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PREPARATION FOR THE HEATING SEASON

AND TRENDS IN POPULATION RELOCATION

THEMATIC MONITORING

What will we talk about?

Methodology for thematic monitoring and respondent profiling

Problems from the past heating season and solutions to address them. Challenges for the upcoming heating season and necessary assistance.

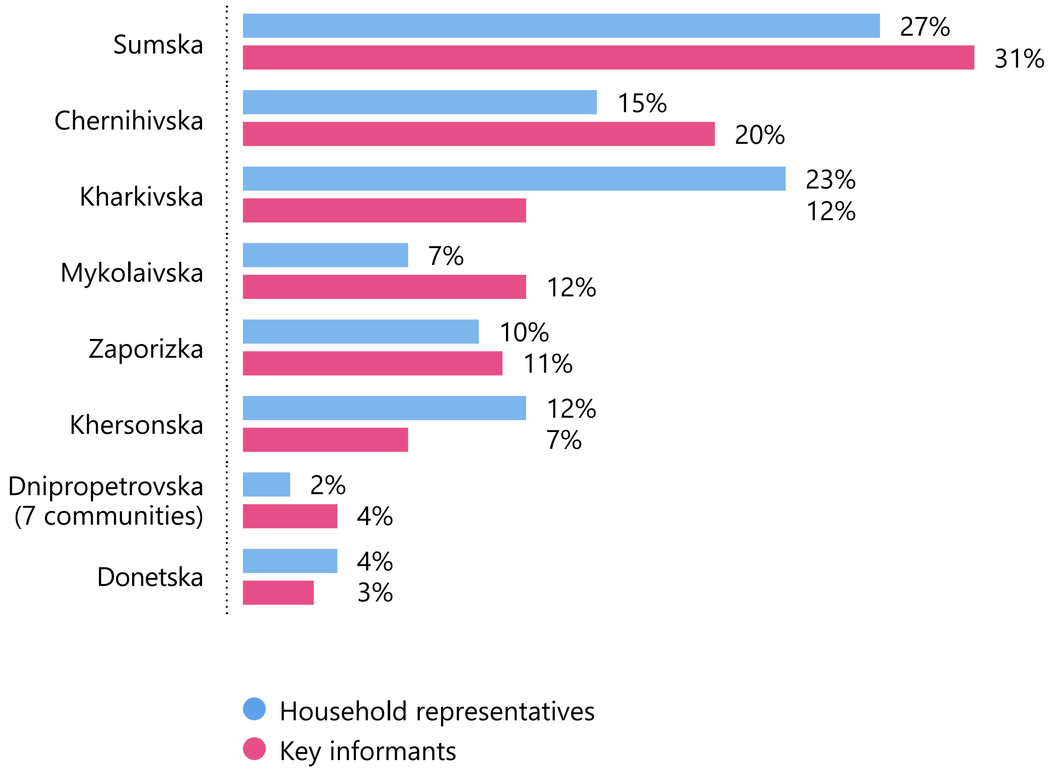
Willingness to relocate due to issues during the heating season and related population needs

Winter preparedness in communities: availability of assistance centres during energy/heating outages, the impact of outages on access to drinking water, and the readiness of social service institutions for potential heating season challenges.

KI — key informant, HH — household, IDP — internally displaced person, NGO — non-governmental organization

Research Methodology and Sample

- Data collection was conducted through a structured survey. The fieldwork took place from 3 to 21 June 2024.
- The total number of respondents who participated in the survey were household representatives (n=2008) and key informants (n=466).
- Both key informants and household representatives predominantly reside in villages/settlements (KI — 77%, HH — 66%) rather than in cities (KI — 23%, HH — 34%).



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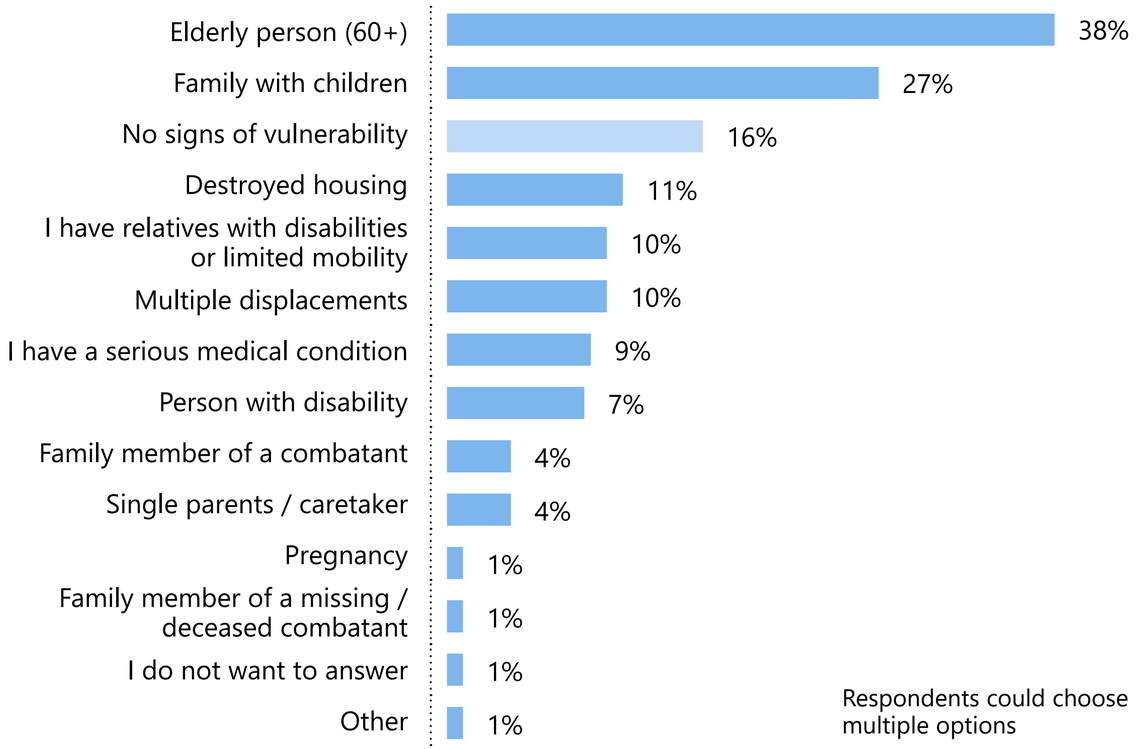
Profile of Households
(Age and Gender Distribution)

- Among the household representatives, 72% are women and 28% are men. The largest age group among respondents is those aged 35–59 (48%). Next are individuals aged 60 and older (40%) and the younger group (18–34 years old) — 12%.
- A significant portion of households consists of older people (38%), children (27%), and individuals with destroyed housing (11%).



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Employment Information and Displacement Status

Employment Status

- 40% of respondents are officially employed.
- 52% of respondents are unemployed.
- 8% of respondents have informal employment.

Demographic Profile

- 66% of respondents are local residents.
- 24% are internally displaced persons.
- 10% have returned to their former places of residence.
- A small percentage are categorized as «Other» (0.5%) or as affected by the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Power Plant flooding (0.2%).

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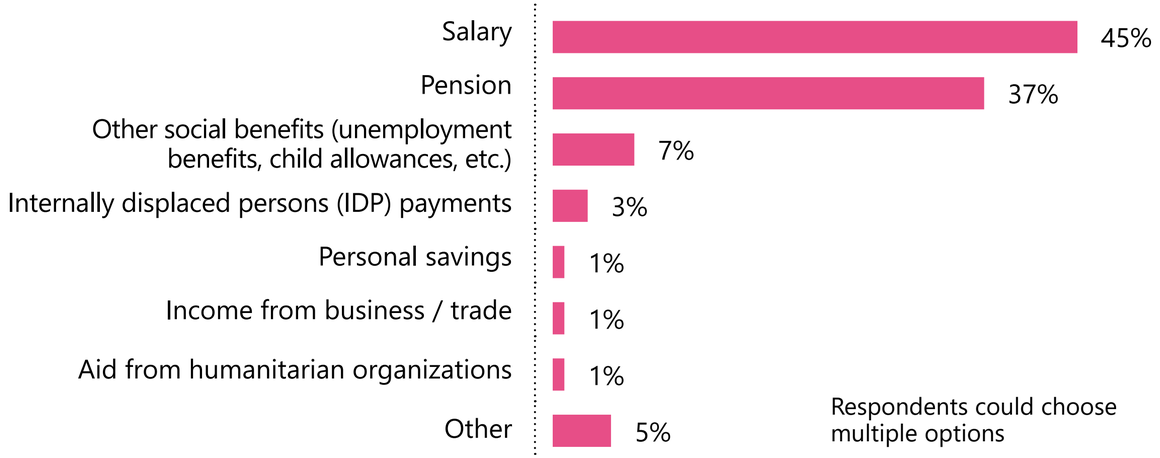
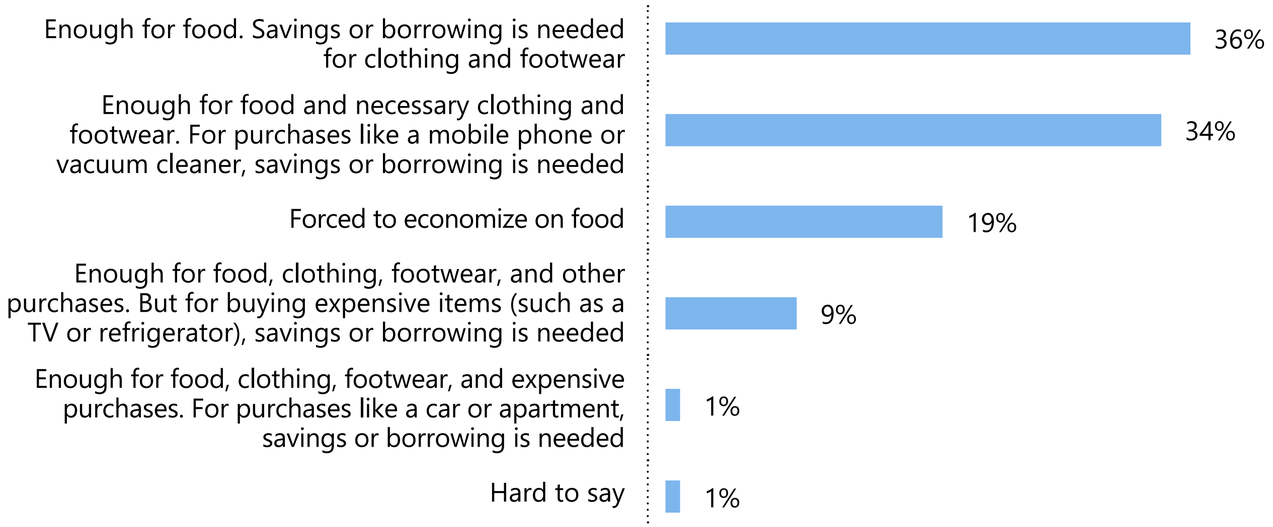
Sources of Income and Financial Situation of Households

- The most common sources of income are wages (45%) and pensions (37%).
- Most households indicate that they have enough funds for basic needs, but they need to save up or borrow to purchase more expensive items.





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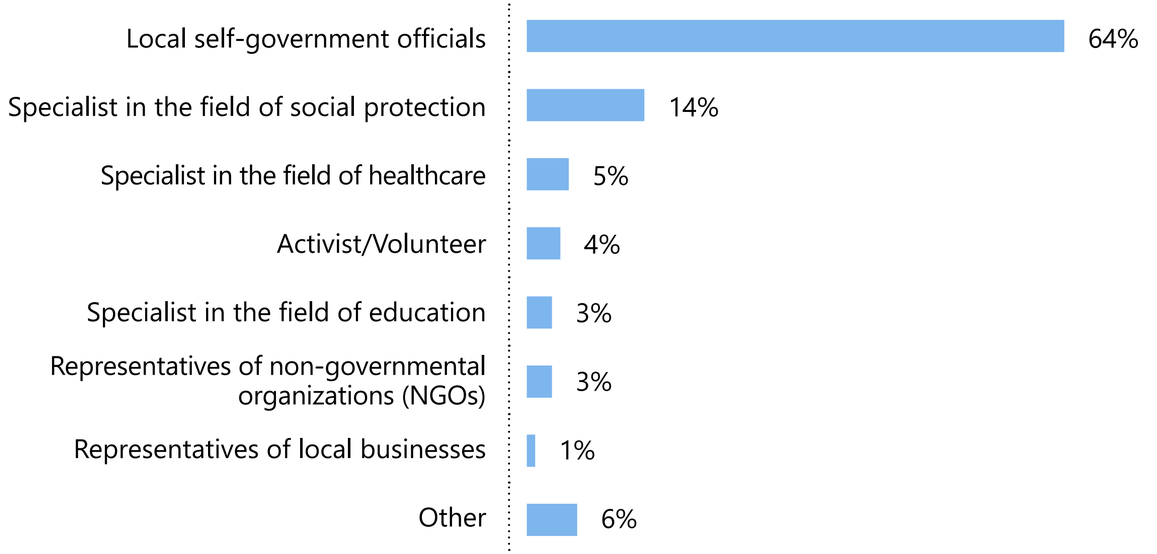
Key Informants
(Age and Gender Distribution, Composition)

- Representatives of local self-government officials make up 64% of all respondents, the largest group participating in the survey.
- Among the respondents, 80% of KIs are women, while men make up only 20%. Additionally, 83% of KIs fall into the age category of 35–59, while younger (18–34 years) and older (60+) age groups make up 8% and 9% of respondents, respectively.



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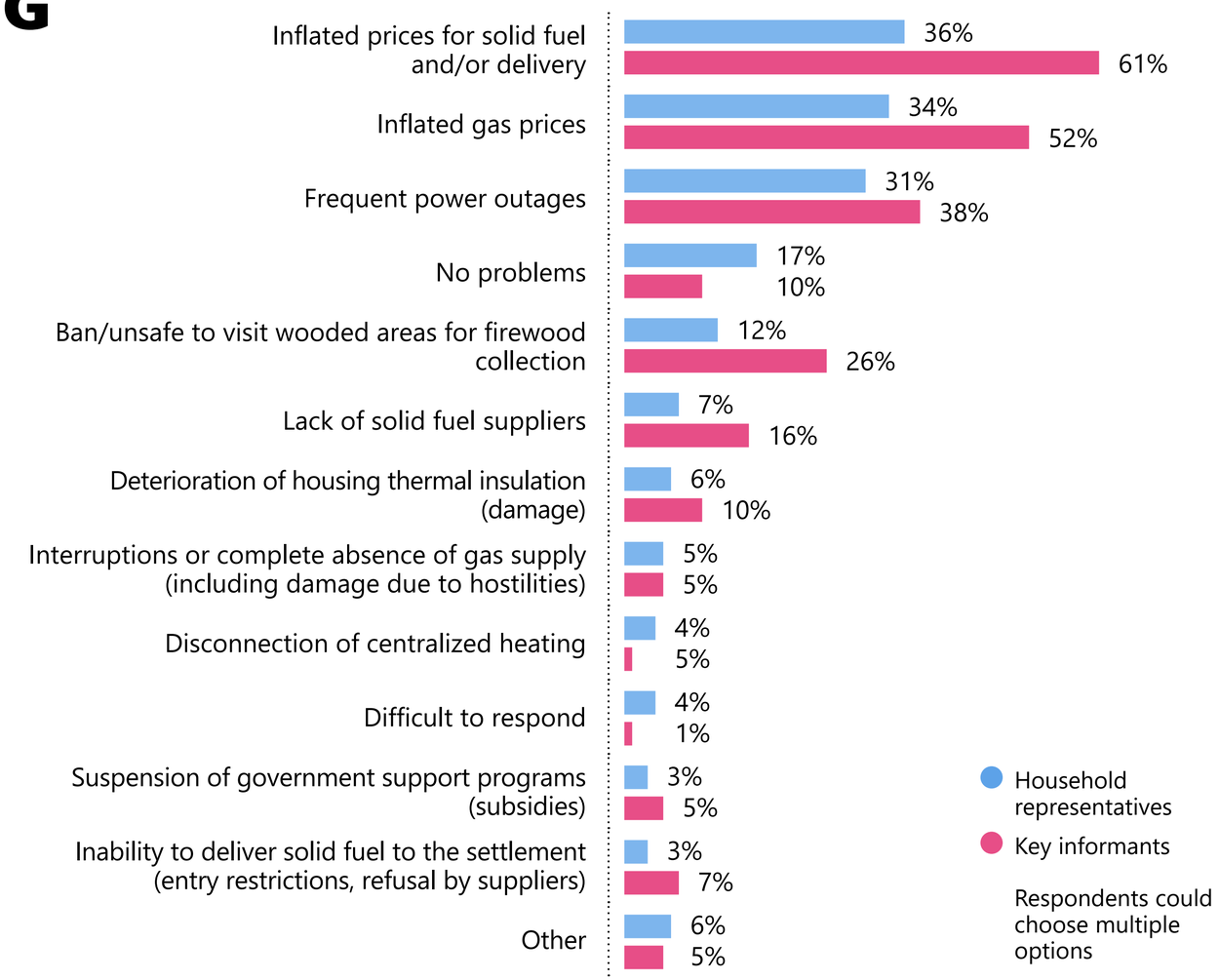
Problems and Needs of the Population and Hromadas during the Past Heating Season and Preparation for the Future

Problems of the Past Heating Season

- The biggest problems were inflated prices for solid fuel and/or delivery (36% HH, 61% KI) and natural gas (34% HH, 52% KI).



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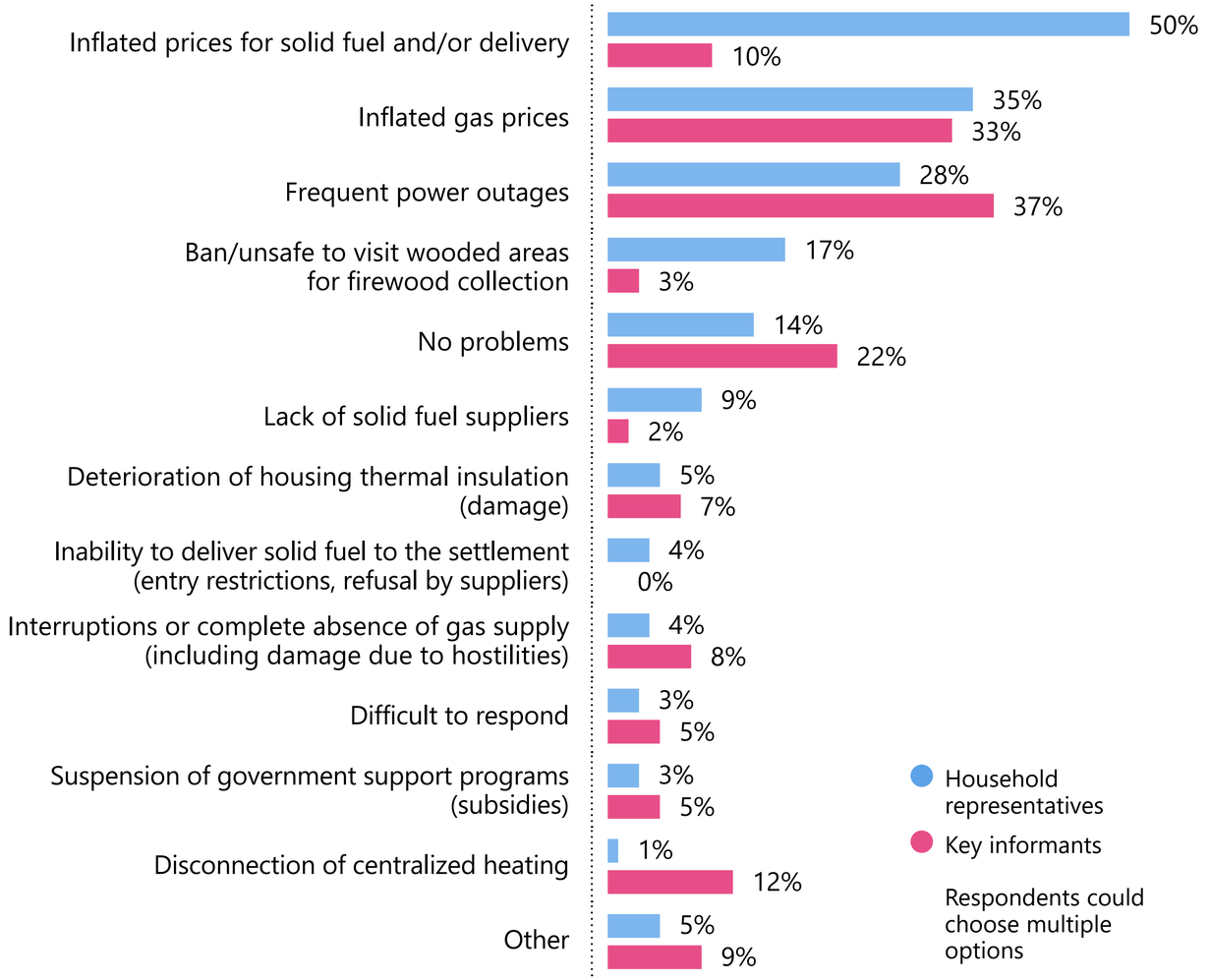
Problems of the Past Heating Season for City and Village Residents

- Village residents most frequently noted the problem of inflated prices and/or delivery of solid fuel (50%).
- Both village and city residents faced frequent power outages (28% in villages, 37% in cities) and high gas prices (35% in villages, 33% in cities).
- Cities had a higher percentage of respondents reporting no problems (22%).



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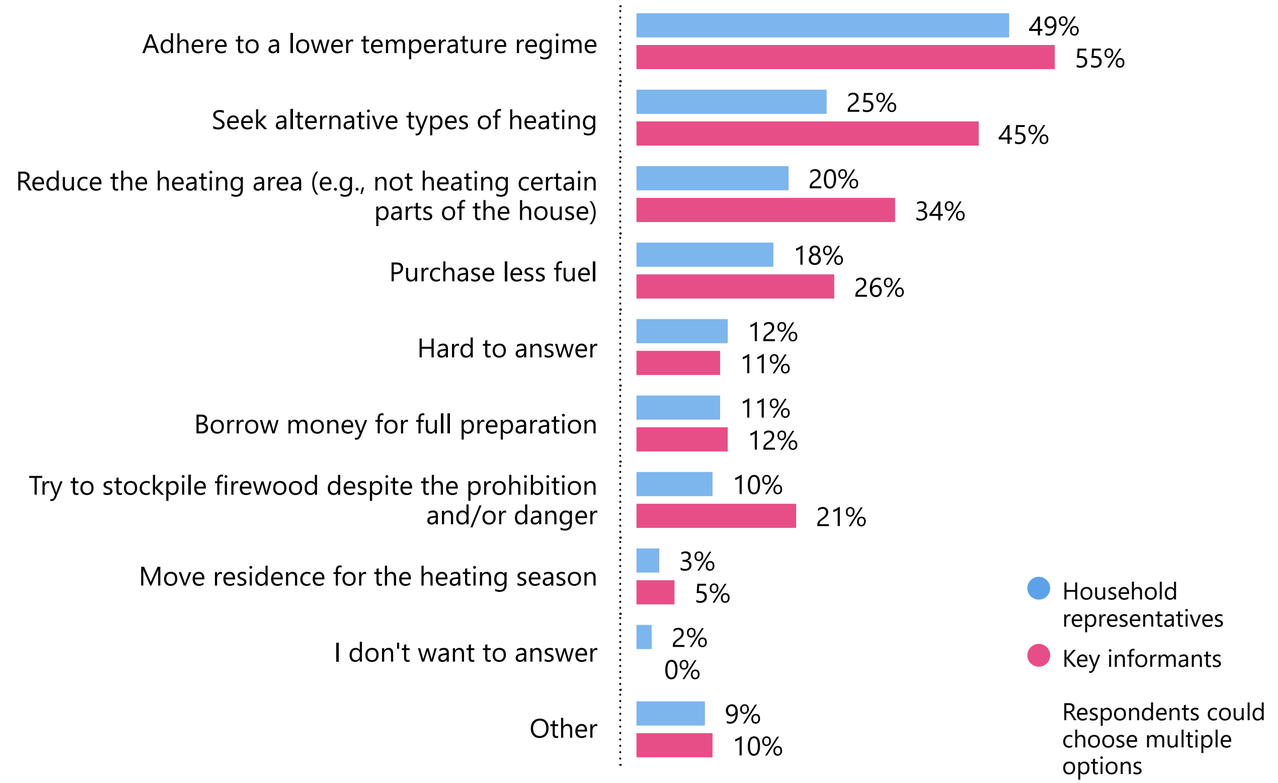
Solutions for Overcoming Problems during the Last Heating Season

- Among the standard solutions for overcoming problems are maintaining a lower temperature regime in homes (49% HH, 55% KI) and seeking alternative types of heating (25% HH and 45% KI).



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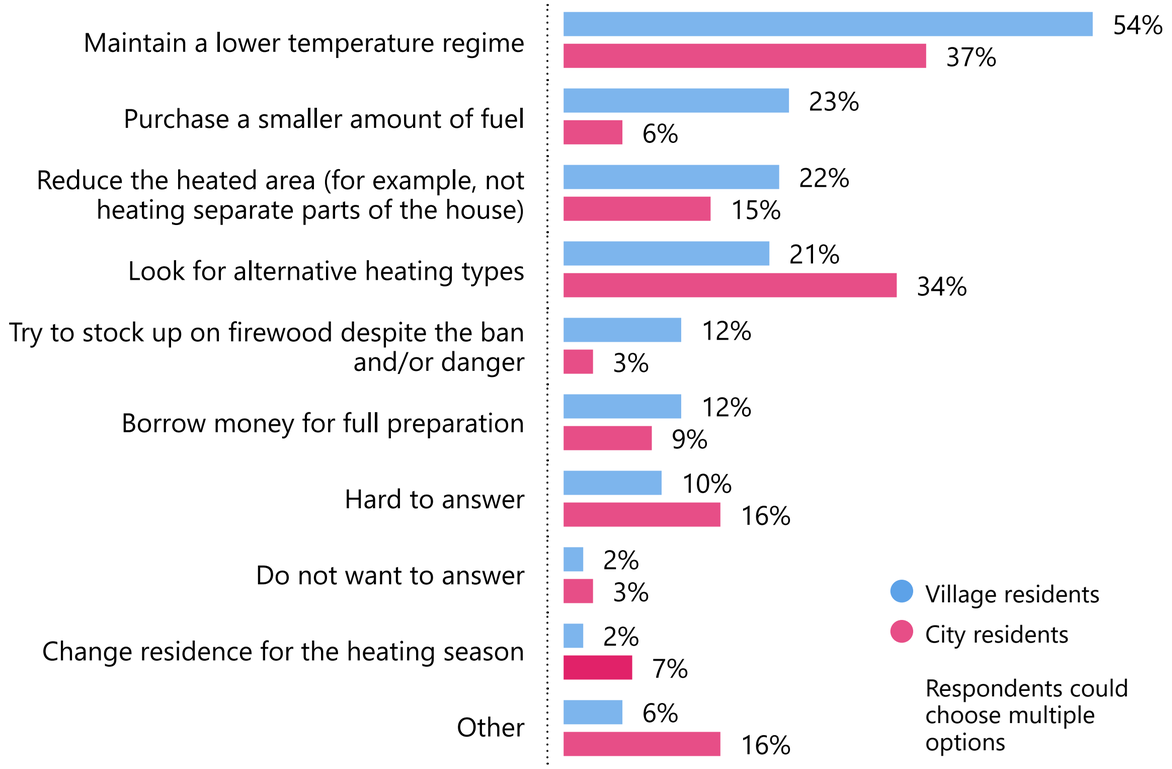
Solutions for Addressing Issues during the Previous Heating Season for Residents of Cities and Villages/Rural Settlements (HH)

- Residents of cities and villages are most likely to adopt measures such as lowering the temperature and reducing the heated area.
- Urban residents are more inclined to seek alternative heating methods.
- Reducing fuel consumption is more common among residents of villages and rural settlements.



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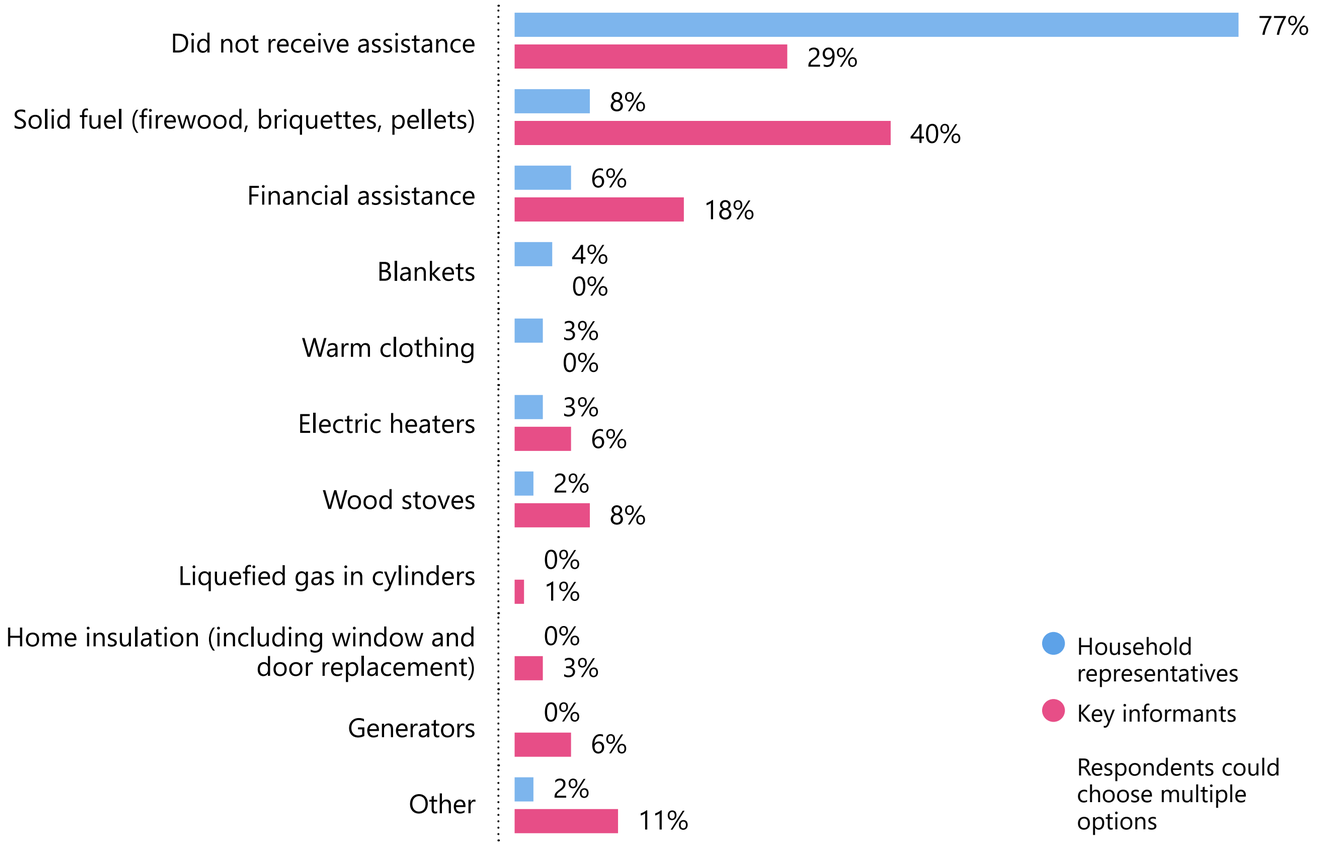
Assistance Provided by Local Authorities

- Representatives of HH and KI most frequently mentioned solid fuel as the primary form of assistance from local authorities (8% of HH, 40% of KI).
- In both HH and KI, most respondents did not receive assistance from local authorities.



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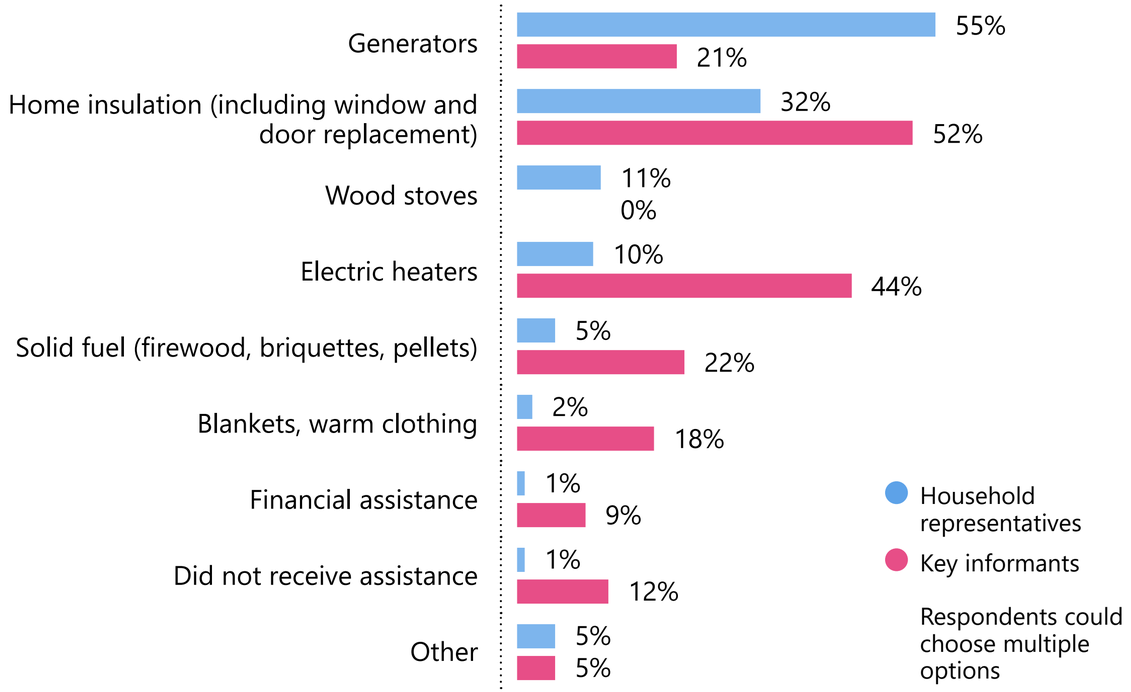
Assistance Provided by Non-Governmental Organisations

- The most common type of assistance from non-governmental organisations is financial aid (32% of HH and 52% of KI).
- In both HH and KI, most respondents did not receive assistance from non-governmental organisations.



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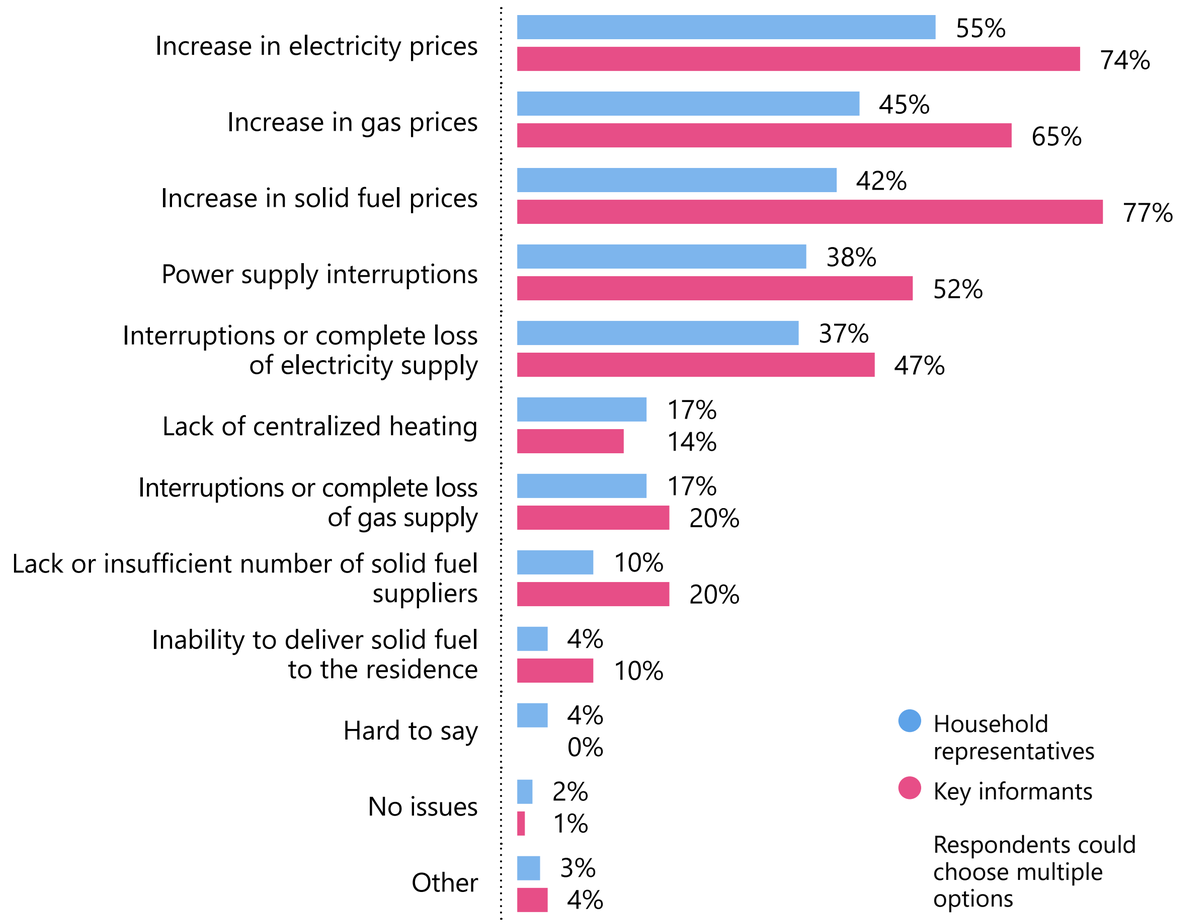
Possible Problems during the Upcoming Heating Season

- The most significant potential problem in the upcoming heating season is identified as the increase in energy resource prices, namely electricity (HH — 55%, KI — 74%), gas (HH — 45%, KI — 65%), and solid fuel (HH 42%, KI — 77%).



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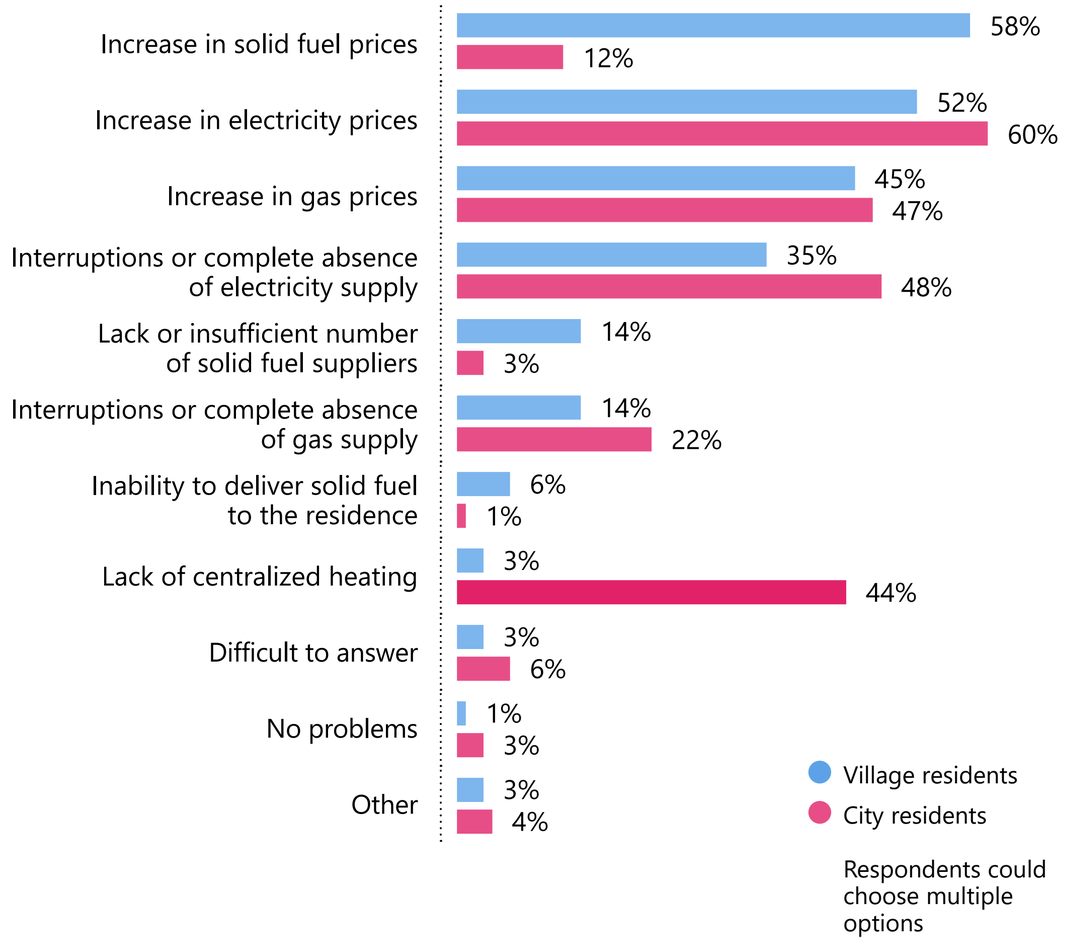
Possible Problems during the Upcoming Heating Season for Residents of Villages and Cities

- Both groups are significantly concerned about the rising prices of gas and electricity.
- The increase in solid fuel prices (58%) and the lack or insufficient number of solid fuel suppliers (14%) worry rural residents more than urban residents.
- Urban residents are significantly more concerned about the potential lack of centralised heating (44%) than rural residents (3%).



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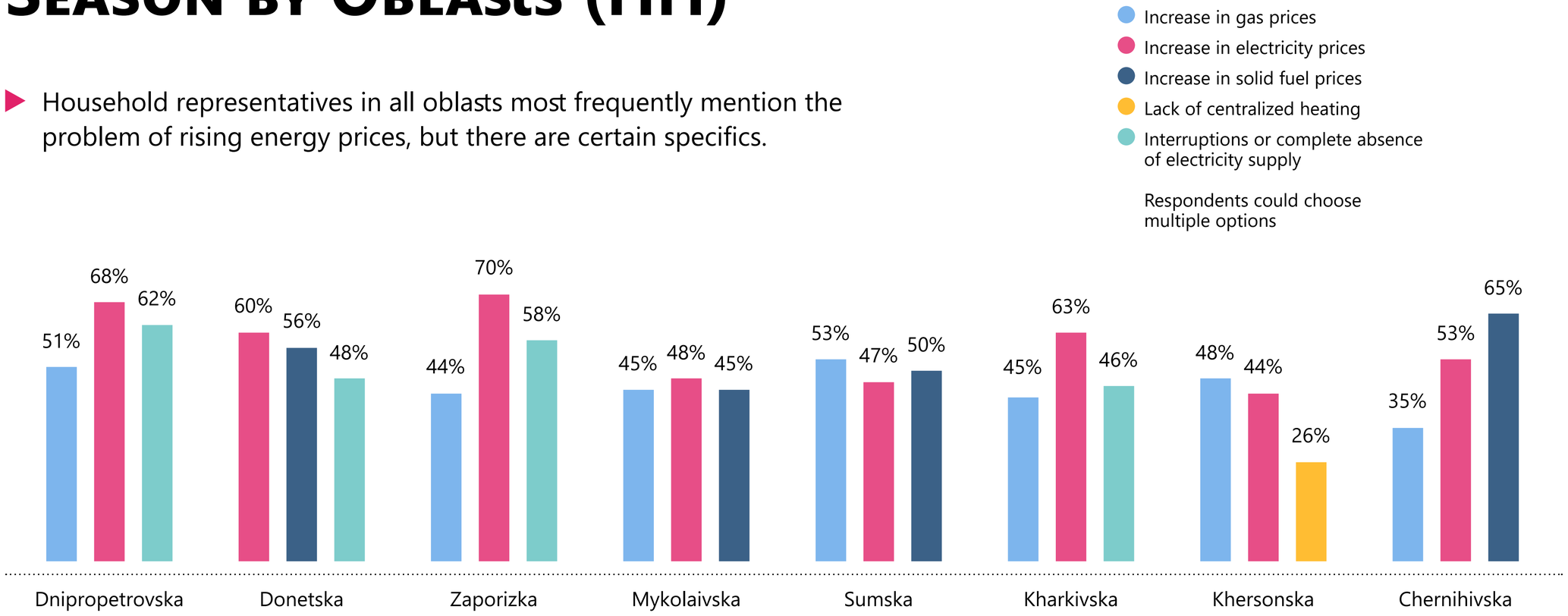
Three Key Problems of the Upcoming Heating Season by Oblasts (HH)

- Household representatives in all oblasts most frequently mention the problem of rising energy prices, but there are certain specifics.



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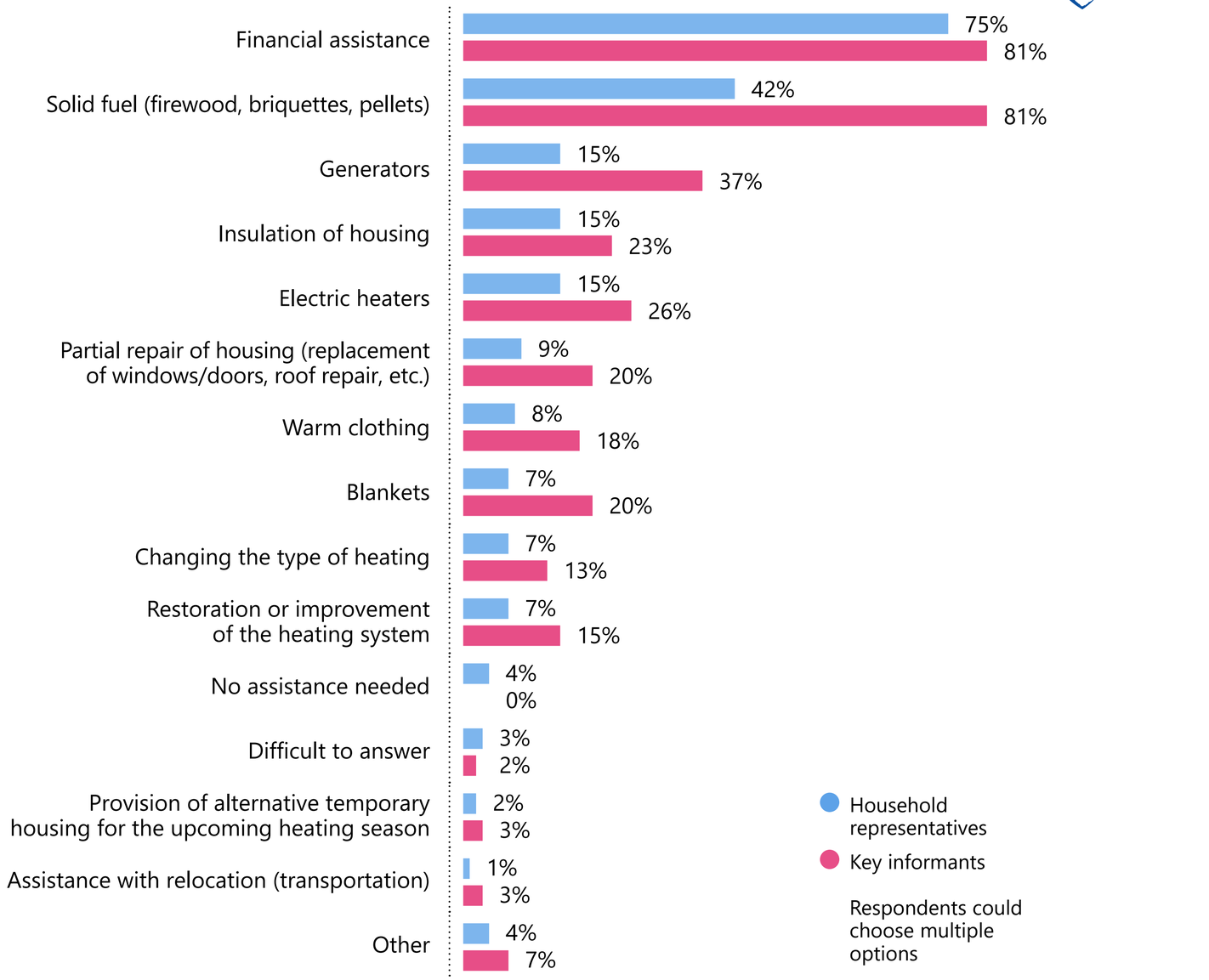
Assistance Needed for the Upcoming Heating Season

- Among the needs, respondents most frequently identify financial assistance as the most requested type of support (81% — KI, 75% — HH) and solid fuel (81% — KI, 42% — HH).



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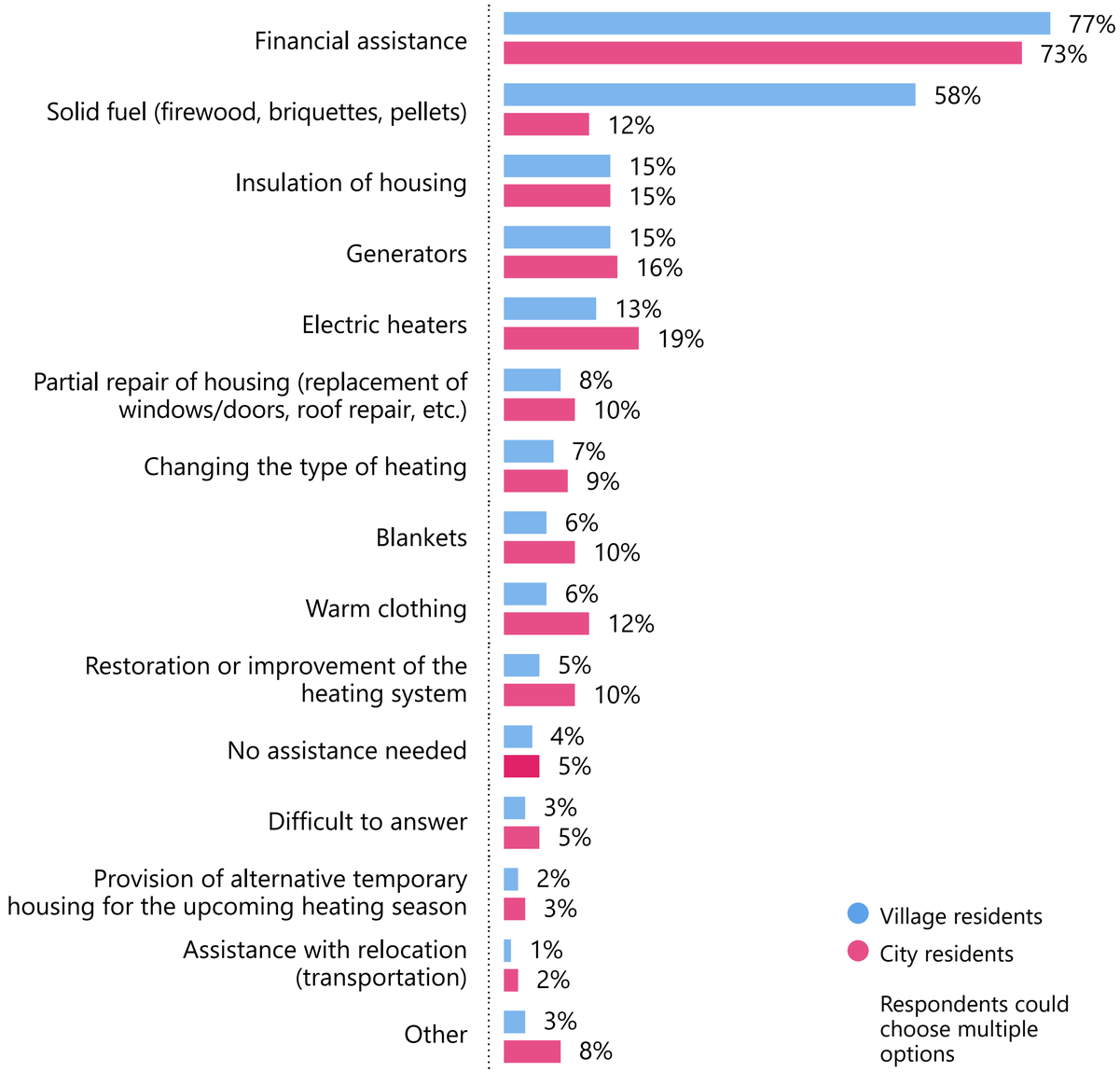
Types of Assistance Needed for the Upcoming Heating Season for Residents of Cities and Villages (HH)

- Financial assistance remains the most in demand among both groups.
- Rural residents require solid fuel significantly more often (58%) than urban residents (12%).



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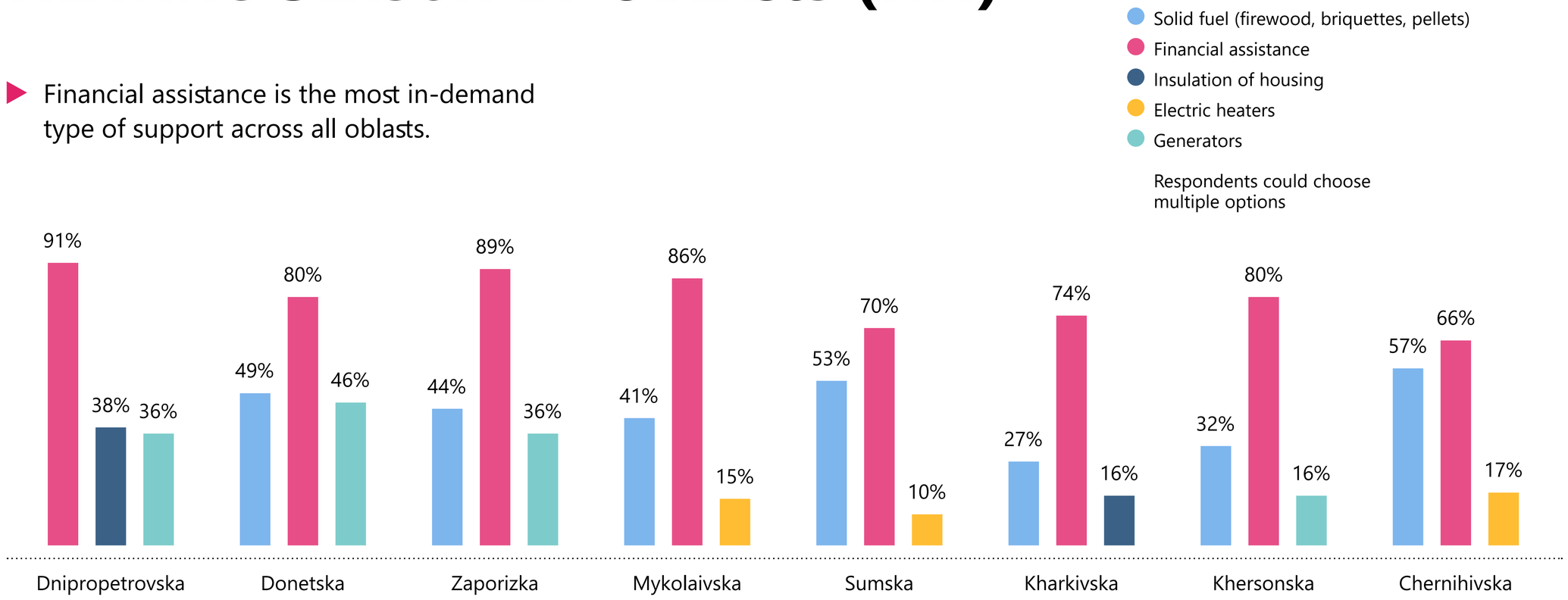
Three Most Requested Types of Assistance Needed for the Upcoming Heating Season by Oblasts (HH)

- Financial assistance is the most in-demand type of support across all oblasts.



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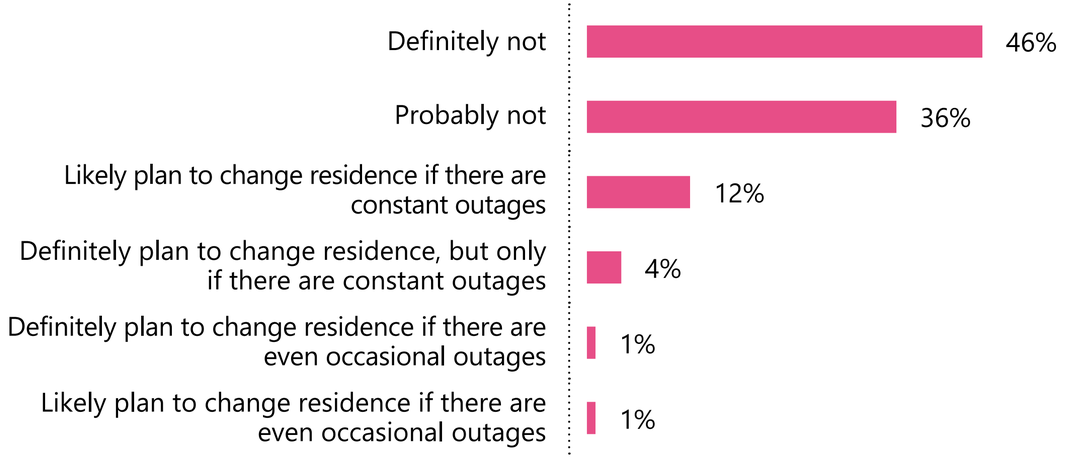
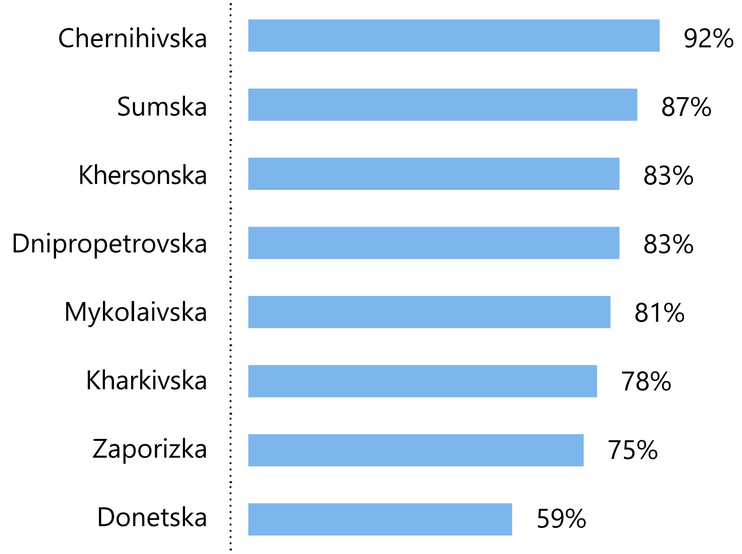
Population Relocation Related to the Heating Season: Intentions and Needs

Could Problems Related to the Heating Season Prompt you to Change Your Residence (Either Temporarily or Permanently) (HH)?

- Overall, 82% of HH respondents are unwilling to change their residence despite heating issues.



Respondents who do not plan to leave



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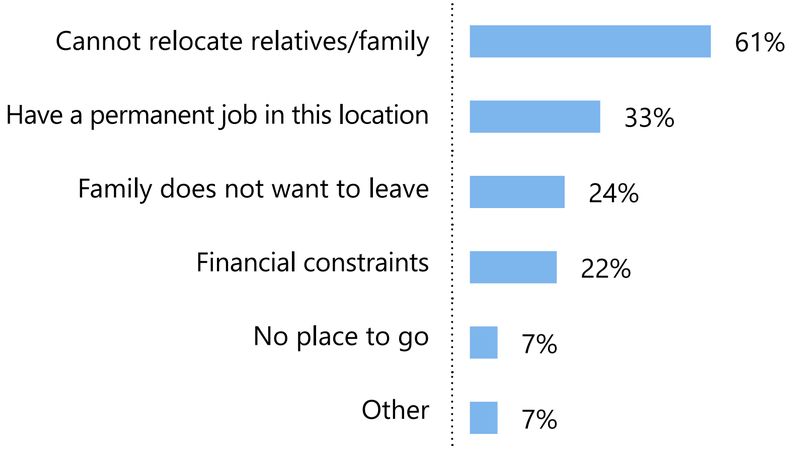
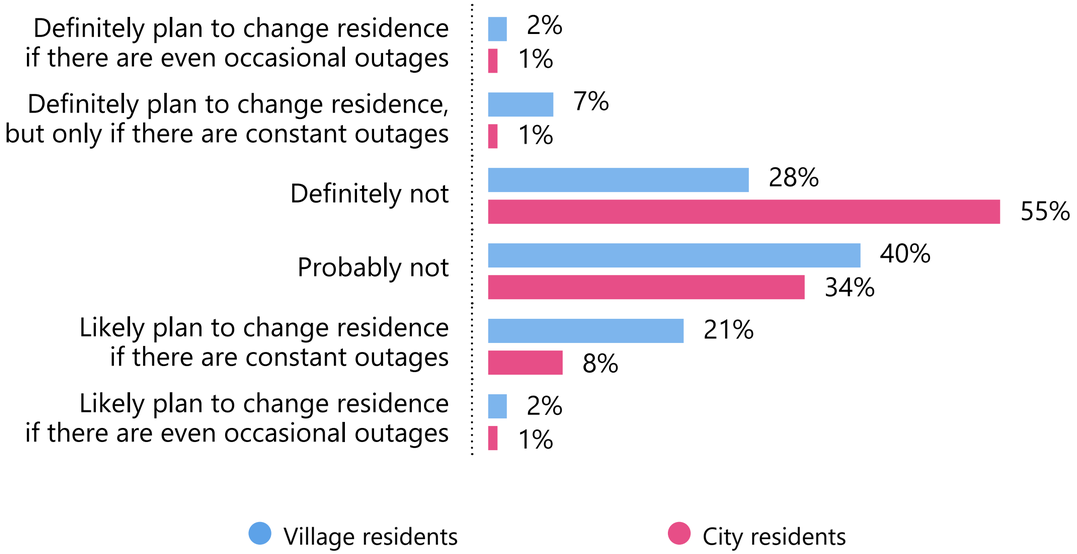
Willingness to Relocate Due to Heating Problems (Reasons) HH

- The lack of alternative housing options is the main reason for the unwillingness to relocate for 61% of household respondents.



Respondents could choose multiple options

- Most respondents living in villages (89%) are NOT willing to relocate due to heating problems, unlike urban residents, whose percentage is 68%.



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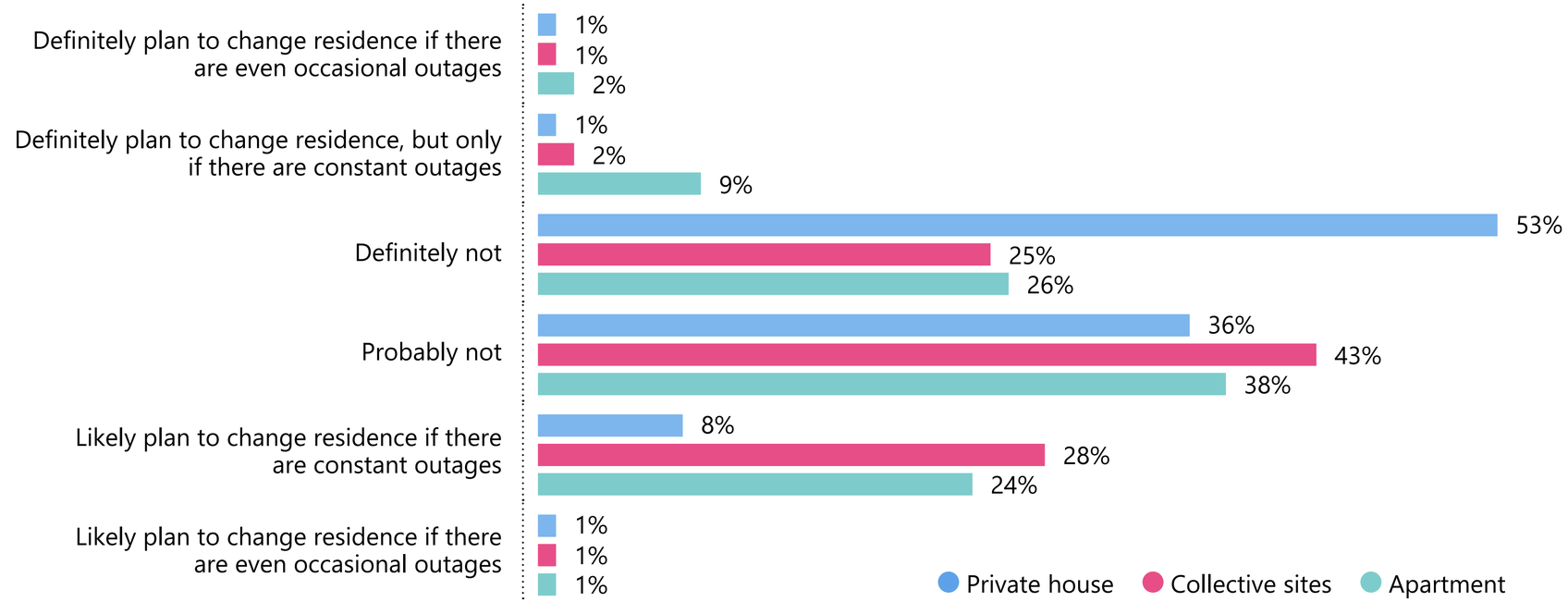
Willingness to Relocate and Type of Housing

- Residents of private houses (89%) are less likely to relocate due to heating problems than respondents living in apartments (64%) or collective sites (68%).
- Respondents' primary needs, regardless of housing type, are financial assistance and food. Private house residents have a particular need for solid fuel, and residents of collective centres highlighted hygiene products among their main needs.



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Readiness to Relocate Due to Heating Problems Among Vulnerable Population Groups (HH)

- Families with children are more likely to relocate due to issues related to the heating season (23%) than families without children (16%).

- A comparison of readiness to relocate due to a lack of heating shows that younger individuals (18–34) are more flexible and willing to consider this option, while older individuals, especially those aged 60 and over, are less inclined to move. Among the 60+ age group, a significant percentage (89%) is unwilling to leave their residence despite potential heating problems.

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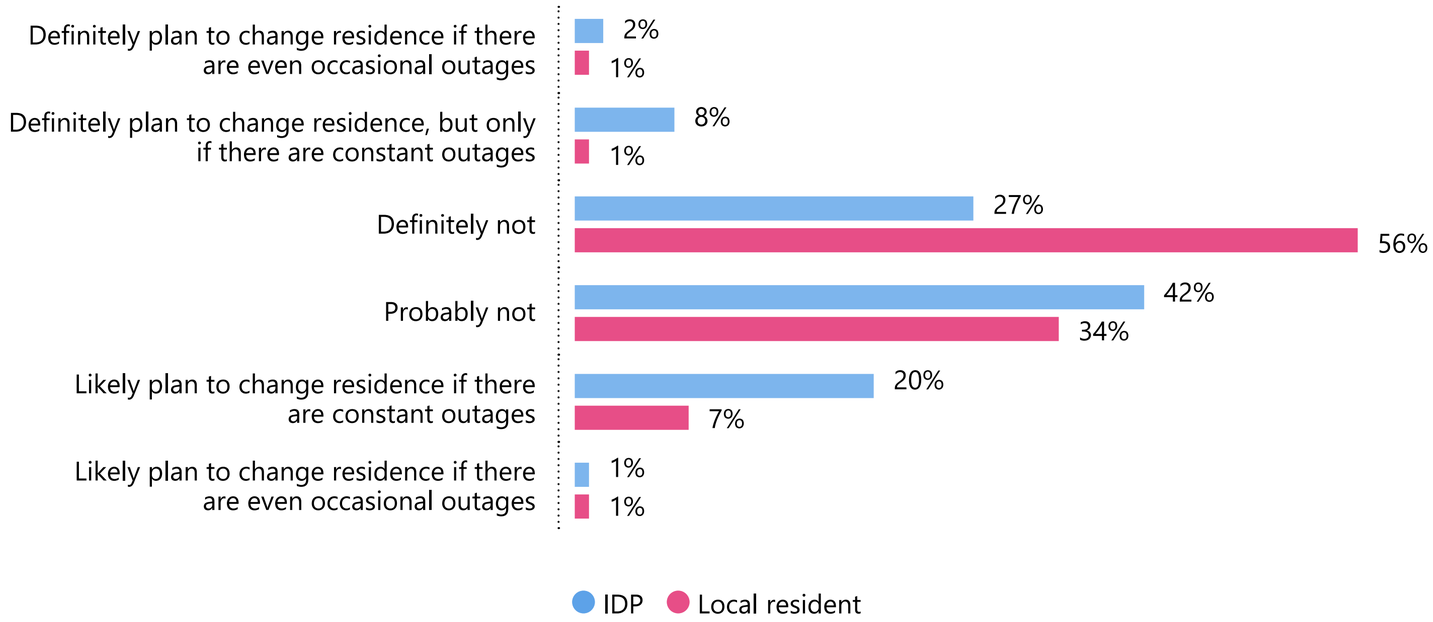
Willingness to Relocate Among IDPs and Locals

- Respondents with IDP (internally displaced persons) status are more likely to relocate (31%) due to heating problems, compared to local residents, whose percentage is 10%.



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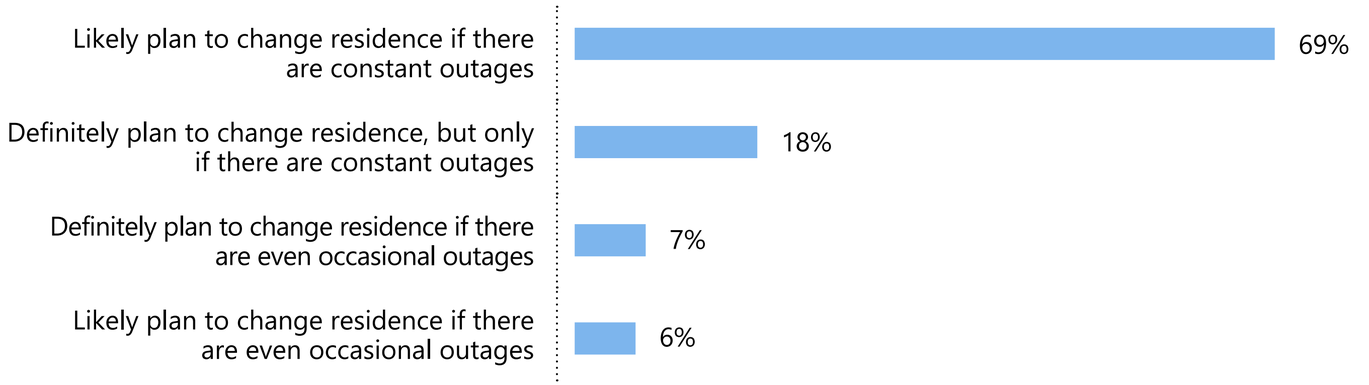
Willingness to Relocate Due to Heating Problems (HH)

- Among respondents considering relocating, the highest percentage (69%) will likely change their residence if constant outages exist.



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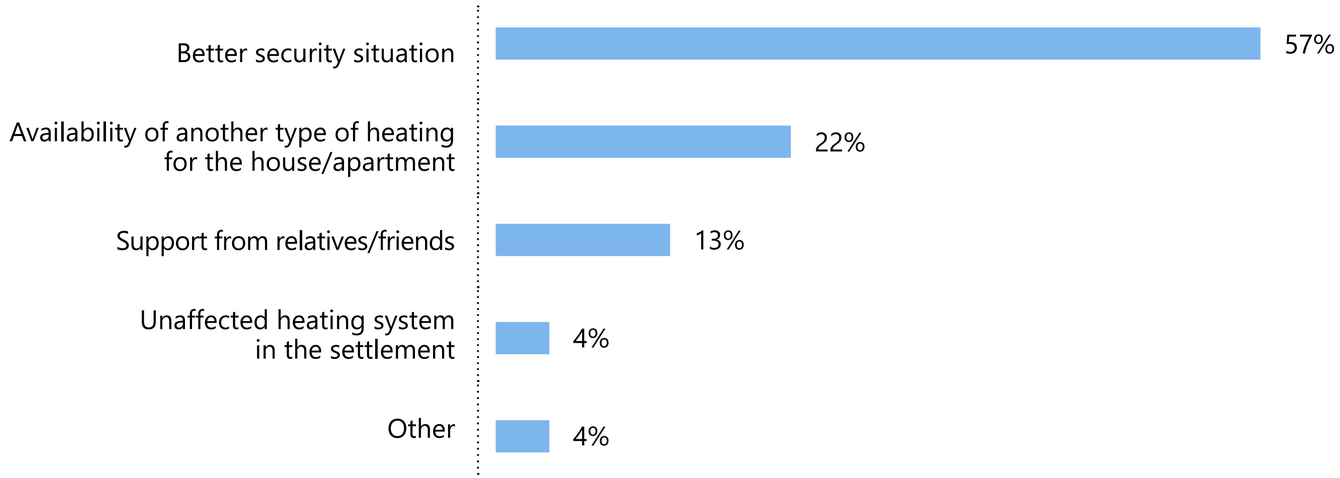
Willingness to Relocate Due to Heating Problems HH (Factors Influencing the Choice of Relocation Destination)

- For respondents who definitely plan to change their residence even with occasional outages, the main factor influencing their decision to relocate for the heating season is finding a safer place to live.



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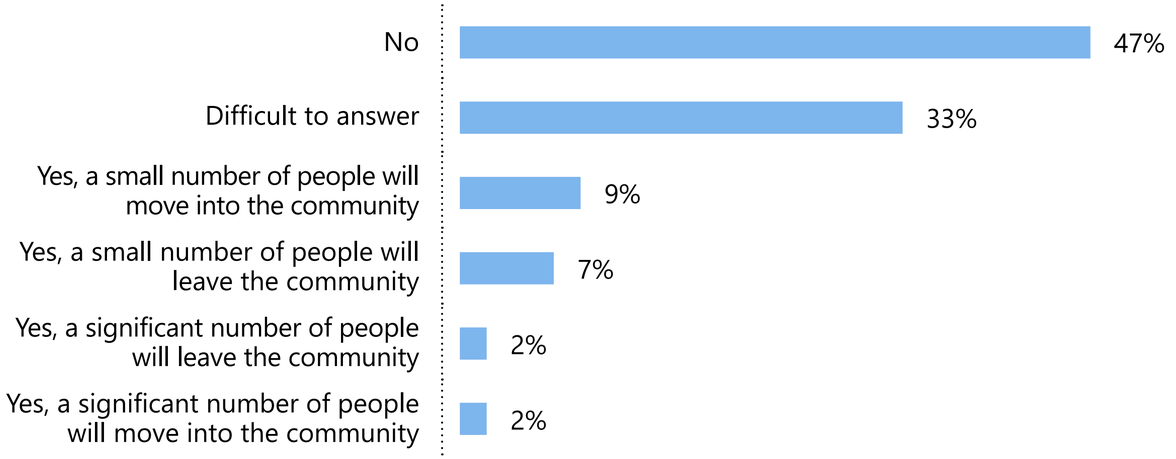
Population Movement Trends from the Last Season Due to Heating Problems (KI)

- 82% of KI respondents observed no population movement related to heating issues last season.
- Regarding the upcoming heating season, 47% of KI respondents said they do not expect any population movement.

Do you expect population movement in the upcoming heating season?



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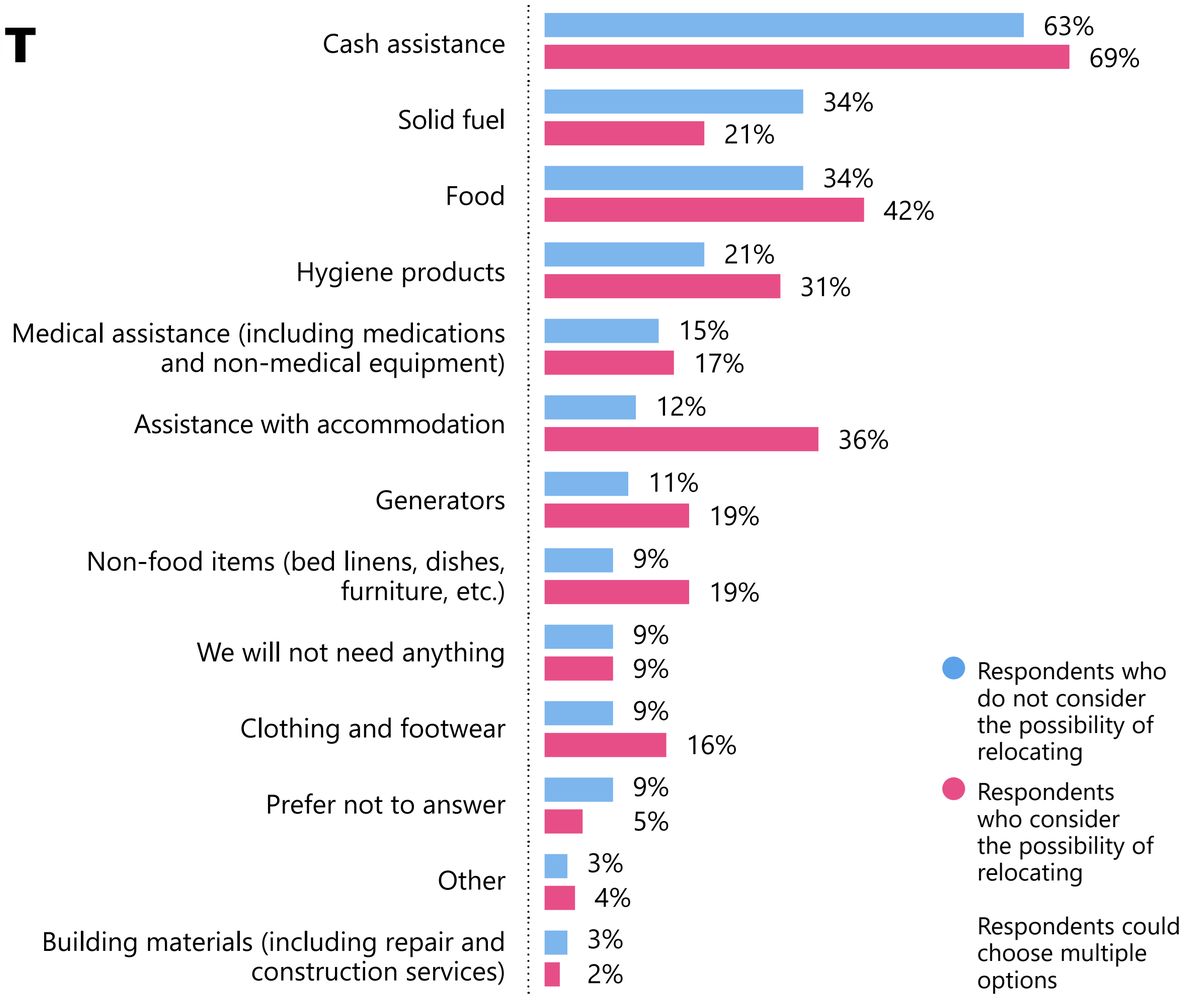
Household Needs During Potential Relocation or While Staying at Their Current Location (HH)

- Financial resources (money) are identified as the most crucial need for both HH considering relocation and those planning to remain at their current residence.



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Access to Children's Education Among Household Representatives and the Impact of Outages on HHs' Relocation Intentions

Impact of power outages on children's education

- 61% of respondents with children reported that power outages affect their child's learning mode (36% fully and 25% partially).
- A minority (39%) indicated that outages do not affect the learning mode.
- 48% of HHs with children noted that their child's inability to receive online education will not influence their decision to move to another settlement.

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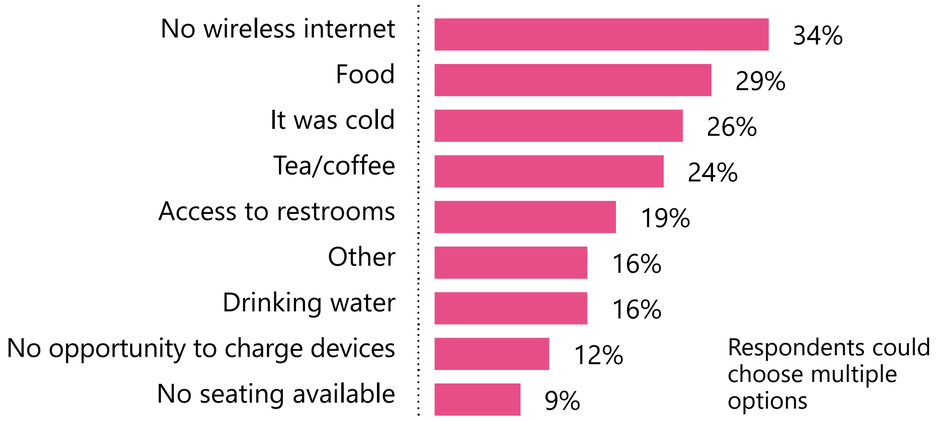
Preparation for Winter in Hromadas: Availability of Assistance Centres During Power/Heating Outages, the Impact of Outages on Access to Drinking Water, and whether Social Service Institutions are Preparing for Potential Challenges of the Heating Season

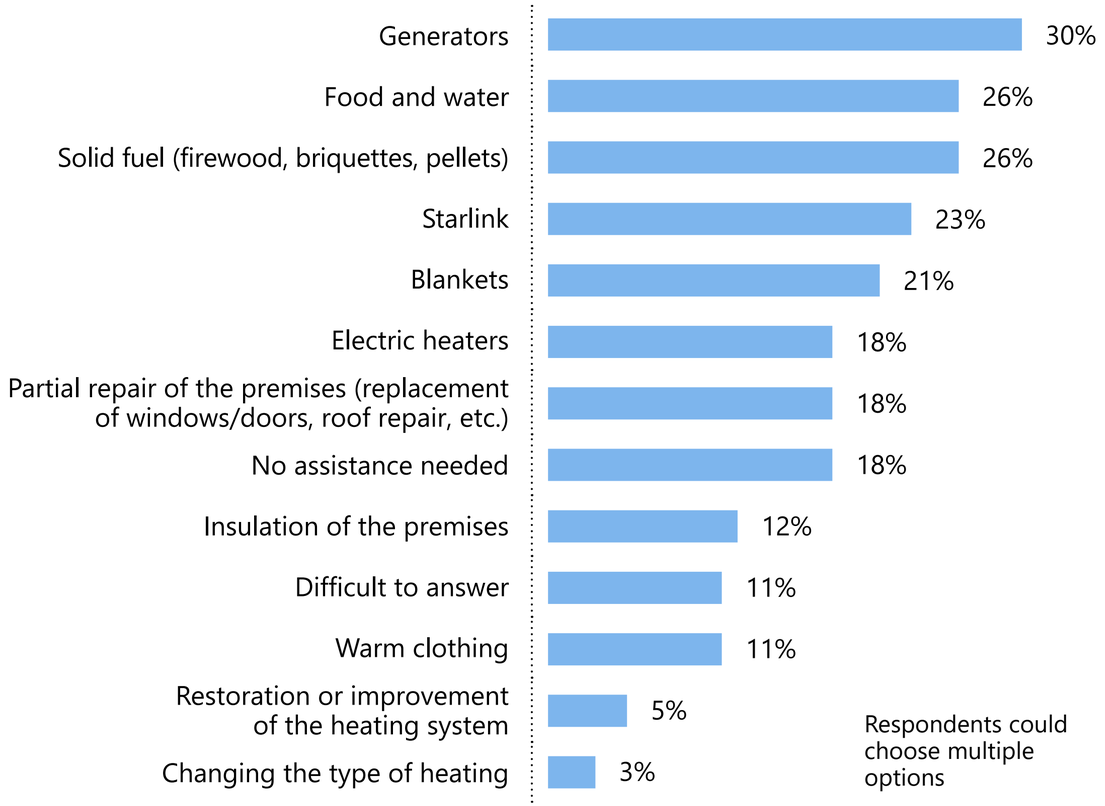
Availability of Centres (Resilience Centres, Warming Centres, etc.) for Assisting the Population in Conditions of Power Outages and/or Lack of Heating (HH and KI)

- Most HHs and KI respondents reported the presence of resilience centres in their areas (HH — 56%, KI — 67%).
- Among HHs, 34% cited the lack of wireless internet as the most pressing issue in these centres.

Which of your needs were not met?



Do these centers need additional equipment?



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Impact of Electricity Outages on Access to Drinking Water (KI)

- 62% of KI respondents reported general access to drinking water in their locality during power and centralised water supply outages.
- 22% of the respondents indicated that access to drinking water is only available in some private homes.
- 13% of respondents stated that there is no access to drinking water.

List of communities with restricted access to drinking water during power and centralized water supply outages, based on KI responses

Oblasts	Community
Dnipropetrovska	Myrivska, Pokrovska, Nikopolska
Donetska	Bilozerska, Komarska, Kryvorizka, Udachnenska
Zaporizka	Novooleksandrivska,Ternuvatska, Shyrokivska, Komyshuvaska, Stepnenska, Mykhailo-Lukashivska, Pavlivska, Petro-Mykhailivska, Vilnianska, Zaporizka
Mykolaivska	Doroshivska, Nechaianska, Kazankivska, Kostiantynivska, Sukhoielanetska, Yelanetska, Voskresenska, Inhulska, Radsadivska, Pervomaiska, Stepivska
Sumska	Putyvlska, Okhtyrska, Verkhnosyrovatska, Andriiashivska
Kharkivska	Chkalovska, Shevchenkivska
Khersonska	Khersonska, Bilozerska
Chernihivska	Bakhmatska, Bobrovytska, Ichnianska, Koriukivska, Kyselivska, Novobilouska

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Availability of Social Service Institutions and Preparation for Winter (KI)

- Most KI respondents (67%) reported no social service institutions with accommodation in their community/ settlement. Only 24% confirmed the presence of such institutions, while 9% found it difficult to answer the question.

- Regarding the preparation of social service institutions for the upcoming heating season, most KI respondents (71%) confirmed that social institutions are preparing for the next heating season.

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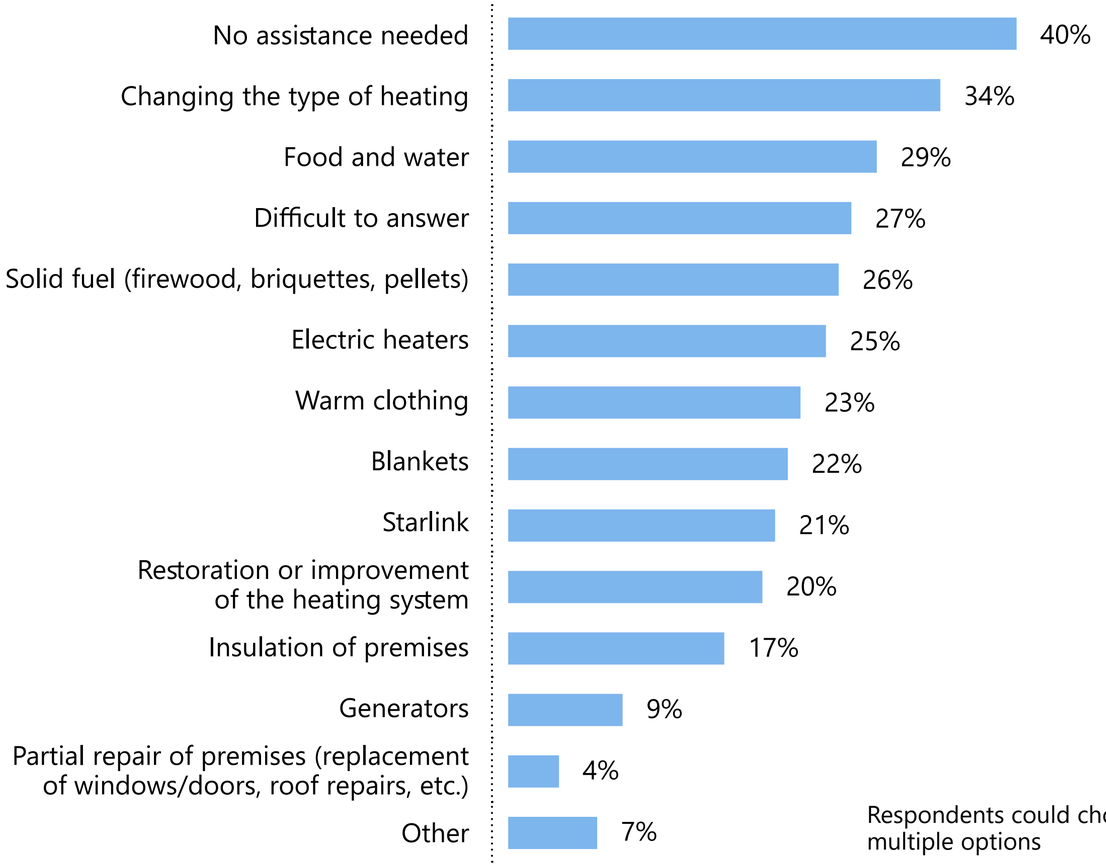
Needs of Social Institutions for Winter Preparation (KI)

- The primary needs of social institutions are partial repair of premises (replacement of windows/doors, roof repairs, etc.) — 40%, generators — 34%, and insulation of premises — 29%.



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Preparation of Social Service Institutions for the Upcoming Heating Season

KI respondents who confirmed the presence of social service institutions in their locality assessed the readiness of these institutions to accommodate evacuees from other institutions, if necessary, as follows:

- 37% reported that their institutions are not prepared to accept evacuees, while 36% indicated that their institutions are ready to accept evacuees.
- 27% are unsure whether their institutions are prepared to accept evacuees.

According to 33% of KI, systemic heating issues could require the relocation of beneficiaries of social service institutions. Meanwhile, 30% of KI believe such a need will not arise. However, a significant portion of KI (37%) could not determine whether there would be a need to relocate beneficiaries of social institutions in the event of a heating failure.

In response to questions about developing a relocation plan for institutions in case of heating failure (including finding new premises, transportation, etc.), nearly half of KI (47%) reported low awareness of such plans or the absence of actual planning (36%) for relocation in the event of heating failure. Only a small portion of respondents (17%) are aware of the development of such plans.

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