

## MONTHLY UPDATE FOR DECEMBER 2023

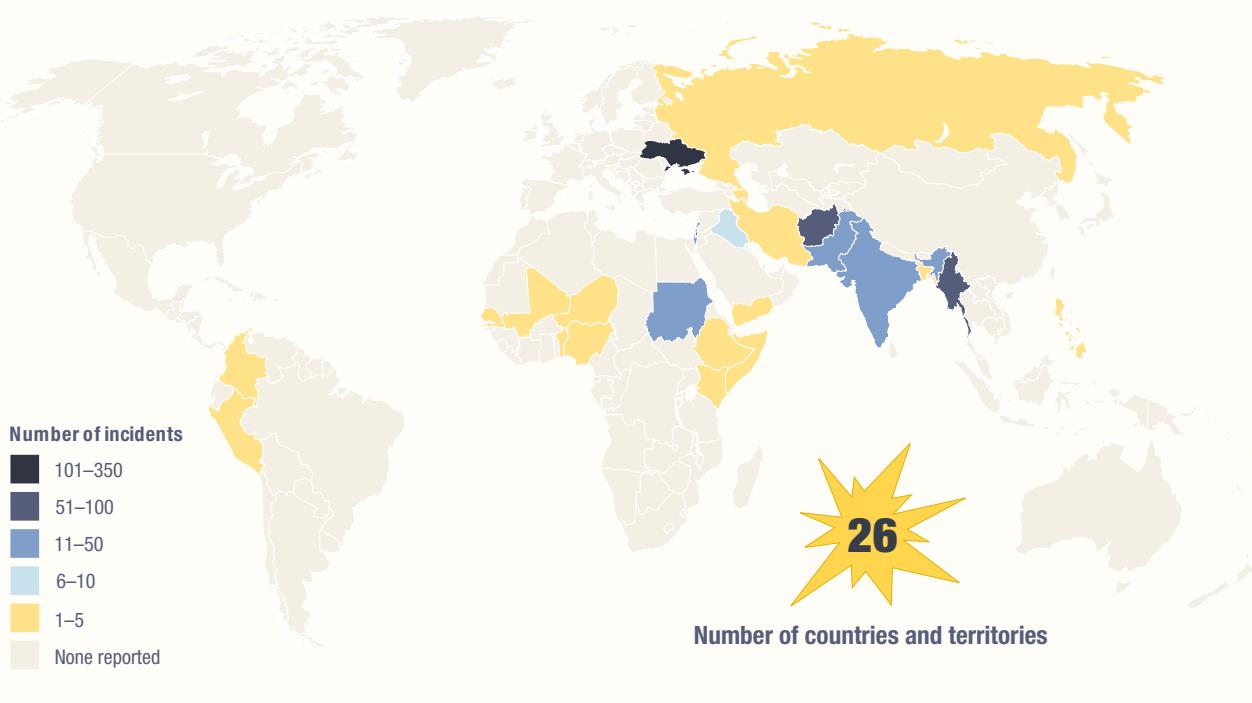
### Reported incidents of explosive weapon use that resulted in casualties

At least one death or injury from the use of explosive weapons was recorded in **26** countries and territories in December 2023. Worldwide, there were at least 768 reported incidents of explosive weapon use resulting in 7,003 casualties, of which 6,191 (88%) were civilians. About 65% of all reported civilian casualties occurred in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. Other affected countries and territories in terms of civilian casualties from the use of explosive weapons were Myanmar, Sudan, Syria and Ukraine.

When explosive weapons were used in populated areas in December 2023, civilians reportedly accounted for 95% 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. In the Occupied Palestinian Territories, English-language media underreported the numbers of casualties caused by incidents of explosive weapons use. Additionally, the use of explosive weapons in the Occupied Palestinian Territories was so frequent that it was difficult in many cases to attribute civilian casualties to specific incidents of use, as required by the methodology for this data collection. As such, the data presented here underrepresents the extent to which casualties were caused by explosive weapons. For more information on casualties from official sources in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, see the Ministry of Health in Gaza figures reported, when possible, by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

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



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

#### Incidents



**768**

#### Deaths



**3,986** civilians  
**485** armed actors

#### Injuries



**2,205** civilians  
**327** armed actors

### Impact on civilians in populated areas in December 2023



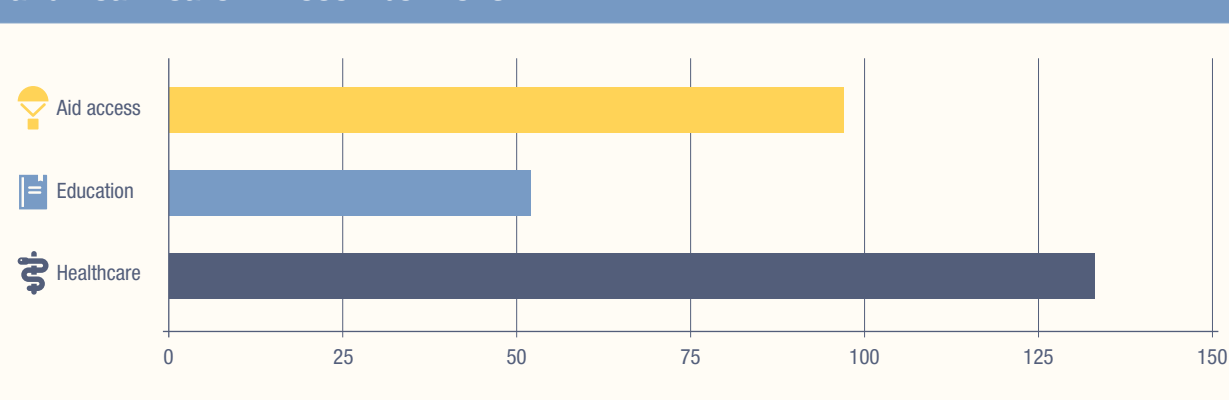
**95%** of all people reportedly killed or injured in populated areas were civilians.

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

There were **282** incidents of explosive weapon use affecting aid access, education and healthcare services reported in five countries and territories in December 2023. For the third consecutive month, the vast majority of incidents were recorded in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. In these 211 incidents, there was a marked increase in the number of incidents of refugee camps that were struck by explosive weapons used by Israeli armed forces. Homes, schools and shelters housing displaced people were also struck and damaged.

Incidents were also reported in Kenya, Myanmar, Syria and Ukraine. Two incidents took place in Aleppo governorate in Syria where air-launched explosive weapons damaged an INGO health centre, a medical centre and six ambulances which impacted vaccination, diabetes care and psychological support services in the area. In Kenya, four health officials conducting a Tuberculosis campaign exercise in Garissa County were killed and two others injured when an IED detonated and hit the car they were travelling in. Education and healthcare services in Myanmar and Ukraine also continued to be affected by explosive weapons use.

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

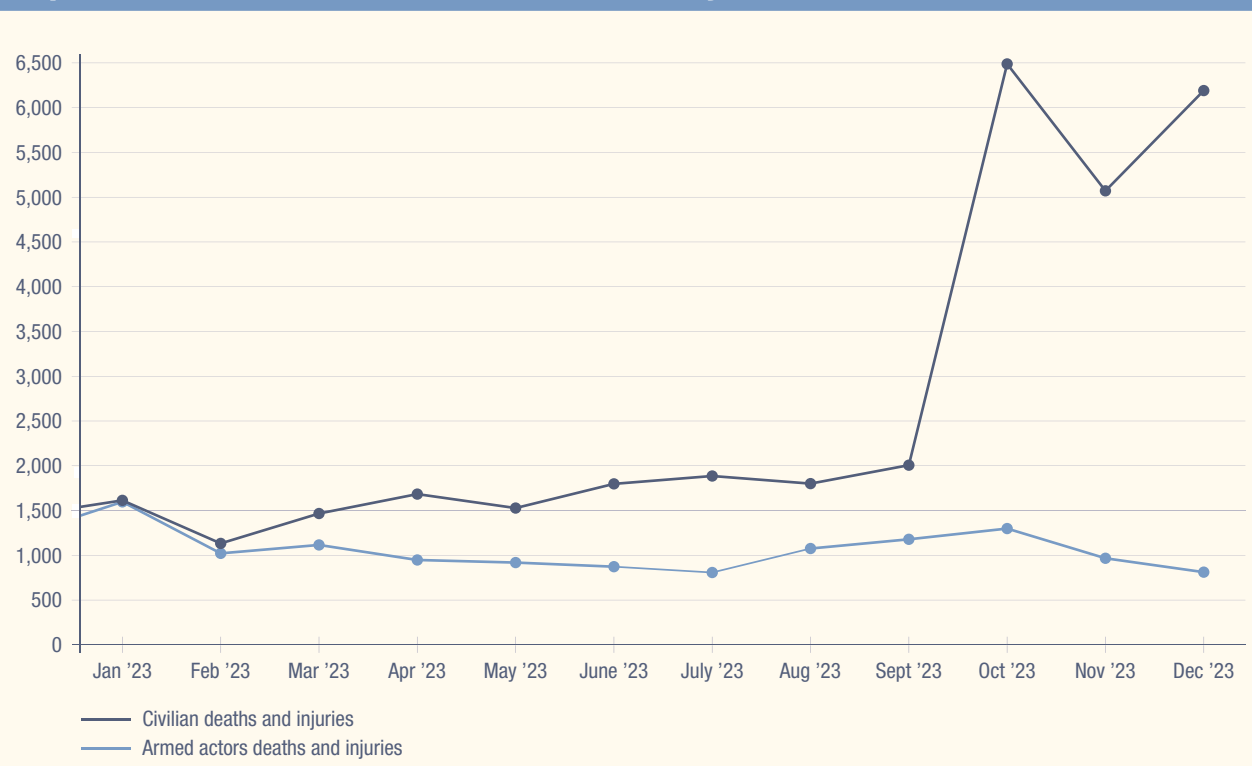


## ANNUAL UPDATES FOR 2022–2023

### Reported incidents of explosive weapon use that resulted in casualties

In the last year (January to December 2023), at least one death or injury from the use of explosive weapons was recorded in **62** countries and territories. Worldwide, there were 7,331 incidents of explosive weapon use resulting in 46,910 casualties, of which 73% (34,263) were civilians. About 39% of all reported civilian casualties occurred in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. Other affected countries and territories in terms of civilian casualties from the use of explosive weapons were Myanmar, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Ukraine.

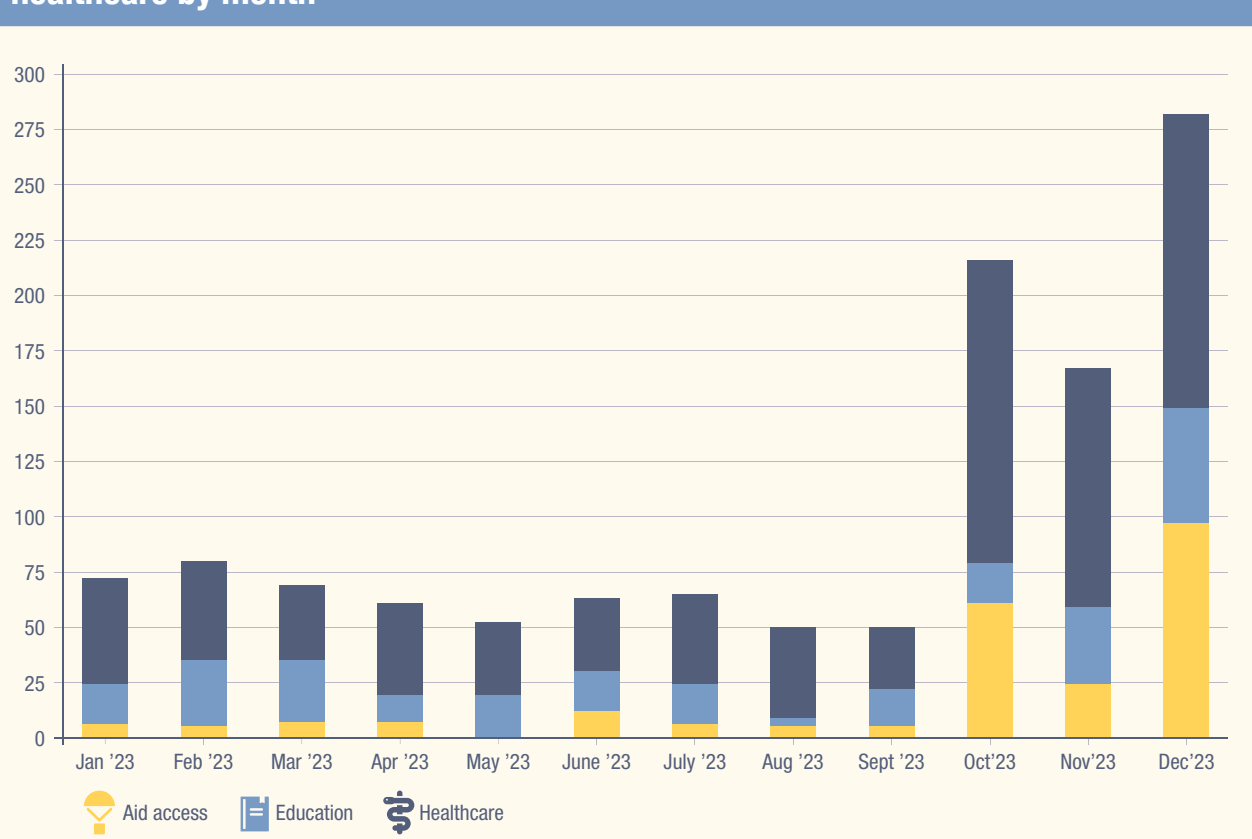
### Reported civilian and armed-actor casualties by month



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

In the last year (January to December 2023), there were 1,227 recorded incidents of explosive weapon use affecting aid access, education, and healthcare services in **29** countries and territories. About three-quarters of all recorded incidents were documented in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and Ukraine. Nearly half of all recorded incidents involved air-launched explosive weapons while approximately one-third of incidents involved ground-launched explosive weapons. Additionally, 297 aid workers, educators, health workers and students were killed by explosive weapons use 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 data 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.