

# Rapid Needs Assessment (RNA) of IDP-hosting areas Northern Oblasts, Ukraine

April 2022

## Context and Methodology

Since the military escalation in February 2022, over 7.14 million people have been displaced internally throughout Ukraine. At the request of the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG), a Rapid Needs Assessment (RNA) was launched with the support of REACH in order to inform humanitarian actors responding to the displacement crisis.

Data was collected through 55 structured phone interviews with NGO and local authority key informants (KIs) in 38 settlements of northern oblasts (Zhytomyrska, Kyivska, Sumska, Chernihivska and Kyiv city) between March 25-April 6. In addition, three qualitative individual interviews were conducted with KIs working in Chernihiv, Zhytomyr, and Kyiv city. For quantitative data collection, a minimum of four settlements were sampled in each oblast, with the possibility to interview more than one KI per settlement (KI-level data was then aggregated at the settlement level). Given the lack of granular data on the distribution of IDPs in Ukraine, enumerators were initially directed to interview KIs in the four largest settlements of each oblast. The list of settlements considered to be of interest for data collection was however flexible. During data collection, the list was adapted to disregard pre-identified settlements should KIs report that the settlement was not hosting a large IDP population. Conversely, the assessment team had the possibility to incorporate new IDP hosting settlements to the list of settlements of interest.

**While the assessment was conducted countrywide, this brief provides key findings for northern oblasts.** Four other factsheets will cover the rest of the country. Findings should be considered as indicative only.

## Coverage of Assessed Oblasts



	Chernihivska	Kyiv	Kyivska	Sumska	Zhytomyrska
# KIs	13	13	8	9	12
# assessed settlements	7	1	6	7	6

## Summary of Findings

% of assessed settlements reporting that the IDP population in the settlement faced the following concerns:

	Chernihivska	Kyiv	Kyivska	Sumska	Zhytomyrska	Total
Access to cash or financial services	86%	100%	33%	86%	17%	59%
Damage to infrastructure / housing	43%	100%	50%	71%	50%	56%
Access to food	57%	100%	50%	57%	50%	56%
Access to healthcare services	57%	100%	17%	57%	33%	44%
Access to livelihoods	57%	100%	33%	57%	17%	44%
Access to social or administrative services	57%	100%	33%	57%	17%	44%
Acquiring/restoring documentation	57%	100%	17%	43%	33%	41%
Access to childcare/child-friendly spaces	57%	100%	17%	43%	17%	37%
Access to psychosocial support	43%	100%	33%	43%	17%	37%
Access to education	29%	0%	33%	43%	17%	30%
Access to non-food items, including winterisation items	71%	100%	17%	14%	0%	30%
Access to shelter/temporary accommodation	43%	100%	33%	14%	17%	30%
Lack of information about how to travel to other countries	29%	100%	33%	29%	0%	26%
Disruption to utilities (gas, heating, electricity...)	29%	100%	33%	29%	0%	26%
Lack of information about services accessible in country	14%	100%	0%	29%	0%	19%
Lack of information pertaining to assistance	14%	100%	17%	29%	0%	19%
Access to drinking water, sanitation, hygiene (WASH)	29%	100%	17%	14%	17%	19%
Protection issues including Gender Based Violence (GBV)	14%	0%	17%	14%	0%	15%
Safety issues (fraud, banditry, hostile social environment)	14%	100%	17%	14%	17%	15%
Access to communication (SIM card or phone)	29%	0%	17%	0%	0%	11%
Access to medicine	14%	0%	17%	0%	17%	11%

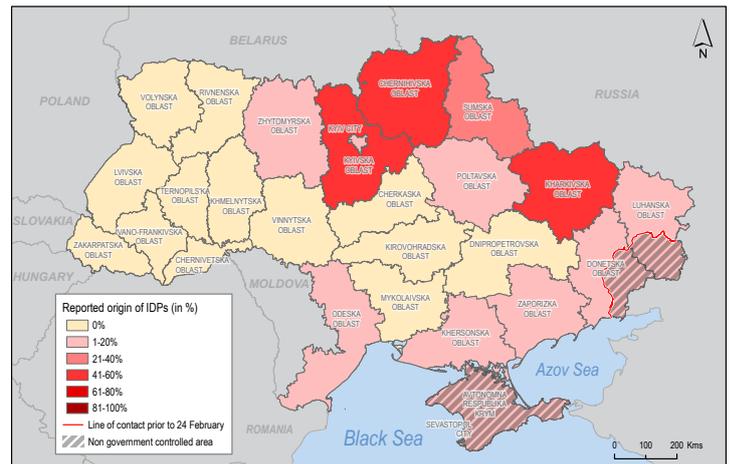
In assessed settlements in northern oblasts, **difficulties in access to cash or financial services** for the IDP population were the most frequently cited (59%). This concern was followed by **damage to infrastructure or housing** (56%), **access to food** (56%) **access to food, health care services, livelihoods, and social/administrative services** (all 44%), and **acquiring and restoring documentation** (41%). Additionally, note that in Ukrainian administration, Kyiv city is a self-governing city with special status and is considered separately from Kyivska oblast. In the presented data, only 1 settlement therefore appears as surveyed for Kyiv city.

### Key Findings

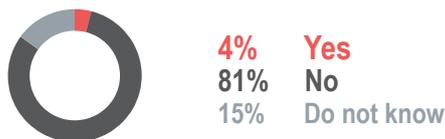
#### 👉 IDP profile, intentions, protection and access to shelter

- IDPs began arriving in most assessed settlements of the northern oblasts a few days after the beginning of the escalation.
- IDPs primarily originated from **Kyivska, Kharkivska, Chernihivska and Sumska**, followed by **Kyiv city, Luhanska, Zhytomyrska, Donetsk**. Smaller shares of settlements hosted IDPs originating from Odessa, Kherson, Zaporizhzhia, Poltava, and Crimea.
- In northern oblasts settlements, KIs reported that the majority of IDPs appeared to be planning to **remain in the settlement for a short stay before moving on elsewhere**, either to another country or to another area inside the country. Oblasts where settlements appeared to be transit points include **Chernihivska, Kyivska, Sumska, and Kyiv city**.
- **Damage to infrastructure and housing** were mentioned by KIs as a concern in most assessed settlements, especially in **Sumska oblast (71%) and Kyiv city**.
- 📝 During the qualitative surveys, KIs in assessed northern settlements noted that the settlements were mostly transit points for IDPs. Many IDPs arriving in Kyiv city appeared to come from the cities of Irpin, Bucha, and Gostomel in the Kyiv region, as well as from Donetsk and Chernihivska oblasts. Some KIs also noted that many IDPs in the assessed settlements had already left, to continue their movement to safer regions in western Ukraine.

Map 2: % of assessed settlements in western oblasts by reported oblast of origin of IDPs in the settlement

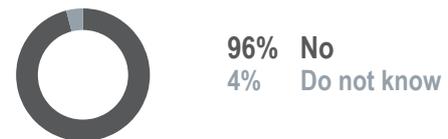


#### % of assessed settlements where KIs reported the presence of unaccompanied minors among IDPs:



- The presence of separated or unaccompanied minors was reported by KIs in **4% of assessed settlements**. In **Sumska**, the largest share of settlements reported such situations (14%).
- **37%** of KIs in assessed settlements indicated difficulties with **access to child care and child friendly spaces**, particularly in **Kyiv city, Chernihivska and Sumska** oblasts.
- 📝 In Zhytomyr city, during a qualitative survey, a KI mentioned that not many unaccompanied children remained in the settlement, and that most children had likely been taken to safer western oblasts. In Chernihiv city, the needs of children were reported as baby food, hygiene products, diapers and medical care.

#### % of assessed settlements where KIs reported that at least some IDPs were living without a shelter:



- In most assessed settlements, the most commonly available housing options for IDPs were **accommodation with family and friends, collective centers** run by government or non-government organizations, and free accommodation in the homes of volunteers, with varying proportion from one settlement to the next.
- KIs in **Kyiv city** noted that rental apartments were easy to find, whereas KIs in **Sumska** oblast reported that finding an apartment to rent was difficult. KIs in the majority of settlements reported **no significant increases in rent**.
- 📝 According to KIs in Kyiv, Chernihiv and Zhytomyr, only a small proportion of IDPs stay in these settlements and the majority continue to western Ukraine. Housing for IDPs seems to be available and affordable, especially in Kyiv city, because of the city's large size.

### Key Findings

#### Food security

% of assessed settlements where KIs reported that IDPs are facing concerns in accessing food:



- The oblasts where KIs reported that IDPs faced the most difficulties in accessing food include **Chernihivska and Kyivska**. In **Chernihivska**, most KIs indicated that food was **'somewhat inaccessible'**, and one KI indicated that food was **'very inaccessible'** in the 7 days prior to the interview.
- In **Kyiv city, Sumska and Zhytomyrska** oblasts, KIs indicated that food remained **'somewhat accessible'**.
- Overall, in all northern oblasts, KIs in surveyed settlements reported that **provision of food items** was among top priorities (78% of assessed settlements).
-  During the qualitative survey, one KI mentioned that in Kyiv city, shops were open and food supplies were available. All interviewed KIs indicated issues with transporting food to rural areas surrounding Kyiv city and the interruption of supply provision. In Chernihiv city and Zhytomyr city, KIs reported that some shops and businesses were closed.

#### Health services

% of assessed settlements where KIs reported that IDPs are facing difficulties in accessing health services:



- The oblasts where KIs reported facing substantial difficulties in accessing healthcare services include **Chernihivska and Sumska** oblasts.
- Among settlements where difficulties in accessing health services were reported, the primary unmet needs reported were **treatment for long-term health problems, such as diabetes, high blood pressure or heart disease, lung disease, cancer, or disabilities**, followed by **treatment for long-term infections, such as TB or HIV**. According to KIs, barriers to meeting those needs include **security issues, lack of medicines** and **cost of medicines**.
- Access to healthcare services (46%)** and to **psycho-social support (37%)** were a high concern for most of assessed settlements in northern oblasts.
-  Some KIs in Chernihiv and Zhytomyr noted that many IDPs are elderly, and therefore require specific medication, which is often not accessible. Medicines commonly lacking include treatment for diabetes and heart disease.

#### Water, sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

% of assessed settlements where KIs reported that IDPs faced difficulties with WASH:



- The oblasts where KIs in the largest share of settlements reported that the population faced the most WASH difficulties include **Chernihivska** oblast.
- Provision of hygiene products**, including menstrual hygiene, was a primary concern among IDPs for most of the assessed settlements in Northern oblasts (78%).
- In settlements with reported WASH difficulties, few settlements of **Kyivska** and **Chernihivska** oblasts reported that clean water availability was a primary concern, suggesting that the WASH difficulties faced by IDPs may be linked with hygiene and sanitation.
-  According to KIs, rural areas of Chernihivska oblast may face water supply disruptions due to hostilities.

#### Financial services

% of assessed settlements where KIs reported that IDPs are facing difficulties with cash, ATM or banking services:



- The oblasts where KIs in the largest share of settlements reported that population faced the most difficulties in accessing cash, ATM or banking services are **Sumska** and **Chernihivska** oblasts (both 86%) and **Kyiv city**.
- Among settlements where difficulties with access to cash, ATM or banking services were reported, KIs from Sumska, Chernihivska, Kyivska oblasts and Kyiv city were most likely to report that such services were partially or very inaccessible.
-  During a qualitative survey, a KI from Kyiv city reported that not all ATMs are being replenished with cash, and there are disruptions to the purchase of foreign currency.

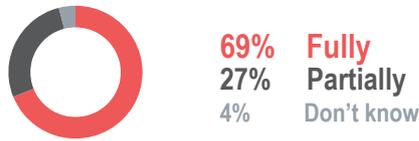
# Rapid Needs Assessment (RNA) of IDP-hosting areas

## Northern Oblasts, Ukraine

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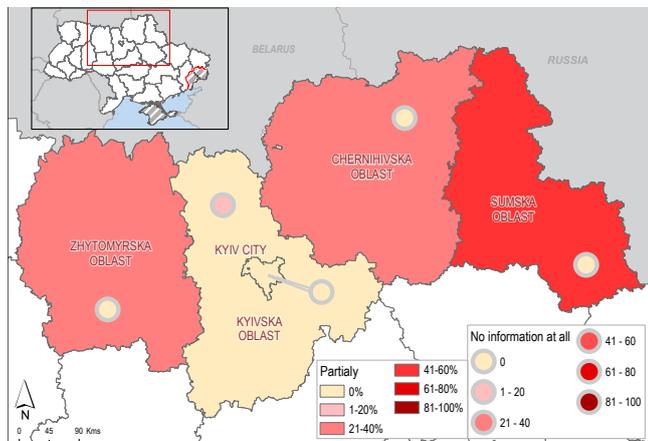
### Information

% of assessed settlements where KIs reported that people had sufficient information on assistance available to IDPs and the general population:



- In **more than half of assessed settlements (69%)**, KIs reported that IDPs were **fully informed** about the availability of services, highlighting the noticeable efforts to streamline communication in the local response.
- In a **small proportion** of assessed oblasts, KIs reported **difficulties in accessing information about services, assistance, or travel**. Types of information needed include the availability of housing, healthcare and medication, as well as information on registration and employment.
- KIs noted that information about public services and step-by-step instructions should be accessible for IDPs in printed form at railway and bus stations. Contacts of registration and humanitarian centers should be disseminated on social networks and in public places.

**Map 3: % of assessed settlements where KIs reported that information about availability of services was only partially or not at all available to IDPs**



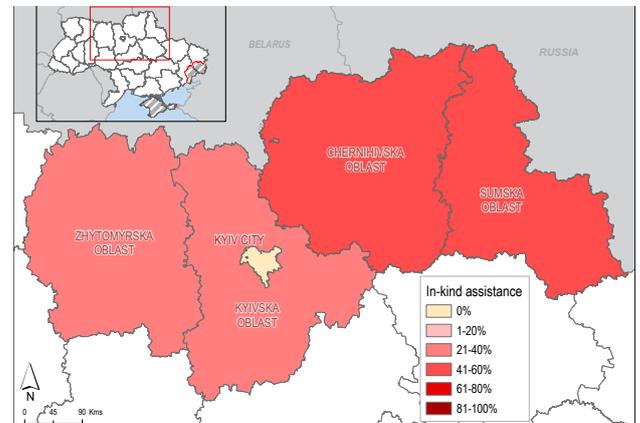
### Preferred modality of assistance

% of assessed settlements by preferred modality for assistance to IDPs according to KIs:



- Preference in terms of the modality of assistance appears to be settlement specific and to vary within oblasts. In the majority of settlements in **Zhytomyrska (67%)**, **Kyivska (60%)** oblasts, and **Kyiv city**, KIs reported that the majority of IDPs would prefer a multi-purpose cash response, whereas in-kind assistance is reportedly preferred by KIs from settlements in Chernihivska (43%) and Sumska (57%) oblasts.
- When conducting qualitative surveys, multi-purpose cash was reported to be the preferred modality of assistance by KIs from Kyiv and Zhytomyr. Due to the loss of homes and jobs, IDPs require financial assistance for their temporary survival.

**Map 4: % of assessed settlements where KIs reported that in-kind assistance was the preferred modality of assistance among IDPs, as opposed to cash**



### % of assessed settlements reporting the following priorities among IDPs (10 most cited priorities):

	Chernihivska	Kyiv	Kyivska	Sumska	Zhytomyrska	Total
Provision of accommodation	86%	100%	50%	86%	100%	81%
Provision of food items	57%	100%	50%	100%	100%	78%
Provision of hygiene products, including menstrual hygiene	71%	100%	33%	100%	100%	78%
Provision of clothing	86%	100%	17%	86%	83%	70%
Provision of psychosocial supports	43%	100%	50%	86%	100%	70%
Provision of medicines	43%	100%	33%	86%	100%	67%
Provision of bedding and blankets	57%	100%	17%	71%	83%	59%
Provision baby products or food	57%	100%	50%	43%	67%	56%
Administrative and registration assistance	14%	100%	33%	86%	50%	48%
Provision of healthcare services	43%	100%	17%	57%	67%	48%