

# IDP PROFILING IN URBAN AREAS: SITUATION OVERVIEW IN PAVLOHRADSKA HROMADA

MARCH 2024 | Ukraine

## CONTEXT & RATIONALE

The war in Ukraine, which escalated in February 2022, has resulted in large-scale displacement, with an estimated 3.7 million people remaining internally displaced in the country as of December 2023.<sup>1</sup> While 2.3 million IDPs hope to return home, 665,000 intend to integrate locally.<sup>2</sup> With prolonged displacement, support systems for IDPs' local integration are becoming increasingly important. At the national level, Ukraine's state policies have shifted towards durable solutions and recovery efforts for displaced people. Thus, there is a growing need to profile those in displacement situations and gather information to guide strategic efforts at nationwide and local levels.

As of December 31st 2023, Dnipropetrovska Oblast in eastern Ukraine hosted the largest number of displaced people in the country, with 390,322 IDPs officially registered.<sup>3</sup> Pavlohradska hromada, is an industrial area consisting of one urban settlement, Pavlohrad, and is located 75 km east of Dnipro (the Oblast capital). The city spans 59.1 square kilometres and is strategically positioned in the centre of the Western Donbas coal reserve.<sup>4</sup> In 2020 Pavlohrad's population was an estimated 103,800, experiencing a decline of 3,900 individuals from 2016 to 2020 due to natural reduction and migration.<sup>5</sup> Before the onset of the war in 2014, transport routes near Pavlohrad played a pivotal role in connecting prominent cities including Kyiv and Luhansk, as well as Dnipro and Donetsk. Pavlohrad's diverse economic profile consists of a total of 19 industrial enterprises, including coal mining, machine building, chemicals, food production, woodworking, and building materials manufacturing.<sup>6</sup> However, the onset of the conflict left industries such as the coal enterprises with a lack of employed personnel. An estimated 3,600 miners have been conscripted, as well as residents leaving the city to safer areas within the country due to the escalation of the war in February 2022.<sup>7</sup>

Despite this, the hromada has served as a primary IDP hosting area due to its proximity to the front line. In December 2023, an estimated 19,100 displaced persons were registered within Pavlohradska hromada, with almost every fifth resident as an IDP.<sup>8</sup> Most displaced people in the hromada reside in private accommodations, as only 681 IDPs live in collective sites.<sup>9</sup> This emphasizes Pavlohrad's evolving role as an urban hub for those displaced by conflict, shaping its sociodemographic characteristics, and transforming local life.

Considering the above information needs and changing context, REACH conducted an IDP Profiling in Pavlohradska hromada, aiming to inform local response efforts by identifying vulnerabilities for households as a consequence of their displacement. Such profiling efforts strive to understand movement intentions, core demographic data, access to employment, education, accommodation and basic services, as well as understanding the level of participation in public affairs and community relations.

## METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW

To inform the strategic priorities of actors at the local level, REACH profiled the situation of displaced populations in Pavlohradska hromada, the research was carried out through a mixed methods approach:

**Phase I:** A qualitative, semi-structured questionnaire was administered to six key informants (KIs) from 16-20 October 2023 to understand contextual factors within the hromada. KI profiles included representatives of governmental and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). In this phase, KIs were provided the opportunity to suggest additional indicators for data collection tools in the second phase.

**Phase II:** A quantitative structured household-level survey was conducted with displaced households residing in private accommodation for at least one month at the time of data collection (3-20 November 2023) as the primary population of interest, while members of the host community were interviewed as a control group. In Pavlohradska hromada, 402 displaced households residing in private accommodation were interviewed, as well as 404 households consisting of members of the host community. Due to the difficulties in identifying IDPs residing outside of collective sites for face-to-face interviews, REACH enumerators were set up at common locations to identify eligible respondents, including humanitarian aid distribution centres, administrative centres, etc. Non-displaced households were identified through random allocation of GPS points in Pavlohrad.

Due to the purposive sample, findings should be considered indicative rather than representative.



## KEY FINDINGS

- **Displaced households in Pavlohradaska hromada predominantly include younger and female members compared to non-displaced households.** Nearly half of displaced households consist of families with children, with roughly a quarter being single-parent households.
- Safety, proximity to areas of origin, and employment opportunities were cited as primary pull factors for displaced households arriving in Pavlohradaska hromada. **Most displaced households (86%) prefer to stay medium-term (3-6 months)**, citing access to sustainable accommodation and livelihood opportunities as crucial needs.
- **IDPs were less likely to report their official employment status compared to host community members** (57% and 35%, respectively). Government social assistance was reported to be a primary source of income for most displaced households.
- **The affordability of rented housing and utilities remains a challenge and strain on displaced households' budgets.** Access to healthcare is hindered by high costs of services and medical products, impacting both displaced and non-displaced households.
- Public participation in Pavlohradaska hromada remains low among displaced people, yet **inter-group relationships were positively perceived by both displaced and non-displaced households.**

## JOINT ANALYSIS SESSION

On February 2, 2024, REACH conducted a **Joint Analysis Session of preliminary findings with members of the Pavlohrad IDP Council and the Pavlohrad City Council in a hybrid format.** This session aimed to deepen REACH's understanding of the data by incorporating insights from both the hromada's local authorities and representatives of displaced people (i.e., IDP Council) and civil society into the analysis. Following the presentation of the initial assessment results, a moderated discussion was organised. This prompted discussions on the following:

- **The data presented on rent and utilities expenses were unexpected to the hromada's representatives, as costs were perceived as much higher based on their knowledge and observations.** Local actors emphasized the need to scale up the affordable housing policy to address the housing needs of displaced people in the hromada to support their integration.
- **Childcare support, often required for single-parent households, was reportedly dissolved due to the full-scale war, thereby suggested to contribute to female unemployment.** Limited public kindergarten availability hinders women's workforce participation. The lack of reliable bomb shelters at schools further complicates children's enrolment, pushing many to rely on online schooling.
- **Proximity to the frontline limits awareness of public participation opportunities.** Authorities in Pavlohradaska hromada cannot announce events more than three hours in advance, hindering information dissemination. This proximity affects households' ability to plan long-term integration and fully engage in local life amid future uncertainty.

## DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

The demographic analysis in Pavlohradska hromada shows that most IDPs assessed were women and younger than those within the host community. As shown in Figure 1, among the assessed IDPs, females constituted 60%. On average, IDPs were 39 years old, while the non-IDPs' average age was 45 years. A large majority of adults in assessed displaced households (58%) and non-displaced households (62%) were between 18 and 64 years old. Furthermore, nearly a quarter (24%) of IDPs were minors under 18 years old, presenting a noteworthy difference to the 15% proportion observed among non-IDPs.

Displaced households tended to be slightly larger, with an average of 2.58 members, while non-displaced households were of a marginally smaller size, averaging 2.25 members per household. Nearly half (47%) of the displaced households were families with children, compared to about a quarter (26%) of non-displaced households. Among displaced households with children, 26% were headed by a single parent, a higher proportion than the 10% among non-displaced households. This disparity underscores the heightened need for childcare support and caregiving responsibilities required by displaced people in the hromada.

Yet a higher percentage of non-displaced households included people over 65 years old living alone compared to displaced households (26% and 15%, respectively). This highlights the existing need for healthcare, social services, and social inclusion opportunities tailored to older persons, especially those displaced older persons living on their own. In terms of other reported vulnerabilities, both displaced (31%) and non-displaced (34%) households reported having a member with a chronic illness, affecting their quality of life.

As Figure 2 illustrates, both displaced and non-displaced household members had a similar educational profile. Regardless of displacement status, a majority obtained technical and vocational qualifications, while a smaller proportion held an undergraduate degree or higher.

Figure 1: Hromada's assessed population, by displacement status

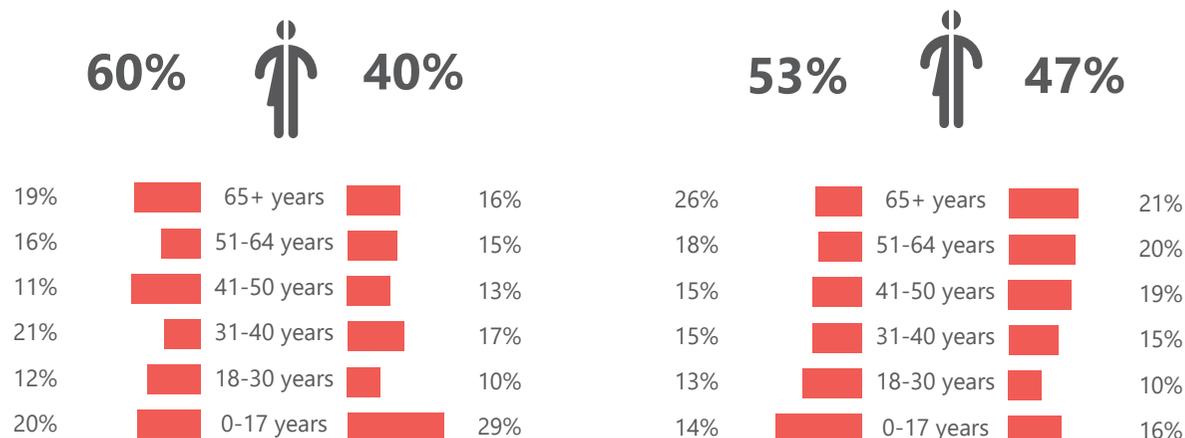
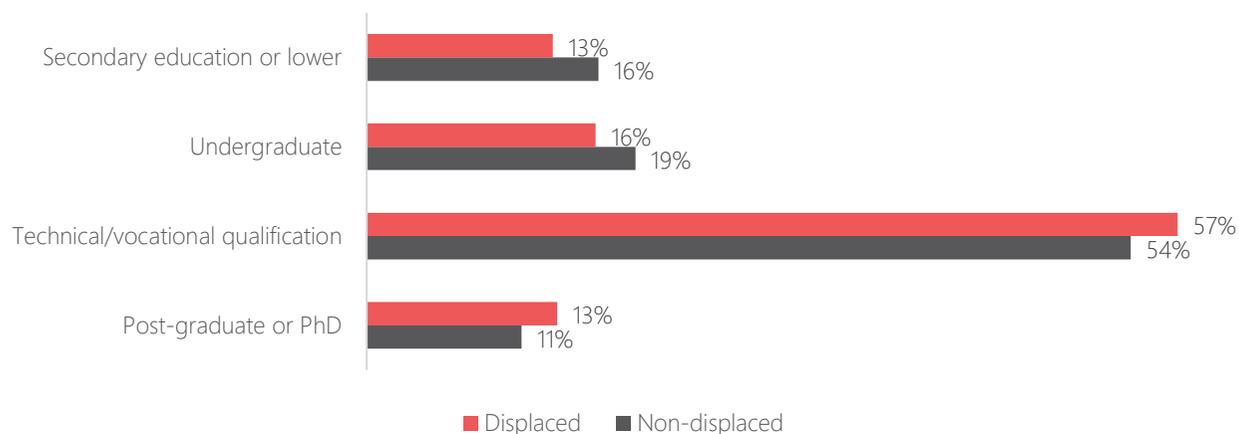


Figure 2: Percent of adult members' highest level of education completed, by displacement status

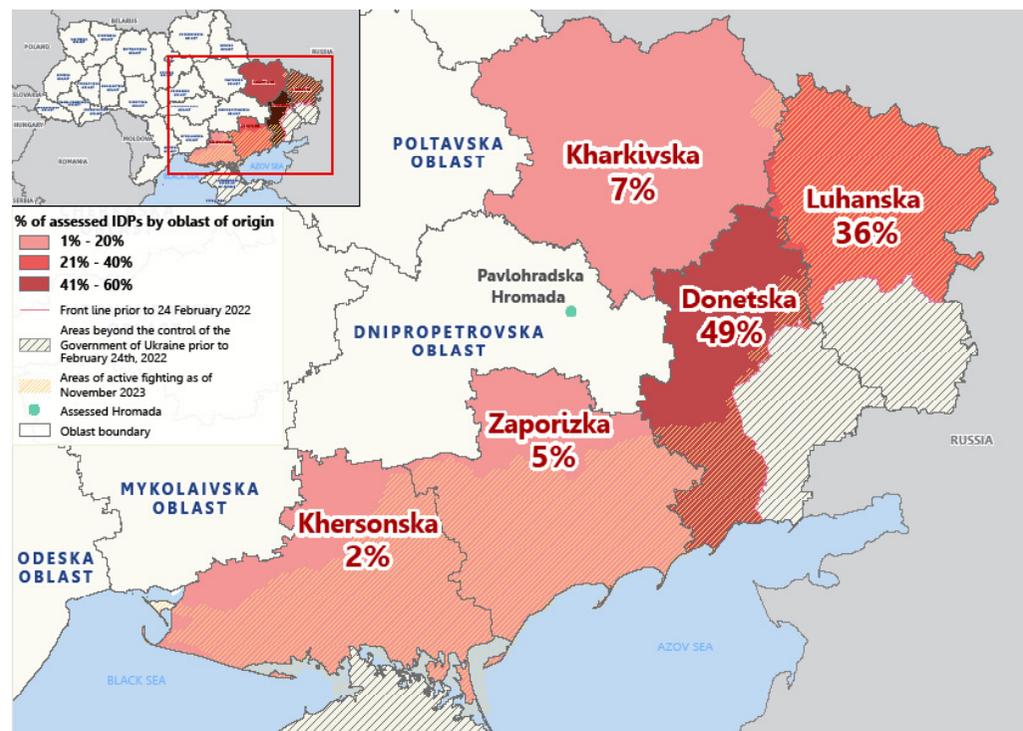


## DISPLACEMENT HISTORY AND PREFERRED MOVEMENT INTENTIONS

IDPs currently residing in Pavlohradska hromada experienced prolonged displacement since the escalation of the full-scale war in February 2022. Figure 3 illustrates that **assessed displaced households originated from conflict-affected or occupied Donetsk, Luhanska, Kharkivska, Zaporizka, and Khersonska oblasts**. The majority (93%) were initially displaced in 2022 due to security concerns (99%). Considering the volatile situations in their areas of origin and the unviable prospect of return, five out of six KIs anticipate their long-term settlement in Pavlohradska hromada.

Most of the assessed IDP households (90%) arrived in Pavlohradska hromada in 2022, with a third (33%) having relocated at least once from their previous location of displacement. Economic migration prompted 11% of such relocations, suggesting the importance of the active labour market in Pavlohradska hromada. Indeed, one KI highlighted certain industries as a potential pull factor for IDPs' relocation.

Figure 3: IDPs' area of origin, by oblast



*"Perhaps the fact that we have vacancies, jobs, a fairly large labour market and jobs [...] In addition, we have a mining region and if people used to live in mining regions, they are familiar with it."*

– Government Representative

Furthermore, safety was identified as the key reason for assessed IDPs to relocate to Pavlohradska hromada (64%). Additionally, 41% cited proximity to their area of origin as a pull factor, potentially indicating an intention to return or visit that area when possible. Short-term visits to the area of origin are a common trend observed among displaced people in Ukraine. A UNHCR survey in April-May 2023 found that 50% of assessed IDPs in Ukraine made short-term visits to their areas of origin for property checks, family visits and to retrieve personal belongings.<sup>10</sup> IDPs living in close proximity to their area of origin, particularly those from the east, centre, and north of the country, were more likely to make such short-term visits.<sup>11</sup>

IDP Profiling findings suggest that displaced households prefer to remain in the hromada, with 86% of those assessed having expressed a desire to stay within the next 3 to 6 months at the time of data collection. As shown in Figure 4, a small percentage considered their return to their area of origin (9%), while a mere 1% expressed a preference for relocation within Ukraine or abroad. An additional 4% of households did not know their preferred location, indicating the uncertainty of their current situation.

Socio-economic factors play a pivotal role in facilitating durable solutions for IDPs in Pavlohradska hromada. When delving into the conditions needed to pursue their desired location option, over half of IDP households (58%) emphasized the need for sustainable accommodation. Other key priorities included an improved security context (35%), improved economic situation for the household (29%), and access to employment opportunities (28%). Two KIs noted that the movement intentions of IDPs depend on viable access to livelihoods, further highlighting that the decision to integrate is dependent on households' economic and housing prospects.

Figure 4: IDP households' preferred location in the medium term (3 to 6 months)



## ACCESS TO EDUCATION

The vast majority of children within displaced and non-displaced households were enrolled in formal education at the time of data collection. As shown in Figure 5, trends appear similar for formal enrollment of children for both displaced and non-displaced households, with most children between the ages of 6 to 17 years enrolled in school.

Most children within displaced households (88%) reportedly faced no challenges in accessing formal education in the hromada. However, IDP Profiling observed that 12% of children within displaced households were not engaged in the formal education system. Of those, 50% reported that education was not a priority. Concerning non-displaced households, 8% did not enrol their children into formal education, and close to half of these households (44%) similarly attributed it to education not being a priority.

Notably, both displaced and non-displaced households show a higher inclination to enrol in online education. However, most displaced households (68%) reported their children attending online schools compared to non-displaced households (47%). During joint analysis sessions in Pavlohradaska hromada, local actors highlighted that many displaced families preferred online schooling in their areas of origin to maintain community ties in their hometowns. This finding suggests a potential disparity in social engagement within Pavlohradaska hromada’s school communities, which could hinder the long-term integration of displaced children.

According to local media Suspilne, following the approval from local authorities in 2023,<sup>12</sup> parents in Dnipropetrovska oblast have the choice to enrol their children within local school either in an offline or mixed modality<sup>13</sup> if adequate shelter is available at school facilities.<sup>14</sup> However, during the joint analysis session, local actors noted that only four schools have been able to implement mixed modalities due to the lack of sufficiently equipped shelters, with fifteen other local schools providing online education exclusively.<sup>15</sup> Consequently, only a third of children from assessed displaced households (32%) were participating in mixed-mode or offline learning, compared to half of non-displaced children (53%).

The limited infrastructure, particularly the absence of equipped shelters in schools, serves as a barrier to the broader implementation of mixed-modality studies in Pavlohradaska hromada, prompting many displaced households to opt for online enrollment in schools located in their area of origin. Improving and equipping shelters in the hromada has the potential to facilitate the wider adoption of mixed-modality studies, thereby improving the quality of education and fostering social integration amongst displaced and non-displaced children.

Figure 5: Percent of children (3-17 years) enrolled in formal education, by age and displacement status

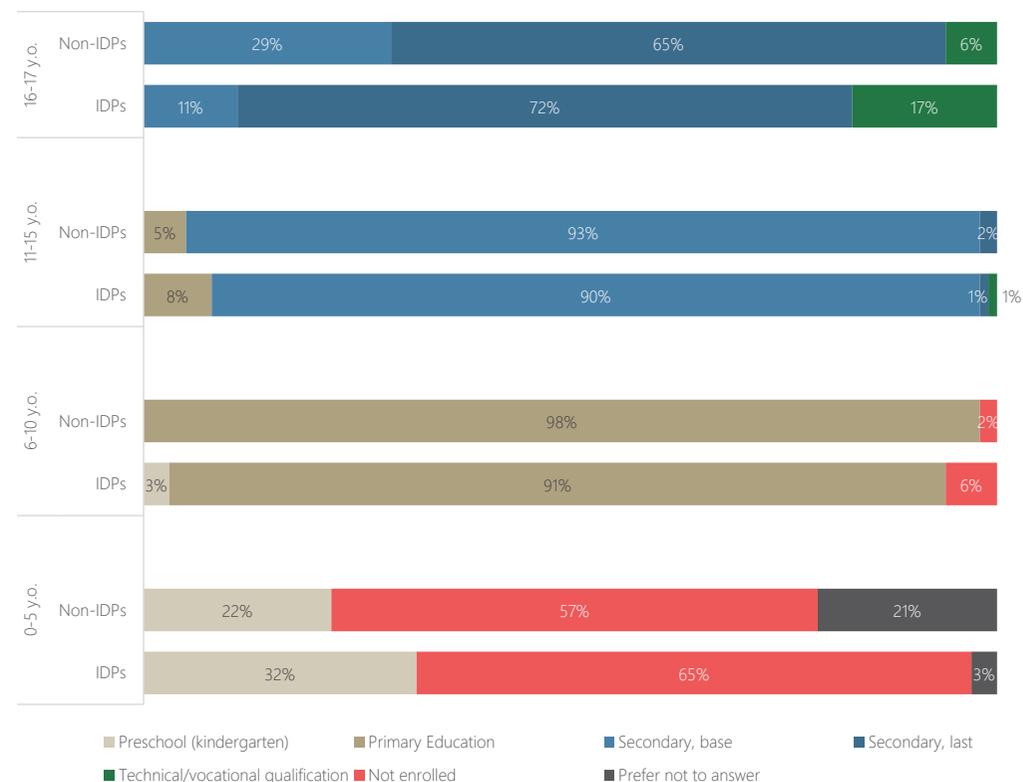
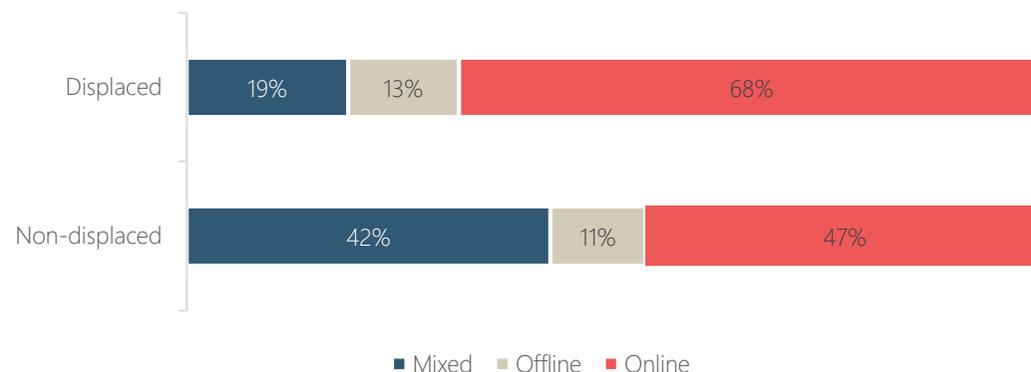


Figure 6: Percent of children between 3 and 17 years of age in displaced households enrolled in formal education, by teaching modality



## EMPLOYMENT STATUS

In Pavlohradaska hromada, displaced people of working age were about half as likely as non-IDPs to report being officially employed (35% and 57%, respectively). Furthermore, the proportion of IDPs currently reporting official employment (35%) is notably lower compared to the 69% of those who reported their employment status prior to displacement.

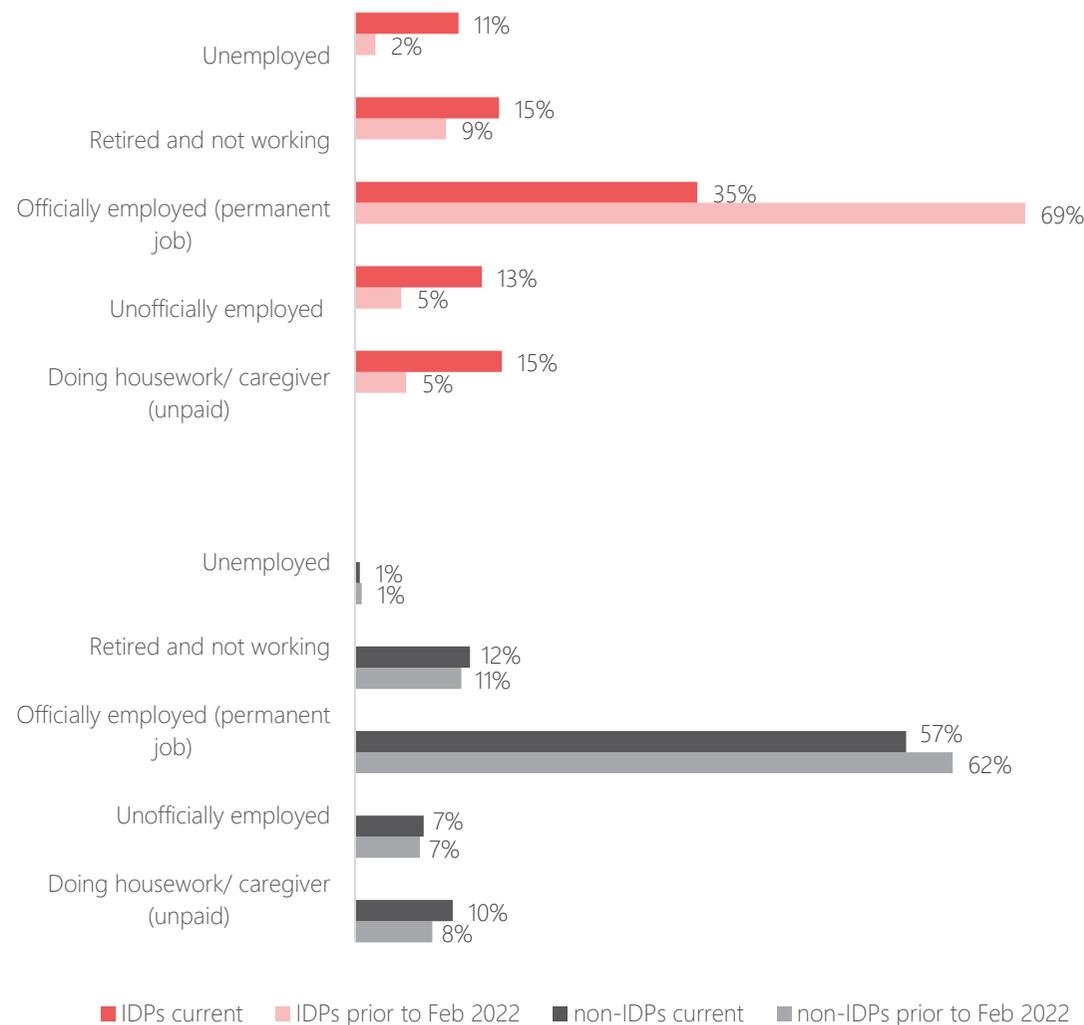
Additionally, IDPs reported a higher prevalence of current unofficial employment (13%) compared to pre-February 2022 figures (5%). Moreover, a higher proportion of IDPs (11%) mentioned current unemployment compared to the pre-February 2022 rate (2%). Notably, the majority of unemployed household members were female (86%), aligning with the broader trend of higher official unemployment among women in Dnipropetrovska Oblast. State Statistics reported that 77% of those officially unemployed in 2023 were women.<sup>16</sup>

The primary reason cited for unemployment among displaced women was a lack of job opportunities (66%). Furthermore, of those assessed displaced household members currently engaged in housework (15%), all were women. This suggests that unemployed displaced women in the hromada face additional barriers to accessing the local labour market, most likely stemming from a lack of relevant professional skills and caregiving responsibilities. In the joint analysis session, local stakeholders pointed out that kindergartens in Pavlohradaska hromada operated for only four hours a day, limiting single parents' ability to work full-time. This situation may disproportionately affect displaced women who may lack informal support networks for childcare after leaving their hometowns. Additionally, one KI emphasized a preference for male employees in Pavlohrad's dominant mining industry, highlighting gender disparities in employment opportunities in the hromada's dominant economic sector. Therefore, access to affordable childcare services and implementation of vocational training programs tailored to displaced women's specific needs are suggested to improve further the employment situation of displaced people in the hromada.

Moreover, IDP Profiling findings demonstrate that 80% of unemployed adults in displaced households were not registered at the employment centre when the data was collected. This suggests a reluctance to opt for governmental employment services and a preference for the private job market, potentially driven by the low wages offered in the hromada, which were mentioned by four out of six KIs.

*"...people have a minimum salary they are ready to work for. Not everyone can go for a low salary. This is the limiting factor."  
– NGO Representative*

Figure 7: Most commonly reported employment situation of working-age household members prior to February 2022 and current, by displacement status

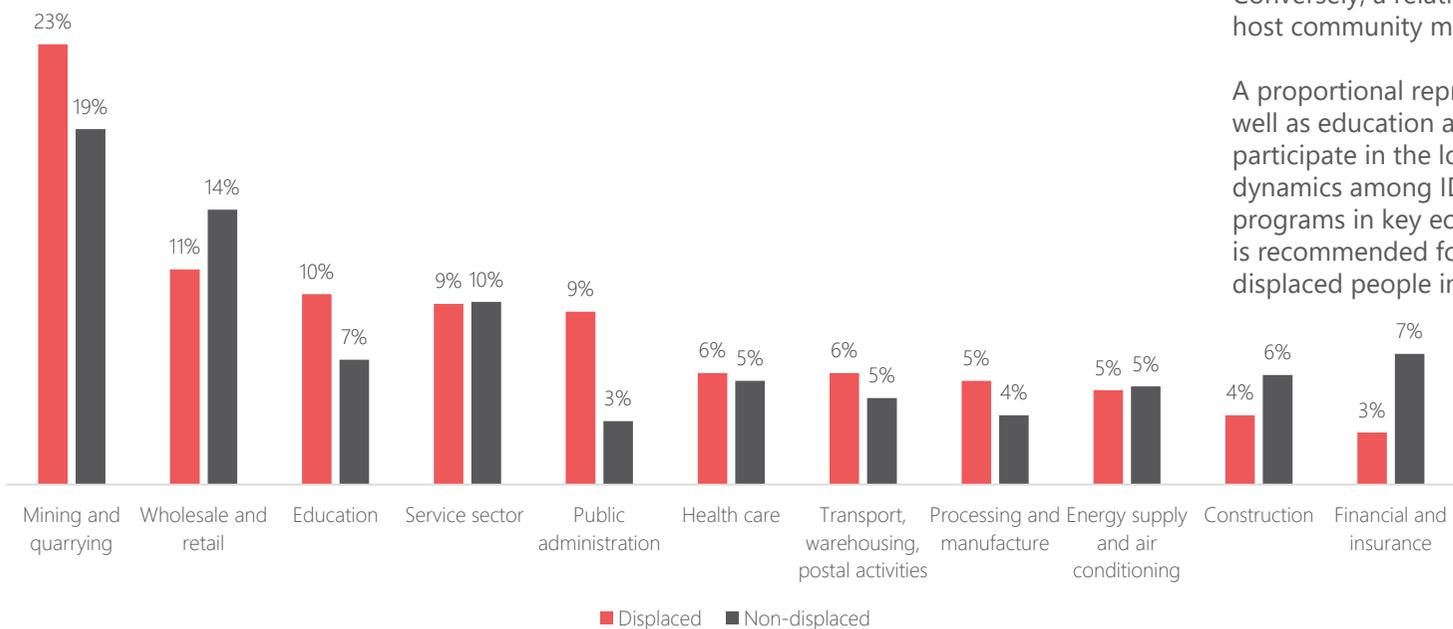


## EMPLOYMENT SECTORS

**Employed IDP and non-IDP household members in Pavlohradaska hromada demonstrated similar employment profiles, with mining as the main sector of employment for both groups.** Specifically, 23% of displaced and 19% of non-displaced household members were employed within the mining industries, as shown in Figure 8. According to Pavlohrad City Council, the mining industry provides the largest volume of product sales in Pavlohradaska hromada, with the mining enterprise ‘Pavlohradvuhillia’ ranking among the hromada’s largest employers.<sup>17</sup> Employability of IDPs in this industry reflects the availability of relevant qualifications among displaced people to access jobs in this key sector, considering that the majority of IDPs in the settlement (85%) came from Donetsk and Luhanska oblasts, regions historically reliant on mining activities for their economies.<sup>18</sup>

Following mining, wholesale and retail were reported as the second most common sectors of employment, employing 11% of IDPs and 14% of non-IDPs. Education was the third largest employment sector for IDPs (10%), while non-IDPs (10%) commonly reported the service sector as their third biggest employment sector. In total, nearly half of the assessed displaced (45%) and non-displaced household members (48%) were employed in these three sectors.

Figure 8: Percent of employed household members by current sector and displacement status



The assessment reveals a minor shift in employment sectors among assessed IDPs post-February 2022, with a 5-percentage-point decline in service sector employment. This suggests a potential transition to alternative occupational roles in the hromada’s industrial economy. Conversely, a relatively stable employment sector distribution among most community members was observed.

A proportional representation of IDPs in key sectors such as mining, as well as education and wholesale and retail, highlight their capacity to participate in the local economy. Further monitoring of employment dynamics among IDPs in the hromada, as well as skills development programs in key economic sectors, particularly for displaced women, is recommended for the long-term engagement and integration of displaced people in the hromada’s labour force.

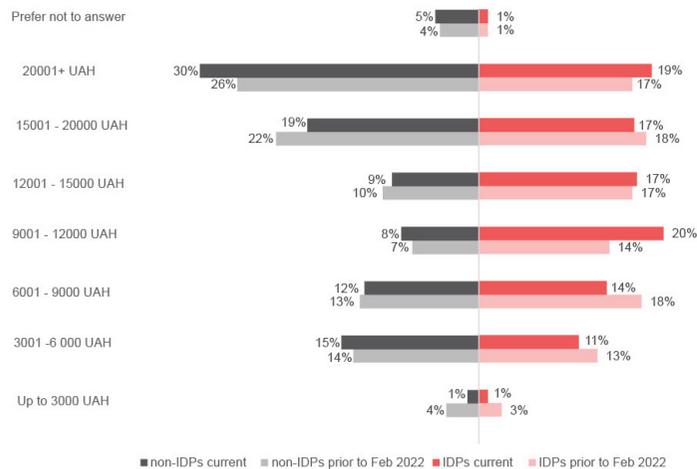
# INCOME

**While income levels are generally lower for displaced households compared to those non-displaced, displaced households reported a decrease in their current income compared to their income reported before February 2022.** According to REACH’s Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA) 2023 data,<sup>19</sup> total average household incomes in the eastern macro-region, regardless of displacement status, equaled 13,284 UAH, falling within the income range of 12,001-15,000 UAH. However, most displaced households (62%) reported receiving less than 15,000 UAH per month before data collection, an increase from 48% of households with similar monthly income pre-invasion. In contrast, the proportion of non-displaced households reporting incomes below 15,000 UAH remained relatively stable pre- and post-February 2022, with figures standing at 48% and 45%, respectively.

Furthermore, over half (54%) of non-displaced households reported monthly incomes exceeding 15,000 UAH, considerably higher than the macro-region’s average, while only 37% of displaced households reported similar income levels. This discrepancy underscores the financial vulnerability of displaced households. One KI noted that low wages in the hromada place displaced households in financially vulnerable positions, prompting them to resort to coping strategies.

*“You need to use some savings. Expenses amount to more than 100% of wages or other income. IDPs have to give up something – either not to receive medical help, or to eat inappropriately, or not to dress.”*  
 – NGO Representative

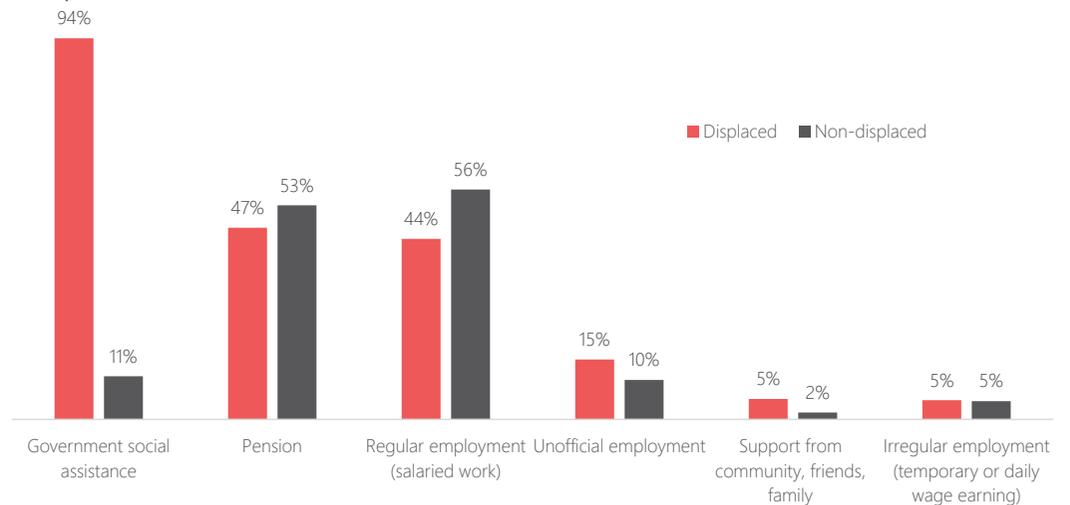
Figure 9: Households' monthly income prior to February 2022 and current, by displacement status



This observation aligns with previous findings indicating that displaced people in Ukraine often face income challenges and employment hardships after the escalation of the war in February 2022. According to the United Nations Development Programme’s (UNDP) Human Impact Assessment, displaced households most commonly reported decreased incomes (74%) and disruption or loss of access to paid work (73%) in early 2023.<sup>20</sup> Additionally, in 2022 HealthRight’s “Assessment on the Psychosocial Needs of IDPs” in Dnipropetrovska Oblast observed that those living in Dnipro faced unemployment challenges and struggled to afford the necessities.<sup>21</sup> IDP Profiling results in Pavlohradska hromada support such findings, indicating that **lower income, combined with a lower prevalence of official employment status, makes displaced households more likely to be in unviable livelihood situations compared to assessed non-displaced households in the hromada.**

**The vast majority of assessed displaced households reported receiving income in the form of government social assistance (94%),** in stark contrast to only 11% of non-displaced households receiving state social benefits. In 2023, governmental IDP payments amounted to 2,000 UAH per person and 3,000 UAH for people with disabilities and one child, according to the Ministry of Social Policy.<sup>22</sup> Salaried work was reported as the primary income source for non-displaced households (56%), ranking as the third most frequently cited income source for displaced households (44%). Pensions are a prevalent income source for nearly half of non-displaced (53%) and displaced (47%) households. Furthermore, as illustrated in Figure 10, 20% of displaced households and 15% of host community members reported deriving income from unofficial or irregular employment, potentially suggesting challenges in securing stable salaried jobs.

Figure 10: Most commonly reported households' current sources of income, by displacement status



## ACCESS TO ACCOMMODATION

The majority of assessed displaced households (83%) reported residing in rented accommodation, while the vast majority of non-displaced households (98%) reported owning their home. Only 16% of displaced households reported residing within accommodation at no cost. Such free accommodation is provided by relatives, friends, hosts, and volunteers found through social media.

According to the State Statistics Service of Ukraine, the average cost of renting a one-room apartment in Dnipropetrovska Oblast rose in price over the past two years, reaching an estimated 6,193 UAH per month in October 2023, compared to 3,590 UAH in October 2021.<sup>23</sup> In the neighbouring city to Pavlohradska hromada, Dnipro, HealthRight's 2022 qualitative study on psychosocial needs of displaced people highlights that difficulties for IDPs accessing housing in Dnipro are attributed to the lack of available accommodation in the private market after the escalation of the war in February 2022 and growing rent costs amid declining incomes.<sup>24</sup>

IDP Profiling in Pavlohradska hromada found that among displaced households residing in rented accommodation (83%), a third (32%) estimated their monthly rent and utility bills ranging from 5,000 to 7,000 UAH per month, aligning with the average rent prices in the oblast. Another third (29%) reported paying below the oblast's average rent, estimating monthly costs to fall within the range of 3,000 to 5,000 UAH. Yet, **20% of assessed displaced households having rented accommodation resorted to coping strategies, such as spending savings to cover rent and utility bills.**

As such, high rental costs place a strain on the budgets of displaced households in Pavlohradska hromada, potentially impacting their ability to save and afford property in the long term. This becomes particularly concerning considering the restricted IDP eligibility criteria for receiving state social assistance, set to be implemented from March 1, 2024, thereby limiting financial support to specific categories of IDPs.<sup>25</sup> As a result, the housing situation in Pavlohradska hromada raises concerns about the financial capacity of displaced households to keep navigating the private rental market amidst changes in support systems. This vulnerability is exacerbated by their already higher livelihood instability compared to the host community.

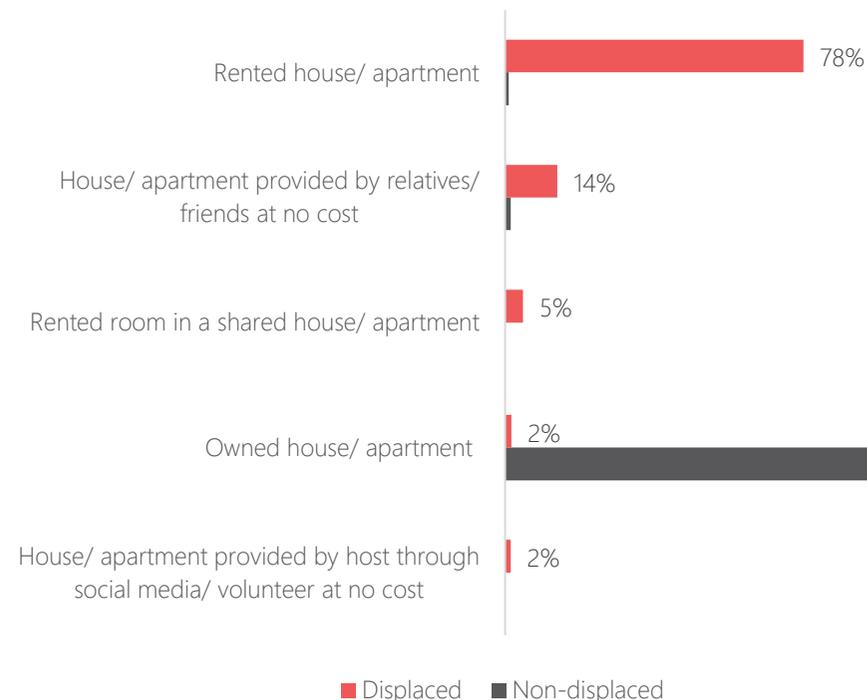
*"After the start of the full-scale invasion, the demand for housing increased, so prices increased significantly. Renting a one-room apartment now costs a lot of money. For example, I know that the guys rent an apartment in Pavlohrad for 10 thousand UAH, that before the war cost 2 thousand UAH."*

– Government Representative

To access rented accommodation in Pavlohradska hromada, just over half (54%) of assessed displaced households used the services of a real estate agent. Utilizing such a service can be costly, as extra housing fees are imposed on households, introducing further barriers for displaced households attempting to access private housing in the hromada.

IDP Profiling findings reveal a critical gap in tenure security for displaced households seeking housing arrangements in Pavlohrad. **Only 19% of assessed displaced households having rented accommodation have a formal rental agreement with their landlord, emphasizing the lack of secure tenure for the majority (81%).** Of those households with a rental agreement, only 19% (n=12) were notarized. Notarized agreements offer the most legally robust form of tenure security on the private market.<sup>26</sup>

Figure 11: Most commonly reported types of accommodation households currently reside in, by displacement status

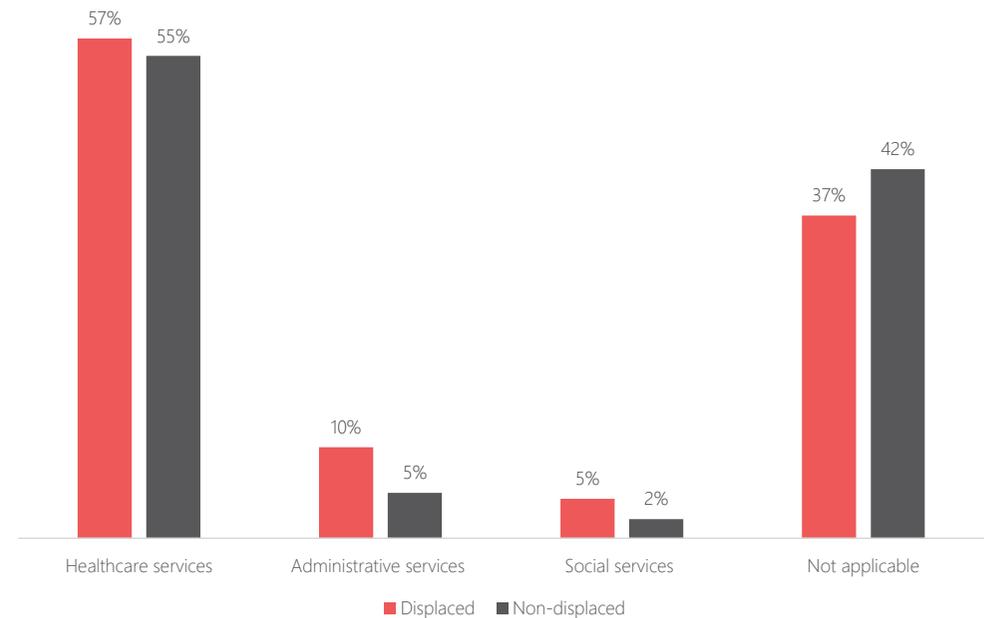


## ACCESS TO PUBLIC SERVICES

**Assessed households, regardless of their displacement status, predominantly accessed or attempted to access healthcare services compared to other public services in the past month prior to data collection** (Figure 12). Close to half of assessed displaced (57%) and non-displaced (55%) households actively sought healthcare services during this period. Of those, just over half of the displaced (52%) and non-displaced (58%) reported facing no barriers to accessing healthcare services. However, **a primary barrier to healthcare in the hromada, reported by both displaced (33%) and non-displaced households (34%) was the high cost of services and medical products.** Similarly, according to the World Bank's Ukraine Human Development Update, unaffordability of medicines or treatments was one of the main barriers to healthcare across the country in 2023.<sup>27</sup>

Access to other public services, such as administrative and social services, remained low amongst both IDPs and non-IDPs. As displaced households often face displacement-related administrative and documentation issues, assessed displaced households (10%) were slightly more likely than those non-displaced (5%) to attempt to access to administrative services in Pavlohradaska hromada. Nevertheless, the majority (74%) of displaced households that accessed administrative services reported no barriers.

Figure 12: Types of services that households accessed, or attempted to access in the month prior to data collection

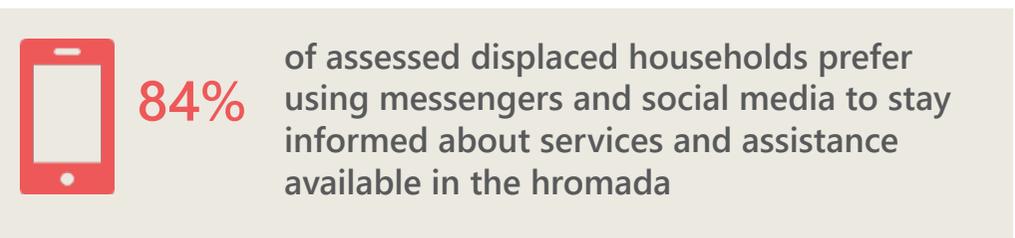


## MODES OF COMMUNICATION

**Aligned with the widespread use of electronic dissemination of information within the country, the majority of assessed displaced households (84%) relied on messengers and social media platforms such as Telegram, Viber, and Facebook to stay informed about services and assistance available for IDPs in the hromada.** Still, close to half (43%) of these households depend on word of mouth for updates, a preference that may be more prevalent amongst older members. One KI noted that older people may face challenges using electronic information mediums.

*"If they are pensioners or the elderly, then not everyone has the opportunity to use a touchscreen phone and they cannot monitor the information..."*

– NGO Representative



## SOCIAL COHESION

### PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

IDP Profiling findings suggest that overall, **the engagement of displaced populations in public affairs in Pavlohradska hromada remains low.** Only 10% of assessed displaced households reported having actively participated in social or political groups or activities in the hromada. These findings align with those of IOM, which also indicate a lack of participation among the general population, with IDPs facing even greater difficulties in engaging in public affairs.<sup>28</sup>

A small number of IDPs reported involvement in community activities, primarily through engagement with a local charity organization (4%), participation in a sports group (3%), and involvement with a youth or women’s organization (2%). However, a third of assessed displaced households (31%) reported that it was challenging for them to engage with social or political groups or activities. The most cited reasons hindering their participation included a lack of time (10%) and a lack of information about available participation opportunities (10%). During the joint analysis session, local actors noted that informing residents about public events and activities poses a challenge in the hromada. This difficulty is caused by the hromada’s proximity to the frontline, which restricts the informational coverage regarding the location of planned activities before they occur. Moreover, one KI expressed concerns about the general lack of IDPs’ awareness of activities and meetings in the hromada.

*“...informing...no matter how much it has been and even if it has not been duplicated, it is still not enough. And we will brainstorm how to improve this information. I consider myself a fairly knowledgeable person, but even I needed a year to find the clubs that my child needs.”*  
 – NGO Representative



**31%** of assessed displaced households reported that it was challenging for them to participate in social/ political groups or activities in the hromada

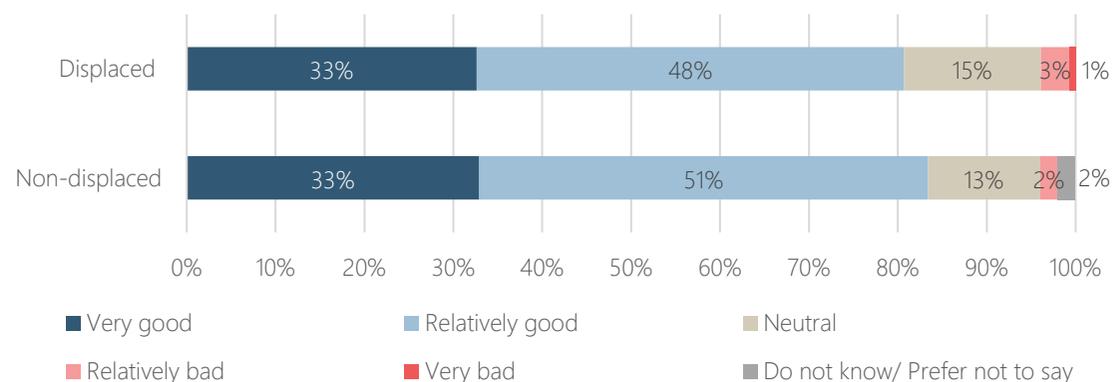
### COMMUNITY RELATIONS

IDP Profiling findings for Pavlohradska hromada show a predominantly positive self-perceived relationship between displaced people and the host community. As shown in Figure 13, the majority of both displaced (81%) and non-displaced (84%) households reported ‘relatively good’ or ‘very good’ relations amongst IDPs and host community members.

Yet, understanding social cohesion and community relations can be difficult to measure. Varying sources have strived to understand the perceived relations between IDPs and host communities in Ukraine. According to SHARP 2023 national findings, 14% of respondents have experienced or witnessed tensions amongst IDPs and host communities.<sup>29</sup> When asking respondents to rate tensions amongst IDPs and host communities from 1 to 10 on tensions, SHARP 2023 scores in Dnipropetrovska oblast of 2.4 were close to the national rate of 2.3.<sup>30</sup> Furthermore, perspectives on social cohesion dynamics provided a deeper understanding of the quality of social relations, as assessed displaced households and host community members shared similar views on the factors that positively or negatively influence social cohesion. Concerning positive influence, a prevailing factor emphasized by both IDPs (74%) and non-displaced people (71%) was a sense of trust among community members, irrespective of displacement status. Additionally, nearly half of IDPs (46%) and non-IDPs (51%) highlighted the importance of sharing a similar language.

Regardless of displacement status, the negative factors influencing community relations were common stereotypes, with 75% of IDPs and 78% of non-IDPs citing this as a concern. Another frequently mentioned negative factor by both groups was a lack of trust and solidarity, with IDPs (45%) more likely to mention it than non-IDPs (28%). One KI mentioned that vulnerable groups amongst the host community members might have a negative perception of displaced people as the main target group for humanitarian and state social assistance.

Figure 13: Percent of households’ perceived relations amongst displaced and host community, by displacement status



## ENDNOTES

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## 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).