

2022 MSNA

Gender Focus Snapshot

FEBRUARY 2023

UKRAINE

CONTEXT The escalation of the war in Ukraine on 24 February 2022 instigated mass displacement and heightened humanitarian needs,^{1,2} while exacerbating pre-existing vulnerabilities rooted in gender across the population.³ In this context, REACH partnered with World Food Programme (WFP) to launch a Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA) to provide an overview of the humanitarian situation in Ukraine. In total, 13,449 household interviews were conducted between 10 October and 23 December 2022 and across 55 raions in 22 oblasts, through a combination of face-to-face (REACH) and telephone interviews (WFP). Additionally, to further assess how the current situation differs for women and men, and with the technical input of the Gender in Humanitarian Action Working Group, REACH conducted a targeted analysis of needs along gender lines, captured in full in the [Gender Focus Brief](#) and summarised in brief here.

KEY FINDINGS

Assessed female-headed households often reported similar types of needs compared to male-headed households, but with higher levels of need in aggregate; female-headed households were more likely to report Extreme or Extreme+ needs across sectors (46%), compared to male-headed households (38%).

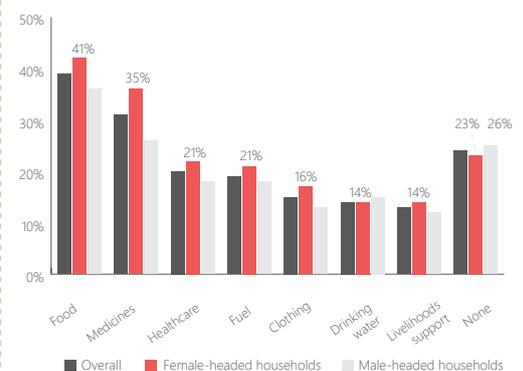
- Both female-headed households and male-headed households reported **food, provision of medicine, and healthcare services** as their top priorities, but female-headed households reported each priority more highly.
- Female-headed households reported using **cheaper food** more highly than male-headed households (59% vs. 50%).
- Female-headed households reported **lower average monthly income** (9,872 UAH) than male-headed households (12,819 UAH), and were more reliant on **less stable income sources** such as pensions (58% vs. 45%).
- Among assessed households, 53% of female-headed households were either **single, divorced, or widowed**, compared to 26% of male-headed households, which could influence income and other contingent needs gaps.
- Female-headed households that rented housing were more likely to be **unable to afford rent and utilities** than male-headed households who rented (20% vs. 13%).
- Livelihood support** may help in overcoming livelihood/income challenges likely driving other needs for **working-age women**, who reported it more highly as a priority.
- A large proportion of vulnerable households most affected by income challenges concerns older persons and those with disabilities, for whom **flexible cash assistance** may be more appropriate than employment assistance.
- Reducing healthcare expenditures to cope** was higher among older female-headed households (25%), and female-headed households including a member with a disability (33%), who also reported **medicine and healthcare as top priorities** more often than other groups.
- Female-headed households reported a **greater need for information** than male-headed households, particularly information on how to register for aid (24% vs. 18%).
- Awareness of services for gender-based violence (GBV) survivors** was low across the assessed areas: **63%** of households not knowing about their area's GBV services, and not knowing about GBV services was the most-reported answer for all demographic groups.
- Across Ukraine, **33% of rural households** confirmed that **no GBV services were available** in their area compared to 9% in urban areas, while in the **East region**, 27% of households report that no such services were available.

Female-headed households with intersecting factors of **disability, age, or displacement** often had higher needs than female-headed households without them; the same was sometimes true for **male-headed households** with these vulnerabilities, as exemplified by average monthly incomes:

Average total monthly income, by household type

	Average monthly income (UAH)
60+ female HoHH	6,875.13
Female HoHH with member with disability	7,973.39
60+ male HoHH	9,110.69
Male HoHH with member with disability	9,661.11
Female HoHH	9,872.36
Female HoHH with no member with disability	10,103.00
Overall	11,188.75
18-59 female HoHH	12,605.80
Male HoHH	12,818.81
Male HoHH with no member with disability	13,380.16
18-59 male HoHH	14,999.26

Top reported priority needs, by household type



39% of assessed female-headed households self-reported receiving assistance of some kind, vs. 29% of male-headed households

METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW

The assessment used a mix-method approach to access both physically accessible and inaccessible territories across Ukraine. This comprised of 12,804 face-to-face interviews conducted by REACH in accessible areas of Ukraine and 645 telephone interviews (CATI), overseen by WFP, in areas that were inaccessible due to the security situation. In total, 13,449 household interviews were conducted between 10 October and 23 December 2023 across 55 raions in 22 oblasts.⁵ CATI interviews resorted to modified tools that excluded some questions, due to lack of phone coverage in target areas and decreased time available for interviews. The sample was stratified across purposively selected raions (districts) to take into account both urban and rural areas, and Conflict Affected Raions (CAA). In CAAs, a sample was drawn for findings representative at the raion-level with a 95% confidence level and 5% margin of error; in the rest of Ukraine the sample was drawn for a 7% margin of error.⁶

Findings aggregated to either overall or macroregion level do not factor in the situation in raions that are not covered by data collection, and should thus be considered **indicative rather than representative** of the situation in each respective area. To note, because the 2022 MSNA was a baseline, over-time comparisons to the situation before the escalation were not possible.

This brief also uses scores drawn from REACH’s Multi-sector Needs Index (MSNI) analysis, which relies on two core components: the living standard gap (LSG) and the multi-sectoral needs index (MSNI), which categorise sectoral and overall severity using a scale ranging from 1 (‘None/Minimal’) to 2 (‘Stress’), 3 (‘Severe’) and 4/4+

(‘Extreme and Extreme +’). “Living Standard Gap (LSG)” signifies an unmet need in a given **sector** where the LSG severity score is 3 (‘Severe’) or higher, based on the LSG Indicators Framework. This framework was developed by REACH in consultations with Ukraine’s Humanitarian Clusters and Sub-Cluster Coordinators, World Food Program and various Working Groups operating in the country, who helped set the thresholds and composite indicators of sectoral severity of need. The MSNI is then a measure of the respondent household’s **overall** severity of **intersectoral** humanitarian needs (expressed on a scale of 1-4+), based on the highest severity of any of the sectoral LSG severity scores identified in each household. The full methodology behind the calculation of the MSNI and individual sectoral composites can be found in the [MSNA Methodology Overview](#).

Limitations

- Because the MSNA is a broader assessment aimed at assessing overall needs at the household level, it may **not have captured intra-household dynamics**, such as those that may exist between men, women, boys, and girls within a single household.
- Women were well-represented in the enumeration teams; 31% of enumerators were male and 69% were female. However, given that the MSNA methodology used random sampling that did not target respondents by gender, and primarily used in-person data collection, it was **not logistically feasible** to ensure that enumerators were always the **same sex as the respondent**, which may have influenced responses for certain topics.

ASSESSMENT SCOPE AND GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

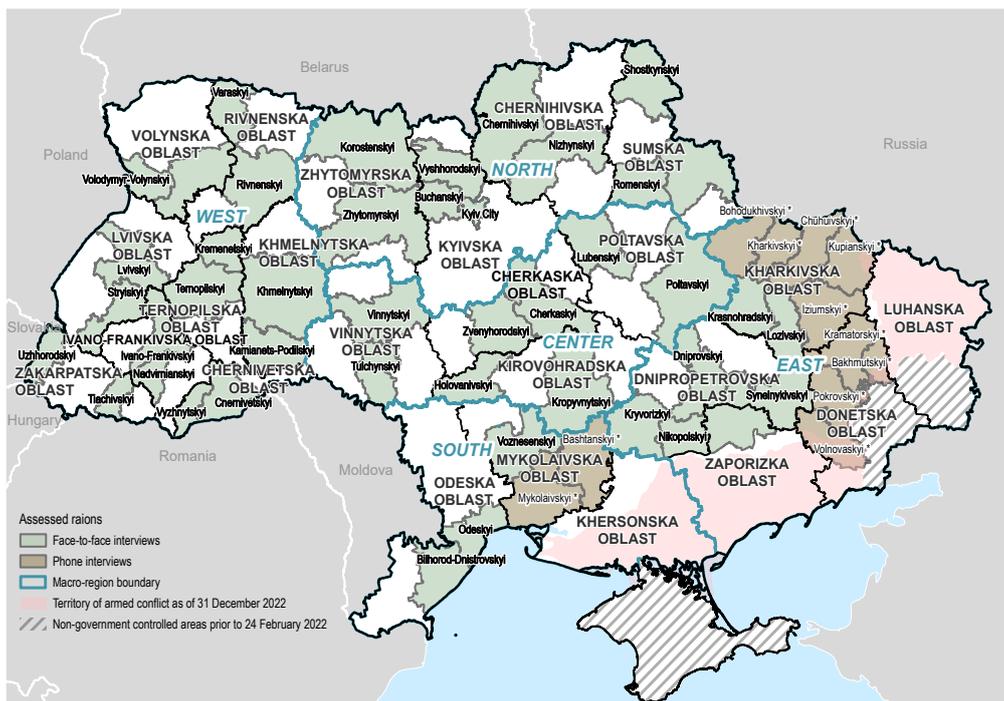
MSNA geographic coverage by data collection modality

Number of interviews conducted per macro-region

Total	13,449
North	3,466
East	2,029
South	1,432
West	3,246
Center	2,029

Dates of data collection:

10 October - 23 December



ENDNOTES

- ¹ [IOM-DTM, Ukraine Internal Displacement Report, General Population Survey Round 12, January 2023.](#)
- ² [OCHA, Ukraine Humanitarian Response, Situation Report, February 2023.](#)
- ³ [UN Women, CARE. Rapid Gender Analysis of Ukraine. 4 May 2022.](#)