



UKRAINE



Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM)

Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA)

August 2023

Executive Summary

- ◆ Starting August 2022, WFP collaborated with the Ministry of Social Policy (MoSP) to serve people who had registered for humanitarian assistance through the E-dopomoga platform. Using the E-dopomoga registry, WFP oriented its cash assistance towards parts of the country closest to the frontline and most impacted by the war as well as towards groups of people with specific vulnerabilities. This included low-income families and economically vulnerable old-age pensioners and people living with disabilities, either displaced or residing in one of eight prioritized oblasts.
- ◆ Through this collaboration, nearly 1.2 million people were supported with 2,220 UAH per person per month for three months between August 2022 and March 2023.
- ◆ For the purposes of post distribution monitoring of transfer processes and assistance outcomes, 757 interviews were conducted between 8th and 28th March 2023, with WFP cash beneficiaries who had received cash assistance for three consecutive months between August 2022 and March 2023.
- ◆ The majority of respondents are female (75%) and the average age of respondents is 63 years old. 94% of respondents have specific household- or individual-level socio-demographic characteristics. The most common ones are: 71% of respondents had at least one household member chronically ill; about half (51%) of respondents live in households where all members are older than 60 years old; and about a third (32%) belongs to a household with at least one household living with an officially registered disability.
- ◆ One third (31%) of respondents were found to have inadequate food consumption, defined by a poor (7%) or borderline (24%) food consumption score. When disaggregating by socio-demographic categories, it is observed that the elderly (all household members 60+) and low-income categories have higher shares of respondents with inadequate food consumption.
- ◆ Nine in ten respondents (88%) reported relying on a food consumption-based coping strategy at least once during the week prior to the data collection, such as relying on less preferred or less expensive food at least once (84% of respondents); reducing portion sizes at mealtime (44%); and reducing number of meals eaten in a day (37%).
- ◆ The majority (82%) of respondents reported adopting at least one livelihood coping strategy during the month prior to the data collection. The most commonly used strategies are spending savings (57% of respondents) and reducing necessary expenses on health (58%).
- ◆ In terms of economic vulnerability, the majority (73%) of respondents have monthly expenditures per capita below the Minimum Expenditure Basket, including 14% with expenditures below the Survival Minimum Expenditures Basket.
- ◆ It was noted that even within the specific vulnerable categories targeted for cash, unemployment in the household still aggravates its economic vulnerability and food insecurity.

- ◆ Only 27% of respondents stated that they are either fully able or rather able to cover their needs. 61% stated they are not able to cover their needs, including 22% of respondents who reported not being able to cover their needs at all.
- ◆ While causality cannot be established, the monitoring data shows a reverse relationship between number of cash transfers received and the likelihood of having inadequate food consumption. The more cash transfers received by beneficiaries, the lower the share of inadequate food consumption.
- ◆ When asking respondents about the decision-making process of what to do with the cash assistance, nearly half of the respondents (47%) indicated that the decision was made jointly in the household.
- ◆ The most common expenses covered with the cash assistance are health-related (62% of respondents), food (60%) and paying for utilities, including heating expenditures (54%). The importance of health-related expenditures may be a reflection of the high share of elderly and people living with disabilities in the targeted groups.
- ◆ 92% of respondents stated that overall, they are either satisfied or very satisfied with the assistance, and 85% stated that they are either satisfied or very satisfied with the amount of the entitlement.
- ◆ 99% of respondents stated that Western Union/partner staff treated them respectfully when collecting the cash.
- ◆ 95% of respondents said that their preferred modality of assistance was cash.



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I. Context and project brief

Starting in August 2022, WFP collaborated with the Ministry of Social Policy (MoSP) to serve people who had registered for humanitarian assistance through the E-dopomoga platform. E-dopomoga (launched in April 2022) is a platform developed by the MoSP to allow people affected by the war to self-register and be included in the “pool” of people requesting assistance from humanitarian organizations. The MoSP then transferred lists of registered people to humanitarian agencies, including WFP, to assist people in need effectively and in a coordinated manner.

In the first months of the 2022 emergency response, as large-scale displacement took place across Ukraine, WFP’s assistance focused on serving internally displaced people (IDPs) through the provision of Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA). However, as population movements somewhat stabilised, as of August 2022 WFP began orienting its cash assistance towards parts of the country closest to the frontline and most impacted by the war as well as towards groups of people with specific and compounding vulnerabilities. Based on a geographical and socio-demographic needs analysis and prioritization and in coordination with the MoSP, for its second round of MPCA starting in August 2022, WFP targeted i) low-income households as defined by the government’s social categorisation, ii) households who are internally displaced and either living with a disability or are old-age pensioners, and iii) non-displaced households who reside in one of the eight prioritized oblasts¹ and either living with a disability or are old-age pensioners. Furthermore, an income threshold criterion was applied to ensure coverage of the most economically vulnerable people within groups ii) and iii).

Table 1. MPCA targeting August 2022

Target groups
Low-income families (GMI)
IDP – with disability, below 4,000 UAH income (nationwide)
IDP – pensioner, below 3,500 UAH income (nationwide)
Non-displaced– with a disability, below 4,000 UAH income (8 priority oblasts)
Non-displaced– pensioners, below 3,500 UAH income (8 priority oblasts)

The formulation of targeting criteria in alignment with the government categorisation in combination with the use of E-dopomoga allowed WFP to quickly obtain data of the population to be assisted with multi-purpose cash assistance. In total, 1,158,754 people were supported with 2,220 UAH/capita/month for three consecutive months between August 2022 and March 2023.

¹ As informed by the geographical needs analysis, government priority oblasts and the feasibility of implementing cash assistance: Dnipropetrovska, Kyiv city, Kyivska, Mykolaivska, Odeska, Sumska, Kharkivska, and Chernihivska oblasts.

II. Sampling and data collection

Between 8th and 28th March 2023, 757 interviews were conducted with WFP-supported cash beneficiaries who had received three consecutive months of cash assistance from August 2022 to March 2023. The data collection was administered via telephone interviews, implemented by a third-party monitoring company (TPM), the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology (KIIS). The interviewed beneficiaries were randomly selected from WFP's beneficiary registration lists and the sample is representative of this cohort of cash beneficiaries.

The survey covered all macro-regions in Ukraine (Table 2) – however, as stratification was not applied in the sampling, findings per macro-region are indicative.

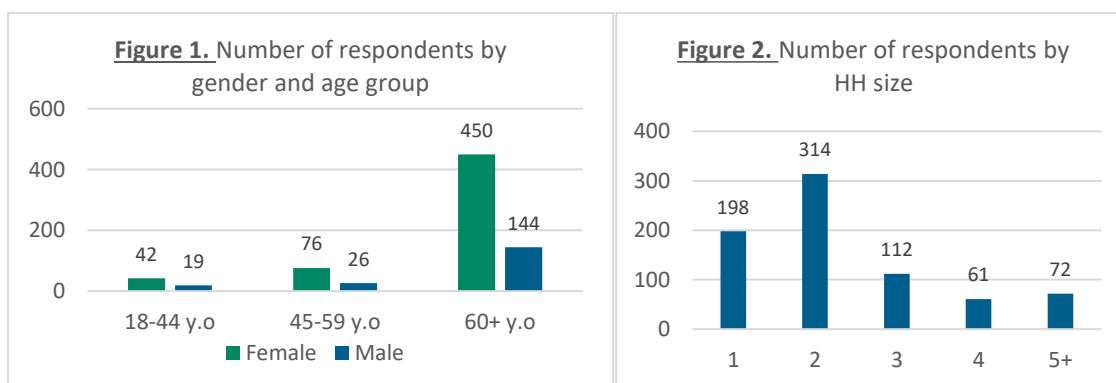
Table 2. Number of interviews per macro-region

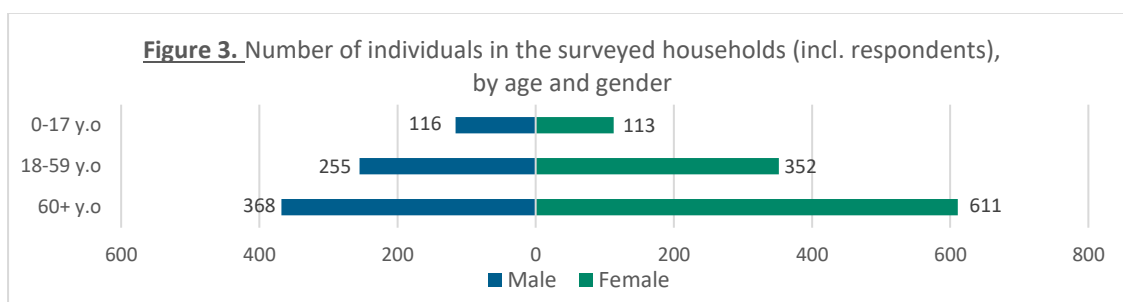
Macro-region	Number of interviews
West	40
Center	20
North	258
South	164
East	221
Kyiv city	54
Total	757

III. Sample description

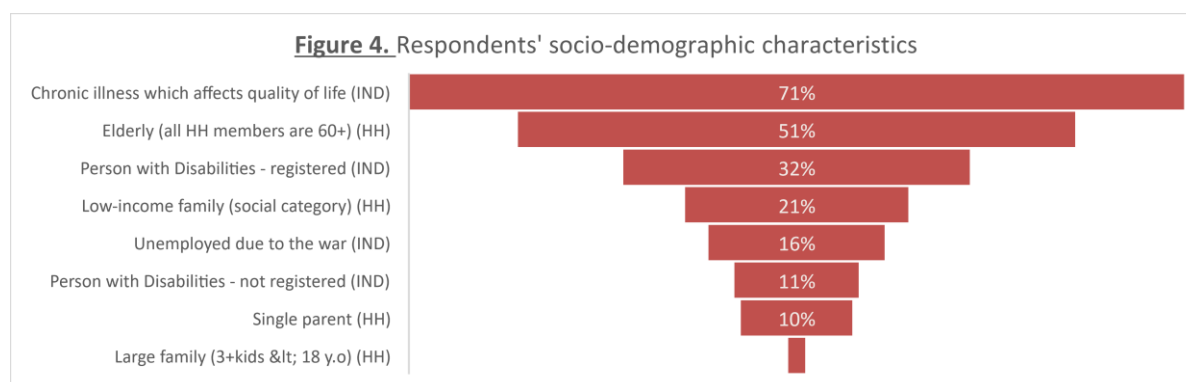
Socio-demographic characteristics

The majority of respondents are female (75% of respondents) and the average age of respondents is 63 years old – Figure 1. The average size of the households (HH) is 2.4 individuals (Figure 2). The 757 surveyed respondents represent 1,815 individuals (respondents and their household members – Figure 3).





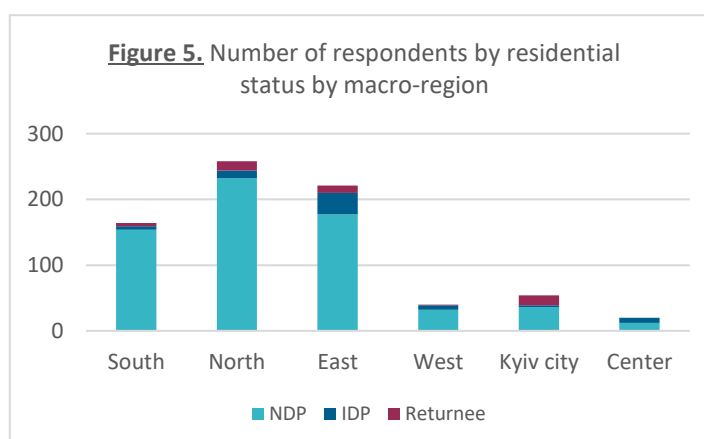
94% of respondents have some specific household-level or individual-level socio-demographic characteristics. The most common ones are: at least one household member being chronically ill – 71% of respondents; elderly household (all household members are older than 60 y.o) – 51% of respondents; and at least one household member has a disability (officially registered) – 32% of respondents (Figure 4).



Note: In the list of characteristics in Figure 4, HH indicates a household-level characteristic and IND indicates at least one household member having the specified characteristic. One household can have both household and individual characteristics (i.e. a large family (HH) with a member with disability (IND)).

Residential characteristics

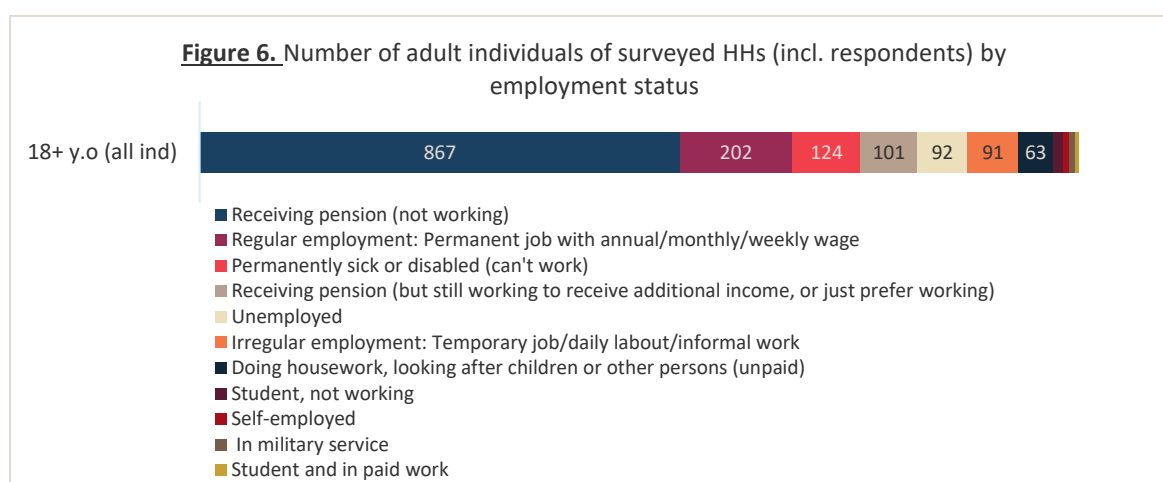
At the time of the interview, 9% of the respondents reported being currently displaced (IDP), 85% stated otherwise (non-displaced person - NDP) and around 6% of respondents reported having been displaced but currently returned. The highest proportion of IDPs is among respondents residing in Center, West and East macro-regions (40%, 18% and 15% respectively), and the macro-region with the highest proportion of returnees is Kyiv city (28% returnees) – Figure 5.



The majority of interviewees are residing in urban settlements (58% of respondents), followed by rural settlements (33%), and 10% of respondents are residing in urban-type settlements. 87% of respondents reported currently living in their own accommodation, some 7% stated that they are currently hosted by someone, 5% are renting an accommodation and around 1% of respondents reported residing in a communal accommodation (including collective centers).

Employment status and income sources²

87% of individuals in the surveyed households are 18+ years old. Slightly more than half of them (55%) are receiving pension and not working, some 13% are regularly employed, 8% permanently sick or with a disability (cannot work), 6% are receiving pension and still working, another 6% are irregularly/partially employed and another 6% are unemployed (Figure 6). The high prevalence of population receiving pension within the sample corresponds to the targeting criteria of this cohort of beneficiaries.



From a household-level perspective, almost all households were found to have at least one household member receiving pension and either working or not working (94% of households), 21% have at least one household member who is regularly employed and some 15% of households have at least one household member who cannot work due to health issues or disability.

IV. Outcome indicators

Baseline

Similar to the previous round of MPCA outcome monitoring ([MPCA PDM October 2022](#)), there was no baseline data collected specifically on the targeted population due to the evolution of targeting criteria over the course of the response and limitation in beneficiary data availability. Between October and December 2022, WFP collaborated with REACH Initiatives to carry out a country-wide assessment in order to assess the humanitarian situation in Ukraine - the 2022

² The income from WFP assistance is purposely not accounted for in this analysis.

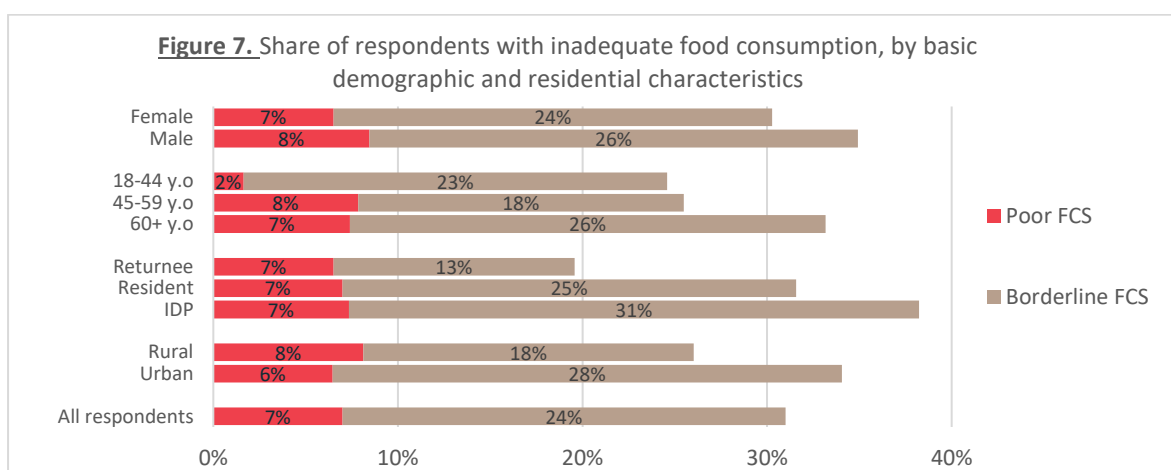
Multisectoral Needs Assessment (MSNA) (incl. sectoral Food Security and Livelihoods part). However, given the data collection timing and sampling specifics of the assessment, it cannot be referred as a baseline, but some selected findings from MSNA will be presented at the end of this section to allow an indicative comparison.

Food Consumption Score

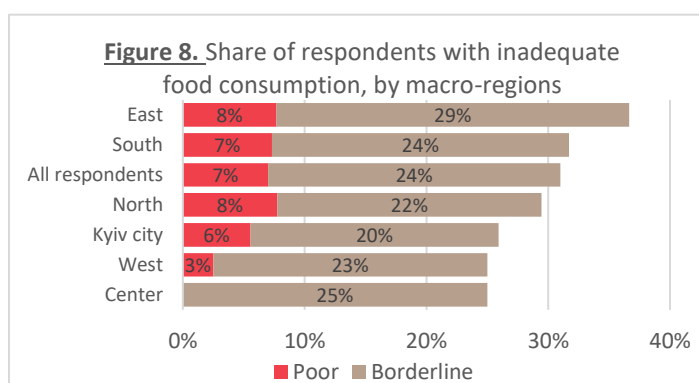
Overall, one third (31%) of respondents were found to have inadequate food consumption, defined by a poor (7%) or borderline (24%) food consumption score (FCS).

Disaggregation by demographic characteristics (Figure 7) shows that:

- There are minimal differences between FCS results for female and male respondents (7% and 8% poor FCS respectively);
- Younger respondents (18-44 y.o) are less likely to have poor FCS (only 2%), while older respondents (60+ y.o) are more likely to have poor FCS (7%) and overall inadequate food consumption;
- With regards to residential status, the highest share of respondents with inadequate food consumption is among IDPs and the lowest among returnees;
- Urban residents have a higher share of inadequate food consumption than rural residents.

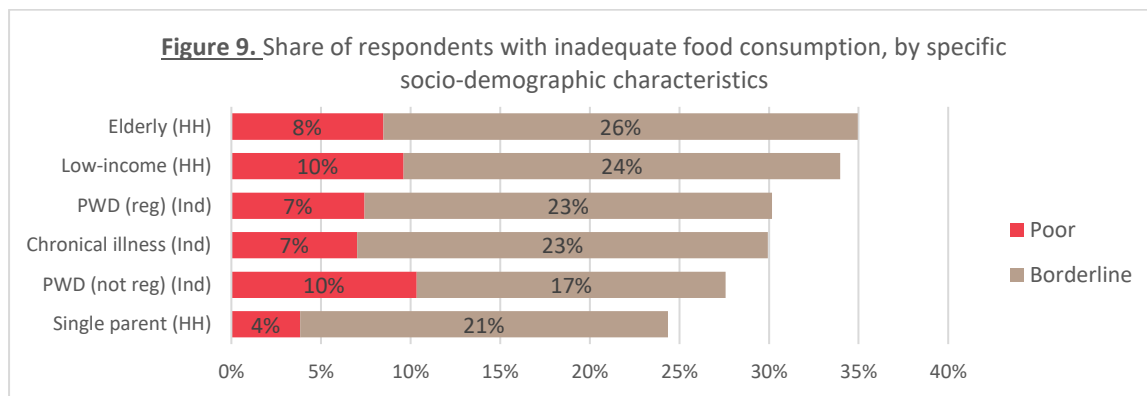


Among the macro-regions, residents of the East and South macro-regions were found to have a slightly higher inadequate food consumption scores (Figure 8). The North, Kyiv city, West and Center macro-regions were found to have lower inadequate food consumption scores – but they are also less represented in the survey due to the targeting specifics, thus these findings should be read as indicative.

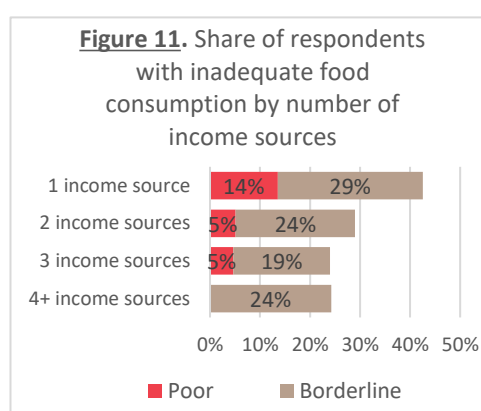
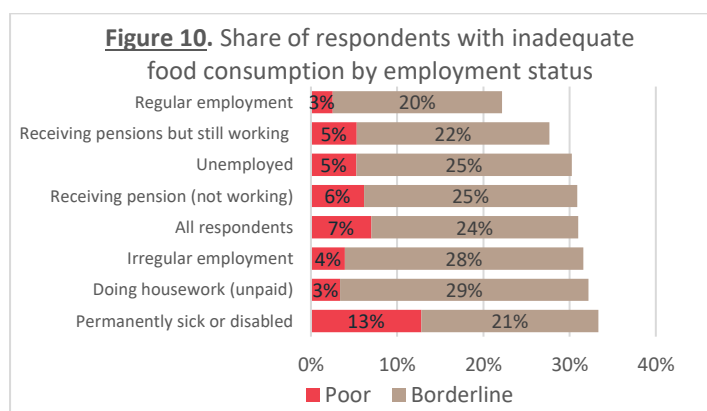


When disaggregated by the specific socio-demographic categories, it can be observed that respondents within the elderly (all household members 60+), low-income (official social status of

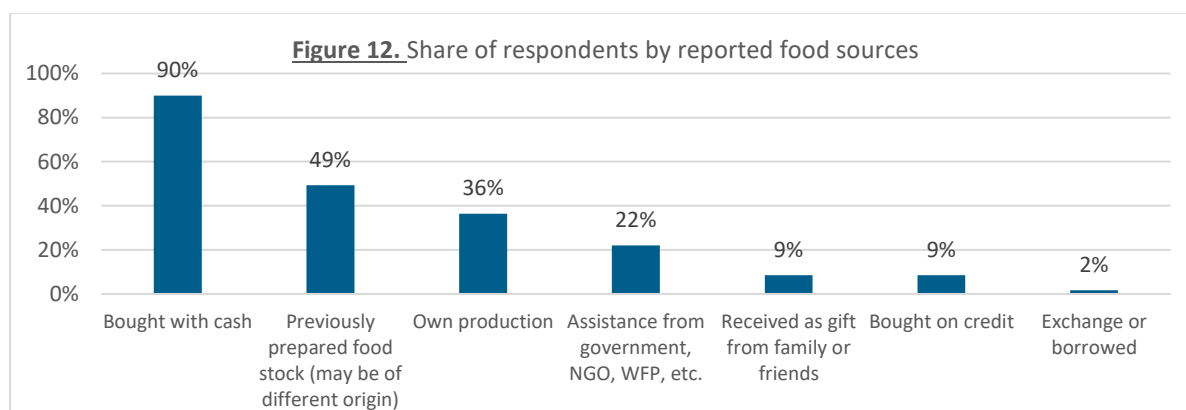
the household) and people living with disabilities categories have higher shares of respondents with inadequate food consumption (Figure 9) – confirming the relevance of targeting of these groups. However, as for the geographical disaggregation, the differences among groups are rather small.



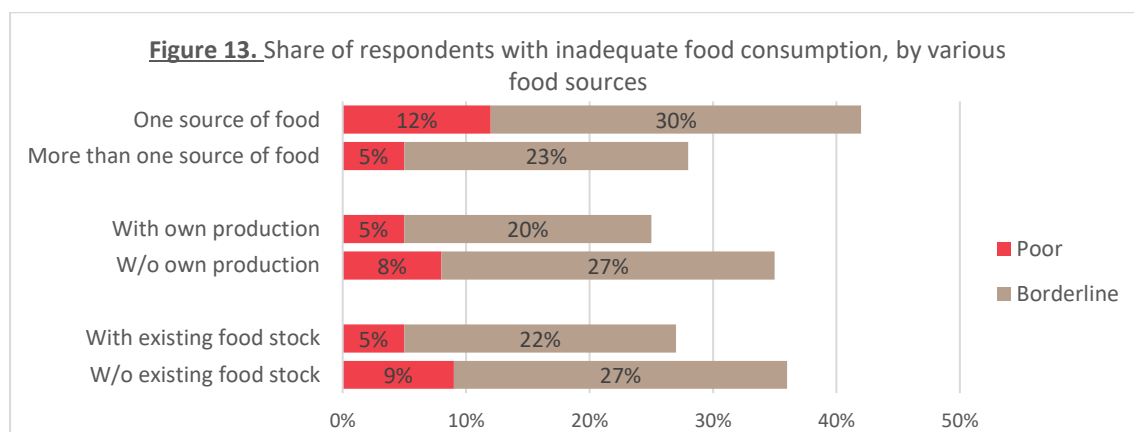
In terms of employment and income status of the households, it can be observed that: (i) the groups with the lowest share of respondents with inadequate food consumption are those who have regularly employed individuals in their households (Figure 10) and (ii) the highest share of respondents with inadequate food consumption was found among households who rely on a single income source (Figure 11).



The majority of respondents (90%) reported relying on cash purchases to obtain their food. Half of respondents (49%) reported also relying on food previously stocked and slightly more than a third of respondents reported having their own production as one of their food sources. 22% of respondents also reported in-kind assistance from humanitarian aid as one of the food sources in their household (Figure 12).



Analysis of the respondents' FCS by food source shows that respondents who rely only on one source of food have higher share of inadequate food consumption; respondents who have their own production have lower share of inadequate food consumption compared to the respondents who do not report having this food source – the same goes for having a previously prepared food stock (Figure 13).



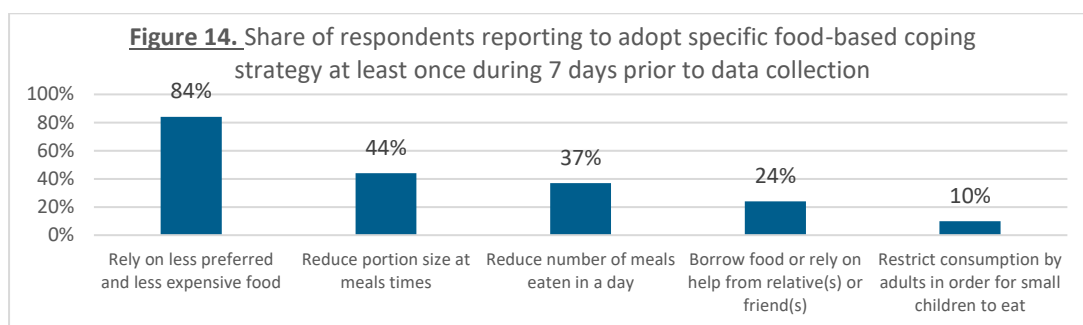
Food consumption-based coping strategies (rCSI)

88% of respondents reported relying on a food consumption-based coping strategy at least once during the week prior to the data collection.

Slightly more than one quarter of the respondents (27%) were found to have a low coping strategies index (meaning none or minimum adoption of food consumption-based coping strategies), while for 64% of respondents this score is medium and for 9% high (frequent adoption of multiple consumption-based coping strategies).

Regarding the type of coping strategies used, 84% of respondents stated that during the week prior to the data collection, they had to rely on less preferred or less expensive food at least once – and out of them, half reported doing so every day. In addition, almost half of respondents (44%) reported reducing portion sizes at mealtime and more than a third (37%) reported reducing number of meals eaten in a day. Around a quarter of respondents reported that they had to

borrow food and around 10% of respondents reported restricting the consumption by adults in order for small children to eat (Figure 14).

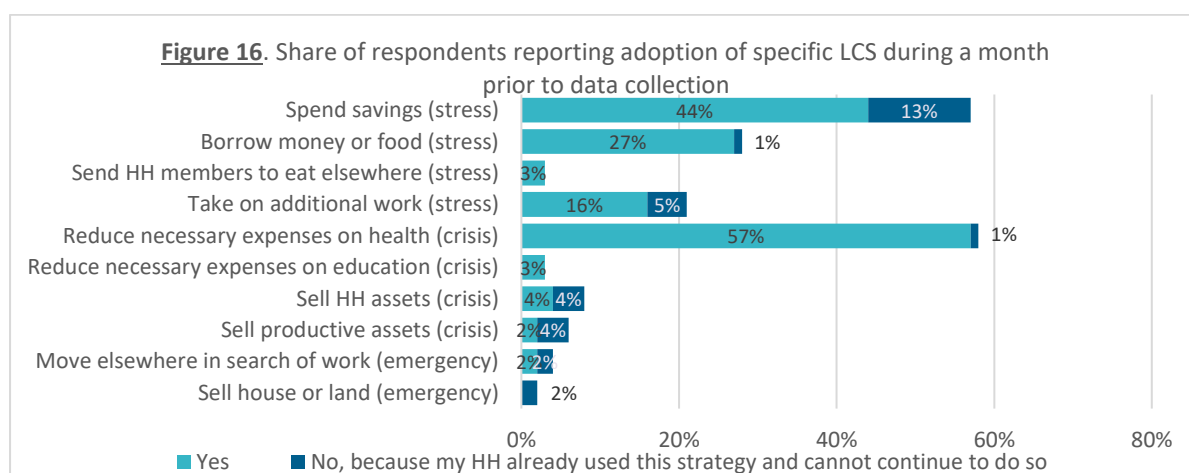


Livelihood coping strategies (LCS)

The majority (82%) of respondents reported adopting at least one of the livelihood coping strategies (LCS) during the month prior to the data collection. 5% of respondents are using emergency coping strategies (selling house/land, moving elsewhere in search of work), 58% are using crisis coping strategies (selling household assets, selling productive assets, reducing expenditures on health or education) and 20% are using stress coping strategies (spending savings, borrowing money, taking additional work or sending household members to eat somewhere else) (Figure 15).

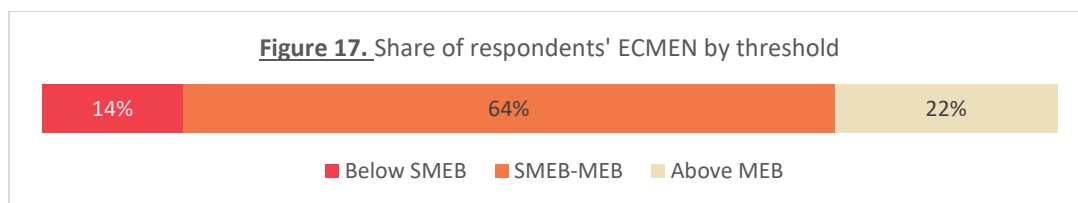


The most commonly used LCS are: spending savings (reported by 57% of respondents, where 44% stated doing so and 13% stated that they have run out of capacity to adopt this strategy as they already had done so); reducing necessary expenses on health (58% of respondents); borrowing money or food (28% of respondents); and taking on additional work in order to meet essential needs (21%) (Figure 16).



ECMEN (Economic Capacity to Meet Essential Needs)

The majority (73%) of respondents have monthly expenditures per capita below the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB)³ – including 14% who have their expenditures below the Survival Minimum Expenditures Basket (SMEB)⁴ – Figure 17.

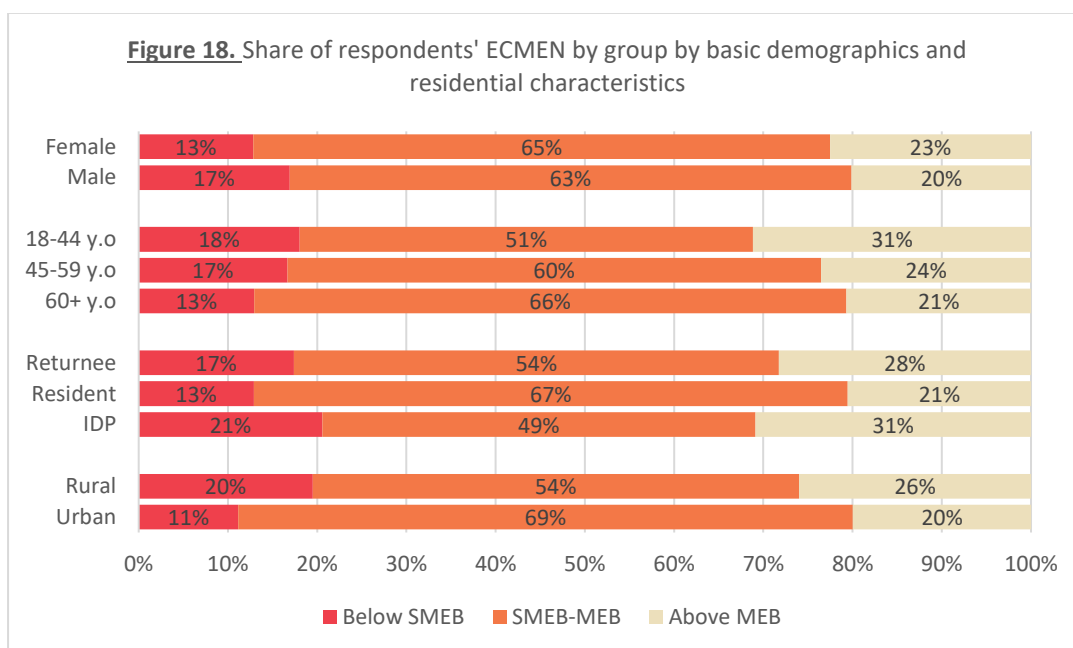


Disaggregation by various demographic characteristics (Figure 18) shows that:

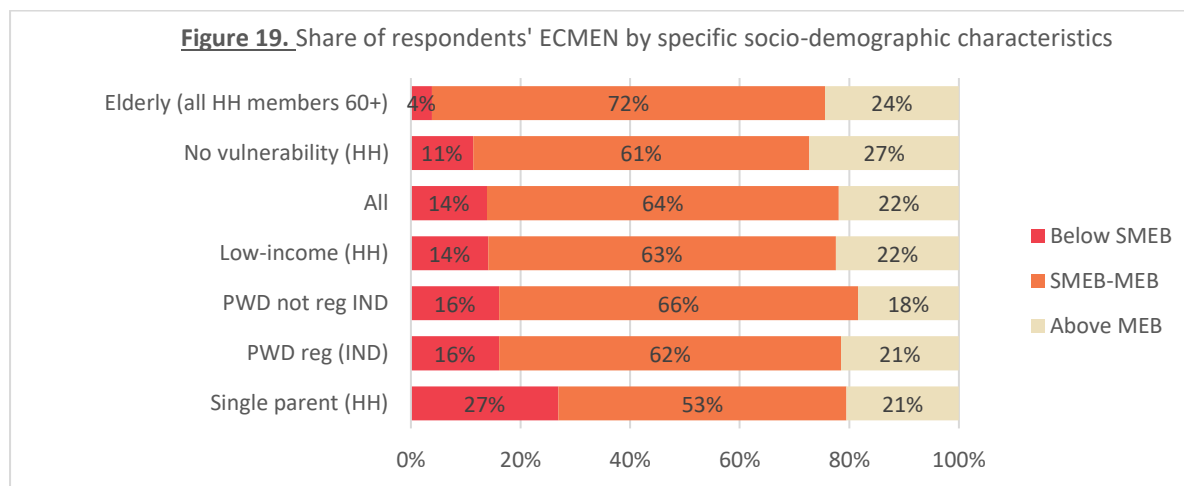
- There is a very little difference between ECMEN results for female and male respondents – with male respondents having slightly higher share of below SMEB and lower share of above MEB;
- Younger respondents (18-44 y.o) are a more economically heterogenous group (higher share of ECMEN below SMEB but also higher share of ECMEN above MEB) compared to older respondents (more respondents in SMEB-MEB category);
- In terms of residential status, IDPs and returnees are more likely be more economically heterogenous groups (higher share of below SMEB but also higher share of above MEB) compared to non-displaced population.
- Residents of urban locations were found to be more economically homogenous compared to residents of rural locations, whose ECMEN is more likely to be either below SMEB or above MEB.

³ The Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) reference used for the calculation is the average Factual Minimum Subsistence Level calculated by the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine in January 2022, inflated by the November 2022 Consumer Price Index (CPI) = 5865 UAH/capita/month.

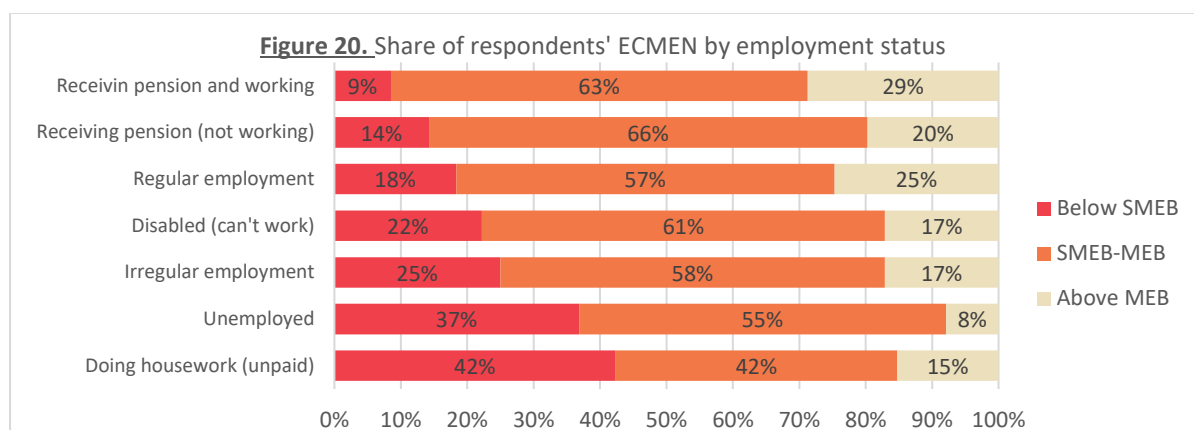
⁴ The Survival Minimum Expenditures Basket (SMEB) reference used for the calculation is the average official Minimum Subsistence Level defined by the Law of Ukraine in November 2022 = 2859 UAH/capita/month.



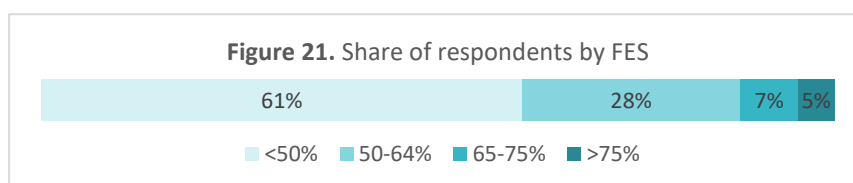
When disaggregated by specific socio-demographic categories (Figure 19), it can be noted that respondents within the elderly category (all household members 60+) are the most homogenous group and are the least likely to have extreme economical vulnerability (only 4% of elderly households have ECMEN below SMEB). Single parents are most likely to be economically vulnerable (27% below SMEB), and approximately 16% of households with a person with disability (PWD) (both registered and not registered) were found to have their expenditures below SMEB.



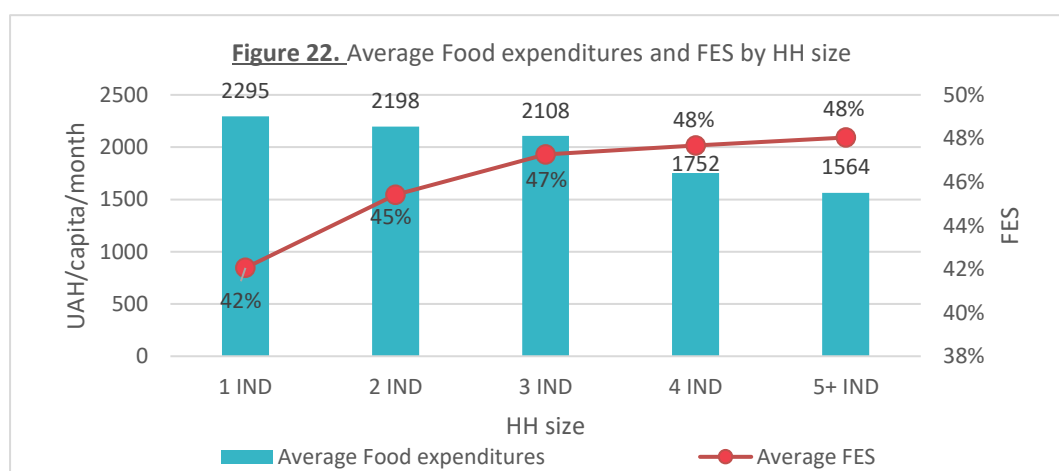
In terms of employment status of the households (Figure 20), it can be observed that among households with at least one household member who does not have an income (doing unpaid housework or unemployed), the share of economically extremely vulnerable households is noticeably larger compared to other categories – at 42% and 37% respectively. Households with unemployed members also have the smallest share of households above MEB (only 8%). Respondents with at least one household member receiving pension and is also employed have the smallest share of ECMEN below SMEB (9%).



The average Food Expenditure Share (FES)⁵ was found to be 45%. 89% of respondents have FES <65% (Figure 21).

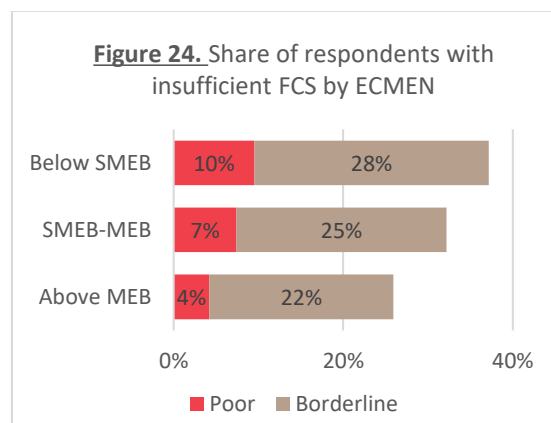
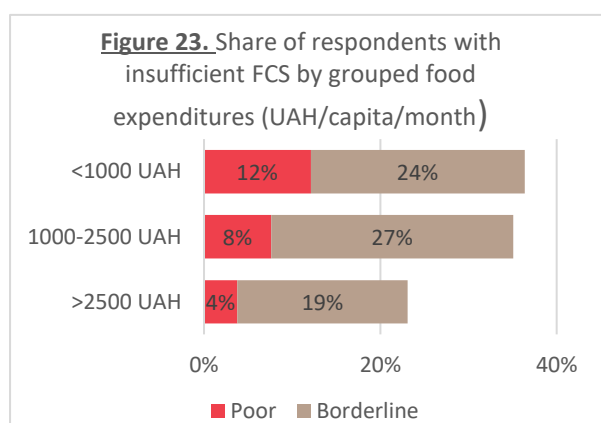


The average food expenditures per capita is 2,113 UAH per month with an expected noticeable tendency to decrease for larger households (economies of scale as a possible reason) – while overall FES slightly increases (Figure 22).



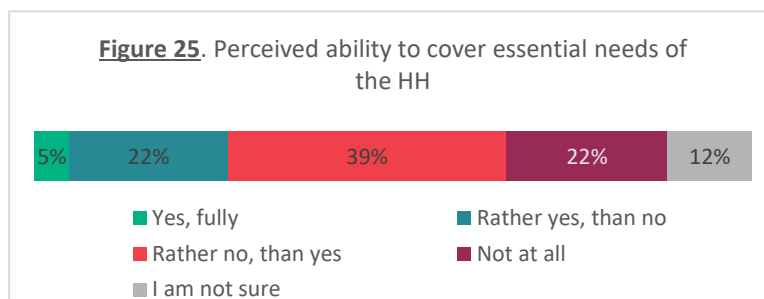
When grouping the food expenditures per capita, it can be observed that the share of respondents with inadequate food consumption is higher among respondents whose food expenditures is less than a 2500 UAH per capita per month, with a noticeably bigger share of poor FCS among respondents whose food expenditures is less than a 1000 UAH per capita per month. These results are very similar to the analysis of FCS by ECMEN (Figures 23 and 24).

⁵ The Food Expenditure Share (FES) is an indicator used to measure households' economic vulnerability. The higher the share of households' consumption expenditures on food - out of the total consumption expenditure - the more vulnerable the households are to food insecurity.

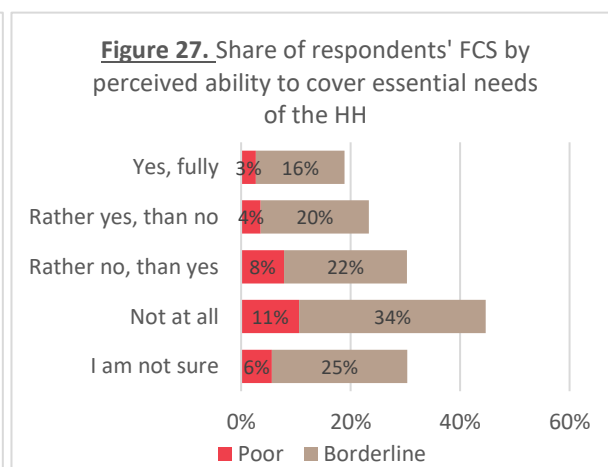
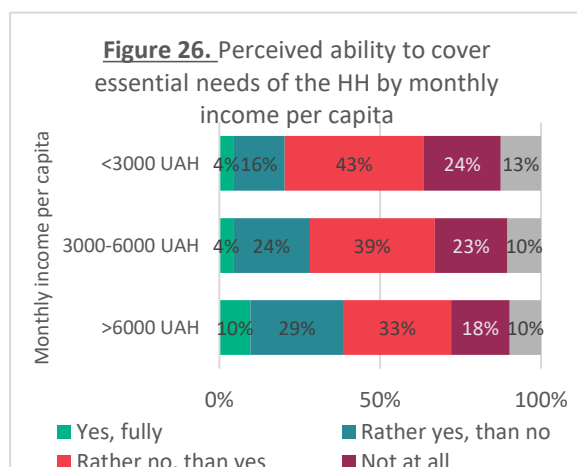


Perceived ability to cover needs and use of cash assistance

Only 27% of respondents stated that they are either fully able or rather able to cover their needs. 61% stated they are not able to cover their needs, including 22% of respondents who reported not being able to cover their needs at all (Figure 25).

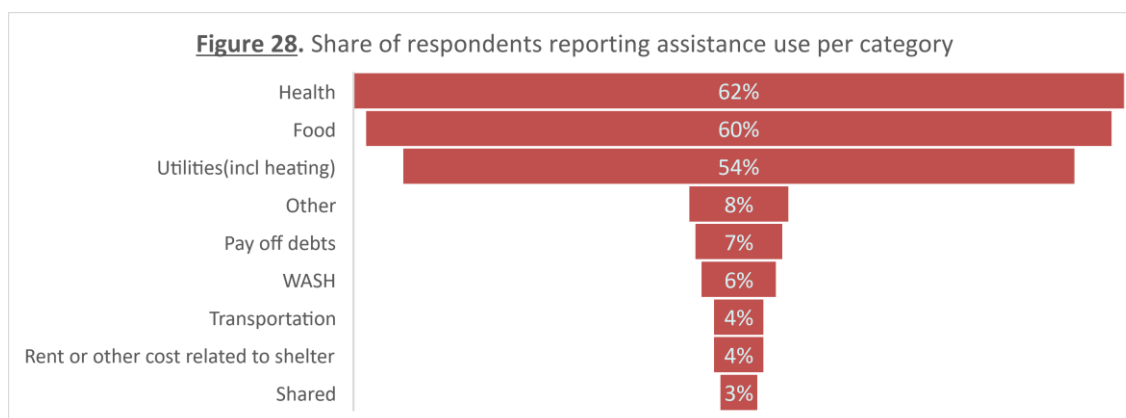


The perceived ability to cover basic needs of the household was found to be somewhat consistent with the respondents' FCS and income (but not ECMEN): respondents with higher income per capita stated that they are able to cover needs of their household (all or to some extent) more frequently compared to households with lower income (Figure 26). At the same time respondents who stated that they are not able to cover their basic needs have higher share of inadequate food consumption (Figure 27).



When analysing the use of the assistance (Figure 28), more than half (69%) of the respondents reported using the assistance to cover expenses in more than one category. The most common expenses are health-related (62% of all respondents), food (60% of respondents) and paying for

utilities (including heating expenditures) – 54% of respondents (Figure 30). These results are expectedly different from the previous cohort of beneficiaries (IDPs - MPCA PDM October 2022), who mainly reported using the assistance to cover expenses on food (76%) and rent/shelter (43%). It should be noted that the profile of beneficiaries was different for the previous round of monitoring (mainly IDPs for the previous round, and pensioners and persons with disability for this round).



When asked to identify the main category from the reported expenses (one, on which most of the assistance was spent), 33% of respondents stated spending most of the assistance on health-related costs, 30% of respondents on utilities payments and 28% on food.

Main takeaways from outcome indicators analysis

The analysis of the outcome indicators confirms that the assistance reached food insecure and economically vulnerable households: the majority (78%) of the surveyed households have expenditures below MEB and a third (31%) of respondents have inadequate food consumption. These results are slightly worse than the economic situation of the overall population of Ukraine, as reported in the MSNA (74% have expenditures below MEB) and an even bigger difference is observed when comparing the food consumption results (12% have inadequate food consumption - MSNA).

Moreover, surveyed respondents were found to be much more frequently adopting food consumption-based coping strategies compared to the overall population of Ukraine: eating cheaper/less preferred food at least once a week was reported by 53% of the overall population (MSNA) compared to 84% of the surveyed respondents and limiting portion size reported by 18% of the overall population (MSNA) compared to 44% of the surveyed households. The same situation is observed with the adoption of the livelihood coping strategies, the surveyed respondents were found to be adopting them more frequently compared to the overall population (MSNA): spending savings (57% surveyed sample vs 30% MSNA), reducing health expenditures (58% vs 20%), borrowing money or food (28% vs 10%).

As for the ECMEN, a strong interconnection between the economic status of the households and the employment status of its members is observed (household with unemployed/unpaid household member having highest share of respondents below MEB). In terms of food

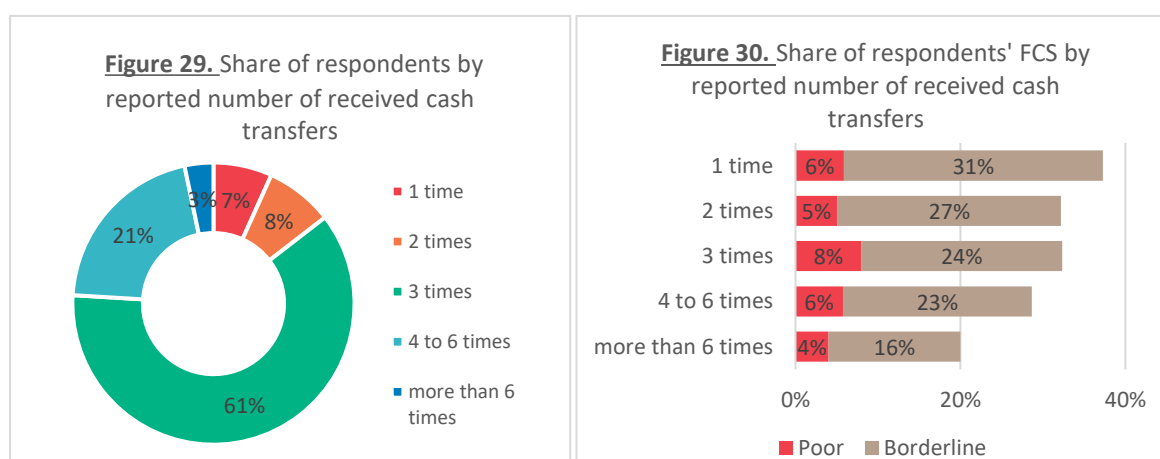
consumption status, other socio-demographic characteristics of the household are likely to also play a significant role (elderly households and household with permanently sick household member who cannot work were found to have highest share of respondents with inadequate food consumption). In addition, the analysis of the FCS by FES and ECMEN has shown that some of the inadequate food consumption results could be explained by the economic capacity of the households and there appears to be a relationship between these indicators.

In terms of the perceived ability to cover needs, more than half of the beneficiaries indicated that they were struggling to cover their essential needs. Regarding the use of the assistance, in addition to food, a majority (62%) of respondents indicated buying health-related items/services with the cash transfer. This could be explained by the cohort of beneficiaries, which included elderly and people with disabilities who usually have a higher share of expenses related to health.

V. Process indicators

Assistance receipt

Respondents were asked how many times they had received a cash transfer at the time of the survey. While the majority (ca. 60%) had received three transfers, some had not yet received all their entitlements and others has received more than three transfers, likely owing to previous eligibility for IDP or other cash transfers from WFP or other agencies (Figure 29). A noticeable decrease in the share with inadequate food consumption is observed when grouping respondents by the number of times they received cash assistance. The highest share of respondents with inadequate food consumption (37%) is among those who reported receiving assistance only once, and the lowest share (20%) among those who received assistance more than six times (Figure 30).



Regarding the decision-making process on what to do with the assistance, nearly half of the respondents (47%) indicated that the decision was made jointly in the household. For the rest, 45% of respondents stated that it was the woman in the household who decided what to do with the received cash and 8% of respondents indicated that the decision was made by a man.

VI. Perception of assistance and cross-cutting themes

Satisfaction

92% of respondents stated that overall, they are either satisfied or very satisfied with the assistance, 6% were neutral and 2% said they felt dissatisfied or very dissatisfied. Asked about the amount received, 85% of respondents stated that they are either satisfied or very satisfied with the amount of the entitlement, while 13% were neutral and 2% said they felt dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.



95% of respondents said that their preferred modality of assistance was cash.

Selection criteria and entitlements

When asking people about the selection criteria, 21% of respondents stated that they were aware of how people were chosen to receive the assistance. Around a third of respondents (28%) said that they were aware of people in need in their community but who were not able to receive WFP assistance. The reasons most commonly mentioned for not receiving the assistance were: not belonging to the targeted categories (reported by 98 respondents about people in their community who are in need but were not available to receive assistance), challenges to register for the assistance (57 respondents), challenges to understand how to receive assistance at Western Union (WU) outlet (21 respondent).

61% of respondents reported that they were told exactly what they are entitled to receive in terms of cash value.

Overall, 72% of respondents stated that they received information in a way that they could easily understand, 12% stated otherwise and 16% indicated having never received any information. When the information received was considered not easily understandable, the reasons mentioned were: information was lacking details/was vague (32 respondents); complex phrasing (31 respondents); lack of skills in using the phone (13); or because the information was in a language that the respondent could not understand (7).

Safety, protection and feedback mechanisms

98% of respondents reported that they had not experienced any security challenges related to WFP assistance.

99% of respondents stated that Western Union/partner staff treated them respectfully when collecting the cash, and 91% of respondents stated that the process to enrol and to receive WFP assistance was dignified. Amongst respondents who disagreed, struggling to understand and use technology was mentioned by 58 respondents, out of which 45 (78%) were in the age group 60+.

15% of respondents stated that they knew how to report misconduct from WFP or partners, including cases of (sexual) favours or money in exchange of assistance. Overall, 23% of respondents stated they would know what to do/who to contact if they wanted to contact the agency providing assistance (WFP or a partner) about anything. 11% of respondents indicated having used a community feedback mechanism (CFM) before. The reasons most commonly mentioned for not using it were: no need (385 respondents); and not being aware about CFM (237).

In terms of final comments/suggestions by interviewees, 39% of respondents expressed their gratitude for WFP assistance; 44% did not have any comment; 11% asked for the continuation of the assistance; 2% asked for more information about the assistance; 2% asked for more cash assistance; 1% asked for a simplified registration process.

Main takeaways from process indicators analysis

There is a high level of satisfaction with the cash transfer process. No major issues were identified when it comes to receiving the assistance or protection of beneficiaries (respectful treatment, security risks, etc.).

While causality cannot be established, the data shows a reverse relationship between number of cash transfers received and the likelihood of having inadequate food consumption. The more cash transfers received by beneficiaries, the lower the share of inadequate food consumption.

The monitoring evidence indicates that for nearly half of the households, the decision on what to do with the cash assistance is a joint process. For the other half, the decision is made primarily by a woman.

In general, there is still a need to increase awareness on selection for cash assistance, with just over fifth (21%) of respondents knowing the targeting criteria. However, more than half (61%) of the respondents were aware of the amount they were entitled to receive, and the majority (72%) found the information received clear. The use of technology was identified as a barrier to enrol and receive cash assistance by 8% of the respondents, which in their majority were elderly people.

Regarding feedback mechanisms, the level of awareness remains low on how to contact WFP or its partners, as well as how to report misconduct.

VII. Conclusions

The outcome monitoring confirms that targeted households tend to be more vulnerable than the overall population when comparing to the 2022 MSNA population survey. This suggests that the approach of targeting multiple, compounding vulnerabilities (i.e. multiple socio-demographic categories with income threshold and geographical prioritization) was appropriate and indicates that the cooperation with the Ministry of Social Policy on verification and selection of beneficiaries led to the expected result. It was also noted that even within the vulnerable categories targeted for cash, unemployment still aggravates the household vulnerability status. Therefore, employment status is recommended to be given specific consideration for future targeting. However, due to limitations faced with the availability of baseline data, the causal outcomes of the cash assistance cannot be accurately measured within the frame of this exercise and only indicative conclusions can be drawn.

In terms of process monitoring, the findings suggest a high satisfaction with the assistance and appropriateness of the chosen modality as beneficiaries were able to successfully utilize the entitlement and indicated cash as a preferred modality of assistance. Redeeming the assistance was safe for beneficiaries – however, some of them indicated that they faced challenges with understanding information that was provided to them and/or struggled with the use of technology. Beneficiaries' awareness about targeting, existing feedback mechanisms and ways to report a misconduct is still an area that needs improvement.

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