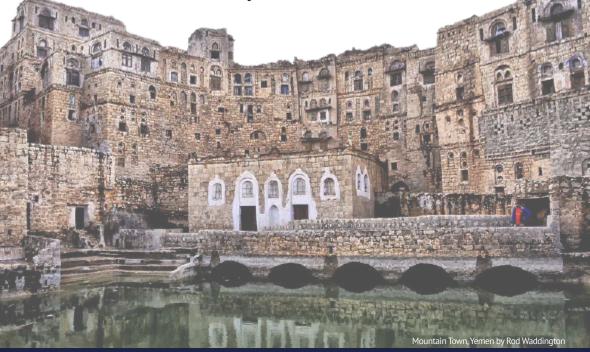
Civilian Impact Monitoring Project 2022 Annual Report

1 January - 31 December 2022



The Civilian Impact Monitoring Project annual report on the direct impact of armed violence on civilians in Yemen

Date of Publication: March 2023

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Executive Summary

Despite limited frontline violence for much of 2022, civilian casualties were largely unchanged from 2021, at 2,496

A six-month UN-mediated countrywide truce entered into force in Yemen in April 2022, and despite officially lapsing in October 2022, an unofficial truce persisted for the remainder of the year, limiting frontline activity and resulting in a complete cessation in airstrikes. Nonetheless, the number of civilian casualties reported in Yemen as a result of armed violence in 2022 remained largely unchanged from the year before, down by 0.5%, from 2,508 to 2,496. The number of fatalities among the casualties was also similar to 2021, increasing slightly for the second consecutive year, from 769 to 770.

One eighth of civilian casualties in 2022 were the result of a mass casualty airstrike incident in Sa'dah

The single incident to see the highest civilian casualty numbers in 2022 was an airstrike incident in Sa'dah at the start of the year. 91 people were killed and 236 were injured when airstrikes hit a detention centre in Sahar district on 21 January. The airstrike saw the highest casualty count to be reported in a single incident on CIMP records, and accounted for 13% of the 2022 countrywide civilian casualty total.

One in six civilian casualties in Yemen in 2022 was a child

403 children were killed and injured by armed violence in 2022, equating to roughly one in six of the civilian casualties, and down from 421 in 2021. The proportion of children among the total civilian casualty count has been dropping annually since 2020, now down to one in six, compared to one in five last year.

Casualties as a result of Explosive Remnants of Warfare (ERW) saw a significant increase

Civilian casualties as a result of ERW are on the rise. Landmines and UXO resulted in 564 civilian casualties in 2022, more than any other type of armed violence, up 67% from the 338 civilian ERW casualties reported countrywide in 2021, and the highest annual total on CIMP records. Almost half (256) of the ERW casualties were reported in Hudaydah.

ERW was the deadliest type of armed violence for children in Yemen in 2022

ERW, including landmines and UXO, was responsible for more child casualties in Yemen in 2022 than all other types of armed violence combined. Of the 564 civilian ERW casualties reported, almost half were children, at 226. This marks an increase of 56% in contrast to 2021, when ERW resulted in 145 child casualties.

Women particularly vulnerable to incidents of armed violence impacting civilian houses

Over a third (70) of the women casualties were the result of armed violence impacting civilian homes, particularly on account of shelling. Artillery fire was responsible for more women casualties than any other type of armed violence, accounting for 50 casualties among women, most notably in Ta'izz, where more than a third of the women shelling casualties were reported. Women were also disproportionately impacted by sniper fire on the Ta'izz frontlines.

Shelling responsible for over 500 civilian casualties, half of whom were on the Sa'dah border

Despite a de-escalation on the frontlines, artillery fire was responsible for the second highest number of civilian casualties in 2022, at 513. Almost half of the countrywide total, 229, were reported in western Sa'dah, where border violence is ongoing. The remainder were reported along the country's main lines of control, including in Hudaydah and Ta'izz.

Over 2,000 civilian houses assessed to have faced displacement as a direct result of armed violence

Civilian houses were impacted in 480 incidents of armed violence in 2022, primarily as a result of remote violence, including shellfire, airstrikes and drone strikes. As many as 2,204 households are likely to have faced displacement as a result. The majority of reports of homes being impacted came from the frontline areas in Ta'izz.

Telecommunications infrastructure was impacted in 28 separate airstrike incidents

Twice as many incidents of armed violence impacted telecommunications facilities during 2022 as during 2021. All 28 instances were the result of airstrikes, during the first three months of the year, including 21 in January alone. Since airstrikes ceased in late March 2022, there have been no reports of telecommunications facilities being impacted.

Despite hiatus, post-truce period sees resumption in incidents impacting education facilities

In the first three months of 2022, ten education facilities, including eight schools and two technical institutes, were impacted by airstrikes and shellfire. During the truce, no educational sites were impacted, but, after an eight month pause, two schools were impacted in December. At least two children were killed by incidents impacting education sites in 2022, and another three injured.

Introduction

The Civilian Impact Monitoring Project (CIMP) is a service under the UN Protection Cluster Yemen, monitoring the civilian impact of armed violence in Yemen. CIMP is a mechanism for real-time collection, analysis and dissemination of data on the civilian impact from armed violence countrywide, with the purpose of informing and complementing protection programming.

CIMP collects, analyses and disseminates data in real-time to allow for early warning and early protection response directed at communities affected by armed violence, including new and emerging local conflicts. This is done through daily reports on the civilian impact of armed violence across the country, instant flash reports on significant events that require rapid follow-up from protection partners, and weekly, monthly, quarterly and annual analysis to inform protection strategies. CIMP also produces thematic reports that provide the opportunity for more in-depth analysis of any pertinent trends that have been identified in how armed violence is impacting civilians across the country.

The annual report aims to strengthen the understanding of how armed violence across Yemen impacts on communities over time, including by understanding trends and patterns in the types and drivers of armed violence, its geographic spread and the subsequent impact on civilians. CIMP data and analysis is used to inform long-term protection planning and response, strengthen prevention and mitigation strategies and inform advocacy at local, national and international levels, for increased protection of civilians caught in armed conflict.

Methodology

CIMP collects data via systematic, open source information on all incidents of armed violence. The data is filtered by the CIMP team in order to evaluate incidents with possible civilian impact. Those incidents are then further researched and crossreferenced via multiple sources and graded based on their level of credibility. When available, video material, lists of victims and supplementary information from protection cluster partners is incorporated.

Civilian impact incidents recorded by CIMP are assessed for their primary impact and associated protection implications. The primary impact includes incidents in which individuals or households are directly affected by the incident, such as civilian injuries and fatalities, damage to civilian property, including houses, farms and vehicles, and damage to markets and local businesses. CIMP then uses these numbers to provide an indication of the likely protection implications civilians are facing as a result, such as displacement, loss of livelihood or restricted freedom of movement. The numbers recorded by CIMP reflect only the number of households assessed to have been directly impacted by each incident, such as the number of houses damaged or destroyed, or the number of vehicles hit. As a result, CIMP numbers on displacement, loss of livelihood or restricted freedom of movement are not necessarily reflective of the total number of households impacted as a result of insecurity or conflict developments, where numbers are typically significantly higher than those provided by CIMP.

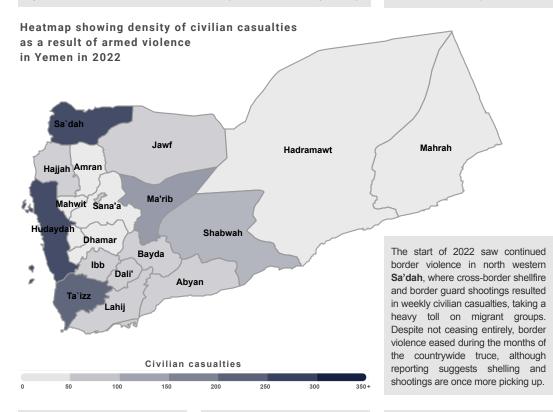
CIMP also records incidents of armed violence that have impacted civilian infrastructure and basic services, which in tum restrict civilian access to various vital services, infrastructure, facilities and goods, such as healthcare, education, food and water and transport infrastructure. In such incidents, the range of households impacted is typically assessed to be much higher than in those incidents directly harming civilians or causing damage to civilian property and businesses, due to the broader catchment area of those being supported by different types of infrastructure. Collectively, CIMP's figures on the number of households facing different protection implications provide an indicator of the extent of the impact of armed violence for the civilian population in Yemen.

As CIMP aims to collect and disseminate data on civilian impact that occurs as a result of armed conflict, some incidents are excluded from the dataset. This includes incidents related to crime, domestic violence and small arms fire incidents that occur away from areas of active conflict and have fewer than two casualties. Small arms fire incidents are always included when they occur in areas of active conflict.

Conflict Developments

The start of 2022 saw an uptick in hostilities in northern Shabwah and southern Ma'rib, but a **countrywide truce** resulted in a de-escalation on the country's main frontlines from April 2022. The truce was accompanied by a decrease in shellfire, and frontlines because fixed in place, seeing only limited skirmishes. Despite the de-escalation, drone activity picked up on the frontlines during the truce, largely replacing artillery fire, including across **Ma'rib**, **Ta'izz**, **Dali'** and **Hudaydah**. The drone activity, including drone strikes and kamikaze explosive-laden drones, drove an increase in reports of residential areas near the frontlines being impacted. Limited exchanges of artillery fire also continued. Although the truce officially lapsed in October 2022, there have been no significant frontline shifts since, and drone activity has also reduced significantly.

For the first quarter of 2022, **airstrikes** continued. Sa'dah was the site of a mass casualty airstrike incident in January 2022. Airstrikes completely ceased after the countrywide truce entered into force at the start of April 2022. Despite the truce lapsing in October, strikes are yet to resume, and an unofficial truce held across the country's frontlines for the remainder of the year.



Since late 2021, fighting in **Hudaydah** has been concentrated on the southern frontlines, where throughout 2022, intermittent fire from light weapons, artillery and drone strikes persisted, primarily in Hays and At Tuhayat. ERW has also grown significantly as a threat, with weekly reports of ERW casualties in the outskirts of Hudaydah city and in districts to the south.

The frontlines in **Ta'izz** remain among the most active in Yemen. Despite a de-escalation during the truce period, drone incidents picked up. Moreover, artillery and sniper fire continued to drive civilian casualty numbers on frontlines across the governorate, including in Ta'izz city, where frontlines and military sites are situated in close proximity to residential areas. The 2022 security situation in Abyan was characterised bv frequent skirmishes and IED attacks, particularly in the east, along the main road linking Aden with Shabwah, both of which also saw unrest and insecurity, driven by localised rivalries and economic grievances. Early 2022 also saw an uptick in shelling on the frontlines in northern Shabwah, bordering Ma'rib.

Civilian Casualties

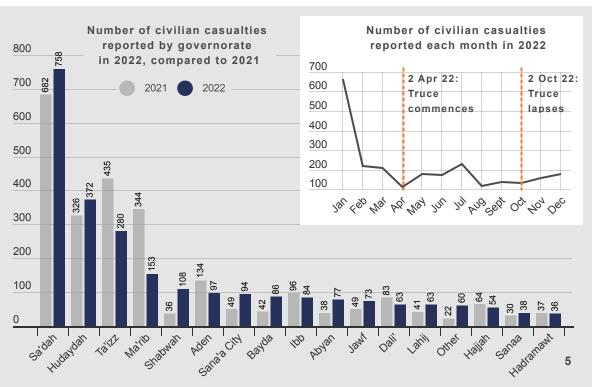
Armed violence was responsible for a reported 2,496 civilian casualties in Yemen in 2022; a negligible decrease of 0.5% from 2,508 the year before. The number of fatalities saw a slight increase for the second consecutive year, up to 770 from 769. On average, 208 civilian casualties were reported as a direct result of armed violence every month. However, during the first three months of the year, this averaged 365, compared to 156 in the months after the truce commenced. January saw the highest civilian casualty count, at 666, driven in large part by an airstrike in Sa'dah which resulted in 327 casualties.

Aside from the mass casualty airstrike in Sa'dah, a number of other mass casualty incidents contributed to the 2022 civilian casualty count. There were 27 incidents in which at least 10 civilians were killed or injured. In nine of those incidents, over 20 civilian casualties were reported. After the airstrike incident, the incidents to result in the highest total casualty counts were an IED blast in Aden on 26 May, which killed five civilians and injured another 45 in Al-Mimdarah area, and a weapons store explosion at an arms market in Lawdar city on 5 July, which resulted in six fatalities and 37 injuries. On fatalities alone, three incidents to result in the highest fatality counts were all airstrikes.

Countrywide Civilian Impact Snapshot 1 January - 31 December 2022

Civilian casualties Fatalities Injuries	2,496 770 1,726	Incidents driving psychosocial trauma	1,185
Child casualties Fatalities	403 108	Incidents impacting vulnerable groups	753
Injuries	295	Incidents impacting	501
Women casualties Fatalities Injuries	183 54 129	Children Women IDPs Refugees	157 64 6 3

Although the frontline governorates of Ma'rib and Ta'izz each saw decreases in the numbers of civilian casualties reported in 2022, dropping 56% and 36% from the year before, respectively, the majority of other governorates saw increases in annual casualty numbers. For the second consecutive year, Sa'dah saw more civilian casualties than any other governorate, at 758, up from 682 the year before, driven in large part by the mass casualty airstrike incident. In Hudaydah civilian casualties in 2022 increased to 372, from 326 the year before, largely on account of rising civilian ERW casualty numbers. Shabwah civilian casualty numbers almost tripled, while numbers roughly doubled in Sana'a city, Bayda, Abyan and Dhamar.



Women and Children

The number of child casualties as a result of armed violence decreased for the fourth consecutive year on CIMP records. 403 children were killed and injured by armed violence in 2022, equating to roughly one in six of the civilian casualties. This proportion has been dropping annually; in 2021, one in five casualties were children, and in 2020, it was one in four. 108 fatalities were among the casualties, down from 130 in 2021.

For the second year running, ERW was the main driver of child casualties in Yemen. More than half of the child casualties were the result of landmines and UXO. Half of the 202 civilian UXO casualties in 2022 were children, and almost a third of the 362 civilian landmine casualties were children. Unlike the total civilian numbers, the month to see the highest child casualty numbers was July, in the midst of the truce period, due primarily to seeing the highest ERW casualties. The high numbers of children among the ERW casualties are likely due to the heightened mobility of children, including across areas that have not been cleared, for example while playing, collecting firewood or tending to livestock, coupled with a lack of awareness of the threat.

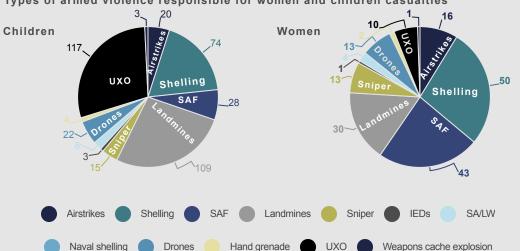
The number of women casualties also decreased for the fourth year running, down to 183 from the 212 reported in 2021. Artillery fire was responsible for more women casualties than any other type of armed violence, accounting for 50 casualties among women, most notably in Ta'izz, where more than a third (18) of the women shelling casualties were reported. Another 14 were reported in Hudaydah, and 13 on the Sa'dah borders. Women were also disproportionately impacted by sniper fire on the Ta'izz frontlines; of 13 women sniper casualties across the country, 10 were reported in Ta'izz. For the third consecutive year, Ta'izz saw more women casualties than any other governorate.

Case study 1: 70 women killed and injured as a result of incidents impacting civilian homes

Over a third (70) of the women casualties were the result of incidents impacting civilian homes. For example, in May, eight women and two children were injured when artillery shells hit two houses in Jabal Ras district, in southern Hudaydah. Also in Hudaydah, six women were injured when drone strikes hit a house Havs district in June. A child was also killed in the strike, and another injured. In the incident to see the highest number of fatalities among women, in January, airstrikes hit houses in the Libyan neighbourhood in Maain district, in Sana'a city, killing 14 civilians, including five women.

Case study 2: ERW on the west coast results in at least 124 child casualties

Of the five incidents to result in the highest child casualty numbers, four were ERW incidents on the west coast. In September, 10 children were injured in a UXO blast in Al-Jah in Bavt Al-Fagih. The same district saw the injury of 12 civilians, including nine children, when their car went over a mine in November. In April 2022. one child was killed and six injured when a UXO they had been plaving with detonated on the southern outskirts of Hudaydah city. They had assumed it was a toy. In Hajjah, in July, six children were injured when a UXO, allegedly a remnant cluster munition, exploded in Bani Hasan, Abs, while they were tending to livestock.



Types of armed violence responsible for women and children casualties

Type of Armed Violence

550

Landmines and UXO, referred to here as ERW, were cumulatively responsible for the highest civilian casualty numbers in Yemen in 2022, responsible for 564 civilian casualties, including 186 fatalities, and higher than any other type of armed violence. Almost half (256) of the ERW casualties were reported in Hudaydah, which has seen heightened ERW casualties since the frontlines shifted south in November 2021. After Hudavdah, other frontline governorates to see high ERW casualty numbers in 2022 included Sa'dah (54), Jawf (49), Ma'rib (45) and Bayda (36), all of which saw higher ERW casualty rates than in 2021.

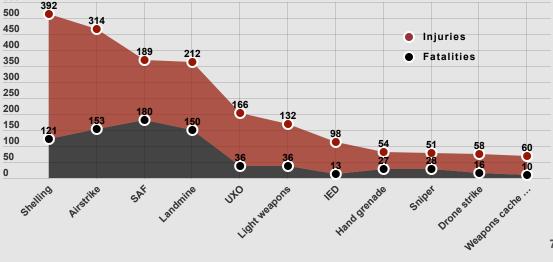
Despite a de-escalation on the frontlines, shelling was responsible for the second highest number of civilian casualties in 2022, at 513. This was not only on the country's main lines of control, such as in Hudaydah and Ta'izz, but also in western Sa'dah, where cross-border shelling caused 229 casualties in 2022, almost half of the countrywide total. The border areas also saw continued reports of machine gun fire, accounting for 143 (85%) of the 168 light weapons fire casualties reported countrywide.

More localised shootings and clashes involving small arms fire (SAF) were responsible for another 369 civilian casualties. Although this marked a decrease from 420 civilian SAF casualties reported in 2021, SAF was responsible for the second highest civilian fatality numbers of all types of armed violence, at 180, superseded only by ERW. The number of civilian sniper casualties increased in 2022, up to 79 from 53 in 2021, 71% of civilian sniper casualties were reported in Ta'izz, where frontlines remain proximate to residential areas. For three consecutive years, Ta'izz has seen the highest sniper casualty numbers.

Airstrikes were responsible for the third highest civilian casualty numbers in 2022, at 467, due in large part to an airstrike in Sa'dah in January. However, the last airstrike to have resulted in civilian casualties in Yemen was on 26 March, on As Sabain district in Sana'a city, killing eight civilians and injuring four. There have been no airstrikes since the truce commenced. However, drone activity instead came to the fore during the truce period, resulting in 74 civilian casualties, up 54% from 2021.

Targeted explosive attacks are another category of armed violence to be driving civilian casualties in Yemen. IED blasts resulted in 86 civilian casualties in Yemen in 2022, up from 53 the year before, including three attacks in Aden which cumulatively resulted in 59 civilian casualties, three in Ta'izz which resulted in 18 casualties, and two in Shabwah that resulted in seven casualties. Save for a large blast in a marketplace in Aden, the specific cause of which is unclear, and one suicide bombing at a wedding in Bayda, the remaining IED attacks were all targeting security vehicles.

Hand grenades, meanwhile, were responsible for 81 civilian casualties, 29 of whom were the result of one incident in Hadramawt where, on 2 December, seven civilians were killed and 22 others injured when two grenades detonated inside a mosque in Yabuth, following a dispute. Another 16 grenade casualties were reported in lbb, where security remains volatile, and at least 11 casualties were the result of grenades being mishandled.



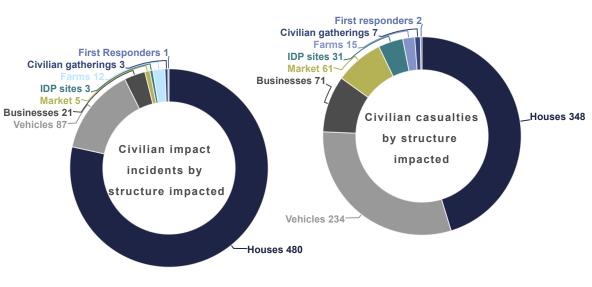
Civilian casualties by type of armed violence, disaggregated by fatalities and injuries

Civilian Property Impacted

Civilian houses were impacted in 480 incidents of armed violence in 2022, decreasing for the third consecutive year, and down from 728 incidents in 2021. Nonetheless, as many as 2,204 households are likely to have faced displacement as a result. The majority of homes impacted were in frontline areas in Ta'izz, including in Ta'izz city, the largest city in Yemen through which frontlines run. 117 incidents of armed violence impacted civilian houses in Ta'izz, followed by 104 incidents in Ma'rib, the majority of which were the result of remote violence, including shellfire and airstrikes prior to the truce, and subsequently drone incidents, which picked up during the ceasefire period.

In 2022, 30 incidents of armed violence were reported to have taken place in or near marketplaces, which remain a flashpoint for violence, exacerbated by ongoing economic grievances. Civilian casualties are often heightened when markets are impacted, due to the density of the civilian presence in these commercial areas. Two mass casualty incidents were reported in markets in 2022, including an IED blast in a market in Ash Sheikh Othman district, Aden, in May, which resulted in 50 casualties, and a weapons cache explosion at an arms market in Lawdar city, Abyan, in July, which resulted in 43 casualties. There were also 21 instances of local businesses being impacted by armed violence, and 54 instances of farms being impacted. Together with the incidents that impacted markets, as many as 488 households faced loss of livelihood as a direct result of armed violence in 2022.

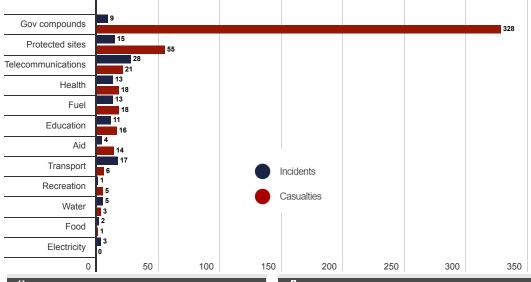
Charts to show incidents and casualty numbers by structure impacted



Protection Implications DISPLACEMENT LOSS OF LIVELIHOOD RESTRICTED FREEDOM **OBSTRUCTION TO** OF MOVEMENT FLIGHT Number of Number of Number of Number of affected households affected households affected households affected households 2,204 3.389 11,200 488 Number of Number of Number of Number of incidents incidents incidents incidents

Civilian Infrastructure Impacted

Despite the truce, armed violence continued to impact a range of infrastructure during 2022, restricting civilians' access to critical services and facilities. However, of the 122 instances of armed violence reported to have directly impacted civilian infrastructure, three quarters (93 incidents) were reported before the truce came into effect, in the first quarter of the year. Further details of the nature of the infrastructure impacted are below. Of incidents to impact infrastructural sites in 2022, 67 were on account of airstrikes (55%), 16 were caused by shelling, and another 13 caused by IEDs.



Incidents impacting on civilian infrastructure in 2022

1,142,500 households facing restricted access to

he start of the year saw s

The start of the year saw several airstrikes impacting facilities at Al-Salif and Hudaydah ports, as well as at Sana'a airport. Five bridges were demolished with explosives, including in Abyan, Dali', Lahij, and two in Bayda. The tactic is common, to restrict adversaries' freedom of movement, but has the same effect for civilian populations, particularly in areas where access is made challenging by the terrain. The same is true when key roads are impacted by armed violence, as was seen in Harib in southern Ma'rib at the start of the year, and in northern Abyan, in August.

+

12,000 households facing restricted access to education facilities

In the first three months of 2022, ten education facilities, including eight schools and two technical institutes, were impacted by airstrikes and shellfire. During the truce, no educational sites were impacted, but, after an eight month pause, two schools were impacted in December 2022, including in a drone strike in Hajjah, in which an 11-year-old boy was killed and two other boys injured. Children are especially vulnerable to incidents impacting education, and the proximity of violence to schools can severely hinder children's access to education, due to physical damage, concerns for safety, and resultant trauma.

4,025,408 households facing restricted access to telecommunications infrastructure

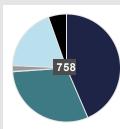
28 airstrikes impacted telecommunications sites in 2022, twice as many as in 2021, and all during the first quarter. Communications sites are typically targeted to disrupt adversaries' networks, but this can also impact local citizens. Internet services were impacted across the country when airstrikes hit a communications depot in Hudaydah city in January, and as many as 79,832 households faced restricted communications access in Sa'dah, where infrastructure is already limited, at the start of the year. Since airstrikes have been hit.

197,431 households facing restricted access to health infrastructure

All but three of the 13 incidents to impact health infrastructure were prior to the truce commencing. Seven airstrike incidents impacted health sites in Yemen, resulting in 14 casualties, destroying a medicine store, and restricting critical access to healthcare. Three shelling incidents also impacted hospitals, including two in Al-Salh in eastern Ta'izz city, restricting access to healthcare for as many as 28,901 households. After the truce commenced, another hospital in Al-Salh was hit by artillery fire in June, and two civilians were injured when Al-Riyadh hospital in Al-Mudhaffar, western Ta'izz city, came under fire in June.

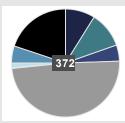
Governorate Snapshots

The below snapshots provide a profile of the civilian impact in each governorate to have seen over 100 civilian casualties in 2022:



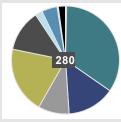
Sadah

For the second consecutive year, Sa'dah saw more civilian casualties than any other governorate, at 758, up from 682 in 2021. Almost half were on account of mass casualty airstrike on a detention centre in Sahar district, near Sa'dah city, which killed 91 people and injured another 236. Another 372 civilians were killed or injured amid machine gun fire and shelling on the Sa'dah border, where, despite a lull during the truce period, intermittent flare-ups have resulted in continued casualties. The western border of Sa'dah, particularly in Monabbih and Shada'a, has historically been relatively porous, but is now heavily militarised. Migrant groups are often among the casualties. The market town of Ar Ragw in Monabbih has come under fire on several occasions.



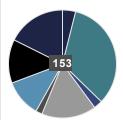
Hudaydah

The frontlines in Hudaydah have been statically fixed in the south of the governorate since November 2021, when the lines of control saw a shift to the south. Hays and At Tuhayat have seen the weight of hostilities, with weekly reports of light and heavy weapons fire, albeit at a relatively limited level. Civilian casualties in the governorate increased in 2022, up from 326 in 2021, accounting for the second highest in the country. However, 256 of these were the result of landmines and UXO. Hudaydah consistently sees the highest civilian ERW casualty numbers in the country.



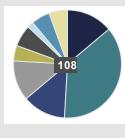
Taizz

Ta'izz saw a decrease in civilian casualties from 2021 to 2022, down from 435 to 280. Almost half (135) of the casualties were reported in Ta'izz city, although this too marks a decrease compared to the 190 casualties reported in the city in 2021. Of the casualties reported in the city, 54 were the result of shellfire, and another 40 were on account of sniper fire, as frontline violence remains the greatest threat to civilians in the city. Outside the city, the western frontline district of Maqbanah saw the highest civilian casualty numbers, at 57, primarily on account of shellfire (29) and drone strikes (13).



Marib

153 civilian casualties were reported in Ma'rib in 2022, down from 344 in 2021. Shelling was responsible for more civilian casualties in Ma'rib than any other type of armed violence, at 51, due in large part to a missile strike on the city on 26 January, which resulted in 39 casualties. However, there have been no missile attacks since the truce entered into force. Since April, ERW has been the primary driver of casualties in the governorate. Landmines and UXO collectively resulted in 45 civilian casualties, up from 21 the year before. An explosion on a military site in Ma'rib city also contributed to casualty numbers. On 7 November, four civilians were killed and 23 were injured when a weapons storage facility at the Third Military Region's camp caught fire and exploded, sending shrapnel and explosives into nearby neighbourhoods, including Al-Jufaynah IDP site.



Shelling

Shabwah

SAF

Seamine

Landmines

Hand grenade

One of the most significant increases in casualty numbers by governorate was reported in Shabwah, where numbers jumped from 36 in 2021 to 108 in 2022. 67 of those casualties alone were reported in January, when frontlines in the north of the governorate, on the border with Ma'rib, picked up. Shelling was responsible for 40 civilian casualties in Shabwah in 2022, and airstrikes for another 15. Landmines also resulted in 13 civilian casualties. The governorate also continues to see simmering levels of local unrest, including among rival tribal groups; another 14 civilian casualties were reported as a result of SAF exchanges.

IEDs

Snine

UXO

SA/LW

Weapons cache explosion

Naval shelling

Drones