

MEDIA FACT SHEET

MINE AND EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE RISKS IN UKRAINE: UNICEF'S PREVENTION & RESPONSE EFFORTS

APRIL 2025



MINE & ERW RISKS – STATISTICS

Approximately

23%

of Ukraine's territory,

139,000

square kilometers, could be contaminated with explosive ordnance.

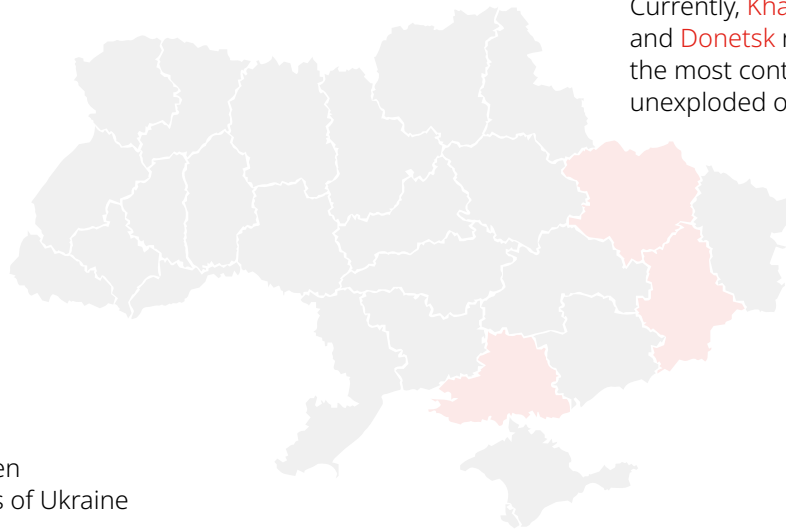
Source: State Emergency Service of Ukraine

176

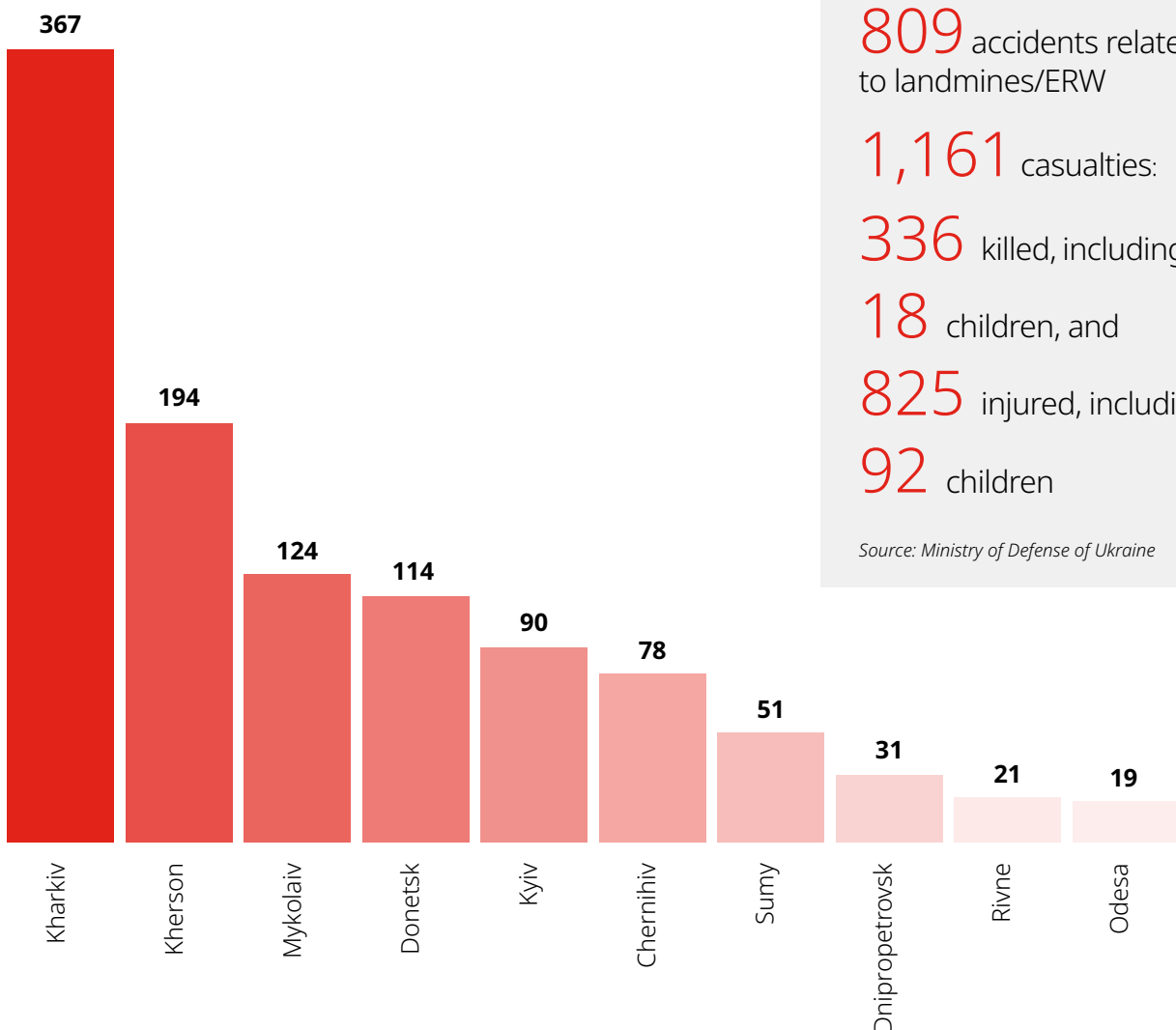
different types of explosive remnants of war (ERW) have been recorded in **15** out of **25** regions of Ukraine

Source: Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining

Currently, **Kharkiv**, **Kherson**, and **Donetsk** regions are the most contaminated with unexploded ordnance.



NUMBER OF CASUALTIES BY REGION, TOP 10:



Source: Secretariat of the National Mine Action Authority

CASUALTIES

(as of 3 April 2025)

809 accidents related to landmines/ERW

1,161 casualties:

336 killed, including

18 children, and

825 injured, including

92 children

Source: Ministry of Defense of Ukraine

EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE RISK EDUCATION (EORE)

All materials developed by UNICEF for children of different ages focus on four aspects of explosive ordnance risk education (EORE):



- what dangerous objects might look like and why;
- where children might encounter them;
- what warning signs indicate danger;
- what to do if they come across ERW.



UNICEF, TOGETHER WITH PARTNERS, DEVELOPED



An **online course** “[Delivering Effective Mine Safety Messages to Children](#)” for educators, emergency workers, and police officers.



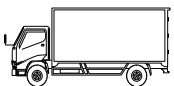
Over **10,000** educators and **6,000** emergency workers registered for the course.



A mine safety workshop for 5-9 grade that has become a recommended part of the school's mandatory course ‘Health, Safety and Well-being’.

UNICEF’s materials on safe behaviour for children of different ages and guides to mine safety lessons for educators and emergency workers are available at spilnoteka.org

MOBILE SAFETY CLASSES

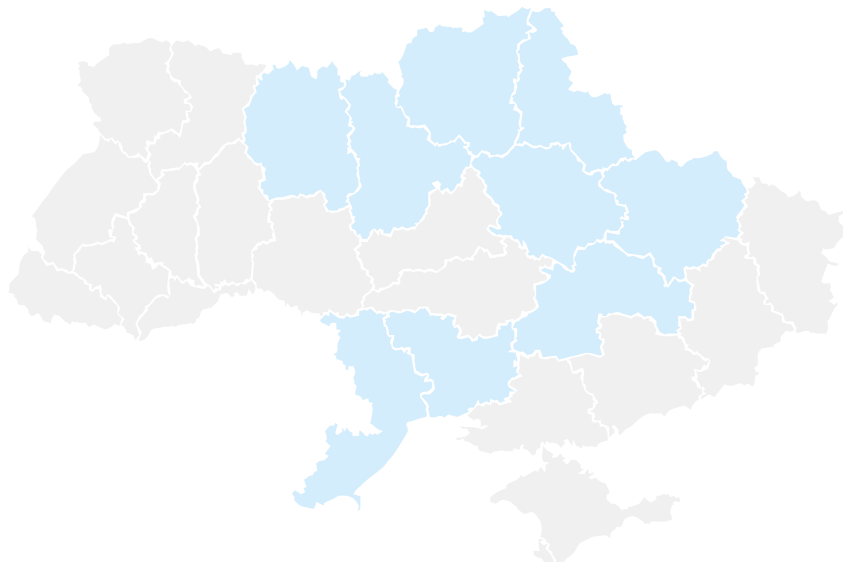


Mobile Safety Classes, specially equipped vehicles for conducting safety lessons, both inside the vehicles themselves and outside in communities most affected by hostilities and landmines. Launched by UNICEF at the end of 2023, in partnership with the Ministry of Interior Affairs, the State Emergency Service, and the National Police.

185,000

children reached

Operate in **10** regions –
Chernihiv, Dnipropetrovsk,
Kharkiv, Kyiv, Mykolaiv,
Odesa, Poltava, Sumy,
Zaporizhzhia and Zhytomyr,
and the city of Kyiv.



AWARENESS LEVEL AND SAFE BEHAVIOUR



53%

of Ukrainian teenagers engage in risky behaviour despite being well-informed about risks posed by mines and unexploded ordnance.



Among children who viewed comics and brochures with UNICEF activities and materials featuring Dog Patron, **59% had low levels of risk** behaviours and only up to **9% had high levels of risk** behaviour.

Other formats, such as the lessons from SESU, school or family, resulted in **50-53% of children showing low risk** behaviour and **10-12% showing high risk** behaviour.



Teenagers whose parents repeatedly discussed mine risks with them showed safer behaviours (**50%**), compared to those whose parents rarely (**32%**) or never (**31%**) discussed these issues.

Source: [A study on explosive ordnance risk awareness and safe behaviour practices among Ukrainian parents and children aged 10 to 17, conducted by UNICEF and the Rating Group with the EU funding in May 2024.](#)

97%

of adolescents have been informed about explosive ordnance risks and safe behaviour

80% Education lessons at school

69% Family, Relatives

39% Rescuers (SESU)

37% Social networks

32% Military, police

19% Internet sites

16% Cartoons with Patron

10% Friends

7% Computer games

6% Comics, brochures

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS SESSIONS:

1,080,000+
children

200,300+
caregivers

participated in EORE sessions

ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME FOR MINE/ERW SURVIVORS

In 2024, **570** affected children received assistance, including referrals for specialised care, through the International Rescue Committee (IRC).

More than **10,000** children and caregivers participated in educational sessions on ERW risks conducted by the Association of Sappers of Ukraine.

More than **2,300** people received psychological support.

Almost **7,200** people attended community engagement sessions aimed at promoting the integration of children with disabilities into their communities.

The programme is implemented in partnership with the International Rescue Committee and supported by the European Union.

