

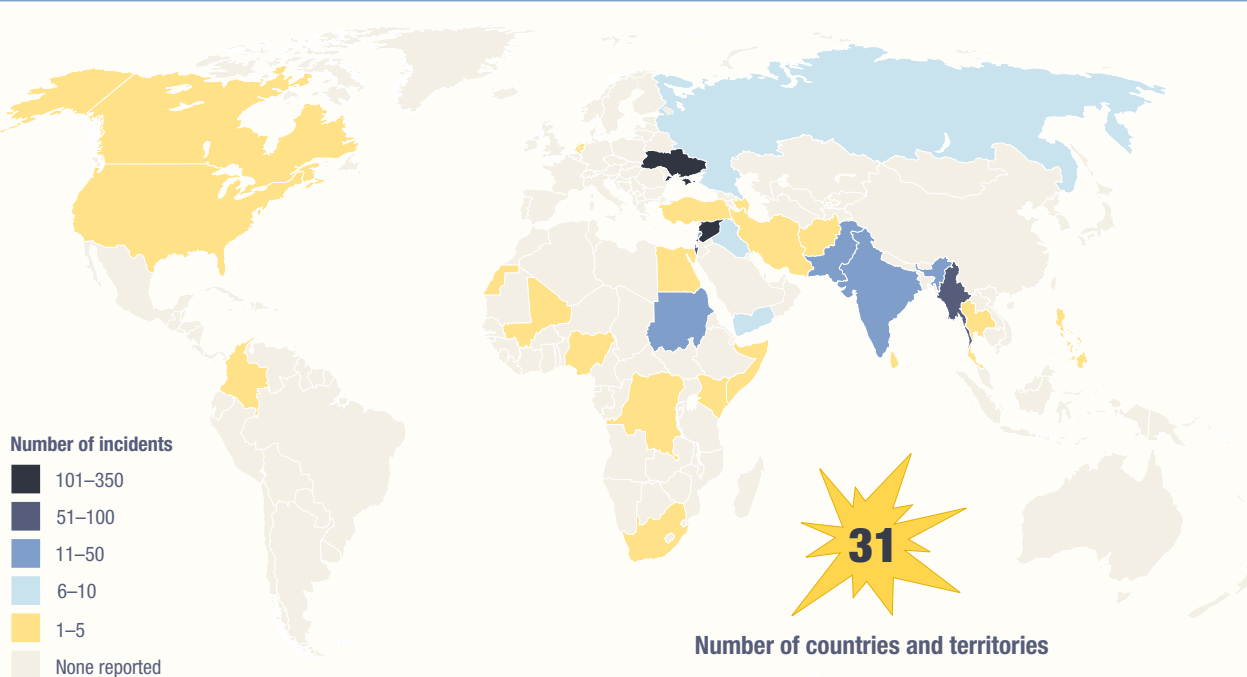
MONTHLY UPDATE FOR OCTOBER 2023

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 **31** countries and territories in October 2023. Worldwide, there were at least 986 reported incidents of explosive weapon use resulting in 7,788 casualties, of which 6,489 (83%) were civilians. About 67% 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 Israel, Sudan, Syria and Ukraine.

When explosive weapons were used in populated areas in October 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 October 2023

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

Incidents



986

Deaths

3,662
civilians689
armed actors

Injuries

2,827
civilians610
armed actors

Impact on civilians in populated areas in October 2023

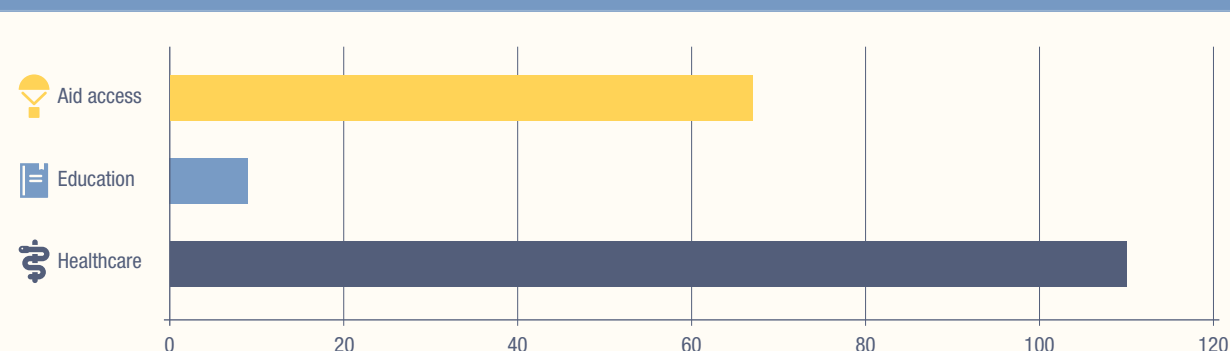
**83%** of all people reportedly killed or injured in populated areas were civilians.

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

There were **186** incidents of explosive weapon use affecting aid access, education and healthcare services reported in eight countries and territories in October 2023. Over three-quarters of incidents were recorded in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. In these 147 incidents, at least 54 health workers were killed and health facilities, including clinics, pharmacies and hospitals, were damaged by airstrikes, missiles and shelling by Israeli armed forces. Two incidents were also recorded in Israel where a health worker was killed and a hospital damaged by rocket fire from a Palestinian armed group.

Incidents were also reported in Burkina Faso, Mali, Myanmar, Sudan, Syria and Ukraine. In northern Syria, 18 incidents were reported where, in less than a week, artillery, shelling and missiles fired by armed forces of the Syrian regime, as well as armed drone strikes by Turkish armed forces, damaged health facilities and killed a health worker. This use of explosive weapons affecting health care marks an escalation in the continued violence against health care in Syria. Five incidents were recorded in Sudan, where schools and a health centre in Khartoum were damaged in airstrikes and shelling by the Sudanese Armed Forces.

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

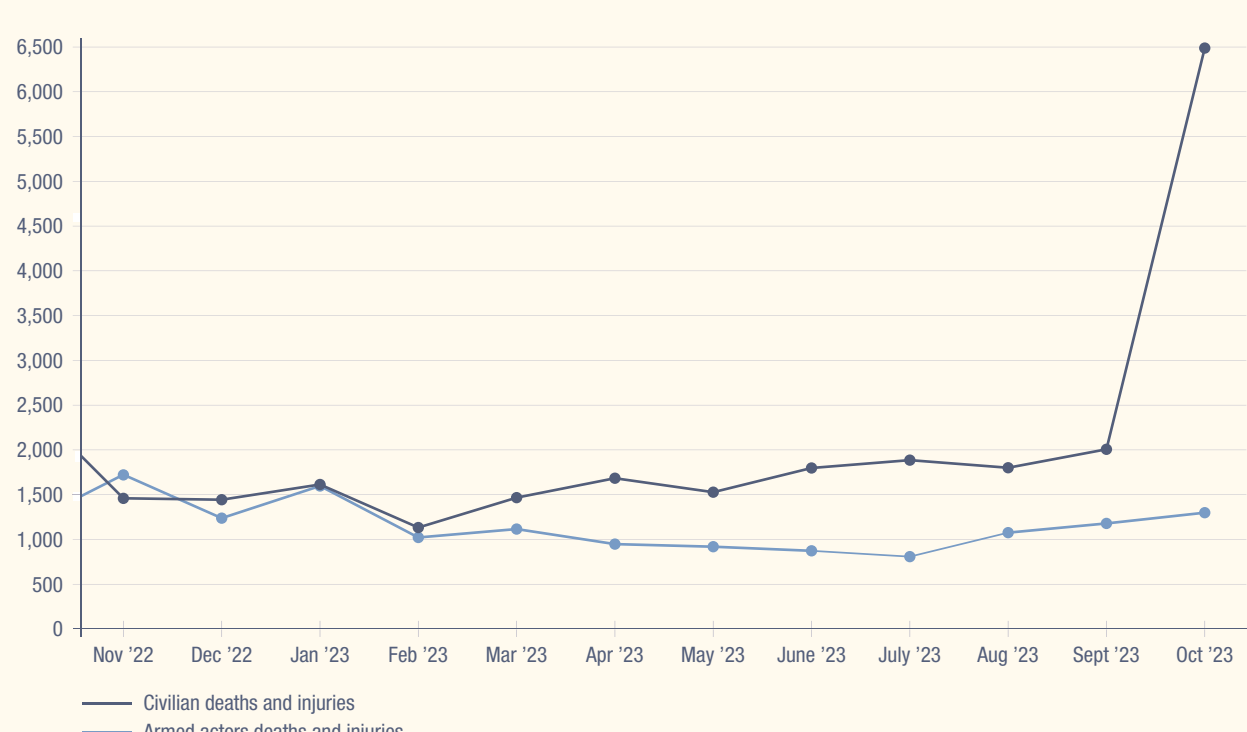


ANNUAL UPDATES FOR 2022–2023

Reported incidents of explosive weapon use that resulted in casualties

In the last year (November 2022 to October 2023), at least one death or injury from the use of explosive weapons was recorded in **62** countries and territories. Worldwide, there were 6,604 incidents of explosive weapon use resulting in 38,087 casualties, of which 64% (24,289) were civilians. About 36% 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 Gaza, Sudan, Myanmar, Syria and Somalia.

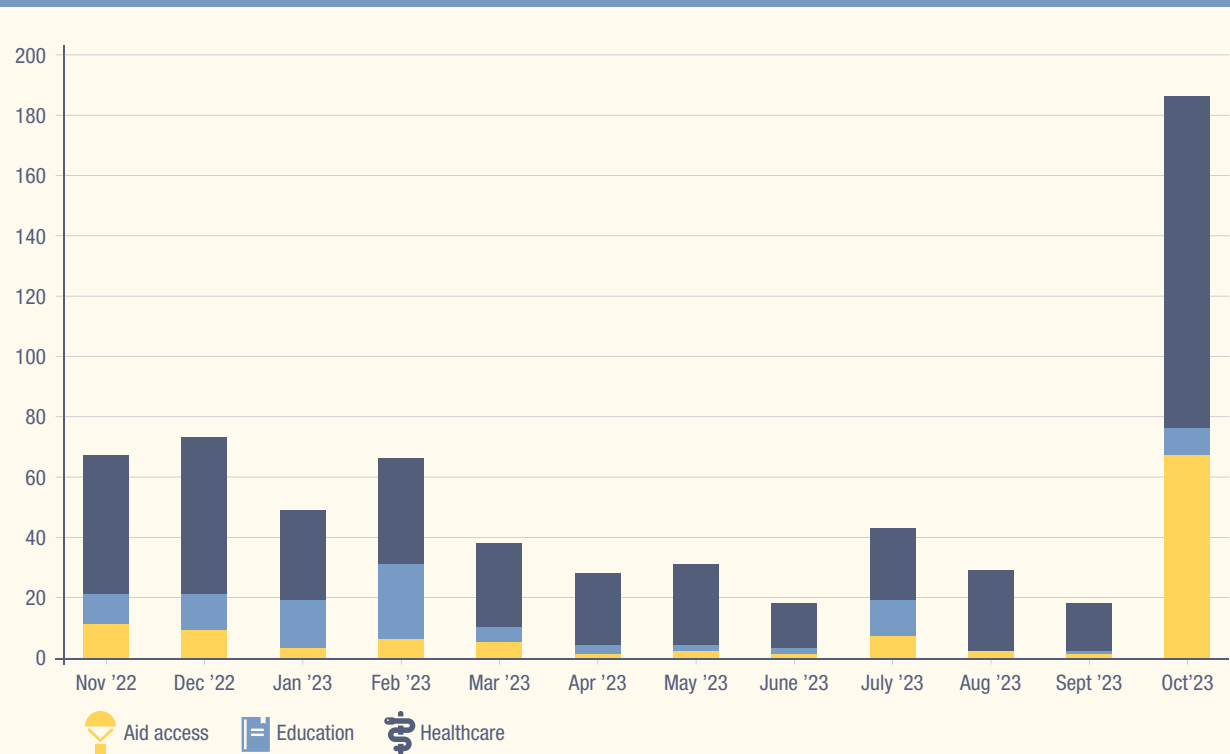
Reported civilian and armed-actor casualties by month



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

In the last year (November 2022 to October 2023), there were **933** recorded incidents of explosive weapon use affecting aid access, education, and healthcare services in 27 countries and territories. Over a third involved the use of air-launched explosives delivered by drones and planes. In total, 190 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.