

Humanitarian Situation Monitoring: Evolution of Needs (November 2023-May 2024)

July 2024 | Ukraine

Key Messages

- **Multisectoral and sectoral needs were more prevalent and severe** in settlements in **Donetska, Kharkivska, Khersonska and Zaporizka** oblasts between November 2023 and May 2024. In these oblasts, as well as Chernihivska, Dnipropetrovska, Kyivska and Mykolaivska, the **prevalence of settlements with multisectoral needs above “minimal”** and the **severity of multisectoral needs increased**.
- This worsening of the situation might be due to **increasingly prevalent financial issues**. In May 2024, residents of settlements 0-100 km from the frontline/border with Russia most commonly reported livelihoods support/employment as an unmet priority need (by a majority of KIs in 33% of settlements, +13 points increase between November 2023 and May 2024). The second most reported unmet priority need was financial resources at 32%.
- The **profile of needs varied** according to the **distance from the frontline: 25/27 settlements** with “severe” or above multisectoral SVI scores* in May 2024 are within **30km from the frontline**, and were much **more likely to report unmet essential needs** such as food (78%), drinking water (56%) and healthcare (44%) than settlement with “high” or below level of needs 0-100km from the frontline/border (21%, 10% and 12% respectively).

27

settlements had “severe” or “extreme” multisectoral SVI* scores in May 2024

51%

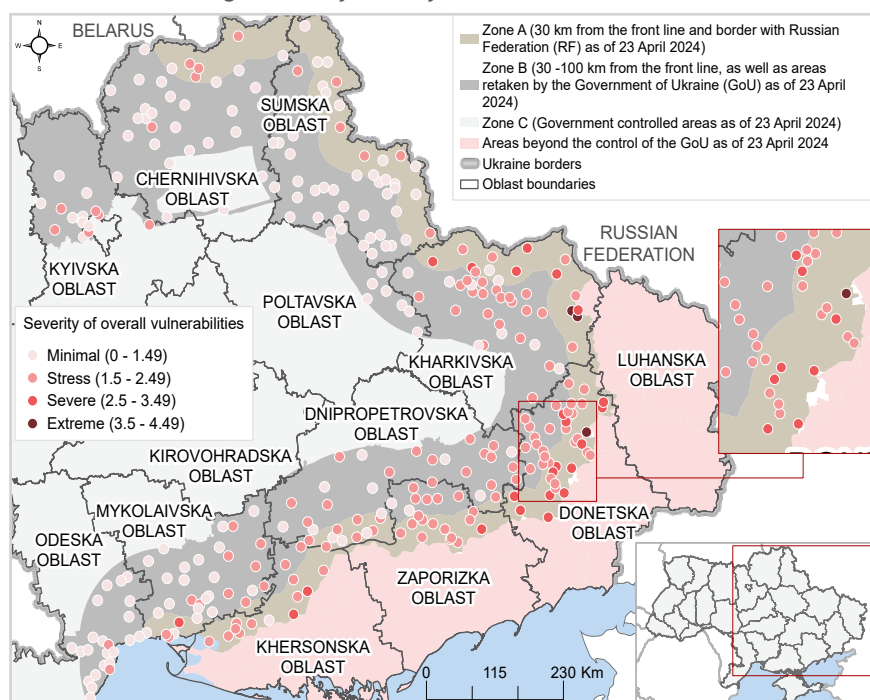
of settlements 0-100km from the frontline/border saw their multisectoral SVI* scores **increase** between November 2023 and May 2024

* The Settlement Vulnerability Index (SVI) is a composite framework assessing the level of multi- and sectoral needs at the settlement level. It is made of sectoral scores based on HSM indicators. The SVI framework is detailed on pages 9-10.

Context & Rationale

Given the dynamic nature of the humanitarian situation in Ukraine, ongoing monitoring is essential to enable a comprehensive assessment of the needs and their severity among the affected populations, and to ensure that humanitarian response plans remain aligned with the situation on the ground. In line with the primary objective of REACH’s Humanitarian Situation Monitoring (HSM) of providing up to date multisectoral data on the evolution of community-level humanitarian needs to enable monitoring of change over time, this brief provides an **overview of the humanitarian situation and overall vulnerabilities** over the past three rounds of data collection: **Round 14 in November 2023, Round 15 in March 2024 and Round 16 in May 2024**.

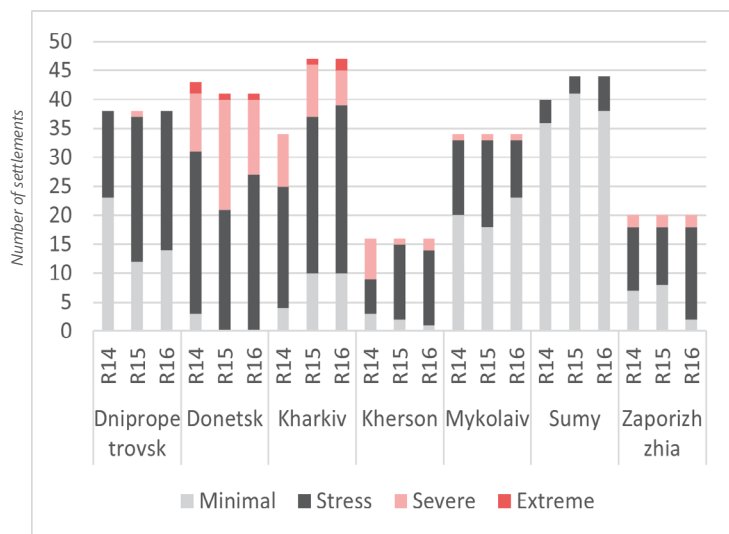
Map 1: settlements assessed by HSM in Zones A/B by the severity of multisectoral vulnerabilities, as assigned in May 2024 by SVI framework



More comprehensive findings across all assessed sectors can be found in REACH Ukraine’s HSM [Dashboard for Government-controlled areas in Ukraine](#).

Multisectoral and unmet priority needs

Evolution of multisectoral SVI scores by oblast



Across Ukraine, the prevalence and severity of multisectoral needs greatly varied by oblast. Across Rounds 14 (November 2023), 15 (March 2024) and 16 (May 2024), 30/30 assessed settlements in **10 western and central oblasts were found to have "minimal" multisectoral SVI scores: Cherkaska, Chernivetska, Ivano-Frankivska, Khmelnytska, Kirovohradska, Rivnenska, Ternopilska, Vinnytska, Volynska, and Zhytomyrska** oblasts. In two other western oblasts, multisectoral SVI scores were also found to be mostly "minimal": **Zakarpatska** (in May 2024, 2/3 settlements had "minimal" and 1/3 had "stress" multisectoral SVI scores) and **Lvivska** (in May 2024, 3/3 settlements had "minimal" multisectoral SVI score).

In **Chernihivska, Kyivska, Odeska** and **Sumska** oblasts, the prevalence of **multisectoral needs remained very low** (but with a **slight increase** in Chernihivska and Kyivska) across rounds:

- For **Chernihivska** oblast: in November 2023, 1/34 settlement had a "stress" score against 5/38 in May 2024.

- For **Kyivska** oblast: in November 2023, 2/18 settlements had "stress" scores against 6/18 in May 2024.

- For **Odeska** oblast: in November 2023, 5/26 settlement had "stress" scores against 2/26 in May 2024.

- For **Sumska** oblast: in November 2023, 4/40 settlements had "stress" scores against 6/44 in May 2024.

For assessed settlements in **Dnipropetrovka** and **Mykolaivska** oblasts, the prevalence of **multisectoral needs slightly increased** across the three rounds, though their severity **generally remained low**.

- For **Dnipropetrovka**, the prevalence of multisectoral needs **increased** but their severity remained low: in November 2023, 23/38 settlements had "minimal" and 15/38 had "stress" multisectoral SVI scores; in May 2024, 14/38 had "minimal" and 24/38 had "stress" scores.

- For **Mykolaivska**: the prevalence of multisectoral needs also **increased** though severity remained low. In November 2023, 20/34 settlements had "minimal", 13/34 had "stress", and 1/34 had **"severe"** scores; in May 2024, 23/34 settlements had "minimal", 10/34 had "stress", and 1/34 **"severe"** scores.

For assessed settlements in **Donetska, Kharkivska, Khersonska** and **Zaporizka** oblasts, **multisectoral needs were more prevalent** and generally **more severe** – especially in Donetska and Kharkivska.

- **Donetska** was the oblast with the **largest percentage of settlements with severe or extreme multisectoral SVI score**, and the severity of multisectoral needs **increased** between Rounds 14 and 15, with a **slight improvement** for May 2024. In November 2023, 10/43 settlements had **"severe"** and 2/43 had **"extreme"** scores; in March 2024, 19/41 had **"severe"** and 1/41 had **"extreme"** scores; in May 2024, 27/41 had "stress", 13/41 had **"severe"** and 1/41 had **"extreme"** scores.

- In **Kharkivska**, the prevalence and severity of multisectoral needs **consistently increased**. In November 2023, 21/34 settlements had "stress" and 9/34 had **"severe"** scores; in March 2024 this changed to 27/47 settlements with "stress", 9/47 with **"severe"** and 1/47 with **"extreme"** scores; and in May 2024 to 29/47 had "stress", 6/47 had **"severe"** and 2/47 had **"extreme"** scores.

- In **Khersonska**, while the number of settlements having a multisectoral needs scores above "minimal" **increased**, at the same time the number of settlements reporting **"severe"** level of needs **decreased**. In November 2023, 3/16 settlements had "minimal", 6/16 had "stress" and 7/16 had **"severe"** scores; in May 2024, 1/16 had "minimal", 13/16 had "stress" and 2/16 had **"severe"** scores.

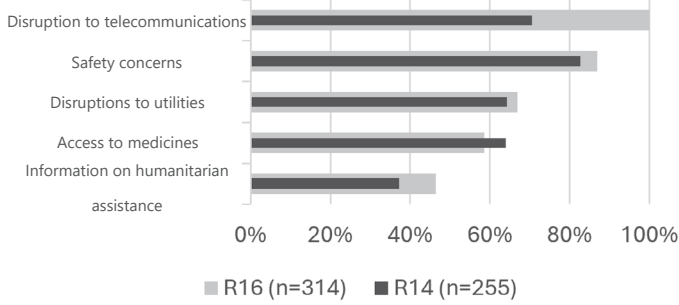
- In **Zaporizka** oblast the **increase** of the number of settlements with needs above "minimal" between March 2024 and May 2024 was one of the highest of all oblasts. In November 2023, 7/20 settlements had "minimal", 11/20 had "stress" and 2/20 had **"severe"** scores; in March 2024, 8/20 had "minimal", 10/20 had "stress" and 2/20 had **"severe"** scores; in May 2024, it increased to 2/20 with "minimal", 16/20 with "stress" and 2/20 with **"severe"** needs.

As evidenced by multisectoral SVI scores, settlements where **multisectoral needs were the most severe and prevalent** were those **closest to the frontline**. The subsequent **analysis will therefore focus on settlements in Zones A and B** (0-100km from the frontline).

For all settlements assessed in May 2024 (**n=371**), protection scores appeared to be the main drivers of the composite multisectoral SVI scores as **75%** of settlements had a protection vulnerability score higher than their multisectoral SVI score. Far behind, 26% of settlements had shelter, WASH and education vulnerability scores above their multisectoral one.

Main reported concerns and unmet needs

Figure 1: Most frequently reported concern in settlements 0-100km from the frontline/border (by round)



*Respondents could select multiple options

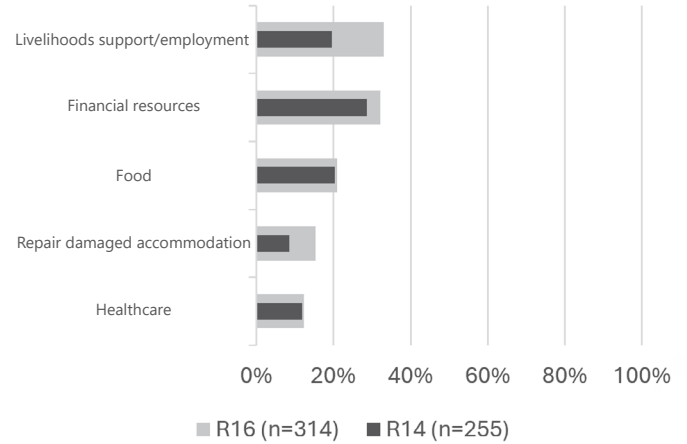
The **most frequently reported concerns** settlements 0-100km from the frontline/border in **May 2024 (n=314)** were **disruption to telecommunications (100%)**, **safety concerns (87%)**, **disruption to utilities (67%)** and **access to medicines (59%)**. Between **November 2023 (n=255)** and May 2024, the **concerns whose prevalence increased the most** were **disruption to telecommunication (+29 points, from 71% in November 2023 to 100% in May 2024)**, **access to information on humanitarian assistance (+9 points, from 37% in November 2023 to 47% in May 2024)**, and **access to toilets (+5 points, from 23% in November 2023 to 27%)**.

Conversely, the **concerns whose prevalence decreased the most** were **psychosocial support (-7 points, from 8% in November 2023 to 1% in May 2024)**, **access to drinking water (-7 points, from 11% in November 2023 to 4% in May 2024)**, **access to medicines (-5 points, from 64% in November 2023 to 59% in May 2024)**.

The **most commonly reported unmet priority needs** in settlements 0-100km from the frontline/border in May 2024 (n=314) were **livelihoods (33%)**, **financial resources (32%)**, **food (21%)**, **repair of inadequate/damaged accommodation (15%)**, and **healthcare (12%)**. In settlements with **“severe” or “extreme” multisectoral SVI score (n=27)**, **food and healthcare needs were reported much more frequently** (in 78% and 44% of settlements respectively), **alongside drinking water (56%)**.

The profile of unmet priority needs in settlements 0-100km from the frontline/border differ depending on the particular settlement: while 92% of settlements reported some kind of unmet need, those with **higher multisectoral SVI scores face more immediate life-threatening needs** (food, drinking water and healthcare) than **settlements with lower multisectoral SVI scores**, which **more often reported unmet needs related to financial support, access to livelihood and housing**. **25/27 settlements with “severe” or “extreme” multisectoral SVI scores were located within 30km of the frontline or border with Russia**.

Figure 2: Most frequently reported unmet needs in settlements 0-100km from the frontline/border (by round)



*Respondents could select multiple options

Between November 2023 and May 2024, the **unmet priority needs whose prevalence increased the most** were **livelihoods (+13 points, from 20 to 33%)**, **rent support (+7 points, from 2% to 9%)**, and **repair of accommodation (+6 points, from 9% to 15%)**.

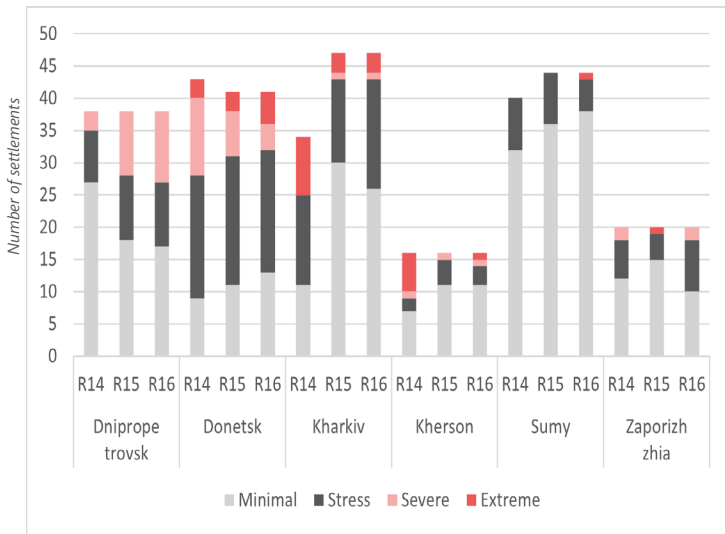
The **unmet priority needs whose prevalence decreased the most** were **fuel for heating (-16 points, from 20% to 4%, in line with the end of the winter season)**, **internet/phone network (-8 points, from 9% to 1%)**, and **clothing (-4 points, from 6% to 2%)**. While internet/phone network decreased as a reported unmet priority need, it grew as a concern, possibly highlighting the fact that **while the telecommunication situation did not improve, more urgent unmet needs arose** (such as money and housing), **leading to less key informants choosing telecommunication as an unmet priority need**.

Map 2: settlements assessed by HSM in settlements 0-100km by the change in multisectoral vulnerabilities between November 2023 and May 2024



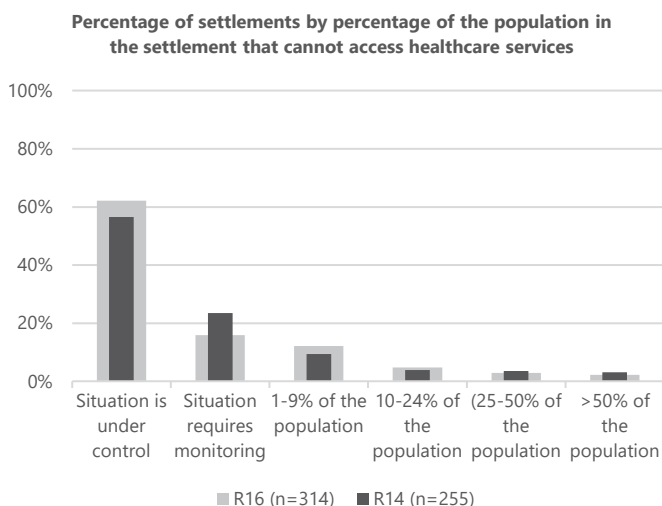
Health

Evolution of health vulnerability scores by oblast

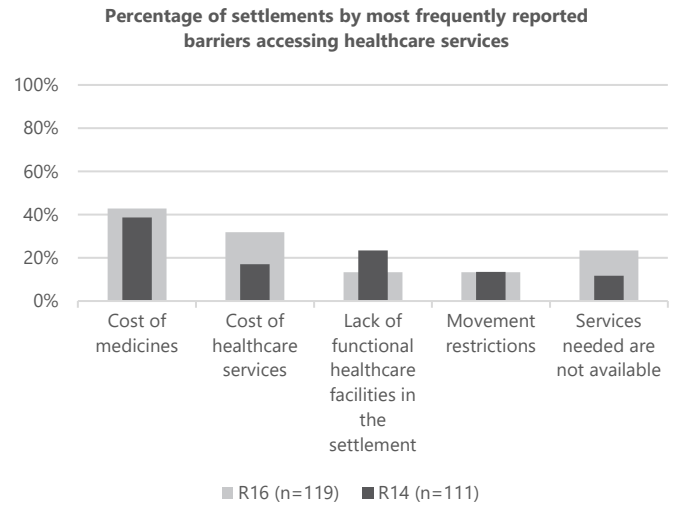


Settlements with the **highest health vulnerability scores** were found in the majority in **Donetska** and **Kharkivska** oblasts, and **to some extent Khersonska** and **Dnipropetrovska**. The share of settlements with health vulnerability scores above “minimal” **only increased** in **Dnipropetrovska** (November 2023: 11/38; May 2024: 20/38) and **Zaporizka** (November 2023: 8/20; May 2024: 10/20), while the prevalence of needs **marginally decreased** in **Khersonska** (November 2023: 9/16; May 2024: 5/16) and **Kharkivska** (November 2023: 23/34; May 2024: 21/47), even with more settlements being sampled in Kharkivska. In **Donetska** and **Sumska** oblasts, the health situation became **more polarized**: while more settlements were assigned health vulnerability scores of “minimal” (Donetska: November 2023: 9/43; May 2024: 13/41 and Sumska: November 2023: 32/40; May 2024: 38/44), the number of settlements with “**extreme**” level of needs also **increased** (Donetska: November 2023: 3/43; May 2024: 5/41 and Sumska: November 2023: 0/40; May 2024: 1/44).

Access to healthcare



In Zones A and B, **access to healthcare slightly deteriorated** over the reporting period: in **November 2023, 20% of settlements (n=255) reported at least 1-9% of the population that needed to access healthcare services could not**, compared to **22% in May 2024 (n=314)**.



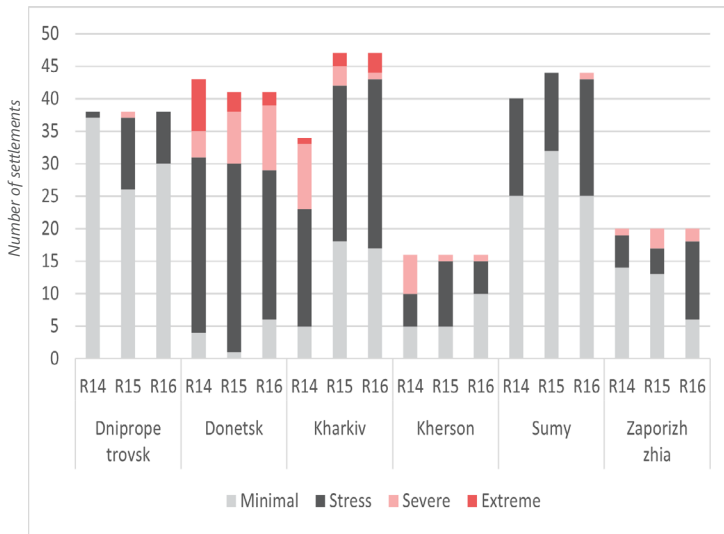
*Respondents could select multiple options

In May 2024, for **settlements reporting insufficient access to healthcare (n=119)**, barriers most frequently reported included **cost of medicines (43%)**, **cost of healthcare (32%)**, **services needed being unavailable (24%)**, **lack of functional healthcare facilities (13%)** and **movement restrictions (13%)**. Notably, **cost of healthcare** (November 2023: 17%) and **services being unavailable** became **increasingly prevalent** (November 2023: 12%), while **lack of functional facilities** was **less prevalent** (November 2023: 23%). **Movement restriction** remained a barrier to **accessing healthcare** in approximately **one in ten settlements** (November 2023: 14%).

In May 2024, **facilities** most often reported **not being available** for settlements where access to healthcare was insufficient (**n=124**) were **specialty hospital care (45%)**, **hospital care (30%)**, **family doctor (26%)**, **laboratory and diagnostic services (27%)**, and **maternal/newborn care (15%)**. Lack of access to **services for sexual and gender-based violence survivors** was reported in **seven settlements**.

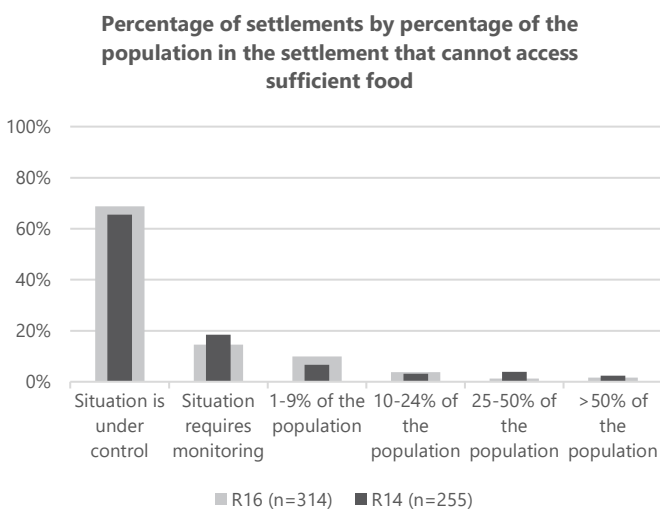
Food security and livelihoods (FSL)

Evolution of FSL vulnerability scores by oblast



Settlements with the **highest FSL vulnerability scores** were found in **Donetska** and **Kharkivska**, and to **some extent Sumyska** and **Zaporizka** oblasts. Donetska and Kharkivska were the only oblasts where settlements were assigned **“extreme”** FSL vulnerability scores (2/41 and 3/47 respectively). The prevalence of FSL needs **particularly increased** in **Zaporizka**: in November 2023, 14/20 settlements in Zaporizka were assigned a “minimal” score, against 6/20 in May 2024. The prevalence and severity of needs **decreased** in **Khersonska**, with an increase of settlements with “minimal” FSL vulnerability scores (November 2023, 5/16; May 2024: 10/16) and a decrease of settlements with “stress” or **“severe”** scores (November 2023: 11/16; May 2024: 6/16).

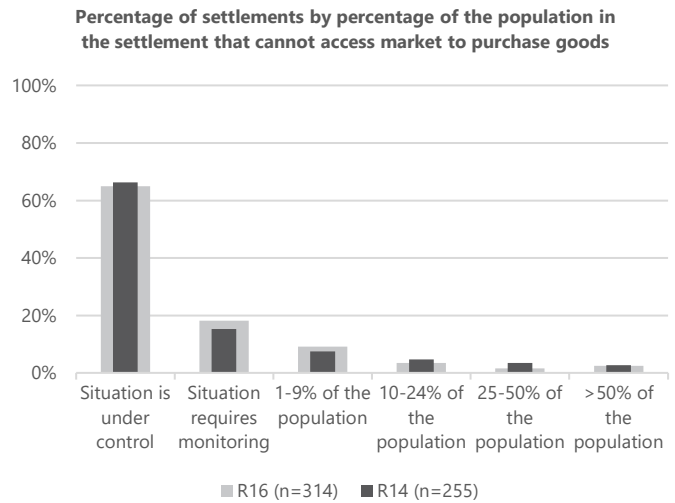
Access to food



In Zones A and B, **access to food remained consistent**: in **November 2023**, a majority of KIs in **16%** of settlements (**n=255**) reported that **at least 1-9% of people in the settlement could not access sufficient food**, compared to **17%** of settlements (**n=314**) in **May 2024**. The prevalence of the most common barrier to accessing food **slightly**

increased, with **51%** of settlements where access to food was insufficient (**n=98**) in **May 2024** reporting **high prices** as a barrier, against **46%** (**n=88**) in **November 2023**. One notable **decrease** in prevalence of a barrier was the **lack of functional stores**: while **30%** of settlements reported it as an issue in **November 2023**, it fell to **14%** in **May 2024**.

Access to markets



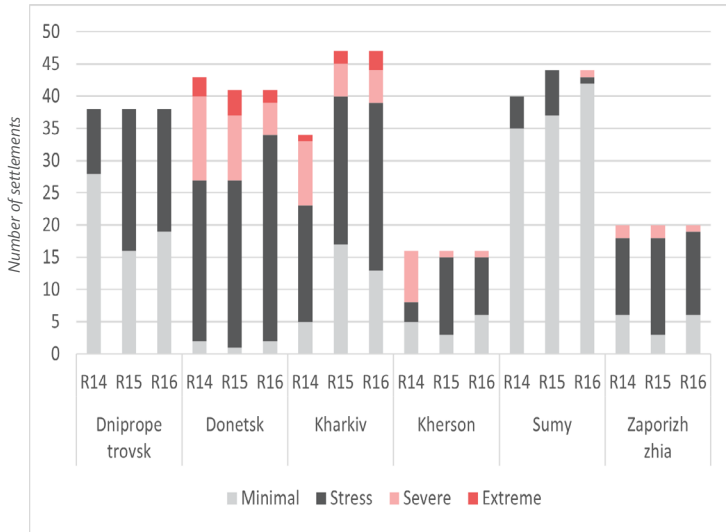
In Zones A and B, **access to markets remained consistent** across rounds: in **May 2024**, a majority of KIs in **17%** of settlements (**n=314**) reported **at least 1-9% of the population do not have access to markets**, against **18%** in **November 2023** (**n=255**). The most frequently reported barriers in **settlements with insufficient access to markets** (**n=110**) in **May 2024** included **markets being too far away** (**35%**), **markets operating at limited times** (**33%**), and **no available markets in the area** (**20%**). The **prevalence of markets operating at limited times** and **markets being absent** notably **decreased** across rounds: in **November 2023**, for the **86** settlements where access to markets was insufficient, a majority of KIs in **44%** of settlements reported **markets operating at limited times** and **31%** reported **no markets were available** in the area. Conversely, **limited or lack of transportation** appears to be a **growing** issue: it was identified as a barrier in **2%** of settlements in **November 2023**, but increased to **11%** in **May 2024**.

Access to financial institutions

In Zones A and B, **access to financial institutions slightly improved**: a majority of KIs in **30%** of settlements in **November 2023** reported a **majority of people could not access cash, ATMs and banking services**, but this had decreased to **28%** by **May 2024**. The **most commonly reported barrier** in **November 2023** for the **76** settlements where access was insufficient was the **lack of functioning financial institutions** (**84%**). In **May 2024**, REACH sought to understand better which financial institutions were driving this need, and found that for the **88** settlements where access was insufficient, the most commonly reported barrier was the **lack of banks** (**68%**) and the **lack of ATMs** (**33%**).

Shelter and Non-Food Items (SNFI)

Evolution of SNFI vulnerability scores by oblast



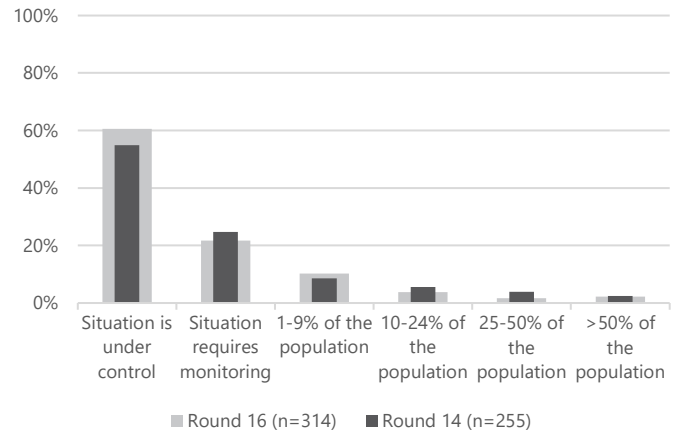
While the settlements with the **highest SNFI vulnerability scores** were located in **Donetska** and **Kharkivska**, the prevalence of settlements with needs above “minimal” **significantly decreased in both oblasts** between November 2023 and May 2024: in **Donetska**, the number of settlements with “minimal” SNFI vulnerability scores increased from **23/43** to **35/41**, while in **Kharkivska**, the number grew from **23/34** to **39/47** – although it should be noted that sampled settlements slightly changed in both oblasts between November 2023 and March 2024. The severity of needs **decreased in Khersonska** and the prevalence of settlements with needs above “minimal” **decreased in Sumska**; but **increased in Dnipropetrovsk** oblast – although the **severity of SNFI needs remained lower** in Dnipropetrovsk compared to frontline oblasts.

Access to NFIs

In settlements 0-100km from the frontline/border, access to NFIs **improved**: while a majority of KIs in **13%** of settlements in **November 2023 (n=255)** reported a **majority of the population not having access to NFIs**, it **decreased** to **8%** of settlements in **May 2024 (n=314)**. This could be explained by the **decrease** in the **second most commonly reported barrier to accessing NFIs** between November 2023 and May 2024: for **8/34** settlements in **November 2023** where a **majority of the population did not have access to NFIs**, a majority of KIs identified **high prices** as a **barrier**, against **3/26** in May 2024. However, the prevalence of the **most commonly reported barrier to accessing NFIs** **slightly increased**: the **lack of functional stores** was reported in **19/26** of settlements in **May 2024**, against **24/34** settlements in **November 2023**.

Access to safe and adequate shelter

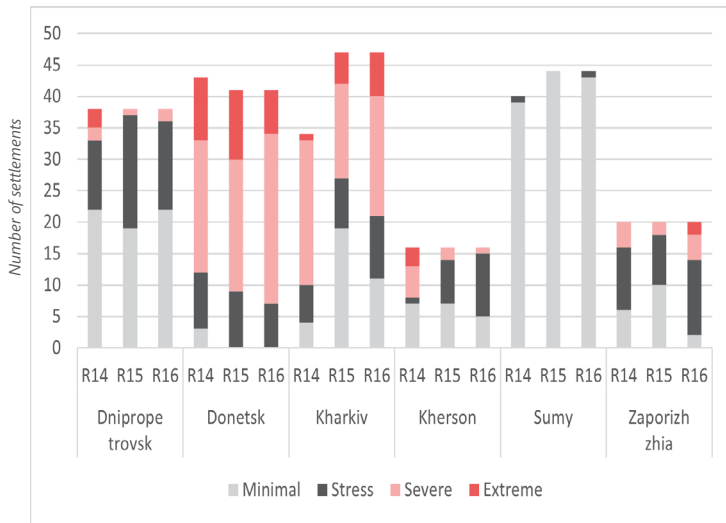
Percentage of settlements by percentage of the population that cannot access safe and adequate housing



Between Rounds 14 and 16, the access to shelter **marginally improved**: in **November 2023**, a majority of KIs in **20%** of settlements reported **at least 1-9% of the population did not have access to safe and adequate shelters**, against **18%** in **May 2024**. For Zones A and B settlements where **access to safe and adequate shelters was insufficient in May 2024 (n=124)**, the **main reported barrier (housing/shelters are damaged) decreased** (from **63%** in **November 2023 (n=115)** to **59%**). However, the **second most commonly reported barrier (rent being unaffordable) substantially increased** from **10%** in **November 2023** to **28%** in **May 2024**, highlighting the **growing financial issues** households were facing when trying to access housing.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Evolution of WASH vulnerability scores by oblast



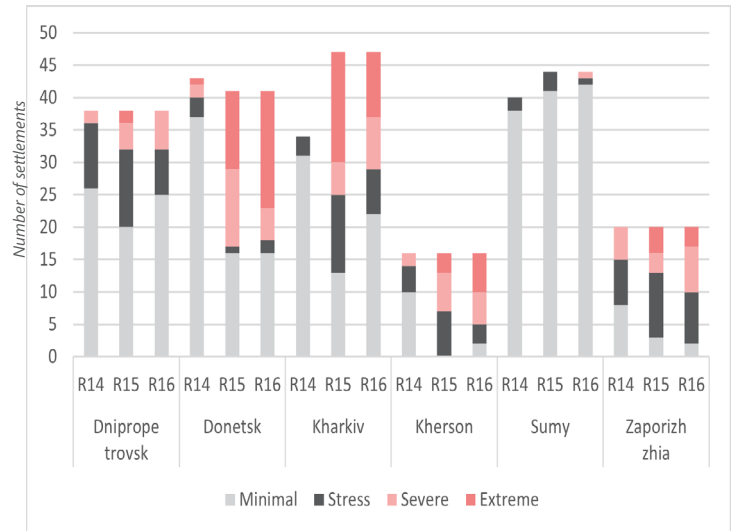
For **May 2024**, settlements with the **highest WASH vulnerability scores** were predominantly located in **Donetska** and **Kharkivska** oblasts, with respectively **7/41** and **7/47** settlements with an **“extreme”** score in these oblasts; and **27/41** and **17/41** settlements with a **“severe”** score.

The severity of needs **increased** in **Donetska** and **Zaporizka**: the number of settlements with **“severe”** or **“extreme”** scores in **Donetska** for **November 2023** was **31/43**; in **Zaporizka** it increased from **4/20** in **November 2023** to **6/20** in **May 2024**. Inversely, the severity of needs **decreased** in **Dnipropetrovka** and **Khersonska**: for **Dnipropetrovka**, in **May 2024**, **2/38** settlements were assigned **“severe”** or **“extreme”** scores – a decrease from **5/38** settlements in **November 2023**. For **Khersonska**, the number of settlements with **“severe”** or **“extreme”** scores fell from **8/16** (November 2023) to **1/16** (May 2024).

Across oblasts, **Sumy** was a notable outlier with **very minimal WASH needs**: in **May 2024**, **43/44** settlements were assigned a **“minimal”** score, with little change across rounds.

Education

Evolution of education vulnerability scores by oblast

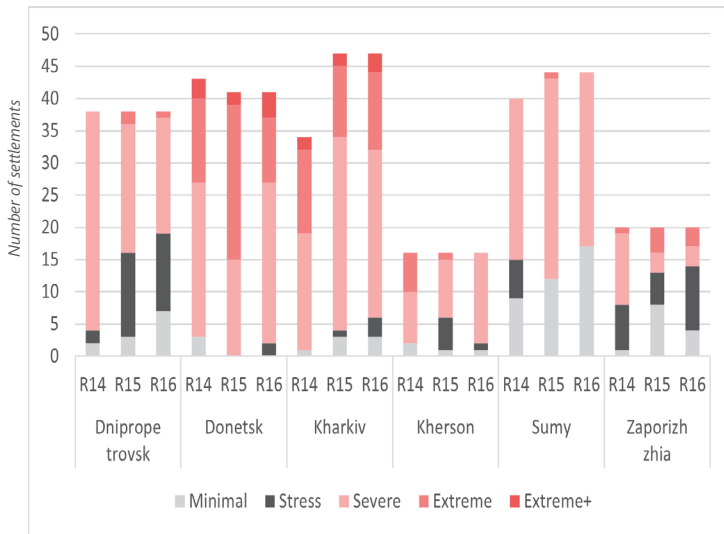


For **May 2024**, education vulnerability scores were **very different depending on the oblast**:

- In **Dnipropetrovka** and **Sumy**, the majority of settlements were assigned **“minimal”** education vulnerability scores (**25/38** and **42/44**, respectively).
- In **Donetska**, **Kharkivska**, **Khersonska** and **Zaporizka** oblasts however, the majority of settlements had **education vulnerability scores of “stress” or above**. The prevalence and severity of education needs **notably increased** in all four oblasts **between November 2023 and March 2024**: in **Donetska**, there was an extra **11** settlements with **“extreme”** scores between November 2023 (**n=43**) and March 2024 (**n=41**); and in **Kharkivska**, an extra **17** settlements between November 2023 (**n=34**) and May 2024 (**n=47**).

Protection

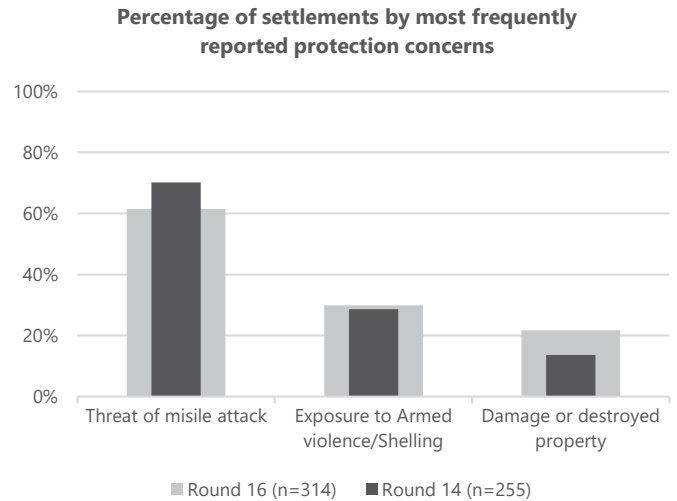
Evolution of protection vulnerability scores by oblast



Protection remained the **sector with the most challenging needs** at the settlement level across the six oblasts this analysis focused on, and consistently so from November 2023 to May 2024. For May 2024, protection needs were **particularly severe** in **Donetska** and **Kharkivska** oblasts, where **14/41** and **15/47** settlements (respectively) were assigned “**extreme**” or “**extreme+**” protection vulnerability scores. **1/38** settlements in **Dnipropetrovsk** and **3/20** in **Zaporizka** oblasts were also assigned “**extreme**” protection vulnerability scores.

The severity of needs **greatly increased** in **Donetska** **between November 2023 and March 2024** (from **16/43** settlements with “**extreme**” or “**extreme+**” protection vulnerability scores in **November 2023**, it grew to **26/41** in **March 2024**), but **decreased** by May 2024 to go back to level of needs similar to November 2023.

Main protection concerns



For Zones A and B settlements in **May 2024 (n=314)**, **protection concerns most commonly reported by a majority of KIs** in their settlement were **threats of missile attacks (62%**, a decrease from the **70%** for **November 2023 (n=255)**), **exposure to armed violence/shelling (May 2024: 30%; November 2023: 29%)**, and **damage or destruction of property (22% for May 2024, up from 14% in November 2023)**. Notably, **attacks on civilian facilities** such as hospitals and schools being reported as a protection concern **increased** from **6%** in **November 2023** to **9%** in **May 2024**.

ABOUT REACH

REACH Initiative facilitates the development of information tools and products that enhance the capacity of aid actors to make evidence-based decisions in emergency, recovery and development contexts. The methodologies used by REACH include primary data collection and in-depth analysis, and all activities are conducted through inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. REACH is a joint initiative of IMPACT Initiatives, ACTED and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research - Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNITAR-UNOSAT).

HSM Methodology Overview

Data collection in Government-controlled areas was conducted between November 2023 (Round 14) until May 2024 (Round 16), through phone interviews with community key informants (CKIs): representatives from local government, local non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and specific population groups (older persons, people with disabilities, children, women, internally displaced people (IDPs), returnees, and others). Across the rounds, the number of settlements assessed varied from 255 settlements in Round 14 to 314 settlements in Round 16.

For a more accurate analysis, the assessed settlements were grouped into three geographic zones within the GCAs:

- **Zone A:** Areas within 30 km range from the front line at the time of sampling, as monitored by LiveUA, and the state border with the Russian Federation.
- **Zone B:** Areas within 30-100km range from the frontline at the time of sampling, as monitored by LiveUA, Areas retaken by the GoU, and raions intersecting with these areas by 50% of the raion territory.
- **Zone C:** Remaining GCAs.

'Administrative centre' approach was applied in all zones:

All administrative centres (including hromada, raion, and oblast centres) were sampled in **Zones A and B**.

Only in the case of Chernihivska Oblast, where no settlements were included that were categorised as administrative centres within Zone A, with settlements being selected purposively among non-administrative-centre settlements. To avoid over-representation of settlements from specific oblasts in the overall sample of Zone B, rural settlements (administrative centres) were purposively sampled in these oblasts

(Dnipropetrovska, Odeska).

In **Zone C**, as it covers a wider area and a larger number of settlements, only **three administrative centres were purposively sampled in each oblast**. Settlements with a pre-war population size of less than 1,000 people were excluded from the sample.

To account for a possible higher variation in needs in units with a larger population, the number of KIs per settlement differed for the following **3 categories**:

- **3 KIs** in every selected settlement with a population size of 1,000-9,999*,
- **5 KIs** in every settlement with a population size of 10,000 – 99,999*,
- **7 KIs** in every selected settlement with a population size of over 100,000*.

* Population size prior to the start of the war in February 2022.

All KI responses from the same settlement were aggregated to have one data point for each variable per settlement. The **Data Aggregation Plan** used the **average approach** to aggregate the settlement responses by using a severity scale in cases of **single-choice** questions. In case of **multiple-choice** questions, the rule was to select all responses that have been reported by at least 1 out of 3 respondents, 2 out of 5 respondents, and 3 out of 7 respondents in the settlements per the relevant categories, as presented above.

The statistics presented in this brief **cannot be extrapolated to represent a proportion (%) of the population, and thus should be interpreted as indicative** rather than representative. Given the small and unrepresentative sample, these results only provide an indicative understanding of the situation in the assessed areas.

Settlement Vulnerability Index (SVI) Framework

REACH Ukraine developed this framework based on HSM indicators to determine the severity of vulnerability at the settlement level. The data utilised in the SVI's score calculation is reported by KIs referring to the situation in the whole settlement, thus does not capture specific household inputs and potential nuances within individual household situations. Within individual household situations. Accounting for the different approaches, indicators used, and objectives, the current framework should not be understood as comparable with other similar frameworks, including by REACH.

The SVI framework requires the calculation of individual composite scores for each sector, followed by a calculation of an inter-sectoral composite score as the final Settlement Vulnerability Index. **The framework may undergo further adjustments following consultations with humanitarian partners.** The final version will be made available on the REACH Resource Centre for reference and use.

The framework is composed of HSM indicators across six sectors: Food Security and Livelihoods, Shelter and Non-food items (NFIs), Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), Healthcare, Protection, and Education. The indicators incorporated in the calculation of sectoral scores were selected based on the information they capture regarding people's access to basic services and essential items. The indicators not incorporated in the score will still be used as part of the analysis and reporting as a way to present a comprehensive overview of the situation in the assessed settlements.

'Severity' signifies the intensity of vulnerabilities in the settlement, using a scale that ranges from 1 (minimal/none) to 4+ (Extreme and Risk of Catastrophic/Sectoral Collapse). The levels of sectoral vulnerability imply:

- **None/minimal:** Essential basic sectoral needs are met in the settlement,

- **Stress:** Borderline inability to meet basic sectoral needs in the settlement,
- **Severe:** Moderate inability to meet basic sectoral needs in the settlement,
- **Extreme:** Extreme inability to meet basic sectoral needs in the settlement,
- **Extreme+:** Collapse of basic services and/or total inability to meet basic sectoral needs in the settlement,

Both sectoral and inter-sectoral composite scores were calculated using the arithmetic mean (average) of scores and were rounded up if the score has a decimal of 0.5 or higher to assign it to a value (1-4+, Minimal to Extreme+). The sectoral score is calculated based on the sectoral indicators incorporated in the framework (see Annex), and the inter-sectoral score is calculated based on the sectoral scores calculated in the previous step. If an indicator cannot be recoded to 1-4+ values, it is by default given a value of 1 (Minimal). In cases where only part of the conditions satisfies for a given level of vulnerability for the selected indicator / combination of indicators as specified in the SVI Framework, those cases will be classified with one lower level (e.g., 'Severe' instead of 'Extreme'). Please refer to the Framework for more details.

The approach of calculating the 'average' score has its limitations primarily in relation to limited sensitivity to outliers (e.g., if a particularly strong indicator is showing a severe situation by itself, or if one of the sectors indicates a severe vulnerability of the settlement by itself). To account for this, the sectoral scores are to be reviewed as a second level of the analysis to identify settlements where only a single or limited number of sectors is/are showing a severe situation and due to the average approach the settlements are classified in a lower-level vulnerability group. Where relevant, the scores for individual indicators/indicator combinations will also be reviewed for a comprehensive understanding of what drives higher levels of settlement vulnerabilities.

Due to the included data being indicative in the scoring process, the resulting scores cannot be considered representative of the conditions within settlements and offer an approximate understanding of the humanitarian situation.

ANNEX 1: Sectoral indicators incorporated in the SVI Framework

| Sector | Indicator |
|--|---|
| Food Security & Livelihoods | % of settlements by the level of need in relation to accessing sufficient food in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % of settlements by the level of need in relation to accessing markets to purchase goods in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % of settlements by main barriers for people to access markets in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % of settlements by main barriers to accessing food items in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % of settlements by coping strategies used to cover basic needs in the 30 days prior to data collection |
| Shelter & Non-Food items | % of settlements by the level of need in relation to accessing safe and adequate housing in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % of settlements by main barriers for people to access safe and adequate housing in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % of settlements by main barriers for displaced persons to access safe and adequate housing in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % of settlements by main sources of energy most people used for heating during winter |
| | % of settlements by main barriers people faced in accessing heating during winter |
| | % of settlements by the proportion of civilian housing damaged in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % settlements by MOST people having access to non-food items (NFIs) in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % of settlements by main barriers people faced in accessing NFIs in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % of settlements by frequency of disruptions to electricity supply in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % settlements by frequency of disruptions to gas supply in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % settlements by frequency of disruptions to phone network in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| % settlements by frequency of disruptions to internet coverage in the 14 days prior to data collection | |

| Sector | Indicator |
|------------|--|
| Health | % of settlements by the level of need in relation to healthcare services in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % of settlements by main barriers people faced to access healthcare services in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % of settlements by types of healthcare/facilities people were unable to access in the 14 days prior to data collection (used only for the 'Extreme' classification) |
| | % of settlements by types of healthcare/facilities people were unable to access in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % of settlements by main barriers people faced to access medicines in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| Protection | % of settlements by main safety and security concerns faced by people in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % of settlements by the degree of restrictions on movement into or out of the settlement |
| Education | % of settlements by the proportion of education facilities NOT available for educational purposes in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % settlements by frequency of disruptions to internet coverage in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % of settlements by main reasons for educational facilities being unavailable for educational purposes |
| WASH | % settlements by frequency of disruptions to water supply in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % of settlements by the level of need in relation to accessing water in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % of settlements by main barriers people faced in accessing water in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % of settlements by the level of need in relation to accessing improved sanitation facilities in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % of settlements by main barriers people faced in accessing functional toilets in the 14 days prior to data collection |
| | % of settlements by main barriers people faced in accessing water in the 14 days prior to data collection |