CHINGELTEI DISTRICT

Rapid Assessment on Population, Migration and Needs

September 2022 to February 2023 (Third phase of data collection)

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INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

INTRODUCTION

This district-level report provides an overview of key thematic areas covered by the Chingeltei district rapid assessment on population, migration and needs between September 2022 to February 2023. Current data collection is the third phase of the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Mobility tracking assessment done by IOM Mongolia in Ulaanbaatar.

Similar to phase one, this study explores eight primary themes across Chingeltei district, namely, population baseline figures, registration, internal arrivals and departures (migration), employment, financial situation, mobility-related challenges, and services and infrastructure. Data are collected through key informant interviews with kheseg leaders,[1] who are well-informed about their communities, resources and local context.

Previous IOM studies have found that a combination of complex factors, including land degradation and climate change, are altering traditional migration patterns in Mongolia. More frequent drought and dzuds,[2] insufficient job opportunities, inadequate living conditions, and rural population's livestock dependency has directly increased the level of migration to urban areas and other aimags.[3]

Understanding the nature of these migration patterns has been hindered by discrepancies between census data, registration data, and the reality of people living in and migrating between different locations across Mongolia. By obtaining data on population and internal migration in within the Chingeltei district, this study aims to bridge the gap in up-to-date data collection and analysis to inform policies and actions on internal migration.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This report utilizes the IOM DTM Mobility Tracking methodology adapted for the Mongolian context. Information is collected at the kheseg level – the smallest administrative unit in Chingeltei district through key informant interviews with kheseg leaders. Kheseg leaders were chosen as key informants due to their in-depth knowledge of their communities, as well as the resources and contacts in their possession and duties providing essential public services to the population. Kheseg leaders were asked to fill out the survey tool composed of seven parts – each outlined into separate sections in this report. Kheseg leaders filled in the data collection form on mobile devices after conducting observation within their respective regions checking new arrivals, departures and the registration status. Moreover, kheseg leaders were thoroughly trained on the survey tool prior to its implementation to ensure accurate and reliable data collection and entry.

After the data entry process, the DTM team conducted a series of quality assurance checks to identify any potential data entry errors, discrepancies or duplicates, and followed up with kheseg leaders for clarification. Data analysis was conducted at the kheseg level and then aggregated at the khoroo,[4] district and city-wide levels. Notably, findings presented in this report at the district or city level are also available at the kheseg level.

LIMITATIONS

The adopted methodology relies on information provided by key informants and is intended to serve as one data source for triangulation with other available sources.

The data collected shows the estimates and perceptions of key informants, which are often subjective. Therefore, the data has limited external and internal validity since the reliability of the data will vary in line with a number of factors, including the size of the observational unit (i.e. the size and population of the kheseg) and the knowledge of the specific key informant, which might depend on the extent to which he or she is engaged with the community.

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1 Kheseg is the smallest administrative unit in Ulaanbaatar. A kheseg leader usually refer to the governance of a kheseg.
2 Dzuds are extreme winters characterised by freezing temperatures, heavy snow, and frozen ground, with temperatures reaching far below the average. While herders and animals living in Mongolia are resilient to environmental hazards, and are used to hot summers and cold winters, dzuds put an additional strain on the lives of herders.
3 An aimag is a Mongolian province-level administrative subdivision.
4 A khoroo is an administrative subdivision of Ulaanbaatar.

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Additionally, the triangulation of results, which could otherwise serve as a useful counterbalance against biases, was limited by the usage of only one key informant per assessed location.

GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE BREAKDOWN
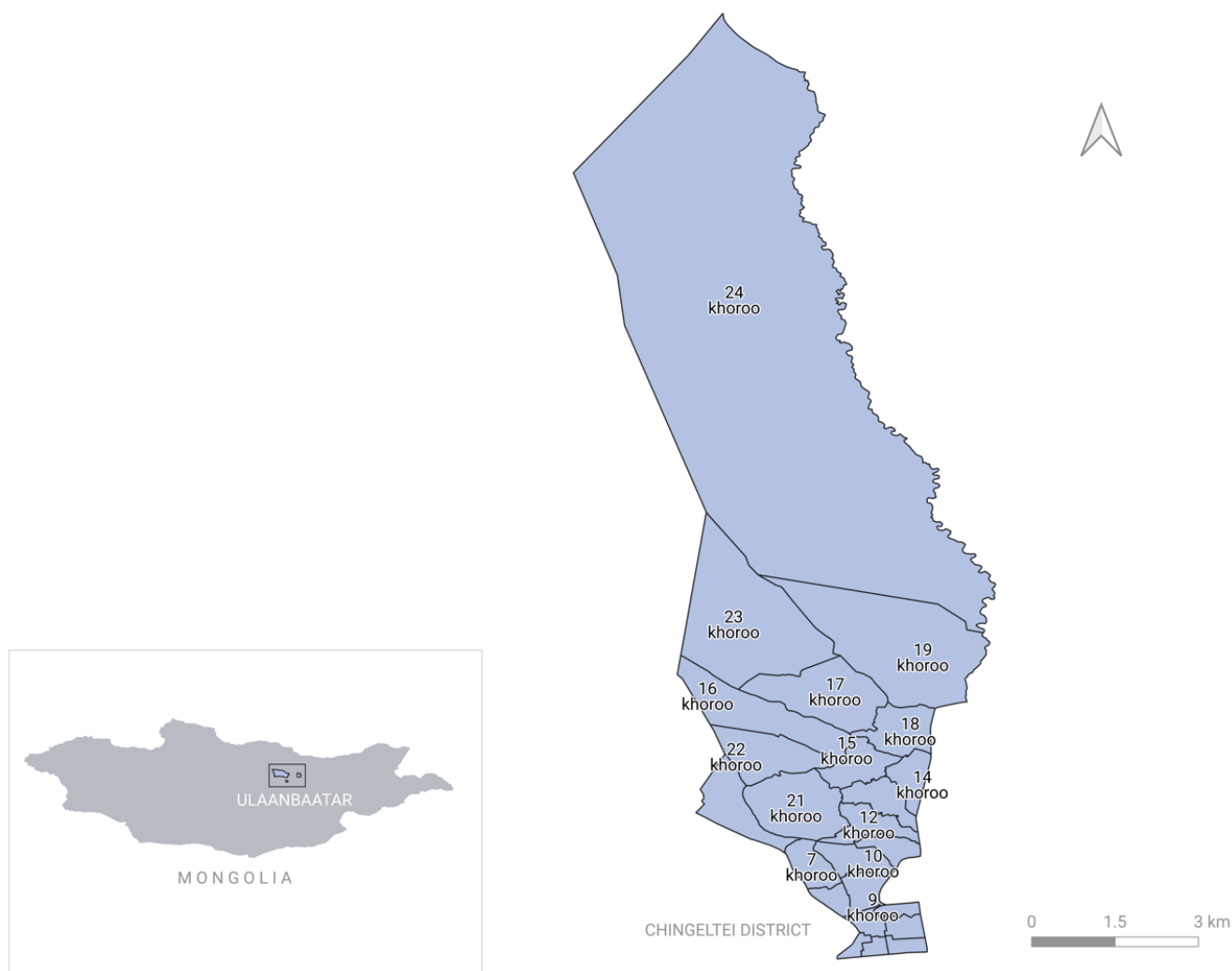### Picture 1. Chingeltei district map with khoroo divisions

Table 1. Chingeltei district population

Districts	Number of Khesegs	Total population (Inclusive of unregistered temporary residents)
Chingeltei	212	146,747
Total	212	146,747

DEFINITIONS

Baseline population figures: All residents of the location at the time of the assessment, irrespective of place of origin, document status, registration status, age, or any other socio-demographic characteristic.

Household: A group of individuals living under the same roof, sharing expenses and food.

Arrivals: Individuals who have arrived at a location (both registered and unregistered) with the intention of staying for at least four weeks, regardless of whether they arrived from another location within the same city or outside the city.

Departures: Individuals who have left a location and who do not intend to return for at least four weeks, regardless of whether they left for another location within the same city or outside the city.

Key informant: An expert source of information, which in this case refers to the kheseg leaders.

Enumerator: An individual who collects data. In this assessment, the data collection is completed by the key informant, therefore the two terms overlap.

Ger and apartment mix kheseg: Ger areas are the traditional Mongolian living arrangement where state hearing and water are not provided. In ger areas, residents mostly use transported water and burn wood and coal for heating. In apartment areas, heating and water are provided by the state. Ger and apartment mix khesegs are khesegs where both living arrangements co-exist.

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1. DATA ANALYSIS CHINGELTEI DISTRICT

1.1 POPULATION BASELINE AND DEMOGRAPHIC OVERVIEW

38,855
Households

146,747
Individuals

52%
Female

33%
Minors

3,233
Individuals with disability

1,049
Elderly individuals without caregivers

791
Pregnant women

1,750
Children separated from at least one parent

1,950
Single-parent households

6,262
Elderly-headed households

Figure 1. Population disaggregated by age groups (% of individuals)

| Age group	%
60+	11%
18-59	57%
6-17	22%
0-5	10%
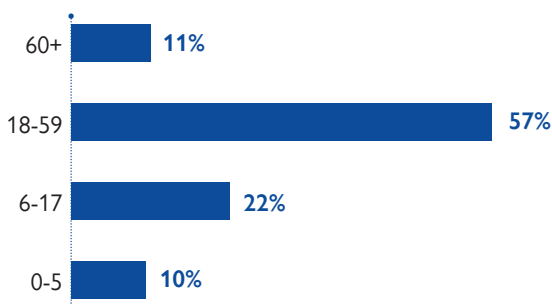
At the time of the assessment — September 2022 and February 2023 — there were 146,747 individuals and 38,855 households living in Chingeltei district, accounting for nine per cent of the total population in the city. Of all people, 52 per cent were women. A significant 32 per cent of the population registered as minors: 10 per cent aged 0–5 years, and 22 per cent aged 6–17 years. Adults aged 18–59 years accounted for 57 per cent of the population, whereas the elderly aged 60 years and above accounted for 11 per cent.

Overall, 3,233 individuals were reported with disability, accounting for two per cent of the district population. There were 791 women reported being pregnant (1% of the female population), 1,049 elderly reported having no caregivers (7% of all elderly aged 60 years and above), and 1,750 children reported being separated from their mother, father, or both (4% of children under 18 years old). Meanwhile, there were 1,950 single-parent and 6,262 elderly-headed households[5] in this district, representing five and 16 per cent of all households, respectively.

Chingeltei district has 24 khoroos and 212 khesegs. Khoroo #6, #17, #16 and #18 were the most populated, each hosting six per cent of the district population.
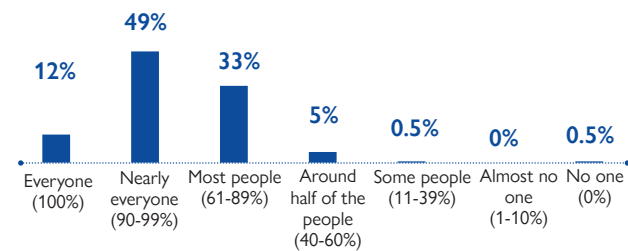
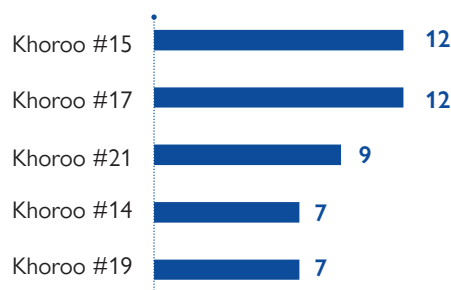**Figure 2. Population by khoroo (% of individuals)**
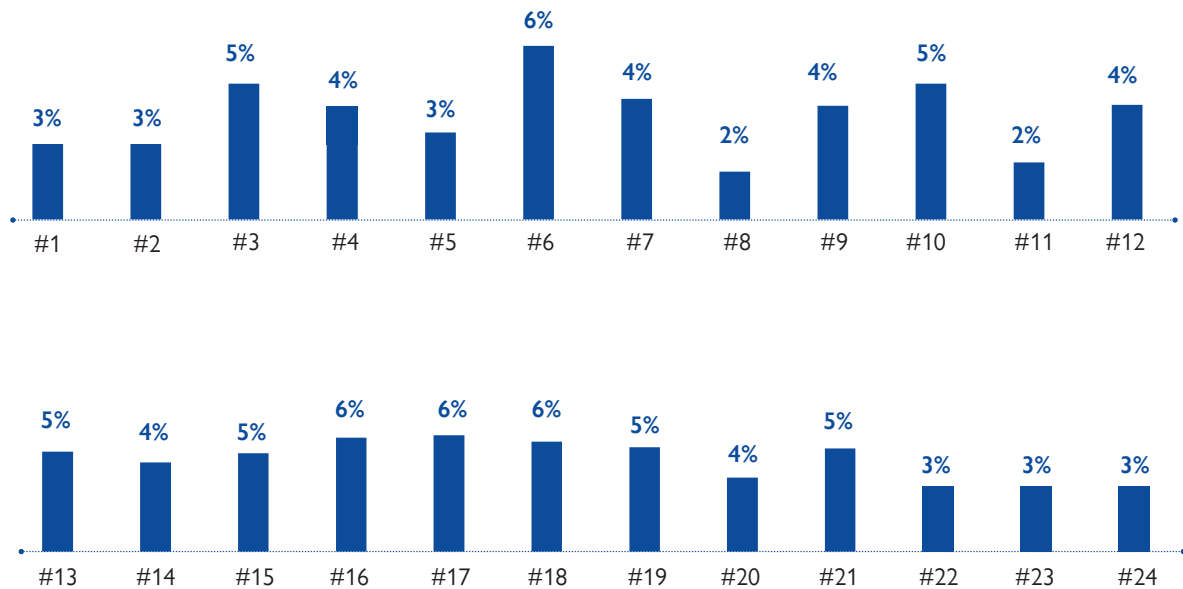
1.2 REGISTRATION

Overall, 61 per cent of kheseg in the district reported that almost all residents were registered (meaning a registration rate higher than 90%), including 12 per cent (26 khesegs) reported that all residents were registered. An additional 33 per cent of khesegs reported that most people (61–89% of residents) were registered, five per cent o f khesegs reported around half people (40–60% of residents) were registered, and one per cent claimed less than 40 per cent of residents were registered.
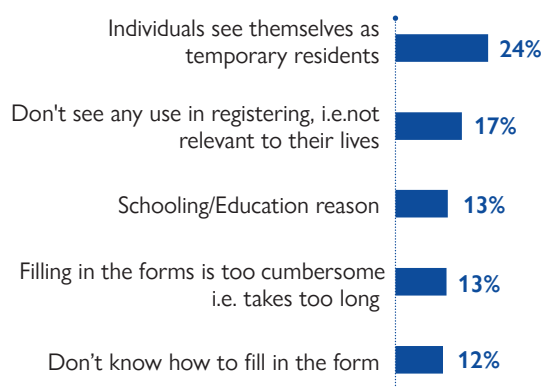
Figure 3. Estimated registration (% of khesegs)

5   Households which are headed by a person aged 60 and over.

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Figure 4. Top 5 khoroos with more than 90% registration (number of khesegs)

Khoroo	Number
Khoroo #15	12
Khoroo #17	12
Khoroo #21	9
Khoroo #14	7
Khoroo #19	7

Table 2. Khoroos with less than 10% registration (number of khesegs)

Khoroo #15	Khoroo #18
12 khesegs	**10** khesegs

People considering themselves as temporary residents in the kheseg was the predominant reason for not registering in the district — as 24 per cent of all responses reported this as the driver for non-registration. This phenomenon was especially prevalent in khoroo #15 (as reported in 12 khesegs), followed by khoroo #18 (10 khesegs).

Other important reasons for non-registration included residents considering registration was irrelevant to their lives (17%), schooling and educational reasons (13%), people considering the form too cumbersome (13%), and people not knowing how to fill in the form (12%).

Figure 5. Primary reasons for non-registration (% of responses)

Reason	%
Individuals see themselves as temporary residents	24%
Don't see any use in registering, i.e.not relevant to their lives	17%
Schooling/Education reason	13%
Filling in the forms is too cumbersome i.e. takes too long	13%
Don't know how to fill in the form	12%

Figure 6. Top khoroos for non-registration because people consider themselves as temporary residents (number of khesegs)

Khoroo	Number
Khoroo #15	12
Khoroo #18	10
Khoroo #17	9
Khoroo #8	8
Khoroo #13	8

1.3 ARRIVAL[6]

A total of 2,942 people arrived in Chingeltei district in the last six month prior to the interview, accounted for seven per cent of all arrivals across the city. The highest share of arrivals was reported in khoroo #9 (15% of all arrivals in the district). More than half (66%) of arrivals came from another district in Ulaanbaatar city, 27 per cent were from rural areas, while seven per cent of the people came from another khoroo/kheseg in the same district.

Among those who arrived from Ulaanbaatar area, 71 per cent were from ger khesegs, 18 per cent from apartment khesegs, and 11 per cent from ger and apartment mix khesegs.[7] Among those who arrived from rural areas, 40 per cent were from soum center baghs, followed by 35 per cent from aimag center baghs and 25 per cent from rural baghs.[8]
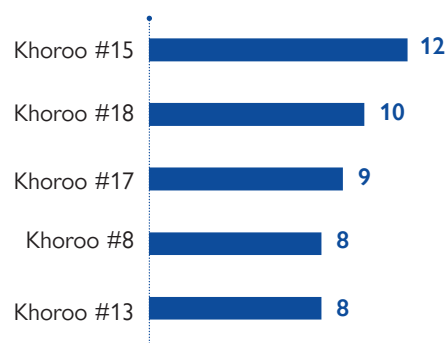
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[6]　Arrivals refer to all individuals or households who arrived to a location in this district, regardless of whether they arrived from another location within or outside this district.

[7]　Ger areas are the traditional Mongolian living arrangement where state hearing and water are not provided. In ger areas, residents mostly use transported water and burn wood and coal for heating. In apartment areas, heating and water are provided by the state. Ger and apartment mix khesegs are khesegs where both living arrangements co-exist.

[8]　Bagh is the smallest administrative unit in the rural provincial area of Mongolia. Aimag center bagh is the smallest administrative unit located in the center of aimag, while soum center bagh is the second smallest administrative unit in rural Mongolia.

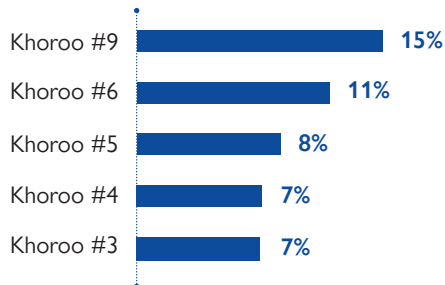**Figure 7. Top 5 khoroos of arrivals (% of total arrival)**

Khoroo #9 — 15%
Khoroo #6 — 11%
Khoroo #5 — 8%
Khoroo #4 — 7%
Khoroo #3 — 7%

Chart 1. Arrivals coming from (% of total arrivals)

- Another district in UB city
- Rural area
- This district (another khoroo/kheseg)

7%
27%
66%
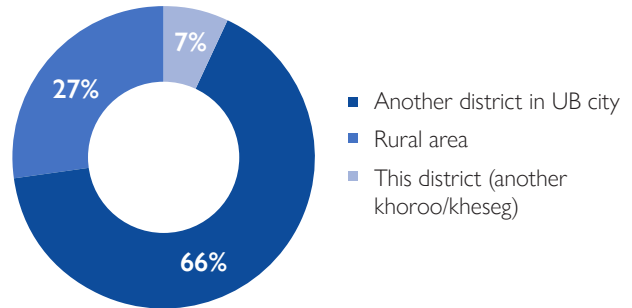
Chart 2. Arrivals coming from (% of total arrivals from Ulaanbaatar area)

- Apartment kheseg
- Ger kheseg
- Ger and Apartment mix kheseg

11%
18%
71%
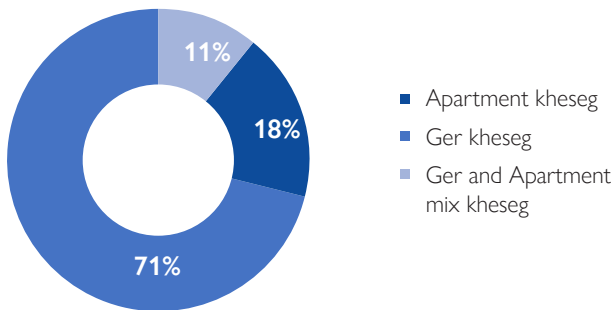
Chart 3. Arrivals coming from (% of total arrivals from rural areas)

- Aimag center bagh
- Rural bagh
- Soum center bagh

40%
35%
25%
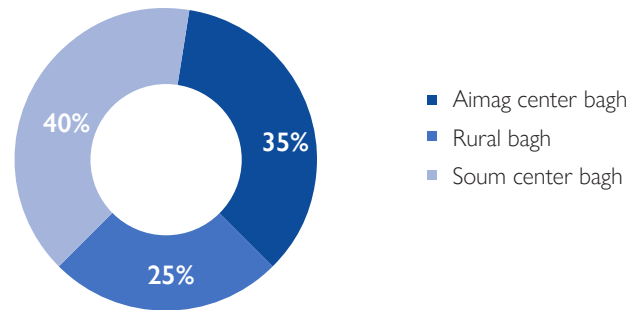
Between September 2022 and February 2023, 57 individuals arrived in Chingeltei district for otor reasons.[9] These otor arrivals were reported in two khoroos, and khoroo #20 received the majority of

them (96%). All otor arrivals were reported for one reason — there was no grazing land in the bagh of origin.
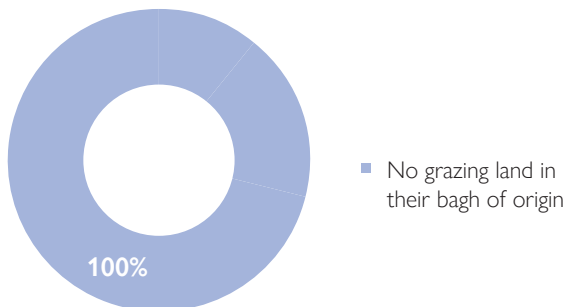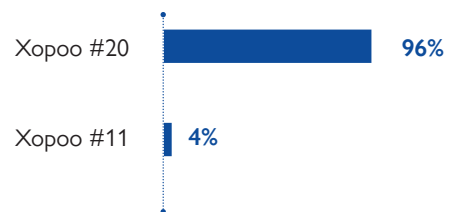
Chart 4. Reasons for otor arrivals

- No grazing land in their bagh of origin

100%

Figure 8. Khoroos with otor arrivals (% of all otor arrivals in the distrct)

Xopoo #20 — 96%
Xopoo #11 — 4%

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9 Otor movement is a traditional mobility strategy developed by Mongolian herders when herders follow their livestock to different locations for better grazing land.

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For the rest of arrivals in Chingeltei district (non-otor arrivals), education continued to be the predominant reason (as reported in 21% of all responses), followed by employment (18%). For people who arrived in Chingeltei for job opportunities, their employment was concentrated in construction sector (33%), social work

(18%), and wholesale and retail trade sector (15%). Noticeably, access to basic services has become more important for arrivals in this district — the share of such arrivals has increased from previously 11 per cent to 16 per cent, making it the third most important reason.

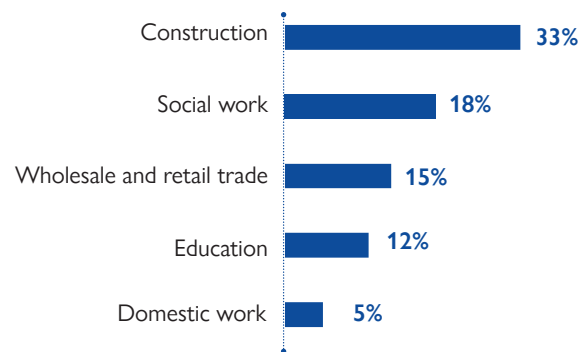**Figure 9. Primary reasons for arrival (non-otor reasons)**

Education	**21%**
Employment	**18%**
Access to basic services	**16%**
Housing, land or property issues	**14%**
Эрүүл мэнд	**12%**
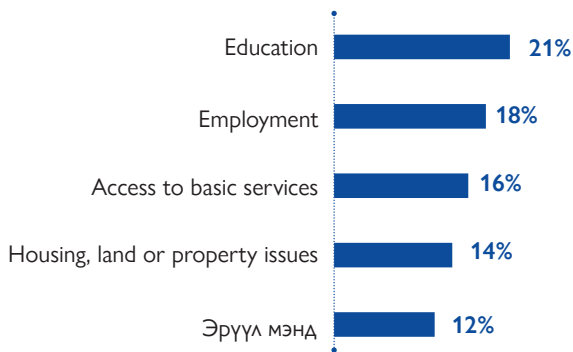
Figure 10. Main sectors of employment for those who arrived for employment reasons (% of responses)

Construction	**33%**
Social work	**18%**
Wholesale and retail trade	**15%**
Education	**12%**
Domestic work	**5%**

1.4 DEPARTURE[10]

A total of 3,280 people departed from Chingeltei in the six months prior to the interview, accounting for 15 per cent of all departures in Ulaanbaatar. The highest share of departures reported in khoroo #9 (35% of all departures in the district). Most (88%) people departed for another district in Ulaanbaatar city, eight per cent for another knoroo/kheseg in the same district, and the remaining four per cent for rural areas.

Among those who departed to Ulaanbaatar areas, 59 per cent left for apartment khesegs, 35 per cent for ger khesegs, and 16 per cent for ger and apartment mix khesegs. Meanwhile, among those who departed for rural areas, half left for soum center baghs, one-third for aimag center baghs, and the remaining 17 per cent for rural bagh.

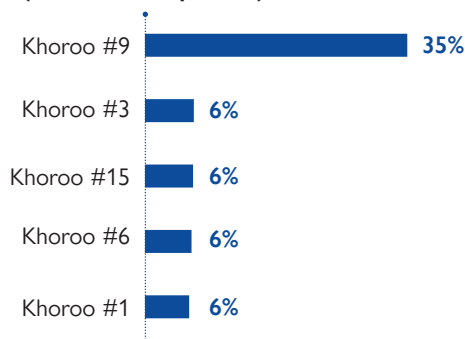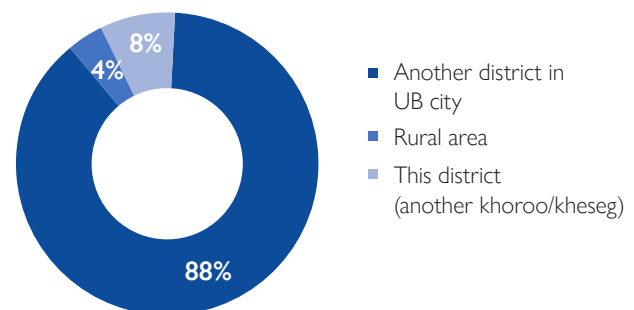**Figure 11. Top khoroos of departures (% of total departed)**

Khoroo #9	**35%**
Khoroo #3	**6%**
Khoroo #15	**6%**
Khoroo #6	**6%**
Khoroo #1	**6%**

Chart 5. Departed for (% of total departures)

- Another district in UB city — 88%
- Rural area — 4%
- This district (another khoroo/kheseg) — 8%

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[10] Departures refer to all individuals or households who left a location in Ulaanbaatar city, regardless of whether they left to another location within or outside this district. The number of departures was computed based on the estimate of kheseg leaders who were aware of such information. As such this number is likely underestimated as some of responses could not provide an estimated number of departures in their khesegs

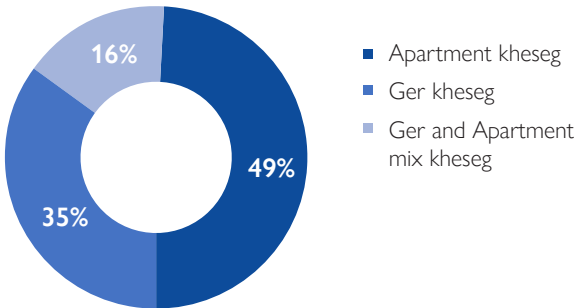**Chart 6.** **Departed for (% of total departures to Ulaanbaatar area)**

- Apartment kheseg
- Ger kheseg
- Ger and Apartment mix kheseg

49%
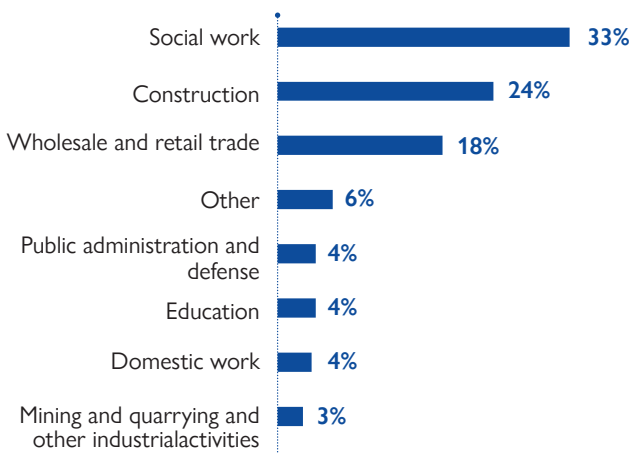35%
16%

Chart 7. **Departed for (% of total departures to rural areas)**

- Aimag center bagh
- Rural bagh
- Soum center bagh

33%
50%
17%
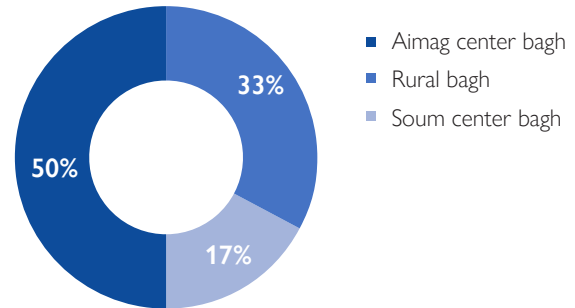
Figure 12. **Primary reasons for departure (% of responses)**

Housing, land or property issues	23%
Education	20%
Employment	18%
Family ties	13%
Access to basic services	12%
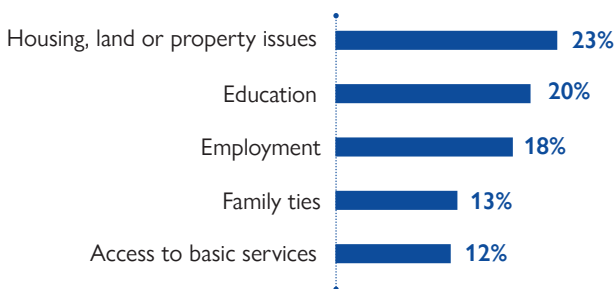
Findings on drivers for departures in Chingeltei district was similar to previous study. Housing and property issues continued to be the predominant reason for departures, as reported by 23 per cent of responses, followed by education (20%), employment (18%), family ties (13%), and access to basic services (12%).

1.5 EMPLOYMENT

Figure 13. **Primary sector of employment (% of khesegs)**

Social work	33%
Construction	24%
Wholesale and retail trade	18%
Other	6%
Public administration and defense	4%
Education	4%
Domestic work	4%
Mining and quarrying and other industrialactivities	3%

Social work was the predominant sector of employment in Chingeltei district – as reported by 33 per cent of responses. The construction sector continued to be one of the most important sectors of employment, although the share of which has declined from 29 to 24 per cent compared to the previous assessment. Similarly, the share of wholesale and retail trade sector has also decreased sharply, from previously at 29 per cent to 18 per cent.

1.6 FINANCIAL SITUATION

In Chingeltei district, employment was the most important source of income, dominating in 83 per cent of khesegs. Additionally, in four per cent of khesegs, the main source of income was loans from banks and other money lenders.

Significant food consumption reduction had been reported in 70 per cent of khesegs in the last six months

(decreased from the previous assessment at 76%). In 26 khesegs (or 12% of khesegs), food consumption reduction was frequently reported, impacting more than 20,000 people (14% of the district population). Khoroo #16 were most affected where 10 khesegs reported frequent significant food consumption reduction.

Figure 14. Primary source of income (% of khesegs)

Employment — 84%
Borrowing money from money lenders, banks, and/or other entities — 4%
Pension — 3%
Cash grants or other forms of aid from NGO or government — 3%
Rent received from house or land — 3%
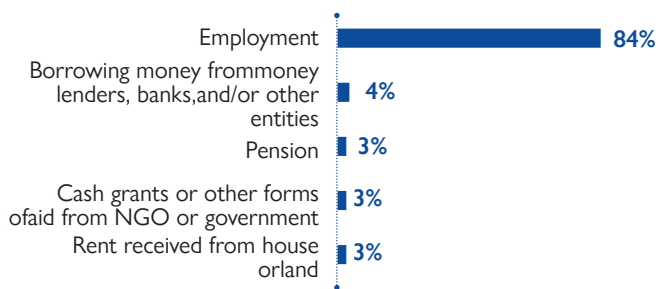
Figure 15. Reduced food consumption (% of khesegs)

Not at all 30%
Rarely 38%
Sometimes 20%
Frequently 12%
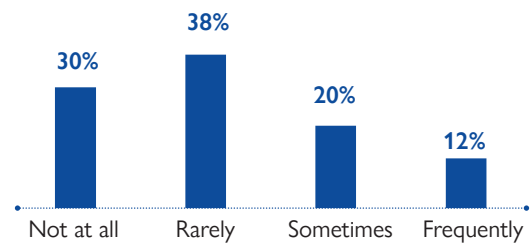
Table 3. Top khoroos with frequent food consumption reduction

Overall	Khoroo #16	Khoroo #15	
26 khesegs	**10** khesegs	**4** khesegs	
Khoroo #5	Khoroo #7	Khoroo #10	Khoroo #20
2 khesegs	**2** khesegs	**2** khesegs	**2** khesegs

1.7 MOBILITY-RELATED CHALLENGES

About three-quarter (74%) of khesegs in Chingeltei district reported that they have at least one type of mobility-related challenges. The limited access to educational services remained to be the most pressing challenge (as 24% of responses reported such challenge), affecting nearly 38,000 people (26% of the district population). Similar to findings from the previously assessment, strain on health services, environmental pollution, and air pollution were another three major challenges, and all of these three challenges have been intensified since previous assessment. Respectively, they were reported by 23, 21 and 17 per cent of responses during current assessment, compared to 18, 17 and 14 per cent from the phase two assessment.

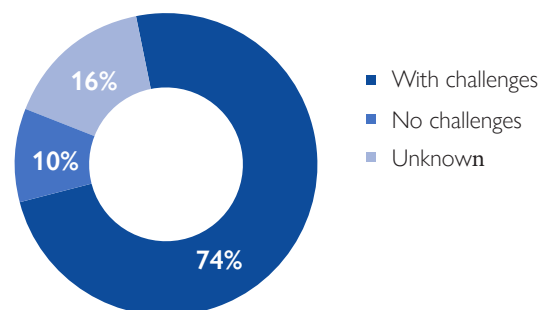**Chart 8. Khesegs reported mobility-related challenges (% of khesegs)**

- With challenges 74%
- No challenges 10%
- Unknown 16%

Figure 16. Mobility-related challenges (% of responses)

24%	23%	21%	17%	8%	3%	2%	1%	0.5%
Strain on education al services	Strain on health services	Environmental pollution	Air pollution	Traffic problems	Crime increases	Social tensions	Desertification (land degradation)	Other
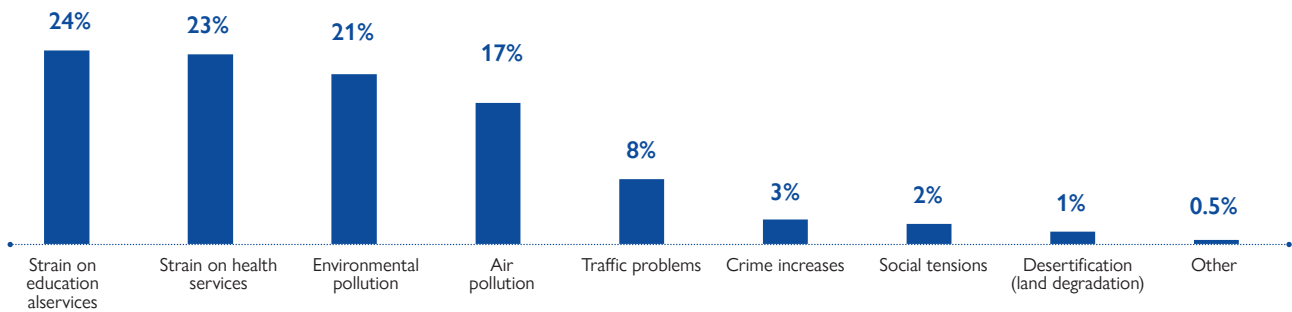
Table 4. Top khoroos reported strains on educational services

Overall	Khoroo #7	
48 khesegs	**5 khesegs**	
Khoroo #1	**Khoroo #4**	**Khoroo #9**
4 khesegs	**4 khesegs**	**4 khesegs**

Of all khesegs that reported mobility-related challenged, 87 per cent confirmed that their administrative unit had taken actions to tackle those challenges, while 13 per cent claimed there was no action taken. Apart from measures which were currently taken by the administration, the majority (71%) of key informants believed that creating favorable legal environment for the migration registration should be considered by authorities, followed by improving the control of traffic to and from the centralized areas (20%).

Chart 9. Actions taken by administrative unit (% of khesegs

- ■ Yes
- ■ No

13%

87%
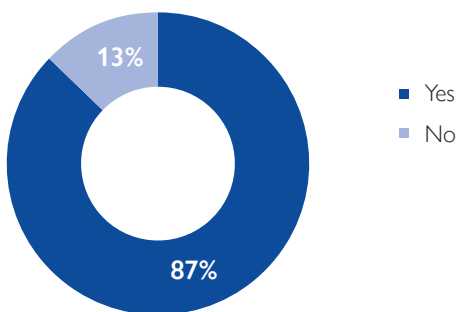
Figure 17. Other measures to address mobility related challenges (% responses)

71%	20%	6%	3%
Create a favorable legal environment for the registration of short-term movements	Improving control of traffic	I don't know	Register people who are traveling between destinations (rural)
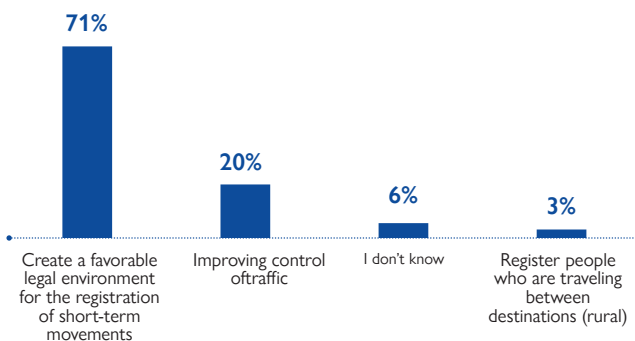
1.8 SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

In Chingeltei district, people had the most difficulties accessing income-generating opportunities - the share of total responses who reported reported this challenge has increased from previously 17 per cent to 21 per cent in current assessment. Furthermore, the lack of access to healthcare and to housing continued to be another two major challenges, which reported by 16 and 11 per cent of responses.

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Figure 18. Services that people have difficulties accessing (% of responses)
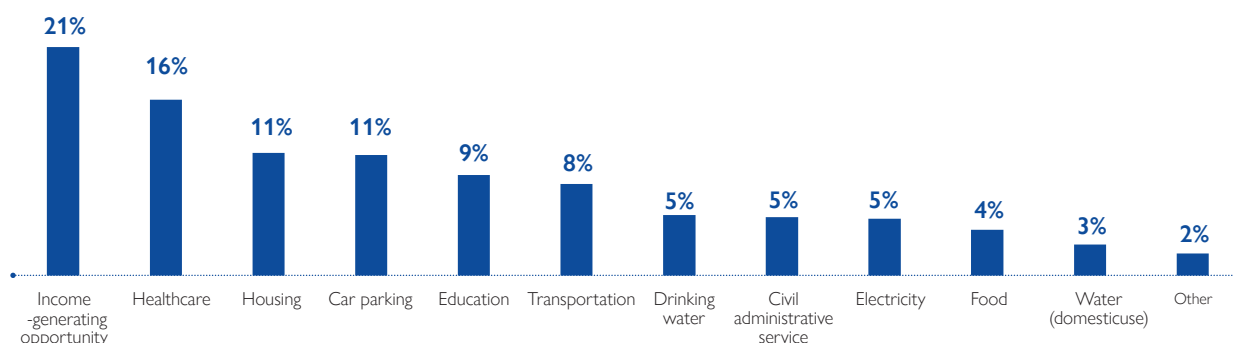
Table 5. Top khoroos reported difficulties to access income-generating opportunities

Overall	Khoroo #15	Khoroo #14
125 khesegs	**10 khesegs**	**10 khesegs**
Khoroo #12	**17-р хороо**	**21-р хороо**
9 хэсэг	**9 хэсэг**	**9 хэсэг**

For people living with disability, the primary challenges were found to be the lack of infrastructure to safely access public areas — as reported by 32 per cent of all response, followed by the lack of specialized medical care (31%) and the lack of specialized transportation (22%).

Figure 19. Challenges for people living with disability (% of responses)
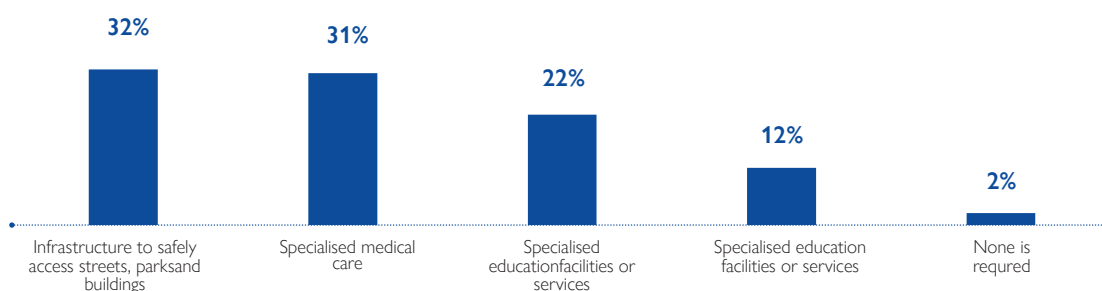
CONCLUSION

The key findings of the current assessment are corresponding to the previous findings, especially with regards to migration trends and socioeconomic challenges in Chingeltei district. The lack of access to income generating opportunities is the key challenge which was reported in current assessment, and the previous assessment. This challenge has significant negative impacts on food security — a finding that is reflected by the data. Despite a decreasing trend, significant food consumption reduction was reported in 70 per cent of the khesegs in the district, and about half of those khesegs also reported the challenges to access income-generating opportunities.

To access basic services has become more important factor which affected people's decision making in move in or

out of the district. Yet, current assessment shows that challenges in accessing basic services, such as healthcare and health services, have been intensified. Difficulties in accessing healthcare and health services can bring negative effects, such as poorer health and less social cohesion. Further investigation in the challenges in access to health services and its implication to migrant' wellbeing is, therefore, necessary.

Social work has become the predominant sector of the employment in the district — a drastic change from previously dominating in two per cent of the khesegs to currently dominating in 33 per cent of the khesegs.

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