



# War reality as seen by the Kherson residents

Results of the public opinion research  
held among Kherson city residents  
in March 2024.

This research was conducted by the Zakhyst Kherson Community Foundation Charitable Organization as a part of its project implemented under the USAID/ENGAGE activity, which is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by Pact. The contents of this research are the sole responsibility of Pact and its implementing partners and do not necessary reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government

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**Methodology:** an online survey using an interactive structured questionnaire, a relevant link was sent to potential respondents from the database (online research panel of the Kherson community). The sample is based on demographic indicators as of January 1, 2022. Given the indicators, the research margin of error does not exceed 5%, with a probability of 0.95. The sample includes Kherson residents both currently residing within the community, and those who left Kherson after February 24, 2022, to other regions of Ukraine or abroad. Currently, there is no official data on Kherson residents' migration, so it is not possible to assess the given respondent sample representativity. However, there are reasons to believe that the ratio of respondents still residing within the community presented is greater than the de facto one, which may affect the research results.

**Research objective:** the attitude of the Kherson residents to the Armed Forces of Ukraine, military operations, and martial law.

**Sample size:** 402 respondents.

**Field stage period:** March 9 – 20, 2024.

**Research client:** Zakhyst Kherson Community Foundation.

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# Key Outputs

**Confidence both in the Armed Forces of Ukraine** in general (**90%**) and in the military units deployed on the territory of the Kherson community (**84%**) unites the majority of Kherson residents. The **6%** gap is mainly caused by a share (**4%**) of those who could not assess the military units deployed on the territory of the Kherson community.

Most Kherson residents (**52%**) are dead set on counterattack and **liberation of the occupied territories**.

Most Kherson residents (**84%**) **have heard about the amendments** to the Law on Mobilization, **43%** of them support them, **32%** – do not support them, and another **25%** could not answer.

**90%** of respondents believe that the main reason **Russian troops** shell the territory of the Kherson city community is to **terrorize the civilian population**. Another 6% believe that the Russian shelling is an attempt to destroy military, and 4% are undecided.

Most Kherson residents – **87%** of respondents – **believe in the Victory of Ukraine**.

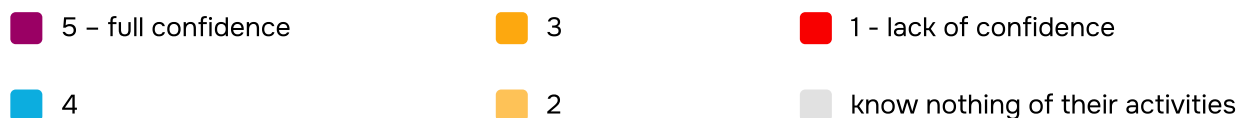
Following the analysis, no significant differences were found between the subgroup of respondents who still reside in Kherson and those who left the community

# Answer Breakdown

## SECTION 1. CONFIDENCE IN MILITARY PERSONNEL

Level of confidence in military institutions and their heads (N=402), %

Q.: What is the level of your confidence in the following heads and institutions?



### Armed Forces of Ukraine



### Military units deployed on the territory of the Kherson city community

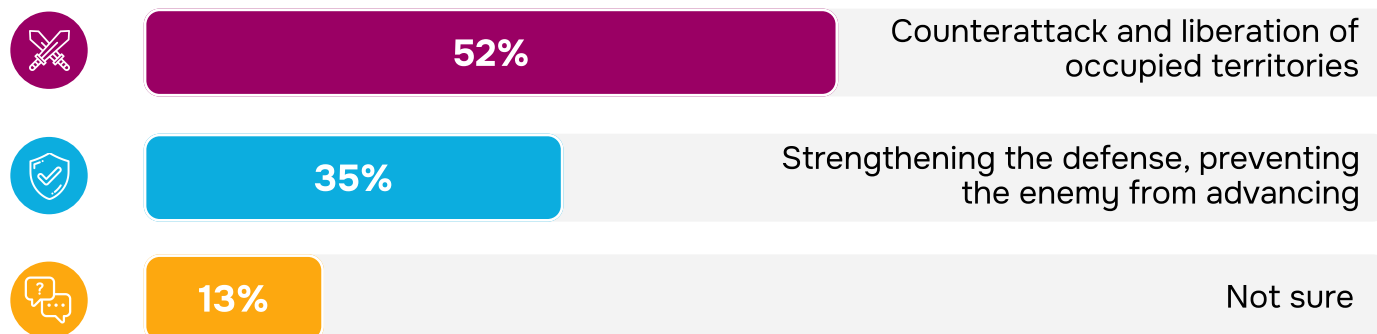


# Answer Breakdown

## SECTION 2. FUTURE PROSPECTS AND EXPECTATIONS FROM THE ARMY

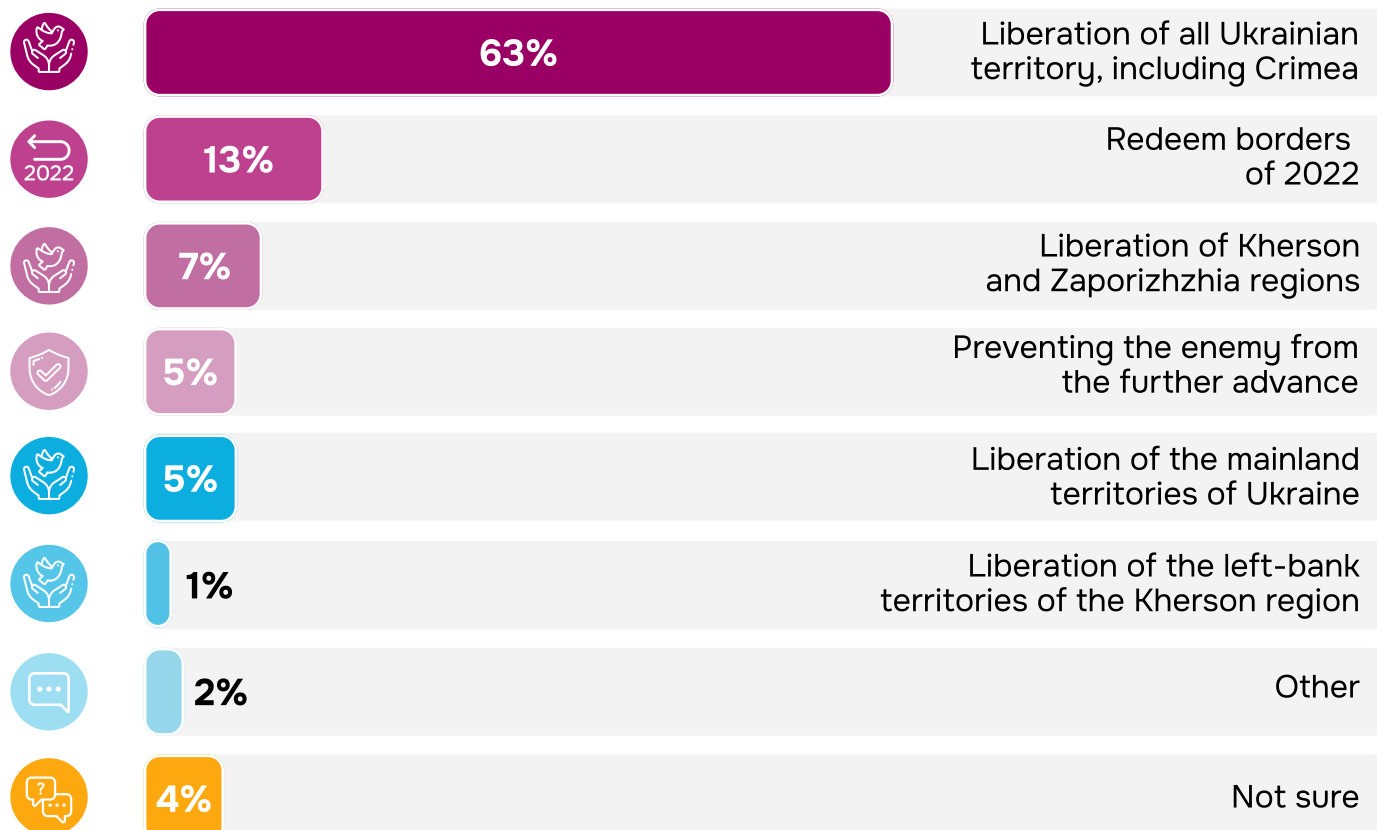
### Expectations from the army (N=402), %

Q.: What do you expect from the Ukrainian army in 2024 – a counterattack or defense strengthening?



### Victory prospects (N=402), %

Q.: What can be deemed a victory for Ukraine, in your opinion?

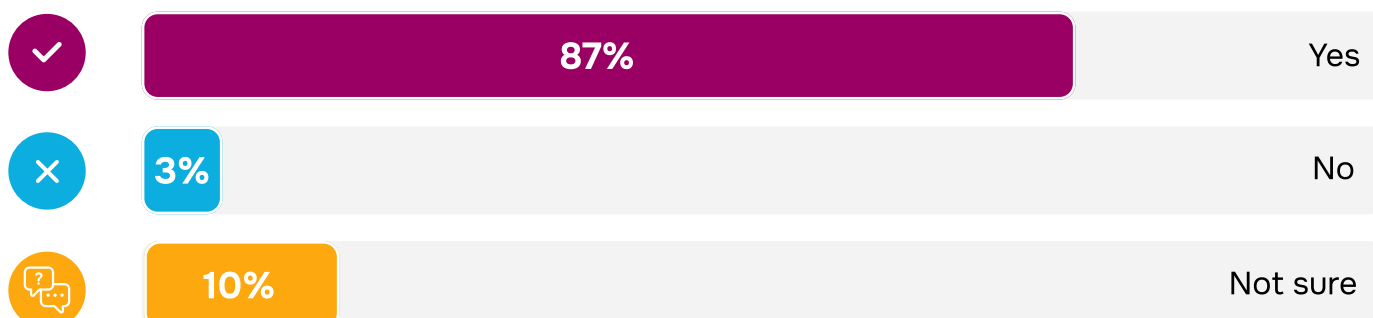


## Other answers:

- “Saving people and infrastructure”;
- “The trial over Russian political and military leadership, compensation of material and moral damages to Ukraine through reparations, depriving Russia of its army”;
- “Not only the return of all our territories but also the complete demilitarization of the “rasha”, including nuclear weapons, the establishment of an international protectorate (the same the Allies established in Germany or Japan in 1945). Bringing all criminals, including Putin and his associates, to the international (our) court. And, finally, extensive compensation of material and moral damages for all crimes committed, for all the wounded, killed, tortured, for all the destruction caused”;
- “Each of the listed options will be a victory, but the final victory will be the reclaiming territories within the borders of 1991”;
- “Destruction of the rasha and forced deportation of all citizens of the Russian Federation from foreign countries to the territory of the former rasha, which will be divided between neighboring states”;
- “Complete defeat of rasha, otherwise a new war will start in a few years”;
- “Signing a peace agreement and ending the war, renewal of the Minsk agreements implementation, and refusal to join NATO and the EU”.

## Belief in Victory (N=402), %

Q.: Do you believe in the Victory of Ukraine?

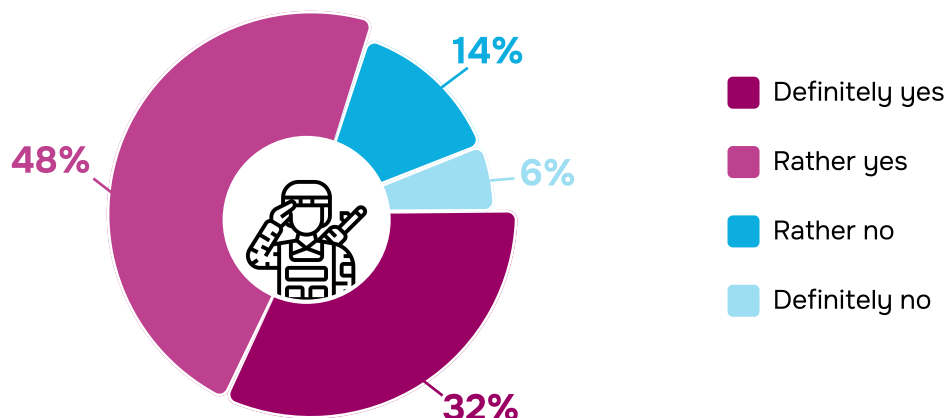


# Answer Breakdown

## SECTION 3. ASSESSING MOBILIZATION

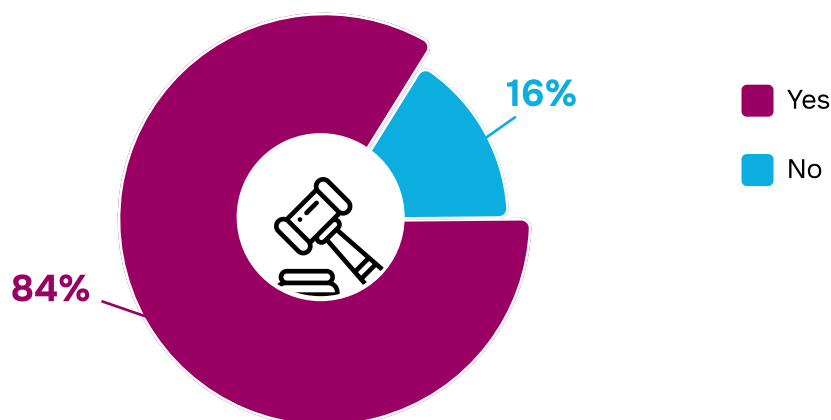
### Need for mobilization in 2024 (N=402), %

Q.: In your opinion, should Ukraine declare mobilization in 2024?



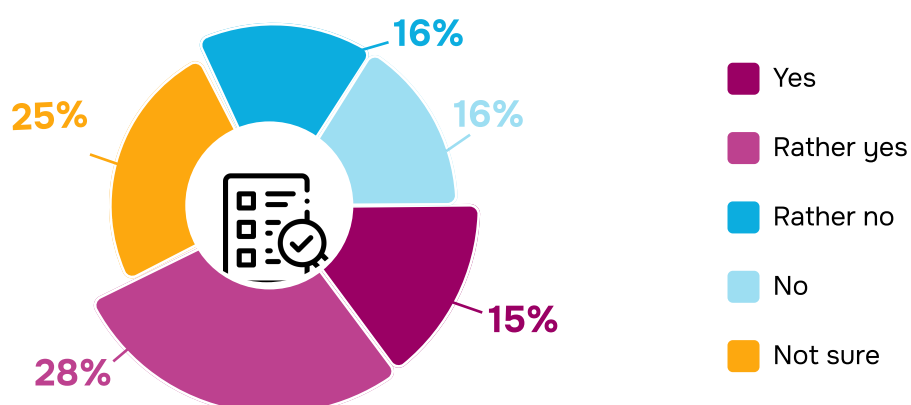
### Awareness of the draft law on mobilization (N=402), %

Q.: Have you heard about the amendments to the Law on Mobilization?



### Assessing the draft law on mobilization (N = 337 – those who heard about amendments to the Draft Law on Mobilization), %

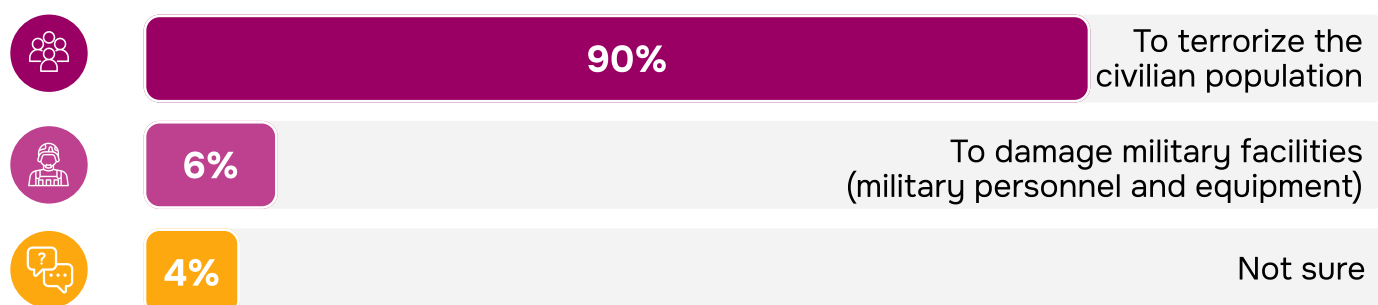
Q.: Do you support amendments to the Law on Mobilization?



## SECTION 4. CAUSES FOR SHELLING

### Assessing reasons for Russian shelling of the territory of the Kherson city community (N=402), %

**Q.:** In your opinion, what is the main reason for the Russian shelling of the territory of the Kherson city community – to terrorize the civilian population or attempt to damage military facilities (military personnel and equipment)?





# Respondents' profile

## Gender, %



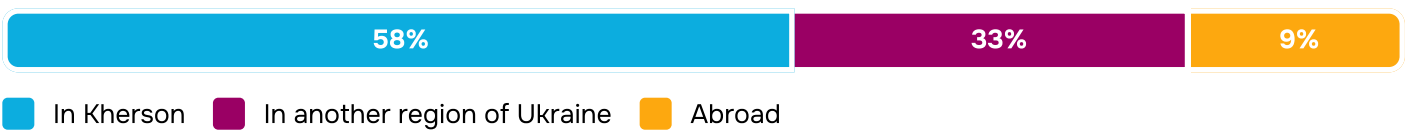
## Age, %



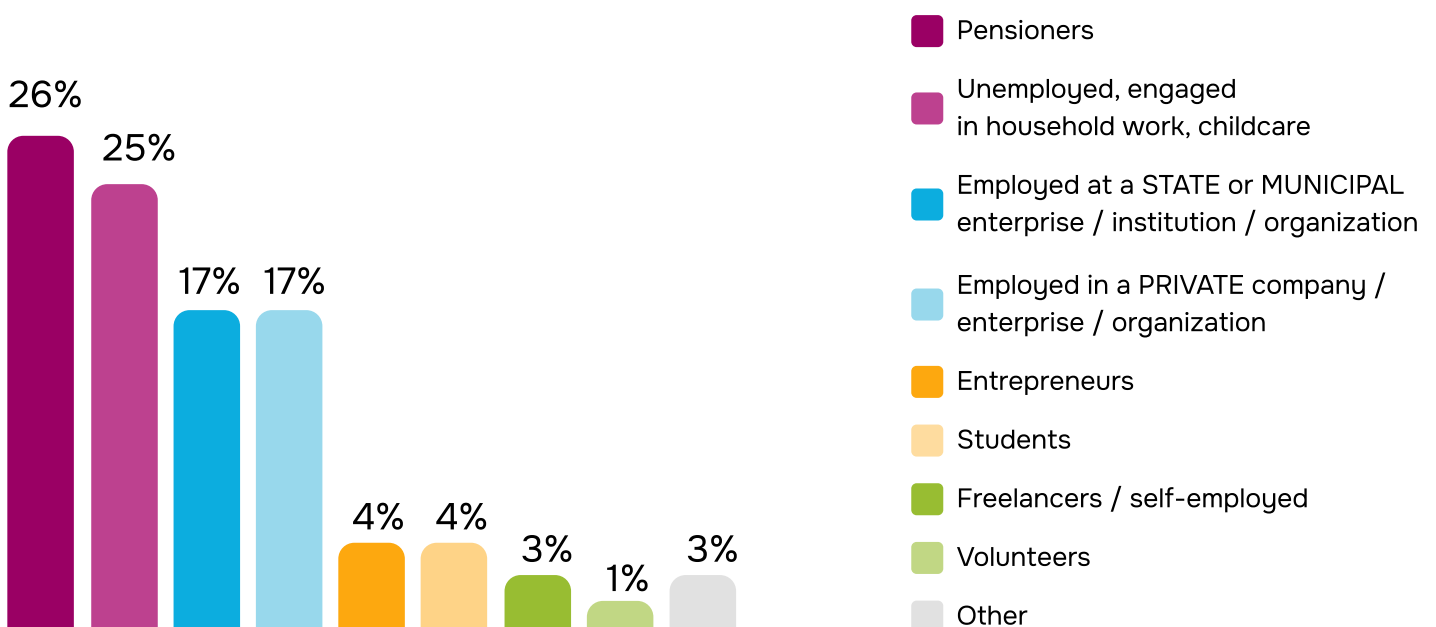
## Residing before 24.02.2022, %



## Currently residing, %

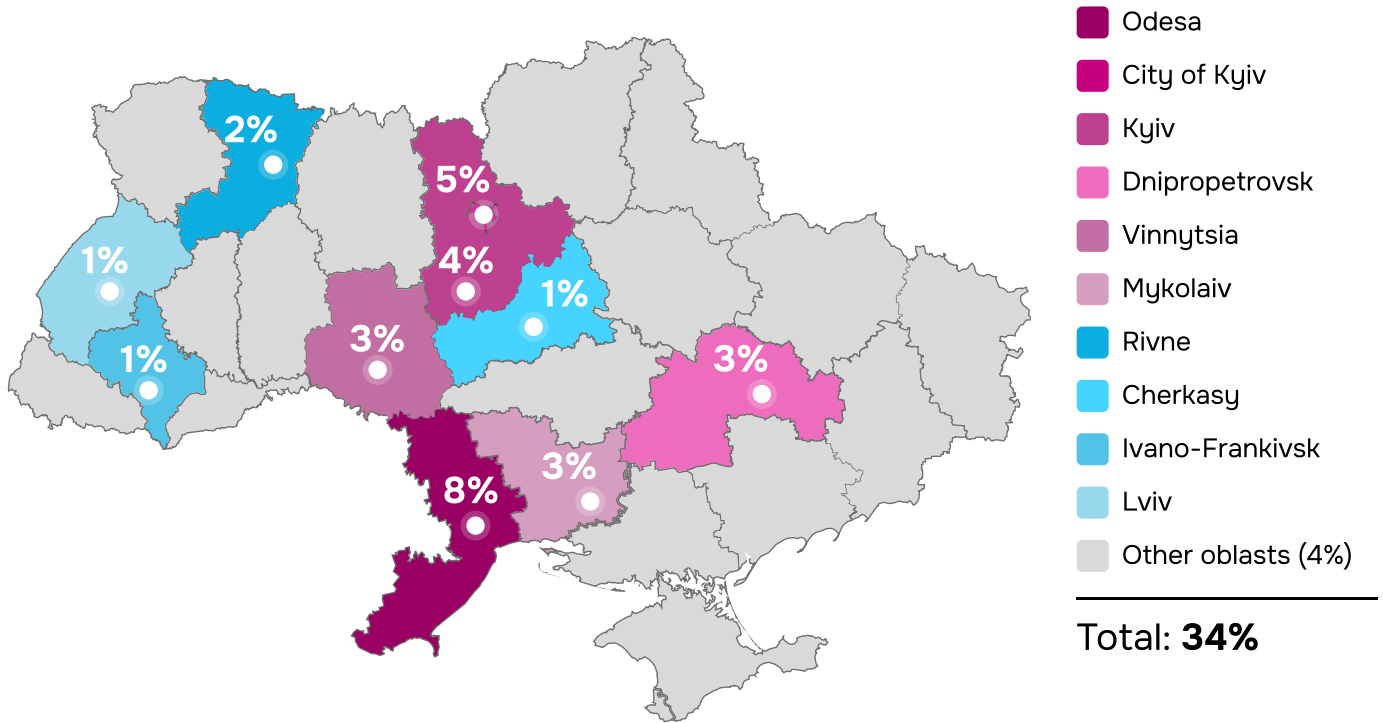


## Current type of employment, %



# Respondents' profile

## IDPs in other regions of Ukraine, %



## IDPs abroad, %

