



Ukrainian Crisis - Situational Analysis

23 April 2022

Contents

Contents	1
Executive Summary	1
Crisis Timeline	3
Information Sources, Gaps and Challenges	4
Conflict	5
Displacement	8
Humanitarian Access	11
Humanitarian Impact, Conditions and Response	13
Conflict-Affected Areas in Ukraine	13
IDPs in Ukraine	17
Displaced people who have crossed international borders to neighbouring countries	20
Wider Context	23

Executive Summary

Large-scale offensive operations in eastern Ukraine are still ongoing, with Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts experiencing widespread civilian casualties and destruction of infrastructure. Heavy bombardment of many cities such as Kharkiv and Mariupol continues. Ukrainian forces continued operations in the north of the country during the first weeks of April amid the withdrawal of Russian forces. By April 8, Russian troops had fully pulled out of the Kyiv, Chernihiv, and Sumy regions. While the security situation is relatively stable in Western Ukraine, the first civilian deaths have been recorded in Lviv on April 18. As intense fighting and airstrikes continue to cause civilian

casualties and damage to civilian infrastructure across the country. The duration of martial law in Ukraine was extended until 25 May 2022.

There are an estimated 7.7 million internally displaced persons in Ukraine. Evacuations from the eastern oblasts have pushed the number up. Displacement to neighbouring countries continues to rise, reaching over 5 million. There is a slight increase in the rate of displacement compared to the previous two weeks, though still slower than during the first weeks of the conflict. Conversely some IDPs and refugees are returning.

As fighting is intensifying efforts have been made to evacuate the civilian population from Ukraine's eastern Luhanska and Donetska oblasts, however, continuous shelling is posing difficulties. While some evacuations are taking place, they are often through private transport. The start of a new Russian offensive in the east will also likely reduce access to populations in the region. Lack of respect for humanitarian corridors and failure to implement "windows of silence" continue to hamper access to the area's most heavily affected by conflict. In the north of Ukraine and around Kyiv areas now back under Ukrainian control are heavily contaminated by mines and UXOs.

The food security situation continues to deteriorate across Ukraine. Immediate food needs are reported in conflict-affected areas and in areas hosting IDPs, the disruption in food production and delivery challenges due to access constraints are some of the reasons driving up the need. The lack of income and disruption in financial services is also contributing to the rise in need for basic necessities. Hostilities-related damages and access constraints have left around 1.4 million people without running water across eastern Ukraine. Water access in IDP-hosting oblasts is relatively better, however, there are hygiene needs.

Access to education remains limited in conflict-affected areas. Both IDP and refugee children also face challenges to accessing online education services or to integrate into host country education systems while at the same time dealing with the psychological impact of conflict and displacement.

In conflict affected areas, access to health services and medications continue to impact the majority of the population. Access to services is extremely limited in Iziium, Mariupol, Popasna and Rubizhne. In IDP-hosting areas, among the primary unmet needs reported was access to treatment for long-term health problems.


Hostilities have damaged or destroyed hundreds of residential houses, leaving many civilians living in substandard conditions sheltering from attacks. In some IDP-hosting areas, there has been a reported rise in rent prices.


While immediate needs of refugees in hosting countries are relatively met by humanitarian and government response, longer term needs are becoming more of a concern. With refugees entering neighbouring countries since the end of February there is now a significant strain on resources and services, further exacerbated by rising inflation.



Crisis Timeline


TIMELINE OF EVENTS


 funding
  security
  displacement
  legal
  politics


21 April  Russian Forces declare Mariupol is now under their control.


19 April  Bill submitted by the Ukrainian President to extend the martial law.


18 April  OHCHR reports the civilian death toll has reached 2,072 though actual figure likely to be much higher. New Russian offensive commences against eastern oblasts
 Displacement into neighbouring countries reaches 5 million. 


14 April  Russian warship: Moskva sinks in Black Sea.


12 April  President Vladimir Putin declares peace talks with Ukraine have hit a dead end.


8 April  An attack on Kramatorsk railway station causes 130 civilian casualties amongst evacuee families.



3 April  Mounting evidence of war crimes in Bucha and other areas around Kyiv.



1 April  Over 7 million internally displaced persons in Ukraine.


30 March  10% of Ukraine's population has fled the country.


29 March  Areas around Kyiv retaken by Ukraine.


28 March  Ukrainian President says his country is ready to discuss adopting neutral status.


23 March  Over 2,500 casualties of civilians reported.
 Agreement between Russia and Ukraine on 9 humanitarian corridors, excluding Mariupol. 



16 March  Raid hits Mariupol theatre full of civilians killing 300.
 6.48M individuals are internally displaced within Ukraine.


14 March  Evacuation of thousands of residents from front-line cities (including Mariupol after several days of failed attempts).


9 March  Russian airstrike on a maternity hospital in Mariupol.


8 March  More than two million people fled Ukraine.


6 March  Second day of failure of cease-fire in Mariupol.


3 March  Takeover of Kherson (Southern Ukraine) by the Russian troops.
 A total of one million people fled Ukraine in the seven days since the Russian invasion began. 

2 March  UN Resolution demanding the cessation of hostilities.

1 March  Flash Appeal for Ukraine launched by the United Nations.

24 February  Russian Launches military invasion of Ukraine. Missile and artillery attacks in Ukraine by Russia (including Kyiv).

23 February  Declaration of a state of emergency in Ukraine.

21 February  Recognition of Luhansk and Donetsk as independent states by Russia. Russian invasion in eastern Ukraine.

Information Sources, Gaps and Challenges

Local press has been a significant source of information related to conflict related events as well as evacuation data. As a general rule the analysis within this brief tends to use excerpts that clearly indicate the name of the source (for example a city's mayor, or the local police etc.) and, where possible, local sources are used alongside international sources to triangulate findings. Often local sources will give exact numbers, such as those injured and killed, or the numbers of people evacuated from or to a place on a given day. Generally this information is considered reliable, although the method in which the numbers are calculated is not known, so even if the events are reported in good faith, mistakes could have been made by those gathering the data. For the most part exact numbers are not fundamental to the analysis presented, more that such extracts are used to provide examples of the scale and trend of events (are displacements increasing or decreasing, are hundreds, thousands, or tens of thousands of people affected etc.).

There are still significant challenges in determining demographic data for displaced populations (both refugee and IDP) as well as affected populations that remain in conflict affected areas. In many of the hardest-hit areas communications are limited so the impact of the conflict and needs are hard to determine with certainty. Again, local sources (for example: the number of persons/households without water/electricity etc.) are used, backed up by projected numbers from humanitarian agencies and coordination mechanisms. UNOSAT damage assessments also give a rough guide to the impact of the conflict on infrastructure and therefore available services. For IDP and refugee populations, with the majority of displaced living in private accommodation and without detailed registration processes, age, gender and disability data is limited. There are now some assessment reports providing profiles of households, but there could well be significant differences in profiles between those who were displaced early in the crisis and those perhaps more forcibly displaced or evacuated in recent weeks - again without data to compare this

is unknown. More comprehensive data collection is therefore required to better understand the demographic profile of all affected groups.

REACH Rapid Needs Assessments covering IDP hosting oblasts in the [north](#) and [central](#) regions [as well as conflict affected areas in the east](#) were amongst the main sources for this report. The REACH assessments used telephone interviews (55 in the northern region, a little over 100 for both the central and eastern regions), conducted in late March/early April. Qualitative individual interviews were also carried out for the north and central region assessments. See the factsheets for more details of the methodology.

This report also utilised the World Vision [Rapid Needs Assessment](#) (April 6-9, 2022) to provide information on the impact of displacement and conflict on the IDPs and their needs. While the assessment was only conducted in Chernivtsi, and not representative of the IDP in other oblasts, it is still indicative of the overall impact and needs. For this assessment, 185 in-person household surveys, 5 in-person focus group discussion and 3 in-person key informant interviews were conducted.

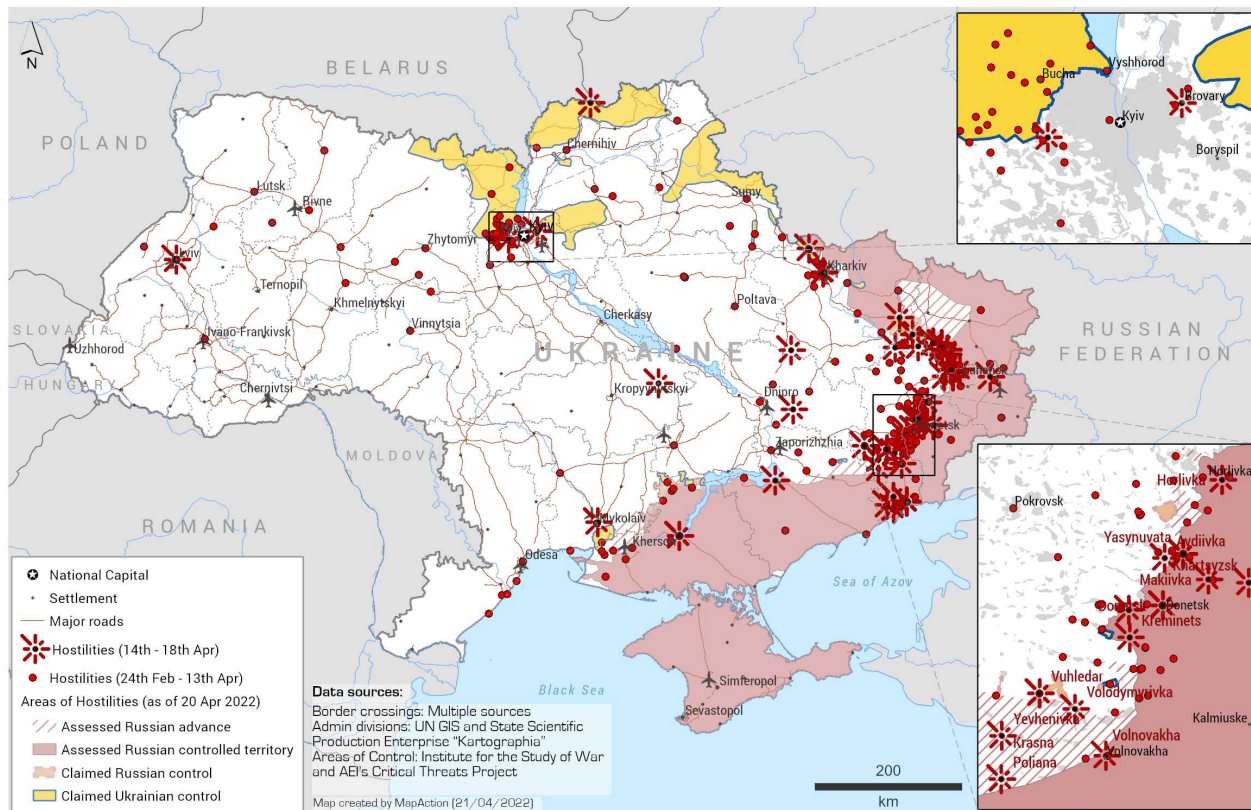
For the analysis on refugees, biweekly and daily reports from NRC on refugees' situation in Moldova, Poland and Romania have been a key source. Otherwise, a large part of the information was gathered from international and local media sources supplemented by updates from the United Nation agencies and INGOs.

Finally, the third-round of the [IOM DTM General Population Survey](#) was released just after this report was drafted. The main quantitative findings have been updated in line with this source and where possible information has been integrated into the narrative, but full utilisation of the source was not possible in this update.

The Russian Federation launched a large-scale military offensive into Ukraine on February 24, 2022. As of 24:00 midnight on April 19, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

Conflict

MAP ACTION Ukraine: Complex Emergency
Areas of Hostilities



recorded 5,121 civilian casualties (2,224 killed, and 2,897 injured). However, the actual figure is likely to be considerably higher as the receipt of information from some locations where intense hostilities have been going on has been delayed and many reports are still pending corroboration. Most of the civilian casualties recorded were caused by the use of explosive weapons with a wide impact area, including shelling from heavy artillery and multiple launch rocket systems, and missile and air strikes ([OHCHR 20/04/2022](#)).

Russian forces (RF) began a new phase of large-scale offensive operations in eastern Ukraine on April 18 likely with the intention to capture the entirety of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts ([ISW 18/04/2022](#)).

Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts:

Widespread civilian casualties and destruction of infrastructure were reported in the two easternmost oblasts of Ukraine as shelling and airstrikes

continued in the build up to the new offensive. Kreminna (pop approx. 18,000) appears to be the first town to fall under Russian control as fighting moves towards Kramatorsk. Reports also indicate up to 42 villages were also captured in the Donetsk region on Thursday ([Reuters 21/04/2022](#), [The Guardian 19/04/2022](#), [The Guardian 19/04/2022](#)).

Efforts were made to evacuate civilians from the region ahead of the expected Russian offensive. However up to 700,000 people remain in government controlled areas of the Donetsk oblast ([France 24 04/04/2022](#)). On the morning of April 8, a railway station in Kramatorsk came under attack, reportedly resulting in at least 130 civilian casualties, according to oblast authorities and the National Police. The attack took place as hundreds of people waited to board evacuation trains en route to western Ukraine that were forced to stop in Kramatorsk while railway tracks reportedly damaged on the night of 7-8 April were repaired ([OCHA 09/04/2022](#)). In Luhansk, the head of the regional military administration, Serhiy

Haidai, reported that all the region's infrastructure had been destroyed as a result of shelling ([Censor.Net](#) 11/04/2022).

Mariupol has been under siege since late February and the situation remains catastrophic with up to 130,00 civilians still unable to leave the city. According to Mayor Vadym Bojchenko, more than 10,000 civilians have died in Mariupol, but the actual number is likely to be over 20,000. It appears some Ukrainian troops have surrendered, but resistance continues after a Russian ultimatum for the remaining Ukrainian troops there to surrender expired early on April 17. Further attempts to create humanitarian corridors for evacuation have failed and on April 21 Russia declared Mariupol was now under the control with the remain defenders contained with a steel plant.

Caritas Ukraine confirmed the death of two of its female staff and five of their relatives after shelling from a GoRF tank struck a Caritas office in Mariupol on March 15. There have been reports in the Ukrainian press that chemical weapons were dropped by a drone over the city, but this remains unconfirmed. There have also been allegations that children have been forcibly removed from the city ([Reuters](#) 21/04/2022, [Euronews](#) 21/04/2022, [ISW](#) 18/04/2022, [Censor.Net](#) 18/04/2022, [The Guardian](#) 17/04/2022, [IMC](#) 16/04/2022, [OCHA](#) 14/04/2022, [Kyiv Post](#) 13/04/2022, [Caritas Australia](#) 12/04/2022, [The Guardian](#) 12/04/2022, [Kyiv Post](#) 12/04/2022, [ISW](#) 12/04/2022, [dennikn](#) 11/04/2022).

Kharkiv: Shelling, airstrikes and rockets continue to inflict civilian casualties in Ukraine's second city Kharkiv as fighting escalates in the Kharkiv region. Recently both Kharkiv Maternity Hospital and Balakliia District Hospital (Kharkiv oblast) have been damaged, necessitating patients to be relocated to underground shelters or evacuated. Almost daily reports in both the international and Ukrainian press list those killed and injured by the bombardment; for example, on April 11, Governor Oleh Synegubov reported that the shelling of Kharkiv city had resulted in the deaths of eight people, with 19 more people injured, including two children.

([IOM](#) 18/04/2022, [ACLEED](#) 14/04/2022, [Kyiv Post](#) 14/04/2022, [Insecurity Insight](#) 13/04/2022, [The Guardian](#) 12/04/2022, [Kyiv Post](#) 10/04/2022).

Ukrainian forces continued a successful counterattack (begun on April 16) southeast of Kharkiv, taking several small towns on April 17-18. Ukrainian forces reportedly seized Bazaliivka, Lebyazhe, and Kutuzivka and claimed to capture several unspecified villages near Izyum where Russian forces had launched several offensive actions earlier in April ([ISW](#) 18/04/2022, [ISW](#) 14/04/2022).

Kherson: Fighting continued in the environs of the city of Kherson (currently under Russian control), without any major territorial changes, however Ukrainian forces claim to have recaptured several villages in the Mykolayiv direction though this has not been confirmed. RF bombardments in the area have hit civilian structures and it appears that Russian Forces are fighting a mainly defensive action ([ISW](#) 18/04/2022, [Kyiv Post](#) 14/04/2022, [ISW](#) 11/04/2022).

Lyudmyla Denisova, human rights ombudsman for the Ukrainian Parliament, stated that the refusal of [Kherson] city workers to collaborate with RF authorities has prevented much-needed repairs of infrastructure, therefore at present, 106 villages and localities in occupied sectors of Kherson Region are totally without electricity, and food and medicine supplies are now at dangerously low levels ([Kyiv Post](#) 14/04/2022).

Kyiv, Chernihiv, and Sumy regions: Ukrainian forces continued operations in the north of the country during the first weeks of April amid the withdrawal of Russian forces. By April 8, Russian troops had fully pulled out of the Kyiv, Chernihiv, and Sumy regions. Efforts are being made to clear mines from these areas, however there are reports of casualties including the deaths of 5 children in the Sumy region. In addition, there are continuing reports of evidence that civilians were shot and killed. Ukraine's prosecutor Venediktova said 1,222 bodies had been found in Bucha (outside of Kyiv) and in the broader region around Kyiv so far ([Censor.Net](#) 17/04/2022, [ACLEED](#) 14/04/2022, [Censor.Net](#)

13/04/2022, [Kyiv Independent](#) 12/04/2022, [Kyiv Post](#) 11/04/2022). After two weeks of relative calm in the capital, Russian long-range air-launched rockets destroyed an arms plant in Kyiv. The attack has been reported as a revenge strike for the sinking of Russia's Black Sea flagship missile cruiser, the Moskva ([Al Jazeera](#) 16/04/2022, [The Guardian](#) 14/4/2022)

Lyiv: The first civilian deaths were recorded in Lyiv (Western Ukraine) after an early morning attack on Monday April 18. At least seven people were killed and 11 injured according to the city's mayor, although the death toll could yet rise ([BBC](#) 18/04/2022).

It appears ceasefire negotiations have effectively collapsed with both Russian and Ukrainian officials unprepared to engage in serious negotiations in the coming weeks in any format ([ISW](#) 15/04/2022). Russian President Vladimir Putin stated (on April 12) that peace talks with Ukraine had hit a dead end. More recently the Ukraine government indicated that the continuing siege of Mariupol and the repeated failure of attempts to arrange safe corridors for the evacuation of trapped Ukrainian civilians has made peace talks more difficult ([Reuters](#) 19/04/2022, [Reuters](#) 12/04/2022).

Dnipro: Central Ukraine has continued to report attacks, including missile strikes. On April 10, three missiles reportedly struck an airport in Dnipro, destroying critical infrastructure and injuring at least six people, including five rescue workers, according to media reports ([OCHA](#) 11/04/2022).

Displacement

5.06M

Displaced people who have crossed international borders to neighbouring countries since the military offensive on 24 February 2022, taken from the [UNHCR Operations Portal for Ukraine](#)

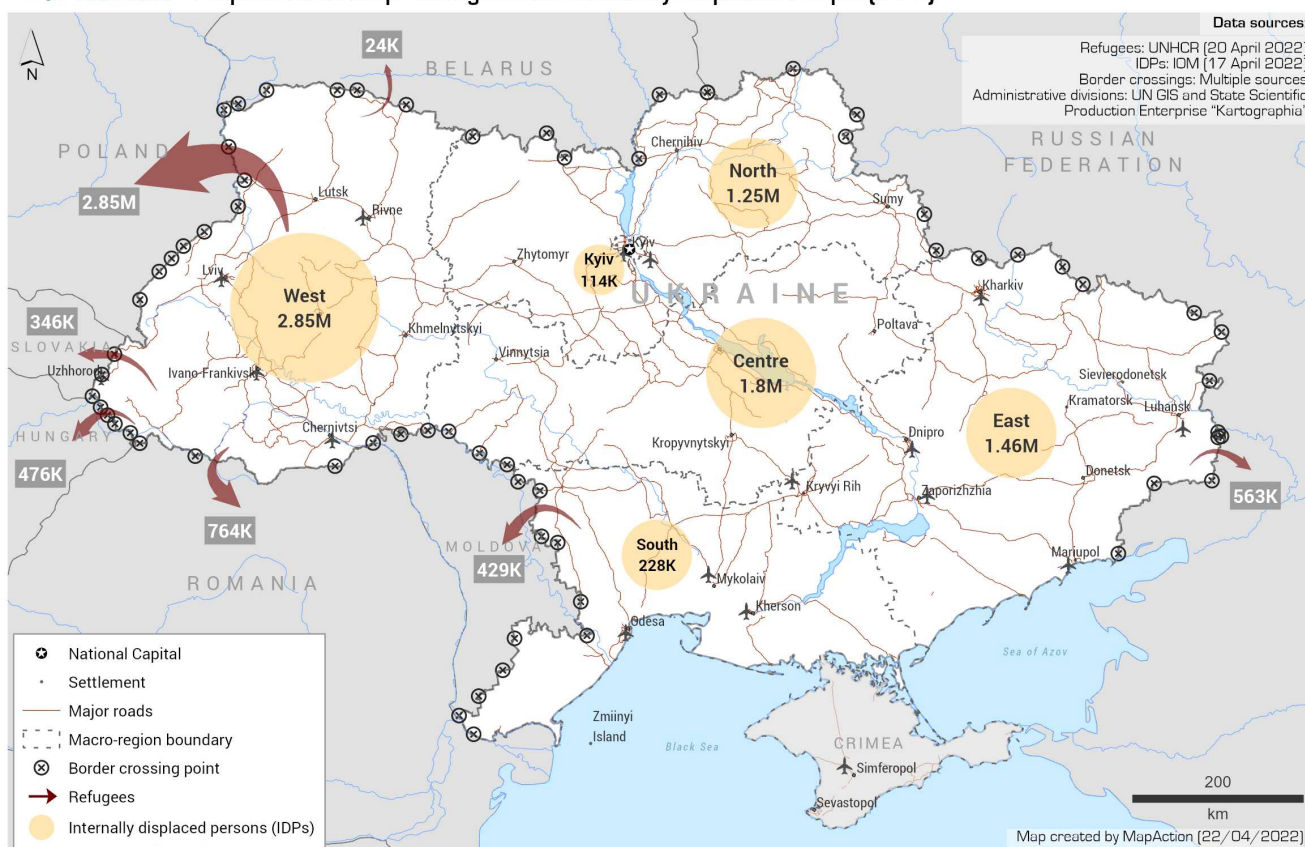
7.7M

People Displaced Internally since the military offensive on 24 February 2022, taken from latest [IOM DTM](#) covering April 11 - 17.

Note: there is a lack of disaggregated figures (by age, gender and vulnerable groups) and information on third country nationals for both IDP and refugee population groups.



Ukraine: Complex Emergency
Displacement Map - Refugees and Internally Displaced People (IDPs)



Displacement to neighbouring countries continues to increase

Displacement to neighbouring countries continues to rise and now tops 5 million, however there have also been some returns back into Ukraine. Since the start of the Russian military offensive, approximately 5.1 million people have fled from Ukraine to neighbouring countries, an increase of

around 700,000 in the past two weeks, with Poland hosting the majority of the refugees (2.85M). This number indicates a slight increase in the rate of displacement compared to the previous two weeks, though still slower than during the first weeks of the conflict. Evidence to date indicates that most refugees are women and children although detailed demographic data is not available. In addition, over 200,000 of those who have crossed the border are

Third Country Nationals (TCN) with specific needs and vulnerabilities. Finally, the Russian Federation has reported that more than 783,600 people, including over 147,000 children, have crossed into the Russian Federation from Ukraine since 24 February, though this information has not been verified ([UNHCR](#) accessed 21/04/2022, [IOM DTM](#) 21/04/2022, [IOM](#) 18/04/2022, [OCHA](#) 14/04/2022, [UNSC](#) 11/04/2022,).

Further displacement from the eastern region of Ukraine driven by evacuations ahead of the new Russian offensive in the area

The latest IOM DTM figures (April 19) estimated that there are 7.7 million internally displaced persons in Ukraine. There have been further evacuations from the eastern oblasts of Luhansk and Donetsk which have pushed the number up, but conversely some IDPs and refugees are returning (see next section), this has impacted how the IDPs are spread across Ukraine's macro regions ([IOM DTM](#) 21/04/2022).

The governor of Luhansk, Serhiy Gaidai, urged all residents [of Luhansk] to evacuate as soon as possible using agreed humanitarian corridors. Driving the push for evacuation is the fear of a repeat of Mariupol. Evacuation of civilians from the besieged city has proven increasingly difficult, and local authorities estimate around 10,000 civilians have died and 80-90% of buildings in the city have been destroyed. However, many people are now afraid to travel, after a missile strike on a railway station in the city of Kramatorsk (on April 8) killed 57 people waiting to board trains for evacuation ([Kyiv Post](#) 13/04/2022, [The Guardian](#) 13/04/2022, [Kyiv Post](#) 11/04/2022).

Many displaced people are returning, with the majority heading to areas in and around Kyiv and to the north but dangers remain

A recent survey found that many IDPs from the northern regions such as Kyivska and Chernihivska were already returning home due to the improvement of the security situation ([REACH](#) 16/04/2022). However, Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko has urged residents who have evacuated from the capital not to return just yet due to safety concerns after missile attacks on April 16. The presence of UXO's and mines also presents a serious danger to civilians with widespread reports of mines, booby-traps and improvised explosive devices in Kyivska and other northern oblasts ([CNN](#) 16/04/2022, [OCHA](#) 14/04/2022). Despite these risks the latest data indicates that as many as 2,775,000 displaced people had returned with the largest numbers unsurprisingly in the North (861,000) and around Kyiv (555,000) where areas previously occupied by Russian forces are now back under Ukrainian control. More surprisingly, 344,000 people had returned to both the eastern and southern regions where most of the current conflict is underway, whereas the less conflict affected West and Central regions had 421,000 and 249,000 returnees respectively ([IOM DTM](#) 21/04/2022).

It appears that many returnees are aware of the risk with only 8.5% of returnees indicating that their location was completely safe; 29% of returnees said that their current location was somewhat unsafe, and 5% perceived it as completely unsafe ([IOM DTM](#) 21/04/2022).

Data suggests that refugees account for roughly a third of returnees as, according to Ukraine's border force, 870,000 Ukrainians who fled abroad since the start of the war have returned to the country. Many refugees still have family members in Ukraine, and many elderly people were left behind in the havoc of fleeing or due to their age or disability, so it is likely that one reason for returning is to reunite with family especially when concerned about elderly relatives ([Kyiv Post](#) 13/04/2022, [Daily News Hungary](#) 11/04/2022).

IDPs in the north and central regions are mostly planning to move on to safer areas of Ukraine or to other countries, with 42% of IDPs across Ukraine considering relocation

According to recent key information surveys, IDPs in the central region appeared to be planning to remain in the settlement for a short stay before moving on elsewhere, with those in the northern region indicating a similar pattern. However, in the central region it was also reported that the number of IDPs arriving from Eastern oblasts wishing to stay for a longer period, was increasing ([REACH 16/04/2022](#), [REACH 16/04/2022](#)). This is corroborated by the latest IOM DTM survey, which also found that 52% of IDPs in the West region are planning to relocate, but this finding does not exclude return. Overall, the percentage of IDPs considering relocation has risen to 42.1% for round 3 of the survey, compared to 29.9% in round 2 (April 1) and 18.1% in round 1 (March 16) ([IOM DTM 21/04/2022](#)).

The western region of Ukraine is still home to the largest number of IDPs, but IDP numbers have risen most dramatically in the east and central regions

The western region of Ukraine is home to 2.85 million IDPs, roughly the same number as estimated in the previous round of the displacement survey, however there are now 1.46 million IDPs in the eastern region, a rise of just over 600,000. The central region has also seen IDP numbers rise by 450,000 to 1.8 million. Numbers in the north and south regions have seen small decreases and Kyiv is now home to only 114,000 IDPs, a third of the number recorded at the beginning of the month.

The increase in IDPs in the centre and eastern regions is being driven by displacement from the east with over one million more IDPs identifying as coming from eastern oblasts. There has also been an exodus from the southern region, with IDPs from the south close to doubling in three weeks (now at 771,000). Conversely, IDPs from Kyiv have dropped by a third to 1.45 million. This is all in line with the findings above that returns to Kyiv oblast and the north have been increasing whilst at the same time many people have fled in advance of the Russian offensive just launched in the eastern region ([IOM DTM 21/04/2022](#)).

Humanitarian Access

Lack of respect for humanitarian corridors and failure to implement “windows of silence” continue to hamper access to the area’s most heavily affected by conflict. In the north of Ukraine and around Kyiv areas now back under Ukrainian control are heavily contaminated by mines and UXOs. The start of a new Russian offensive in eastern oblasts will also likely affect access to populations in this region. NRC provide an [online overview of humanitarian access across Ukraine](#).

Currently coordination tracking data ([Ukraine 5W](#)) indicates the presence of 207 humanitarian partners working in Ukraine, with a significant presence in the eastern region as well as IDP and border oblasts in the south and west. The majority of agencies are local NGOs (123), although 49 international NGOs and 7 UN agencies are also reporting response implementation. Overall the response has been scaling up week on week with [the estimated number of people reached with humanitarian aid](#) now reaching 3.3 million as of April 21 ([OCHA 21/04/2022](#), [OCHA 21/04/2022](#)).

Access of affected population to assistance

Efforts to evacuate civilians from major contested cities are increasingly frustrated with the Government of Ukraine becoming more and more reluctant to undertake such evacuations due to the dangers posed when the ceasefire windows do not hold

Although in recent weeks a number of evacuation routes have been agreed there is often little hope for them to be respected. The GoU repeatedly cancelled evacuations of civilians from major contested cities, stating that safe passage had not been guaranteed from their Russian counterparts. With many people trapped in areas facing active hostilities, unable to safely evacuate many people’s needs remain unmet while driving others to attempt dangerous self-evacuations to escape in search of safety and humanitarian assistance ([CNN 17/04/2022](#), [Reuters 09/04/2022](#), [OCHA 06/04/2022](#)).

With the looming Russian offensive, efforts have been made to evacuate the civilian population from Ukraine’s eastern Luhanska and Donetsk oblasts. Luhansk governor Serhiy Haidai stated that many were afraid to leave after a missile strike on a railway station in the city of Kramatorsk killed 57 people on April 8. He went on to say that although initially around 2,500 people were leaving per day, the numbers were fewer and fewer with an estimated 20-25 percent of the region’s population remaining behind. [With fighting intensifying in eastern Ukraine](#) evacuations from Luhanska oblast have reportedly become more difficult, and on 17 April, it was allegedly impossible to evacuate people from Lysychansk due to continuous shelling ([OCHA 19/04/2022](#), [Kyiv Post 11/04/2022](#), [BBC 06/04/2022](#)).

Some evacuations are taking place, though often through private transport

However there have been some successes. Local press reported more than 2,500 people were evacuated on April 14, including 289 people from Mariupol, with a further 1,449 people making their way to relative safety on April 16, mostly by private transport ([OCHA 16/04/2022](#), [Censor.Net 14/04/2022](#), [Censor.net 16/04/2022](#)).

Access of relief actors to the affected population

Humanitarian aid is now reaching the areas around Kyiv, Chernihiv and Sumy where Ukraine forces recently regained control.

In northern Ukraine, Russian troops had fully pulled out of the Kyiv, Chernihiv, and Sumy regions by April 8. Ukrainian forces are in the process of removing mines and UXO, but aid is now reaching affected populations in the area ([ACLED 14/04/2022](#), [Kyiv Independent 12/04/2022](#)).

For example, UNICEF reported reaching some of

the worst impacted areas in Kyiv oblast, including Bucha, Irpin, Periyaslyv, Dymmer and Fastiv, providing life-saving supplies for 200,000 people. In addition, three generators were delivered to Sumy Vodokanal and two generators to Chernigiv Vodokanal, to restore the partly disrupted power capacity of water supply facilities ([UNICEF](#) 15/04/2022). WHO stated that 31 metric tonnes of medical supplies had been delivered to several locations in the eastern part of Ukraine, including Kharkiv, Kyiv, the Kyiv oblast, Mykolaiv, Sumy and Zaporizhzhya ([WHO](#) 14/04/2022).

A humanitarian convoy also reached Sievierodonetsk in eastern Ukraine providing food, blankets and four electricity generators amongst the relief items ([UN News](#) 05/04/2022).

Concerns remain that there will be sufficient logistical capacity (including fuel) to meet demand

While humanitarian access remains limited in many areas, competition for logistics and transportation assets (such as limited trucks and drivers) is mounting, especially in hardest-hit areas. Following recent attacks on depots in the country there are also concerns of fuel shortages ([WFP](#) 11/04/2022).

Security / physical constraints

The prevalence of mines and UXO continues to be a major concern especially in areas around Kyiv and in the north of Ukraine where the Russian army has withdrawn

According to estimates by the state of emergency service of Ukraine (SES), around 300,000 square kilometers, or almost half of the territory, requires demining ([UKRinform](#) 13/04/2022). Recent incidents in Chernihiv have highlighted the danger with local press reporting the death of two people after they drove over an anti-tank mine and another person killed when their tractor also hit a mine ([msn](#) 15/04/2022, [Censor](#) 12/04/2022).

Cluster munitions also pose a grave threat with three SES military engineers killed and a further four others seriously injured while removing cluster munitions in the northeastern Kharkiv region, according to the head of the regional administration ([CNN](#) 17/04/2022).

Infrastructure damage will add to the logistical challenges

The Kyiv School of Economics (KSE) provided a summary of infrastructure losses which included damage to 277 bridges and bridge crossings, 10 military airfields, 8 airports and 2 ports. Such damage will increase the logistical challenges in transporting humanitarian aid to conflict-affected areas of the country ([Kyiv Post](#) 11/04/2022).

Humanitarian Impact, Conditions and Response

Conflict-Affected Areas in Ukraine

Significant damage to civilian infrastructure has been reported in Eastern Ukraine, with thousands of shelters lacking electricity

Eastern Ukraine continues to face the fiercest fighting, with Donetska, Kharkivska and Luhanska oblast being the most affected. Several settlements in Luhanska oblast, including Hirske, Kreminna, Popasna and Sievierodonetsk, have been under heavy shelling for multiple days in early April, resulting in reports of significant damages to civilian infrastructure and multiple civilian casualties. Indiscriminate attacks threaten the physical safety of civilians as fighting continues in Donetsk, Kharkiv, Luhansk, Mykolaiv, and Kherson Oblasts ([Global Protection Cluster](#) 14/04/2022, [OCHA](#) 11/04/2022).

Hostilities have damaged or destroyed hundreds of residential houses. According to the RNA, damage to housing was reported as a concern in 75% of settlements in the oblasts assessed (Donetska, Kharkivska, Luhanska and Zaporizka). Amongst those, a quarter or more of dwellings were damaged in 50% of settlements since the escalation of the conflict. The settlements reporting the highest proportion of dwellings affected were Izium, Sievierodonetsk and Popasna, where over 75% of dwellings were damaged. The damage has left many people living crowded conditions in bomb shelters and collective centres increasing the risk of disease outbreak and increase risks of pregnant women and children who have to live in these suboptimal conditions ([WHO](#) 14/04/2022, [UNICEF](#) 11/04/2022, [OCHA](#) 09/04/2022). The lack of electricity also remains an issue in shelters and a threat for functioning hospitals in conflict-affected areas, it was reported in mid-April, that almost 96,000 people in 30 settlements across eastern oblasts were without electricity ([UNHCR](#) 13/04/2022).

There are also concerns for the many elderly residents of eastern Ukraine. After the destruction

seen in Mariupol and issues around access to basic services, health care and food the many elderly residents, especially those living in care homes or alone are especially vulnerable ([The Guardian](#) 18/04/2022, [BBC](#) 18/04/2022))

Protection concerns are increasing due to reports of deportation of Ukrainians from areas under Russian control.

According to the Office of the President of Ukraine, there is a pattern of civilian deportations. Local reports from areas under Russian control in Donetsk and Luhansk region show that Russia has forcibly deported 45,000 Ukrainians to Russia. Additionally, according to an investigation report by the Organization Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) 500,000 civilians had been forcibly deported from Ukraine to Russia. According to local reports, deportees are held in inadequate conditions and interrogated by Russia's security services ([UCMC](#) 15/04/2022, [Kyiv Post](#) 13/04/2022).

Children are at specific risk of violence as a result of the conflict and are being put under psychological stress

Since the start of the Russian military offensive, OHCHR reports that 153 children have been killed and a further 246 injured, although the actual figure is likely to be much higher ([OHCHR](#) 12/04/2022). There are also allegations of children being kidnapped, raped or taken as hostages. The various impacts of the war have caused a high level of stress for many children. Some have been the victims of violence, other witnesses to it. Children are living in fear of shelling and air-raids. Many have been deprived of access to enough food, adequate WASH services, or healthcare. As well as their own stress, they have witnessed the stress of their caregiver. All these factors increase the risks for children to experience emotional harm and develop mental health issues including depression and post-traumatic stress disorder, resulting in

emotional and physical symptoms ([EuroChild](#) 11/04/2022, [The Guardian](#) 05/04/2022, [UNFPA](#) 05/04/2022, [Save the Children](#) 04/04/2022, [Al Jazeera](#) 31/03/2022).

Nearly 30% of assessed oblasts with ongoing military operations and hosting IDP are experiencing deteriorating food security situation

According to Food and Agricultural Organisations (FAO) rapid needs assessments (RNA) at different oblasts indicate a deteriorating food security situation across Ukraine, particularly in oblasts experiencing active hostilities and hosting significant internally displaced person (IDP) populations, where some 27% of assessed oblasts face immediate food insecurity issues ([FAO](#) 11/04/2022). These findings are supported by REACH RNA in Eastern oblasts where 67% of assessed settlements reported food items were inaccessible in the seven days prior to data collection. Eastern oblasts with major issues in accessing food were Donetsk, Kharkivska, Luhanska, and Zaporizka oblasts ([REACH](#) 06/04/2022). This is evident by reports of starvation in cities with active hostilities and those occupied by Russians, for example, the city of Izum (Kharkiv oblast) and Mariupol (Donetsk oblast) ([UCMC](#) 12/04/2022, [dennikn](#) 11/04/2022).

There are significant concerns over the agricultural sector, especially in the Kherson region. Food shortages are resulting from conflict-induced supply chain disruptions; impacting food production, labour and delivery

Active hostilities are impacting the supply of food. The Kherson region, which is known for its agricultural produce, is blocked by the Russian army, resulting in food resources being depleted. There are already reports of significant agricultural losses in the region due to the conflict. For example, according to a Ukrainian official, one of the country's largest agricultural holding companies, UkrLandFarming, has reportedly lost 4 million chickens at its farm (Khersonska

oblast) due to hostilities. Agricultural production is also being constrained by the limited availability of labor due to displacement. Contributing to the shortage are issues in transporting food, especially as several cities in the east and south of Ukraine remain inaccessible due to the active conflict. This is likely to have an impact not only on food security in conflict-affected areas, but in the whole of Ukraine ([OCHA](#) 14/04/2022, [Kyiv Post](#) 13/04/2022).

Reports of businesses and shops in conflict-affected areas are destroyed, with many people having their financial resources depleting and unable to access financial services

According to the finance Minister Serhiy Marchenko, about 30% of Ukrainian enterprises stopped operating and 45% are only operating part-time. Reports of damages to destruction of shops in Eastern Ukraine have been reported since the beginning of the war in February. This is likely to result in depleting livelihood resources of the population. Even for those who have financial resources, accessing financial services was reported as a concern by 88% of assessed settlements, out of which 57% reported that services were inaccessible in the seven days prior to data collection. For example, residents of Avdiivka (Donetsk oblast) currently cannot withdraw cash and must travel to neighboring towns to access functioning ATMs - this is likely to be the case in other cities in conflict-affected areas. This can be explained by insecurity and other access constraints ([OCHA](#) 14/04/2022, [REACH](#) 06/04/2022).

Eastern Ukraine continues to lack access to water, resulting in people using inadequate sources of water

1.4 million people are currently without running water across eastern Ukraine, with reports of water supplies having been completely cut off in Popasna, Rubizhne and Sievierodonetsk, resulting in people using dirty sources. This is echoed in the RNA where it found that half of the assessed

settlements reported disruption to water supply as a concern. The hostilities-related damage to infrastructure and power cuts put an additional 4.6 million people across Ukraine at risk of losing access to piped water, as more incidents of damage to water infrastructure were recorded. The region's basic infrastructure has already been deteriorating due to years of conflict. This deterioration of WASH infrastructure is increasing the risk of disease outbreaks such as cholera, measles, diphtheria or COVID-19. Children are especially at risk due to lack of water, according to UNICEF, young children who live in conflict zones are 20 times more likely to die from diarrhoeal diseases linked to unsafe water than from direct violence, as a result of war ([OCHA](#) 16/04/2022, [REACH](#) 06/04/2022, [WHO](#) 14/04/2022, [UNHCR](#) 13/04/2022, [UNICEF](#) 13/04/2022).

Limited availability and access to education due to disruptions, damages to facilities risking the education of more than 400,000 children and resulting in loss of a safe space for children

As a result of continuous bombings and shelling, hundreds of educational facilities have been destroyed. As of April 21, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine reported that more than 1,000 educational facilities have been damaged or destroyed across the country, out of which 99 have been completely destroyed. Most of the destruction is reported in Eastern Ukraine, where fighting is most intense; putting more than 400,000 children - who were living in Eastern Ukraine before the conflict - at risk of losing education ([Save Schools](#) accessed 21/04/2022, [OCHA](#) 14/04/2022, [censor](#) 07/04/2022, [OCHA](#) 06/04/2022, [Save the Children](#) 04/04/2022). The extent of the damage was also reflected in the RNA of conflict-affected areas in Eastern oblasts, where 69% of assessed settlements reported that schools or education facilities had been damaged. Amongst the assessed settlements, 81% reported a disruption to education services ([REACH](#) 06/04/2022).

In addition, some schools and educational facilities across the country have been used as shelters and emergency accommodation for civilians, limiting availability even further. Some of the regions in Eastern Ukraine were already struggling with limited education services since hostilities broke out in 2014, disrupting education. The lack of schools also results in a lack of a protective space and a sense of normality. Children outside of education are at greater risk of abuse, human trafficking, and integration into armed groups ([UNICEF](#) 11/04/2022, [Geneva Solutions](#) 25/03/2022, [UNICEF](#) 18/02/2022).

Schools remain closed in many of the conflict-affected areas due to the ongoing security situation. Even for those children who could access online classes, many face difficulties due to the lack of computers, internet access, electricity, books and stationery, as well as the lack of surroundings conducive to hours of studying ([UNICEF](#) 02/04/2022, [UN Women](#) 31/03/2022).

Attacks on health infrastructure and access constraints related to insecurity are impacting access to healthcare including medication and urgent emergency care

As of April 21, 204 confirmed attacks on health care have been documented via the [Surveillance System for Attacks on Health Care](#) (SSA), resulting in 142 deaths and 82 injuries. However, statistics for the number of Ukrainian medical facilities damaged vary widely. According to the REACH RNA, half of assessed settlements reported disruption to healthcare services (in Donetsk, Kharkivska, Luhanska and Zaporizka oblasts). Amongst these settlements, 63% reported that emergency health-care services had been inaccessible in the seven days prior to data collection. Access to services was reported as extremely limited in Izium, Mariupol, Popasna and Rubizhne. There are reports of no access to medicine in some areas and medical supplies running low in many parts of areas affected by hostilities, as access to many locations remains blocked. This was reflected in the RNA, where access to medication was a

concern in all settlements. This means that people with chronic diseases such as diabetes or heart failure may not get optimal treatment – if any at all. The cessation of screening programmes means cancers are missed or diagnosed late. Medical and emergency workers report being unable to access people in some areas of Popasna and Rubizhne (Luhansk oblast); Mariupol (Donetsk oblast) and continue to be blocked and subjected to artillery attacks and air strikes ([Global Protection Cluster](#) 14/04/2022, [WHO](#) 14/04/2022, [OCHA](#) 11/04/2022, [OCHA](#) 09/04/2022, [REACH](#) 06/04/2022, [The Conversation](#) 02/03/2022).

This limited access is especially concerning amongst increased risk of disease outbreaks such as cholera, measles, diphtheria or COVID-19 have been exacerbated due to lack of access to WASH and crowded shelter conditions. The disruption of immunisation programmes, leading to lower vaccine coverage, increases the risks of outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases such as measles and polio ([WHO](#) 14/04/2022, [The Conversation](#) 02/03/2022).

HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

Access to food is among the most acute needs; especially in-kind assistance

In Eastern oblasts access to food remains one of the most acute needs, especially in occupied cities and cities encircled by Russian troops, which are running out of food and water. As previously mentioned, inaccessibility of food was one of the most highly reported issues in the RNA in eastern oblasts, and this is reflected in preferred mode of assistance, where the vast majority (75%) preferred in-kind assistance ([OCHA](#) 09/04/2022, [REACH](#) 06/04/2022, [Devex](#) 06/04/2022).

There is a need to support the agricultural sector and improve access for farmers and to the population

In order to ensure continuous agricultural production, more support is needed for farmers who urgently require support with food for young animals (cattle, goats, sheep, etc.) and agricultural inputs, including seeds, livestock fodder, and fuel. Since it is spring, farmers need urgent support to tend to their fields now to save this year's harvest ([OCHA](#) 09/04/2022, [REACH](#) 06/04/2022, [Reuters](#) 11/03/2022).

Access to water and electricity needs are especially high in cities under Russian control or in cities encircled by troops

There is an urgent need to provide access to water and electricity to people in conflict affected areas, especially those in cities and regions under Russian control or in cities encircled by troops. Low and poor water supply can also cause outbreaks of communicable diseases. Children are especially vulnerable to lack of water, with increasing risk of dehydration and diarrhoea. These risks increase with limited access to healthcare and food ([UNICEF](#) 13/04/2022, [MSF](#) 11/03/2022).

Access to healthcare services and medical supplies is urgently needed

Improved access to healthcare services is needed in areas experiencing active hostilities, and encircled cities, such as Kherson and Mariupol. Medical supplies are running low with limited ability to get more supplies in many areas which remain blocked. Urgent care for trauma patients and medicine for chronic diseases should be provided to those who remain in conflict affected areas, especially as emergency healthcare services are reportedly inaccessible to many people living in these areas ([OCHA](#) 16/04/2022, [OCHA](#) 11/04/2022, [REACH](#) 06/04/2022).

Educational materials needed to support children's education as well as mental health care and psychosocial support

As schools remain closed in many of the conflict-affected areas, children are resorting to online learning, however, there is a need for computers, internet access, electricity, books and stationery, as damage to education infrastructure included loss of educational materials. There is also a need for teachers as many have been displaced. The provision of education facilities also provides a safe space for children. As a result of the lack of education and violence these children are experiencing, there is a need to provide mental health care and psychosocial support ([Education Cluster](#) 04/03/2022, [Geneva Solutions](#) 25/03/2022).

IDPs in Ukraine

More than half of assessed settlements of IDP-hosting Central and Northern oblasts reported concerns in accessing food, which are exacerbated by the lack of income

Access to food was a major concern for more than half of IDPs in assessed settlements of central oblasts and northern oblasts (53% and 56% respectively). The central oblasts facing the most difficulties in accessing food include Kirovohradska (80%), Poltavaska (80%), Dnipropetrovska (60%) and Cherkaska (57%), in the North, the oblasts facing the most difficulties are Chernihiv'ska and Kyivska. Food shortages in IDP hosting oblasts are linked to interruption of supply provision; due to the overall reduction in production in conflict affected areas - as mentioned above - but also due to disruption in transporting food. For example, for the RNA in central oblasts, all interviewed KIs indicated issues with transporting food to rural areas surrounding Kyiv city and the interruption of supply provision ([REACH](#) 16/04/2022, [REACH](#) 16/04/2022).

A significant number of businesses have been negatively impacted by the conflict. While it is expected that impacts are less severe in the more stable northern and central Ukraine, IDPs are likely to have much less access to livelihood activities being newly displaced in these areas. In fact, according to WVI RNA in Chernivtsi, half of respondents identified their lack of income as a main stressor. 50% of respondents have stated that after displacement they are reliant on aid/welfare, while 33% on pension, and only 31% on formal salary. Access to financial services by IDPs is already a concern, especially in northern oblasts (reported as a concern by IDPs in almost 60% of assessed settlements), where until recently Russian forces were present. This is evident by the settlements reporting the most difficulties in accessing cash, ATM or banking services, which are Sumska, Chernihivsk oblasts and Kyiv city all of which witnessed active hostilities. Financial services (cash, ATM, and banking) are reported as a concern by only 15% of assessed settlements in central oblasts. So even for households with savings, accessing needed cash remains an issue and likely impacting their access to other services and basic necessities ([WVI](#) 18/04/2022, [REACH](#) 16/04/2022, [REACH](#) 16/04/2022).

While the security situation in Northern Ukraine is improving, many regions still lack access to basic infrastructure such as WASH and electricity, likely due to disruption during the previous periods of hostilities. Central oblasts have fared slightly better

The security situation in Northern Ukraine is reportedly improving, however 19% of assessed settlements reported that IDPs faced difficulties with WASH, as opposed to 10% in Central Ukraine. Chernihivska was one of the most impacted oblasts in Northern Ukraine. Disruption to the water supply was also reported as a concern in Chernihiv and Pryluky (Chernihivska oblast), Irpin (Kyivska oblast), and in all assessed settlements in Sumska oblast. WASH difficulties faced by IDPs in Northern oblasts may be primarily linked with hygiene and sanitation rather than water. This is made evident by the findings from the World Vision

(WVI) RNA conducted in Chernivtsi, where 88% of respondents stated that water needs are fully met. Similarly, among settlements assessed by REACH where difficulties with water, hygiene and sanitation were reported in Central oblasts, few settlements reported that clean water availability was a primary concern. Provision of hygiene products was among high priorities for 78% of assessed settlements ([WVI](#) 18/04/2022, [REACH](#) 16/04/2022, [REACH](#) 16/04/2022, [Euronews](#) 24/03/2022, [OCHA](#) 28/02/2022).

Access to healthcare services is reported as a concern in both Northern and Central Ukraine, however, destruction to Northern Ukraine infrastructure and persisting insecurity is further impacting Northern oblasts.

According to REACH RNA of IDP-hosting areas in central and northern oblasts, 25% and 44% respectively of assessed settlements reported IDPs are facing difficulties in accessing health services. Destruction to infrastructure in the North due to Russian hostilities is likely to have been and continue to impact access in these oblasts. In Northern oblasts, similarly to other sectors, Chernihivska and Sumska oblasts are facing substantial difficulties in accessing healthcare. It is reported that in the city of Chernihiv at least half a dozen hospitals have been damaged by Russian attacks. However, more recent findings from WVI assessment show that in Chernivtsi 91% of respondents have not faced any challenges in accessing healthcare. This could potentially indicate an improvement in healthcare access - as data collection was conducted at a later period. That being said, in IDP-hosting areas, among the primary unmet needs reported were treatment for long-term health problems, such as diabetes, high blood pressure or heart disease, lung disease, cancer, or disabilities, and treatment for long-term infections, such as TB or HIV. This is especially concerning, as according to WVI, 22% of households displaced and assessed in Chernivtsi have at least one member with a chronic illness. According to KIs in REACH survey, barriers to meeting those needs included lack of medicines

and cost of medicines, while in Northern oblasts, insecurity was also reported as an additional barrier to accessing medicine ([WVI](#) 18/04/2022, [REACH](#) 16/04/2022, [REACH](#) 16/04/2022, [NPR](#) 13/04/2022).

Online education is ongoing, but lack of teachers and educational materials is exacerbating education needs

According to WVI RNA in Chernivtski, 44% of assessed households have school-aged children, while data is not representative, it is indicative of the trend of education among IDP children. The RNA data shows that 79% of these children continue to access school remotely, while 71% are attending online classes with a teacher. It is likely that these children are accessing education through the national platform which was launched in December 2020 called "[All-Ukrainian School Online](#)". Reports show that this online platform is reaching 3 million children. Other distance-learning modalities are being established through the government and humanitarian organisations. In the case of Lviv, the city established a network of regional interactive educational spaces ([WVI](#) 18/04/2022, [UNICEF](#) 02/04/2022, [Ukrinform](#) 13/04/2022, [UN Women](#) 31/03/2022, [Geneva Solutions](#) 25/03/2022, [UNICEF](#) 16/03/2022). In addition to the online-learning modalities, children who are temporarily internally displaced can join schools at the place of temporary residence ([Ukrinform](#) 28/03/2022).

IDPs are sheltering with family, friends, volunteers or in private rented accommodation. They are also living in collective centres which often lack gender separation

Most IDPs are sheltering with family, friends or in private rented accommodation in basements or underground car garages. The cost of renting, particularly in western Ukraine, has sky-rocketed due to increased demand. Significant rent increases were also reported in central oblasts, while no significant rent increases were reported

in the northern oblasts. A growing number of IDPs are moving to collective shelters - public buildings such as schools, churches, gyms and concert halls. This is also in line with findings from an assessment in Northern and Central oblasts where the most commonly available housing for IDPs were accommodation with family and friends, collective centres and free accommodation in the homes of volunteers. Collective centres, air raid shelters and metro stations all of which are places of refuge for IDPs lack gender separation, greatly increasing the risk of gender-based violence. Housing options also depend on the financial abilities of the IDPs ([IDMC](#) 26/03/2022, [REACH](#) 16/04/2022, [REACH](#) 16/04/2022).

HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

Hygiene needs are reported in IDP settlements, as well as needs of restoring water supplies in the north

There should be efforts in restoring water access and WASH infrastructure that experienced heavy attacks in the north by Russian attacks, such as Sumy and Chernihiv, while providing hygiene items to IDPs. Hygiene items for children are particularly needed. Women and girl's menstrual health needs should also be met and be provided with access to safe and private toilet and bathing spaces. In addition, many reception sites or transit sites are not equipped with showers, which could become a concern in the event that sites start being used for longer-term stay ([UNICEF](#) 13/04/2022, [REACH](#) 16/04/2022, [REACH](#) 16/04/2022, [Think Global Health](#) 03/03/2022).

Need for medication and treatment for long-term health problems

While overall access to healthcare is likely to be improving in IDP-hosting areas, including northern oblasts, it is likely that the access to medication and treatment for long-term health problems especially as supply chains continue to be interrupted and the purchasing power of displaced people decreases, due to lack of livelihoods and disruption of financial services ([WVI](#) 18/04/2022, [REACH](#) 16/04/2022, [REACH](#) 16/04/2022).

There is a need for a better access to food in IDP-hosting areas, especially as lack of income continue to be reported

Provision of food items is among the top priorities for 90% of assessed settlements in the central oblasts while 78% of assessed settlements in northern oblasts. This is in line with WVI RNA in Chernivtski, as food items are also reported among the priority needs for IDPs ([WVI](#) 18/04/2022, [REACH](#) 16/04/2022, [REACH](#) 16/04/2022).

Online education continues to be offered to children across Ukraine, however, basic educational materials are still lacking among IDP children

IDP children have likely fled their homes with little to no educational material. According to a RNA of IDPs in Chernivtski, 52% of respondents said their children need basic writing materials (pens, paper and notebooks), while 48% of respondents said their children need school textbooks. Access to mobile data and internet is also reported as a need by 26% of respondents. These needs are likely to be widespread among IDP children in other oblasts hosting displaced children who are relying on online learning modalities ([WVI](#) 18/04/2022).

Mental health care and psychosocial support are major needs for children fleeing conflict-related violence

Of particular concern are unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) who require more specific protection and care as the impact of family separation can be more severe for children who lack the benefit of their caregivers' support. Children who were previously internally displaced (before the war) and who have suffered further displacement or exposure to violence are also particularly vulnerable to psychological harm. Finally, this comes on top of the negative impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has on many children's mental health, causing depression and anxiety for some ([Child Protection AoR](#) 08/04/2022, [Child Protection AoR](#) 01/04/2022, [The Conservation](#) 20/03/2022, [OCHA](#) 09/02/2021).

Affordable and adequate shelter solutions for displaced people

As more displaced people are seeking shelter in Eastern, Northern and Central Ukraine there is a need to ensure affordable housing for the IDPs especially as they lack income and increase in rent prices are reported in some oblasts. For IDPs seeking refuge in collective centres, segregated sleeping areas are needed to ensure protection for women and children ([IDMC 26/03/2022](#), [REACH 16/04/2022](#), [REACH 16/04/2022](#)).

Displaced people who have crossed international borders to neighbouring countries

Risks of gender-based violence and of other protection incidents are still flagged at the borders and within hosting countries

The influx of refugees in Ukraine's neighbouring countries are still mainly composed of women and children, with a significant proportion of women-head of households, single women, elderly women, adolescents who face heightened risks of GBV. These risks are more prevalent at the borders whether in informal shelters, accommodations centres, or in reception and transit facilities. The high number of local volunteers offering transport and accommodation can also be seen as threat due to potential human trafficking, exploitation and sexual abuse ([GBV SWG 16/04/2022](#), [OCHA 14/04/2022](#), [UNHCR 08/04/2022](#)). Children are also extremely vulnerable to the risks of human trafficking and other protection issues, especially unaccompanied minors. According to Hungarian authorities, over 2 million children have fled the war so far ([UNSC 11/04/2022](#), [Daily News Hungary 06/04/2022](#)). According to international press, Interpol has already deployed officers in Moldova to help investigate alleged trafficking ([IPS 30/03/2022](#)).

Illegal crossing and discrimination towards non-Ukrainian refugees continue to be reported

While neighbouring countries have been warmly welcoming refugees fleeing the war from Ukraine, some population groups do not receive the same support as Ukrainians. For example, some third country nationals do not have the same legal status that has been granted to Ukrainian citizens. In Moldova, illegal crossing is registered and seems to be increasing, particularly with men aged from 18 to 60 who cannot leave Ukraine through official border points. However, no data indicates whether these persons are sent back to Ukraine, held in detention centres or hosted in the countries ([Border Guard 11/04/2022](#), [UNHCR 08/04/2022](#)).

In all neighbouring countries, third-country nationals (TCN) have faced major challenges since the beginning of the war in Ukraine. They still face risks of discrimination, violence, xenophobia and human trafficking. Moreover, they have less access to goods, services and information than Ukrainians. In Poland, there were allegations that some third-country nationals fleeing Ukraine were held in detention centres ([IOM 20/04/2022](#), [IOM 19/04/2022](#), [Premium Times 31/03/2022](#)). In order to understand the threat that TCNs are confronted to, it is interesting to note that refugees and migrants from the 2021 migration crisis who arrived in Poland encountered discrimination and even degrading treatment and arbitrary detention. Poland is also building a 186-kilometre-long barrier at the border with Belarus to avoid influx from non-Ukrainian migrants ([Schengen Visa Info 19/04/2022](#), [Amnesty 11/04/2022](#)).

Returns back to Ukraine are increasing although many may not find safety and comfort at the end of the journey

Sources indicate an increase of Ukrainians returning to Ukraine. In Poland, by mid-April, due to the situation improving in the West of Ukraine, there were more returns to Ukraine than entries in the country. Most of those returning do not however intend to return to their place of origin, suggesting they may end up internally displaced and thus

more vulnerable to protection threats ([Border Guard](#) 18/04/2022, [Humanity First](#) 16/04/2022). As discussed in the [displacement section](#) many of those returning are heading to unsafe areas with 29% of returnees (both refugees and IDPs) perceiving their current location as somewhat unsafe, and 5% perceive it as completely unsafe ([IOM DTM](#) 21/04/2022).

While host countries are supporting Ukrainian refugees with access to goods and services, some of these services are getting overwhelmed

Governments in host-countries are trying their hardest to offer appropriate services to Ukrainian refugees. However, the large influx of Ukrainians entering the neighbouring countries since the end of February has put a strain on some of the resources and services. Moldova is particularly suffering from the war as the country is one of the poorest in the region. The refugee influx represents over 15% of the country's population, though three-quarters of refugees have transited to the EU ([UNHCR](#) accessed on 21/04/2022, [World Bank](#) 19/04/2022). The national educational capacity is already overstretched with only 1,800 refugee children enrolled in local schools out of 50,000 children who arrived from Ukraine. Regarding the health system, Moldova is already suffering from services' weaknesses, putting at risk both the access of refugees and host communities ([ECW](#) 13/04/2022, [Info Migrant](#) 24/03/2022).

In other countries, sources do not mention similar strain, however, some services are still not accessed by the whole refugee population. For instance, by early April, only 1,050 Ukrainian children were enrolled in Hungarian schools out of 434,000 refugees -largely composed of children. Likewise, 6,248 Ukrainian children have started school in Slovakia out of 346,000 refugees in the country. This results in challenges in terms of capacity for the educational services, but also in terms of language and curriculum. It has been reported in some countries that specific attention to mental health or to sex education is difficult to implement. In fact, some children are prone

to depression due to COVID-19 and due to the war while teachers are already exhausted after shouldering the burden of the pandemic for 2 years ([The globe and mail](#) 14/04/2022, [ABC News](#) 14/04/2022, [EuroChild](#) 11/04/2022, [hnonline](#) 07/04/2022, [postoj](#) 07/04/2022).

Furthermore, health services also face particular tensions with some health workers suffering from burnout due to the pandemic and having to deal with additional pressure due to the influx of refugees ([Politico](#) 15/04/2022). Moreover, COVID-19 remains a threat for all hosting countries because of the low vaccination coverage reported in Ukraine before the war (36%). Even though incidence of COVID-19 mostly seems to decrease in the region, this poses a risk for the most vulnerable both in host communities and within the refugees, especially in Moldova and Romania that have a very low vaccination rate (respectively 26% and 42%) ([WHO](#) 14/04/2022).

While the strain on accommodation capacities is decreasing in most countries with the local population hosting refugees in their homes, refugees renting places and accommodation centres slowly emptying, the crisis has had other economic consequences. Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and Romania report an increase in housing prices - up to 30% in Poland and particularly high at the border between Romania and Ukraine. Poland also reports a decrease in renting availability ([Daily news Hungary](#) 12/04/2022, [entrepreneur](#) 12/04/2022, [Wyborcza](#) 11/04/2022, [NRC](#) 08/04/2022). While the Romanian government is still offering financial support for those hosting Ukrainian refugees, the support offered by the Polish government is coming to an end, adding uncertainty for the future of refugees in terms of accommodation ([Wyborcza](#) 14/04/2022, [Adevarul](#) 11/04/2022).

Other challenges could directly affect the living conditions of refugees in the country, especially pre-war lack of resources and services. An online media reported for instance that in Romania, 28% of the population is not connected to the water network and 44% to the sewerage network. Other

hosting countries probably face similar issues in the provision of basic services ([AgerPres](#) 08/04/2022).

Due to the economic consequences of the war, inflation is rising in all European countries, restricting access to goods and services for refugees and host communities

Inflation has been reported in April in all of the neighbouring countries hosting refugees, with food supply disruption, energy and commodity imports from Ukraine and Russia ([World Bank](#) 10/04/2022, [The First News](#) 07/04/2022). In Romania, inflation has reached 10% in March and is expected to increase up to 11% by June. Prices of food, including meat, milk and eggs have increased considerably. Moreover, drought has been impacting the country, putting food productivity at risk ([Rador](#) 16/04/2022, [Mediafax](#) 15/04/2022, [Profit](#) 11/04/2022). Likewise, inflation in Hungary is very concerning with basic food items' prices increasing by 10 to 30% ([Daily news Hungary](#) 06/04/2022).

Host countries continue to help refugees to access work

As specified in the [last biweekly report](#), bordering countries hosting refugees are ensuring that Ukrainians can access jobs. In Moldova, 292 refugees had found job by mid-April; this figure raises to 1,891 in Romania and to 46,000 in Poland ([Agerpres](#) 18/04/2022, [UNHCR](#) 16/04/2022, [Noi](#) 15/04/2022, [GoP](#) 09/04/2022). Both Hungary and Slovakia also ensure access to work for Ukrainian refugees. Hungary's government even allows companies to receive subsidies for those employing refugees ([About Hungary](#) 13/04/2022, [EuroNews](#) 01/04/2022).

HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

Even though the immediate and urgent needs of refugees in host countries seem to be mainly responded to, longer term needs remain a concern for most households

Immediate needs, including transportation, health needs, access to information and communication, food assistance, access to NFIs, medicine and to shelter, are reported to have decreased in Moldova after the initial influx at the start of March. This could be due to the scaling-up of the response with a better coverage of the needs. Moldova has endured a particular strain due to its background coupled with the influx of refugees, thus if urgent needs have decreased in this country, a similar situation could be occurring in the other neighbouring countries ([REACH](#) 24/03/2022). Indeed, it can be noticed that the shelter situation is improving both in Hungary and Romania with lower occupancy rates ([Ministry of Interior](#) 17/04/2022, [About Hungary](#) 13/04/2022, [Deschide](#) 08/04/2022). Longer-term needs are becoming more important for refugees, notably with the access to employment and to financial support in most countries but also with the access to information about services ([IOM](#) 14/04/2022, [Kronika Online](#) 12/04/2022, [UNICEF](#) 08/04/2022, [World Vision](#) 05/04/2022).

However, some urgent needs remain critical. Local Polish media have, for instance, claimed that there were food shortages in distribution centres ([Wyborcza](#) 11/04/2022). The health needs are also very important with primary care and trauma injuries still being the main needs in Poland. In the country, the majority of refugees are reported not to possess the necessary information to get access to healthcare. Moreover, the threat of potential communicable diseases outbreaks and the need for vaccination campaigns. Last but not least, psychosocial support and mental health stand as priority issues for all refugees and particularly for children ([Politico](#) 15/04/2022, [UNICEF](#) 15/04/2022, [Humanity First](#) 09/04/2022, [Gazeta Krakowska](#) 08/04/2022, [UNICEF](#) 08/04/2022, [Deschide](#) 08/04/2022).

Women, children, elderly and people living with disabilities are amongst the most vulnerable refugees

Women and children represent the majority of the refugees fleeing Ukraine and hold specific needs, especially unaccompanied and separated children, pregnant and lactating women, undocumented people and people living with disabilities. Survivors of GBV as well as children who suffered from violence, displacement and fear need specific psychological support

Wider Context

Ukraine's economy deteriorates as the war continues

The Ukrainian economy is suffering heavily from the war, with an estimated decrease of the GDP of 45% by the end of the year, according to the World Bank. This would be double the projection from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development ([Kyiv Post](#) 11/04/2022, [World Vision](#) 06/04/2022). Ukrainian authorities stated that the economy has already shrunk by 16% between January and April with economic losses estimated by officials at over 3 trillion dollars. The Kiev School of Economics however estimated the total economic losses to 600 billion dollars ([Kyiv Post](#) 11/04/2022, [OCHA](#) 04/04/2022). The Ukrainian government recently took the decision to prohibit all imports of goods from Russia, while the 2021 imports reached 6 billion dollars. Moreover, while the country had halted the sales of foreign currency since the beginning of the war, the trade of currencies in cash has been allowed since the 14th of this month ([Kyiv Independent](#) 15/04/2022 [Kyiv Independent](#) 09/04/2022).

Ukraine passes an amendment to the law covering the exemption from military service

According to [Sensor](#) local media, the Ukrainian Parliament adopted an amendment by the

([The Guardian](#) 05/04/2022, [UNFPA](#) 05/04/2022, [Save the Children](#) 04/04/2022). Ethnic groups and minorities are also to be considered as priority groups, as discrimination towards Roma communities among refugees fleeing Ukraine have been reported in different neighboring countries as Slovakia, Moldova, Hungary or Poland, as well as the issues faced by third country nationals as previously highlighted ([alfahir](#) 14/04/2022, [OSCE](#) 08/04/2022, [BalkanInsight](#) 31/03/2022, [LeMonde](#) 24/03/2022).

end of March, enlarging the population groups discharged from military service. While only the individuals who reached the age limit for military service were seen as unfit (over 60), individuals who encounter the following situations will now be exempted during martial law: "pregnancy; staying on childcare leave; dismissal of one of the spouses if both are serving in the military and have a minor child(children); raising a minor child(children) independently" ([Censor.Net](#) 01/04/2022).

The war continues to negatively impact the environment

The IOM reports that residents of cities within Ukraine have complained of the air quality since the beginning of the war. Indeed, the war has polluted the air, the water and the soil in the country. Moreover, there are important risks of pollution due to the shelling that could fall on the hazardous wastes being stocked in some areas of Ukraine. Shelling can also create forest fires, resulting in air pollution and impacting biodiversity. This has already happened in the country in late March, leading to air pollution and a danger of radioactive contamination around the site of the former nuclear reactor at Chernobyl ([Euronews](#) 17/04/2022, [IOM](#) 07/04/2022, [Euronews](#) 28/03/2022).

About this report

The analysis provided is a synthesis of information collected and tagged using the [DEEP](#) platform from publicly available sources and supplemented by assessment data provided by humanitarian partners working in Ukraine and neighbouring countries. For this report, **1,008 documents** (collected between April 04 and April 19) were reviewed, covering **6 countries** and sourced from **154 publishers** resulting in a total of **3,546** entries being tagged. This report has been prepared on behalf of the Information Management and Analysis Cell (IMAC) in Ukraine, but the analysis provided is conducted independently by Data Friendly Space (DFS). **MAPACTION** has provided mapping support to this product.