Reported incidents of explosive weapon use affecting aid access, education and healthcare. In the last year (June 2023 to May 2024), there were 1,912 recorded incidents of explosive weapon use resulting in 56,375 casualties, of which 82% (46,069) were civilians. About 50% of all reported casualties were by armed actors. Further, an estimated 1.3 million people were displaced or otherwise affected by explosive weapon use. The highest number of incidents took place in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. Recorded incidents increased in North Kivu in Democratic Republic of the Congo, where armed actors fired rockets at two IDP camps, damaging camp infrastructure and killing and injuring nearly 100 civilians, as well as Yemen, where unidentified attackers threw a hand grenade at a military vehicle, damaging a hospital in the vicinity.

In Lebanon, reported incidents were attributed to the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) in Sudan. Incidents also occurred in the Occupied Palestinian Territories in May 2024. The IDF launched drone strikes in Lebanon. Incidents were also attributed to the Myanmar armed forces, Russian forces in Ukraine and the Russian Army in Syria. The Russian Army fired at a school in Syria "apparently without any discrimination." The use of explosive weapons that damaged hospitals, refugee camps and schools. The IDF launched drone strikes in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, most of which involved the use of air-launched weapons. An Israeli helicopter fired a “non-lethal” weapon at Hamas activists near Gaza International Airport, stopping them from running towards a nearby UNHRC camp and killing a bystander. Over half of the 1,912 reported incidents affected civilian casualties. In May 2024, reported civilian and armed-actor casualties by state/territory were Myanmar, Sudan, Russia and Ukraine. In the Occupied Palestinian Territories, about 32 people were killed in an incident when an Israeli drone dropped a bomb on a car. In Syria, the Russian Army attacked a school in Idlib, killing four civilians and wounding another.

When explosive weapons were used in populated areas in May 2024, civilians reportedly accounted for 95% of casualties. The number of deaths and injuries was highest in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. Impacts were also reported in North Kivu in Democratic Republic of the Congo, where armed actors fired rockets at two IDP camps, damaging camp infrastructure and killing and injuring nearly 100 civilians.

CASUALTIES FROM EXPLOSIVE WEAPONS BY MONTH

Reported incidents of explosive weapon use that resulted in casualties in May 2024 recorded 1,512 civilian deaths and 2,195 injuries. Over half of all reported casualties were by armed actors. Further, an estimated 1.3 million people were displaced or otherwise affected by explosive weapon use. The highest number of incidents took place in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. Recorded incidents increased in North Kivu in Democratic Republic of the Congo, where armed actors fired rockets at two IDP camps, damaging camp infrastructure and killing and injuring nearly 100 civilians, as well as Yemen, where unidentified attackers threw a hand grenade at a military vehicle, damaging a hospital in the vicinity.

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