



Ukraine Humanitarian Situation Report No. 47



Reporting period: 1 January to 31 December 2024

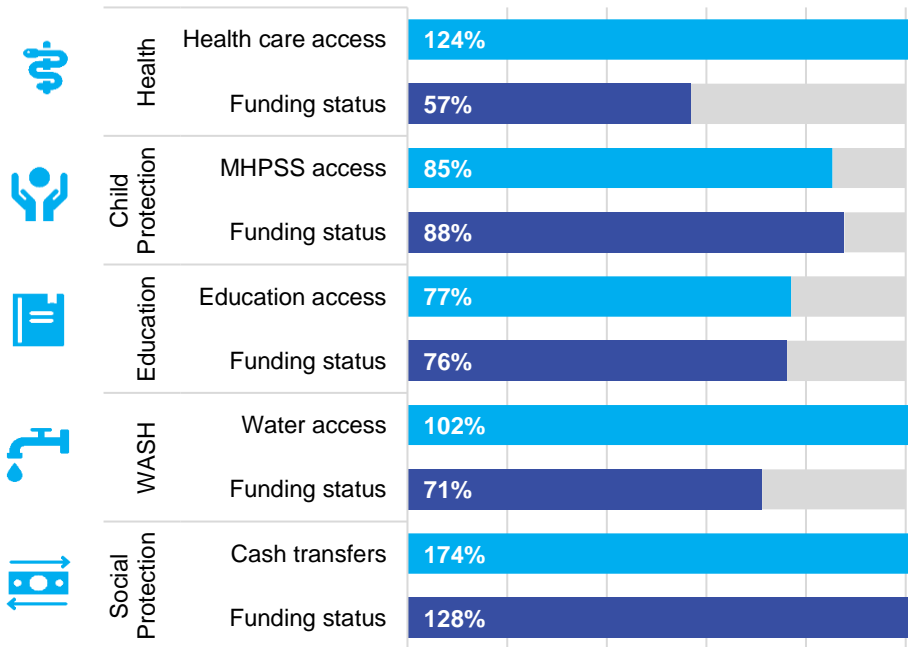
Highlights

- The war in Ukraine intensified in its third year, devastating the lives of the 1.5 million children in regions on either side of the frontline. Access to children in occupied areas remained fully constrained. There are 3.6 million people now internally displaced; over 100,000 people were displaced in August and September 2024 alone.
- In 2024, UNICEF together with its government and implementing partners reached 9.8 million people with humanitarian assistance, including 2.5 million children:
 - 1.2 million people were supported to access health services.
 - 760,000 children, adolescents and caregivers were able to access mental health and psychosocial support.
 - 480,000 children participated in formal or non-formal education, including early learning.
 - 5.8 million people accessed safe drinking water.
 - 240,000 people from 70,000 households received humanitarian cash transfers.
- UNICEF led a comprehensive winter response: Cash for winterization assistance reached 50,000 households while 5,000 families received solid fuel briquettes, winter clothing kits and winter blankets. School grants were provided to 700 schools to support the continuity of in-person education through the winter months. Energy and heat generation equipment has been delivered and is currently being installed in two municipalities in Sumy, six municipalities in Kharkiv, and Zaporizhzhia city.

Situation in Numbers

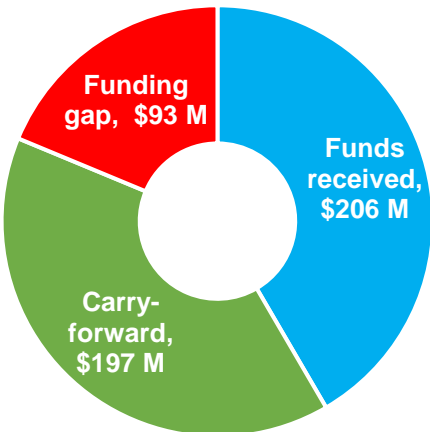


UNICEF Response and Funding Status



UNICEF Appeal 2024 US\$495.9 million

Funding status as of 31 December



The overall HAC funding gap status does not represent gaps by sector. For further details by sector, please refer to Annex B.

Figures reported to the FTS may differ for the same period due to in-process allocation of flexible funding. This reflects the requirements for Pillar 1 (inside Ukraine).

Funding Overview and Partnerships

For 2024, UNICEF had US\$403.0 million available for its response inside Ukraine (Pillar 1) under its [Humanitarian Action for Children](#) (HAC) appeal of US\$495.9 million. This included US\$196.7 million carried over from 2023 and US\$206.3 million received in 2024. The HAC was developed in line with the [Ukraine Humanitarian Response Plan \(HRP\) 2024](#), which targets 8.5 million of the 14.6 million people in need. Generous contributions were received from the private sector, including individuals, corporations and foundations. Funding was received from the people and Governments of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, the European Union, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, the Republic of Korea, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Philippines, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States, as well as from Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and the pooled Ukraine Humanitarian Fund (UHF).

UNICEF works with the Government of Ukraine, United Nations agencies, civil society and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other humanitarian partners. Close cooperation is ensured with key stakeholders (Ministries of Foreign Affairs; Social Policy; Education and Science; Youth and Sports; Ministry for Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development; and Health), regional administration, mayors in several cities and the Ombudsperson's Office. UNICEF has established partnerships in concerned municipalities and will continue to expand them. UNICEF engages with 110 government, civil society and service provider partners to respond to the critical needs of children and families across Ukraine.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The war in Ukraine intensified in its third year, devastating the lives of the 1.5 million children in regions on either side of the frontline. Access to children in occupied areas remained fully constrained. There are 3.6 million people now internally displaced; over 100,000 people were displaced in [August and September](#) 2024 alone.

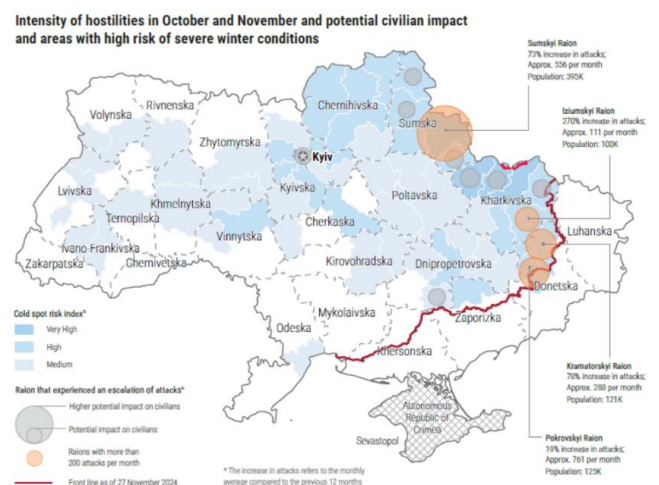
Increased attacks on populated areas are damaging or destroying civilian infrastructure, including homes, schools and health centres. As seen in the map to the right, October and November saw a 72 per cent increase in attacks on Sumski district (556 attacks per month); a 270 per cent increase on Izumski district in Kharkiv Region (111 attacks per month); and a 78 per cent increase on Kramatorski district in Donetsk Region (228 attacked per month). Since February 2022, the [United Nations has verified](#) 2,472 child casualties (667 killed and 1,805 injured), or two child casualties each day. This includes 91 children killed and 539 injured in 2024. But even after the bombing stops, children continue to be at risk of the mines and explosive remnants covering about 25 per cent of the country, as well as the enduring mental health and psychosocial effects of the war on them and their caregivers. Children in frontline areas are forced to spend up to 5,000 hours – equivalent to nearly 7 months - sheltering underground. Nearly 1.2 million children are missing out on full-time, in-person learning. The COVID-19 pandemic and then the escalation of the war mean children are between one and two years behind in core subjects.

Mass **attacks on energy infrastructure** continued through Christmas Day. Between March and May 2024, Ukraine lost 9 gigawatts (GW) out of its 36GW pre-war power generation capacity. Strikes on energy infrastructure continued through November and December as freezing temperatures arrived. While scheduled national blackouts have decreased, these strikes continue to create outages in heating, water and power, interrupting services, including health care and education for children. Sixty per cent of people lack a [back-up power source](#), while a quarter have no heating appliances.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

UNICEF is working closely with United Nations agencies, the government and humanitarian partners under the inter-agency framework. UNICEF leads/co-leads the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Education Clusters, Child Protection Area of Responsibility, the Social Protection Sub-Group under the Cash Working Group and the Nutrition Technical Working Group and Maternal Child Health Care Sub-Group under the Health Cluster. Along the frontlines, where intense and sustained fighting and access constraints remain, UNICEF participates in inter-agency humanitarian convoys and engages with municipal, regional and local administrations and civil society partners to implement its urgent humanitarian response. In the central and western parts of the country, UNICEF uses existing national systems and engages local authorities and civil society. Flagship priorities include Better Start to Life (Early childhood development – ECD), Better Learning and Skills (Maximizing the potential of children and youth) and Better Care (A family for every child).

UNICEF led a comprehensive **2024–2025 winter response** at the household and community level, with a particular focus on ensuring the continuity of critical services for children. Cash for winterization assistance reached 50,010 households across



OCHA Ukraine, Situation Update - December 2024

Ukraine, including 39,358 households in frontline areas and 10,652 households with children in alternative care or with other child protection concerns. In addition, 5,037 families in Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Kherson, Sumy and Zaporizhzhia received solid fuel briquettes, delivered to their residences together with winter clothing kits and winter blankets for children aged 1 to 14 years. School grants were provided to 700 schools to support the continuity of in-person education through the winter months. Energy and heat generation equipment was delivered and is currently being installed in two municipalities in Sumy, six municipalities in Kharkiv, and Zaporizhzhia city. Additional details are included below; by the end of the winter, UNICEF is targeting 1.5 million people including 255,000 children with winter assistance.



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Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health and Nutrition: Since the start of the year, the United Nations has verified the damage or destruction of 258 health facilities, bringing the total to 712 since the full-scale war began. In 2024, UNICEF reached 1,138,901 children and caregivers with **access to health care** through mobile teams, home visits or the provision of medical supplies to health centres. This is 124 per cent of the annual target, with the overreach due to the broad distribution of health supplies procured earlier in the crisis to facilities across the country. Medical supplies and equipment were delivered to 270 health facilities, along with 337 generators (16 kVA) to ensure uninterrupted operation in the event of blackouts. UNICEF rehabilitated three health facilities in Kharkiv Region, including the emergency care unit in the regional perinatal centre damaged by hostilities. Following the attack on Okhmatdyt Children's Hospital in Kyiv on 8 July, UNICEF provided health supplies, solar lamps, drinking water, hygiene kits and recreational materials for children along with mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) and cash assistance. Meanwhile, UNICEF-supported mobile health teams provided health consultations to 6,510 people (1,502 girls, 1,393 boys, 3,354 women and 261 men) in conflict-affected and hard-to-reach areas of Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk and Zaporizhzhia.

The **Universal Progressive Home Visiting (UPHV) Model** supported 29,431 people (5,205 girls, 5,544 boys, 11,071 women and 7,611 men) in 15 regions and Kyiv city, including early childhood care, vaccination guidance, breastfeeding support and MHPSS. In 2024, 647 health care workers were trained to deliver these home visits for children 0 to 6 months and 550 health workers trained to support children 6 to 36 months. UNICEF also delivered 40 vehicles to primary health care facilities in nine regions to enable nurses to reach families in remote communities. In a survey to assess the model, participating parents rated the programme 4.76 on a 5-point scale. The most pressing concerns raised were difficulties with breastfeeding (68 per cent); ECD (52 per cent); and vaccination (48 per cent). UNICEF advocated for the inclusion of the UPHV model in key national frameworks, leading to its integration into the National Demographic Strategy (2024–2040); the National Better Care Strategy (2024–2028); and the National Health Strategy 2030. A key outcome of these advocacy efforts was the December 2024 decree by the Ministry of Health (MOH), which formalized procedures for institutionalizing home-based and facility-based child visits as part of primary health care services.

In response to requests from MOH, UNICEF **procured and delivered vaccines**, including 651,840 doses of COVID-19 vaccine (adult and paediatric); 340,000 doses of bivalent oral polio vaccine; 370,000 doses of diphtheria and tetanus (for different ages); 113,200 doses of measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine (MMR); 350,000 doses of diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (DTP); and 60,000 doses of pentavalent vaccine, to prevent stock-outs and ensure the continuity of vaccination services. As of the end of November, according to [Public Health Centre](#), immunization coverage is 86 per cent for the first dose of MMR and 83 per cent for the third dose of DTP. UNICEF also procured and distributed 950 refrigerators, cold boxes and vaccine carriers; 8 refrigerator vehicles for vaccine transport in frontline areas; and a walk-in cold room for the Zaporizhzhia regional warehouse.

A major [campaign](#) promoted DTP vaccination to 7,040,000 people. The campaign was led by MOH, the Center for Public Health and the regional Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, with the support of WHO and UNICEF. Over five months, 890,900 individuals, who had missed routine age-appropriate vaccinations according to the immunization schedule, were vaccinated, with a 249,631 increase in November alone according to the Public Health Center. UNICEF continued to support the MOH-UNICEF National Hotline on Vaccination and Infant Feeding, 'Jointly to Health.' This year, the hotline provided consultations on vaccination to 87,525 children and parents while caregivers of 23,175 children benefited from consultations on breastfeeding and infant feeding.

Child Protection: The war in Ukraine remained a child protection crisis throughout 2024. The increased use of explosive weapons in populated areas – including deep into central and western Ukraine – resulted in an alarming increase in verified grave violations in 2024 compared to 2023, including the killing and maiming of children and attacks on schools and hospitals. Ongoing or new displacement, including due to emergency evacuations, and attacks on energy infrastructure left families grappling with high levels of stress caused by uncertainty and insecurity and heightened protection risks for children, including violence against children, gender-based violence (GBV) and family separation.

Providing children with individualized support through **child protection case management** remained a priority intervention in 2024 as the state social workforce remains overstretched and under-capacitated, particularly in the eastern and southern



Children in a large family supported through the case management + cash programme ©UNICEF/2024

regions of the country. Despite these capacity limitations, the needs of children due to the immediate and reverberating impacts of the war remain acute, requiring humanitarian case management partners to continue to complement and reinforce the state's efforts. UNICEF reached 63,177 children (31,278 girls) through case management (99.5 per cent of annual target). Humanitarian case workers assessed the individual needs of children in the wake of evacuations and conflict-affected areas through mobile teams and static hubs, enabling them to provide sustained and holistic support. Through case management, 10,652 households supporting children in alternative care and households with other types of vulnerable children – including children with disabilities, households who have lost a breadwinner due to the war, and child survivors of grave violations – were identified to receive winter cash support through UNICEF's child protection winter case management + cash programme.

In 2024, UNICEF continued working to strengthen and scale up **family-based care options** to ensure the placement of children in need of care and protection, including children displaced, evacuated internally and abroad, separated and unaccompanied, and those being returned from institutions since the escalation of the war in 2022. This included the expansion of the patronage (emergency foster care) model, in partnership with the Ministry of Social Policy and the Coordination Centre of Family Upbringing and Child Care Development. Through UNICEF's support, 447 child patronage families were established and strengthened, benefiting 867 children who experienced family separation. Meanwhile, 1,766 people from 1,109 families were trained on adoption and family-based care forms (guardianship, foster care, family-type children's homes), and 333 completed training as candidates for child patronage carers and assistants.

In 2024, UNICEF has been positioned as the partner of choice for the Government of Ukraine in **returning and reintegrating children displaced from Ukraine**. With UNICEF support, 1,240 children evacuated from institutions abroad benefitted from child rights monitoring missions in Italy, Poland, Romania, Switzerland and Türkiye. On 6 September, the Cabinet of Ministers endorsed Decree 1026, which adds individual assessments before the return of children evacuated to alternative care settings abroad. UNICEF advocated for this change and supported the Ministry of Social Policy, the State Service for Children and the Office of Ombudsman in developing new assessment tools and training participants for the monitoring missions abroad.

Gender-based violence in emergencies (GBVIE) response, prevention, and risk mitigation interventions reached 333,956 girls and boys and 293,620 women, including 5,656 children with disabilities. This was 122 per cent of the annual target as UNICEF ensured that GBV risk mitigation efforts reached those newly evacuated/displaced in 2024. These interventions varied from women and girls' safe spaces (7), Girls' Clubs (13), and the provision of response and prevention services to survivors and those at risk of GBV, such as case management, legal services and referrals to specialist services, MHPSS, and recreational activities through mobile teams. Additionally, 16,210 young women and girls accessed UNICEF's online platform '[Laaha](#)' which covers sexual and reproductive health, early signs of violence and information on services and referrals across Ukraine and in neighbouring countries. GBV risk mitigation measures and processes were mainstreamed across UNICEF humanitarian interventions, such as conducting safety audits, capacity strengthening and sharing information with women and girls on how to access nearby services.

In 2024, UNICEF conducted a study on **mine safety awareness** among 12,750 parents and 12,750 adolescents. The research revealed that while 97 per cent of adolescents were aware of mine safety rules, 53 per cent still engaged in risky behaviours, particularly boys aged 14 to 17 years (62 per cent). Adolescents from rural areas and low-income families were identified as high-risk groups. A U-Report poll of 4,415 young participants highlighted gaps including only 12 per cent knowing the emergency number 101 for reporting explosive ordnance. These findings emphasize the need for targeted interventions to reduce risks among adolescents.

The winter and summer safety campaigns featured explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) messages and reached 13,253,900 beneficiaries. In partnership with the popular cartoon 'Patron the Dog', 10 episodes were released, reaching 328,700 viewers. Interpersonal sessions on EORE were conducted for 1,080,012 children and 200,325 caregivers by mobile teams of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine and implementing partners using UNICEF's educational materials. The online 'Delivering Effective Mine Safety Messages to Children' course developed with the Ministry of Education and Science (MOES) and the Ministry of Interior Affairs engaged 13,110 participants, including 9,091 educators and 5,513 emergency workers, with 6,140 completing the course. Additionally, 575 children (263 girls) were reached through child-focused victim assistance. MOES, meanwhile, adopted a safety programme for schools, which includes EORE targeting students in Grades 5 to 9. Additionally, UNICEF contributed to the development of the new National EORE policy and co-led the EORE Working Group with the Ministry of Economy.

UNICEF promoted messages on **inclusion** among children and caregivers aimed at reducing stigma surrounding children with disabilities, reaching 1,203,500 people. [Digital content](#) reached 645,371 people while a series of videos featured children with and without disabilities discussing their personalities, hobbies, and ways to overcome stereotypes. UNICEF also launched an inclusive TikTok hub for teenagers with disabilities, who have created content with 60,000 views.

This year, the 117 **Child Protection Area of Responsibility** (CP AOR) partners reached 1.84 million people including 1.34 million children (723,600 girls and 42,000 with disabilities) with critical child protection prevention and response services. Results were supported by coordination, capacity-building initiatives and advocacy efforts, along with the operation of the Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS) and a dedicated Resource Mobilization Help Desk to facilitate access to funding. CPIMS+ is used by 819 users from 88 organizations to manage 21,727 cases, of which 6,244 remain open. The CP AOR prioritized [localization](#): 90 per cent of child beneficiaries were reached by local and national actors. The AOR ensured the simultaneous interpretation of meetings and availability of Ukrainian language resources such as the [Interagency Case Management Operational Guidance, and Data Protection and Information Sharing Protocol](#).

Key achievements included the launch of the [2024 CP AOR Strategy, Monitoring Framework, 2023 Secondary Data Analysis](#), and [preparedness plan](#). A [child protection assessment](#) provided insights into risks, needs and service accessibility in frontline regions. Resources made available include [CP AOR dashboards](#); a [Partners Presence map](#) and snapshots covering the [West, East, Centre, North](#) and [South](#). Web-based [Child Protection Referral Pathways](#) were maintained with 76 cluster partners, 1,111 state service providers and 116 other organizations, 845 mobile teams and 1,230 referral focal points.

Guidance developed included a [tipsheet on Case and Voucher Assistance](#), [Guidelines for Mobile Teams](#), and, in collaboration with the Protection Cluster, [Guidance on Humanitarian Evacuations](#). Capacity-strengthening initiatives engaged 761 people on diverse aspects of child protection, including reporting and coordination mechanisms, inclusion of children with disabilities, Child Protection in Humanitarian Action and violence prevention. To strengthen the uptake and use of CPIMS+, 413 people were trained and continuous online support provided.

Education (Learning and Skills Development): By the end of 2024, [1,275 schools have been damaged](#), and 339 destroyed. Efforts by the Ukrainian government and partners led to the repair of 728 schools, however, only 82 per cent of preschools and 73 per cent of schools have [access to shelters](#) as of December 2024. Schools that lack access to physical shelters are limited to operating online. This contributes to 493,000 children receiving their education solely online. Frequent attacks on energy infrastructure have caused electricity cuts and heating system damage, further disrupting both in-person and online education. The National School Offline Policy was introduced to prioritize safe in-person education, aiming to reduce online learning by 59 per cent for the 2024–2025 school year. The policy also promotes quality distance learning where in-person education is not possible.

In 2024, UNICEF's humanitarian assistance resulted in 481,484 children (207,219 girls) **accessing formal or non-formal education services**, including early learning (77 per cent of the annual target). In addition, 253,303 children (113,986 girls) received learning materials or 63 per cent of UNICEF's annual target. Finally, 57,517 teachers and other education personnel (54,641 female) were trained to provide quality learning, or 115 per cent of the annual target.

Since the beginning of 2024, the '2 by 2' model has provided structured **early childhood education** (ECE) services to 15,561 children (7,579 girls). Additionally, 9,656 preschool teachers (9,123 female) have been trained to deliver ECE activities in mixed modalities. MOES has approved the adapted '2 by 2' ECE curricula, recommending its use nationwide in emergency contexts. The '2 by 2' initiative builds upon the structure used before the war, offering classes twice a week for two hours each in safe community spaces with functional shelters. Multi-level monitoring, conducted by All Ukrainian Association of Preschool Workers to measure five aspects of young children's development, found that children who attended at least 70 per cent of sessions over a five-month period showed an 83 per cent improvement in learning outcomes. The most significant progress was observed in social and emotional learning, enhanced stress resilience, and cognitive development.

The [NUMO](#) preschool development initiative, including a web platform, chatbot and educational games app, supported 408,435 individuals. New ECE tools, the 'Sparkles of Superpowers' package, engaged 93,463 people with books, animations and events in frontline areas. Promoted by a campaign with First Lady of Ukraine Olena Zelenska and influencers, it reached 2,176,107 people. A 10-episode ECERS-3 series on preschool environments was viewed by 319,415 people on Diia.Osvita, with 6,425 educators certified. UNICEF's 'Cool Preschool' project showcased innovative kindergartens to 532,074 people, focusing on emergency education. Overall, 7 million people were reached with ECE messages.

From January to December 2024, UNICEF, in partnership with 16 local NGOs, reached 123,014 children (61,507 girls) with **learning recovery** efforts through 410 student learning support centres. Another 1,140,000 children benefited through 29,891 teachers (28,396 female) trained to assess learning loss and implement recovery interventions. UNICEF's catch-up and remedial programmes use various formats, content and evaluation methods to measure effectiveness. For example, the 3,913 children participating in the 'Catch-Up Drive' initiative saw a 54 per cent improvement in mathematics and 59 per cent in the Ukrainian language during pre-post-tests of the programme.

To enhance coordination, UNICEF, MOES and partners developed **guidelines for remedial and catch-up programmes**, identifying vulnerable groups and defining core components, including pre-and post-programme assessments. UNICEF also supported a nationwide learning loss assessment in mathematics and Ukrainian language among sixth and eighth graders, conducted by the State Service for Education Quality. In 2024, sixth graders slightly improved their results in mathematics and the Ukrainian language. Regional results were uneven: in the west, south, north and centre results increased, while in the east and Kyiv, this indicator slightly decreased. Eighth graders showed worse results in mathematics compared to 2023 (except for

the south and centre, where they improved), but their results in the Ukrainian language remained stable.

To support children who access **education online or through mixed learning modalities**, UNICEF strengthened the All-Ukrainian School Online platform by developing additional lessons. In 2024, 1,009,587 children (494,698 girls) used the platform to access digital learning content. UNICEF delivered 38,902 laptops for primary and secondary school students. The distribution of devices was accompanied by strengthening the capacities of teachers on remote teaching and allowing for more interactive and engaging online learning. During the year, 13,218 teachers (12,689 female) completed the training.

In cooperation with regional and local authorities, UNICEF **rehabilitated shelters** in 66 kindergartens and 7 schools across Kyiv, Zhytomyr, Chernihiv, Kharkiv, Sumy, Odesa and Zaporizhzhia. This included the Metro School in Kharkiv city, the only safe place for face-to-face education in the city. Four schools in Odesa received anti-blast film for their windows, as they are located near energy infrastructure often targeted by missile attacks while 86 schools in the region received shelter kits¹. Overall, 34,620 children (17,310 girls) benefited from this support and resumed face-to-face education. Separately, 438 schools and kindergartens across Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia, Kyiv, Zhytomyr, Chernihiv, Odesa, Mykolaiv, Kharkiv and Sumy received furniture and equipment for their shelters to ensure 151,200 students (75,600 girls) are learning in safe and child-friendly environments. An additional 23 education facilities are now undergoing shelter rehabilitation in Dnipropetrovsk, Kherson, Mykolaiv and Zaporizhzhia which will allow 16,580 children (8,142 girls) to return to face-to-face education when completed in the first quarter of 2025. Finally, UNICEF supported 21 Inclusive Resource Centres in Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk and Zaporizhzhia with diagnostic and learning equipment.

UNICEF provided **financial support** to 700 schools conducting in-person or blended learning in November. Under Cabinet of Ministers Resolution No. 1114, each school received US\$ 7,000 to prepare for the winter months. The first 700 identified schools included 550 schools in frontline areas with at least 200 students; 70 schools with at least 50 internally displaced children; and 80 schools that are the only institutions in their communities operating face to face. In January 2025, an additional 100 schools will receive grants. Schools can use this grant for heating, insulation and replacement of windows and doors; electricity- and heat-generating equipment; and repairing infrastructure (water supply, heating, electrical, ventilation and sewage systems). Over 417,000 children (204,330 girls) benefited from the initiative. A further 71,200 children (34,888 girls) will benefit when an additional 100 schools will receive grants and a post-distribution monitoring exercise will be undertaken in the first quarter of 2025 to understand the use of the funds.

According to the Ministry of Youth and Sports, young people express the need to develop such [skills as stress resistance](#) and resilience. Around 28 per cent are facing mental health issues. At the same time, adolescents and youth are actively participating in community life, with 51 per cent of youth reporting that they volunteer and 31 per cent that they have joined civic initiatives in the same study; the government is streamlining such opportunities at the local level.

In 2024, with UNICEF support, 250,938 children and young people (125,464 female) had access to **skills development and participation opportunities**. This is 111 per cent of the annual target. These opportunities were expanded through the opening of 11 new municipal youth centres in frontline regions, allowing 40,711 youth to participate in skills development, MHPSS, peer support and learning. Youth participation was also strengthened through the training of local authorities and young leaders on local youth policy and centre management. Forty-five youth councils were supported to influence local budgets, programmes and humanitarian initiatives. This includes relocated youth councils from occupied communities such as Berdianska, Vasylivska, Pryazovska, Tokmatska and Mariupol. At least 95,000 young people were trained and engaged in volunteering to support the humanitarian response, such as the young volunteers distributing winter supplies in Zaporizhzhia.

The [UPSHIFT programme](#) empowered 375 youth teams nationwide to design and lead solutions addressing challenges such as mental health, learning loss and environmental protection. Overall, the humanitarian solutions led by youth reached 86,358 people in need. UNICEF rolled out the adaptation of its global '[Adolescent Kit for expression and innovation](#)' to 18,444 adolescents in Odesa, Kharkiv and Dnipropetrovsk. These activities improved participants' resilience and stress management by up to 15 per cent according to self-assessments. Additionally, 28,473 adolescents benefitted from online peer MHPSS. [U-Report](#) engaged 38,918 adolescents in learning sessions on participation and advocacy and promoted participation in opinion polls to inform decisions on local and national youth interventions. One U-Report poll on emergency response preparedness in humanitarian regions showed that 31 per cent of young people received information from local authorities on potential emergency risks and their mitigation, and 35 per cent received emergency training in school. These data informed the planning of emergency response preparedness-related programmes.

Since January 2024, **Education Cluster** partners have supported 731,855 children (358,609 girls), or 74 per cent of the annual target of 988,993. The Education Cluster Strategy (2025–2029) has been revised based on changing context. To facilitate learning during the winter months, the Cluster produced 'Learning During Winter' guidance, highlighting the impact of electricity outages on learning. The Cluster also produced construction guidelines, including for protected emergency shelters at learning facilities; a guideline on MHPSS for teachers; and needs assessments of war-affected children in Zaporizhzhia Region and of

¹ Including a generator, chairs, fire extinguisher and power banks.

evacuated children from the frontline areas and residing in transit and collective centres in the west of the country.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support: In September, UNICEF conducted a nationally representative study, 'Mind Frames,' involving 12,100 children, parents, youth and adults. The findings revealed that **half of Ukrainians experience high stress levels**, with 46 per cent considered adapted (high resilience, low stress), 35 per cent partially adapted and 20 per cent not adapted and in need of MHPSS. Women, particularly the youngest and oldest, reported higher stress levels, with half experiencing significant stress. Employment, income stability, hobbies and family support enhanced resilience. Parents were the most adapted, with 85 per cent showing high resilience. Those living near conflict zones, in urban areas or with low income were among the most vulnerable. Children's resilience was linked to open communication with parents, shared hobbies and physical activities. Boys were more likely than girls to discuss feelings with their parents, while girls exhibited higher levels of worry, sadness and fear compared to boys, who showed more disappointment and anger. UNICEF will use the results of this study to design its interventions in the coming year, in collaboration with the government and other partners.

UNICEF reached 757,807 people (76 per cent of boys and girls, 13,240 of them with disabilities) with MHPSS in 2024, which is 85 per cent of the annual target. UNICEF targeted children and caregivers in heavily conflict-affected areas in the east and south as well as those facing displacement or in the immediate vicinity of explosive weapons incidents. This included 147,054 caregivers and professionals reached with MHPSS, including the participation of health care and social workers in capacity-building initiatives such as specialized training, supervision and burnout prevention, aimed at improving service quality and professional resilience.



Provision of MHPSS in a collective shelter in Kharkiv ©UNICEF/2024

In addition to providing MHPSS through static spaces like Resilience Centres and other child-friendly spaces, UNICEF used **mobile teams and online modalities** to maximize accessibility for children and families in need of MHPSS. Mobile teams allowed psychologists and other mental health professionals to reach children and caregivers in hard-to-reach areas, including in frontline areas and rural areas and enabled UNICEF partners to provide critical MHPSS, including psychological first aid, in the immediate aftermath of attacks such as missile strikes on residential buildings. Further, through UNICEF's PORUCH programme and its support to the national toll-free hotline for children and youth, those unable or unwilling to access in person MHPSS services had access to virtual support. During the year, 38,130 children and 19,466 adults accessed MHPSS through these online/virtual modalities. Digital campaigns spreading mental health awareness, self-acceptance and child protection messages amplified outreach with 1 million views.

UNICEF partnered with the 'Take Care of Yourself' initiative to address maternal and child health, including immunization, breastfeeding and **maternal mental health**. The campaign reached 1,333,383 people, sparking discussions on pregnancy challenges and health care experiences. In June, the podcast series '9 Months Later,' with NGO partner INSCIENCE and influencer Katia Blestka, explored breastfeeding, postpartum depression and vaccination. Targeting parents and caregivers, the podcast reached 744,314 people.

To support **young children**, the '[Playing with no fear](#)' viral song **was** used by the Association of Preschool Educators in a mandatory exercise and aired on radio, reaching over 20 million listeners. Videos on methods of calming children in stressful situations were viewed 2,718,028 times, including through the All-Ukrainian Mental Health Support Programme initiated by the First Lady of Ukraine – 'How Are You?'. Finally, edutainment materials were distributed to 37,116 preschool groups supporting 550,000 preschoolers, or 80 per cent of all preschool education institutions.

Targeting **school-aged children**, UNICEF collaborated with 'How Are You?' and MOES to engage 43,561 teachers (36,008 women) and 56,859 children (31,318 girls) in discussions, including on motivators and triggers affecting mental well-being. On 10 October, World Mental Health Day, UNICEF launched Momental digital platform with 365 simple self-care ideas for adults and children. Similar to an advent calendar, Momental provided daily tasks for relaxation, creativity and stress relief. The platform attracted 170,000 visitors, receiving feedback such as: "*These are very effective psychological tools for managing anxiety. I'm glad we are learning more about mental health.*" Additionally, 49,820 children (24,163 girls) participated in a Momental engagement campaign promoting self-care practices.

MHPSS activities for **adolescents and youth** engaged 67,659 young people (39,434 girls) and 13,762 caregivers through creativity programmes at youth centres; a month-long [Spilno Camp](#) in Kryvyi Rih; the 'Atelier of Dreams' art exhibition; 20 [music corners](#) in youth centres; and Juniors Spilno Sport Clubs focused on healthy and active lifestyles, contributing to mental and physical well-being, socialization, and overall health. According to a U-Report survey from February 2024, 74 per cent of members of the sports clubs made at least one new friend through these activities.

In 2024, UNICEF trained 200 **health care professionals** on the WHO Mental Health Gap Action Programme (mhGAP), including a specialized module on children and adolescents. mhGAP enhances the capacity of health care providers to identify, manage and refer individuals with mental health conditions, addressing a significant gap in mental health services and ensuring more comprehensive care. UNICEF also supported capacity building for Ukraine's child psychiatrists, psychologists and other

health care providers in cooperation with the European Society for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (ESCAP) and 'How Are You?'. As of 30 December, 7,323 of health care professionals were trained through ESCAP webinars.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: Over 1.7 million children lack access to safe water services, while 2.5 million have no access to proper wastewater treatment. The ongoing war has pushed the fragile water and wastewater system toward potential collapse. In 2024, the WASH Cluster estimated that only 15 per cent of major water utilities serving 15 million people are equipped to handle power blackouts, threatening both water supply and heating services.

In 2024, UNICEF and its implementing partners provided **critical WASH supplies**, such as bottled water, hygiene kits and water trucking services to 2,318,749 people, including 383,950 children, or 116 per cent of the annual target of 2 million people.² A total of 17,254,000 litres of water were delivered through water trucking to Kherson, Donetsk and Mykolaiv Regions, benefitting 120,078 people. A November 2024 independent third-party monitoring of water trucking in Kherson showed that almost half of the respondents collect water every 2 to 3 days, reflecting regular reliance on UNICEF distribution points.

UNICEF piloted the disbursement of **cash for hygiene items** in Kharkiv and Sumy Regions, enabling people in affected areas to purchase necessary hygiene items themselves from local markets, promoting dignity and empowerment. A total of 43,460 people, mostly living in frontline areas or newly displaced, were reached through this initiative. Post-distribution monitoring indicated a high level of awareness among respondents regarding the intended purpose of the assistance. Ninety-seven per cent of respondents spent the money received on hygiene items. This approach will be used cautiously in the year to come given market volatility.



Provision of bottled water in Sloviansk ©UNICEF/2024

In 2024, UNICEF provided **safe and equitable water and sanitation access** to 5,785,754 people, including 958,034 children, 102 per cent of the annual target of 5.66 million. Assistance was provided to 114 water utilities across Ukraine, including support for emergency repairs and the provision of equipment, maintenance tools, backup energy supplies, and water treatment chemicals for water supply companies. Third-party monitoring in September 2024 of supplies delivered to 89 water utilities in 15 regions found that water utilities rated the appropriateness of supplies at an average of 9.97 out of 10, highlighting the strong alignment with operational needs. The timeliness of support, as well as its effectiveness in addressing urgent, critical requirements, received a similarly high rating of 9.8 out of 10.

UNICEF and its partners provided accessible, **child-friendly WASH facilities** in schools, health care facilities and community spaces, supporting both public health and inclusivity. Renovations were completed and WASH supplies were distributed to 204 institutions providing more than 926,106 individuals with dignity and security (78 per cent of the annual target of 260).

Increased attacks on district **heating systems** were addressed by UNICEF, which established a dedicated District Heating Cell under the WASH Cluster to support timely assessment, prioritization and allocation among humanitarians. UNICEF installed modular boilers in the towns of Pysochyn, Solonytsivka and Zmiiv in Kharkiv Region, and 17 cogeneration units to strengthen Kharkiv City's centralized heating system. These efforts collectively improved or restored heating supply services for 616,671 people, including 102,111 children (103 per cent of the target of 600,000). Overall, heating equipment such as boilers and co-generation units have been delivered to 14 municipalities and are at different stages of installation, including for Kryvyi Rih, Zaporizhzhia and Kharkiv cities. Along with other rehabilitation efforts, UNICEF will support 19 municipalities to repair and update district heating utility networks this winter to provide reliable heating services to at least 1.5 million people, including over 255,000 children.

Consistent advocacy with Ukraine's Parliament, Ombudsperson's Office and Ministry of Restoration led to an **amendment of the humanitarian law**, enabling direct humanitarian support to water utilities and other institutions such as hospitals, signed by the President on 16 December 2024. Under the previous version of the law, key 'for-profit' institutions, including water and heating utilities, as well as essential health and education centres, were excluded from receiving humanitarian aid, whether financial or in-kind. This restriction posed significant challenges to humanitarian investments in the WASH sector. UNICEF's leadership in sector coordination, particularly through the WASH Cluster and the informal donor coordination group, along with its sustained advocacy efforts, resulted in the list of eligible humanitarian aid recipients expanding to include water and heating utilities, among other critical service providers.

In 2024, the **WASH Cluster**, through 185 implementing partners, provided WASH assistance to 6.3 million people in 13 regions, under the Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP). This included 5.5 million people reached through the operation, maintenance and rehabilitation of water systems (145 per cent of the target) and 2.6 million people through temporary supply mechanisms such as water trucking and household water treatment (113 per cent of the target). Under the Winter Response Plan 2024/2025, WASH Cluster partners supported 855,000 people (53 per cent of target). Results were achieved through the

² This overachievement resulted from delays in activities originally planned for 2023. In early 2024, WASH partners distributed 5,000 institutional hygiene kits, reaching 695,000 beneficiaries—31 per cent of the total reported under this indicator in 2024.

provision of generators installed as back-up power capacity in water utilities; repairs and reconstruction of boiler houses, chimneys and thermal systems; and provision of equipment such as co-generation units. Similar projects are nearing completion in several key municipalities affected by recent missile strikes, which specifically targeted energy infrastructure and disrupted heating facilities.

WASH Cluster Technical Working Groups (TWGs) have provided specialized expertise and technical guidance and promoted collaboration among partners. TWGs include Water Quality; WASH in Health Care Facilities; District Heating; Cash and Voucher Assistance; and Gender and Inclusion, as well as the new WASH in Schools TWG launched with the Education Cluster in 2024. The WASH in Schools TWG, as an example, developed a concept to enhance health and educational outcomes in schools across Odesa, Mykolaiv and Kherson through the provision of water treatment equipment. The WASH Cluster Technical Cells (Water Utility and District Heating teams) also expanded their coordination of technical support. The Water Utility team conducted 50 assessments, which, along with four assessments by the District Heating Cell team, were shared with WASH partners to enable timely responses and interventions.

Social Protection: As per the HNRP, 1.9 million people required multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) in 2024, highlighting the ongoing need for basic needs assistance. However, humanitarian organizations reached only 1 million people in 2024, down from 6 million people reached in 2022 and 4 million people in 2023. Monetary and multidimensional poverty continues to rise, further emphasizing the need for basic needs cash assistance. As per the nationally representative Household Socio-Economic Status Survey conducted by the Government of Ukraine with the support of UNICEF and based on face-to-face interviews of 8,023 households from December 2023 to February 2024, monetary poverty – defined as income per capita below the national poverty threshold – was 36 per cent (38 per cent for households with children) compared to 21 per cent in 2021.

UNICEF's **Humanitarian Cash Transfer (HCT) programme** reached 69,721 households, covering 239,872 people (153,518 female) including 118,058 children (57,625 girls) in 2024. These results were against a target of 39,985 households, with the overachievement due to a) the inter-agency cash-for-winterization transfer value – as established by the Shelter Cluster – decreasing from the previous year, and b) additional funding being received (128 per cent funded overall). UNICEF implemented two HCT programmes in 2024: MPCA for households affected by intensified hostilities and mandatory evacuation in Donetsk, Kharkiv and Sumy, and cash-for-winterization assistance to households in frontline areas in Chernihiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Kherson, Sumy and Zaporizhzhia and/or with a child in alternative care or under case management. Households were eligible to receive both types of cash assistance if they were living in a frontline area that was also affected by mandatory evacuations.

MPCA was provided to 23,314 households, covering 76,501 people including 39,025 children in Donetsk, Kharkiv and Sumy, to ensure minimum living standards and prevent the adoption of negative coping strategies. These households received 10,800 UAH per person (US\$260 to US\$290 depending on the exchange rate at the time) as established by the Cash Working Group. Beneficiary data was either collected directly by UNICEF implementing partners in frontline areas (Donetsk, Kharkiv and Sumy) or received via decree from the Ministry of Social Policy. The latter allowed UNICEF to respond to 9,422 households (30,440 people including 19,177 children) in Kharkiv and Sumy affected by displacement in May to June 2024 due to intensified hostilities. UNICEF, in collaboration with the government, also supported the families of children affected by the attack on the Okhmatdyt Children's Hospital in July 2024, providing MPCA to 430 households (1,473 people with 700 children).

Cash-for-winterization assistance was provided to 51,652 households,³ covering 176,608 people, including 86,164 children. UNICEF supported 40,942 households with children (137,967 people including 62,363 children) in seven frontline regions and 10,652 households with children in alternative care or with child protection concerns (38,641 people including 23,801 children). Each household received a one-time cash transfer of 21,800 UAH (US\$525) in line with the inter-agency/Shelter Cluster recommendation. Based on the lessons learnt from last year, UNICEF launched its first cash-for-winterization payments in September 2024, to ensure households were able to adequately prepare for the winter season. In line with the Cash Working Group, post-distribution monitoring of the winter response will be undertaken in the first quarter of 2025.

Supply and Logistics: In 2024, UNICEF placed US\$60 million worth of orders to purchase life-saving supplies. US\$79 million worth of life-saving supplies were received in Ukraine. US\$46.7 million worth of supplies were dispatched from UNICEF-controlled warehouses and US\$55.2 million of supplies were delivered to implementing partners directly from local vendors in 2024. The value of supplies currently at stock at UNICEF-controlled warehouses is US\$7.9 million. The total value of supplies currently in pipeline is US\$8.8 million.

External Media: In 2024, UNICEF Ukraine raised awareness about the situation of children and UNICEF's humanitarian response in the country. More than 8,300 content pieces, including 100 human interest stories, were published on the country office's website and social media channels. This reached 35.8 million users on social media, generated almost 600 million impressions, and resulted in 3.3 million website page views.

To drive humanitarian advocacy, UNICEF Ukraine published 13 statements and press releases, and 96 short social media

³ This includes 2,404 households including 10,855 individuals with 7,793 children covered between January to April 2024 as part of the 2023/2024 winter response.

statements, about grave violations. This included statements issued at the regional and headquarters levels, and a joint statement with WHO on attacks impacting the Okhmatdyt children's hospital and other health care facilities in Ukraine. UNICEF Ukraine provided key messages to the [Executive Director's remarks](#) at the UN Security Council meeting on peace and security in Ukraine, as well as other high-level humanitarian advocacy moments such as the Ukraine Recovery Conference in Berlin, Mine Action Conference in Lausanne, and Ukraine Humanitarian Senior Officials Meeting in Brussels.

UNICEF leveraged key moments to highlight the impact of the war on children in Ukraine through high-impact content and public-facing activations. This included: the 1,000-day and [2-year](#) mark of the war, International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression, International Day to Protect Education from Attack, International Day of Peace, [World Children's Day](#), and visits by UNICEF executive leaders ([Global Communications Director](#), [EMOPS Director](#), ECARO Regional Director) to Ukraine.

Human Interest Stories and Press Releases



[Children and families continue to flee the horrors of war in eastern Ukraine](#)



[After years of upheaval, Ukrainian children catch up with classes](#)



[Parenting clubs help caregivers master positive parenting skills](#)



[As winter looms, families in Ukraine find support amid war](#)

Next SitRep: February 2024

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Annex A: Programme Results (January to December 2024)

		UNICEF and IPs Response		
Sector		2024 target	Total results	Change
Health (7,800,000 people in need)				
Number of children and caregivers accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities, and through mobile teams and home visits		920,000	1,138,901 ⁴	9,461
Number of primary caregivers of children 0–23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling		30,000	34,444 ⁵	937
Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA (3,400,000 people in need - Child Protection)				
Number of children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	888,312	757,807	72,313
	Girls		319,674	29,508
	Boys		259,896	23,336
	Women		147,054	15,904
	Men		31,183	3,565
Number of women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions		513,028	627,680 ⁶	39,077
Number of children who have received individual case management	Total	63,472	63,177	6,534
	Girls		31,278	3,231
	Boys		31,899	3,303
Number of children and caregivers provided with landmine or other explosive weapons prevention and/or survivor assistance interventions		1,314,484	1,576,302 ⁷	28,864
Number of people with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations		1,237,236	1,225,836	67,507
Education (1,200,000 people in need)				
Number of children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	625,000	481,484	8,504
	Girls		238,862	4,563
	Boys		242,916	3,941
Number of girls and boys receiving learning materials		400,000	253,303	27,074
Number of children and young people ⁸ accessing skills development and participation opportunities		225,000	250,938 ⁹	27,621
Number of teachers and other education personnel trained to provide quality learning		50,000	58,113 ¹⁰	2,240
WASH (9,600,000 people in need)				
Number of people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs		5,660,000	5,785,754 ¹¹	503,440
Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies		2,000,000	2,318,749 ¹²	46,354
Number of institutions provided with child friendly, gender sensitive and inclusive WASH facilities		260	204	7
Number of people benefiting from restored or maintained heating services		600,000	616,671 ¹³	393,980

⁴ Overachievement due to the distribution of existing stock, including in areas outside the east and south where health needs were identified.

⁵ An awareness campaign on the 'Jointly to Health Hotline' in April created a surge in calls.

⁶ Overachievement due to UNICEF's efforts to ensure that GBV risk mitigation efforts reach those who have been evacuated/displaced in 2024.

⁷ Results higher than target higher due to the successful partnership with the State Emergency Service able to reach more children than originally targeted.

⁸ Includes ages 10 to 24

⁹ Overachievement due to the relatively high funding level provided for these activities within the education funding envelope.

¹⁰ More teachers registered for training opportunities than planned, as it was certified by the Ministry of Education and Science and counted towards professional development hours for teachers.

¹¹ In 2024, UNICEF prioritized unmet needs in densely populated areas, fulfilling its mandate as the provider of last resort under the WASH Cluster in Ukraine. Focused on cost-effective interventions, such as repairing infrastructure and supplying critical equipment and water treatment materials, UNICEF interventions often benefited entire populations served by utilities. Independent interviews (TPM) with 89 utilities supported in 2024 (nearly one-fifth serving over 50,000 people) indicated that UNICEF is accounting for 79 per cent of assistance received by respective utilities, compared to 21.5 per cent from other partners. This serves as an explanation of the overreach of the initial target.

¹² This overachievement resulted from delays in activities originally planned for 2023. In early 2024, a WASH partner distributed 5,000 institutional hygiene kits, reaching 695,000 beneficiaries — 31 per cent of the total reported under this indicator in 2024. Although intended for 2023, these distributions caused a shortfall in beneficiaries in 2023 but led to overachievement in 2024.

¹³ As attacks persisted after the target was initially proposed, additional requests for support were received. Among others, UNICEF supported densely populated urban areas, and, given the scale of mobilized resources, the target was slightly exceeded in 2024

Social Protection				
Number of households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers (including for social protection and other sectors)		39,985	69,695 ¹⁴	14,781
Influencing Social Behaviour				
Number of affected people (children, caregivers, community members) reached with timely and life-saving information on how and where to access available services		4,500,000	4,308,287	17,041
Number of people participating in engagement actions for social and behaviour change		400,000	448,132 ¹⁵	9,697
Number of people sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms		50,000	64,891 ¹⁶	3,687

Annex B: Funding Status as of 31 December 2024

With humanitarian needs still acute, the UNICEF HAC appeal reflects resource requirements under Pillar 1 to reach vulnerable children and families in Ukraine with essential services and life-saving supplies. Continued, flexible contributions mean that UNICEF and partners can act quickly and respond strategically to where the needs are greatest.

Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Resources received (ORE/current year)	Carry-over (ORR and ORE)	US\$	%
Health and Nutrition	72,783,360	15,652,036	25,754,839	31,376,485	43%
Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA	101,313,504	48,559,964	40,295,997	12,457,544	12%
Education	94,570,464	28,208,236	43,873,604	22,488,624	24%
WASH	159,142,870	68,003,633	45,323,974	45,815,263	29%
Social Protection	68,066,438	45,885,255	41,429,313	-	
Total	495,876,636	206,309,124	196,677,727	92,889,785	19%

¹⁴ Overachievement due to cash for winterization payments. Cash for winter provide a one-off payment per household (\$525), lower than the \$260/person for multipurpose cash.

¹⁵ Results higher than target higher due to the successful partnership with the State Emergency Service able to reach more children than originally targeted.

¹⁶ Extensive awareness campaigns have increased uptake of feedback mechanisms.