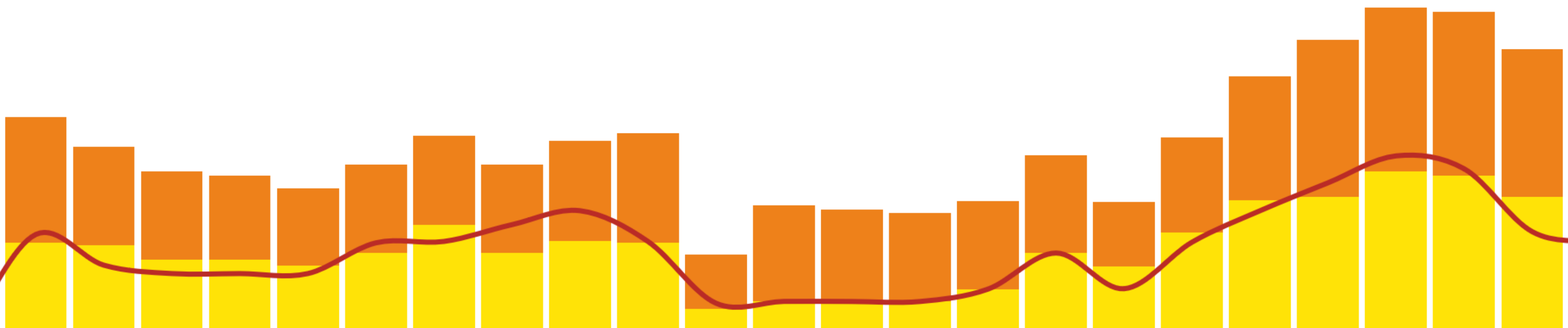


Results of the survey: “Community Readiness for Winter 2026/27”



Survey scope and structure



Communities' self-assessment of readiness for winter 2026/27: backup power, autonomous operation of basic services, organisational preparedness and needs.

145

COMMUNITY RESPONSES

24

OBLASTS AND KYIV CITY

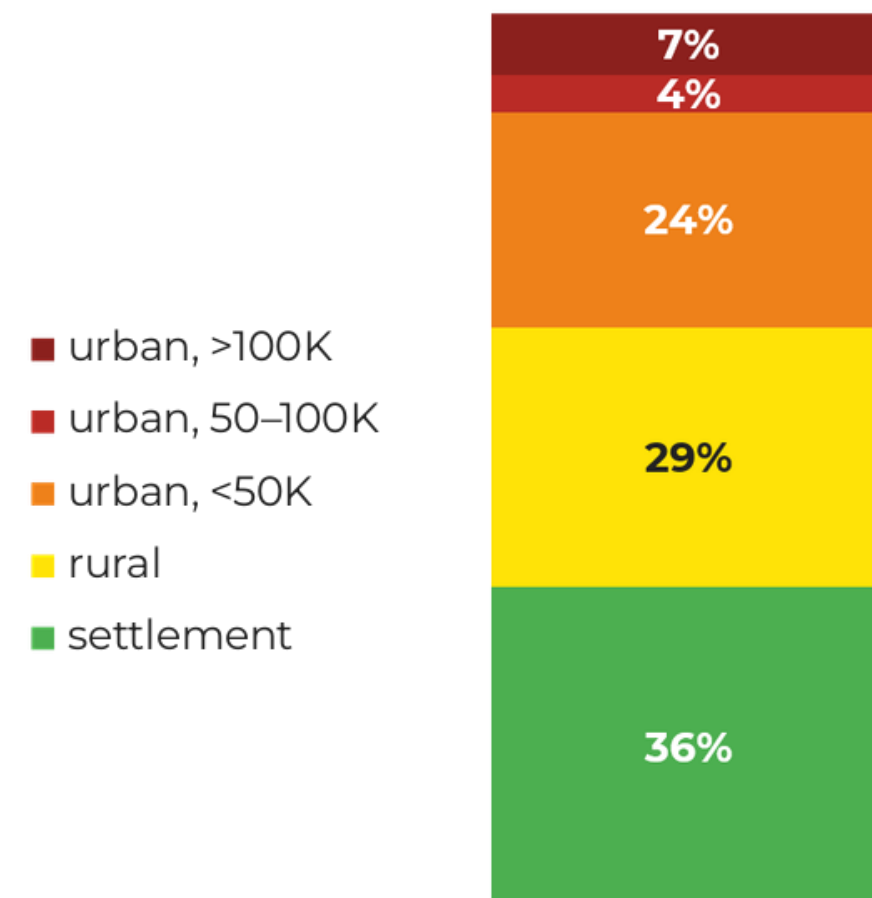
1–11.09.2026

SURVEY PERIOD

16

QUESTIONS

COMMUNITY TYPE



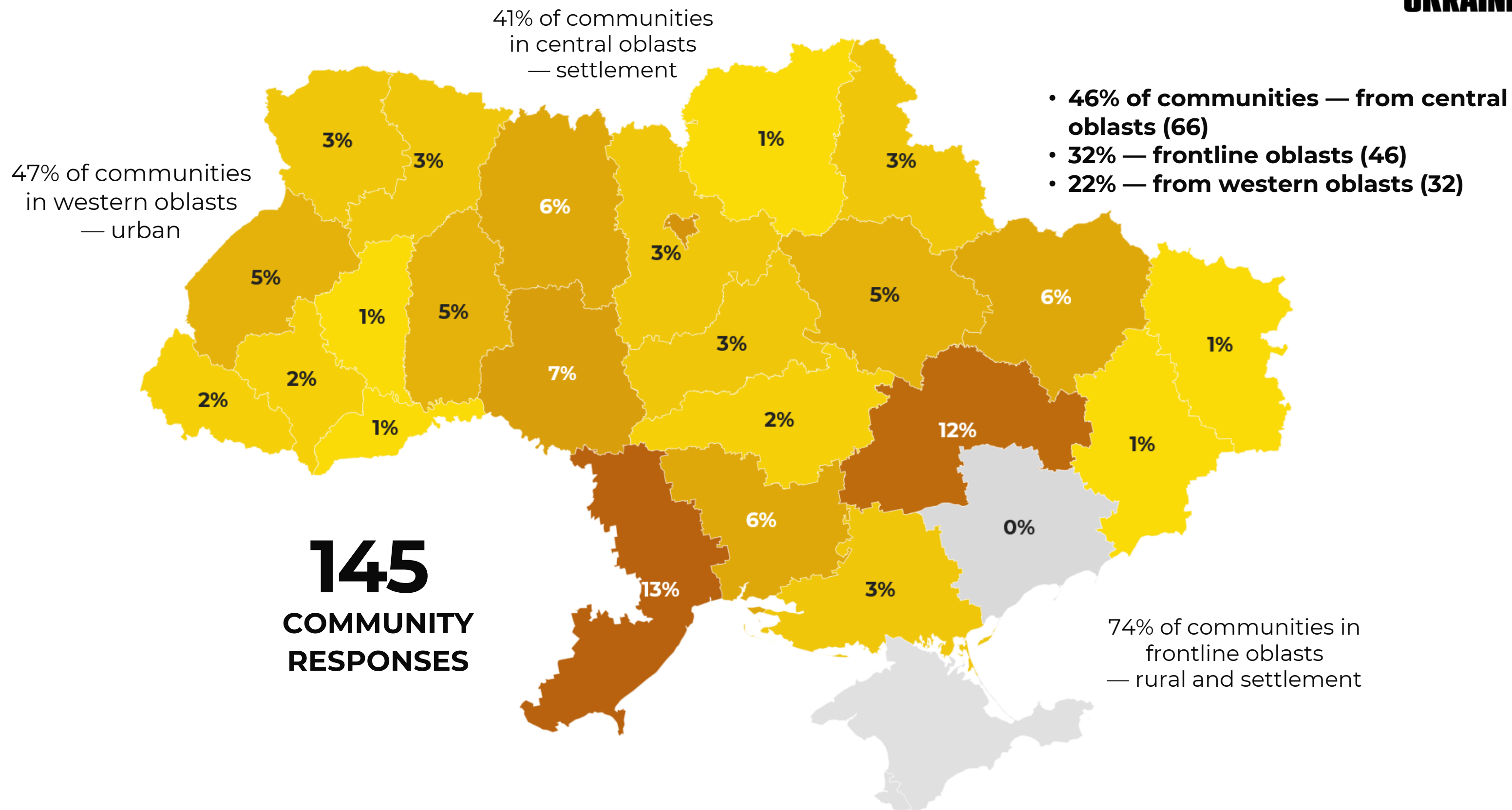
RESPONDENTS

- Heads of departments (utilities, infrastructure, energy) — 43 (30%)
- Community leadership — 41 (28%)
- Representatives of municipal enterprises — 18 (12%)
- Other officials and specialists — 43 (30%)

QUESTIONNAIRE SECTIONS

- Community profile (Q1–3)
- Overall readiness (4–9)
- Resources (10–11)
- Support and humanitarian needs (12–14)
- Open questions (15–16)

Survey geography

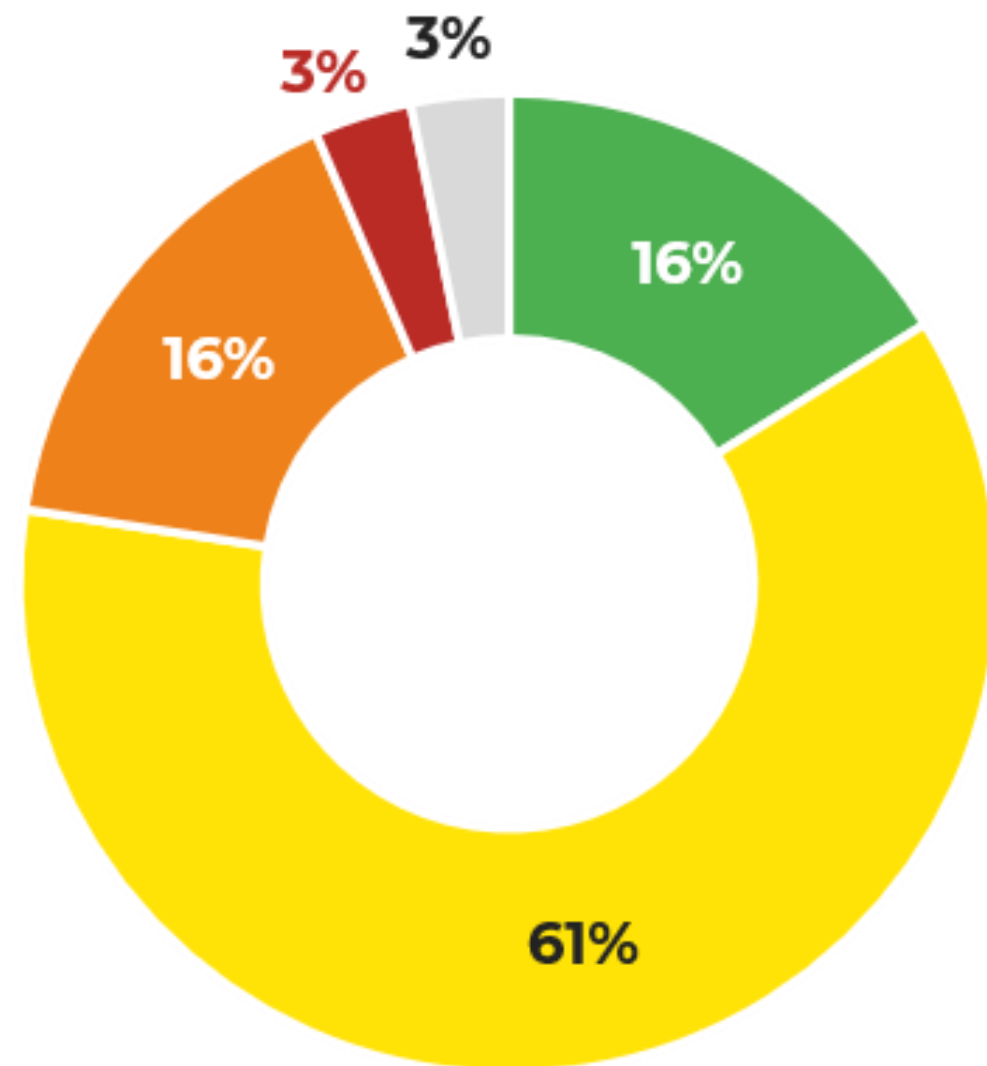


Community readiness to provide basic services

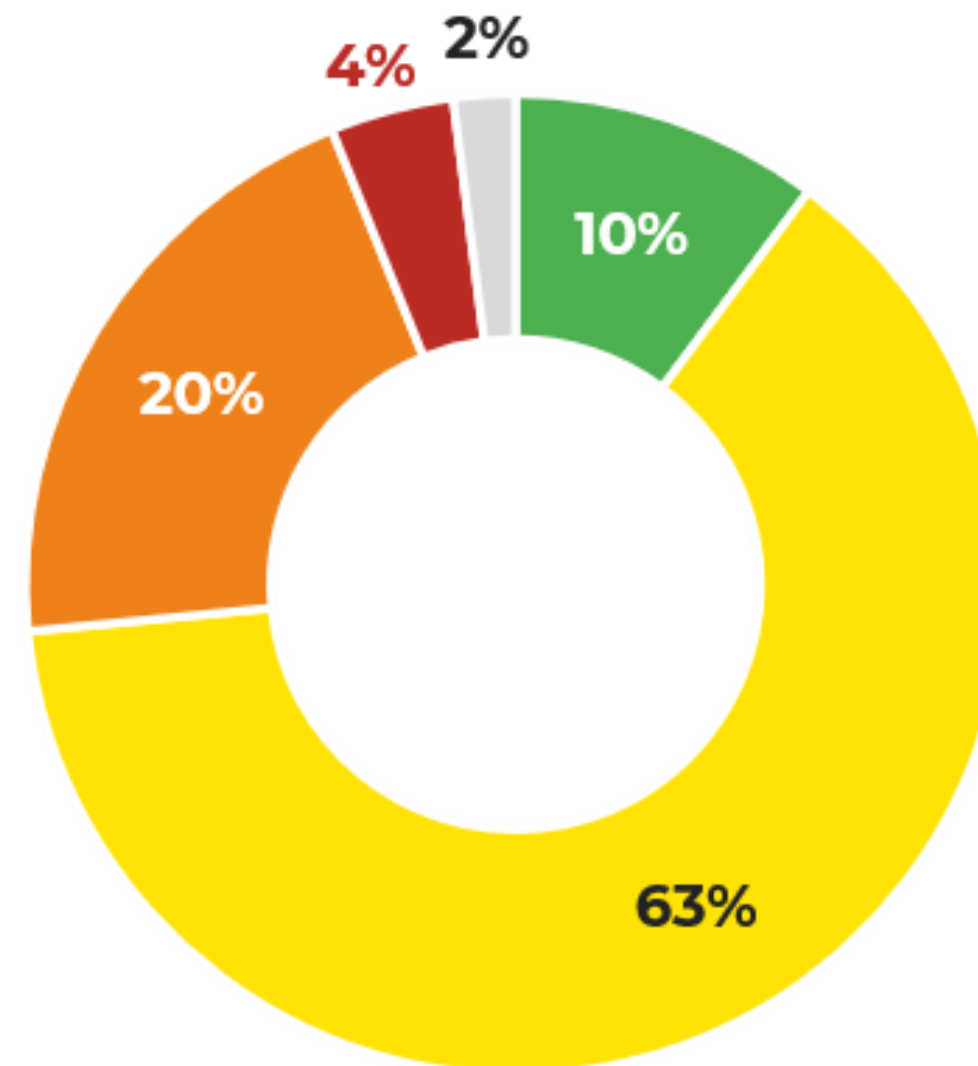
during prolonged power, heating or water supply outages



SETTLEMENT & RURAL COMMUNITIES



URBAN COMMUNITIES

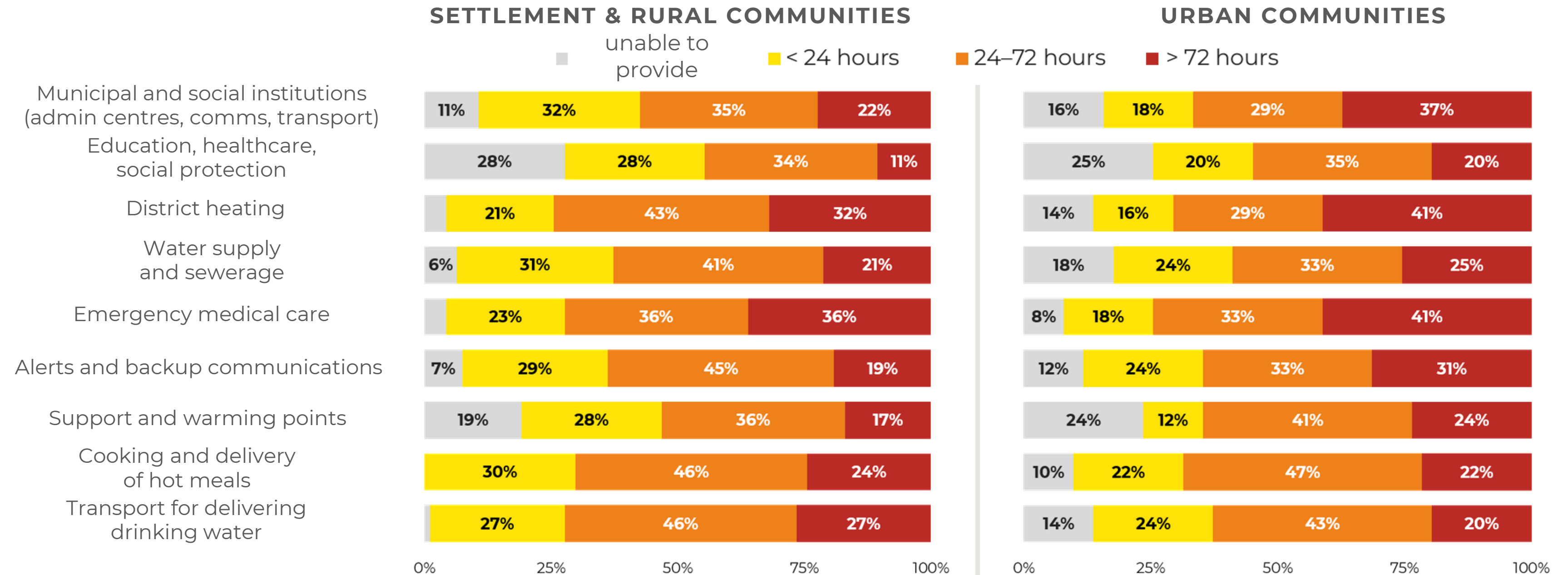


- fully ready
- partially ready
- mostly not ready
- not ready at all
- hard to assess

62% of communities rate themselves as “partially ready”;
only 16% of settlement and rural and 10% of urban communities consider themselves fully ready.

Duration of autonomous operation of facilities and services

during prolonged power, heating or water supply outages



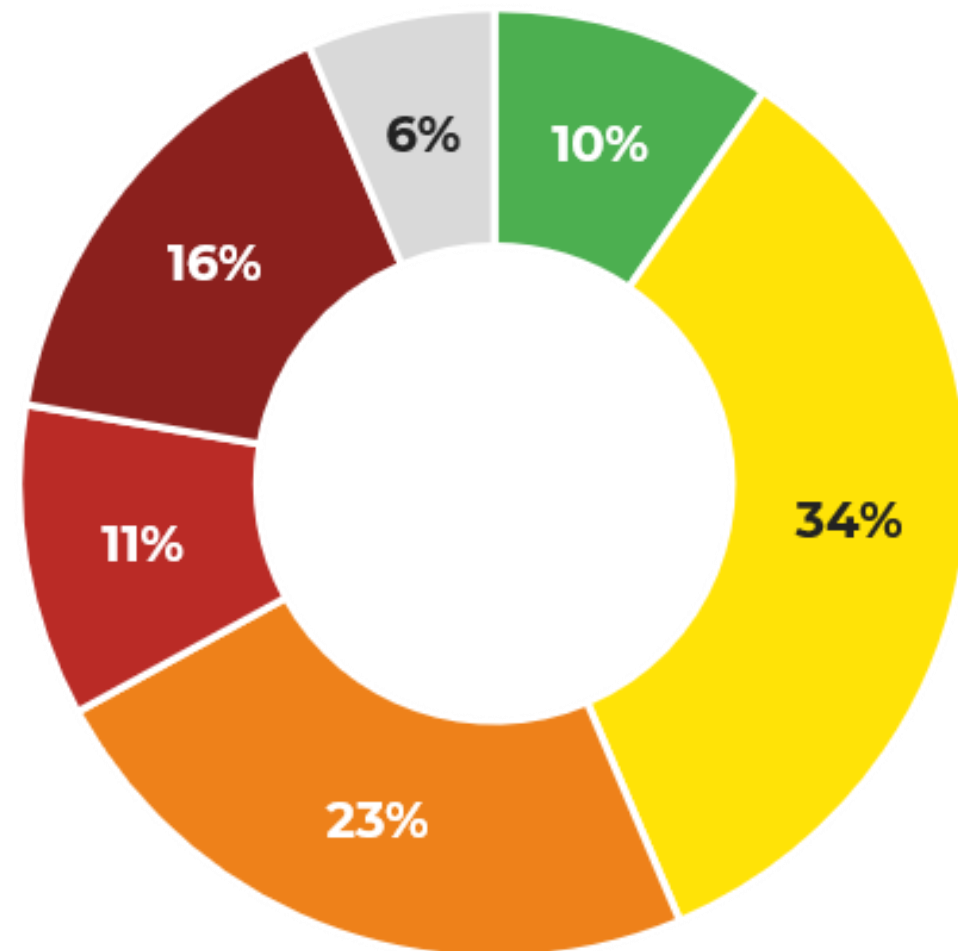
Education, healthcare and social protection facilities are the most vulnerable services in both groups; urban communities more often answer “unable to provide”.

Has the community tested its backup systems and procedures in practice

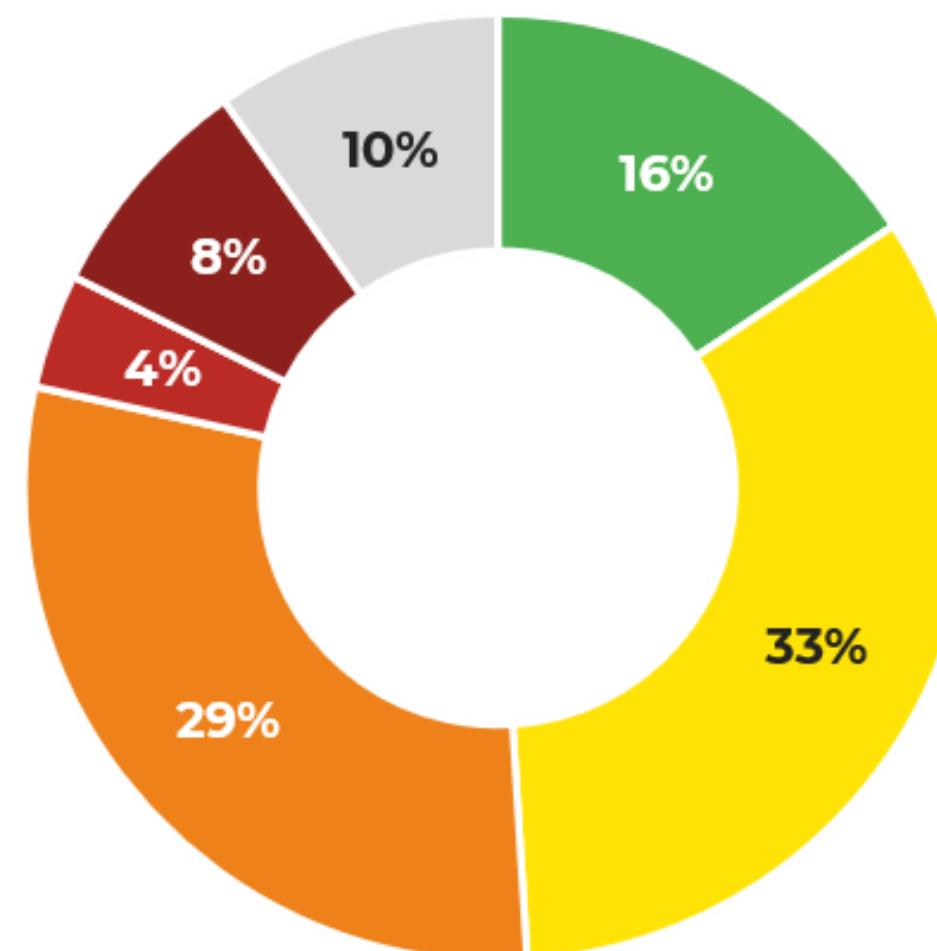
during prolonged power, heating or water supply outages



SETTLEMENT & RURAL COMMUNITIES



URBAN COMMUNITIES



- yes, conducted a comprehensive test or exercise
- tested individual systems and services
- backup equipment started, but joint operation not tested
- test planned but not yet conducted
- no practical test conducted
- hard to say

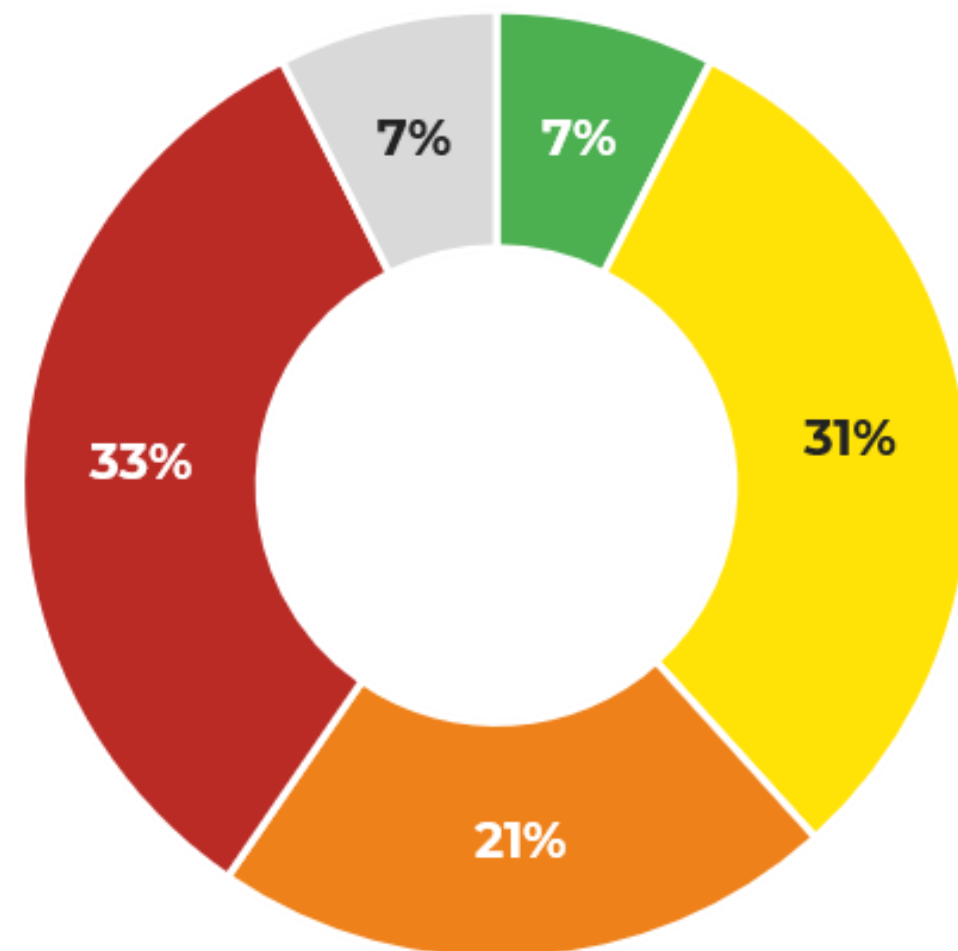
Only 10–16% conducted a comprehensive test.

Has the community held practical drills to coordinate response procedures

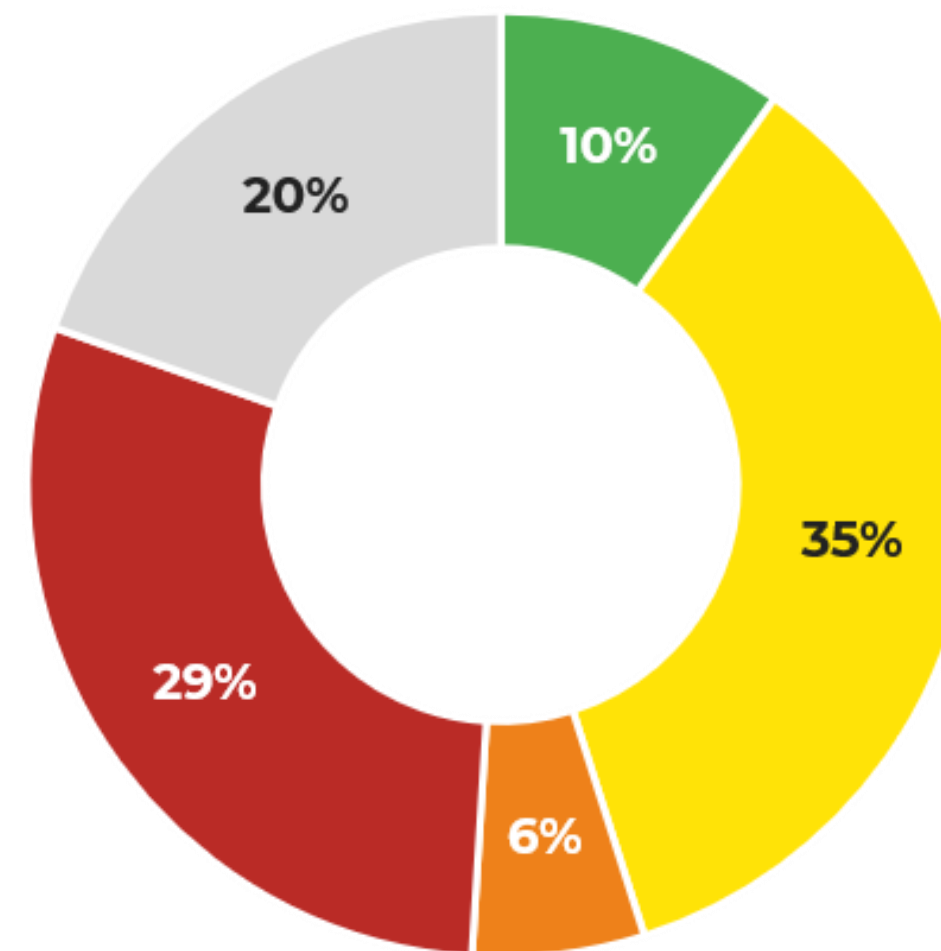


in case of a prolonged disruption to energy supplies, jointly with emergency services, police and other agencies

SETTLEMENT & RURAL COMMUNITIES



URBAN COMMUNITIES



- yes, conducted comprehensive joint exercises
- trained individual services and units
- practical drills planned but not yet held
- no practical drills held
- hard to say

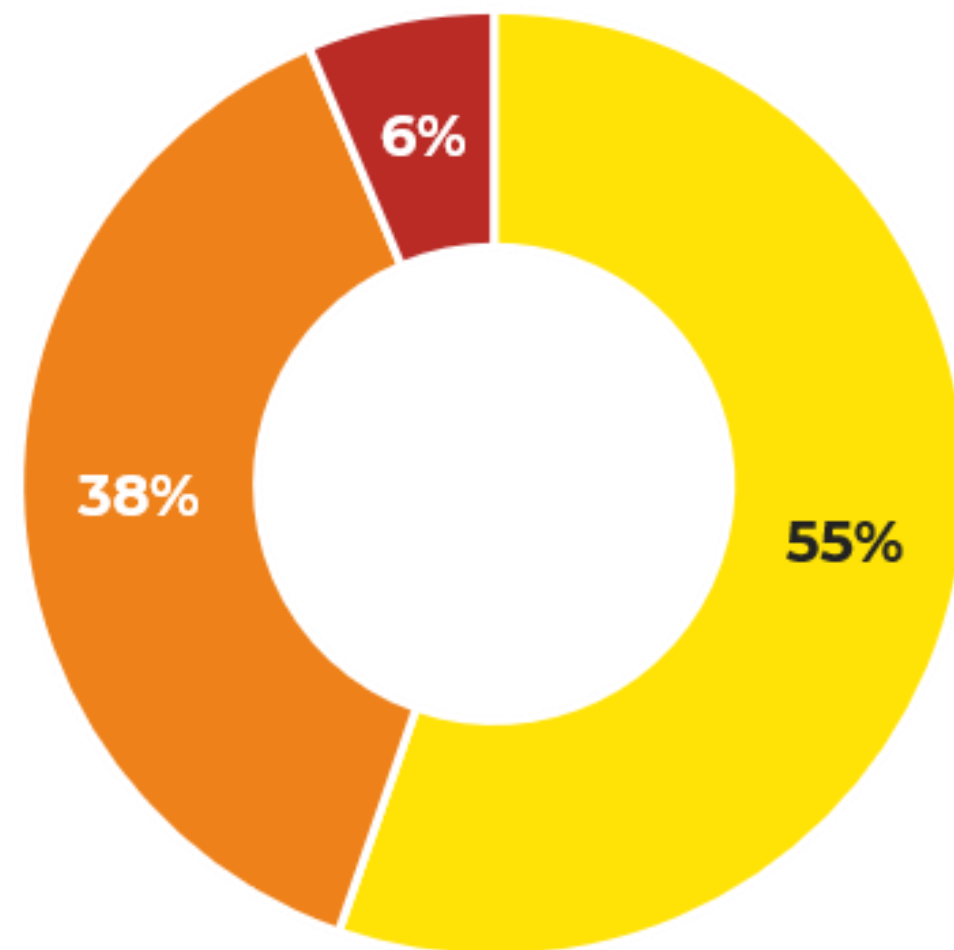
Only 8% of communities held full-scale joint exercises.

Has the community designated responsible persons

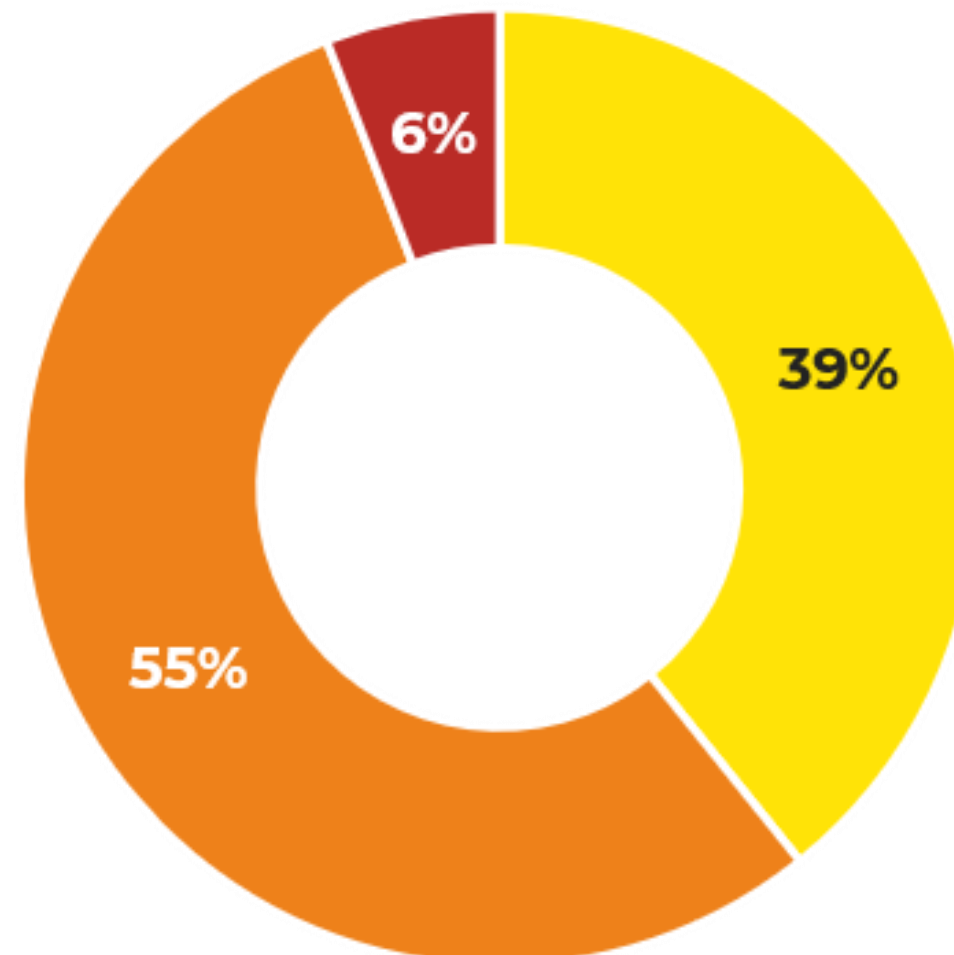
with a contact list for emergency response



SETTLEMENT & RURAL COMMUNITIES



URBAN COMMUNITIES



- yes, designated; all contacts updated and shared with all services and units
- partially designated; contacts and information partially updated
- not designated; no exchange of contacts and data between managers and responsible persons

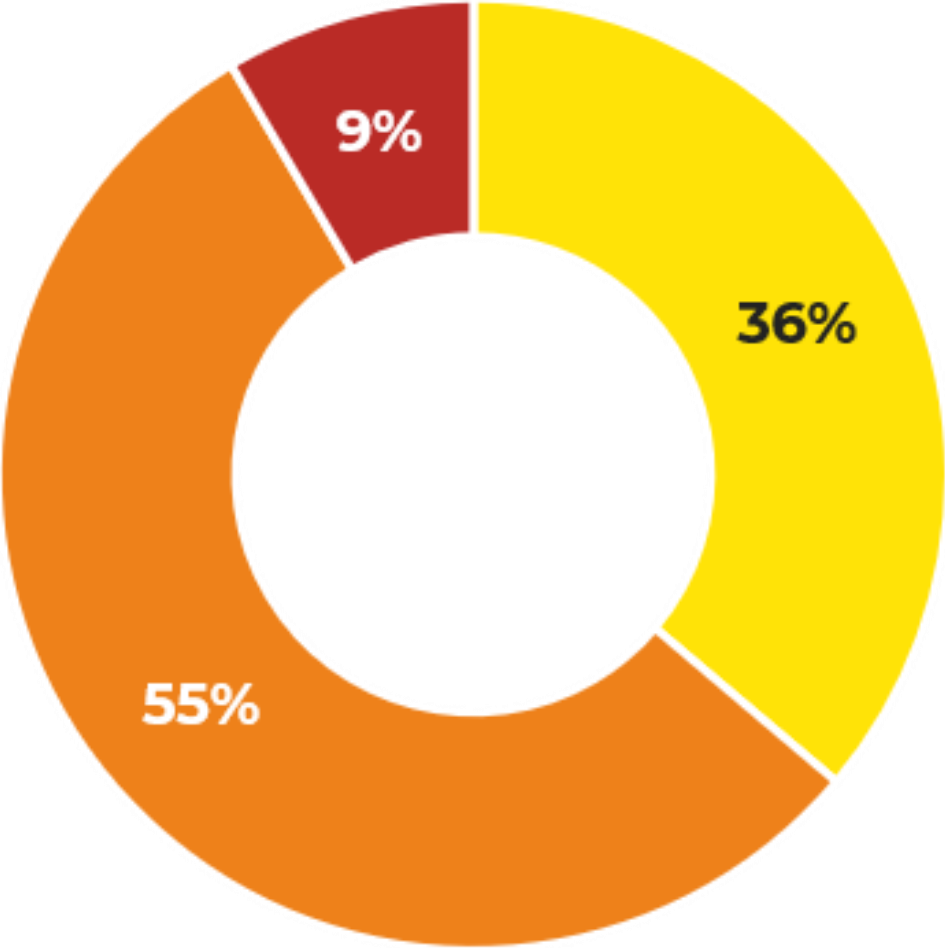
Settlement and rural communities more often designate responsible persons than urban communities (55% vs 39%)

Are designated representatives familiar with emergency response protocols?

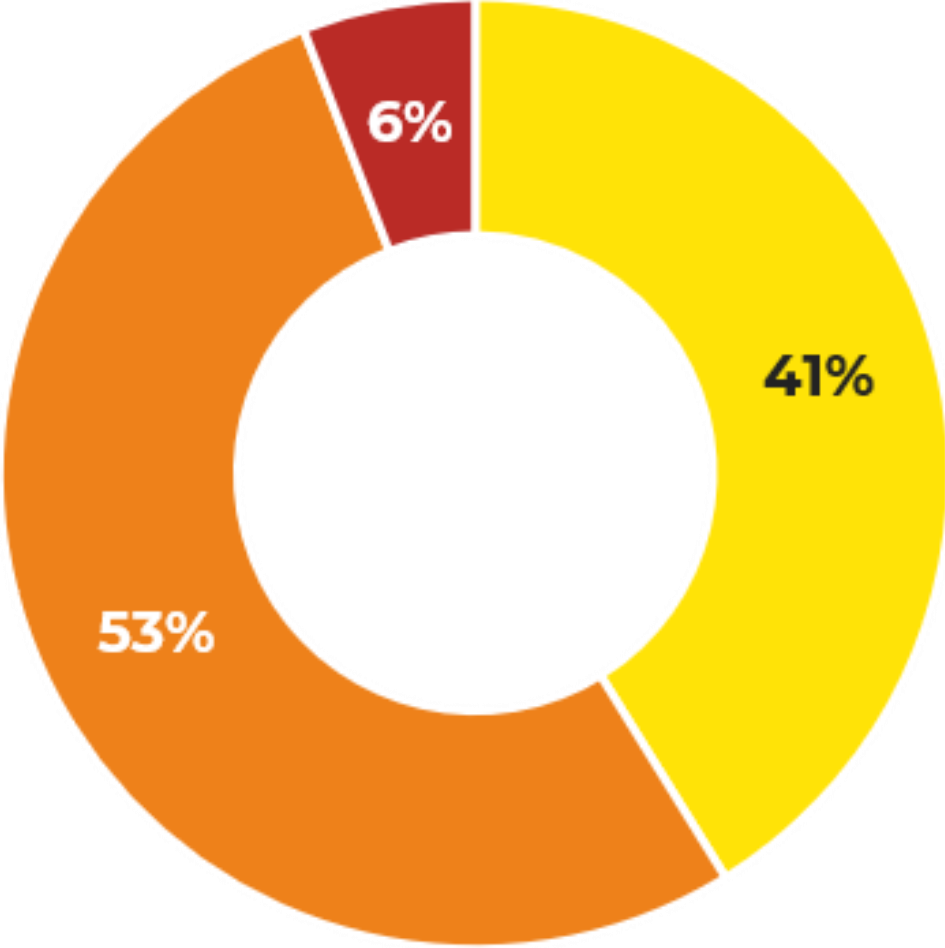


Representatives of relevant facilities, institutions, units and services in the community

SETTLEMENT & RURAL COMMUNITIES



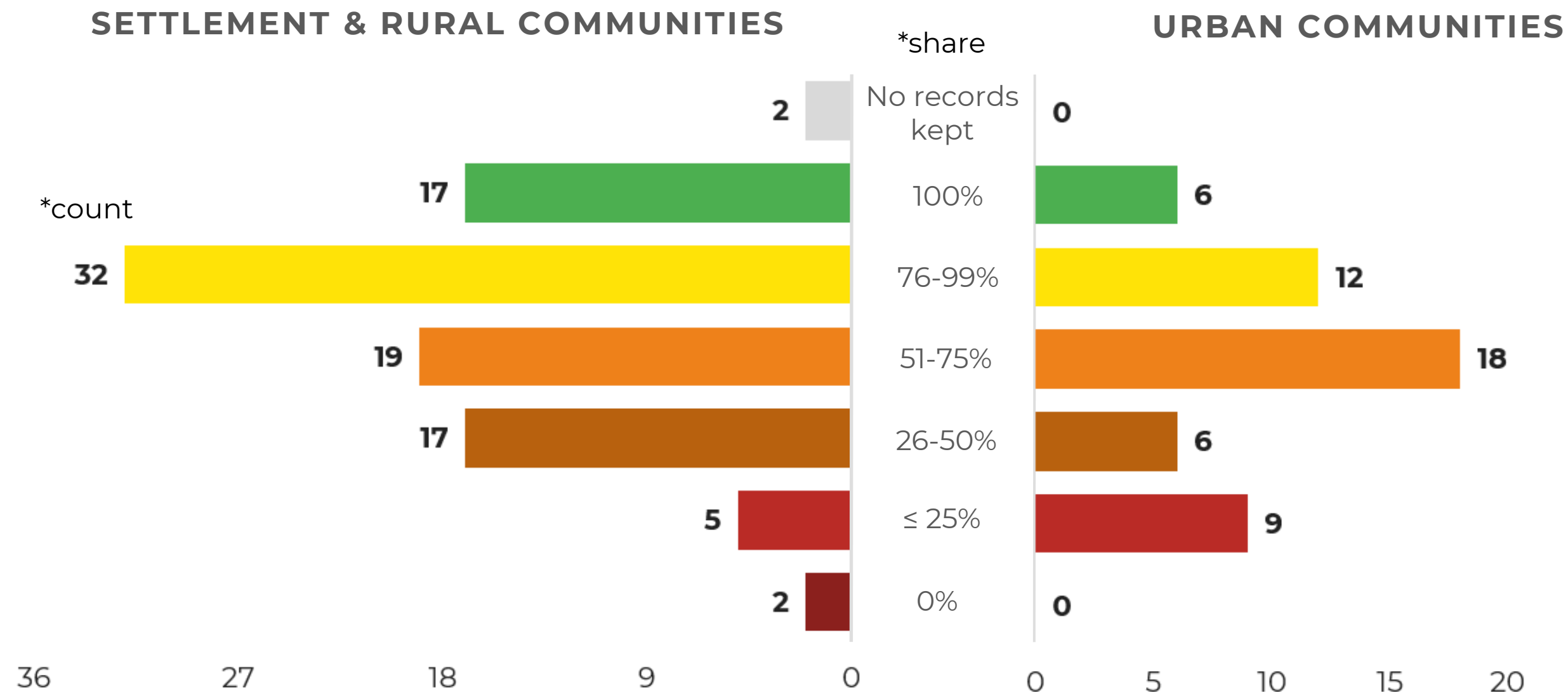
URBAN COMMUNITIES



- yes, fully familiar
- partially familiar, familiarisation ongoing
- not familiar

Only about 40% in both groups are fully familiar with the protocols.

What share of the community's critical municipal and social facilities has backup power

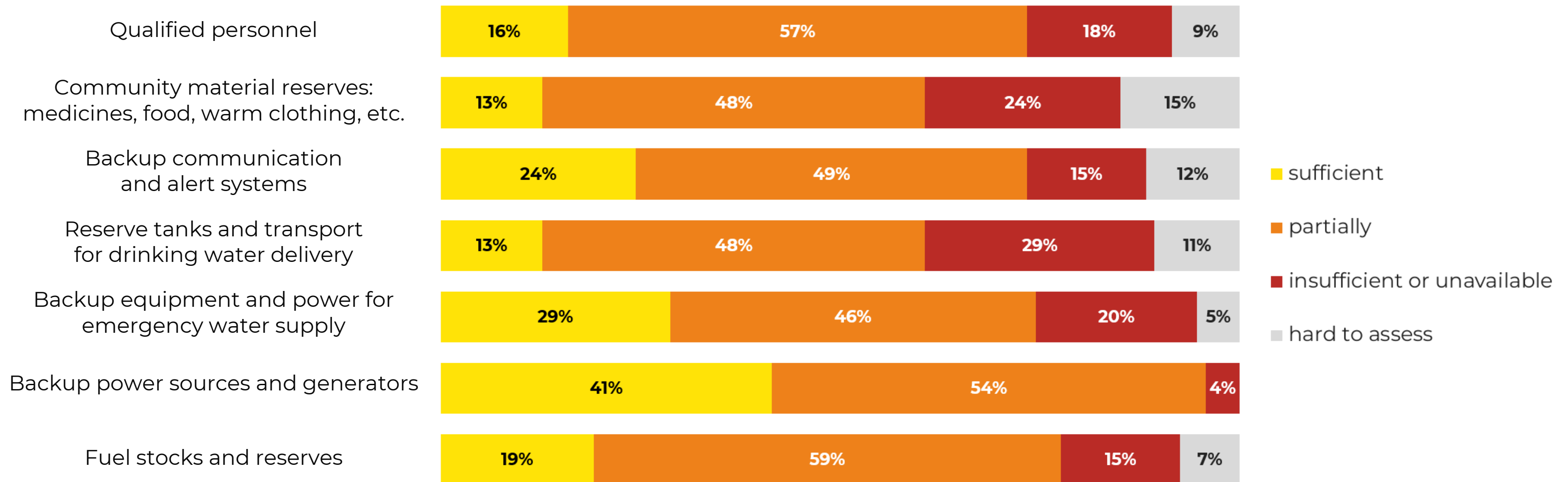


Full coverage is reported by 18% of settlement and rural and 12% of urban communities.

Communities' supply of key resources



SETTLEMENT & RURAL COMMUNITIES

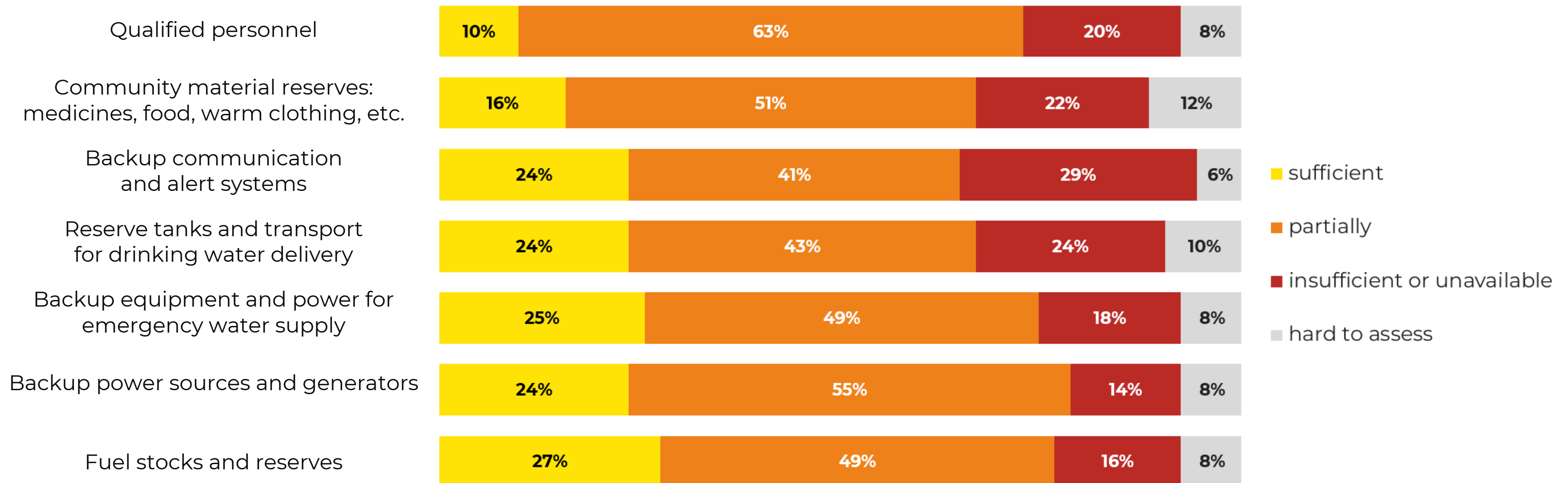


Most communities lack every resource in full; generators are best supplied, material reserves and water tanks/transport least supplied.

Communities' supply of key resources

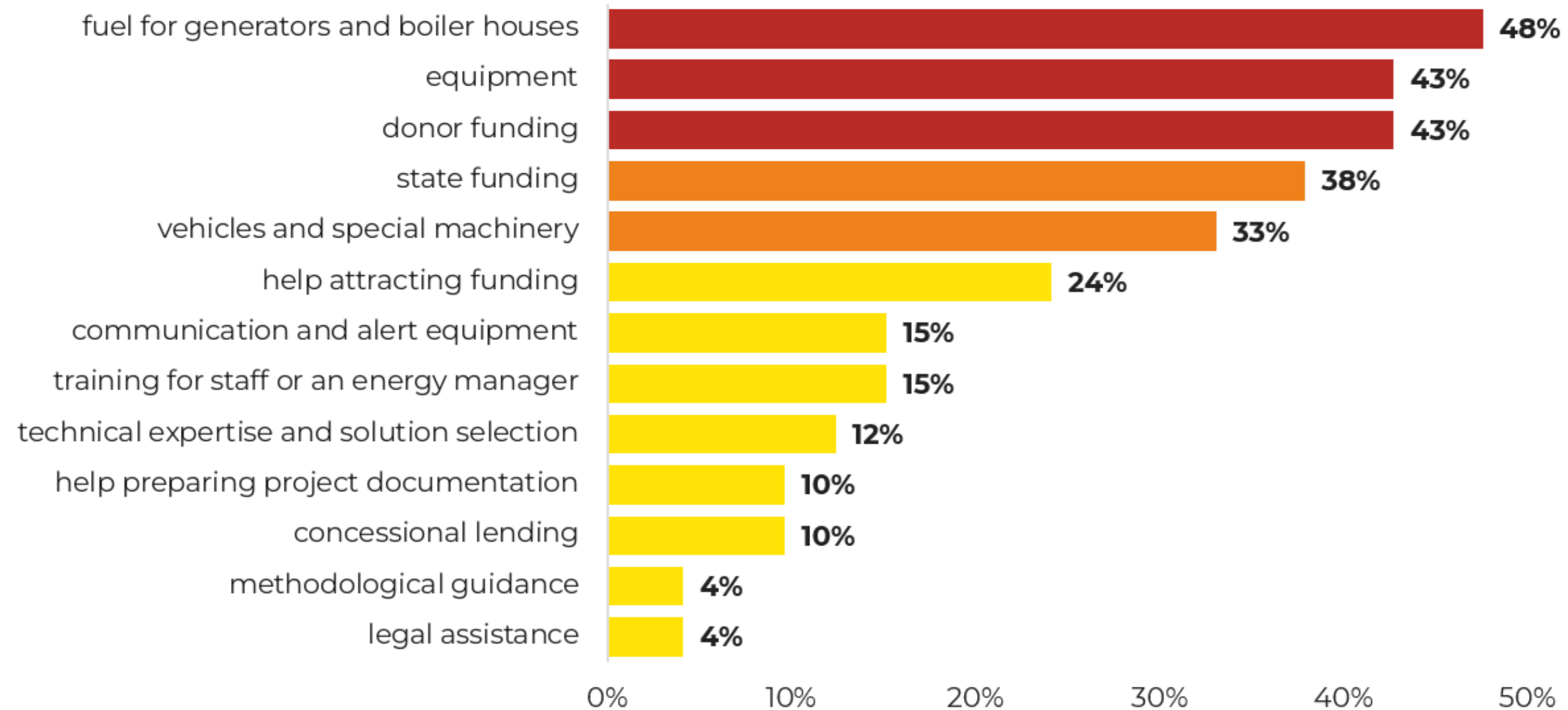


URBAN COMMUNITIES



Most communities lack every resource in full; generators and fuel stocks are best supplied, qualified personnel and material reserves least supplied.

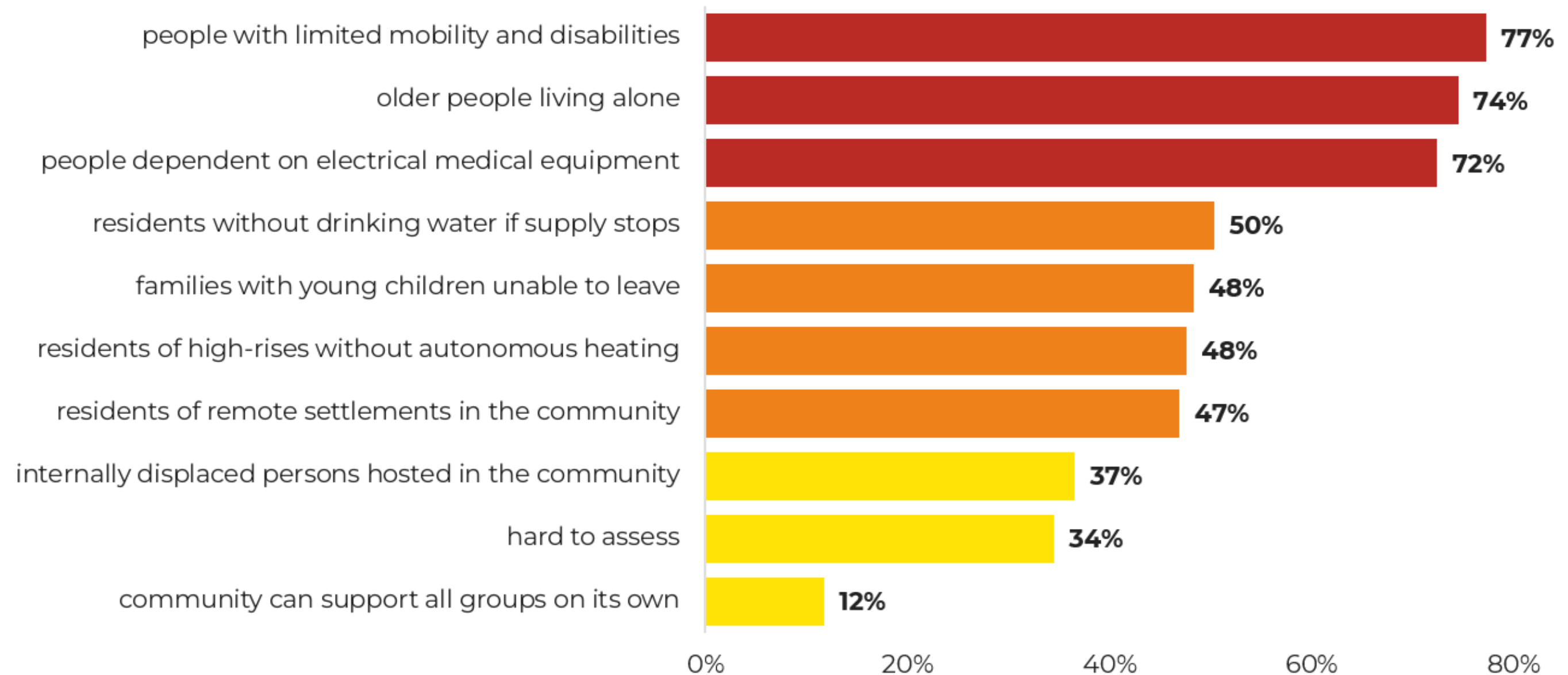
What support does the community need most to improve readiness?



Fuel for generators and boiler houses is the No. 1 request (48%), followed by equipment and donor funding (43% each).

*the option of providing backup resources and drinking water sources was available in open-ended answers

Which groups could the community not support alone during prolonged outages?



Only 12% of communities are confident they can support all groups of residents on their own.

What communities cannot solve on their own



Answers to an open question on the hardest winter-preparation challenge

“We have generators, but lack fuel for them, charging stations and backup power systems.”

Odesa Oblast, urban community (under 50K)

“Fuel supply for generators.”

Dnipropetrovsk Oblast, rural community

“The main problem is that we don’t know what to expect.”

Khmelnytskyi Oblast, settlement community

“No guaranteed power for life-support facilities. We have too few generators, and buying enough exceeds the local budget.”

Khmelnytskyi Oblast, urban community (under 50K)

“No funds, no people, no equipment.”

Volyn Oblast, settlement community

“We have nothing at all. No money. And no will to solve anything.”

Kyiv Oblast, urban community (under 50K)

“School and hospital kitchens run on electricity. Generators lack the capacity to cook and power other critical systems at once.”

Zhytomyr Oblast, settlement community

“Repair and maintenance of high-capacity generators. We lack specialists.”

Vinnitsia Oblast, urban community (under 50K)

“Buying three-phase generators for water towers.”

Odesa Oblast, rural community

“The hardest part is securing backup power, enough fuel and fast replacement of critical equipment on our own.”

Ternopil Oblast, settlement community

“There are no people. No one even to mow the grass, let alone save the community in winter.”

Kyiv Oblast, urban community (50–100K)

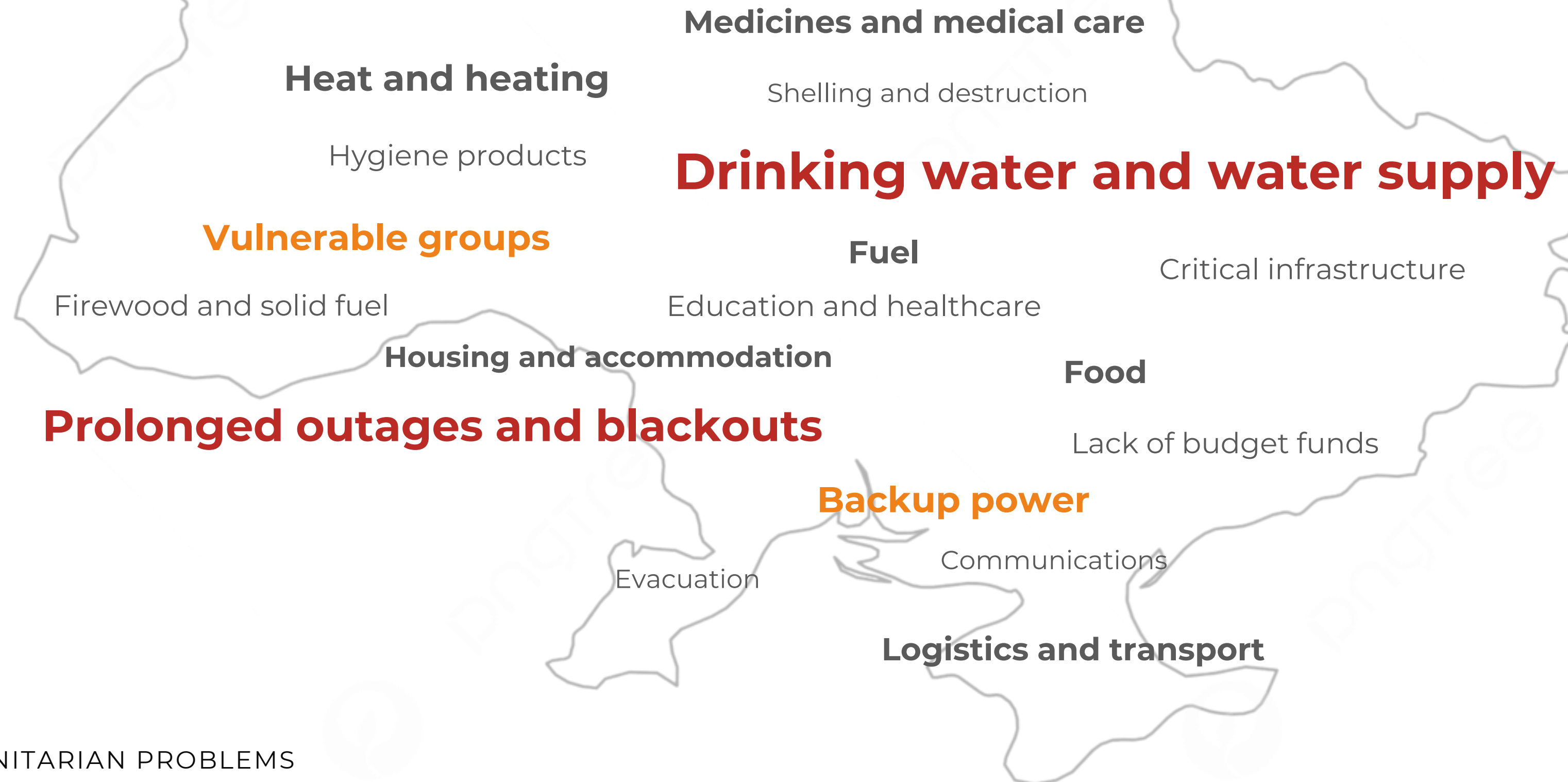
“Reservation of skilled staff from mobilisation.”

Vinnitsia Oblast, urban community (under 50K)

Money, fuel and people are the most frequently named problems.

Humanitarian problems communities cannot handle on their own

Answers to open questions



Key survey findings



34% cannot sustain at least one of 9 critical facility and service categories even for 24 hours

Among large cities (50K+): 50%

36%
can sustain water and sewerage for 24 hours at most, or not at all

In large cities: 50%

28%
have backup power for no more than half of critical facilities

Large cities: 44%; in 31% of them, a quarter of facilities or less is covered

14%
of communities consider themselves fully ready for prolonged power, heating and water outages

Backup power covers 67% of critical facilities on average, but this does not ensure longer operations: only 4% of communities can sustain all nine services for over 72 hours.

Key survey findings

Equipment is available, but fuel, staff and practiced response procedures are lacking



78% of communities lack sufficient fuel reserves

Generator and boiler fuel is the most common support request (48%)

44%

do not have sufficient amounts of any of the 7 key resources: fuel, generators, water, water transport, communications, reserves, staff

8%

held comprehensive exercises with the State Emergency Service, police and other agencies

59% of communities have not trained at all or only plan to

12%

are confident they can support all vulnerable groups on their own

34% cannot say whom they would fail to support — there is no register of vulnerable residents

Support requests are dominated by money and equipment: fuel 48%, donor funding and equipment 43% each.

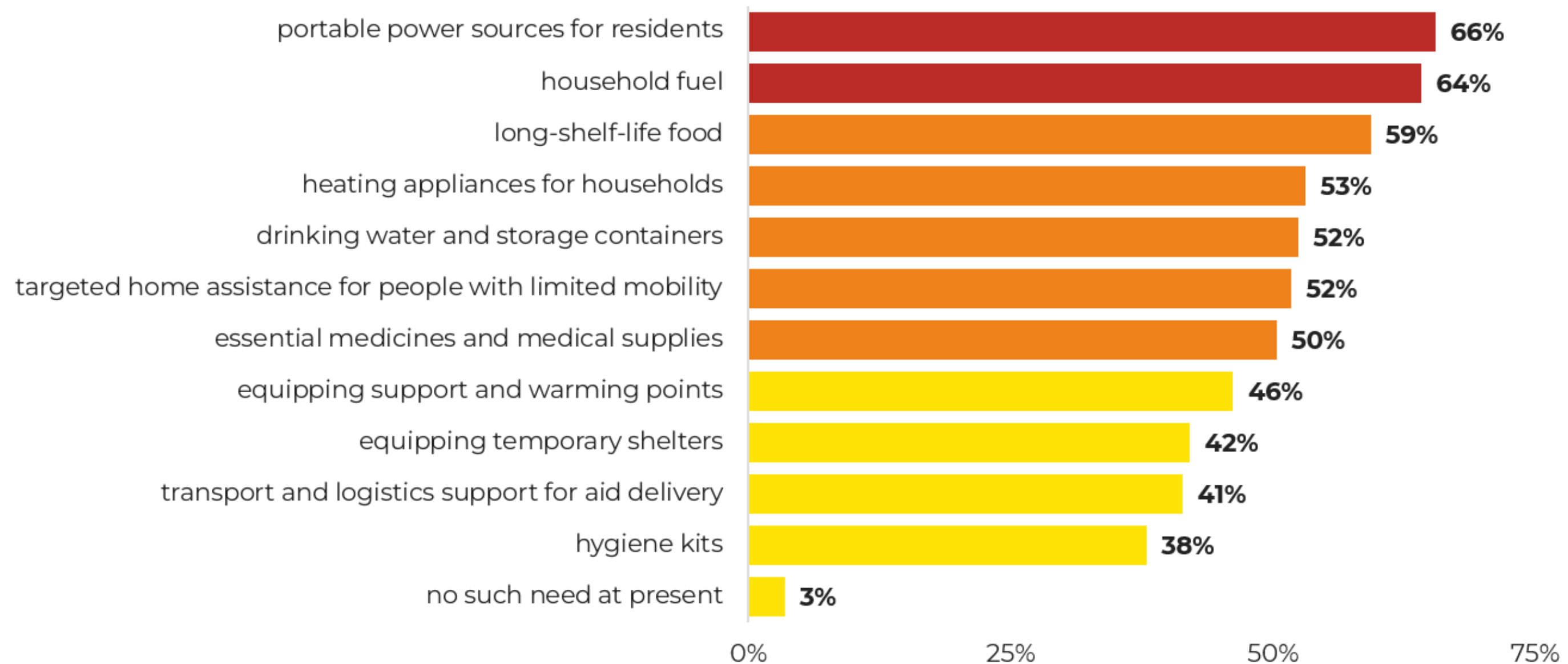
Similar needs across community types, but different winter-preparation gaps



RED — WEAKEST VALUE IN THE ROW

INDICATOR	RURAL (42)	SETTLEMENT (52)	URBAN (51)
Community “fully ready” to provide basic services	19%	13%	10%
All 9 categories of facilities sustained for 24–72 h or longer	21%	33%	37%
Backup power coverage of critical facilities $\geq$ 76%	62%	46%	35%
No drills held, or only planned	50%	58%	35%
Fuel “sufficient”	12%	25%	27%
Staff “sufficient”	7%	23%	10%
Backup communication and alerts “insufficient”	14%	15%	29%
Composite readiness index, 0–100	62	57	57

What humanitarian aid would residents need during prolonged outages?



Portable power sources (66%) and household fuel (64%) top residents' needs.