

MONTHLY UPDATE FOR AUGUST 2023

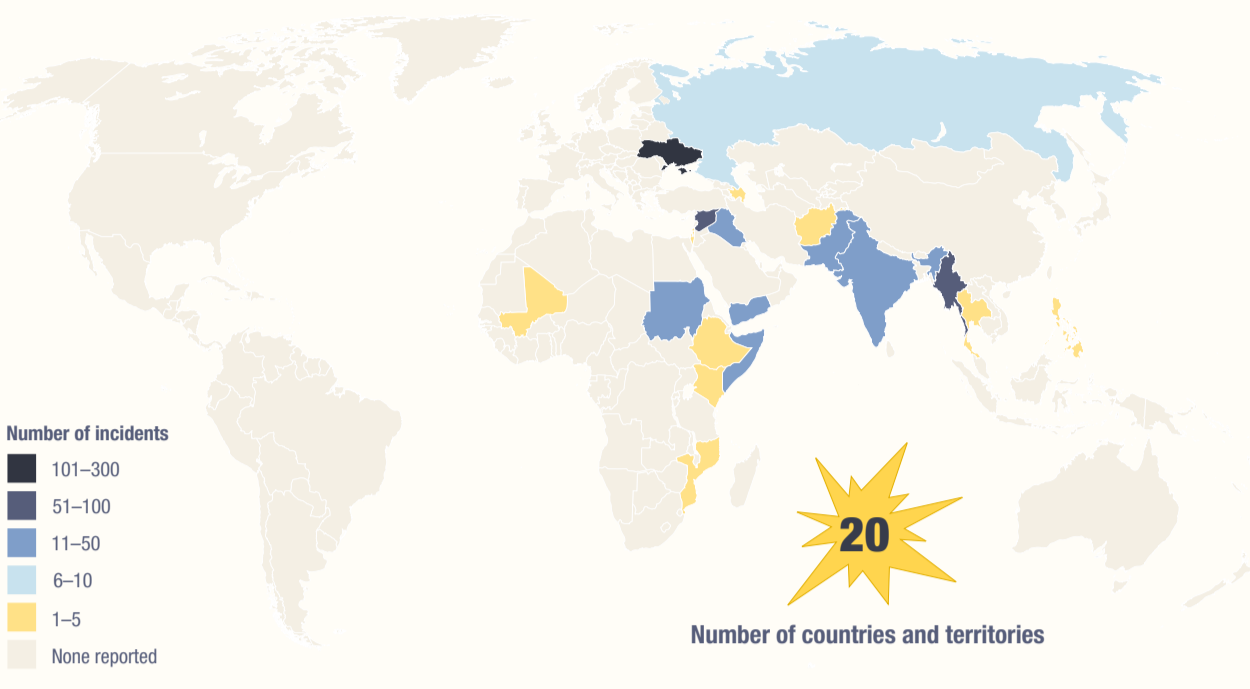
Reported incidents of explosive weapon use that resulted in casualties

At least one death or injury from the use of explosive weapons was recorded in **20** countries and territories in August 2023. Worldwide, there were at least 576 reported incidents of explosive weapon use resulting in 2,877 casualties, of which 1,801 (63%) were civilians. About 51% of all reported civilian casualties occurred in Ukraine. Other affected countries and territories in terms of civilian casualties from the use of explosive weapons were Ethiopia, Myanmar, Sudan and Syria.

When explosive weapons were used in populated areas in August 2023, civilians reportedly accounted for 83% of all recorded casualties. This pattern of harm has been consistently recorded over the last decade.

This data is collected from English-language media reports. It does not attempt to exhaustively capture all incidents of explosive weapon use around the world but to serve as an indicator of the scale and pattern of deaths and injuries.

Reported incidents of explosive weapon use that resulted in civilian casualties by state/territory in August 2023



Reported incidents of explosive weapon use and civilian and armed-actor casualties in August 2023

Incidents



576

Deaths



453 civilians 539 armed actors

Injuries



1,348 civilians 537 armed actors

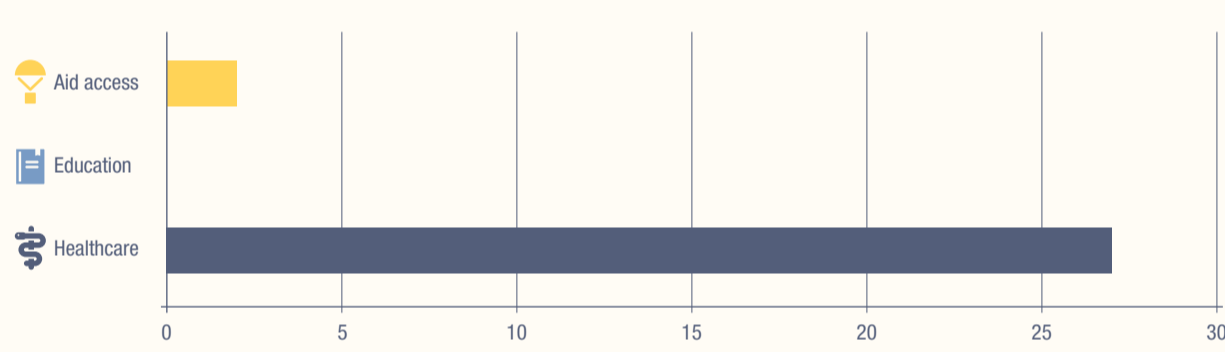
Impact on civilians in populated areas in August 2023



Reported incidents of explosive weapon use affecting aid access, education and healthcare

There were **29** incidents of explosive weapon use affecting aid access, education and healthcare services reported in Myanmar and Ukraine in August 2023. Over-three quarters of all incidents were recorded in Ukraine where airstrikes, rockets and shelling by Russian armed forces damaged health facilities and schools 25 times and killed at least four health workers. Four incidents were also reported in Myanmar in September, marking a decrease from 16 incidents recorded in July 2023.

Reported incidents of explosive weapon use affecting aid access, education and healthcare in August 2023

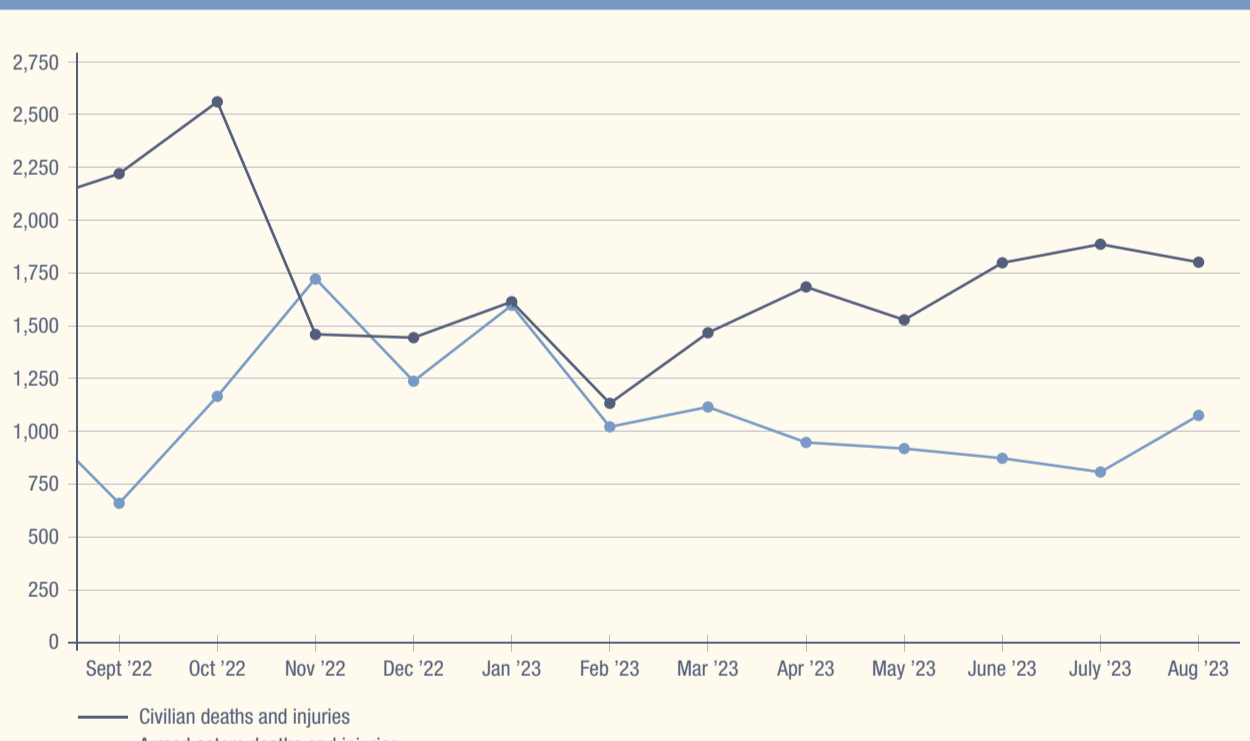


ANNUAL UPDATES FOR 2022–2023

Reported incidents of explosive weapon use that resulted in casualties

In the last year (September 2022 to August 2023), at least one death or injury from the use of explosive weapons was recorded in **57** countries and territories. Worldwide, there were 6,102 incidents of explosive weapon use resulting in 33,730 casualties, of which 61% (20,564) were civilians. About 47% of all reported civilian casualties occurred in Ukraine. Other affected countries and territories in terms of civilian casualties from the use of explosive weapons were Myanmar, Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan and Syria.

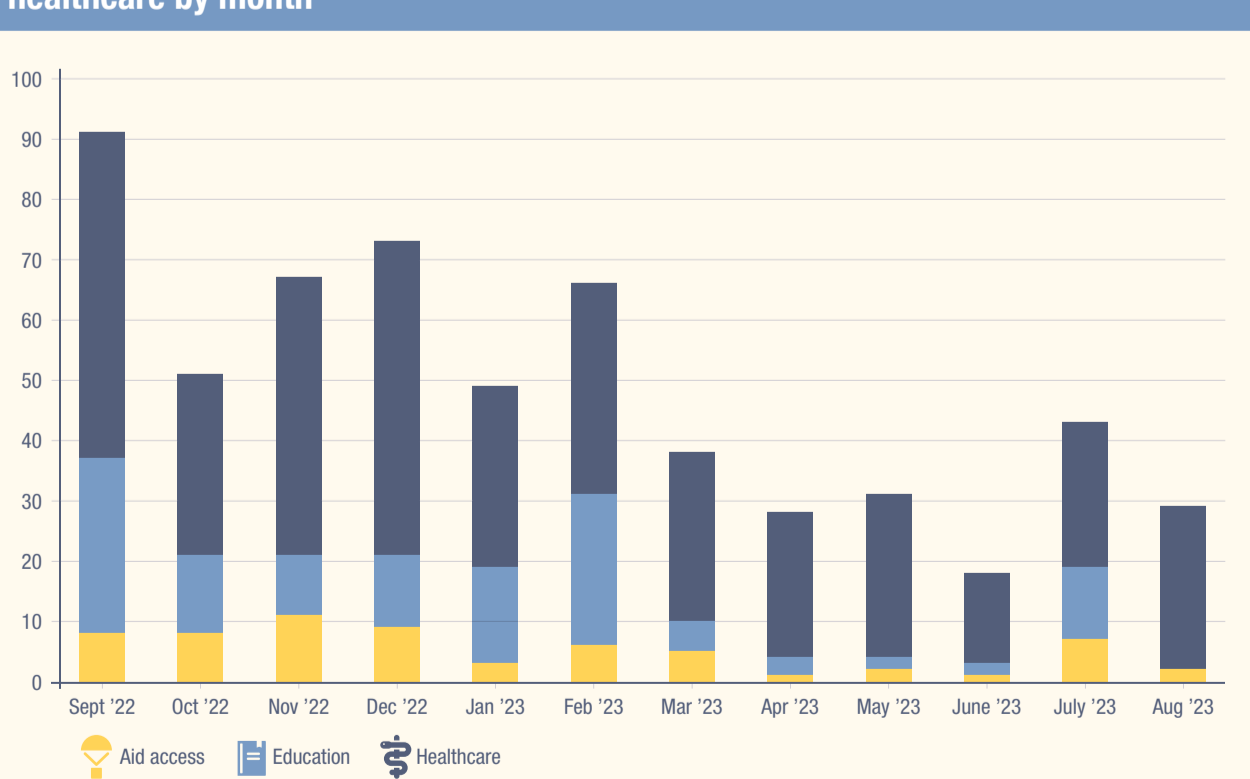
Reported civilian and armed-actor casualties by month



Reported incidents of explosive weapon use affecting aid access, education and healthcare

In the last year (September 2022 to August 2023), there were **714** incidents of explosive weapon use affecting aid access, education, and healthcare services in 23 countries and territories. High incident numbers were frequently reported in Ukraine where over 400 incidents occurred in the last year. Nearly three-quarters of these incidents impacted hospitals and clinics, often leading to their closure and impacting the population's access to these services. Incidents were also reported in Myanmar where airstrikes and artillery fire by the Myanmar armed forces, IDP camps and drone strikes. Over 35 incidents have also been reported in Sudan since conflict began in April 2023, most of which involved shelling by the Rapid Support Forces at or near hospitals and clinics. In total, at least 193 aid workers, educators, health workers and students were killed by explosive weapon use globally in the last year.

Reported incidents of explosive weapon use affecting aid access, education and healthcare by month



Data collection is ongoing and data may change as more information is made available.

This bulletin produced by Explosive Weapons Monitor publishes on incidents of explosive weapon use around the world as reported in open sources. It uses data collected by [Action on Armed Violence \(AOAV\)](#) on incidents of explosive weapon use and casualties (including deaths and injuries), and data collected by [Insecurity Insight](#) on incidents of explosive weapon use affecting aid access, education and healthcare.