



# Assessment of the draft order Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine "On the conditions for obtaining secondary education in the context of martial law in Ukraine"

## Report on Sociological Online Survey

This research was conducted by the Charitable organization "Community Foundation of Kherson "Zakhyst" as a part of it's 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 it's implementing partners and do not necessary reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government

Reproducing and using any part of this product in any format, including graphic and electronic, copying or any other usage is suitable to reference to the source

August

2024

# Research background

**Methodology:** an online survey using an interactive structured questionnaire; a relevant link was sent to potential respondents from the database (online research panel of Kherson community). The sample was 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 included Kherson residents both currently residing within the community and those who left Kherson after February 24, 2022 to other regions of Ukraine or abroad. There is currently no official data on Kherson residents' migration, so it is not possible to assess the representativity of the given respondent sample. However, there are reasons to believe that the presented ratio of respondents still residing within the community is greater than the de facto ratio, which may affect the research results.

**The purpose of the study:** to find out the attitude of Kherson residents to the draft order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine "On the conditions for obtaining secondary education in the context of martial law in Ukraine".

**Sample size:** 401 respondents.

**Field stage period:** July 8 – 30, 2024.

**Research client:** Community Foundation of Kherson «Zakhyst».

**Research prepared by:**

- Mykola Homaniuk (Kherson regional branch of the Sociological Association of Ukraine, Chairman),
- Oleh Sinaiuk (New Image Marketing Group LLC, Director),
- Ihor Danylenko (New Image Marketing Group LLC, Analyst), Roman Rudenko (Kherson Regional Branch of the Sociological Association of Ukraine, expert).

The research group carries on activities on increasing and improving the online panel of Kherson city community to align it with the general population indicators and invites all Kherson residents to join the panel. This can be done at: <https://lemur.ua/sign-up>



The majority of respondents (**77%**) have at least heard of the draft order, and 26% are familiar with it. If we look at the distribution by location, the share of those who have heard about the order for the first time is higher among current residents of the Kherson community (27%) than among people who have left (18%). The latter group also has the largest share of those who are well acquainted with the project (30%).

**Support for certain clauses of the order is mixed.** The least supported measure by the respondents was the closure of schools that were relocated from the TOT and now work remotely. Here, the total share of those who answered "mostly do not support" and "do not support" is 67%. The most supported measure is the clause on transferring students living in the TOT to individual, distance learning. 25% of respondents support and 31% rather support such a policy. The clause on transferring IDP students from remote schools to schools of actual residence received the most mixed responses. 44% support or mostly support such a decision, while 45% do not support or mostly do not support it.

**The responses regarding support for experts' assessments are more similar to one another.** Almost half (47%) of respondents fully agree. Another 32% rather agree that the order will lead to the loss of access to the Ukrainian secondary education system for children from TOT, and that one of the effects will be the loss of ties between the state of Ukraine and citizens living in TOT (48% strongly agree and another 32% somewhat agree). Other expert assessments were also supported (fully or partially) by the vast majority of respondents.

When asked **whether the system of secondary education should be changed during martial law**, the answers are balanced, but respondents give a slight preference to the idea that it is mostly unnecessary (25%) or completely unnecessary (26%).

**Experts' suggestions for avoiding the risks posed** by the draft order are also widely supported. The most unambiguous answers were given to the proposal to provide secondary education for children from TOT in a remote synchronous format, which can preserve ties between the state and citizens in occupation (54% fully support, 35% somewhat support). The idea of forming a network of schools that have been displaced and will be involved in the renewal of education after de-occupation is

fully supported by 43%, and another 43% somewhat support it. After all, 39% fully support the proposal to develop and approve the Procedure for obtaining secondary education remotely by certain groups of students, and 44% somewhat support this idea.

In general, it can be added that a certain inconsistency in the assessments of respondents who initially support some points of the order and then agree with the opinions of experts on the negative consequences of the order may indicate that some respondents did not initially think about the consequences of the order, and only later realized what it could lead to.

Looking at the presence of school-age children in the respondents' place of residence, the current population of Kherson and the community has the smallest number of children (20%), but the largest share of grandchildren (27%). Among those who do not currently live in Kherson, the share of children is 36%, and grandchildren is 20%. This may be due to the higher average age of the people who remained in the city.

The largest share of respondents' children is located in other regions of Ukraine (46% of those who live in Kherson and 58% of those who are not in Kherson). 32% of the children of Kherson residents are also in Kherson, and only 13% of those who have left the city. The share of children abroad is almost the same - 38%.

**The distribution of children's places of study is very similar among residents of Kherson and those who left.** 41% of children of Kherson residents are studying at the same school as before 24 February 2022. This share is slightly higher among those who have left - 47%. Children of those who stayed in Kherson changed schools more often - 31%, compared to only 25% of those who left. The distribution of children studying in a foreign institution is almost the same (34% and 32% percent).

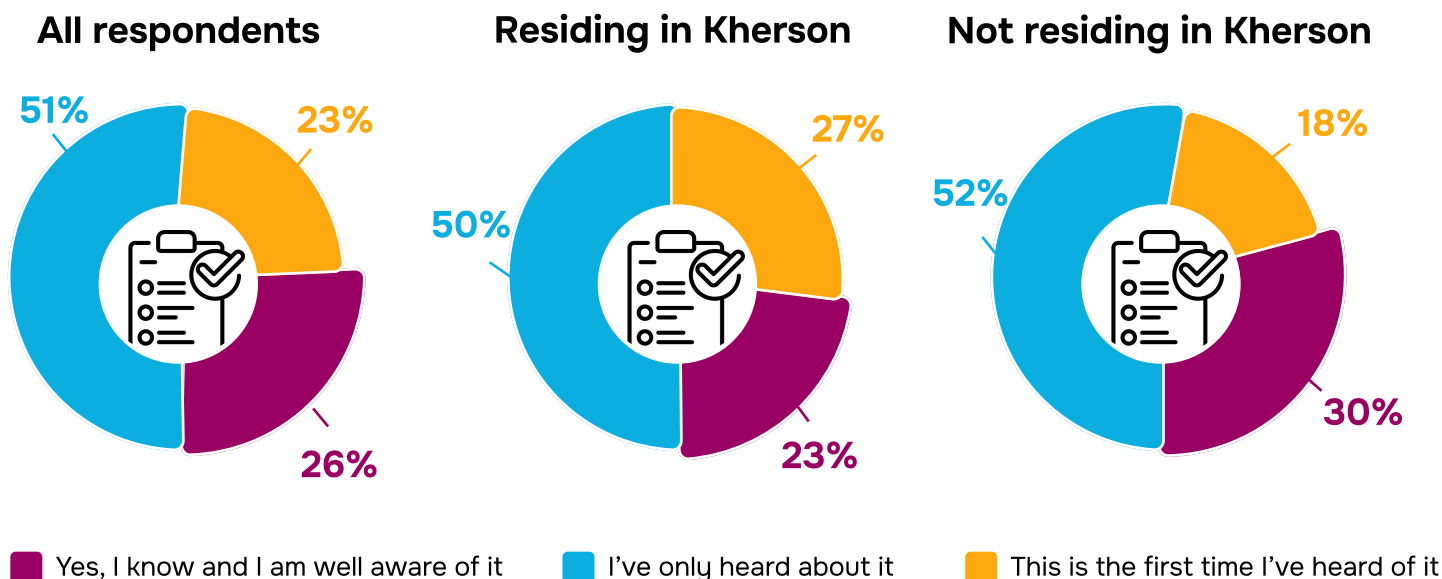
The last question asked was about the level of education of the respondents. Among those who stayed in Kherson, the share of people with higher education is 55%, and among those who left - 72%. Accordingly, among the current residents of Kherson, there is a higher proportion of those who have received general and special education (11% and 32%) than those who have left (3% and 24%).



# Answer Breakdown

## Knowledge of the draft order (N=401), %.

Q.: Have you heard about the draft order of the Ministry of Education "On the conditions of secondary education in the context of martial law in Ukraine"?



## Decision support (N=401), %.

Q.: Do you support the proposed solutions?

Legend: I support (purple), Somewhat support (dark purple), Somewhat do not support (blue), I do not support (light blue), Not sure (orange)

Transfer of students from among IDPs from their displaced (remote) schools to study at schools at their place of actual residence (full-time and mixed form education)



Transfer of students who live at the TOT to individual (remote) form of education (does not provide for regular study)



Closure of schools that were displaced from the TOT, which currently work remotely



### Assessment of expert opinion (N=401), %.

**Q.:** Do you agree or disagree with the opinion of experts, who believe, that these decisions will lead to the following:

Dismissal of about 10,000 teachers



Loss of access of children from TOT to of the Ukrainian secondary education system



Ukraine's loss of ties with the citizens who are in the TOT



Partial liquidation of the educational infrastructure in the future de-occupied territories



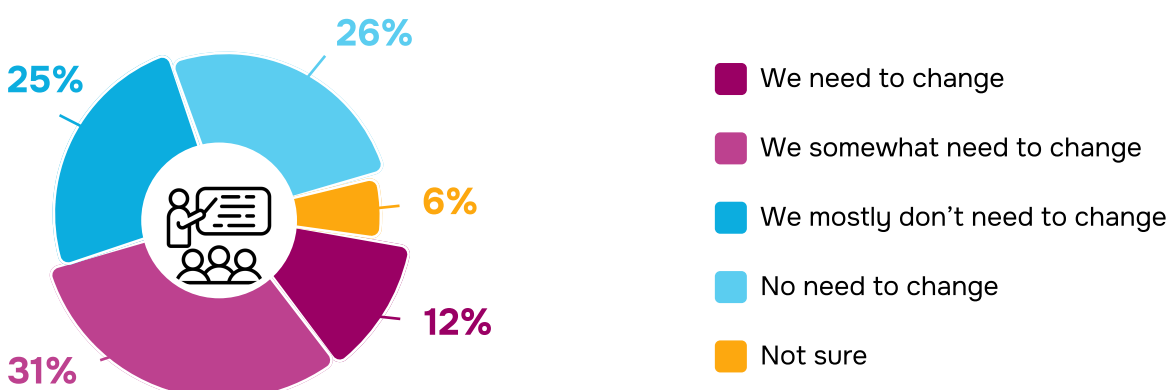
Violation of the law and failure to ensure the public consultations



- I completely agree
- Somewhat disagree
- Not sure
- Somewhat agree
- I completely disagree

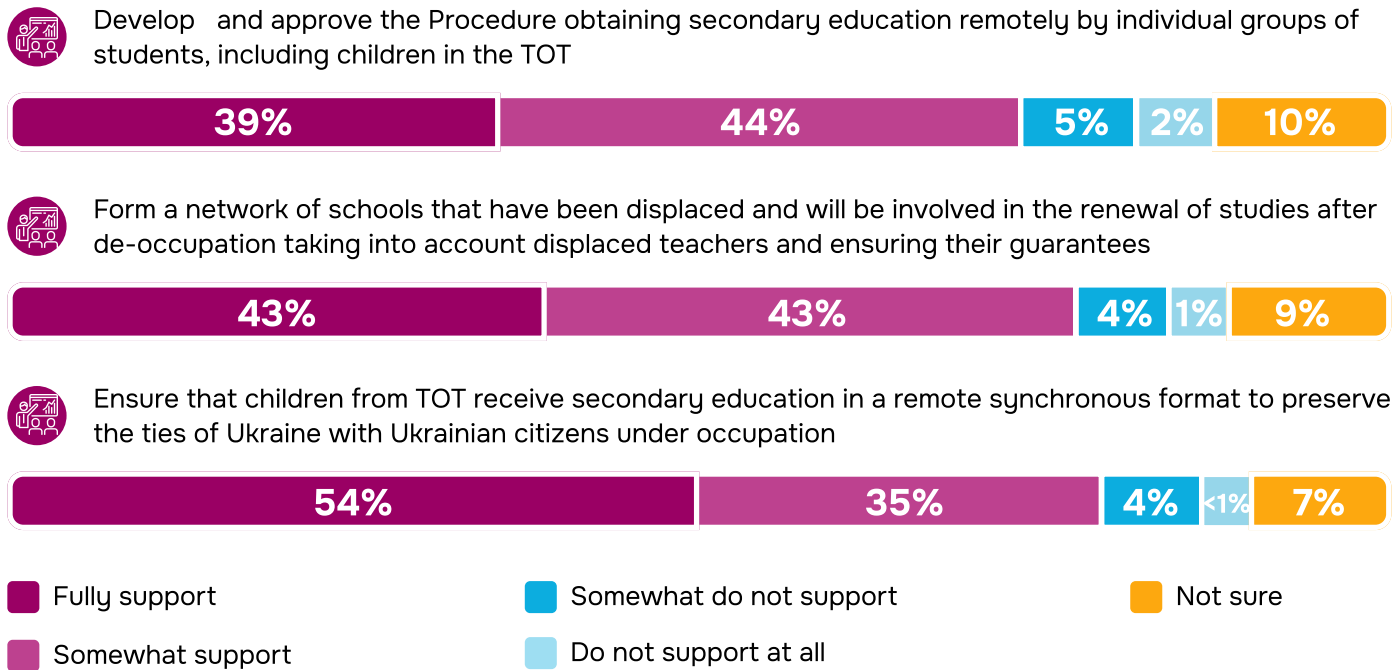
### Changes in the system of secondary education (N=401), %.

**Q.:** Taking into account the above,, what do you think: should we change the system of secondary education under martial law in Ukraine, or is it better to leave it as it is now?



### Support for the experts' proposals (N=401), %.

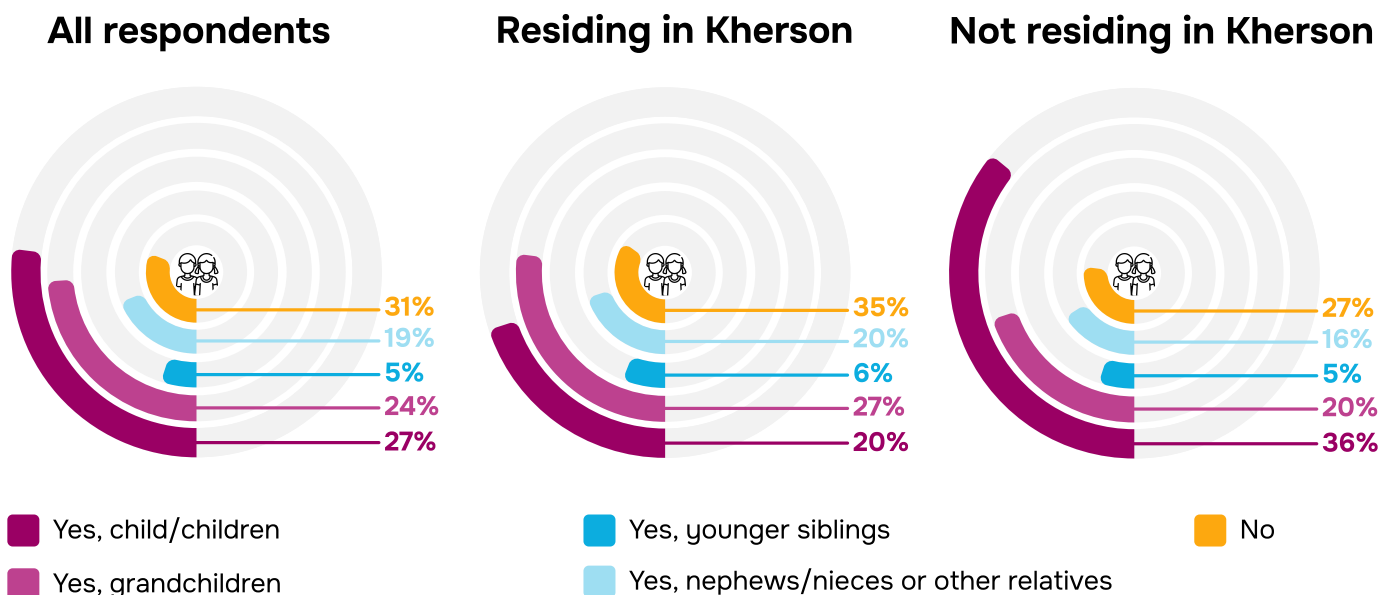
**Q.:** Do you support the following proposals of experts, aimed at avoiding the risks posed by the mentioned draft order?



### School-age children in the family (N=401), %.

**Q.:** Do you have a child / children of school age in your family?

Multiple choice



### Place of residence for school children (N=276) (families with schoolchildren), %

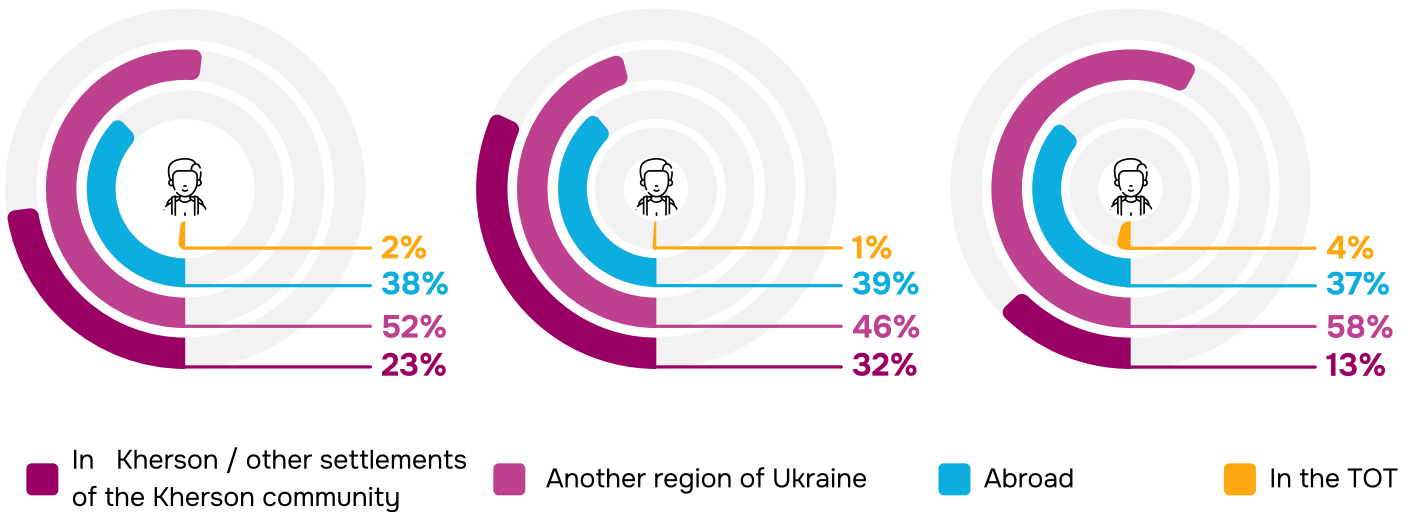
Q.: Where do your students live now?

Multiple choice

All respondents

Residing in Kherson

Not residing in Kherson



### Place of study for schoolchildren (N=276) (families with schoolchildren), %

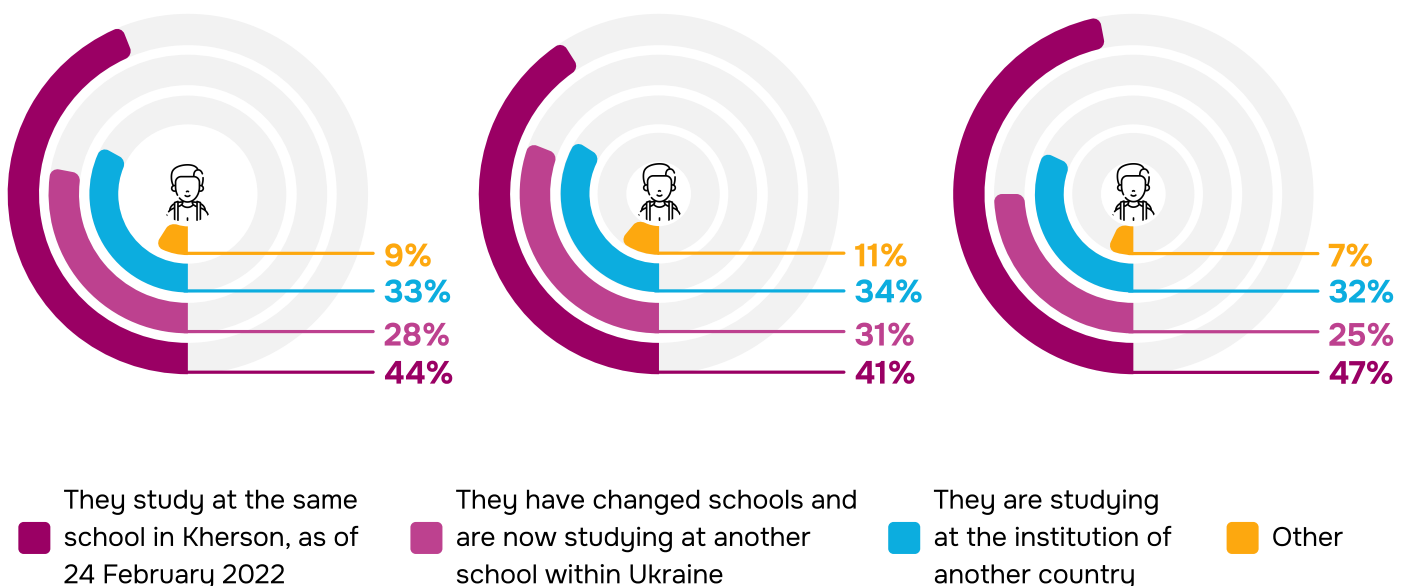
Q.: Where do your students study now?

Multiple choice

All respondents

Residing in Kherson

Not residing in Kherson



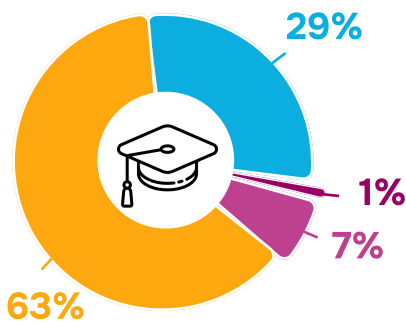
**Other:**

- went to the 1st form of a Ukrainian school;
- study at a school in the TOT and remotely at a Ukrainian school;
- study online at a school in the TOT and at a school abroad at the same time, etc.

**Level of education (N=401), %.**

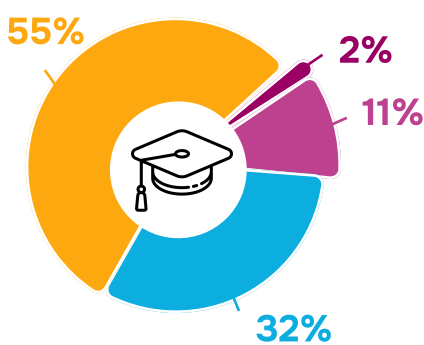
**Q.:** What is your level of education?

**All respondents**



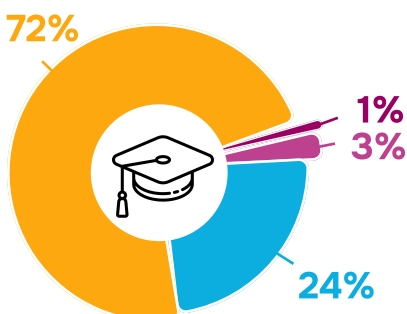
- Incomplete secondary education
- Comprehensive secondary education
- Vocational secondary/Technical and vocational secondary education
- Higher education

**Residing in Kherson**



- Incomplete secondary education
- Comprehensive secondary education
- Vocational secondary/Technical and vocational secondary education
- Higher education

**Not residing in Kherson**



- Incomplete secondary education
- Comprehensive secondary education
- Vocational secondary/Technical and vocational secondary education
- Higher education

# Respondents' profile

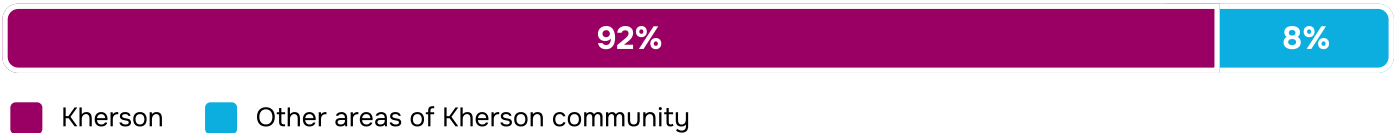
## Gender



## Age



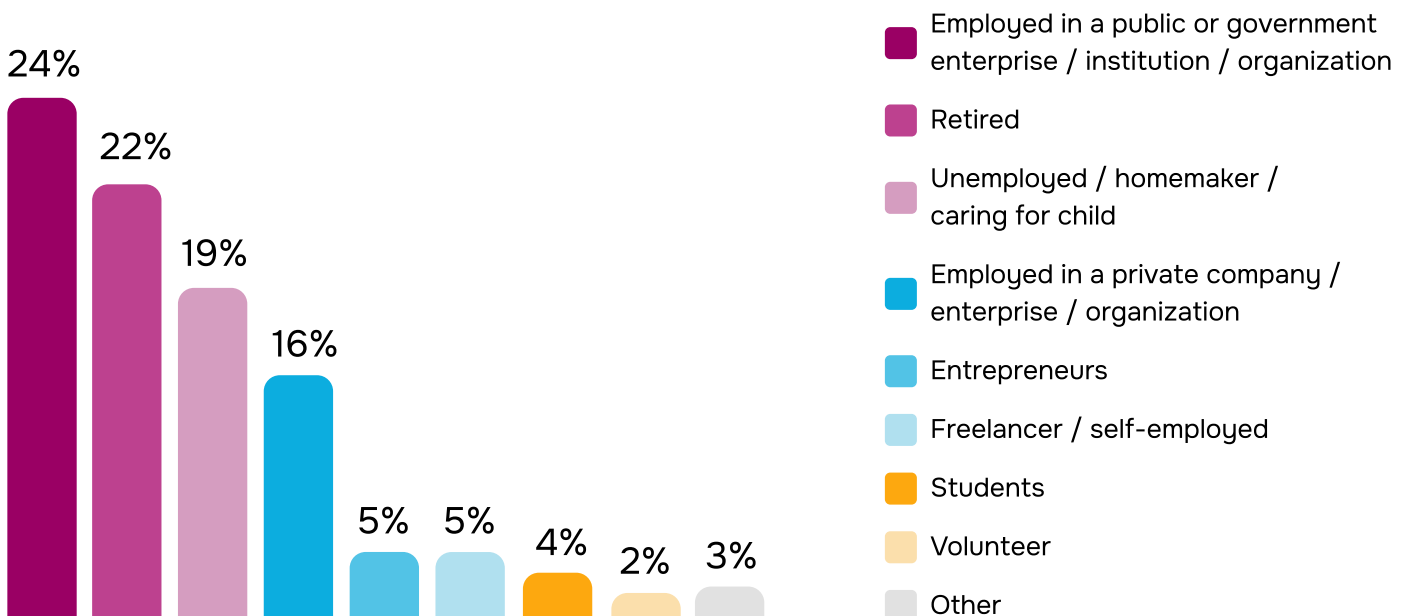
## Place of residence before February 24, 2022



## Current place of residence

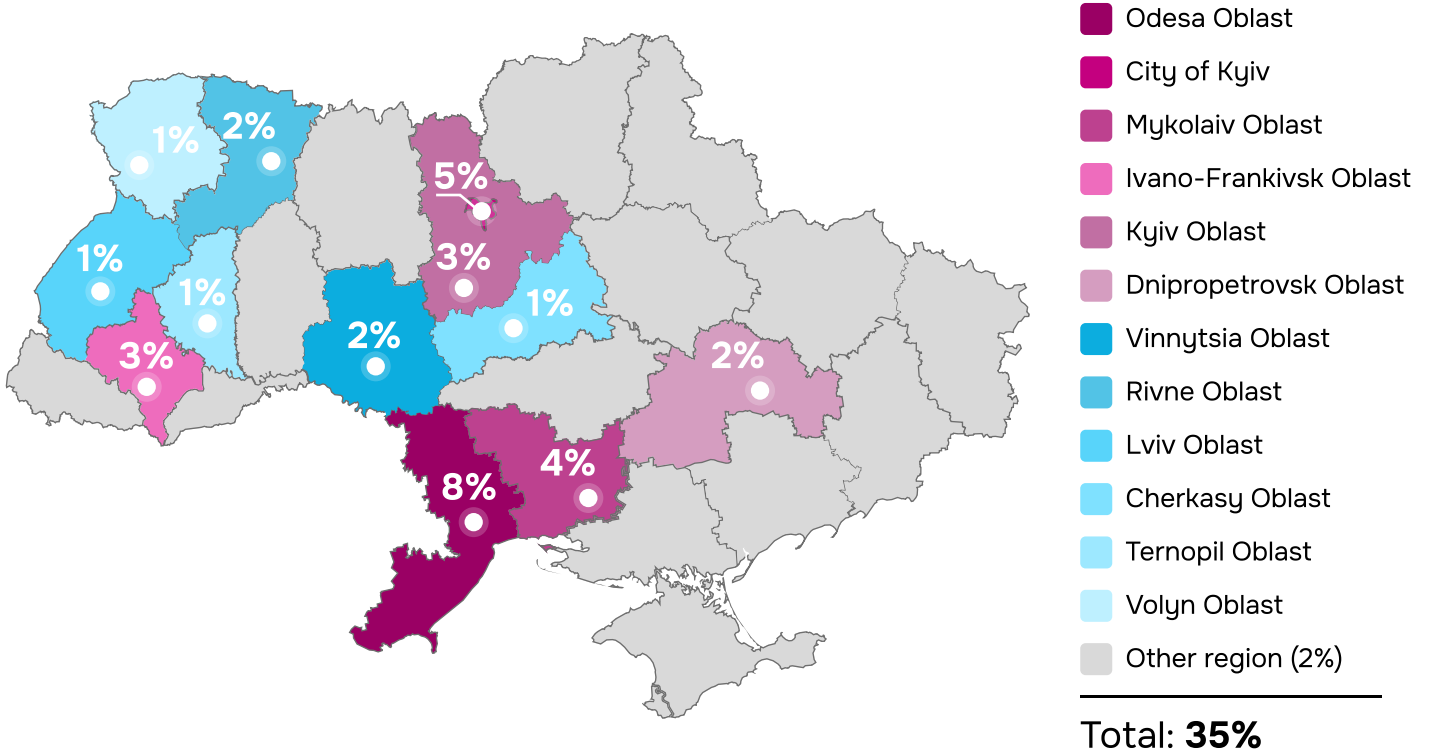


## Employment





### Region of residence for people who changed their place of residence after 24 February 2022



### Country of residence (people who changed their place of residence after 24 February 2022)

