

ABORTION SUPPORT NETWORK IMPACT REPORT 2022-2023

"I am a refugee from Ukraine and now I am in Poland. I am begging the doctors observing me to help me terminate the pregnancy. I don't know where to turn. I ask for your help. I was left without money and housing due to the situation in Ukraine. You are my last chance."

- ASN client

These are the words of one of the many people who find themselves unable to access a safe abortion where they live, and contact Abortion Support Network for information.



WHO WE ARE

Abortion Support Network is charity that provides information, financial assistance and other practical support to women and pregnant people who need to access a safe abortion from the Republic of Ireland, Poland, Malta, and elsewhere in Europe.

We believe “I cannot afford an abortion” should never be the only reason someone continues a pregnancy.

ASN is an inclusive organisation. We are here to help anyone who needs an abortion regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexuality, disability, immigration status, spoken language, country of origin, marital status, or political beliefs.

We don't ask someone how they got pregnant or why they want an abortion.

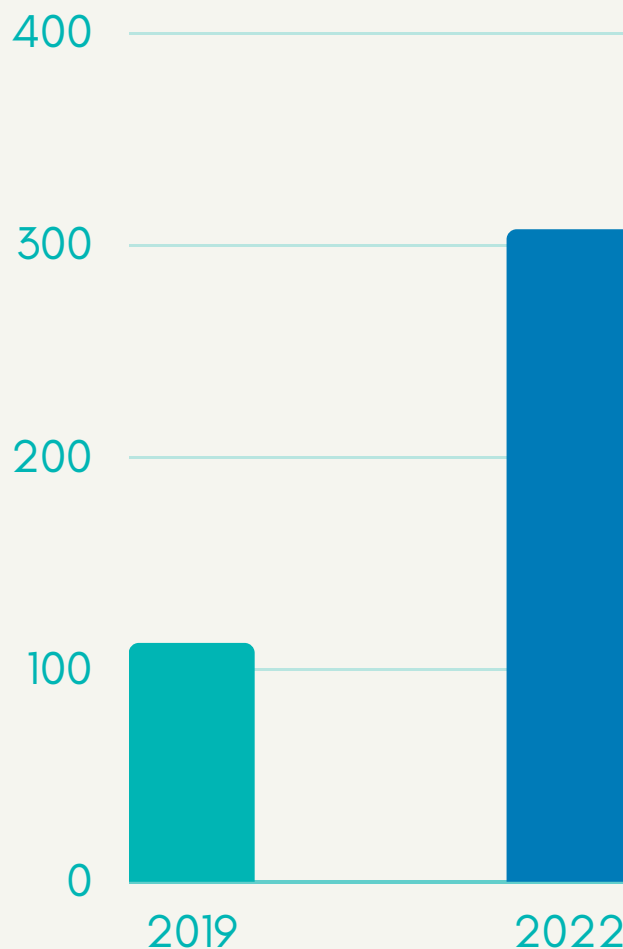
We just ask how we can help.



WHO WE HELP

In 2022 we provided financial support to 307 people who needed help accessing a safe abortion.

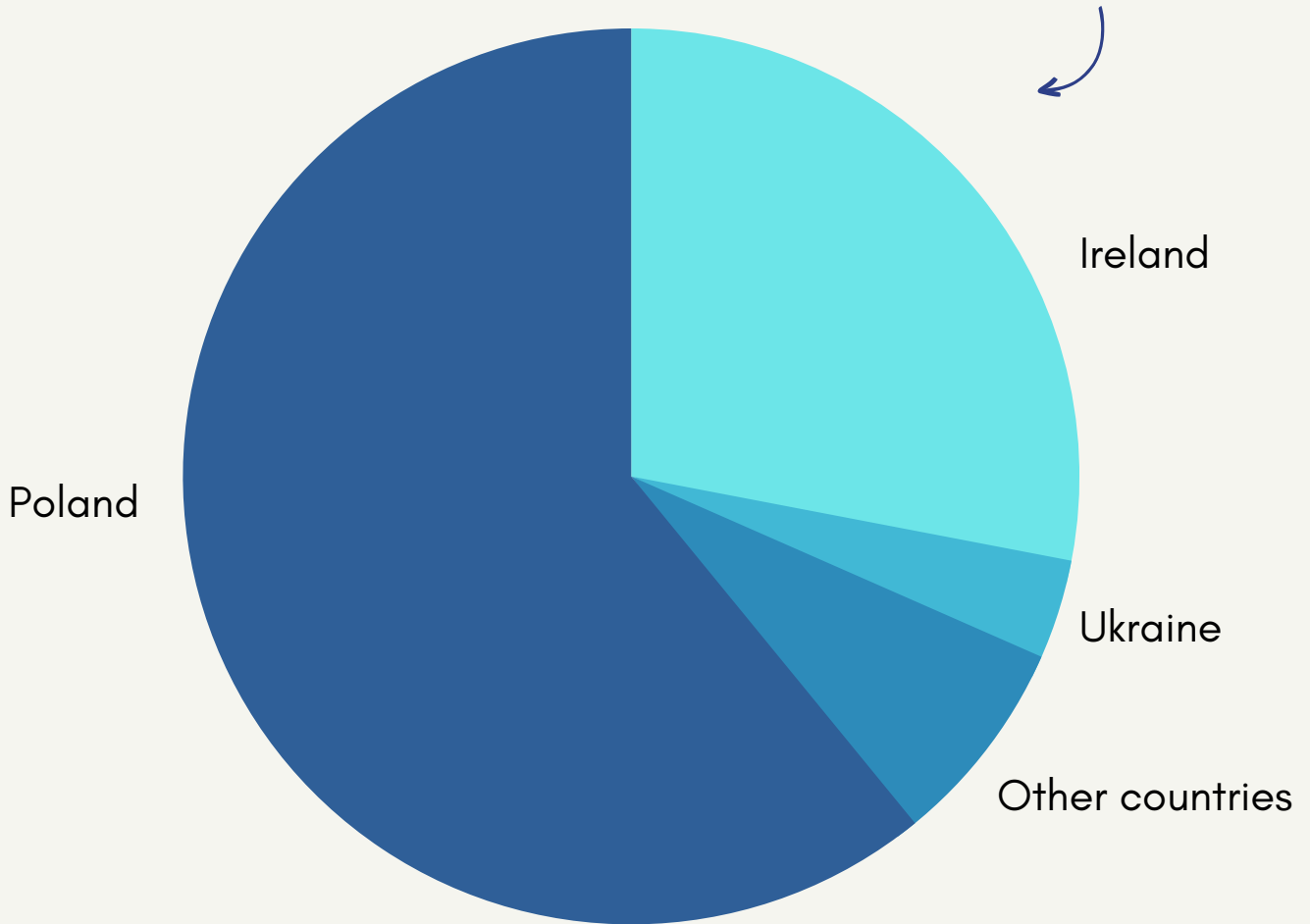
80% of the people we fund are in their second or third trimester. 5 years ago, 80% of our clients were in the first trimester.



Number of clients funded:
112 in 2019, and 307 in 2022

WHO WE HELP

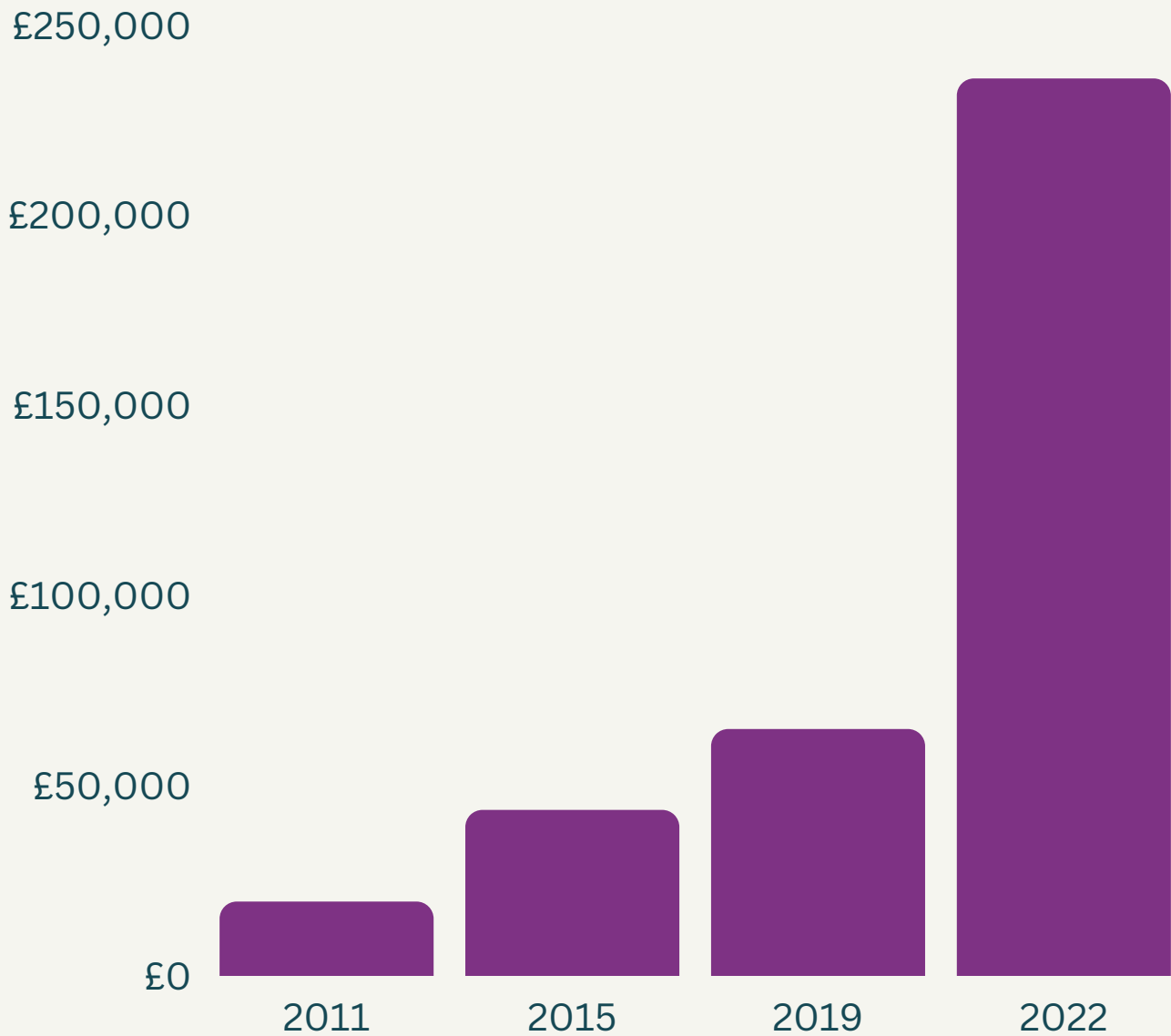
Clients funded in 2022
by country



Most of the people ASN supports are in Poland, the Republic of Ireland and Malta. In 2022, we began hearing from people displaced by the war in Ukraine.

So far in 2023, we've heard from 702 people in 31 different countries.

FUNDING ABORTIONS



ASN's total financial support for clients was £19,385 in 2011, £64,752 in 2019, and £235,807 in 2022.

POLAND

Poland effectively removed access to abortion in a 2020 'Constitutional Tribunal' ruling.

Last year, 6 out of every 10 people we funded were from Poland.

On average, each person we funded needed £633 to get the abortion.



Average grant for clients from Poland: £550 in 2021, and £633 in 2022

ABORTION WITHOUT BORDERS

More than half of the people ASN supported came to us from Abortion Without Borders.

This network is known as 'Poland's largest abortion provider', as its members have collectively helped more than 100,000 people from Poland to get an abortion since 2020.

ASN funds the Polish-language Abortion Without Borders helpline, run by fellow Abortion Without Borders member *Kobiety w Sieci*. This is the first point of contact for most Polish people seeking abortions. In 2022, 6,190 people called the AWB helpline.

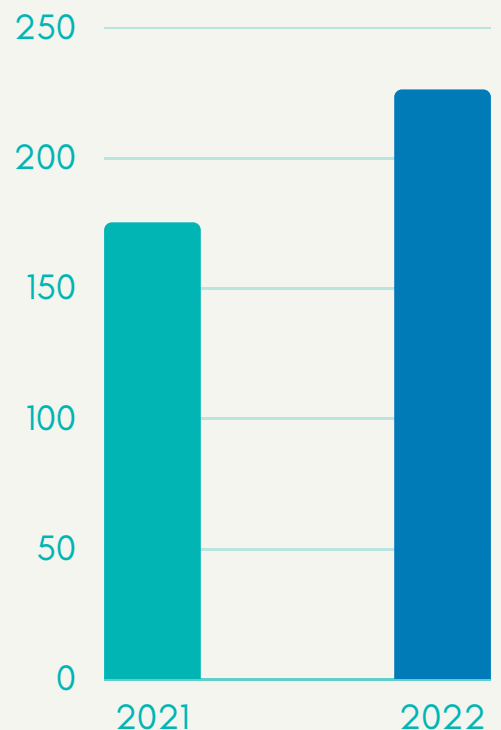
IRELAND

"I'm pregnant. I live in Ireland. I am 11 weeks 5 days today. My doctor tried to get an appointment in Ireland but they couldn't get one. I can't get the abortion here because I will be 1 day over. Can you help me? I'm really worried."

- ASN client, 2022

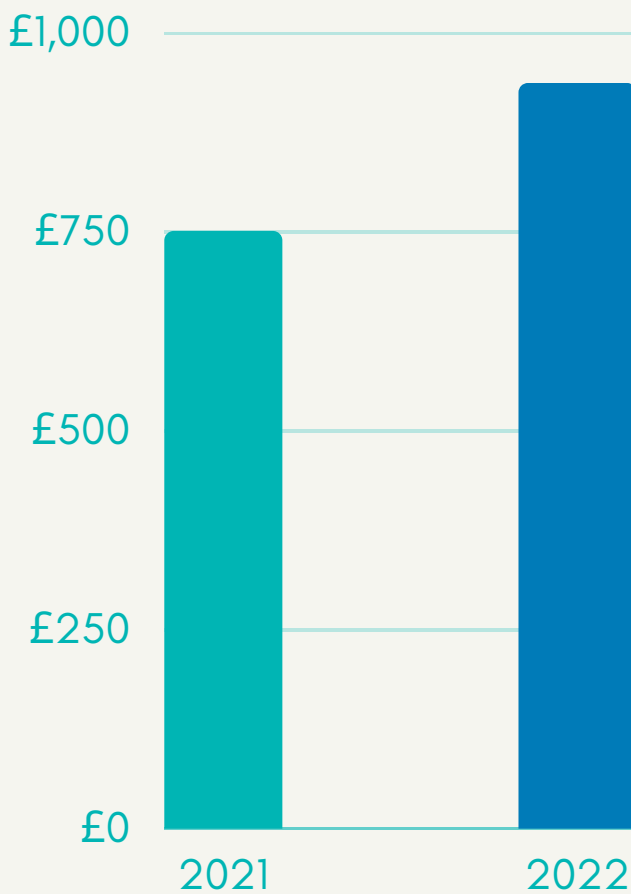
The Republic of Ireland changed its abortion laws in 2019 following the 'Repeal the 8th' vote in May 2018.

Despite the change, many people are still forced to seek abortion services in England and elsewhere in Europe. Enquiries from clients in Ireland increased by 30% between 2021 and 2022.



Enquiries from Ireland:
175 in 2021, and 226 in 2022

IRELAND



Average grant for clients from Ireland

The average amount each person needs is increasing. In 2022, we spent £936 per Irish client compared with £750 in the previous year.

“I thought we had a referendum so that people didn’t have to do this.”

- ASN client, 2022

LOOKING AHEAD

Abortion rights are under pressure. Eight states in Europe allow abortions at some point past twelve weeks, only five past 15 weeks. In practice it can still be very difficult to obtain an abortion.

We spent more in grants to Malta in the first half of 2023 than we did in all of 2022, with an average grant of **£1,244 per person**

We have helped a small number of clients from France, with an average grant of **£922 per person**

"It is very sad that I had to look for help outside my country, but I am glad that there is 'someone' who will give a helping hand at this particularly difficult time in a woman's life."

- ASN client

Our average grant for Ukrainian clients is **£1,212 per person**

YOU CAN HELP

ASN is part of a long tradition of ordinary people stepping in where governments fail to provide safe abortion care. We were the first abortion fund in Europe, and now we are proud to be part of a growing network of pro-abortion activism across the continent.

DONATE

asn.org.uk/fundraising

The vast majority of our funding comes from individual people making donations and fundraising.

VOLUNTEER

asn.org.uk/volunteer

Sign up to our newsletter for future opportunities, or get in touch.

SHARE

@AbortionSupportNetwork

Find us on social media and spread the word about abortion access!