

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

March 2022

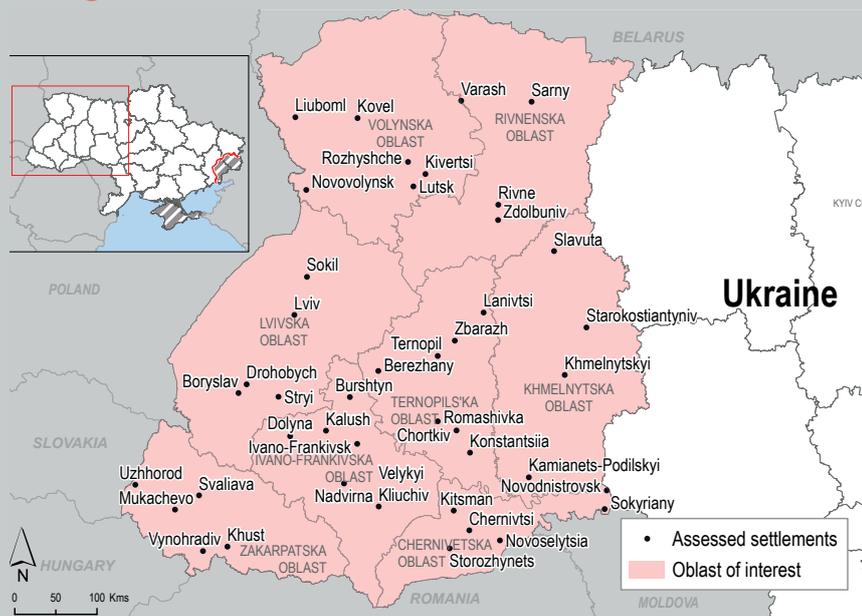
Context and Methodology

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 87 structured phone interviews with NGO and local authority key informants (KIs) in 38 settlements of western oblast between March 23-31. Three qualitative individual interviews were also conducted with KIs working in Oblast centers (Chernivtsi, Uzhhorod and Lviv). For quantitative data collection, a minimum of four settlements were sampled in each oblasts, 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 western oblasts. Four other factsheets will be produced, covering the rest of the country. Findings should be considered as indicative only.

Coverage of Assessed Oblasts



	Chernivtska	Ivano-Frankivska	Khmelnytska	Lvivska	Rivnenska	Ternopilka	Volynska	Zakarpatska
# KIs	17	13	12	10	10	12	13	14
# assessed settlements	6	6	4	5	4	7	6	5

Summary of Findings

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

	Chernivtska	Ivano-Frankivska	Khmelnytska	Lvivska	Rivnenska	Ternopilka	Volynska	Zakarpatska	Total
Access to shelter/temporary accommodation	17%	33%	75%	60%	50%	57%	50%	80%	51%
Access to food	67%	50%	25%	20%	25%	43%	67%	40%	44%
Acquiring/restoring documentation	33%	17%	75%	20%	50%	14%	33%	40%	33%
No concerns	17%	50%	25%	40%	25%	29%	50%	20%	33%
Access to psychosocial support	17%	33%	50%	0%	50%	14%	33%	40%	28%
Access to childcare/child-friendly	33%	17%	50%	20%	50%	14%	33%	0%	26%
Access to livelihoods	33%	33%	50%	20%	20%	14%	0%	20%	26%
Access to cash or financial services	33%	0%	50%	20%	25%	29%	17%	0%	21%
Access to medicine	17%	0%	25%	40%	75%	17%	17%	0%	21%
Safety issues	17%	33%	0%	20%	50%	14%	17%	20%	21%
Lack of information about services accessible in country	17%	33%	25%	20%	25%	14%	17%	0%	19%
Access to education	17%	17%	25%	20%	0%	0%	17%	0%	19%
Lack of information about how to travel to other countries	17%	0%	50%	20%	50%	14%	17%	0%	19%
Access to health care services	17%	0%	25%	20%	25%	0%	33%	20%	16%
Lack of information pertaining to assistance	17%	0%	50%	20%	25%	14%	17%	0%	16%
Access to social or administrative services	17%	17%	50%	0%	25%	0%	17%	0%	16%
Access to drinking water, sanitation, hygiene (WASH)	17%	17%	25%	0%	0%	0%	50%	0%	14%
Access to communication (SIM card or phone)	17%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	17%	0%	5%
Damage to infrastructure/housing	17%	0%	0%	0%	25%	0%	0%	0%	5%
Protection issues including Gender Based Violence (GBV)	17%	0%	25%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%

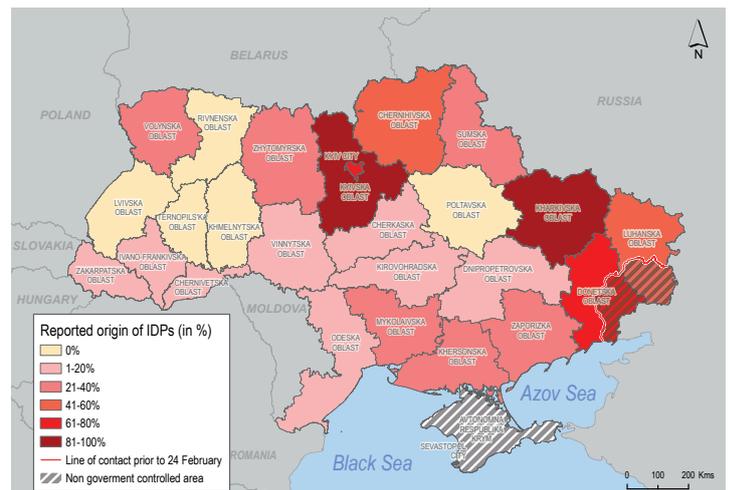
In the western oblast settlements interviewed during the assessment, **difficulties in access to shelter and accommodation** or the IDP population were the most frequently cited (51% of assessed settlements). This concern was followed by **difficulties in access to food** (44%), **acquiring or restoring personal documentation** (33%) and **no concerns** (33%). Access to basic services such as health care, WASH and education were not cited as primary concerns in the majority of assessed settlements, which is testament to the absorption capacity of existing state services in the face of rapid population increase.

Key Findings

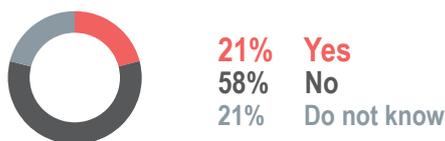
➔ IDP profile, intentions, protection and access to shelter

- IDPs began arriving in most assessed settlements of the western oblasts a few days after the beginning of the escalation. Some settlements continued to receive first influxes of IDPs through the first week of March.
- KIs in more than **50%** of assessed settlements **hosted IDPs from Kharkivska, Kyivska, Donetsk, Chernihivska, Luhanska oblast and Kyiv city**. Smaller shares of settlements hosted IDPs originating from Mykolaivska, Zhytomyrska, Sumska, Zaporizka, Khersonska, Dnipropetrovska and Odeska oblast.
- In more than **7%** of western 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 appear to be used as transit points include **Khmelnyska and Rivnenska**.
- Safety concerns including fraud, banditism, hostile social environment were mentioned by KIs in assessed settlements, especially in **Rivnenska (50%) and Ivano-Frankivska (33%)** oblasts.
- During the qualitative surveys, all oblasts raised concerns about the sharp increase in rental prices. The number of apartments are scarce and temporary shelters are still organized to accommodate a large influx of IDPs.

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

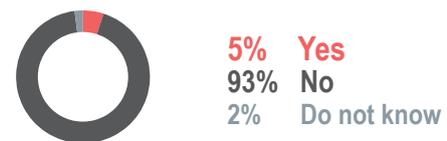


% of assessed settlements where KIs reported the presence of unaccompanied minors among IDPs:



- The presence of separated or unaccompanied minors was reported by KIs in **21% of settlements**. Oblasts where the largest share of settlements reported such situations include Rivnenska (50%) and Lvivska (40%).
- Most widely reported concerns outlined to be faced by IDPs in settlements of western oblasts include difficulties with **access to shelter/temporary accommodation**, mainly in Zakarpatska and Khmelnytska oblast. This is followed by the **difficulty accessing food**, especially for Chernivtska and Volynska, as well as difficulties in **acquiring/restoring documentation**, then **access to psychological support** and more generally **childcare/child-friendly spaces**.
- In Chernivtsi, during a qualitative survey, a KI mentioned that children from orphanages are being evacuated from Kyiv or Mykolaiv to Chernivtsi. They are in need of toys, food and hygiene items.

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



- In at least **5%** of the assessed settlements, KIs reported that some IDPs were **forced to live on the street due to a lack of shelter**. This situation appeared singularly in settlements of **Ternopil'ska oblast (29%)**.
- KIs in assessed settlements reported that IDPs were living in **rented apartments or houses, with friends or relatives**, or in **communal housing**, with varying proportion from one settlement to the next. KIs in the majority of settlements report **significant increases in rent** and **low availability of housing for rent**.
- According to NGO KIs in Uzhhorod, the absorption capacity of existing accommodation spaces is reaching its limit. In addition, some people have been returning home from abroad. When people cannot afford the cost of the rent, some temporary shelters are put in place such as schools, malls, offices where some mattresses were laid down.

Key Findings

Food security

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



- The oblasts where KIs in the largest proportion of settlements reported that IDPs faced the most difficulties in accessing food include **Chernivetska, Ivano-Frankivska and Volynska**.
- Nevertheless, food was reported to remain **'somewhat accessible'** in those settlements, indicating that difficulties may not be primarily related to severe shortages in markets (although the high influx of IDPs has reportedly caused temporary shortages due to a sudden rise in demand in a number of western oblasts) but perhaps more with lack of means to purchase food among IDPs.
- In all oblast, KIs in surveyed settlements reported that **provision of food items and baby products** was among top priorities.
-  During the qualitative survey, one KI mentioned that in Uzhhorod, some products such as cereals and pasta can be quickly sold out or not available. Otherwise, free services are available for IDPs such as social canteens which make food somewhat accessible.

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 health services include **Volynska, Rivnenska and Khmelnytska**.
- 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, health care for children and treatment for long-term infections, such as TB or HIV**. According to KIs, barriers to meeting those needs include **lack of medicines** and **cost of medicines**.
- Access to medicines (21%)** and **psychological support (28%)** was a high concern for most of assessed settlements in western oblasts.
-  Some KIs stated that they had trouble accessing some types of medicine (such as iodine and insulin). Moreover, the prices increased because of this shortage, and some IDPs do not have enough funds to afford it.

Water, sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

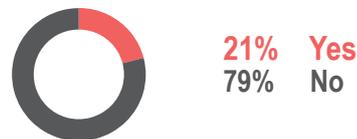
% of assessed settlements where KIs reported that IDPs faced difficulties with WASH:



- The oblasts where KIs in the largest share of settlements reported that IDPs faced the most difficulties in accessing water, hygiene or sanitation include **Volynska, (50%) and Khmelnytska (25%)**.
- Among settlements where difficulties with water, hygiene and sanitation were reported, **few settlements reported that clean water availability was a primary concern** among IDPs, suggesting that the WASH difficulties primarily faced by IDPs may be linked with hygiene and sanitation.

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 IDPs faced the most difficulties in accessing cash, ATM or banking services **Chernivetska, Khmelnytska, Ternopilska, Rivnenska, and Lvivska**.
- Among settlements where difficulties with access to cash, ATM or banking services were reported, KIs from settlements in **Ternopilska and Volynska** oblast were most likely to report that such services were somewhat **inaccessible or very inaccessible**.

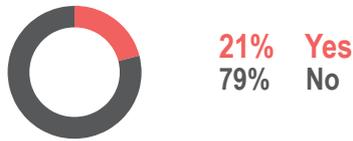
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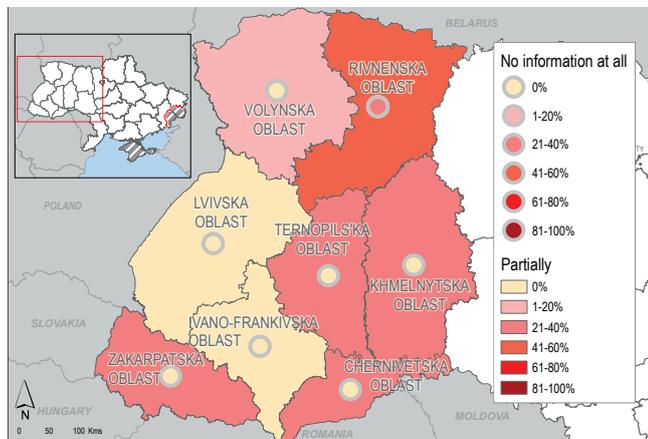
Information

% of assessed settlements where KIs reported that IDPs faced difficulties in accessing information:



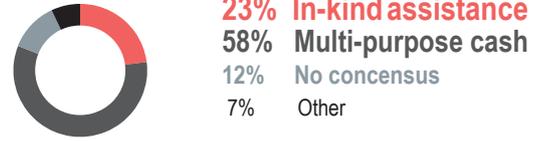
- In almost **all oblasts**, except Zakarpatska, KIs reported that IDPs faced difficulties in accessing information about **availability of services, assistance or travel possibilities**. Other types of information needed include the availability of temporary housing, places of registration of IDPs, and contacts of local volunteer organizations.
- Nevertheless, in the majority of settlements KIs reported that IDPs feel **well informed** about availability of services, highlighting the noticeable efforts to streamline communication in the local response.
- There are available hotlines, volunteers or city administration websites to improve the provision of assistance to IDPs.

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 where KIs reported that the majority of IDPs appeared to prefer multi-purpose cash



- Preference in terms of the modality of assistance appears to be settlement specific and to vary within oblasts. In more than half of assessed settlements in **Chernivetska, Lvivska, Ivano-Frankivska, Khmelnytska and Volynska** oblasts, 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 **Ternopil'ska** oblast. Varying responses per oblast may indicate uneven concerns in terms of the stability of access to items and item prices in local markets.
- When conducting qualitative surveys, the answers differed widely according to the various needs of each oblast.

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):

	Chernivetska	Ivano-Frankivska	Khmelnytska	Lvivska	Rivnenska	Ternopil'ska	Volynska	Zakarpatska
Provision of accommodation	100%	83%	100%	100%	100%	57%	83%	100%
Provision of food items	67%	83%	75%	60%	100%	57%	100%	80%
Provision of hygiene product	83%	67%	100%	60%	75%	43%	100%	80%
Provision of baby products or food	67%	50%	75%	40%	75%	57%	100%	60%
Provision of medicines	67%	83%	75%	60%	50%	57%	67%	60%
Provision of clothing	50%	50%	75%	40%	50%	43%	67%	80%
Provision of bedding/blankets	50%	67%	50%	60%	25%	29%	83%	60%
Provision of psychosocial support	50%	67%	50%	40%	50%	29%	83%	60%
Provision of legal services	50%	50%	50%	60%	25%	29%	83%	40%
Provision of healthcare services	50%	50%	50%	40%	25%	29%	67%	60%

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Map 5 : **IDP Situation Overview** (overall numbers of IDPs in Ukraine, as well as numbers of IDP registered with oblast administrations).

