Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) November 2024

REACH Ukraine





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Methodology

Methodology

Providing data on price trends and market functionality indicators

Data collection is a joint, partner-led exercise

Monthly basis

Quantitative, structured interviews: retailer and customer key informant (KI) interviews Per assessed hromada:

- 3 prices per item
- 5 customer KI interviews



Limitations:

The results should be considered as indicative.

Only the price of the least expensive commonly purchased brand or variety is recorded for each JMMI item.

Some changes in the overall median prices may be driven by shifts in coverage rather than by true price.

JMMI in November 2024



- Participating partners
- Assessed *oblasts*
- Assessed *hromadas*
- Key informant interviews (KIIs)
- customers surveyed



- retailers surveyed
- Commodities assessed

Partners















MERCY

CORPS







Donors





02 Key findings

Key findings

Rising prices topped the list of challenges faced by retailers, a trend that most anticipated would persist in the coming months. A significant driver of price increases was the continued acceleration in food prices. The median cost of the JMMI food basket rose by 25% compared to November of the previous year, with the most notable annual surges in prices for vegetables, such as cabbage (+226%), carrots (+189%), and potatoes (+151%).

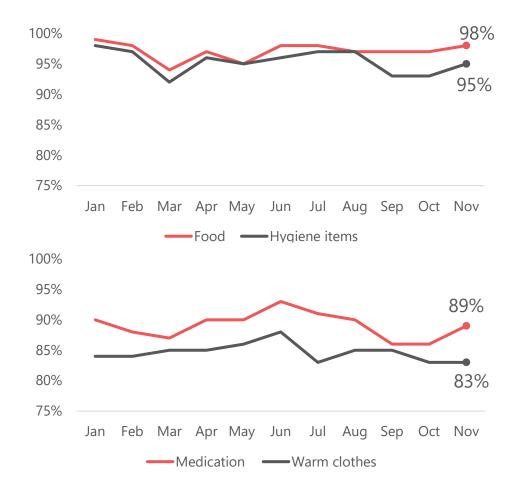
Nationwide, rising prices have significantly impacted access to goods, with 75% of customer KIs identifying higher prices as their primary financial barrier. The elderly population was particularly affected, with 91% of customer KIs aged 60 and above reporting an inability to afford essential items available in stores.

While local markets functioned well in most of the country, access to stores and markets in southern and eastern areas near the frontline remained limited due to security concerns, damaged market infrastructure or roads leading to these locations, and limited transportation options. Customer KIs in these locations also reported challenges in obtaining essential items and fuels due to their partial or complete unavailability. Additionally, access to money was constrained by the lack of functioning banks and ATMs within these hromadas.

03 Market overview

Availability of goods

% of customer KIs reporting full availability of essential items, nationally



% of customer KIs reporting availability issues* with essential items in the East and South in November

	Food items	Hygiene items	Warm clothes	Medication
East	4%	6%	18%	8%
South	10%	15%	30%	28%
National	2%	5%	13%	7%

^{*} This option includes the responses "not available", "limited availability", and "available on order".

Hromadas in which customer KIs in November reported the unavailability of:

Food items

Bereznehuvatska (**Mykolaivska**) Beryslavska (**Khersonska**)

Hygiene items

Bereznehuvatska (Mykolaivska) Beryslavska (Khersonska)

Warm clothes

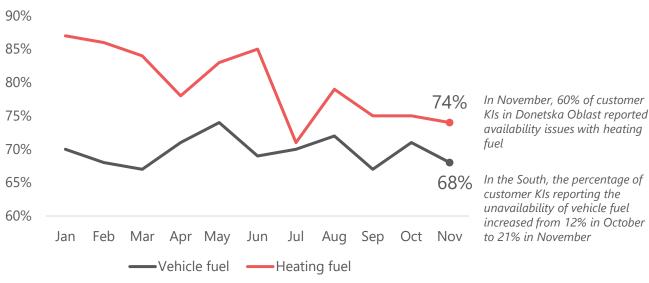
Slovianska (**Dnipropetrovska**)
Pokrovska (**Donetska**)
Stepnenska, Shyrokivska
(**Zaporizka**)
Bereznehuvatska (**Mykolaivska**)
Beryslavska (**Khersonska**)

Medication

Slovianska (**Dnipropetrovska**) Stepnenska, Shyrokivska (**Zaporizka**) Bereznehuvatska (**Mykolaivska**) Beryslavska (**Khersonska**)

Availability of fuels

% of customer KIs reporting full availability of fuels, nationally



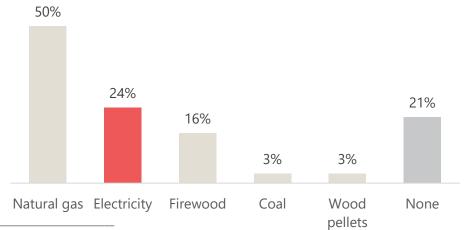
Hromadas in which customer KIs in November reported the unavailability of:

Heating fuel

Pokrovska (**Donetska**) Bereznehuvatska (**Mykolaivska**) Beryslavska (**Khersonska**)

Vehicle fuel

Stepnenska, Shyrokivska (**Zaporizka**) Bereznehuvatska (**Mykolaivska**) Burynska (**Sumska**) Beryslavska, Borozenska (**Khersonska**) % of customer KIs reporting they regularly purchased electricity for heating purposes* in November, nationally

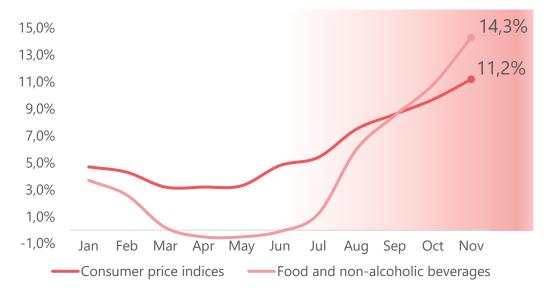


* Respondents could select more than one option.

The energy sector remained largely stable during the data collection period in November. However, in the second half of the month, two large-scale attacks on energy infrastructure caused widespread power outages across the country.

The increasing energy deficit presents substantial risks during the heating season, particularly for households relying exclusively on electricity for heating and cooking.

Annual inflation rate*, %



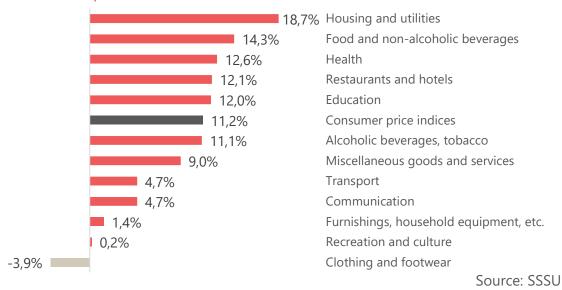
Source: SSSU



Monthly inflation* increased to 1.9% in November, up from 1.8% in October. The most significant price increase was for eggs (by 54.6%).

The increase in monthly inflation was primarily driven by **higher food prices,** influenced by unfavorable weather conditions that impacted crop yields and reduced food supply. Increased costs for raw materials contributed to higher prices for processed foods. Rising business expenses, particularly for electricity and labor, added further upward pressure**.

Consumer price changes (%) for groups of food and services, from November 2023 to November 2024



Electricity and vegetable prices increased the most annually (by 63.6% and 62.9% respectively).

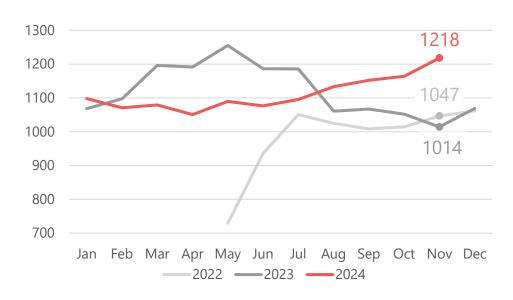
In the coming months, inflationary pressures are expected to persist due to the supply of certain food products being lower than last year, and because of significant budget expenditures, high wage growth, and power shortages during the heating season**

^{*} Annual inflation is the change of the price level between the current month and the same month of the previous year, monthly inflation is the change of the price level between the current month and the previous month.

^{**} National Bank of Ukraine, NBU November inflation update, 12 December 2024.

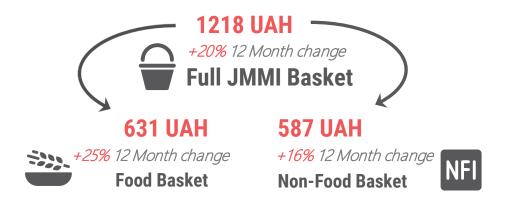
Prices for items in the JMMI basket

Monthly evolution of the JMMI basket price (in UAH), nationally



In November 2024, the highest monthly increase in the cost of the full JMMI basket (+18%) and the highest overall value (1359 UAH) were both observed in the North.

JMMI basket in November

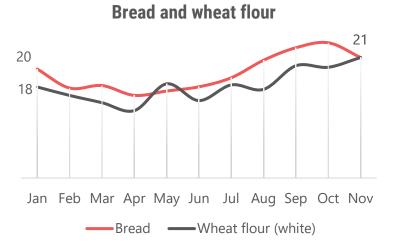


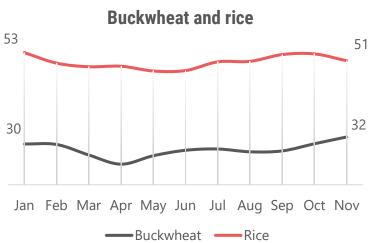
JMMI basket in November, by type of area

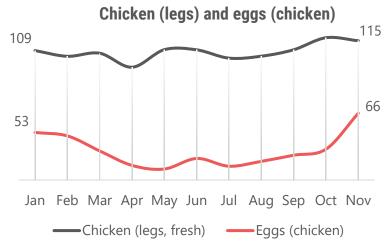


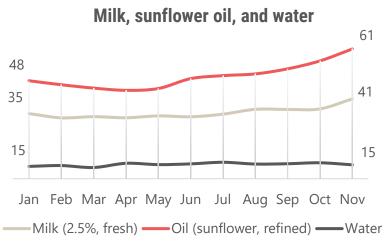
Prices for items in the JMMI basket

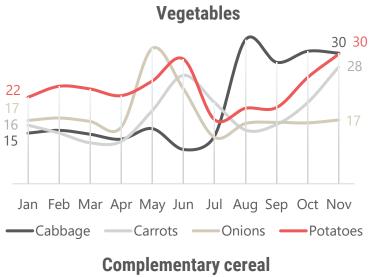
Trends in median food prices (in UAH) in the JMMI basket, nationally

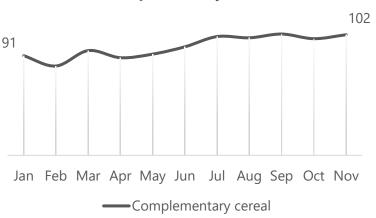








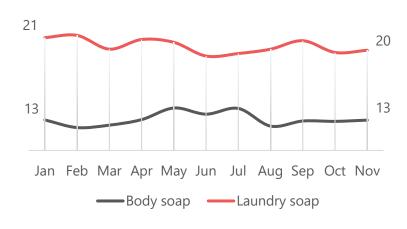




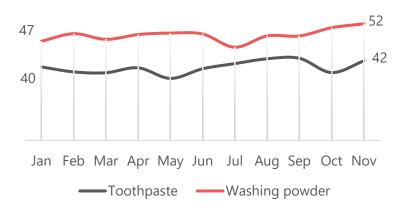
Prices for items in the JMMI basket

Trends in median non-food prices (in UAH) in the JMMI basket, nationally

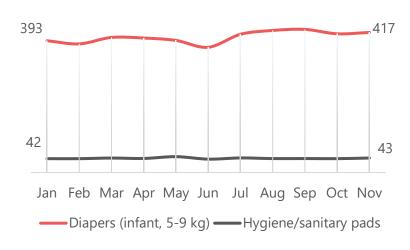
Body soap and laundry soap



Toothpaste and washing powder

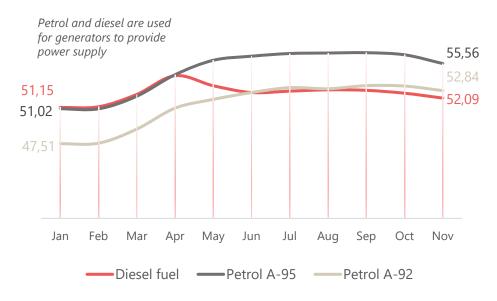


Diapers for infants and sanitary pads



Prices for fuels

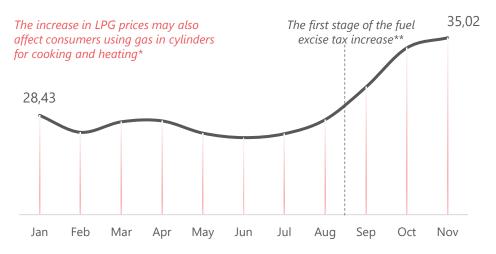
Average vehicle fuel prices (UAH per litre)



Source: SSSU

Fuel price increases for **petrol and diesel** were restrained by subdued demand amid ample supply and a predominantly downward trend in <u>global crude oil prices</u>. **LPG** prices rose mainly due to higher excise taxes, a seasonal surge in demand in European countries, and the anticipation of the European Union's <u>suspension of gas</u> purchases from Russia.

Average liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) prices (UAH per litre)



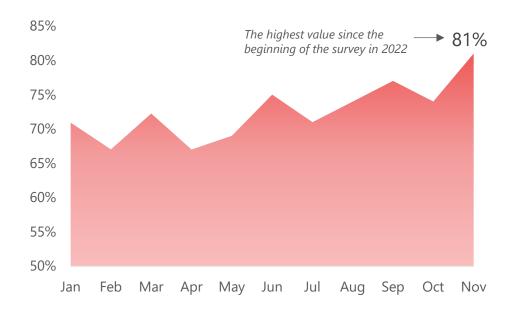
Source: SSSU

^{*} According to secondary sources, LPG are used by households for cooking and heating. Before the war started, the largest user oblasts were Vinnytska, Kirovohradska, Odeska, and Kharkivska (and other settlements that have not been gasified). Since the beginning of the war, the number of users of cylinder gas has increased sharply in the frontline areas, de-occupied areas due to damage to the natural gas supply infrastructure and the lack of electricity, as well as in other areas during blackouts. Due to the war, more than half of the cylinders are filled at petrol stations.

^{**} On 1 September 2024, the excise taxes on petrol increased from EUR 213.5 to EUR 242.6. Diesel rates increased from 139.5 EUR to 177.6 EUR. Autogas rates increased from EUR 52 to EUR 148. This is the first stage of the government's planned increase in excise tax rates on fuel to the minimum level set by the European Union.

Affordability

% of customers Kls reporting that financial factors affected their access to goods in stores or marketplaces, nationally



91% of customer KIs aged 60 and above reporting that financial factors affected their access to goods in stores or marketplaces in November.

The East topped the list of regions with the highest percentage of customer KIs reporting that higher prices affected their access to goods.

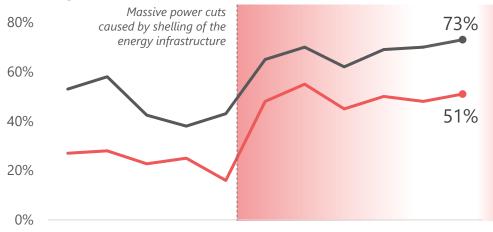
% of customers Kls reporting that financial factors* affected their access to goods in stores or marketplaces in November, by type of barrier, age group, gender, and type of area (N=382)

Reported financial barrier	18-59 years old	60 years and above	Women	Men	Rural	Urban
Item price have increased	75%	88%	81%	73%	84%	74%
Fuel for vehicle is too expensive	26%	18%	14%	39%	22%	23%
Public transportation is too expensive	11%	24%	17%	7%	18%	11%
Cannot afford the items (despite prices have not risen)	7%	7%	9%	5%	10%	6%
Items are not available	3%	3%	5%	2%	6%	2%
Do not have enough physical cash	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%

^{*} Respondents could select more than one option.

Market functionality

% of retailer KIs reporting difficulties in keeping their stores operational and anticipating new challenges in the coming months due to the war



Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov
—— % of retailer KIs reporting difficulties in keeping their store operational
—— % of retailer KIs reporting anticipating new challenges due to the war

Retailer KIs in Blyzniukivska, Lozivska, Pervomaiska, and Slobozhanska hromadas of **Kharkivska Oblast faced some restocking issues**, reportedly requiring two weeks to resupply sunflower oil, wheat flour, rice, buckwheat, complementary cereal for babies, as well as body soap, laundry soap, powder, toothpaste, and pads. Additionally, retailer KIs in Bohdanivska hromada of **Dnipropetrovska Oblast** required 12 days to restock those mentioned hygiene items.

Top 3 difficulties* faced by retailer KIs in keeping their store operational and well-stocked due to the war in November (N=150)

- 1 25% Price increase charged by suppliers
- 2 18% Movement restrictions Fully staffing the store
- The start of the store of the s

The factors leading to difficulties keeping stores operational and well-stocked included increased intensity of hostilities, renewed power outages due to attacks on energy infrastructure, further growth in energy, labor and logistics costs for businesses, accelerating inflation, a significant shortage of skilled workers, and seasonal factors**.

Top 2 challenges* retailer KIs expected to face in the coming months due to the war in November (N=249)

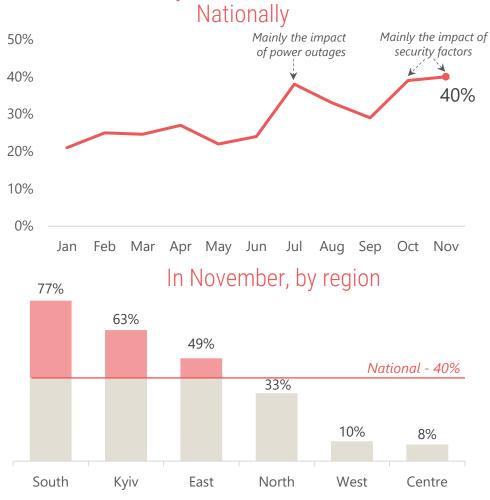
- 1 68% Rising prices
- 2 44% Reduced purchasing power of customers

^{*} Respondents could select more than one option.

^{**} National Bank of Ukraine, Monthly Business Outlook Survey, November 2024, 2 December 2024.

Accessibility of stores and markets

% of customer KIs reporting that full-scale war has affected their ability to access stores



Main physical barriers* to accessing stores or marketplaces reported by customer KIs in November (N=205)



Active fighting or shelling

100% Donetska **73%** Khersonska

40% Zaporizka



Feeling unsafe due to fear of being targeted

80% Donetska

33% Khersonska

28% Zaporizka

27% Kharkivska



Movement restrictions

90% Donetska

63% Khersonska

29% Kharkivska



Buildings or infrastructure have been damaged

100% Donetska

24% Mykolaivska

23% Khersonska



Damage or blockages on roads

30% Donetska24% Zaporizka



Lack of transportation

50% Donetska

24% Zaporizka

24% Mykolaivska





Air alerts

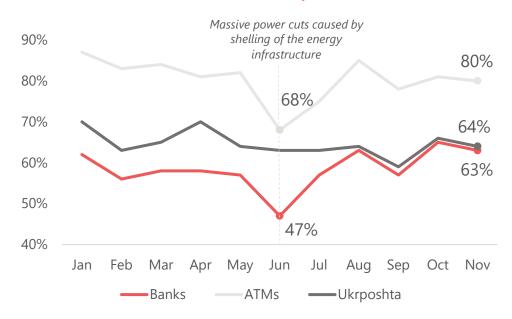
77% Chernihivska

50% Donetska

^{*} Respondents could select more than one option.

Accessibility of financial services

% of customer KIs reported full availability of financial services, nationally



Air alerts restricted the opening hours of bank branches (reported by 30% of customer KIs) and Ukrposhta offices (34%) across the country.

Main barriers* to accessing financial services, reported by customer Kls in November

Unavailable

50% Donetska **29%** Mykolaivska 23% Kharkivska

No ATM 50% Donetska

35% Mykolaivska 32% Zaporizka

Unavailable 10% Donetska

Accessible only nearby

Bank branches (N=228)

45% Kyivska 35% Khersonska 16% Zaporizka

ATMs (N=102)

Limited number

64% Kyivska 19% Kharkiyska 10% Donetska

Ukrposhta offices (N=188)

Irregular operation: several days a week 32% Zaporizka several days a month 29% Mykolaivska

Power outages

24% Zaporizka 13% Khersonska 10% Donetska

Power outages

33% Chernihivska 24% Mykolaivska 20% Khersonska

Power outages

22% Dnipropetrovska 13% Khersonska

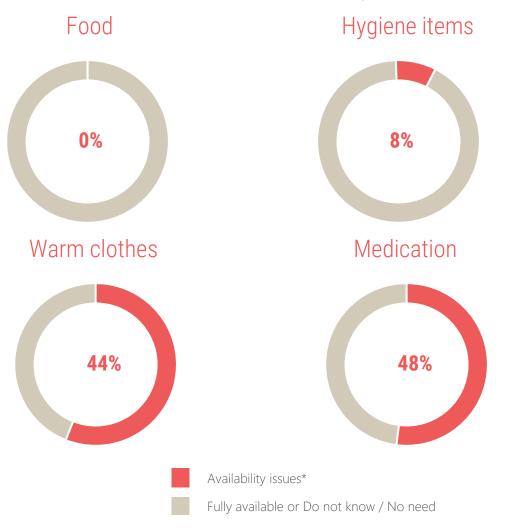
^{*} Respondents could select more than one option.

04

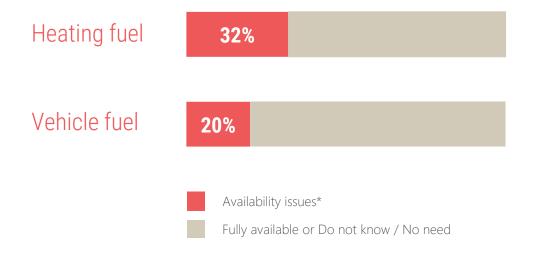
Focus on Zaporizkyi raion

Availability of essential items and fuels

% of customer KIs reporting availability issues* with:







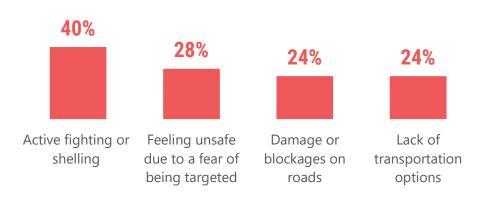
Note. On this slide, as well as on the following three, data is provided on Vilnianska, Zaporizka, Novomykolaivska, Stepnenska, and Shyrokivska hromadas in Zaporizkyi raion of Zaporizka oblast (N = 25 for customers and N=19 for retailers).

^{*} This option includes the responses "not available", "limited availability", and "available on order".

Accessibility of stores and affordability of goods in the stores

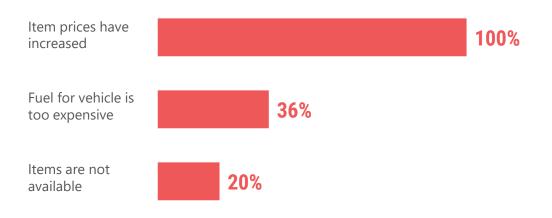
of customer KIs reported that the full-scale war was affecting their ability to physically access stores or marketplaces

Main physical barriers* to accessing stores or marketplaces reported by customer KIs



100% of customer KIs reported financial-related challenges that impact their access to goods

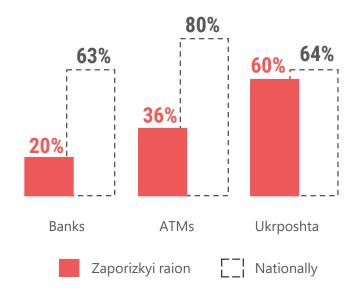
Main financial barriers* to accessing goods in the stores reported by customer KIs



^{*} Respondents could select more than one option.

Accessibility of financial services

% of customer KIs reporting full availability of functioning financial services



Main barriers to accessing bank branches reported by customer KIs



Air alerts

(3)

Unavailability Stepnenska hromada (n=5/5) Shyrokivska hromada (n=4/5)

2

Power outages

Main barriers to accessing ATMs reported by customer KIs

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No ATM

Stepnenska hromada (n=5/5) Shyrokivska hromada (n=3/5)

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Power outages

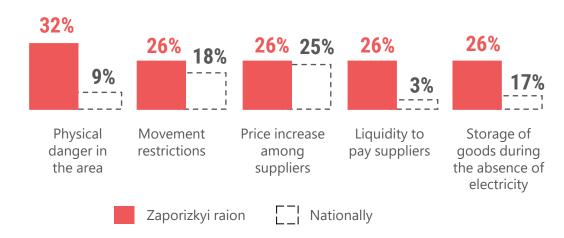
3

Technical issues or other problems

Market functionality

53% of retailer KIs reported difficulties in keeping their stores operational and well-stocked

Main difficulties* faced by retailer KIs in keeping their store operational and well-stocked



79% of retailer KIs anticipated new challenges in the coming months due to the war

Main challenges* retailer KIs expected to face in the coming months due to the war

- 1 Ricing prices
- 2 Reduced mobility of customers
- Reduced purchasing power of customers Reduced availability of cash

^{*} Respondents could select more than one option.

Thank you for your attention



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