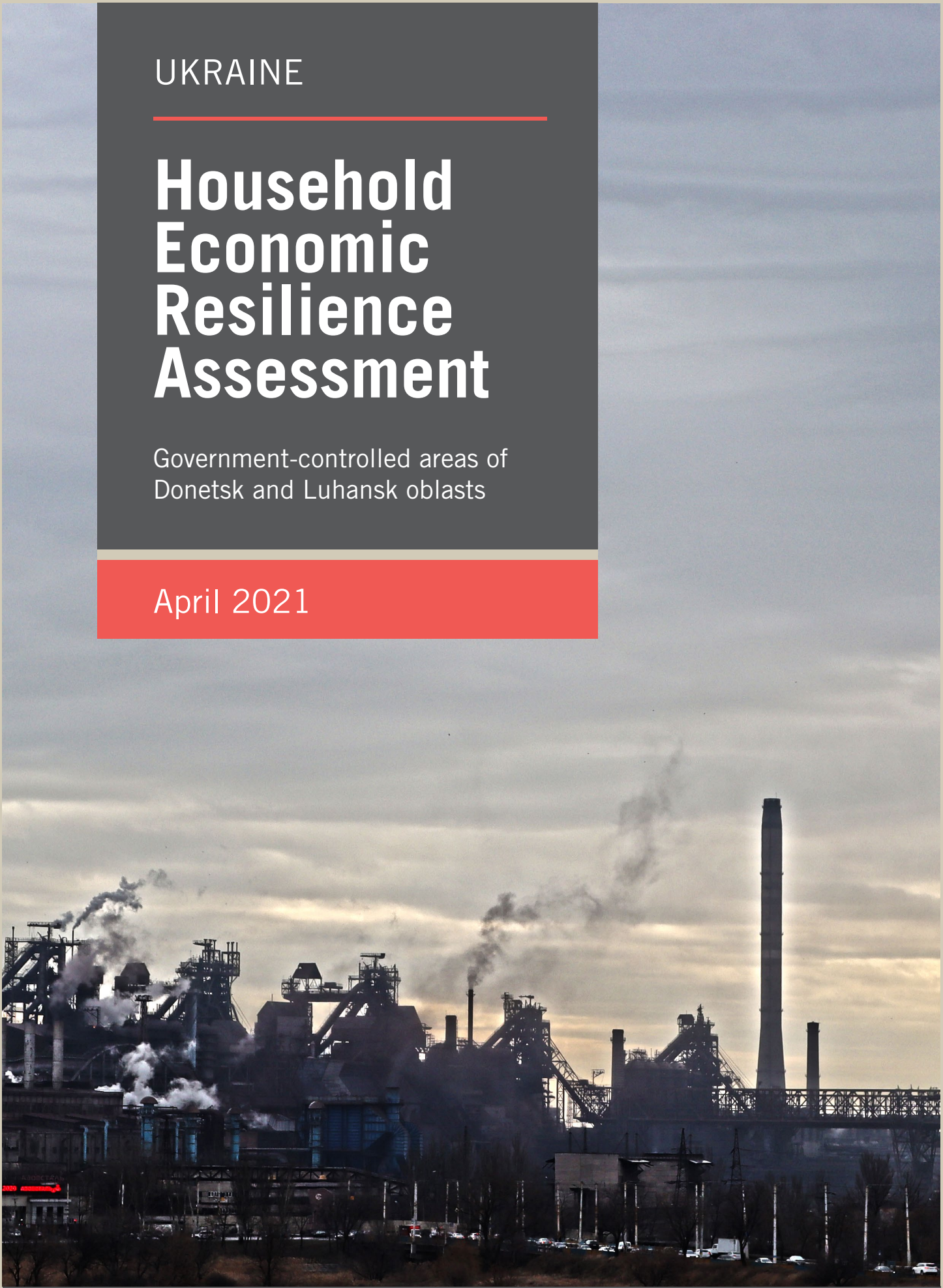
UKRAINE

Household Economic Resilience Assessment

Government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts

April 2021



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About REACH

REACH 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). For more information please visit our website: www.reach-initiative.org. You can contact us directly at: geneva@reach-initiative.org and follow us on Twitter @REACH_info.

SUMMARY

In early 2014, Eastern Ukraine saw the beginning of an armed conflict between the Ukrainian government and non-state armed actors from the self-proclaimed Donestsk People's Republic (DPR) and Luhansk People's Republic (LPR). The outcome of the war was the separation of the Government controlled areas (GCA) and the Non-government controlled areas (NGCA), a demarcation that cut through the socio-economic fabric of both sides. According to the 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), it is estimated that more than 3,4 million people divided by the contact line in GCA and NGCA are in need of humanitarian assistance and protection.[1]

Ukraine reported the first case of COVID-19 on March 3, 2020. After implementing an extended lockdown, Ukraine switched to an adaptive quarantine system, with localised measures in areas of high-incidence of the virus. One year after, in January 2020, Ukraine passed the one million confirmed cases threshold.[2] The economic and social pressure of COVID-19 could have a long term impact on the economic development of Ukraine, with a possible reduction of the national gross domestic product (GDP) by -11.2% by the end of the year due to the closure of manufacturing, retail trade and transportation sectors.[3]

The COVID-19 could disproportionally affect Eastern Ukraine, amplyfing pre-existing vulnerabilities due to the ageing population and the economic decline from the ongoing conflict. Moreover, the health crisis could turn into an economic crisis, putting a further strain on the access of conflict-affected population to adequate livelihoods, and basic food and non-food items in the immediate future.

In order to fill the information gaps surrounding the potential impact of COVID-19 on a population already affected by conflict in Eastern Ukraine, REACH Initiative (REACH) facilitated a household economic resilience assessment, with support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through the Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) and in coordination with the Food Security and Livelihood Cluster (FSLC) partners in Ukraine. The exercise aimed to provide accurate information on who is most in need of assistance as a result of COVID-19 and conflict compounded crises and to provide humanitarian partners relevant information about the pre-winter material depravation of households living close to the contact line, coupled with households' post-winter status, identifying the coping strategies that strenghtened their resilience.

The assessment was conducted in three separate phases:

- A comprehensive secondary data analysis aimed to determine household-level vulnerability in a compounded conflict and COVID-19 context through identifying the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of households at risk of relative poverty. The analyis is built on data collected for the 2020 GCA Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA). The factsheet is available online.
- A pre-winter comprehensive household economic resilience assessment covering six strata based on level of urbanisation ("large" urban areas, urban areas and rural areas dissagregated by Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts) - presented in detail in the current publication. The sampling strategy allows an analysis by livelihood zones, coming from the assumption that urban centres are more affected by restrictions related to limiting the spread of COVID-19 and changes in the households' economic security.
- A three strata post-winter household survey planned to be completed in March 2021 covering "large" urban areas, urban areas and rural areas that will measure the post-winter macro-level change in the economic security by the level of urbanisation. Findings, including pre-winter and post-winter comparisions will be made available online on the REACH resource centre.

The second phase of the assessment, the pre-winter survey, was implemented between November 23 and December 10, 2020 and comprised a statistically representative weighted household survey conducted with 2,390 households covering six strata: Mariupol, Donetsk urban area, Donetsk rural area, Luhansk "large" urban area, Luhansk urban area, and Luhasnk rural area. Unless otherwise noted, findings are statistically significant at 95% confidence level and 5% margin of error for each stratum.

[1] United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), Ukraine 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan (2020).
[2] Ministry of Health of Ukraine, COVID-19 pandemic in Ukraine. Accessed on 10/01/2021.
[3] United Nations (UN), Assessment Of The Socio-Economic Impact Of COVID-19 In Ukraine (2020).

Due to the COVID-19 epidemiological situation in Ukraine, REACH collected data through remote telephone surveys with randomly selected respondents among households who had a previous interaction with REACH and consented to be contacted again or from randomized contact details shared with consent by local public authorities or local partners. As such, this could result in an underrepresentation of households who did not own a phone, did not have a contact with either REACH, local authorities or local partners, or are in an area with limited phone signal. As a result, findings are not generalizable to the status of all GCA residents and indicator comparisions with previous assessments or secondary data should be considered indicative only.

Key findings

The assessment identified only a partial reported impact of the COVID-19 crisis, mostly related to a reduction of economic activities of households.[4] Seven in ten households (68%) reported no impact of the COVID-19 on their household income. **Notably, households in Mariupol strata were more likely to report at least one impact on their income of the COVID-19 related restrictions compared to other strata.** All areas expressed a high variation of indicators related to economic security. Notably, households residing in Mariupol area seemed to express the highest levels of economic security on indicators related to level of income, access to liquidity to rely on in case of economic shocks or high levels of employment. **On the other hand, households residing in Luhansk areas were found to be worse off in terms of economic security compared to other areas assessed.**

Overall, a large proportion of households was found to have an "acceptable" food consumption score, with proportions comparable to findings from previous REACH assessments. However, households in Luhansk areas, notably in Luhansk "large" urban area, were more likely to be found as having poor or borderline food consumption scores compared to the other areas. **In a similar note, households residing in Luhansk "large" urban area were more likely to report resorting to spending their savings (a stress level livelihood coping strategy) or reducing their healthcare expenditure (a crisis level coping strategy), compared to the other areas, in the 30 days prior to data collection.** Households residing in Mariupol were found to have more favorable indicators related to food consumption or a lower proportion of households reporting reliance on livelihood coping strategies, compared to the other areas. **The food consumption vulnerabilities seem to overlap with pre-existing socio-economic and demographic vulnerabilities in each of the assessed area.**

Households reporting using solid fuel were found generally to be prepared for winter (2020 – 2021), with residents of rural areas being more likely to report having enough fuel for the whole winter, compared to residents in urban areas. Four in ten households (39%) reported on being in the situation of not having enough fuel in the past winter (2019 – 2020). **Two in ten households (21%) reported having received state support for winter by the time of the interview.** However, since households are receiving state support for winter throughout the cold season, the actual proportion of households receiving support for winter could be higher. The monthly cost of utilities (including heating) in the 2020 – 2021 winter was found to be comparable to the monthly average amount paid in the past winter (2019 – 2020).

The assessment aimed to study the impact of the compounded conflict and COVID-19 crises on households living close to the contact line in Eastern Ukraine. **First, results show that the COVID-19 crisis seemed to have a disproportionate impact on households living close to the contact line, with households residing in urban areas, being more likely to be affected than rural areas.** However, high level of vulnerability is still affecting households in all areas, notably in every area in Luhansk oblast, where household residents in Luhansk "large" urban area and Luhansk urban area seem to have a worse food consumption than households residing in Luhansk rural area. A more resilience-focused humanitarian response could help in addressing challenges related to access to more nutritious food. **Secondly, five out of six areas are characterised by an ageing population, which seem to influence the sources of household income.** With a high proportion of retirees, households seem to have a high reliance on pensions. While this could be beneficial in terms of stability of income, **the assessment revealed that the increase in income since 2019 did not seem to keep pace with the absolute increase in the reported food expenses.** On the medium term, in the possibility of a sudden larger increase in food prices, this could lead to potential food insecurity leading to a disproportionate impact on more vulnerable populations. With the end of conflict nowhere in sight and multiple waves of COVID-19 worldwide, a more in-depth approach towards studying means to improve resilience of populations is necessary.

[4] Reduction of economic activity includes either reduced work hours, waged cuts, reduced work activities, or delays in receiving wages or pensions.

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List of Acronyms

BHA	Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance
CARI	Consolidated Approach for Reporting Indicators
CPI	Consumer Price Index
DPR	Donetsk People's Republic (de-facto)
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCS	Food consumption score
FSLC	Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster
GCA	Government Controlled Area
GDP	Gross domestic product
HEA	Household economic analysis
HERA	Household Economic Resilience Assessment
HH	Household
HoH	Head of Household
HRP	Humanitarian Response Plan
ILO	International Labour Organization
ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities
L-CSI	Livelihood Coping Strategy Index
LPR	Luhansk People's Republic (de-facto)
MdM	*Médecins du monde*
MSNA	Multi-Sector Needs Assessment
MSPU	Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine
NGCA	Non-Government Controlled Area
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
ODK	Open Data Kit
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
PPE	Personal protection equipment
SDR	Secondary Data Review
UAH	Ukrainian hryvnia
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	United States Dollar
VAM	Vulnerability Assessment Mapping
WFP	World Food Programme

Geographical Classifications

Contact line	The area separating the Government Controlled Area (GCA) of Ukraine and the Non-Government Controlled Area (NGCA) of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic (DPR) and the Luhansk People's Republic (LPR)
Donbas	An area encompassing the Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts
Oblast	An oblast is a type of administrative division Ukraine. It is the first level sub regional administrative region. The term is analogous to "state" or "province"
Raion	A raion is a type of administrative division of Ukraine. It is the second level sub regional administrative region. The term is analogous to "district" or "commune"

Figures, tables, and maps

Figures

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INTRODUCTION

In 2021, Eastern Ukraine enters its seventh year of protracted conflict which continues to cause significant human suffering. According to the 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), it is estimated that more than 3,4 million people divided by the contact line in Non-government controlled areas (NGCA) and Government controlled areas (GCA) are in need of humanitarian assistance and protection.[5] Of the 3.4 million, 30% of the people that need assistance are individuals over 60 years old, while children of vulnerable families constitute about 20% of the total population in need of humanitarian assistance and protection.

The separation through the contact line cut through the socio-economic fabric of both sides. Rural settlements close to the contact line were largely disconnected from their urban centers in NGCA, influencing difficulties in accessing critical services and markets such as healthcare and employment opportunities.[6] Urban areas, in turn, experienced an influx of displaced persons, putting a strain on the existing public services. Moreover, the interdependency of urban areas on both sides of the current contact line led to an economic shock, slowdown in the production capacity and factory closures linked to high rates of unemployment. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) estimates that the conflict has caused the loss of at least 1,6 million jobs in Donbas area.[7] In 2016, industrial production in GCA Donetsk oblast amounted to 47% of pre-conflict level, while the volume of industrial production in GCA Luhansk oblast amounted to 23% of pre-conflict level.[8] Current demarcation line left mining extraction areas outside the government's control, cutting access to the coal and raw materials being mined in NGCA Donetsk oblast, accelerating the decline of the industrial production in GCA areas.[9]

One year into the COVID-19 crisis, as of January 2021, Ukraine passed the threshold of one million confirmed COVID-19 cases, accounting for more than 20,000 deaths.[10] The global pandemic could accentuate the impact of conflict through various ways. Quarantine measures directed to limiting the spread of the virus are capable of curving the economic activities and leaving many unemployed.[11] Moreover, as the practice of informal work in Ukraine is widespread, in the event of market shocks, informal workers would not be able to benefit from the social safety nets in place.[12] Other restrictions, such as travel limitations, could lead to increase in prices and limit the purchasing power of the population. Preliminary findings from ACTED's rapid Socio-Economic Impact Assessment revealed that 70% of vulnerable populations within 5-km from the contact line reported they do not have the resources to last a 3-week lockdown. This proportion is highest for households (HHs) with children and unemployed members with an age between 50-59 years old.[13]

Prior to the health crisis, in 2019, Ukraine had been experiencing a steady economic growth, nevertheless, with a relatively high unemployment rate (9%), approximately 30% of the share of workers in the informal economy, and a weak social safety net.[14] These vulnerabilities could translate into significant risks to the population potentially affected by the economic impact of COVID-19. While Ukraine did not impose major COVID-19 related restrictions, the population in Ukraine generally has a low level of domestic savings and limited fiscal space, therefore is more vulnerable in case of economic shocks.[15]

The compounded conflict and COVID-19 crisis in Donbas could accentuate existing vulnerabilities especially in the area close to the contact line. Prior REACH assessments of populations living close to the contact line revealed that more than half (55%) of heads of households (HoH) reported being older than 60 years of age. In addition, nearly three-quarters of HoH (74%) reported at least one vulnerability.[16] [17] The high proportion of individuals who

[5] United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), Ukraine 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan (2020).
[6] REACH 2020 Multi-Sector Needs Assessment in Government Controlled Areas in Eastern Ukraine. Forthcoming.
[7] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Socioeconomic Impact and Needs Assessment (2017).
[8] OECD, Maintaining the Momentum of Decentralisation In Ukraine (2018).
[9] United States Agency for International Development (USAID), An Assessment of the Donbas Region of Ukraine (2017).
[10] Ministry of Health of Ukraine, COVID-19 Pandemic in Ukraine. Accessed on January 15, 2021.
[11] United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Coronavirus accentuates challenges in conflicted eastern Ukraine (2020).
[12] According to the OECD, the share of informal workers in the economy is up to 30%.
[13] ACTED, Vulnerability Assessment. Forthcoming.
[14] OECD, COVID-19 Crisis in Ukraine (2020).
[15] Ibid.
[16] REACH Initiative, Economic Security Assessment (2019).
[17] The most frequently reported types of vulnerability reported by heads of household were having a pensioner status (64%), followed by having a chronic illness (19%), disability (12% including those with and without official status), and single parents (4% including those with and without official status).

are in the risk group of having a severe COVID-19 disease could put a strain on the health system in the region due to the existing shortage of medical staff to treat sick patients and limited quantities of personal protection equipment (PPE).[18]

An increase in measures related to limiting the spread of the COVID-19 could lead to a decrease in household income, similar to the impact of restrictions in May 2020, when 38% of households reported a decrease in their monthly income and 34% of households reported having to spend their savings in the 30 days prior to the assessment.[19] Urban households could experience an oversized impact due to reliance on single sources of income, with women disproportionately affected due to their role as primary caregivers in scenarios when a member of the family is sick or children cannot attend school.[20] Rural residents are also vulnerable, as most of them are elders and dependent on pensions.[21] Overall, the compounded conflict and COVID-19 crisis have a variable impact on different household typologies.

Given the volatility of the epidemiological COVID-19 situation and the ongoing conflict in Eastern Ukraine, a deeper and more extensive evaluation of the household resilience situation is needed. This is particularly critical since the impact of the compounded crisis could be exacerbated by the beginning of the cold season, when the cost of utilities increases in order to cover for the increasing heating costs and a lower availability of seasonal products, coupled with higher prices due to food imports. As such, accurate information on who is most in need of assistance as a result of COVID-19 and conflict is needed in order to devise relevant plans to increase resilience and avoid household economic shocks in case of escalation of both crises.

In order to inform the humanitarian community about household economic resilience of population in GCA in the context of conflict and COVID-19 crisis, specifically through measuring the crisis impact on livelihoods and food consumption in a winter context, REACH facilitated a household economic resilience assessment, with support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through the Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) and in coordination with the Food Security and Livelihood Cluster (FSLC) partners in Ukraine. The assessment is inspired by the household economy analysis (HEA) tools and tailored to a lower-middle income industrialized country context. The specific objectives are:

- To measure the household level of economic vulnerability in GCA, specifically the food consumption level and the livelihood coping mechanisms employed to cover for gaps in access to food during conflict and COVID-19 compounded crises.
- To explore the general outlook of households' income generating activities in terms of sources and availability in a conflict and COVID-19 context.
- To identify the perceptions about the winter outlook by looking at the level of shelter preparation and fuel availability and the challenges households face to ensure a safe transition throughout the season.
- To compare the geographic variation of food security indicators and reliance on livelihood coping mechanisms in different livelihoods areas.

This report outlines the findings from the pre-winter HERA data collection. First, the methodology for the report is detailed, followed by the demographic characteristics of the area assessed. Findings are organized into sections: household demographics; food consumption security; livelihoods – household income; household members' economic status; household expenses; debt; winter outlook and livelihood coping strategies. Conclusions are then drawn.

[18] Médecins du Monde (MdM). "Rapid Health Facility Assessment: COVID-19 Preparedness (March,16 – ongoing)." Last modified May 2020.
[19] Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment (2020).
[20] McKinsey Global Institute, COVID-19 and gender equality: Countering the regressive effects (2020).
[21] REACH 2020 Multi-Sector Needs Assessment in Government Controlled Areas in Eastern Ukraine. Forthcoming.

METHODOLOGY

The assessment is inspired by HEA, a livelihood-based framework for analyzing the means through which people obtain access to their necessities to survive and prosper. HEA is built around livelihood zones, and the means households use to access the food and cash they need, the use of their assets, opportunities, and constraints they face, along with the options they have in times of crisis.[22] This provides a deeper understanding of households' livelihood needs.[23]

The HERA includes a mixed methods approach incorporating a secondary data review component and a household survey of population living along the contact line. The pre-winter household survey completed in November – December 2020 targeted households living along the contact line in GCA disaggregated by six zones: Mariupol, Luhansk "large" urban areas, Donetsk urban areas, Luhansk urban areas, Donetsk rural areas and Luhansk rural areas. This report presents findings from the pre-winter household survey.

The assessment includes a smaller, post-winter survey, which will be completed in March 2021, measuring the macro-level changes socio-economic status of households living close to the contact line.[24] The post-winter assessment will include three strata, Mariupol, urban areas and rural areas close to the contact line in Eastern Ukraine.

Secondary data review

The secondary data review included a comprehensive analysis of the available data from humanitarian actors and the State Statistics Service of Ukraine.

Organisation	Title
REACH	Household Economic Resilience Assessment (HERA) Factsheet Government Controlled Areas (GCA) of Donestk and Luhansk Oblasts, Ukraine (2021)
REACH	Ukraine 2020 Multi Sector Needs Assessment (upcoming)
REACH	REACH Economic Security Assessment (2019)
Save the Children	Household Economy Approach: A Guide for Programme Planners and Policymakers (2008)
OECD	The COVID-19 Crisis in Ukraine (2020)
Food Security and Livelihood Cluster of Ukraine	Food Security & Socio-Economic Trend Analysis - Eastern Ukraine (2018)
FAO	Socioeconomic Impact and Needs Assessment (2017)
UNOCHA	Ukraine 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan (2020)
OECD	Maintaining the Momentum of Decentralisation In Ukraine (2018)
USAID	An Assessment of the Donbas Region of Ukraine (2017)
NRC	Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment (2020)
McKinsey Global Institute	COVID-19 and gender equality: Countering the regressive effects. (2020)
World Food Programme (WFP)	Food Security in Ukraine (2015)
Ukraine State Statistics Services	Labour market, employment, and income statistics
Regional State Statistics Services	Labour market, employment and income statistics (Donetsk, Luhansk)

Primary data collection

Primary data was collected through a phone household survey covering 2,390 households in the GCA of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts in November - December 2020. Households were selected from six strata through 2-stage random stratified sampling, first by settlement and then by population number for each settlement. Unless otherwise noted, findings are statistically significant at a 95% confidence level and 5% margin of error for each stratum. In

[22] A livelihood zone is an area within which people share broadly the same pattern of livelihood.
[23] Save the Children, Household Economy Approach (2008).
[24] Post-winter findings are available upon completion on the HERA section of the REACH Resource Centre.

addition, a 5% buffer was added to the sample to take into account non-response rates. The figure was based on REACH's experience with non-response rates in previous assessments (Table 1).

Table 1: HERA pre-winter sampling frame, November – December 2020

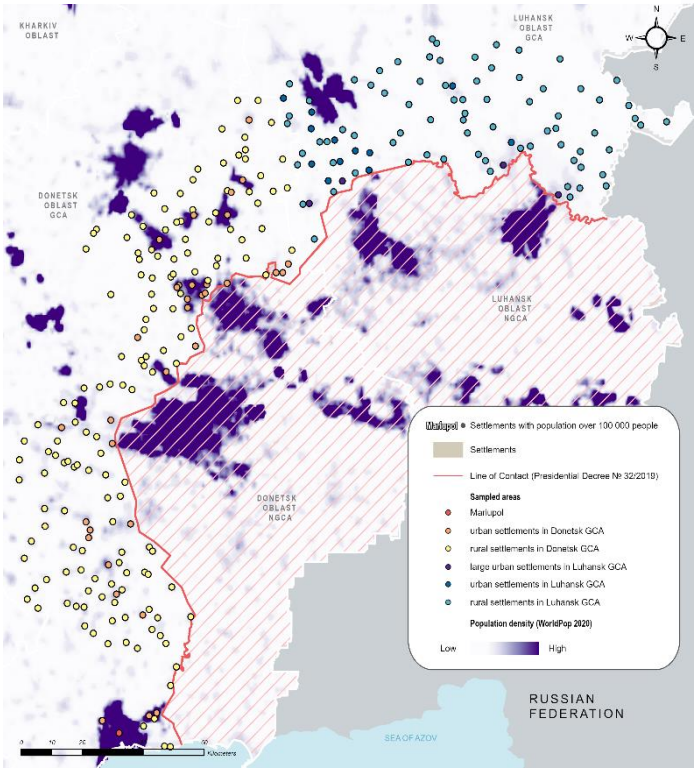
Strata	*Number of settlements*	*Population*[25]	*Minimum number of HH interviews*[26]	*Actual number of interviews*
Mariupol[27]	1	436,569	404	348
Donetsk urban	34	419,781	404	424
Donetsk rural	148	135,365	404	417
Luhansk "large urban"	4	57,814	402	404
Luhansk urban	12	36,052	401	390
Luhansk rural	75	52,841	402	407
TOTAL	**274**	**1,138,422**	**2,417**	**2,390**

The population was sampled from official population data provided by the State Statistics Service of Ukraine updated on a yearly basis using birth, death, and migration data. This data was used to weight a computerized random point selection within each region using QGIS, meaning that within each stratum, areas with higher density settlements were proportionally more likely to be selected for interview (Map 1).

Households' samples were randomly selected from two data sources:

- Households who were part of previous REACH-led assessments who agreed their contact details to be retained by REACH for follow-up calls regarding REACH assessments, and;
- Contact details of households from local partners, such as non-governmental organisations (NGOs) or public administrations. REACH

Map 1: HERA data collection coverage



[25] State Statistics Service of Ukraine. Data available online.
[26] In order to cover for the potential incomplete interviews or higher than usual non-response rates, a 5% buffer was included in the minimum number of household interviews.
[27] Findings for Mariupol strata are representative at a 95% level of confidence and a 6% margin of error.

adopted extra layers of protection of households' information such as: request of a minimal number of contact details of households (name, name of settlement, phone number), additional training provided to enumerators about data protection, and enhanced security in data storage.

Due to the COVID-19 epidemiological situation in Ukraine at the moment of the assessment, the pre-winter data collection was conducted remotely through phone from REACH's Mariupol, Severodonetsk, and Slovyansk field bases in a period between November 23 and December 10, 2020. Randomly selected households were interviewed using a questionnaire designed by REACH, with prior consultations with the Food Security Cluster of Ukraine and field offices. The responses were collected on phones using Open Data Kit (ODK) collect forms.

Interviews were conducted with the head of household or any other member who was aware of the general status of their household. If neither of these persons were available, then enumerators interviewed another member of the household who was above the age of 18. If no household member that fit the above description could be interviewed, the enumerator ended the interview.

The data collection for the post-winter survey will be completed in March 2021 and covers three strata – Mariupol, urban and rural areas of households living close to the contact line in Eastern Ukraine, with findings statistically significant at a 95% confidence level and 5% margin of error for each stratum. In order to avoid interview fatigue, households were randomly selected from REACH's household contacts database. However, the same households could be contacted twice. Table 2 shows the number of settlements covered in the post-winter survey, the population number from each stratum and the minimum number of household interviews.

Table 2: HERA post-winter sampling frame, March 2021

Strata	*Number of settlements*	*Population*[28]	*Minimum number of HH interviews*[29]
Mariupol	1	494,383	384
urban	50	455,833	384
rural	223	188,206	384
TOTAL	**274**	**1,138,422**	**1,152**

Analysis

A data analysis framework was developed during the research design phase which outlined relevant indicators and corresponding survey questions linked to the core research questions.[30] Data collected through the ODK was uploaded to the global REACH Server. The REACH Database Officer cleaned the data on a daily basis in collaboration with the Assessment Officer and then conducted statistical analysis on the cleaned data set using relevant software such as Microsoft Excel and R Studio. Analysis followed any stated aggregation or disaggregation of findings and data, where applicable.

[28] State Statistics Service of Ukraine. Data available online.
[29] In order to cover for the potential incomplete interviews or higher than usual non-response rates, a 5% buffer was included in the minimum number of household interviews.
[30] Terms of reference and questionnaire available online.

Challenges and limitations

- Due to the differences in sample sizes and methodologies of secondary data referenced throughout report, comparision of historical indicators from previous REACH assessments or external sources should be considered as indicative only.
- As a result of the COVID-19 epidemiological situation in Ukraine, REACH collected data through remote telephone surveys with randomly selected respondents among households who had a previous interaction with REACH and consented to be contacted again. In certain areas, phone numbers were complemented with household contacts randomly selected and shared with consent by public authorities or local partners. As such, findings are not generalizable to the status of all GCA residents in the area of interest and encourage further analysis of the economic situation of households living close to the contact line.
- All information was self-reported by an adult member of the household. This might have caused response bias, due to the belief that their responses could influence the reception of assistance. In order to mitigate the potential response bias, enumerators were instructed to explain the role of REACH assessments and clarify that households' responses are not tied to their receipt of aid in the future.
- Information related to past behavior could be subject to recall bias.
- The assessment was conducted at the beginning of winter, therefore reporting on some indicators may have been influenced by seasonality.
- Findings for Mariupol strata are representative at a 95% level of confidence and 6% margin of error.

FINDINGS

Household Economic Resilience Assessment

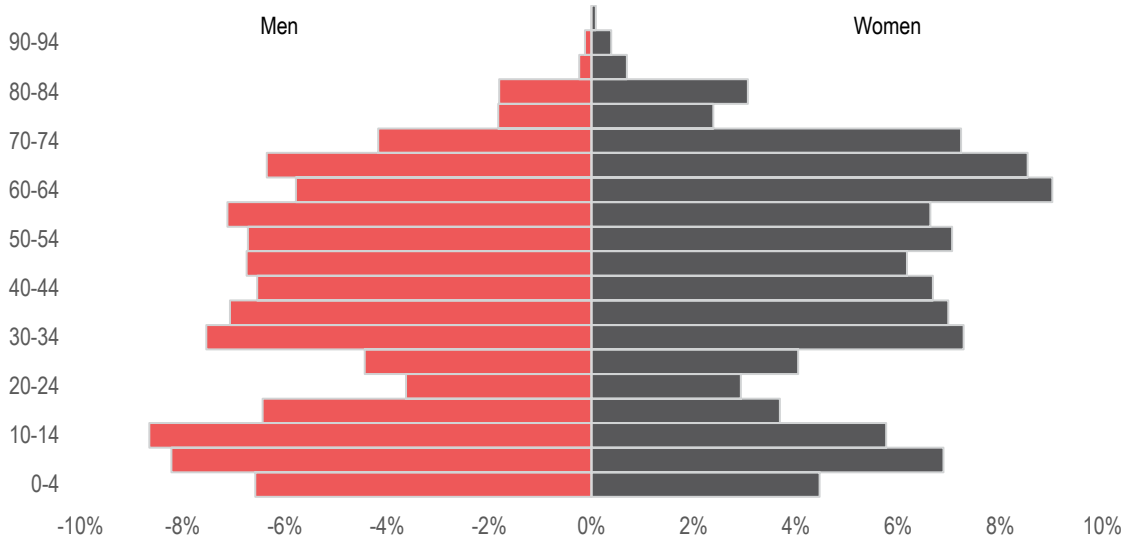
The compounded impact of conflict and COVID-19 could accentuate pre-existing vulnerabilities and increase the risk of a humanitarian crisis. Economic resilience, "the ability of people, households, communities, countries and systems (social, economic, ecological) to mitigate, adapt to, recover from shocks and stresses" is more important than ever since it influences households' capacity to bounce back from shock.[31] As such, in order to investigate the socio-economic status of households living close to the contact line in Eastern Ukraine, one year into the COVID-19 crisis, REACH conducted a pre-winter assessment, completed in November – December 2020. Selected findings are compared with national and oblast-level socio-economic indicators relevant prior to the COVID-19 crisis. For the assessment, REACH interviewed household representatives about their demographic and socio-economic status, income, expenses and consumption, debt, coping strategies, and winter preparation.

Demographics and household profile

The demographic profile of households living close to the contact line in Eastern Ukraine depicts an ageing population, with a high overall proportion (70%) of women head of households. The average age of the head-of household (HoH) was found to be 54 years old. Among all household members, the average age was found to be 41 years old, with a high variation between the strata assessed, comprising a younger population average age in Mariupol area and Donetsk urban area (39 years old) and older in Luhansk large urban areas (49 years old). The average overall household size was 2.5 members, lower in Luhansk large urban area (2.1), and Luhansk urban and rural area (2.3 members each). Households living in each of the three areas in Donetsk had, on average, 2.5 members each.

The population pyramid of the gender and reported age of all household members shows that people aged 60+ make up the largest age group, with people under 19 years old coming in second. This shows a high dependency rate on the working age population, possibly linked to the high level of young working-age migration outside the region (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Population age pyramid of household members living close to the contact line, by gender (in the 30 days prior to data collection)

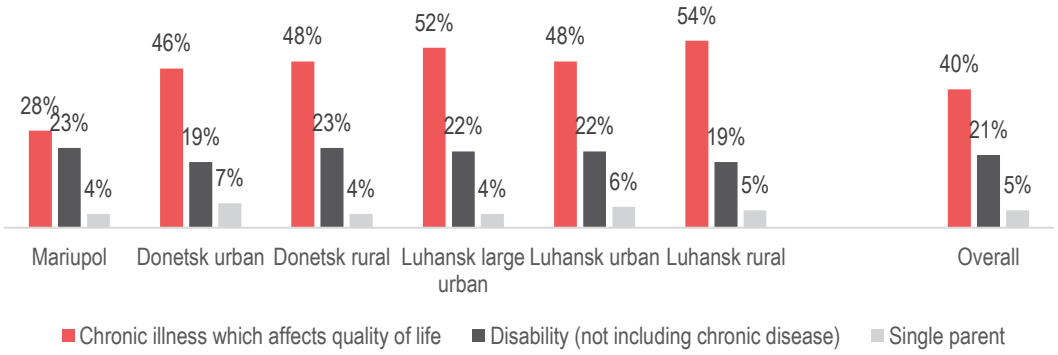


Overall, 40% of households reported that within their household there is at least one member with a chronic illness that is affecting their quality of life, 21% reported having a member within their household with a disability (excluding chronic diseases), while 5% of households reported being single parent households. Households residing in

[31] USAID, Resilience Measurement Principles (2014).

Luhansk rural areas (54%) were more likely to report having a member with a chronic illness affecting their quality of life compared to households residing in Mariupol area (28%) (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Proportion of households reporting on vulnerability of at least one member in their household, by location[32]

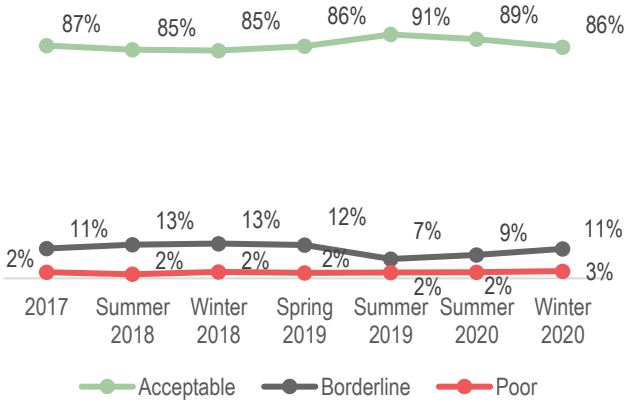


Food consumption score

This section measures the trends around food and economic security using the food consumption score (FCS) harmonized with the FCS calculation methodology used by food security partners in Ukraine.[33] The method consists of analyzing household food consumption over a seven-day recall period, with more nutrient-intensive foods being given a higher weight.[34]

Figure 3 presents historical data of the proportion of households found to have acceptable, borderline or poor FCS showing that the overall proportion of households found to have acceptable, borderline, or poor FCS has not been deteriorating over time.[35]

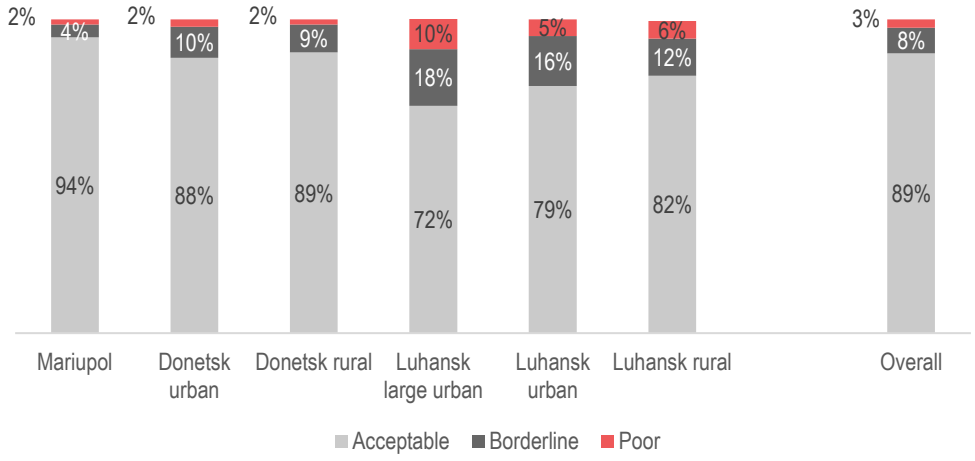
Figure 3: Proportion of households found to have acceptable, borderline, or poor FCS throughout time (excluding Mariupol)



Despite the lack of variation, the HERA found major geographical variations within the six strata assessed. Households living in Luhansk large urban area (28%), Luhansk urban area (21%) and, to a lesser extent, households residing in Luhansk rural area (18%) were more likely to be found in a higher proportion to have poor or borderline food consumption scores compared to the overall FCS score (Figure 4). These findings encourage further investigation in order to be correlated with the humanitarian situation and further input from the food security partners in order to understand the socio-economic dynamic that influences the food consumption in these areas.

[32] Vulnerabilities include chronic disease, disability (excluding chronic disease), or single-parent household. Multiple options could be selected so findings may exceed 100%.
[33] WFP, Food Security in Ukraine (2015).
[34] FCS thresholds harmonized with the methodology used by Food Security partners dating back to 2015. The score is calculated and assigned into three food consumption quotas: poor FCS (<28), borderline FCS (28.5 – 42) and acceptable FCS (>42).
[35] Findings from previous REACH assessments conducted in the area close to the contact line in Eastern Ukraine. Due to different methodologies applied to past assessments in terms of sampling sizes, sub-areas covered, and methods of data collection, comparison between FCS should be considered indicative only. Dataset, analysis and reports available online.

Figure 4: Proportion of households found to have acceptable, borderline, or poor FCS, by location (including Mariupol)



The proportion of households found to have an acceptable, borderline, or poor FCS did see an improvement expressed through an increase in the proportion of households found to have an acceptable FCS in the 7 days prior to data collection (from 85% to 89%). The proportion of households found to have a borderline FCS also decreased, from 13% in 2019 to 8% in 2020, whereas the proportion of households found to have a poor food consumption increased from 2% in 2019 to 3% in 2020.[36] Due to lack of historical data from the specific areas assessed, further analysis is necessary to understand if the current food consumption vulnerabilities are related to systemic characteristics of households living in these areas.

The assessment validated initial findings from the 2020 HERA secondary data review (SDR) of the 2020 GCA Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA) showing major differences across different socio-economic groups which appear to influence food consumption security.[37] HERA found that the highest proportion of households having poor or borderline FCS was identified among female-headed households (12%), who were more likely to be found in this situation than their male-headed households counterparts (8%), an issue significantly more visible in areas with pre-existing high incidence of poor or borderline food consumption (Table 3). These demographic factors seem to influence an already pre-existing geographic specificity of inferior quality food consumption.

Table 3: Proportion of households by poor or borderline FCS disaggregated by the gender of the HoH

Gender of HoH	Mariupol	Donetsk urban	Donetsk rural	Luhansk large urban	Luhansk urban	Luhansk rural	Overall 2020	Overall 2019[38]
Female HoH	6%	14%	13%	31%	25%	19%	12%	18%
Male HoH	6%	8%	6%	19%	13%	14%	8%	7%
Overall FCS for the strata	6%	12%	11%	28%	21%	18%	11%	15%

Similar high incidence of households with poor or borderline FCS were observed for households who reported at least one of their members being a single parent or having a chronic disease or disability. The proportion of households found to have a poor or borderline food consumption was two times higher (10%) for households reporting one of their members having a vulnerability, compared to households in which no vulnerability was reported (5%).

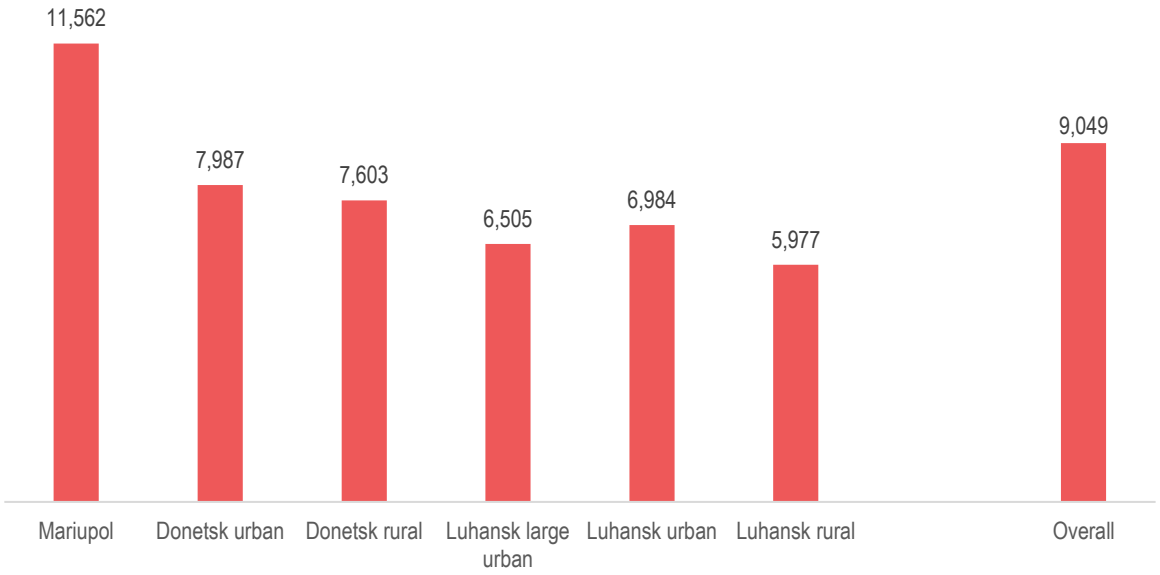
[36] 2019 FCS retrieved from REACH Economic Security Assessment (2019).
[37] REACH, Household Economic Resilience Assessment (HERA) Factsheet Government Controlled Areas (GCA) of Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts (2021).
[38] Findings from REACH Economic Security Assessment (2019).

Income

The five often-most reported sources of household income in the 30 days prior to data collection were pensions (60%), followed by paid work (56%), government safety net programs (19%), aid from relatives (6%), and income from selling locally produced household products (3%).[39] For a full disaggregation of the reported sources of income and the average amount, please see Annex I.

The average total household income revealed by the HERA in the 30 days prior to data collection of households living close to the contact line was at Ukrainian hryvnia (UAH) 9,049 (or United States Dollar (USD) 319), with a significant variation between the assessment areas, highest in Mariupol (UAH 11,562, or USD 408) and the lowest in Luhansk rural areas (UAH 5,977, or USD 211). Except for the Mariupol area, the total average household income in each area was lower than the oblast average (Figure 5).[40]

Figure 5: Average total weighted household income (in UAH), by location (in the 30 days prior to data collection)



The State Statistics Service of Ukraine estimates the average amount of actual subsistence minimum income per capita in December 2020 at UAH 3,968 (or USD 140). Of the population living close to the contact line, 63% of households were found to have a reported income that falls below the national average annual size of actual subsistence minimum. Notably, roughly 8 out of 10 households (82%) in Luhansk rural area have an income per capita lower than UAH 3,968 (or USD 140).[41] [42]

Table 4: Proportion of households whose average income per capita fell below the actual subsistence minimum in December 2020 (UAH 3,968), by location (in the 30 days prior to data collection)

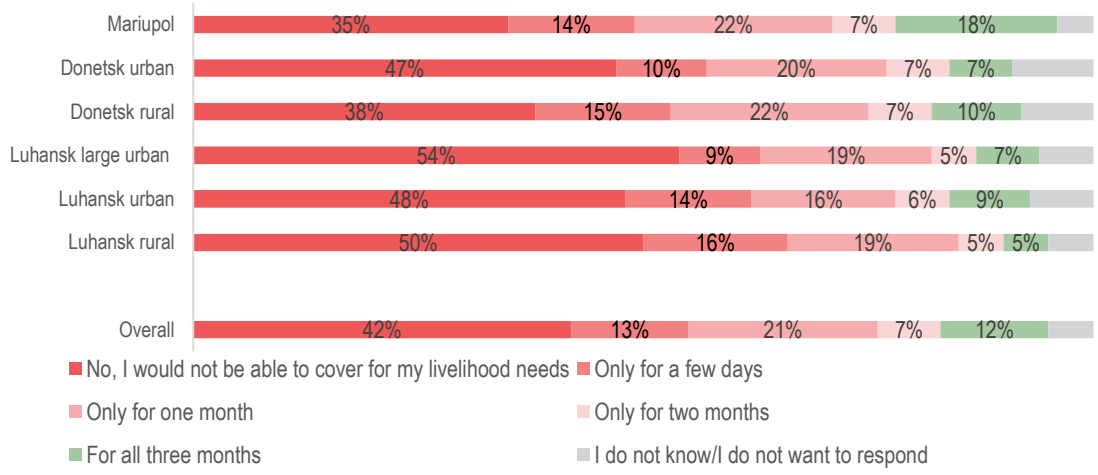
Mariupol	Donetsk urban	Donetsk rural	Luhansk large urban	Luhansk urban	Luhansk rural	Overall
49%	70%	73%	72%	73%	82%	63%

Despite the high proportion of households found to fall below the actual subsistence minimum, seven in ten households (70%) reported that their income had been roughly the same in the six months prior to data collection. This indicator reflects a generally good level of income stability, possibly due to the high proportion of households

[39] Multiple options could be selected therefore findings may exceed 100%.
[40] Rate as of 01.12.2020 from the National Bank of Ukraine, 1 USD = 28.33 UAH.
[41] Ibid.
[42] Ministry of Social Affairs of Ukraine, Information on the actual subsistence level for December 2020, accessed on 09/03/2021.

reporting income from pensions, which tend to follow a fixed distribution schedule and are unlikely to suffer variations over time. Although a high proportion of households reported a stable income, a relatively high proportion of households also reported not being able to sustain their means of covering their needs in the event of losing their main sources of income. Forty-two percent (42%) of households reported they would not be able to cover their needs in case of a loss of an existing income. Only 13% of households reported having the capacity to support themselves for three months in case of loss of existing income sources (Figure 6).

Figure 6: Proportion of households reporting being able to cover their needs in case of loss of existing income, by location[43]



Employment

Of household members part of households reporting an income from paid work (56%) in the 30 days prior to data collection, 84% of the household members of these households were found to be engaged in regular formal paid work, 9% were found to have an income from own business, 8% from temporary informal paid work and 7% from regular informal paid work. A relatively high proportion of household members engaged in temporary informal paid work were found in Luhansk rural area (12%) and Luhansk large urban area (10%).

Table 5: Proportion of household members as reported by households by type of paid work and location (in the 30 days prior to data collection)[44]

Type of paid work	Mariupol	Donetsk urban	Donetsk rural	Luhansk large urban	Luhansk urban	Luhansk rural	Overall
Regular formal paid work	85%	83%	89%	89%	82%	75%	84%
Self-owned business	15%	4%	5%	4%	6%	5%	9%
Temporary informal paid work	8%	8%	5%	10%	6%	12%	8%
Regular informal paid work	7%	8%	5%	2%	5%	4%	7%
Temporary formal paid work	2%	3%	1%	2%	3%	4%	2%
Seasonal informal work	0%	1%	0%	2%	1%	6%	1%
Seasonal formal work	1%	0%	2%	0%	4%	4%	1%

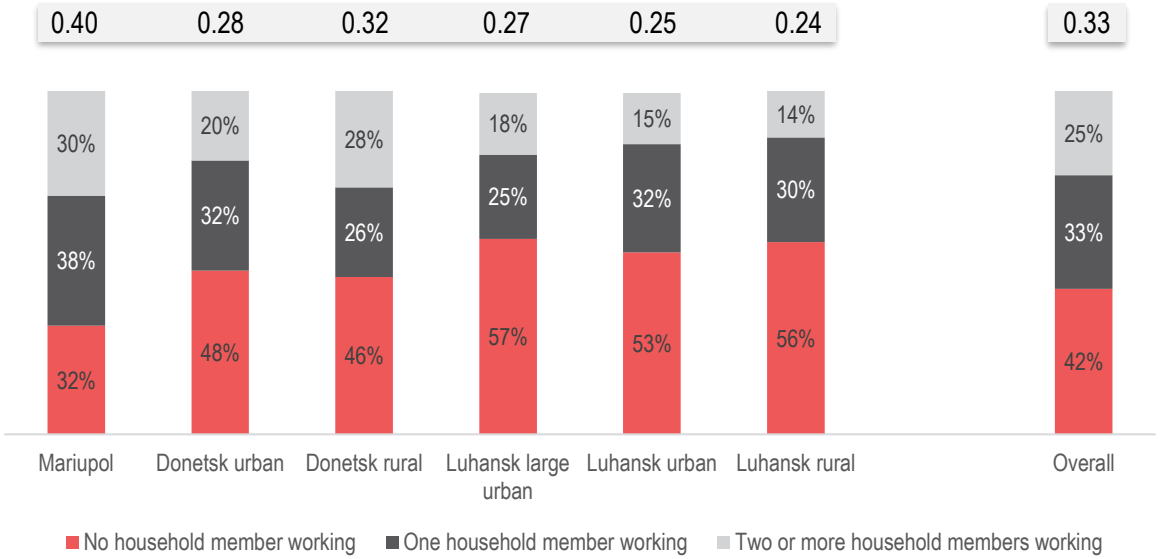
Compared to the reference year in 2019, when 42% of household members aged between 15-70 living close to the contact line reported being engaged in any kind of paid work, in 2020 the proportion decreased to 40%.[45]

Findings from the 2020 HERA SDR of the 2020 GCA MSNA revealed that there are strong links between the FCS and the number of household members working.[46] Just a quarter (25%) of households reported two or more

[43] Not included in the figure: six percent (6%) of households reported not being able to respond to the question about their household members and one percent (1%) not wanting to respond to the question.
[44] Multiple options could be selected therefore findings may exceed 100%.
[45] Findings from REACH Economic Security Assessment (2019).
[46] REACH, Household Economic Resilience Assessment (HERA) Factsheet Government Controlled Areas (GCA) of Donestk and Luhansk Oblasts (2021).

household members in their household working and 33% reported one household member working. Notably, roughly four in ten households (42%) reported no household member working in their household. The coefficient of economic burden, an indicator that measures the dependency of household on the economically active household members revealed large variations across the six areas, from 0.40 in Mariupol to 0.24 in Luhansk large areas (Figure 7).[47]

Figure 7: Proportion of households reporting the number of household members working and the calculated coefficient of household economic burden, by location (in the 30 days prior to data collection)



Of household members engaged in paid work (40%) in the 30 days prior to data collection, the services sector made up the highest reported sector of employment (20%). There were significant differences across the six livelihood areas assessed. Household members working in the services sector were found to be employed in the highest proportion in Mariupol (20%), Donetsk urban (22%), Luhansk urban (17%) and Luhansk rural (17%), while agriculture was found to employ the highest proportion of household members in Donetsk rural area (21%) and mining in Luhansk large urban area (13%). Notably, 8% of all household members working in the 30 days prior to data collection in Luhansk rural area were reported to work as daily laborers.[48]

[47] The coefficient of economic burden per one member of the household is a measurement that analyses the reliance on the economically active household members. A lower coefficient implies that in case of loss of employment, the overall economic impact is larger due to a large household size or a low number of economically active household members.

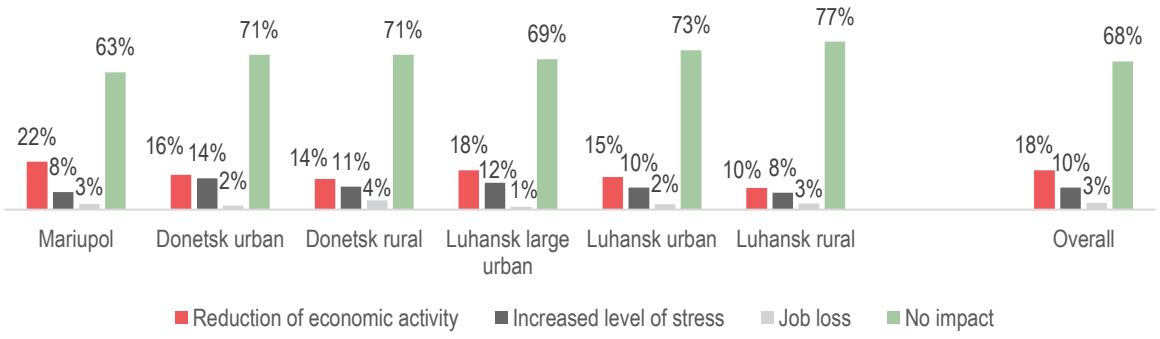
[48] Industry: including work relating to the processing of raw materials or the manufacturing of goods. Service: including work relating to the production of intangible goods, accommodation and food services, financial and insurance activities, real estate activities, arts and entertainment.
Agriculture: exploitation of vegetal and animal natural resources, comprising the activities of growing of crops, raising and breeding of animals, harvesting of timber and other plants, animals or animal products from a farm or their natural habitats. See the United Nations International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) for more details on sectors. Available online.

Table 6: Proportion of household member as reported by households by employment sector and location (in the 30 days prior to data collection)[49]

Sectors of employment	Mariupol	Donetsk urban	Donetsk rural	Luhansk large urban	Luhansk urban	Luhansk rural	Overall 2020	Overall 2019[50]
Service sector	20%	22%	16%	12%	17%	17%	20%	19%
Industry	18%	14%	6%	9%	6%	3%	14%	22%
Trade	17%	11%	10%	12%	10%	10%	13%	18%
Education	6%	7%	11%	9%	11%	13%	7%	6%
Municipal sector	8%	6%	8%	8%	13%	7%	7%	NA
Transportation	5%	7%	6%	12%	3%	4%	6%	3%
State service	4%	6%	5%	4%	5%	4%	5%	7%
Healthcare	4%	5%	5%	7%	4%	9%	5%	5%
Agriculture	1%	2%	21%	3%	8%	17%	4%	4%
Construction	4%	4%	1%	1%	2%	2%	4%	6%
Social services	1%	6%	1%	2%	2%	3%	3%	3%
Mines	0%	4%	4%	13%	11%	2%	3%	2%
Daily laborer	2%	3%	3%	3%	5%	8%	3%	NA

Findings from the 2020 HERA SDR of the 2020 GCA MSNA reveal that disruptions in the economy could translate into shocks in certain channels of employment, such as services or trade, could have an impact on households' wellbeing or even accentuate pre-existing vulnerabilities.[51] Across all sectors of employment, two in ten households (22%) residing in the Mariupol area reported a reduction in economic activity in the 30 days prior to data collection.[52] The proportion of households reporting similarly was relatively equal in the other urban areas assessed, while residents of urban areas were more likely to report increased stress due to COVID-19 in the 30 days prior to data collection. (Figure 8). However, roughly seven in ten (68%) households reported no impact of COVID-19 on their household income in the 30 days prior to data collection.

Figure 8: Proportion of households reporting on the impact of COVID-19 on their household income (most often reported responses), by location (in the 30 days prior to data collection)[53]



As findings from the 2020 HERA SDR of the 2020 GCA MSNA confirmed, it is more probable that a combined impact of COVID-19 and conflict would affect the food consumption security of households whose members are employed in services or trade sectors and in urban areas, sectors in which employment has increased compared to 2019, possibly in the detriment of the employment in the industry sector.[54] Moreover, informal workers, which make up a large share of employed household members in the area assessed, could be additionally affected due to lack of social protection benefits in case of layoffs or quarantine.

[49] Data on proportion of household members working in municipal sector or as daily laborers not collected in 2019. Multiple options could be selected therefore findings may exceed 100%.
[50] Findings from REACH Economic Security Assessment (2019).
[51] REACH, Household Economic Resilience Assessment (HERA) Factsheet Government Controlled Areas (GCA) of Donestk and Luhansk Oblasts (2021).
[52] Reduction of economic activity includes either reduced work hours, waged cuts, reduced work activities, or delays in receiving wages or pensions.
[53] Multiple options could be selected so findings may exceed 100%.
[54] These Dynamics were explored in the REACH Household Economic Resilience Assessment (HERA) factsheet, available online. (2021).

HERA indicators revealed that in December 2020, household members living close to the contact line and who reported working, did not report a large number of days outside work. Seventy-five percent (75%) of household members reported to be working were found to work, on average, 24 days in the 30 days prior to data collection. On average, household members engaged in daily labor reported the least number of days worked (20 days). However, there was a high variation within the geographic areas, as household members residing in Luhansk large urban area who reported being engaged in daily labor work reported to be working for 8 days in the 30 days prior to data collection. Table 7 shows the quartile distribution of the average number of days worked in the 30 days prior to data collection.

Table 7: The quartile distribution of the average number of days worked for household members reportedly working, by location (in the 30 days prior to data collection)

Quartile	Mariupol	Donetsk urban	Donetsk rural	Luhansk large urban	Luhansk urban	Luhansk rural	Overall
Minimum value	19.0	18.4	14.8	7.7	7.0	15.9	19.8
25th percentile	22.2	20.9	21.6	21.8	20.8	20.2	22.3
50th percentile	23.3	22.1	22.6	24.3	22.6	21.6	22.9
75th percentile	23.9	25.7	24.1	24.9	25.5	23.4	23.7
Max value	29.3	31.0	31.0	28.0	28.4	26.7	29.1

A quartile distribution describes a division of observations split into four defined intervals based on the values of the data and how they compare with the rest of observations. The quartile measures the spread of values above and below the mean by dividing the distribution into four groups around the median.

Household members not economically active

Of household members over the age of 14 years old and not reporting any economic activity in the 30 days prior to data collection, about six in ten household members (59%) were found to be retired, 15% to be in education, 11% were reported doing housework or caring for other household members, while 6% were reported to be unemployed and actively looking for a job. Households living in Luhansk large urban area were found to have the highest proportion of retired household members (67%), followed by households living in Luhansk rural area (63%) and Luhansk urban (62%). Notably, 17% of economically inactive household members in Mariupol were found to be enrolled in education, while 9% of household members in Luhansk large urban area reported similarly (Table 8).

Table 8: Proportion of household members by the status of economically inactive members, as reported by households, by main reasons and location (in the 30 days prior to data collection)

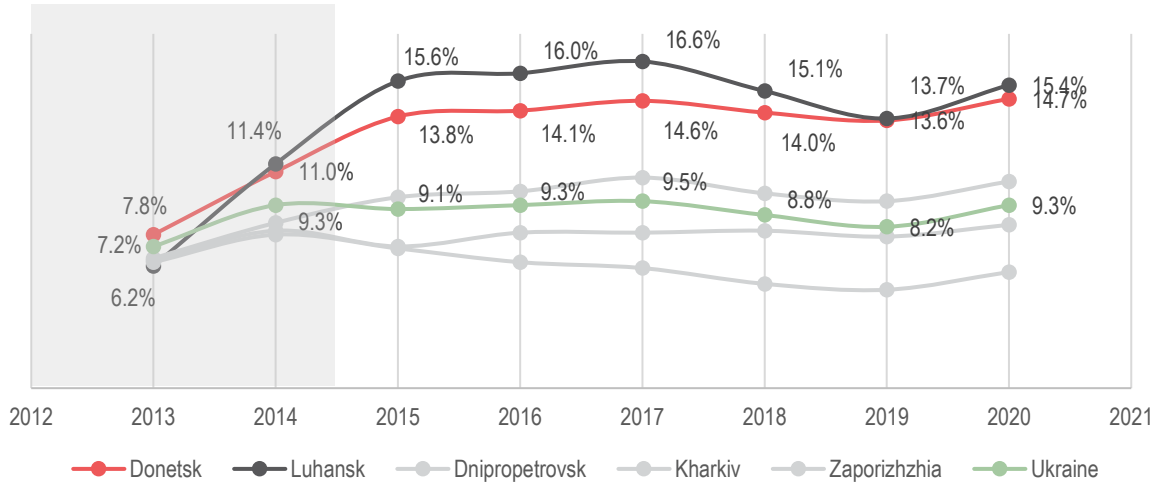
Reason	Mariupol	Donetsk urban	Donetsk rural	Luhansk large urban	Luhansk urban	Luhansk rural	Overall
Retired	59%	57%	61%	67%	62%	63%	59%
In education	17%	16%	13%	9%	11%	11%	15%
Doing housework or caring for other people	13%	12%	8%	8%	10%	11%	11%
Unemployed and actively looking for work	4%	8%	8%	5%	6%	7%	6%
Permanently sick or disabled	3%	4%	6%	8%	6%	4%	4%
Unemployed, not actively looking for a job	2%	2%	3%	3%	3%	3%	2%
Maternity leave	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%

In addition to the differences in terms of proportion of household members reported to be working, by sector of employment, there was a variation in the proportion of household members of working age that reported being unemployed and actively seeking work. In 2019, across the assessed region, 10% of household members aged

between 15-70 reported being unemployed and actively seeking work.[55] In 2020, 6% of household members between 15-70 reported being unemployed and actively seeking work in the 30 days prior to data collection.[56] However, it should be noted that the proportion of household members with a pensioner status increased by 13 percentage points, from 46% in 2019 to 59% in 2020.[57]

According to State Statistics Service of Ukraine, the unemployment rate in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts increased by one to two percentage points from 2019 to 2020 (from 13.6% to 14.7% in Donetsk oblast and from 13.7% to 15.4% in Luhansk oblast).[58] Compared to neighboring oblasts, the unemployment rate in Donetsk and Luhansk has been consistently larger since the beginning of the conflict (Figure 9).

Figure 9: Proportion of unemployed population aged 15-70 years old (International Labour Organization (ILO) methodology) by time series and oblasts[59]



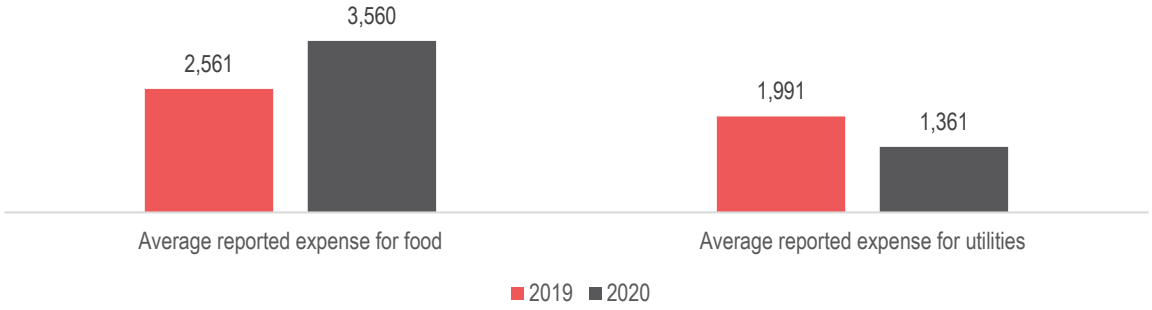
Expenses

Households were asked about their expenses on each category in the 30 days prior to data collection. A large majority of households reported spending a part of their available income on food and drinks (96%), followed by utilities (96%), hygiene items (81%), healthcare (81%) and transportation costs (55%). For a full disaggregation of the proportion of households reporting on each expense item and the average spent, please see Annex II.[60]

In the reference year (2019), households living close to the contact line were found to dedicate 44% of their total household expenses on covering the costs for food (UAH 2,561, or USD 94).[61] [62] Compared to 2020, the proportion of total household expenses dedicated to food expenditures increased to 45%, while the expenses allocation for food increased up to UAH 3,560 (or USD 126).[63] Notably, comparing the increase in the average of the reported total household income per capita (from UAH 3,100, or USD 114 in 2019 to UAH 3,950, or USD 139 in 2020) to the increase of food expenses between the two periods, households benefited from a 27% of increase of total household income per capita, compared to a 39% increase in the expenditure on food between the two periods. While households' total income increased, the increase of household expenditure on food was greater than the reported average total income (Figure 10). The average reported monthly expense cost for utilities was found to be UAH 1,991 (or USD 73). In 2020, the cost of utilities was lower, as the average monthly expense cost for utilities was found to be UAH 1,361 (or USD 48).

[55] Findings from REACH Economic Security Assessment (2019).
[56] Ibid.
[57] Ibid.
[58] Statistical Service of Ukraine, Labor market statistics. (2020).
[59] Statistical Service of Ukraine, Unemployed population (2020).
[60] Multiple options could be selected so findings may exceed 100%.
[61] Findings from REACH Economic Security Assessment (2019).
[62] Rate as of 01.02.2019 from the National Bank of Ukraine, 1 USD = 27.24 UAH.
[63] Rate as of 01.12.2020 from the National Bank of Ukraine, 1 USD = 28.33 UAH.

Figure 10: Average of the reported total expenses on food and utilities (in UAH) in 2020 compared to 2019 (reference year)[61]



On average, households living close to the contact line were found to dedicate 19% of their expenses to utilities (electricity, heating, water) in the 30 days prior to data collection, proportionally slightly higher than the national average at 15%.[64] Households living in Mariupol reported the lowest proportion of their expenditures dedicated to utilities (17%), while households living in Luhansk rural area reported the highest (23%). The average amount spent on utilities in the 30 days prior to data collection was UAH 1,361 (or USD 48), the highest in Mariupol (UAH 1,486, or USD 52) and the lowest in Luhansk large urban area (UAH 1,128, or USD 40). Please see the winter outlook section for a full report on fuel costs and winter status.[65]

Table 9: Proportion of the cost of utilities out of total reported household expenditure (in UAH), by location (in the 30 days prior to data collection)[66]

Utilities indicators	Mariupol	Donetsk urban	Donetsk rural	Luhansk large urban	Luhansk urban	Luhansk rural	Overall
Average of the reported total HH expenses	10,530	8,080	7,270	6,430	7,970	6,150	8,700
Average amount reportedly spent on utilities (weighted)	1,490	1,320	1,270	1,130	1,320	1,190	1,360
% spent on utilities out of total expenses (weighted)	17%	19%	21%	21%	22%	23%	19%
Average of the reported monthly cost of household heating bill in 2019 – 2020 in the past winter period[67]	1,640	1,630	1,650	1,360	1,600	1,600	1,620

According to the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine (MSPU), the subsidies on utilities amount and eligibility are allocated based on a formula based on the total household income.[68] According to the MSPU, by December 2020, more than 340,000 households nationwide had received subsidies for purchase of solid fuel or liquefied gas, with an average amount of subsidy of UAH 3,415 (or USD 121). Notably, of the total number of households receiving subsidies in form of solid fuel or liquefied gas, 4% of households (or 13,658 households) were residents of Donetsk oblast and 1% (or 3,222 households) were residents of Luhansk oblast. On average, the amount of household subsidy was reported to be UAH 3,227 (or USD 114) in Donetsk oblast, while in Luhansk, the average amount of subsidy was UAH 3,228 (or USD 114).[69]

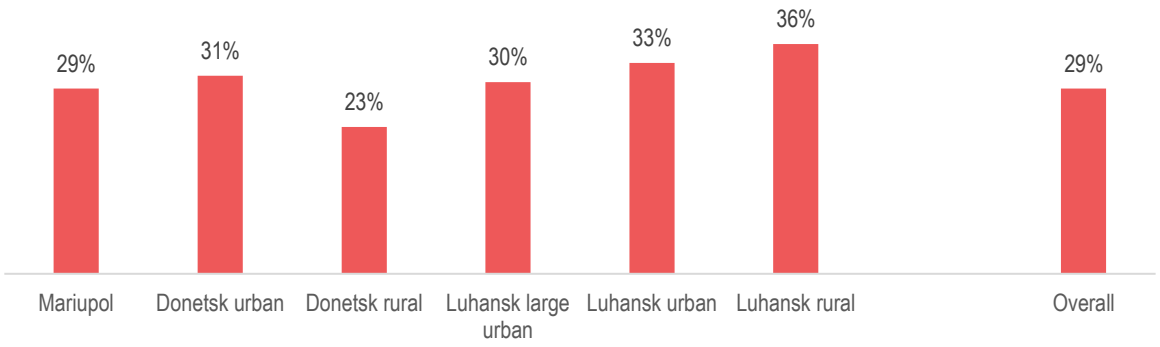
Almost 3 million households living in Ukraine were found to be beneficiaries of subsidies for housing and communal services in 2020, receiving on average UAH 1,615 (or USD 57). Of the total beneficiaries, 5% (or 147,349) were residents of Donetsk oblast and 2% (or 66,300) were residents of Luhansk oblast. The average amount of subsidy

[64] Statistical Service of Ukraine, Structure of Total Expenditure (2020).
[65] Rate as of 01.12.2020 from the National Bank of Ukraine, 1 USD = 28.33 UAH.
[66] Amounts rounded to nearest 10 UAH.
[67] Findings from REACH Economic Security Assessment (2019).
[68] Ministry of Social Affairs of Ukraine, State Subsidies Framework (2020).
[69] Ministry of Social Affairs of Ukraine, Information on housing subsidies (2020).

in Donetsk oblast was UAH 1,506 (or USD 53), slightly lower than the average amount of subsidy in Luhansk oblast, which stands at UAH 1,600 (or 57 USD).[70]

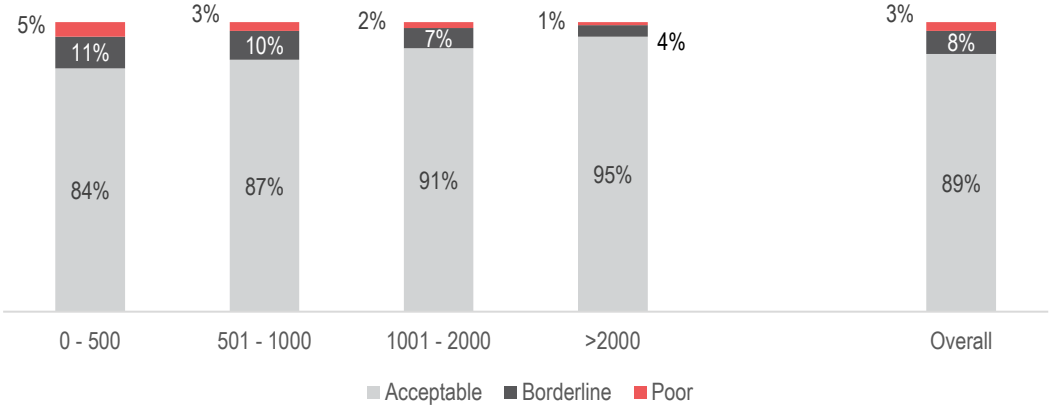
HERA findings revealed that 29% of households living close to the area of contact line reported being entitled to state support for winter (including support for heat bill or fuel expenses). The largest proportion of households reporting being entitled for state support were found to live in Luhansk rural area (36%), followed by households of Luhansk urban area (33%) and households of Luhansk large urban area (30%) at the moment of the interview. Households of Donetsk rural (23%) reported in the lowest proportion their status of being entitled for state support, followed by households of Mariupol (29%) and households of Donetsk urban area (31%) (Figure 11).

Figure 11: Proportion of households reporting being entitled to state support for winter, by location



Findings from the SDR of the 2020 GCA MSNA did not reveal a statistically significant relationship between the cost of utilities and the food consumption score.[71] The same conclusion was reached by the HERA, which could not observe a decrease of the food expenditure linked to any increased expenditure on utilities. These results could be due to the complex system of utility subsidies Ukraine has in place, which targets the most vulnerable households through subsidies, direct money or fuel transfers, making it difficult to have an accurate picture of the impact of cost of utilities on food consumption. In addition, higher household wealth could be associated with a high consumption of utilities, revealing a direct relationship between a higher proportion of households having an acceptable FCS and cost of utilities (Figure 12). Further studies are needed to investigate the relationship between the cost of utilities and economic and food security.

Figure 12: Proportion of households reporting on their cost of utilities (in UAH) in the 30 days prior to data collection and on food consumption in the seven days prior to data collection, by their FCS and location



According to findings from ACCESS Consortium's Joint Market Monitoring, most essential food and hygiene goods are widely available in areas close to the contact line.[72] Eighty-nine percent (89%) of households interviewed for

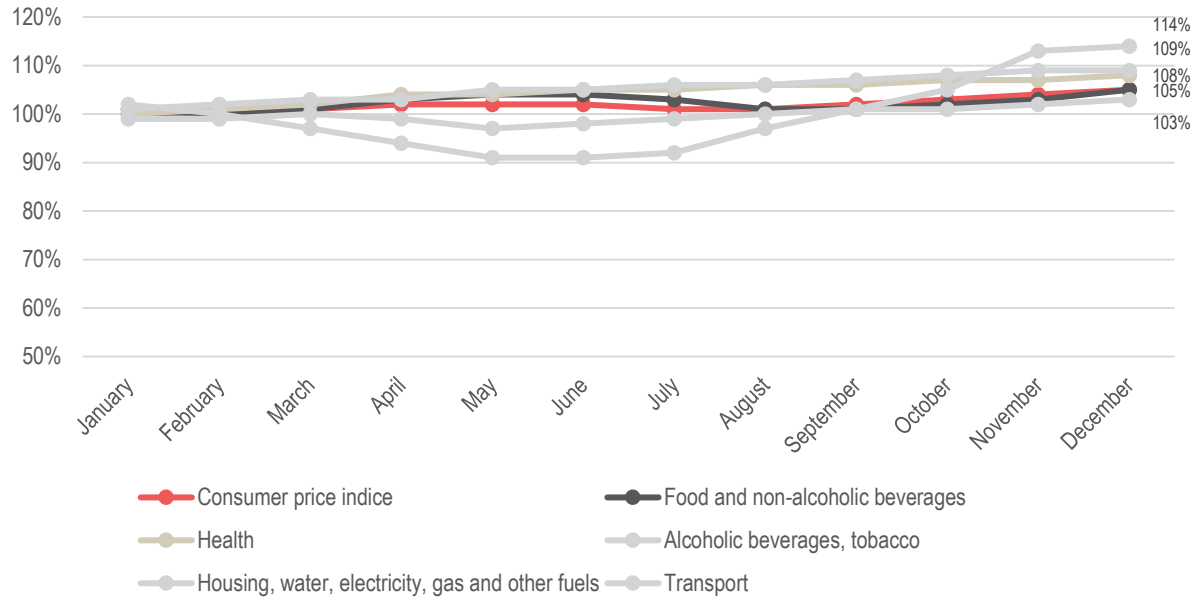
[70] Ibid.
[71] REACH, Household Economic Resilience Assessment (HERA) Factsheet Government Controlled Areas (GCA) of Donestk and Luhansk Oblasts (2021).
[72] ACCESS Consortium, Joint Market Monitoring (2020).

the HERA confirmed that there were no problems in accessing their main sources of food in the 30 days prior to data collection. Of the 11% of households reporting at least one issue in accessing their main food sources, 4% reported access restrictions due to COVID-19 movement restrictions, 3% reported subjective concerns about personal security due to COVID-19 infection and 2% reported a lack of availability of products in markets.

Important elements of food security, price increases were reported by households from all assessed areas. Almost nine in ten households (88%) reported a perceived increase in food prices in the 30 days prior to data collection, with a higher proportion of households living in Luhansk rural area (94%) reporting an increase in food prices compared to 82% of households residing in Mariupol area. Of households reporting an increase of food prices, the most reported items for which an increase in prices was observed was for cereals (85%), sugar or sweets (76%) and oil and fat products (69%).[73]

According to the State Statistics Service of Ukraine, the consumer price index (CPI), an indicator associated with the cost of a basket of consumer goods and services, the price of a regular food basket increased by 5% between December 2019 and December 2020. Figure 13 shows that the CPI slightly increased in April, May, and June 2020 and stabilized in summer. Among food-items, the highest increase in the level of prices was reported for sugar (47%), fruits (13%), bread and cereals (9%), oil and fat products (9%), and fish (4%). Compared to December 2019, prices for utilities increased by 13%, prices for alcoholic beverages and tobacco increased by 9%, prices for health services and medication by 8% while prices for transport increased by 3% (see Figure 13). [74]

Figure 13: The consumer price indices for goods and services in 2020 in Ukraine, by selected items and month (December 2019 = 100)



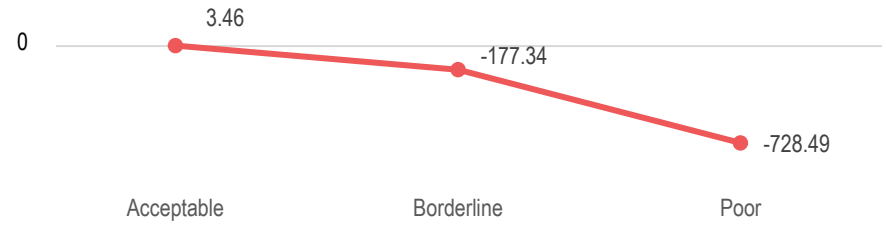
Household income-to-expenses ratio

The household income-to-expenses ratio of households living close to the contact line was found to be 1.2. The income-to-expenditure gap analysis revealed that negative income-to-expenditure gaps are linked to higher levels of vulnerability.

Overall, households who were found to have an acceptable FCS had a positive income-to-expenditure gap (UAH +3.46), while households found to have a negative (UAH -177.34) or poor (UAH -728.49) FCS were associated with a linear decrease of the income-to-expenditure gaps (Figure 14).[75]

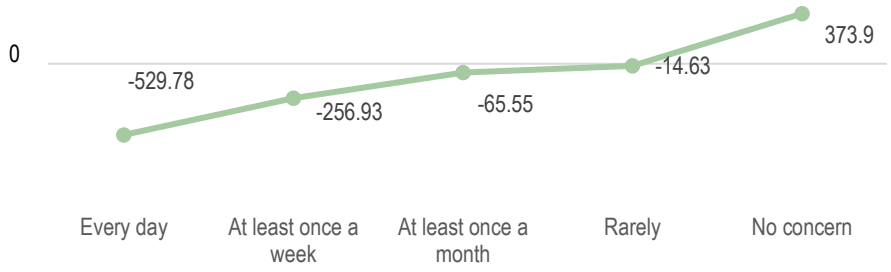
[73] Multiple options could be selected so findings may exceed 100%.
[74] Statistical Service of Ukraine, Consumer Price Indices for Goods and Services (2020).
[75] A positive value show that the average level of income is more than the average level of expenses, while a negative value that the average level of expenses is larger than the average level of income.

Figure 14: Average income to expenditure gap (in UAH) for households found to have acceptable, borderline or poor FCS



Similar dynamics of income-to-expenditure gap were observed for indicators related to households reporting on being concerned about meeting their food needs. For instance, households reporting worrying about their food needs every day were found to have a negative and low-income gap. Households reporting worrying less about their food needs were found to have a direct and positive linearity with income-to-expenditure gap (Figure 15).

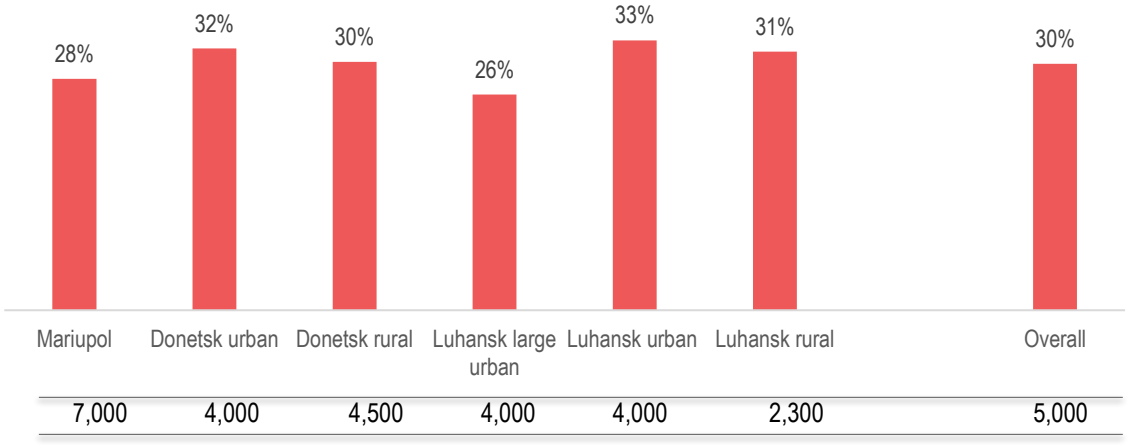
Figure 15: Average income to expenditure gap (in UAH) of households reporting on worrying about their food needs



Debt

Three in ten households (30%) living close to the contact line reported their household being in debt at the moment of the interview. The highest proportion of households found to have debt were households residing in the Luhansk urban area (33%), while 28% of household residents of Mariupol reported having debt at the moment of the interview. The median amount of reported debt was found to be UAH 5,000 (or USD 177), higher in Mariupol area (UAH 7,000, or USD 247) and lower in Luhansk rural area (UAH 2,300, or USD 81) (Figure 16).[76]

Figure 16: Proportion of households reporting on debt, by median amount of reported debt (in UAH) and location



Of households reporting debt (30%), the most often reported reason for debt was to pay for food (42%). About half of residents of Luhansk urban (55%), Donetsk rural (50%) and Luhansk rural (49%) reported their reason for debt was buying food. The next most commonly reported reason for debt of all households reporting being in debt (30%) was to pay for utilities (23%) and to pay for medical expenses (21%). Notably, taking debt for winter preparation

[76] Rate as of 01.12.2020 from the National Bank of Ukraine, 1 USD = 28.33 UAH.

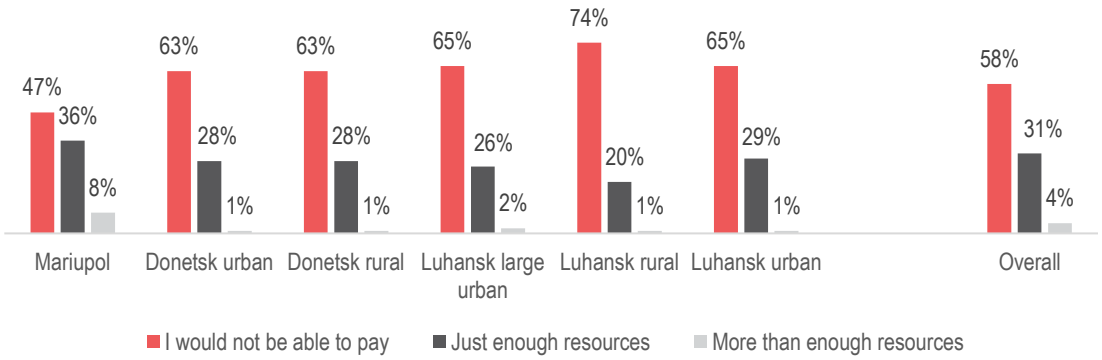
was reported by 20% of households in Luhansk rural area, 13% by households in Luhansk urban area and 12% in Luhansk large urban area, compared to just 8% of households reporting this reason overall. See Table 10 for a disaggregation of the reasons for household debt.[77]

Table 10: Proportion of households reporting debt, by reason for taking debt and location

Reason for taking debt	Mariupol	Donetsk urban	Donetsk rural	Luhansk large urban	Luhansk urban	Luhansk rural	Overall
To purchase food	32%	46%	50%	44%	55%	49%	42%
To pay for utilities	17%	30%	13%	30%	23%	18%	23%
To cover for medical costs	26%	17%	17%	29%	20%	22%	21%
To purchase household items	21%	11%	13%	3%	7%	3%	14%
To pay for winter preparation	5%	7%	10%	12%	13%	20%	8%
To pay for shelter repair	10%	6%	8%	4%	4%	2%	7%

For the majority of households who reported being in debt (73%) taking on debt was not something planned. This could be a sign of financial vulnerability, as almost six in ten households (58%) reported not having enough resources to pay in case any household member would need to seek urgent medical healthcare (see Figure 17).

Figure 17: Proportion of households reporting on having enough resources to be able to pay in case any household member would need to seek healthcare, by location[78]



Winter outlook

Winters tend to be generally harsh in Ukraine, making heating and utilities important, as even brief disruptions could pose life-challenging risks for households. About four in ten households (36%) reported centralized (mains) heating, at a higher proportion in Mariupol area (60%) and in a lower proportion in each rural area (1%). Natural gas for heating was reported by 35% of households, followed by heating from wood fuel (30%), and coal (18%).[79] In order to investigate the potential household vulnerability to winter shocks, households were asked to estimate the average monthly cost of heating bill in the previous winter (2019-2020). Overall, the average heating bill in the 2019 – 2020 winter was UAH 1,617 (or USD 59), with the highest cost reported by households residing in Donetsk rural area (UAH 1,651, or USD 61) and the lowest cost in Luhansk large urban area (UAH 1,364, or USD 50) (Table 11).[80]

[77] Households could select multiple responses, therefore findings may exceed 100%. Other reasons for debt such as covering for chronic medical expenses (7%), paying for education (6%), paying for other debt (3%), asset purchasing (1%), other reasons (7%) were not included.
[78] Eight percent (8%) of households reported not knowing how to respond, therefore this option is not included in the figure.
[79] Multiple options could be selected so findings may exceed 100%.
[80] Rate as of 01.12.2020 from the National Bank of Ukraine, 1 USD = 28.33 UAH.

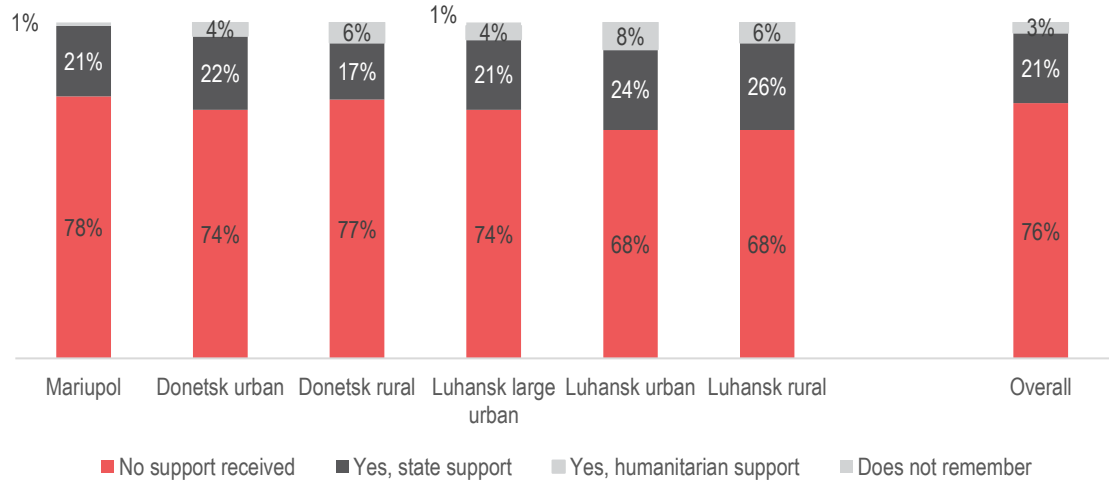
Table 11: Proportion of households reporting on the main type of heating used by household, by location and average reported monthly cost of heating bill (2019-2020 winter period)

Type of heating	Mariupol	Donetsk urban	Donetsk rural	Luhansk large urban	Luhansk urban	Luhansk rural	Overall
Mains heating	60%	32%	1%	19%	8%	1%	36%
Gas	30%	34%	40%	47%	42%	49%	35%
Wood	11%	31%	60%	35%	51%	69%	30%
Coal	4%	24%	37%	22%	40%	7%	18%
Electricity	5%	4%	5%	5%	4%	2%	4%
Briquettes (not coal ones)	0%	2%	8%	0%	0%	3%	2%
Briquettes (coal)	1%	0%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%
Average reported monthly cost of household heating bill in 2019 – 2020 (in the past winter period)[81]	*1,640*	*1,6230*	*1,650*	*1,360*	*1,600*	*1,600*	*1,620*

Of households reporting solid fuel as their primary source of heating (excluding mains heating and gas), 38% of households reported having enough fuel at the moment of the interview (December 2020). Notably, households residing in Luhansk urban area (49%) were more likely to report having enough fuel, compared to households residing in Donetsk urban area (34%). When asked if there were any moments in the past winter (2019-2020) when their household did not have enough fuel to heat their homes, 39% of households reported being in this situation. Of these, 15% of households reported being in this situation once, 56% of households reported being in this situation between two and four times, while 28% of households reported being in this situation for more than four times. One percent (1%) did not want to report on this aspect.

Roughly two in ten (21%) households reported having received state support for winter by the time of the interview, while 3% reported receiving humanitarian support for winter. The highest proportion of households reporting having received state support were residing in Luhansk rural area (26%), whereas 17% of Donetsk rural households reported having received state support for winter by the time of the interview (Figure 18). However, since households could receive winter support throughout the whole winter, existing data regarding reception of state support may not capture the full picture, therefore it should be interpreted with the utmost caution.

Figure 18: Proportion of households reporting having received any kind of winter support by the time of the interview, by type of support and location



Food preservation plays an important role in providing food security in moments when certain food items may not be available. In addition, food preserves enhance livelihoods and nutrition, improving the social well-being of people

[81] Amounts rounded to nearest 10 UAH. Findings from REACH Economic Security Assessment (2019).

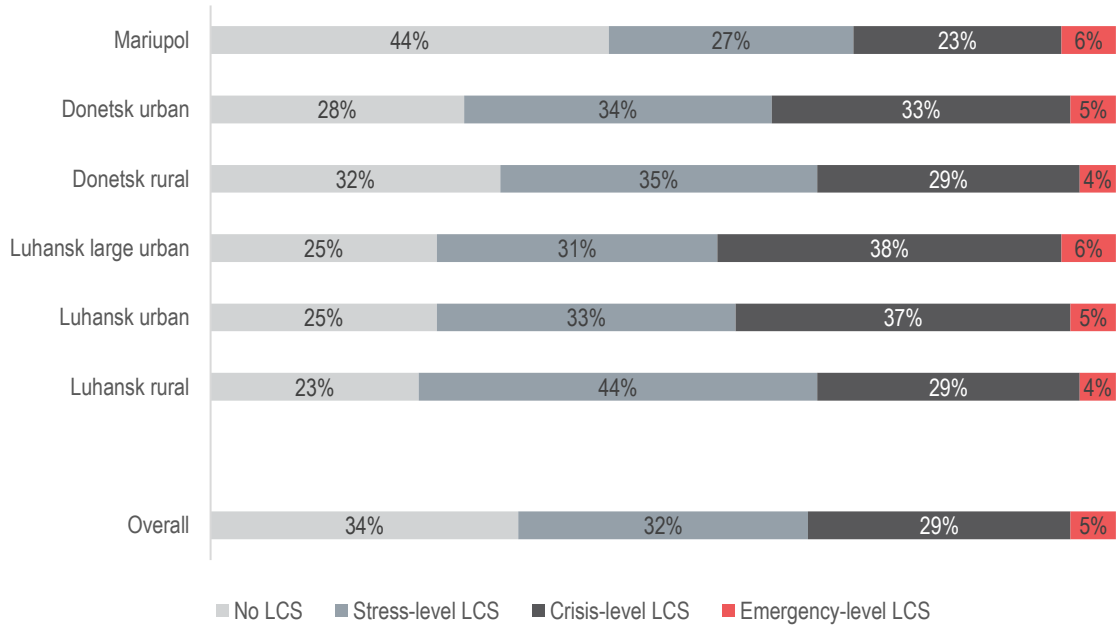
around the world.[82] As such, households in Ukraine often rely on food preserves such as picked fruits or vegetables or conserved meat, helping the diversification of food consumption during winter. Roughly three-quarters (75%) of households reported having sufficiently preserved food for the coming winter (2020-2021) at the time of the interview. Notably, households in all three Luhansk oblast areas reported in a high proportion having enough preserved food (88% in Luhansk rural area, 86% in Luhansk urban area, 85% in Luhansk large urban area), in a similar proportion to households in Donetsk rural area (88%). The lowest proportion of households reporting having enough preserved food for the coming winter were residing in Donetsk urban area (79%) and Mariupol (64%).

Livelihood coping strategies

Households were asked to choose from a presented list of coping strategies on which they possibly relied on in the 30 days prior to data collection in order to cope with the lack of resources and to cover for their basic needs. The specific coping strategies were selected based on recommended indicators from the WFP Consolidated Approach to Reporting Indicators (CARI) methodology which uses household coping capacity as a constituent part of assessing food security.[83] Responses were used to calculate the Livelihood Coping Strategy Index (L-CSI) by synthesizing the responses into four categories: households who did not report relying on any of the coping strategies listed, stress-level strategies, which indicate a moderate household vulnerability, including spending savings to purchase food and basic goods, borrowing money and, purchasing food on credit or borrowing food, crisis-level coping strategies, indicating a high vulnerability, including reducing non-food expenses on health and education, withdrawing children from school, and selling productive assets or means of transport, or emergency-level strategies, indicating a severe vulnerability, including entire household migrating, selling house or land, and sending household members for begging.

Overall, roughly three in ten households (34%) living close to the contact line did not confirm resorting to any livelihood coping strategy, followed closely by a similar proportion reporting relying on stress-level livelihood coping strategies in the 30 days prior to data collection (Figure 19).

Figure 19: Proportion of households reporting on coping strategies by L-CSI and location (in the 30 days prior to data collection)



Thirty-two percent (32%) of households were found to be resorting to at least one stress-level livelihood coping strategy in order to cope with the lack of resources and to cover for their basic needs in the 30 days prior to data collection, the majority reported spending their savings (28%), followed by 21% reporting buying food on credit or

[82] Pan American Health Organisation, Household Food Security Preparedness (2020).
[83] Complete information on the CARI methodology is available at the WFP Vulnerability Assessment Mapping (VAM) Resource Centre.

borrowing money, and 3% reporting selling household items or goods. Notably, 22% of households reported having already spent their savings by the time of the interview, therefore not being able to resort to this coping strategy anymore. The majority of households reporting spending their savings (28%) reported that they spent their savings on healthcare (46%) (Table 12). Moreover, households residing in Luhansk large urban areas were more likely to report resorting to spending their savings on healthcare and food, while 40% of households residing in Donetsk rural areas were more likely to report resorting to spending their savings on utilities.

Figure 20: Proportion of households reporting resorting to spending their savings in the 30 days prior to data collection by location

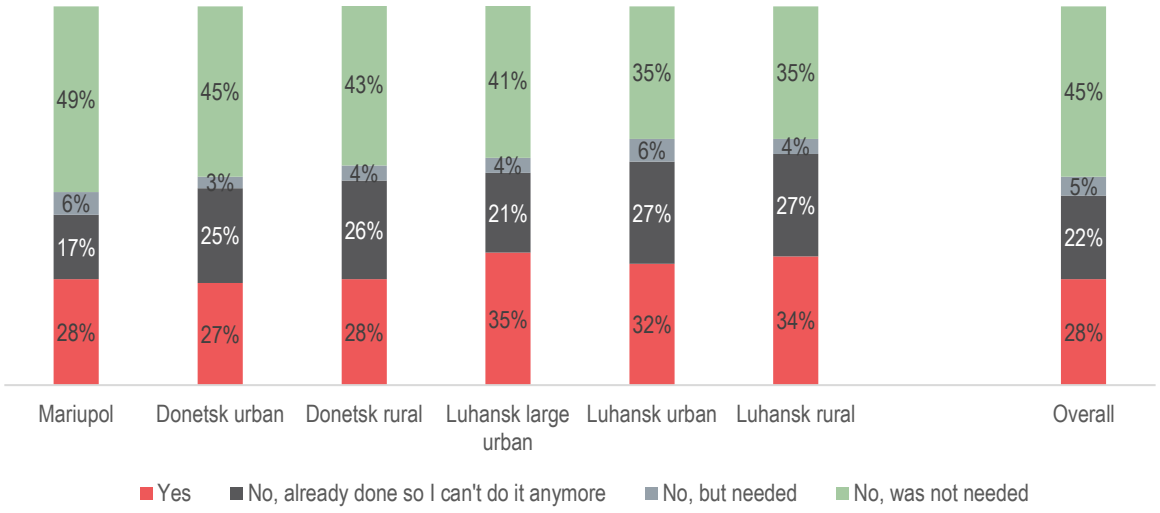
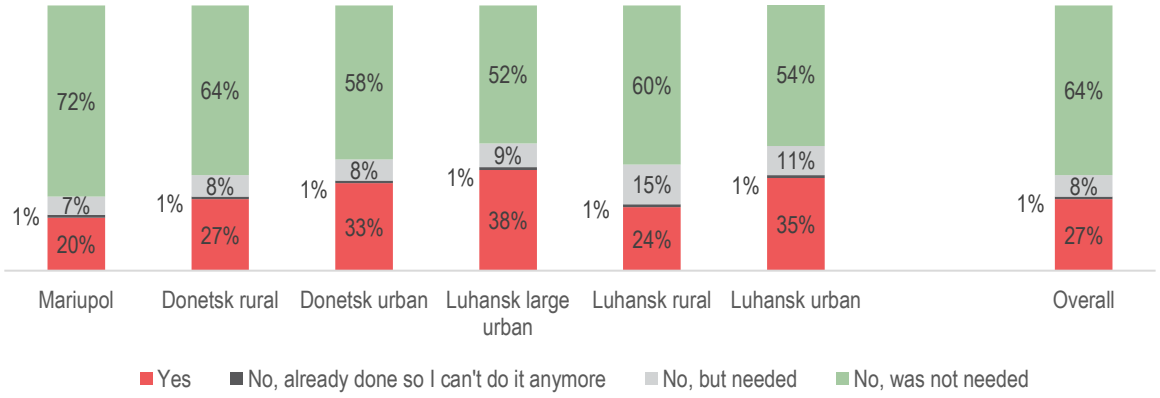


Table 12: Proportion of households reporting resorting to spending their savings in the 30 days prior to data collection, by the main three destinations of their expenses and location

Destination of expense	Mariupol	Donetsk urban	Donetsk rural	Luhansk large urban	Luhansk urban	Luhansk rural	Overall
Healthcare	47%	45%	43%	53%	45%	40%	46%
Food	38%	39%	35%	46%	33%	34%	38%
Utilities	21%	30%	40%	29%	27%	37%	28%

Twenty-nine percent (29%) of households were found to be resorting to at least one crisis-level livelihood coping strategy in the 30 days prior to data collection, the majority reported reducing their essential healthcare expenditure (27%). Notably, almost four in ten households residing in Luhansk large urban area (38%) reported resorting to this coping strategy, compared to two in ten households residing in Mariupol area (20%) (Figure 21). Notably, just one percent (1%) of households reported having already had done this in the past, which could possibly signify that resorting to reducing their essential healthcare expenditures is a recent adoption of this coping strategy, acting as a potential signal of vulnerability. Half of households (50%) reported reducing their health expenditures to cover food costs. Notably, households in each area assessed reported in relatively equal proportion resorting to this coping strategy in order to buy food (Table 13).

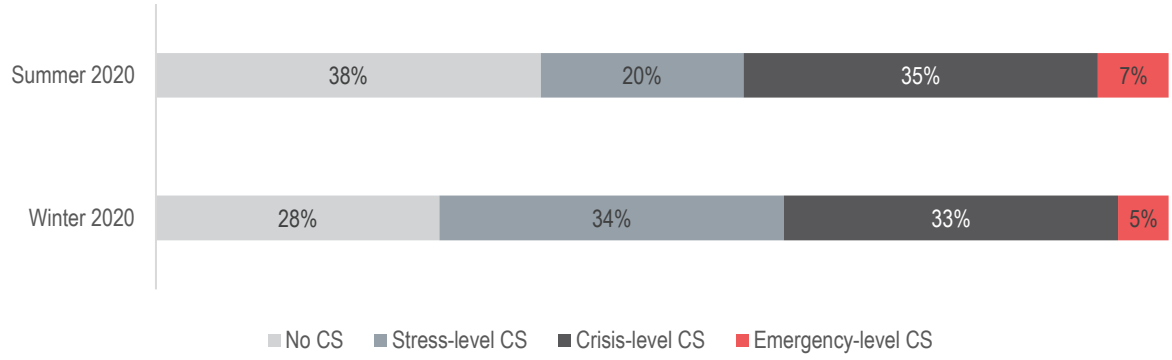
Figure 21: Proportion of households reporting resorting to reducing their essential healthcare expenditure in the 30 days prior to data collection by location



Five percent (5%) of households were found to be resorting to at least one emergency-level coping strategy in the 30 days prior to data collection, the majority reported engaging in illegal or degrading work (4%). Of households reporting relying on illegal or degrading work (4%), 73% reported engaging in illegal or degrading work to pay for food.

Between summer 2020 and winter 2020, the proportion of households reporting resorting to no-coping strategies decreased by ten percentage points, from 38% to 28%.[84] While the proportion of households found to be resorting to stress-level livelihood coping strategies increased by 14 percentage points, from 20% in summer 2020 to 34% in winter 2020, the increase was counterbalanced by a decrease in the proportion of households found to be resorting to crisis-level livelihood coping strategies (from 35% to 33%) and emergency-level livelihood coping mechanisms (from 7% to 5%) (Figure 22).

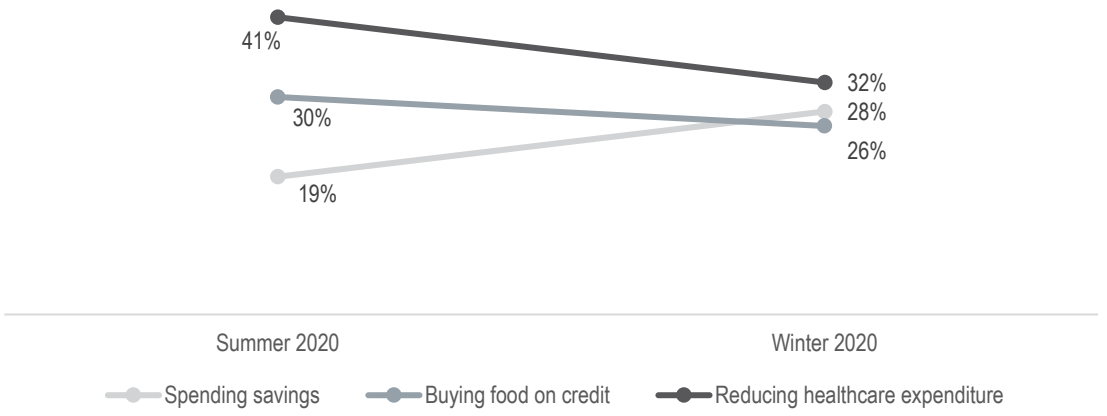
Figure 22: Proportion of households reporting on use of livelihoods coping strategies in summer 2020[84] and winter 2020, by location



A closer look at the proportion of households found to be resorting to stress-level livelihood coping strategies reveals that the difference between summer 2020 and winter 2020 (excluding Mariupol, for which summer 2020 data is not available) is linked to the relatively high increase in the proportion of households resorting on spending their savings (from 19% in summer to 28% in winter). This could signal an increase in household vulnerability due to seasonality, as lower temperatures influence a higher seasonal consumption of heating, along with a seasonal increase in prices of goods and services. However, the change in behavior is not observed in an increased incidence of buying food on credit, as the proportion of households reporting relying on this decreased between the two periods (from 30% in summer 2020 to 26% in winter 2020). Notably, the proportion of households reporting reducing their healthcare expenses had decreased between the two periods, for reasons that need further investigation (Figure 23).

[84] Summer 2020 findings from REACH MSNA (2020) (unpublished).

Figure 23: Proportion of households reporting resorting on coping strategies in the 30 days prior to data collection (excluding Mariupol) [85]



Compared to 2019, the proportion of households reporting no coping strategies decreased from 57% in 2019 to 34% in 2020.[86] Notable increases in the incidence of coping strategies were observed for households reporting spending their savings (+13%), purchasing food on credit (+13%). Decreases in the proportion of households were observed for households reporting reducing their essential healthcare spending (-5%) (Table 13).

Table 13: Household use of livelihoods coping strategies in December 2020 compared to the reference year (2019) (in the 30 days prior to data collection), by reference year

Coping strategy	Type of coping Strategy	Overall 2019	Overall 2020	Change since 2019
Spent savings	Stress	15%	28%	+13%
Purchased food on credit	Stress	8%	21%	+13%
Sold household assets/goods	Stress	4%	3%	-1%
Sent household members to eat elsewhere	Stress	1%	1%	0%
Reduced essential health care spending	Crisis	32%	27%	-5%
Reduced essential education spending	Crisis	1%	3%	+2%
Sold productive assets	Crisis	0.5%	1%	0%
Household member(s) moved	Emergency	1%	3%	+2%
Entire household migrated/displaced	Emergency	0.3%	1%	+1%
Sold house or land	Emergency	0%	0%	0%
No coping mechanism reported		57%	34%	-17

[85] Findings from REACH Economic Security Assessment (2019).

CONCLUSIONS

The HERA's objective was to address the information gap regarding household's economic resilience and economic security in the area near the contact line, incorporating secondary sources from past REACH assessments and national and regional data from national statistics.

Findings revealed that households in the area express a high level of demographic vulnerability characterized by an ageing population, with a high incidence of household vulnerability (chronic disease, disability, or single-parent household) and a high rate of women head of households.

The proportion of households found to have acceptable, borderline, or poor FCS was found to be similar to the previous REACH assessments' findings. However, households living in Luhansk areas were found in a higher proportion to have poor or borderline FCS compared to the overall proportion having poor or borderline FCS. Similarly, the FCS was also found to be linked to negative income-to-expenses difference gap as households who were found to have an either borderline or poor FCS were more likely to have a lower and negative income-to-expenses gap. This could be a sign of a food consumption vulnerability that needs to be further investigated and correlated with experience of implementing partners of the ground.

In terms of income, all but Mariupol area had an average reported total weighted household income lower than the oblast-level average. This could be linked to the high proportion of households reporting relying on pensions, connected to the low average of number household members engaged in paid work. Conversely, of household members engaged in paid work, most of them were found to work in the services sector, followed by industry and trade. Findings suggest that the proportion of household members working in industry has decreased since 2019.

The households' low level of economic security is also confirmed by more-qualitative indicators, showing that a high proportion of households would not be able to cover unanticipated healthcare costs. Overall, households in Luhansk areas appear to do worse in terms of economic security. However, this aspect needs to be further validated by assessments in the areas of concern.

The economic impact of COVID-19 on households' income seems to be higher in urban areas, while households residing in rural areas are more likely to report a psychological impact of COVID-19, such as increased level of stress.

Households were found to be generally well-prepared for winter, notably households in rural areas as the majority of households were found to have sufficient preserved food for the coming winter (2020-2021). Pre-winter findings are going to be compared with the post-winter findings in an upcoming REACH factsheet in order to have a clearer picture of the households' winter preparation and outcomes.

Compared to 2019, the proportion of households reporting not relying on any livelihood coping strategy decreased. Notable increases were observed for households reporting relying on spending their savings and purchasing food on credit. Further monitoring is needed in order to understand if this represents an early-signal of potentially heightened risk of household economic vulnerability.

With the end of conflict nowhere in sight and multiple waves of COVID-19 potentially leading to more economic shocks, a higher attention should be paid of the economic needs of households living close to the contact line.

ANNEXES

Table 14: Proportion of households reporting income from different sources (in the 30 days prior to data collection), by source of income and amount (in UAH) rounded to the nearest 10 UAH

Source of income	Mariupol		Donetsk urban		Donetsk rural		Luhansk large urban		Luhansk urban		Luhansk rural		Overall	
	% of HHs reporting on source	Average reported amount	% of HHs reporting on source	Average reported amount	% of HHs reporting on source	Average reported amount	% of HHs reporting on source	Average reported amount	% of HHs reporting on source	Average reported amount	% of HHs reporting on source	Average reported amount	% of HHs reporting on source	Average reported amount
Pension	52%	4,610	62%	4,140	66%	3,930	71%	4,150	68%	4,510	68%	3,650	60%	4,250
Employment	67%	12,060	53%	8,310	50%	7,440	41%	7,430	44%	6,520	42%	5,950	56%	9,680
Government safety net	18%	2,210	22%	2,840	16%	2,270	12%	2,560	13%	2,050	16%	2,040	19%	2,500
Financial support from relatives	7%	2,790	6%	2,170	7%	1,890	3%	1,530	5%	2,400	7%	2,190	6%	2,340
Selling locally produced household products	0%	2,000	2%	2,030	10%	2,960	2%	2,490	4%	3,810	8%	2,230	3%	2,540
Humanitarian aid	1%	750	3%	3,320	4%	4,390	1%	2,520	7%	2,920	2%	5,780	2%	3,320
Loans/Borrowing money	2%	2,710	2%	5,130	2%	7,270	1%	1,540	4%	3,470	1%	2,050	2%	4,130
Other sources of income	3%	12,120	1%	2,500	1%	3,850	1%	3,000	2%	5,410	1%	2,670	2%	8,090
Education scholarship	2%	1,450	1%	660	0%	1,030	0%	800	1%	730	0%	500	1%	1,220
Remittances	1%	17,660	0%	3,500	1%	2,940	0%	1,760	1%	4,070	0%	1,130	1%	11,860
Lease of land	0%	800	0%	1,000	3%	2,520	0%	NA	1%	760	2%	5,520	1%	2,500
Alimony for children	1%	3,330	1%	2,380	0%	5,150	0%	2,750	1%	2,210	0%	NA	1%	3,150
Total average	**NA**	**11,560**	**NA**	**7,990**	**NA**	**7,600**	**NA**	**6,510**	**NA**	**6,980**	**NA**	**5,980**	**NA**	**9,050**

Table 15: Proportion of households reporting on expenses (in the 30 days prior to data collection), by destination of expense and amount (in UAH) rounded to the nearest 10 UAH

Expense	Mariupol		Donetsk urban		Donetsk rural		Luhansk large urban		Luhansk urban		Luhansk rural		Overall	
	% of HH with spending in category	Average reported amount	% of HH with spending in category	Average reported amount	% of HH with spending in category	Average reported amount)	% of HH with spending in category	Average reported amount	% of HH with spending in category	Average reported amount	% of HH with spending in category	Average reported amount	% of HH with spending in category	Average reported amount
Food and drink	95%	4,430	96%	3,350	97%	2,720	97%	2,650	96%	2,580	98%	2,070	96%	3,560
Healthcare	79%	1,630	82%	1,300	83%	1,340	84%	1,430	83%	1,850	86%	1,170	81%	1,450
Utilities	95%	1,490	96%	1,320	97%	1,270	97%	1,130	96%	1,320	97%	1,190	96%	1,360
Shelter maintenance	30%	470	29%	540	21%	320	20%	140	25%	690	22%	310	27%	460
Transportation	62%	590	51%	270	61%	540	33%	190	42%	290	52%	330	55%	420
Clothes and shoes	21%	460	25%	450	15%	240	16%	250	23%	440	17%	250	21%	410
Hygiene items	80%	400	84%	320	79%	310	83%	270	78%	280	83%	230	81%	340
Debt repayment	20%	480	20%	250	13%	190	13%	130	17%	230	14%	140	19%	320
Communication services	4%	290	1%	180	6%	310	6%	260	3%	160	6%	470	3%	290
Education	24%	340	21%	170	17%	150	8%	70	11%	70	9%	80	20%	220
Other expenses	6%	190	5%	190	8%	220	6%	170	8%	220	7%	280	6%	200
Investment	5%	100	5%	80	12%	120	4%	100	9%	110	8%	90	6%	100
Rent	10%	3,000	3%	1,640	2%	1,410	2%	760	3%	1260	1%	710	6%	2,550
Total average	**NA**	**10,530**	**NA**	**8,080**	**NA**	**7,270**	**NA**	**6,430**	**NA**	**7,970**	**NA**	**6,150**	**NA**	**8,700**