (c+d)	Individuals who had not migrated abroad to work or look for work in the 24 months preceding the survey
c. Intending to migrate in next 6 months	Non-labour migrants who intended to work or look for work abroad within six months following the survey
d. Not intending to migrate in next 6 months	Non-labour migrants who did not intend to migrate to work or look for work abroad within six months following the survey
Potential Migrant Workers (b1+c)	Individuals who had not migrated to work or look for work abroad in the 24 months preceding the survey but who intended to do so within six months following the survey PLUS Return migrant workers who intended to go abroad to work or look for work abroad within six months following the survey
Long-term Migrant Workers (subset of a+b)	Migrant workers who were abroad working or looking for work for at least a year
Short-term Migrant Workers (subset of a+b)	Migrant workers who were abroad working or looking for work for less than a year

Aside from identifying and classifying migrant workers, the LFMS questionnaire collects demographic information on migrant workers, information on the labour-market outcomes of current and returned migrant workers prior to leaving Moldova and during their stay abroad, and information on other aspects of migration such as remittances sent home, certification of education/training credentials abroad, and preparations before leaving the country. Information on the current labour-market status of potential migrant workers, including returnees who intend to migrate again for work, is also available from the LFS. Furthermore, the LFS makes it possible to compare the labour market outcomes of returnees before migrating, while in the host country, and after their return to Moldova.

There is a key difference in how information is collected for current and return migrant workers; namely, for current migrants, the information must be provided by a proxy respondent, since the individual in question resides abroad. In fact, proxy response is not uncommon in household labour surveys, and the LFMS is no exception, with the rate of proxy response for returnees and non-labour migrants 63.6 per cent and 59.4 per cent, respectively. However, even though proxy response is pervasive, when the respondent is answering on behalf of someone who no longer shares the same living space with other household

members, such as a current migrant worker, the respondent may lack information about that person's experience in the labour market. This knowledge gap may be larger on issues such as a migrant worker's wages, what percent of wages is needed to sustain a migrant worker in a host country, or how long the worker intends to stay abroad. Indeed, 31.7 per cent of proxy respondents said they did not know how much a current migrant worker earned abroad per month, and an additional 9.3 per cent refused to answer this question. By comparison, when answering on behalf of a returnee, only 1.7 per cent of proxy respondents said they did not know the amount, while 15.1 per cent refused to answer. This is similar to the responses of returnees themselves, 15.6 per cent of whom refused to answer this question.

Examples of survey questions where proxy respondents may not be particularly knowledgeable about migrant workers' outcomes in a host country are given in Table 2.2.

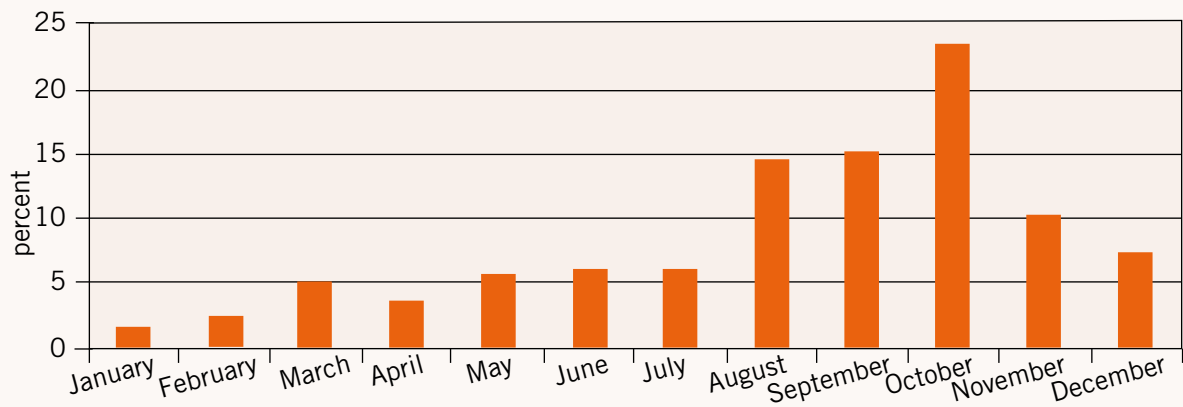
Table 2.2 Response rates to sample questions from Labour Force Migration Survey

Survey question	Current migrant worker		Returned migrant worker			
	Proxy		Proxy		Self-response	
	Refused to answer	Doesn't know	Refused to answer	Doesn't know	Refused to answer	Doesn't know
How long does the person intend to stay in that country?	-	53.6	-	40.3	-	38.1
What is the average monthly salary the person gets abroad? (answers in categories)	9.3	31.7	15.1	1.7	15.6	-
What share of the person's money gained abroad is used to sustain him/herself in the host country? (answers in categories)	3.3	41.1	7.6	2.2	10.0	0.7
How many hours per week does the person usually work abroad?	-	35.8	-	3.0	-	3.3

Note: Based on raw data.

A high non-response rate calls into question the reliability of the information obtained. Therefore, in the present analysis, for questions where the non-response rate is high, instead of dropping the non-respondents and analysing a smaller sample, which could bias the results if the non-response is not random, tabulations were performed with non-response included as a separate category. Then, analyses were performed assuming different classifications for non-response in order to assess the degree of any over- or under-estimation of the phenomenon being examined.

In addition to issues presented by proxy response and non-response, the timing of the survey may affect the assessment of current versus returned migrant workers. Figure 2.1 shows that nearly 40 per cent of returned migrant workers came back to Moldova in the last quarter of the year, and over half came back during the months of August, September and October. Given that many returnees expressed intentions of migrating again, the group of returnees identified through the survey data may not be truly representative of all returnees, and the distribution given in Figure 2.1 may not be an accurate representation of the months in which migrant workers typically return to Moldova. Moreover, issues related to seasonality in migration may mean that the findings for the current and return migrant workers identified in this report are not generalisable for all current and return migrant workers. At the same time, because the reference period of the survey is the 24 months preceding the date of the survey, individuals leaving the country at any time during the year are accounted for; therefore, the quarter in which the survey is fielded should not affect the identification of the total flow of migrant workers out of Moldova.

Figure 2.1 Months in which migrants returned home from abroad

Note: Based on returned migrant workers.

The total sample size of the LFMS consists of 11,230 individuals between the ages of 15 and 64. Of these, 1,842 were identified as migrant workers, a group comprised of 1,087 current migrant workers and 755 returnees. In addition, 626 potential migrant workers (including both returnees and non-labour migrants) were identified. Sampling weights are used in analysing the data, and the resulting estimates are representative of the country at large, as well as for urban/rural areas and the country's four statistical regions (North, Centre, South, and Chisinau Municipality, which includes Moldova's capital city).

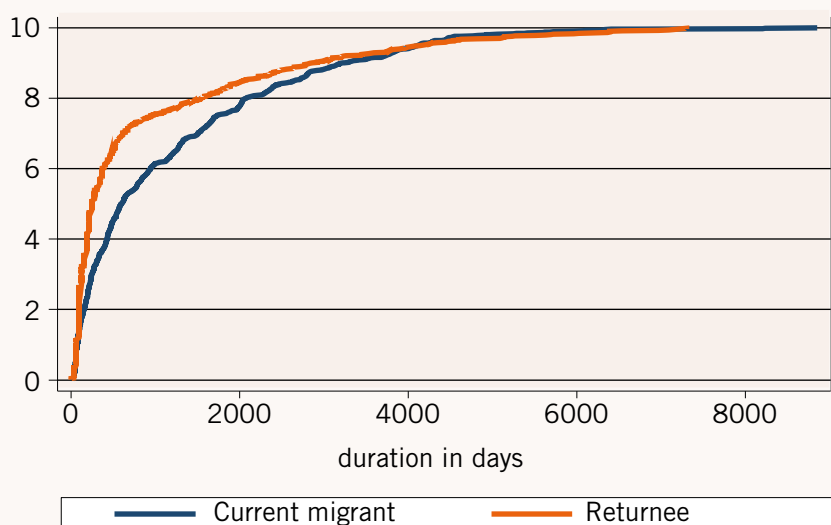
3. Size and Nature of Labour Migration

The estimated size of labour migration out of Moldova is presented in Table 3.1. As the table shows, the total number of migrant workers (comprised of current and returned migrants) is estimated at 429,000, representing 16.5 per cent of the working-age population (WAP, i.e. the population of individuals aged 15–64). Current migrant workers comprise an estimated 260,000 individuals, or 60 per cent of all migrant workers. Of the estimated 170,000 returnees, 104,000 (61.2%) intended to migrate again to work or look for work within six months following the survey. In addition, an estimated 42,000 individuals who had not been abroad for work in the 24 months prior to the survey – 1.6 per cent of the WAP – intended to migrate abroad to work or look for work within six months. Thus, the total number of potential migrant workers is estimated at 146,000, or 5.6 per cent of the WAP.

Overall, the average length of time migrant workers remain in a host country is estimated at 2.8 years. The estimated duration is shorter for returned migrant workers (2.4 years) than for current migrant workers (3.1 years). Moreover, because the length of time in a host country is underestimated for current migrant workers (whose stay abroad is ongoing), the difference in the average length of time that current and returned migrant workers remain in a host country is likely to be even larger. The cumulative distribution of the duration of migration (Figure 3.1) clearly shows that the length of time spent as a labour migrant is longer for current migrant workers than for returnees. This discrepancy may be explained by differences in the characteristics of the two groups, but it may also stem, at least in part, from the way a single migration episode is measured. The date a migrant worker returns to Moldova is taken to mark the end of a migration episode for a returnee, even though a significant proportion of returnees (60%) plan to migrate again to work or look for work within six months following the survey. By contrast, respondents offering information

Table 3.1 Estimates of migrant workers

Migrant worker group classification	Number (,000)	Proportion of WAP (%)
All migrant workers (a+b)	429	16.5
a. Current migrant workers	260	10.0
b. Returnees (b1+b2)	170	6.5
b1. Intend to migrate in next 6 months	104	4.0
b2. Do not intend to migrate in next 6 months	66	2.5
Non-labour migrants	2,180	83.6
c. Intend to migrate in next 6 months	42	1.6
d. Do not intend to migrate in next 6 months	2,139	82.0
Potential migrant workers (b1+c)	146	5.6
Long-term migrants (subset of a+b)	234	9.0
Short-term migrants (subset of a+b)	195	7.5
WAP (15-64)	2,610	100

Figure 3.1 Cumulative distribution of migrants' length of stay in a host country

on current migrant workers may disregard short trips home, reporting only a single, long episode of migration, which would lead to an increase in the estimates of the average duration of labour migration for current migrant workers. Without information on the migration histories of current and returned migrant workers, it is difficult to understand how respondents define a single episode of migration, thereby complicating any understanding of the phenomenon of repeat migration.

Overall, long-term migrant workers constitute 54.7 per cent of total migrant workers, i.e. those who have spent at least a year abroad, and, as Figure 3.1 indicates, 62.8 per cent of current migrant workers as compared to 42.2 per cent of returnees can be classified as long-term migrant workers.

The LFMS also asked about the expected length of stay abroad for individuals identified as potential migrant workers; however, for a large proportion of this group (41.5%) no answer to this question was provided. This holds true for similarly high proportions of the potential migrant workers who had returned to Moldova (40.9%) and those who had not been abroad for work during the reference period of 24 months preceding the survey (43.1%). Among potential migrant workers with definite expectations as to their length of stay abroad, 34.2 per cent expected to be in the host country for over a year, and this proportion was only slightly higher for the returnees among the potential migrant workers (34.2%) than for those who had not been abroad for work during the previous 24 months (30.7%).

Russia is the most popular destination for labour migration out of Moldova, hosting 69 per cent of all migrant workers, and it is followed by Italy, which hosts 14.3 per cent. When the destinations of different groups of migrant workers are compared, Russia and Italy remain first and second, respectively, although the rates vary somewhat among the groups. For instance, Russia accounts for a higher percentage of returnees (75.5%) as compared to current migrant workers (64.7%), whereas Italy accounts for a lower percentage of returnees (10.5%) as compared to current migrant workers (16.8%). Italy also attracts more than one-fifth (20.4%) of long-term migrant workers, which far exceeds the proportion of migrant workers in general choosing Italy as a destination.¹ Potential migrant workers have also noted Russia and Italy as their most likely destinations (73.6% and 11.1%, respectively).

¹ Short-term workers are discussed in detail in Section 6. For information on the destination countries for this group, see Table 6.2.

Table 3.2 Destination countries for migrant workers

Destination	Total migrant workers	Current migrant workers	Return migrant workers	Long-term migrant workers	Potential migrant workers
Canada	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.7
France	2.3	3.1	1.1	2.4	1.8
Germany	0.7	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.8
Greece	0.8	0.5	1.2	0.9	0.4
Israel	2.5	3.5	1.1	3.4	1.0
Italy	14.3	16.8	10.5	20.4	11.1
Portugal	0.9	1.2	0.5	1.5	0.6
Russia	69.0	64.7	75.5	63.1	73.6
Turkey	2.0	2.2	1.7	1.5	1.9
Ukraine	1.7	1.3	2.5	0.8	2.5
UK	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.6
US	1.4	1.2	1.6	0.9	0.7
Other	4.1	4.3	3.6	4.3	4.3

4. Socio-demographic Profile of Migrant Workers

This section of the report analyses the socio-demographic characteristics of migrant workers. Comparisons are made between different migrant worker groups (current migrant workers, returnees, and long-term migrant workers) and the working-age-population in order to determine to what extent the groups differ from one another. Section 4.1 discusses the socio-demographic characteristics of migrant workers, whereas Section 4.2 discusses the determinants of the probability of labour migration within a multivariate framework.

4.1 Socio-demographic profile of migrant workers

Descriptive statistics on migrant workers are given in Table A1 of the Appendix. Migrant workers were found to be, on average, 35.3 years of age, making them slightly younger than the WAP, which is, on average, 37.6 years of age. Long-term migrant workers, at 36.8 years of age, are still somewhat younger than the WAP, but are older than the overall migrant worker population.

A comparison of the age distribution of all migrant workers, long-term migrant workers and the WAP (Fig. 4.1) shows that migrant workers in general and long-term migrant workers in particular include larger proportions of younger individuals, particularly those aged 20–29 years. A comparison of current and return migrant workers shows that the average age of both groups is similar, at 35–36 years; however, as Figure 4.2 shows, current migrant workers are comprised of a larger proportion of younger individuals aged 20–29 years and a smaller proportion of slightly older individuals aged 30–39 years.

Figure 4.1 Age distribution of migrant workers and working-age-population

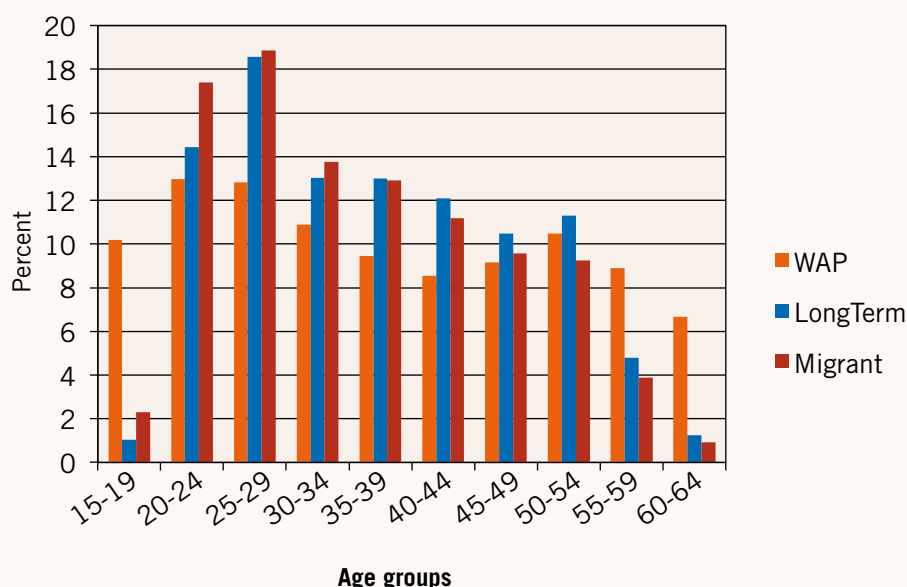
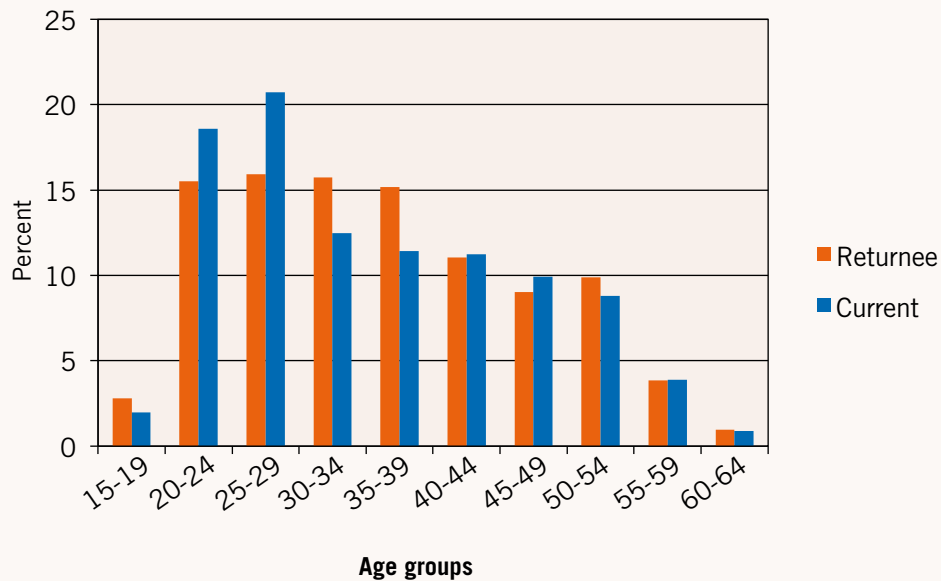
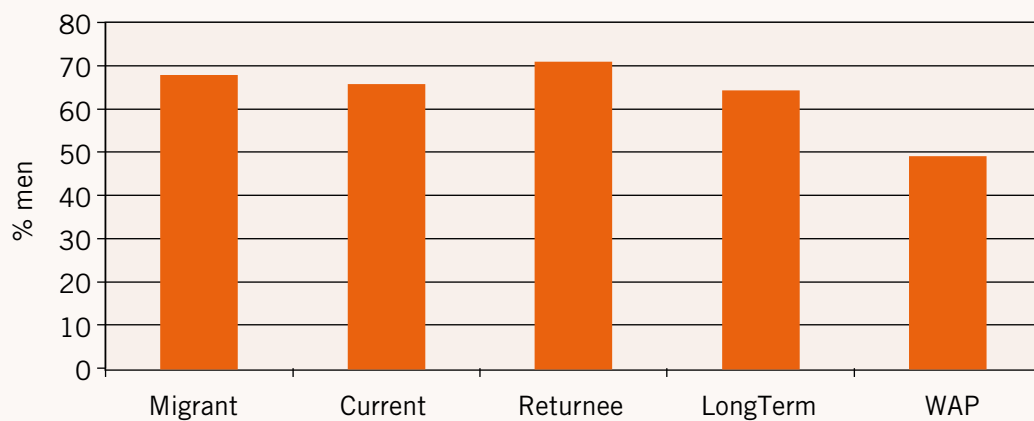


Figure 4.2 Distribution of current migrant workers and returnees by age**Figure 4.3** Proportion of men among migrant workers and WAP

Men constitute the overwhelming majority of labour migrants, and their proportion among migrant workers (67.5%) is considerably higher than the proportion of men among the WAP (48.7%). Although the proportion of men among long-term migrant workers (64.0%) is slightly lower than the proportion of men among the migrant worker population in general, it is still higher than that of the WAP. Men also account for a particularly high proportion of returnees (70.6%).

A comparison of the schooling outcomes of migrant workers with those of the WAP indicates that rather than the least or the most educated individuals, it is those with intermediate levels of education who become labour migrants (Figure 4.4). Indeed, while the proportions of individuals holding a secondary-vocational-school diploma are higher among migrant workers in general and long-term migrant workers in

Figure 4.4 Distribution of migrant workers and WAP by schooling

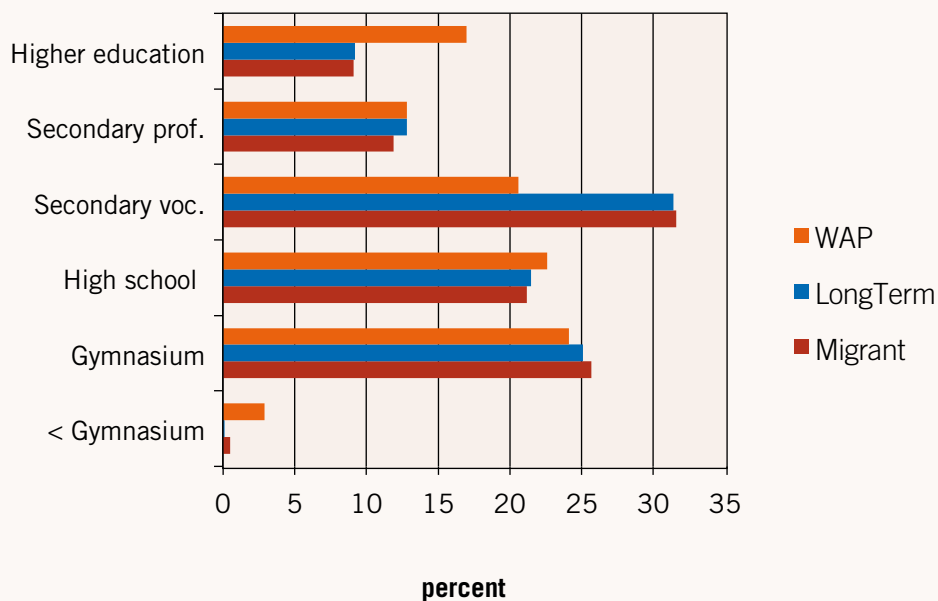
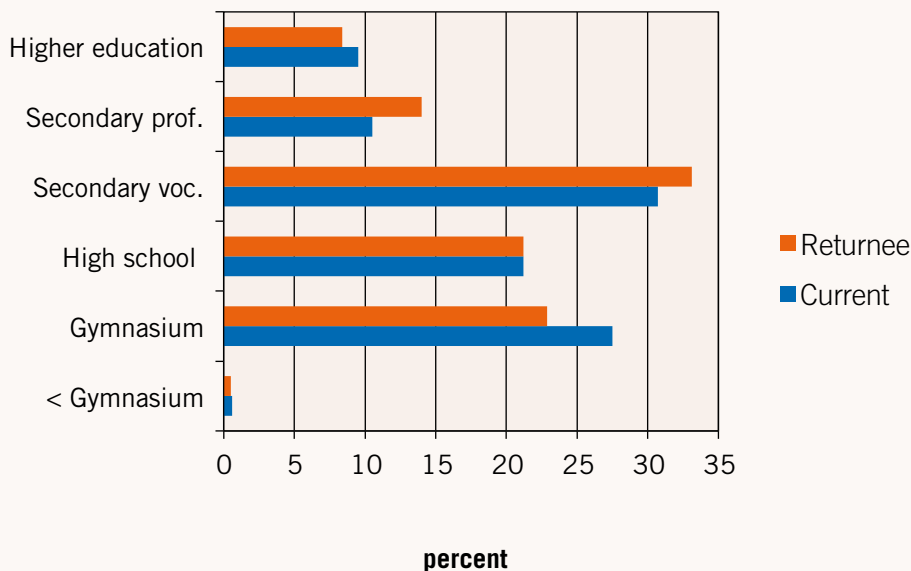


Figure 4.5 Distribution of current migrant workers and returnees by schooling



particular (31.6% and 31.4%, respectively) than among the WAP (20.6%), the proportions of those who have completed higher education (9.1% and 9.2%, respectively) are lower than among the WAP (17.0%). Current migrant workers also have fewer average years of schooling than returnees, with a larger proportion of the former having only basic education (*gymnasium*) or less and a smaller proportion having secondary education or more.

Married individuals account for approximately 60 per cent of both migrant workers in general and long-term migrant workers in particular, which is similar to the rate estimated for the WAP. However, the proportion of married individuals among returnees (64.1%) is larger than among current migrant workers (55.9%). In terms of household size and composition, migrant workers come from slightly larger families with more dependents. While the average household size for the WAP is 3.5 persons, it is 3.9 among migrant workers in general and 3.8 among long-term migrant workers in particular (See Appendix Table A1).

Figure 4.6 Proportion of married individuals among migrant workers and WAP

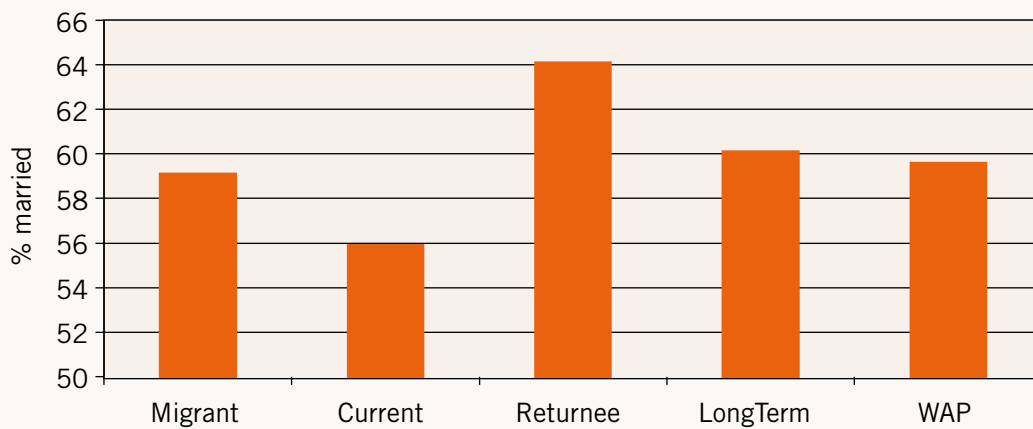
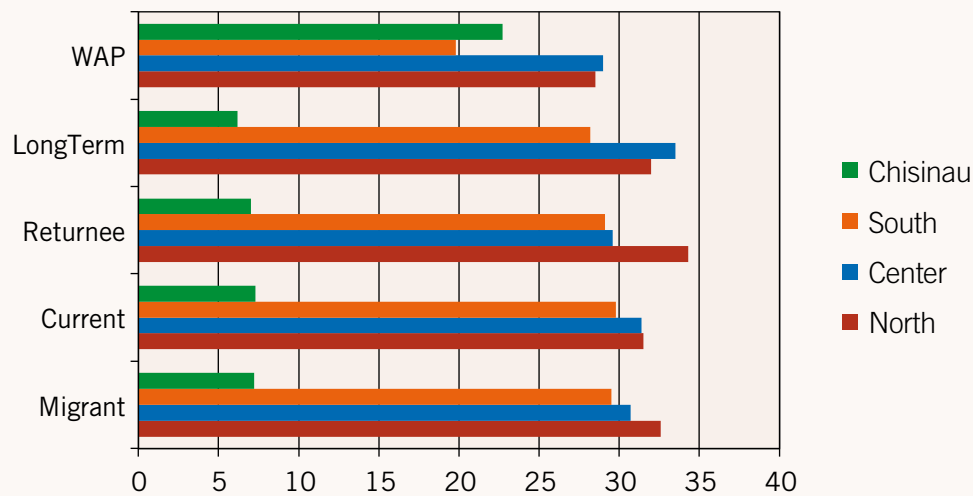


Figure 4.7 Proportion of migrant workers and WAP residing in rural areas



Figure 4.8 Distribution of migrant workers and WAP by region of residence

Place of residence varies greatly between migrant workers and the WAP. Nearly three-quarters of all migrant workers come from rural areas, as compared to 57.7 per cent of the WAP. Only 7.2 per cent of migrant workers in general and 6.2 per cent of long-term migrant workers in particular live in the capital city, Chisinau, as compared to more than one-fifth of the WAP. In contrast, larger proportions of migrant workers as compared to the WAP come from the North and South of the country, while the proportion of migrant workers residing in the Centre is similar to that of the WAP.

4.2 Determinants of probability of labour migration: Multivariate analysis

This section examines the results of multivariate analysis conducted to identify socio-economic and demographic characteristics that may affect the likelihood of labour migration in general and long-term labour migration and return-migration in particular. Three separate models were developed: Model 1 analyses the determinants of labour migration, Model 2 the determinants of long-term labour migration, and Model 3 the determinants of return-migration. All three models take the individual and household level variables discussed in the previous section as explanatory variables. In the first model, the dependent variable takes the value of 1 for migrant workers and 0 for others; in the second model, the dependent variable takes the value of 1 for long-term migrant workers and zero for others; and in the third model, the dependent variable takes the value of 1 for returnees and zero for current migrant workers. Since the dependent variables are dummies, probit estimations are used.²

4.2.1 Determinants of labour migration (Model 1)

The results of multivariate analysis indicate that men are 9.5 percentage points more likely to become migrant workers than women. In terms of age, the probability of migration increases up until the peak age of 37, after which it begins to decrease, so that younger and older individuals have relatively lower probabilities of becoming migrant workers (Figure 4.9).

² All predictions are done at mean values of explanatory variables unless otherwise stated.

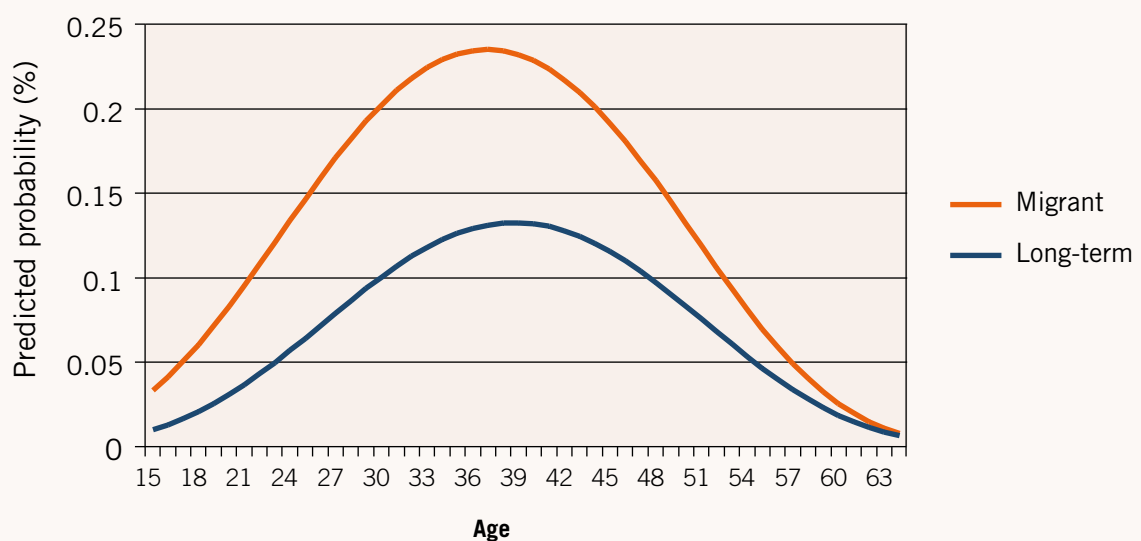
Table 4.1 Probit results on the probability of labour migration, long-term labour migration and return migration

Demographic Characteristic	Model 1 Labour Migration		Model 2 Long-term Labour Migration		Model 3 Return Migration (conditional prob.)	
	Coeff.	Marginal Effects	Coeff.	Marginal Effect	Coeff.	Marginal Effect
Male	0.475***	0.095***	0.310***	0.038***	0.164**	0.063**
	[0.035]	[0.007]	[0.039]	[0.005]	[0.071]	[0.027]
Age	0.171***	0.034***	0.167***	0.020***	-0.029	-0.011
	[0.009]	[0.002]	[0.011]	[0.001]	[0.022]	[0.009]
Age squared (1/100)	-0.231***	-0.046***	-0.215***	-0.026***	0.037	0.014
	[0.012]	[0.002]	[0.014]	[0.002]	[0.028]	[0.011]
<i>Schooling: (ref. Higher education)</i>						
Less than gymnasium	-0.841***	-0.100***	-1.264***	-0.063***	-0.459	-0.161
	[0.177]	[0.010]	[0.386]	[0.004]	[0.459]	[0.140]
Gymnasium	0.150**	0.031**	0.166**	0.021**	-0.191	-0.072
	[0.067]	[0.014]	[0.075]	[0.010]	[0.138]	[0.051]
High school	0.185***	0.039***	0.173**	0.023**	-0.025	-0.010
	[0.066]	[0.014]	[0.074]	[0.010]	[0.137]	[0.053]
Secondary vocational	0.427***	0.098***	0.341***	0.048***	-0.029	-0.011
	[0.066]	[0.017]	[0.074]	[0.012]	[0.133]	[0.051]
Secondary professional	0.291***	0.065***	0.237***	0.033***	0.175	0.068
	[0.073]	[0.018]	[0.080]	[0.013]	[0.152]	[0.060]
<i>Marital status: (ref. not married)</i>						
Married	-0.237***	-0.048***	-0.245***	-0.031***	0.121	0.046
	[0.047]	[0.010]	[0.053]	[0.007]	[0.088]	[0.034]
Household size	0.118***	0.023***	0.107***	0.013***	-0.110***	-0.042***
	[0.013]	[0.003]	[0.015]	[0.002]	[0.026]	[0.010]
<i>HH composition (ref. adults)</i>						
Ratio of children (<15)	-0.639***	-0.127***	-0.802***	-0.097***	1.210***	0.465***
	[0.114]	[0.022]	[0.132]	[0.016]	[0.214]	[0.082]
Ratio of elderly (>64)	-0.057	-0.011	-0.218	-0.026	0.083	0.032
	[0.169]	[0.033]	[0.198]	[0.024]	[0.320]	[0.123]

Demographic Characteristic	Model 1 Labour Migration		Model 2 Long-term Labour Migration		Model 3 Return Migration (conditional prob.)	
	Coeff.	Marginal Effects	Coeff.	Marginal Effect	Coeff.	Marginal Effect
Rural	0.272***	0.053***	0.119**	0.014**	0.079	0.030
	[0.044]	[0.008]	[0.051]	[0.006]	[0.090]	[0.034]
<i>Regions (ref. Chisinau)</i>						
North	0.597***	0.137***	0.605***	0.090***	0.052	0.020
	[0.069]	[0.017]	[0.080]	[0.014]	[0.161]	[0.062]
Centre	0.500***	0.112***	0.609***	0.090***	-0.020	-0.008
	[0.071]	[0.017]	[0.083]	[0.014]	[0.162]	[0.062]
South	0.779***	0.198***	0.738***	0.125***	0.028	0.011
	[0.070]	[0.021]	[0.083]	[0.018]	[0.162]	[0.062]
Constant	-5.097***		-5.312***		0.285	0.020
	[0.192]		[0.216]		[0.452]	[0.062]
<i>Pseudo Rsquared</i>	0.155		0.112		0.028	
<i>Observed probability</i>	0.164		0.090		0.395	
<i>Probability at mean</i>	0.118		0.061		0.392	
<i>N</i>	11,230		11,230		1,842	

Notes: * denotes statistical significance at 10%; ** at 5%; *** at 1%.

Figure 4.9 Predicted probability of labour migration and long-term labour migration by age



The predicted probability of labour migration by level of schooling, as shown in Figure 4.10, is such that individuals with less schooling (with the exception of those with less than a gymnasium level of education) are more likely to become migrant workers than individuals with a higher education (university and higher). The predicted probabilities also confirm that it is neither the least nor the most educated, but those with intermediate levels of schooling who migrate for work. Indeed, graduates of secondary vocational school have the highest probability of labour migration, followed by graduates of secondary professional school.

Figure 4.10 Predicted probability of labour migration and long-term labour migration by schooling

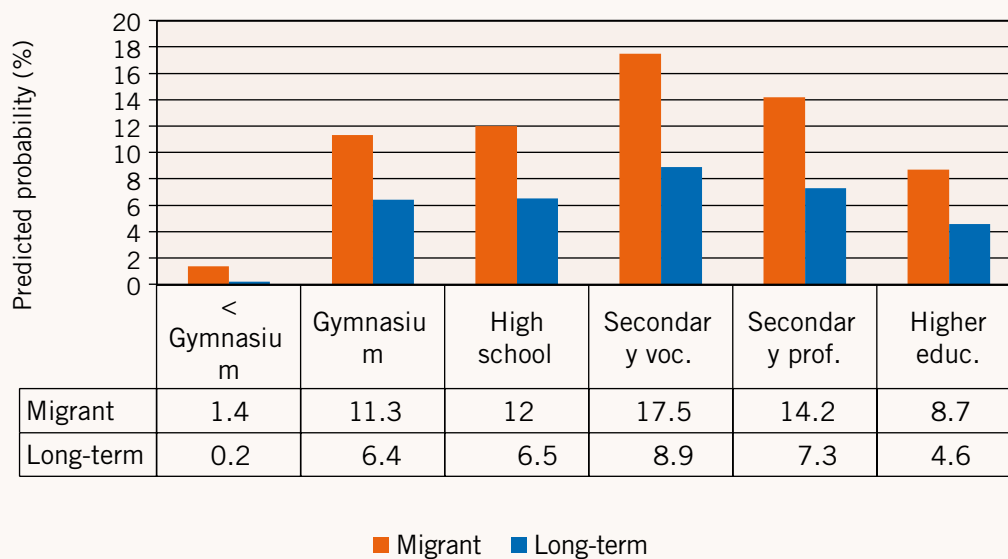
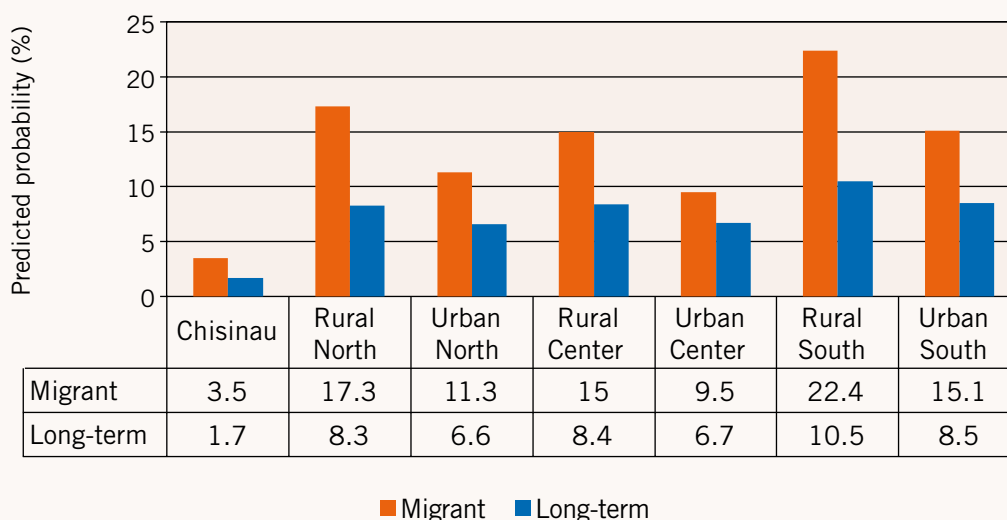


Figure 4.11 Predicted probability of labour migration and long-term labour migration by place of residence



Being married reduces the likelihood of an individual becoming a migrant worker by 4.8 percentage points. The presence of children in a household also decreases the probability of becoming a migrant worker, although a larger overall household size increases the probability. For instance, the probability of labour migration for an adult residing in a two-person household with no children is 10.2 per cent; for an adult in a four-person household without children, the probability is 15 per cent; and when two of the four household members are children, the probability is 8.7 per cent. The presence of elderly household members (i.e. individuals older than age 64) does not have a statistically significant effect on the probability of labour migration.

Living in a rural area increases the probability of labour migration by 5.3 percentage points. Living outside of the capital city Chisinau also increases the probability of labour migration. Figure 4.11 clearly indicates the rural/urban divide as well as the negative effect of living outside of the capital, particularly in the South of the country. For instance, while an individual living in the rural South has a 22.4 per cent probability of labour migration, the probability is only 3.5 per cent for someone in Chisinau, which is primarily urban.

4.2.2 Determinants of long-term labour migration (Model 2)

The results of multivariate analysis for long-term labour migration are qualitatively similar to those of migrant workers in general. Men are more likely to become long-term migrant workers than women, although the gender difference (3.8 percentage points) is smaller than for migrant workers in general. In terms of age, the probability of long-term labour migration increases until age 39, after which the probability decreases, so that the peak age comes two years after the peak age observed for migrant workers overall (Figure 4.9). Secondary-school graduates are the most likely to become long-term migrant workers, which is the case with migrant workers in general; however, schooling has less of an effect in determining long-term labour migration than it does in determining labour migration in general (Figure 4.10).

Being married reduces the likelihood of long-term labour migration by 3.1 percentage points. The probability of long-term labour migration is also reduced for adults residing in households that include children, whereas larger household size increases the probability of long-term labour migration.

Finally, both residing in a rural as opposed to an urban area and residing outside of the capital city, particularly residing in the South of the country, increase the likelihood of an individual becoming a long-term migrant worker. However, these factors have less of an effect on long-term labour migration than they do on labour migration in general (Figure 4.11)

4.2.3 Determinants of return-migration (Model 3)

The probability of returning to Moldova after an individual has migrated abroad for work is 6.3 percentage points higher for men as compared to women. Age, marital status and level of schooling do not have an effect on an individual's likelihood of return. In terms of household characteristics, a large household size decreases the probability of return, whereas the presence of children in the household increases this probability. Finally, despite the fact that residing in a rural as opposed to an urban area and residing outside of the capital increase the likelihood of becoming a migrant worker in general and a long-term migrant worker in particular, these factors have no effect on the likelihood of whether or not a migrant worker will return to Moldova.

5. Socio-economic Characteristics of Migrant Workers

This section of the report looks at the socio-economic characteristics of migrant workers in general as well as current, returned and long-term migrant workers in particular in terms of legal migration status, employment status, training activities, status in employment, economic activity, occupation, employment agreement, hours of work, labour remuneration and remittances. Labour-market outcomes of migrant workers before and during their stay abroad are also examined whenever there is sufficient data available.

5.1 Legal migration status

Only around a quarter of migrant workers (27.1%) hold a work permit in the host country (Table 5.1). The majority (53.6%) either hold a residence permit or have temporary registration, which may allow them temporary residency in a host country, but not necessarily legal employment. Furthermore, a non-negligible proportion – 11.8 per cent of all migrant workers – has no legal status.

The proportion of returnees with temporary registration is larger in comparison to current migrant workers, whereas the proportion with a work permit is smaller (Table 5.1). While it is possible that the inability to obtain a work permit in the host country leads some migrants to return to Moldova, it is also possible that some migrants choose to work without a work permit because they do not plan on remaining in the host country, but intend to return to Moldova. There is no significant variation in the proportions of current and return migrant workers with no legal status in the host country.

Among long-term migrant workers, the proportion holding a work permit (35.0%) is substantially larger and the proportion holding temporary registration (39.4%) smaller as compared to migrant workers in general (27.1% and 47.3%, respectively). However, there is little difference in terms of the proportion lacking any legal status, which is 11 per cent among long-term migrant workers and 11.8 per cent among migrant workers in general.

Table 5.1 Legal status of migrant workers

Legal Status	Total migrant workers	Current migrant workers	Return migrant workers	Long-term migrant workers
Citizenship in host country	1.7	1.6	1.7	2.2
Residence and work permit holder	27.1	29.8	23.0	35.0
Residence permit only	6.3	6.1	6.5	5.5
Temporary registration only	47.3	40.4	57.9	39.4
No legal status	11.8	12.5	10.7	11.0
Unknown	5.9	9.6	0.2	7.0

5.2 Pre-migration training and information-gathering

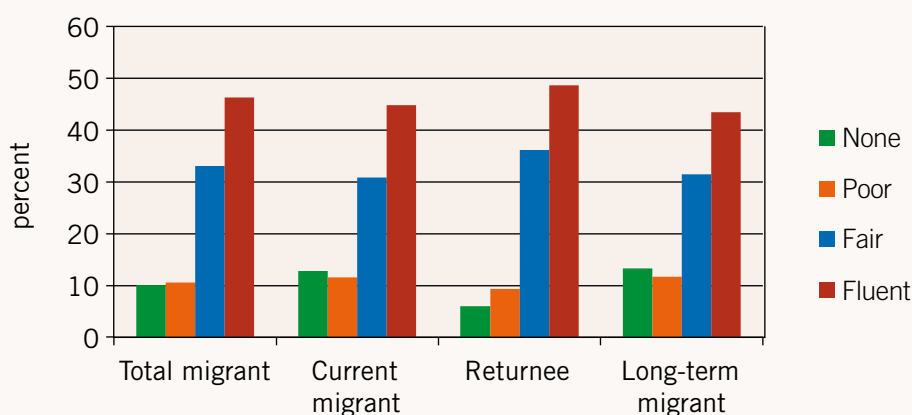
Before leaving Moldova, only a very small proportion of migrant workers – 4.1 per cent – attend any formal training program that might better prepare them for their experience abroad. Language courses constitute by far the most popular programs and are attended by more than 80 per cent of migrant workers attending any training program, while around 25 per cent participate in a formal training program to learn a specific skill.³ In addition, about 16 per cent of migrant workers study the language of their destination country on their own before leaving Moldova. In spite of this, in terms of foreign-language competency, close to 20 per cent have either poor or no knowledge of the language of the host country. Language competency is somewhat better among returnees as compared to current migrant workers, but, interestingly, language competency among long-term migrant workers is no better than among migrant workers in general.

Although participating in a formal training program to increase employment opportunities abroad is uncommon, over 95.5 per cent of migrant workers ask friends, relatives, family members and acquaintances who are living abroad for information about the country to which they intend to migrate, and about 20 per cent read books, search the internet and make use of mass media in an attempt to gather more information on their country of destination.

Once abroad, only a small proportion of migrant workers attend a training course. Excluding those for whom information is unavailable⁴, the proportion of migrant workers attending a formal training program in the host country is limited to 1.7 per cent, with language courses and skills training the most popular types of program. While abroad, nearly 90 per cent of migrant workers continue to seek information on the host country from friends, relatives, family members and acquaintances living there. Furthermore, 30.9 per cent attempt to teach themselves a trade that might be useful abroad; 25.5 per cent try to learn the language of the host country on their own; and 15.0 per cent make an effort to gather more information about the host country through mass media, the internet, or libraries.

With regard to the recognition of equivalencies of qualifications between Moldova and the host country, among those for whom information is available⁵, 93 per cent of migrants had not attempted to have their qualifications recognized by the host country and did not plan to do so in the future.

Figure 5.1 Foreign-language competency



³ The total may exceed 100 per cent because migrants may attend more than one course.

⁴ This question has a non-response rate of 8 per cent.

⁵ This question has a non-response rate of 14 per cent.

5.3 Employment status

This section examines the employment status of migrant workers before, during and after migration in order to determine whether lack of employment could be a factor prompting individuals to look for work abroad.

5.3.1 Employment status before labour migration

About 55.1 per cent of migrant workers were employed prior to leaving Moldova, and 13.8 per cent were looking for work. Hence, 69.3 per cent⁶ of migrant workers were economically active before leaving the country. In order to compare these figures with that of the working-age population at large, data from the LFS is used to estimate the employment status of the WAP.⁷ As Table 5.2 shows, the official employment rate of the WAP is 43.8 per cent. However, it should be noted that this figure is based on a definition of employment that excludes subsistence agriculture, inclusion of which would increase the average employment rate. Furthermore, using the same broad definition of unemployment used by the LFMS to determine the employment status of migrant workers (i.e., when the criteria on job search and availability to start work within two weeks are excluded and unemployment is re-defined to include anyone without work but wishing to work), the unemployment rate of the WAP is shown to be 4.5 per cent.⁸ Based on these figures, it can be concluded that individuals who become migrant workers have an above-average propensity towards participation in the labour market.

Overall, the pre-migration employment rates of different groups of migrant workers are very similar, with slightly higher rates for returnees and long-term migrant workers (58.1% and 57.5%, respectively) as compared to current migrant workers (53.0%). Pre-migration unemployment rates are also very similar, at around 12–14 per cent. Thus, overall economic activity rates before migrating are similar for different groups of migrant workers, although they are slightly higher for returnees and long-term migrant workers.

The analysis of pre-migration labor market outcomes suggests that a sizeable proportion of migrant workers held a job before leaving the country. However, as Table 5.3 shows, 45.8 per cent of migrant workers quit the jobs they were in before leaving Moldova because of “low pay”, more than one-fifth left a job because it was seasonal in nature, and for another 10.7 per cent, their work ended due to a business failure (Table 5.3). Hence, low wages, seasonal work and business failure constitute the main reasons why over three-quarters of migrant workers left work before migrating abroad. However, these three reasons are not equally important for the different groups of migrant workers. For instance, while more than half of current and long-term

Table 5.2 Employment status of WAP and migrant workers before migration (% of WAP)

Employment status	Total migrant workers	Current migrant workers	Return migrant workers	Long-term migrant workers	WAP
Employed	55.1	53.1	58.1	57.5	43.8
Unemployed (broad def.)*	13.8	14.0	13.5	12.1	4.5
<i>Economically active**</i>	<i>69.3</i>	<i>67.7</i>	<i>71.6</i>	<i>70.1</i>	<i>48.4</i>

Notes: “Economically active” is the sum of “employed” and “unemployed”.

* The broad definition excludes the requirements of active search and readiness to take up work within 2 weeks of the survey.

**Due to a small number of missing observations for current migrant workers for unemployment, the sum of Rows 1 and 2 does not equal Row 3.

⁶ Due to a small number of missing observations for current migrant workers for unemployment, the employment rate plus the unemployment rate does not exactly add up to the economic activity rate.

⁷ Note that the reference periods over which employment and unemployment are measured do not coincide for migrant workers and the WAP. Nonetheless, this comparison is useful, since employment and unemployment statistics for the WAP reflect the general structure of the labour market. Furthermore, in the absence of major economic or political shocks, the employment and unemployment rates for the WAP are not expected to show substantial changes over relatively short periods of time such as two years.

⁸ The official unemployment rate of the WAP obtained using the actual definition from the LFS was 2.7 per cent.

Table 5.3 Reasons for quitting work before migration

Reason	Total migrant workers	Current migrant workers	Return migrant workers	Long-term migrant workers
Did not quit (will be absent for some time)	3.6	1.5	6.6	0.2
Seasonal work	21.3	20.3	22.7	19.2
Labour contract ended	0.4	0.2	0.6	0.3
Redundancy	5.8	5.3	6.4	6.7
Business failed	10.7	9.2	12.8	9.0
Mismatch in skills and job requirements	1.7	1.3	2.2	2.0
Low wages	45.8	51.7	37.6	52.0
Poor working conditions	1.5	1.0	2.2	1.9
Family reasons	4.9	5.0	4.8	4.2
To gain work experience abroad	4.4	4.6	4.1	4.5

Note: Figures represent % of migrant workers employed before leaving Moldova only. (Information is missing in only three cases, which are excluded from calculations.)

migrant workers quit work because of low wages (51.7% and 52.0%, respectively), this was the case for a considerably smaller proportion of returnees (37.6%), for whom seasonal work and business failure played relatively more important roles. Interestingly, while only 1.5 per cent of current migrant workers reported continuing a work relationship in Moldova, this proportion is 6.6 per cent among returnees, which could, in part, explain why they have returned.

Over three-quarters of all migrant workers (including those who were not employed prior to leaving Moldova) were reported to be seeking work abroad because of low wages in Moldova. Other reasons given were a lack of work matching migrant workers' qualifications (8.8%), poor working conditions in Moldova (6.0%), and a wish to gain work experience abroad (4.5%). These reasons are very similar across the different groups of migrant workers (Table 5.4).

Table 5.4 Reasons for seeking work abroad

Reason	Total migrant workers	Current migrant workers	Return migrant workers	Long-term migrant workers
Lack of jobs matching qualification/skills in Moldova	8.8	8.4	9.4	9.8
Low wages in Moldova	76.8	78.0	75.0	76.3
Poor working conditions in Moldova	6.0	6.3	5.4	5.7
To gain experience abroad	4.5	4.4	4.7	4.8
Family reasons (reunion, etc.)	3.9	2.9	5.4	3.3
Other	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

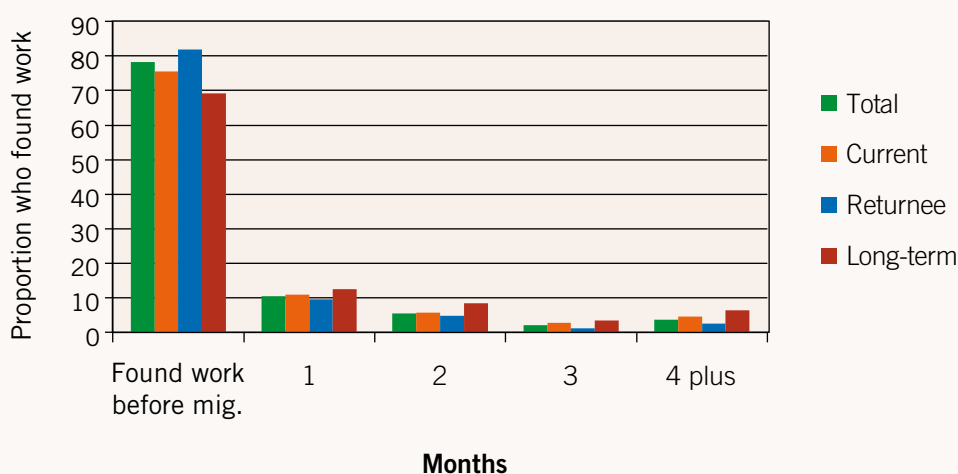
Note: Figures represent % of migrant workers employed and unemployed before leaving Moldova. (Information is missing in only four cases, which are excluded from calculations.)

5.3.2 Employment status abroad

The overwhelming majority (96.7%) of migrant workers are employed abroad. This figure is 95.8 per cent among current migrant workers, 96.7 per cent among returnees and 97.6 per cent among long-term migrant workers. The remaining per cent is looking for work.

On average, it took migrant workers less than a month to find work abroad.⁹ In fact, 78.2 per cent of migrant workers had found work before migrating abroad, and 96.2 per cent had found work within three months of migrating (Figure 5.2). The proportion finding work before migrating abroad is particularly high among returnees (81.9%), but lower among long-term migrant workers (69.1%), although 93.5 per cent of long-term migrant workers had found work within three months of migrating. In general, only a very small proportion of migrant workers spent more than four months looking for work abroad.

Figure 5.2 Time spent looking for work (last/current job abroad)



5.3.3 Employment status after returning to Moldova

When the employment status of returned migrant workers was examined, 28.9 per cent were found to be employed at the time of the survey, and, using the broad definition of unemployment discussed above (See Section 5.3.1), 6.0 per cent of returned migrant workers were unemployed; hence, only 34.9 per cent of returnees were economically active in the last quarter of 2012.¹⁰ This rate is much lower than the 71.6 per cent estimated pre-migration economic activity rate of this group. The relatively low economic activity rate of returnees may be related to their plans to migrate again in the near future; indeed, the economic activity rates of return migrant workers who intend to migrate again (22.0%) are much lower upon their return to Moldova as compared to those who do not intend to migrate again (55.3%), despite the fact that the two groups had very similar activity rates (70.1% vs 72.6%) before leaving the country (Table 5.5). At the same time, the difference in economic activity rates between the two groups of returnees could be related to differences in how long the returned migrants have been in Moldova, which is much shorter among those who intend to migrate again (3.5 months) than among those who do not intend to migrate again (7.6 months). Nonetheless, even among those who do not intend to migrate, the economic activity rate – and especially the employment rate – upon return is substantially lower than the rate prior to migration.

⁹ Tabulation excludes non-response (3.7%). Considering that this question is asked only of those employed at the time of the survey, time-to-work may be underestimated if time-to-work for unemployed individuals is longer; however, given the very small proportion of migrant workers who were unemployed abroad, the true value is not likely to be very different from the figure estimated in the text.

¹⁰ Using the actual (or narrow) definition of unemployment from the LFS, the unemployment and economic activity rates for returnees would be 4.9 per cent and 33.7 per cent, respectively.

Table 5.5 Employment status of returned migrant workers

Status	Does not intend to migrate		Intends to migrate	
	Before	After	Before	After
Employed	56.3	45.1	59.3	18.6
Unemployed	13.8	10.2	13.3	3.4
<i>Economically active</i>	<i>70.1</i>	<i>55.3</i>	<i>72.6</i>	<i>22.0</i>

Note: Broad unemployment definition is used.

A number of explanations may be offered for this: First, as already mentioned, it is possible that individuals who intend to migrate again are reluctant to work, especially if they already have job connections abroad; second, unobserved factors (e.g. health issues, family-related matters) that make some migrant workers unwilling to migrate again may reduce their employment prospects at home as well; and third, the differences in pre- and post-migration employment rates may be the result of measurement differences stemming from the different survey instruments used to collect information on employment rates before (LFMS) and after (LFS) labour migration, namely that the LFS excludes individuals engaged in subsistence agriculture from the ranks of the employed, whereas the LFMS may include such persons due to the nature of questions used in establishing employment status. If these individuals are included in estimates for returned migrant workers, then the proportion of those employed after returning to Moldova jumps to 76.3 per cent for all returned migrant workers, to 72.9 per cent for those who intend to migrate again, and to 81.6 per cent for those who do not, thereby significantly reducing the differences observed before and after migration. The fact that a substantial proportion of return migrant workers are engaged in subsistence agriculture suggests that return migrant workers do, in fact, continue to be economically active.

5.4 Status in employment

Before migrating abroad, 62.2 per cent of employed migrant workers were wage earners, 33.1 per cent worked on their own account, and 4.3 per cent were unpaid family workers. (The proportion of employers was negligible.) In contrast, during their time abroad, the overwhelming majority of migrant workers – 84.6 per cent – hold wage work, and a non-negligible proportion – 15.2 per cent – are employed on their own account.

Prior to migrating abroad, larger proportions of current and long-term migrant workers as compared to returnees were employed as wage earners and smaller proportions on their own account. However, because wage employment becomes the dominant form of employment for all groups of migrant workers while abroad, the earlier differences in status in employment across groups is diminished.

Table 5.6a Status in employment before migration

Status	Total migrant workers	Current migrant workers	Return migrant workers	Long-term migrant workers	WAP
Employee	62.2	64.2	59.5	64.2	73.2
Employer	0.4	0.1	0.7	0.6	0.5
Own-account worker	33.1	30.9	36.1	30.9	24.7
Contributing family worker	4.3	4.7	3.8	4.3	1.6

Note: Includes employed migrant workers only.

Table 5.6b Status in employment abroad

	Total migrant workers	Current migrant workers	Return migrant workers	Long-term migrant workers
Employee	84.6	86.6	81.5	85.7
Employer	0.2	-	0.4	0.3
Own-account worker	15.2	13.3	18.1	14.0
Contributing family worker	0.1	0.1	-	-

Note: Includes employed migrant workers only.

(Information is missing in 26 cases, which are excluded from calculations.)

5.5 Types of economic activity

Before leaving the country, a sizeable proportion of migrant workers – 43.4 per cent – were employed in agriculture. Although Moldova has a heavily agrarian economy, with nearly 23.0 per cent of the working-age population engaged in agricultural activities, the proportion of migrant workers employed in agriculture exceeds the sector's overall share in employment. Migrant workers are also over-represented in construction, with 13.3 per cent of migrant workers engaged in work in the construction sector before leaving Moldova, as compared to only 7.4 per cent of the WAP.

Table 5.7a Economic activity types – before migration

NACE-Rev1	Total migrant workers	Current migrant workers	Return migrant workers	Long-term migrant workers	WAP
Agriculture & fishing	43.4	42.2	45.0	44.0	22.6
Mining	0.5	0.2	1.0	0.3	0.4
Manufacturing	7.8	5.4	11.3	7.7	10.4
Electricity, gas, water	0.8	0.6	1.1	0.3	2.1
Construction	13.3	12.7	14.0	10.3	7.4
Wholesale and retail trade	11.6	15.0	6.7	14.1	17.4
Hotels and restaurants	2.2	2.4	1.9	2.5	2.3
Transport, storage	5.0	5.7	3.9	6.4	6.9
Financial intermediary	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.0	1.9
Real estate	0.8	0.5	1.2	0.4	3.6
Public administration	2.4	2.0	3.0	1.8	6.1
Education	6.1	5.9	6.4	6.4	9.6
Health and social work	3.6	4.5	2.5	3.9	5.8
Other personal and community services	2.2	2.6	1.5	1.8	3.2
Private households	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3

Note: Includes employed migrant workers only.

Table 5.7b Economic activity types abroad

NACE-Rev1	Total migrant workers	Current migrant workers	Return migrant workers	Long-term migrant workers
Agriculture & fishing	2.8	2.2	3.7	2.1
Mining	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.1
Manufacturing	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.8
Electricity, gas, water	-	-	-	-
Construction	56.4	52.8	61.9	49.2
Wholesale and retail trade	9.7	11.2	7.3	12.0
Hotels and restaurants	3.7	2.7	5.1	2.9
Transport, storage	3.6	3.6	3.5	4.4
Financial intermediary	-	-	-	-
Real estate	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.2
Public administration	-	-	-	-
Education	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Health and social work	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3
Other personal and community services	1.8	1.7	1.9	1.5
Private households	18.8	22.3	13.5	24.4

Note: Includes employed migrant workers only.

When the different groups of migrant workers are compared in terms of their economic activity prior to leaving Moldova, agricultural work turns out to be the main economic activity for all groups, employing 42.2–45.0 per cent of the different groups of migrant workers. Aside from agriculture, construction – and, to a lesser extent, manufacturing – constitute important pre-migration economic activities, particularly for returnees. In contrast, a larger proportion of current and long-term migrant workers as compared to returnees were employed in wholesale and retail trade before leaving Moldova.

During their time abroad, over half of all migrant workers are employed in construction and nearly one-fifth are employed in private households. Together, these two economic activities account for over three-quarters of all migrant workers. Other economic activities where migrant workers are employed, albeit in smaller numbers, are wholesale and retail trade (9.7%), hotels and restaurants (3.7%), and transport and storage (3.6%). This general employment pattern is observed for the different migrant worker groups, although a larger proportion of returnees as compared to current and long-term migrant workers are engaged in construction and a smaller proportion in private households and wholesale and retail trade.

5.6 Occupational groups

Before leaving Moldova, 41 per cent of migrant workers are employed in elementary occupations, as compared to only 28.5 per cent of the working-age-population. Other occupations in which migrant workers are over-represented, albeit to a lesser extent than in elementary occupations, are those of craft and related trades worker, plant and machine operator, and skilled agricultural worker. In contrast, migrant workers are under-represented among legislators, professionals, associate professionals and service and sales workers. The occupations held by the different groups of migrant workers before leaving Moldova are rather similar,

Table 5.8a Occupation held before migrating abroad

Occupations (ISCO-88)	Total migrant workers	Current migrant workers	Return migrant workers	Long-term migrant workers	WAP
Legislators and senior officials	1.9	1.6	2.4	2.5	8.6
Professionals	5.4	5.1	5.8	5.2	14.4
Technicians and associate professionals	7.1	7.5	6.5	7.0	9.0
Clerks	1.3	1.6	0.9	1.8	2.2
Service and sales workers	12.2	14.3	9.3	13.9	16.0
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	3.3	3.8	2.6	3.7	1.5
Craft and related trades workers	16.8	16.3	17.6	14.7	10.8
Plant and machine operators, assemblers	11.0	10.7	11.5	9.5	8.1
Elementary occupations	41.0	39.1	43.6	41.7	28.5
Armed forces	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8

Note: Includes employed migrant workers only.

with 70–73 per cent employed in one of three occupations, namely service and sales work, craft and related trades work, and elementary occupations. Within these three occupations, a larger proportion of returnees as compared to current and long-term migrant workers are in elementary occupations and a smaller proportion in sales and service work.

Table 5.8b Occupation held abroad

Occupations (ISCO-88)	Total migrant workers	Current migrant workers	Return migrant workers	Long-term migrant workers
Legislators and senior officials	0.6	0.4	1.0	0.9
Professionals	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.9
Technicians and associate professionals	1.2	1.4	1.0	1.5
Clerks	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.1
Service and sales workers	18.1	18.6	17.2	20.1
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	0.4	0.2	0.6	0.5
Craft and related trades workers	41.8	38.2	47.1	38.5
Plant and machine operators, assemblers	5.5	5.6	5.4	6.2
Elementary occupations	31.4	34.6	26.6	31.2

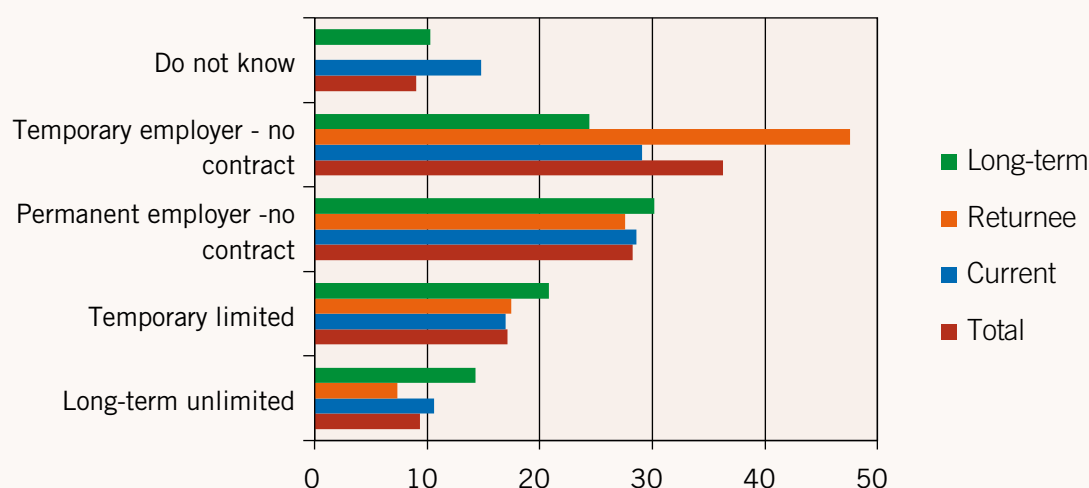
Note: Includes employed migrant workers only.

The same three main occupations employ an even larger proportion of migrant workers (91.3%) during their stay abroad, with craft and related trades work attracting the largest share (41.8%), followed by elementary occupations (31.4%) and service and sales work (18.1%). The distribution of the different groups of migrant workers across occupations is similar, although a larger proportion of returnees as compared to current and long-term migrant workers are employed as craft and related trades workers and a smaller proportion in elementary occupations.

5.7 Employment agreements while abroad

The majority of migrant workers (70.9%) do not have an employment contract abroad, and among those who do have contracts, they are for temporary employment of a fixed duration. The proportion of returnees who work abroad without a contract is higher (75.2%) than that of current (67.7%) and long-term (60.8%) migrant workers. Furthermore, over half of the migrant workers without a work contract – 63.3 per cent in the case of returnees – are in temporary employment. The majority of migrant workers (88.2%) who work abroad on a contract, regardless of its duration, obtain their contract while in the host country, with only a very small proportion arranging contracts in Moldova before migrating abroad.¹¹

Figure 5.3 Permanency in employment abroad



Note: Includes employed migrant workers only.

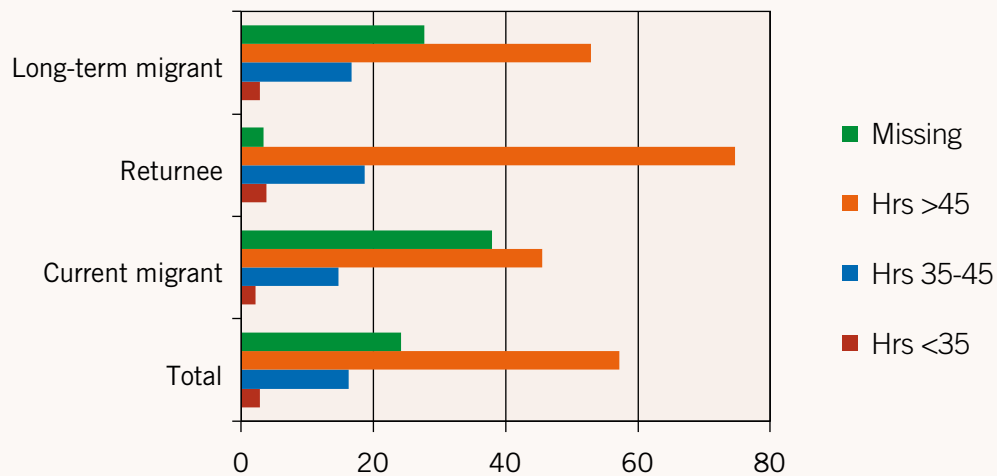
5.8 Hours of work abroad

With regard to usual hours of work abroad, more than one-third of respondents answering on behalf of current migrant workers were unable or unwilling to provide this information.¹² Excluding those for whom information is unavailable, the average estimated hours of work per week is 53.2 hours for migrant workers in general, 52.4 hours for current migrant workers, 54.1 hours for returnees and 52.5 hours for long-term migrant workers.¹³

¹¹ These figures exclude non-response, which was 9 per cent of all respondents (although all returnees answered this question.) When this group of respondents are treated as a separate group (as given in Figure 5.3), the proportions of migrant workers, current migrant workers and long-term migrant workers without a work contract turn out to be 64.4, 57.7 and 54.6 per cent, respectively.

¹² This question had a non-response rate of 37.9 per cent.

¹³ Non-response is relatively lower among returnees, at 3.1 per cent.

Figure 5.4 Hours worked per week

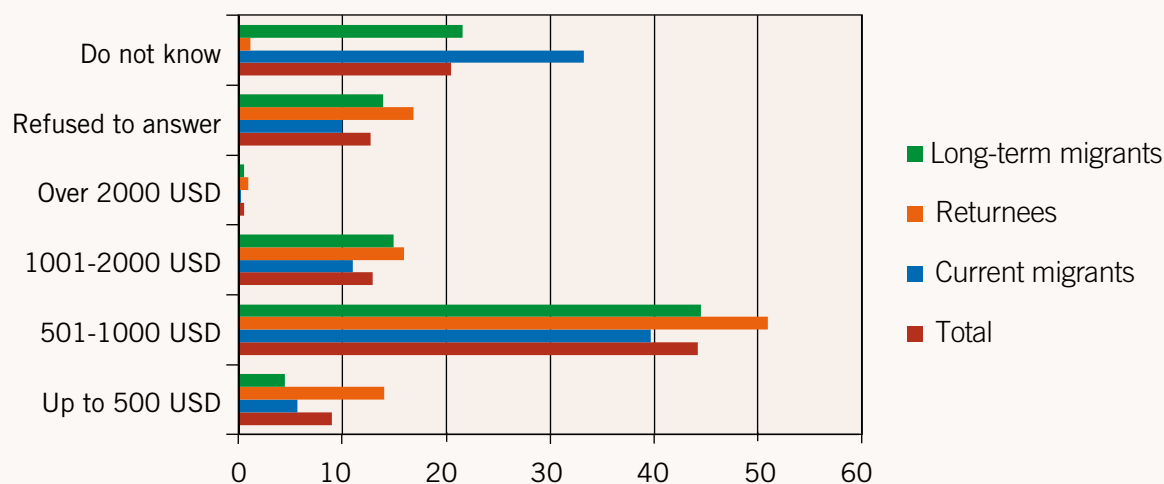
Note: Includes employed migrant workers only.

Figure 5.4 shows the distribution of hours of work among the different groups of migrant workers, with the inclusion of non-response (“missing” data) as a separate category. Given the relatively small amount of missing information for returnees, it can be concluded that nearly three-quarters of this group of migrant workers work for more than 45 hours per week while abroad. However, in the case of current migrant workers, for whom the non-response rate is very high, the estimate showing 45.6 per cent of this group to work more than 45 hours per week appears to be low. Considering that working less than 35 hours is reported very infrequently, it is probably safe to assume that despite the sizeable non-response, most current migrant workers are likely to work long hours per week and that average work weeks of more than 45 hours are not unusual.

5.9 Labour remuneration abroad

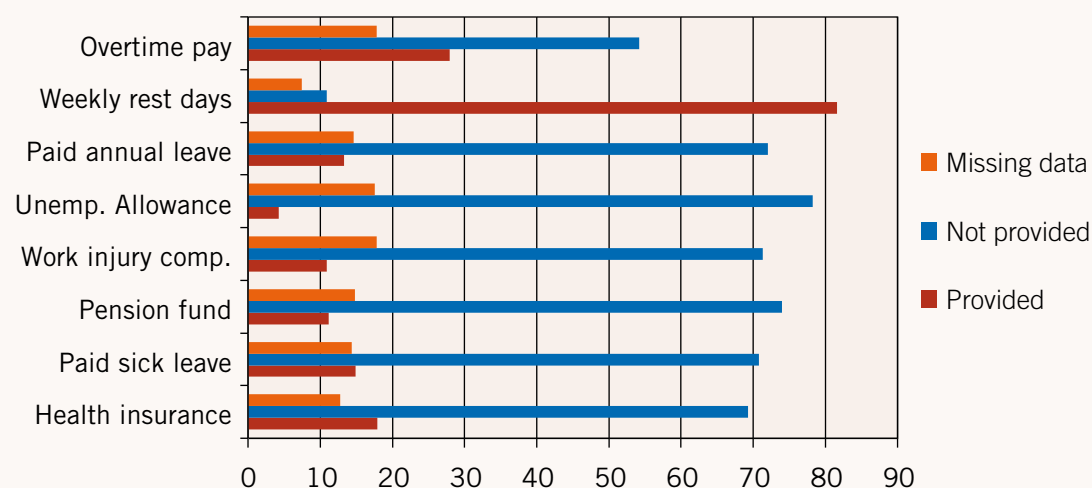
Although nearly a third of respondents did not (or could not) provide information about the average monthly earnings of migrant workers, based on the answers provided, it could be concluded that the majority of migrant workers earn 500–1000 USD per month abroad. Specifically, excluding those for whom information is unavailable, 66.5 per cent of migrant workers earn 500–1000 USD per month, 20.1 per cent earn more than 1000 USD, and 13.4 per cent earn less than 500 USD. Returned migrant workers earn less than current migrant workers, with 17.1 per cent of the former and only 9.9 per cent of the latter earning less than 500 USD per month; about equal proportions (appx. 20%) earning more than 1000 USD per month; and 62.4 per cent of the former, but 70.4 per cent of the latter earning 500–1000 USD per month. Long-term migrant workers also earn more relative to migrant workers in general, with only 6.8 per cent earning less than 500 USD per month, 69.3 per cent earning 500–1000 USD per month, and 23.9 per cent earning more than 1000 USD per month. The comparison of earnings across the different groups of migrant workers is complicated by the fact that non-response differs across groups. For instance, while 43.3 per cent of respondent answering on behalf of current migrant workers could not or would not provide an answer, in the case of long-term migrant workers, this proportion is 35.7 percent. In the case of returnees, 16.9 per cent was unwilling to provide an answer (Figure 5.5). Hence, the monthly earnings of different groups of migrant workers obtained by excluding the missing information should be treated with caution.

Information on the work benefits of migrant workers abroad is also limited, with as much as 18 per cent of respondents unable or unwilling to provide information on this subject. As Figure 5.6 shows, when non-response is categorized separately, it can be concluded that the majority of migrant wage-earners do not

Figure 5.5 Average monthly earnings abroad

Note: Includes employed migrant workers only.

enjoy benefits from work while abroad, with the exception of weekly rest days. For instance, while over 80 per cent of migrant wage-earners enjoy weekly rest days, only 17.9 per cent have health insurance through work.¹⁴ Paid annual leave, unemployment insurance, work injury benefits, pension rights and paid sick leave are enjoyed by small proportions of migrant wage-earners, while overtime pay is relatively more prevalent.¹⁵

Figure 5.6 Work benefits provided/not provided to migrant wage-earners abroad

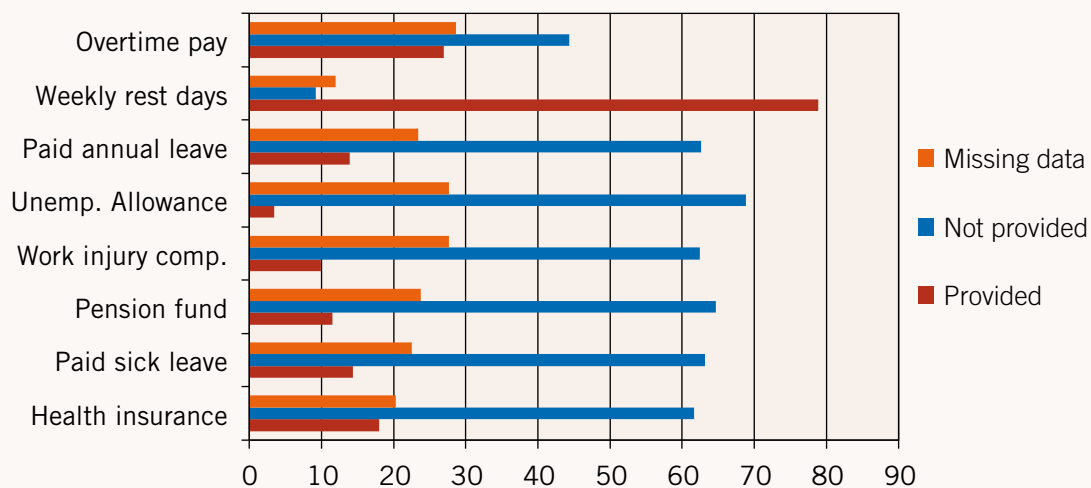
Note: Includes migrant wage-earners only. Individuals for whom data is unavailable are grouped separately as "missing data".

¹⁴ Non-response for this question was 12.8 per cent. If non-response is assumed to be random, the proportion of migrant wage-earners abroad with health insurance through work increases to around 20 per cent, whereas if all non-response is assumed to represent individuals who receive health insurance through work – a very unlikely scenario – then the proportion of migrant wage-earners with health insurance through work increases to 30.7 per cent.

¹⁵ Non-response for overtime pay was 17.8 per cent. Assuming random non-response, the proportion enjoying overtime pay would be 34 per cent.

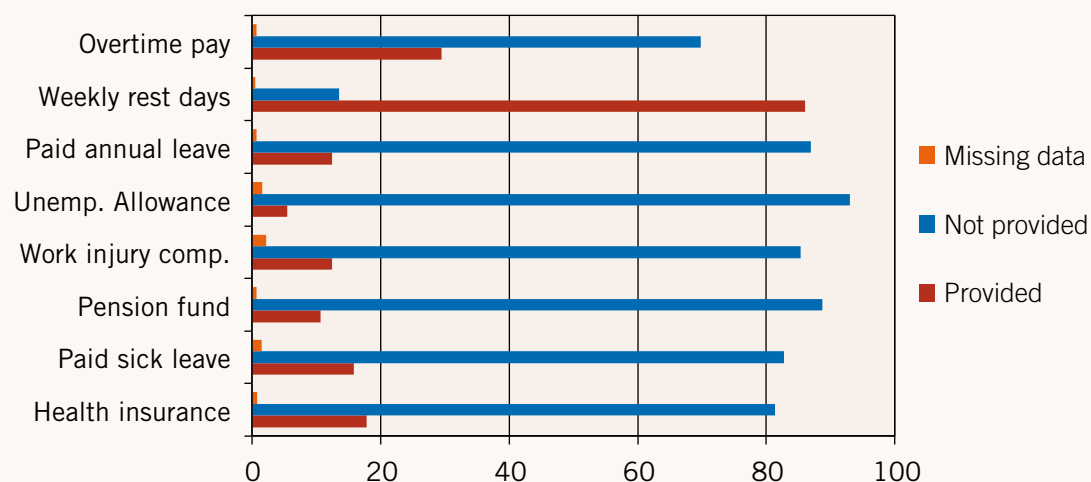
When data on current migrant workers and returnees are examined separately, it can be understood that the high rate of non-response regarding work benefits for migrant workers in general is related mainly to the proxy response for current migrant workers, for whom non-response is as high as 28.7 per cent, depending on the specific question. Even with these high non-response rates, it can be concluded that, as with migrant wage-earners in general, the proportions of current migrant wage-earners who enjoy paid annual leave, unemployment insurance, work-injury benefits, pension rights, paid sick leave and health insurance are very low, while weekly rest days and overtime pay are more common. Among returnees, for whom non-response was minor, the proportions enjoying work benefits are smaller as compared to current migrant workers. For instance, assuming random non-response, 89.6 per cent of current migrant wage-earners enjoy weekly rest days and 37.8 per cent receive overtime pay, whereas the proportions for returnees are 85.0 percent, 30.0 per cent, respectively. (The gap in overtime pay represents the largest gap in work benefits between the two groups.) Furthermore, while the proportion of current migrants with health insurance through work (22.6%) is relatively small, the proportion of returnees who enjoy health insurance through work is even smaller (17.9%). Other benefits for which statistically significant differences are observed between the two groups are pension rights and paid annual leave.

Figure 5.7 Benefits from work abroad – current migrant wage-earners

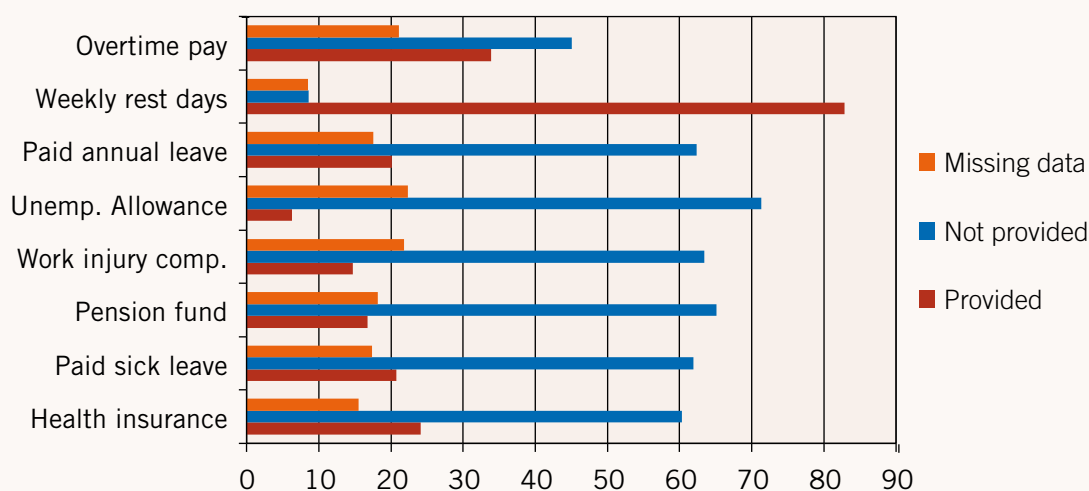


Note: Includes employed migrant wage-earners only.

Figure 5.8 Benefits from work abroad – returnees



Note: Includes employed migrant wage-earners only.

Figure 5.9 Benefits from work abroad – long-term migrant wage earners

Note: Includes employed migrant wage-earners only.

Although the proportions of long-term migrant wage-earners with work benefits are greater than those of migrant wage-earners in general, they are still not large. For instance, assuming random non-response, 28.6 per cent of long-term migrant wage-earners as compared to 20.5 per cent of all migrant wage-earners have health insurance through work. The higher prevalence of work benefits among long-term migrant wage-earners may have to do with their more established work relations in the host country; for example, as noted earlier, work permits and contracts are more prevalent among this group as compared to other groups of migrant workers. The most common work benefits enjoyed by long-term migrant wage-earners are weekly rest days and overtime pay.

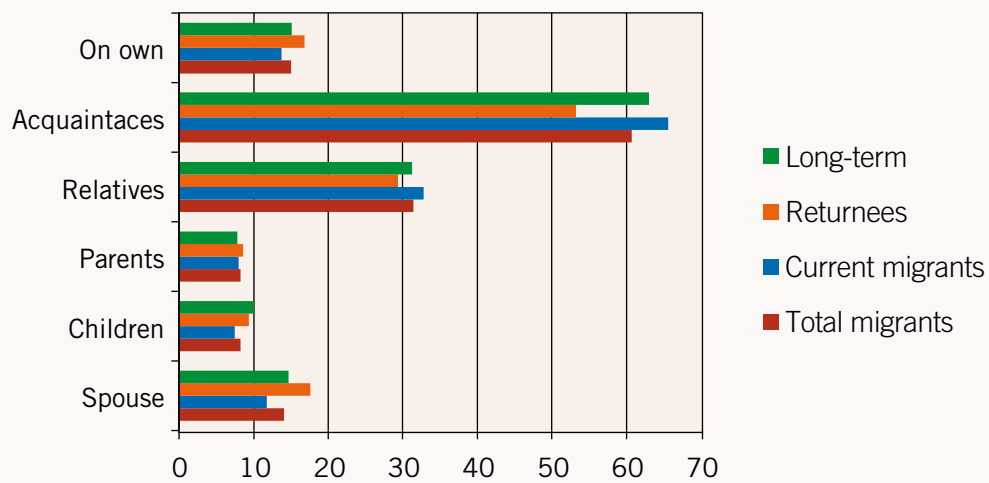
5.10 Living arrangements and expenses while abroad

Only a small minority of migrant workers (15.0%) live on their own while working abroad, and an additional 27.2 per cent live with immediate family members (i.e. spouse, children and parents). However, a larger proportion of migrant workers – 31.2 per cent – live with relatives other than immediate family members, and an even larger proportion – 63.0 per cent – live with acquaintances.¹⁶ The proportion of migrant workers living on their own does not differ significantly across the different groups of migrant workers (Figure 5.10); however, the proportion living with an acquaintance is larger among long-term and current migrant workers as compared to returnees. Sharing living space with acquaintances probably enables migrant workers to save on living expenses and at the same time generates a network that can be of use both socially and in finding work.

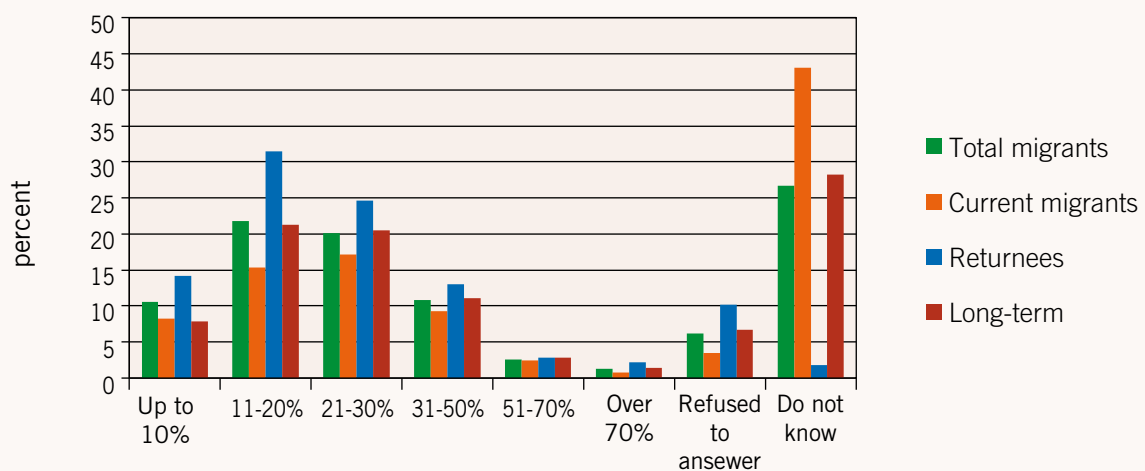
When asked about the share of earnings used for living expenses abroad, nearly one-third of respondents were unwilling or unable to provide an answer (Figure 5.11). However, the overall response pattern seems to indicate that the majority of migrant workers spend at most half of their earnings on living expenses abroad. Among returnees, for whom non-response is lower than for current migrant workers, 79.6 per cent of migrant workers spend at most 30 per cent of their earnings and 94.4 per cent spend at most 50 per cent of their earnings on living expenses abroad.¹⁷

¹⁶ The total exceeds 100 per cent because different categories of living arrangements are not mutually exclusive; for instance, a migrant worker may share living space with relatives as well as acquaintances.

¹⁷ These figures assume random non-response (the non-response rate was 11.9 per cent); if non-response is included, the proportions become 70.2 per cent among returnees and 83.1 per cent among current migrants.

Figure 5.10 Living arrangements of migrant workers while abroad

Note: The sum of horizontal bars for individual categories of migrants exceeds 100 per cent because more than one option (with the exception of "on own") could be selected.

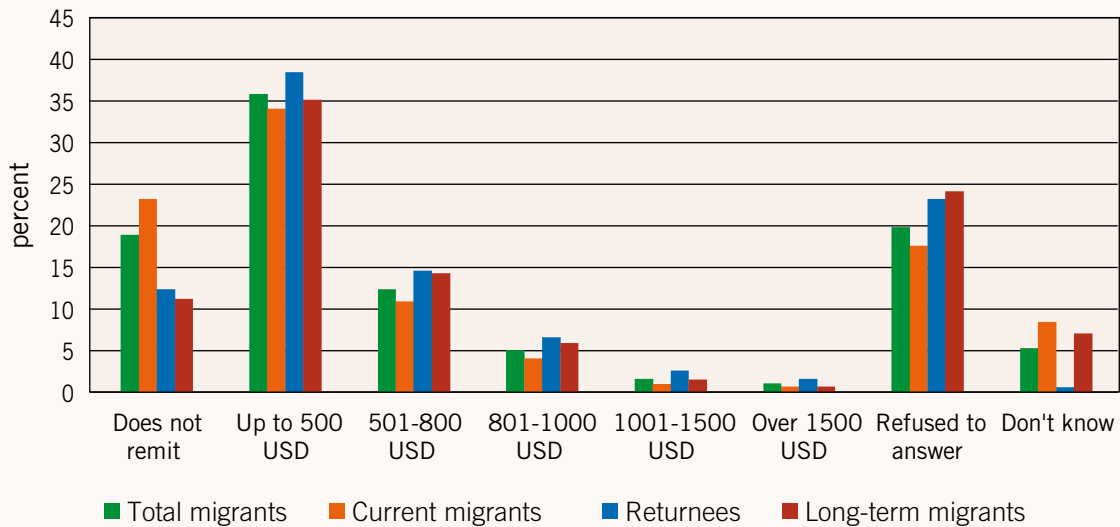
Figure 5.11 Earnings used to sustain the migrant worker while abroad

5.11 Remittances

A non-negligible proportion of migrant workers – about one-fifth – does not send or bring any money home. The proportion failing to remit is higher among current migrant workers as compared to returnees and long-term migrant workers. Excluding non-response,¹⁸ 31.4 per cent of current migrant workers are estimated not to send remittances, as compared to 16.3 per cent of returnees and long-term migrant workers. Assuming that current migrant workers include a relatively higher proportion of recent migrants who have not had sufficient time to accumulate savings to remit would explain these differences in remittance behaviour.

¹⁸ Non-response rates regarding remittances sent were 25.2 per cent among all migrant workers, 26.1 per cent among current migrant workers, 23.8 per cent among returnees and 31.2 per cent among long-term migrant workers.

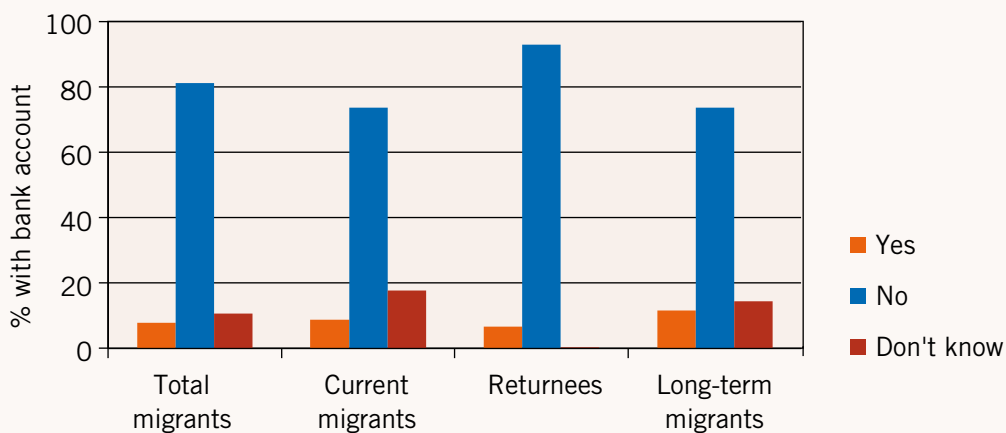
Figure 5.12 Average remittances sent per month



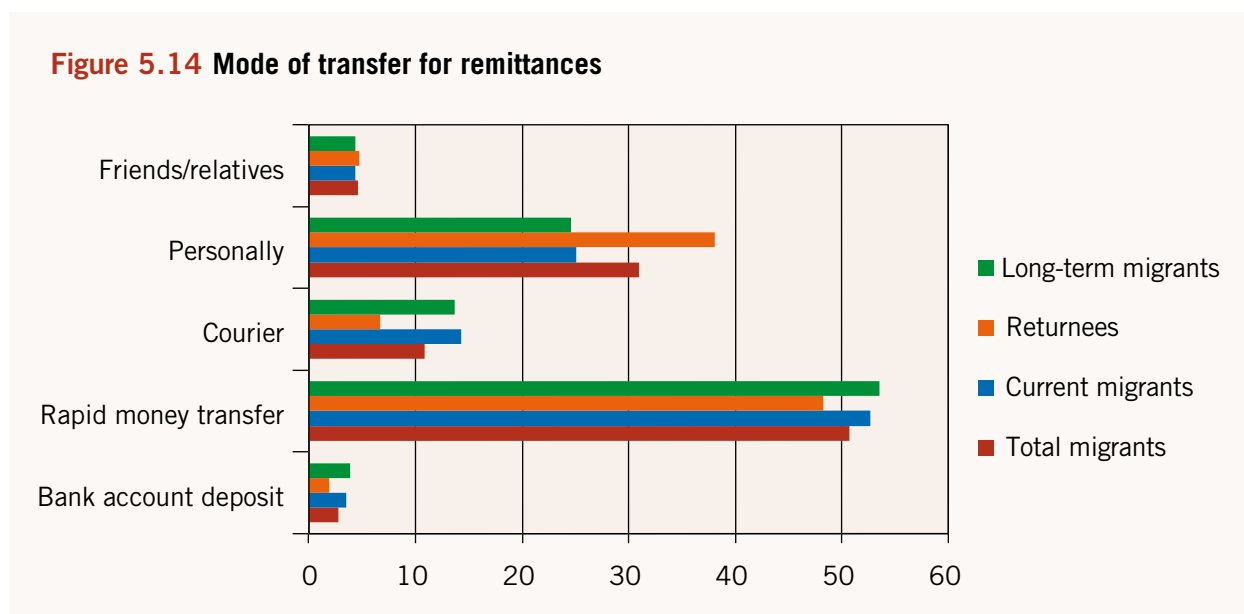
In terms of amounts, it is probably safe to assume that the average amount of monthly remittances does not exceed 800 USD. Ignoring non-response and those who do not remit, 64.1 per cent of migrant workers were found to remit less than 500 USD per month and 22.1 per cent to remit 500–800 USD per month; in other words, 86.2 per cent of migrant workers send less than 800 USD per month back to Moldova. The amount sent back by the different groups of migrant workers does not differ substantially, although the data suggest that current migrant workers remit somewhat smaller amounts than returnees and long-term migrant workers.

The overwhelming majority of migrant workers (over 80.0%) do not have a bank account abroad. Ignoring non-response, this figure reaches 90 per cent among current migrant workers and 93 per cent among returnees. Among long-term migrant workers (again ignoring non-response), the proportion without a bank account in the host country is 86.3 per cent.¹⁹

Figure 5.13 Bank account abroad



¹⁹ Non-response rates regarding bank accounts abroad were 10.8 per cent among all migrant workers, 17.7 per cent among current migrant workers, 0.3 per cent among returnees and 14.5 per cent among long-term migrant workers.

Figure 5.14 Mode of transfer for remittances

Rather than using banks, approximately half of all migrant workers who send money home use rapid money transfer services, and another sizable proportion (31%) brings money home personally when visiting Moldova. Another common mode of transfer, private couriers, is used by 10.8 per cent of migrant workers. Whereas a larger proportion of returnees (38.1%) brings money home personally, a larger proportion of current and long-term migrant workers uses rapid money transfer services.

5.12 Use of remittances

Remittances are used for various purposes, the most common of which, meeting current household needs, is used by 88.9 per cent of households. Other common uses of remittances are investing in housing (acquisition/renovation/construction), purchasing durable goods, and adding to savings.

Table 5.9 Use of remittances

Use	Total migrant workers	Current migrant workers	Return migrant workers	Long-term migrant workers
Current needs	88.9	89.4	88.2	88.7
Durable goods	35.9	36.4	35.4	39.8
Investment in agri. activities	10.1	11.3	8.8	10.0
Investment in non-agri. bus.	1.0	0.8	1.3	1.4
Housing investment	49.9	49.1	50.9	52.2
Expenses for leisure activities	5.9	4.8	7.1	5.6
Debt repayment	16.6	15.7	17.6	14.8
Schooling expenses	12.6	12.3	13.0	13.1
Medical expenses	13.1	14.5	11.5	14.2
Expenses for trips abroad	2.6	3.1	2.0	2.5
Savings	28.7	34.4	21.9	35.9
Other	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7

Note: Because multiple answers are allowed, column totals may exceed 100%.

6. Socio-Economic and Demographic Profiles of Short-term Migrant Workers

This section examines the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of short-term migrant workers, who constitute 45.4 per cent of all migrant workers and 7.5 per cent of the working-age population. The discussion looks at short-term migrant workers by dividing them into sub-groups based on their length of stay abroad in order to determine whether or not they differ from one another in any significant ways or whether or not estimates of labour migration out of Moldova would change if those individuals who remain outside of Moldova for just a short time are excluded from the ranks of migrant workers altogether.

6.1 Categorization of short-term migrant workers by length of stay abroad

Short-term migrant workers are defined as migrant workers who have spent less than 12 months in a host country as of the date of the survey interview. Of these, 29.7 per cent were abroad for less than 3 months, 32.9 per cent for 3–6 months and 37.4 per cent for 6–12 months (Table 6.1).

Table 6.1 Short-term migrant workers by length of stay abroad

Length of stay	N	%
Less than 3 months	58,000	29.7
3 to 6 months	64,000	32.9
6 months to a year	73,000	37.4
Total short-term migrant workers	195,000	100.0

The timeframe used to define “short-term” plays an important role in determining overall estimates of labour migration as well as the composition of labour migration in terms of short-term versus long-term migrant workers. For example, considering that a substantial proportion of short-term migrant workers (62.7%) spent less than six months in a host country, any categorization of short-term migrant workers based on a minimum length of stay of six months would substantially affect the estimates of both short-term labour migration and labour migration in general.

Furthermore, it is likely that some of the individuals categorized as short-term migrant workers will ultimately remain in host countries for more than a year, since nearly half of all those categorized as short-term migrant workers are current labour migrants who have yet to return from abroad; this, in turn, suggests that the extent of short-term labour migration is over-estimated. This limitation in the definition of short-term labour migration must be kept in mind when interpreting the results presented in this section, and it also highlights the problem of imposing the requirement of a minimum stay on any definition of labour migration.

Table 6.2 shows the destination countries for short-term migrant workers by their lengths of stay, along with the destinations of long-term migrant workers. Russia constitutes the main destination of choice for short-term migrant workers, accounting for 76.1 per cent of all short-term migrant workers, as compared to 63.1 per cent of long-term migrant workers. Russia is even more popular among very-short-term migrant

Table 6.2 Destination countries for short-term migrant workers

Destination	All short-term migrant workers	Less than 3 months	3–6 months	6–12 months	Long-term migrant workers
Canada	0.1	-	-	0.2	0.1
France	2.2	1.8	1.4	3.3	2.4
Germany	0.9	1.4	0.4	0.9	0.5
Greece	0.7	0.4	1.1	0.6	0.9
Israel	1.5	0.9	2.1	1.3	3.4
Italy	6.9	6.5	3.4	10.5	20.4
Portugal	0.3	0.4	0.4	–	1.5
Russia	76.1	78.4	79.6	71.3	63.1
Turkey	2.7	2.4	2.6	2.9	1.5
Ukraine	2.9	3.1	3.3	2.3	0.8
UK	0.2	0.4	-	0.3	0.2
US	1.9	0.6	3.1	1.9	0.9
Other	3.7	3.7	2.6	4.5	4.3

workers, with closer to 80 per cent of those who have been abroad for less than 6 months working or looking for work choosing Russia as their country of destination. The second most popular destination is Italy, which is the choice of 6.9 per cent of all short-term migrant workers.

6.2 Socio-demographic characteristics of short-term migrant workers

Table 6.3 shows the socio-demographic characteristics of different groups of migrant workers according to their length of stay. When compared to long-term migrant workers, short-term migrant workers are younger, and a smaller proportion of them are married. This is true especially of short-term migrant workers who have been abroad for less than three months. In terms of education, short-term migrant workers are only slightly less educated than long-term migrant workers, whereas the education gap among the different groups of short-term migrant workers is larger. For instance, only 17.7 per cent of migrant workers who have spent less than three months abroad have secondary professional schooling or more, compared to 22.7 per cent of those who have spent 6–12 months abroad.

As compared to long-term migrant workers, short-term migrant workers tend to come from slightly larger households with more children. Different groups of short-term migrant workers do not vary appreciably in terms of household structure, although children constitute a slightly larger share of the households of short-term migrant workers who have spent 6–12 months abroad as compared to other groups.

In total, 77.6 per cent of short-term migrant workers come from rural areas, which is slightly higher than that of long-term migrant workers (72.9%). Moreover, the proportion of individuals with rural residence is particularly high – 84.8 per cent – among short-term migrant workers who have spent 3–6 months in a host country. There are also sharp differences in the regional distribution of short-term migrant workers, with individuals from the Centre Region of Moldova accounting for a larger proportion of migrant workers who have spent less than six months in a host country as compared to 6–12 months in a host country, a group that includes a larger proportion of individuals residing in the North.

Table 6.3 Descriptive statistics on short-term migrant workers

Characteristic	All short-term migrant workers	Less than 3 months	3–6 months	6–12 months	Long-term migrant workers
Age	33.4 (10.7)	32.2 (10.5)	32.8 (10.6)	35.0 (10.7)	36.8 (11.1)
Male (%)	28.3	28.0	25.3	31.2	36.0
Married (%)	57.9	53.8	54.4	64.2	60.1
Education (%)					
< Gymnasium	1.0	1.7	0.9	0.7	0.1
Gymnasium	26.5	27.2	28.5	24.1	25.1
High school	20.9	24.5	22.4	16.8	21.5
Secondary voc.	31.9	28.9	30.3	35.8	31.4
Secondary prof.	10.8	10.1	8.6	13.3	12.8
Higher educ.	8.9	7.6	9.3	9.4	9.2
Household size	4.0 (1.4)	4.1 (1.4)	4.0 (1.4)	3.9 (1.5)	3.8 (1.4)
HH composition					
% of children (<15)	16.5	15.5	16.1	17.6	13.2
% of adults	79.7	79.7	80.2	79.3	83.3
% of elderly (65+)	3.8	4.7	3.7	4.1	3.5
Rural (%)	77.6	74.2	84.8	73.9	72.9
Regions (%)					
North	33.4	29.4	30.8	38.8	32.0
Centre	27.3	29.4	30.5	22.8	33.5
South	31.1	32.2	31.2	30.0	28.2
Chisinau	8.3	9.0	7.5	8.4	6.2

Note: For continuous variables, standard deviation is given in parenthesis.

6.3 Multivariate analysis of the determinants of short-term labour migration

Table 6.4 presents the results of multivariate analysis examining the probability of choosing short-term labour migration over long-term labour migration. As the table shows, this probability is 5.3 percentage points higher for male migrant workers as compared to female migrant workers.

In terms of age, the probability of choosing short-term labour migration over long-term labour migration increases with age until age 50 and then begins to decline, so that individuals 50 years of age are more likely to become short-term labour migrants than both younger and older individuals.

With the exception of the very small group of individuals who have less than gymnasium education, who are more likely to become short-term migrant workers than individuals with higher levels of schooling, the level of schooling is not associated with the choice between short-term and long-term labour migration.

Table 6.4 Probit results on the probability of short-term labour migration among migrant workers

Short-term labour migration (conditional probability)		
	Coeff.	Marginal effect
Male	0.134*	0.053*
	[0.070]	[0.028]
Age	-0.076***	-0.030***
	[0.022]	[0.009]
Age squared (1/100)	0.075***	0.030***
	[0.028]	[0.011]
<i>Education: (ref. Higher education)</i>		
Less than gymnasium	0.999*	0.359*
	[0.590]	[0.161]
Gymnasium	-0.087	-0.035
	[0.137]	[0.054]
High school	-0.030	-0.012
	[0.137]	[0.054]
Secondary vocational	0.015	0.006
	[0.134]	[0.053]
Secondary professional	0.038	0.015
	[0.153]	[0.061]
<i>Marital status: (ref. not married)</i>		
Married	0.157*	0.062*
	[0.089]	[0.035]
Household size	-0.013	-0.005
	[0.026]	[0.010]
<i>HH composition (ref. adults)</i>		
Ratio of children (<15)	0.563***	0.223***
	[0.216]	[0.086]
Ratio of elderly (>64)	0.467	0.185
	[0.315]	[0.125]
Rural	0.192**	0.075**
	[0.091]	[0.035]
<i>Regions (ref. Chisinau)</i>		
North	-0.274*	-0.107*
	[0.160]	[0.062]

Short-term labour migration (conditional probability)		
	Coeff.	Marginal effect
Centre	−0.443***	−0.172***
	[0.161]	[0.060]
South	−0.250	−0.098
	[0.161]	[0.062]
Constant	1.461***	
	[0.441]	
<i>Pseudo R squared</i>		0.035
<i>Observed probability</i>		0.453
<i>Probability at mean</i>		0.452
<i>N</i>		1,842

Notes: * denotes statistical significance at 10%; ** at 5%; *** at 1%.

Both marriage and children increase the probability of choosing short-term over long-term labour migration. For instance, a married individual from a four-person household that includes two children has a 55.6 per cent probability of choosing short-term over long-term labour migration, whereas an individual who is not married and resides in a four-person household with no children has only a 38.3 per cent probability of choosing short-term over long-term labour migration.

Residing in a rural area increases the probability of choosing short-term over long-term labour migration by 7.5 percentage points, whereas residing in the North or the Centre of Moldova decreases the likelihood of choosing short-term over long-term migration as compared to an individual from Chisinau.

An ordered probit analysis was also performed to identify individual and household characteristics associated with different lengths of short-term labour migration. However, in contrast to the findings presented above in Section 6.2 that showed certain individual and household-level characteristics to differ among different groups of short-term migrant workers, in a multivariate framework, neither the individual nor the household-level characteristics discussed earlier are associated with any particular length of short-term labour migration (results not shown). For example, despite the survey data indicating that individuals residing in the North represent a larger proportion of short-term migrant workers who have spent six months or more in a host country, multivariate analysis does not associate being from the North with a higher probability of being among that particular group of short-term migrant labour. This holds true for other characteristics as well.

6.4 Socio-economic profile of short-term migrant workers

This section of the report considers whether or not migrant workers spending different lengths of time in a host country differ in terms of socio-economic characteristics.

6.4.1 Legal migration status abroad

Only 17.6 per cent of short-term migrant workers have both a residence and a work permit in their host country, and although more than half (56.9%) possesses a temporary registration permit, 12.8 per cent has no legal status in the host country.

Table 6.5 Legal migration status of short-term migrant workers

Legal Status	All short-term	Less than 3 months	3–6 months	6–12 months
Citizen of host country	1.0	2.7	0.4	0.2
Holder of residence and work permit	17.6	11.9	16.2	23.3
Holder of residence permit only	7.3	8.7	5.5	7.7
Holder of temporary registration only	56.9	60.7	63.8	47.8
No legal status	12.8	11.9	10.5	15.5
Do not know	4.6	4.2	3.8	5.6

Among the different groups of short-term migrant workers, the proportion with both residence and work permits is highest among those who have stayed in the host country for six months or more. While it could be that individuals who expected to stay longer acquired both documents before migrating, it is also possible that staying longer in a host country provides a greater opportunity to obtain these permits. Interestingly, as compared to migrants whose stays are shorter, a larger proportion of migrant workers who have stayed in a host country for six months or more has no legal status, and a smaller proportion holds temporary registration only (Table 6.5). A plausible explanation for this pattern is that some migrant workers (perhaps with the help of their employers) are able to obtain work permits when their temporary registration expires, while those who fail to obtain work permits end up with no legal status. It is also worth noting that a small proportion (2.7%) of short-term migrant workers who have stayed in the host country for less than three months are, in fact, citizens of the host country, whereas this figure is less than half a per cent for other short-term migrant workers.

6.4.2 Employment status abroad

In total, 94.4 per cent of short-term migrant workers are employed while abroad; however, the proportion varies among different groups of short-term migrant workers, reaching as high as 97–99 per cent among short-term migrant workers who have been in the host country for three months or more, as compared to only 85.7 per cent among those in the host country for less than three months. All those who are not employed are looking for work, which is in line with the earlier finding indicating that a small group of migrant workers have not secured a job before migrating to the host country, and the near universal employment rates among those who stay longer indicate that short-term migrant workers find work in a very short period of time.²⁰

6.4.3 Status in employment abroad

The overwhelming majority of short-term migrant workers (83.1%) work as wage-earners and the rest are employed on their own account. However, the proportion of those working on their own account decreases with longer stays, thus increasing the proportion of wage earners to 86.5 per cent among short-term migrant workers who have stayed in the host country for more than six months.

²⁰ If those who did not find work in host countries returned to Moldova, this would contribute to near universal employment rates among those who remained abroad. However, considering that the employment rate in host countries reported for returnees classified as short-term migrant workers is even higher than that of current short-term migrant workers (94.8% and 94.0%, respectively), selective return migration does not appear to explain the near-universal employment rates among those who remain abroad for longer.

Table 6.6 Status in employment of short-term migrant workers while abroad

Status	All short-term	Less than 3 months	3–6 months	6–12 months
Employee	83.1	81.1	80.9	86.5
Employer	-	-	-	-
Own-account worker	16.7	18.4	19.1	13.5
Contributing family worker	0.2	0.1	-	-

Notes: Includes employed migrants only.

Information is missing for 11 cases, which are excluded from tabulation

6.4.4 Types of economic activity abroad

During their stay in a host country, short-term migrant workers are employed mainly in construction, in private households, and in wholesale and retail trade. Construction is particularly important for those who stay for only a very short time, accounting for 70.5 per cent of migrant workers who have been in a host country for less than three months, but decreasing to 59.8 per cent among those who have stayed for 6–12 months. While construction remains the dominant economic activity for all groups of short-term migrant workers, those who stay longer tend to move into manufacturing, hotels and restaurants, and private households.

Table 6.7 Types of economic activity of short-term migrant workers while abroad

NACE-Rev1	All short-term	Less than 3 months	3–6 months	6–12 months
Agriculture & fishing	3.7	5.4	1.4	4.6
Mining	0.3	-	-	0.7
Manufacturing	2.0	0.9	1.0	3.6
Electricity, gas, water	-	-	-	-
Construction	65.4	70.5	67.7	59.8
Wholesale and retail trade	6.7	7.4	8.7	4.6
Hotels and restaurants	4.6	0.5	5.8	6.5
Transport, storage	2.5	2.3	2.6	2.5
Financial intermediary	-	-	-	-
Real estate	0.3	0.5	-	0.4
Public administration	-	-	-	-
Education	-	-	-	-
Health and social work	0.4	0.6	-	0.5
Other personal and community svcs.	2.2	1.9	4.2	0.6
Private households	12.0	10.0	8.6	16.2

Note: Includes employed migrant workers only.

6.4.5 Occupations of short-term migrant workers while abroad

During their time abroad, short-term migrant workers are employed mainly in craft and related trades, service and sales, and elementary occupations. Craft and related work is particularly important for short-term migrant workers whose duration in a host country is very short; however, as their lengths of stay increase, more short-term migrant workers become service and sales workers as well as plant and machine operators, thus reducing the proportions employed in craft and related work and in elementary occupations.

Table 6.8 Occupations of short-term migrant workers while abroad

Occupations (ISCO-88)	All short-term migrant workers	Less than 3 months	3–6 months	6–12 months
Legislators and senior officials	0.3	-	0.2	0.5
Professionals	0.6	1.9	0.4	-
Technicians and associate professionals	0.7	1.3	1.1	-
Clerks	0.6	-	-	1.6
Service and sales workers	15.5	11.9	15.5	18.1
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	0.3	0.9	-	0.1
Craft and related trades workers	45.8	46.3	48.8	42.8
Plant and machine operators, assemblers	4.6	3.3	2.8	7.1
Elementary occupations	31.6	34.5	31.2	29.8

Note: Includes employed migrant workers only.

6.4.6 Employment agreement abroad

Among short-term migrants employed as wage earners while abroad, 83.4 per cent work without an employment contract,²¹ and only 2.3 per cent have a contract of unlimited duration. Working without an employment contract is more prevalent among those short-term migrant workers whose length of stay in a host country is shortest; thus, while 90 per cent of those in a host country for less than three months work without a contract, this figure decreases to 85.7 per cent among those in a host country for 3–6 months and to 77.2 per cent among those in a host country for 6–12 months.

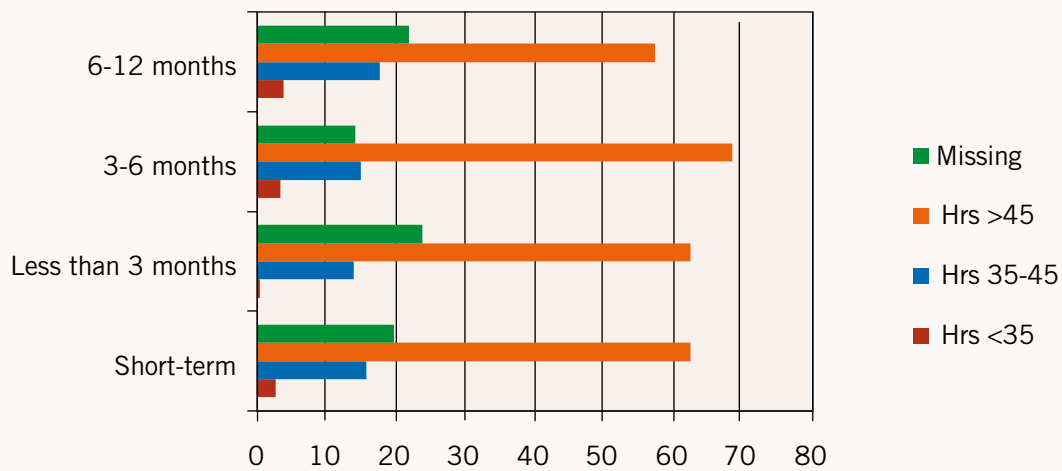
6.4.7 Hours of work abroad

On average, short-term migrant workers are employed in a host country for 54.2 hours per week.²² The average work week is similarly long among the different groups of short-term migrant workers, at around 54–55 hours per week.

The distribution of work hours for different groups of short-term migrant workers is given in Figure 6.1. Despite the sizeable rate of non-response, it is apparent that long work hours are the norm rather than the exception for all groups of migrant workers.

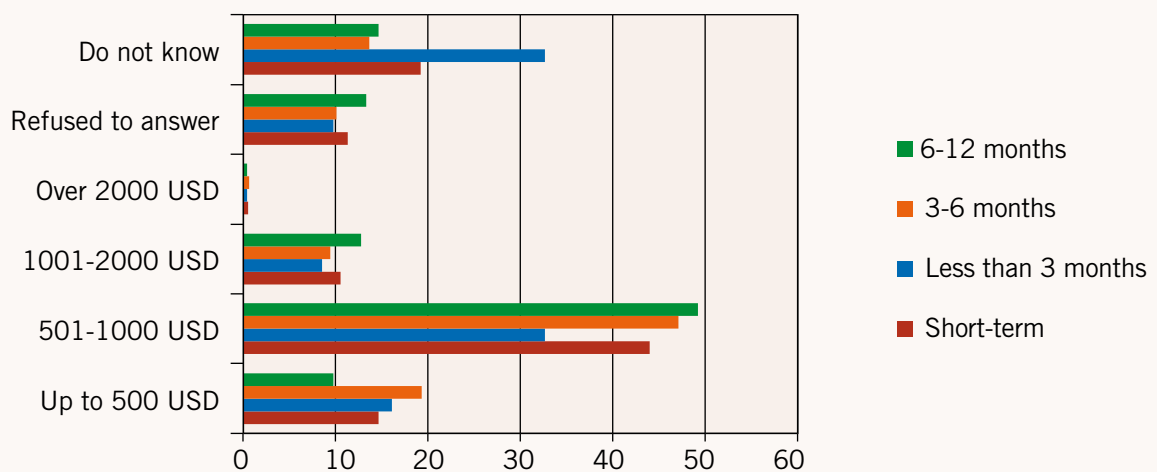
²¹ Excluding non-response, which is 7.4 per cent.

²² The average is calculated exclusive of non-response, which constitutes 19.0 per cent of short-term migrant workers who are employed abroad.

Figure 6.1 Distribution of work hours per week

6.4.8 Labour remuneration abroad

As Figure 6.2 shows, no information is available regarding the average monthly earnings of a large proportion (30.4%) of short-term migrant workers. A similar lack of information with regard to earnings was noted earlier for migrant workers in general, and it is particularly acute for migrant workers who have been in a host country for less than three months, for whom the non-response rate on this subject reaches 42.3 per cent.

Figure 6.2 Average monthly earnings abroad

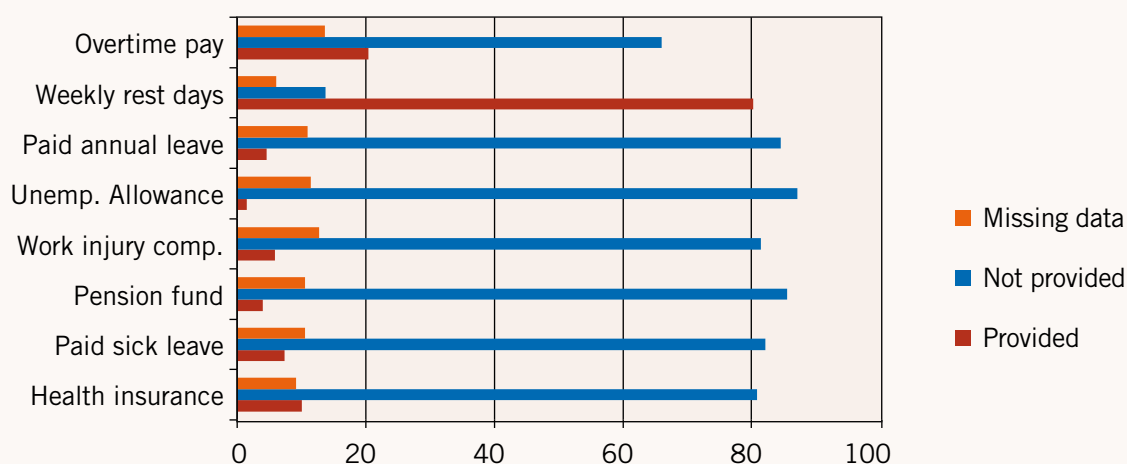
Note: Includes employed short-term migrant workers only.

Based on the information that is available, it is probably safe to assume that an average short-term migrant worker earns 500–1,000 USD per month. Average pay increases with increases in the length of stay in a host country, so that 25.0 per cent and 28.0 per cent, respectively, of migrant workers who have been in a host country for less than three months and for 3–6 months report monthly earnings less than 500 USD, as compared to 13.5 per cent of those in a host country for 6–12 months.²³ However, regardless of their lengths of stay, less than one per cent of all short-term migrant workers earn over 3,000 USD per month while abroad.

In terms of benefits, in general, the only type of work benefit enjoyed by short-term migrant wage-earners is the availability of weekly rest days, which is enjoyed by a substantial proportion (80.2 per cent) of all short-term migrant wage-earners (Figure 6.3). Other benefits such as health insurance, paid sick leave, pension fund contributions by employers, unemployment allowances, and paid annual leave are enjoyed by less than 10 per cent of short-term migrant wage-earners. Overtime pay is also uncommon, provided to no more than one-fifth of all short-term migrant wage-earners.

While the prevalence of work benefits appears to be similar for different groups of short-term migrant wage-earners with different lengths of stay in a host country (Figure 6.4), any possible variations among these groups are difficult to determine with any great certainty due to differences in the rates of non-response among them. Non-response is highest among those with 6–12 months in a host country, followed by those with three months or less and those with 3–6 months in a host country (See Appendix, Figures A2-A4). Assuming non-response is random, then short-term migrant workers with 6–12 months in a host country appear to have higher rates of work-related benefits as compared to those with shorter stays in a host country. For instance, 90.8 per cent of short-term migrant wage workers with 6–12 months in a host country enjoy weekly rest days and 14.8 per cent have health care through work, whereas these figures are 80.7 per cent and 5.5 per cent, respectively among those in a host country for less than three months. The higher monthly wages and greater prevalence of work-related benefits provided to those with longer stays in a host country can be explained by the greater prevalence of work permits and work contracts among this group. Still, notwithstanding the relatively better position of short-term migrant workers who stay longer in a host country, apart from weekly rest days and, to some extent, overtime pay, very few short-term migrant workers receive any work benefits.

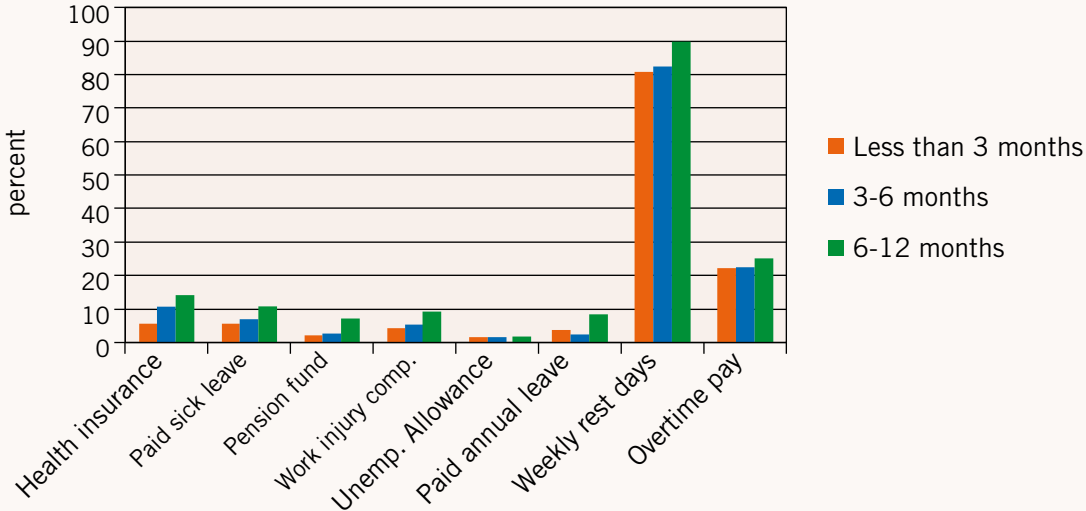
Figure 6.3 Work benefits associated with work abroad



Note: Includes employed short-term migrant workers only.

²³ Figures in the text exclude non-response, which is 42.3 per cent, 23.7 per cent and 27.9 per cent, respectively, for migrant workers who stay less than 3 months, for 3-6 months and for 6-12 months in a host country.

Figure 6.4 Work-related benefits enjoyed by short-term migrant workers abroad



Note: Includes short-term migrant wage earners only. Excludes non-response.

7. Socio-Economic and Demographic Profiles of Potential Migrant Workers

This section of the report examines the socio-economic and demographic profiles of potential migrant workers, i.e. migrant workers who had returned to Moldova, but intended to go abroad again to work or look for work within six months following the survey, as well as “non-labour migrants” who had not been abroad in the 24 months prior to the survey, but who also intended to migrate to work or look for work within six months following the survey. Of the two groups, returnees constitute 71.4 per cent of all potential migrant workers.

7.1 Socio-demographic characteristics of potential migrant workers

Potential migrant workers, especially non-labour migrants who intend to migrate, are, on average, younger than the working-age population. About 70 per cent are men, and 62 per cent are married, with the proportion of married individuals higher among returnees who intend to migrate again as compared to both non-labour migrants who intend to migrate and the WAP.

In comparison to the WAP, potential migrant workers include a larger proportion of secondary vocational school graduates and a smaller proportion of university graduates. However, the schooling attainments of potential migrant workers differ depending upon whether they are non-labour migrants who intend to migrate or returnees intending to migrate again; specifically, the former group is comprised of higher proportions of both the least educated (i.e. those with less than gymnasium education) and the most educated (i.e. those with higher education). A desire to migrate on the part of the most-educated individuals could reflect changing economic circumstances (e.g. deteriorating job prospects, falling wages at home).

Potential migrant workers tend to reside in households that are somewhat larger and include more dependents than households of the WAP in general. As noted above for migrant workers, potential migrant workers comprise a larger proportion of individuals residing in rural areas and regions outside the capital, Chisinau. However, urban residents account for a sizeable proportion (43.1%) of the non-labour migrants who intend to migrate, as opposed to only one-quarter of the returnees planning on migrating for work again.

The countries attracting the interest of potential migrants are the same countries that already host migrant labour out of Moldova, mainly because 61.3 per cent of returned migrant workers intend to migrate again, and of these, 92.9 percent intend to return to the same countries they had migrated to previously (See Table 3.2 above). In fact, when asked why returnees had come back to Moldova, 18.0 per cent of those who are considered potential migrants were found to be on vacation or to have taken a leave of absence from work, and an additional 14.7 per cent had returned to take care of “formalities” relating to their stay abroad, as compared to only 0.6 per cent and 3.2 per cent, respectively, of returnees who did not plan on migrating again in the near future (Table 7.2).

A sizeable proportion of both groups of returnees – 25.6 per cent of those considered potential migrant labour and 30.1 per cent of those who are not – come back for family reasons; 7.3 per cent and 12.7 per cent, respectively, for health reasons; 8.1 per cent and 10.5 per cent, respectively, because they had accomplished whatever goal they had in mind when migrating abroad; and 9.5 per cent and 12.1 per cent, respectively, because they could not find work abroad.

As the information in Table 7.2 suggests, at least one-fifth of returned migrant workers maintain a connection with their job abroad. If, in fact, these individuals are only temporarily away from their jobs abroad, it

Table 7.1 Descriptive statistics on potential migrant workers

Characteristic	Potential migrant workers	Returnees who intend to migrate again	Non-labour migrants who intend to migrate	WAP
Age	34.9 (10.8)	35.8 (10.6)	32.6 (11.1)	37.6 (14.1)
Male (%)	71.2	71.4	70.9	48.7
Married (%)	61.6	66.9	48.3	59.6
Schooling (%)				
< Gymnasium	0.9	0.3	2.4	2.9
Gymnasium	23.8	23.4	24.8	24.1
High school	21.0	20.4	22.3	22.6
Secondary voc.	33.3	35.6	27.7	20.6
Secondary prof.	12.5	13.3	10.4	12.8
Higher education	8.6	7.0	12.4	17.0
Household size	3.8 (1.4)	3.9 (1.4)	3.6 (1.4)	3.5 (1.4)
HH composition				
% of children (<15)	16.5	18.0	12.8	13.3
% of adults	80.5	78.8	84.9	83.5
% of elderly (65+)	3.0	3.3	2.3	3.2
Rural (%)	69.8	75.0	56.9	57.7
Regions (%)				
North	33.0	32.6	33.9	28.5
Centre	32.9	32.5	33.7	29.0
South	26.9	28.3	23.5	19.8
Chisinau	7.3	6.6	8.9	22.7

Table 7.2 Reasons returnees have come back to Moldova

Reasons	Returnees who intend to migrate again	Returnees who do not intend to migrate again
Vacation/leave	18.0	0.6
Formalities to formalize stay abroad	14.7	3.2
Family reasons	25.6	30.1
Labour contract expired/terminated	5.1	7.6
Health reasons	7.3	12.7
Did not find work abroad	9.5	12.1
Seasonal work	6.4	5.4
To start a business in Moldova	0.3	0.7
Accomplished initial purpose	8.1	10.5
Expulsion	0.4	1.6
Poor working conditions abroad	1.8	6.7
Insecurity/instability/deception	2.0	6.0
Other	0.9	2.9

might be more appropriate to consider them “current” rather than “returned” migrant workers – which would be akin to the practice of categorizing individuals who are temporarily away from their jobs as “employed” rather than “out of the labour force”. In order to more accurately determine the employment status of returned migrant workers from LFMS data, additional questions addressing the duration of absence from work and the guarantee of a job upon return are required.

7.2 Socio-economic characteristics of potential migrant workers

7.2.1 Employment

At the time of the survey, 26.2 per cent of potential migrant workers were employed. This figure is considerably lower than the employment rate of the WAP (43.8%) and can be attributed to the lower employment rate among returnees who intend to migrate (18.6%) as compared to non-labour migrants who intend to migrate (45.1%), which is slightly higher than it is among the WAP.

Table 7.3 Employment status of WAP and potential migrant workers

Status	Potential migrant workers	Returnees who intend to migrate again	Non-labour migrants who intend to migrate	WAP
Employed	26.2	18.6	45.1	43.8
Unemployed*	3.1	2.5	4.5	2.7
<i>Economically active</i>	<i>29.2</i>	<i>21.1</i>	<i>49.6</i>	<i>46.6</i>

*As a proportion of WAP.

Note: Economically active is the sum of employed and unemployed.

The unemployment rate (as a proportion of the WAP) is higher for potential migrant workers than for the working-age population, mainly due to the above-average unemployment rate of non-labour migrants. The high rate of unemployment among the latter also explains the higher rate of overall economic activity among non-labour migrants as compared to both returnees and the WAP at large.

7.2.2 Status in employment²⁴

About half of all potential migrant workers are employed as wage-earners and the other half on their own account. This employment pattern differs from that of the WAP, among whom wage-earners constitute 73.2 per cent and own-account workers 24.7 per cent of employed individuals. This difference is in large extent due to the employment pattern of the returnees among the potential migrant workers, 62.6 per cent of whom are employed on their own account upon returning to Moldova. This considerably above-average tendency to work on their own account could be connected to this group’s future migration plans. (The non-labour migrants among the potential migrant workers are also more likely to be employed on their own account, but not to the same extent as the returnees.)

²⁴ The discussion in this section and in the remaining sections is based on the information available for employed potential migrant workers. In-depth analysis is limited as a result of the small sample size (Total observations: 159; Returnees: 84; Non-labour migrants: 75).

Table 7.4 Status in employment

Status	Potential migrant workers	Returnees who intend to migrate again	Non-labour migrants who intend to migrate	WAP
Employee	50.5	36.5	64.9	73.2
Employer	-	-	-	0.5
Own-account worker	49.0	62.6	35.1	24.7
Contributing family worker	0.5	0.9	-	1.6

Note: Includes employed potential migrant workers only.

7.2.3 Types of economic activity

Over 80 per cent of potential migrant workers are employed in one of four sectors of economic activity: agriculture (36.6%), construction (23.0%), wholesale and retail trade (11.2%) and manufacturing (9.4%). In contrast, these four sectors employ only 57.8 per cent of the working-age-population. While potential migrant workers are over-represented in agriculture and construction, which employ more than half of all potential migrant workers, economic activity varies somewhat between the returnees and the non-labour migrants among this group. Specifically, the returnees are concentrated in agriculture (48.1%) and construction (22.8%), whereas substantial proportions of the non-labour migrants are also employed in manufacturing (17.1%) and wholesale and retail trade (14.2%) in addition to agriculture (24.8%) and construction (23.2%).

Table 7.5 Economic activity types

NACE-Rev1	Potential migrant workers	Returnees who intend to migrate again	Non-labour migrants who intend to migrate	WAP
Agriculture & fishing	36.6	48.1	24.8	22.6
Mining	-	-	-	0.4
Manufacturing	9.4	1.9	17.1	10.4
Electricity, gas, water	1.7	3.4	-	2.1
Construction	23.0	22.8	23.2	7.4
Wholesale and retail trade	11.2	8.4	14.2	17.4
Hotels and restaurants	1.5	2.9	-	2.3
Transport, storage	1.5	1.3	1.8	6.9
Financial intermediary	0.6	-	1.2	1.9
Real estate	3.4	6.7	-	3.6
Public administration	4.0	-	8.1	6.1
Education	4.2	3.0	5.4	9.6
Health and social work	0.2	-	0.4	5.8
Other personal/community services	1.9	-	3.8	3.2
Private households	0.8	1.6	-	0.3

Note: Includes employed potential migrant workers only.

7.2.4 Occupational groups

A significant proportion of potential migrant workers are found either in elementary occupations or in craft and related trades work, which, respectively, account for 46.9 per cent and 20.4 per cent of all potential migrant workers, compared to only 28.5 per cent and 10.8 per cent, respectively, of the WAP. Among potential migrant workers, these two occupations are especially prevalent among the returnees, accounting for 74.5 per cent of this group, as compared to 60 per cent of the non-labour migrants.

Table 7.6 Occupation

Occupations (ISCO-88)	Potential migrant workers	Returnees who intend to migrate again	Non-labour migrants who intend to migrate	WAP
Legislators and senior officials	4.7	-	9.4	8.6
Professionals	4.8	3.5	6.1	14.4
Technicians and associate professionals	5.8	3.4	8.3	9.0
Clerks	-	-	-	2.2
Service and sales workers	10.5	10.4	10.5	16.0
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	-	-	-	1.5
Craft and related trades workers	20.4	24.4	16.3	10.8
Plant and machine operators, assemblers	6.2	8.2	4.1	8.1
Elementary occupations	46.9	50.1	43.7	28.5
Armed forces	-	-	-	0.8

Note: Includes employed potential migrant workers only.

7.2.5 Hours of work and wage earnings

For the WAP, an average work week consists of 39 hours. The average work week of potential migrant workers is slightly lower in comparison (36.4 hours), mainly due to the below-average number of work hours of the returnees among the potential migrants, who work 35 hours per week. By comparison, the non-labour-migrants among the potential migrants work an average of 37.9 hours per week, which is similar to the WAP average.

When only the working hours of wage earners are considered, average working hours increase to 40.8 hours per week for the WAP and to 39.4 for potential migrant workers, and among the latter, to 36.7 hours per week for the returnees and to 41 hours per week for the non-labour migrants. Hence, it can be concluded that the working hours of potential migrant workers are fairly similar to those of the WAP in general.

In terms of net wages (i.e. excluding taxes, social security contributions and compulsory deduction for medical-insurance), potential migrant workers are reported to earn, on average, 1,968 MDL per month, which is less than the 2,260 MDL estimated monthly earnings of the WAP. Among potential migrant workers, the returnees earn somewhat more (2,070 MDL) than the non-labour migrants (1,903 MDL). Considering an exchange rate of around 12 MDL to the USD in 2012, the earnings of potential migrant workers in Moldova are considerably lower than what workers migrating out of Moldova earn abroad.

8. Conclusion

This report analysed the results of the Labour Force Migration Survey conducted by the National Bureau of Statistics of Moldova in the last quarter of 2012 in order to determine the size and characteristics of labour migration out of Moldova. The results revealed that during the two-year period preceding the survey, 429,000 Moldovan nationals – i.e. 16.5 per cent of the working-age-population of Moldova – left the country to work or to look for work in a foreign country. Furthermore, 146,000 individuals – i.e. 5.6 per cent of the working-age-population – reportedly intended to leave Moldova to work or to look for work abroad within the six months following the survey.

The most popular destinations for migrant workers are Russia, which hosts 69 per cent of migrant workers, and Italy, which hosts 14.3 per cent. The majority of migrant workers are young men from rural areas who have an intermediate level of schooling. The proportion looking for work while abroad is rather small, as the vast majority of migrant workers (96.7%) are already working, with more than a quarter having found work in a host country before leaving Moldova. Wage work is the dominant form of employment in host countries, although a sizeable proportion (15.2%) works on their own account. Migrant workers mostly work in construction, private households and in wholesale and retail trade as either craft and related trades workers or service and sales workers or in elementary occupations. Only a small proportion (27.1%) have a work permit in the host country, and an even smaller proportion (less than a quarter of wage-earning migrant workers) have a work contract. This situation results in very long hours of work (in excess of 45 hour per week), monthly earnings of 500–1000 USD per month, and a low prevalence of work benefits. Most migrant workers share their living spaces and remit money home. Remittances are used primarily to meet the current needs of their households in Moldova. A typical migrant worker does not have a bank account in a host country, but may either use rapid money transfer services to send remittances to Moldova or bring money home personally.

Current migrant workers constitute nearly 60 per cent of all migrant workers, while the remaining 40 per cent are comprised of returned migrant workers, who tend to stay in host countries for shorter lengths of time than current migrant workers. Russia and Italy are the two most popular destinations for migrant workers, although current migrant workers prefer Russia, whereas returnees prefer Italy. Multivariate analysis on the determinants of return migration among migrant workers found that only a very few individual and household characteristics – sex, household size and number of children in the household – have any effect on the probability of return migration; rather, differences in the experiences migrants have in host countries could be involved in the decision to return. For instance, smaller proportions of returned migrant workers as compared to current migrant workers hold work permits and work as wage earners. In terms of economic activity, a larger proportion of returned migrant workers as compared to current migrant workers can be found in the construction sector and smaller proportions in wholesale and retail trade and in private households, and in terms of occupation, a larger proportion work in craft and related trades and a smaller proportion in elementary occupations. During their time spent as migrant workers in host countries, returnees earn less and enjoy fewer work-related benefits than current migrant workers.

This report also distinguishes between short-term and long-term migrant workers, with individuals who were in a host country for at least 12 months as of the date of the survey interview classified as long-term migrant workers and those in a host country for less than 12 months classified as short-term migrant workers. Short-term migrant workers are further divided into sub-groups by duration of stay, with those who have spent less than six months in a host country accounting for nearly 62.6 per cent of all short-term migrant workers. However, this categorization is based on actual duration of stay, which is underestimated for current migrant workers, whose migration was ongoing at the time of the survey. More accurate figures for both

short-term and long-term migrant workers could be obtained by using “typical” rather than “actual” lengths of stay in a host country, if more data on typical lengths of stay were available. The question of typical stay versus actual stay is particularly important if a minimum length of stay were to be included in the definition of labour migration. In fact, the finding that a sizeable proportion of short-term migrant workers are made up of those who stay less than six months in a host country suggests that imposing any criteria regarding minimum stay would significantly alter estimates of labour migration.

Multivariate analysis found that male migrant workers, migrant workers who are married and have children, and migrant workers who come from smaller households are more likely to choose short-term labour migration over long-term labour migration; however, the length of short-term labour migration was not significantly affected by either individual or household characteristics. Both long-term migrant workers and short-term migrant workers who have been in host countries longer (more than six months) enjoy better labour-market outcomes, including pay and benefits, than those who have been in host countries only a short time (less than three months). The less favourable outcomes of the latter may be explained by the fact that smaller proportions of this group have work permits and work contracts. The differences in labour-market outcomes may also be related to differences in the types of jobs in the host country: while migrant workers who have spent less time in a host are employed mainly in elementary occupations or as craft and related trades workers in the construction sector, as their length of stay is extended, more are employed in services and private households.

Because the LFMS is implemented as a module of the regularly administered LFS, it is possible to assess just how the experience of migrating to a foreign country for employment affects Moldovan workers by comparing the labour-market outcomes of returned migrant workers before and after migration. The data suggest that the migration experience does not increase the employability of migrant workers when they return home. On the contrary, employment rates were lower and unemployment rates higher after migrant workers returned to Moldova than they had been before migration. Moreover, the proportion of migrant workers employed as unpaid family members increased. This apparent deterioration in the labour-market outcomes of returned migrant workers could be a result of their plans to migrate again in the future. Indeed, a significant proportion of returnees plan to migrate again to the very same countries that had hosted them before, and, thus, the temporary nature of their stay at home could account for their weaker attachment to the Moldovan labour market.

Although the Labour Force Migration Survey currently provides rich data on the labour-market outcomes of migrant workers, certain aspects of the survey could be improved upon. For example, recording all movement, however short, of migrant workers in and out of the country, within the reference period (which could still be set at two years to reduce survey costs and recall errors) would be of great help in understanding the dynamics of labour migration, including phenomena like repeat migration. Additional questions directed towards understanding the ties that some returned migrant workers appear to have maintained to jobs in host countries would also be needed to better understand their labour-supply behaviour both at home and abroad. Collecting data on the migration histories of all individuals who have migrated within the reference period would also help resolve problems related to seasonality and allow for more accurate categorizations of current and returned migrant workers.

Another important challenge regarding the Labour Force Migration Survey concerns the pervasive non-response for certain questions on the labour market that stems mainly from proxy respondents answering on behalf of current migrant workers. In fact, proxy respondents may not be sufficiently informed to be able to provide information on the labour market outcomes of migrant workers who have been absent from the household for any significant length of time. The challenge presented by proxy response could be overcome by contacting migrant workers themselves either by phone or by mail. Addressing questions directly to these migrant workers should make it possible to collect more accurate information on their actual labour-market outcomes abroad.

Finally, the lack of harmonization between the LFMS and the LFS on key questions relating to the labour market is also an issue. Specifically, differences in the wording and number of the questions used to

establish labour-market status raise concerns as to whether or not the two surveys are measuring the same phenomena. Improving harmonization between surveys, particularly with regard to data on employment and unemployment, will ultimately result in more comparable data.

Appendix A – Additional Tables

Table A1 Descriptive statistics on migrant workers

Characteristic	Total migrant workers	Current migrant workers	Return migrant workers	Long-term migrant workers	WAP
Age	35.3 (11.0)	35.0 (11.1)	35.7(10.9)	36.8 (11.0)	37.6 (14.1)
Male (%)	67.5	65.5	70.6	64.0	48.7
Married (%)	59.1	55.9	64.1	60.1	59.6
Education (%)					
< Gymnasium	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.1	2.9
Gymnasium	25.7	27.5	22.9	25.1	24.1
High school	21.2	21.2	21.2	21.5	22.6
Secondary voc.	31.6	30.7	33.1	31.4	20.6
Secondary prof.	11.9	10.5	14.0	12.8	12.8
Higher education	9.1	9.5	8.4	9.2	17.0
Household size	3.9 (1.4)	4.0 (1.4)	3.8 (1.4)	3.8 (1.4)	3.5 (1.4)
HH composition					
% of children (<15)	14.7	13.0	17.4	13.2	13.3
% of adults	81.7	83.2	79.3	83.3	83.5
% of elderly (65+)	3.6	3.8	3.0	3.5	3.2
Rural (%)	75.0	74.8	75.3	72.9	57.7
Regions (%)					
North	32.6	31.5	34.3	32.0	28.5
Centre	30.7	31.4	29.6	33.5	29.0
South	29.5	29.8	29.1	28.2	19.8
Chisinau	7.2	7.3	7.0	6.2	22.7

Note: For continuous variables, standard deviation is given in parenthesis.

Figure A2 Benefits enjoyed from work – short-term migrant wage earners with stays of under three months in a host country

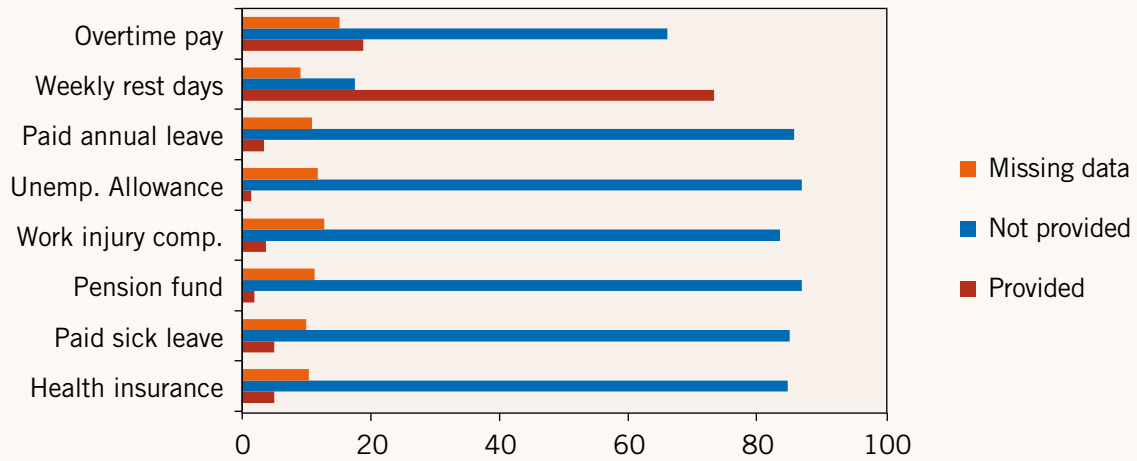


Figure A3 Benefits enjoyed from work – short-term migrant wage earners with stays of 3-6 in a host country

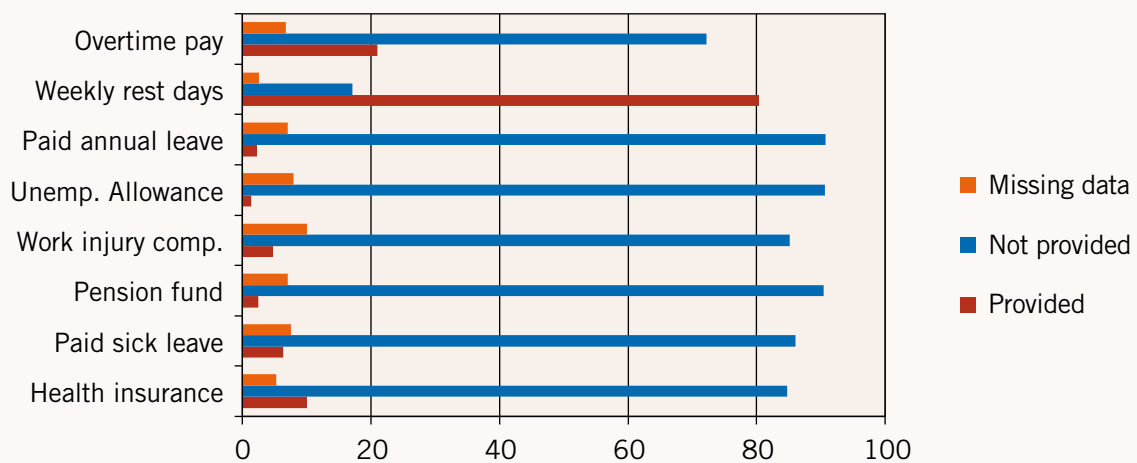
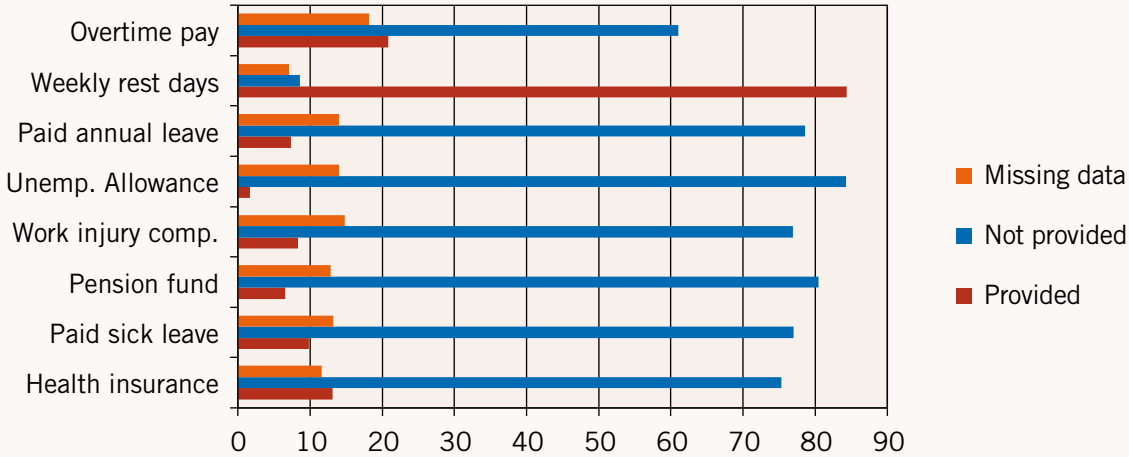


Figure A4 Benefits enjoyed from work – short-term migrant wage earners with stays of 6-12 month in a host country



Appendix B – Labour Force Migration Survey (Questionnaire)

National Bureau of Statistics(NBS) of the Republic of Moldova

According to the Law on Official Statistics No. 412-XV of December 9, 2004, Art. 22, “the official statistics bodies shall assure confidentiality of individual data and shall use them for statistical purposes only.”

LABOUR FORCE MIGRATION



Individual complementary questionnaire

approved by the National Bureau of Statistics' Order No. 68 of August 7, 2012

This questionnaire is aimed at households members aged from 15 to 64 years inclusive, that at the time of interview were outside the country/abroad (PREZ=3, 4, 5, 6 or PREZ=7, 8, 9, 10)

- Please, answer the questions by marking the closed boxes with “x”, inserting figures in open boxes [] and inserting text in the spaces marked by dotted line _____
- Figures following the mark ☞ rightwards a box shall indicate the number of the question to follow after providing the answer to the relevant box.
- In cases the sing ☞ is missing, the following question shall be addressed.

IDENTIFICATION OF THE RESPONDENT Data are taken from the Dwelling Questionnaire (CL)

PSU Code..... [] [] [] [] [] [] CENTR
 Dwelling PSU Code..... [] [] [] [] [] [] CENTR
 Dwelling Code..... [] [] [] [] [] [] LOC
 CL Dwelling Sequence Number [] CL
 Number of Person from the CL Questionnaire [] [] NRP
 Number of CL Survey..... [] NRA
 First and Last Name of the Person _____
 Date of Birth.....month [] [] year [] [] [] []
 LUNN ANN

Q1. What country is the person (<i>Name</i>) settled in and since when? (Including the periods of short returns to Moldova in order to comply with registration requirements, for vacation/holidays, etc.)		
Country	Date of first arrival to that country	Country code
_____	[] [] month [] [] [] [] year	[] [] [] []
Q2. How long does the person (<i>Name</i>) intend to stay in that country?		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 1 month.....1 <input type="checkbox"/> • 1 to 3 months 2 <input type="checkbox"/> • 3 to 6 months 3 <input type="checkbox"/> • 6 to 12 months 4 <input type="checkbox"/> • 1 to 3 years..... 5 <input type="checkbox"/> • 3 to 5 years 6 <input type="checkbox"/> • 5 to 10 years..... 7 <input type="checkbox"/> • 10 years and over..... 8 <input type="checkbox"/> • The person has definitely settled abroad or intends to do so..... 9 <input type="checkbox"/> • Do not know..... 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 		
Q3. What was the purpose of person's trip?		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism 1 <input type="checkbox"/> • Family/friends visit 2 <input type="checkbox"/> • Family reintegration (marriage, reunification, etc.) 3 <input type="checkbox"/> • Permanent emigration (at present no family abroad) 4 <input type="checkbox"/> • Workplace, job search 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 • Business 6 <input type="checkbox"/> • Study abroad..... 7 <input type="checkbox"/> • Medical reasons/treatment 8 <input type="checkbox"/> • Other (pls, provide details) _ _ _ _ _ 9 <input type="checkbox"/> • Do not know10 <input type="checkbox"/> 		
Q4. Is the person (<i>Name</i>) looking /seeking for a job or he/she is already employed abroad?		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes 1 <input type="checkbox"/> • No 2 <input type="checkbox"/> • Do not know..... 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 43 		
A. Characteristics BEFORE this trip abroad		
Q5. What was person's / (<i>Name</i>) highest level of education when he/she undertook this trip?		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No education..... 1 <input type="checkbox"/> • Primary education..... 2 <input type="checkbox"/> • Lower secondary education (gymnasium) 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 7 • Secondary high-school/upper secondary education 4 <input type="checkbox"/> • Secondary vocational education.....5 <input type="checkbox"/> • Secondary specialized education.....6 <input type="checkbox"/> • Higher education..... 7 <input type="checkbox"/> • Master's Degree 8 <input type="checkbox"/> • PhD 9 <input type="checkbox"/> • Do not know.....10 <input type="checkbox"/> 7 		
Q6. What was the main area of study of the person (<i>Name</i>) before departure ?		
Subject (detailed description): _____ [] [] [] [] code Not known – 999		

Q7. What was persons's (*Name*) main area of activity/occupation before leaving abroad?

- | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------|---|
| • Paid job | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Family business | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 9 |
| • School pupil, student in the national education system (schooling) | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Training outside the national education system (courses, private tutoring, etc.) | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Voluntary or unpaid activity | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Retired person (all categories: by age limit, invalidity, loss of breadwinner) | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Householding or helped with householding and/or took care of household members..... | 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Recreational activities (social, cultural, entertainment)..... | 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Other (pls, specify) _ _ _ _ _ | 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

Q8. Did the person (*Name*) have a job or hold a business in Moldova before undertaking this trip?

- | | | | |
|---------------------|---|--------------------------|----|
| • Yes | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • No | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 13 |
| • Do not know | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

Q9. What was person's (*Name*) occupation at his/her last job in Moldova before this trip?

Profession or function _ _ _ _ _ [] [] [] [] code
(It is necessary to provide more details about occupation, whom the person worked as (for instance household, manager, etc.)

Q10. What was the economic activity of this very (last) workplace of the person (*Name*)?

_ _ _ _ _ [] [] code

Q11. What was the professional status of the person (*Name*) at this (last) workplace?

- | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------|--|
| • Employee | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Employer..... | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Own-account worker..... | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Contributing family worker..... | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Member of cooperative production | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

Q12. Why did the person (*Name*) quit his/her last job/business before this trip?

- | | | | |
|--|----|--------------------------|----|
| • Did not quit (will be absent for some time) | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Season works | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Labour contract expiry/termination | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Loss of his/her workplace (due to job reductions, etc.)..... | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • The business did not go due to lack of clients | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • The job did not match person's skills | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 15 |
| • Low salary | 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Fair working conditions | 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Family reasons | 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Looking for working experience abroad, professional career (personal development)..... | 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Other (pls, specify) _ _ _ _ _ | 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Do not know..... | 12 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

Q13. Did the person (*Name*) search for a job in Moldova before this departure/trip?

- | | | | |
|---------------------|---|--------------------------|----|
| • Yes | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • No | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 15 |
| • Do not know | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

Q14. How long was the person (*Name*) looking for a job and was able to work before leaving abroad?

(for unemployed persons that did not work before leaving abroad) [] [] No. of months *Do not know – 99*

Q15. Why did the person (*Name*) decide to start seeking a job abroad (the main reason)?

- Lack of jobs in Moldova matching his/her qualification/skills 1
- Low salaries offered in Moldova 2
- Poor working conditions in Moldova 3
- To gain experience, career advancement (personal development)..... 4
- Family reasons (family reintegration, to join his/her spouse, etc.) 5
- Other (pls, specify) ..----- 6
- Do not know..... 7

Q16. Did the person (*Name*) attend any course or training to get prepared to stay or work abroad?

- Yes 1
- No 2
- Do not know..... 3 **18**

Q17. What kind of courses or training did the person (*Name*) attend before this trip?

	Yes	No	Do not know	Subject of the course	Code
1. General orientation training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2. Language courses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3. University, college or vocational courses as part of curricula	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	[J][J]
4. Courses to study a certain profile/to acquire certain skills.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	[J][J]
5. Other (pls, specify) ..-----	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	[J][J]
<i>Do not know - 999</i>					

In case of affirmative answers to options 3, 4 or 5, it is mandatory to specify the „Course subject“.

Q18. Did the person (*Name*) study on his/her own to get prepared to leave or work abroad?

	Yes	No	Do not know
1. Requested certain information from the persons that found (settled)/find themselves abroad (relatives, friends, acquaintances)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Learned a certain profession, learned by doing/working (even if not paying/paid for it?).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Studied a foreign language.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Read books, manuals, magazines, guides about the relevant country.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Used information from INTERNET	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Watched educational TV/Video/DVD programmes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Visited libraries, information or training centres	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Other (pls, specify) ..-----	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q19. How well did the person (*Name*) speak and understand the spoken language (----- of the destination country) before undertaking this trip?

- Neither spoke or understood the language 1
- Could understand but did not speak the language 2
- Could fairly understand and speak / communication level.....3
- The person was fluent in that language.....4
- Do not know..... 5

Q20. What sector did the person (*Name*) intend (plan) to work in?

- Households..... 1
- Construction..... 2
- Agriculture..... 3
- Hotels and restaurants..... 4
- Entertainment..... 5
- Trade..... 6
- Transports 7
- Food production 8
- Textiles 9
- Repair and maintenance of vehicles 10
- Other (pls, specify) _ _ _ _ _ 11
- Do not know..... 12

B. Characteristics DURING current departure/trip abroad

Q21. Did the person (*Name*)/is the person attending any training or course abroad?

- Yes 1
- No 2
- Do not know..... 3 **23**

Q22. What kind of courses or training did the person (*Name*) attend during his/her last trip?

	Yes	No	Not sure	Subject of study	Code
1. General orientation training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2. Language courses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3. University, college or vocational courses as part of curricula	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	[[[]]
4. Courses to study a certain profile/to acquire certain skills.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	[[[]]
5. Other (pls, specify) _ _ _ _ _	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	[[[]]

Do not know - 999

In case of affirmative answers to options 3, 4 or 5, it is mandatory to specify the „Course subject“.

Q23. Did the person (*Name*) study on his/her own while abroad?

	Yes	No	Not sure
1. Requested certain information from the persons that found (settled)/find themselves abroad (relatives, friends, acquaintances)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Learned a certain profession, learned by doing/working (even if not paying/paid for it?).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Learned a foreign language.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Read books, manuals, magazines, guides about the relevant country.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Used information from INTERNET	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Watched educational TV/Video/DVD programmes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Visited libraries, information or training centres	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Other (pls, specify) _ _ _ _ _	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<p>Q24. While abroad, did the person (<i>Name</i>) request formal qualification recognition of his/her studies (diplomas / certificates)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, the recognition process is ongoing..... 1 <input type="checkbox"/> • Yes, the above were obtained 2 <input type="checkbox"/> • Yes, the person requested but did not obtain the above 3 <input type="checkbox"/> • Not yet, but the person intends to do so..... 4 <input type="checkbox"/> • No and there is no such intention..... 5 <input type="checkbox"/> • Do not know..... 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 	
<p>Q25. Does the person (<i>Name</i>) have a workplace abroad?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes 1 <input type="checkbox"/> • No 2 <input type="checkbox"/> • Do not know 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 43 	
<p>Q26. How long was the person (<i>Name</i>) looking for a job abroad before he/she found his/her current/last job?</p> <p>..... [][] months <i>Do not know sure – 99</i></p> <p><i>If the person found a job before he/she left, please specify „0” (zero) months</i></p>	
<p>Q27. What is person’s (<i>Name</i>) occupation at the present workplace abroad?</p> <p><i>Profession or function</i> ----- [][][][] <i>code</i></p> <p><i>(It is necessary to provide more details about occupation, whom the person worked as (for instance household, manager, etc.)</i></p>	
<p>Q28. How many hours per week does the person (<i>Name</i>) usually work at this workplace abroad?</p> <p>..... [][][] hrs <i>Do not know – 99</i></p>	
<p>Q29. What is the economic activity of person’s (<i>Name</i>) current workplace abroad?</p> <p>----- [][] <i>code</i></p>	
<p>Q30. What is person’s (<i>Name</i>) professional/employment status at the current workplace abroad?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employee 1 <input type="checkbox"/> • Employer 2 <input type="checkbox"/> • Own-account worker..... 3 <input type="checkbox"/> • Contributing family worker 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 34 • Member of cooperative production..... 5 <input type="checkbox"/> • Do not know..... 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 	
<p>Q31. What kind of employment relationship does the person (<i>Name</i>) have at his/her current workplace abroad?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-term individual labour contract (with unlimited period) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> • Temporary individual labour contract (with limited period) 2 <input type="checkbox"/> • Long-term/permanent employer without a written contract..... 3 <input type="checkbox"/> • Temporary employer without a written contract..... 4 <input type="checkbox"/> • Other (pls, specify) ----- 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 33 • Do not know..... 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 	
<p>Q32. When did the person (<i>Name</i>) sign his/her individual labour contract?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before leaving for the destination country..... 1 <input type="checkbox"/> • While in the destination country..... 2 <input type="checkbox"/> • Do not know..... 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 	

Q33. Is the person (*Name*) entitled to any benefits at his/her current workplace abroad:

	Yes	No	Do not know
1. Health insurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Paid sick leave	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Contributions to pension fund	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Work injury compensation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Unemployment allowance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Paid annual leave	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Weekly rest day (s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Overtime pay for extra-hours worked	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q34. How many months did the person (*Name*) work abroad during the last 2 years/24 months?

..... [][] months *Do not know – 99*

Q35. Does the person (*Name*) hold a bank account in the destination country?

- Yes 1
- No 2
- Do not know..... 3

Q36. What was the average amount of remittances sent/transferred/brought by the person (*Name*) per months during the last 2 years/24 months?

- 0 \$ (no money at all) 1 **39**
- Up to 500\$ 2
- From 501 to 800\$ 3
- From 801 to 1000\$..... 4
- From 1001 to 1500\$ 5
- From 1501 to 2000\$ 6
- Over 2000\$ 7
- Refused to answer..... 8
- Do not know... 9 **39**

Q37. How does the person (*Name*) usually send his/her money to beneficiaries?

- Bank account deposit..... 1
- Rapid money transfer systems (d.e. Western Union, MoneyGram etc.) 2
- Courier services (via a paid person, package) 3
- Personally (while visiting Moldova) 4
- By means of friends/relatives travelling home..... 5
- Other (pls, specify) _ _ _ _ _ 6

Q38. What was the money sent or transferred by the person (*Name*) used mainly for? (pls, choose more options)

- Current needs/consumption (food, attire, services, etc.) 1
- Purchase of sustainable goods/appliances for households (vehicles, TVs, computers, wash machines, etc.) 2
- Investments in agriculture..... 3
- Investments in other business... 4
- Purchasing/renovating/building a home (house/apartment) 5
- Entertainment/resting activities..... 6
- Debt payment..... 7
- Pay for schooling/training of household member (s) 8
- Pay medical bills/purchase of health insurance..... 9
- Pay social contributions (to Pension Fund) 10
- To cover the costs for household member (s)' migration/transport/visits/trips abroad 11
- Savings..... 12
- Other (pls, specify) _ _ _ _ _ 13

Q39. What is the average monthly salary the person (*Name*) gets abroad (in the host country)?

- Up to 500\$ 1
- From 501 to 1000\$ 2
- From 1001 to 2000\$ 3
- From 2000 to 3000 \$ 4
- Over 3000 \$ 5
- Refused to answer..... 6
- Do not know 7

Q40. What is the share of the persons' (*Name*) money gained abroad used to sustain him/herself in the host country?

- Up to 10% 1
- From 11% to 20% 2
- From 21% to 30% 3
- From 31% to 50% 4
- From 51% to 70% 5
- Over 70% 6
- Refused to answer 7
- Do not know 8

Q41. What is person's (*Name*) legal status in that country?

- Citizen of the destination country 1
- Holder of residence and work permit 2
- Holder of residence permit only 3
- Holder of temporary registration only 4
- No legal status 5
- Other (pls, specify) 6
- Do not know 7

Q42. Does the person (*Name*) stay abroad on his/her own or together with other members of his/her family/household?

More options are acceptable:

Pls, specify family members, relatives and friends even if they are from other countries and never lived in Moldova, including children born abroad

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Spouse..... 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Child/children..... 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Parents..... 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Other relatives..... 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Other acquaintances..... 5 <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • On his/her own..... 6 <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| • Do not know..... 7 <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

Q43. Who answered the questions?

- Person's Number..... [] [] []

Q44. Date of interview/questionnaire filling in:

Day [] []
 Month..... [] []
 Year..... [] [] [] []

1. Have you / (Name) been abroad during the last 24 months?	
• Yes	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• No	2 <input type="checkbox"/> 4
2. What was the purpose of the trip?	
• Tourism	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Family/friends visit	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Family reintegration (marriage, reunification, etc.)	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Permanent emigration (at present no family abroad).....	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Workplace, job search	5 <input type="checkbox"/> LFM Questionnaire-C
• Business	6 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Study abroad.....	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Medical reasons/treatment	8 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Other (pls, specify) _ _ _ _ _	9 <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Did you work or were you looking for a job while abroad?	
• Yes	1 <input type="checkbox"/> LFM Questionnaire-C
• No	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Do not know.....	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
B. Intention to MIGRATE / move abroad	
4. Do you intend to leave abroad within the next 6 months?	
• Yes	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Maybe	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• No	3 <input type="checkbox"/> 21
5. What country do you intend to leave for within the next 6 months?	
Country: _ _ _ _ _	[] [] [] [] code
6. What is the purpose of your trip?	
• Tourism	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Family/friends visit	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Family reintegration (marriage, reunification, etc.)	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Job search	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Existing workplace/employed.....	5 <input type="checkbox"/> 8
• Business	6 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Study abroad.....	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Medical reasons/treatment	8 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Other (pls, specify) _ _ _ _ _	9 <input type="checkbox"/>
7. Do you also intend to search for a job or to work during this trip?	
• Yes	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Maybe.....	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• No	3 <input type="checkbox"/> 9
8. What channels did you get or you think you could get information about employers offering labour contracts abroad from?	
• Relatives/friends	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Internet (pls, indicate the most visited web page) _ _ _ _ _	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Foreign embassies in Moldova	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
• National Employment Agency	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Private Employment Agencies offering jobs abroad.....	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Persons dealing with organization of trips abroad against payment.....	6 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Other (pls, specify) _ _ _ _ _	7 <input type="checkbox"/>

9. How long do you intend to stay abroad?	
• Less than 1 month..	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• From 1 to 3 months	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• From 3 to 6 months	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
• From 6 to 12 months	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
• From 1 to 3 years.....	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
• From 3 to 5 years.....	6 <input type="checkbox"/>
• From 5 to 10 years.....	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
• 10 years and over	8 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Forever.....	9 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Do not know	10 <input type="checkbox"/>
10. Did you get informed, so far, about legal ways to migrate/leave abroad?	
• Yes.....	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• No.....	2 <input type="checkbox"/> 12
11. What were your information channels?	
<i>Multiple choice</i>	
• Relatives/friends	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Mass-media (TV, radio, media).....	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Internet (pls, indicate the most visited web page).....	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
• National Employment Agency	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Private companies.....	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Persons dealing with organization of trips abroad, against payment	6 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Other (pls, specify)	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
12. What documents do you think you would need/plan to leave for the relevant country?	
• National/Moldovan travel passport only.....	1 <input type="checkbox"/> 14
• Moldovan passport and visa..	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Romanian passport	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Bulgarian passport	4 <input type="checkbox"/> 14
• Russian passport	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Other (pls, specify).....	6 <input type="checkbox"/>
13. What type of visa do you think you could or plan to leave with for the relevant country?	
• Tourist visa.....	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Work permit.....	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Business visa.....	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Any type of visa.....	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
14. What measures did you take to get prepared for this trip/journey?	
<i>(multiple choice admitted)</i>	
• Requested travel documents (visa, work permit, etc.)	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Purchased travel tickets/prepared (planned) the transportation means	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Booked/agreed upon the accommodation.....	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Established contacts with persons living/settled in that country	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Did not take any measure (no arrangements)	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Other (pls, specify)	6 <input type="checkbox"/>
15. Did you know that upon arrival in a country if you did not register with local authorities but plan to stay in that country for more than three months, your stay can not be classified as a legal one and you can not get a labour contract?	
• Yes.....	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• No.....	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
16. Do you consider there is need for more sources of and/or information about legal migration abroad?	
• Yes, (pls, specify)	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• No.....	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Do not know.....	3 <input type="checkbox"/>

17. Are there any relatives, friends or other acquaintances in the country you intend to leave for/to get back?
 More options are acceptable:
Pls, specify family members, relatives and friends even if they are from other countries and never lived in Moldova, including children born abroad

	Yes	No
• Spouse1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Child/children2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Parents3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Other relatives4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Other acquaintances5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Do not know6	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

18. Did you attend any training or courses within the last 12 months to get prepared for the trip?

• Yes	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	☞ 20
• No	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Do not know	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	

19. What kind of courses or training did you pursue?

	Yes	No	Do not know	Subject of study	Code
1. General orientation training.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2. Language courses.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3. University, college or vocational courses as part of curricula.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	[J][J]
4. Courses to study a certain profile/to acquire certain skills.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	[J][J]
5. Other (pls, specify) _ _ _ _ _	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	[J][J]

Do not know - 999

In case of affirmative answers to options 3, 4 or 5, it is mandatory to specify the „Course subject”.

20. Did you study anything on your own for getting prepared to leave or work abroad?

	Yes	No	Do not know
1. Requested certain information from the persons that found (settled)/find themselves abroad (relatives, friends, acquaintances)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Learned a certain profession, learned by doing/working (even if not paying/paid for it?).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Learned a foreign language	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Read books, manuals, magazines, guides about the relevant country	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Used information from INTERNET	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Watched educational TV/Video/DVD programmes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Visited libraries, information or training centres	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Other (pls, specify) _ _ _ _ _	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

—

21. What is your current area of training/education?
 Detailed area: _____ code *Do not know . 999*
 The code 999 shall be applied for persons with 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th levels of training of CL, as well.

22. Who answered the questions?

- The person him/herself..... 1
- Another member of the household..... 2

23. Date of interview/questionnaire filling in:

Day [J][J]
 Month [J][J]
 Year [J][J][J][J]

IVth Quarter of 2012

National Bureau of Statistics(NBS) of the Republic of Moldova

According to the Law on Official Statistics No. 412-XV of December 9, 2004, Art. 22, “the official statistics bodies shall assure confidentiality of individual data and shall use them for statistical purposes only.”

LABOUR FORCE MIGRATION



Individual complementary questionnaire
approved by the National Bureau of Statistics’ Order No. 68 of August 7, 2012

This questionnaire is aimed at households members aged from 15 to 64 years inclusive, who are currently in the household (PREZ=1 or PREZ=2) and have been abroad during the last 24 months

- Please, answer the questions by marking the closed boxes with “x”, inserting figures in open boxes [][] and inserting text in the spaces marked by dotted line_____
- Figures following the mark ↗ rightwards a box shall indicate the number of the question to follow after providing the answer to the relevant box.
- In cases the sing ↗ is missing, the following question shall be addressed.
-

IDENTIFICATION OF THE RESPONDENT
Data are taken from the Dwelling Questionnaire (CL)

PSU Code [][][][][][][][]

Dwelling Code [][][][][][][][]

CL Dwelling Sequence Number [][]

Number of Person from the CL Questionnaire [][]

Number of CL Survey [][]

First and Last Name of the Person _____

Date of Birth.....month [][] year [][][][][]

LUNN ANN

1. What country (last country) have you been to, to perform a job or to be looking for a job?	
Country ----- [] [] [] [] code	
Duration of your stay in that country:	
<i>(Including the periods of short returns to Moldova in order to comply with registration requirements, for vacation/holidays, etc.)</i>	
Date of your first arrival to that country?	When did you return?
[] [] month [] [] [] [] year	[] [] month [] [] [] [] year
A. Characteristics BEFORE the last trip abroad	
2. What was your level of education at the time you undertook this trip?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No education..... 1 <input type="checkbox"/> • Primary education..... 2 <input type="checkbox"/> • Lower secondary education (gymnasium)..... 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 • Secondary high-school/upper secondary education 4 <input type="checkbox"/> • Secondary vocational education..... 5 <input type="checkbox"/> • Secondary specialized education..... 6 <input type="checkbox"/> • Higher education..... 7 <input type="checkbox"/> • Master's Degree 8 <input type="checkbox"/> • PhD..... 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 	
3. What was your area of competence?	
Subject (detailed description): ----- [] [] [] [] code	<i>Do not know – 999</i>
4. What was the main area of activity/occupation before leaving abroad?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paid job..... 1 <input type="checkbox"/> • Family business..... 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 6 • School pupil, student in the national education system (schooling)..... 3 <input type="checkbox"/> • Training outside the national education system (courses, private tutoring, etc.) 4 <input type="checkbox"/> • Voluntary or unpaid activity 5 <input type="checkbox"/> • Retired person (all categories: by age limit, invalidity, loss of breadwinner)..... 6 <input type="checkbox"/> • Householding or helped with householding and/or took care of household members 7 <input type="checkbox"/> • Recreational activities (social, cultural, entertainment 8 <input type="checkbox"/> • Other (pls, specify) ----- 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 	
5. Did you have a job or hold a business in Moldova before undertaking this trip?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes 1 <input type="checkbox"/> • No 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 	
6. What was your occupation at your last workplace in Moldova before this trip?	
Profession or function ----- [] [] [] [] [] [] code	
<i>(It is necessary to provide more details about occupation, whom the person worked as (for instance household, manager, etc.)</i>	
7. What was the economic activity of your (last) workplace?	
----- [] [] [] code	
8. What was your professional status at this (last) workplace?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employee..... 1 <input type="checkbox"/> • Employer..... 2 <input type="checkbox"/> • Own-account worker 3 <input type="checkbox"/> • Contributing family worker 4 <input type="checkbox"/> • Member of cooperative production 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 	

9. Why did you quit your last job/business before this trip?					
• Did not quit (I was just absent for some time)	1	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Season works	2	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Labour contract expiry/termination	3	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Loss of his/her workplace (due to job reductions, etc.).....	4	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• The business did not go due to lack of clients	5	<input type="checkbox"/>			☞ 12
• The job did not match person's skills	6	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Low salary	7	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Fair working conditions.....	8	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Family reasons	9	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Looking for working experience abroad, professional career (personal development	10	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Other (pls, specify) _	11	<input type="checkbox"/>			
10. Were you looking for a job in Moldova before this departure/trip?					
• Yes	1	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• No	2	<input type="checkbox"/>			☞ 12
11 . How long were you looking for a job and were able to work before leaving abroad?					
(for unemployed persons that did not work before leaving abroad) [][] No. of months <i>Do not know – 99</i>					
12. Why did you decide to start be lookng for a job abroad (the main reason)?					
• Lack of jobs in Moldova matching his/her qualification/skills.....	1	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Low salaries offered in Moldova	2	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Poor working conditions in Moldova	3	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• To gain experience, career advancement (personal development)	4	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Family reasons (family reintegration, to join his/her spouse, etc.).....	5	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Other (pls, specify) _	6	<input type="checkbox"/>			
13. Did you attend any course or training before leaving abroad to get prepared to stay or work there?					
• Yes	1	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• No	2	<input type="checkbox"/>			
• Do not know	3	<input type="checkbox"/>			☞ 15
14. What kind of courses or training did toy attend before this trip?					
	Yes	No	Do not know	Subject of the course	Code
1. General orientation training.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2. Language courses.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3. University, college or vocational courses as part of curricula.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	[][][]
4. Courses to study a certain profile/to acquire certain skills.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	[][][]
5. Other (pls, specify) _	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	[][][]
					<i>Do not know - 999</i>
<i>In case of affirmative answers to options 3, 4 or 5, it is mandatory to specify the „Course subject“.</i>					
15. Did you study on your own (on individual baisis) to get prepared to leave or work abroad?					
1. Requested certain information from the persons that found (settled)/find themselves abroad (relatives, friends, acquaintances)	Yes	No	Do not know		
2. Learned a certain profession, learned by doing/working (even if not paying/paid for it?).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3. Studied a foreign language.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
4. Read books, manuals, magazines, guides about the relevant country.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
5. Used information from INTERNET	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
6. Watched educational TV/Video/DVD programmes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
7. Visited libraries, information or training centres	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
8. Other (pls, specify) _	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

16. How well did you speak and understand the spoken language (_____ of the destination country) before undertaking this trip?

- Neither spoke or understood the language 1
- Could understand but did not speak the language 2
- Could fairly understand and speak / communication level.....3
- The person was fluent in that language.....4
- Do not know..... 5

17. What sector did you intend (plan) to work in?

- Households..... 1
- Construction..... 2
- Agriculture..... 3
- Hotels and restaurants..... 4
- Entertainment..... 5
- Trade..... 6
- Transports 7
- Food production 8
- Textiles 9
- Repair and maintenance of vehicles 10
- Other (pls, specify) _____ 11
- Do not know..... 12

B. Characteristics DURING last departure/trip abroad

18. Did you attend any training or course abroad?

- Yes 1
- No 2
- Do not know..... 3 **20**

19. What kind of courses or training did you attend during your last trip?

	Yes	No	Not sure	Subject of study	Code
1. General orientation training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2. Language courses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3. University, college or vocational courses as part of curricula	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	[] [] [] []
4. Courses to study a certain profile/to acquire certain skills.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	[] [] [] []
5. Other (pls, specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-----	[] [] [] []
<i>Do not know - 999</i>					

In case of affirmative answers to options 3, 4 or 5, it is mandatory to specify the „Course subject“.

20. Did you study on your own while abroad?

	Yes	No	Not sure
1. Requested certain information from the persons that found (settled)/find themselves abroad (relatives, friends, acquaintances)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Learned a certain profession, learned by doing/working (even if not paying/paid for it?).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Learned a foreign language.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Read books, manuals, magazines, guides about the relevant country.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Used information from INTERNET	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Watched educational TV/Video/DVD programmes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Visited libraries, information or training centres	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Other (pls, specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. While abroad, did you request formal qualification recognition of your studies (diplomas / certificates)?

- Yes, the recognition process is ongoing..... 1
- Yes, the above were obtained 2
- Yes, the person requested but did not obtain the above 3
- Not yet, but the person intends to do so..... 4
- No and there is no such intention..... 5
- Do not know..... 6

22. Do you have a workplace abroad?			
• Yes	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	☛ 39
• No	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Do not know.....	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	
23. How long were you looking for a job abroad before you found your current/last job?			
..... [][] months <i>Do not know sure – 99</i>			
<i>If the person found a job before he/she left, please specify „0” (zero) months</i>			
24. What is your occupation at the present workplace abroad?			
Profession or function _ _ _ _ _ [][][][] code			
<i>(It is necessary to provide more details about occupation, whom the person worked as (for instance household, manager, etc.)</i>			
25. How many hours per week do you usually work at this workplace abroad?			
..... [][][] hrs <i>Do not know – 99</i>			
26. What is your economic activity at your current workplace abroad?			
_ _ _ _ _ [][] code			
27. What was your professional/employment status at the last workplace abroad?			
• Employee	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	☛ 31
• Employer	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Own-account worker.....	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Contributing family worker	4	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Member of cooperative production.....	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Do not know.....	6	<input type="checkbox"/>	
28. What kind of employment relationship did you have at your last workplace abroad?			
• Long-term individual labour contract (with unlimited period)	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	☛ 30
• Temporary individual labour contract (with limited period)	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Long-term/permanent employer without a written contract.....	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Temporary employer without a written contract.....	4	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Other (pls, specify)_ _ _ _ _	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Do not know	6	<input type="checkbox"/>	
29. When did you sign your individual labour contract?			
• Before leaving for the destination country.....	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• While in the destination country.....	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Do not know.....	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	
30. Were you entitled to any benefits at your last workplace abroad:			
	Yes	No	Do not know
1. Health insurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Paid sick leave	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Contributions to pension fund	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Work injury compensation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Unemployment allowance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Paid annual leave	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Weekly rest day (s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Overtime pay for extra-hours worked	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
31. How many months did you work abroad during the last 2 years/24 months?			
..... [][] months <i>Do not know – 99</i>			
32. Would you like to obtain a certificate proving that you have the necessary training and experience to practice in Moldova the same job/profession you did abroad?			
• Yes	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• No	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Do not know	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	

33. Did you hold a bank account in the destination country?	
• Yes	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• No	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Do not know.....	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
34. What was the average amount of remittances sent/transferred/brought by you per months during the last 2 years/24 months?	
• 0 \$ (no money at all)	1 <input type="checkbox"/> 37
• Up to 500\$	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• From 501 to 800\$	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
• From 801 to 1000\$.....	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
• From 1001 to 1500\$	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
• From 1501 to 2000\$	6 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Over 2000\$	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Refused to answer.....	8 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Do not know... ..	9 <input type="checkbox"/> 37
35. How did you usually send your money to beneficiaries?	
• Bank account deposit.....	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Rapid money transfer systems (d.e. Western Union, MoneyGram etc.)	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Courier services (via a paid person, package)	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Personally (while visiting Moldova)	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
• By means of friends/relatives travelling home.....	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Other (pls, specify) _ _ _ _ _	6 <input type="checkbox"/>
36. What was the money sent or transferred by you used mainly for? (pls, choose more options)	
• Current needs/consumption (food, attire, services, etc.)	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Purchase of sustainable goods/appliances for households (vehicles, TVs, computers, wash machines, etc.)	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Investments in agriculture.....	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Investments in other business... ..	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Purchasing/renovating/building a home (house/apartment)	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Entertainment/resting activities.....	6 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Debt payment.....	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Pay for schooling/training of household member (s)	8 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Pay medical bills/purchase of health insurance.....	9 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Pay social contributions (to Pension Fund)	10 <input type="checkbox"/>
• To cover the costs for household member (s)' migration/transport/visits/trips abroad	11 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Savings.....	12 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Other (pls, specify) _ _ _ _ _	13 <input type="checkbox"/>
37. What is your average monthly salary abroad (in the host country)?	
• Up to 500\$	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• From 501 to 1000\$.....	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• From 1001 to 2000\$	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
• From 2000 to 3000 \$	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Over 3000 \$	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Refused to answer.....	6 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Do not know	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
38. What is the share of your money gained abroad used to sustain yourself in the host country?	
• Up to 10%.....	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• From 11% to 20%.....	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• From 21% to 30%.....	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
• From 31% to 50%.....	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
• From 51% to 70%.....	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Over 70%.....	6 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Refused to answer	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Do not know	8 <input type="checkbox"/>

39. What was your legal status in that country?	
• Citizen of the destination country.....	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Holder of residence and work permit.....	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Holder of residence permit only	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Holder of temporary registration only	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
• No legal status.....	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Other (pls, specify) _.....	6 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Do not know	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
40. Did you stay abroad on your own or together with other members of your family/household, friends?	
<i>(more options are acceptable)</i>	
• Alone.....	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Spouse	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Children	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Parents	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Other relatives	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Other acquaintances	6 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Do not know.....	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
C. Characteristics AFTER returning to Moldova	
41. Why did you come back to Moldova?	
• Vacation/leave	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Registration/preparing the documents needed for formalizing the stay.....	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Family reasons.....	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Labour contract expiry/termination	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Health/medical reasons.....	5 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Did not find a job/clients abroad.....	6 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Season works.....	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Family reintegration/reunification, etc	8 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Launch of business in Moldova	9 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Achieved / fulfilled the initial purpose.....	10 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Expulsion.....	11 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Fair working conditions /low salaries.....	12 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Insecurity / instability, exploitation / deception, spin / extortion	13 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Other (pls, specify) _.....	14 <input type="checkbox"/>
D. Intention to MIGRATE/leave abroad	
42. Do you intend to leave abroad within the next 6 months?	
• Yes	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Maybe	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• No	3 <input type="checkbox"/> 51
43. What country do you intend to leave for within the next 6 months?	
Country: _.....	[[[.]]] code
44. What is the purpose of your trip?	
• Tourism	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Family/friends visit	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Family reintegration (marriage, reunification, etc.)	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Job search	4 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Existing workplace/employed	5 <input type="checkbox"/> 46
• Business.....	6 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Study abroad	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Medical reasons/treatment	8 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Other (pls, specify)_.....	9 <input type="checkbox"/>
45. Do you also intend to search for a job or to work during this trip?	
• Yes	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Maybe.....	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
• No	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
46. How long do you intend to stay abroad?	
• Less than 1 month.....	1 <input type="checkbox"/>

- From 1 to 3 months2
- From 3 to 6 months 3
- From 6 to 12 months4
- From 1 to 3 years..... 5
- From 3 to 5 years..... 6
- From 5 to 10 years.....7
- 10 years and over 8
- Forever..... 9
- Do not know10

47. What measures did you take to get prepared for this trip/journey?

- Requested travel documents (visa, work permit, etc.) 1
- Purchased travel tickets/prepared (planned) the transportation means 2
- Booked/agreed upon the accommodation..... 3
- Established contacts with persons living/settled in that country4
- Did not take any measure (no arrangements)5
- Other (pls, specify) _ _ _ _ _ 6

48. Did you attend any training or courses within the last 12 months to get prepared for the trip?

- Yes 1
- No 2 **50**
- Do not know3

49. What kind of courses or training did you pursue?

	Yes	No	Do not know	Subject of study	Code
1. General orientation training.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2. Language courses.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3. University, college or vocational courses as part of curricula.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	[[[]]
4. Courses to study a certain profile/to acquire certain skills.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	[[[]]
5. Other (pls, specify) _ _ _ _ _	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	[[[]]

Do not know - 999

In case of affirmative answers to options 3, 4 or 5, it is mandatory to specify the „Course subject“.

50. Did you study anything on your own for getting prepared to leave or work abroad?

	Yes	No	Do not know
1. Requested certain information from the persons that found (settled)/find themselves abroad (relatives, friends, acquaintances)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Learned a certain profession, learned by doing/working (even if not paying/paid for it?).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Learned a foreign language	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Read books, manuals, magazines, guides about the relevant country	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Used information from INTERNET	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Watched educational TV/Video/DVD programmes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Visited libraries, information or training centres	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Other (pls, specify) _ _ _ _ _	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

51. Are there any relatives, friends or other acquaintances in the country you intend to leave for/to get back?

More options are acceptable:

Pls, specify family members, relatives and friends even if they are from other countries and never lived in Moldova, including children born abroad

	Yes	No
• Spouse1 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Child/children2 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Parents3 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Other relatives4 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Other acquaintances5 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Do not know6 <input type="checkbox"/>		

52. Who answered the questions?	
• The person him/herself.....	1 <input type="checkbox"/>
• Another member of the household.....	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
53. Date of interview/questionnaire filling in:	
Day	_ _
Month	_ _
Year	_ _ _ _

TECHNICAL REPORT

Migrant Workers: The Case of Moldova



The ILO Labour Force Migration Survey (LFMS) was conducted in the Republic of Moldova in the last quarter of 2012 in order to assess the extent of labour migration out of the country and to describe the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of migrant workers. Administered as a module of the regularly conducted Labour Force Survey (LFS), the LFMS was developed and implemented by the National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova within the framework of the EU-funded project “Effective Governance of Labour Migration and its Skill Dimensions”, implemented by the ILO.

The results revealed that during the two-year period preceding the survey, 429,000 Moldovan nationals – i.e. 16.5 per cent of the working-age-population of Moldova – left the country to work or to look for work in a foreign country. Furthermore, 146,000 individuals – i.e. 5.6 per cent of the working-age-population – reportedly intended to leave Moldova to work or to look for work abroad within the six months following the survey.

This technical report also distinguishes between short-term and long-term migrant workers: individuals who were in a host country for at least 12 months were classified as long-term migrant workers and those in a host country for less than 12 months classified as short-term migrant workers. Short-term migrant workers are further divided into sub-groups by duration of stay. Those who have spent less than six months in a host country accounting for nearly 62.6 per cent of all short-term migrant workers.

For more information visit the ILO topic portal on Labour Migration
<http://www.ilo.org/migration>

Labour Migration Branch
Route des Morillons 4
CH-1211 Geneva 22
Switzerland

Phone: +41 (0)22 799 6667
Fax: +41 (0)22 799 8836
Email: migrant@ilo.org

ISBN 978-92-2-130227-8



9 789221 302278