



This report is a consolidation of United Nations informational products, drafted by the Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Ukraine.

HIGHLIGHTS



CONFIRMED
CASES

2,221,683



DEATHS

51,054



RECOVERED

2,080,382

Eastern Ukraine COVID-19
total confirmed cases

89,653

Donetska
oblast (GCA)

26,243

Luhanska
oblast (GCA)

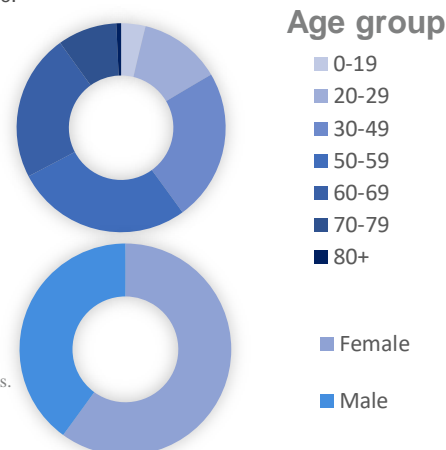
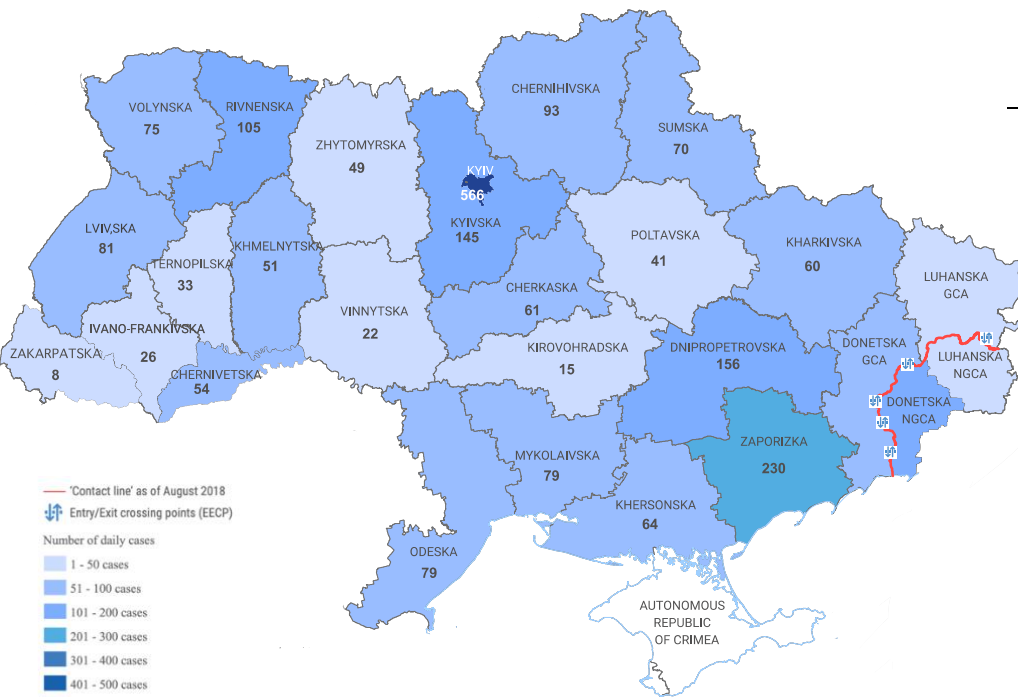
39,657

Donetska
oblast (NGCA)

4,809

Luhanska
oblast (NGCA)

*This figure does not include the number of confirmed cases in the non-Government-controlled areas (NGCA). Data source: Ministry of Health, Ukraine and entities in control of certain areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine.



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

- The current daily COVID-19 rate continues to decline. Adaptive quarantine remains in place, but lockdown restrictions were loosened by the government of Ukraine.
- The vaccination campaign continues in Ukraine. COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Centers have started operating in 10 cities: Kyiv, Lviv, Odesa, Ternopil, Poltava, Kremenchuk, Lubny, Myrhorod, Horishni Plavni, Rivne. From the beginning of the COVID-19 vaccination campaign in Ukraine, 1,123,661 persons have received the first dose, and 142,062 were vaccinated with the second dose of a COVID-19 jab.

28,969

Daily PCR COVID-19
tests conducted

1,123,661

People vaccinated
with first dose

2,266

Daily COVID-19
confirmed cases

SITUATION OVERVIEW

The impact of the crisis on the socio-economic situation

- According to the Ministry of Health of Ukraine, the third wave of the coronavirus pandemic has ended in May, with significantly fewer losses than previously predicted. Currently, all oblasts in Ukraine are in the “yellow” zone.
- In the reporting period, the total number of COVID-19 cases detected in penitentiary facilities increased by 351 (280 prisoners and detainees, 61 penitentiary staff, and ten medical personnel), and two new deaths (both penitentiary staff). Although the total number of new COVID-19 cases in May decreased by 22 per cent, the risk of rapid COVID-19 transmission among the general prison population remains high, and continued efforts are needed to halt it.
- In Sumy, hospital beds available for non-COVID-19 patients have been reduced. Relatives of patients are at risk of contracting COVID-19 as they stay overnight in hospital wards and are often forced to sleep on the floor or in the corridor because no other arrangements are provided. There are no medical attendants in hospitals, obliging patients' relatives to support them after surgery. Further, patients with COVID-19 who are visually impaired or use a wheelchair may face restricted access to health care as hospitals in Sumy do not have any special measures, such as guides, available. This also places a burden on their relatives to provide the needed care. According to a labour bi-law, only three days of sick leave is allowed to care for an adult relative or children over the age of 14.
- Homeless people continue to lack access to free healthcare services, including COVID-19 testing and treatment. In particular, there is currently no possibility to get free testing and treatment for homeless people who lack personal documents and are therefore not able to sign agreements with family doctors.
- Some public services have moved entirely online, via the “Diia” app, for the duration of the “red zone” quarantine, which may restrict access to some services for people who have no IT equipment or lack knowledge about how this technology works.
- Ukrainian society gradually grows more sensitive to GBV, disapproving its manifestations and offering support to survivors. There is an emerging recognition of GBV as a societal problem (rather than personal) that requires a consolidated response of the community. Changes in public perception and the growing unacceptability of GBV also sends a powerful signal that Ukrainian society expects a due response to GBV. Such increasing awareness and understanding of the unacceptability of violence will help not only eradicate GBV but grow a violence-free generation of Ukrainians. These numbers indicate that GBV violence, despite its increase during the COVID-19, has a positive run to less tolerance and a more response-oriented approach. Perceptions of GBV in Ukrainian society have been transforming, giving way to norms that do not tolerate violence. Conducted annually since March 2019, UNFPA-led national study Omnibus captures the positive shift. Ukrainians demonstrate increased awareness of GBV – 6% more people can identify psychological violence, and 9% more people can spot economic violence compared to early 2019. Ukrainians show higher sensitivity to the issue of GBV, 9% more men and 8% more women acknowledge that men and women may equally become subject to violence. Most common beliefs that condone GBV have been challenged.
- According to the National Bank of Ukraine, expectations of the Ukrainian businesses went up to 50.5 out of 100 in May 2021, i.e., more than half of businesses reported a positive outlook. Businesses in the services responded with the most optimism, likely because of the lockdown restrictions being gradually lifted up. The construction sector is the only one with a more negative outlook, given the subdued investment activity. The labour demand among businesses also remains weak. The unemployment remains high, and the ongoing recovery is turning to be jobless. Real wages continue growing, up by 19.7% YoY in April 2021, largely driven by an increase in regulated minimum wages.

The humanitarian, socio-economic and human rights situation in the eastern conflict area

- In eastern Ukraine government controlled areas (GCA), the COVID-19 cases double approximately every four months in Donetska oblast and Luhanska oblast. From the beginning of the COVID-19 vaccination campaign in Ukraine, 48,817 persons have received the first dose in Donetska oblast (GCA) and 22,468 and in Luhanska oblast (GCA). During the reporting period, both oblasts mostly remained in the yellow epidemiological zone.
- During May, the security situation in the eastern conflict area of Ukraine remained unstable. Civilian infrastructure and residential areas continued to be affected. The end of the month was marked by a slight decrease in tensions with overall drop in the daily reported numbers of ceasefire violations.
- Educational institutions continued operating in government-controlled eastern Ukraine. Students in Luhanska and Donetska oblast will take final exams during the month of May and April and go on a summer break. Schools in the non-government-controlled areas (NGCA) continued full-time education until the end of the academic year, on 28 May.
- Novotroitske/Olenivka and Stanytsia Luhanska remained the only functional entry-exit crossing points (EECPs) available for civilians to cross the contact line. EECP Stanytsia Luhanska in Luhanska oblast operated daily, and EECP Novotroitske in Donetska oblast was open for crossings only twice a week, on Mondays and Fridays. To a large extent, crossings have been limited to those people who have been granted humanitarian exemptions negotiated by the humanitarian community. In addition, people have been allowed to cross based on the pre-approved lists issued in NGCA. The residence registration requirement for crossing EECPs imposed by the entities in control of certain areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine continued to limit the ability of civilians to visit their families, access social security guarantees, education, employment, and healthcare across the contact line.
- Freedom of movement across the contact line in eastern Ukraine continues to be restricted. 50,000 – 60,000 persons are estimated to have crossed the contact line in eastern Ukraine in May, which remained 95 per cent lower comparing to the pre-pandemic months (over 1 million in January and 979,830 in February 2020). On six occasions, two "humanitarian corridors" were organised at the EECP Stanytsia Luhanska to ensure the movement of people across the contact line.
- On 26 May, entities in control of certain areas of Luhanska oblast of Ukraine issued a decree stating that individuals with residence registration in the NGCA territory may only leave the territory once a month. Any additional departures must be pre-approved. For individuals who want to enter NGCA territory without residence, registration must be approved on the following grounds: To obtain medical treatment; for educational purposes; to take care of a close relative; to obtain financial assistance within the framework of the `Humanitarian programme for the reunification of people of Donbas`; or the burial of a relative.
- On 6 May, a UN-organised convoy of nine trucks with 107 MT of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) construction materials was delivered to Donetska oblast (NGCA) through the EECP "Novotroitske".
- On 20 May, a UN-organised convoy delivered some 58 MT of non-food and hygiene items from UNHCR and IOM to Donetsk (NGCA).
- On May 27, a UN-organised convoy of seven trucks with 55,682 MT of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) with humanitarian cargo was delivered through the EECP "Novotroitske".

For more information on the situation in the eastern conflict area, see the [OCHA Situation Report](#).

THE UNITED NATIONS IN UKRAINE – COVID-19-RELATED RESPONSE AND COORDINATION

In Ukraine, the overall coordination for the nationwide COVID-19 response is led by the United Nations Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator and the World Health Organization (WHO). The United Nations Country Team oversees the United Nations nationwide response, and the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) has overall responsibility for the humanitarian response to COVID-19 in eastern Ukraine.

Medical procurement and related support

- Ukraine received two more batches of COVID-19 vaccines through the COVAX initiative. 122,850 doses of Comirnaty vaccine from Pfizer-BioNTech were delivered on 18 May, and further during the week, totalling 473,850 doses of the vaccine, as well as a diluent for injection. The batch is intended primarily for education workers. On 3 June, 705,600 doses of AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines arrived in Ukraine. This batch is meant for a vaccination with the second dose of those who received the first shot of CoviShield/ AstraZeneca. In particular, healthcare professionals and employees of health care facilities, participants of the Joint Forces Operation in Eastern Ukraine, social workers, clergy, employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Security Service of Ukraine, people aged 65+. A second dose of vaccine will also be given to people who have been vaccinated with residual doses, public figures.

Socio-economic recovery

- Together with CEDOS analytical centre, UNDP has prepared six analytical papers about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and its social and economic consequences on human rights and protection of the vulnerable groups in Ukraine in the areas of [remote work](#), [housing](#), [education](#), [security of homeless people](#), [migration](#), and [social protection](#).
- UNDP provided support to 17 territorial communities in Kherson oblast by strengthening their centres for administrative services (ASC) either by endowing them with means for service provision in remote locations (transport, mobile solutions) or equipping them for provision of highly demanded services, which otherwise were out of reach in those communities. In total, 20 centres were equipped for the provision of additional administrative services, and over 380,000 people (51,3% women; 48,7% men) benefitted from the improved access to public services in targeted locations.

Awareness raising and crisis communication

- A series of webinars on vaccination-related issues have been carried out by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Sessions and interviews were conducted, including in the field of early child care and education. WHO continued to reach out to the general public and health workers through webinars. A series of webinars were conducted by WHO on acute kidney failure, sepsis, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, septic shock in patients with COVID-19.
- In May 2021, the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU) launched the onsite monitoring of shelters for homeless people to increase awareness about the quality of social services for homeless people provided by state and municipal facilities, which will inform HRMMU advocacy actions for improving these services including access to healthcare services during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- On 11 May, HRMMU raised concern over the rapidly increasing COVID-19 infection rates registered in penitentiary facilities. The increase was particularly dramatic among prisoners and detainees, as April 2021 was over 300 per cent higher than in February 2021. An advocacy letter was submitted to the Minister of Justice of Ukraine, requesting urgent measures to provide detainees and penitentiary staff with equipment and instructions on personal protection, ensure access to COVID-19 testing, provide adequate healthcare for those infected and prioritise their vaccination.

Crisis Management Support and Capacity Building

- The electronic application service for the IDP subsidised mortgage programme was developed as part of the UNDP “Digital, Inclusive, Accessible: Support to Digitalisation of State Services in Ukraine (DIA Support)” Project for the Diia web portal. The programme expects to serve up to 680 families or over 1,700 individuals, and amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the application will help them to avoid in-person contact and reduce the risk of new infections.
- WHO continues to conduct online trainings for physicians on the clinical management of patients with COVID-19. In May, a 5-day practical laboratory training was conducted at the Odesa Regional Laboratory Center. Participants gained theoretical and practical knowledge on real-time polymerase chain reaction, as well as on biosafety and biosecurity.

PUBLICATIONS/DEVELOPMENTS

To mark the International Environmental Day in Ukraine, United Nations in Ukraine is organising an **Environmental Forum** on 15 June. The event will consist of 6 panels:

PANEL 1: WASTE MANAGEMENT AND ECOLOGICAL SAFETY

PANEL 2: YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND CLIMATE ACTIVISM

PANEL 3: SUSTAINABLE TRENDS

PANEL 4: HOW TO RESTORE NATURE AND REDUCE CARBON FOOTPRINT?

PANEL 5: DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

PANEL 6: WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

The event will be live-streamed from 10.00 – 18.10 – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G5tznNnQBGI>

On 31 May, HRMMU published an [update on the human rights situation in Ukraine](#). The report covers the three months of 1 February — 30 April 2021 and provides key developments in the human rights situation in Ukraine from both sides of the contact line and in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, occupied by the Russian Federation (Crimea). The update examines the human rights situation of the conflict-affected civilian population, civic space, justice and accountability, key legislative developments, economic and social rights etc. It is available in [English](#), [Ukrainian](#), [Russian](#).

Vaccination against COVID-19: principles of effective communication with patients in [Ukrainian](#)

Handbook for Social Workers: COVID-19 Vaccination Questions and Answers in [Ukrainian](#)

Report: Public attitudes towards gender-based and domestic violence in [Ukrainian](#)

[Embedding inclusiveness into digital transformation in Ukraine](#)

[UNDP Ukraine Annual Report 2020](#)

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*A list of used sources is available upon request.