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# "The level of safety conditions in shelters of educational institutions in Ukraine"



Research





## Purpose of the study:

Identification and analysis of the problem with ensuring safety conditions in protective structures of educational institutions in Ukraine.

## Coverage - field data collection:

101 head/founder of an educational institution

24 regions of Ukraine



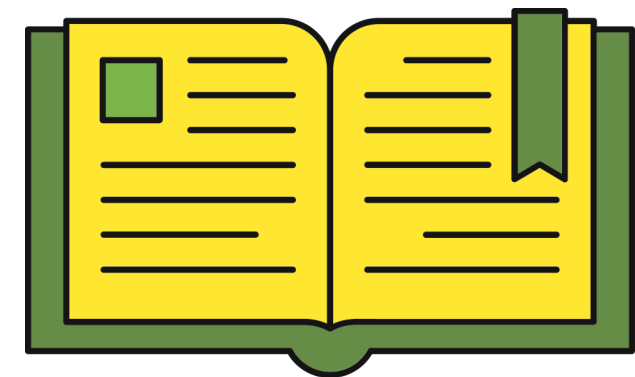


## "Desk research"

Analysis of data from an anonymous survey conducted  
by the Office of the Commissioner for Human  
Rights for  
**15,631** participants (parents/guardians of children))

Analysis of current legislation; recommendations for the  
arrangement of shelters in schools from the State  
Emergency Service of Ukraine; Handbook "My Fortress"

## Data Collection Method



Requests for access to public information + data  
provided by the Ministry of Education and Science of  
Ukraine

According to the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine on the information resource

<https://saveschools.in.ua>

**3798** - educational institutions have been affected by bombing and shelling.

**365** - of them have been completely destroyed.

**579** - educational institutions have been damaged or partially destroyed.



# Research Background

1. Transition of a significant number of schools from fully remote to in-person or blended learning in 2023.



2. Allocation of state subsidies for the arrangement of shelters.

3. Significant public interest, interest of school principals, parents in the start of face-to-face learning.



4. Different interpretations of the needs for the provision/ arrangement/ construction of shelters.

**Launched or planned to  
be launched in  
offline/blended format  
as of November 2023:**

**13661 general  
secondary education  
institutions**

**2026 shelters**

**Shelters are  
available in 14.83%  
of educational  
institutions**

**On the balance sheet**

**11059 preschool  
educational  
institutions**

**626 shelters**

**Shelters are  
available in 5,66%  
of educational  
institutions**



## **Comments from the authorities differed from the information published in the regions.**

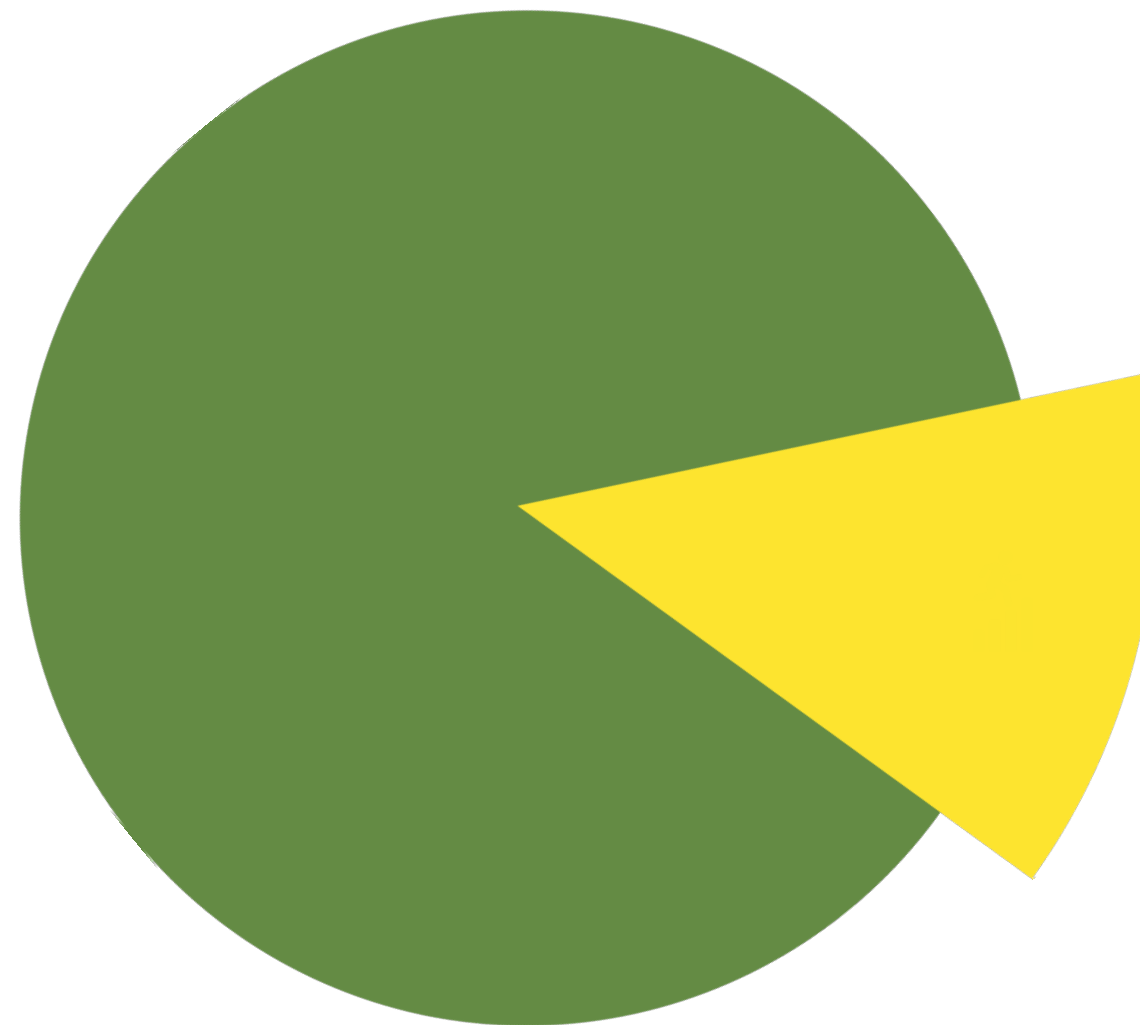
**Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine Andrii Stashkiv cites the following statistics:**

- 80% of schools have shelters, but most of them need additional equipment.**
- 2,500 shelters in schools need repair.**
- 2,700 shelters need to be built.**
- 153 billion hryvnia is the estimated cost of repairing and building shelters.**
- In 2024, 2.5 billion hryvnia will be allocated to the state budget for the repair and construction of shelters. 1.5 billion was allocated in 2023.**

**Most educational institutions selected for the survey were from rural areas - 63.4%. At the same time, the share of institutions in cities is**

**36.6%**

**Own shelter 85%**



**Rented shelter 15%**





**44,5%** of shelters  
are spacious  
enough



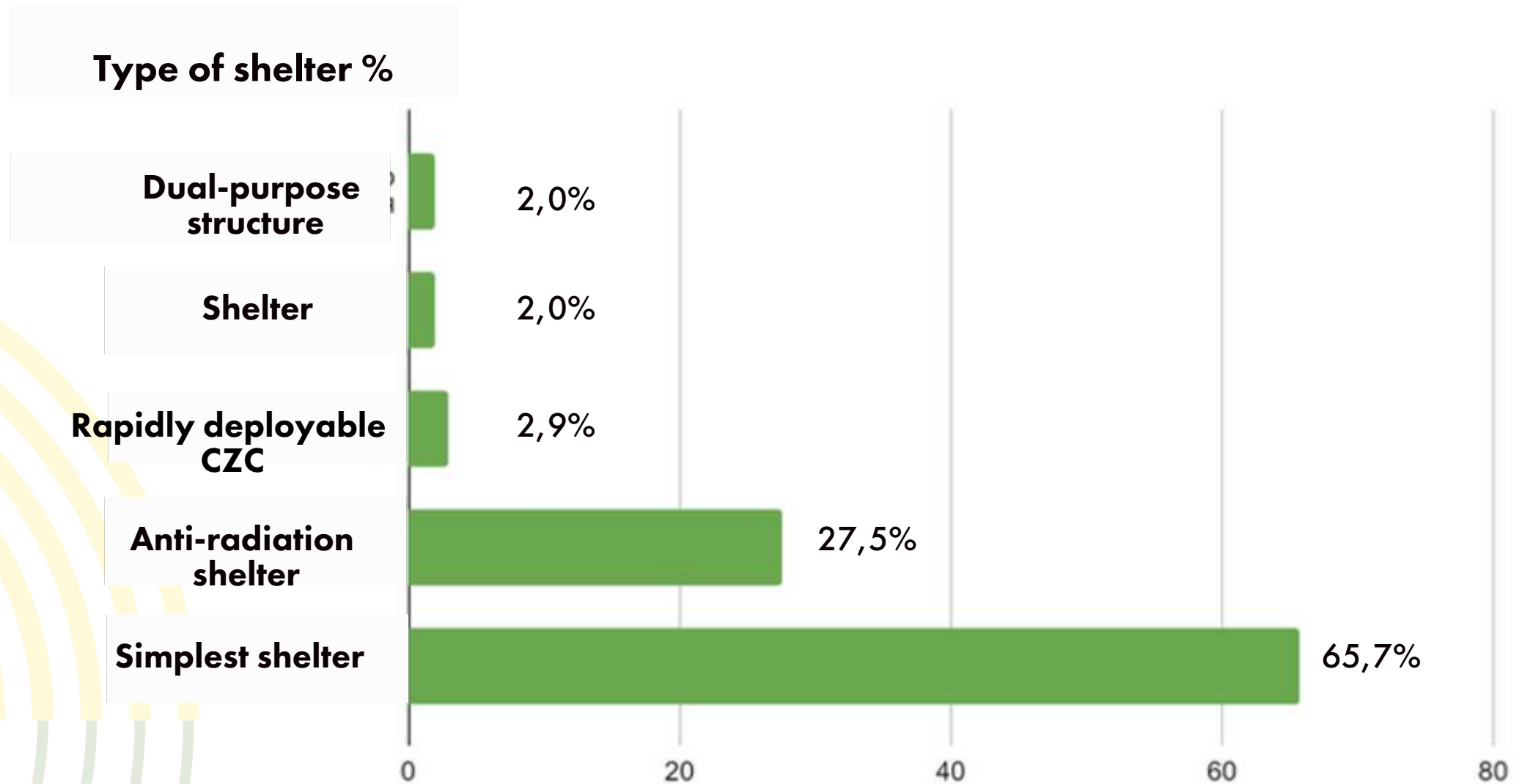
**55,5 %** of shelters  
are not spacious  
enough.

An equipped shelter must accommodate:

Students

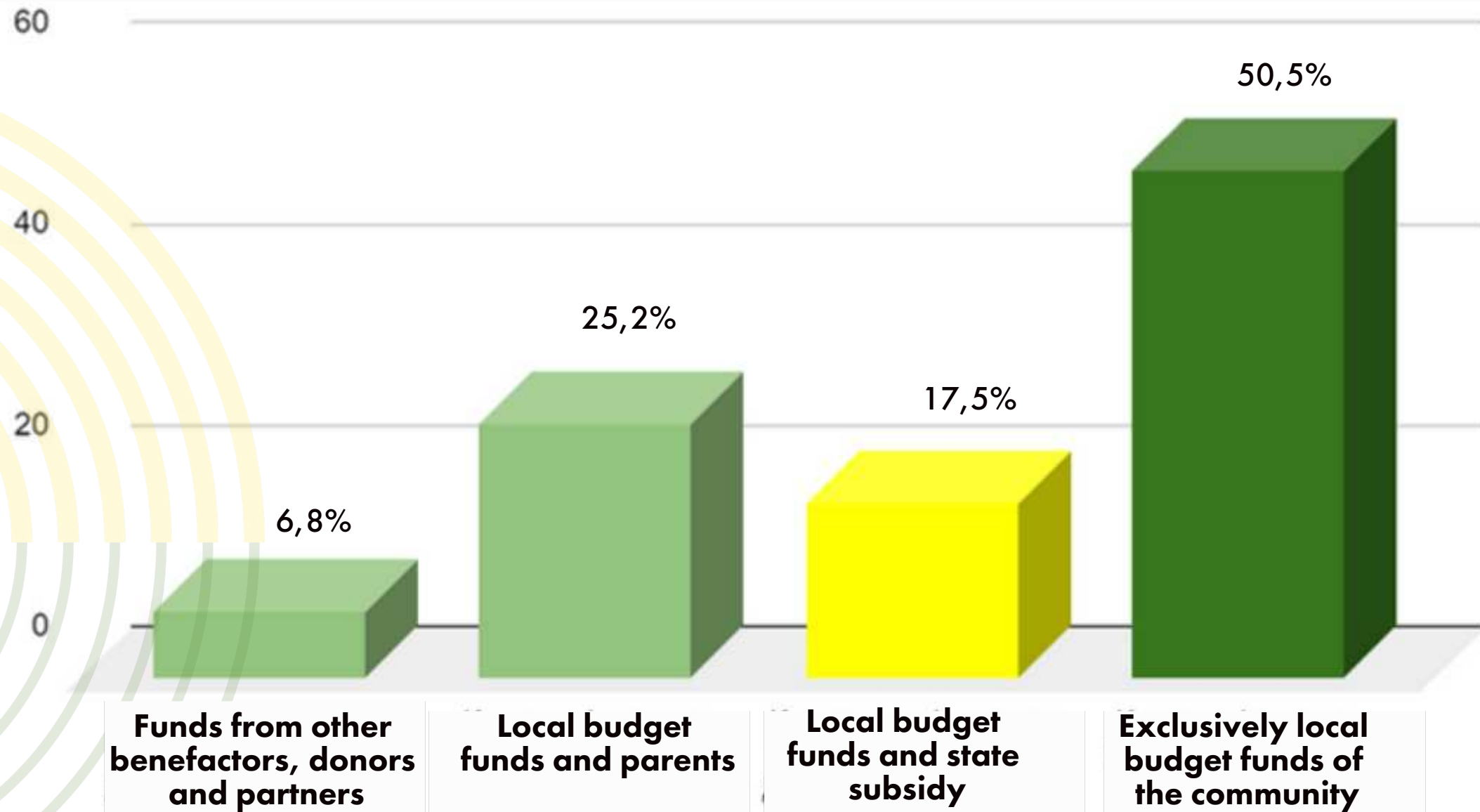
Teaching staff

Other staff of the educational institution

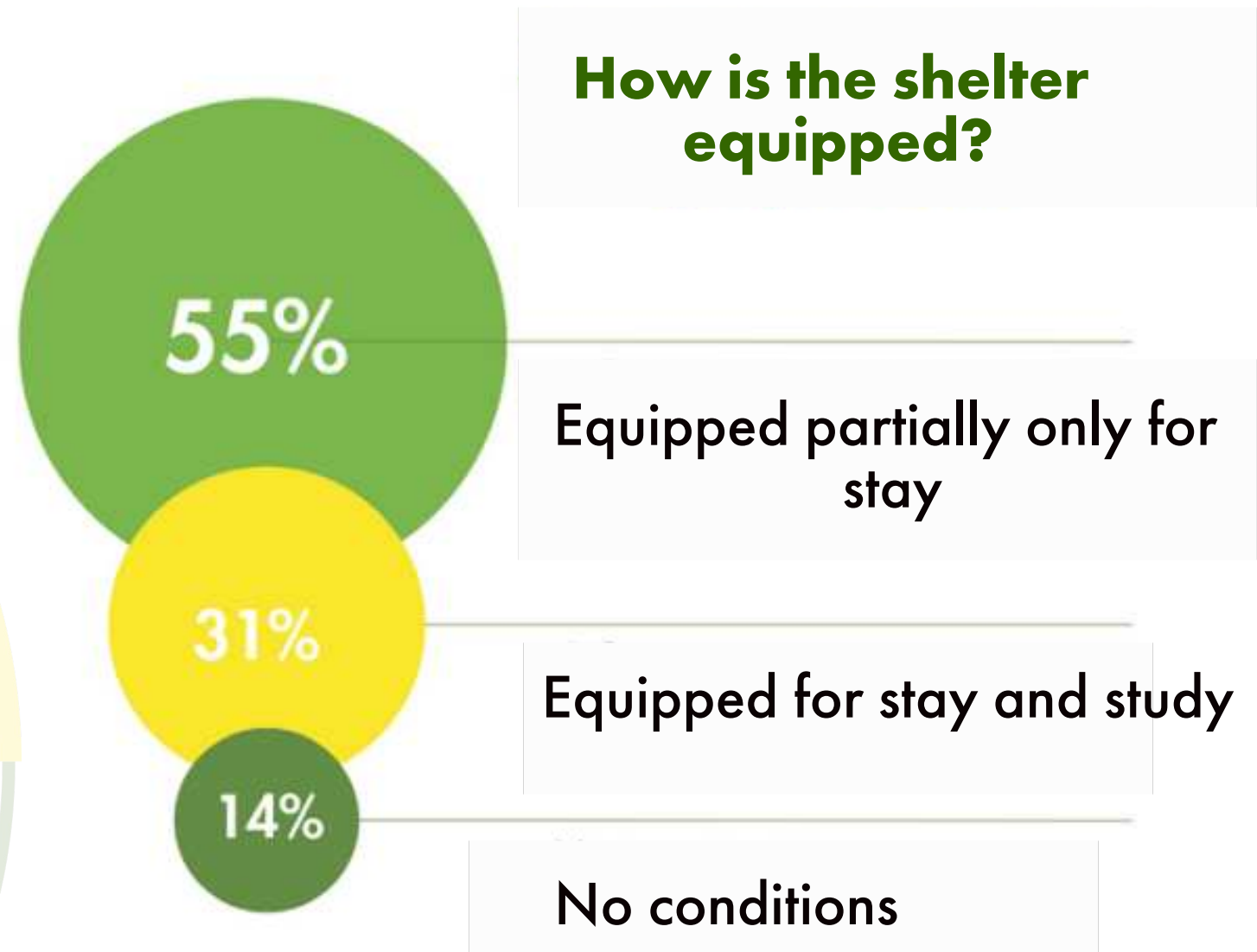


**The simplest shelter is a basement or basement room that minimizes the impact of hazardous factors.**

## Sources of financing used during the arrangement of the shelter:









**Analysis of an anonymous parental survey on safety in schools/kindergartens by the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights. Comparison, comparison of data with the survey**








15,631 people participated in the survey. Parents and guardians of children.



**Among the most problematic issues are:**

-  **Providing shelters with bio-toilets;**
-  **Ensuring ventilation;**
-  **Zoning the premises with the help of screens;**
-  **Equipping additional exits;**
-  **Places for sitting and desks for studying;**
-  **Uninterrupted Internet connection**

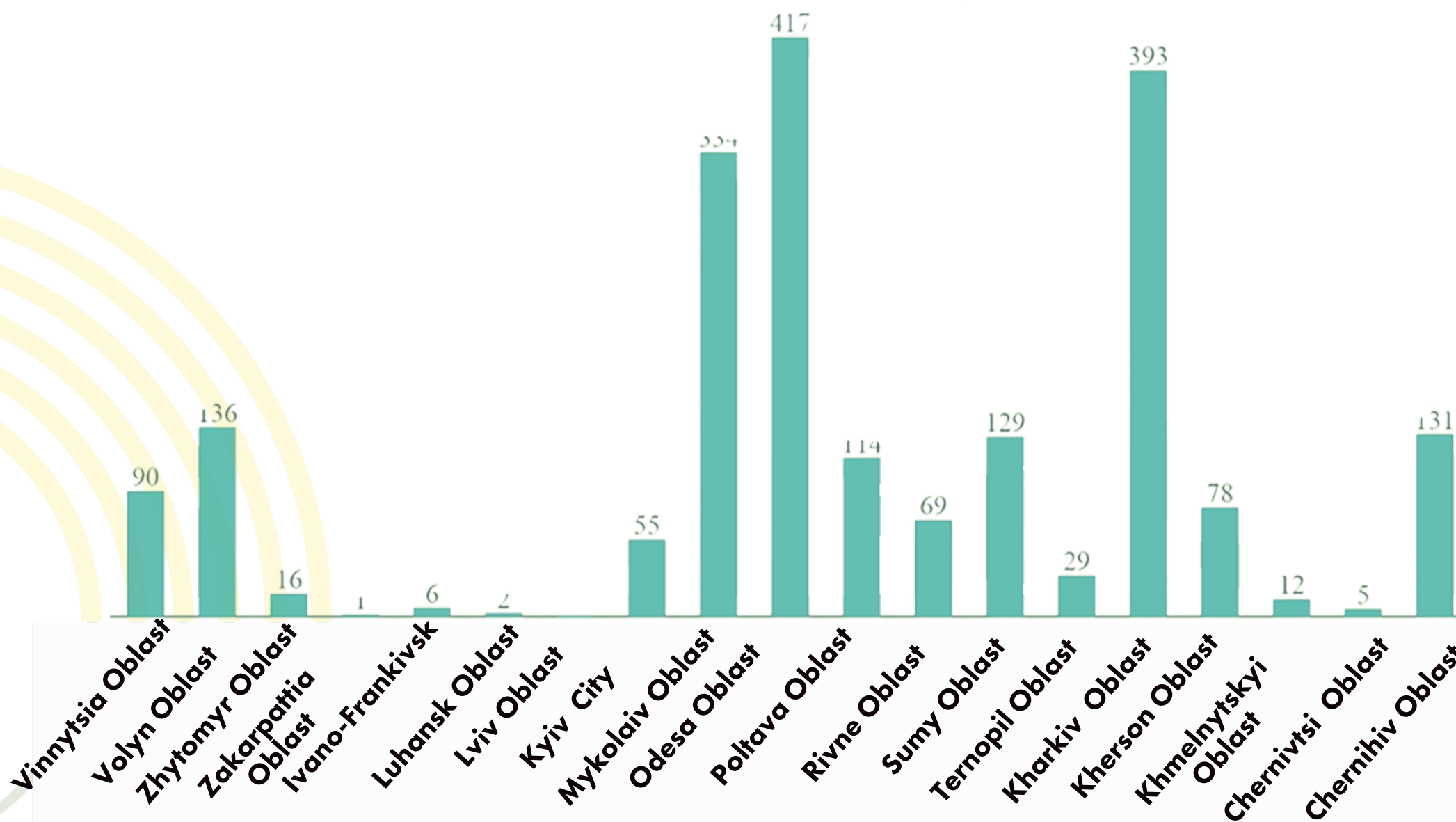
**A number of shelters require:**

-  **Hydro-insulation, to protect against flooding;**
-  **Concrete flooring;**
-  **Heating system installation;**
-  **Sewerage system installation;**
-  **Purchase/installation of backup power sources.**



# Protective structures are absent in 2,017 educational institutions

*\*according to data from 24 regional state administrations of Ukraine*

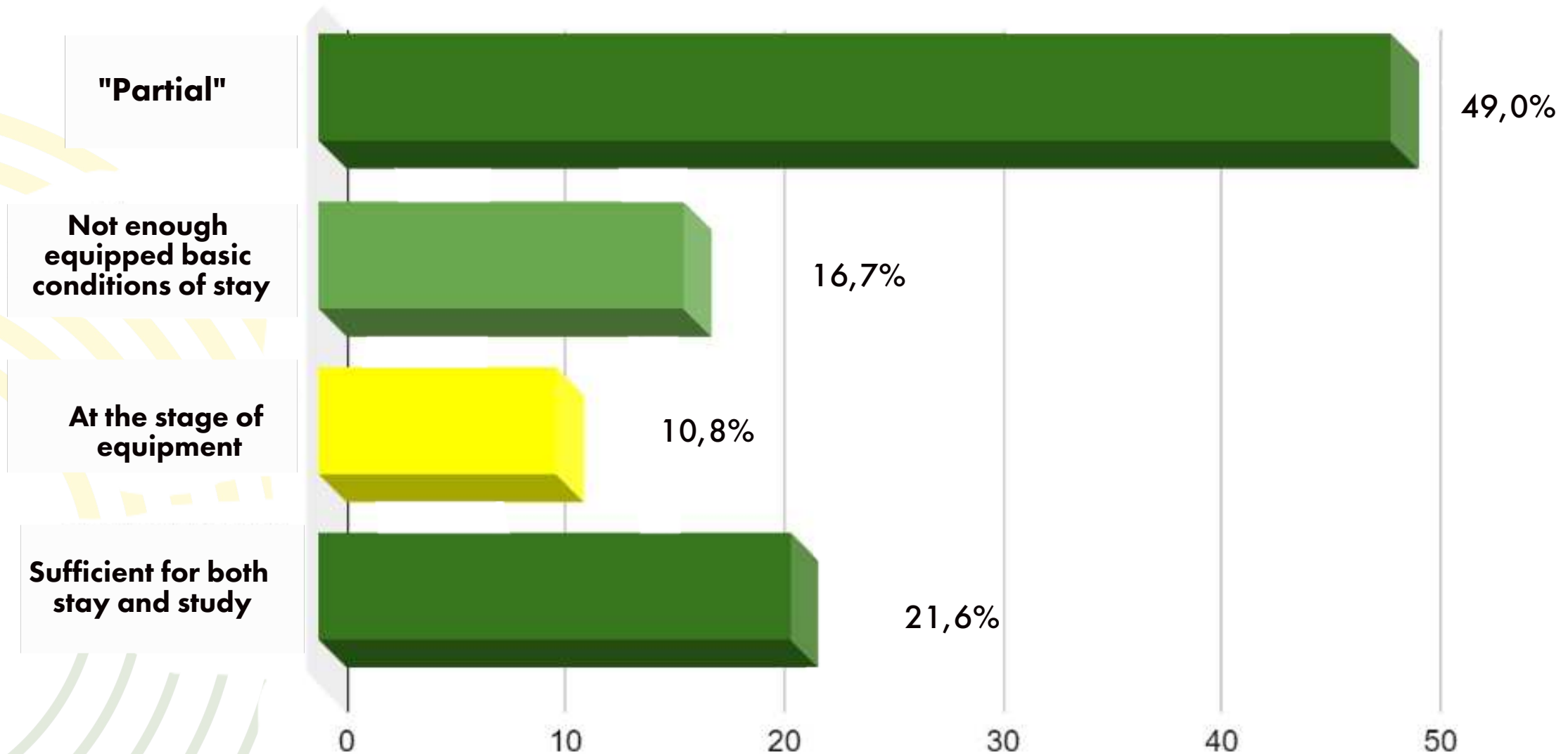


**No responses were received to requests from:**

**Kyiv Regional State Administration;**

**Kirovohrad Regional State Administration.**

## Level of shelter equipment %



**The share of fully equipped shelters is negligible and is 1.9%**



Image used from  
the interactive map  
of  
destruction/dama  
ge to educational  
institutions  
<https://saveschools.in.ua/>

**Kharkiv Oblast** is the leader in the number of damaged educational institutions - **579** units.



**Among the main reasons for the absence of shelters in educational institutions according to information from the regional state administrations are:**

- Lack of technical conditions for equipping basements as shelters;**
- Lack of a basement, or it was not provided for in the design documentation of the building;**
- Limited financial resources of the regions for the arrangement of appropriate protective structures;**
- Complete and partial destruction of educational institutions;**
- Hostilities that are potentially possible or ongoing in the region;**
- The building is under reconstruction or renovation.**



# PROBLEM ISSUES WITH THE STATE SUBSIDIES FOR SHELTERS

**01** selection based on the number of students, not the needs of the institutions

**02** the budgetary capabilities of the communities were not taken into account during implementation

**03** tight deadlines for submitting project applications

**04**







"geography" of the distribution of funds, where regions that are constantly under shelling did not receive funds from the government subsidy

**05** prolonged development of project documentation

**06** tight deadlines for implementation / non-transferable nature of the subsidy



**The successful use of the state subsidies, first of all, is regulated by amendments to the resolution that regulates the procedure for using funds.**

-  - Information campaign that precedes the announcement of applications for the subsidy;
-  - Increase the duration of applications for the subsidy;
-  - Reduce bureaucratic procedures during the use of subsidy funds;
-  - Transitional nature of the subsidy for objects that are at the final stage of implementation.
-  - Taking into account the geographical location of objects when distributing funds;
-  - Taking into account the budgetary characteristics of communities when distributing funds.



● **Autonomy Principle: Stock of water, food, medicines. Installation of alternative energy sources, ventilation, sewerage systems. Heating systems, etc.**



● **Safety Principle: Shelters must be protected from fire, debris, chemical and biological threats. The child should not leave the premises until the end of the air raid alert.**



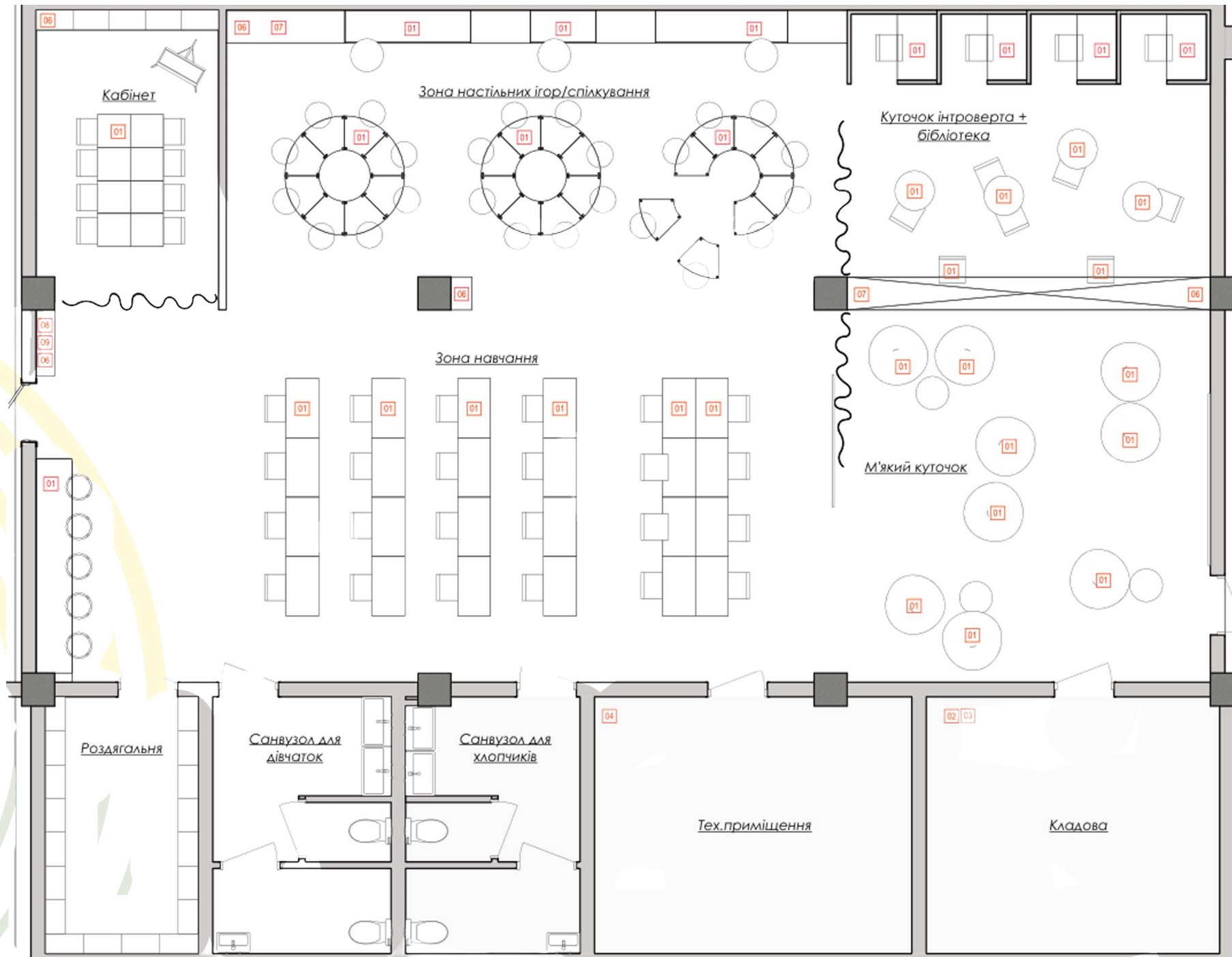


● **Accessibility Principle:** Shelters should be easily accessible to all students and teachers, taking into account the needs of children/people with disabilities.

● **Capacity Principle:** Shelters are designed to accommodate all students and teachers of the school. They are provided with a sufficient number of tables and chairs, and contain entertainment elements that allow children to be distracted from being in the basement.



# Shelter Sample



*Photo used from the guide on arranging a safe and comfortable space: using identity, creating navigation, and architectural solutions "My Fortress"*

**Considering that the attention of donors, partners, and the international community to the issue of arranging shelters is insufficient in relation to the need (153 billion hryvnia) voiced by representatives of the Ukrainian government. The need for systematic informing of the latter on priority areas for the implementation of international projects is growing, among which we see the issue of "Equipping shelters in educational institutions of Ukraine".**



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**Thank you  
for your  
attention!**

**For inquiries and additional  
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