

CORRUPTION IN UKRAINE 2025: UNDERSTANDING, PERCEPTION, PREVALENCE

ANALYTICAL REPORT BASED ON THE RESULTS
OF THE SURVEY OF POPULATION AND ENTREPRENEURS



CORRUPTION IN UKRAINE 2025: UNDERSTANDING, PERCEPTION, PREVALENCE. ANALYTICAL REPORT BASED ON THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY OF POPULATION AND ENTREPRENEURS. - Kyiv, 2026.

This analytical report was prepared according to the results of the study conducted using the methodology of the standard survey on corruption in Ukraine, approved in 2021 by the order of the NACP (in 2025, amendments were made to the methodology and it was set out in the version of the NACP order dated 04.06.2025 No. 157/25). The surveys were conducted in 2025 by the sociological company Info Sapiens. The interpretation of the results of the study and the preparation of this report were carried out by a team of researchers consisting of D. Savchuk, A. Shurenkova, V. Halkina, and S. Boklan.



NATIONAL AGENCY
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The study data are presented, where possible, in comparison with the first study wave conducted in 2017 by the sociological company GfK Ukraine with the support of the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine within the framework of the project "Support to diagnostics, monitoring and prosecution of corruption in Ukraine"¹, as well as with the second², third³, fourth⁴, fifth⁵ and sixth⁶ study waves.

The structure of the analytical report, the description of the study methods, as well as certain study conclusions (where they coincided with the conclusions of 2017–2023) are taken from the reports of 2017, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024.

The study was prepared at the request of the National Agency for Prevention of Corruption (NACP) with the support of the EU Anti-Corruption Initiative (EUACI), the leading anti-corruption programme in Ukraine, funded by the European Union, co-funded and implemented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark. The opinions and views expressed in this study do not necessarily reflect the position of the NACP, EUACI, the European Union, or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark.

¹ See: Corruption in Ukraine: Understanding, Perception, Prevalence. Report based on a survey of entrepreneurs, experts, and the general population / Team of authors. - Kyiv: Vaite, 2018. - 42 p.

² See: Corruption in Ukraine 2020: Understanding, Perception, Prevalence. Report based on a survey of entrepreneurs, experts, and the population. - Kyiv, 2020.

³ See: Corruption in Ukraine 2021: Understanding, Perception, Prevalence. Report based on a survey of the population and business. - Kyiv, 2022.

⁴ See: Corruption in Ukraine 2022: Understanding, Perception, Prevalence. Report based on a survey of the population and business. - Kyiv, 2023.

⁵ See: Corruption in Ukraine 2023: Understanding, Perception, Prevalence. Report based on a survey of the population and business. - Kyiv, 2023.

⁶ See: Corruption in Ukraine 2024: Understanding, Perception, Prevalence. Report based on a survey of the population and business. - Kyiv, 2024.

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LIST OF MAIN ABBREVIATIONS

ARMA - Asset Recovery and Management Agency of Ukraine

CEBs - Central executive bodies

ASCs - Administrative service centers

FOP - Individual entrepreneur

HACC - High Anti-Corruption Court

MIA - Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine

NABU - National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine

NACP - National Agency for Prevention of Corruption

OPU - Office of the President of Ukraine

OSCE - Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

SAPO - Specialized Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office

SBI - State Bureau of Investigation

SSU - Security Service of Ukraine

STA - State Tax Agency

UN - United Nations

CORRUPTION IN UKRAINE 2025: UNDERSTANDING, PERCEPTION, PREVALENCE: SUMMARY

The seventh national survey of the population and representatives of businesses, aimed at a comprehensive assessment of the corruption situation in Ukraine, was conducted from September 2025 to January 2026. The first study wave was conducted in 2017, and the second to sixth study waves were conducted in 2020–2024 respectively.

The results of the 2025 survey indicate a break in the trend of increasing perception of corruption observed in 2023–2024. In the reporting year, a statistically significant decrease was recorded in a number of indicators characterizing the assessment of the prevalence of corruption, its dynamics over the last 12 months, as well as the perception of corruption as one of the key social problems. The decrease is consistent and observed both among the population and representatives of businesses.

At the same time, the share of respondents who report having corruption experience in 2025 does not differ statistically significantly from the indicators of 2023–2024. This indicates the preservation of relative stability in the level of personal involvement in corrupt practices against the background of fluctuations in perception indicators. Thus, just as the sharp increase in negative assessments of the prevalence of corruption in 2023–2024 was not accompanied by a corresponding increase in actual corruption experience, their decrease in 2025 is also not associated with statistically significant changes in such experience.

Traditionally, the perception of the prevalence of corruption is formed under the influence of a broad social and information context. For the population, an important role is played by public discourse, media coverage, and discussion of corruption cases, particularly at high levels of government. For businesses, assessments of the national situation also exceed assessments of corruption within their own sphere of activity. At the same time, the personal experience of respondents is mainly concentrated in areas of their direct interaction with government agencies and municipal institutions.

The analysis of the dynamics of 2023–2025 suggests that the sharp increase in negative assessments in 2023–2024 was associated with heightened public expectations of a rapid reduction in the level of corruption in the context of a full-scale war and the consolidation of the state and society. The failure to meet these expectations in the short term contributed to the strengthening of pessimistic assessments.

In 2025, against the background of adaptation to a prolonged crisis context, a certain stabilization in the perception of corruption was recorded, along with a return of assessments to a level comparable to the indicators of 2023. The decrease in perception indicators primarily reflects a weakening of the sense of further growth of the problem rather than significant changes in the level of respondents' personal corruption experience.

General indicators of perception of corruption are presented in Section 1.

- According to the results of surveys of the population, in 2025 **corruption** for the third consecutive year remains in **second place** among the main **problems**, the list of which was offered to respondents (it should be recalled that in 2021–2022 corruption was in third place, and in 2023 it moved to second place). The relevance of corruption as a problem remains high: **72.2%** of citizens identified it as a “very serious” problem. However, it should be noted that

this indicator **decreased** compared to 2024 (79.4%) and in fact declined to the level of 2023 (71.6%), and the dynamics are statistically significant. Thus, the trend of increasing importance of corruption as a problem observed in 2023–2024 has been broken. At the same time, it should also be noted that 2025 is generally characterized by a statistically significant decrease in the importance of all main problems proposed to respondents (with the exception of Armed aggression by Russia against Ukraine), while maintaining their ranking. Thus, the decrease in the relevance of corruption as a problem for the population may be an indication of a general reassessment of the importance of all problems, except the war, towards a decrease in their significance.

Among **businesses**, the assessment of corruption as a “very serious” problem also **decreased** significantly - from 76.0% in 2024 to **65.0%** in 2025, falling even below the level of 2023. In 2025, corruption shared second place in the ranking of the most acute problems with Migration of the population from Ukraine, which is of particular concern for businesses in conditions of staff shortages. Among businesses, there is also a shift in the perception of all problems proposed for assessment (except for Armed aggression by Russia against Ukraine and the already mentioned Migration of the population from Ukraine) towards a decrease in their seriousness. Therefore, the reduction in the severity of corruption as a problem cannot be attributed solely to anti-corruption efforts but is part of a broader trend.

- Among both the general public and representatives of businesses, **the perception of the prevalence of corruption in Ukraine** has slightly **improved** compared to 2024; however, the assessed level of its prevalence remains high.

89.7% of the population believe that corruption is **either rather serious or very serious** (36.1% and 53.6% of respondents respectively), which is 1.7 percentage points lower than in 2024 (the decrease is statistically significant). At the same time, it is specifically the share of respondents who believe that corruption in Ukraine is **very serious** that has significantly decreased (by 7.6 percentage points) - from 61.2% to 53.6% (in fact, this indicator has returned to the level of 2023 after a sharp increase in 2024).

75.5% of representatives **of businesses** believe that corruption is **either rather serious or very serious** in Ukraine (31.5% and 44.0% of respondents respectively), which is 7.6 percentage points lower than in 2024 (the decrease is statistically significant). As among the population, the decrease in the indicator occurred primarily due to a reduction in the share of those who believe that corruption is **very serious** - from 57.2% in 2024 to **44.0%** in 2025 (the dynamics are statistically significant). As a result, this indicator fell even below the level of 2023.

Thus, the dynamics of changes in the general **index of perception of the prevalence** of corruption on a 5-point scale have broken the upward trend that began in 2023. The value of the index in 2025 is **4.45** for the population (compared to 4.52 in 2024) and **4.17** for businesses (4.39 in 2024).

It is indicative that entrepreneurs consistently assess the prevalence of corruption lower than the population.

In addition, representatives of businesses systematically assess the level of corruption in the sphere in which they directly operate significantly lower than the overall prevalence of corruption in Ukraine: in 2025, the value of the corresponding index in their “own” sphere is

only 2.16 on a 5-point scale. This indicator also decreased compared to 2024 (2.35) and returned to the level of 2022.

- In 2025, assessments of **changes in the corruption situation in Ukraine** also improved: for the first time since 2022, **positive shifts in the perception of corruption** dynamics in the country were recorded among both groups of respondents (following a sharp increase in 2023–2024 in the share of those who reported an increase in the level of corruption). At the same time, negative assessments of changes in the level of corruption continue to prevail over positive ones, which indicates that a predominantly critical perception of the situation persists. As in previous years, in 2025 **the population** predominantly perceives changes in the level of corruption in Ukraine pessimistically: **65.4%** of citizens report an increase in corruption, which constitutes the majority of respondents, despite a statistically significant **decrease** in the share of pessimistic assessments compared to the previous year (69.1%). The main driver of these changes was a reduction in the share of citizens who believe that the level of corruption has **increased significantly - to 29.7%** in 2025 (compared to 35.6% in 2024). Among representatives of **businesses**, an improvement in the assessment of corruption dynamics was also recorded. The share of entrepreneurs who believe that the level of corruption is increasing **decreased to 45.8%** (compared to 57.0% in 2024). As among the population, the improvement in assessments occurred primarily due to a significant reduction in the share of those who believe that the level of corruption has **increased significantly** - from 31.4% in 2024 to **20.3%** in 2025.
- For the fifth consecutive year, both the population and businesses most often assign **responsibility for combating corruption to the President of Ukraine and the Office of the President of Ukraine (OPU), the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine (NABU), and the Parliament**. The assessment of NABU's responsibility increased statistically significantly among both audiences, while the assessments regarding the President of Ukraine / OPU and the parliament decreased.
- In 2025, there was an increase in assessments of the **effectiveness of anti-corruption activities** of most state authorities (after two years of decline). Among the population, the **Security Service of Ukraine (SSU)** remains the most effective in combating corruption for the fourth consecutive year, while among representatives of businesses, the leading positions in 2025 are shared by the **SSU and NABU**. At the same time, the absolute assessments of effectiveness, even for the leading institutions, remain low: 2.41 on a 5-point scale among the population and 2.75 among businesses, which indicates an overall restrained and low perception of the effectiveness of anti-corruption activities.
- In 2025, the trend towards *increasing awareness* of respondents about the activities **of anti-corruption institutions** continues in both audiences. Both the population and businesses are most aware of the activities of the National Police (21.0% and 43.6% respectively consider themselves sufficiently aware), NABU (8.7% and 24.5%), and the SBI (7.8% and 21.3%), while the indicators for other anti-corruption institutions are lower. Overall, *businesses consistently demonstrate a higher level of awareness* of the activities of anti-corruption institutions than the population.
- Since 2023, **the level of awareness among the population and businesses of electronic services** that serve as alternatives to corrupt practices has been studied. In

general, the level of *"sufficient awareness"* among the **population** regarding such services is significantly lower than among businesses: among the population, this *indicator* (the average share of those aware of the services) is **42.9%**, while among **businesses** it is significantly higher - **60.6%**. In terms of trends, the awareness of businesses has remained at the level of 2023–2024, while the awareness of the population shows a statistically significant increase (from 29.4% in 2023 and 36.1% in 2024).

Among the population, the highest level of awareness is traditionally shared by electronic queue services for obtaining administrative services and medical services. Among businesses, the clear leader remains the electronic account on the website of the STS.

- The study included an in-depth analysis of the **corruption experience** of the population and businesses, identified **indicators of respondents' corruption experience** across the **areas covered by the study**, and conducted an analysis of corruption situations that may arise when citizens and entrepreneurs seek services in various sectors (or interact with representatives of the relevant institutions and organizations). This issue is addressed in Section 2.

The summary indicators for assessing the corruption experience of the *population* in 10 sectors covered by the survey are presented in Table 01.

A comparison of the results of 2025 with the data of 2024 shows that in most of the sectors studied, a statistically significant **decrease in the level of corruption experience among the population has been recorded**.

Table 01

Summary indicators¹ for assessing the corruption experience of the population across sectors

Sectors of activity	Corruption experience (self-assessment)	Acted as initiators of corrupt relations	Corruption situation arose due to a demand	Had contact with the sector
	Shares among those who had contact with the sector			
Construction and land relations	↓ 31,8%	8,1%	↓24,1%	4,7%
Ensuring law and order and combating crime (activities of law enforcement agencies)	26,0%	7,5%	17,6%	↑11,3%
Services of higher education institutions	24,6%	10,9%	20,0%	↑16,1%
Healthcare (medical services)	↓ 24,2%	10,6%	↓19,4%	↑59,7%
Services of energy companies (connection and maintenance of electricity, gas, water supply and sewerage systems)	↓ 18,1%	4,9%	11,3%	↑18,8%
Activities of service centers of MIA	↓ 16,2%	7,2%	↓11,1%	↑13,8%
Services of educational institutions (primary and secondary education)	12,9%	↑7,9%	↑10,2%	↑24,7%

¹ Here and below in the tables, the symbols↑ and ↓ indicate data that are statistically significantly higher or lower than the values of the previous survey wave. The level of significance is 0.95.

Social protection of the population	12,6%	5,1%	13,1%	16,8%
Services of educational institutions (kindergartens)	↓9,0%	↑7,8%	↓6,3%	10,5%
Activities of Centers for the provision of Administrative Service (ASC)	5,0%	↓1,7%	4,7%	↑31,6%

In 2025, **the highest level** of corruption experience among the population across sectors was recorded in the field **of construction and land relations: 31.8% of** respondents who had contact with this sector reported having corruption experience.

Second place in the ranking of corruption experience among the population in 2025 is shared by three sectors:

- ✓ **Ensuring law and order and combating crime (law enforcement activities) - 26%;**
- ✓ Services of **higher education institutions - 24.6%;**
- ✓ **Healthcare (medical services) - 24.2%** (a statistically significant decrease compared to 28.5% in 2024).

Despite a statistically significant decrease in the indicator of corruption experience in the healthcare sector, it is in this sector that the population most frequently encounters corruption, as more than half of citizens seek services from state or municipal healthcare institutions during the year (in 2025 - 59.7%). Thus, in 2025, overall almost **14.4%** of Ukrainians had personal corruption experience in state and municipal healthcare institutions or are aware of such cases from family members. The value of the indicator remains at the level of 2023–2024 (15–16%), but is lower than in 2021, when 22% of Ukrainians had corruption experience in medical institutions.

Third place in this ranking is occupied by sectors for which a consistent and statistically significant *decrease* in indicators was recorded in 2023–2025:

- ✓ **Services provided by energy companies** (connection and maintenance of electricity, gas, water supply, and sewerage systems) - 18.1% (a statistically significant decrease compared to 24.1% in 2024);
- ✓ **Services of MIA service centers - 16.2%** (a statistically significant decrease compared to 26.1% in 2024).

The lowest level of corruption experience among the population is traditionally recorded in **ASC** - only 5% of respondents reported it.

- Summary indicators for assessing **corruption experience among businesses** across the nine sectors studied are presented in Table 02 below.

In 2025, statistically significant *changes in the level of corruption experienced* by entrepreneurs (based on self-assessment) were recorded only in the **customs sector**. In other sectors studied among businesses in previous years, no such changes were identified.

The “leader” in terms of the prevalence of corruption experience among entrepreneurs (as in the case of the population) in 2025 is the sector of **construction and land relations**, with an indicator of **34.6%**.

Second place in terms of the prevalence of corruption is occupied by **services provided by energy companies** (connection and maintenance of electricity, gas, water supply, and sewerage systems) - **31.7%** of enterprises reported corruption experience in this sector.

The sector of ensuring law and order and combating crime (law enforcement activities) ranks third - the corruption experience indicator is 26.8%.

Customs sector, with a corruption experience indicator of **21.8%**, for the first time over the entire observation period has shifted from first place in the ranking of corruption experience among business representatives and demonstrates a statistically significant decrease compared to 2022–2024, when it remained at around 35%.

The lowest corruption experience indicator, at about 12–13% among businesses, is recorded for the sectors **of recovery (reconstruction) of Ukraine and public procurement**. Both sectors were studied for the first time in 2025.

Table 02

Summary indicators for assessing corruption experience among businesses across sectors

Sectors of activity	Corruption experience (self-assessment)	Acted as initiators of corrupt relations	Corruption situation arose due to a demand	Had contact with the sector
	Shares among those who had contact with the sector			
Construction and land relations	34,6%	3,2%	19,3%	↓8,6%
Services of energy companies (connection and maintenance of electricity, gas, water supply and sewerage systems)	31,7%	4,5%	15,9%	↑19,6%
Ensuring law and order and combating crime (activities of law enforcement agencies)	26,8%	5,2%	17,1%	10,4%
Customs (customs control, processing of customs documents for business entities)	↓ 21,8%	↓2,0%	13,8%	9,8%
State regulation and control in the sphere of economic activity	17,6%	↑3,1%	15,9%	↓7,9%
Taxation	15,0%	2,6%	8,7%	26,3%
Judiciary	13,9%	0,6%	5,8%	↓7,6%
Recovery (reconstruction) of Ukraine	12,7%	1,5%	7,1%	4,6%
Public procurement	12,0%	1,0%	7,8%	20,7%

- In addition to indicators of corruption experience across all sectors studied, **the most common corrupt practices** arising during respondents' interaction experience with officials were identified, as well as the initiators of corruption situations.

In all sectors studied, among both the population and businesses, **the initiators are most often representatives of the party providing services**, including government agencies officials, representatives of supplier companies, administrators or specialists of educational and medical institutions, etc. In 2025, **19.3%** of the population were involved in corruption situations **through being asked to give** a bribe or provide services in the relevant sectors.

This indicator is slightly higher than in 2024 (18.3%), however, this change is not statistically significant.

Among businesses, the share of entrepreneurs who were involved in corruption situations due to demands is **10.3%** and remains comparable to the 2024 indicator (11.6%).

Respondents demonstrate their own initiative in resolving an issue or problem through corruption significantly less frequently: in 2025, the initiators of corruption situations in the sectors studied were **11.8%** of the population of Ukraine and **2.3%** of business representatives. At the same time, for the population this indicator increased significantly (9.2% in 2024) and in fact returned to the level of 2023 (12.1%), while for businesses it decreased statistically significantly (4.0% in 2024).

According to the methodology of the standard survey on corruption in Ukraine, **five indicators of effectiveness of the state anti-corruption policy** were calculated and are presented in Table 03 below (for details on the methodology for measuring the indicators, see Section 3).

Table 03

Indicators of the effectiveness of state anti-corruption policy

№	Indicator name ¹	Audience	2017	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
1	Share with a negative attitude toward corruption manifestations	Population	43,3%	↑46,8%	49,4%	↑57,4%	56,0%	57,9%	58,4%
		Business	56,7%	↓51,5%	55,3%	↑60,3%	57,8%	58,8%	58,4%
2	Share that had personal corruption experience	Population	НД	27,0%	26,0%	↓17,7%	19,5%	18,7%	18,2%
		Business	НД	НД	21,6%	↓15,4%	↑22,2%	23,2%	20,6%
3.1	Share ready to report corruption manifestations	Population	10,9%	↓8,1%	↑9,8%	11,2%	10,2%	↑12,3%	12,4%
		Business	21,0%	17,9%	↑22,7%	↑26,2%	26,9%	↓21,3%	21,1%
3.2	Share that reported corruption cases affecting them to competent authorities	Population	НД	3,3%	↑5,7%	5,2%	6,5%	↑9,7%	↓ 7,3%
		Business	НД	НД	10,5%	12,8%	14,0%	↑17,2%	↓ 9,5%
4	Share that approves the activities of whistleblowers	Population	НД	71,8%	↓60,6%	↑65,1%	67,3%	↑74,3%	↓ 71,7%
		Business	НД	84,5%	↓79,5%	↑86,0%	↑89,6%	↓85,8%	84,6%
5	Share that is adequately informed about the guarantees of legal protection of whistleblowers	Population	НД	НД	13,4%	17,7%	16,1%	16,8%	16,9%

•

- During 2017–2022, a gradual increase was observed in the share of the population that has a **negative attitude towards corruption manifestations**, from 43.3% in 2017 to 57.4% in 2022. In 2023–2025, the indicator stabilized at the level of 56–58% and in 2025 amounts to 58.4% (with no significant change compared to 2022–2024).

¹ Detailed definitions of the indicators - see Section 3.

ND (no data) - indicates cases where it is not possible to calculate the value of the indicator due to the absence of relevant data.

The share of businesses with an anti-corruption stance, after growth in 2022, also stabilized in 2023–2025 and in 2025 amounts to 58.4%.

- The share of the population that had **corruption experience**, based on respondents' self-assessment of their involvement in corruption, amounts to 18.2% in 2025 (there is no significant difference compared to the indicators of 2022–2024). This indicator, after a decrease in 2022, stabilized at the level of 17–19% in 2022–2025.
- Among businesses, in 2023–2025, stabilization is observed in the share of enterprises that had corruption experience at the level of 20–23% after a statistically significant increase in 2023. The 2025 indicator amounts to 20.6% (the decrease of 2.6 percentage points is not statistically significant). For the third consecutive year, the share of enterprises with corruption experience exceeds the corresponding indicator among the population.
- The share of the population **willing to report facts of corruption manifestations** increased in 2024 and stabilized in 2025; the value of the indicator amounts to **12.4%** (there is no change compared to 2024). Among businesses, the corresponding indicator amounts to **21.1%** (also without change compared to 2024, while in this audience it stabilized after a decrease in 2024).
- In 2025, after short-term growth in 2024, a statistically significant **decrease** was recorded in both audiences **in the share of whistleblowers reporting corruption**. The share of respondents who **reported corruption cases** that concerned them to competent authorities in 2025 among businesses amounts to **9.5%** (a significant decrease of 7.7 percentage points compared to 2024); this is the lowest value of the indicator for the entire period of observation. Among the population, the value of this indicator amounts to **7.3%**, which is statistically significantly lower than in 2024 (9.7%, a decrease of 2.4 percentage points), but still exceeds the level of 2020–2023.
- The share of persons who **approve the activities of whistleblowers** among businesses remains higher than among the population: **84.6%** and **71.7%** respectively. Among businesses, the indicator shows no change, while among the population a statistically significant decrease of the indicator is recorded after growth in 2024 to 74.3% (however, the value of the indicator still remains higher than in 2021–2023).
- In 2025, only **16.9%** of the population can be considered **sufficiently aware of the guarantees of legal protection of whistleblowers**; this indicator remains at approximately the same level during 2022–2025.

INTRODUCTION

The need to develop and implement special instruments as a basic element of the system for assessing the level of corruption is driven by modern requirements for the mechanisms of development and implementation of the state anti-corruption policy, as formulated, in particular, in the UN Convention against Corruption (2003).

Article 61 of the Convention states that each State Party, in consultation with experts, considers the possibility of analyzing trends in the field of corruption on its territory, as well as the conditions under which corruption offenses are committed. For the purpose of developing, where possible, common definitions, standards and methodologies, the possibility of expanding statistical data and analytical knowledge on corruption, including best practices in preventing and combating corruption, and exchanging them through international and regional organizations is considered. Each State Party also considers the possibility of monitoring its policies and practical measures to combat corruption, as well as assessing their effectiveness and efficiency¹. The specification of these provisions is contained in the recommendations of international monitoring organizations, which are also implemented in Ukrainian anti-corruption legislation.

Thus, in accordance with paragraph 5 of part 1 of Article 11 of the Law of Ukraine "On Prevention of Corruption"², the National Agency for Prevention of Corruption (NACP) shall ensure the organization of studies on the situation regarding corruption in Ukraine. The methodology of the standard survey on corruption in Ukraine approved by the NACP makes it possible, through standardized instruments, to carry out systematic monitoring and assessment of the level of corruption in Ukraine, both in general and with a focus on priority sectors, to record the dynamics of indicators of prevalence of corruption and the perception of the population of the effectiveness of anti-corruption efforts.

The limitation of the study is caused by military actions of the russian federation in Ukraine. In all study waves, the general population consists of the population and enterprises residing or located on the territory of Ukraine, excluding temporarily occupied territories as well as areas of active hostilities. Following the full-scale invasion in 2022, the composition of the population of Ukraine has undergone significant changes due to occupation, the spread of hostilities across a large part of the territory, and the mass departure of Ukrainians abroad. The data of each study wave remain representative for Ukraine where Ukrainian authorities exercise their powers and, accordingly, implement the anti-corruption policy. However, changes compared to previous years in relation to 2022–2025 may be due not only to changes in the views and behavior of the population under study, but also to changes in the composition of the population.

The objective of the study is a comprehensive assessment of the corruption situation in Ukraine in 2025. The objectives of the study include the assessment of the state anti-corruption activities in Ukraine, the assessment of understanding, perception of changes in the level and prevalence of corruption, both in specific sectors and in Ukraine as a whole, the determination of corruption experience of the population and businesses, as well as the assessment, in accordance with the methodology, of the level of prevalence of corrupt practices in the following sectors:

¹ United Nations Convention against Corruption// https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/995_c16#o519

² Law of Ukraine "On Prevention of Corruption"// <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1700-18#n159>

Component of the sociological study	Sector	
Nationwide survey of the population	1	Healthcare (medical services)
	2	Higher education services
	3	Educational services (primary and secondary education)
	4	Educational services (municipal kindergartens)
	5	Activities of MIA service centers
	6	Activities of Administrative Service Centers (ASC)
	7	Social protection of the population
Nationwide survey of the population / Nationwide survey of business representatives	8	Services of energy companies (connection and maintenance of electricity, gas, water supply and sewerage systems)
	9	Construction and land relations
	10	Ensuring law and order and combating crime
Nationwide survey of business representatives	11	Taxation
	12	State regulation and control in the field of economic activity
	13	Customs (customs control, processing of customs documents for business entities)
	14	Judiciary
	15	Public procurement
	16	Recovery (reconstruction) of Ukraine

Surveys of the population and entrepreneurs ensure reliable assessment, representativeness, of the main indicators for Ukraine as a whole and for six economic and geographical regions of Ukraine, distribution below. The study data are representative for the territories of Ukraine where government agencies actually exercise their powers at the time of the survey; limitations for certain regions are due to the security situation and conditions of access for interviewers.

- Kyiv city;
- Northern region: Kyiv, Zhytomyr, Sumy, Chernihiv regions;
- Central region: Cherkasy, Poltava, Kirovohrad, Vinnytsia regions;
- Eastern region: Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia, Luhansk, Kharkiv regions;
- Southern region: Odesa, Mykolaiv, Kherson regions;
- Western region: Ivano-Frankivsk, Khmelnytskyi, Chernivtsi, Lviv, Rivne, Ternopil, Volyn, Zakarpattia regions.

The surveys of the population and representatives of businesses constitute the seventh study wave of the nationwide study aimed at a comprehensive assessment of the corruption situation in Ukraine; the fieldwork stage, data collection, took place from September 2025 to January 2026.

The first study wave was conducted in 2017, the second in 2020 during the COVID-19 epidemic, the third in December 2021 before the full-scale invasion. The fieldwork of the first study wave was carried out by specialists of the independent research company GfK Ukraine from May to June 2017. Specialists of the independent research company Info Sapiens conducted the fieldwork of the second to seventh study waves: from March to April 2020, from November to December 2021, in December

2022, from November to December 2023, from September to October 2024, and from September 2025 to January 2026.

Comparison of the results of this survey with previous ones was carried out and presented in the analytical report in cases where it was methodologically correct, that is, when the wording of the questions and the answer options coincided.

Survey of the population

The survey was conducted using the method of computer assisted personal interviews, CAPI. The sample represents the adult population of Ukraine. The first study wave was conducted from 29 May to 21 June 2017, the second from 4 March to 6 April 2020, the third from 29 November to 29 December 2021, the fourth from 9 to 28 December 2022, the fifth from 8 November to 4 December 2023, the sixth from 27 September to 30 October 2024, the *seventh from 29 September to 31 October 2025*. Within the first study wave, 2,585 personal interviews were conducted, within the second 2,516, within the third 2,636, within the fourth 2,646, within the fifth 2,488, within the sixth 2,488, *within the seventh, final, 2,484*.

The maximum theoretical sampling error does not exceed plus minus 2 percentage points without taking into account the design effect. The samples of all study waves were built using a similar design: stratified by regions and type of settlement, multistage, random at each stage. For interviews, respondents in households were selected randomly using the last birthday method. Weighting coefficients were applied in accordance with the data of the State Statistics Service of Ukraine on the socio demographic structure of the population. For constructing weighting coefficients, in accordance with the data of the State Statistics Service of Ukraine on the socio demographic structure of the population as of 01 January 2022, respondents of the fourth to seventh study waves, surveys of 2022–2025, were asked about their place of permanent residence before the full-scale invasion on 24 February 2022, and the dataset was weighted based on these data.

For the formation of the sample load for settlements for interviewer teams, the data of the State Statistics Service were adjusted using Info Sapiens data on the current residence of the population of Ukraine, obtained through telephone surveys, using random digit dialing, conducted from the first quarter of 2024 to the first quarter of 2025, sample size 34,085 respondents.

In addition to the nationwide representative sample, special additional samples were used for certain target groups. The formation of additional samples by sectors was carried out with a focus on achieving at least 200 respondents who had experience of contact or interaction with the respective sector. In total, 162 respondents were surveyed using additional samples.

In 2022–2025, due to hostilities, there were limitations on conducting fieldwork in the following regions:

1. Autonomous Republic of Crimea - not included in the sample.
2. Dnipropetrovsk region - the Nikopol district was excluded from the sample, and the Pavlohrad and Synelnykove districts were partially excluded.
3. Donetsk region - not included in the sample.
4. Zhytomyr region - districts bordering Belarus were not covered.
5. Zaporizhzhia region - only the regional center and Zaporizhzhia district were covered.
6. Kyiv region - districts bordering Belarus were not covered.

7. Luhansk region - not included in the sample.
8. City of Sevastopol - not included in the sample.
9. Sumy region - in 2022–2023 only the regional center and the southern and eastern parts of the region were covered, in 2024–2025 fieldwork in the region was not conducted due to the intensification of hostilities.
10. Kharkiv region - excluding the eastern districts of the region.
11. Kherson region - fieldwork was not conducted in 2022–2023 and 2025, in 2024 it was conducted in the city of Kherson.
12. Chernihiv region - only the regional center and the southern and eastern parts of the region were covered.

Survey of entrepreneurs

The survey was conducted using the method of computer assisted telephone interviews, CATI. The sample represents individual entrepreneurs (FOP) and business owners and or managers of enterprises that are legal entities. In total, **1,203** respondents were surveyed, the survey period was *from 10 September 2025 to 21 January 2026*.

For reference: within the first study wave, 1,005 telephone interviews were conducted, within the second 1,093, within the third 1,224, within the fourth 1,203, within the fifth 1,208, within the sixth 1,206.

The maximum theoretical sampling error of entrepreneurs does not exceed plus minus 3 percentage points without taking into account the design effect. The absolute majority of respondents are owners, co-owners, directors or deputy directors of enterprises, in isolated cases chief accountants, heads of departments and other respondents holding managerial positions were also surveyed. The sample is random¹, stratified by region of registration and size of business entities, and is formed by random selection of telephone numbers contained in the Unified State Register, except those operating in temporarily occupied territories. Weighting coefficients are applied in accordance with the data of the State Statistics Service of Ukraine on individual entrepreneurs (FOP), size of business entities, and types of economic activity as of 2024.

In addition to the nationwide representative sample, special additional samples were used for certain target groups. The formation of additional samples by sectors was carried out with a focus on achieving at least 200 respondents who had experience of contact or interaction with the respective sector. In total, 336 respondents were surveyed using additional samples.

After the introductory questions regarding the seriousness of specific problems for the state and the assessment of corruption in situations, all categories of respondents were provided with the following information in order to ensure a common understanding of corruption:

¹ Approaches to forming the sample of entrepreneurs varied across different waves. Starting from the third wave in 2021, the share of FOPs was set proportionally to the distribution of the number of FOPs and legal entities - 29% (in the first wave the share of FOPs was 20%, in the second - 50%). To ensure comparability, previous samples were reweighted in accordance with the new approach. This makes it possible to compare the data, but the indicators from the business survey in the new reports differ from those presented in the reports for 2017 and 2020.

"Corruption involves various forms of behavior. In this study, we would like you to understand corruption as:

*1. **abuse by a public official, a civil servant or a local self-government official, or officials of enterprises, organizations, of their official powers for the purpose of obtaining a bribe, undue advantage;***

*2. **provision of a bribe, undue advantage, to a public official, a civil servant or a local self-government official, or an official of enterprises, organizations, in order to induce them to abuse their official powers.***

*Thus, corruption is always associated with an **undue advantage**, money, other property, benefits, privileges, services and so on, which a public official or an official of enterprises, organizations actually **receives or attempts to receive as payment for abuse of their official powers or related opportunities.**"*

If the text, tables or figures state the presence of statistically significant changes¹ compared to previous years, it should be taken into account that a significance level of 0.95 was used for statistical calculations throughout.

Statistical analysis for subgroups of respondents was carried out when the number of responses in the subgroup was 50 or more.

¹ The presence of statistically significant dynamics in the indicators when comparing data means that the observed difference is unlikely to have occurred by chance. The term "statistically significant" does not imply that this difference is necessarily large, important, or meaningful in the general sense of the word.

SECTION 1. INDICATORS OF PERCEPTION OF CORRUPTION

1.1. Perception of the importance of corruption

The year 2025 is characterized by a **statistically significant decrease in the importance of all** key problems proposed to respondents, with the exception of the war, whose significance remains at the highest level and has not decreased compared to 2024, while **maintaining their ranking by importance**, with one exception in the population survey, injustice in the justice system moved from fourth to sixth place.

According to the population survey, **corruption** in the conditional ranking of problems formed by the share of responses “very serious problem” remained in **second place** among the main problems offered to respondents (Fig. 1.1.1)¹. In 2025, **72.2% of citizens identified corruption as a very serious problem**, which is 7.2 percentage points lower than in 2024. Thus, the assessment of the seriousness of corruption has statistically significantly decreased almost to the level of 2023 after a record increase in 2024. However, if not for the war, corruption would have ranked first among problems by a wide margin despite the decrease in its perceived seriousness.

The full-scale **armed aggression of the russian federation** remains the most pressing problem for Ukrainians: **93.5%** of respondents identified it as very serious. In 2025, this is the only problem whose relevance has remained almost at the same level as in 2024.

The problem **of high cost of living and low incomes** remains in the top three problems for the fifth consecutive year: in 2025, **62.1%** of respondents identified it as very serious, which is 5.4 percentage points lower than in 2024, the difference is statistically significant. Thus, after increasing in 2024, the relevance of this problem decreased and almost returned to the level of 2023.

At the same time, based on the combined share of responses “very serious problem” and “rather serious”, **the leading** problems, apart from the problem of the **military aggression of russia**, for which the combined indicator is **97.7%**, are:

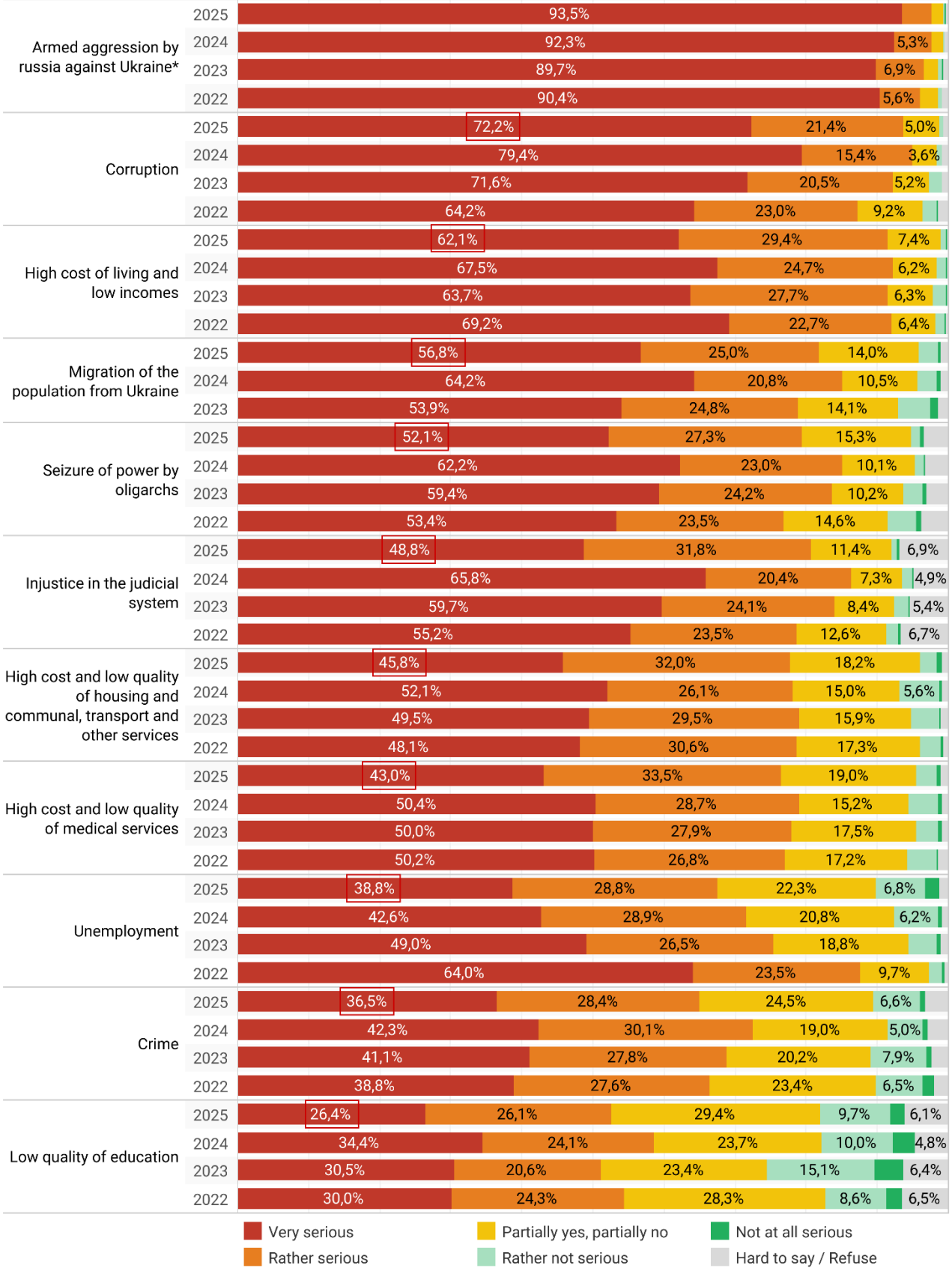
- **corruption** (93.6%, a decrease of 1.2 percentage points, statistically significant);
- **high cost of living and low incomes** (91.5%, generally at the level of 2024 with a decrease of 0.7 percentage points, but with a significant decrease in the share of “very serious” assessments);
- **migration of the population from Ukraine** (81.8%, a decrease of 3.2 percentage points is statistically significant);
- **injustice in the justice system** (80.6%, a decrease of 5.6 percentage points is significant, the indicator has almost returned to the level of 2022, 78.7%).

The remaining problems are assessed as serious by less than 80% of respondents. It should be noted that in 2025 a smaller share of the population assesses all problems as serious, in contrast to the increase in these shares in 2024. The only exceptions are the problem **of high cost and low quality of housing, communal, transport and other services**, whose relevance has generally

¹ The ranking of problems is based on the response option “a very serious problem.” In the subsequent analysis, the positions of individual problems in the conditional ranking are determined primarily by this indicator, while the combined share of responses (“very serious” + “rather serious”) is used for additional comparative analysis.

been decreasing since 2022, as well as the problem of **unemployment**, for which a steady decrease has been recorded during 2023–2025.

Fig. 1.1.1. Perception of the main problems of Ukraine: population¹



* In 2020–2021, the response option was phrased as follows: “Military operations in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions”»

¹ Question: “How serious are the problems listed below for Ukraine?” Here and below, the boxes on the graphs indicate data that differ statistically significantly from the 2024 data; for this graph, this refers to the response option “Very serious.” The significance level is 0.95.

The business survey data (Fig. 1.1.2) generally confirm the trends observed in the analysis of population responses. In particular, after the increase in the relevance of most problems as **“very serious”** in 2024, 2025 is characterized by a **decrease** in their relevance, almost everywhere statistically significant, while **maintaining almost the same ranking of their importance** (Fig. 1.1.2(1)).

The armed aggression of the russian federation against Ukraine remains the main problem for the vast majority of entrepreneurs. In 2025, 95% of surveyed business representatives assessed this problem as “very serious”, with no statistically significant changes compared to the previous year.

In the conditional ranking of problems formed by the share of responses “very serious problem”, in 2025 **migration of the population from Ukraine** ranked **second** in importance among businesses, *surpassing* **corruption**, which moved to **third place**. However, the assessment of migration as a “very serious” problem decreased compared to 2024, **66.9%** versus 69.2%.

After two years of growth, the assessment of **corruption** as a “very serious” problem in 2025 statistically significantly decreased **to 65%** of respondents, minus 11 percentage points compared to 2024. Despite the decrease in the relevance of corruption, and the sustained importance of migration, corruption remains in the **“Top Three”** of the conditional ranking of problems for businesses (Fig. 1.1.2(1)).

Also, based on the combined share of responses “very serious problem” and “rather serious”, among the most pressing problems, apart from the armed aggression of russia, 97.4%, are:

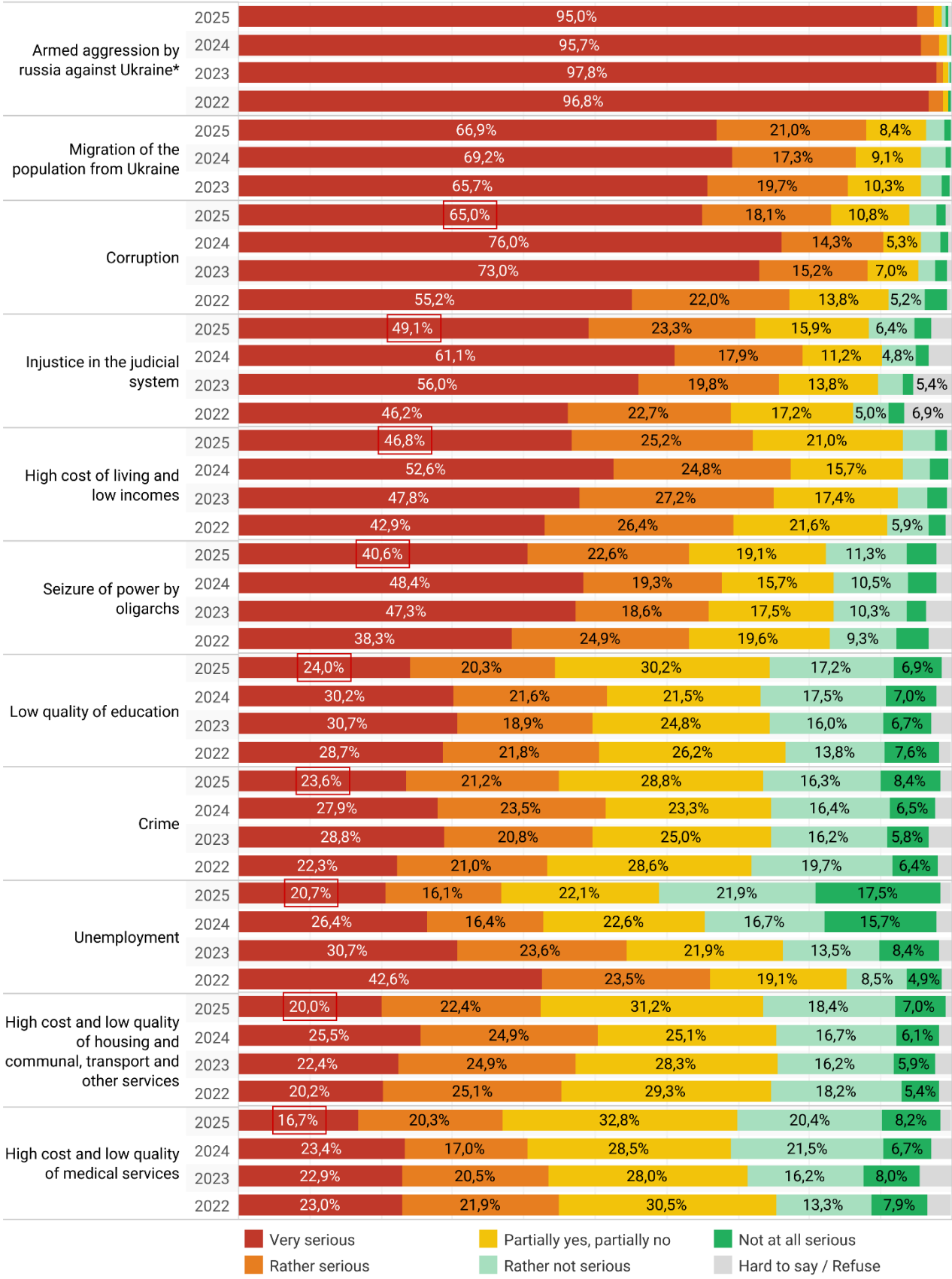
- **migration of the population from Ukraine (87.9%** compared to 86.5% in 2024);
- **corruption (83.1%)**, despite a statistically significant decrease of 7.2 percentage points compared to 2024.

In addition to the war, migration and corruption, more than half of entrepreneurs are also concerned about **injustice in the justice system, the high cost of living and low incomes, and the capture of the state by oligarchs**, despite the fact that the combined assessment of the seriousness of all three of these problems has significantly decreased after a period of growth in 2023–2024: respectively, **72.4%, 72% and 63.2%** of respondents consider them rather or very serious. It should be noted that the decrease in the relevance of these problems is driven specifically by respondents who consider them very serious, 49.1%, 46.8% and 40.6% respectively.

Entrepreneurs’ assessment of **all other problems** as “very serious” has also generally decreased statistically significantly for the first time after growth in 2023–2024. The only exception is the assessment of **unemployment**, which has continued its downward trend for three consecutive years.

Thus, both groups of respondents, the population and businesses, throughout the entire observation period classify corruption among the leading problems. Despite the **decrease** in 2025, after growth in 2023–2024, in the assessment of corruption as a very serious problem for Ukraine, the level of concern about this issue remains quite high, which is an important **signal** of the need for its further systematic resolution.

Fig. 1.1.2. Perception of the main problems of Ukraine: business¹



* In 2021, the response option was formulated as: "Military actions in Donetsk and Luhansk regions"

¹ Question: "In your opinion, how serious are the following problems for Ukraine?"

Fig. 1.1.1(1). Dynamics of perception of the main problems of Ukraine, "very serious": population

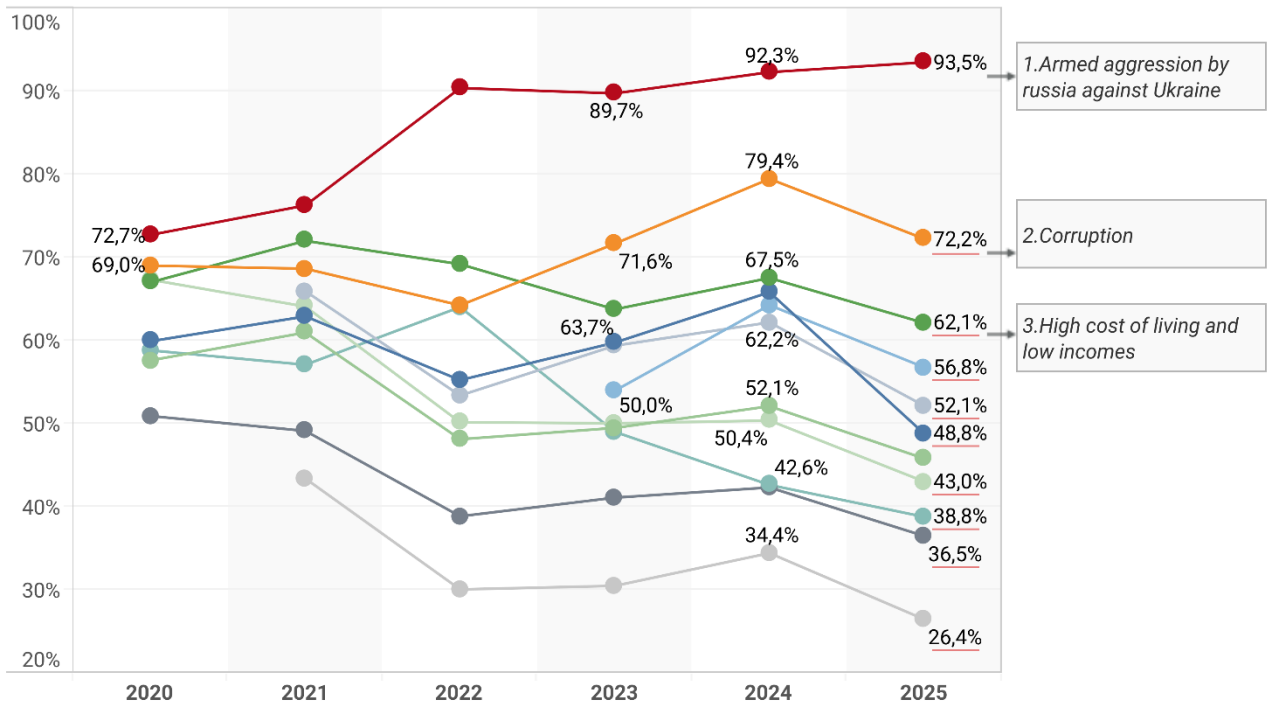
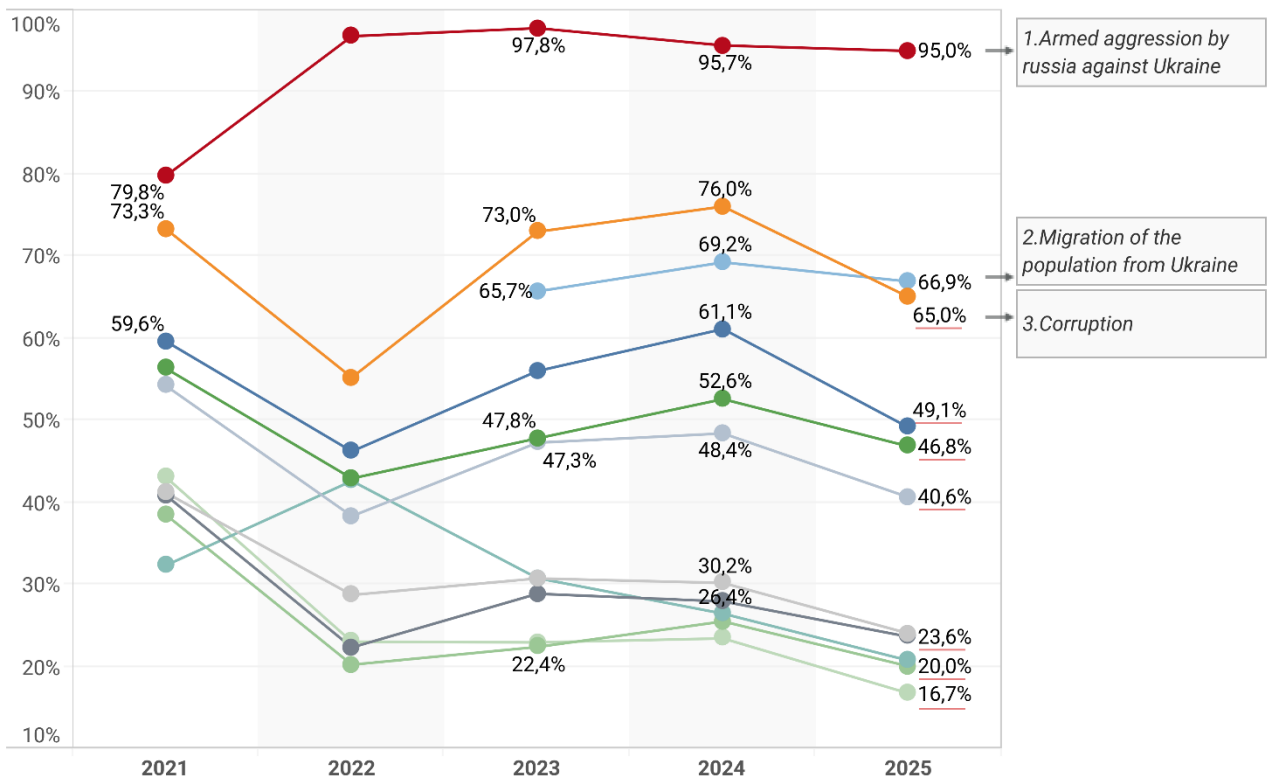


Fig. 1.1.2(1). Dynamics of perception of the main problems of Ukraine, "very serious": business



- Armed aggression by Russia against Ukraine
- Corruption
- Migration of the population from Ukraine
- Injustice in the judicial system
- High cost of living and low incomes
- Seizure of power by oligarchs
- Low quality of education
- Crime
- Unemployment
- High cost and low quality of housing and communal, transport and other services
- High cost and low quality of medical services

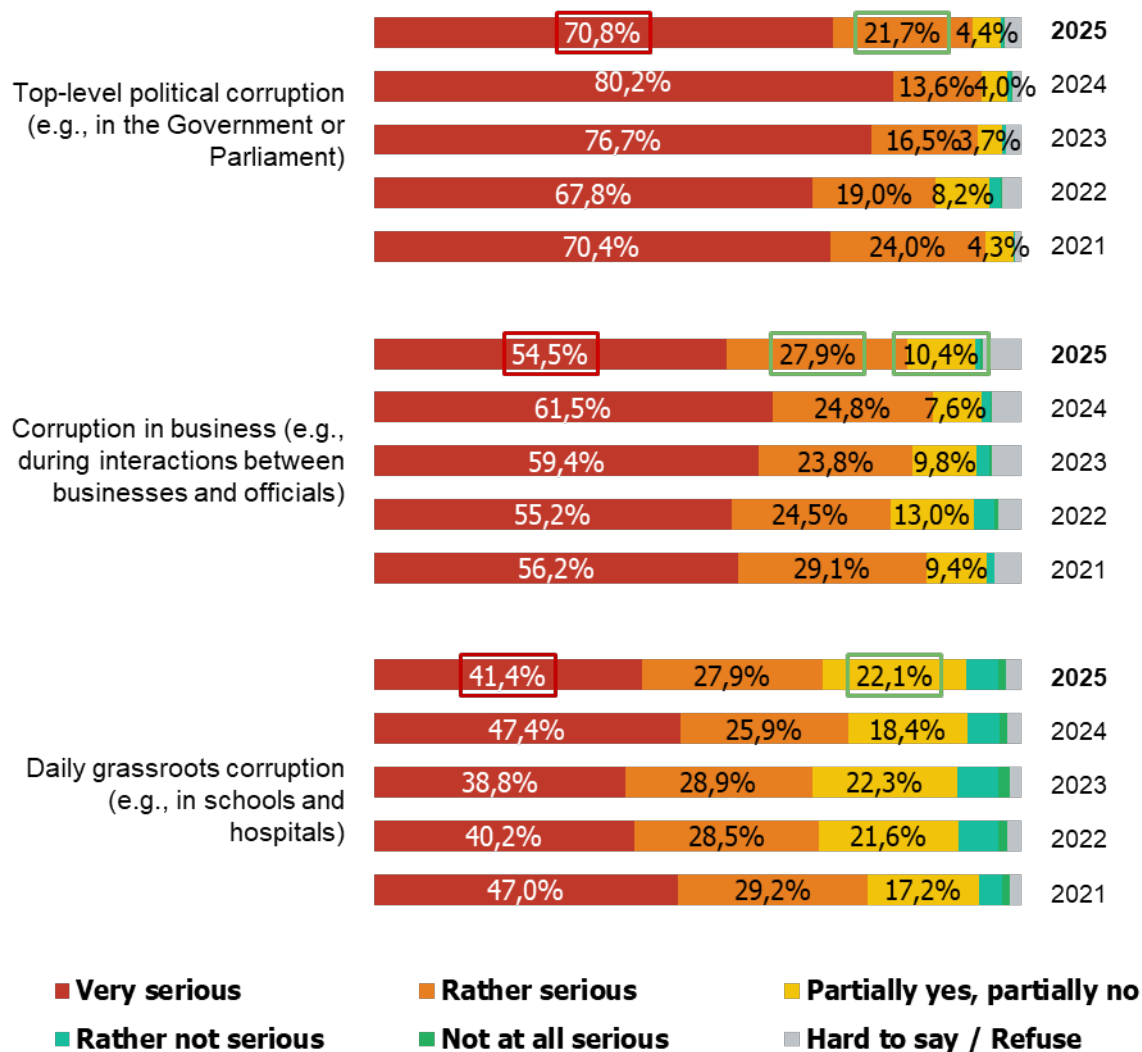
1.2. Understanding and perception of the prevalence of corruption

Assessment of types of corruption as a serious problem for Ukraine

According to the population survey, among all types of corruption, respondents continue to consider **political corruption at the highest level to be the most serious problem: 92.5%** of respondents identified corruption in the Government or Parliament as a very or rather serious problem, which generally corresponds to the level of 2024 (Fig. 1.2.1).

However, the share of those who consider political corruption at the highest level to be a very serious problem has statistically significantly decreased compared to 2024, minus 9.4 percentage points. This decrease does not indicate a loss of relevance of this type of corruption, but rather a weakening of the intensity of its perception: part of the responses shifted from the category “very serious problem” to the category “rather serious problem”, the share of which in 2025 has statistically significantly increased, plus 8.1 percentage points.

Fig. 1.2.1. Seriousness of different types of corruption in Ukraine: population¹



¹ Question: “How serious are the following types of corruption for Ukraine?”

Second place in the population survey is occupied by **corruption in business** with an indicator of **82.4%**, a significant decrease of 3.9 percentage points. The recorded changes reflect a shift of assessments within the scale of seriousness rather than a decrease in the overall relevance of corruption in business as a problem. In particular, in 2025 the share of respondents who assessed it as a **“very serious”** problem decreased statistically significantly to **54.5%**, minus 7 percentage points, while the shares of more moderate assessments increased: “rather serious” problem to 27.9%, plus 3.1 percentage points, and “partly serious, partly not” to 10.4%, plus 2.8 percentage points.

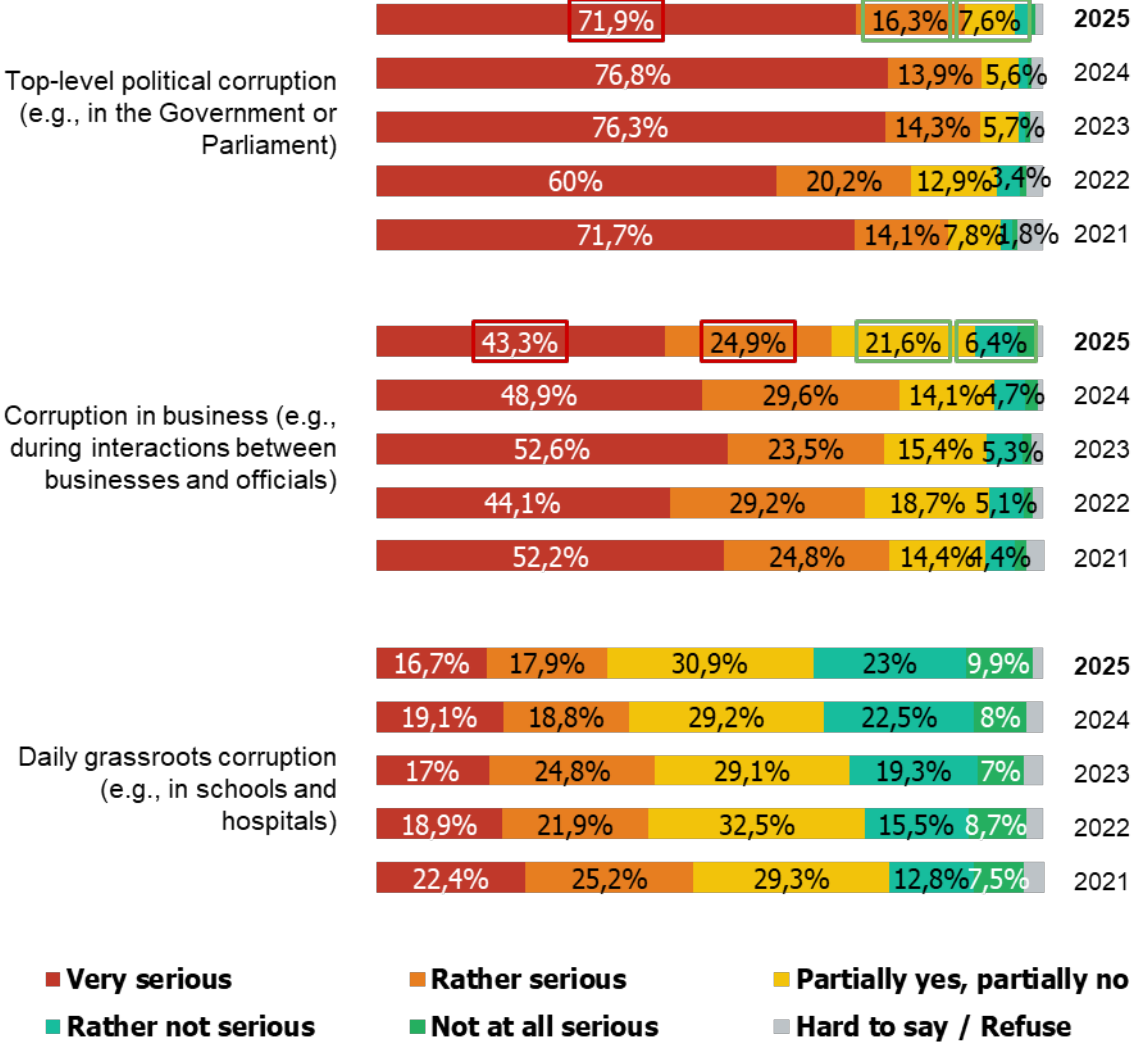
In third place remains **everyday corruption, 69.3%**, a significant decrease of 4 percentage points. As in previous cases, the overall decrease in the assessment of the seriousness of this problem occurred due to a statistically significant decrease in the share of **“very serious”** assessments to **41.4%**, minus 6 percentage points. At the same time, the share of respondents who assess everyday corruption as “partly serious, partly not” increased to 22.1%, plus 3.7 percentage points, indicating a shift of assessments toward more moderate categories.

Thus, a certain **decrease in the overall relevance of corruption issues among the population of Ukraine** in 2025 is driven by a **reduction** in the share of “very serious problem” assessments across all **main types of corruption**, from political to everyday, which forms the overall dynamics recorded in the previous section, Fig. 1.1.1(1), Fig. 1.1.1(2).

Surveyed entrepreneurs, like the population, consider **political corruption at the highest level** to be the most serious type of corruption among the three proposed, Fig. 1.2.2. At the same time, the dynamics of assessments demonstrate differences between the audiences across years. If in 2021–2022, based on the combined indicator, “very” and “rather serious”, businesses assessed political corruption as a less serious problem compared to the population, then in 2023–2024 the assessments of both audiences practically coincided. In 2025, the business assessment became lower again, both compared to the population, 92.5%, and to its own 2024 indicator, 90.7%: currently 88.2% of entrepreneurs consider political corruption a serious or very serious problem, which is a statistically significant decrease of 2.5 percentage points.

The decrease in the assessment of political corruption by businesses recorded in 2025 is driven not so much by a reduction in its relevance as by a redistribution of responses between levels of seriousness. In particular, the share of entrepreneurs who assessed political corruption as a “very serious” problem decreased statistically significantly to 71.9%, minus 4.9 percentage points. At the same time, the shares of more moderate assessments increased: “rather serious” problem to 16.3%, plus 2.4 percentage points, and “partly serious, partly not” to 7.6%, plus 2.0 percentage points.

Fig. 1.2.2. Seriousness of different types of corruption in Ukraine: business¹



Entrepreneurs assess the problem of corruption in their own sector of activity (**corruption in business**) less critically than the population: **68.2%** of respondents consider it serious or very serious, compared to 82.4% among the population. Compared to 2024, this indicator **decreased** significantly and statistically significantly by 10.3 percentage points. The recorded dynamics occurred due to a simultaneous statistically significant decrease in the shares of those who assess corruption in business as a “very serious” problem to 43.3%, minus 5.6 percentage points, and “rather serious” to 24.9%, minus 4.7 percentage points. Accordingly, the shares of more moderate assessments increased statistically significantly: “partly serious, partly not” to 21.6%, plus 7.5 percentage points, and “rather not serious” to 6.4%, plus 2.0 percentage points.

A notable difference is observed between the assessments of the seriousness of **everyday corruption** by the population, **69.3%**, and by business representatives, 34.6%. The difference in assessments of the seriousness of everyday corruption between the population and businesses in 2025 is comparable to the level of 2024 and greater than in 2023, in 2024: population 73.3%, business 37.9%; in 2023: population 67.7%, business 41.8%.

¹ Question: “How serious are the following types of corruption for Ukraine?”

It should also be clarified that the decrease in assessments of everyday corruption issues in 2025 has different statistical significance: among the population the decrease is significant, while among business representatives the indicators remain relatively stable.

In general, it can be stated that everyday corruption remains a sensitive issue for the population, which in its assessments somewhat overestimates its importance for the state. At the same time, business representatives demonstrate a more restrained perception of this problem, prioritizing risks related to political corruption and corruption in the business sector, which in turn indicates a better understanding of the systemic damage these problems cause to Ukraine.

Understanding, identification, of corruption

There are types of behavior that may appear to be corrupt but are not such from a legal perspective, and vice versa. People who are not familiar with legal definitions of corruption do not always find it easy to distinguish which situations are corrupt according to the legal model. Therefore, it is important to determine the criteria by which people identify situations as corrupt in specific cases.

The study used the method of "projective situations" - respondents, both the population and entrepreneurs, were offered a set of typical life situations, which are hypothetical in nature and in no way related to specific individuals, and were asked to determine whether these situations contain a corruption component. The results of this component of the study are presented in Figures 1.2.3, population, and 1.2.4, business.

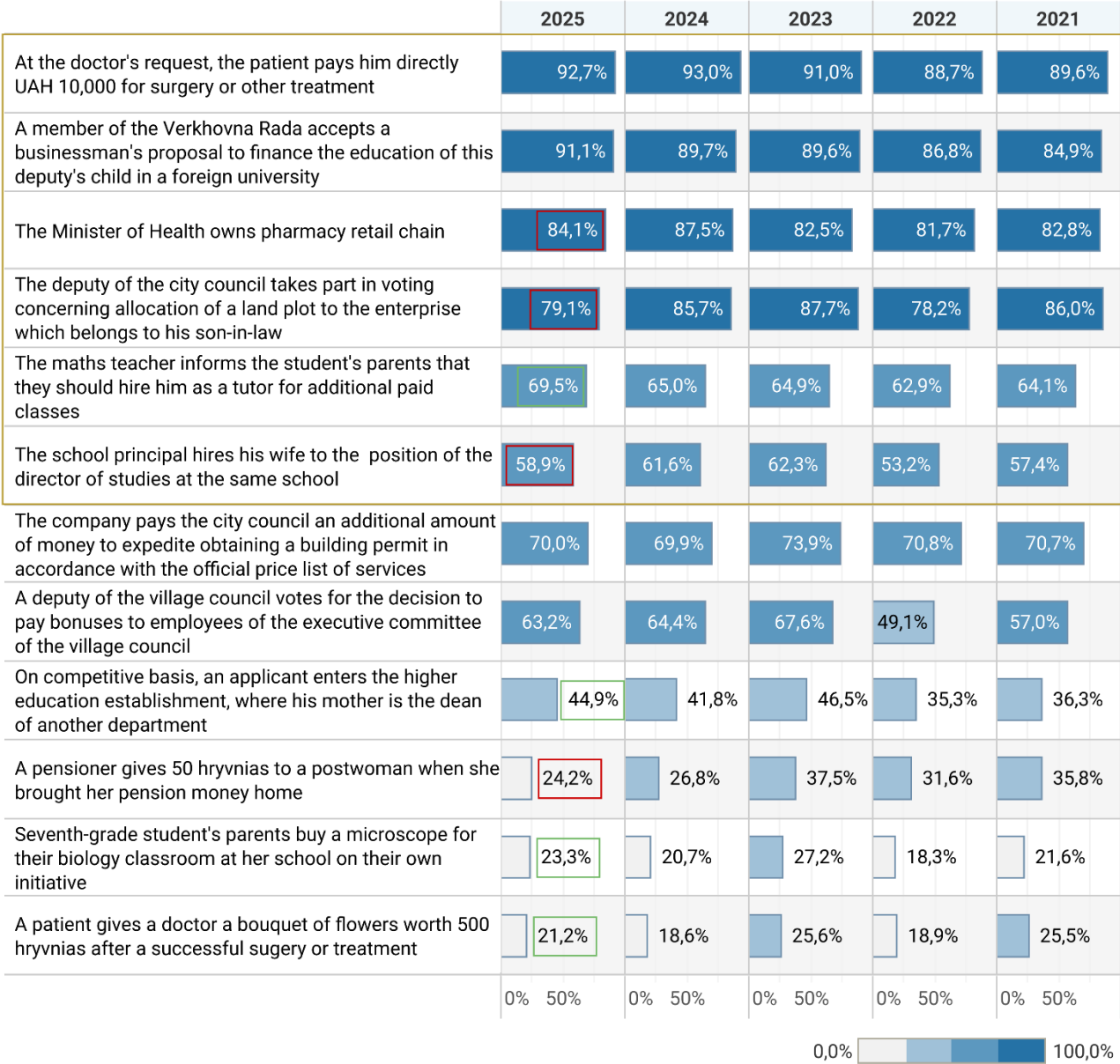
The results of the population survey in 2025 do not show significant differences compared to data from previous years. In general, the vast majority of respondents correctly identify situations that contain a corruption component. However, for three out of six proposed situations, a statistically significant decrease was recorded in the share of respondents who recognize them as corrupt, namely in the following cases: "The Minister of Health owns a chain of pharmacies", "A city council deputy participates in voting on the allocation of a land plot to a company owned by his son in law", "A school principal appoints his wife as deputy principal at the same school". At the same time, for one situation, "A mathematics teacher informs the parents of a student that the student needs additional paid lessons specifically with him as a teacher", a statistically significant increase was recorded in the share of respondents who identify it as corrupt.

A significant share of respondents consider situations to be corrupt that are not corrupt under the law, and this share has statistically significantly increased for three out of six proposed situations, "An applicant is admitted through competition to a higher education institution where his mother is the dean of another faculty", "Parents of a seventh grade student, on their own initiative, purchase a microscope for the biology classroom at her school", "A patient gives a doctor a bouquet of flowers worth 500 hryvnias after a successful operation or treatment". At the same time, for one situation a statistically significant decrease in "corruption" assessments was recorded, "An elderly woman gives 50 hryvnias to a postal worker when she delivers her pension at home".

In general, the level of recognizing as corruption behavior that is not such remains quite significant. If the share of respondents who correctly distinguish more than 50% of the proposed situations, that is 7 or more out of 12, is taken as **the corruption identification index**, then the level of this indicator among the **population in 2025 slightly decreased** and amounts to **73.3%**, a decrease of 3.3 percentage points compared to 2024 is statistically significant. However, the value of the

index in 2025 remains significantly higher than in 2023, it should be recalled that in 2022, 2023 and 2024 this index was 71.8%, 70.9% and 76.6% respectively.

Fig. 1.2.3. Identification of corruption: distribution of the share of responses by situations considered corrupt by respondents: population¹



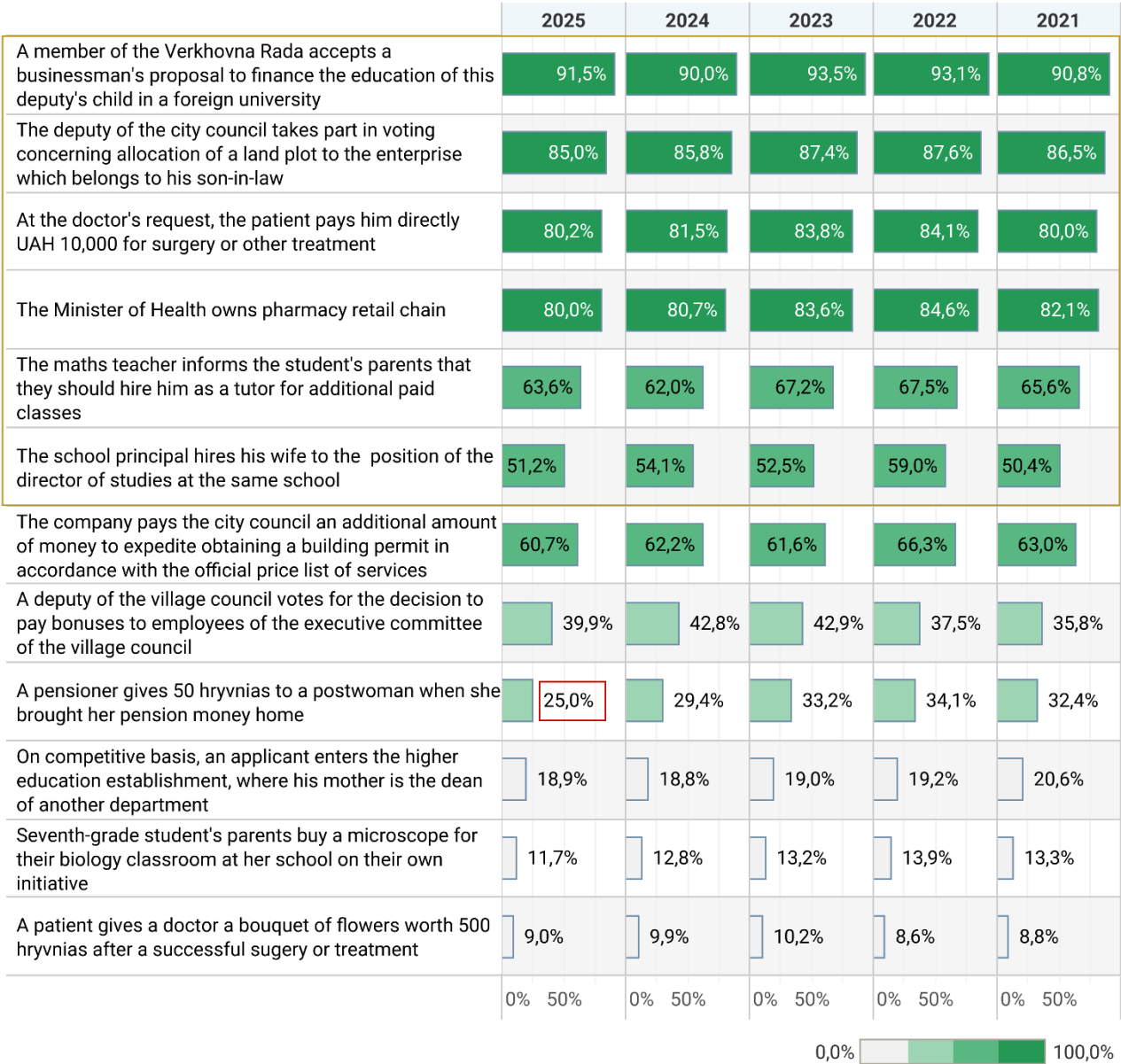
Businesses generally demonstrate a better understanding in distinguishing between corrupt and non-corrupt situations, Fig. 1.2.4. At the same time, the higher indicator is achieved primarily due to lower shares of incorrect attribution of situations that do not actually contain a corruption component. Only in one of the proposed non corrupt situations does the majority of entrepreneurs mistakenly identify it as corrupt, namely the situation “The company pays an additional amount to the city council to expedite obtaining a building permit in accordance with the official price list of the services”. In 2025, 60.7% of business representatives assessed this situation as corrupt, with no significant change compared to 2024. At the same time, the share of those who mistakenly consider

¹Question: "In your opinion, are the situations listed below examples of corruption or other violations of anti-corruption laws?"

In Figure 1.2.3, the situations that, according to the law, involve corruption are highlighted with a colored border.

the situation "A pensioner gives 50 hryvnias to a postwoman when she brought her pension money home" as corrupt decreased statistically significantly to 25%, minus 4.4 percentage points..

Fig. 1.2.4. Identification of corruption: distribution of the share of responses by situations considered corrupt by respondents: business¹



In general, **the corruption identification index among businesses**, based on the same methodology, correctly distinguishing 7 or more out of 12 proposed situations, is higher than the level of awareness among the population: in 2025 this indicator amounted to **90.8%**, compared to 73.3% among the population. The value of the index increased compared to 2024, although the difference of 1.9 percentage points is not statistically significant. In fact, the value of the indicator returned to the level of 2022–2023 within the margin of statistical error, it should be recalled that in 2022–2024 this indicator was 91.7%, 91.4% and 88.9% respectively.

¹ Question: "In your opinion, are the situations listed below examples of corruption or other violations of anti-corruption laws?"

In Figure 1.2.4, the situations that, according to the law, involve corruption are highlighted with a colored border..

Perception of the prevalence of corruption

The analysis of the perception of corruption by different groups of respondents, the population and business representatives, is important for the formation, assessment and adjustment of anti-corruption policy. At the same time, it should be taken into account that the subjective perception of the prevalence of corruption does not always directly reflect the actual level of corrupt practices, but rather captures the perceptions and experience of respondents' interaction with the relevant sectors.

In connection with the update in 2025 of the methodology of the standard survey on corruption in Ukraine, **the list of sectors** in which the position of the population and business representatives regarding **the perception of the prevalence of corruption** is determined based on the survey results **was revised**. These lists differ from those used in previous survey waves in 2021–2024.

The formation of the updated lists was carried out taking into account the relevance of obtaining assessments from respondents, in particular their awareness of the situation in specific sectors based on their experience of interaction and contact with the relevant institutions and their representatives. In this regard, the lists of sectors for the population and for business representatives differ.

The study used several indices to determine the indicator of the perception of the prevalence of corruption, hereinafter the "corruption prevalence perception index", which in all cases were calculated as an average score on a five point scale. The indices were formed:

1. based on the question on the "prevalence of corruption in specific sectors";
2. based on the question on the "prevalence of corruption in Ukraine as a whole";
3. exclusively for business, based on the question on "cases of corruption in the business sector where your enterprise operates".

All indicators, except for the last item, were considered separately for two target audiences, the population and entrepreneurs. The five point response scale on the prevalence of corruption in these questions was as follows: "5" very widespread, "4" somewhat widespread, "3" sometimes widespread, sometimes not, "2" almost absent, "1" absent. The corruption prevalence perception index was calculated as the arithmetic mean on this scale. First, respondents were asked to assess the prevalence of corruption in specific sectors using the five point scale, after which they were asked about the prevalence of corruption in general.

According to the population, in 2025 **the first place** in terms of the prevalence of corruption was occupied by the **judiciary**, index 4.44, see Table 1.2.1, with the majority of population representatives, 52.7%, believing that corruption in this sector is very widespread. In second place is **customs**, with an index of 4.36. In third place is **the recovery, reconstruction, of Ukraine**, with an index of 4.26.

An index value **above 4 points** was also recorded for the following sectors: **ensuring law enforcement and combating crime**, 4.23, **construction and land relations**, 4.15, **healthcare**, 4.05. At the same time, in all five of these sectors, the majority of surveyed population representatives consider corruption to be very or somewhat widespread, from 65.7% in the sector of **construction and land relations** to 79.5% in **the judiciary**.

The remaining sectors have lower assessments, from 3.58 to 3.63.

Table 1.2.1. Perception of the prevalence of corruption in specific sectors: population¹

SECTOR	Index	Very widespread	Somewhat widespread	Sometimes widespread, sometimes not	Almost absent	Absent	Difficult to say / Refusal
Judiciary	4,44	52,7%	26,8%	10,2%	0,8%	0,3%	9,1%
Customs (customs control, processing of customs documents, etc.)	4,36	46,4%	25,0%	10,8%	1,7%	0,5%	15,6%
Recovery (reconstruction) of Ukraine	4,33	44,0%	24,5%	12,0%	1,3%	0,6%	17,6%
Ensuring law and order and combating crime (activities of the National Police of Ukraine, the SSU, prosecution authorities and other law enforcement agencies)	4,23	42,0%	34,5%	15,7%	2,1%	0,1%	5,6%
Construction and land relations (privatization, development and approval of land management projects for land allocation, construction or reconstruction of private housing, etc.)	4,15	37,2%	28,5%	18,0%	2,6%	0,4%	13,3%
Healthcare (medical services)	4,05	34,5%	36,9%	24,1%	2,4%	0,3%	1,7%
Social protection of the population (registration of social statuses, payments, pensions, benefits, including for military personnel and or their family members, etc.)	3,63	21,4%	32,2%	27,1%	8,9%	3,8%	6,5%
Services of energy companies (services for connection and maintenance of electricity, gas, water supply and wastewater systems, excluding services related to current payments)	3,59	22,2%	25,6%	30,2%	9,5%	3,5%	9,0%
Education and science	3,58	16,8%	30,1%	35,2%	9,0%	0,9%	8,1%
Corruption in Ukraine overall (2025)	↓4,45 (-0,07)	53,6%	36,1%	8,6%	0,2%	0,0%	1,5%
Corruption in Ukraine overall (2024)	4,52	61,2%	30,2%	6,8%	1,1%	0,1%	0,6%
Corruption in Ukraine overall (2023)	4,44	55,0%	32,9%	10,2%	0,5%	0,1%	1,3%
Corruption in Ukraine overall (2022)	4,25	43,9%	37,2%	15,8%	1,4%	0,3%	1,5%
Corruption in Ukraine overall (2021)	4,39	53,0%	32,5%	12,6%	0,6%	0,1%	1,3%

As for the indicator of the perception of the prevalence of corruption overall, **89.7%** of the population believe that corruption is **very** or **somewhat widespread** in Ukraine, 53.6% and 36.1% of respondents respectively, which is 1.7 percentage points lower than in 2024, the decrease is statistically significant. A statistically significant decrease in this indicator is observed for the first time since 2022 after two years of growth. At the same time, it should be noted that the proportion of respondents who believe that corruption is **very widespread** in Ukraine has decreased significantly (by 7.6 percentage points) **to 53.6%** (this decrease is statistically significant).

¹ Question: "In your opinion, how widespread is corruption in the following sectors?" Please answer using a 5 point scale, where: "1" means absent, "2" almost absent, "3" sometimes widespread and sometimes not, "4" somewhat widespread, and "5" very widespread. In the "Index" column, the value in parentheses indicates the change compared to the 2024 data.

The overall corruption prevalence perception index among the population calculated on the basis of this question is **4.45** points on a five point scale, Fig. 1.2.5, which is 0.07 points lower than last year, the decrease is statistically significant. In fact, the value of the index has returned to the level of 2023, 4.44.

It is noteworthy that the population's perception of the overall prevalence of corruption in Ukraine is at the level of assessments in the most corruption prone sectors. The overall corruption prevalence perception index among the population in 2025 is **4.45** points, which is comparable to the indicators in the judiciary, 4.44 points, and slightly higher than the index values in the sectors of customs, 4.36 points, and recovery, reconstruction, of Ukraine, 4.33 points.

Thus, such an overall assessment indicates the systemic nature of the perception of corruption, when it is seen not as a problem of individual sectors, but as a phenomenon inherent in public administration as a whole. The formation of such a perception is driven not only by direct experience of interaction with specific sectors, but also by a broader informational and socio political context, in particular perceptions of political corruption at the highest level.

From the perspective of business, corruption is most widespread in the **subsoil use sector**, index 4.39, as well as in **construction and land relations**, index 4.30, and **customs**, 4.28, Table 1.2.2. An index value above 4 points was also recorded for **forestry**, 4.10. In all the above mentioned sectors, the majority of surveyed entrepreneurs assess corruption as very or somewhat widespread, from 66.9% in forestry to 78.3% in construction and land relations.

The remaining sectors in the list proposed for business have corruption prevalence perception indices in the range from 3.18 to 3.89 points, which generally indicates more moderate assessments compared to the lower part of the ranking of sectors among the population. This indicates not a lower level of problems in these sectors as such, but rather a generally more moderate perception of the prevalence of corruption among business representatives.

Table 1.2.2. Perception of the prevalence of corruption in specific sectors: business¹

SECTOR	Index	Very widespread	Somewhat widespread	Sometimes widespread, sometimes not	Almost absent	Absent	Difficult to say / Refusal
Subsoil use	4,39	57,4%	19,3%	12,8%	3,1%	0,6%	6,8%
Construction and land relations	4,30	53,4%	24,9%	15,4%	3,4%	0,8%	2,2%
Customs (customs control, processing of customs documents, etc.)	4,28	53,4%	22,7%	15,1%	3,7%	1,4%	3,7%
Forestry (timber harvesting and sales, reforestation)	4,1	41,4%	25,5%	19,5%	4,4%	1,4%	7,7%
Use of other natural resources (hunting, fisheries, water management)	3,89	33,6%	27,2%	22,9%	8,9%	1,0%	6,5%
Judiciary	3,87	36,4%	25,2%	22,6%	9,2%	2,6%	4,1%
Public procurement	3,81	32,9%	27,2%	26,4%	7,2%	3,4%	2,8%
Recovery (reconstruction) of Ukraine	3,68	29,9%	21,4%	25,8%	9,7%	4,5%	8,7%
Ensuring law and order and combating crime	3,66	27,6%	27,7%	27,6%	11,8%	3,1%	2,2%
Services of energy companies	3,51	29,9%	17,9%	28,2%	15,6%	6,1%	2,2%
Agrarian relations	3,47	19,8%	20,6%	33,2%	11,3%	3,7%	11,4%
State regulation and control in the sphere of economic activity	3,44	21,9%	22,8%	31,9%	14,6%	4,9%	3,9%
Taxation	3,18	19,3%	18,0%	31,0%	19,8%	9,5%	2,5%
Corruption in Ukraine overall (2025)	↓ 4,17 (-0,22)	44,0%	31,5%	22,1%	2,0%	0,2%	0,1%
Corruption in Ukraine overall (2024)	4,39	57,2%	25,9%	15,1%	1,5%	0,2%	0,1%
Corruption in Ukraine overall (2023)	4,29	49,8%	31,5%	16,7%	1,7%	0,1%	0,2%
Corruption in Ukraine overall (2022)	3,98	31,5%	37,7%	27,4%	2,9%	0,1%	0,4%
Corruption in Ukraine overall (2021)	4,35	51,0%	33,0%	14,0%	1,0%	0,0%	1,0%

The overall **corruption prevalence perception index among businesses** has also decreased and amounts to **4.17** points, Fig. 1.2.6, which is 0.22 points lower than the 2024 indicator and 0.12 points lower than the 2023 value, 4.29. In addition, this indicator is lower than the index calculated based on the population's assessments, 4.45.

Unlike the population, for businesses the indices of the prevalence of corruption in the top three sectors are higher than the overall index. This may indicate that in sectors such as extractive industries, construction and land relations, and customs, there is a particularly negative perception of the "corrupt activity" of the respective institutions among businesses, reflecting entrepreneurs' lack of confidence in the possibility of resolving issues through legal means, as corruption practices in these sectors are often perceived as an integral part of the day to day activities of officials. At the same time, the overall assessment of the prevalence of corruption in the state among business representatives is more restrained.

¹ Question: "In your opinion, how widespread is corruption in these areas?"

Fig. 1.2.5. Corruption prevalence perception index overall, average score on a five point scale: population¹

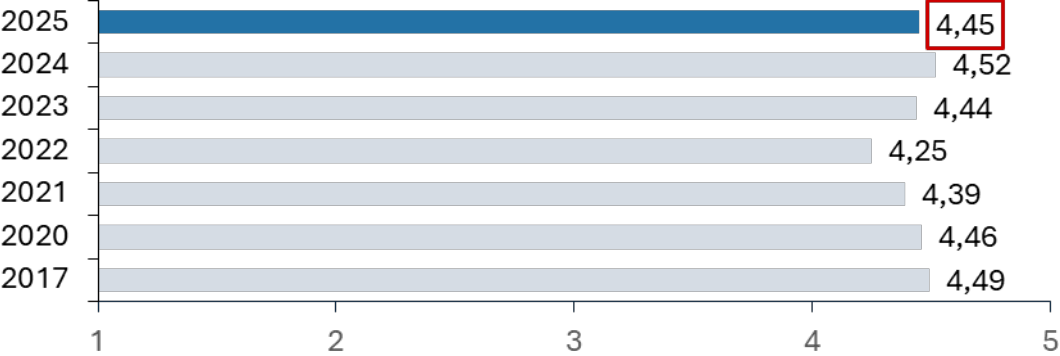
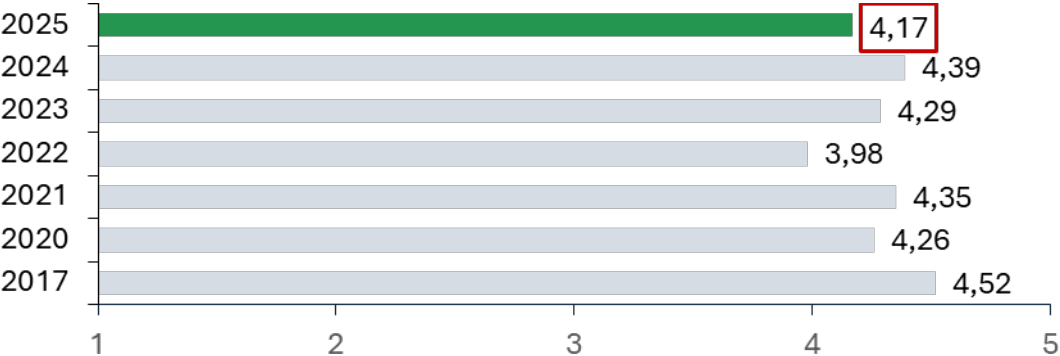


Fig. 1.2.6. Corruption prevalence perception index overall, average score on a five point scale: business¹



As among the population, the decrease in the index is observed for the first time since 2022, after growth in 2023–2024. This decrease is driven by a statistically significant reduction in the share of business representatives who consider corruption to be **“very widespread”** - from 57.2% in 2024 to **44%** in 2025, minus 13.2 percentage points.

As a result, **75.5%** of entrepreneurs believe that corruption is **very or somewhat widespread** in Ukraine, 44% and 31.5% respectively, which is 7.6 percentage points lower than in 2024, the change is statistically significant.

In general, it can be stated that in 2025 both among the population and among business representatives an improvement in the perception of the prevalence of corruption has been recorded. At the same time, the **decrease** in the corruption prevalence perception index is observed for **the first time since 2022**, after growth in 2023 and 2024.

In 2025, the trend continues whereby business representatives assess the prevalence of corruption in the sector in which they operate significantly lower than in other sectors and in Ukraine overall. At the same time, in 2025 these indicators are at record low levels, Table 1.2.3. Thus, the average **corruption prevalence perception index in the sector where the surveyed entrepreneurs operate** amounts to only **2.16** points on a five point scale, which is almost twice lower than the assessment of the prevalence of corruption overall in Ukraine, 4.17, and is the lowest value of the

¹ Question: “In your opinion, how widespread is corruption in Ukraine overall?”

index since 2021. This index has remained low throughout the entire observation period, 2.25, 2.17, 2.29 and 2.35 respectively in 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024. Differences in business assessments of the prevalence of corruption overall and in the sector where the enterprise operates may be due both to a more realistic assessment of the situation and to a reluctance to expose corruption in “their own” sector.

More than one third of entrepreneurs, from 42.4% to 38.4%, report a complete absence of corruption cases from the proposed list, in particular when interacting with officials of government authorities, other business entities, and companies providing electricity, gas, water supply, wastewater and freight transport services in their area of activity. The share of those who state that corruption is “absent” or “almost absent” exceeds half of respondents and ranges from 68.6% to 61.3%. A minority of business representatives, from 12.7% to 17%, consider such cases to be widespread, “very” or “somewhat” widespread.

Overall, there is a trend toward a decrease in the perception of corruption in the sector where the respondent’s enterprise operates, across all three areas of interaction - both with officials and with other business entities, including companies providing electricity, gas, water supply, wastewater and freight transport services. The decrease in indices in all three areas is statistically significant, which may indicate a potential improvement in the situation regarding corruption in various segments of business activity.

Table 1.2.3. Corruption prevalence perception index of corruption cases in the sector where the enterprise operates: business¹

Cases	Index 2025	Index 2024	Index 2023
Corruption in dealings with government officials (obtaining permits, licenses, business registration, etc.)	2,23	2,48	2,40
“Kickbacks” and bribes when interacting with other business entities in the course of business operations	2,21	2,37	2,32
Corruption when interacting with companies providing electricity, gas, and water supply, wastewater disposal, and freight transportation services	2,05	2,19	2,14

Perception of changes in the level of corruption in Ukraine

In addition to assessing the level of corruption in Ukraine by sectors and overall, respondents were also asked to assess changes in the level of corruption over the past 12 months. According to this indicator, in 2025 for the first time since 2022, after an increase in 2023–2024 in the share of respondents who reported an increase in the level of corruption, **positive shifts in the perception of the dynamics of corruption** in the state were recorded among both groups of respondents.

In 2025, the **population** perceives the level of corruption over the past 12 months in a more restrained and less pessimistic manner than a year earlier, Fig. 1.2.7. In particular, the share of citizens who report an increase in the level of corruption, combined “very” or “rather”, decreased to 65.4%, which is **3.7 percentage points lower** than in 2024, the change is statistically significant.

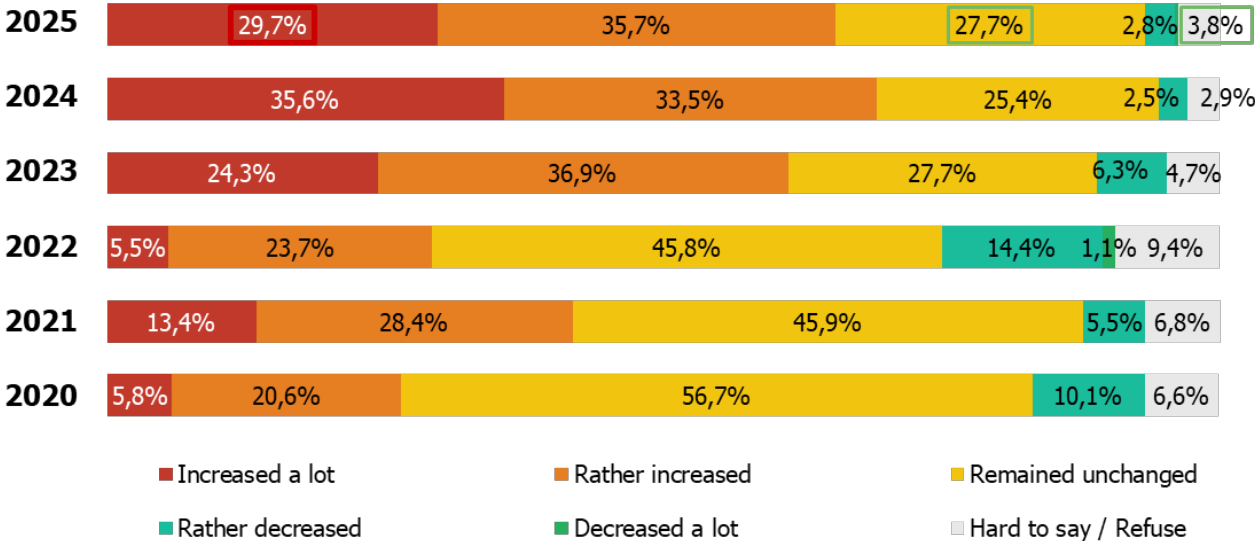
This is primarily due to a decrease in the share of responses “the level of corruption has increased significantly” - from 35.6% in 2024 to **29.7%** in 2025, minus **5.9 percentage points**. At the same

¹ Question: “Please tell us whether the following cases of corruption are common in the sector where your business operates (examples include entrepreneurs offering or receiving bribes, providing informal services, using personal connections, etc.)?”

time, a redistribution in the structure of responses is observed in favor of other categories: the share of respondents who believe that the level of corruption has “rather increased” rose from 33.5% to 35.7%, plus 2.2 percentage points, as well as those who state that the level of corruption “has not changed”, from 25.4% to 27.7%, plus 2.3 percentage points.

Such dynamics primarily indicate not a decrease in the level of corruption, **but a weakening of the perception of its further growth** and a gradual shift in public perception toward assessments of stabilization of the situation. At the same time, the combined indicator of the population’s perception of an increase in the level of corruption, very and rather, remains higher than the level of 2023, 61.2%.

Fig. 1.2.7. Change in the level of corruption in Ukraine over the past 12 months: population¹



Y In 2025, the share of business representatives who report an increase (very or rather) in the level of corruption over the past year also decreased significantly, Fig. 1.2.8: **45.8%** of respondents indicated this, which is 11.2 percentage points lower than in 2024.

Assessments of the dynamics of corruption among the business audience generally correlate with those of the population: the shares of more negative assessments decreased significantly and in a statistically significant manner, while the shares of more neutral and positive assessments increased accordingly.

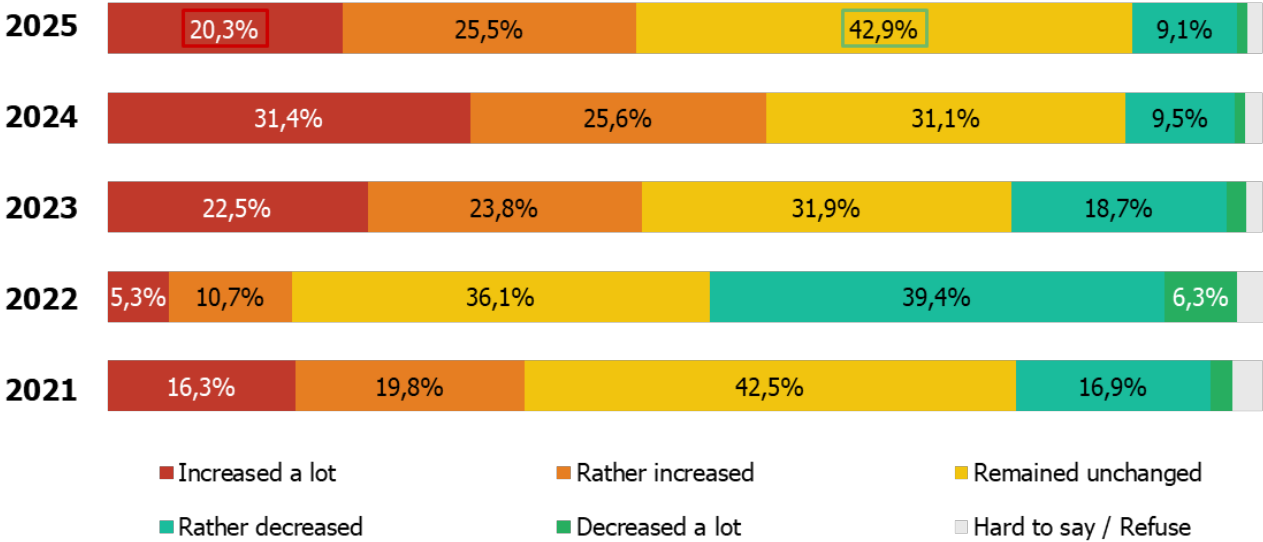
In particular, the decrease in the combined indicator of respondents who noted an increase in corruption occurred due to a statistically significant reduction in the share of entrepreneurs who believe that corruption has increased significantly - from 31.4% in 2024 to **20.3%** in 2025, minus 11.1 percentage points. At the same time, the share of those who report no change in the level of corruption increased substantially, from 31.1% in 2024 **to 42.9%** in 2025, plus 11.8 percentage points. Thus, in the business audience, the decrease in the “intensity” of assessments of the level of corruption occurred primarily due to a shift toward the perception of stability of the situation.

The combined indicator of entrepreneurs’ perception of an increase in the level of corruption, very and rather, returned to the level of 2023, 46.3%.

¹ Question: "In your opinion, how has the level of corruption in Ukraine changed over the past 12 months?"

Overall, both audiences demonstrate an improvement in assessments of the dynamics of the level of corruption for the first time since 2022. However, it should be noted that the population remains more pessimistic than business: the share of responses “rather increased” and “increased significantly” among entrepreneurs is 45.8%, whereas among the population it is significantly higher, 65.4%.

Fig. 1.2.8. Change in the level of corruption in Ukraine over the past 12 months: business¹



Summary comment

As shown by the comprehensive analysis of the study results, in 2025 there is a consistent decrease in a number of indicators that characterize the perception of the prevalence and dynamics of corruption in Ukraine, both among the population and among business representatives. This decrease covers overall assessments of the level of corruption, assessments of changes in its level over the past 12 months, as well as the assessment of corruption as a social problem compared to other key problems.

At the same time, the results of the analysis in Sections 2 and 3 of the report indicate the existence of a certain gap between the perception of the prevalence and dynamics of corruption and the respondents’ personal corruption experience. Thus, in 2025 the shares of the population and business that report having personal corruption experience, Indicator 2, do not differ statistically significantly from the indicators of 2023–2024. This provides grounds to state that the increase in corruption perception assessments in 2023–2024 was not associated with a real expansion of respondents’ involvement in corruption practices and, accordingly, reflected rather an exaggerated perception and increased sensitivity to the situation than actual changes.

For the population, perceptions of the prevalence of corruption are largely shaped not only by personal experience but also under the influence of public discourse, media coverage and societal discussions, in particular regarding corruption at the highest levels of government. It is this component of the “overall background” of perception that has a significant impact on assessments of the prevalence of corruption both for the population and, to a lesser extent, for business representatives. At the same time, respondents’ personal experience is mainly concentrated in the

¹ Question: “In your opinion, how has the level of corruption in Ukraine changed over the past 12 months?”

sphere of everyday corruption for the population or in the environment of business activity for business representatives.

The analysis of the dynamics of indicators for 2023–2025 suggests that the sharp increase in assessments of the prevalence and dynamics of corruption in 2023–2024 was largely driven by inflated expectations of society regarding a rapid reduction in the level of corruption after the full scale invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation. These expectations were not met in the short term, which led to an increase in pessimistic assessments in 2023–2024.

In 2025, against the background of society's adaptation to a prolonged crisis context, a certain stabilization in the perception of corruption is observed. The recorded decrease in corruption perception indicators primarily reflects a weakening of the sense of further growth of the problem and can be interpreted as a return of assessments to a more balanced and realistic level after a period of heightened sensitivity and inflated expectations characteristic of 2023–2024.

1.3. Assessment of the state anti-corruption policy and awareness of it

Responsibility for combating corruption

During the survey, respondents were asked to select up to three institutions which, in their opinion, are responsible for combating corruption in Ukraine.

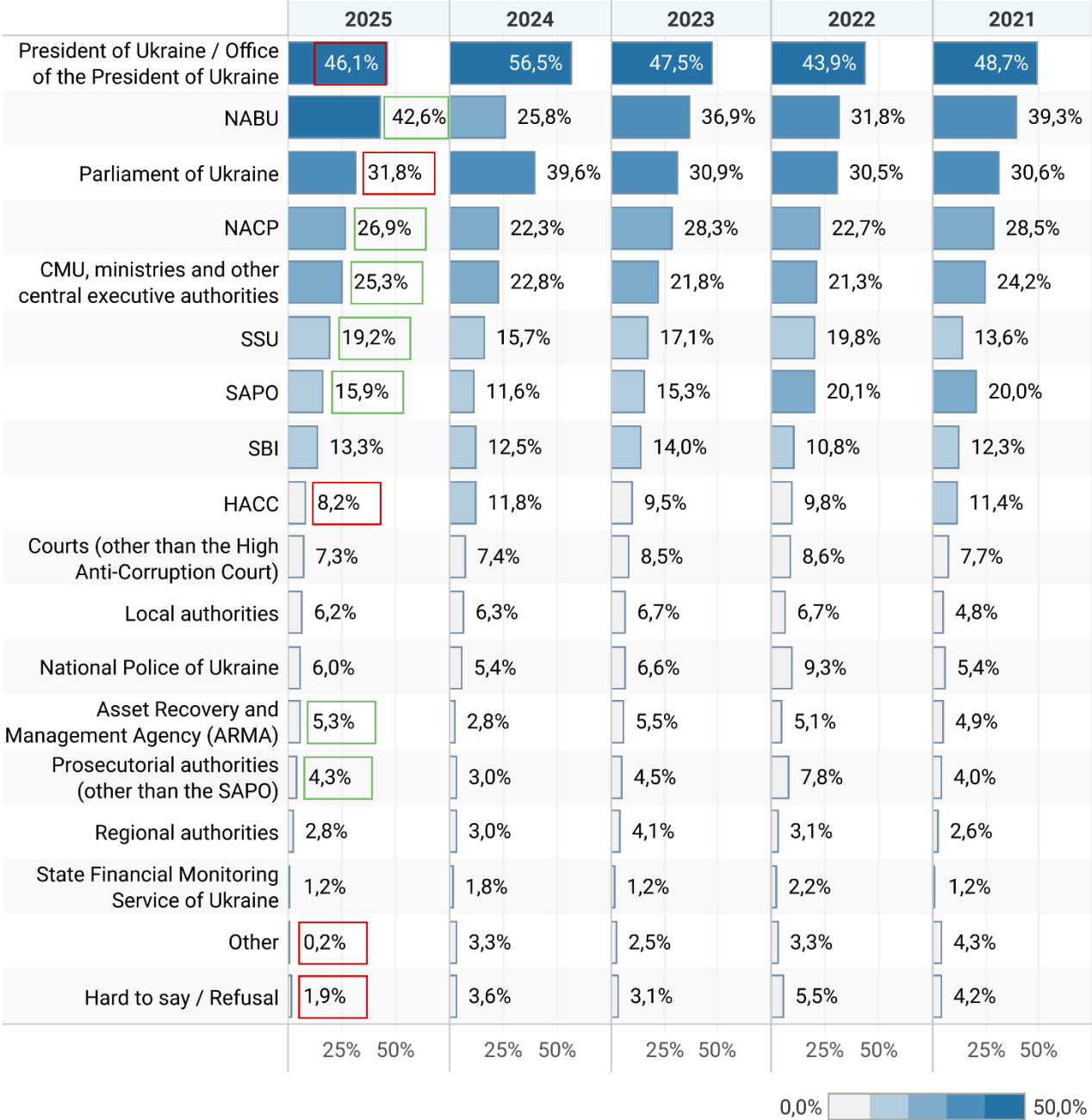
In 2025, among the population audience, Fig. 1.3.1, there is a sharp increase in expectations regarding responsibility for combating corruption from **National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine (NABU)** - from 25.8% in 2024 to **42.6%**, plus 16.8 percentage points. This can be linked to a number of high profile events around NABU in 2025, in particular attempts to legislatively reduce the powers of NABU, street protests in the summer of 2025, as well as public coverage of active actions by this institution to counter corruption at a high level.

Alongside the increase in expectations regarding NABU's responsibility, public expectations are also rising regarding the responsibility of other anti-corruption and law enforcement bodies for combating corruption in Ukraine. In particular, the share of respondents who consider **SAPO** responsible for combating corruption increased from 11.6% to **15.9%**, plus 4.3 percentage points, **NACP** from 22.3% to **26.9%**, plus 4.6 percentage points, **SSU** from 15.7% to **19.2%**, plus 3.5 percentage points.

In addition, in 2025 a statistically significant increase was recorded in expectations regarding responsibility for combating corruption on the part of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, ministries and other CEBs, from 22.8% to **25.3%**, the prosecutor's office, from 3.0% to **4.3%**, and ARMA, from 2.8% to **5.3%**.

At the same time, the previous trend of annual growth in public expectations regarding the responsibility of National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine for combating corruption was broken in 2025: the share of responses decreased **from 56.5% to 46.1%**, although the President still remains the leader of public expectations in this matter. A decrease in public expectations regarding responsibility for combating corruption in the state is also observed with regard to the **Parliament**, from 39.6% to **31.8%**, and **HACC - High Anti-Corruption Court** (HACC), from 11.8% to **8.2%**.

Fig. 1.3.1. Who is responsible for combating corruption in Ukraine: population¹



As for business, Fig. 1.3.2, representatives of enterprises, like the population, also lowered expectations regarding the **President of Ukraine** from 51.9% to **45.2%**, minus 6.7 percentage points, while increasing the level of responsibility of **NABU** from 29.2% to **37.8%**, plus 8.6 percentage points, and SAPO from 13.1% to 17.9%, plus 4.8 percentage points. All these changes are statistically significant compared to 2024.

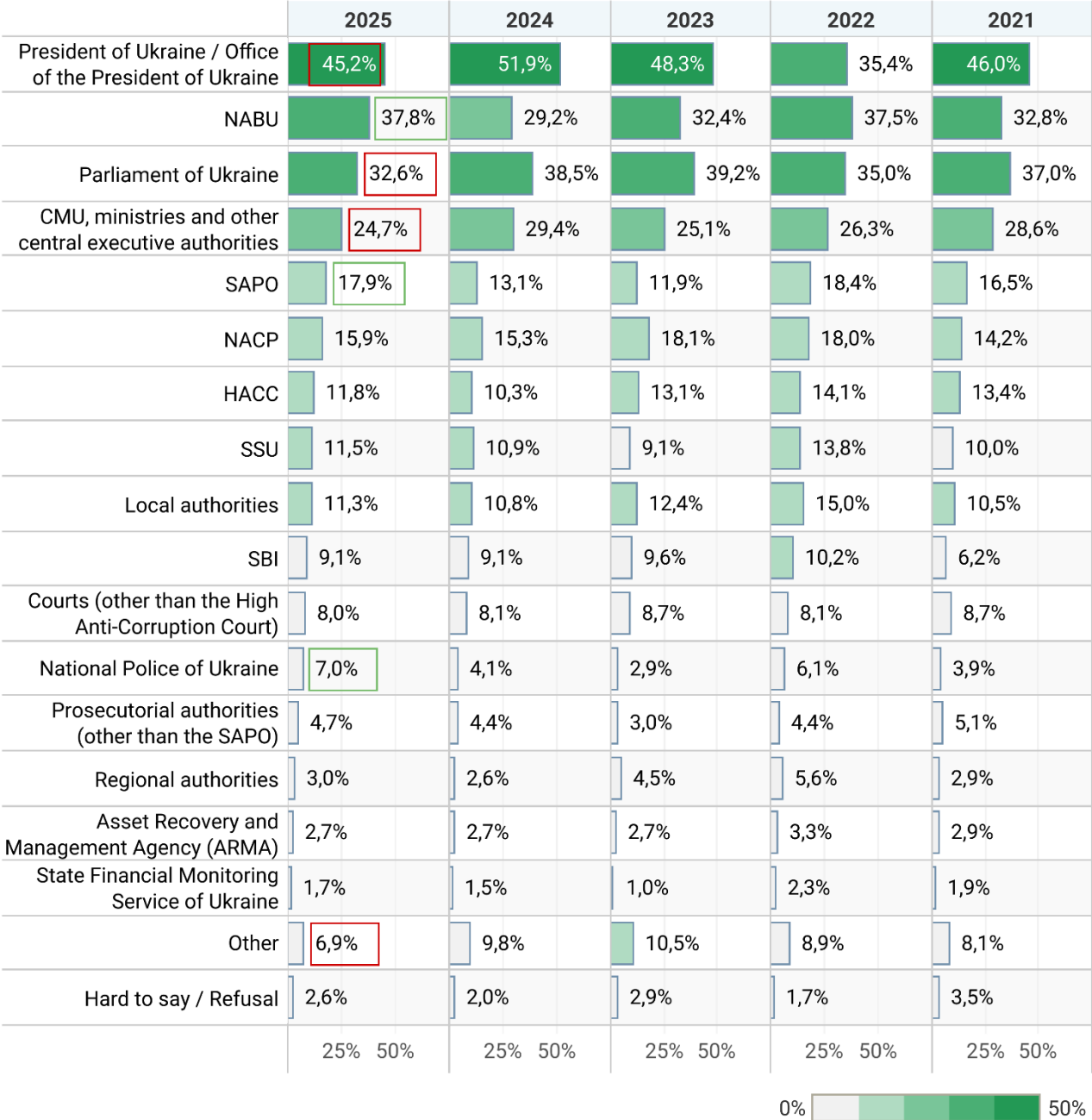
Overall, the dynamics of responses among the population and business are not identical. Unlike the population, business slightly reduced the expected responsibility for combating corruption with regard to the **Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, ministries and other CEBs**, from 29.4% to **24.7%**, while increasing the responsibility of the **National Police of Ukraine** from 4.1% to **7%**.

¹ Question: "In your opinion, who is responsible for combating corruption in Ukraine?"

Regarding the perception of other anti-corruption institutions, apart from NABU and SAPO, as responsible for combating corruption in the state, among the business audience the level of expected responsibility of **NACP and HACC** in 2025 generally remained at the level of the previous year.

The top three institutions with the highest responsibility for combating corruption, from the perspective of both the population and business, are the same, in descending order: **the President, NABU, the Parliament.**

Fig. 1.3.2. Who is responsible for combating corruption in Ukraine: business¹



¹ Question: "In your opinion, who is responsible for combating corruption in Ukraine?"

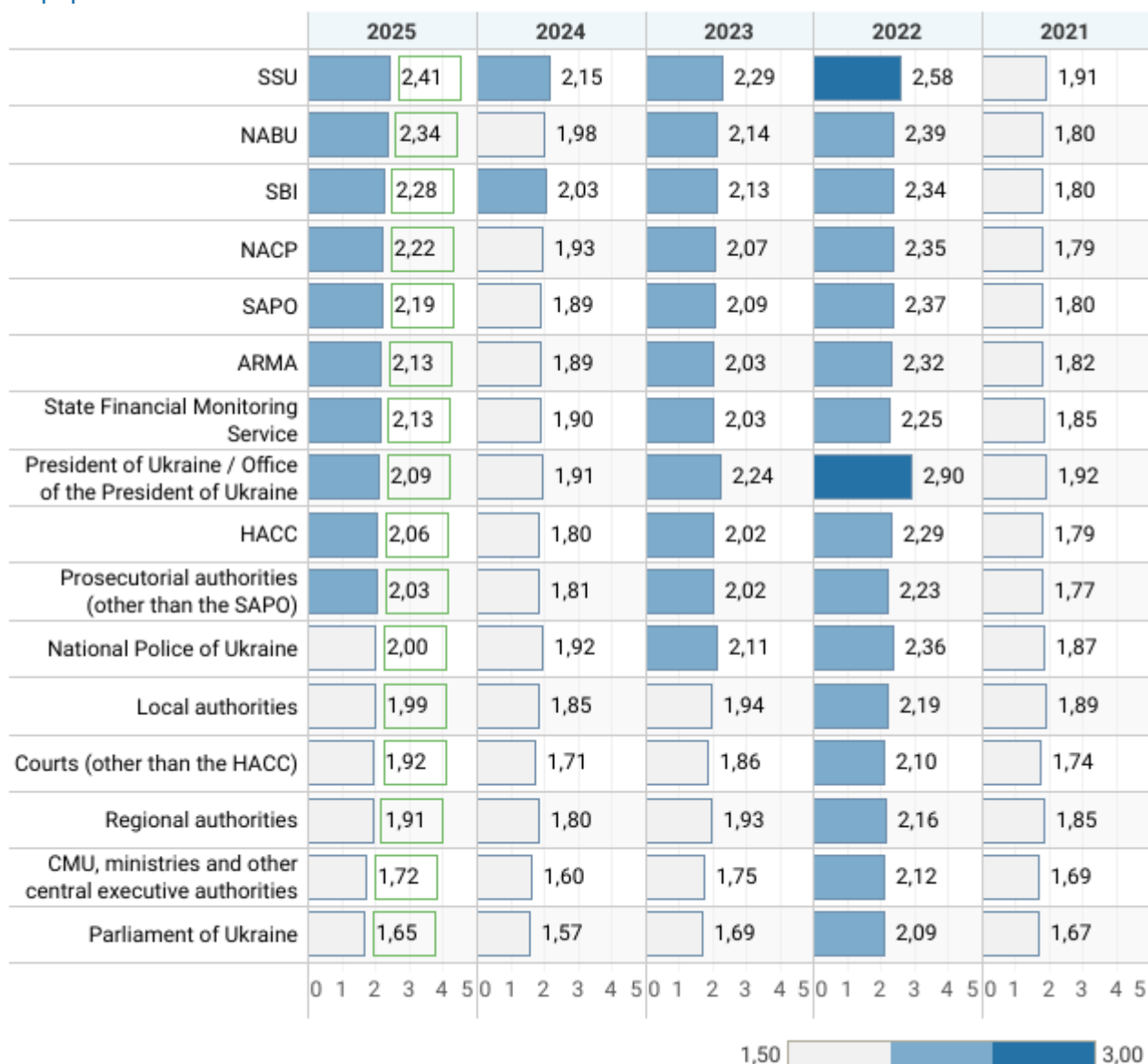
Effectiveness of anti-corruption activities of state authorities

Particular attention in the study was paid to the analysis of how Ukrainians perceive the effectiveness of anti-corruption activities of various state authorities.

A five point scale was used for the assessment, where 5 means “very effective activity” and 1 means “completely ineffective”, that is, a score of 3 and above indicates a greater number of positive assessments, and below 3 a greater number of negative ones.

Population. The results of the population survey on the assessment of the effectiveness of activities aimed at preventing and combating corruption are presented in Fig. 1.3.3.

Fig. 1.3.3. Assessment of the effectiveness of anti-corruption efforts by government agencies and the population¹



¹ Question: “In your opinion, how effective are the anti-corruption efforts of these government agencies?”

First of all, it should be noted that **in 2025 the assessments of the effectiveness of anti-corruption activities increased for all state authorities without exception**, and for the institutions leading the ranking the corresponding indicators are higher compared to 2023–2024. Such dynamics may be associated, in particular, with high profile events and public discussions in the summer of 2025 around NABU and SAPO, which could have influenced the overall information background of the assessment of anti-corruption policy.

The leader in effectiveness, as in the previous year, remains **SSU** with a score of 2.41 out of 5. Specialized institutions designed to counter corruption follow with a slight gap: **NABU**, 2.34 points, as well as a group of bodies with similar indicators - **SBI**, 2.28, **NACP**, 2.22, and **SAPO**, 2.19. Despite the increase in indicators in 2025, no institution approached the average level of 3 points, which indicates an overall **restrained low perception of the effectiveness of anti-corruption activities** of state authorities among the population.

Entrepreneurs. The results of the survey of business representatives on the assessment of the effectiveness of activities of state authorities in preventing and countering corruption are presented in Fig. 1.3.4.

Fig. 1.3.4. Assessment of the effectiveness of anti-corruption activities of state authorities, business¹



As in the general public audience, entrepreneurs’ assessments **increased** for almost all evaluated institutions, and the **largest increase** was predictably recorded for **NABU** - from 2.42 to **2.75**, the change is statistically significant. At the same time, **NABU** and **SSU** are perceived by entrepreneurs as the state authorities that are the most effective in countering corruption.

The exception is a slight decrease in the assessment of the effectiveness of the National Police of Ukraine from 2.37 to 2.36, which is not statistically significant. Similarly, the increase in assessments of local and regional authorities, to 2.21 points in both cases, is not statistically significant, these bodies remain in the lower part of the ranking.

Unlike the population, entrepreneurs rated the **State Financial Monitoring Service** higher, 2.5 compared to 2.13 among the population, and the **courts**, 2.32 among entrepreneurs compared to 1.92 among the population.

¹ Question: “In your opinion, how effective are the anti-corruption efforts of these government agencies?”

The outsider of the ranking, according to entrepreneurs, is the Parliament, which has remained in last place for several years in a row, its effectiveness score for anti-corruption activity is 1.97 compared to 1.83 in 2024.

Overall, entrepreneurs' assessments of the effectiveness of anti-corruption activities of all state authorities, as in the previous wave of the study, remain **higher** than those of the population.

It should be emphasized once again that the absolute **values of the assessments, despite growth compared to 2024, remain low**: the assessments of state authorities among the business audience are below 2.8 points, and among the population below 2.5 points. This indicates an overall **restrained low and critical perception of the effectiveness of anti-corruption activities** of state authorities in both audiences.

Priority areas for combating corruption

Y Due to the update in 2025 of the Methodology of the standard survey on corruption in Ukraine, the lists of sectors used to determine the positions of the population and business representatives regarding priority areas for combating corruption were revised. These lists differ from those used in previous survey waves in 2021–2024.

The updated lists were formed taking into account the relevance of obtaining assessments from respondents, in particular their awareness of the situation in specific areas based on their experience of interaction and contacts with relevant institutions and their representatives. Accordingly, the lists of sectors for the population and for business representatives differ.

In response to the question “In which areas, in your opinion, should corruption be addressed first?”, respondents selected up to three options. Figures 1.3.5 and 1.3.6 present data on the areas most frequently mentioned among the three most important.

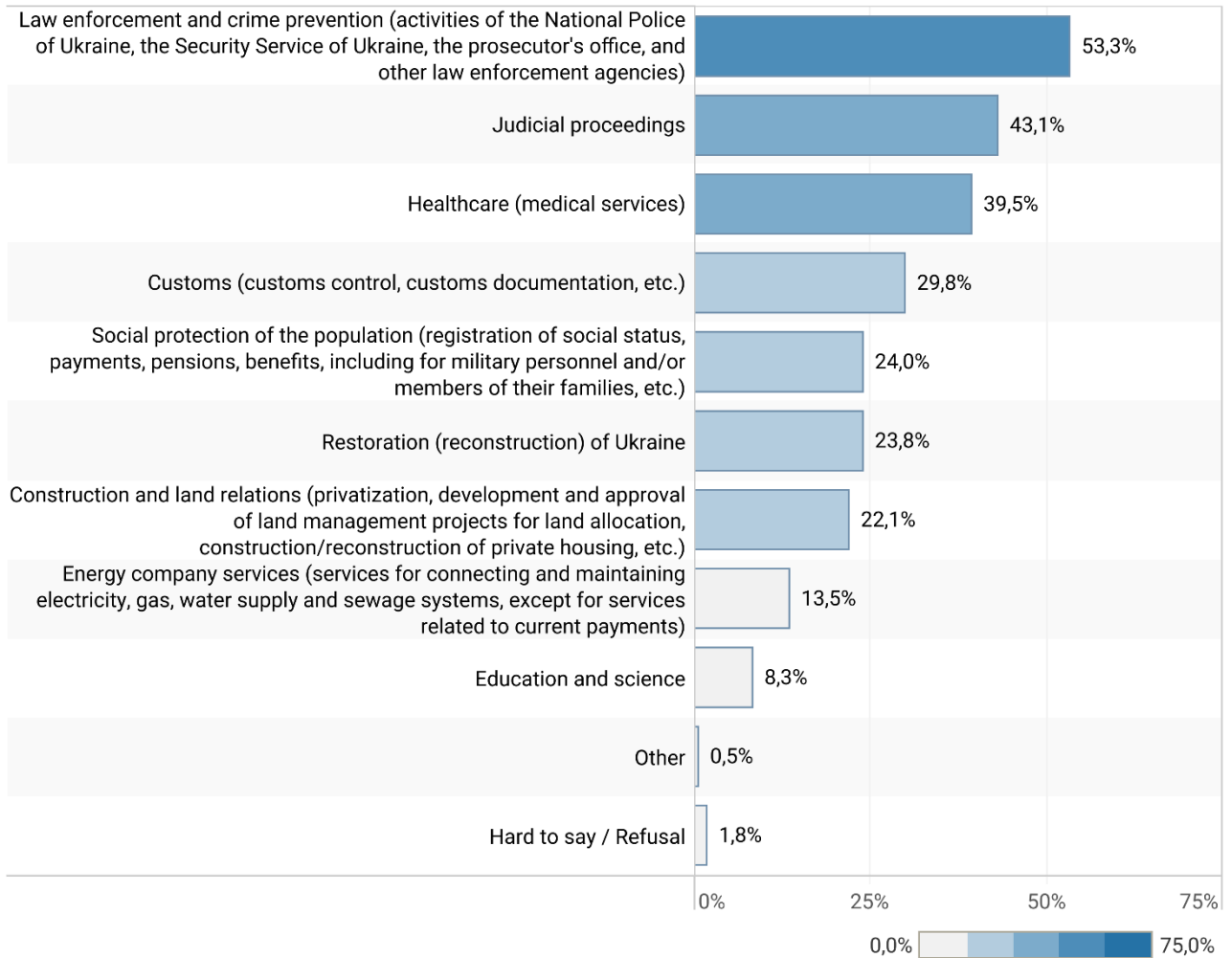
More than half of the population, **53.3%**, consider **ensuring law and order and combating crime, activities of the police, SSU, the prosecutor's office and other law enforcement bodies**, to be the most priority area for combating corruption.

Judiciary is a priority area for **43.1%** of respondents, and with a slight gap it is followed by **healthcare**, medical services, named by **39.5%** of the population.

Less than one third of citizens, **29.8%**, consider combating corruption in **customs** to be a priority, while one in four respondents named **social protection of the population, 24%, and the recovery, reconstruction, of Ukraine, 23.8%**, as priorities.

Such strategic areas as **education and science** are considered the least priority by the population in terms of combating corruption, they were selected by only 8.3% of respondents.

Fig. 1.3.5. Priority areas for combating corruption: population¹

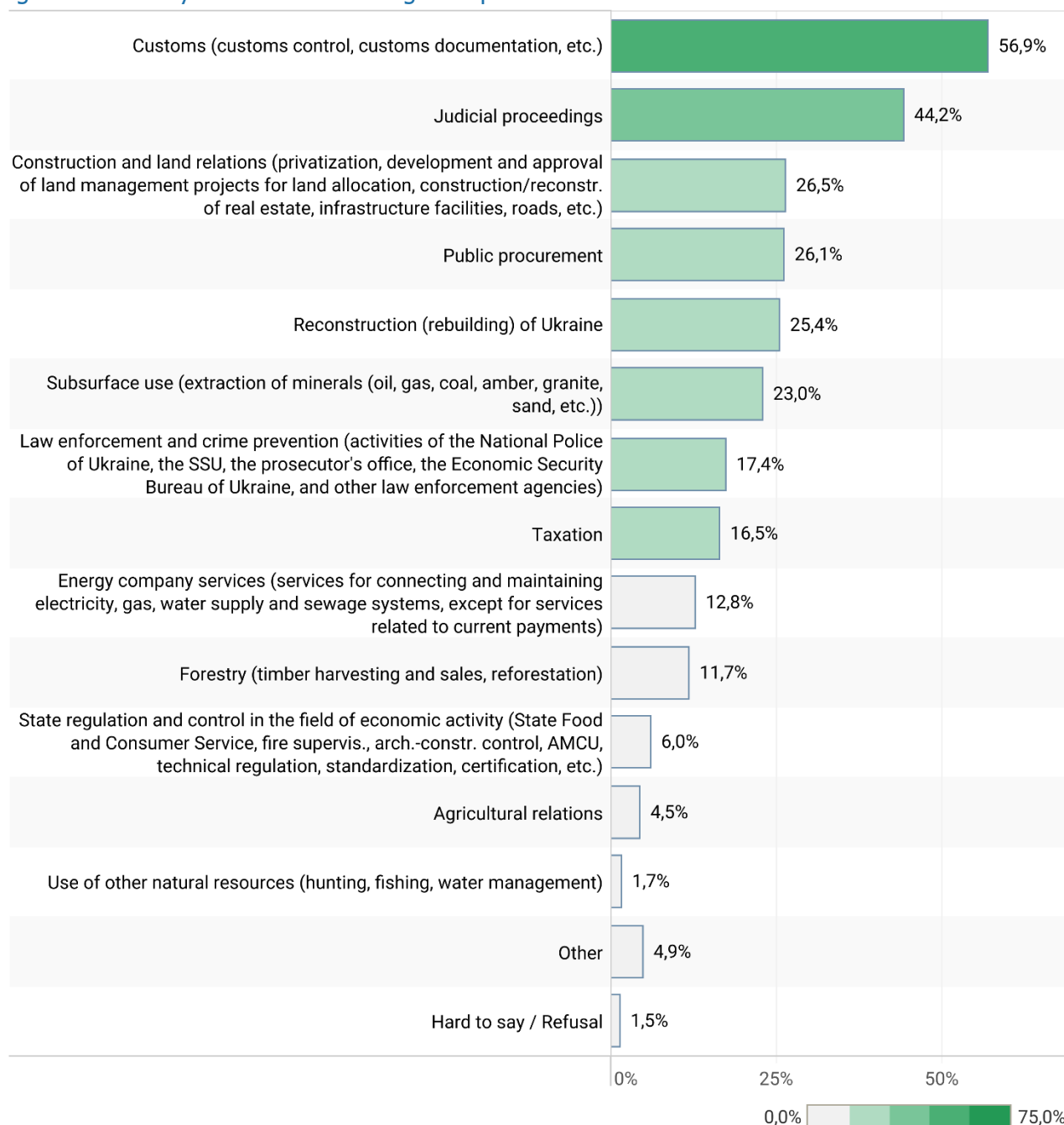


The selection of priority areas for combating corruption among Ukrainian entrepreneurs differs significantly from the results obtained among the population, which is due, in particular, to differences in the lists of areas proposed to different target audiences, as well as to the specifics of business interaction with certain state institutions. Given this, 56.9% of entrepreneurs identified **customs** as the most priority area for combating corruption.

At the same time, entrepreneurs, like the population in general, perceive the issue of corruption in the Ukrainian **judiciary as acute: 44.2%** of business representatives named this area as a priority. This indicator does not differ statistically from the choice of the population, 43.1%.

¹ Question: "In which areas, in your opinion, is it most necessary to combat corruption first?" Respondents could select up to three answer options.

Fig. 1.3.6. Priority areas for combating corruption: business¹



Such areas as **construction and land relations and the recovery, reconstruction, of Ukraine** were classified as priorities by approximately a quarter of respondents both among entrepreneurs and among the population, **25.4% and 23.8%** respectively.

At the same time, **public procurement**, which directly concerns business activities, is considered a priority area by almost the same share of respondents as the two aforementioned areas, **26.1%** of entrepreneurs.

The areas **of subsoil use and taxation** were identified as priorities in terms of combating corruption by **23% and 16.5%** of business representatives respectively.

¹ Question: "In which areas, in your opinion, is it most necessary to combat corruption first?" Respondents could select up to three answer options.

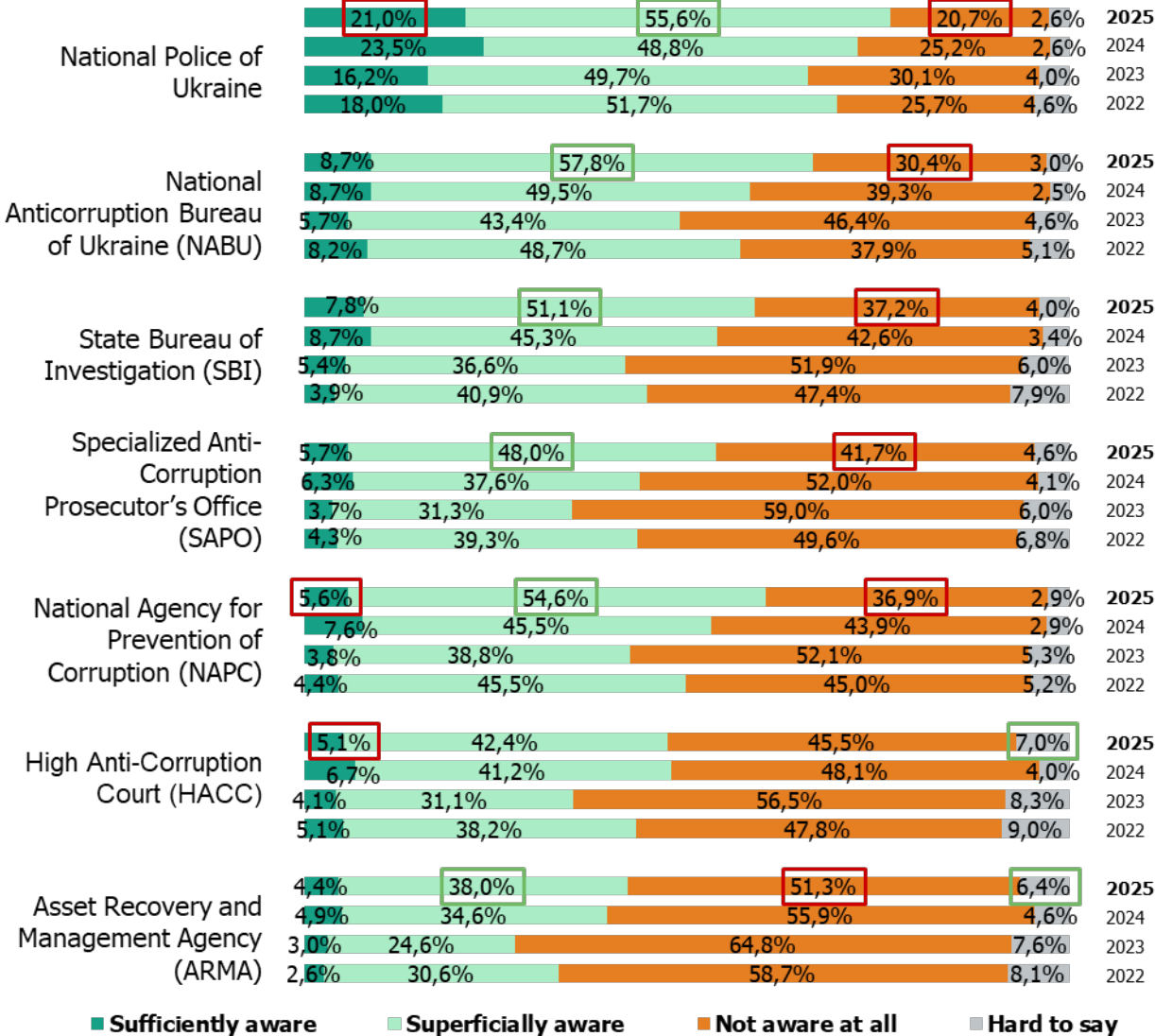
It is noteworthy that the area identified by the population as the top priority, namely **ensuring law and order and combating crime**, activities of the National Police, SSU, the prosecutor’s office and other law enforcement bodies, is significantly less relevant for entrepreneurs: only **17.4%** of business entities named it as a priority.

Agrarian relations and the use of other natural resources, hunting and fishing and so on, were mentioned by a relatively small share of surveyed entrepreneurs, no more than 5%.

Awareness of the activities of anti-corruption bodies and powers of NACP

In 2025, the share of the population that considers itself sufficiently aware of the activities of anti corruption bodies generally did not increase, and for some bodies even decreased, while the share of those superficially aware increased in most cases compared to 2024, Fig. 1.3.7 and Fig. 1.3.8. Among the business audience, only awareness of **NABU** shows a significant increase, while awareness of other bodies has not undergone noticeable changes.

Fig. 1.3.7. Awareness of the activities of anti-corruption bodies: population¹



¹ Question: "How well informed do you consider yourself about the activities of the following government agencies (institutions)?"

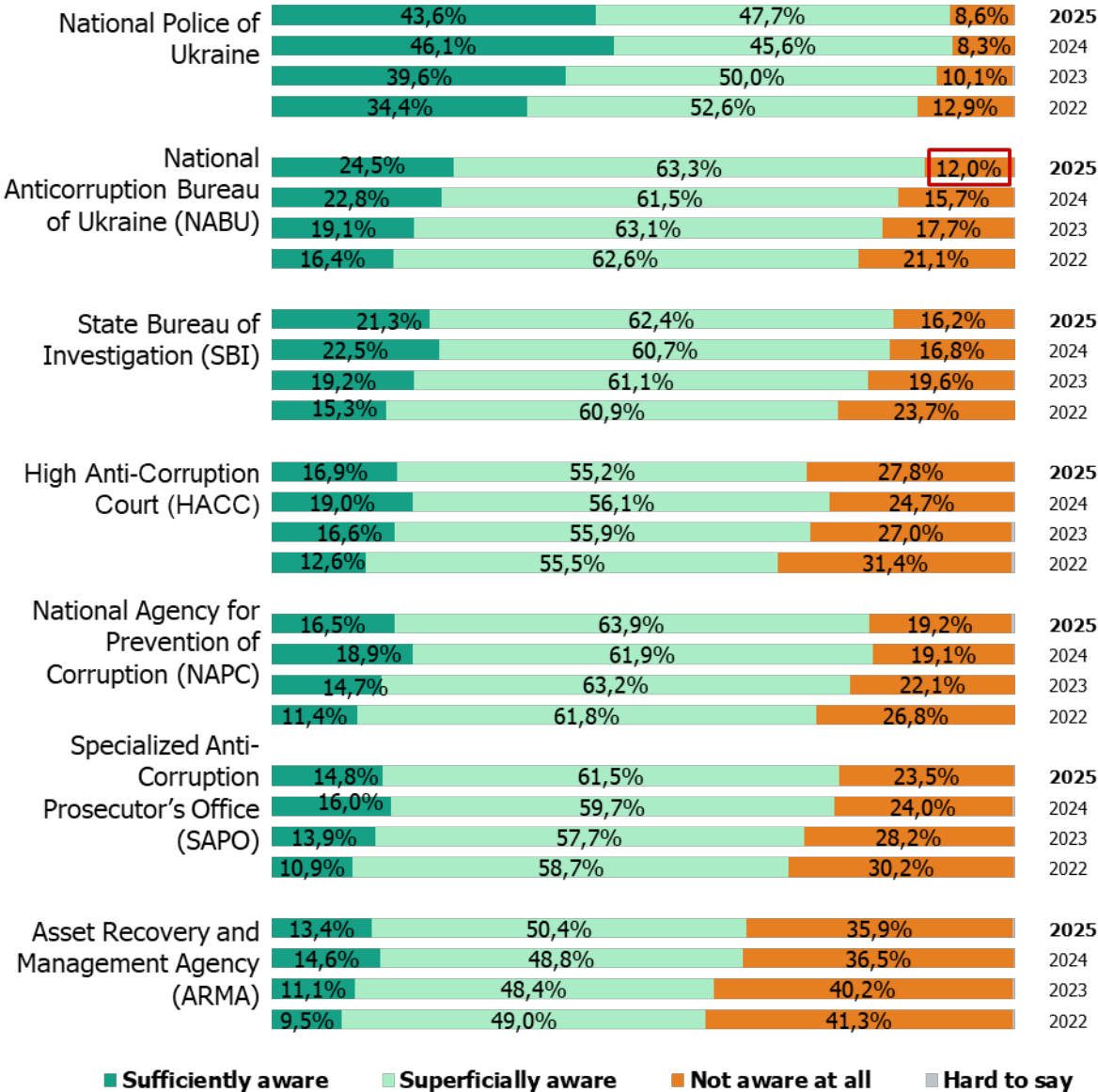
Despite the decrease in the share of sufficiently aware respondents, the **National Police of Ukraine** remains the leader: **76.7%** of the population and **91.3%** of business representatives consider themselves at least superficially aware of the activities of this state body.

Among the population, **NABU** remains in second place in terms of awareness, **66.5%** as the combined share of sufficiently or superficially aware, which is a significant increase compared to 2024, followed by **SBI**, 58.9%. Next in the ranking is **SAPO**, awareness of which increased significantly and in a statistically significant manner **to 53.7%**, compared to 43.9% in 2024.

The same sequence of the top three leaders in awareness by this combined indicator is observed among the business audience: following the National Police are **NABU, 87.8%**, and **SBI, 83.7%**.

At the same time, it should be noted that the share of those sufficiently aware of the activities of NABU in both audiences is almost twice lower than the corresponding indicator for the National Police: among the population, 8.7% compared to 21.0%, among business, 24.5% compared to 43.6%.

Fig. 1.3.8. Awareness of the activities of anti-corruption bodies: business



Both audiences continue to demonstrate the lowest level of awareness regarding Asset Recovery and Management Agency of Ukraine(**ARMA**). A total of **51.3%** of the population reported complete unawareness of the agency’s activities. However, this indicator decreased statistically significantly compared to the previous year, when it was 55.9%, while the share of those superficially aware among the population increased statistically significantly from 34.6% to 38.0%. Awareness of ARMA among business representatives did not change significantly compared to the previous year, with the combined share of sufficiently and superficially aware respondents amounting to 63.8%.

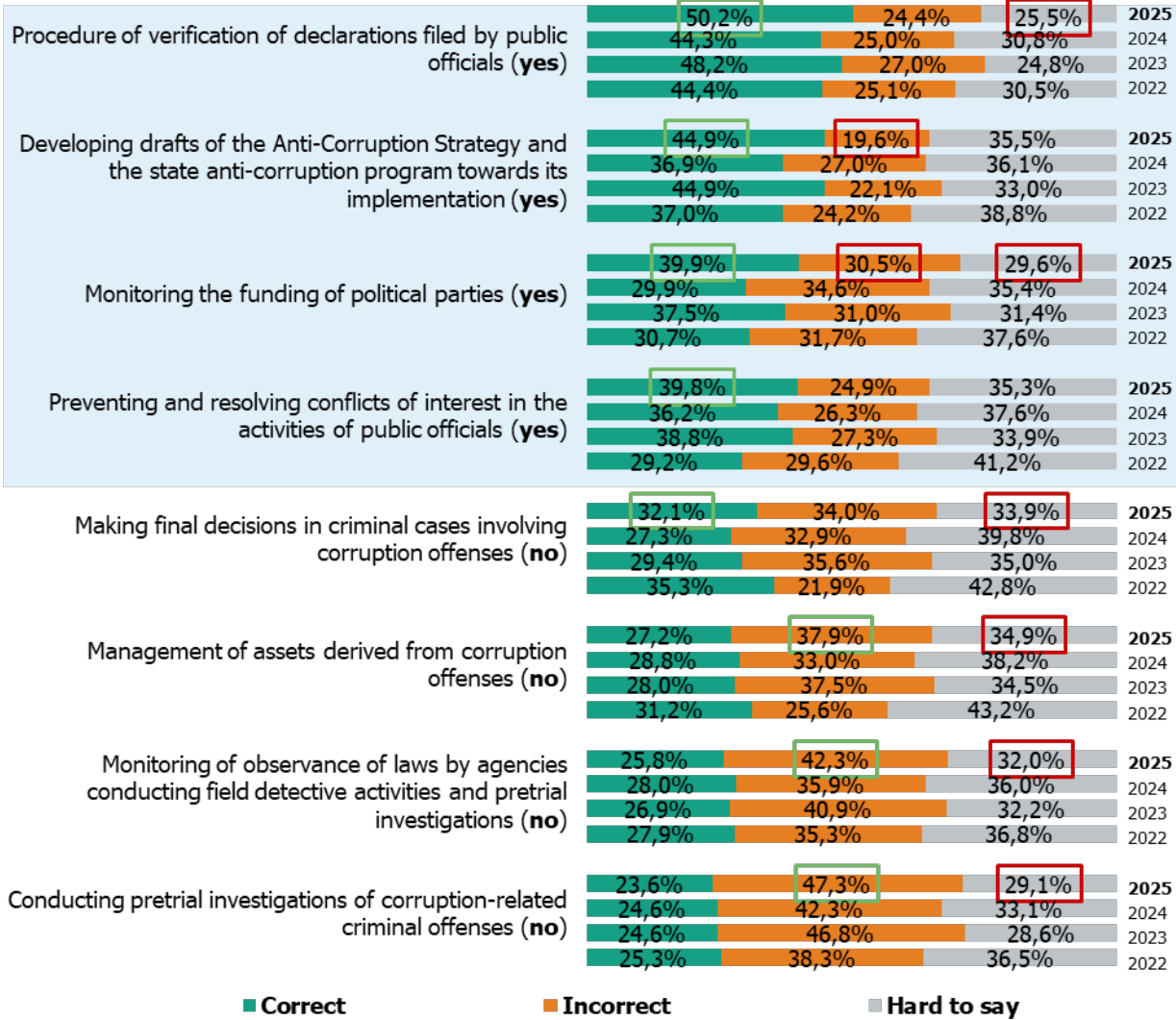
NACP occupies a middle position in the ranking for both target audiences. The combined share of those sufficiently or superficially aware of the agency’s activities amounts to **60.2%** for the population, a statistically significant increase of 7.1 percentage points compared to 2024, and **80.4%** for business, at the level of 2024. The share of those “completely unaware” is 36.9% among the population and 19.2% among business representatives.

Overall, the level of awareness among business representatives regarding the activities of anti-corruption bodies is higher than among the population.

This conclusion is also confirmed by the data from the “testing”, where respondents were asked to determine which types of activities or functions fall within the **powers of NACP** and which do not. For this purpose, respondents were presented with a number of statements and asked whether each is a function of NACP. For half of the statements the correct answer was “yes”, and for the other half “no”. The results of this “testing” of respondents are presented in Fig. 1.3.9 and Fig. 1.3.10, population and business respectively.¹

¹ The corresponding “yes” and “no” labels are shown in parentheses after each statement, and respondents’ answers are recoded as “correct” or “incorrect.”

Fig. 1.3.9. Awareness of the powers of NACP: population¹



Overall, the **population less often than business representatives selects correct answer options** and more often tends to choose the response “difficult to say”. This difference between the two audiences has been observed for four consecutive years.

At the same time, common patterns are also observed in the responses of the population and business. In particular, both audiences most often give the correct answer regarding the power of NACP to conduct **verification of declarations of public officials**, 50.2% correct answers among the population and 66.6% among business.

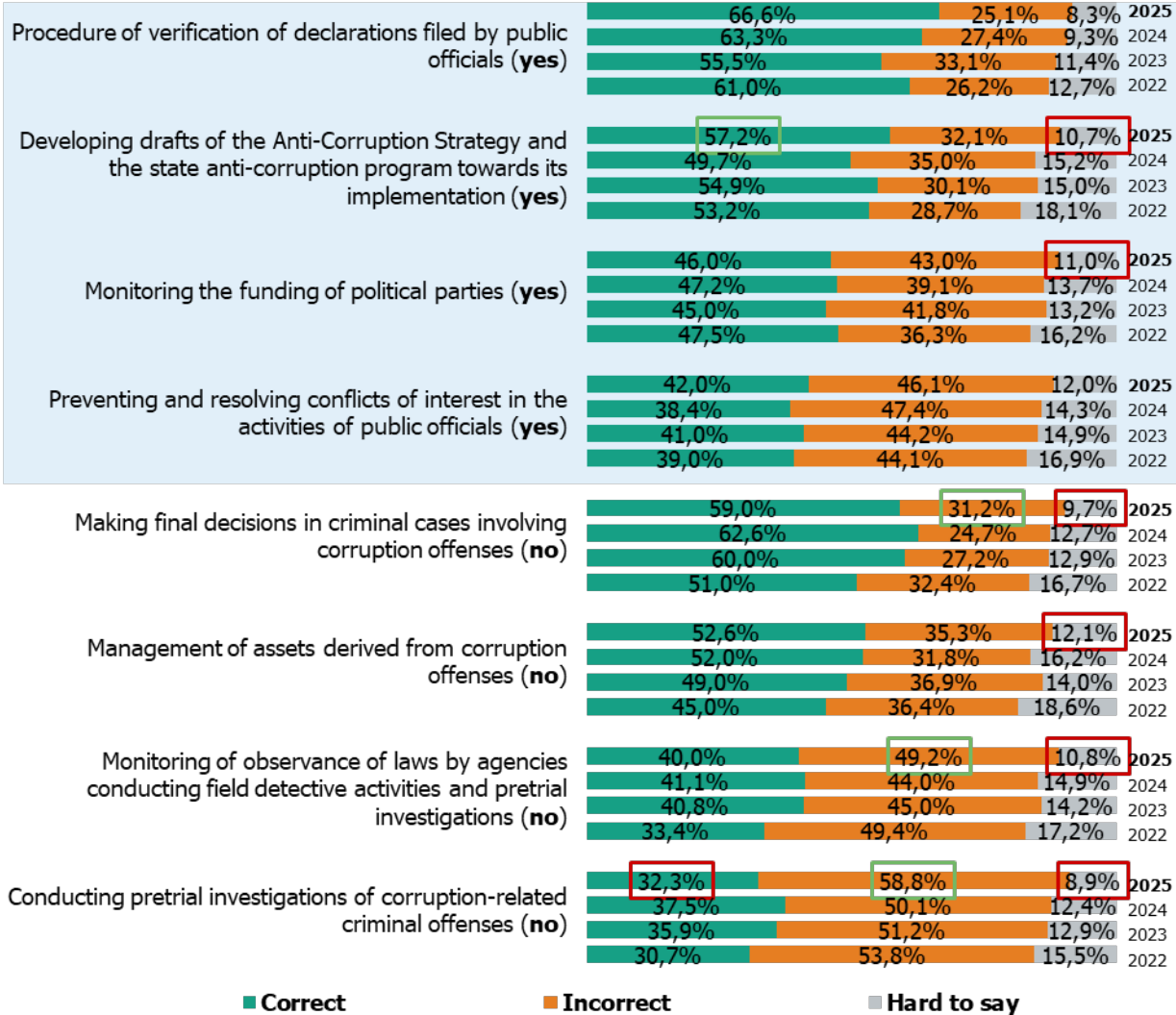
In second place among correct “yes” answers in both audiences is the **development of draft Anti-Corruption Strategy and the state anti-corruption program for its implementation**. The correct “yes” answer was given by 44.9% of the population and 57.2% of business.

Business representatives are significantly less likely than the population to incorrectly attribute to NACP such activities as making final decisions in criminal cases on corruption offenses and managing assets obtained from corruption offenses. The correct “no” answer was given by 59.0% and 52.6% of business representatives, whereas among the population these indicators are 32.1%, a statistically significant increase of 4.8 percentage points compared to 2024, and 27.2%.

¹ Question: "In your opinion, does the National Agency on Corruption Prevention exercise the following powers?"

In the period 2022–2025, a steady increase in the share of correct answers regarding powers not inherent to NACP is observed among business. At the same time, among the population, the level of correct answers for these positions remains noticeably lower and fluctuates without a clearly expressed trend.

Fig. 1.3.10. Awareness of the powers of NACP: business¹



To analyze the dynamics of awareness among the population and business, a **calculated awareness index** was introduced. Respondents are considered sufficiently aware if they gave correct answers to more than half of the items, that is, at least 5 out of 8.

In 2025, the share of **sufficiently aware** population increased and amounts to **13.3%**, compared to 8.9% in 2024, the difference of 4.4 percentage points is statistically significant. The indicator for business, 31.7%, slightly decreased compared to 33.3% in 2024, the change is not statistically significant.

The results of the “test” questions indicate **that respondents’ subjective self-assessment of their level of awareness** regarding the activities of certain state authorities **does not always**

¹ Question: “In your opinion, does the National Agency on Corruption Prevention exercise the following powers?” The corresponding “yes” and “no” labels are shown in parentheses after each statement, and respondents’ answers are recorded as “correct” or “incorrect.”

correspond to their actual understanding of their powers. This discrepancy is most pronounced among the population.

This conclusion is confirmed by the analysis of the percentages of correct answers regarding the powers of **NACP** in three groups of respondents - those who consider themselves "sufficiently aware", "superficially aware" and "completely unaware" of the activities of this body.

The results are presented in Tables 1.3.1 and 1.3.2, for the population and business respectively.

The analysis shows that respondents from the population who assessed their own awareness as "sufficient" slightly more often give correct answers regarding the powers of NACP than those who stated that they are superficially aware.

At the same time, even among the most aware respondents, the **level of actual knowledge** regarding the powers of NACP **remains limited**: the share of respondents who gave 5 or more correct answers in 2025 is only **17.0%**, a statistically significant increase of 5.6 percentage points compared to 2024. At the same time, among respondents who classified themselves as superficially aware, the indicator is comparable - 16.8% gave 5 or more correct answers, an increase of 6.7 percentage points, and among respondents who consider themselves completely unaware - 7.5%, without change. Thus, it can be stated that the **actual level of awareness of the population** about the work of anti-corruption bodies **is lower than declared**.

Table 1.3.1. Awareness of the powers of NACP: population by level of self-assessment, % of correct answers¹

Powers of the NACP	Level of awareness of the NACP's activities (self-assessment)		
	Sufficiently informed	Superficially informed	Not informed at all
Conducting checks of public officials' declarations (yes)	58,8%	58,1%	38,2%
Preventing and managing conflicts of interest in the activities of public officials (yes)	56,0%	45,5%	29,9%
Developing draft Anti-Corruption Strategy and the state anti-corruption program for its implementation (yes)	61,7%	53,0%	31,9%
Exercising control over the financing of political parties (yes)	49,2%	47,2%	28,9%
Managing assets obtained from corruption offenses (no)	37,6%	29,8%	21,6%
Adopting final decisions in criminal cases on corruption offenses (no)	46,2%	37,2%	23,3%
Supervising compliance with laws by bodies conducting operational-search activities and pre-trial investigations of corruption offenses (no)	34,1%	29,8%	18,9%
Conducting pre-trial investigations of corruption criminal offenses (no)	36,4%	26,4%	18,0%
Gave correct answers to 5 or more items (2025)	17,0%	16,8%	7,5%
Gave correct answers to 5 or more items (2024)	11,4%	10,1%	7,6%
Gave correct answers to 5 or more items (2023)	15,8%	11,4%	12,1%
Gave correct answers to 5 or more items (2022)	23,8%	12,9%	10,3%

Among the **business audience**, a **more pronounced relationship is observed between self-assessment of awareness and the results of the "testing"**. In particular, among respondents who classified themselves as "sufficiently aware" of the activities of NACP, the share of those who

¹ Question: "In your opinion, does the National Agency on Corruption Prevention exercise the following powers?" The corresponding "yes" and "no" labels are shown in parentheses after each statement, and respondents' answers are recorded as "correct" or "incorrect."

correctly attributed 5 or more powers in 2025 amounts to **48.7%**. At the same time, a negative trend of this indicator compared to 2024 should be noted, 53.4%. Among those who classified themselves as “superficially aware”, the value of the index is 31.2%, and among the “completely unaware” - 19.4%, both indicators without statistically significant change.

Thus, even the least aware respondents among the business audience demonstrate a better understanding of the powers of NACP than the most aware groups of the population.

Table 1.3.2. Awareness of the powers of NACP: business by level of self-assessment, % of correct answers

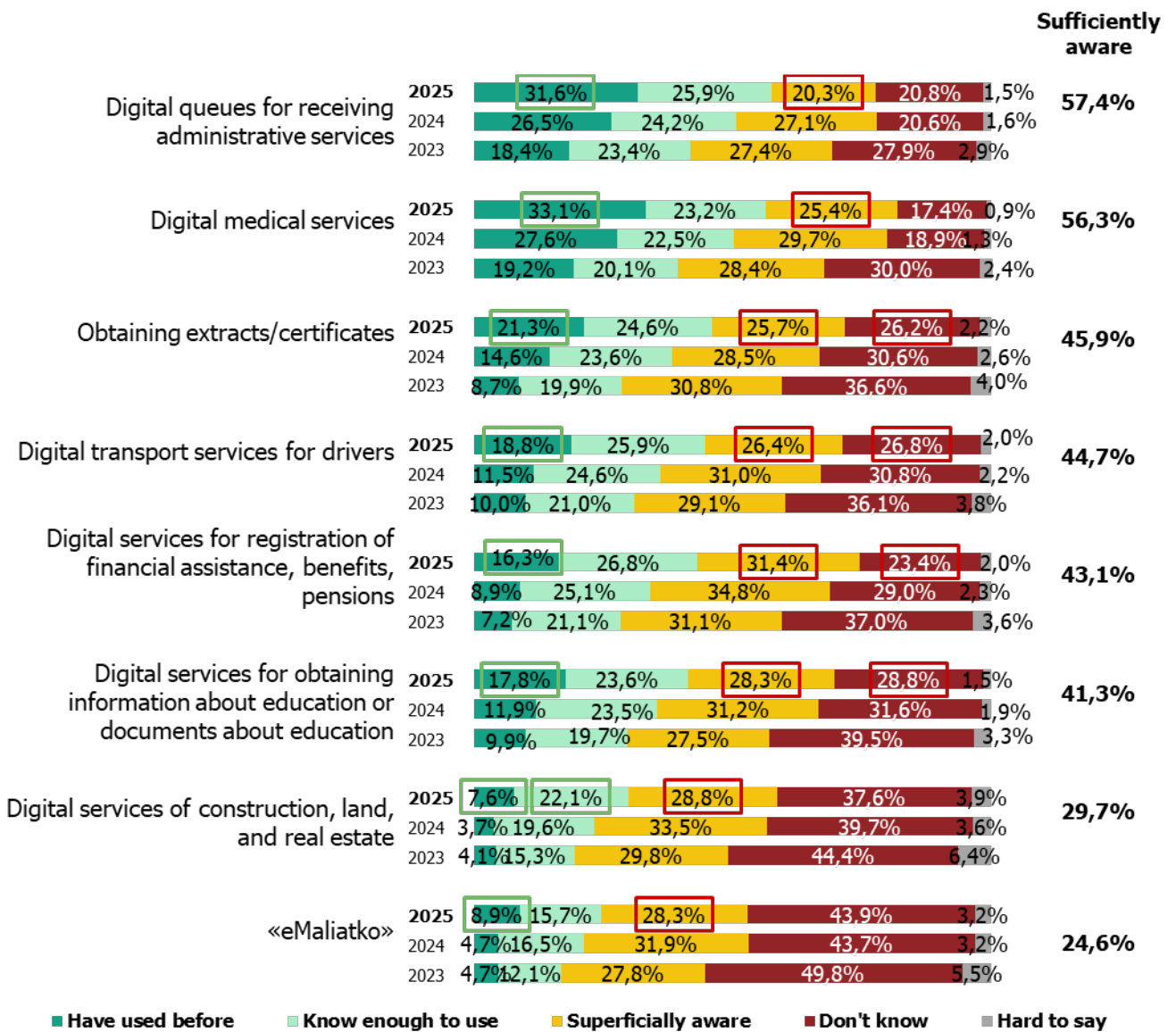
Powers of the NACP	Level of awareness of the NACP’s activities (self-assessment)		
	Sufficiently informed	Sufficiently informed	Sufficiently informed
Conducting checks of public officials’ declarations (yes)	63,6%	70,9%	56,2%
Exercising control over the financing of political parties (yes)	49,0%	47,6%	39,2%
Developing draft Anti-Corruption Strategy and the state anti-corruption program for its implementation (yes)	52,1%	61,3%	48,3%
Preventing and managing conflicts of interest in the activities of public officials (yes)	39,7%	44,0%	38,0%
Adopting final decisions in criminal cases on corruption offenses (no)	79,7%	58,6%	44,2%
Managing assets obtained from corruption offenses (no)	74,3%	51,5%	38,5%
Supervising compliance with laws by bodies conducting operational-search activities and pre-trial investigations of corruption offenses (no)	63,7%	37,3%	29,3%
Conducting pre-trial investigations of corruption criminal offenses (no)	53,3%	29,0%	25,3%
<i>Gave correct answers to 5 or more items (2025)</i>	48,7%	31,2%	19,4%
Gave correct answers to 5 or more items (2024)	53,4%	31,5%	19,8%
Gave correct answers to 5 or more items (2023)	44,0%	27,6%	22,9%
Gave correct answers to 5 or more items (2022)	45,9%	27,9%	14,9%

Awareness of electronic services for the provision of public services online

In 2023–2025, both the population and business audiences were asked to assess their level of awareness of the availability of electronic services that serve as alternatives to corruption practices. Respondents are considered sufficiently aware of each service if they either have experience using it or know enough to use it. The results are presented in Fig. 1.3.11, population, and Fig. 1.3.12, business.

Overall, the level of awareness of services among the population is significantly lower than among business: among the **population**, the indicator of “sufficient awareness”, the average share of those sufficiently aware across all services, is **42.9%**, while among **business** it is significantly higher and amounts to **60.6%**. At the same time, it should be noted that the average awareness of the population continues to grow: in 2023 the indicator was 29.4%, in 2024 it was 36.1%. The increase in 2025 by 6.8 percentage points is statistically significant. In contrast, awareness among business remained at the previous level, 57.2% in 2023 and 59.9% in 2024.

Fig. 1.3.11. Awareness of electronic services for the provision of public services online: population¹



Among the population, the highest level of awareness is shared by **electronic queue services for receiving administrative services and medical service platforms**, Helsi, “Ye Liky” and others: 31.6% and 33.1% of respondents respectively have used them, and an additional 25.9% and 23.2% respectively know how to use them if needed.

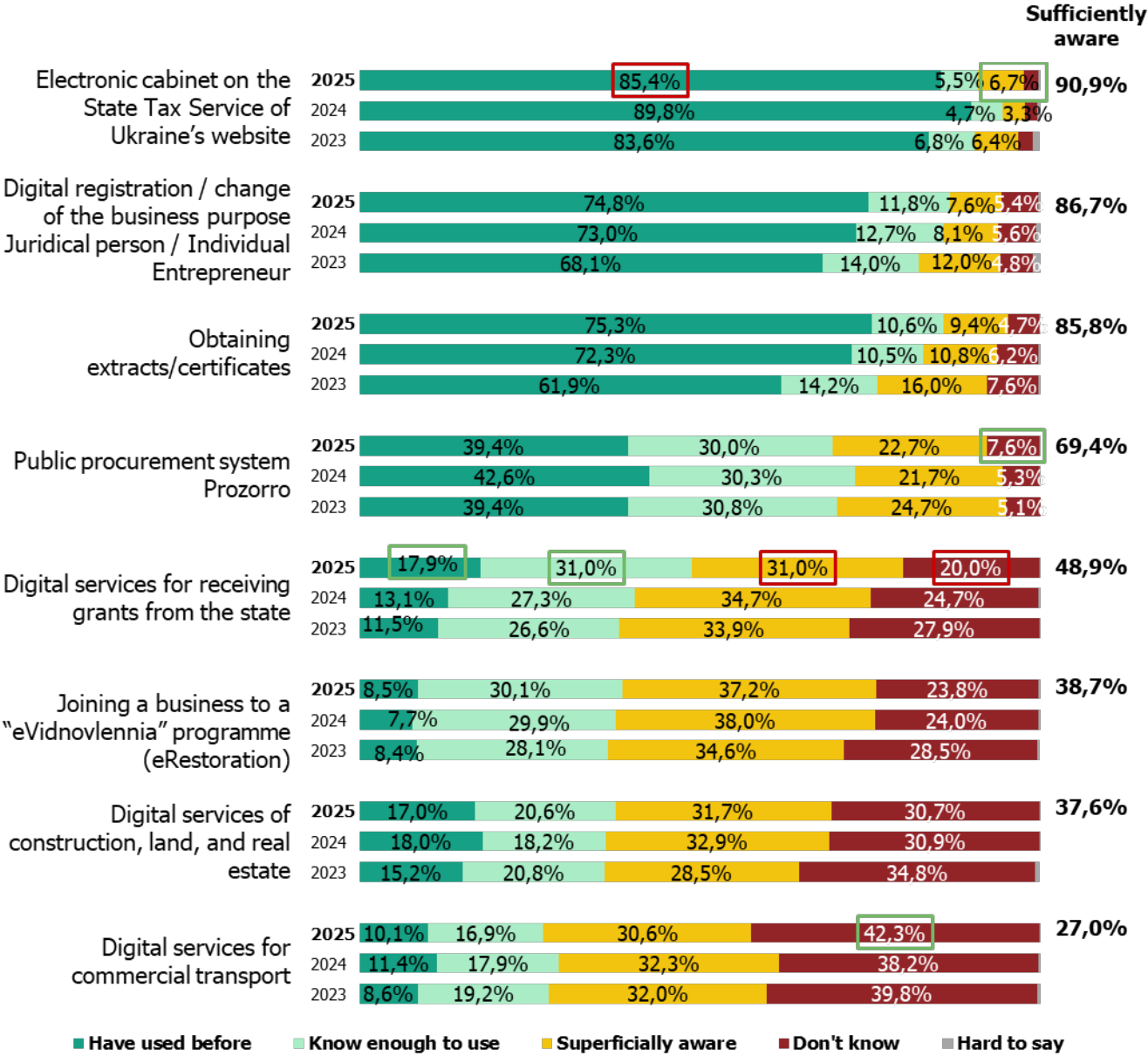
Overall, more than half of the population is sufficiently aware of these two services, **57.4%** and **56.3%** respectively. Other services are used less frequently by the population, as they are targeted at specific audiences. However, for all services there is a statistically significant increase in at least one of the awareness components, either usage experience or the ability to use them.

Among the business audience, the undisputed leader remains the **electronic cabinet on the STS website**: the share of those sufficiently aware of it is **90.9%**, 85.4% of respondents use it and another 5.5% know how to do so. However, this indicator decreased compared to 2024 by 3.6 percentage points, when it was 94.5%, the difference is statistically significant.

¹ Question: "How well informed do you consider yourself about the following electronic services for the provision of government services online?"

Second place is occupied by **electronic registration or change of business activity**: the level of awareness is **86.7%**, of which 74.8% already have usage experience. **Obtaining extracts and certificates online** has been mastered by 75.3% of entrepreneurs, and another 10.6% know how to do this, so the level of awareness is **85.8%**.

Fig. 1.3.12. Awareness of electronic services for the provision of public services online: business¹



A significant increase in awareness is demonstrated **by online services for obtaining state grants for business development**. The overall indicator increased from 40.4% in 2024 to **48.9%** in 2025, the difference of 8.5 percentage points is statistically significant. At the same time, both the share of those who used these services increased, from 13.1% to 17.9%, and the share of those who know enough to use them, from 27.3% to 31.0%. At the same time, the shares of those superficially aware and completely unaware decreased statistically significantly by 3.7 and 4.7 percentage points respectively.

Awareness of the specifics of submitting and reviewing corruption reports

¹ Question: "To what extent do you consider your enterprise to be familiar with such online government services?"

Starting from 2023, awareness among the population regarding the specifics of submitting, reporting channels, and mechanisms for reviewing corruption reports has been assessed. According to the methodology, respondents were presented with 8 statements, half of which were correct and half incorrect. Respondents are considered sufficiently aware if they correctly identified more than half of the statements, that is, 5 or more out of 8, and superficially aware if they identified half of them, 4.

To assess **awareness of the specifics of submitting corruption reports**, the following statements were proposed, with the correct answer and the share of respondents who selected it indicated in parentheses:

- All reports from citizens about corruption must be stored on the Unified Whistleblower Reporting Portal, yes: **66.9%**, a statistically significant decrease of 8.3 percentage points.
- Reports of corruption must be submitted by citizens only through the Unified Whistleblower Reporting Portal, and submission by other means, personal reception, hotline and so on, is not allowed, no: 32.8%, without change.
- It is possible to submit an anonymous corruption report without providing personal information that could identify the individual, yes: **59.1%**, without change.
- When submitting a report through the Unified Whistleblower Reporting Portal, a person must indicate an email address, no: **29.5%**, without change.
- Citizens may submit corruption reports not only at their place of work or study but also to specially authorized entities in the field of anti-corruption, to the prosecutor's office, the National Police, NABU, NACP, yes: **76.9%**, a statistically significant increase of 4.8 percentage points.
- Citizens cannot submit corruption reports through individuals such as journalists, public activists, or members of parliament, no: **44.0%**, a statistically significant increase of 10.4 percentage points.
- Reports of corruption related to the place of work or study may be submitted to a higher level authority that exercises control over compliance with anti corruption legislation in subordinate organizations, yes: **70.7%**, without change.
- Reports concerning corruption involving high level officials, law enforcement officers and judges must be submitted exclusively to NACP, no: **20.1%**, without change.

Overall, the share of sufficiently aware respondents, those who correctly answered at least 5 out of 8 statements, is **37.0%**, which is statistically significantly higher, plus 4.1 percentage points, than in 2024, 32.9%. At the same time, the share of those who correctly answered at least 4 out of 8 statements, sufficiently and superficially aware, is much higher and amounts to **67.2%**, without change compared to 2024, 66.1%.

The assessment of **awareness regarding the mechanisms for reviewing corruption reports** was conducted in a similar manner. Below is a list of 8 statements indicating the correct answers and the share of respondents who selected them:

- A report is subject to review if it contains factual data indicating a possible corruption or corruption related offense that can be verified, yes: **77.2%**, without significant change.
- Anonymous reports are not reviewed, no: **47.3%**, a statistically significant increase of 6.1 percentage points.

- The period for the preliminary review of a report submitted by a person regarding a case of corruption at their place of work does not exceed ten working days, yes: **64.0%**, without significant change.
- If it is established that a corruption report does not contain factual data indicating a possible offense, such a report is returned to the person who submitted it without further review, no: **16.7%**, without significant change.
- If the facts stated in the report concern the head of the state authority to which it was submitted, such a report cannot be reviewed by that authority and is forwarded to an entity authorized to review or investigate such facts, yes: **73.4%**, a statistically significant increase of 3.4 percentage points.
- A person who submitted a report is provided with detailed information on the results of its preliminary review only upon receipt of a separate request from that person, no: **14.8%**, a statistically significant decrease of 2.4 percentage points.
- If, as a result of the preliminary review, the information contained in the report is confirmed, the responsible persons are held disciplinarily liable, yes: **68.9%**, a statistically significant increase of 4.6 percentage points.
- If, during the preliminary review, signs of a corruption criminal offense are identified, the relevant materials are transferred to NACP, no: **9.0%**, a statistically significant increase of 2.6 percentage points.

The share of sufficiently aware respondents, those who correctly answered at least 5 out of 8 statements, is **28.1%**, without change compared to 2024, 26.6%. The share of sufficiently and superficially aware respondents, those who correctly answered at least 4 out of 8 statements, is **69.8%**, an increase of 4.8 percentage points compared to 2024, 65.0%, which is a statistically significant positive trend.

РОЗДІЛ 2. SECTION 2. INDICATORS OF CORRUPTION EXPERIENCE IN SPECIFIC SECTORS

2.1. General methodology for assessing corruption experience

This study uses three approaches to studying and measuring corruption experience among the population and business representatives:

1) direct method, self-assessment - respondents determine whether they have had corruption experience over a certain period of time, general question "Have you encountered corruption in the past 12 months - that is, did you give or were you asked for a bribe, use connections and so on?", for business representatives - "...in the interests of the enterprise where you work?". The indicator of the share of respondents, population or business representatives, who according to self-assessment, had experience of corruption practices shows a certain stability when used for comparison across different survey waves. Therefore, it is defined as **an indicator of corruption experience of the population or business representatives** and is used as one of the indicators of the effectiveness of the state anti-corruption policy;

2) respondents' self-assessment of the presence of corruption experience during interaction or contact with a specific sector. The share of respondents, those who had contact with the sector, who answered affirmatively to the direct question, that is, are aware that they or members of their families, for business - managers or representatives of the enterprise, encountered corruption when interacting with representatives of relevant institutions, establishments or authorities, is defined in this study as an **indicator of corruption experience in the sector** and is used for comparison across different survey waves;

3) determination of the prevalence of specific corruption practices in certain sectors based on confirmation that respondents were in contact situations containing signs of corruption. Based on the analysis of the data, an integral research indicator is calculated - **the share of respondents who were in corruption situations in a certain sector**, among those who had contact with the sector. The list of corruption situations proposed to respondents cannot cover all corruption practices in a sector and will be periodically updated in different survey waves. Therefore, this indicator should not be directly used to assess the level of corruption in a sector, however it is used for comparison with the corruption experience indicator, based on self-assessment, in terms of recognizing contact situations as corruption.

To assess the prevalence of corruption in specific sectors, respondents were asked to evaluate their own experience of interaction with state authorities and institutions during the 12 months preceding the survey. The assessment of corruption experience was carried out only by those respondents who had experience of addressing, that is, contact, in the relevant sector, either personally or through family members for the population, or employees for business.

Overall, in the 2025 study conducted using the updated methodology of the standard survey on corruption in Ukraine, indicators of corruption experience were analyzed for the population in 10 sectors and for business in 9 sectors.

In 2025, the names of certain sectors used in previous years were changed, however the system and wording of questions for determining the indicators remained unchanged, which ensures the possibility of comparative analysis of corruption experience indicators over time¹.

In addition, for the population in 2025 a new sector was added - "*Social protection of the population*", and for business representatives two new sectors were added that were not previously covered by the study, "*Public procurement*" and "*Recovery, reconstruction, of Ukraine*".

Different sectors were proposed for assessment to the population and business audiences, those most relevant for each audience.

The population assessed the following sectors:

- Sector 1: Healthcare, medical services²
- Sector 2: Services of higher education institutions
- Sector 3: Services of educational institutions, primary and secondary education
- Sector 4: Services of educational institutions, municipal kindergartens
- Sector 5: Activities of service centers of MIA
- Sector 6: Activities of administrative service centers, ASC
- Sector 7: Social protection of the population
- Sector 8: Services of energy companies, connection and maintenance of electricity, gas, water supply and wastewater systems
- Sector 9: Construction and land relations
- Sector 10: Ensuring law and order and combating crime

Business representatives assessed the following sectors:

- Sector 1: Services of energy companies, connection and maintenance of electricity, gas, water supply and wastewater systems
- Sector 2: Construction and land relations
- Sector 3: Ensuring law and order and combating crime
- Sector 4: Taxation
- Sector 5: State regulation and control in the field of economic activity
- Sector 6: Customs, customs control, processing of customs documents for business entities
- Sector 7: Judiciary
- Sector 8: Public procurement
- Sector 9: Recovery, reconstruction, of Ukraine

Due to the fact that the list of sectors differs significantly for the population and business, in the following sections the assessments of these two audiences will be presented separately.

¹ In the 2021–2024 studies, different names were used for certain sectors. In particular, the sector "Healthcare (medical services)" was referred to as "State and municipal healthcare (medical services)", the sector "Ensuring law and order and combating crime" was referred to as "Activities of law enforcement agencies", and the sector "Services of energy companies (connection and maintenance of electricity, gas, water supply and wastewater systems)" was referred to as "Services for connection and maintenance of electricity, gas, water supply and wastewater systems".

For business representatives, the names of the sectors "Taxation", "Judicial proceedings", "Customs", and "State regulation and control in the sector of economic activity" were also clarified without changing the content and instruments of the study.

² Services of private institutions in the sectors of healthcare and education were not assessed.

Methodological principles for calculating corruption experience indicators

The calculation of corruption experience indicators for respondents in each sector was based on two questions:

- **Self-assessment** indicator: *respondents were asked whether they or members of their family had encountered corruption in this sector*, a direct question asked for each sector to those who interacted with it (applied or had contact)¹. The share of respondents who answered the direct question affirmatively is defined in this study as the **corruption experience indicator in the sector**;
- Integral indicator of **being in corruption situations**: in this question, respondents were asked to recall in more detail *whether situations containing signs of corruption² arose when receiving specific services* or when interacting with representatives of relevant institutions or establishments.

If such a corruption contact situation occurred, respondents were asked to specify whether it arose on their own initiative or at the request of employees of the institution or establishment. If such situations did not occur, including because the respondent did not receive the specific service, the answer option "Such a situation did not occur" was selected. Respondents could also select the option "Other" or refuse to answer. The integral **indicator of being in corruption situations** is calculated as the share of respondents who selected any answer other than "Such a situation did not occur" when discussing specific corruption situations, the options "Other" or "Refusal to answer" in this study are considered socially acceptable substitutes for answers about participation in a corruption situation.

¹ Questions for each sector:

(1) "Have you or members of your family (for business representatives - you or your enterprise) contacted ... (for services ...) over the past 12 months?" (by sector: healthcare institutions, MIA service centers, ASC, state authorities or institutions, companies (enterprises), authorities, institutions, and organizations);

or "Have you or members of your family over the past 12 months met or had contact with representatives of ... (on issues of ...)?" (with representatives of law enforcement agencies, tax, customs, judicial authorities, representatives of the sector of state regulation and control in the sector of economic activity); for the sector "Public procurement" - "...participated in public procurement over the past 12 months?";

for educational institutions: "Are you or members of your family currently studying or have studied over the past 12 months in ...";

(2) "Have you encountered corruption when contacting ... (for services in the sector of ...) or during meetings or contacts with ... over the past 12 months - that is, have you given or been asked to give a bribe, used personal connections, etc.?" ; for educational institutions: "Have you encountered corruption in ... over the past 12 months - that is, have you given or been asked to give a bribe, used personal connections, etc.?"

² Specifically, respondents or members of their families (for business representatives - respondents or employees of the enterprise) made informal payments (money or gifts) or provided services in certain situations. The situations were formulated in the most neutral wording, avoiding any evaluative concepts with negative connotations. The term "corruption" itself was not used in the description of the situations.

Application of additional samples by sectors

In addition to nationally representative samples, hereinafter general samples, in the 2025 study, special samples of respondents by sectors, hereinafter additional samples, were also applied for certain target groups in order to reduce the error in estimating corruption experience indicators. Such samples were formed to ensure at least 200 respondents who had experience of contact or interaction with the relevant sector.

Additional samples were applied for those sectors in which, based on the general samples, the number of respondents who had contact with the relevant sector was limited. This made it possible to increase the number of observations within individual sectors and improve the analytical reliability of estimating corruption experience indicators.

Additional samples were formed taking into account the characteristics of the relevant target groups, population and entrepreneurs or business owners, who, according to the results of the general survey, interacted with the relevant sectors. During the survey of respondents from the additional samples, identical survey instruments were used, as stipulated by the study methodology for the respective sectors.

At the same time, additional samples were not applied to sectors that were included for the first time in the standard survey on corruption in Ukraine in 2025, in particular the sector "Social protection of the population" for the population target group, and the sectors "Public procurement" and "Recovery, reconstruction, of Ukraine" for the business target group.

The total number of respondents surveyed within each sector is provided in the relevant subsections of this section dedicated to the analysis of corruption experience indicators.

2.2. Assessment of corruption experience of the population by sectors

In 2025, the analysis of corruption experience among the population showed statistically significant **positive shifts** in most of the studied sectors, as well as the formation of stable trends towards a decrease in corruption indicators compared to previous years.

A comparison of the 2025 results with the data for 2024 shows that in most of the studied sectors a statistically significant **decrease in the level of corruption experience** among the population was recorded¹.

The aggregated data on corruption experience of the population based on self-assessment by sector are presented in Fig. 2.2.1. The sectors are sorted by the share of citizens who reported having corruption experience among those who applied to the respective sector or had contact with state and non-state institutions in these sectors over the past 12 months.

According to the results for 2025, the distribution of sectors by the level of corruption experience among the population makes it possible to distinguish several groups with different intensity of corruption manifestations.

First place in terms of the prevalence of corruption in 2025 is held **by construction and land relations**, with an indicator of 31.8%, a statistically significant decrease of 12.3 percentage points compared to 2024.

Second place is shared by three sectors:

- **ensuring law and order and combating crime - 26.0%**, without significant change;
- **services of higher education institutions - 24.6%**, without significant change;
- **healthcare, medical services - 24.2%**, which is 4.3 percentage points lower than in 2024, the decrease is statistically significant.

Despite the decrease in 2025, the healthcare sector remains one of the leaders in terms of corruption experience among the population. At the same time, in 2023-2025 a consistent downward trend is observed in the share of the population that encountered corruption, indicating stable positive changes.

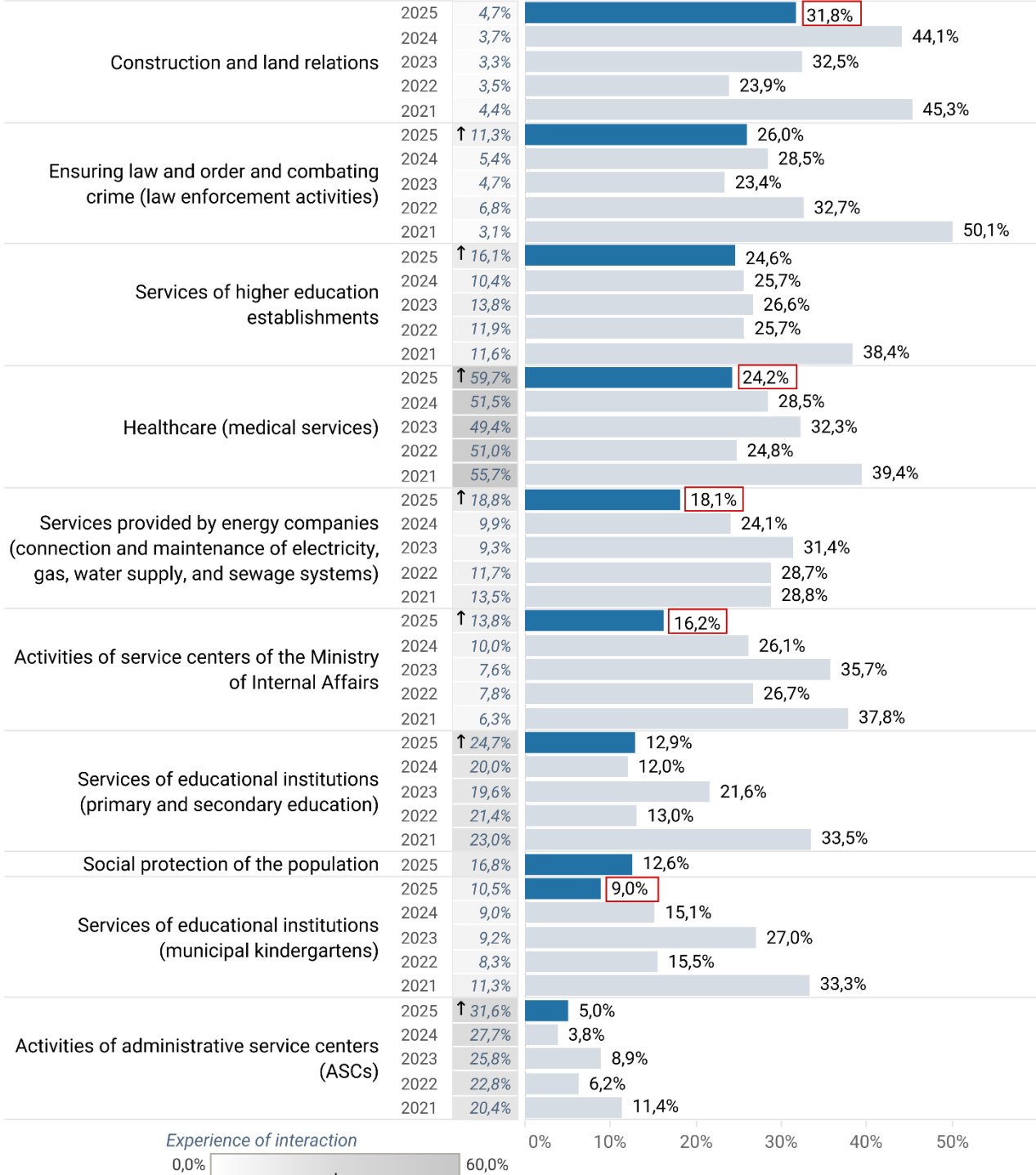
The healthcare sector requires separate attention, since interaction with it covers more than half of the population, and therefore even with declining indicators, **medical corruption experience remains the most widespread** when calculated for the entire population. Thus, in 2025, **14.4%** of the population overall reported corruption experience in the healthcare sector, in 2021-2024 the figures were 21.9%, 12.6%, 15.9% and 14.7% respectively. Therefore, despite a statistically significant decrease in the indicator, the overall share of the population that encountered corruption in healthcare in 2025 did not decrease substantially, which is related to the increase in the number of people seeking medical services.

Third place in the ranking by prevalence of corruption experience in 2025 is occupied by sectors for which a consistent and statistically significant decrease in indicators was recorded in 2024-2025:

¹ The maximum margin of error in estimating corruption experience depends on the number of surveyed respondents who interacted with the relevant sector and on the corruption experience indicator, and ranges from ± 2.5 to ± 6.5 percentage points.

services of energy companies - 18.1%, a decrease of 5.9 percentage points compared to 2024, and **activities of service centers of MIA - 16.2%**, a decrease of 9.9 percentage points compared to 2024.

Fig. 2.2.1. Experience of interaction with sectors and corruption experience based on self-assessment



Among other sectors, it is worth noting **services of educational institutions**, municipal kindergartens, where in 2025 a statistically significant decrease in the corruption experience indicator to 9.0% was recorded, continuing a steady downward trend in 2023-2025.

The lowest level of corruption in 2025 is traditionally recorded in **the activities of administrative service centers, ASC, where only 5.0%** of visitors encountered corruption when applying to these institutions. It should be noted that the distribution of sectors in the ranking of corruption experience is conditional, since the values of indicators in a number of sectors are statistically close and do not always differ from each other at a significant level. Each sector will be considered separately below, taking into account the specifics of corruption situations.

Construction and land relations

In 2025, a slight increase was recorded in the share of the population that applied for services in the field of construction and land relations - from 3.7% in 2024 to **4.7%** in 2025, the difference of 1 percentage point is not statistically significant. At the same time, this sector remains one with which citizens interact relatively rarely.

For the second year in a row, the construction and land relations sector remains **the leader** among the studied sectors in terms of **the prevalence of corruption experience** among the population - 31.8% of respondents reported that they or members of their families **encountered corruption** when applying for services in this sector.

At the same time, a significant **decrease** in the self-assessed corruption experience indicator was recorded in this sector by 12.3 percentage points - from 44.1% in 2024 to 31.8% in 2025, Fig. 2.2.2.

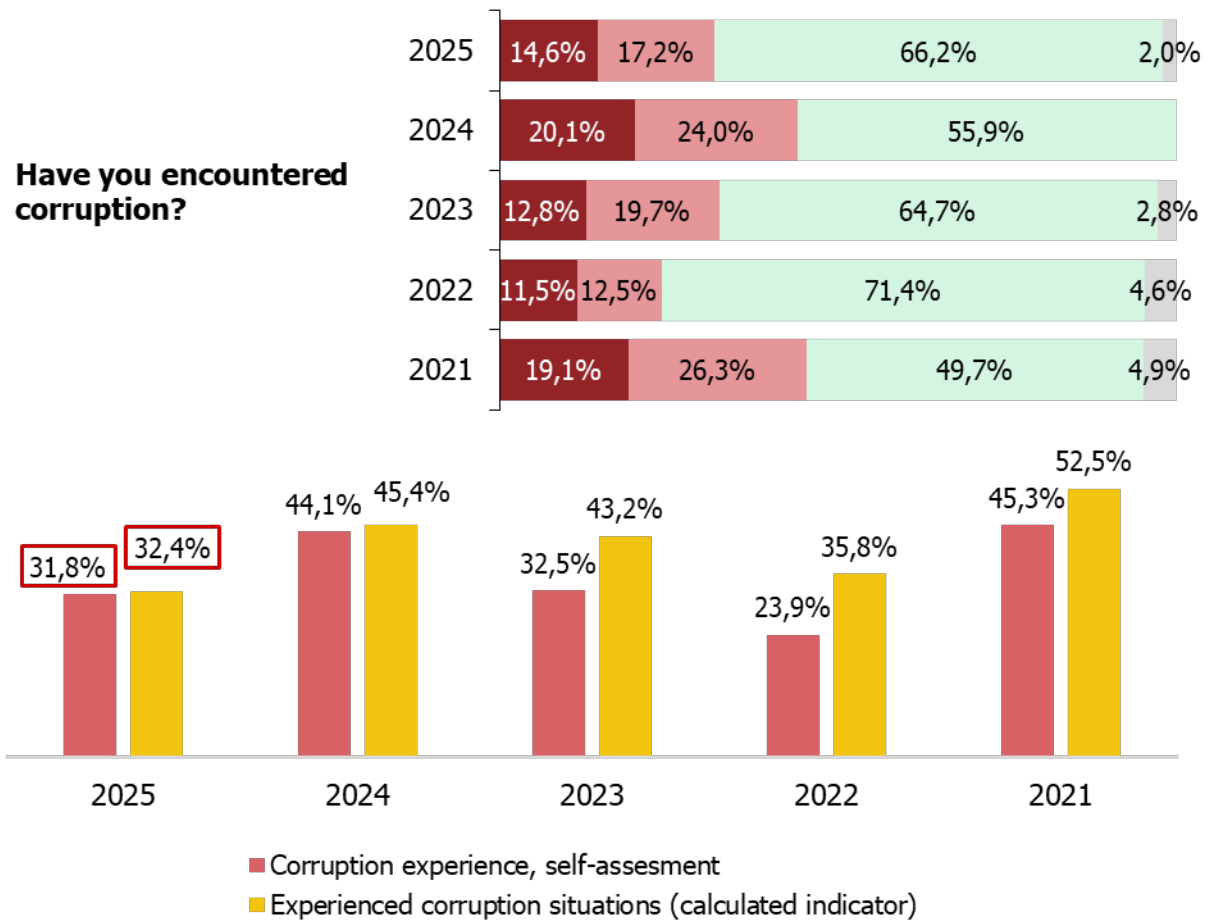
The decrease in the indicator in 2025 occurred due to a reduction in the self-assessed corruption experience of both the respondents themselves and their family members - the respective shares decreased from 20.1% to 14.6% and from 24.0% to 17.2% in 2025 compared to 2024 respectively.

The share of respondents who were in specific contact situations containing signs of corruption also decreased - from 45.4% in 2024 to **32.4%** in 2025, a decrease of 13.0 percentage points is statistically significant.

Thus, in 2025, no gap was observed between the self-assessed corruption experience indicator and the calculated indicator of being in corruption situations. This indicates that, overall, respondents adequately assess their participation in corruption situations. Therefore, the calculated indicator of being in corruption situations consistently confirms that corruption experience of the population when receiving services in this sector remains fairly widespread.

Fig. 2.2.2. Analysis of corruption experience in the sector, percentage of those who applied to this sector¹

- Yes, I have personally encountered it
- I have not, but the members of my family have
- No, we have not encountered it
- Hard to say / Refuse



For most corruption situations in the construction and land relations sector in 2025, a decrease in their prevalence is observed compared to 2024, Fig. 2.2.3.

At the same time, for most of the analyzed situations, 6 out of 11, this downward trend is statistically significant. The most noticeable decrease was recorded in the situation related to **the registration of a land plot in the State Land Cadaster**, including registration of ownership of land shares - from 27.4% in 2024 to **9.6%** in 2025.

¹ Question: "Have you encountered corruption when seeking services in the area of construction and land relations over the past 12 months – that is, did you give or were you asked to give a bribe, use personal connections, etc.?"

Number of respondents: total sample – N=118; total + additional – N=225.

The statistical margin of error for indicators in this area does not exceed ±6.5 percentage points.

Fig. 2.2.3. Corruption experience by type of situations that could arise when applying, % of those who applied to this sector¹

Made informal payments to an official, money or gifts, or provided services to them for...

issuance of a permit to develop land management documentation, for approval of such documentation for privatization of a gardening plot	2025	15,9%
	2024	20,3%
	2023	19,0%
	2022	10,5%
	2021	34,9%
making (approving) a decision on the privatization of (transfer of title to) a gardening plot	2025↓	13,0%
	2024	23,6%
	2023	36,6%
	2022	24,8%
	2021	39,2%
issuance of a permit to develop land management documentation, for approval of such documentation for privatization of a gardening plot	2025	10,7%
	2024	15,1%
	2023	25,3%
	2022	17,5%
	2021	33,6%
issuance of permits for construction or reconstruction (remodeling) of a private residence (apartment)	2025	10,1%
	2024	10,0%
	2023	23,2%
	2022	14,3%
	2021	21,8%
registration of a land plot in the State Land Cadaster (including registration of land shares)	2025↓	9,6%
	2024	27,4%
	2023	32,0%
	2022	21,7%
	2021	36,5%
entry into operation of a new private residence or building (apartment) after renovation (remodeling)	2025	7,8%
	2024	11,3%
	2023	15,6%
	2022	16,2%
	2021	15,0%
making (approving) a decision on the privatization of (transfer of title to) a land plot for individual farming	2025↓	6,7%
	2024	21,5%
	2023	29,3%
	2022	21,0%
	2021	40,9%
a decision to change the designated purpose of a land plot	2025↓	6,7%
	2024	17,9%
	2023	28,1%
	2022	12,7%
	2021	24,6%
facilitation of the release of financial aid and/or construction materials by national or local government agencies for restoration of destroyed / damaged housing	2025↓	2,9%
	2024	6,2%
	2023	24,8%
	2022	15,7%
the use of stand-ins (people who have not used their right to free privatization) in order to subsequently re-register title to such a land plot in your own favor	2025↓	2,7%
	2024	15,7%
	2023	18,5%
	2022	12,7%
	2021	22,3%
obtaining a construction passport / urban planning conditions and restrictions from the Department of Urban Planning and Architecture*	2025	2,6%
	2024	5,7%

* Department of Regional/District/Local Administrations

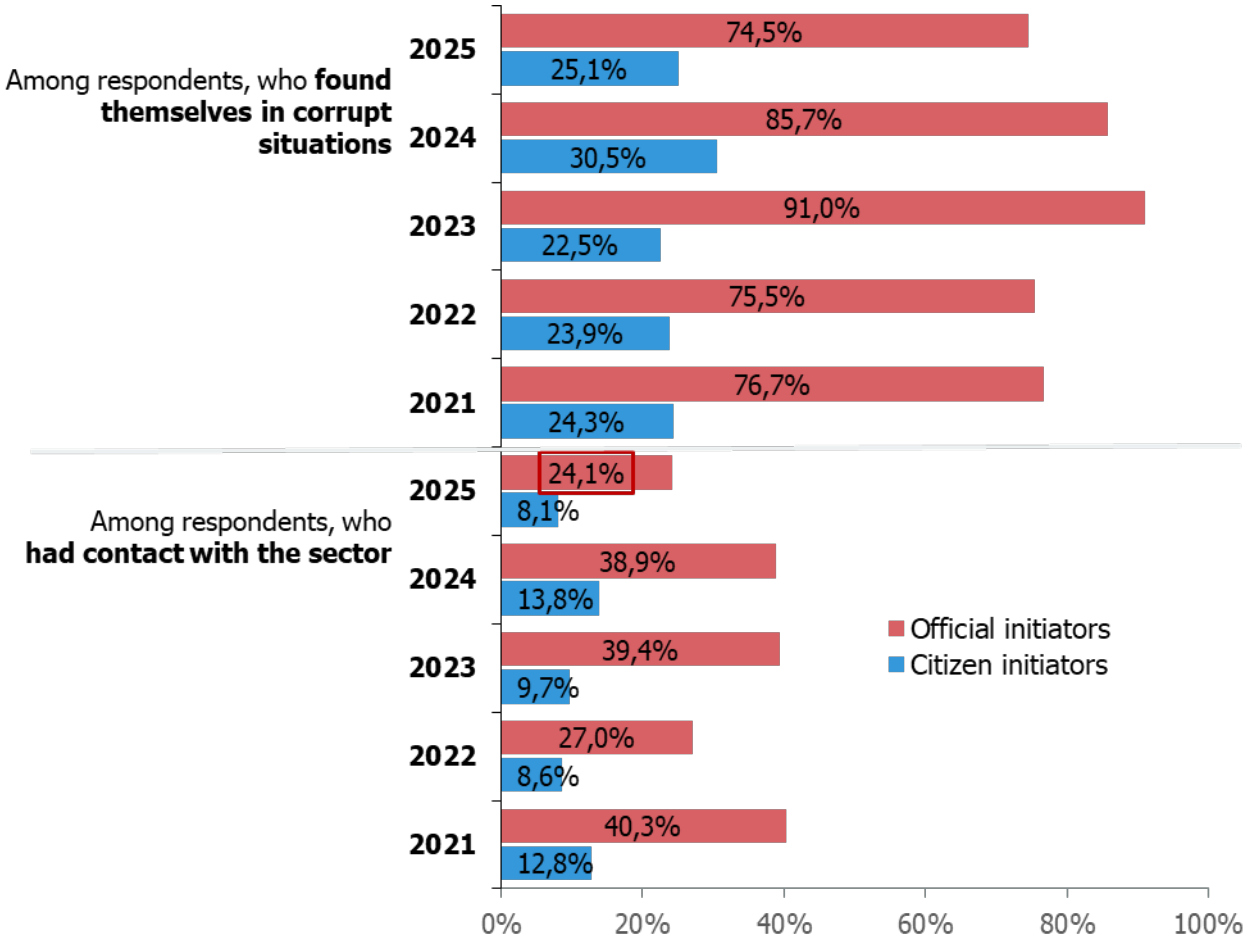
¹ Question: "Have you or members of your family encountered the following situations when seeking services in the sector of construction and land relations?"

At the same time, the structure of the most common corruption situations has also changed. Among the three most widespread corruption situations, the leading position is now held **by obtaining permission for the development of land management documentation and its approval for the privatization of a household land plot**, with an indicator of **15.9%**, which is lower compared to 2024, 20.3%. In second place is **the adoption of a decision on the privatization, transfer of ownership, of a household land plot - 13.0%**, a decrease from 23.6% in 2024. Every tenth respondent, **10.7%**, encountered a corruption situation in cases of **granting permission for the development of land management documentation and its approval for the privatization of land plots for personal farming, 10.7%**.

Due to the insufficient number of responses regarding each corruption situation, it was not possible to conduct a detailed statistical analysis of who exactly acted as the initiator, citizens or officials of executive authorities, institutions and organizations providing the relevant services, for each case. At the same time, aggregated indicators make it possible to outline general trends in the construction and land relations sector.

Overall, **8.1% of Ukrainians** who in 2025 applied to authorities, institutions and organizations for services in the field of construction and land relations, in particular on issues of privatization, ownership of premises or land plots, acted as **initiators** of corruption relations, in 2024 - 13.8%. Among those respondents who were in corruption situations, this indicator amounts to **25.1%**, in 2024 - 30.5%, Fig. 2.2.4.

Fig. 2.2.4. Initiators of corruption situations



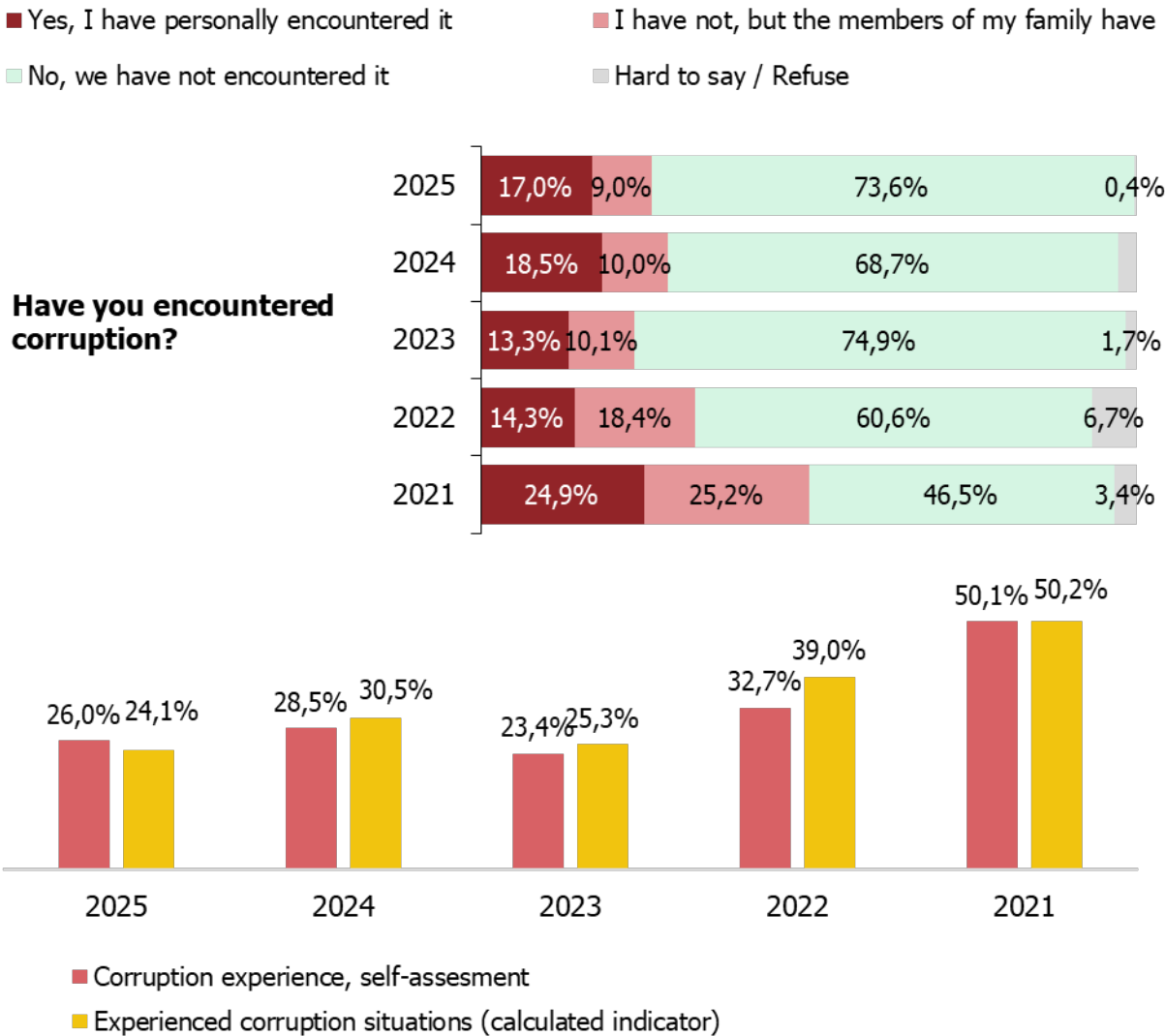
Compared to 2021-2024, no statistically significant dynamics in the structure of initiators were recorded, however **officials of public authorities initiate** corruption situations approximately twice as often as citizens. At the same time, among those who directly found themselves in corruption situations, the share of cases in which officials acted as initiators decreased - from 85.7% in 2024 to **74.5%** in 2025, which is the lowest value over the entire observation period.

If a broader group is considered, all respondents who had contact with the construction and land relations sector, a statistically significant decrease in the share of initiators among officials is also recorded - in 2025 it amounts to **24.1%**, compared to 38.9% in 2024.

Ensuring law and order and combating crime

The level of contact with this sector in 2025 was **11.3%**, which is more than twice as high as in 2024, 5.4%, and the highest value for the entire period of observations, 3.1-6.8% in 2021-2024.

Fig. 2.2.5. Analysis of corruption experience in the sector,% of those who applied to this sector¹



¹ Question: "Have you encountered corruption when meeting or interacting with representatives of law enforcement agencies over the past 12 months – that is, did you give or were you asked to give a bribe, use personal connections, etc.?"

Number of respondents: total sample – N=277; total + additional – N=353. The statistical margin of error for indicators in this area does not exceed ±5.2 percentage points.

Among respondents who had experience of addressing to law enforcement agencies, patrol police, National Police, SSU, prosecutor's office and others, **26.0% reported corruption experience based on self-assessment** in 2025, without significant dynamics compared to 2024, Fig. 2.2.5.

The share of respondents who were in specific contact situations decreased, also without statistically significant dynamics, to 24.1%, compared to 30.5% in 2024, minus 6.4 percentage points. The difference between the two indicators is insignificant, 1.9 percentage points. This allows us to conclude that respondents generally clearly identify their own involvement in corruption practices when interacting with law enforcement agencies.

Regarding the potentially corrupt situations proposed for assessment, in 2025 the trend towards a decrease in the frequency of most situations studied in 2021-2024 continues, Fig. 2.2.6.

An exception is this year's leading corruption practice - the situation of **police checks of military registration documents**. During such checks, citizens and officials most often resort to corruption actions **to avoid administrative detention and transfer to the Territorial Centre of Recruitment and Social Support- 14.7%** of respondents reported this, compared to 10.7% in 2024.

At the same time, in situations related **to violations of traffic rules and checks of documents by patrol police at stationary posts or checkpoints**, corruption experience decreased and amounted to **9.0%** and **8.0%** respectively, among those who had contact with the sector. In 2024, these figures were 14.2% and 13.0% respectively.

The share of those who reported corruption actions aimed **at avoiding or reducing liability for an administrative offense** decreased by more than half - from 10.1% in 2024 to **4.0%** in 2025.

Fig. 2.2.6. Corruption experience by type of situations that could arise when applying, % of those who applied to this sector¹

Made informal payments to a law enforcement officer, money or gifts, or provided services to them...

during the police check of military registration documents , avoiding administrative detention and delivery to the Territorial Recruitment Center	2025	14,7%
	2024	10,7%
to avoid / mitigate liability for violations of traffic safety regulations	2025	9,0%
	2024	14,2%
	2023	20,0%
	2022	25,4%
	2021	28,2%
during ID checks by the patrol police at stationary posts	2025	8,0%
	2024	13,0%
	2023	26,5%
	2022	23,7%
	2021	33,8%
to avoid liability during police checks of identity documents or documents granting the right to be in public places, as well as during a pat-down search	2025	6,6%
	2024	8,6%
	2023	16,2%
	2022	23,0%
	2021	27,0%
to avoid / mitigate liability for an administrative offense committed by you or your relatives (other than traffic safety violations)	2025↓	4,0%
	2024	10,1%
	2023	14,4%
	2022	14,3%
	2021	23,2%
to facilitate a swift and objective investigation of an offense of which you or your relatives are / were victims , to facilitate a search for and recovery of stolen property	2025	3,9%
	2024	6,3%
	2023	11,0%
	2022	11,5%
	2021	21,0%
to speed up the bureaucratic procedure or to illegally obtain services/information from law enforcement officials	2025↓	2,9%
	2024	6,6%
to mitigate restrictions imposed as part of the pretrial investigation of a crime committed by you or your relatives	2025↓	2,2%
	2024	5,9%
	2023	11,0%
	2022	8,7%
	2021	13,7%
for returning a detained vehicle without officially paying for parking and the corresponding fine	2025↓	2,1%
	2024	8,0%
	2023	
for obtaining permits/certificates/certificates	2025	2,1%
to avoid / mitigate liability for a crime committed by you or your relatives	2025↓	1,3%
	2024	5,0%
	2023	10,1%
	2022	10,7%
	2021	13,0%

¹ Question: "Have you or members of your family encountered the following situations when meeting or interacting with representatives of law enforcement agencies?"

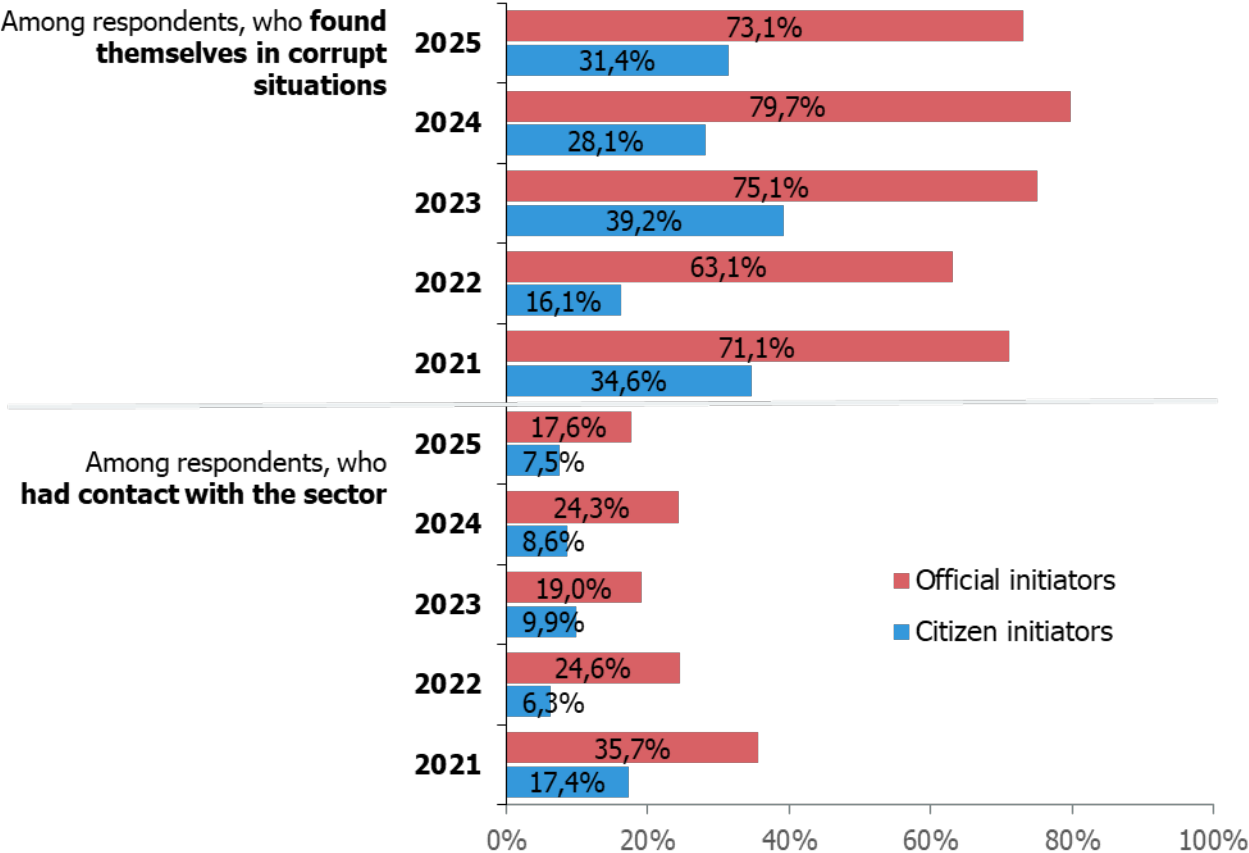
Due to the insufficient number of responses for each individual corruption situation, it was not possible to conduct a statistical analysis of who exactly acted as the initiator of corruption actions, citizens or law enforcement officers.

Overall, **7.5% of Ukrainians** who had contact with law enforcement agencies in 2025 acted as **initiators** of corruption relations, Fig. 2.2.7. This indicator slightly decreased compared to 2024, when it amounted to 8.6%. At the same time, among respondents who were in corruption situations, the share of initiators of corruption actions increased by 3.3 percentage points - from 28.1% in 2024 to **31.4%** in 2025.

According to respondents, **law enforcement officers** act as **initiators** of corruption relations significantly more often. Thus, **17.6%** of respondents who had contact with law enforcement agencies reported that they or members of their families were asked to make informal payments to law enforcement officers, money or gifts, or to provide services to them, compared to 24.3% in 2024. At the same time, among those who were in corruption situations, the share of cases in which law enforcement officers acted as initiators amounted to **73.1%**, compared to 79.7% in 2024.

Thus, both indicators characterizing corruption initiative on the part of law enforcement agencies are lower in 2025 than in 2024. At the same time, in the absence of statistical significance of these changes, it is premature to speak of a formed trend towards a decrease in corruption initiative on the part of law enforcement agencies, such dynamics require further confirmation in subsequent waves of the study.

Fig. 2.2.7. Initiators of corruption situations

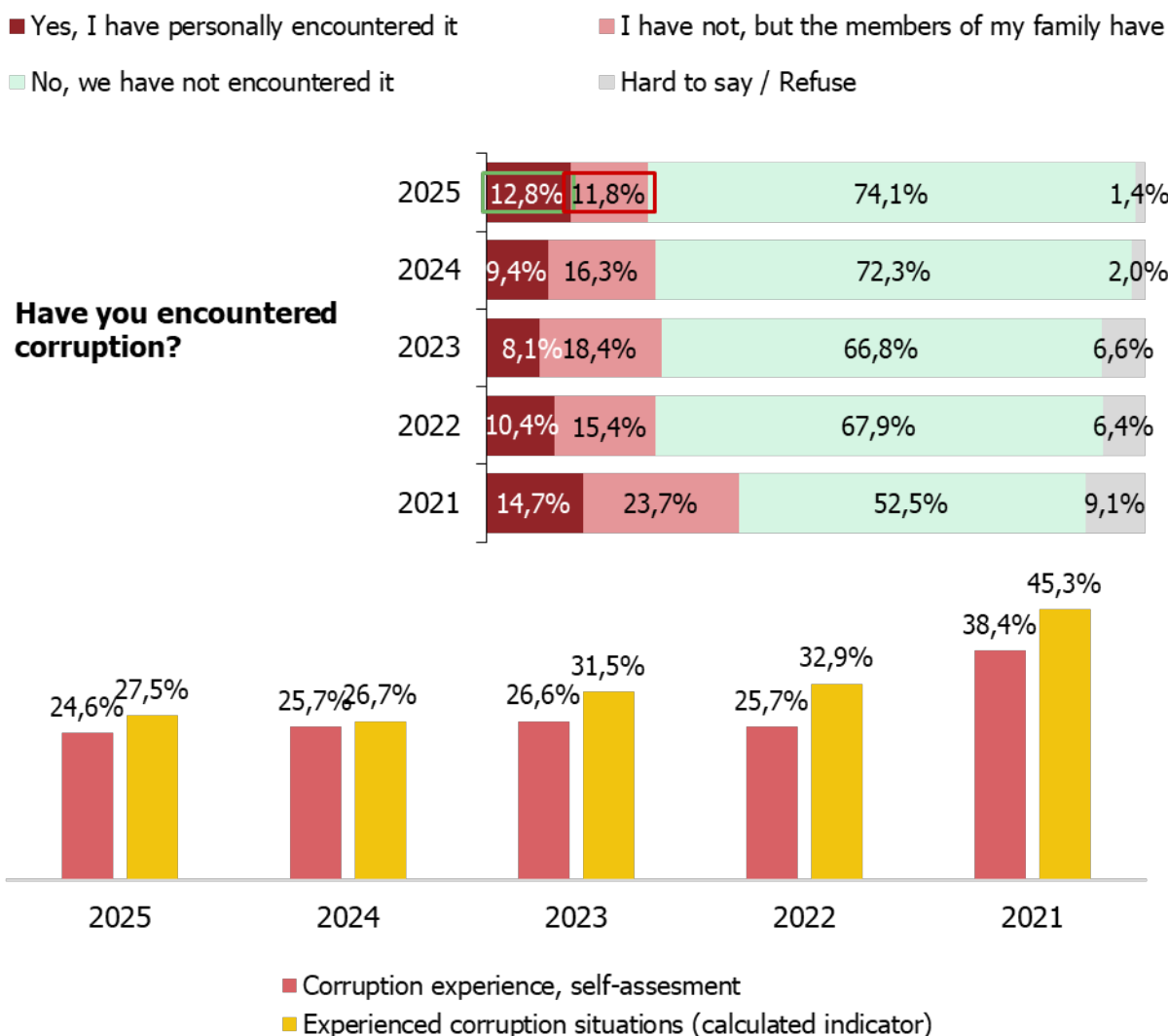


Services of higher education institutions

16.1% of Ukrainians study in state or municipal higher education institutions or have a student among their family members. This is a statistically significant increase, by 5.7 percentage points, compared to 2024, and the highest indicator for the entire period of observations from 2021 to 2025.

The level of corruption in the higher education sector in 2025 did not change compared to 2024, Fig. 2.2.8. *In response to the direct question* of whether respondents or members of their families **encountered corruption, 24.6%** answered affirmatively, compared to 25.7% in 2024, no significant dynamics were recorded. Thus, almost every fourth representative of the population among those who received services in higher education institutions, personally or through family members, reports corruption experience in this sector.

Fig. 2.2.8. Corruption experience in the sector overall, % of those who applied to this sector¹



¹ Question: "Have you encountered corruption in higher education institutions over the past 12 months – that is, did you give or were you asked to give a bribe, use personal connections, etc.?"

Number of respondents: total sample – N=433.

The statistical margin of error for indicators in this area does not exceed ±4.7 percentage points.

In 2025, the sector of services of higher education institutions, together with the healthcare sector, topped the ranking of ten studied sectors in terms of the level of corruption experience among the population.

27.5% of respondents recalled specific contact situations containing signs of corruption, the increase of 0.8 percentage points compared to 2024 is not statistically significant.

Compared to 2024, the gap between the two indicators, the self-assessed corruption experience indicator and the indicator of being in corruption situations, slightly increased. At the same time, this difference remains smaller than in 2021 to 2023. There are grounds to believe that students and their family members are sufficiently aware of their involvement in corruption practices as their own corruption experience. In particular, the share of persons who do not identify such situations as corruption amounted to 2.9% in 2025, whereas in 2022 to 2023 it was about 5 to 7%.

In 2025, a downward trend in frequency is observed for all specific corruption situations, Fig. 2.2.9, except for one. A slight increase, from 6.7% in 2024 to 7.1% in 2025, was recorded for corruption actions related **to transfers between forms and fields of study in higher education institutions**, from contract based to state funded education, to another specialty or faculty, to another higher education institution, as well as a change in the mode of obtaining higher education.

The most widespread corruption practice in the sector of higher education services in 2025 remains **obtaining credits and higher grades during exam sessions - 17.7%** of respondents reported such situations, compared to 22.0% in 2024. Second place is held by informal **payments for the preparation and defense of academic papers** (course papers, essays, practical and laboratory work) - 15.0% in 2025 compared to 17.5% in 2024.

Third place is occupied **by obtaining higher current grades during the period between exam sessions**, 11.3% in 2025 compared to 14.1% in 2024.

For these leading corruption situations, no statistically significant changes compared to 2024 were recorded.

Other corruption practices remain less widespread. In particular, a statistically significant decrease in frequency compared to the previous year was recorded for situations related to **resolving issues of completing or not completing educational or industrial internships, including abroad**. After a significant decrease, this indicator reached a minimum of 5.2% for the period 2021 to 2025. This dynamic can likely be partly explained by the opening of borders in 2025 for men aged 18 to 22.

There was also a significant decrease in corruption experience related to **obtaining a diploma without completing the actual studies** - a statistically significant decrease to a historical minimum of **3.2%**.

The lowest level of prevalence is demonstrated by a corruption situation studied for the first time in 2025 - making informal payments, money or gifts, or providing services in order **to facilitate admission to or study in postgraduate programs, as well as obtaining academic degrees**. Only 2.1% of respondents reported such actions.

Fig. 2.2.9. Corruption experience by type of situations that could arise during studies, % of those who study or have a student in the family¹

Made informal payments, money or gifts, or provided services...

personally to teachers in exchange for a passing grade, exam, higher grade during term examinations , including as a way to secure a stipend	2025	17,7%
	2024	22,0%
	2023	27,9%
	2022	27,3%
	2021	34,5%
in exchange for the writing and / or defense of master's / bachelor's / term papers, essays, practical, laboratory papers, etc. or purchased such papers from teachers without personally writing them	2025	15,0%
	2024	17,5%
	2023	23,6%
	2022	27,9%
	2021	35,0%
in exchange for higher grades during periods between term examinations	2025	11,3%
	2024	14,1%
	2023	18,0%
	2022	20,1%
	2021	28,5%
to administrators in order to secure a room in a dormitory, have living conditions improved , etc.	2025	8,0%
	2024	10,4%
	2023	19,1%
	2022	16,7%
	2021	19,9%
to teachers or the administration personally when transferring from a contract to a budget form of education, to another specialty/faculty/higher education institution, for changing the form of higher education	2025	7,1%
	2024	6,7%
	2023	14,9%
	2022	11,7%
	2021	12,0%
to teachers/administration of higher education institutions, etc. when deciding on passing/failing initial/industrial practice, internships (including abroad)	2025 ↓	5,2%
	2024	9,8%
	2023	14,1%
	2022	15,2%
	2021	14,9%
to administrators to secure enrollment at institutions of higher education	2025	4,8%
	2024	7,4%
	2023	15,3%
	2022	10,4%
	2021	15,5%
to administrators to obtain a diploma without studying	2025 ↓	3,2%
	2024	6,1%
	2023	13,5%
	2022	9,4%
	2021	15,0%
for assistance with admission/study in postgraduate programs , including obtaining academic degrees such as Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of Arts, etc.	2025	2,1%

¹ Question: "Have you or members of your family encountered the following situations in connection with studying at these institutions?"

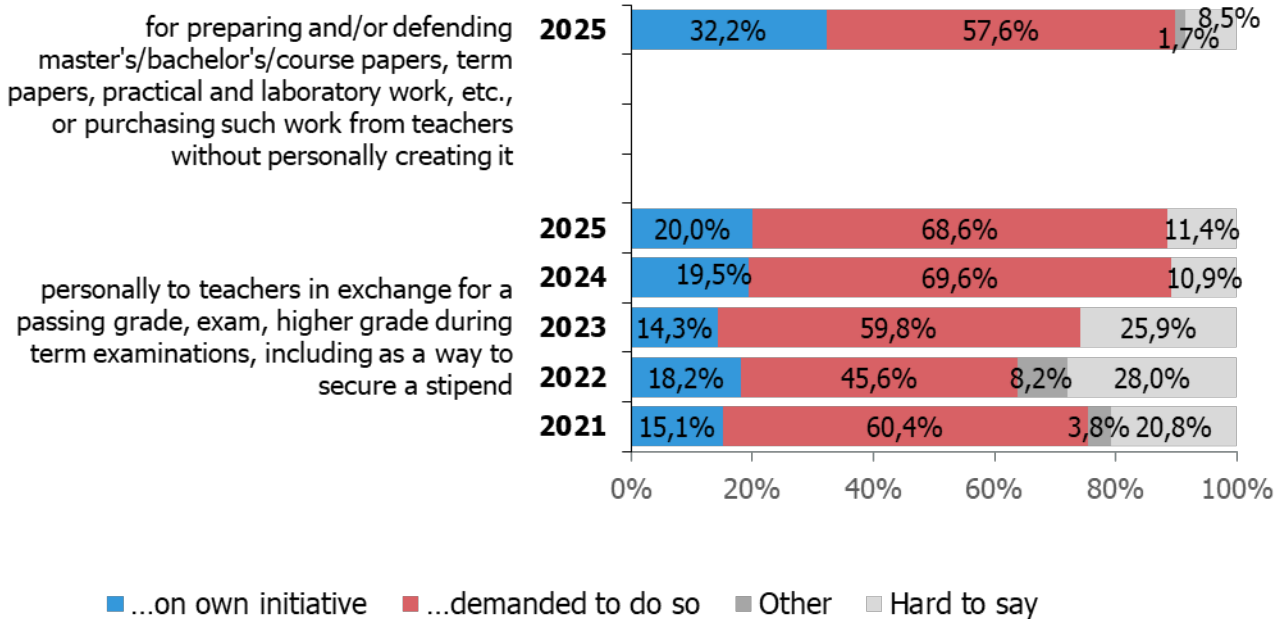
Due to the small number of respondents who have experience of studying in higher education institutions, the number of responses regarding less common situations is insufficient for a full statistical analysis. Therefore, the analysis of **initiators** of corruption situations is possible only for the two most widespread scenarios, Fig. 2.2.10.

The most common situation concerns obtaining **credits, higher grades and passing exams during exam sessions**. This situation is characterized by a high share of “difficult to say” responses. This is evidently explained by the significant share of respondents who are relatives of students and do not possess detailed information about all aspects of their studies. The share of such responses in 2025 amounted to **11.4%**, which practically does not differ from the 2024 indicator, 10.9%, the increase is not statistically significant.

At the same time, **administration or lecturers** are much more often the **initiators** of the analyzed corruption situation - in **68.6%** of cases, while **students initiated** corruption actions in **20.0%** of cases, the increase compared to 2024 is not statistically significant.

In 2025, it became possible to assess the shares of initiators of corruption relations in the situation of **preparation and or defense of master’s, bachelor’s, course papers and similar works, or the purchase of such works from lecturers without personal authorship**. This situation is distinguished by the highest share of **students’ own initiative - in 32.2%** of cases. However, even here **lecturers** initiated such corruption manifestations much more often - in **57.6%** of cases.

Fig. 2.2.10. Initiators of corruption situations (% of those who encountered the situation)
Made informal payments, money or gifts, or provided services...

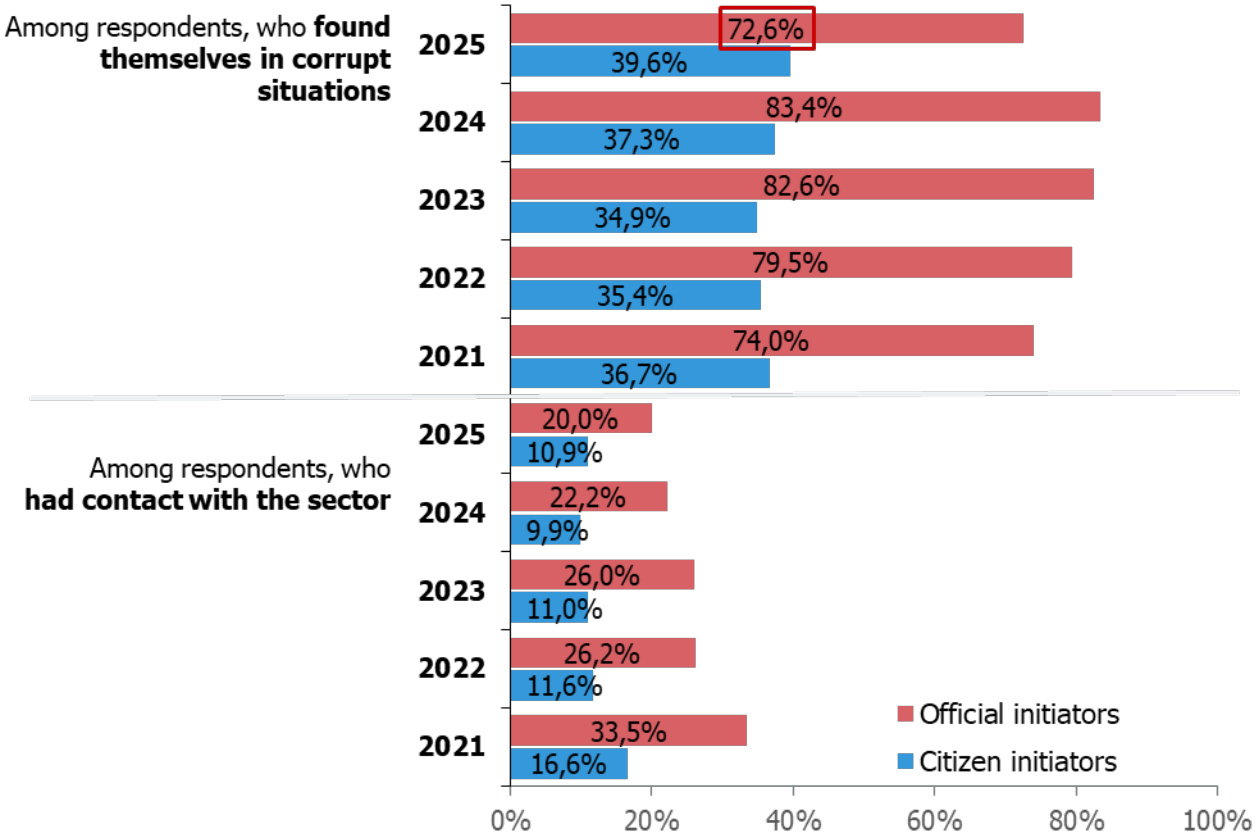


Overall, **10.9% of Ukrainians** who study in state higher education institutions or have students in their families acted as **initiators of** corruption situations, Fig. 2.2.11. No dynamics is observed for this indicator compared to 2024. If the share of such initiators is calculated among those who were in contact corruption situations, it also remains almost unchanged throughout the entire period of the study and amounts to **39.6%** in 2025, in 2024 - 37.3%.

Lecturers or administration of educational institutions act as **initiators** of corruption situations almost twice as often as students - 20.0% of respondents who had contact with the sector reported this. This share slightly decreased compared to 2024, 22.2%, however the difference is not statistically significant.

At the same time, among those who were in contact corruption situations, the share of cases in which officials acted as initiators amounts to **72.6%**, in 2024 - 83.4%, which is a statistically significant decrease.

Fig. 2.2.11. Initiators of corruption situations

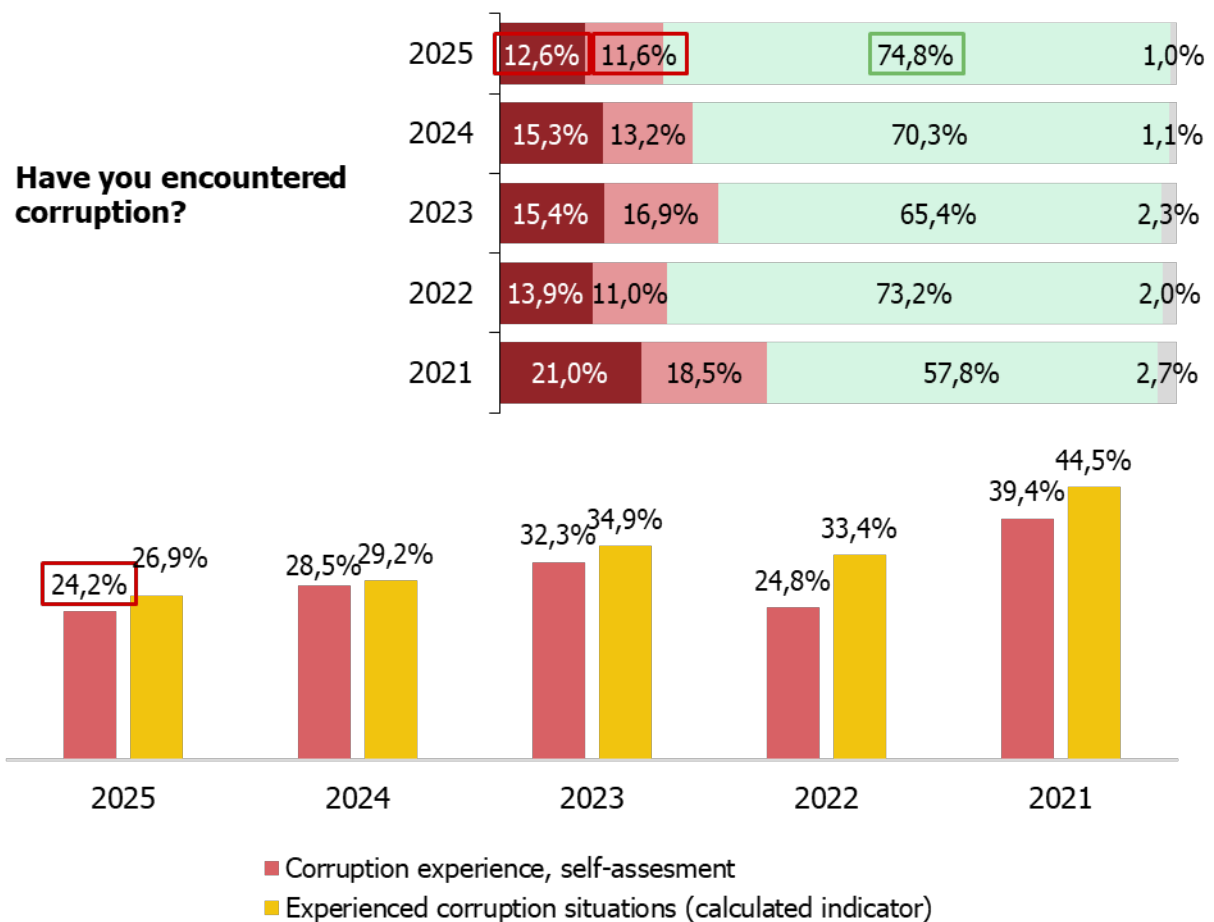


Healthcare (medical services)

In 2025, more than half of Ukrainians applied to state or municipal healthcare institutions - **59.7%** of respondents had personal experience of addressing or reported that members of their families had applied to such institutions, compared to 51.5% in 2024, a statistically significant increase, and the highest indicator for all years of the study. Thus, healthcare remains the sector with which the population interacts most frequently, with a large margin compared to other sectors, which determines its increased visibility in overall indicators of corruption experience.

Fig. 2.2.12. Analysis of corruption experience in the healthcare sector, percentage of those who applied to this sector¹

- Yes, I have personally encountered it
- I have not, but the members of my family have
- No, we have not encountered it
- Hard to say / Refuse



Among those respondents who had contact with the sector, **24.2%** answered affirmatively to the direct question, stating that they or members of their families **encountered corruption** when applying to healthcare institutions, that is, they gave or were asked for a bribe, used connections

¹ Question: "Have you encountered corruption when applying to state or municipal healthcare institutions (when receiving medical services) over the past 12 months – that is, did you give or were you asked to give a bribe, use personal connections, etc.?"

Number of respondents: total sample – N=1513.

The statistical margin of error for indicators in this area does not exceed ±2.5 percentage points.

and so on, Fig. 2.2.12. This is significantly **lower than in 2024**, when 28.5% of respondents reported corruption experience, a decrease of 4.3 percentage points. Accordingly, the share of those who did not have corruption experience increased significantly to 74.8%, an increase of 4.5 percentage points.

No single clear driver of the decrease in the indicator was identified, since both personal and family corruption experience indicators decreased significantly compared to the previous year. In particular, the share of respondents who stated that their family members encountered corruption in state or municipal healthcare institutions decreased from 13.2% to 11.6%, by 1.6 percentage points. The indicator of respondents' own corruption experience also decreased from 15.3% to 12.6%, by 2.7 percentage points.

The share of respondents who were in contact situations containing signs of corruption also **decreased**. In 2024, 29.2% of respondents reported being in corruption situations, while in 2025 this figure was **26.9%**. In 2023-2025, the self-assessed corruption experience indicator and the calculated indicator of being in corruption situations have almost converged. Therefore, compared to 2021-2022, the share of respondents who did not recognize their involvement in corruption practices as corruption remains relatively low, which is confirmed by the small gap between the indicators in 2025, a decrease of 2.7 percentage points.

Overall, it should be noted that in 2023-2025 **the level of corruption experience** in the healthcare sector has **significantly decreased**, which is confirmed by the consistent decline of both key indicators. In particular, the share of respondents who reported corruption experience based on self-assessment decreased from 32.3% in 2023 to 24.2% in 2025, a decrease of 7.5 percentage points. A similar trend was recorded for the calculated indicator of being in contact corruption situations - from 34.9% to 26.9% respectively, minus 8.0 percentage points.

As a result, in 2025 the level of corruption experience based on self-assessment when receiving services in state and municipal healthcare institutions has effectively returned to the level of the first year of the full scale war, 2022 - 24.8%.

The frequency of being in corruption situations, among those who had experience of addressing to healthcare institutions, also decreased for all situations proposed for assessment, Fig. 2.2.13. However, a statistically significant decrease was recorded only for one situation: the share of respondents who made informal payments to a staff member **during a military medical commission** decreased from 7.5% in 2024 to 5.0% in 2025, minus 2.5 percentage points.

The most widespread corruption situation in the healthcare sector remains the need to "thank" for **treatment or surgical intervention** - 18.5% of respondents encountered it. Second place in terms of prevalence is occupied by corruption practices related to resolving issues of patient **conditions in inpatient care, 13.9%**. In third place is a situation studied since 2023 - 8.9% of respondents reported making **informal payments to receive medicines** to which they were entitled free of charge.

Respondents encountered other situations much less frequently - less than 8.5% of patients. In particular, in 2025 a situation related to resolving issues of **obtaining or reassessing disability status, including disability as a result of war**, was studied for the first time - **7.3%** of respondents reported corruption manifestations in this context.

Fig. 2.2.13. Corruption experience by type of situations that could arise when applying, % of those who applied to this sector¹

Made informal payments to a healthcare institution employee, money or gifts, or provided services...

in exchange for medical services involving treatment of a patient or surgery	2025	18,5%
	2024	20,9%
	2023	24,3%
	2022	23,5%
	2021	30,7%
to resolve issues involving the conditions of admission to an inpatient facility	2025	13,9%
	2024	16,2%
	2023	19,1%
	2022	15,7%
	2021	21,9%
for a patient's receipt of medicines that are on the balance sheet of the medical institution and which the patient has the right to receive	2025	8,9%
	2024	10,0%
	2023	15,6%
to obtain certificates, sick leave certificates, extracts, etc. , in particular during a medical examination*	2025	8,5%
	2024	9,5%
	2023	10,5%
	2022	9,1%
	2021	11,1%
for resolving issues related to obtaining the status (re-examination) of a person with a disability/person with a war-related disability	2025	7,3%
to receive the "needed" prescription	2025	5,8%
	2024	6,9%
	2023	7,6%
	2022	6,7%
	2021	10,0%
during the Military Medical Commission	2025 ↓	5,0%
to resolve issues relating to childbirth	2025	4,9%
	2024	5,7%
	2023	8,3%
	2022	9,1%
	2021	10,8%

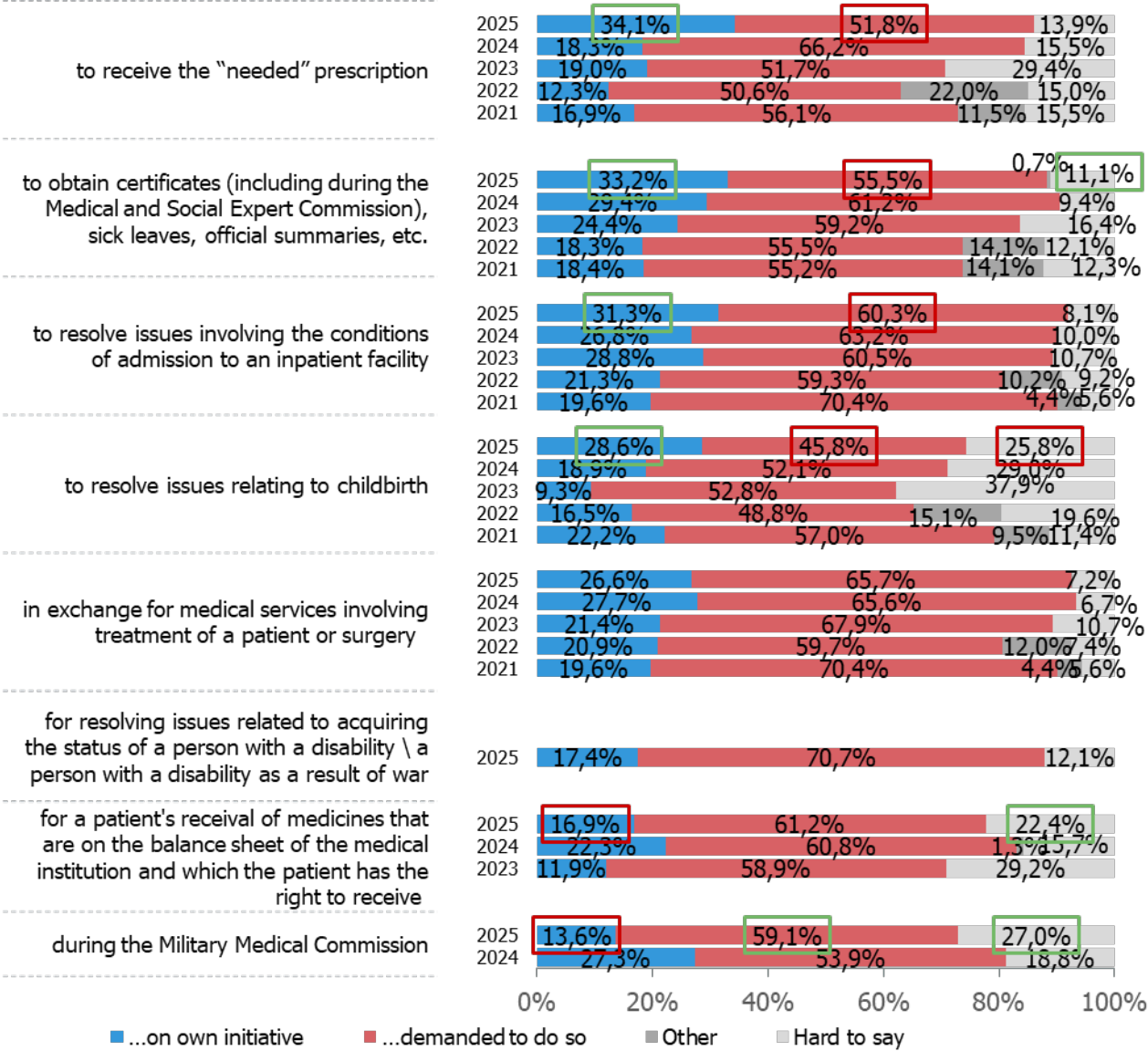
In 2025, the trend persists that, according to respondents, it is primarily **healthcare workers** who **act as initiators** of corruption situations - their share ranges from 45.8% to 70.7% depending on the type of situation, Fig. 2.2.14.

At the same time, in 2025 **an increase is observed in the involvement of patients themselves in initiating corruption practices** in a number of situations. In particular, patients much more often than in 2024 offered unlawful rewards to doctors in order **to obtain the desired prescription - 34.1%**, compared to 18.3% in 2024, for **the issuance of medical certificates**

¹ Question: "Have you or members of your family encountered the following situations in connection with receiving medical services?"

and sick leave documents - **33.2%**, in 2024 - 29.4%, for obtaining favorable conditions of stay in inpatient healthcare institutions - **31.3%**, in 2024 - 26.8%, and for resolving issues related to childbirth - **28.6%**, in 2024 - 18.9%.

Fig. 2.2.14. Initiators of corruption situations, % of those who encountered the situation¹
Made informal payments to a healthcare institution employee, money or gifts, or provided services...



It should be noted that compared to 2024, the share of patient initiated corruption aimed at **obtaining medicines** that patients should receive free of charge decreased statistically significantly - to 16.9%, compared to 22.3% in 2024, as well as for resolving issues related **to undergoing a military medical commission - to 13.6%**, compared to 27.3% in 2024. At the same time, with regard to the military medical commission, it is concerning that in this highly sensitive contact situation under current conditions, the share of respondents who reported making informal

¹ Question: "Have you or members of your family encountered the following situations in connection with receiving medical services?"

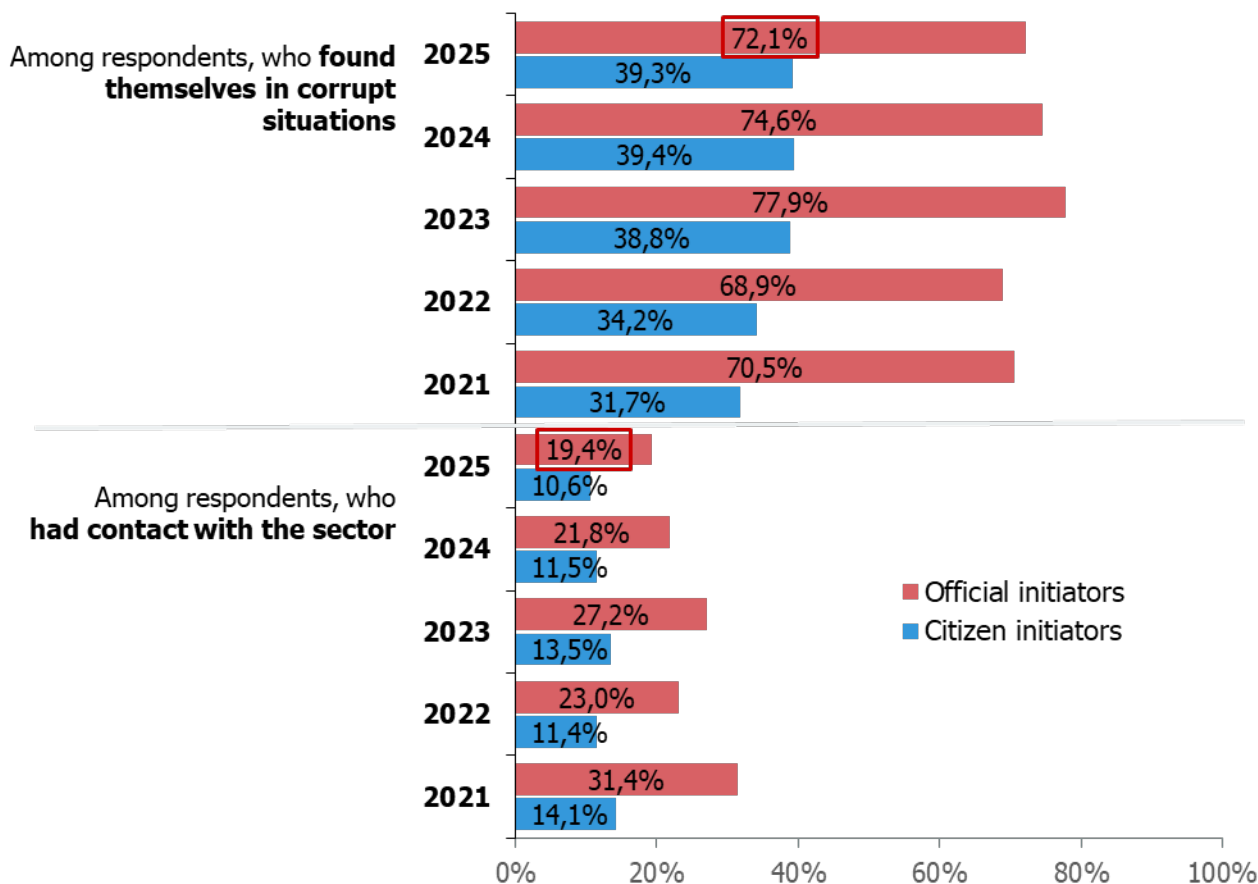
* In previous studies, this question was formulated differently: "for obtaining certificates (including during MSEC assessment), sick leave certificates, extracts, etc."

payments or providing services at the request of healthcare workers increased - from 53.9% in 2024 to **59.1%** in 2025.

Overall, **39.3% of respondents** who were in corruption situations in 2025 acted **as initiators**, which corresponds to **10.6%** of all Ukrainians who apply to the healthcare sector, Fig. 2.2.15. This indicator **remains unchanged** compared to 2024.

At the same time, **72.1%** of respondents who reported at least one contact situation were involved in corruption practices due **to a demand** to make informal payments to **a healthcare worker**, money or gifts, or to provide services, minus 2.5 percentage points compared to 2024. Overall, it is important to note that among all users of healthcare services in 2025, the share of respondents who encountered a corruption demand from healthcare workers decreased by 2.2 percentage points - to **19.4%**, compared to 21.8% in 2024, which is one of the factors contributing to the decrease in the overall corruption experience indicators of the population in this sector.

Fig. 2.2.15. Initiators of corruption situations, aggregated across all situations



Thus, the trend towards an increase in corruption initiative both on the part of respondents and on the part of healthcare workers, which was recorded in 2023, did not continue either in 2024 or in 2025. At the same time, the increase in corruption initiative among patients in certain contact situations requires additional attention.

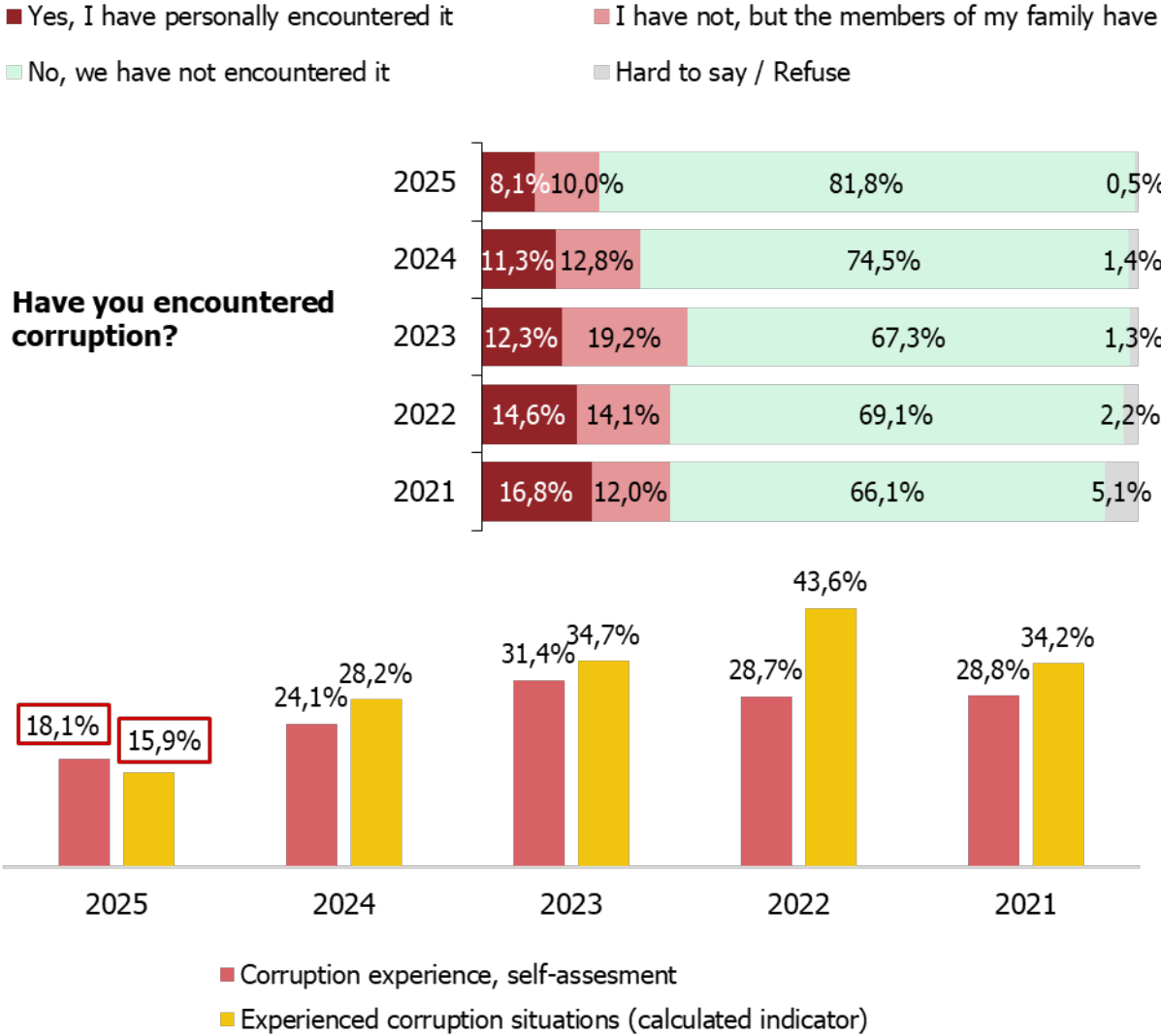
It should be noted that when comparing the level of corruption experience in a particular sector with the frequency of respondents' contacts in that sector, it becomes evident that the majority of Ukrainians acquire corruption experience precisely in the healthcare sector. In 2025, **almost 14.4%** of Ukrainians had corruption experience in state and municipal healthcare institutions, either personally or through family members. This indicator essentially corresponds to the level of 2024, 14.7%.

Services of energy companies

The assessment by respondents of services related to connection and maintenance of electricity, gas, water supply and wastewater systems did not concern payment issues. In 2025, the share of households that had experience of addressing to providers of such services increased significantly - to **18.8%**, which is almost twice as much as in 2024, 9.9%. At the same time, despite the increase in the intensity of contacts with energy companies, indicators of corruption experience in this sector **decreased** statistically significantly.

In 2025, in response to the direct question, **18.1%** of citizens reported that **they had encountered corruption** when receiving the relevant services, which is 6.0 percentage points lower than in 2024, 24.1%, Fig. 2.2.16.

Fig. 2.2.16. Corruption experience in the sector overall, % of those who applied to this sector ¹



¹ Question: "Have you encountered corruption when applying to companies for services related to the connection and maintenance of electricity, gas, water supply and wastewater systems over the past 12 months – that is, did you give or were you asked to give a bribe, use personal connections, etc.?"
 Number of respondents: total sample – N=484.
 The statistical margin of error for indicators in this area does not exceed ±4.5 percentage points.

In 2025 **15.9%** of respondents reported being in specific contact situations containing signs of corruption, which is 12.3 percentage points lower than in 2024. The decrease in this indicator is statistically significant and the lowest for all years of the study since 2021. Overall, this corresponds to the downward trend in the self-assessed corruption experience indicator, direct question, which together may indicate a **decrease in corruption interaction** between the population and officials in this sector in 2025 compared to 2021-2024.

In 2025, the difference between the share of citizens who were actually in corruption situations and those who recognize corruption experience is 2.2% of respondents, which indicates a generally consistent perception by respondents of their own involvement in such practices..

In 2025, a differentiated approach to assessing corruption experience of respondents when receiving services from energy companies, electricity, gas and water supply, was applied for the first time. In particular, 11.6% of the population applied for electricity supply services, 10.4% for gas supply, and 9.3% for water supply and wastewater services. The share of those who reported corruption experience in these sub sectors is as follows: electricity supply - **16.4%**, gas supply - **14.6%**, water supply and wastewater - **16.5%**. The updated approach provides for a more detailed assessment by individual sub sectors and specific corruption situations¹, Fig. 2.2.17.

Overall, in the sector of services provided by energy companies, in the water supply and wastewater sub sector, the leading corruption situations are related to the **installation, sealing and registration of metering systems**, reported by 15.9% of respondents who had the relevant experience of обращения. In addition, **8.0%** of respondents reported corruption practices related **to restoration or repair of water supply systems in apartment buildings or private houses**.

In the electricity supply sub sector, almost every tenth respondent, **9.7%**, indicated corruption experience related **to the preparation or approval of project documentation for connection to electricity networks**. Situations involving **failure to impose liability or failure to respond to detected violations of rules for the operation of electrical networks**, installations or meters also remain relatively widespread, **7.7%**.

In the gas supply sub sector, among the most frequently mentioned corruption situations, respondents identified **the preparation or expedited processing of gas supply documentation, 9.7%**, as well as **connection of private housing to the gas network or illegal modification of gas pipelines, 6.2%**.

¹ In 2025, the assessment of corruption situations in the sectors of electricity, gas, and water supply was carried out using a revised methodology. Detailed questions on specific corruption situations were asked only to those respondents who, at a previous stage, confirmed that they had contacted the relevant supplier companies. In 2021–2024, such situations were assessed within the general block of the sector, regardless of actual contact with a specific sub-sector. In view of this, direct comparison of indicators for individual situations between 2025 and previous years is not carried out.

Fig. 2.2.17. Corruption experience by type of situations that could arise when applying, % of those who applied to this sector¹

Made informal payments to an official, money or gifts, or provided services for...

Electricity supply		
approval of design documentation for subsequent connection of a private residence to the power grid / for getting a private residence connected to the power grid	2025	9,7%
failure to hold accountable for / respond to any detected violations of the rules for operation of the power grid, electrical units, or electricity meters	2025	7,7%
transfer / write-off / reduction of debts for electricity consumed	2025	5,0%
Gas supply		
preparation / acceleration of preparation of gas supply documents or modifications to them	2025	9,7%
connection of a private residence to the gas supply network, unauthorized modifications to the gas pipeline, resumption of gas supply without legal grounds for doing so	2025	6,2%
transfer / write-off / reduction of debts for gas consumed, its delivery	2025	5,7%
failure to hold accountable for / respond to any instances of unauthorized connection to the gas supply network or violations of the rules for operation of gas equipment and appliances	2025	4,1%
Water supply		
installation, sealing, registration of water supply and sewage metering systems	2025	15,9%
renovation / repairs of water supply systems to an apartment building or private residence	2025	8,0%
failure to hold accountable for / respond to any detected violations of the rules for using water supply facilities (including by reducing or revoking penalties)	2025	5,6%
transfer/write-off/reduction of debts for water supply and drainage	2025	3,7%

Due to the insufficient number of responses for each corruption situation, it was not possible to conduct a statistical analysis of who exactly acted as the initiator, citizens or employees of supplier companies.

Overall, **4.9% of Ukrainians** who applied for such services from supplier companies in the electricity, gas and water supply sectors in 2025 acted as initiators of corruption relations, Fig.

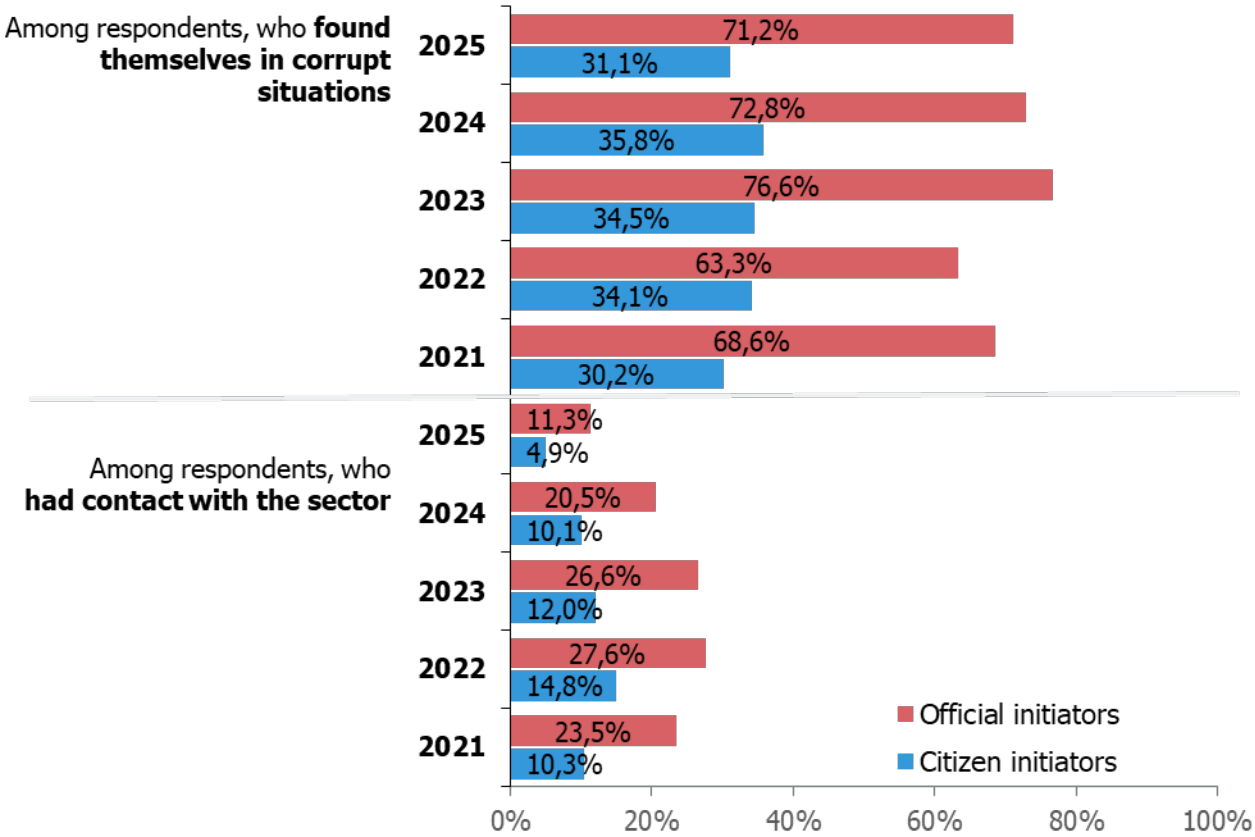
¹ Question: "Have you or members of your family encountered the following situations when applying to such companies (enterprises)?" (companies (enterprises) that provide electricity, gas, water supply and wastewater services, excluding services related to current payments)

2.2.18, which is twice lower than in the previous year, 10.1% in 2024. At the same time, **11.3%** of respondents who applied for such services reported the initiation of corruption relations by **representatives of supplier companies**, which is also almost twice lower than in 2024, 20.5%.

Such a significant decrease in both indicators compared to 2024 confirms a noticeable trend towards a reduction of corruption manifestations in the electricity, gas and water supply sectors, which is consistent with the dynamics of other indicators of corruption experience in this sector.

An analysis of the structure of initiators among respondents who were in contact corruption situations shows that in 2025 **citizens** initiated such situations in 32.1% of cases, compared to 35.8% in 2024, while **representatives of energy companies** acted as initiators approximately twice as often, in **71.2%** of cases.

Fig. 2.2.18. Initiators of corruption situations

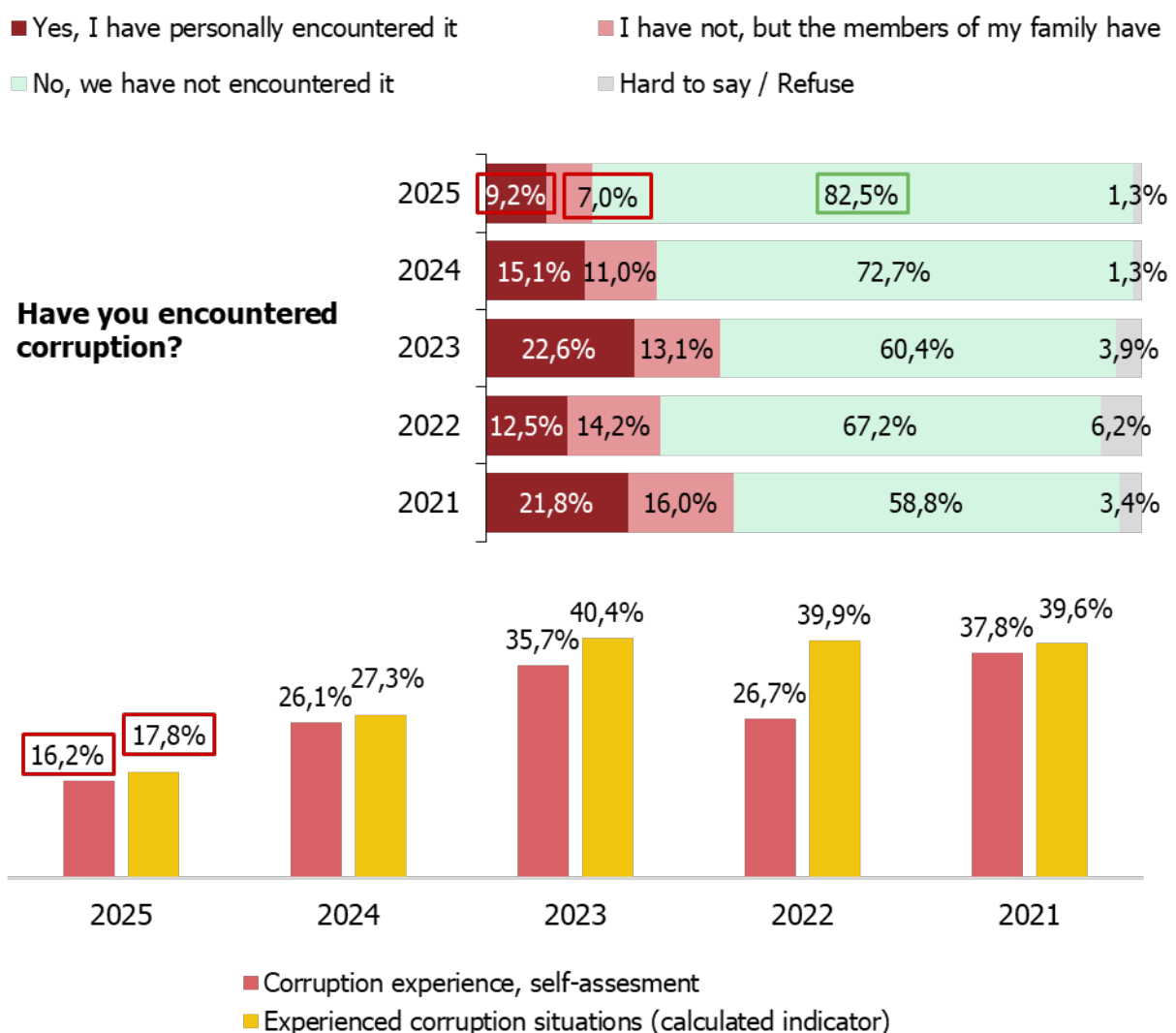


Activities of service centers of MIA

The share of respondents who in the past 12 months had experience of addressing to service centers of MIA increased in 2025 compared to the previous year and amounts **to 13.8%**, compared to 10.0% in 2024.

In response to the direct question, **16.2%** of respondents reported that they or members of their families **encountered corruption** in this sector, Fig. 2.2.19. Compared to 2024, this indicator **decreased** by 9.9 percentage points, which is due to a reduction in both the personal corruption experience of respondents and the experience of their family members, the dynamics are statistically significant. Overall, a **steady downward trend in corruption experience** is observed in 2023-2025, and the value recorded in 2025 is the lowest for the entire period of 2021-2025.

Fig. 2.2.19. Corruption experience in the sector overall, % of those who applied to this sector¹



Overall, **17.8%** of respondents reported being in specific contact situations that contained signs of corruption, which is also significantly lower than in 2024, the difference of 9.5 percentage points is

¹ Question: "Have you encountered corruption when applying to MIA service centers over the past 12 months – that is, did you give or were you asked to give a bribe, use personal connections, etc.?"

Number of respondents: total sample – N=322.

The statistical margin of error for indicators in this area does not exceed ±5.5 percentage points..

statistically significant. This is the lowest value for the entire period of research and indicates a **consistent and coherent downward trend in both indicators** during 2023-2025 - both self-reported corruption experience and actual involvement in corruption situations.

Regarding specific corruption situations, this year there is a significant decrease in their prevalence in all cases related to the direct activities of officials of MIA service centers, Fig. 2.2.20. The share of respondents who reported such situations is the lowest for the entire observation period.

Fig. 2.2.20. Corruption experience by situations that could arise when applying, % of those who applied to this sector¹

Made unofficial payments to an official, money or gifts, or provided services to them for...

receiving administrative services out of turn or as part of an accelerated procedure	2025	9,8%
	2024	14,8%
	2023	15,8%
	2022	17,3%
	2021	18,0%
registration (renewal of registration) of a motor vehicle, deregistration of a motor vehicle	2025 ↓	8,5%
	2024	19,0%
	2023	30,5%
	2022	22,8%
	2021	26,4%
issuance (renewal) of a driver's license (including for passing a theoretical / practical exam in a service center of the Ministry of Internal Affairs*)	2025 ↓	7,2%
	2024	14,6%
	2023	22,8%
	2022	17,0%
	2021	20,9%
issuance of number plates for a motor vehicle / responsible transfer of the owner's number plates to a new motor vehicle at the service center of the Ministry of Internal Affairs	2025 ↓	4,2%
	2024	8,6%
	2023	18,2%
	2022	11,1%
	2021	16,0%
obtaining a document (conclusion) on the approval of vehicle conversion on an individual basis**	2025 ↓	2,0%
	2024	5,9%
obtaining permits for the transportation of dangerous goods **	2025 ↓	0,7%
	2024	6,4%

* – the situation relates specifically to interaction with officials of MIA service centers and does not include illicit payments or services to driving school employees;

** – the situation relates specifically to interaction with officials of MIA service centers and does not include illicit payments or services to third parties.

In 2025, corruption situations most often occurred when **receiving administrative services out of turn, expediting them, or otherwise violating the procedure**. Such experience was reported by **9.8%** of respondents, which is 5 percentage points lower than in 2024, 14.8%.

¹ Question: "Have you or members of your family encountered the following situations when applying to MIA service centers (former MREO)?"

This year, second place is taken by the previous years' leader, namely corruption situations related **to the registration, re registration, or deregistration of a vehicle**. The share of respondents who encountered such practices is **8.5%**, which is significantly lower than in 2024, 19.0%.

Third place, as last year, is occupied by corruption situations related to the issuance, replacement, exchange, and **similar procedures of driving licenses**, including taking exams at the service center. **7.2%** of respondents who interacted with MIA service centers reported such experience. This indicator is 7.4 percentage points lower than in 2024, 14.6%. The remaining studied situations are significantly less common, with indicators ranging from 0.7% to 4.2%.

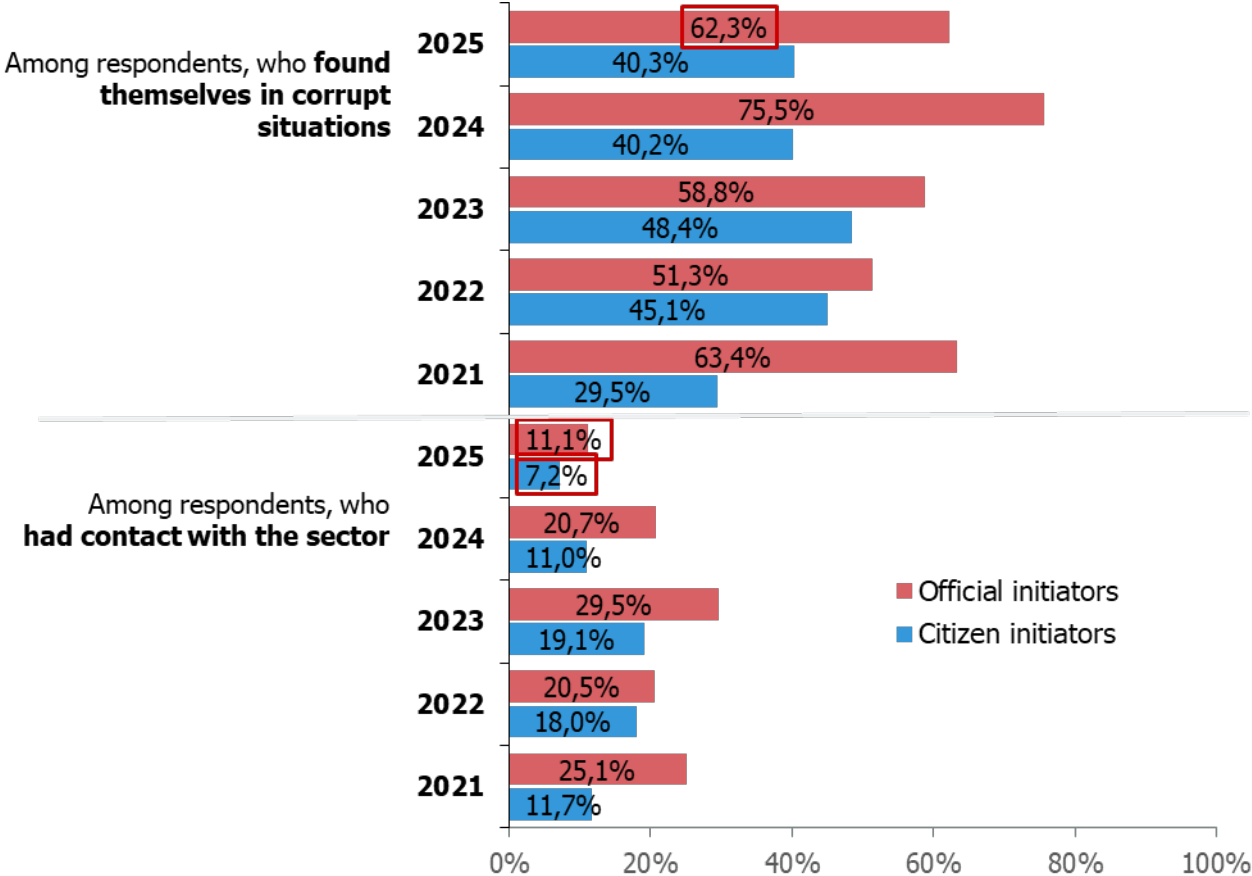
It should be noted that in 2025 the share of situations in which clients of service centers could resolve their issues **through driving school employees** significantly decreased and amounts to 2.1%. It should be recalled that in 2024 the share of those who made illicit payments to driving school employees or provided them with services for assistance in resolving issues in MIA service centers was 12.4%, and in 2023 it was 5.9%. Such sharp changes in the indicator require additional research, including identifying the share of respondents who took the driving test.

If all corruption situations are analyzed overall, in 2025 **7.2% of visitors** to service centers acted as **initiators** of corruption situations, Fig. 2.2.21. This indicator shows a statistically significant decrease compared to 2024, 11.0%, and is the lowest for the entire observation period. Among respondents who were in corruption situations, the share of initiative citizens amounted to **40.3%**, which practically corresponds to the level of 2024, 40.2%. This indicates relative stability in the share of citizen initiators among those who were in corruption situations against the background of a decrease in initiative from officials.

In 2025, the share of respondents who, based on their interaction with **MIA service centers**, stated that the **initiators** of corruption situations were **employees** of institutions decreased significantly to **11.1%**, compared to 20.7% in 2024. This indicator is the lowest for the entire observation period.

Among those who were in contact corruption situations, **62.3%** of respondents reported initiative from officials, which is 13.2 percentage points lower than in 2024, 75.5%. The recorded dynamics are also statistically significant and confirm the overall trend towards a reduction in corruption initiative on the part of employees of MIA service centers.

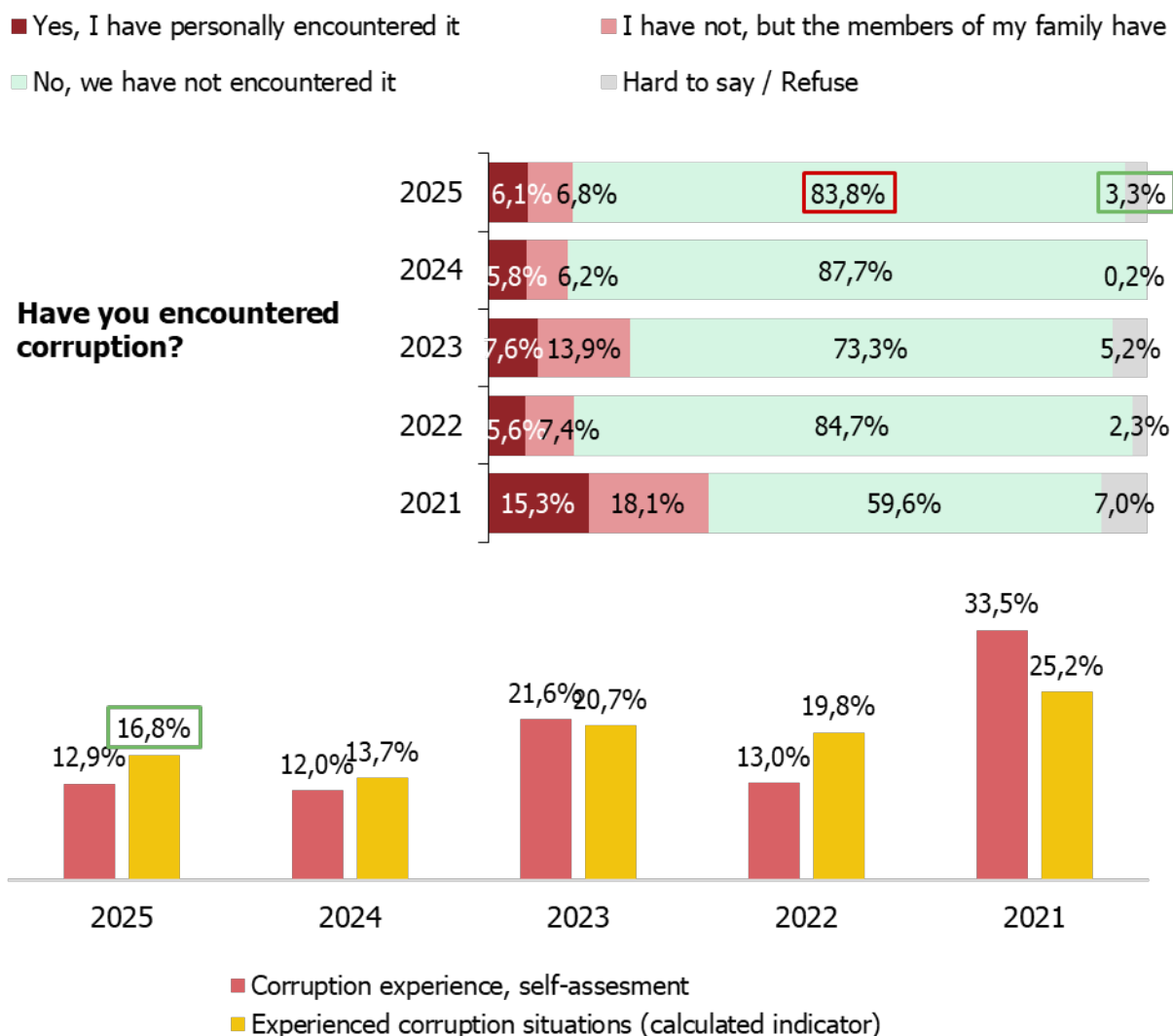
Fig. 2.2.21. Initiators of corruption situations



Services of educational institutions (primary and secondary education)

Services of primary and secondary educational institutions are among the most contact intensive sectors, with **24.7%** of Ukrainians interacting with them. In terms of service prevalence, primary and secondary education is second only to the healthcare sector and ASC services.

Fig. 2.2.22. Corruption experience in the sector overall, % of those who applied to this sector ¹



According to respondents self-assessment, the prevalence of corruption in the field of primary and secondary education remained overall at the level of 2024, Fig. 2.2.22. In response to a direct question, **12.9%** of respondents reported that they or members of their families had **encountered corruption**, which is 0.9 percentage points lower than last year, the difference is not statistically significant. At the same time, the share of respondents who stated that they had not encountered corruption in this sector decreased statistically significantly, from 87.7% in 2024 to **83.8%** in 2025,

¹ Question: "Have you encountered corruption in general secondary education institutions over the past 12 months – that is, did you give or were you asked to give a bribe, use personal connections, etc.?"

Number of respondents: total sample – N=672.

The statistical margin of error for indicators in this area does not exceed ±3.8 percentage points.

a decrease of 3.9 percentage points, which occurred primarily due to an increase in the share of respondents who refrained from answering, from 0.2% in 2024 to 3.3% in 2025.

16.8% of respondents reported being in specific contact situations that contained signs of corruption, which represents a statistically significant increase compared to 2024, by 3.1 percentage points.

In 2025, the difference between the indicator of self-reported corruption experience and the share of respondents who were in specific corruption situations amounts to 3.9 percentage points. This is higher than in 2023-2024, when self-perceived corruption experience and actual involvement in corruption situations were at almost the same level. Such a gap indicates that some respondents do not perceive their own experience of interaction with representatives of the primary and secondary education sector as corruption, despite the presence of signs of corrupt practices.

After a significant decrease in the previous year, the prevalence indicators of three out of five corruption situations proposed for assessment did not change significantly in 2025, Fig. 2.2.23.

Fig. 2.2.23. Corruption experience by situations that could arise during education, % of those who have schoolchildren in the family¹

Situations

Made unofficial payments or provided services in person to teachers who taught your children / you for individual tutoring as a condition for getting higher grades	2025	11,2%
	2024	8,8%
	2023	17,5%
	2022	14,8%
	2021	22,8%
Made unofficial payments or provided services to administrators in order to resolve issues involving admission / enrollment at an educational institution (including the first grade, group)	2025	7,7%
	2024	6,6%
	2023	14,5%
	2022	9,2%
	2021	15,7%
Made unofficial payments or provided services to get higher grades during studies	2025	6,9%
	2024	5,8%
	2023	13,0%
	2022	7,3%
	2021	12,4%
Made unofficial payments or provided services to get the desired grades in the certificate of education	2025 ↑	6,7%
	2024	3,8%
	2023	10,4%
	2022	5,5%
	2021	13,5%
Made unofficial payments or provided services in connection with the transfer to another class, group, or a change of the form of attendance	2025 ↑	6,7%
	2024	3,8%
	2023	13,3%
	2022	7,4%
	2021	13,1%

¹ Question: "Have you or members of your family encountered such situations in connection with studying at these institutions?"

The most common corruption situation in the field of primary and secondary education remains **unofficial payments to teachers for individual tutoring**, which serves as a condition for receiving higher grades. Such practices in 2025 were reported **by 11.2% of** respondents, compared to 8.8% in 2024.

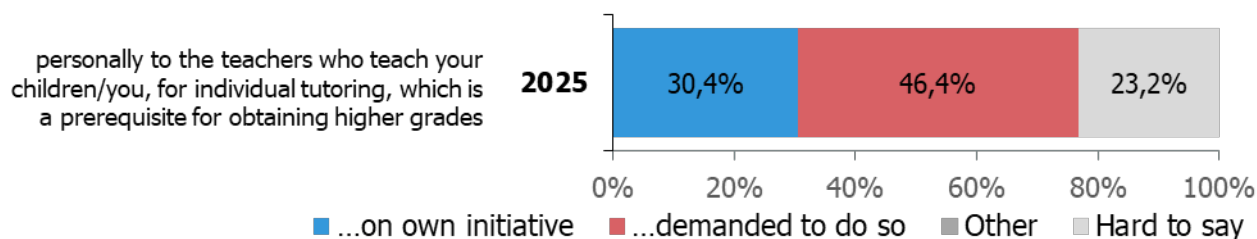
Second place, as last year, is occupied by corruption situations related to **admission or enrollment in educational institutions**, with **7.7%** of respondents reporting such experience, compared to 6.6% in 2024. Third place, with **6.9%**, is held by situations related to **unofficial payments for higher current grades** during the learning process, compared to 5.8% in 2024. The dynamics for the above situations are not statistically significant, which indicates a relative stabilization of their prevalence after the sharp decrease recorded in 2024.

At the same time, in 2025 a statistically significant increase was recorded in the prevalence of two corruption situations, both rising from 3.8% to 6.7%. These include unofficial payments for **obtaining desired grades in the certificate of education**, as well as corruption practices related to **transferring students to another class, group, or form of education**.

Due to the small number of respondents, the number of responses regarding less common situations is insufficient for a full statistical analysis. Therefore, it is possible to analyze who acted as the initiator of the corruption situation only for the most common case, **individual tutoring that serves as a condition for receiving higher grades**, Fig. 2.2.24..

Fig. 2.2.24. Initiators of corruption situations (% of those who encountered the situation)

Made unofficial payments, money or gifts, or provided services...

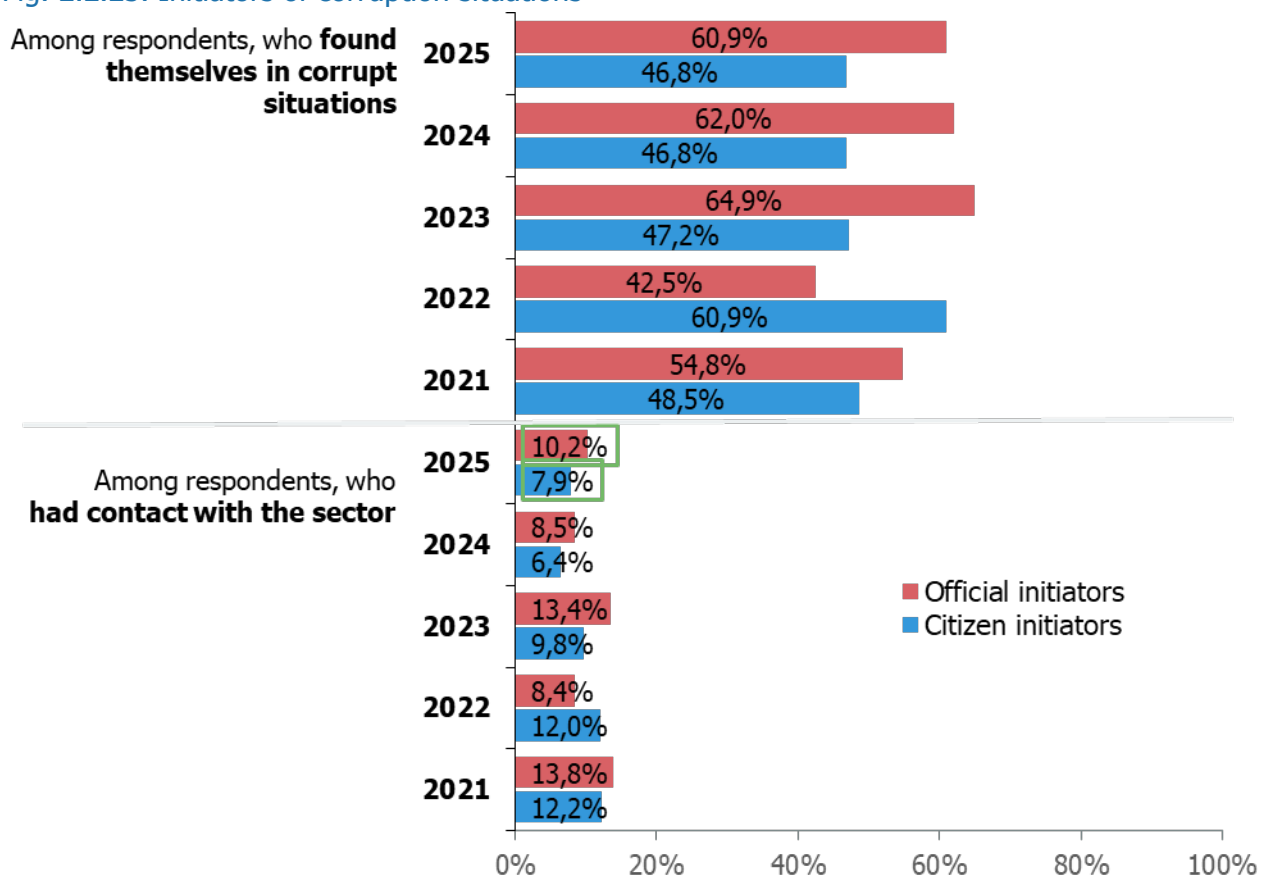


This practice is characterized by a high share of "difficult to say" responses, 23.2%. This is likely due to the fact that a significant proportion of respondents who are relatives of pupils do not know all the details of their education.

According to the analysis, the **initiators** of this corruption situation are more often the **administration or teachers, in 46.4% of cases**. At the same time, **pupils or their parents** also quite often initiate such practices, in **30.4%** of cases, which indicates the presence of a two sided logic in the formation of corruption interactions in this situation.

In 2025, a statistically significant increase was recorded in the number **of initiators of corruption situations** both among parents of pupils and among teachers and administration of educational institutions, Fig. 2.2.25.

Fig. 2.2.25. Initiators of corruption situations



Among **respondent parents** who interacted with the sector, the share of **“initiative”** individuals increased from 6.4% in 2024 to **7.9%** in 2025, an increase of 1.5 percentage points. At the same time, **10.2%** of respondents reported the **initiative of corruption actions** on the part of **teachers and administration** compared to 8.5% in 2024, the increase of 1.7 percentage points is statistically significant.

Among those who were in corruption situations, the share of parent initiators remained at the level of 2024, **46.8%** of cases. Initiative on the part of teachers or administration was reported by **60.9%**, without significant dynamics. Thus, the structure of initiators of corruption situations in this sector remains relatively stable overall in 2023-2025. At the same time, a certain decrease in initiative from teachers and administration is observed, which requires further monitoring over time.

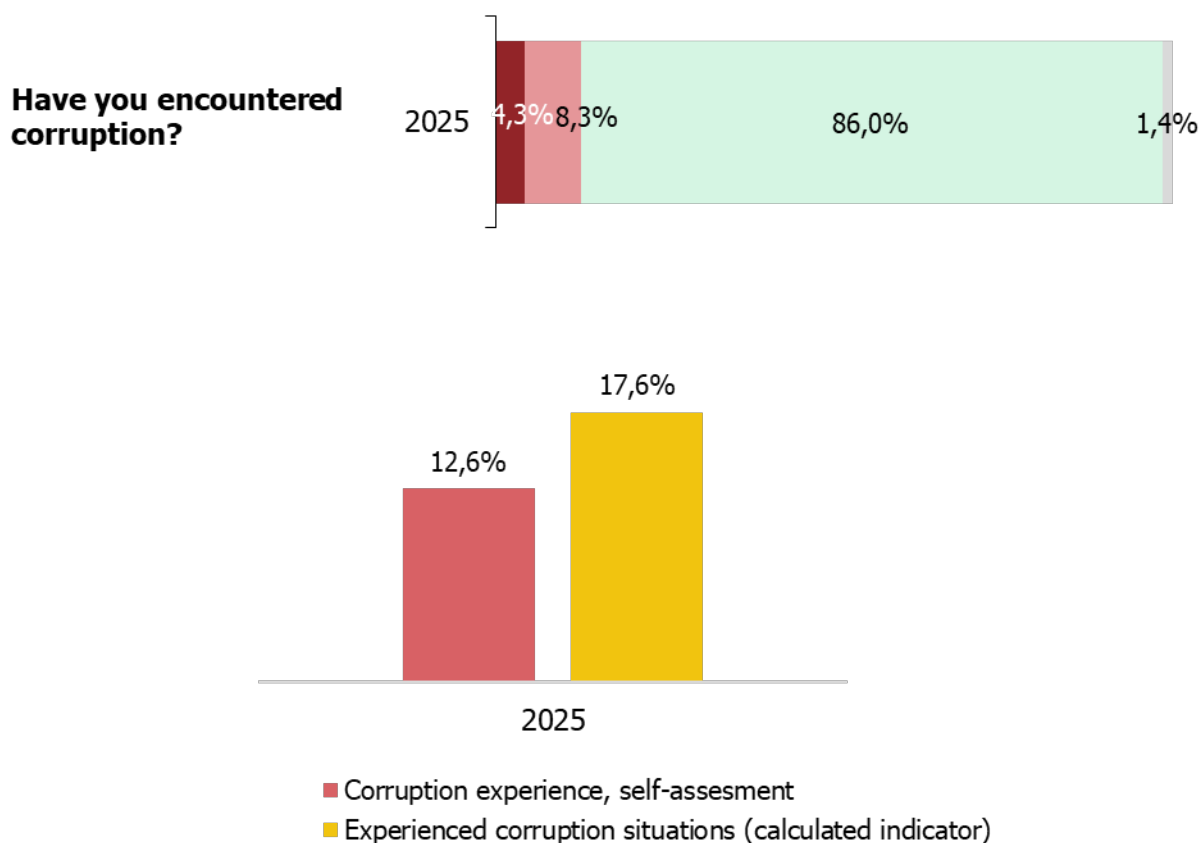
Social protection of the population

The corruption experience of citizens related to the activities of state bodies and institutions providing services in the field of social protection of the population is being studied for the first time. In 2025, **16.8%** of respondents applied to state bodies or institutions to receive services in the field of social protection.

In response to a direct question regarding the presence of corruption experience, **12.6%** of respondents reported that they or members of their families had **encountered corruption** in this sector. Of these, 4.3% indicated their own corruption experience, while another 8.3% reported corruption manifestations encountered by their family members, Fig. 2.2.26.

Fig. 2.2.26. Corruption experience in the sector overall, % of those who applied to this sector¹

- Yes, I have personally encountered it
- I have not, but the members of my family have
- No, we have not encountered it
- Hard to say / Refuse



¹ Question: "Have you encountered corruption when contacting state authorities or institutions to obtain services in the field of social protection over the past 12 months - that is, did you give or were asked to give a bribe, used personal connections, etc.?"

Number of respondents: total sample - N=391.

The statistical margin of error for indicators in this area does not exceed ± 5.0 percentage points.

At the same time, **17.6%** of respondents reported being in specific contact situations that contained signs of corruption. Thus, **5%** of respondents who actually were in corruption situations during interaction with social protection bodies did not perceive such interaction as corruption.

Regarding specific situations, corruption experience in the field of social protection of the population is most often recorded in issues related to **pension provision**, including assignment, recalculation of pensions, determination of insurance record and similar matters. Such situations were reported by **8.7%** of respondents who interacted with this sector, Fig. 2.2.27.

Fig. 2.2.27. Corruption experience by situations that could arise when applying, % of those who applied to this sector¹

Made unofficial payments to an official, money or gifts, or provided services for...

appointment/recalculation of pensions, calculation of insurance experience, or resolution of other issues related to pension provision	2025	8,7%
appointment/recalculation of subsidies, benefits (for payment of housing and communal services, purchase of firewood/gas, rental of housing, etc.)	2025	7,3%
registration/assignment of status, pensions, social assistance, etc. to persons and children with disabilities	2025	6,8%
receiving humanitarian aid from the state	2025	5,4%
granting the status of a person with a disability, war veteran, person with a war-related disability , or registration/appointment of pensions, benefits, use of privileges	2025	5,1%
receiving benefits, privileges, compensation, services, etc. for persons affected by the armed aggression of the Russian Federation	2025	4,2%
registration of social assistance for families and families with children	2025	3,3%
assigning benefits, using privileges for internally displaced persons	2025	2,2%
resolving issues related to housing or receiving monetary compensation for living quarters that are due	2025	1,6%
resolving issues related to adoption, establishing guardianship, caring for a child, and other forms of upbringing	2025	0,8%

¹ Question: "Have you or members of your family encountered such situations when contacting state authorities or institutions to obtain services in the social protection sector?"

Corruption manifestations occurred somewhat less frequently in issues related to **subsidies and benefits**, for payment of utility services, heating, housing rent and similar, **7.3%**, as well as in the provision of **services to persons with disabilities**, including obtaining status, pensions and social assistance, 6.8% of respondents in this sector.

Lower indicators were recorded in situations related to **receiving humanitarian assistance from the state, 5.4%**, as well as obtaining **the status of a combatant, veteran, or a person with a disability as a result of war, 5.1%**. Even less frequently, respondents reported corruption situations when **receiving assistance, compensation and services for persons affected by the armed aggression of the Russian Federation, 4.2%**.

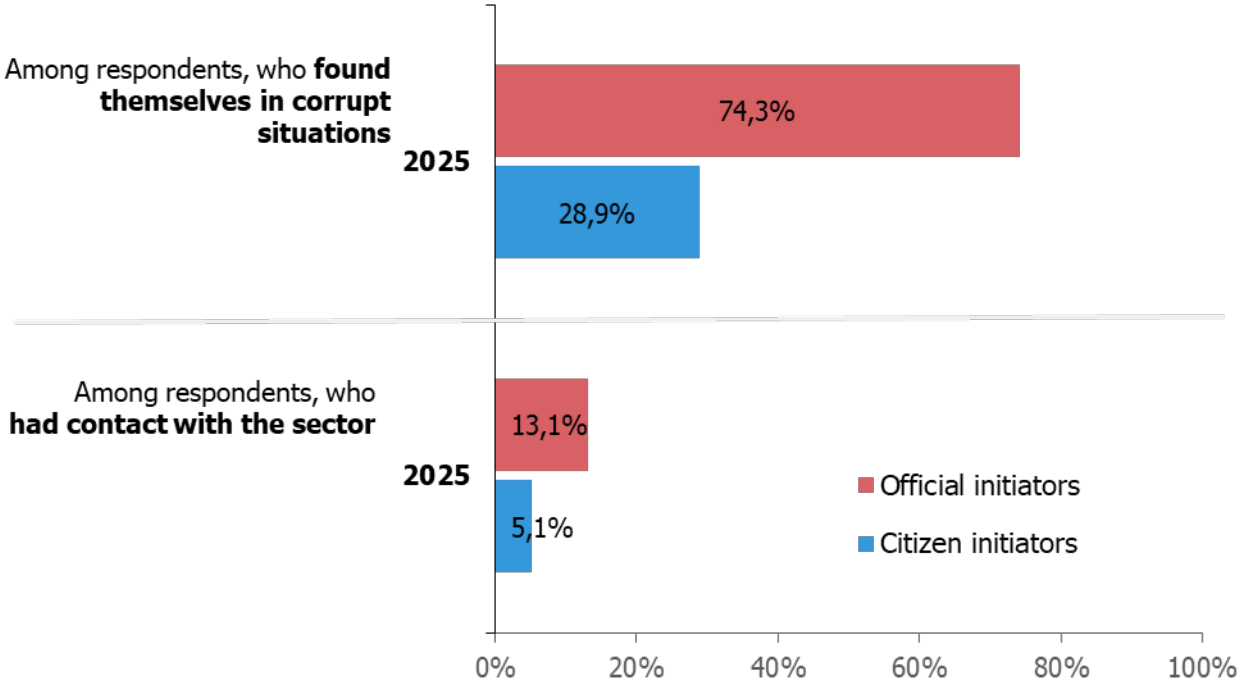
The least common corruption experience concerns issues **of adoption, establishment of guardianship or custody over a child, with only 0.8%** of respondents reporting such situations.

Due to the insufficient number of responses for each individual corruption situation, it was not possible to conduct a detailed statistical analysis of who exactly acted as the initiator, citizens or employees of social protection institutions.

Overall, **5.1% of respondents** who interacted with social protection institutions acted **as initiators** of corruption situations. Among those who were in contact corruption situations, the share of citizen initiators amounts to **28.9%**, Fig. 2.2.28.

At the same time, **13.1%** of respondents who visited such institutions reported that the initiators of corruption situations were **officials** of bodies and institutions providing services in the field of social protection of the population. Among those who were in contact corruption situations, **74.3%** reported cases of corruption initiative on the part of officials. Thus, respondents mostly state that corruption initiative more often comes from employees of social protection bodies and institutions.

Fig. 2.2.28. Initiators of corruption situations



The corruption experience of citizens in 2025 was also analyzed **by individual state bodies and institutions** providing services in the field of social protection of the population. Overall, the share of citizens who encountered corruption in such institutions is relatively low and ranges from **1.8%** to **6.4%**.

Given the minor differences between most indicators, the presented ranking is conditional in nature and is used solely for analytical comparison, Fig. 2.2.29.

The highest levels of corruption experience were recorded when applying to **Territorial Centers of Recruitment and Social Support, 6.4%**, as well as to the **Pension Fund of Ukraine, 5.5%**. **4.9%** of respondents reported corruption experience when interacting **with structural units for social protection of regional and district state administrations and local councils**, while **4.4%** of respondents had such experience in ASCs.

Fig. 2.2.29. Corruption experience when applying to state bodies or institutions to receive services in the field of social protection, % of those who applied to this sector¹

Made unofficial payments, money or gifts, or provided services to representatives, including at the local level, representatives of territorial offices, departments and similar...

TCR and Special units	2025	6,4%
Pension Fund of Ukraine	2025	5,5%
Structural units for social protection of the population of regional, district state administrations and local councils	2025	4,9%
Administrative service centers (ASC)	2025	4,4%
Fund for Social Protection of Persons with Disabilities	2025	4,0%
Social service centers / Centers for the provision of social services	2025	3,8%
State Employment Service	2025	3,6%
Services for children of regional and district state administrations and local self-government bodies	2025	2,2%
State Service of Ukraine for Children	2025	1,8%

* *Military units, subdivisions, of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, within the framework of the experimental project of the Ministry of Social Policy and the Ministry of Defence on social support for servicemen and members of their families.*

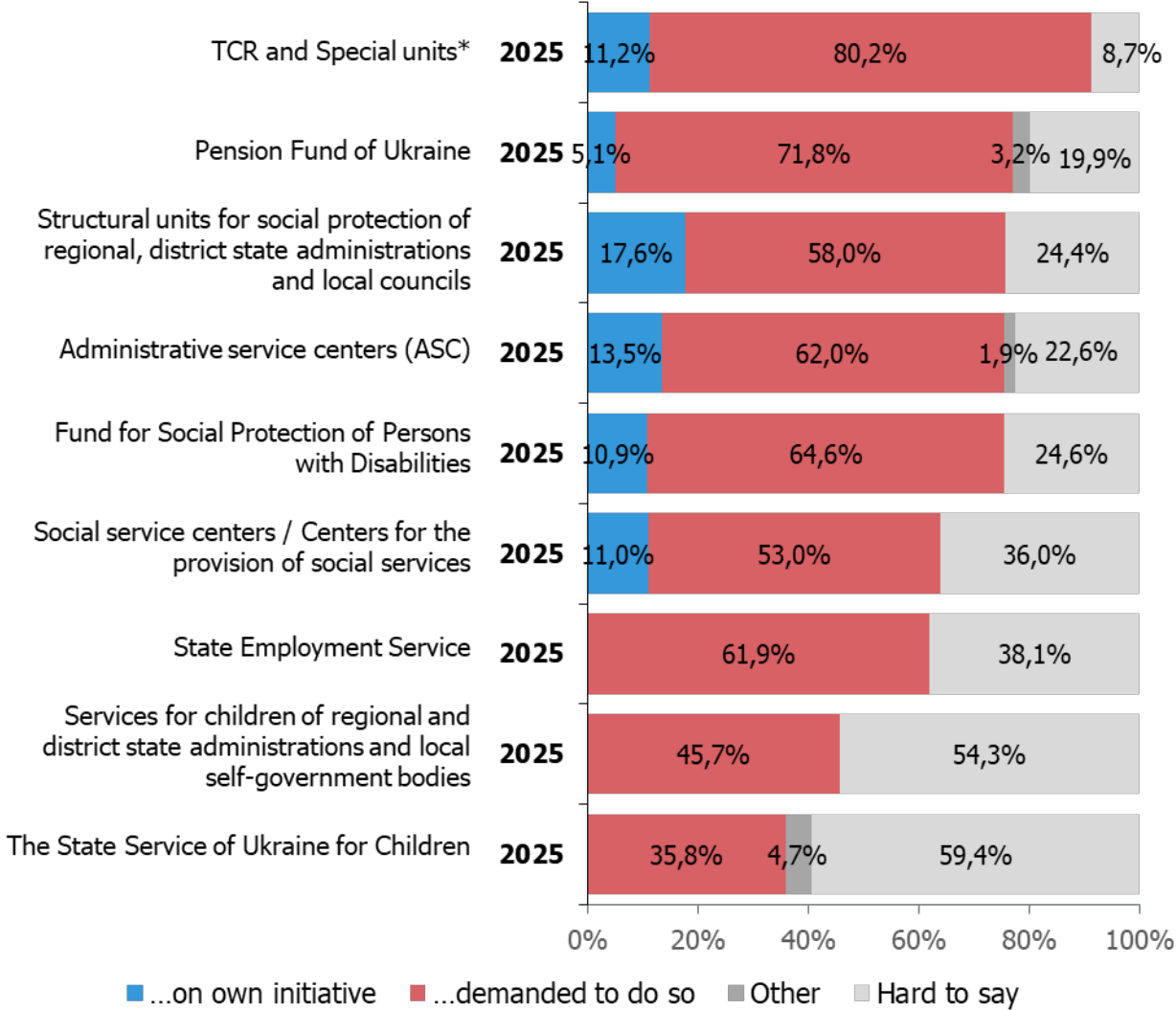
Relatively similar indicators were also recorded for the **Social Protection Fund for Persons with Disabilities, 4.0%**, **centers of social services or centers for the provision of social services, 3.8%**, and the **State Employment Service, 3.6%**.

¹ Question: "Have you or members of your family encountered such situations when contacting state authorities or institutions to obtain services in the social protection sector?"

The lowest level of corruption experience was noted for **services for children** of regional and district state administrations and local self-government bodies, **2.2%**, as well as for the State Service of Ukraine for Children, **1.8%**.

Regarding the **initiators** of corruption situations by **institution**, in all cases initiative from officials prevails. The share of **citizens** who reported making unofficial payments or providing services on their own initiative is relatively small and generally ranges from **5% to 18%** depending on the institution, Fig. 2.2.30.

Fig. 2.2.30. Initiators of corruption situations, % of those who encountered the situation



* Military units, subdivisions, of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, within the framework of the experimental project of the Ministry of Social Policy and the Ministry of Defence on social support for servicemen and members of their families

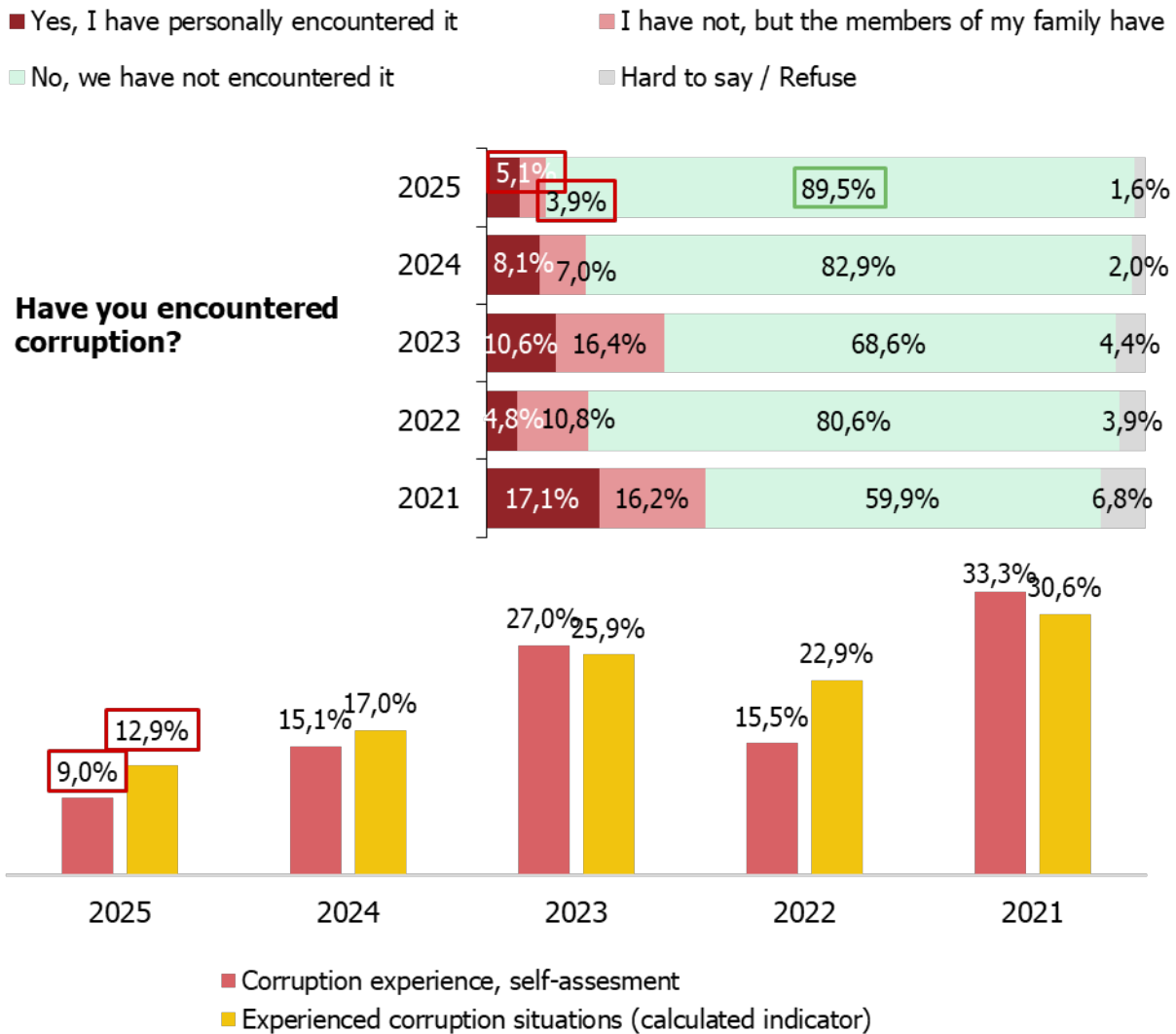
For some institutions, the share of citizen initiators is absent altogether. However, it is precisely in these institutions that the highest share of respondents who refrained from answering was recorded, which may be related both to avoiding a direct answer regarding their own role in corruption situations and to the fact that respondents did not personally interact with these institutions and do not possess full information about all the circumstances of their family members interaction with them.

The highest shares of “difficult to say” responses were recorded for applications to the State Employment Service, **38%**, services for children of regional and district state administrations and local self government bodies, **54%**, as well as to the State Service of Ukraine for Children, **59%**.

Services of educational institutions (kindergartens)

Interaction with municipal kindergartens in 2025 slightly increased compared to the previous year, however without statistically significant dynamics, **10.5%** of surveyed Ukrainians used the services of such institutions, compared to 9.0% in 2024.

Fig. 2.2.31. Corruption experience in the sector overall, % of those who applied to this sector¹



In response to a direct question, in 2025 **9.0%** of respondents reported that they or members of their families **encountered corruption** in kindergartens, which is a statistically significant decrease compared to 2024, 15.0%, a reduction of 6.1 percentage points. Thus, the level of self-reported corruption experience in kindergartens is the lowest for the entire observation period, Fig. 2.2.31.

The decrease in the indicator occurred due to a reduction in both the share of respondents who personally encountered corruption and those who are aware of such cases from family members,

¹ Question: "Have you encountered corruption in kindergartens over the past 12 months - that is, have you given or been asked to give a bribe, used personal connections, etc.?"

Number of respondents: total sample - N=275.

The statistical margin of error for indicators in this sector does not exceed ± 5.9 percentage points.

from 8.1% in 2024 to **5.1%** in 2025, and from 7.0% in 2024 to **3.9%** in 2025, the dynamics in both cases are statistically significant.

Accordingly, the share of respondents who stated that they had not encountered corruption in kindergartens increased statistically significantly, from 82.9% in 2024 to 89.5% in 2025.

In 2025, **12.9%** of respondents reported being in specific contact situations that contained signs of corruption. This indicator continues the downward trend of 2023-2024 and is significantly lower than the level of 2024, 17.0%, a decrease of 4.1 percentage points.

Overall, in the sector of municipal kindergarten services in 2025, a **consistent decrease** was recorded in both self-reported corruption experience and the frequency of being in corruption situations, which indicates a **weakening of corruption interaction** in this sector compared to 2023-2024.

All corruption situations that may arise in kindergartens have approximately the same level of prevalence, Fig. 2.2.32. Unofficial payments or provision of services related to the conditions of a child’s stay in a kindergarten were reported by 9.8% of respondents, which is lower than in 2024, 13.9%, however this dynamic is not statistically significant.

Unofficial payments **for enrolling a child in a kindergarten or for improving the attitude toward the child by caregivers** were made by **9.7%** and **9.5%** of respondents respectively, compared to 11.3% and 10.6% in 2024.

Thus, it can be stated that all three indicators are the lowest for the entire observation period since 2021, although without statistically significant dynamics compared to the previous year.

Fig. 2.2.32. Corruption experience by situations that could arise during attendance at a kindergarten, % of those who use municipal kindergarten services¹

Situations

Made unofficial payments or provided services in order to resolve issues involving the child’s stay at a kindergarten	2025	9,8%
	2024	13,9%
	2023	20,5%
	2022	17,4%
	2021	20,3%
Made unofficial payments or provided services in order to be added to the waiting queue at a kindergarten or resolve other important issues involving the child’s enrollment at a kindergarten	2025	9,7%
	2024	11,3%
	2023	21,6%
	2022	21,2%
	2021	29,5%
Made unofficial payments or provided services to group teachers to get them to treat your child better	2025	9,5%
	2024	10,6%
	2023	19,1%
	2022	15,4%
	2021	17,5%

If in previous years the share of initiators of corruption actions from the side of kindergarten staff, both among those who interacted with the sector and among those who were in corruption situations, was higher, then in 2025 a **redistribution in the structure of subjects of corruption**

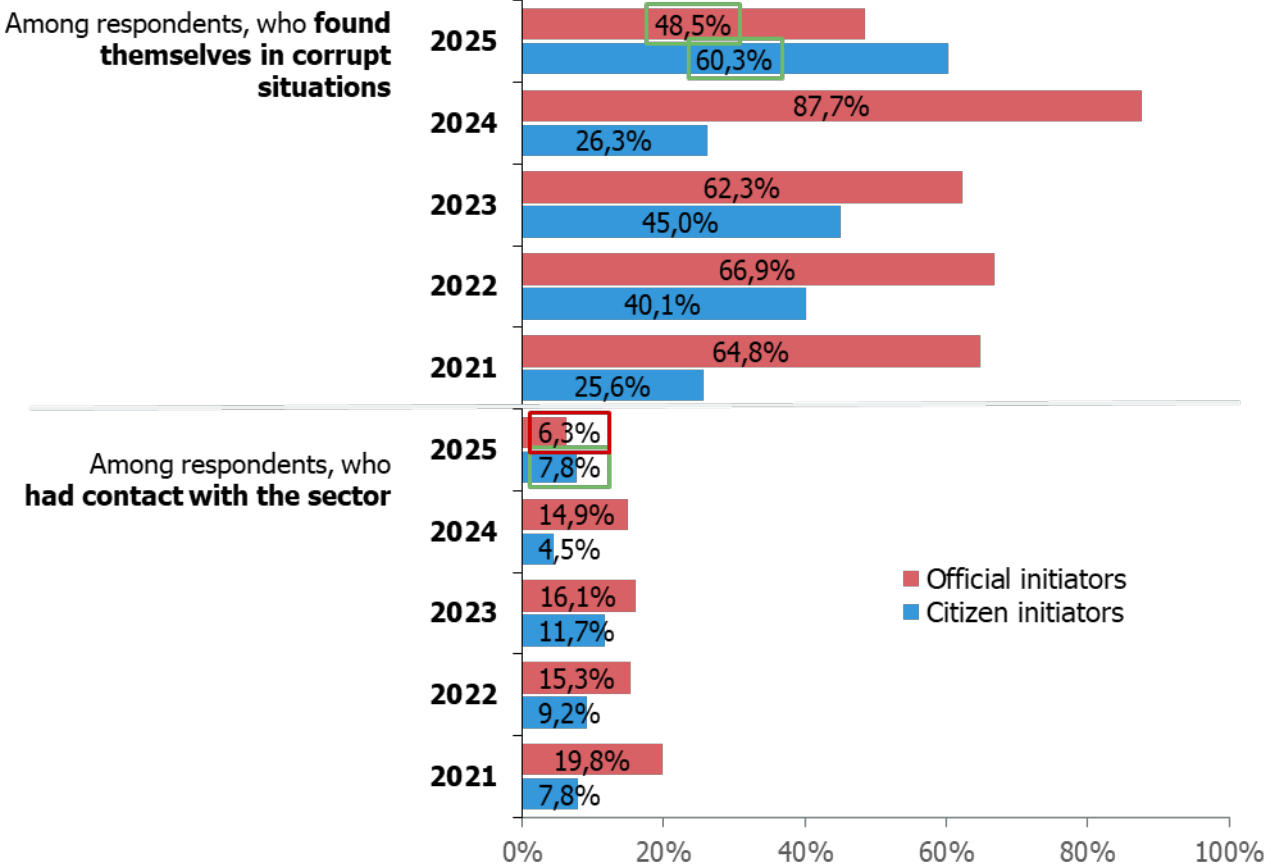
¹ Question: "Have you or members of your family encountered such situations in connection with studying at these institutions?"

initiative was recorded. In particular, in both groups of respondents, the *share of citizen initiators exceeds the share of official initiators*, Fig. 2.2.33.

Among **parents** who *interacted* with municipal kindergartens, **7.8%** acted as **initiators** of corruption situations, which is a statistically significant increase compared to 2024, 4.5%. Among respondent parents who were in specific contact situations, **60.3%** acted as initiators, which is more than twice the level of the previous year, 26.3%, and is the highest value for the entire observation period.

At the same time, the share of respondents who interacted with the sector and reported **initiation** of corruption situations by **employees or administration of kindergartens** amounted to **6.3%**, which is a statistically significant decrease compared to 2024, 14.9%, a decrease of 8.6 percentage points. Among those who were in situations that contained signs of corruption, the share of respondents who reported initiative from employees decreased to **48.5%**, compared to 87.7% in 2024, a statistically significant difference of 39.2 percentage points, which is the lowest value for the entire observation period.

Fig. 2.2.33. Initiators of corruption situations

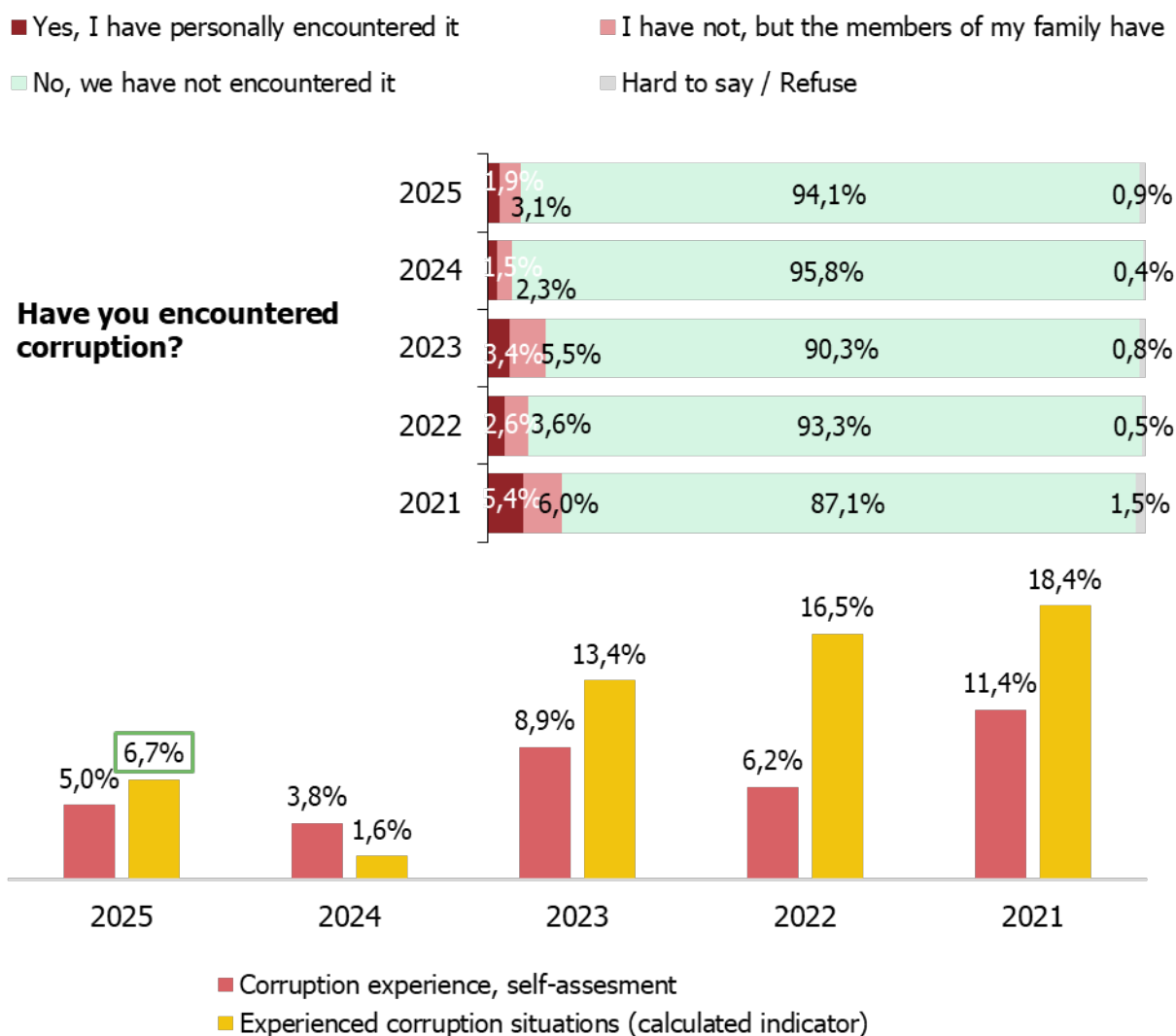


Overall, the decrease in corruption experience in the kindergarten sector recorded in 2025 is consistent with the reduction in the share of corruption initiatives on the part of employees and administration of institutions, which allows for a cautious assumption of a decrease in the intensity of imposed corruption practices by officials.

Activities of centers for the provision of administrative services

The activities of centers for the provision of administrative services are the second most common area of contact for respondents after healthcare: in 2025, **31.6%** of respondents, either personally or through family members, applied to ASCs, compared to 27.7% in 2024, the difference of 3.9 percentage points is statistically significant.

Fig. 2.2.34. Corruption experience in the sector overall, % of those who applied to this sector¹



In ASCs, *the level of corruption remains the lowest* among all sectors analyzed throughout all years of research, Fig. 2.2.34. In response to a direct question, 5.0% of respondents reported that they *had encountered corruption*, compared to 3.8% in 2024.

In 2025, **6.7%** of respondents reported being in specific contact situations that contained signs of corruption, which is statistically significantly higher than in 2024, 1.6%, an increase of 5.1 percentage points.

¹ Question: "Have you encountered corruption when contacting Centers for Administrative Services (ASC) over the past 12 months - that is, have you given or been asked to give a bribe, used personal connections, etc.?"

Number of respondents: total sample - N=808.

The statistical margin of error for indicators in this sector does not exceed ±3.4 percentage points.

In ASCs, it is difficult to clearly identify the most corruption prone situations, as the frequency of mentions for each of them is low and varies within 1.7% to 4.1%, Fig. 2.2.35.

Fig. 2.2.35. Corruption experience by situations that could arise when applying, percentage of those who applied to this sector¹

Made unofficial payments to an official, money or gifts, or provided services for...

issuance of documents relating to real estate	2025	4,1%
	2024	2,9%
	2023	6,1%
	2022	4,8%
	2021	6,7%
obtaining services on land issues	2025 ↑	3,7%
	2024	1,7%
	2023	4,4%
	2022	3,5%
	2021	7,3%
issuance (renewal) of documents relating to business activities	2025 ↑	3,4%
	2024	1,7%
	2023	5,4%
	2022	4,5%
	2021	6,0%
services involving registration / deregistration of a place of residence and issuing a certificate of registration of a person's place of residence	2025	3,3%
	2024	2,5%
	2023	7,1%
	2022	7,4%
	2021	7,5%
grant / renewal of a housing subsidy	2025	3,0%
	2024	2,5%
	2023	6,4%
	2022	9,4%
	2021	6,9%
issuance of social benefits and services (due to childbirth, for single mothers, persons with disabilities, certain social groups, etc.)	2025	2,0%
	2024	2,7%
	2023	5,6%
	2022	5,1%
	2021	4,8%
issuance (renewal) of an international passport	2025	2,0%
	2024	2,5%
	2023	5,7%
	2022	6,9%
	2021	5,5%
updating military registration data of persons liable for military service	2025	1,7%
	2024	3,0%

¹ Question: "Have you or members of your family encountered such situations when contacting Centers for Administrative Services (ASC)?"

A statistically significant increase compared to 2024 in 2025 was recorded in two contact corruption situations involving unofficial payments to ASC officials, money or gifts, or the provision of services, namely: **preparation or reissuance of documents related to entrepreneurial activity**, from 1.7% in 2024 to **3.4%** in 2025, and obtaining **services related to land issues**, from 1.7% in 2024 to **3.7%** in 2025. Among the most common corruption situations in this sector are also **preparation of documents related to real estate, 4.1%**, and obtaining services **related to registration or deregistration of place of residence, 3.3%**.

In 2025, respondents least frequently reported corruption situations related **to updating military registration data**, such experience was reported by **1.7%** of respondents.

Overall, **1.7% of ASC visitors** acted as **initiators** of corruption situations (a statistically significant decrease of 0.8 percentage points compared to 2024). Among those who were involved in contact corruption situations, the share of visitor-initiators is **25.1%**. This indicator also shows a statistically significant decrease of 18.9 percentage points compared to 2024 (Fig. 2.2.36).

4.7% of respondents who visited ASCs reported that **the initiators of** corruption situations were officials, compared to 4.3% in 2024. Among those who were in contact corruption situations, **70.7%** reported initiative from officials, compared to 58.8% in 2024, the decrease of 5.1 percentage points is statistically significant. Thus, according to the survey data, corruption initiative is more often attributed to employees of ASCs.

Fig. 2.2.36. Initiators of corruption situations

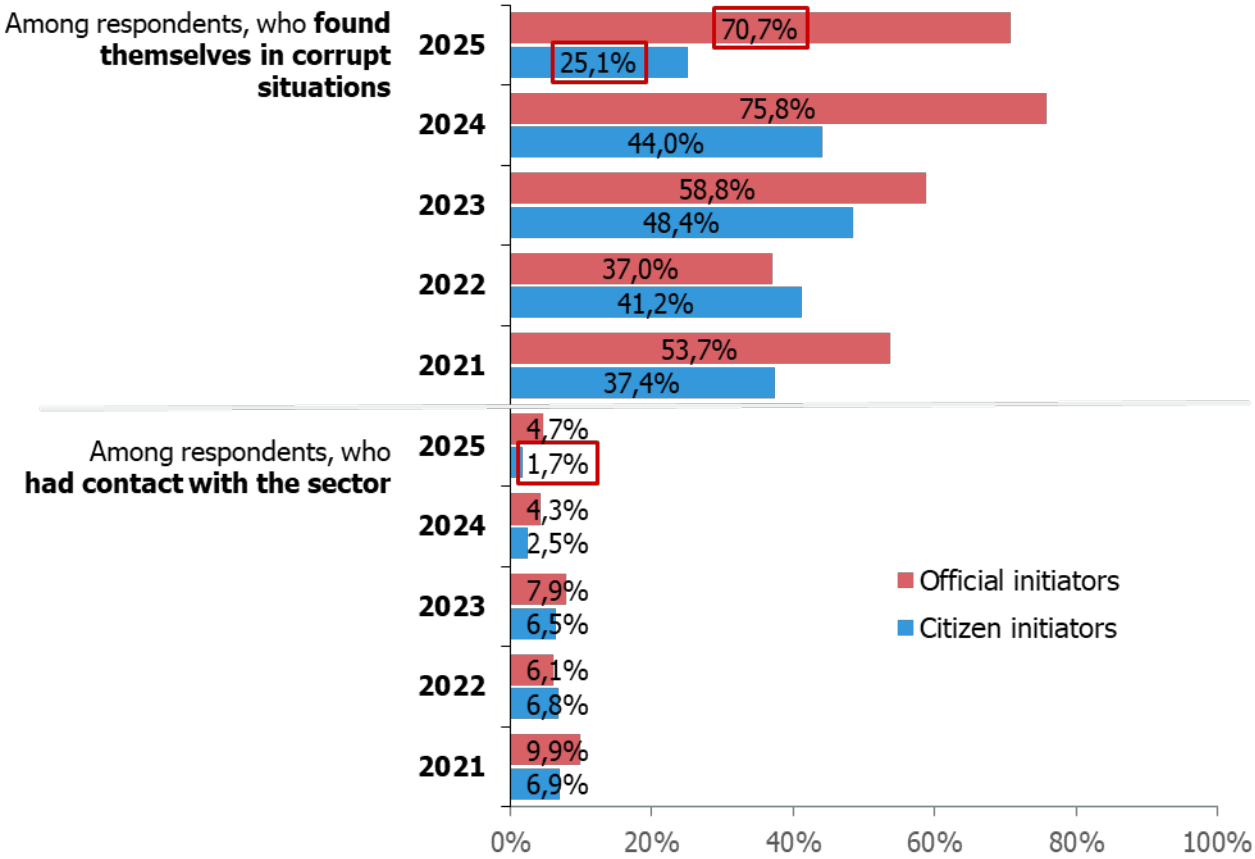


Table 2.2.1. Summary table on the study of corruption experience of the population by sectors

Sector	Year	Self-reported corruption experience*	Were involved in corruption situations*			% of respondents who interacted with the sector
			% of respondents	% of respondents who acted as initiators of corrupt relations	% of respondents for whom a corruption situation arose due to a demand	
Construction and land relations	2025	↓31,8% (±6,1)	↓32,4% (±6,1)	8,1% (±3,6)	↓24,1% (±5,6)	4,7% (±2,8)
	2024	44,1%	45,4%	13,8%	38,9%	3,7%
	2023	32,5%	43,2%	9,7%	39,4%	3,3%
	2022	23,9%	35,8%	8,6%	27,0%	3,5%
	2021	45,3%	52,5%	12,8%	40,3%	4,4%
Ensuring law and order and combating crime (activities of law enforcement agencies)	2025	26,0% (±4,6)	24,1% (±4,5)	7,5% (±2,7)	17,6% (±4,0)	↑11,3% (±3,3)
	2024	28,5%	30,5%	8,6%	24,3%	5,4%
	2023	23,4%	25,3%	9,9%	19,0%	4,7%
	2022	32,7%	39,0%	6,3%	24,6%	6,8%
	2021	50,1%	50,2%	17,4%	35,7%	3,1%
Services of higher education institutions	2025	24,6% (±4,0)	27,5% (±4,2)	10,9% (±2,9)	20,0% (±3,8)	↑16,1% (±1,4)
	2024	25,7%	26,7%	9,9%	22,2%	10,4%
	2023	26,6%	31,5%	11,0%	26,0%	13,8%
	2022	25,7%	32,9%	11,6%	26,2%	11,9%
	2021	38,4%	45,3%	16,6%	33,5%	11,6%
Healthcare (medical services)	2025	↓24,2% (±2,1)	26,9% (±2,2)	10,6% (±1,5)	↓19,4% (±2,0)	↑59,7% (±1,9)
	2024	28,5%	29,2%	11,5%	21,8%	51,5%
	2023	32,3%	34,9%	13,5%	27,2%	49,4%
	2022	24,8%	33,4%	11,4%	23,0%	51,0%
	2021	39,4%	44,5%	14,1%	31,4%	55,7%
Services of energy companies (connection and maintenance of electricity, gas, water supply and wastewater systems)	2025	↓18,1% (±3,4)	↓15,9% (±3,2)	4,9% (±1,9)	11,3% (±2,8)	↑18,8% (±1,5)
	2024	24,1%	28,2%	10,1%	20,5%	9,9%
	2023	31,4%	34,7%	12,0%	26,6%	9,3%
	2022	28,7%	43,6%	14,8%	27,6%	11,7%
	2021	28,8%	34,2%	10,3%	23,5%	13,5%

Sector	Year	Self-reported corruption experience*	Were involved in corruption situations*			% of respondents who interacted with the sector
			% of respondents	% of respondents who acted as initiators of corrupt relations	% of respondents for whom a corruption situation arose due to a demand	
Activities of service centers of MIA	2025	↓16,2% (±4,0)	↓17,8% (±4,2)	7,2% (±2,8)	↓11,1% (±3,4)	↓13,8% (±1,3)
	2024	26,1%	27,3%	11,0%	20,7%	10,0%
	2023	35,7%	40,4%	19,1%	29,5%	7,6%
	2022	26,7%	39,9%	18,0%	20,5%	7,8%
	2021	37,8%	39,6%	11,7%	25,1%	6,3%
Services of educational institutions (primary and secondary education)	2025	12,9% (±2,5)	↑16,8% (±2,8)	↑7,9% (±2,0)	↑10,2% (±2,3)	↑24,7% (±1,7)
	2024	12,0%	13,7%	6,4%	8,5%	20,0%
	2023	21,6%	20,7%	9,8%	13,4%	19,6%
	2022	13,0%	19,8%	12,0%	8,4%	21,4%
	2021	33,5%	25,2%	12,2%	13,8%	23,0%
Social protection of the population	2025	12,6% (±3,3)	17,6% (±3,8)	5,1% (±2,2)	13,1% (±3,3)	16,8% (±1,4)
Services of educational institutions (kindergartens)	2025	↓9,0% (±3,4)	↓12,9% (±4,0)	↑7,8% (±3,2)	↓6,3% (±2,9)	10,5% (±1,2)
	2024	15,1%	17,0%	4,5%	14,9%	9,0%
	2023	27,0%	25,9%	11,7%	16,1%	9,2%
	2022	15,5%	22,9%	9,2%	15,3%	8,3%
	2021	33,3%	30,6%	7,8%	19,8%	11,3%
Activities of Centers for the provision of Administrative Services (ASC)	2025	5,0% (±1,5)	↑6,7% (±1,7)	↓1,7% (±0,9)	4,7% (±1,5)	↑31,6% (±1,8)
	2024	3,8%	1,6%	2,5%	4,3%	27,7%
	2023	8,9%	13,4%	6,5%	7,9%	25,8%
	2022	6,2%	16,5%	6,8%	6,1%	22,8%
	2021	11,4%	18,4%	6,9%	9,9%	20,4%

* % calculated based on the number of respondents who interacted with the sector

2.3. Assessment of corruption experience of business by sectors

This section presents a detailed analysis of indicators of corruption experience among business representatives in specific areas of interaction with public authorities, institutions and organizations.

The study is based on the results of a survey of entrepreneurs and is conducted using a methodology identical to that applied for assessing the corruption experience of the population and described in detail in section 2.1.

Fig. 2.3.1 presents data on the *corruption experience* of entrepreneurs across various sectors *based on their self-assessment*. The sectors are ordered by the share of respondents who reported corruption experience[±] in each of them, both personal and that encountered by employees of their enterprises, among those who had contact with the respective sector during the past 12 months.

In 2025, *changes were recorded in the frequency of business contacts* with certain sectors under study. For some sectors, these changes are statistically significant and may affect the interpretation of corruption experience indicators, as the recorded dynamics may reflect not only changes in corruption practices but also changes in the composition or nature of interactions between enterprises and the relevant authorities. In particular, *the frequency of contacts decreased* in the fields of construction and land relations, state regulation and control in the field of economic activity, as well as the judiciary, while in the sector *of services of energy companies* the frequency of contacts increased statistically significantly. In other sectors, no significant changes in the intensity of interaction were recorded.

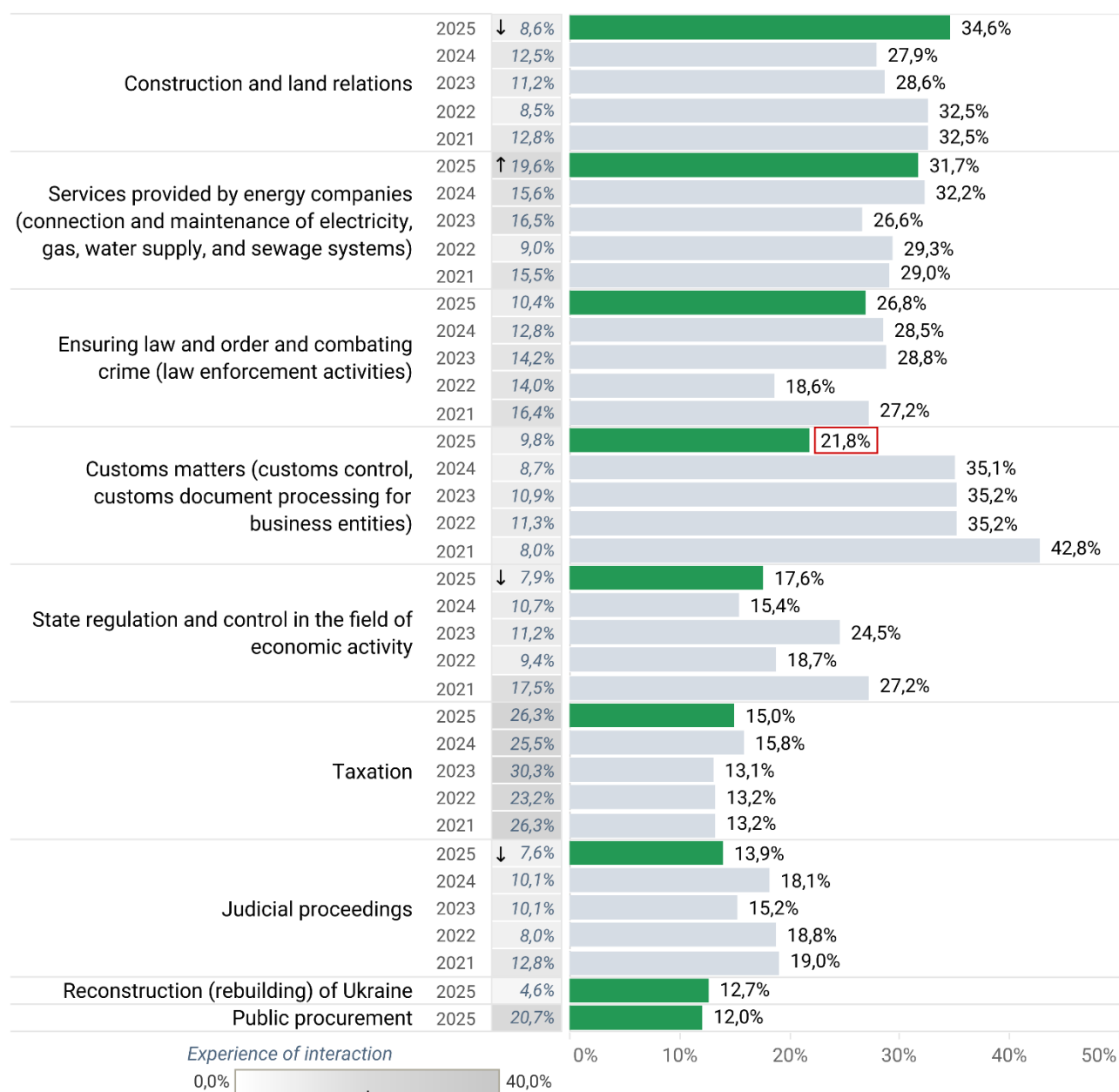
Overall, in 2025 the analysis of corruption experience of entrepreneurs covers nine areas of business interaction with public authorities and public institutions, two of which, *the reconstruction sector of Ukraine and public procurement, were studied for the first time*. For these sectors, the recorded indicators of corruption experience reflect the initial state and form a basis for comparison in subsequent waves of the study.

At the same time, for the remaining sectors, the results of 2025 make it possible to assess the dynamics of corruption experience in a comparative time dimension.

In 2025, statistically **significant changes in the level of corruption experience** of entrepreneurs, based on self-assessment, were recorded only in the **customs sector**. In other sectors previously studied among the business audience, *such changes were not identified*. At the same time, in certain sectors shifts in indicators can be observed that may indicate the emergence of new trends requiring attention in future observation periods.

¹ The maximum margin of error in estimating corruption experience depends on the sample size of surveyed respondents who interacted with the relevant sector and on the corruption experience indicator, and ranges from ±5.4 to ±13.2 percentage points.

Fig. 2.3.1 Experience of interaction with sectors and corruption experience¹



The sector of construction and land relations became the “leader” in terms of the prevalence of corruption experience in 2025 for the first time - **34.6%** of respondents who had contact with this sector reported encountering corruption. This is the highest indicator for the entire observation period, however no statistically significant dynamics compared to 2024, 27.9%, were recorded.

¹ Questions for each sector:

(1) "Have you (as a manager or representative of an enterprise) or your enterprise contacted ... for services over the past 12 months?" ("...met or had contact with representatives of ... authorities or sectors ... regarding your enterprise's activities?") ("...participated in public procurement?");

(2) "Have you (as a manager or representative of an enterprise) encountered corruption when contacting ... for services in the sector of ... over the past 12 months - that is, have you given or been asked to give a bribe, used personal connections, etc.?" ("...during meetings or contacts with representatives of ... authorities?").

Second place in terms of the prevalence of corruption is occupied by **the sector of services of energy companies**, connection and maintenance of electricity, gas, water supply and wastewater systems. **31.7%** of respondents who interacted with this sector reported corruption experience, which corresponds to the level of the previous year. In 2021-2025, the indicator of self-reported corruption experience in this sector generally fluctuates around 30%, remaining relatively stable and not demonstrating a clear long term trend either upward or downward.

The sector of ensuring law enforcement and combating crime, activities of law enforcement agencies, ranked third. The corruption experience indicator in this sector is **26.8%**. No statistically significant dynamics compared to 2024 were recorded, and the level of corruption experience among entrepreneurs in this sector is also comparable to the indicators of 2021 and 2023, after a temporary decline in 2022.

Customs, with a corruption experience indicator of **21.8%**, for the first time during the entire observation period moved from first place in the ranking and demonstrates a statistically significant decrease compared to 2022-2024, when it remained at around 35%. The magnitude of the recorded difference, taking into account the analysis of corruption practices in this sector, may be considered as a *potential sign of the formation of a downward trend*, which requires confirmation in subsequent waves of the study.

In the field of state regulation and control over economic activity, the corruption experience indicator among entrepreneurs, **17.6%**, does not demonstrate statistically significant dynamics compared to 2024, 15.4%.

In 2025, no statistically significant changes compared to 2024 were recorded in the field of **taxation** either: only **15.0%** of respondents who had contact with tax authorities reported corruption experience, compared to 15.8% in 2024. At the same time, tax authorities remain the sector with which entrepreneurs interact most frequently.

In the field of the **judiciary**, the corruption experience indicator slightly decreased in 2025: **13.9%** of entrepreneurs who interacted with judicial authorities reported corruption experience, which is 4.2 percentage points lower than in 2024, 18.1%, however these changes are not statistically significant.

The lowest indicators of corruption experience were recorded in the "new" sectors, *reconstruction of Ukraine and public procurement*, which were studied for the first time in 2025.

In the sector of **reconstruction of Ukraine**, **12.7%** of respondents reported corruption experience, and in the field of **public procurement**, **12.0%**. The obtained values for these sectors will serve as a reference point for analyzing dynamics in subsequent waves of the study.

Next, each sector and the specifics of corruption situations within them will be considered in more detail.

Construction and land relations

In the field of construction and land relations, the level of corruption during business interactions, including issues of privatization, use of premises or land plots, remains consistently high. Overall, **8.6%** of enterprises had contact with this sector, compared to 12.5% in 2024, the decrease in contact frequency is statistically significant.

According to responses to the direct question, **34.6%** of respondents stated that they had **encountered corruption** in this sector, an increase of 6.7 percentage points compared to 2024, Fig. 2.3.2. At the same time, this difference is not statistically significant, $p \approx 0.18$, which is due to the relatively small number of respondents who interacted with the sector and, accordingly, a larger sampling error of the subsample, therefore it should be considered as potentially caused by sampling fluctuations.

Fig. 2.3.2. Corruption experience in the sector overall (% of those who interacted with the sector)¹



¹ Question: "Have you (as a manager or representative of an enterprise) encountered corruption when requesting services in the sector of construction and land relations over the past 12 months - that is, have you given or been asked to give a bribe, used personal connections, etc.?"

Number of respondents: total sample - N=108; total + additional sample - N=197.

Overall, the indicators of corruption experience among entrepreneurs in the studied sectors include both the personal experience of respondents and the experience of employees of enterprises.

In particular, in 2025, **23.9%** of respondents reported personal encounters with corruption, compared to 22.2% in 2024, the difference is not statistically significant, while **10.7%** of respondents reported corruption experience among employees of enterprises, compared to 5.7% in 2024, also without statistically significant dynamics.

At the same time, **27.9%** of respondents reported participation in *specific contact situations* that contained signs of corruption, compared to 32.7% in 2024, without statistically significant dynamics.

The discrepancy between these indicators suggests that about 6.7% of respondents report having corruption experience without linking it specifically to the contact situations proposed for assessment.

In 2025, no statistically significant dynamics were recorded in the frequency of contact corruption situations in the field of construction and land relations, Fig. 2.3.3.

The issue of **transferring a land plot for use or ownership**, with an indicator of 16.3%, remains the “leader” in the ranking of corruption situations, as in the previous year, 15.5%.

At the same time, the second position in the ranking has undergone some changes. With an indicator of **10.0%**, it is occupied by a new contact situation introduced in 2025, **obtaining technical conditions for the design of facilities, as initial data for the development of design documentation**.

It shares second place with two other situations: resolving issues related **to changing the designated purpose of land, 9.8%**, which slightly rose in the ranking compared to 2024, 5.6%, but without statistically significant difference, and **failure to respond to unlawful use of a land plot, 9.2%**, without dynamics.

The lowest indicators, as in the previous year, were recorded for the contact situation **of facilitating the receipt from public authorities, local self-government bodies, of financial assistance for carrying out works on the restoration** of destroyed or damaged buildings and structures, **2.4%**.

From 3.5% to 7.8% of respondents reported experience in the remaining situations.

Thus, the combination of indicators of self-reported corruption experience and the frequency of being in contact situations indicates the absence of statistically significant changes in 2025 compared to previous years. During 2021-2025, the level of corruption experience in the field of construction and land relations remains relatively **stable and high**, fluctuating within approximately **28% to 36%** among entrepreneurs who interacted with this sector.

The statistical margin of error for indicators in this sector does not exceed ±7.0 percentage points.

Fig. 2.3.3. Corruption experience by situations that could arise when applying, % of those who interacted with the sector¹

Made unofficial payments to an official, money or gifts, or provided services for...

resolving the issue of the transfer of a land plot for use or ownership, including outside the auction procedure	2025	16,3%
	2024	15,5%
	2023	7,6%
	2022	11,7%
	2021	5,0%
obtaining technical specifications for the design of facilities as initial data for the development of project documentation	2025	10,0%
resolving the issue of changes to the designated purpose of land	2025	9,8%
	2024	5,6%
	2023	10,7%
	2022	9,9%
	2021	14,1%
failure to respond to unlawful use of a land plot after the expiration of the land lease agreement	2025	9,2%
	2024	9,0%
	2023	3,4%
	2022	9,1%
	2021	13,0%
issuance of urban planning conditions and restrictions on land development	2025	7,8%
	2024	8,2%
	2023	11,6%
	2022	10,7%
	2021	11,8%
obtaining a building passport / urban planning conditions and restrictions from the Department of Urban Planning and Architecture*	2025	7,0%
	2024	9,6%
issuance of a construction / reconstruction permit or for registering (submitting) a notification of the commencement of construction work	2025	6,9%
	2024	8,9%
	2023	10,9%
	2022	12,4%
	2021	17,8%
a biased regulatory monetary assessment of the value of a land plot , resulting in an underestimated amount of rent for the use of state and municipal land	2025	6,0%
	2024	3,1%
	2023	4,3%
	2022	13,3%
	2021	11,2%
commissioning of an immovable property into operation (obtaining a certificate of acceptance of real estate into operation registration of a declaration of readiness for operation)	2025	5,4%
	2024	8,1%
	2023	8,0%
	2022	12,0%
	2021	13,8%
entering into a joint venture agreement with a permanent user of a land plot with the objective of construction on such land	2025	3,5%
	2024	4,2%
	2023	2,6%
	2022	4,5%
	2021	5,5%
facilitation of the release of financial aid and/or construction materials by national or local government agencies for restoration of destroyed/damaged buildings, structures	2025	2,4%
	2024	2,9%
	2023	5,7%
	2022	3,0%

* Departments of urban planning and architecture of regional, district and local administrations

¹ Question: "Have you or employees of your enterprise (as its representatives) encountered such situations when requesting services in the construction and land relations sector?"

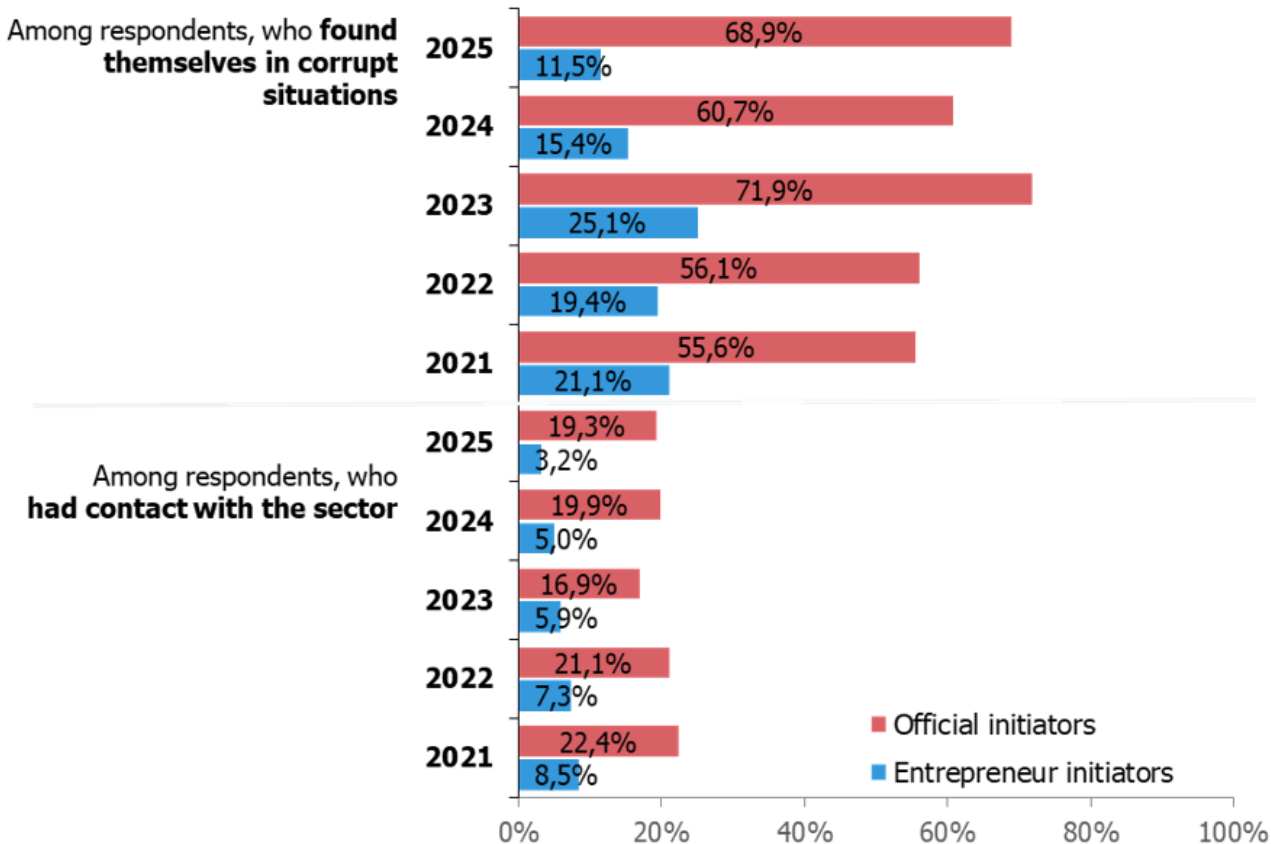
Due to the insufficient number of responses for each individual corruption situation, it was not possible to conduct a statistical analysis of who exactly acted as the initiator, visitors or employees of public authorities, institutions and organizations providing services in the field of construction and land relations, by these situations.

Overall, **3.2% of entrepreneurs** who interacted with the sector stated that in at least one situation in this sector they acted as initiators of corruption relations, Fig. 2.3.4. This indicator does not demonstrate statistically significant dynamics compared to 2024, 5.0%. Among respondents who were in contact situations with signs of corruption, the share of those who acknowledged their own initiative is **11.5%**. Although this indicator is lower than in 2024, 15.4%, the difference is also not statistically significant.

At the same time, **officials** more often act as **initiators** of corruption situations. In particular, 19.3% of respondents who had contact in the field of construction and land relations reported that representatives of public authorities, institutions or organizations demanded money, gifts or services from them in order to resolve an issue. The value of this indicator corresponds to the level of 2024, 19.9%. Among respondents who were in corruption situations, **68.9%** reported initiative on the part of officials, compared to 60.7% in 2024, the difference is also without statistically significant dynamics.

Thus, the obtained data do not indicate significant changes in the distribution of initiators of corruption situations compared to 2024: the shares of respondents who indicated both their own initiative and initiative on the part of officials remain generally stable.

Fig. 2.3.4. Initiators of corruption situations

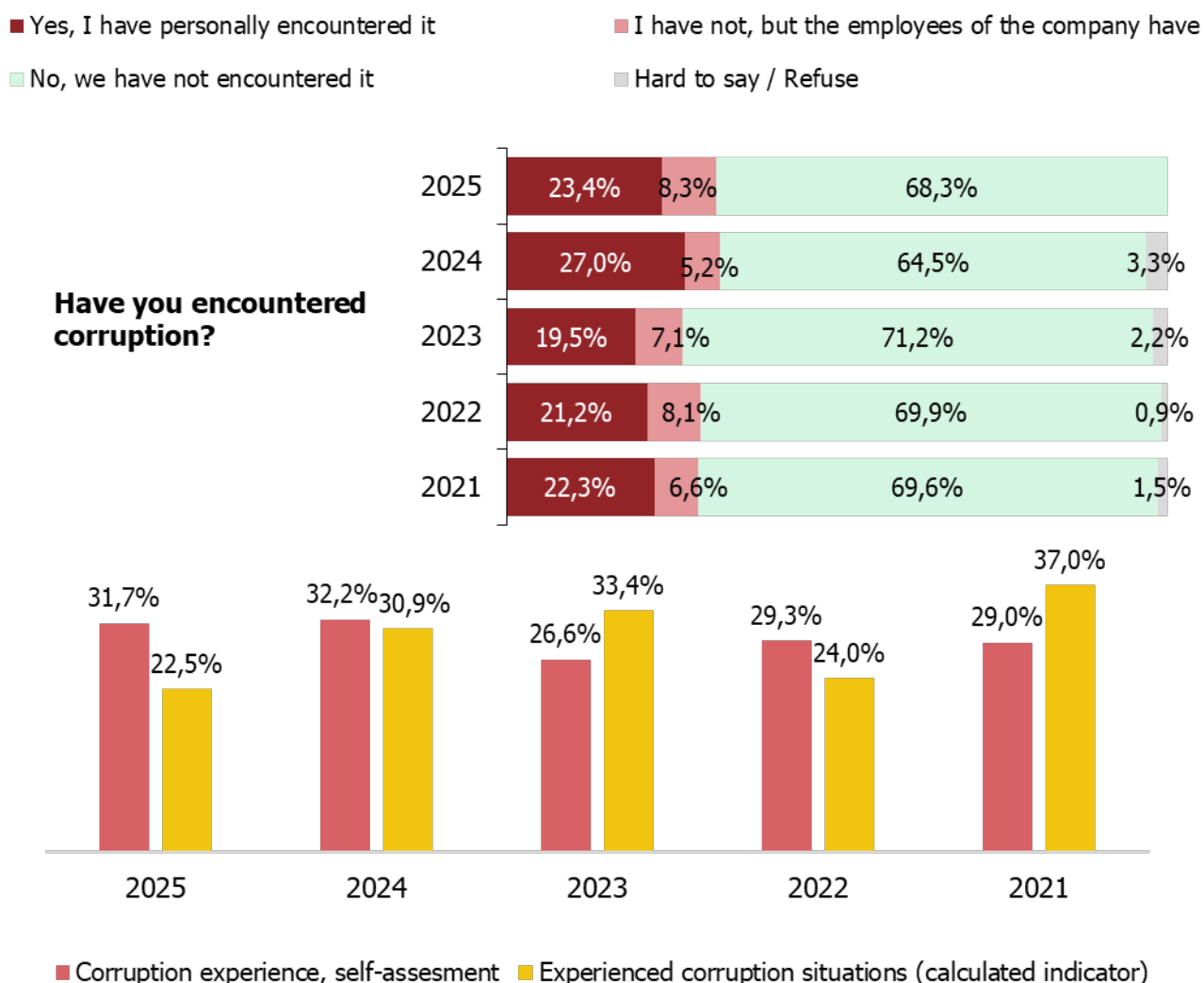


Services of energy companies (connection and maintenance of electricity, gas, water supply and wastewater systems)

In 2025, **19.6%** of Ukrainian enterprises applied for services related to connection and maintenance of electricity, gas, water supply and wastewater systems. In 2024, the share of such enterprises was 15.6%, the recorded increase of 4 percentage points is statistically significant.

In response to the direct question of whether managers or representatives of the enterprise **encountered corruption, 31.7%** of respondents answered affirmatively, Fig. 2.3.5.

Fig. 2.3.5. Corruption experience in the sector overall, % of those who interacted with the sector¹



The value of this indicator is practically the same as in 2024, 32.2%.

¹ Question: "Have you (as a manager or representative of an enterprise) encountered corruption when contacting such companies (enterprises) over the past 12 months - that is, have you given or been asked to give a bribe, used personal connections, etc.?"

Number of respondents: total sample - N=234.

The statistical margin of error for indicators in this sector does not exceed ± 6.4 percentage points.

In 2021–2025, the self-assessed corruption experience indicator in this sector generally **fluctuates around 30%**, remaining relatively stable and not demonstrating a clear long-term trend toward either increase or decrease.

At the same time, the share of respondents who reported *being in specific contact situations* with signs of corruption is lower: **22.5%** in 2025 compared to 30.9% in 2024. However, the recorded difference is not statistically significant.

In 2025, *there is a gap of 9.2%* between the share of respondents who reported participation in specific situations with signs of corruption and the share of those who generally acknowledge having corruption experience. This may indicate that approximately this share of respondents report having corruption experience overall but do not associate it with the *proposed contact situations*.

In 2025, a differentiated approach to assessing respondents' corruption experience when receiving services from energy companies, electricity, gas and water supply, was applied for the first time. In particular, **15.5%** of entrepreneurs applied for electricity supply services, 5.7% for gas supply, and **8.3%** for water supply and wastewater services. Among those who had relevant contacts, the shares reporting corruption experience in these sub-sectors were as follows: **electricity supply - 24.3%, gas supply - 35.4%, water supply and wastewater - 20.7%** of surveyed entrepreneurs. The updated approach provides for a more detailed assessment by individual sub-sectors, as well as an analysis of specific contact situations with signs of corruption¹, Fig. 2.3.6.

In the *electricity supply* sub-sector, respondents most often reported corruption experience in connection with the **approval of design documentation for connecting a non-residential facility to the electricity network, 10.1%**. Slightly less frequently mentioned were situations related to **failure to hold accountable or failure to respond to detected violations of rules for operating** the electricity network, electrical installations or electricity meters, **8.3%**, as well as **approval of design documentation for connecting an apartment building to the electricity network**, or the direct connection of such a building to the grid, **8.2%**. The lowest share of reported corruption experience was recorded in situations related to the **transfer, write-off or reduction of debts** for consumed electricity, **1.7%**.

In the gas supply sub-sector, corruption experience was most often associated with the **preparation or acceleration of documentation** for gas supply and amendments to it, reported by **13.3%** of respondents. Relatively common were also situations related to **connecting non-residential facilities to gas supply, illegal reconfiguration** of gas pipelines, or restoration of gas supply without proper grounds, **8.6%**. The least common were corruption situations related to **concluding contracts for natural gas supply at a lower price** than required for the relevant category of consumers, as well as **failure to hold accountable or failure to respond to cases of illegal connection to the gas network or violations of the rules for operating** gas appliances and devices, 2.8% of respondents each. Other situations were reported by 5.0% to 6.4% of respondents.

¹ In 2025, the assessment of corruption situations in the sectors of electricity, gas, and water supply was carried out using a revised methodology. Detailed questions on specific corruption situations were asked only to those respondents who, at a previous stage, confirmed that they had contacted the relevant supplier companies. In 2021–2024, such situations were assessed within the general block of the sector, regardless of actual contact with a specific sub-sector. In view of this, direct comparison of indicators for individual situations between 2025 and previous years is not carried out.

Fig. 2.3.6. Corruption experience by types of situations that may arise when applying for services, % of those who interacted with the sector¹

Made informal payments to an official, money or gifts, or provided services to them for...

Electricity supply		
approval of design documentation for subsequent connection of a nonresidential facility to the power grid / for getting a nonresidential facility connected to the power grid	2025	10,1%
failure to hold accountable for / respond to any detected violations of the rules for operation of the power grid, electrical units, or electricity meters	2025	8,3%
approval of design documentation for subsequent connection of an apartment building to the power grid / for getting an apartment building connected to the power grid	2025	8,2%
transfer / write-off / reduction of debts for electricity consumed	2025	1,7%
Gas supply		
preparation / acceleration of preparation of gas supply documents or modifications to them	2025	13,3%
connection / completion of the annual procedure of approval of the connection of a nonresidential facility to the gas supply network , illegal remodeling of a gas pipeline, resumption of gas	2025	8,6%
noninterference with business operations by suspending / limiting gas supply	2025	6,4%
transfer / write-off / reduction of debts for gas consumed, its delivery	2025	5,2%
connection / completion of the annual procedure of approval of the connection of an apartment building to the gas supply network , illegal remodeling of a gas pipeline, resumption of gas	2025	5,0%
entry into (renewal) of a contract for the supply of gas at a lower price established for a different category of consumers	2025	2,8%
failure to hold accountable for / respond to any instances of unauthorized connection to the gas supply network or violations of the rules for operation of gas equipment and appliances, including	2025	2,8%
Water supply		
resolving issues relating to the connection of the sewer system and its maintenance	2025	12,9%
failure to hold accountable for / respond to any detected violations of the rules for using water supply facilities (including by reducing or revoking penalties)	2025	8,3%
installation, sealing, registration of water supply and sewage metering systems	2025	6,7%
renovation / repairs of water supply systems of buildings	2025	4,3%
transfer/write-off/reduction of debts for water supply and drainage	2025	1,1%

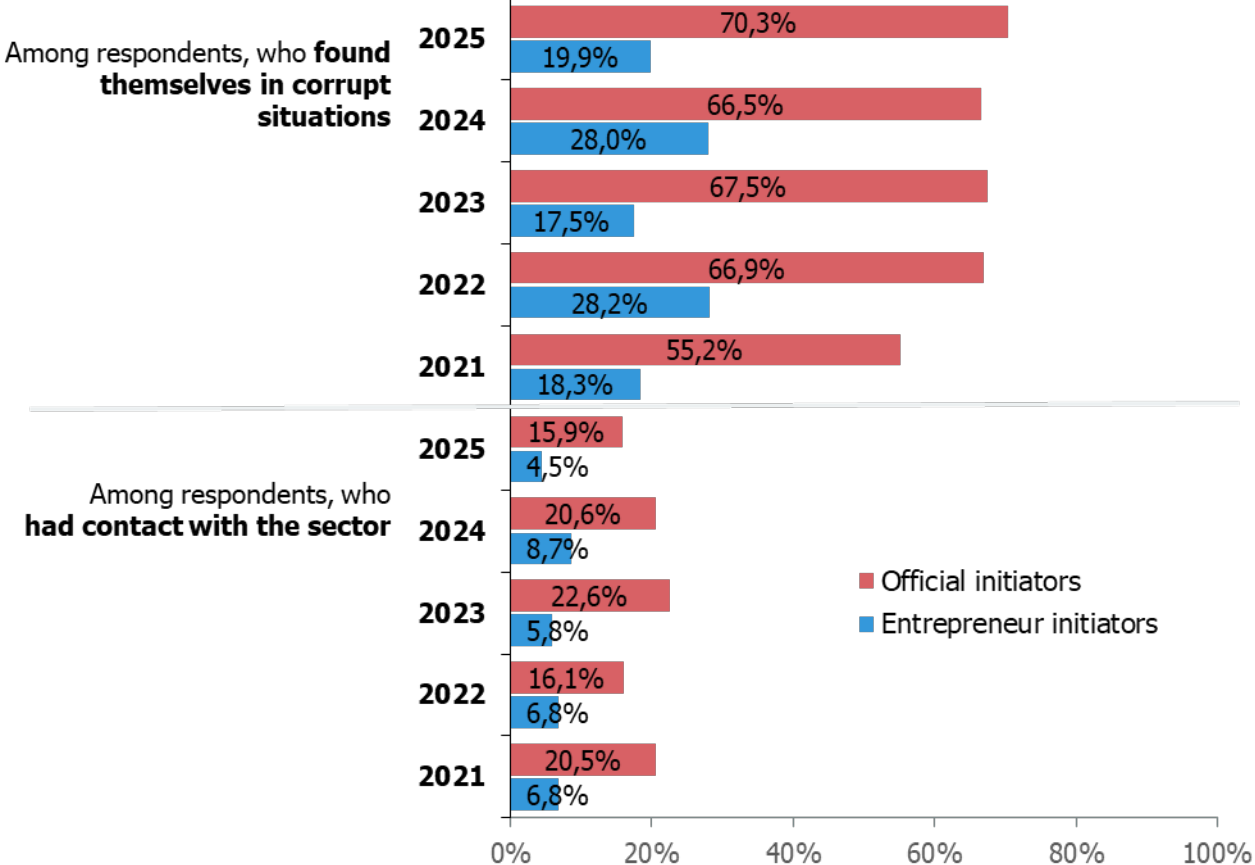
¹ Question: "Have you or employees of your enterprise (as its representatives) encountered such situations when contacting such enterprises?"

In the *water supply and wastewater sub-sector*, corruption experience was most often associated with resolving issues related **to connection to wastewater systems** and their subsequent **operation** - such cases were reported by **12.9%** of respondents. Situations related **to failure to hold accountable or failure to respond to identified violations in the use** of water supply system facilities were also quite common, **8.3%**, as well as those related to **installation, sealing and registration of water supply and wastewater metering systems, 6.7%**. The least common were cases related to transfer, write-off or reduction of **debts for water supply and wastewater services, 1.1%**.

Due to the insufficient number of responses for each individual corruption situation, it was not possible to conduct a statistical analysis of who exactly acted as the initiator, visitors or employees of supplier companies.

According to the analysis of all situations, **4.5% of entrepreneurs** who had overall contact with the sector of energy companies' services stated that in at least one of the situations in this sector they themselves **initiated** corruption interactions, it should be recalled that in 2024 the corresponding indicator was 8.7%, Fig. 2.3.7.

Fig. 2.3.7. Initiators of corruption situations



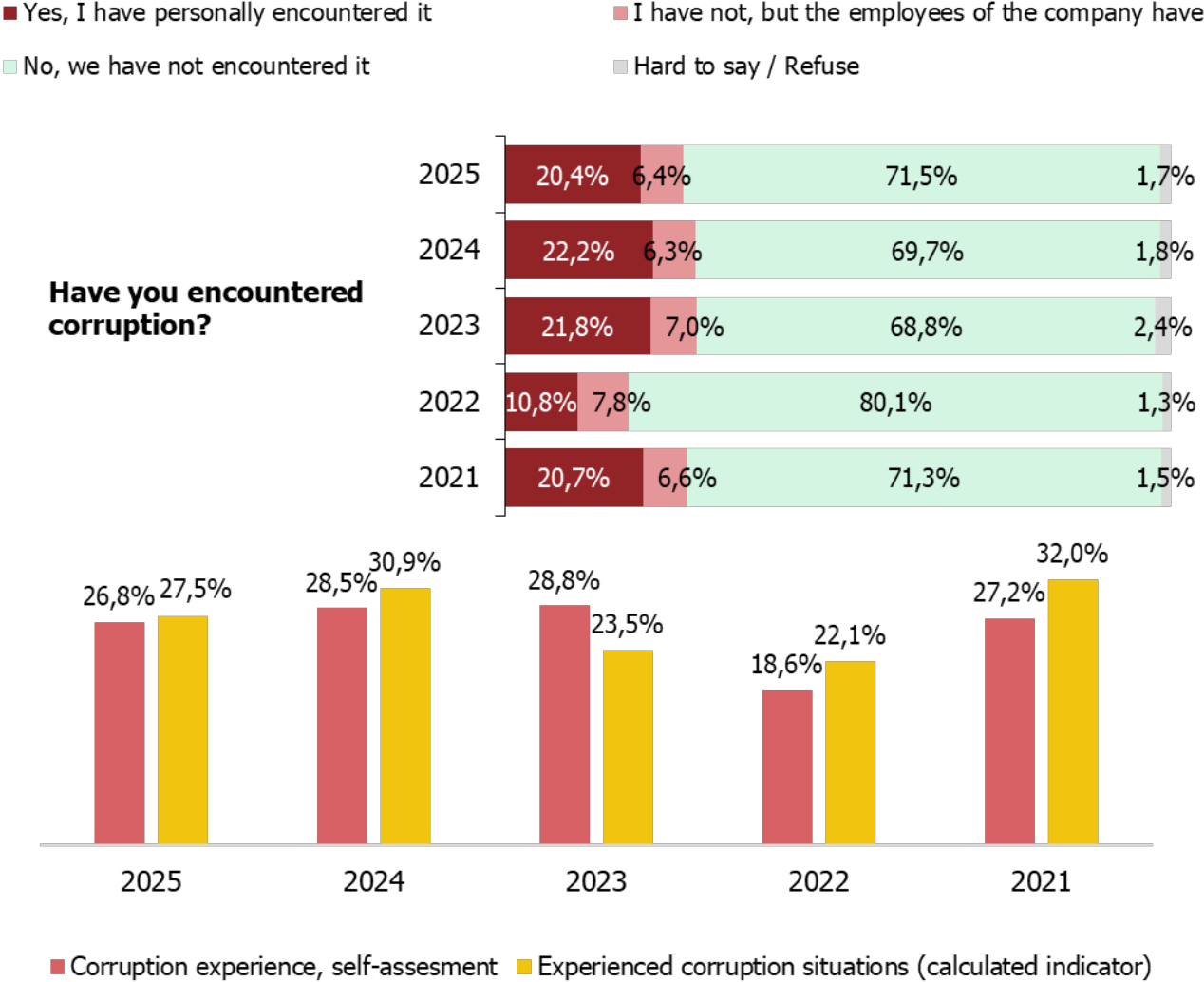
If considering only respondents who were in contact situations with signs of corruption, the share of initiative on the part of entrepreneurs decreased from 28.0% to **19.9%**. Thus, after an increase in 2024, this indicator effectively returned to the level of 2023. At the same time, no statistically significant dynamics were recorded for both indicators.

In 2025, **15.9%** of respondents who *had contact* with the sector reported **that representatives of supplier companies** acted as initiators of corruption interactions, in 2024 this figure was 20.6%. Among respondents who *were in contact situations* with signs of corruption, the share of such responses was **70.3%**, in 2024 it was 66.5%. In both cases, no statistically significant changes compared to the previous year were recorded.

Ensuring law and order and combating crime

In 2025, **10.4%** of surveyed business representatives interacted with representatives of law enforcement agencies, the National Police, the SSU, the Prosecutor's Office, the Bureau of Economic Security of Ukraine, on issues related to the activities of their enterprises, without dynamics compared to 2024. The share of enterprise representatives who, in response to a direct question, reported **having corruption experience in 2025 is 26.8%**, the indicator is at the level of 2024, 28.5%, and is also comparable to the levels of 2021 and 2023 after a temporary decrease in 2022, Fig. 2.3.8.

Fig. 2.3.8. Corruption experience in the sector overall, % of those who interacted with the sector¹



Similarly, without significant changes, the share of respondents who reported being in *specific contact situations* with signs of corruption remained: **27.5%** in 2025 compared to 30.9% in 2024, the difference is not statistically significant.

The absence of a gap between these indicators suggests that respondents are generally able to accurately identify their own participation in corruption interactions with law enforcement agencies.

Among situations with corruption pressure during interaction with law enforcement agencies, for the fifth consecutive year the most common remains the provision of informal payments or services in

¹ Question: "Have you (as a manager or representative of an enterprise) encountered corruption during meetings or contacts with representatives of law enforcement agencies over the past 12 months - that is, have you given or been asked to give a bribe, used personal connections, etc.?"
 Number of respondents: total sample - N=128; total + additional sample - N=203.
 The statistical margin of error for indicators in this sector does not exceed ±6.9 percentage points.

exchange **for not creating obstacles to business activities**. In 2025, **18.5%** of respondents reported such experience; the indicator practically corresponds to the level of 2024, Fig. 2.3.9.

With a noticeable gap, in second place at **8.8%**, without changes compared to 2024, are situations where entrepreneurs “thank” law enforcement officers **for conducting a prompt and objective investigation of a crime** that caused losses or damage to the enterprise.

In a conditional third place are two corruption situations with indicators of **6.7%** and **6.3%**, respectively: **avoiding or reducing liability** for an administrative offense committed by employees of the enterprise, as well as **accelerating bureaucratic procedures or unlawfully obtaining services or information**.

A situation tested for the first time in 2025, informal payments or provision of services in exchange for **obtaining certificates, permits, or statements** required for the enterprise’s activities, is positioned in the lower part of the ranking with an indicator of **4.9%**.

The remaining corruption situations are less widespread: they were reported by 3.0% to 4.9% of respondents who had experience interacting with law enforcement agencies.

Overall, in 2025 no statistically significant dynamics were recorded regarding the frequency of the proposed corruption situations during business interaction with law enforcement agencies.

The combined analysis of self-assessed corruption experience indicators and the dynamics of the frequency of the most common contact corruption situations indicates that in 2023–2025 **the level of corruption experience** in business interaction with law enforcement agencies remains at a **relatively stable and high level**, around **27–29%** among respondents who had contact with this sector, following a noticeable decrease in 2022, to 18.6%. Thus, in recent years the indicator has not demonstrated a clear trend toward further decline.

Fig. 2.3.9. Corruption experience by types of situations that may arise when applying for services, % of those who interacted with the sector¹

Made informal payments to a law enforcement officer, money or gifts, or provided services...

non-interference in the activities / refraining from creating obstacles to the legitimate activities of the company	2025	18,5%
	2024	18,1%
	2023	16,6%
	2022	8,2%
	2021	18,2%
conducting (facilitating) a prompt and objective investigation of a crime that resulted in losses (damages) for your company	2025	8,8%
	2024	8,6%
	2023	7,7%
	2022	6,6%
	2021	10,1%
avoidance or mitigation of liability for an administrative offense committed by representatives of your company and related to its business operations of the company	2025	6,7%
	2024	7,5%
	2023	6,1%
	2022	6,6%
	2021	9,7%
acceleration of bureaucratic procedures or illegal receipt of services/information from law enforcement officials	2025	6,3%
	2024	6,5%
avoidance or mitigation of criminal liability for an offense committed by representatives of your company and related to its business operations of the company	2025	4,9%
	2024	4,9%
	2023	1,9%
	2022	2,6%
	2021	3,9%
for obtaining certificates, permits, and references necessary for the operation of your enterprise	2025	4,9%
mitigation / non-enforcement of procedural restrictions during the pretrial investigation	2025	4,7%
	2024	2,9%
	2023	7,8%
	2022	4,5%
	2021	5,2%
protection of illegal (unlicensed, unsanctioned, etc.) business by representatives of law enforcement agencies	2025	4,2%
	2024	3,3%
	2023	5,5%
	2022	3,1%
	2021	2,1%
initiating an investigation into offenses committed by competitors	2025	4,2%
	2024	2,5%
	2023	2,4%
	2022	2,2%
	2021	3,5%
return of the detained vehicle without official payment of parking fees and the corresponding fine	2025	3,0%
	2024	1,8%

¹ Question: "Have you or employees of your enterprise (as its representatives) encountered such situations during meetings or contacts with representatives of law enforcement agencies?"

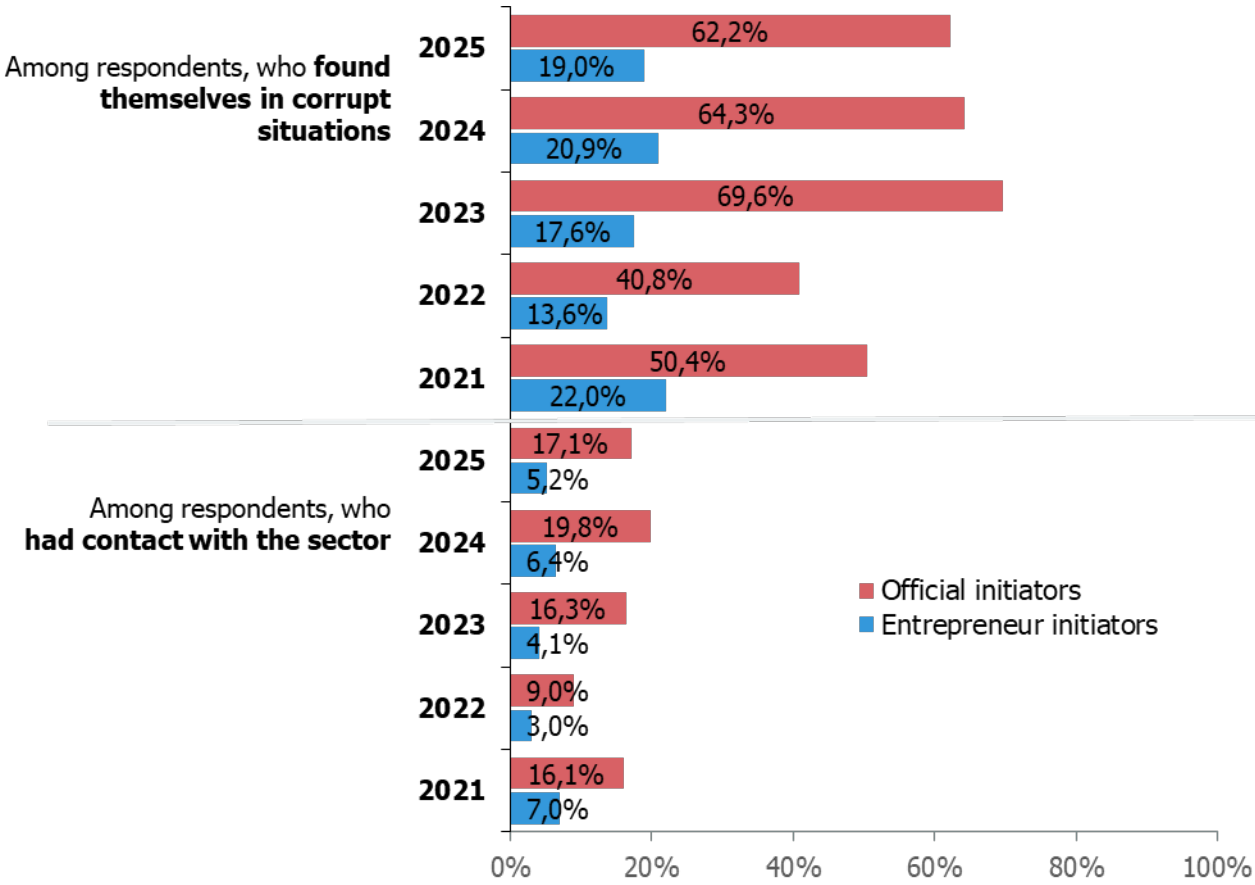
Due to the insufficient number of responses for each individual corruption situation, it was not possible to conduct a statistical analysis of who exactly acted as the initiator, visitors or employees of law enforcement agencies.

Only 5.2% of business representatives among those who had contact with law enforcement agencies acted as **initiators** of corruption relations in at least one situation; this indicator remained at the level of 2024, when it was 6.4%, Fig. 2.3.10. Among those who were in contact corruption situations, this share is 19.0%, which is slightly lower than in 2024, 20.9%, however without statistically significant dynamics. Thus, the trend toward gradual growth of this indicator observed in 2022–2024 did not continue in 2025.

In 2025, the share of respondents, among those who had contact with the sector, who reported **corruption initiative** on the part of **law enforcement officers** themselves slightly decreased, from 19.8% in 2024 to **17.1%**, the difference is not statistically significant, which indicates an interruption of the upward trend observed in 2022–2024.

Among those who were in contact corruption situations, **62.2%** of respondents reported initiative on the part of law enforcement officers, the indicator is at the level of 2024. Thus, the structure of initiators of corruption situations in this sector generally remains relatively stable in 2024–2025: representatives of law enforcement agencies act as initiators of corruption interactions approximately *three times more* often than business representatives, 19%.

Fig. 2.3.10. Initiators of corruption situations

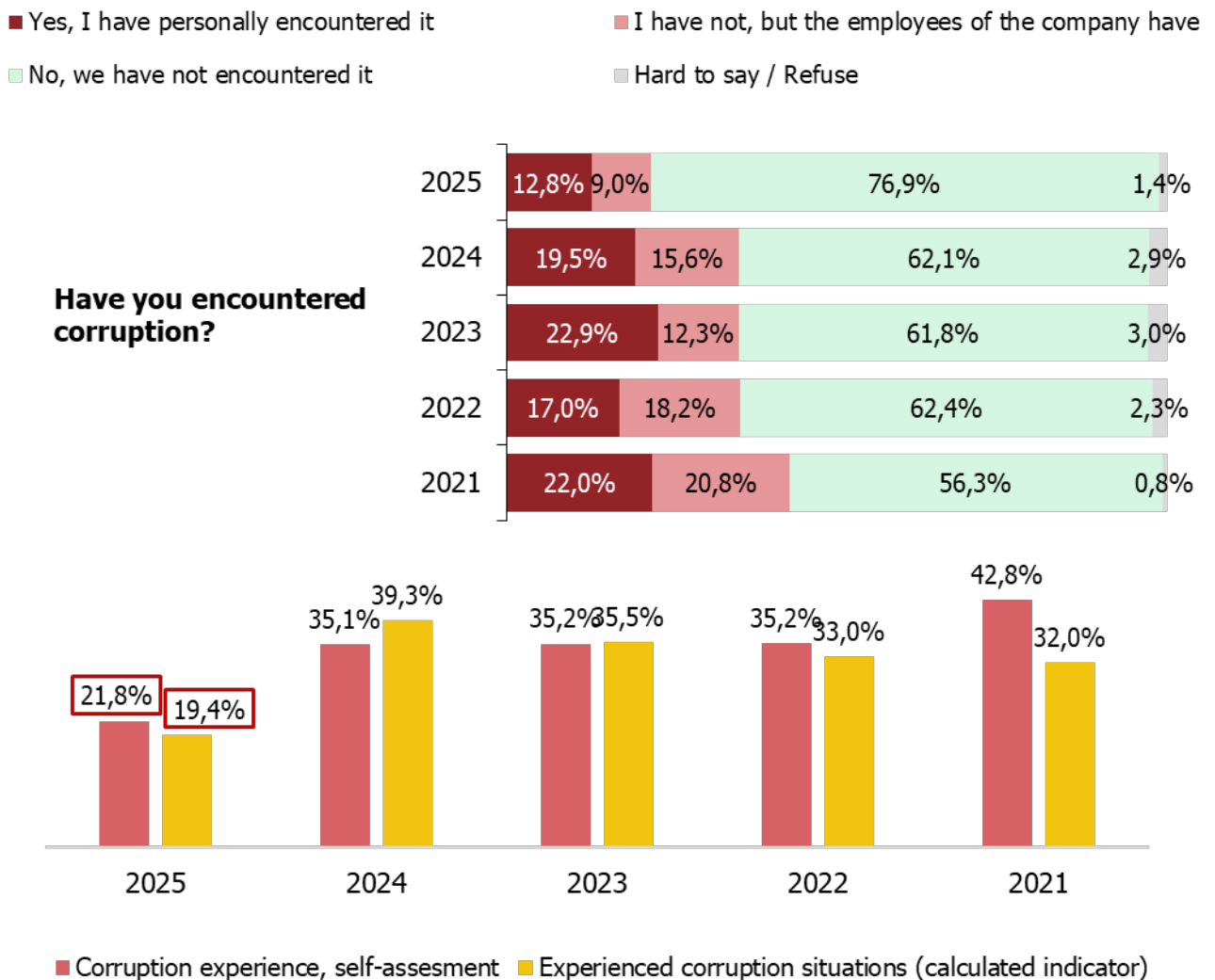


Customs

In 2025, **9.8%** of Ukrainian enterprises *had contact* with representatives of customs authorities. This indicator remains generally stable over 2021–2025, the increase of 1.1 percentage points compared to 2024 is not statistically significant.

In 2025, for the first time since 2022, **a decrease in corruption experience indicators** in the customs sector was recorded, Fig. 2.3.11. The share of entrepreneurs who, in response to a direct question, reported having corruption experience amounted to **21.8%**, compared to 35.1% in 2024, the changes are statistically significant. As a result, customs lost its leading position in the ranking by the level of prevalence of *self-assessed* corruption experience among business representatives and moved to fourth place.

Fig. 2.3.11. Corruption experience in the sector overall, % of those who interacted with the sector¹



¹ Question: "Have you (as a manager or representative of an enterprise) or your enterprise encountered corruption during meetings or contacts with representatives of customs authorities over the past 12 months - that is, have you given or been asked to give a bribe, used personal connections, etc.?"

Number of respondents: total sample - N=122; total + additional sample - N=196.

The statistical margin of error for indicators in this sector does not exceed ± 7.0 percentage points.

The magnitude of the recorded difference may be considered as *a potential signal of the formation of a downward trend*, which is further supported by the analysis of the frequency of being in specific contact corruption situations.

In 2025, **19.4%** of respondents reported *being in specific contact situations* containing signs of corruption. This indicator also decreased significantly compared to 2024, 39.3%, the difference of 19.9 percentage points is statistically significant.

In 2025, the gap between the indicators of self-assessed corruption experience and the frequency of being in specific corruption situations is small: a difference of 2.4 percentage points indicates that respondents are generally able to clearly assess their own participation in corruption interactions with customs authorities.

The analysis of specific situations in which corruption may occur shows a **decrease in the frequency of most situations studied** in previous waves of the survey, particularly those that previously had the highest indicators, Fig. 2.3.12.

For the fifth consecutive year, services related **to undergoing customs formalities, or non-recording of their actual results**, rank first with a significant margin. **18.1%** of respondents who interacted with customs authorities reported experience of being in such a situation, which remains substantially higher than all other situations. At the same time, this indicator demonstrates a statistically significant decrease, interrupting the upward trend observed in 2022–2024, when the indicator increased from 27.4% to 32.6%.

In a conditional second place is **the declaration of false data**, regarding customs value, UCGFEA code or country of origin, **during customs clearance** of goods and vehicles, with an indicator of **5.8%**. Although the difference of 4.7 percentage points compared to 2024 is not statistically significant, this indicator is the lowest for all years of the study.

A statistically significant downward dynamic was also recorded for the next two situations. These are **failure to record a detected violation of customs rules**, reported by **2.7%** of respondents, compared to 11.0% in 2024, and facilitation of customs clearance of **vehicles** under the import regime, a decrease from 9.6% in 2024 to **2.4%** in 2025.

In 2025, three new situations were studied for the first time, in which respondents reported making informal payments to officials, money or gifts, or providing them with services in exchange for assistance in relevant actions, namely:

- **regular facilitation of the passage of customs procedures, reported by 4.0%** of entrepreneurs;
- **issuance of a EUR.1 or EUR-MED goods movement certificate based on false documents, 3.4%** of respondents;
- **facilitation of the movement of goods or vehicles** through border crossing points **under the guise of humanitarian aid, 1.0%** of respondents.

Other situations proposed for analysis were reported by 0.5% to 1.2% of respondents.

Fig. 2.3.12. Corruption experience by types of situations that may arise when applying for services, % of those who interacted with the sector¹

Made informal payments to an official, money or gifts, or provided services to them for...

assistance in customs formalities or failure to reflect the actual results of their passage	2025 ↓	18,1%
	2024	32,6%
	2023	30,7%
	2022	27,4%
	2021	32,6%
declaring false information regarding customs value (understatement) and/or code according to the Ukrainian Classification of Goods for Foreign Economic Activity and/or country of origin during customs clearance of goods, vehicles	2025	5,8%
	2024	10,5%
	2023	9,9%
	2022	11,2%
	2021	20,5%
regular/long-term assistance on an ongoing basis with regard to your company's activities when going through customs procedures	2025	4,0%
issuing a EUR.1 / EUR-MED certificate for the transport of goods on the basis of false documents provided to confirm the preferential origin of the goods	2025	3,4%
failure to record the detected violation of customs rules during the customs inspection/questioning	2025 ↓	2,7%
	2024	11,0%
	2023	3,2%
	2022	4,8%
	2021	11,9%
assistance in customs clearance of vehicles under import regime	2025 ↓	2,4%
	2024	9,6%
	2023	10,5%
	2022	5,3%
	2021	8,2%
resolving issues relating to the storage of goods and commercial vehicles at bonded warehouses	2025	1,2%
	2024	4,5%
	2023	3,5%
	2022	5,1%
	2021	6,4%
facilitating the movement of goods/vehicles across state border crossing points under the guise of humanitarian aid without proper customs control/clearance/payment of customs duties	2025	1,0%
unjustified authorization permission to place goods under a certain customs regime and subsequent failure to monitor compliance with the requirements of the customs regime	2025	0,9%
	2024	5,1%
	2023	2,8%
	2022	6,9%
	2021	7,5%
customs clearance of the release of goods outside the customs territory of Ukraine without such goods actually crossing the border	2025	0,5%
	2024	3,2%
	2023	2,2%
	2022	4,7%
	2021	7,3%

¹ Question: "Have you or employees of your enterprise (as its representatives) encountered such situations during meetings or contacts with representatives of customs authorities?"

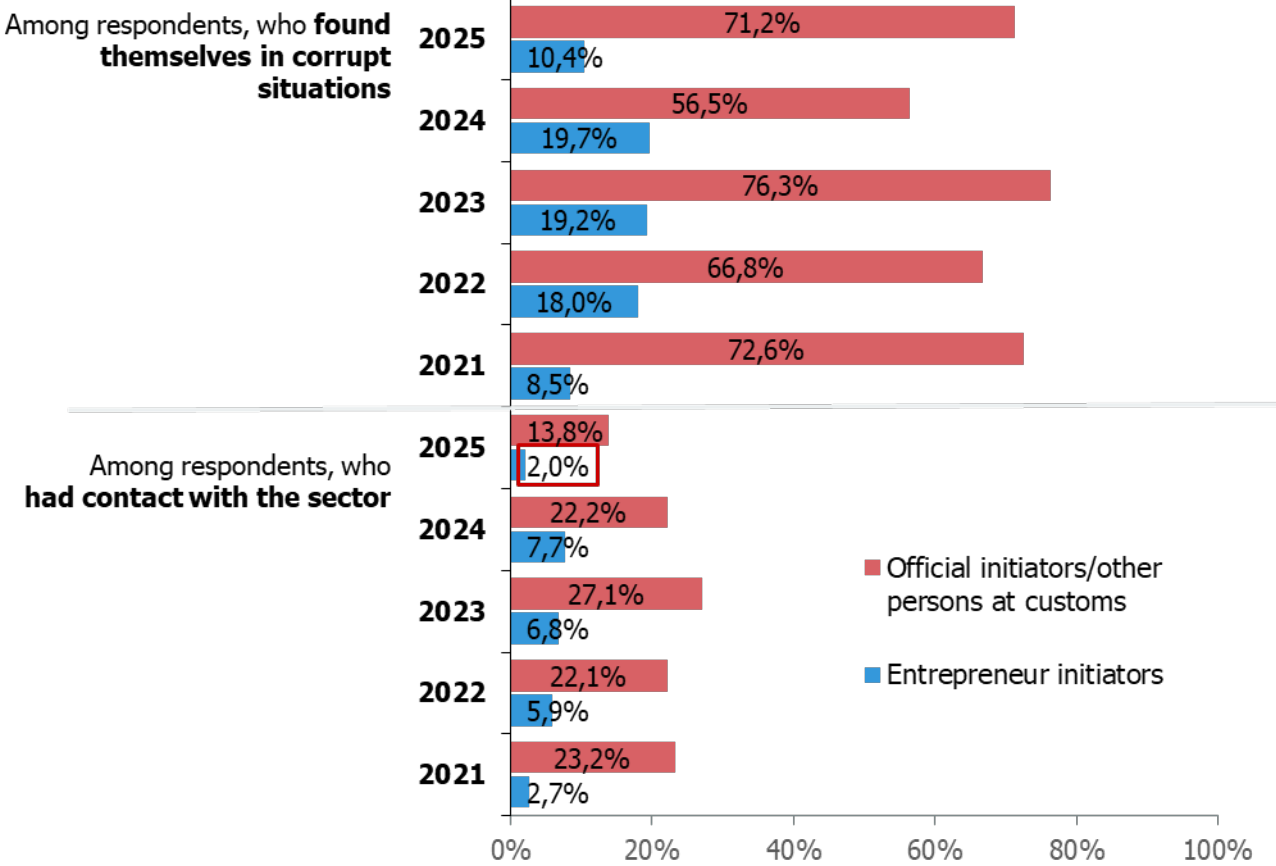
Due to the insufficient number of responses for each individual corruption situation, it was not possible to conduct a statistical analysis of who exactly acted as the initiator in each specific situation, entrepreneurs or representatives of customs authorities. Overall, **2.0% of entrepreneurs**, among those who had contact with customs authorities, acted as **initiators** of corruption relations in at least one situation in this sector, Fig. 2.3.13. This indicator demonstrates a statistically significant decrease compared to 2024, 7.7%.

Among those respondents *who were in corruption situations*, the share of cases where entrepreneurs acted as initiators is **10.4%**, compared to 19.7% in 2024. Although the difference is not statistically significant, it should be noted that the decrease of this indicator was recorded for the first time: in 2021–2023 there was an upward trend in corruption initiative by entrepreneurs, which paused in 2024.

At the same time, **13.8%** of respondents who had contact with the customs sector reported that **representatives of customs authorities or services providing customs procedures initiated** corruption situations. This indicator demonstrates a decrease for the first time and is the lowest over the entire observation period, although the dynamics compared to 2024, 22.2%, are not statistically significant.

Among those who were in corruption situations, **71.2%** of respondents reported initiative on the part of officials and other persons involved in customs activities, which is 14.7 percentage points higher than in 2024. However, this dynamic is also not statistically significant.

Fig. 2.3.13. Initiators of corruption situations¹



¹ In the chart legend, "other persons at customs" include representatives of services that provide assistance with customs procedures (brokers, lawyers, other intermediaries).

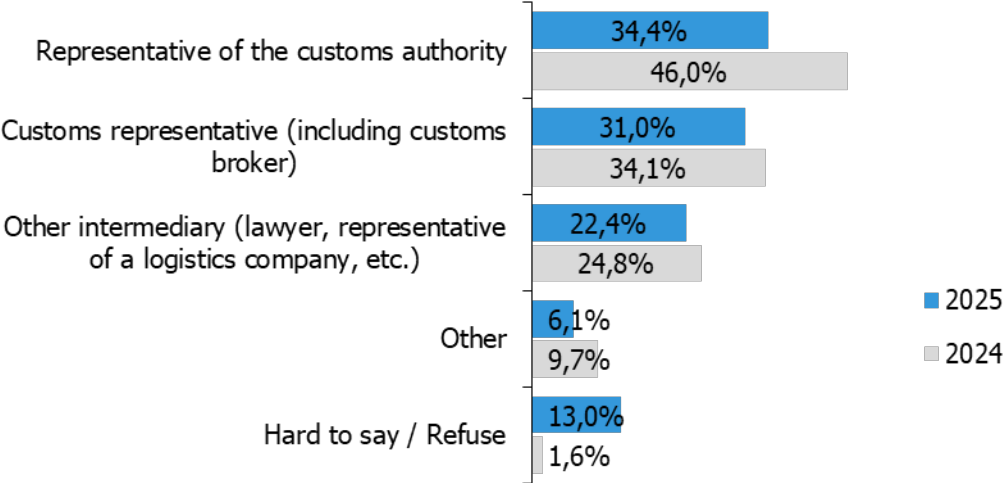
The identified decrease in the frequency of being in corruption situations in the customs sector occurs against the background of changes in the structure of corruption initiative, in particular a decrease in activity on the part of entrepreneurs. At the same time, the results do not provide grounds for unambiguous cause and effect conclusions and should be considered as an analytical observation.

Since 2024, this sector has additionally analyzed the question of *who exactly made demands* for informal payments or provision of services in exchange for assistance in resolving issues related to customs activities, Fig. 2.3.14. This makes it possible to assess which categories of persons involved in customs procedures most often act as initiators of corruption situations.

In 2025, entrepreneurs most often pointed to **representatives of customs authorities: 34.4%** of respondents indicated that they are the ones who may propose a “corruption route” for resolving issues, in 2024 this indicator was 46.0%, however the difference is not statistically significant. In second place are **customs representatives**, including **customs brokers**, reported by **31.0%** of respondents. Another **22.4%** of respondents indicate that corruption initiative comes from **other intermediaries** (lawyers, representatives of logistics companies, etc.)

At the same time, in 2025 the share of respondents who could not provide a specific answer to this question increased to 13.0%, without statistically significant dynamics compared to the previous year. This may indicate both the increasing complexity of interaction structures in the customs sector and the heightened sensitivity of this issue for some respondents.

Fig. 2.3.14. Initiators of corruption situations, distribution by categories of persons related to customs activities or customs procedures¹



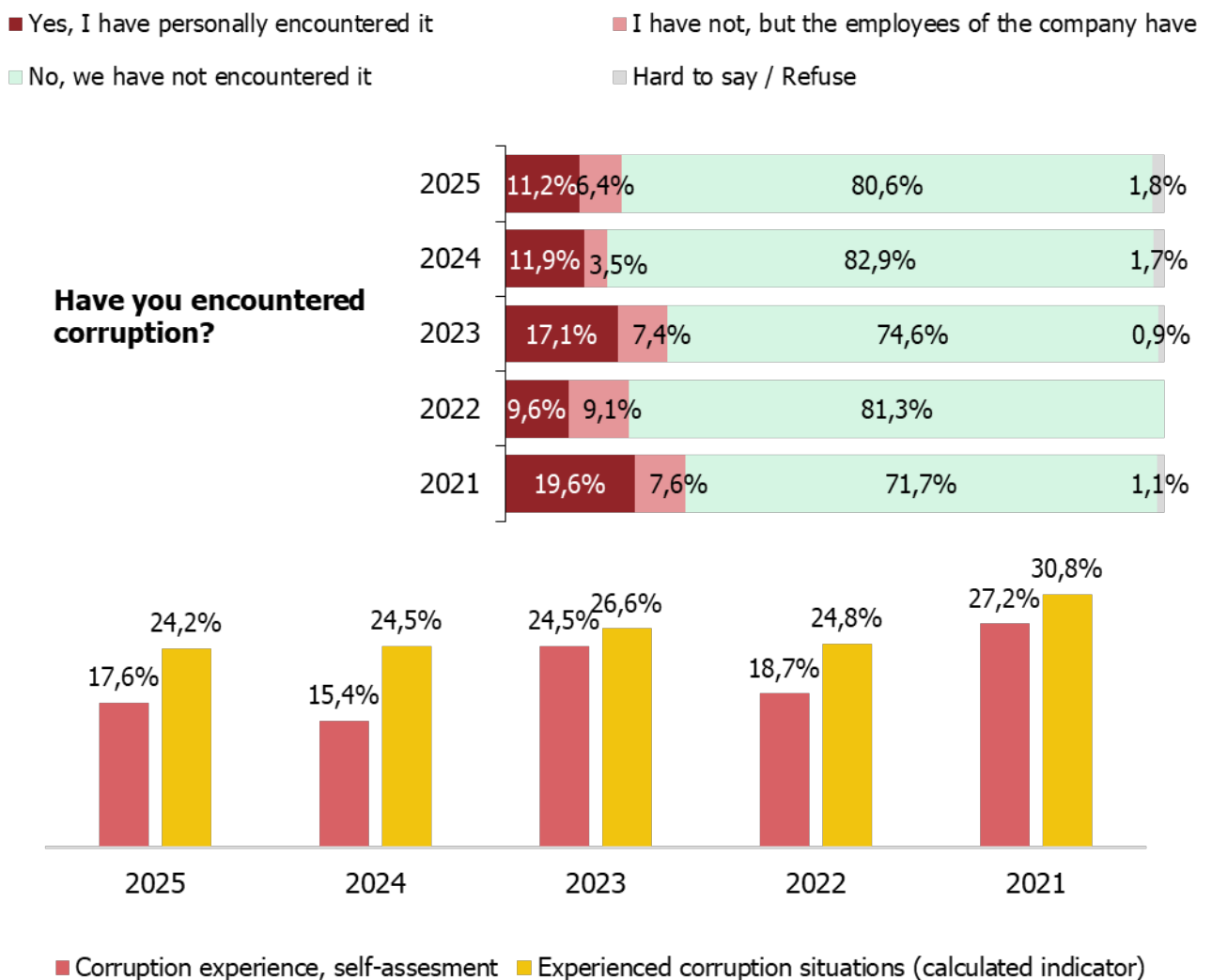
¹ Question: "If you or employees of your enterprise were asked to make informal payments (money or gifts) or provide services in exchange for assistance in resolving issues related to customs activities (customs clearance procedures, etc.), from whom was such a request received?"

State regulation and control in the sphere of economic activity

The share of enterprises that had experience of interaction with representatives of state regulatory and control bodies, the State Service of Ukraine on Food Safety and Consumer Protection, fire supervision authorities, architectural and construction control, including during licensing procedures, issuance of permit documents, inspections, etc., amounted to **7.9%** in 2025, a statistically significant decrease compared to 2024, when 10.7% of respondents had contact with state authorities in this sphere.

The share of entrepreneurs who, in response to a direct question, reported that in 2025 they **encountered corruption in** the sphere of state regulation and control of economic activity is **17.6%**, which corresponds to the level of 2024, the increase of 2.2 percentage points is not statistically significant, Fig. 2.3.15.

Fig. 2.3.15. Corruption experience in the sector overall, % of those who interacted with the sector¹



¹ Question: "Have you (as a manager or representative of an enterprise) or your enterprise encountered corruption during meetings or contacts with representatives of the sector of state regulation and control in the sector of economic activity over the past 12 months - that is, have you given or been asked to give a bribe, used personal connections, etc.?"

In the analysis of specific corruption episodes, the share of respondents who reported being in *contact situations* with representatives of individual regulatory and control bodies that contained signs of corruption is **24.2%** in 2025, this indicator remained at the level of 2024.

The gap between self-assessed corruption experience and reports of being in specific corruption situations is 6.6 percentage points. This indicates that such a share of entrepreneurs do not perceive certain corruption practices during interaction with representatives of state regulatory and control bodies as their own corruption experience.

In 2025, corruption experience in the sphere of state regulation and control of economic activity was analyzed through specific contact situations, Fig. 2.3.16. The most common are situations where entrepreneurs made informal payments or provided services for **the issuance, conduct of permitting or approval procedures**, reissuance of permit documents, and during **state supervision or control measures** (inspections, audits, examinations, etc.) Such experience was reported by **8.6%** and **8.3%** of surveyed entrepreneurs who interacted with this sphere.

Number of respondents: total sample - N=98; total + additional sample - N=218. The statistical margin of error for indicators in this sector does not exceed ± 6.6 percentage points.

Fig. 2.3.16. Corruption experience by types of situations that may arise when applying for services, % of those who interacted with the sector¹

Made informal payments, money or gifts, or provided services...

for issuing, conducting licensing (approval) procedures, reissuing licensing documents	2025	8,6%
during the implementation of state supervision/control measures (conducting inspections, audits, reviews, surveys, etc.)	2025	8,3%
for issuing, reissuing, renewing a license or expanding the scope of economic activity by the licensee	2025	6,2%
during inspections of your company's compliance with licensing requirements , including during the preparation of reports on the results of such inspections, issuance of orders to eliminate violations of licensing requirements	2025	6,1%
for non-application of penalties to your company in case of failure to comply with orders, instructions, and other regulatory documents of the state supervision/control authority	2025	5,6%
during the consideration of applications and cases concerning violations of legislation on the protection of economic competition and/or the conduct of investigations into such applications and cases, including during inspections	2025	2,3%
for resolving issues related to the resumption of production (manufacturing) or sale of products, performance of work, provision of services by your enterprise after suspension	2025	1,7%
during the consideration of complaints about violations of the procedure for conducting public procurement procedures , including regarding tender documentation and/or decisions made, actions for " positive decisions " regarding your company during the	2025	1,7%
consideration of complaints about decisions, actions (inaction) of the licensing authority	2025	1,5%
for "positive decisions" regarding your company during appeals against decisions of state supervision/control authorities	2025	0,9%

Second place is shared by the following three situations that arose during contacts with representatives of regulatory and control bodies. In particular, corruption experience was reported:

- during the **issuance, reissuance, renewal of a license** or expansion of the scope of a type of economic activity - **6.2%** of respondents;
- during **inspections of compliance by the enterprise with licensing conditions**, including the preparation of inspection reports based on their results and the issuance of orders to eliminate violations - **6.1%**;
- in cases of **non-application of penalties** to the enterprise in case of non-compliance with instructions, orders or other administrative documents - 5.6% of respondents.

Entrepreneurs encountered other situations significantly less frequently, from 0.9% to 2.3% of respondents.

¹ Question: "Have you or employees of your enterprise (as its representatives) encountered such situations during meetings or contacts with representatives of regulatory authorities?"

Due to the insufficient number of responses for each individual corruption situation, it was not possible to conduct a statistical analysis of who exactly acted as the initiator, visitors or representatives of state regulatory and control bodies.

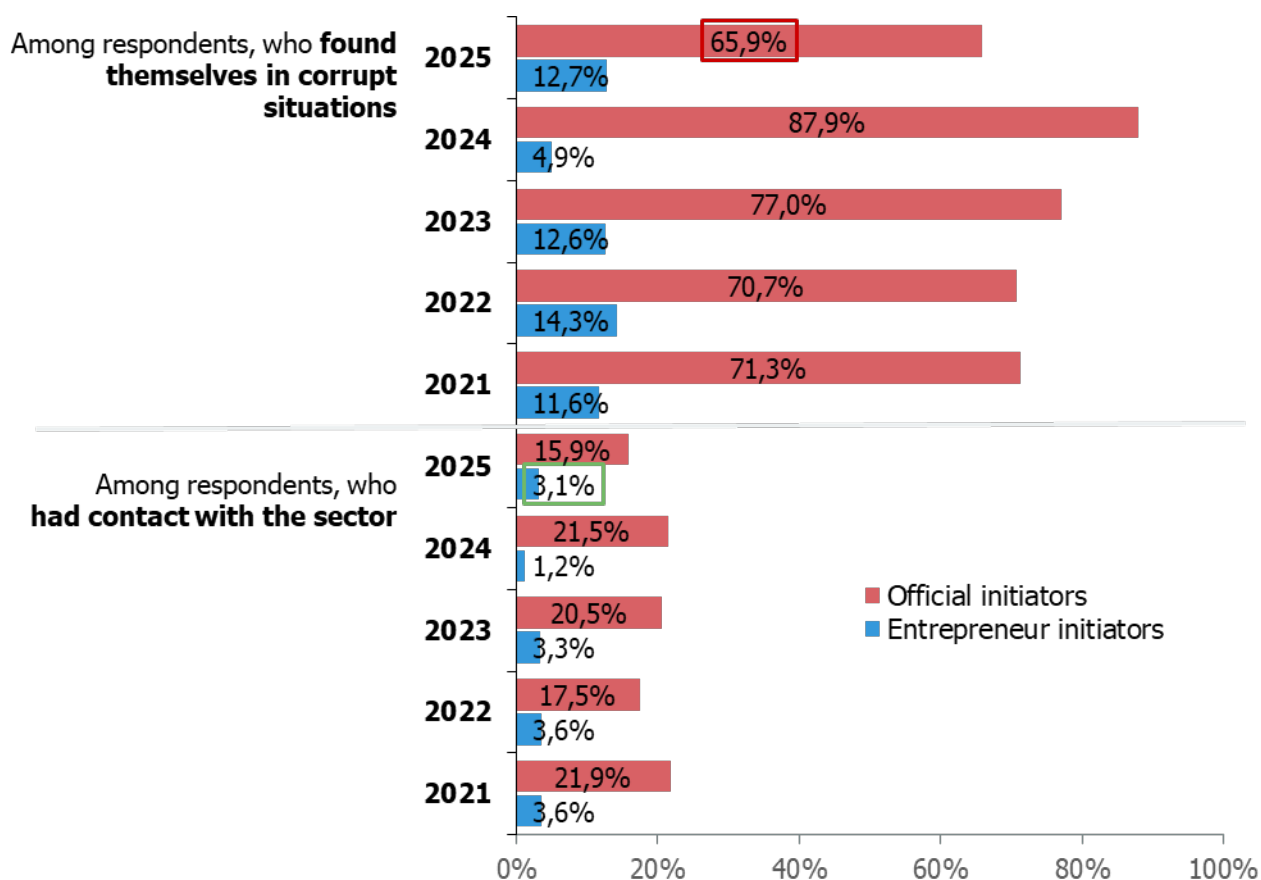
The share of **entrepreneurs** who acted as **initiators** of corruption relations in at least one situation in this sector demonstrates a statistically significant increase compared to 2024 by 1.9 percentage points, from 2024 to **3.1%** in 2025, Fig. 2.3.17.

At the same time, among respondents who *were in specific contact situations* with signs of corruption, the share of cases where entrepreneurs acted as initiators returned to the level of 2023 and amounts to **12.7%**. However, compared to 2024, 4.9%, the recorded dynamic is not statistically significant.

Among respondents who *had contact with the sphere* of state regulation and control, **15.9%** reported that **representatives of the relevant bodies** acted as initiators of corruption situations. This indicator is the lowest over the entire observation period, but no statistically significant dynamics compared to 2024, 21.5%, were recorded.

At the same time, among respondents who *were in at least one corruption situation*, for the first time over the entire observation period a statistically significant decrease in corruption initiative on the part of officials was recorded: in 2025, in the overall structure the share of such cases is **65.9%**, whereas in 2024 it was 87.9%, the decrease of 22.0 percentage points is statistically significant. This indicator is the lowest for the period 2021–2025.

Fig. 2.3.17. Initiators of corruption situations

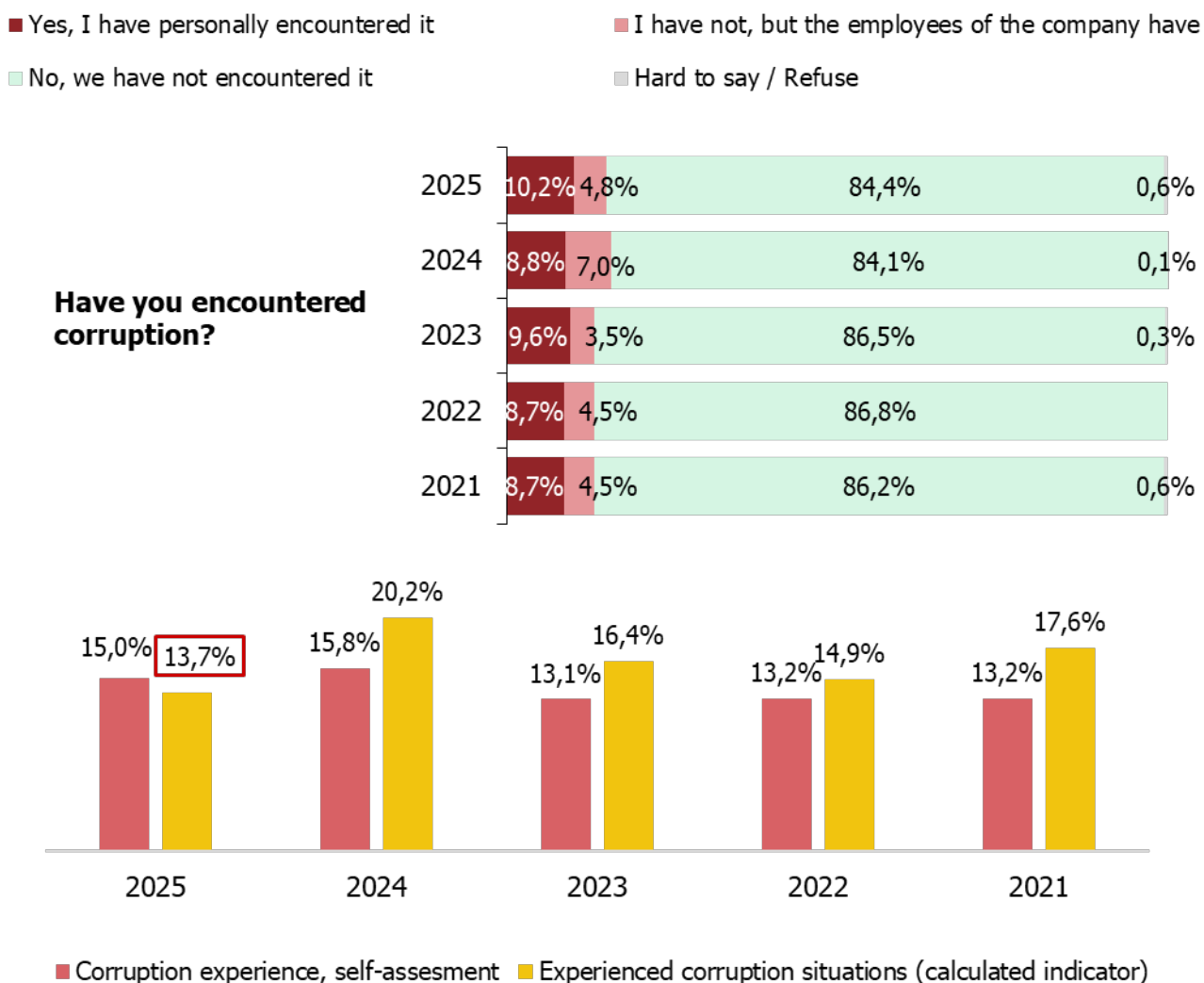


Taxation

The tax sphere remains the leading one among state authorities with which entrepreneurs most frequently interact. In 2025, **26.3%** of surveyed business representatives reported that they interacted with tax authorities, in 2024 it was 25.5%, without statistically significant dynamics.

In response to a direct question about the **presence of corruption experience**, 15.0% of respondents answered affirmatively, Fig. 2.3.18. The value of this indicator practically does not differ from the level of 2024, when it was 15.8%.

Fig. 2.3.18. Corruption experience in the sector overall, % of those who interacted with the sector¹



At the same time, **13.7%** of respondents reported *being in specific contact situations* with signs of corruption. Compared to 2024, 20.2%, this indicator *has decreased* statistically significantly and is the lowest over the entire observation period.

¹ Question: "Have you (as a manager or representative of an enterprise) or your enterprise encountered corruption during meetings or contacts with representatives of tax authorities over the past 12 months - that is, have you given or been asked to give a bribe, used personal connections, etc.?"

Number of respondents: total sample - N=328.

The statistical margin of error for indicators in this sector does not exceed ± 5.4 percentage points.

Thus, unlike in 2024, in 2025 no significant gap was recorded between the overall self-assessment of corruption experience and reports of specific corruption contacts, which indicates a more consistent awareness by respondents of their own participation in corruption interactions with tax authorities.

For the analysis of corruption experience in the tax sphere, respondents were offered an expanded list of specific contact situations, Fig. 2.3.19, that could arise during interaction with representatives of tax authorities. Within each of them, entrepreneurs recorded the presence of corruption interaction, in particular making informal payments, money or gifts, or providing services to officials. This approach makes it possible to take into account the multidimensional nature of corruption practices in the tax sphere, where entrepreneurs' corruption experience is distributed across different types of contacts and is not limited to specific typical situations.

Among the situations that carry the greatest corruption pressure in the tax sphere, as in 2024 and in previous years of observation, three types of contacts remain **the most common**, in which entrepreneurs made informal payments or provided services to officials:

- in order **to obtain favorable results during inspections conducted by representatives of the tax service - 6.9%**, in 2024 it was 8.4%;
- for **support of tax administration of the enterprise** - reported by **6.3%** of respondents, in 2024 it was 7.9%;
- for actions and decisions **that facilitated VAT refunds** to the enterprise - **6.0%**, in 2024 it was 8.2%.

Thus, the structure of the most common corruption situations in the tax sphere remains stable.

Other situations were reported by 0.5% to 2.2% of respondents. No statistically significant dynamics were recorded in 2025 for all situations proposed for analysis.

Fig. 2.3.19. Corruption experience by types of situations that may arise when applying for services, % of those who interacted with the sector¹

Made informal payments to an official, money or gifts, or provided services...

positive results during an audit by representatives of the tax service	2025	6,9%
	2024	8,4%
	2023	6,4%
	2022	3,9%
	2021	5,8%
support in tax administration of the company	2025	6,3%
	2024	7,9%
	2023	6,2%
	2022	5,5%
	2021	8,2%
actions and decisions that facilitated a VAT refund to your company (in particular, those related to the registration of tax invoices in the Unified Register of Tax Invoices, exclusion of your company from the list of "risky" companies, conducting an audit to confirm the refund)	2025	6,0%
	2024	8,2%
	2023	8,9%
	2022	8,6%
	2021	8,5%
failure to document violations discovered during an inspection of employee records (unofficial use of labor by the company)	2025	2,2%
	2024	2,7%
	2023	1,9%
	2022	2,0%
	2021	1,3%
issuance of permits (including licenses) for the right to sell certain types of goods at retail / wholesale	2025	1,8%
	2024	2,2%
	2023	1,3%
	2022	1,2%
	2021	2,5%
resolving issues related to a tax debt (in particular, its deferral, write-off, recognition as "hopeless", etc.)	2025	1,8%
	2024	3,5%
	2023	4,2%
	2022	1,7%
	2021	2,5%
failure to carry out unscheduled inspections of your company or exclusion from the schedule of scheduled documentary inspections	2025	1,3%
	2024	3,4%
	2023	4,4%
	2022	2,0%
	2021	3,1%
facilitation of the liquidation of a company	2025	1,0%
	2024	1,3%
	2023	1,7%
	2022	1,5%
	2021	1,8%
issuance of permits (including licenses) for the right to manufacture of specific goods	2025 ↓	0,7%
	2024	3,2%
	2023	2,1%
	2022	1,5%
	2021	2,3%
resolution of issues related to monitoring the correctness of granting and accounting for tax benefits	2025	0,5%
	2024	1,7%
	2023	2,0%
	2022	0,9%
	2021	0,9%

¹ Question: "Have you or employees of your enterprise (as its representatives) encountered such situations during meetings or contacts with representatives of tax authorities?"

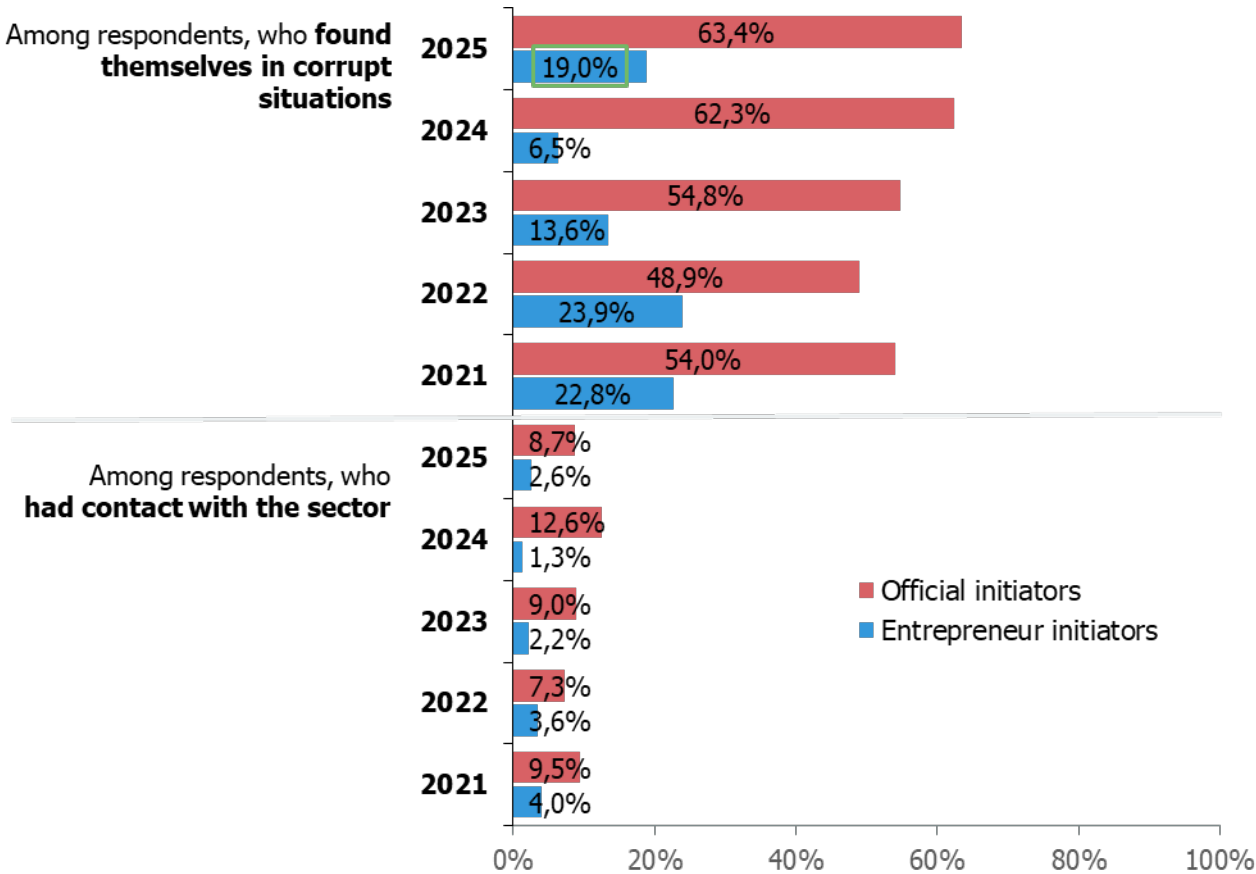
Due to the insufficient number of responses for each individual corruption situation, it was not possible to conduct a statistical analysis of who exactly acted as the initiator, visitors or tax officials, in each specific situation.

Overall, **2.6% of enterprise representatives** *who had contact* with representatives of tax authorities reported that they themselves acted as **initiators** of corruption relations, Fig. 2.3.20. In 2024, this indicator was 1.3%, however no statistically significant changes were recorded. At the same time, among respondents who were in *contact corruption situations*, the share of cases where entrepreneurs acted as initiators *increased threefold*, to **19.0%**, compared to 6.5% in 2024, and this dynamic is statistically significant.

As in previous years, representatives **of tax authorities** more often acted as initiators of corruption situations. **8.7%** of respondents who *had contact* with the tax sphere reported demands for informal payments or services for “resolving an issue”, compared to 12.6% in 2024, or **63.4%** among those who were in *contact corruption situations*, no significant dynamics compared to the previous year were recorded.

Thus, the distribution of initiators of corruption situations in the tax sphere in 2025 did not undergo sharp structural changes; at the same time, for certain indicators a change in dynamics compared to previous years can be observed. The upward trend in the share of initiatives on the part of officials observed in 2022–2024, from 48.9% to 62.3% of cases, effectively stopped in 2025. This is also consistent with the opposite trend for entrepreneurs: after a decrease in their initiative in 2022–2024, from 23.9% to 6.5%, an increase of this indicator was recorded in 2025.

Fig. 2.3.20. Initiators of corruption situations



When interpreting the results in this sphere, it should be taken into account that the relatively low level of corruption experience among entrepreneurs in interaction with tax authorities may partly be due to the increased sensitivity of the relevant questions. For a certain share of respondents, this topic is potentially risky, which may have affected their willingness to provide fully candid answers or led to a tendency to underestimate assessments. In particular, this may relate to situations where certain corruption practices in relations with tax authorities are in fact perceived as formalized or “routine” at the enterprise level, but respondents are not ready to explicitly confirm their existence.

Judiciary

In 2025, **7.6%** of entrepreneurs had contact with representatives of judicial authorities, which is 2.5 percentage points less than in 2024, 10.1%, the difference is statistically significant¹.

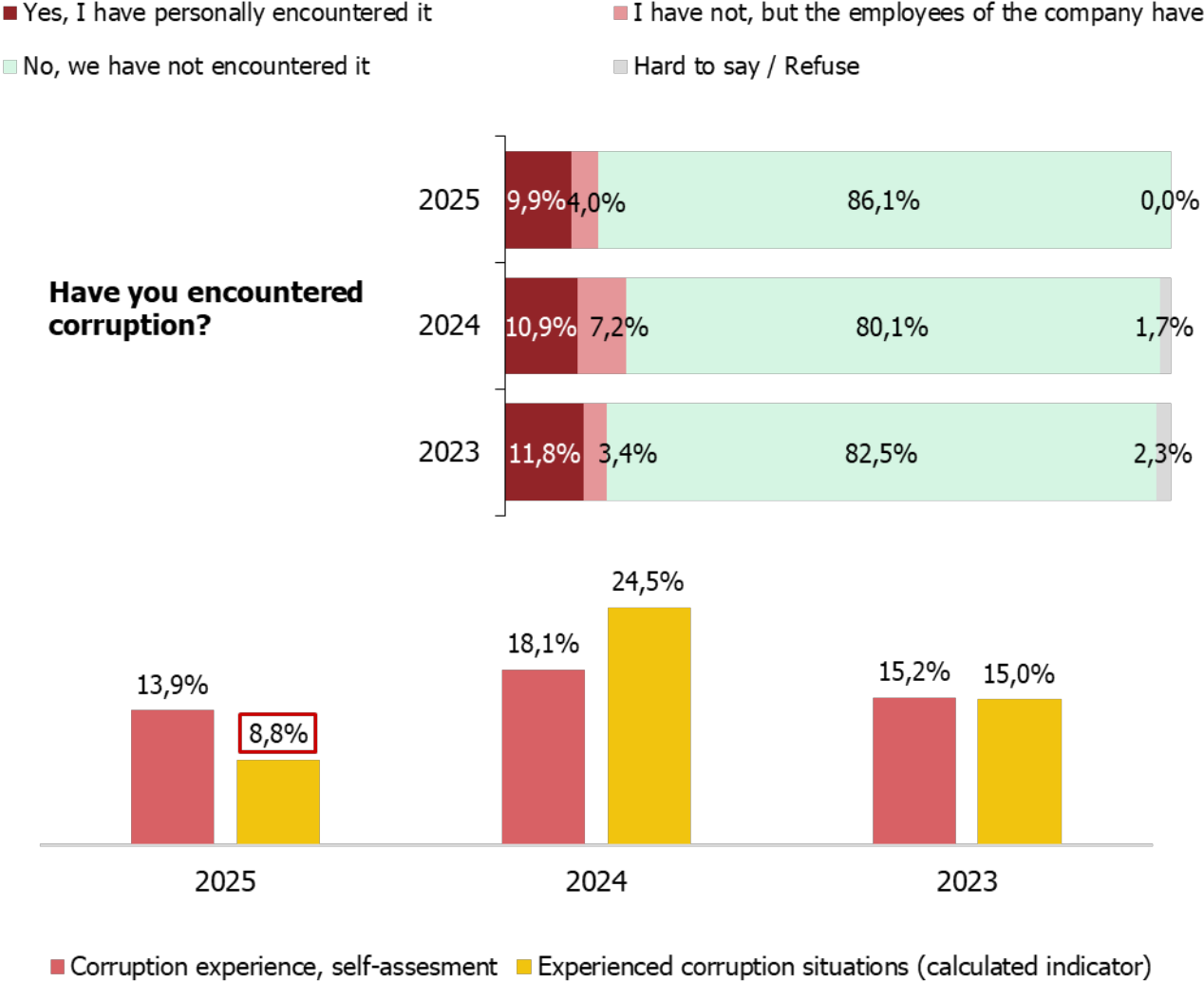
In response to a *direct question* as to whether they **encountered corruption** during contacts with representatives of judicial authorities, **13.9%** of entrepreneurs answered affirmatively. This self-assessed corruption experience indicator among business representatives decreased by 4.2 percentage points compared to 2024, but the changes are not statistically significant, Fig. 2.3.21.

At the same time, the indicator of *being in specific contact situations* with signs of corruption is **8.8%** of respondents. This is the lowest value over the entire observation period; compared to 2024, a statistically significant *decrease* of more than 2.5 times was recorded, from 24.5% in 2024.

The gap between self-assessed corruption experience and reports of being in specific situations, unlike in 2024, shifted in favor of self-assessment. Thus, about 5.1% of respondents reported having corruption experience but did not associate it with the contact situations proposed for assessment. This may indicate that the proposed list of typical contact situations does not fully cover all formats of interaction with judicial authorities that respondents perceive as corruption. Accordingly, the measurement tools should be further refined and expanded in future waves of the study.

¹ For reference: until 2023, measurements of corruption levels were conducted for the judicial system as a whole - without distinguishing between interaction with judicial authorities and enforcement authorities. In 2023, these sectors were separated, and respondents answered the respective questions separately. In 2025, corruption experience in the sector of enforcement of court decisions was not studied.

Fig. 2.3.21. Corruption experience in the sector overall, % of those who interacted with the sector¹



Among the situations in which enterprises had contact with the judicial system, the **“leader”** remains **court proceedings in commercial cases** in which the enterprise is a party: **8.0%** of respondents among those who interacted with representatives of judicial authorities reported signs of corruption in this situation, Fig. 2.3.22. This situation has ranked first in corruption practices for the third consecutive year, despite a slight decrease compared to 2024, 12.4%.

¹ Question: "Have you (as a manager or representative of an enterprise) or your enterprise encountered corruption during meetings or contacts with representatives of judicial authorities (excluding contacts with representatives of enforcement authorities) over the past 12 months - that is, have you given or been asked to give a bribe, used personal connections, etc.?"

Number of respondents: total sample - N=95; total + additional sample - N=155.
 The statistical margin of error for indicators in this sector does not exceed ±7.9 percentage points.

Fig. 2.3.22. Corruption experience by types of situations that may arise when applying for services, % of those who interacted with the sector¹

Made informal payments to an official, money or gifts, or provided services...

services involving a judicial examination of commercial disputes to which your company is a party	2025	8,0%
	2024	12,4%
	2023	10,1%
services involving judicial examination of administrative cases contesting the validity of a regulatory or individual act (decision), actions or omission to act by a government agency or its official	2025	3,0%
	2024	3,4%
	2023	4,9%
creating complications for the operations of another company through the use of legal remedies in commercial and civil proceedings (seizure of property, prohibition of disposition of property, suspension of customs clearance of goods, etc.)	2025 ↓	1,9%
	2024	10,8%
	2023	7,0%
services related to the examination of cases concerning the reorganization (bankruptcy) of an enterprise	2025	1,1%
	2024	3,9%
	2023	6,4%
avoidance (mitigation) of liability for an offense committed by representatives of your company and related to its business operations	2025	1,1%
	2024	2,6%
	2023	6,0%

Second place is occupied by situations related to **judicial review of administrative cases concerning the recognition as unlawful** of a regulatory or individual act, decision, actions or inaction of a public authority or its official: **3.0%** of respondents reported corruption experience in such interaction, compared to 3.4% in 2024.

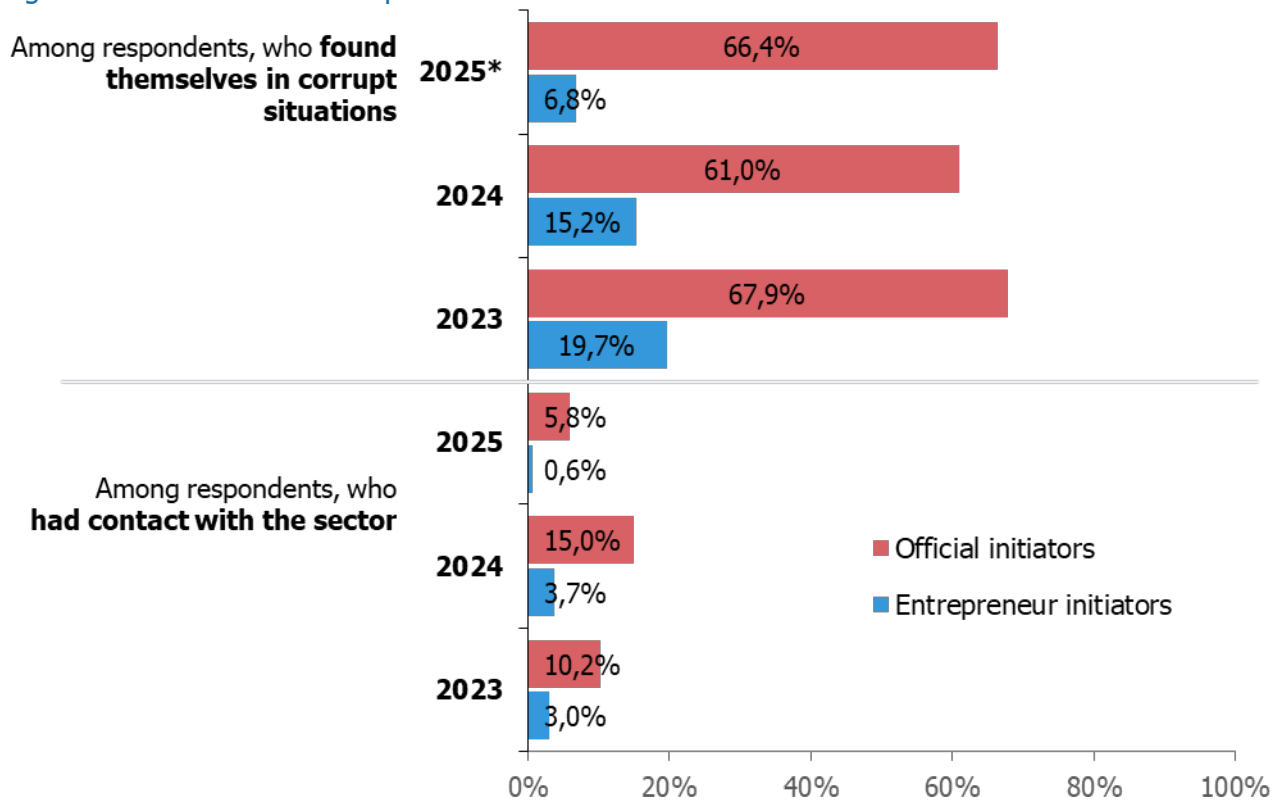
At the same time, there was a statistically significant *decrease* in the share of respondents who reported such corruption manifestations as making informal payments or providing services to officials in order **to complicate the activities of another enterprise through the use of measures to secure a claim in commercial and civil proceedings**: only **1.9%** among those who interacted with this sphere in 2025, compared to 10.8% in 2024. Other proposed situations were reported by 1.1% of respondents each.

Due to the insufficient number of responses for each individual corruption situation, it was not possible to conduct a statistical analysis of who exactly acted as the initiator in each situation, visitors or representatives of the judicial system.

Overall, in 2025 only **0.6% of entrepreneurs** who had contact with representatives of judicial authorities reported that they themselves **initiated** corruption relations in at least one of the situations, Fig. 2.3.23. Compared to 2024, no significant changes were recorded for this indicator.

¹ Question: "Have you or employees of your enterprise (as its representatives) encountered such situations during meetings or contacts with representatives of judicial authorities (excluding contacts with representatives of enforcement authorities)?"

Fig. 2.3.23. Initiators of corruption situations



* Insufficient sample size for reliable analysis (n=13)

If considering only those entrepreneurs who *were in contact situations* with signs of corruption, the share of “initiators” among them was **6.8%**, compared to 15.2% in 2024.

In 2025, 5.8% of respondents who *had contact with* the judicial sphere reported initiative on the part of **representatives of judicial authorities**, compared to 15.0% in 2024. Among respondents *who were in corruption situations*, the share of such responses is **66.4%**, compared to 61.0% in 2024.

It should be noted that assessing the statistical significance of changes in the structure of initiators of corruption interactions, both on the part of entrepreneurs and representatives of the judicial system, compared to the previous study is not appropriate due to the small size of the subsample of respondents who reported being in such situations.

Recovery (reconstruction) of Ukraine

The sphere of recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine was studied for the first time in 2025. Business contacts with this sphere are currently limited: only **4.6%** of respondents reported that they applied to public authorities, institutions and organizations on issues of recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine or were involved in such processes¹.

In response to a direct question about whether they **encountered corruption**, **12.7%** of respondents answered affirmatively, Fig. 2.3.24. This indicator includes 8.4% of respondents who personally encountered corruption and 4.3% who reported that employees of the enterprise encountered corruption.

10.1% of respondents reported *being in specific contact situations* that contained signs of corruption. The small difference between these indicators, 2.6 percentage points, indicates that respondents generally clearly assess their participation in corruption interactions within the sphere of recovery (reconstruction).

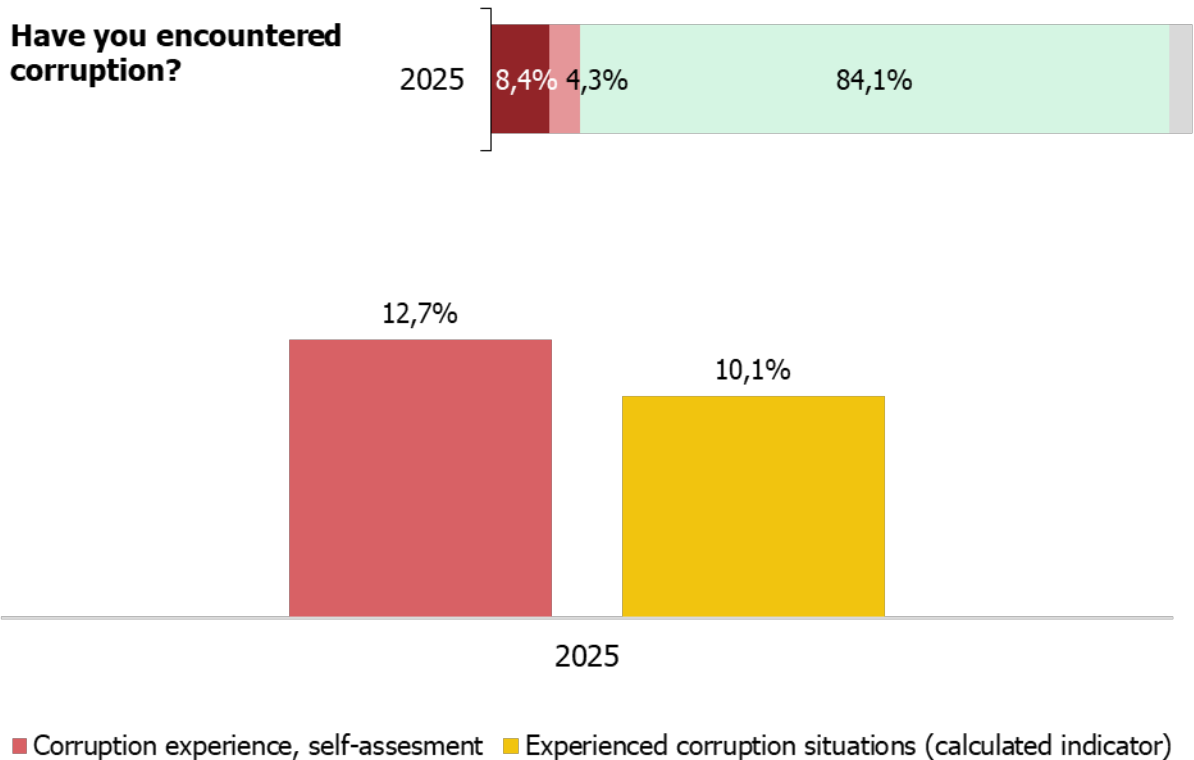
Methodological note. Given that the sphere of recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine was studied for the first time and the number of respondents who had relevant contacts is relatively small, the obtained indicators of corruption experience and frequency of corruption situations presented in this section should not be interpreted as final or stabilized estimates. The values of the indicators are accompanied by increased sampling error and rather reflect an initial picture of corruption risks in this sphere. At the same time, the results form a basic empirical foundation for further monitoring and in-depth analysis, taking into account the expected expansion of business participation in the processes of recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine in the coming years.

¹ Within the framework of this study, contacts and involvement of business representatives in the sector of Ukraine's recovery (reconstruction) were analyzed in two main aspects:

- activities related **to support provided by state authorities** (institutions, organizations) for **the recovery or compensation of losses of destroyed or damaged property and enterprise infrastructure** caused by the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, as well as the provision of benefits, loans, assistance, grants, etc. for the recovery and or improvement of enterprise activities;
- **participation of the enterprise in infrastructure, social, housing, and other projects in the recovery (reconstruction) sector of Ukraine** (for example: participation in the construction of schools, hospitals, residential buildings, energy facilities, gas and water supply networks, industrial facilities, etc. destroyed as a result of hostilities and missile attacks, arrangement of temporary housing for IDPs; construction of new infrastructure facilities for socio-economic growth, etc.).

Fig. 2.3.24. Corruption experience in the sector overall, % of those who interacted with the sector¹

- Yes, I have personally encountered it
- I have not, but the employees of the company have
- No, we have not encountered it
- Hard to say / Refuse



Among the situations that carry the greatest corruption pressure in the sphere of recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine, the **leading one** is informal payments or provision of services in exchange for assistance in selecting an enterprise as **the winner in public procurement** for the implementation of projects in this sphere, Fig. 2.3.25. Such experience was reported by **6.9%** of respondents.

Second place is shared by two corruption situations: **conclusion of a direct contract for procurement** of works or services **outside competitive procurement procedures - 4.4%**, **and recording the fact of destruction or damage to property** and or establishing a causal link with hostilities - **4.2%**.

¹ Question: "Have you (as a manager or representative of an enterprise) or your enterprise encountered corruption when contacting authorities, institutions, and organizations on issues of Ukraine's recovery (reconstruction) or involvement in the recovery (reconstruction) processes over the past 12 months - that is, have you given or been asked to give a bribe, used personal connections, etc.?"

Number of respondents: total sample - N=55.

The statistical margin of error for indicators in this sector does not exceed ±13.2 percentage points.

Informal payments or services for **establishing unjustifiably inflated prices for goods, services or works provided by the enterprise** during public procurement in the sphere of recovery and reconstruction were reported by **3.1%** of respondents.

The smallest share of respondents, **2.4%**, reported corruption experience in situations related to **facilitation of cooperation and obtaining funds from international technical assistance, international grants**, etc.

Fig. 2.3.25. Corruption experience by types of situations that may arise when applying for services, % of those who interacted with the sector ¹

Made informal payments to an official, money or gifts, or provided services...

assistance in selecting your company as the winner in public procurement for the implementation of projects in the field of restoration (reconstruction) of Ukraine	2025	6,9%
conclusion of a direct contract with your company for the purchase of goods/works/services without conducting a competitive procurement procedure in accordance with the requirements of the Law of Ukraine "On Public Procurement"	2025	4,4%
recording the fact of destruction/damage to your company's property as a result of armed aggression by the Russian Federation and/or proving the the cause-and-effect relationship between hostilities and the destruction/damage to property	2025	4,2%
establishing unreasonably inflated prices (costs) for goods/services/works provided by your company during public procurement in the field of restoration (reconstruction) of Ukraine (<i>it is expected that your company will be the winner of the tender</i>)	2025	3,1%
facilitating cooperation and obtaining funds from ITI, international grants, aid, etc. from international organizations and donors for the implementation of projects for the restoration (reconstruction) of Ukraine, which will be directed towards the restoration/development of your company	2025	2,4%

Below is a list of situations that were also studied within the survey; however, no respondent indicated that they had encountered them in practice:

- **unjustified overestimation of the assessment of damages or losses and or determination of lost profits** for the enterprise as a result of the armed aggression of the russian federation in order to increase the amount of compensation;
- **obtaining concessional financing** for the enterprise to restore production facilities partially or fully destroyed as a result of hostilities, for example, the state program "Affordable loans 5–7–9%", etc.;
- resolving issues related to **obtaining state assistance** in relocating enterprise capacities from the area of hostilities to safer regions of Ukraine, the state program for relocation of enterprises;
- **obtaining grants** for starting a business and developing entrepreneurship, for example, the government project "eRobota", etc.;

¹ Question: "Have you or employees of your enterprise (as its representatives) encountered such situations when contacting authorities, institutions, and organizations on issues of Ukraine's recovery (reconstruction) or involvement in the recovery (reconstruction) processes?"

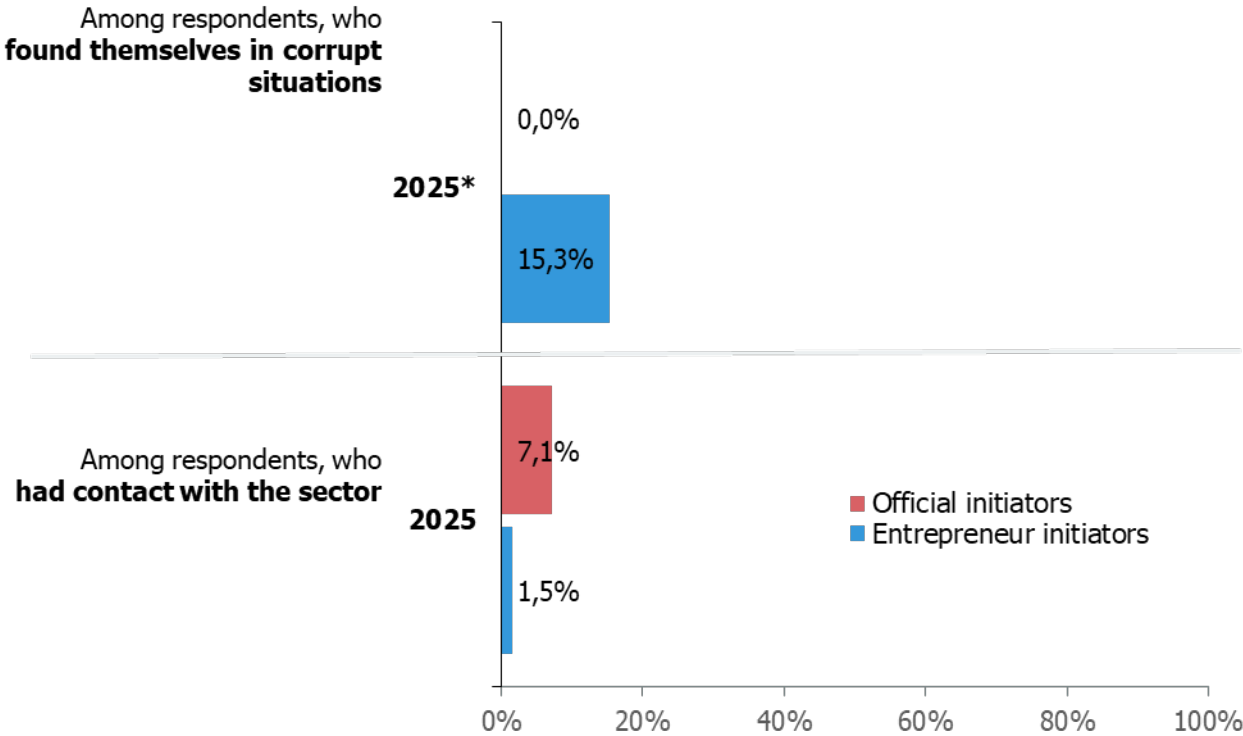
- **fictitious establishment, determination or granting of benefits** for goods, services or works provided by the enterprise in the sphere of recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine, without subsequent actual participation of the enterprise in recovery and reconstruction processes;
- **provision of advance payment** for the supply of goods, performance of works or services in the sphere of recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine to the enterprise, including in a larger amount and or with a longer repayment period;
- **signing of acceptance certificates** for goods, works or services, **certificates of completed works or services** in the sphere of recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine in cases of their incomplete and or poor quality provision or performance.

Due to the insufficient number of responses for each individual corruption situation, it was not possible to conduct a statistical analysis of who exactly acted as the initiator, entrepreneurs or officials, by specific situations.

Overall, among respondents who *had contact* with the sphere of recovery and reconstruction, **1.5%** indicated that **representatives of enterprises** acted as **initiators** of corruption relations, while **7.1%** reported initiative on the part of **representatives of public authorities**, Fig. 2.3.26.

At the same time, due to the small number of respondents who reported *being in corruption situations*, n equals 6, the results regarding initiators should be considered exclusively descriptive and not suitable for generalization: within this subgroup only one respondent indicated initiative on the *part of entrepreneurs*, and no cases of initiative on the part of officials were recorded.

Fig. 2.3.26. Initiators of corruption situations



* Insufficient sample size for reliable analysis (n = 6)

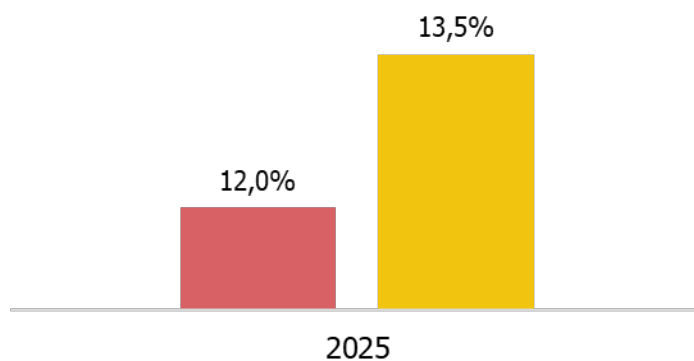
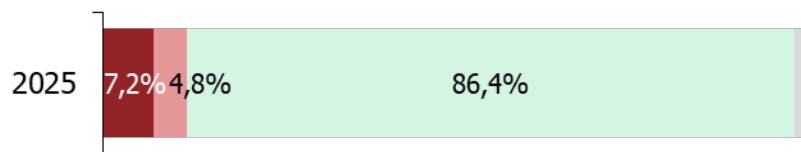
Public procurement

The sphere of public procurement was also studied for the first time in 2025. This sphere is among those with which business representatives interact quite frequently: **20.7%** of surveyed entrepreneurs reported that they participated in public procurement. In response to a direct question about **whether they encountered corruption, 12.0%** of respondents answered affirmatively, Fig. 2.3.27. This indicator includes both those who personally encountered corruption, 7.2%, and those who did not have personal experience but reported such experience of employees of their enterprise, 4.8%. **13.5%** of respondents reported being in specific contact situations containing signs of corruption. The small difference between these indicators, 1.5 percentage points, indicates that respondents are generally able to clearly identify their own participation in corruption interactions in the sphere of public procurement.

Fig. 2.3.27. Corruption experience in the sector overall, % of those who interacted with the sector¹

- Yes, I have personally encountered it
- I have not, but the employees of the company have
- No, we have not encountered it
- Hard to say / Refuse

Have you encountered corruption?



- Corruption experience, self-assessment
- Experienced corruption situations (calculated indicator)

¹ Question: "Have you (as a manager or representative of an enterprise) encountered corruption during participation in public procurement over the past 12 months - that is, have you given or been asked to give a bribe, used personal connections, etc.?"

Number of respondents: total sample - N=252.

The statistical margin of error for indicators in this sector does not exceed ± 6.2 percentage points.

It should be noted that *corruption experience* in the sphere of public procurement has a distinctly dispersed nature: respondents were offered a wide range of possible situations, and none of them clearly dominates, Fig. 2.3.28. This indicates that corruption practices in this sphere do not manifest in one to three typical schemes, but rather occur in different forms and at different stages of procurement procedures.

However, among the situations that carry the greatest corruption pressure, there are **two leaders: artificial inflation of the expected value or volume** of the procurement subject in order to subsequently transfer benefits, kickbacks, **7.7%**, and **establishment of discriminatory conditions in tender documentation** aimed at a predetermined participant, **7.6%**.

Other situations form a group with similar indicators at the level of 4 to 5%: establishment of **discriminatory conditions in the draft contract using an electronic catalog** aimed at a predetermined participant, **5.2%**, conclusion of **a direct contract** without proper justification, **4.5%**, deliberate **artificial splitting of the procurement subject**, **4.2%**, and unjustified **cancellation of the procurement procedure by the contracting authority**, **4.0%**.

Other situations were mentioned less frequently, from 1.1% to 3.5%.

Fig. 2.3.28. Corruption experience by types of situations that may arise when applying, % of those who interacted with the sector¹

Made informal payments to an official, money or gifts, or provided services...

artificially inflating the expected value or volume of the procurement item in order to subsequently transfer part of the benefit to the customer ("kickback")	2025	7,7%
establishing discriminatory conditions in the tender documentation, focused on a predetermined participant – your company	2025	7,6%
establishing discriminatory conditions in the draft procurement contract concluded using an electronic catalog , aimed at a predetermined participant – your company	2025	5,2%
concluding a direct contract without proper justification (due to martial law)	2025	4,5%
deliberate artificial fragmentation of the subject of procurement in order to conclude direct contracts	2025	4,2%
unjustified cancellation of the procurement procedure by the customer (if your company is not selected as the winner of the procurement procedure)	2025	4,0%
unjustified rejection of tender proposals from other participants in the procurement procedure (giving preference to your company during the consideration of tender proposals – in order to select your company as the winner of the procurement)	2025	3,5%
ignoring shortcomings/inaccurate information in the tender proposals submitted by your company (giving preference to your company during the consideration of tender proposals – to select your company as the winner of the procurement)	2025	3,2%
purchasing low-quality goods/works/services that differ from or do not meet the requirements of the tender documentation, or under-supplying goods/works/services, accepting products that do not meet the terms of the contract, etc.	2025	2,2%
deliberate unjustified conclusion of additional agreements to the procurement contract (amendments to the contract), which led to a decrease in the quality of the procurement item without changing its cost or reducing the actual costs of the contractor	2025	1,6%
deliberate unjustified conclusion of additional agreements to the procurement contract (amendments to the contract) to increase the cost of goods/services/works, etc.	2025	1,1%

Due to the insufficient number of responses for each individual corruption situation, it was not possible to conduct a statistical analysis of who exactly acted as the *initiator*, entrepreneurs or officials, in each specific situation.

Overall, **1.0% of business representatives** who *had contact* with the sphere of public procurement reported that they themselves acted as **initiators** of corruption relations, Fig. 2.3.29. Among respondents who were in *contact corruption situations*, this share amounts to **7.5%**.

¹ Question: "Have you or employees of your enterprise (as its representatives) encountered such situations during participation in public procurement over the past 12 months?"

Representatives of public authorities acted as **initiators** of corruption situations significantly more often. **7.8% of** respondents who *had contact* with the sector reported that they were required to provide informal payments or services to “resolve an issue”, or **58.0%** among those who were in *contact corruption situations*.

Fig. 2.3.29. Initiators of corruption situations

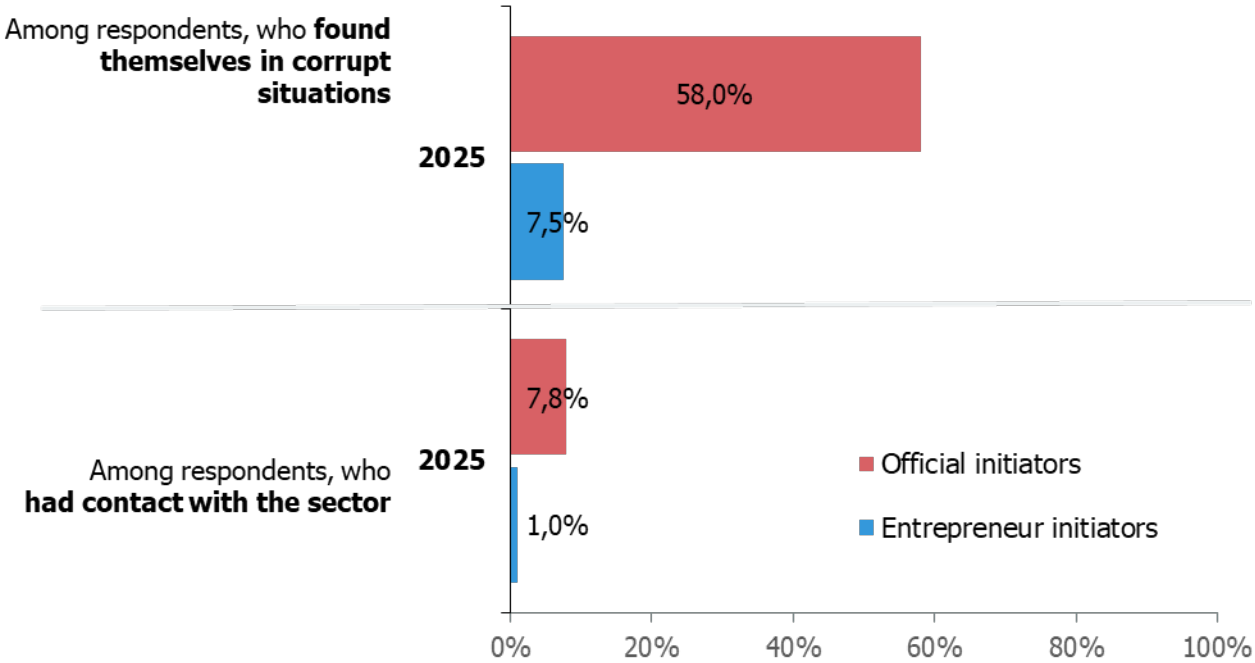


Table 2.3.1. Summary table on the study of corruption experience of business across sectors

Sector	Year	Self-reported corruption experience*	Were involved in corruption situations*			% of respondents who interacted with the sector
			% of respondents	% of respondents who acted as initiators of corrupt relations	% of respondents for whom a corruption situation arose due to a demand	
Construction and land relations	2025	34,6% ($\pm 6,6$)	27,9% ($\pm 6,3$)	3,2% ($\pm 2,5$)	19,3% ($\pm 5,5$)	↓8,6% ($\pm 1,6$)
	2024	27,9%	32,7%	5,0%	19,9%	12,5%
	2023	28,6%	23,5%	5,9%	16,9%	11,2%
	2022	32,5%	37,6%	7,3%	21,1%	8,5%
	2021	32,5%	40,3%	8,5%	22,4%	12,8%
Services of energy companies (connection and maintenance of electricity, gas, water supply and wastewater systems)	2025	31,7% ($\pm 6,0$)	22,5% ($\pm 5,3$)	4,5% ($\pm 2,7$)	15,9% ($\pm 4,7$)	↑19,6% ($\pm 2,2$)
	2024	32,2%	30,9%	8,7%	20,6%	15,6%
	2023	26,6%	33,4%	5,8%	22,6%	16,5%
	2022	29,3%	24,0%	6,8%	16,1%	9,0%
	2021	29,0%	37,0%	6,8%	20,5%	15,5%
Ensuring law and order and combating crime (activities of law enforcement agencies)	2025	26,8% ($\pm 6,1$)	27,5% ($\pm 6,1$)	5,2% ($\pm 3,1$)	17,1% ($\pm 5,2$)	10,4% ($\pm 1,7$)
	2024	28,5%	30,9%	6,4%	19,8%	12,8%
	2023	28,8%	23,5%	4,1%	16,3%	14,2%
	2022	18,6%	22,1%	3,0%	9,0%	14,0%
	2021	27,2%	32,0%	7,0%	16,1%	16,4%
Customs (customs control, processing of customs documents for business entities)	2025	↓21,8% ($\pm 5,8$)	↓19,4% ($\pm 5,5$)	↓2,0% ($\pm 2,0$)	13,8% ($\pm 4,8$)	9,8% ($\pm 1,7$)
	2024	35,1%	39,3%	7,7%	22,2%	8,7%
	2023	35,2%	35,5%	6,8%	27,1%	10,9%
	2022	35,2%	33,0%	5,9%	22,1%	11,3%
	2021	42,8%	32,0%	2,7%	23,2%	8,0%
State regulation and control in the sphere of economic activity	2025	17,6% ($\pm 5,0$)	24,2% ($\pm 5,7$)	↑3,1% ($\pm 2,3$)	15,9% ($\pm 4,8$)	↓7,9% ($\pm 1,5$)
	2024	15,4%	24,5%	1,2%	21,5%	10,7%
	2023	24,5%	26,6%	3,3%	20,5%	11,2%
	2022	18,7%	24,8%	3,6%	17,5%	9,4%
	2021	27,2%	30,8%	3,6%	21,9%	17,5%

Sector	Year	Self-reported corruption experience*	Were involved in corruption situations*			% of respondents who interacted with the sector
			% of respondents	% of respondents who acted as initiators of corrupt relations	% of respondents for whom a corruption situation arose due to a demand	
Taxation	2025	15,0% ($\pm 3,9$)	↓13,7% ($\pm 3,7$)	2,6% ($\pm 1,7$)	8,7% ($\pm 3,0$)	26,3% ($\pm 2,5$)
	2024	15,8%	20,2%	1,3%	12,6%	25,5%
	2023	13,1%	16,4%	2,2%	9,0%	30,3%
	2022	13,2%	14,9%	3,6%	7,3%	23,2%
	2021	13,2%	17,6%	4,0%	9,5%	26,3%
Judiciary	2025	13,9% ($\pm 5,4$)	↓8,8% ($\pm 4,5$)	0,6% ($\pm 1,2$)	5,8% ($\pm 3,7$)	↓7,6% ($\pm 1,5$)
	2024	18,1%	24,5%	3,7%	15,0%	10,1%
	2023	15,2%	15,0%	3,0%	10,2%	10,1%
Recovery (reconstruction) of Ukraine	2025	12,7% ($\pm 8,8$)	10,1% ($\pm 8,0$)	1,5% ($\pm 3,2$)	7,1% ($\pm 6,8$)	4,6% ($\pm 1,2$)
Public procurement	2025	12,0% ($\pm 4,0$)	13,5% ($\pm 4,2$)	1,0% ($\pm 1,2$)	7,8% ($\pm 3,3$)	20,7% ($\pm 2,3$)

SECTION 3. INTEGRATED INDICATORS OF STATE ANTI-CORRUPTION POLICY

Within the framework of this study, data were collected to calculate indicators of the effectiveness of the state anti-corruption policy, indicators 1 to 3, as well as additional indicators of the effectiveness of the system for prevention of and counteraction to corruption, 4 to 5, in accordance with the Methodology of the standard survey on corruption in Ukraine:

1. Share of the population, business representatives, that has a negative attitude towards corruption manifestations.
2. Share of the population, business representatives, that has had personal experience of corruption.
3. Share of the population, business representatives, that is capable of acting as a whistleblower.
4. Share of the population, business representatives, that approves the activities of whistleblowers.
5. Share of the population that is properly informed about guarantees of legal protection of whistleblowers.
6. In 2021, the approach to indicators was changed and their number was increased. Since these indicators are valuable in terms of the possibility to assess changes in the effectiveness of the implementation of the state anti-corruption policy in the country, the indicators for 2017 and 2020 were recalculated in accordance with the updated methodology where possible.

2.4. Indicator 1. Share of the population (business representatives) that has a negative attitude towards corruption manifestations

The objective of anti-corruption policy is to form and increase the share of the population that has a negative attitude towards corruption manifestations. This indicator is not measured through a direct question, for example, whether citizens or entrepreneurs justify the use of corruption practices to resolve matters important to them, since in that case respondents would provide socially desirable answers and the data would be biased. Instead, the study used the method of projective situations, that is, *respondents, both the population and entrepreneurs, were offered an imagined situation of obtaining an administrative service from public authorities or local self-government bodies.*

“Imagine the following situation. You applied to a public institution for a certificate that you urgently need to resolve a personal matter, for business, a matter in the interest of the enterprise. You were informed that the processing time is 30 days, but you need it as soon as possible. When you left the office, a random person in the corridor told you that his neighbor, for business, an acquaintance, received such a certificate the next day by paying 1000 hryvnias to the head of the department that issues such certificates. What would most likely be your actions in such a situation?”

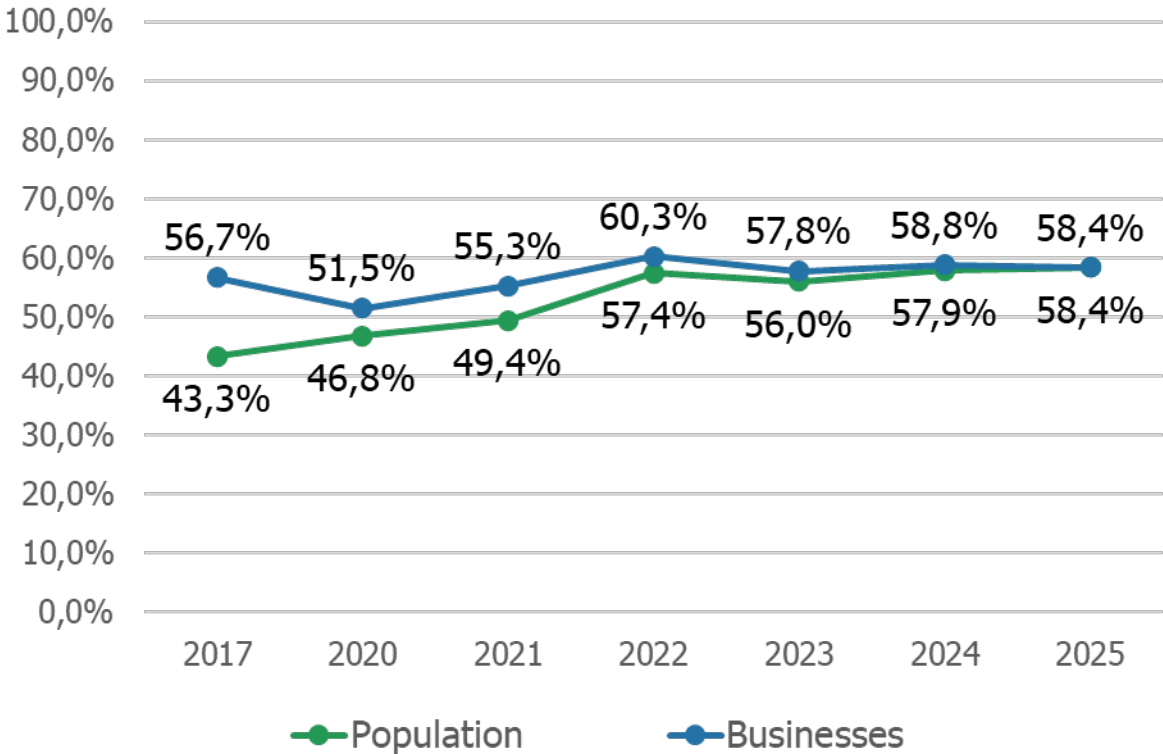
Respondents were offered the opportunity to choose the most likely option for solving the problem that could arise, the wording of the answer options is provided below:

1. "I would wait 30 days"
2. "I would pay 1000 hryvnias, but I do not have the money for it"
3. "I would look for acquaintances or relatives who could help speed up obtaining the certificate"
4. "I would pay 1000 hryvnias"
5. "I would file a complaint about corruption in the institution to a higher authority"
6. "I would submit a statement to law enforcement agencies"
7. "I would contact the media, provide these facts to journalists"

Information and corresponding quantitative indicators *on identifying respondents' negative attitude towards corruption manifestations* were obtained based on the analysis of *refusals to use a corruption-based model for solving the problem* in the specified projective situation.

The category of persons *who refuse a corruption-based model of behavior* includes respondents who selected answer options 1, waiting according to the rules, or 5 to 7, exposing corruption, and at the same time did not choose a corruption-based way of solving the problem, options 2 to 4.

Fig. 3.1.1. Indicator 1. Share of the population, business representatives, that has a negative attitude towards corruption manifestations



During 2017–2022, a gradual *increase* was observed in the share of the *population that has a negative attitude towards corruption manifestations*: if in 2017 the indicator was 43.3%, then in 2022 it increased by 14 percentage points compared to 2017 and reached 57.4%.

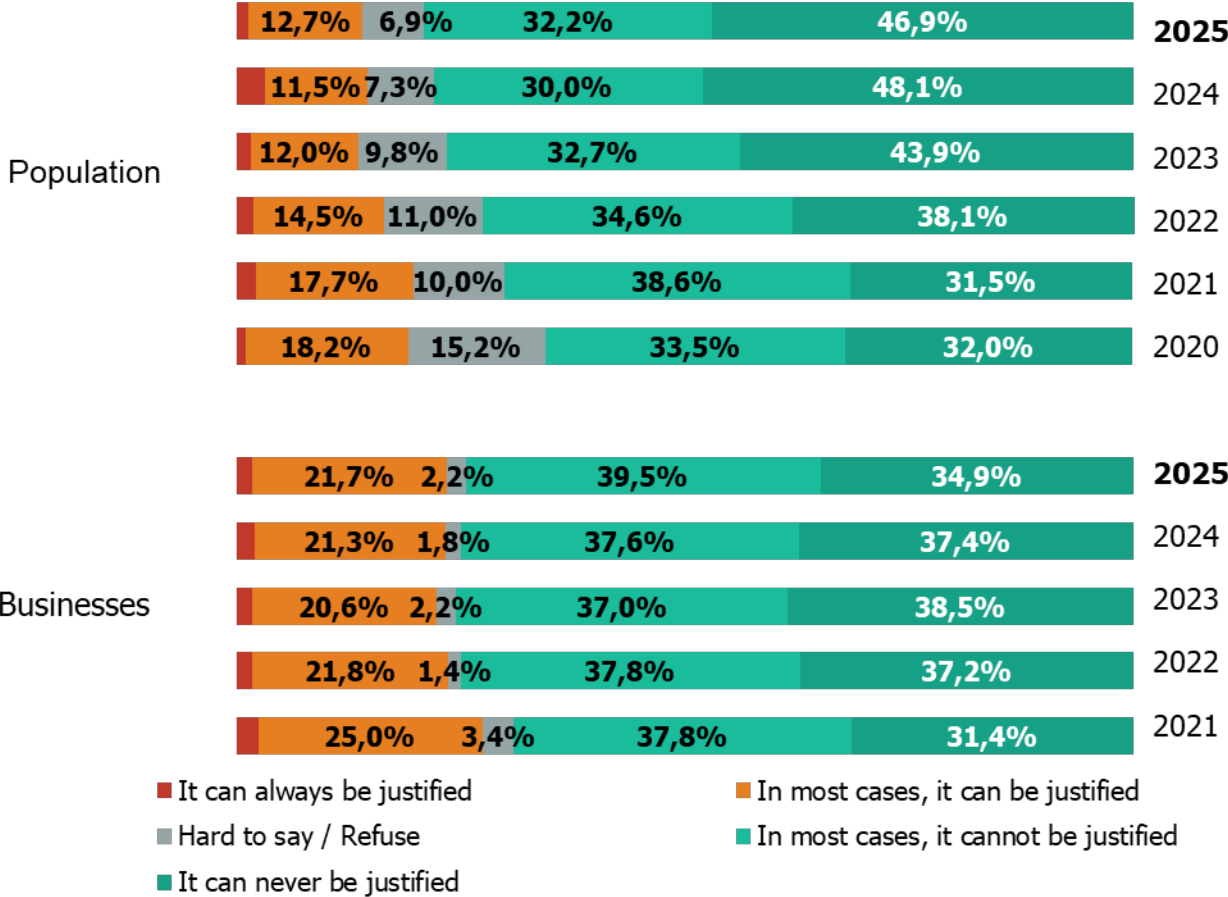
In 2023–2025, **the indicator stabilized at the level of 56–58%** and in 2025 amounts to **58.4%**, without statistically significant changes compared to 2024.

In 2023–2025, the share of *business* representatives with anti-corruption attitudes also stabilized after growth in 2022. The indicator in 2025 is **58.4%**, that is, identical to the indicator among the population, and has not changed compared to 2024.

Thus, in 2023–2025, the shares of business representatives and the population who refuse a corruption-based model of behavior *are comparable*. At the same time, the indicators for both the population and business in 2022–2025 remain statistically significantly *higher than in 2021*.

In addition to the projective situation underlying indicator 1, the study also used a *direct question* aimed at assessing the share of respondents who *do not justify the use of corruption practices to resolve matters* important for citizens or enterprises, Fig. 3.1.2.

Fig. 3.1.2. Justification of giving a bribe, informal services or a gift if it is necessary to resolve an important matter¹



¹ Question: "In your opinion, can giving a bribe, informal services, or a gift be justified if it is necessary to resolve an important matter for you (for business - an important matter for the enterprise where you work)?"

When it comes to a more general question, "*Can giving a bribe, informal services or a gift be justified?*", the population overall demonstrates a high level of declared intolerance to corruption. If the combined share of responses "*in most cases cannot be justified*" and "can never be justified" is considered, then in 2025 this indicator amounts to 79.1%.

At the same time, a strict position of zero tolerance, when a corruption-based way of resolving matters *can never be justified*, is shared by almost half of respondents, **46.9%**, in the population sample. This indicator stabilized after a statistically significant increase in 2022–2024; the decrease by 1.2 percentage points in 2025 compared to 2024 is not statistically significant.

Among business representatives, the share of those who justify a corruption-based way of resolving problems in 2025 remains at the level of 2023. In particular, 23.5% of respondents *fully or partially justify corruption*, while **34.9%** of business representatives categorically reject this way of resolving important matters. The combined value of the indicator, responses "in most cases cannot be justified" and "can never be justified", in 2023–2025 remains statistically stable at the level of 75% of respondents.

At the same time, a slight downward trend can be observed in the share of entrepreneurs who never justify a corruption-based way of resolving matters: in the period 2023–2025, the corresponding indicator decreased from 38.5% to 34.9%, minus 3.6 percentage points, however this change is not statistically significant. Thus, the level of zero tolerance to corruption in the business environment in 2025 remains generally unchanged after the statistically significant increase recorded in 2022 and requires further observation over time.

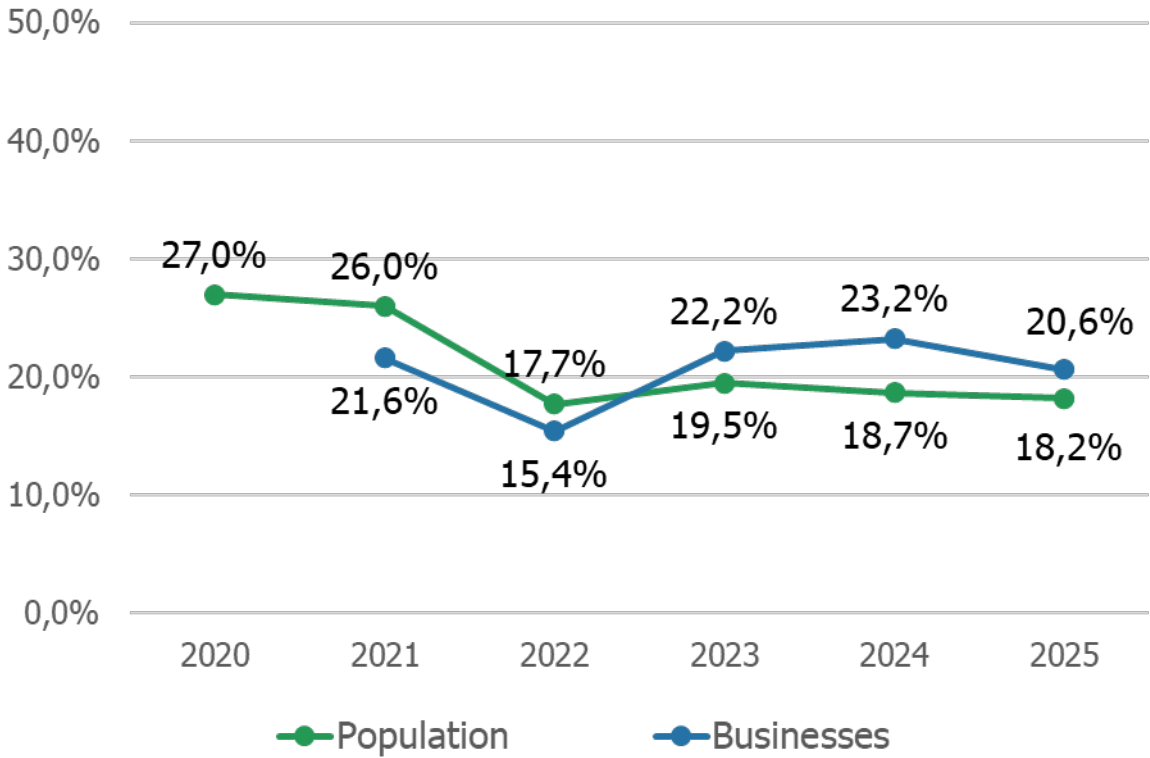
2.5. Indicator 2. Share of the population (business representatives) that had personal corruption experience

The indicator of personal corruption experience is one of the key indicators for assessing the effectiveness of anti-corruption policy, as it directly reflects the level of involvement of the population and business in corruption practices.

To determine this indicator, a direct question is used regarding respondents' self-assessment of their involvement in corruption: *whether they encountered corruption, gave or were asked for a bribe, used connections, etc., over the past 12 months, personally or through family members, or employees of the enterprise acting in its interest in the business survey*. The results for this indicator reflect the self-perception of personal corruption experience by the population and entrepreneurs, that is, they have a subjective reported nature and may differ from actual assessments of their involvement in corruption if specific situations are analyzed in terms of the presence of a corruption component in accordance with legislation.

In 2025, this indicator for the population amounts to **18.2%**, the difference of 0.5 percentage points compared to 2023 is not statistically significant. Thus, after a statistically significant decrease in 2022, the indicator in 2022–2025 is in a phase of stabilization, Fig. 3.2.1.

Fig. 3.2.1. Indicator 2. Share of the population, business representatives, that had personal corruption experience¹



Among business, in 2023–2025 there is stabilization of the share of enterprises that had corruption experience at the level of 20–23% after a statistically significant increase in 2023. In 2025, this indicator amounts to **20.6%**, and the decrease of 2.6 percentage points compared to 2024 is not statistically significant. At the same time, the value of the indicator among business remains slightly higher than the corresponding indicator among the population.

Within indicator 2, the analysis of corruption experience is expanded through the assessment of behavioral situations in which respondents faced a potential opportunity to resolve an issue informally but chose not to resort to corruption practices.

Accordingly, respondents were asked: “*During the past 12 months, have you been in a situation where a gift or a bribe could have helped you resolve an issue, but you refrained from using this way of solving the problem?*”

¹ Question: for the population - “Have you encountered corruption over the past 12 months - that is, have you given or been asked to give a bribe, used personal connections, etc.?”; for business representatives - “...in the interests of the enterprise where you work?”.

In 2025, **12.1%** of the population indicated that during the past 12 months they had been in a situation where a corruption-based way of resolving an issue was possible but they consciously refrained from it, Table 3.2.1. Overall, during 2021–2025, the values of this indicator remain relatively stable within 10–12%, without a pronounced upward or downward trend.

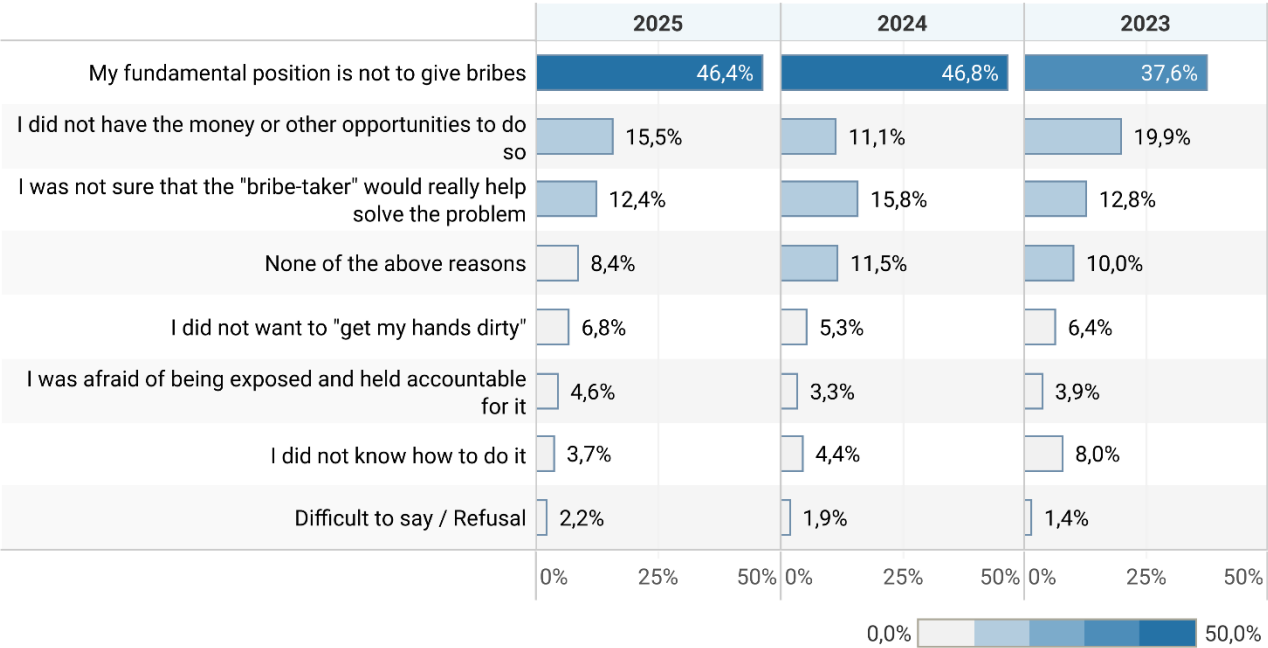
Table 3.2.1. Share of the population that was in potentially corruption situations and refrained from giving a bribe or a gift as a way of solving the problem¹

2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
12,4%	9,7%	10,5%	12,8%	12,1%

A detailed analysis of the data shows that some respondents who had corruption experience related both to offering and to being solicited for an undue benefit, in potentially corruption situations chose to refrain from giving a gift or a bribe. At the same time, the ratio between the overall share of persons who were in corruption situations overall, indicator 2, and the share of those who refrained from a corruption-based way of solving the problem indicates that this model of behavior is not dominant and does not cover all types of corruption situations faced by respondents.

For respondents who indicated that they refrained from a corruption-based way of solving the problem in potentially corruption situations, the main reasons for such a decision were analyzed, Fig. 3.2.2.

Fig. 3.2.2. Reasons for refraining from a corruption-based way of solving the problem²



¹ Question: "Over the past 12 months, have you found yourself in a situation where a gift or a bribe could have helped you resolve an issue, but you refrained from using such a way to solve the problem?"

² Question: "What was the reason that prevented you from using a corrupt way to resolve the problem?"

More than half of respondents who refrained from a corruption-based way of solving a problem despite having the opportunity explain their behavior by principled considerations, including ethical ones. In particular, **46.4%** have a *principled position not to give bribes*, and another **6.8%** did so for *ethical reasons, not wanting to "get their hands dirty"*, which together forms the group of so called "principled" respondents.

At the same time, the share of those who refrained from a corruption-based way of solving the problem not for principled reasons but *due to constraints or doubts about the appropriateness of such a step* remains significant and amounts to more than one third of respondents. Among them, **15.5%** *did not have the money* or other means, **12.4%** *were not sure that the "bribe taker" would actually help solve the problem*, **4.6%** *were afraid of being exposed*, and **3.7%** simply *did not know how to do it*.

It should be noted that despite the fact that the share of respondents who refrained from giving a bribe in 2021–2025 did not vary significantly and remained within 10–12%, the structure of the reasons for such behavior has undergone noticeable changes. In particular, *the share of "principled" respondents increased* from 44.0% in 2023 to **52–53%** in 2024–2025, and this change is statistically significant. At the same time, the share of those who simply could not take advantage of the opportunity amounted to 44.6% in 2023 and statistically significantly *decreased* to 34–36% in 2024–2025.

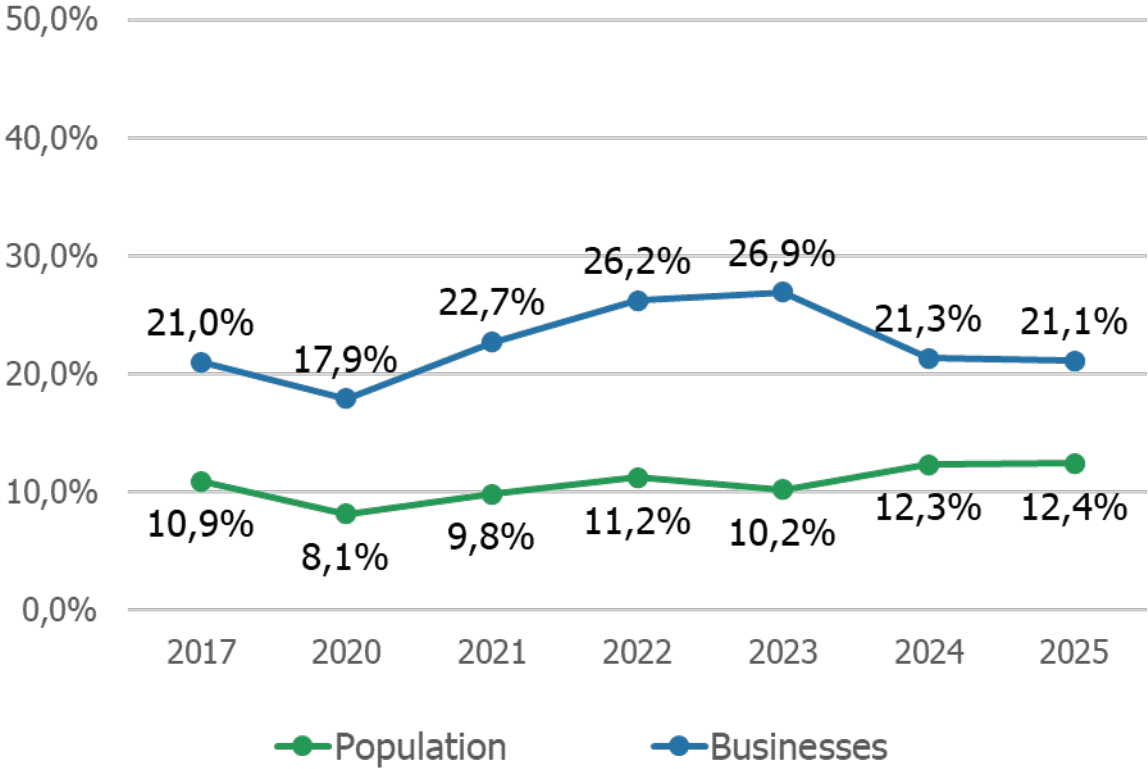
2.6. Indicator 3. Share of the population (business representatives) that is capable of acting as a whistleblower

This measurement is aimed at assessing the capacity of citizens and business representatives to act as *corruption whistleblowers*, that is, their readiness to choose a whistleblowing model of behavior in potentially corruption situations, as well as the actual reporting of corruption manifestations known to them to competent authorities.

Within this study, the share of the population and business *representatives willing to report facts of corruption manifestations* was analyzed, indicator 3.1, as well as the share of persons from both categories of respondents who *reported facts of corruption that occurred in relation to them to competent authorities*, indicator 3.2.

To determine indicator 3.1, a projective situation is used, as in indicator 1, but the share of people who chose a whistleblowing model of behavior is identified, answer options 5 "I would file a complaint about corruption in the institution to a higher authority", 6 "I would submit a statement to law enforcement agencies" or 7 "I would contact the media, provide these facts to journalists".

Fig. 3.3.1. Indicator 3.1. Share of the population, business representatives, that is ready to report facts of corruption manifestations



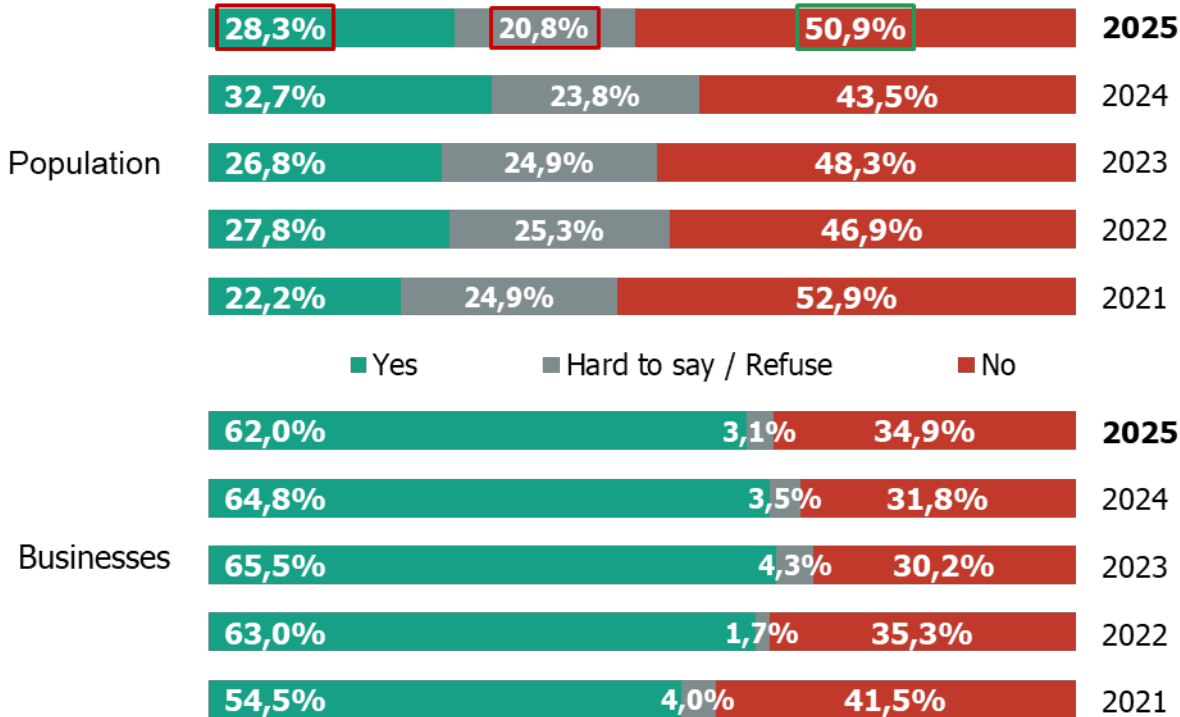
Indicator 3.1, the share of respondents ready **to report facts of corruption manifestations**, in 2025 among the population stabilized at the level of 2024, 12.4%, after a statistically significant increase in 2024 compared to the plateau of 2021–2023.

In the *business environment*, stabilization of the indicator at the level of 2024 is also observed: the share of entrepreneurs ready to report facts of corruption manifestations amounts to **21.1%**. Thus, the willingness of business to report corruption in 2025 corresponds to the level of 2021 after the significant decline recorded in 2024.

However, despite opposite short-term trends, growth among the population and decline among business, business representatives continue to demonstrate a significantly higher willingness to report corruption than the population.

An additional direct question, “*Would you file a complaint with public authorities or law enforcement agencies in connection with a case of corruption?*”, shows a significantly larger share of potential whistleblowers, more than twice compared to the projective situation: in 2025, **28.3%** of the population and 62% of business declared their readiness to file a complaint. It should be noted that this indicator may be distorted due to the social desirability of answering “yes”.

Fig. 3.3.2. Willingness to file a complaint with public authorities or law enforcement agencies in connection with a case of corruption, direct question¹



Among the population, the share of potential whistleblowers, 28.3%, returned to the level of 2022–2023 after a significant increase in 2024. Compared to the previous year, a statistically significant *decrease* of 4.4 percentage points was recorded.

Among *business*, the share of those ready to report corruption in 2025, 62%, also decreased, as among the population, by 2.8 percentage points compared to 2024.

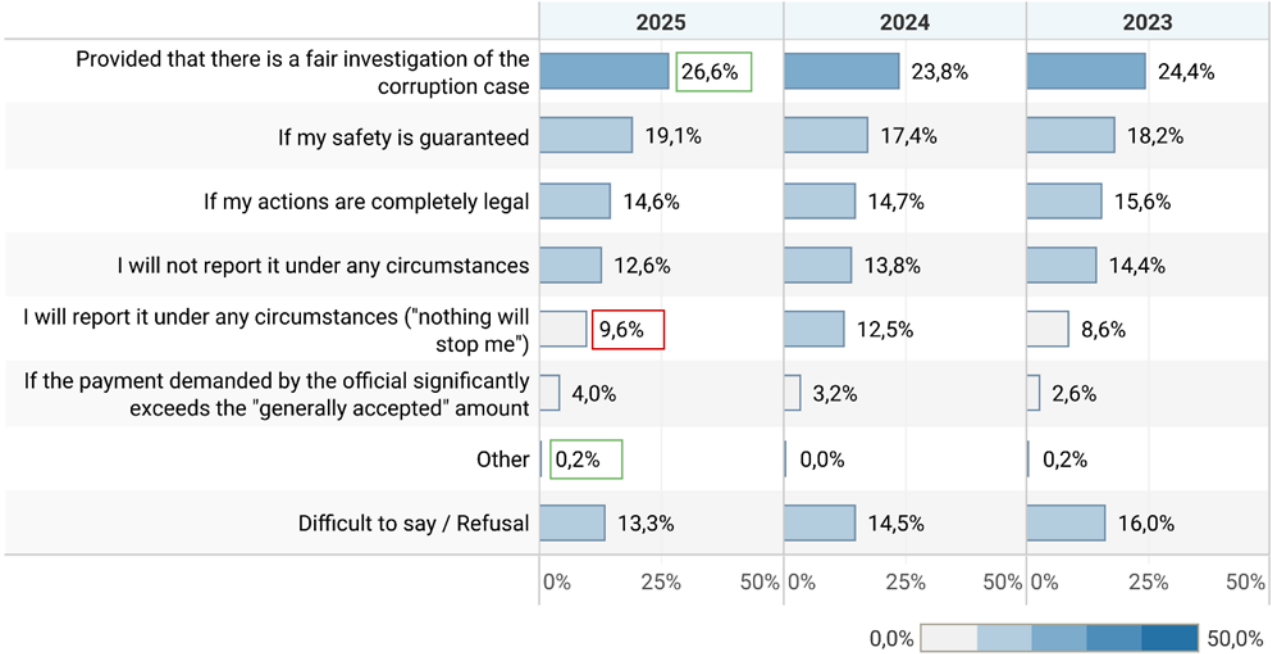
At the same time, in the business environment, there is a *trend towards an increase* in the share of entrepreneurs who choose the answer “no” to the direct question regarding *readiness to file a complaint*: in 2023 their share was 30.2%, in 2024 it was 31.8%, and in 2025 it is 34.9%. Although the year to year dynamics of this indicator is not statistically significant, the difference between 2023 and 2025 already demonstrates a *statistically significant decrease*, indicating a gradual weakening of the willingness of some entrepreneurs to expose corruption manifestations.

To identify the reasons for willingness or unwillingness to report cases of corruption, the population was asked to answer a question about *the conditions under which respondents would be ready to report corrupt actions of officials towards them*. The results are presented in Fig. 3.3.3.

¹ Question: “Would you file a complaint with authorities or law enforcement agencies in connection with a case of corruption?”

This question focuses not on general willingness to file complaints, but on specific *conditions and circumstances* under which respondents would be inclined to react to *corrupt actions of officials that directly concern them personally*.

Fig. 3.3.3. Conditions under which respondents would report corrupt actions of an official towards them¹



It is noteworthy that the increase in the share of the population that, according to the results of the direct additional question, is not ready to report facts of corruption, Fig. 3.3.2, correlates with a public demand for fair investigation of corruption cases. In particular, the share of respondents who selected the answer “*provided that the corruption case is investigated fairly*” increased from 24.4% in 2023 to **26.6%** in 2025, and this change is statistically significant.

This condition significantly outweighs, in terms of importance, *guarantees of safety for whistleblowers*, **19.1%**.

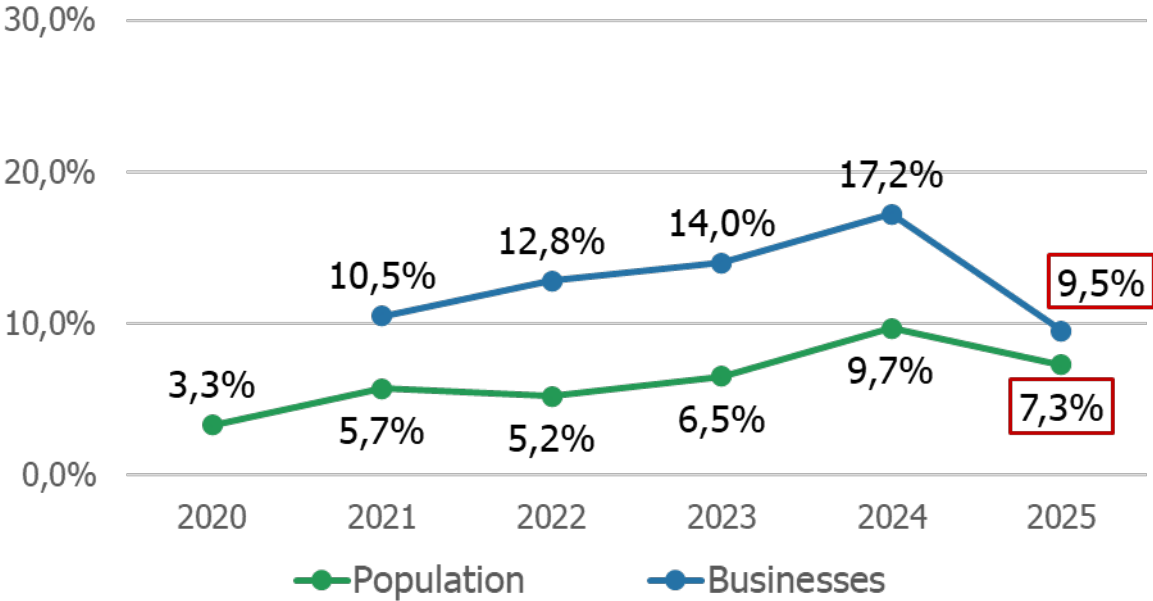
At the same time, in 2025 the share of respondents who are ready to report corruption under any circumstances decreased from 12.5% in 2024 to **9.6%** in 2025, and this decrease is statistically significant.

It is noteworthy that only a small share of respondents, **12.5%**, demonstrate a principled unwillingness to report cases of corruption by choosing the answer “*I will not report in any case*”. This indicates that complete refusal to *обращаться* to public authorities or law enforcement agencies is not a dominant position in society. For the remaining respondents who find themselves in such situations, there are conditions under which they are ready to act as whistleblowers, in particular the condition of ensuring fair investigation of corruption cases and guarantees of safety.

¹ Question: “Under what conditions would you be willing to report corrupt actions by an official against you?”

Indicator 3.2 is defined as the share of respondents who stated that, having encountered a corruption situation, they *filed a complaint with public authorities or law enforcement agencies*, direct question. In 2021–2024, this indicator remained relatively low; however, in 2024 a statistically significant increase in the share of persons who reported corruption was recorded for the first time in both audiences. At the same time, the results of 2025 indicate that this increase did not become a stable trend, Fig. 3.3.4.

Fig. 3.3.4. Indicator 3.2. Share of the population, business representatives, that reported facts of corruption that occurred in relation to them to competent authorities¹



In 2025, a statistically significant *decrease* in the indicator was recorded both among the population and among business representatives. Thus, among the population, the share of respondents who reported facts of corruption that occurred in relation to them to competent authorities *decreased to 7.3%*, the decline from 2024 by 2.4 percentage points is statistically significant.

Among business representatives, the dynamics are even sharper: in 2025, the indicator *decreased almost twofold* compared to 2024 and amounts to **9.5%**, which is the lowest value for the entire observation period, and this change is statistically significant.

Thus, the increase in the share of whistleblowers who actually report corruption recorded in 2024 was replaced in 2025 by a significant decline. This indicates a weakening of the practical willingness of respondents to move from declared support for whistleblowing to real actions, filing complaints with public authorities or law enforcement agencies. The sharp decrease of this indicator in the business environment is particularly indicative, which may reflect increased caution, pragmatic risk

¹ Question (for those respondents who, in response to the direct question, reported that they had encountered corruption over the past 12 months): "Did you (for business - as a manager or representative of an enterprise) file a complaint with authorities or law enforcement agencies in connection with a case of corruption?"

assessment or distrust in the effectiveness of institutional response mechanisms under wartime conditions.

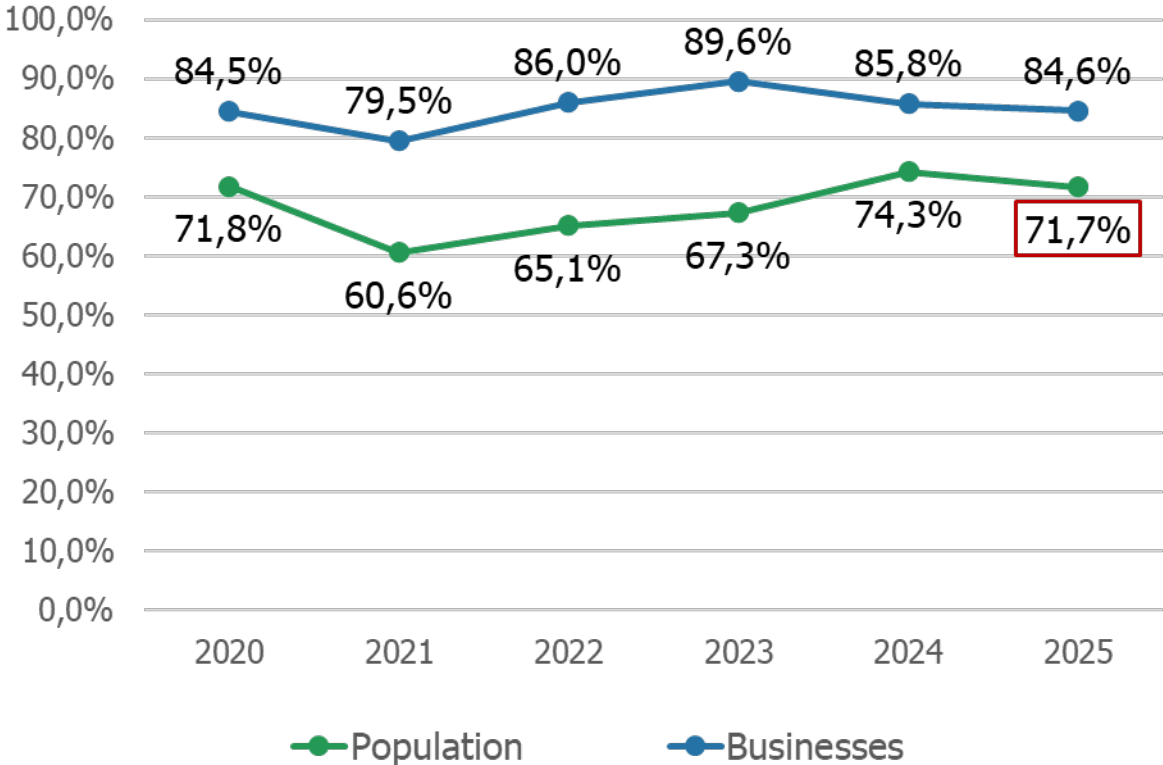
2.7. Indicator 4. Share of the population, business representatives, that approves the activities of whistleblowers

Within the framework of the study, indicator 4 reflects the level of approval of whistleblowers' activities among the population and business representatives. The corresponding indicator is determined through a direct question, "*What is your attitude towards people who submit complaints or reports to public authorities or law enforcement agencies in connection with a case of corruption?*", using a response scale that includes five options, from "completely disapprove" to "completely approve". The quantitative indicator is obtained by summing the shares of respondents who selected "*completely approve*" and "*rather approve*".

The share of this group of respondents among the population statistically significantly decreased in 2025, by 2.6 percentage points compared to the 2024 indicator, and amounts **to 71.7%**. However, despite the decrease compared to 2024, the value of the indicator remains higher than in 2021–2023.

Among business, the value of the indicator stabilized at the level of **84.6%**, after a statistically significant decrease in 2024. Overall, the *overwhelming majority* of both the population and business *approve the activities of whistleblowers*.

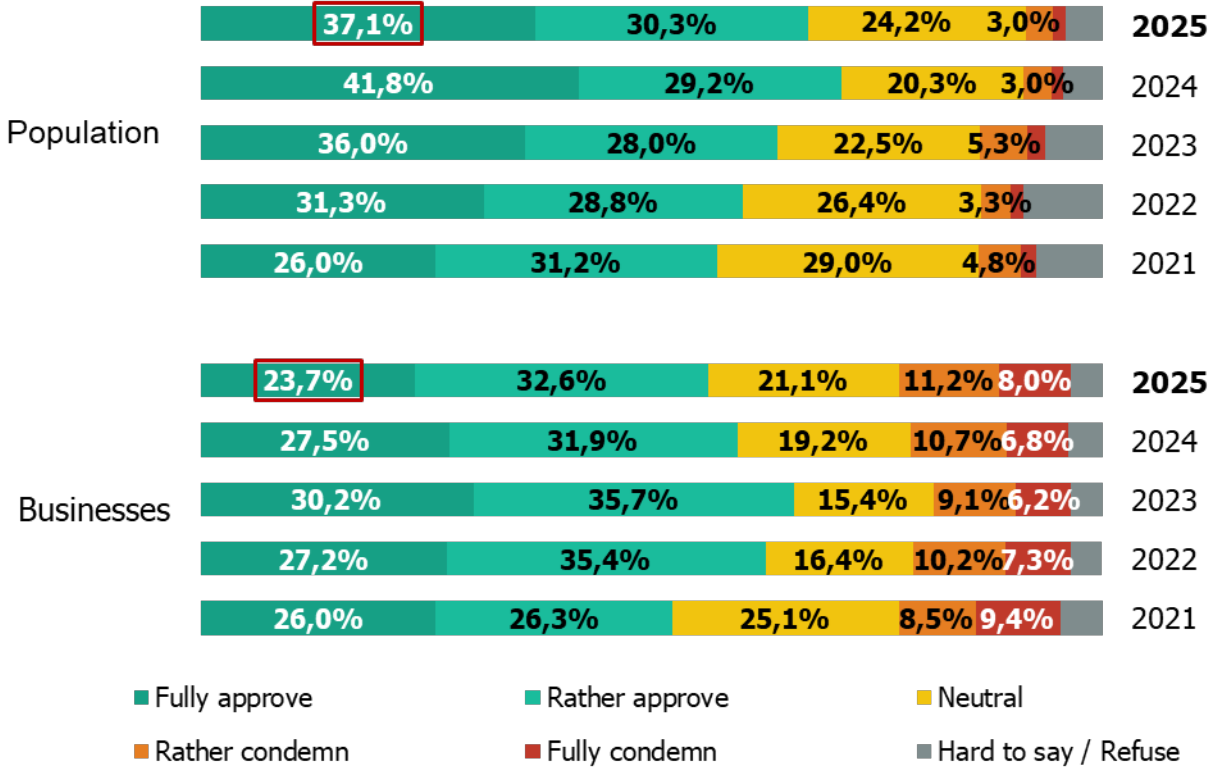
Fig. 3.4.1. Indicator 4. Share of the population, business representatives, that approves the activities of whistleblowers¹



Additionally, for indicator 4, respondents' answers in a projective situation are analyzed: "Imagine the following situation. In the organization, enterprise, where you work, your colleague reported to competent authorities a corruption offense committed by another employee. What is your attitude towards your colleague's actions?", Fig. 3.4.2.

¹ Question: "What is your attitude toward people who file complaints (reports) with authorities or law enforcement agencies in connection with a case of corruption?"

Fig. 3.4.2. Projective situation: attitude towards the actions of a colleague who reported to competent authorities a corruption offense committed by another employee



Among the population in 2025, the share of responses “completely approve” and “rather approve” amounts to **67.4%**, which is *lower* than in 2024, 71.0%. This indicates a *weakening of the level* of conditional *support for whistleblowers’ actions* in projective situations, which is consistent with the overall downward trend of indicator 4.

The decrease in support occurred primarily due to a statistically significant reduction in the share of respondents who selected the answer “completely approve”, from 41.8% in 2024 to **37.1%** in 2025, minus 4.7 percentage points.

Among business representatives, the share of those who approve the actions of a colleague whistleblower *continued to decrease for the second consecutive year* and amounts to **56.3%**, compared to 59.5% in 2024. The main contribution to this dynamic was made by a statistically significant *reduction* in the share of “completely approve” responses, from 27.5% in 2024 to **23.7%** in 2025, minus 3.8 percentage points.

The observed dynamics of responses to the additional projective question modeling a situation of internal whistleblowing is consistent with the dynamics of the main indicator 4: after the peak value in 2023, the level of support for whistleblowers among business decreased and has remained relatively stable over the past two years.

In addition, *business systematically demonstrates a lower level of approval of the actions of a colleague whistleblower in the projective situation compared to declarative responses to the direct question regarding support for whistleblowers' activities*, indicator 4. In 2025, the gap between these indicators is significant and amounts to 28.3 percentage points, which may indicate greater caution or restraint of business representatives in practical scenarios of internal whistleblowing.

For the population, this gap is almost absent and amounts to only 4.3 percentage points, which may indicate a more consistent position regarding support for whistleblowers regardless of the format of the question, declarative or situational.

Generalized comment on respondents' position regarding whistleblowing of corruption

Business. Overall, the combination of recorded trends in the business environment regarding whistleblowing of corruption forms a complex and concerning signal. After growth in 2021–2023, a noticeable turning point occurred in 2024: the declarative willingness of entrepreneurs to report corruption manifestations decreased, indicator 3.1, and in 2025 the share of business that actually reports known cases of corruption to competent authorities also declined, indicator 3.2.

At the same time, there is a decrease in unconditional support for whistleblowers' actions in projective situations and an increase in the share of entrepreneurs who, in response to a direct question, state *that they are not ready to file a complaint*.

Such dynamics of the set of indicators do not necessarily mean an increase in tolerance to corruption. Rather, they indicate increased caution or pragmatic restraint of business in interaction with state institutions under wartime conditions. Taken together, these changes point to a weakening of declarative support for whistleblowing of corruption manifestations, but do not indicate an increase in the overall level of corruption in the business environment.

Population. The declarative willingness of the population to report corruption manifestations, indicator 3.1, in 2025 remained at the level of 2024 after last year's increase, while its absolute value remains moderate and significantly lower than in the business environment, 12.4% compared to 21.1%. This indicates not so much "lower concern" as a limited overall level of readiness of the population for anti-corruption activity, even at the level of intentions.

At the same time, the results of additional direct and projective questions indicate a strengthening of the purely declarative component of such readiness. In 2025, a statistically significant decrease was recorded in the share of the population that actually reported known cases of corruption to competent authorities, indicator 3.2, to 7.3%, as well as a decrease in the share of potential whistleblowers according to the results of the direct additional question. At the same time, there is a clear increase in the importance of the conditions under which respondents are ready to report corruption, primarily guarantees of fair investigation and personal safety, as well as fair investigation and punishment of corrupt actors.

Taken together, these trends do not indicate an increase in tolerance of the population towards corruption, the level of negative attitude towards corruption manifestations remains consistently high. At the same time, they point to a gap between value-based rejection of corruption and

readiness for real action. For a significant part of the population, the decision to report corruption increasingly depends on trust in the institutional environment, the effectiveness of investigations and the availability of effective mechanisms for the protection of whistleblowers, which emphasizes the importance of further institutional strengthening of the system for responding to corruption reports. It is likely, although this was not directly studied, that these factors are also relevant for the business environment.

2.8. Indicator 5. Share of the population that is properly informed about guarantees of legal protection of whistleblowers

One of the key tasks of anti-corruption policy is to ensure a sufficient level of awareness among citizens about guarantees of legal protection for persons who report corruption offenses, whistleblowers.

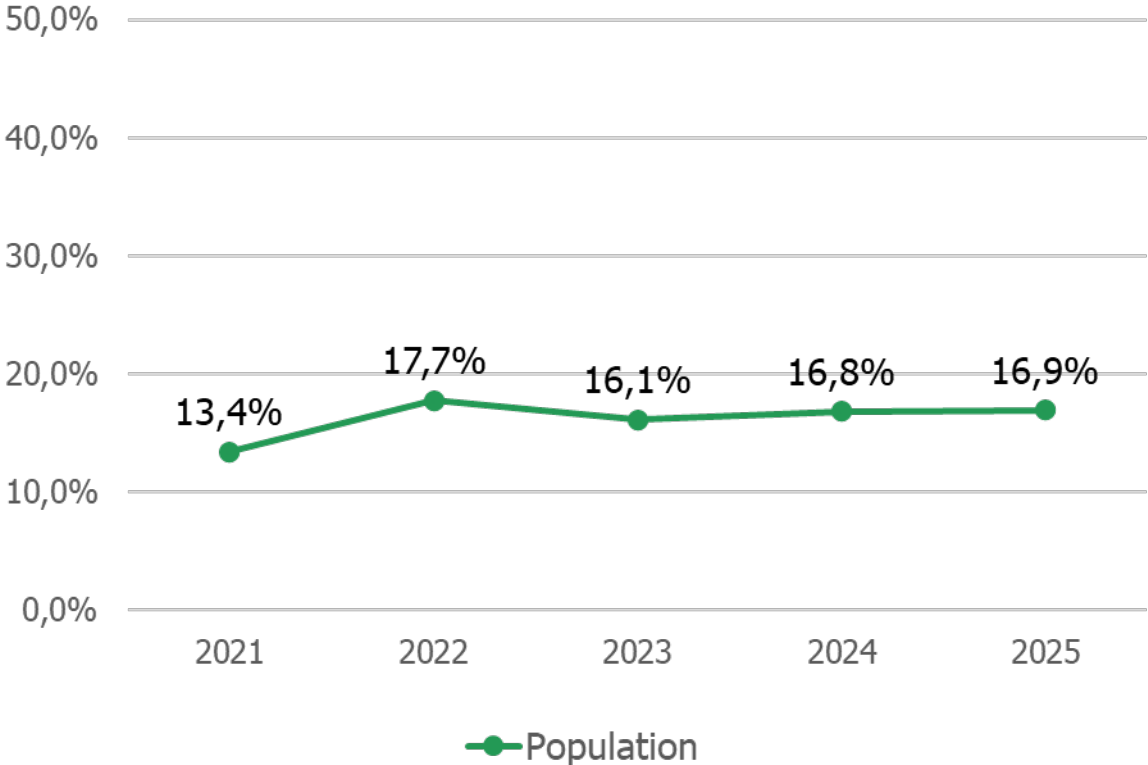
Indicator 5 is calculated based on the question, *"Do citizens who submit reports about cases of corruption to competent authorities have the following rights"*, where for each item the respondent may answer "yes", "no" or "difficult to say":

1. to free legal aid in connection with the protection of their rights, correct answer yes;
2. to paid leave during the period of consideration of a report on a case of corruption, but not more than 30 days, correct answer no;
3. to a monetary reward in cases defined by law, correct answer yes;
4. to receive information from law enforcement agencies about the results of the pre trial investigation regarding all crimes committed by the same person in respect of whom corruption was reported, correct answer no;
5. to immediate reinstatement to the previous job or position if such persons were dismissed in connection with reporting possible facts of corruption or corruption related offenses, correct answer yes;
6. to measures by law enforcement agencies to ensure protection of housing from the moment of reporting corruption regardless of the presence of threats to the life and health of such a person, correct answer no;
7. to reimbursement of expenses for a lawyer in connection with the protection of the person's rights as a whistleblower, correct answer yes;
8. to transfer at one's own request, without the consent of management, to another equivalent position or job in the institution where the citizen works, correct answer no..

Respondents are considered **properly informed** if they provided correct answers to more than half of the items, that is, at least 5 out of 8.

In 2025, the value of this indicator amounts to **16.9%**, with no change compared to 2022–2024, the indicator stabilized after growth in 2022.

Fig. 3.5.1. Indicator 5. Share of the population that is properly informed about guarantees of legal protection of whistleblowers



This indicator remains quite low, only every sixth citizen can be considered properly informed about guarantees of legal protection of whistleblowers. At the same time, among those citizens who are ready to report facts of corruption manifestations, their share in society is 12.4%, see indicator 3.1, the share of those properly informed about guarantees of legal protection of whistleblowers amounts to only **11.0%**.

Thus, the willingness of the population to report corruption offenses, which is generally low, is not supported by an adequate level of awareness of guarantees of legal protection of whistleblowers. This, in turn, significantly limits the potential for the development of such an instrument of anti-corruption policy as the institution of whistleblowing.

It should be noted that while the level of awareness of guarantees of legal protection of whistleblowers remains consistently low, awareness of the population regarding the powers of NACP demonstrates positive dynamics. In particular, in 2025, the share of citizens who are properly informed about the powers of NACP, correctly identified five or more powers, amounted to 13.3%, which is statistically significantly higher compared to 2024, 8.9%.

At the same time, the increase recorded in 2025 in awareness of issues related to whistleblowing activities, in particular the specifics of methods (channels) and mechanisms for reviewing reports of corruption, in 2025 the shares of those sufficiently informed increased to 37% and 28.1% respectively, is not accompanied by a corresponding increase in awareness of guarantees of legal protection of whistleblowers and the readiness of citizens to act in this role.