

Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA) key findings

September 2022

MOLDOVA

CONTEXT

As of 10 August 2022, more than 5.9 million refugees have [reportedly](#) fled Ukraine, with 562,572 refugees [arriving](#) in the Republic of Moldova, around 89,500 of whom are reportedly in the country.

While 97% of refugees are residing in the host community, limited information is currently available to response actors regarding their demographic profile, household composition, humanitarian needs, movement intentions, or coping capacities.

REACH, in partnership with UNICEF, ECHO, UNHCR, and in cooperation with the Refugee Coordination Forum, the sectoral working groups and taskforces, conducted a Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA) to ensure these response actors have the necessary evidence base to effectively respond to the needs of Ukrainian refugee families.

METHODOLOGY

Primary data collection took place between 16 May - 31 May 2022. This assessment was a family-level survey, and covered the entirety of Moldova, excluding Transnistrian region, inclusive of all raions where local authorities reported registered refugees.¹ The sampling frame excluded settlements with less than 50 refugees and Refugee Accommodation Centers (RACs) reporting less than 20 refugees. This is to account for the potential operational challenges in identifying respondents in these communities.

In total, 664 face-to-face interviews were conducted, among two strata: refugees living in the RACs and refugees hosted in community. Findings for RAC strata are statistically significant at 95% level of confidence and 10% margin of error, whereas findings for community are indicative only.

Key demographics

 67%  33%

 **38% of individual members are children**

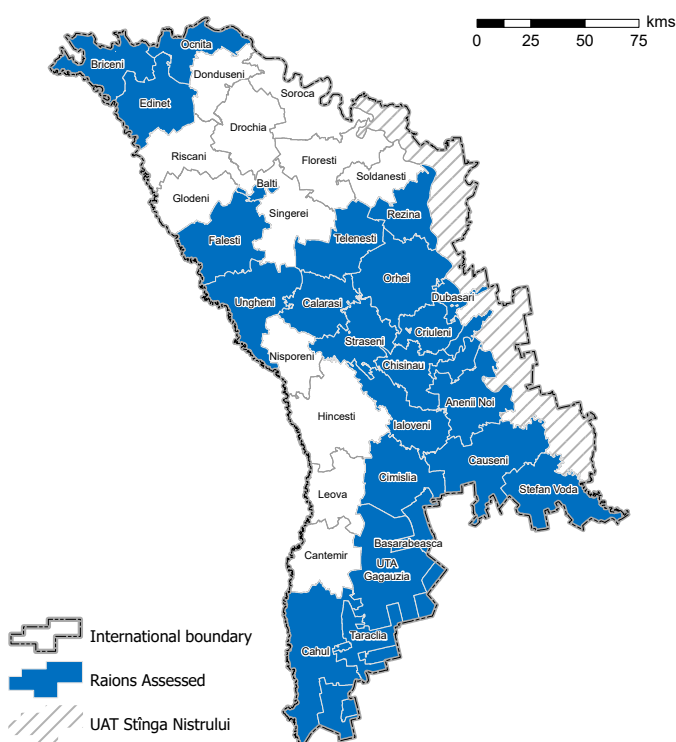
 **2.8 average family size**

 **63% families with children**

 **4% of women pregnant or lactating**

Average age 31 years old

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE



LIMITATIONS

Sampling frame: As the sampling frame was non-randomised and based on the number of registered refugees in the local communities, results can be considered only indicative of the refugees living in the community and the situation as a whole.

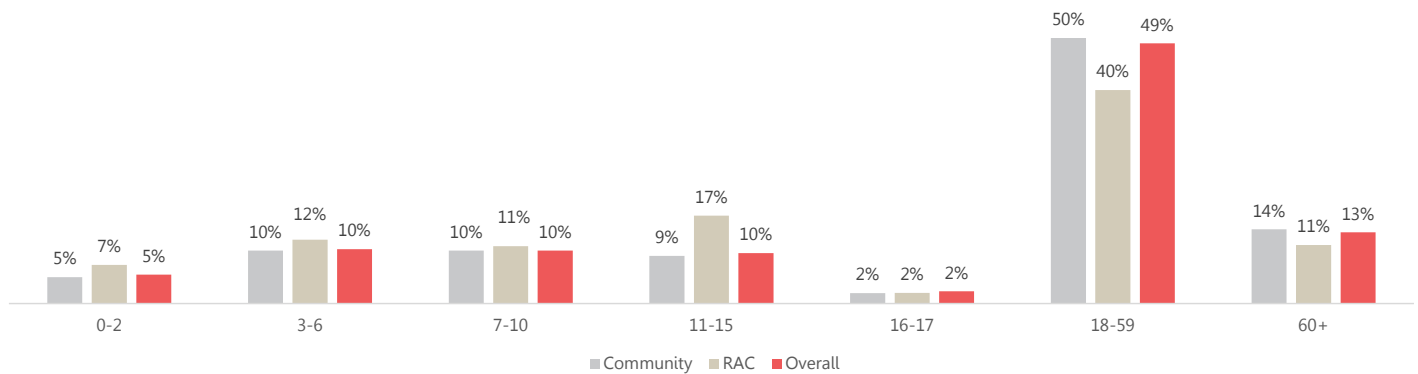
Perceptions: Indicators related to service provision are based on respondent's perception and may not directly reflect the realities of service provision in the host community or RACs.

Timing of assessment: When interpreting findings, users are informed that data collection was conducted in the second half of May 2022. Due to the volatility of the situation and high level of movement, findings should be interpreted as a snapshot of the situation of refugees at that point in time.

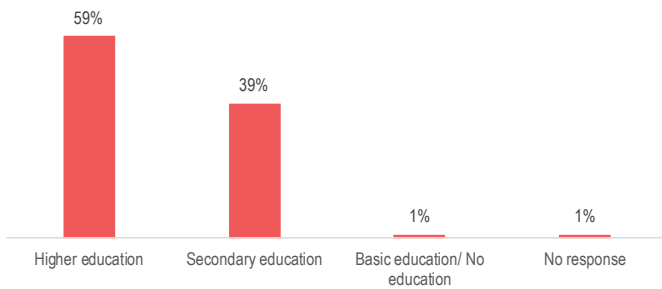
Due to a technical error in the tool, 40 surveys had to be removed due to inconsistencies between the location of the interview and the reported type of residence of the respondent. After the revision of calculations, initial preliminary findings did not express a variation larger than 1% for certain indicators for which the number of observations was low. Results in this factsheet are updated.

¹ For analysis purposes "family" included all Ukrainian members of the family, whereas "household" refers to all members, including the host family, whenever applicable.

Reported age distribution for individuals from Ukrainian refugee families, by strata



Highest education level of the respondent²



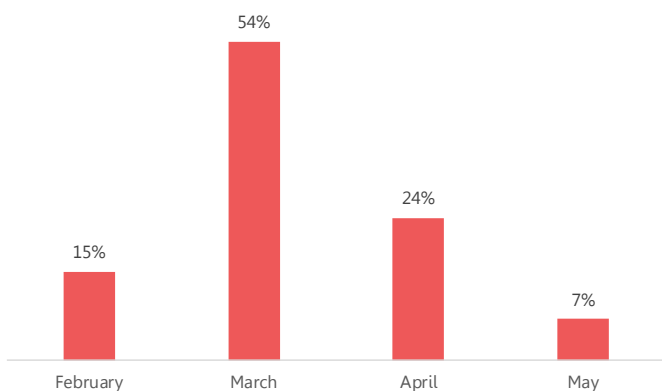
Main three employment statuses reported by respondents, at the moment of the interview

71% not working

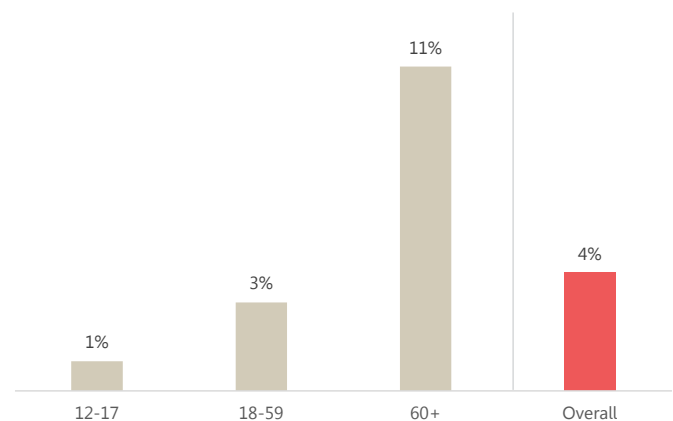
15% retired

7% primary caregiver to a minor

Reported month of arrival of respondent in Moldova



Proportion of individuals at risk of disability³



Average number of days spent in Moldova since arrival of the family

62 days, on average, spent in Moldova

This indicator was developed through applying the [Washington Group Short Set](#) of questions designed to identify people with functional limitations. For the purpose of this assessment, information about each household member was collected. Whenever respondent reported having "a lot of difficulty" or "cannot do it at all" any of before-mentioned activities, he or she was listed as being at risk of disability.

² For analysis purposes, "Higher education" includes respondents who reported "Postgraduate", "Complete higher education", "Basic higher education", "Incomplete higher education", Secondary education includes "Basic secondary education", "Complete secondary vocational", whereas Basic education includes "Preschool", and "Primary education".

³ Washington Group Set captures self-reported functional limitations that may impact the capacity of individual to perform certain tasks.

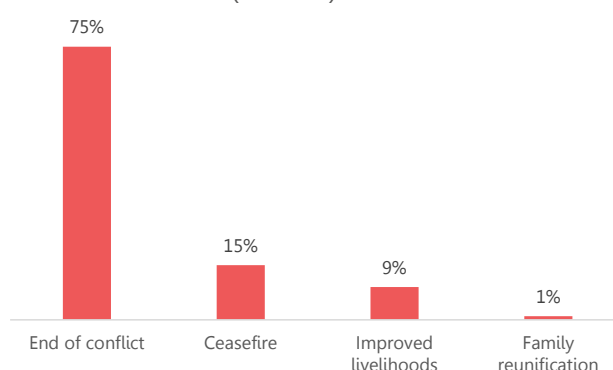
Respondents intentions within one month of the data collection

Reported intention	Community	RAC	Overall
Stay in the same location	74%	65%	73%
Return to UA (oblast of origin)	10%	8%	10%
Move out of Moldova	4%	12%	4%
Remain in the location but in a different accommodation	1%	1%	1%
Return to UA (other oblast)	1%	0%	1%
I do not know what to do	9%	14%	9%

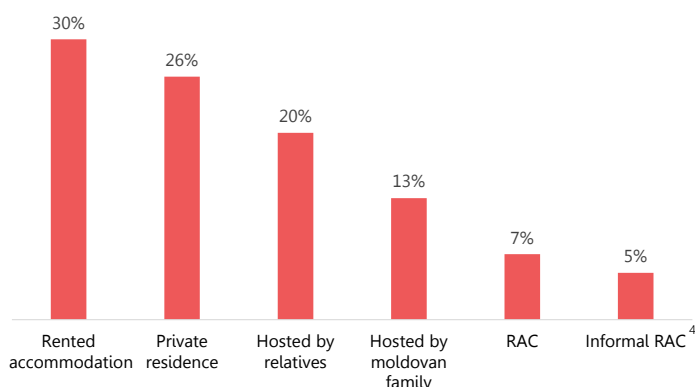
Of respondents reporting wanting to move abroad, the main five reported destinations (n=36)

Country of destination	Community	RAC	Overall
Germany	20%	53%	26%
United Kingdom	10%	0%	8%
Bulgaria	5%	7%	5%
Iceland	5%	7%	5%
Italy	5%	7%	5%
Other countries	30%	26%	31%
I do not know where to go	25%	0%	20%

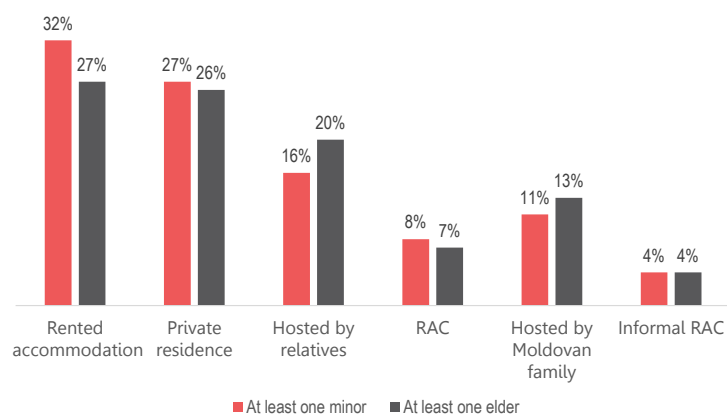
Most commonly reported reasons for considering return to Ukraine (n=625)



Proportion of reported accommodation types⁴



Main accommodation types by the reported presence of at least a minor (<18 years old) or elder (>65 years old)



Most often-reported need by type of accommodation

Primary needs	Rented accommodation	Private residence	Hosted by relatives	RAC	Informal RAC	Hosted by family	Overall
Cash assistance	66%	71%	79%	67%	76%	72%	71%
Food	72%	66%	65%	52%	48%	57%	66%
Healthcare	38%	45%	40%	52%	36%	42%	43%
Shelter	52%	35%	29%	41%	44%	44%	43%

⁴ An Informal RAC is a collective center housing refugees which is not under the jurisdiction of the National Agency of Social Protection (ANAS).

The occupational status of respondent before the conflict and at the moment of the interview, by strata:

	Community			RAC			Overall		
	Before the conflict	Variation	At the moment of the interview	Before the conflict	Variation	At the moment of the interview	Before the conflict	Variation	At the moment of the interview
Formal work	42%	↓	1%	41%	↓	2%	42%	↓	1%
Retired	13%	↑	15%	9%	↑	11%	13%	↑	15%
Own business	11%	↓	0%	6%	↓	0%	11%	↓	0%
Informal work	19%	↓	2%	14%	↓	2%	10%	↓	2%
Primary caregiver to a minor	9%	↓	6%	8%	↑	13%	9%	↓	7%
Student	1%	↓	0%	1%	—	1%	1%	—	1%
Not working	12%	↑	72%	19%	↑	65%	12%	↑	71%
No answer	2%		2%	2%		6%	2%		2%

Proportion of respondents reporting being engaged in formal work, before the conflict, by the sector of employment, by strata (n=284)

Choices	Community	RAC	Overall
Government and public sector	15%	16%	15%
Education	14%	18%	14%
Commerce	13%	10%	13%
Financial services	11%	8%	10%
Healthcare	10%	14%	10%
Transport (driver)	6%	10%	6%
Beauty and care	3%	2%	3%
Food or tobacco production	3%	2%	3%
Hotels, tourism and catering	3%	2%	3%
Media and graphic production	3%	0%	3%
Mechanical engineering	3%	6%	3%

Families interviewed were asked what was the occupation of the head of family while in Ukraine and at the moment of the interview. The majority of head of families were found to be engaged in formal work before the conflict, in equal proportions for families interviewed in RACs and in the community. Retirement was the second most-often reported status as well as having their own business by respondents while they were in Ukraine.

In Moldova, seven out of ten head of respondents reported not working at the moment of the interview, signifying a considerable increase compared to the baseline, most likely linked to their displacement status. For head of families reporting working, the most-often reported sector of employment the head of families were reported having work in the education, government and public sector or commerce.

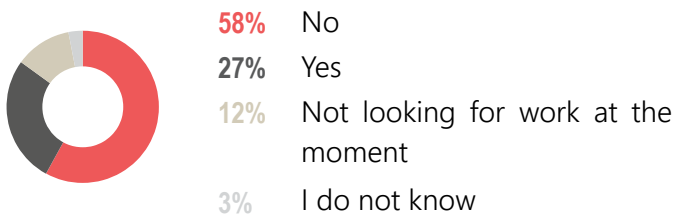


Reported coping strategies used to overcome lack of livelihoods since arriving to Moldova⁵

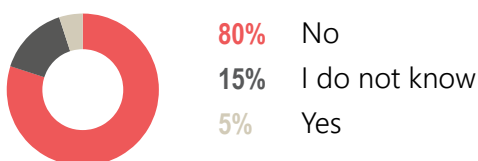
Livelihood coping strategy	No need	Yes
Sold household assets	93%	6%
Spent savings	23%	76%
Purchased food on credit	93%	6%
Send household members to eat away	96%	3%
Sold productive assets	98%	1%
Withdrew children from education	84%	15%
Reduce essential health expenditures	69%	30%
Reduce essential education expenditures	82%	17%
Sold house or land	98%	1%
Entire household migrated-displaced	78%	18%
HH member(-s) moved elsewhere in search of work	95%	3%
Used degrading sources of income	99%	0%

Stress-level strategy
 Crisis-level strategy
 Emergency-level strategy

Respondents reporting having to learn a new language in order to integrate in the labor market in Moldova



Respondents reporting having to certify their diploma in order to access the labor market in Moldova



Proportion of income sources and their corresponding averages (in MDL), by strata⁶

Sources of income	Community		RAC		Overall	
	%	Average amount	%	Average amount	%	Average amount
Savings or pension	65%	14,913	52%	4,650	64%	14,482
Humanitarian assistance	62%	5,255	59%	5,564	62%	5,367
Remittances	13%	7,708	5%	5,333	13%	7,666
Government assistance	11%	4,751	15%	4,320	11%	4,731
Salaried work	7%	8,425	12%	4,416	7%	8,099
Charitable donations (excluding aid)	6%	2,828	5%	1,000	6%	2,778
Support from family and friends (excluding remittances)	5%	5,432	2%	8,800	5%	5,414
Own business	3%	12,250	2%	15,000	3%	12,378
Informal work	2%	3,333	0%	-	1%	3,333
Other kinds of income	0%	3,000	0%	11,000	0%	4,095

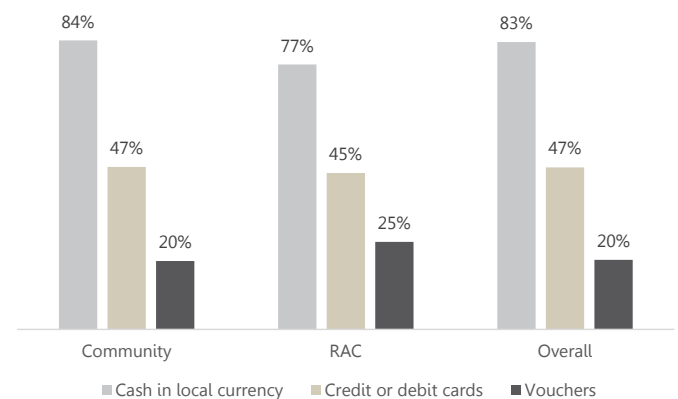
Calculated average reported income and expenses per capita of the Ukrainian families, compared to the national average, in MDL, by strata⁶



Average monthly income per person in Moldova, in 2021

Average monthly expenditure, per person in Moldova, in 2021

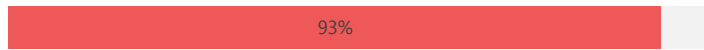
Main payment modalities used by respondents, by strata



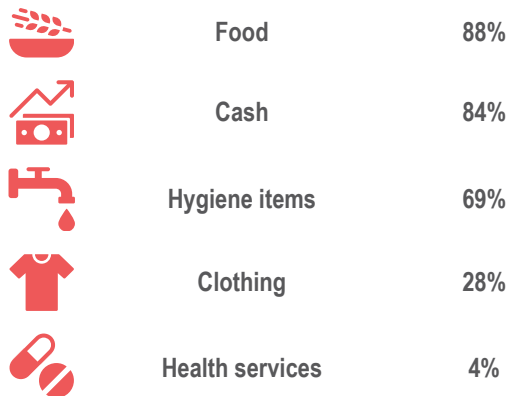
⁵ Livelihood coping strategies is an indicator to measure the extent of livelihood coping households need to utilise as a response to lack of food or money to purchase food. Multiple livelihood coping strategies could have been selected therefore findings may exceed 100%.

⁶ 536 families reported at least one value of income source and 424 families reported at least one expense amount. Average monthly income and expenses per person in Moldova available from the [National Statistics Office of Moldova](#).

Proportion of respondents reporting receiving humanitarian aid since arriving to Moldova



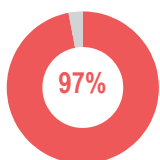
Main types of aid received since date of arrival



Respondent reporting on information needs⁸

Choices	% reporting need
How to access health care services	25%
How to get more money	19%
How to register for aid	17%
How to find work	14%
How to enroll children in school	6%
News on what is happening in Moldova	6%
No information need	45%

Respondent's satisfaction with the behavior of humanitarian workers in their area

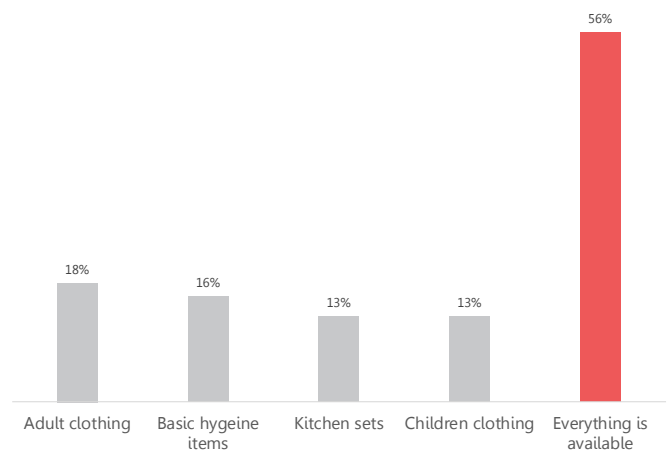


97% of respondents were satisfied with the behavior of the humanitarian workers in their area

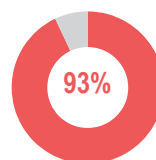
Primary needs in the 30 days prior to data collection, by presence of at least a minor (<18 years old) or elder (>65 years old)⁷

Priority need	Families with children	Families with elders	Overall
Cash assistance	69%	67%	71%
Food	66%	66%	66%
Healthcare	38%	52%	43%
Shelter or housing	40%	43%	43%
Employment	15%	10%	14%
Hygiene NFIs	9%	8%	7%
Education for children (<18)	10%	4%	6%
Language courses	5%	4%	5%
Livelihoods support	4%	2%	3%
Psychosocial support	3%	1%	3%
Sanitation services	2%	1%	1%
Need to repay debt	1%	1%	1%
None	6%	8%	7%

Item needs in the 30 days prior to data collection



Respondent's satisfaction with the impact of humanitarian aid on their wellbeing



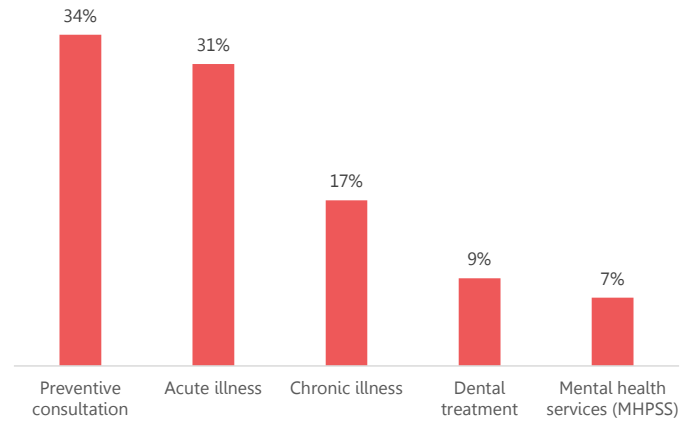
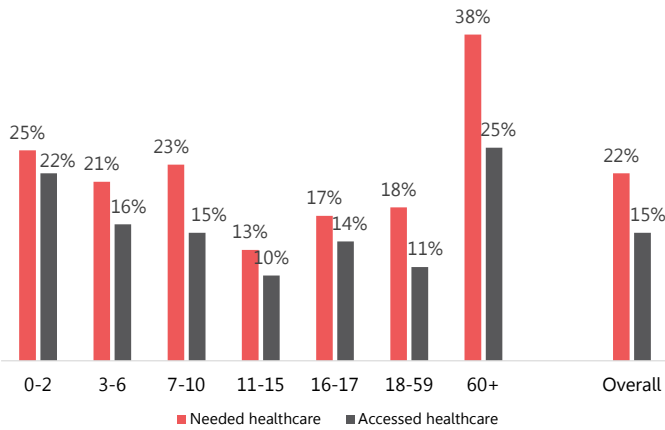
93% of respondents reported that humanitarian aid received has had a positive impact on their wellbeing

⁷ Indicators related to humanitarian aid were only addressed to families residing inside the community.

⁸ Multiple choices could be selected, therefore findings may exceed 100%.

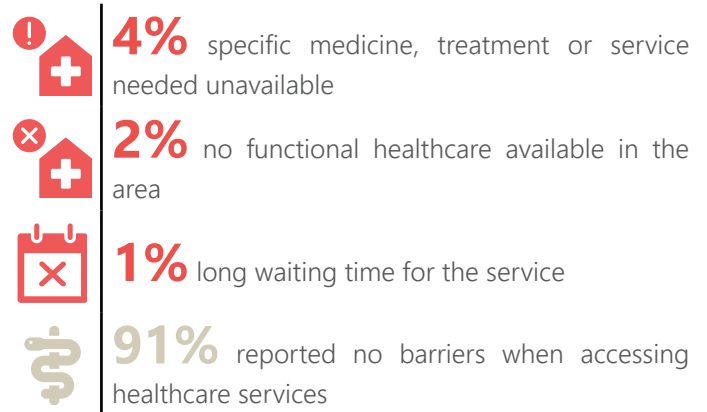
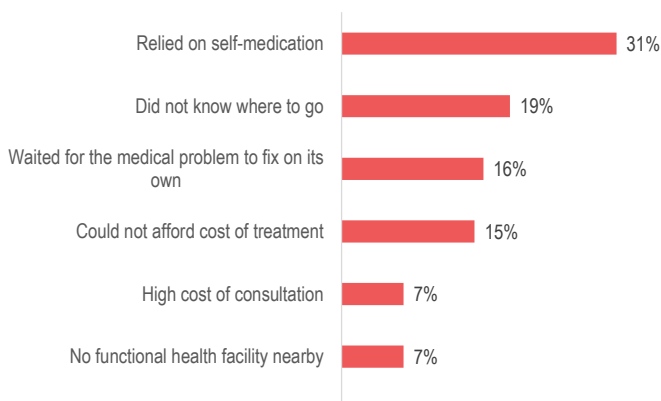
Proportion of individual members needing healthcare and accessing healthcare, since arriving to Moldova

Proportion of individual members needing healthcare, by reasons for accessing healthcare (n=446)¹⁰



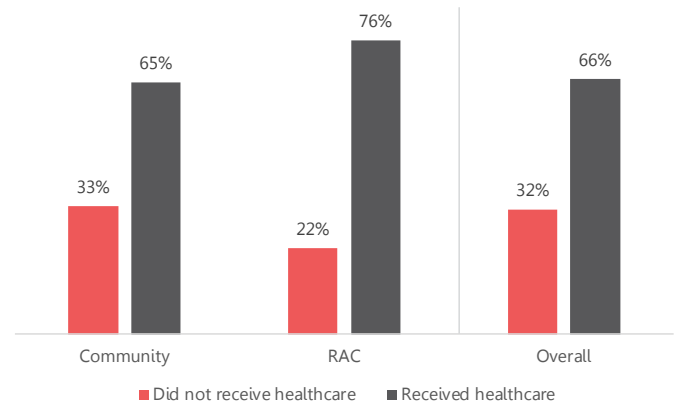
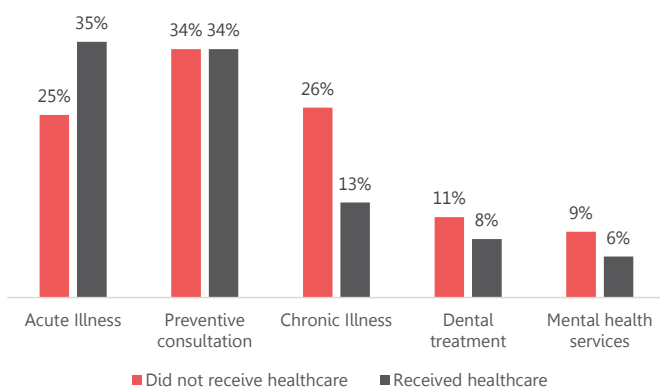
Reasons of individuals for not accessing healthcare while needing it, since arriving to Moldova (n=139)⁹

Reported barriers of individuals encountered when accessing healthcare services in Moldova (n=307)¹⁰



Proportion of individuals not being able to access healthcare, by the reported healthcare need

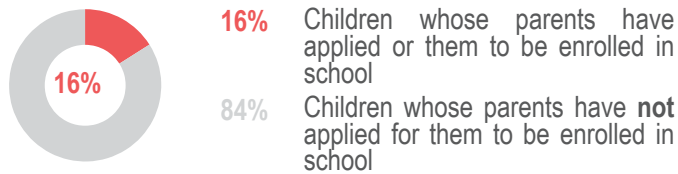
Proportion of individuals not being able to access healthcare, by strata



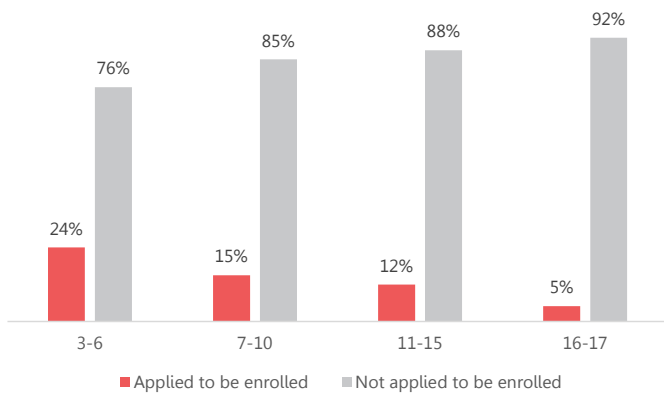
⁹ Indicators related to health were reported by respondent for each individual member of the family more than 2 years old.

¹⁰ Multiple choices could be selected, therefore findings may exceed 100%.

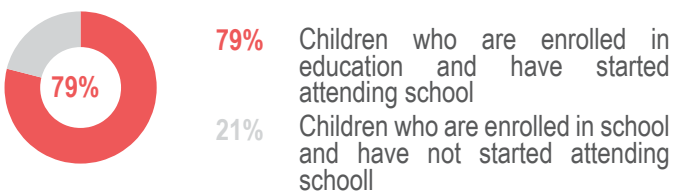
Proportion of school-aged children whose caregivers have applied for them to be enrolled in school



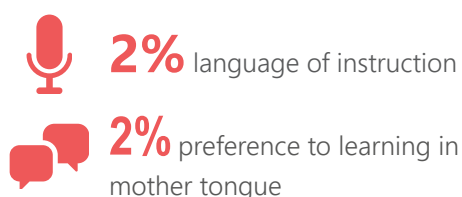
Proportion of school-aged children whose caregivers have applied for them to be enrolled in school, by age group (n=98)



Proportion of school-aged children whose caregivers have applied for them to be enrolled in school and started school (n=98)

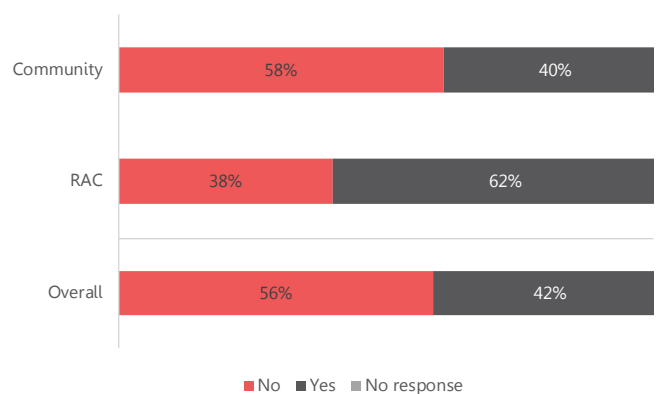


Proportion of school-aged children whose caregivers have applied for them to be enrolled in school and started school, by type of barrier encountered (n=98)



Choices	3-6	7-10	11-15	16-17	Overall
Preference for attendance Ukrainian remote education	14%	82%	82%	75%	62%
Did not want to	20%	1%	1%	3%	7%
Intention to move soon	13%	3%	1%	0%	5%
Language barrier	4%	3%	1%	0%	3%
Lack of inclusive schools	2%	1%	2%	9%	2%
Space in school not available	5%	0%	1%	0%	2%
Too young	3%	1%	0%	0%	1%
Waiting for a response to the application	3%	0%	1%	3%	1%
Lack of schools in accessible distance	2%	0%	0%	3%	1%
Errors with application	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
No response	33%	10%	12%	7%	17%

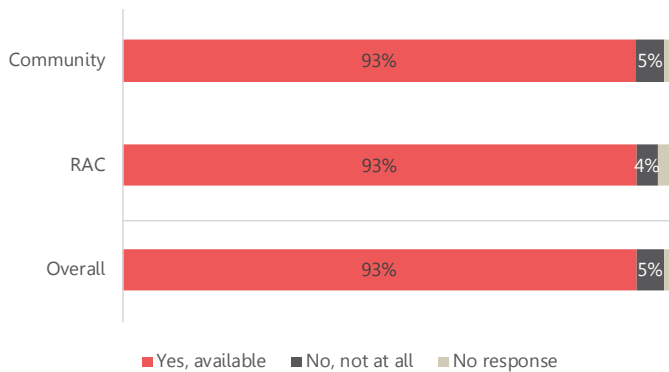
Families benefiting of support for children to participate to extracurricular activities, by strata



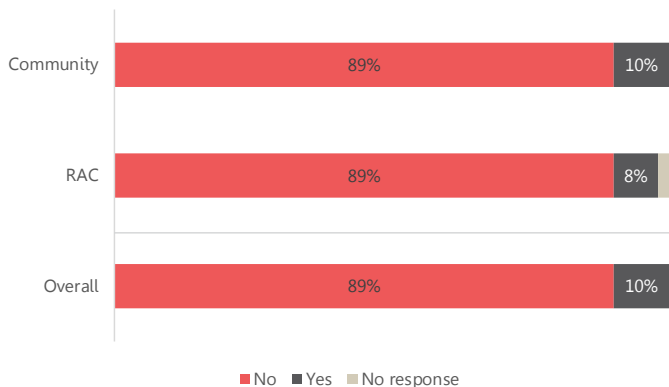
¹¹ Indicators related to education were reported by respondent for each individual member of the family aged from 3 to 17 years old.

¹² Multiple choices could be selected, therefore findings may exceed 100%.

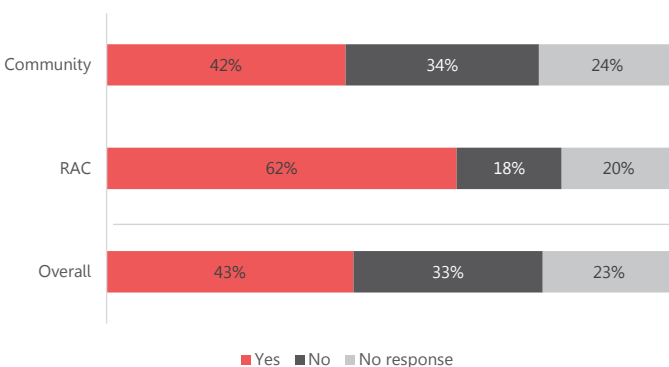
Respondents reporting on availability of documentation of their family members, by strata



Respondents reporting experiencing any form of discrimination since arriving to Moldova, by strata



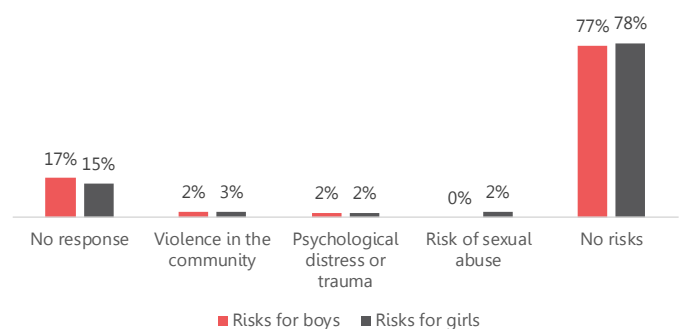
Respondents reporting on the existence of psychosocial services in their area, by strata



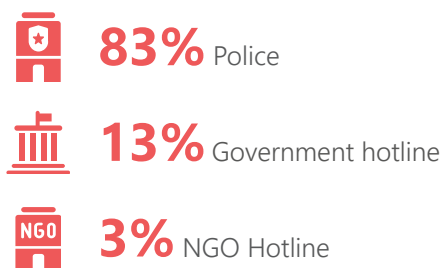
The main three risks faced by women in the area, by strata¹³.

Choices	Community	RAC	Overall
Discrimination or persecution	2%	2%	2%
Suffering from verbal harassment	2%	3%	2%
Being robbed	1%	2%	1%
No threat	88%	86%	88%

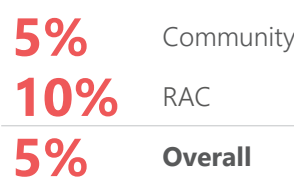
Most reported risks for boys and girls in the area



Awareness about available support in case a woman or girl in their family experiences violence



Proportion of families having under care a minor whom had not care while in Ukraine, by strata



¹³ Multiple options could be selected, therefore findings may exceed 100%.

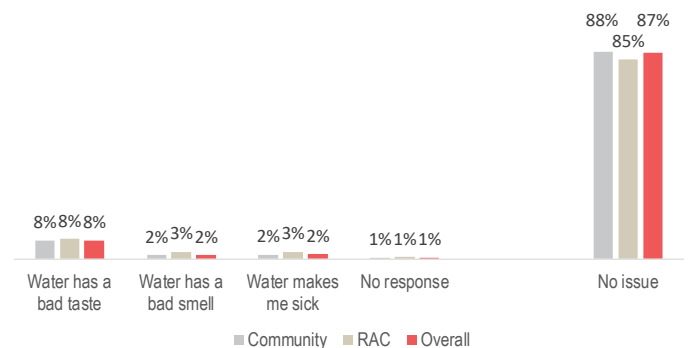
Respondents reporting on issues with sanitation facilities, by strata

Choices	Community	RAC	Overall
Lack of sanitation facilities	2%	3%	1%
Sanitation facilities are unhygienic	1%	5%	1%
Persons with special needs cannot access sanitation facilities	1%	0%	1%
Sanitation facilities are too far	1%	1%	1%
Sanitation facilities are not functioning or are full	0%	2%	0%
Sanitation facilities are not private	0%	2%	0%
Sanitation facilities are difficult to reach	0%	2%	0%
Sanitation facilities are not gender segregated	0%	1%	0%
No issue	97%	91%	96%

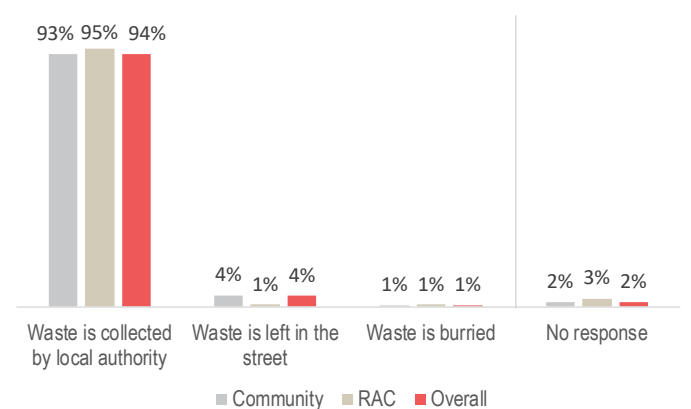
Respondents reporting on issues with accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for their drinking and domestic needs, by strata

Choices	Community	RAC	Overall
Water is interrupted frequently	2%	5%	1%
The source of water is far	0%	2%	0%
Water source is not working	0%	1%	0%
Water is of poor quality	1%	2%	1%
Water source is too far	1%	2%	1%
No answer	1%	1%	1%
No issue	97%	87%	96%

Respondents reporting on the quality of drinking water, by strata



Respondents reporting on the main modality of waste management, by strata



Access to menstrual materials⁴



94% of respondents living in the community reported no issues related to access to menstrual hygiene materials. The proportion of respondents living in RACs reporting no issues with access was 95%

Issues related to access to menstrual materials



3% price of menstrual hygiene items



2% availability



1% quality

About REACH:

REACH Initiative facilitates the development of information tools and products that enhance the capacity of aid actors to make evidence-based decisions in emergency, recovery and development contexts. The methodologies used by REACH include primary data collection and in-depth analysis, and all activities are conducted through inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. REACH is a joint initiative of IMPACT Initiatives, ACTED and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research - Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNITAR-UNOSAT).

¹⁴ Multiple options could be selected, therefore findings may exceed 100%.