

CIMP QUARTERLY REPORT

Q3: JULY - SEPTEMBER 2021

This is the Civilian Impact Monitoring Project quarterly report, providing an overview of all incidents of armed violence reported in July, August and September 2021 across the country that had a direct civilian impact. The report covers civilian casualties, incident distribution, type of armed violence and impact upon civilian infrastructure, as well as providing key analytical takeaways from the quarter.

ANALYTICAL HIGHLIGHTS

Armed violence resulted in 529 civilian casualties in Yemen during Q3 2021

529 civilian casualties were reported in Yemen as a direct result of armed violence between July and September 2021, including 170 civilian fatalities, and 359 civilian injuries. This marks a decrease from the second quarter on all accounts, but sits slightly above the average of 519 civilian casualties reported in Yemen on a weekly basis since the start of 2020. Among the Q3 civilian casualties were 70 children and 41 women.

September saw the second highest monthly civilian casualty count of the year

The highest monthly civilian casualty count during Q3 2021 was in September, when 233 civilian casualties were reported, including 67 civilian fatalities, the second highest monthly totals in each case this year. This included 59 civilian casualties in Sa'dah, primarily in the western border districts, more details about which are below, 31 in Hudaydah, driven by a mass casualty landmine incident in Al-Khawkhah on 13 September, and 29 in Hajjah, driven by a mass casualty missile attack in Midi on 25 September.

SAF has been responsible for more civilian casualties than any other type of armed violence

In Q3 2021, small arms fire (SAF) was responsible for 203 civilian casualties, including 93 fatalities, up from 148 during Q2 2021. This breaks the trend of the past 11 consecutive quarters, during which shelling has consistently caused the highest numbers of civilian casualties across Yemen. Shelling this quarter resulted in 146 civilian casualties. Of the 203 civilian SAF casualties reported over the past three months, 57 were reported in Ta'izz, which saw an uptick in localised military conflict and, a by-product of heightened unrest, an increase in isolated incidents, including dispute-driven violence. This was closely followed by 52 civilian SAF casualties reported in Sa'dah.

Cross border hostilities have resulted in Sa'dah seeing more civilian casualties than any other governorate

136 civilian casualties were reported in Sa'dah over the past three months, including 38 civilian fatalities. This is a slight drop from the 150 civilian casualties reported in the governorate during the previous quarter, but is also the second consecutive quarter during which Sa'dah has seen more civilian casualties than any other governorate. Of the 136 casualties, 104 were in Monabbih, which has seen more civilian casualties than any other district in the country so far this year, driven by ongoing cross border shellfire and border patrol shootings. Neighbouring Shada'a saw another 27 civilian casualties during Q3. A high proportion of the casualties are believed to be migrants from East Africa, as the districts, particularly Ar Raqw area in Monabbih, are understood to be the site of informal border crossing points into Saudi Arabia. Hostilities in Yemen's borderlands present persistently high risks for civilians, and casualty numbers show no sign of letting up.

Protest-related violence resulted in a wave of civilian casualties and disruption in the south

Southern parts of Yemen saw a surge in civil unrest during the past three months, most notably in Aden and Hadramawt, driven by failures in basic service provisions, power outages, insecurity and rising commodity prices, against a backdrop of a deteriorating economy and high summer temperatures. Protests were numerous, and while on the whole they were peaceful, in some cases, were dispersed by security forces with live fire. 17 civilian casualties were reported on account of protest-related violence in the south over the past three months; the second highest quarterly casualty count from protest-related violence since CIMP commenced reporting at the start of 2018. Alongside being met by a violent response, the demonstrations also resulted in widespread disruption on account of shop closures during comprehensive strikes and route closures due to the popular tactics of burning tyres being used to block significant routes.

Remnant explosive ordnance bore the greatest toll among children over the past quarter

Armed violence resulted in 70 casualties among children over the past quarter, including 17 fatalities. This marks a decrease from 121 child casualties during Q2 2021. Remnant explosive ordnance, including landmines and UXO, collectively resulted in 61% of the 43 child casualties reported during Q3; almost two thirds. Almost half of these children (18) were reported in Hudaydah. Lack of risk awareness, coupled with heightened inquisitiveness and heightened mobility, including in more remote areas that may not have seen clearance efforts, drive the vulnerability of children to harm from remnant explosive ordnance.

Shellfire and shootings resulted in the highest numbers of women casualties

The profile of the most harmful type of armed violence to women was slightly different. 41 women casualties reported in Yemen in the past three months, including 13 fatalities. Of these women, 17 were on account of shooting incidents, including four sniper victims, and another 13 were in shelling incidents. Moreover, 12 of the women casualties were reported when civilian houses were impacted by shellfire; women and children are particularly vulnerable when explosive armed violence encroaches upon the domestic space.

Civilian casualties from airstrikes saw a pause, before resuming in September

Airstrikes were responsible for seven civilian casualties during Q3 2021, the second lowest civilian airstrike casualty count seen in one quarter since CIMP began reporting at the start of 2018, and down from 36 during Q2. The drop was driven largely by a complete cease in reports of civilian airstrike casualties throughout July and August. However, for the first time since 29 June, on 10 September, a girl was injured in a strike in southern Ma'rib, and two further strikes saw five civilian fatalities and another injury, in Shabwah and Ma'rib respectively, in line with the recent uptick in hostilities.

The number of incidents reported to have directly impacted civilian houses increased

172 incidents of armed violence were reported to have directly impacted civilian houses across Yemen over the past three months, directly driving the displacement of as many as 792 households, while exacerbating the psychosocial trauma of living through conflict and putting women and children at particular risk due to the intrusion of armed violence into domestic spaces. Shelling was responsible for the highest number of incidents to have impacted civilian homes; Hudaydah saw 58 instances of shellfire hitting civilian houses, and Sa'dah saw another 28 incidents. Airstrikes were responsible for the second highest number of incidents impacting houses. Coinciding with the escalating hostilities in Ma'rib, 52 airstrike incidents were reported to have directly impacted homes in the governorate over the past quarter.

More vehicles were impacted by armed violence than during the previous quarter

There were 19 instances of civilian vehicles being directly hit by armed violence over the past quarter, up from nine during Q2. These incidents cumulatively resulted in 83 civilian casualties, an almost fourfold increase from 22 in Q2. Landmines were responsible for nine of these incidents, and a corresponding 56 civilian casualties, predominantly in Hudaydah, where four instances of vehicles going over landmines resulted in 37 civilian casualties, and in Jawf, where three such incidents resulted in 15 civilian casualties. There were also 18 instances of vehicles coming under small arms fire, resulting in 16 civilian casualties. Incidents like these pose both physical and psychological restrictions on civilians' freedom of movement.

No civilian casualties were reported on account of missiles on Ma'rib city during Q3

Similarly to airstrikes, and following a particularly high civilian count in June, the number of missile strikes reported to impact civilians in Ma'rib city saw a lull, with no civilian casualties reported in Ma'rib city throughout Q3 2021. There has since, however, been a resumption, as the frontlines in the governorate have regained their dynamicity; at the start of Q4, 3 October saw 35 civilian casualties due to a missile attack on the city.

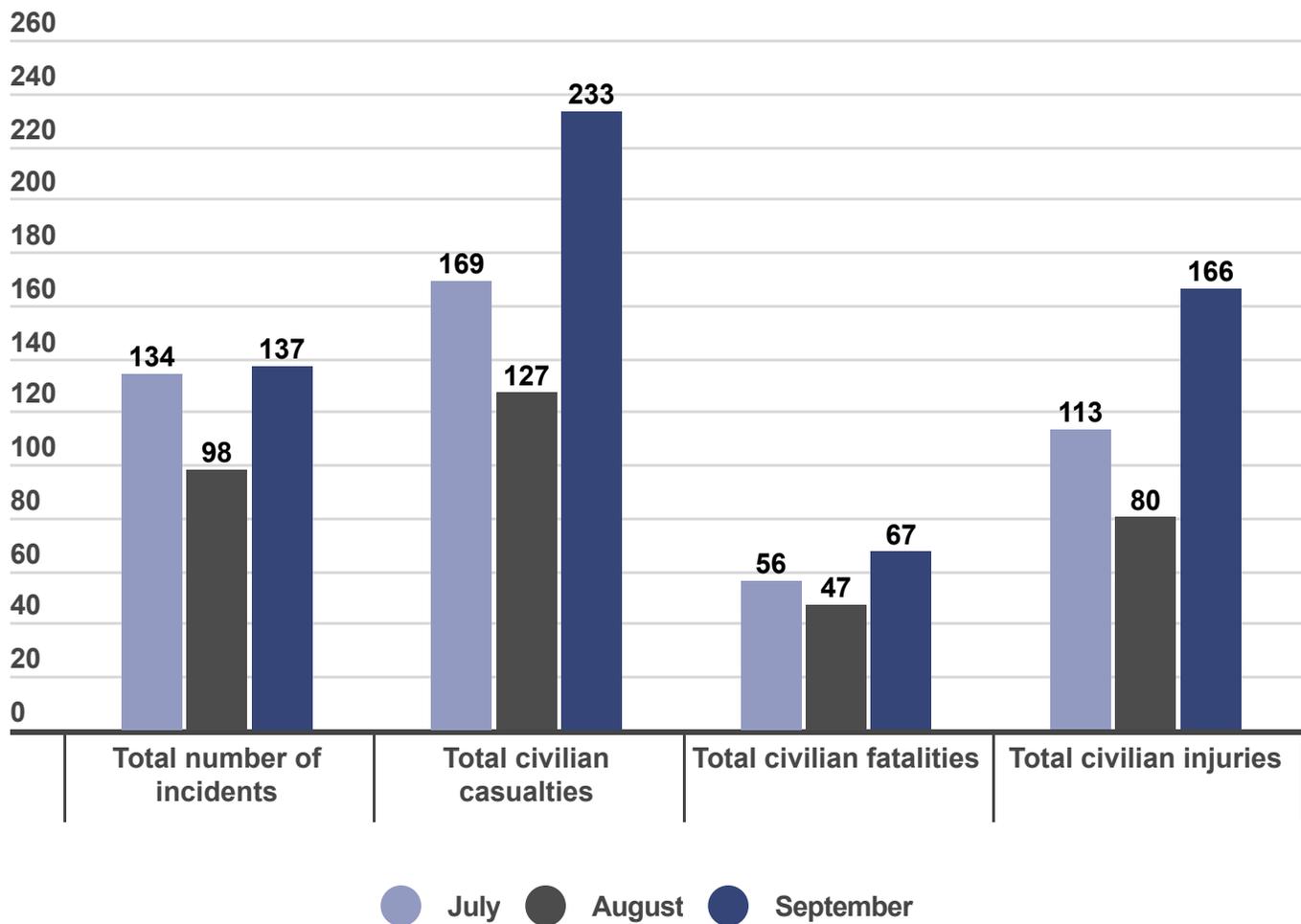
There has been a sharp hike in civilian hand grenade victims over the past quarter

Hand grenades resulted in 45 civilian casualties, including nine fatalities, in Yemen during Q3 2021, up from 29 during Q2, and marking the highest quarterly civilian grenade casualty count in the country since CIMP commenced at the start of 2018. The rise coincides with an uptick in insecurity in the south, as well as across Ibb, and similarly to Q2, 29 (64%) of the casualties came about on account of devices being mishandled and accidentally detonating. 16 grenade casualties were reported during one accident in Dali', and another 10 in Ibb.

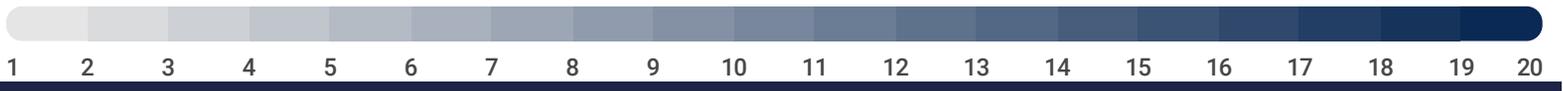
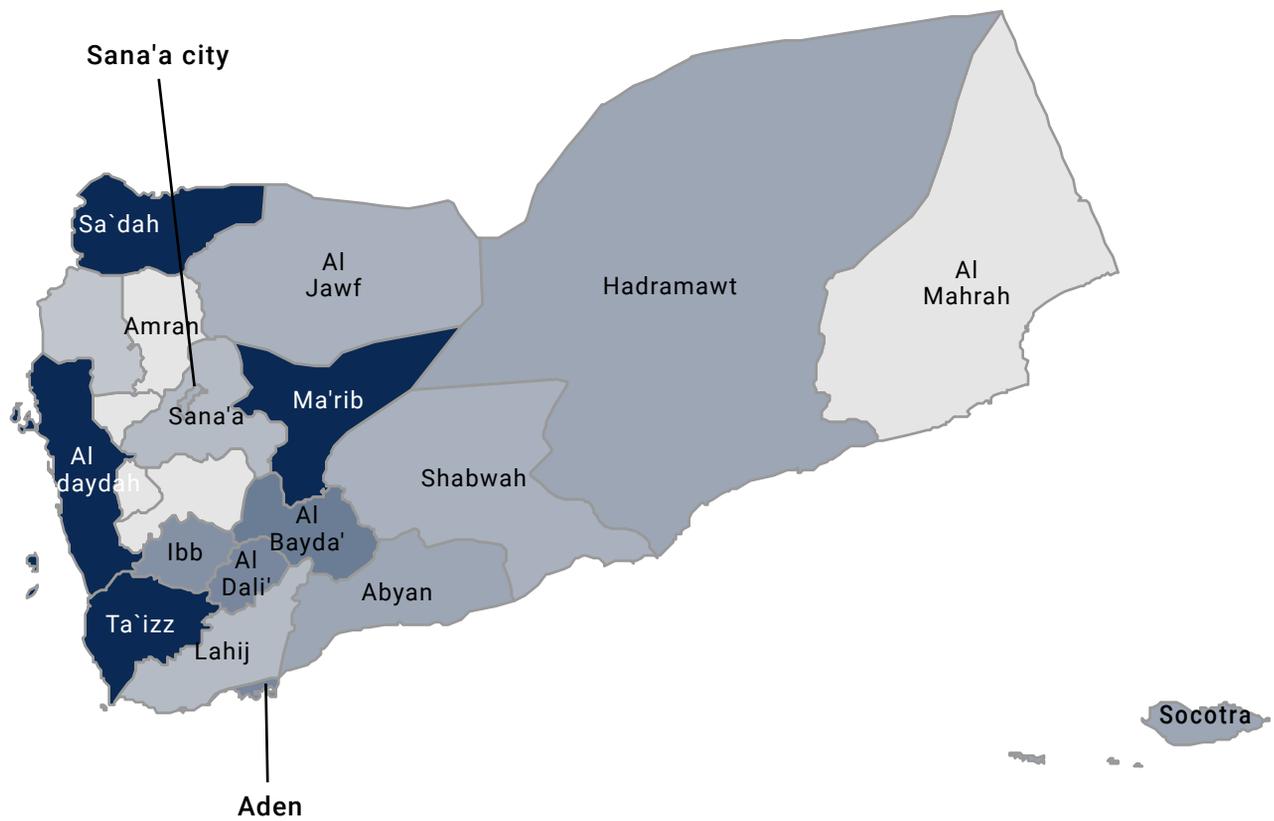
**NATIONWIDE SNAPSHOT: CIVILIAN IMPACT FROM INCIDENTS OF ARMED VIOLENCE
Q3: JULY- SEPTEMBER 2021**

Total Civilian Casualties:	529	Civilian impact incidents:	369
Fatalities:	170	Psychosocial trauma incidents:	351
Children / Women:	17 / 13	Vulnerability incidents:	234
Injuries:	359	Children and Women:	183
Children / Women:	28 / 70	Children / Women / IDPs and Migrants:	27 / 18 / 6

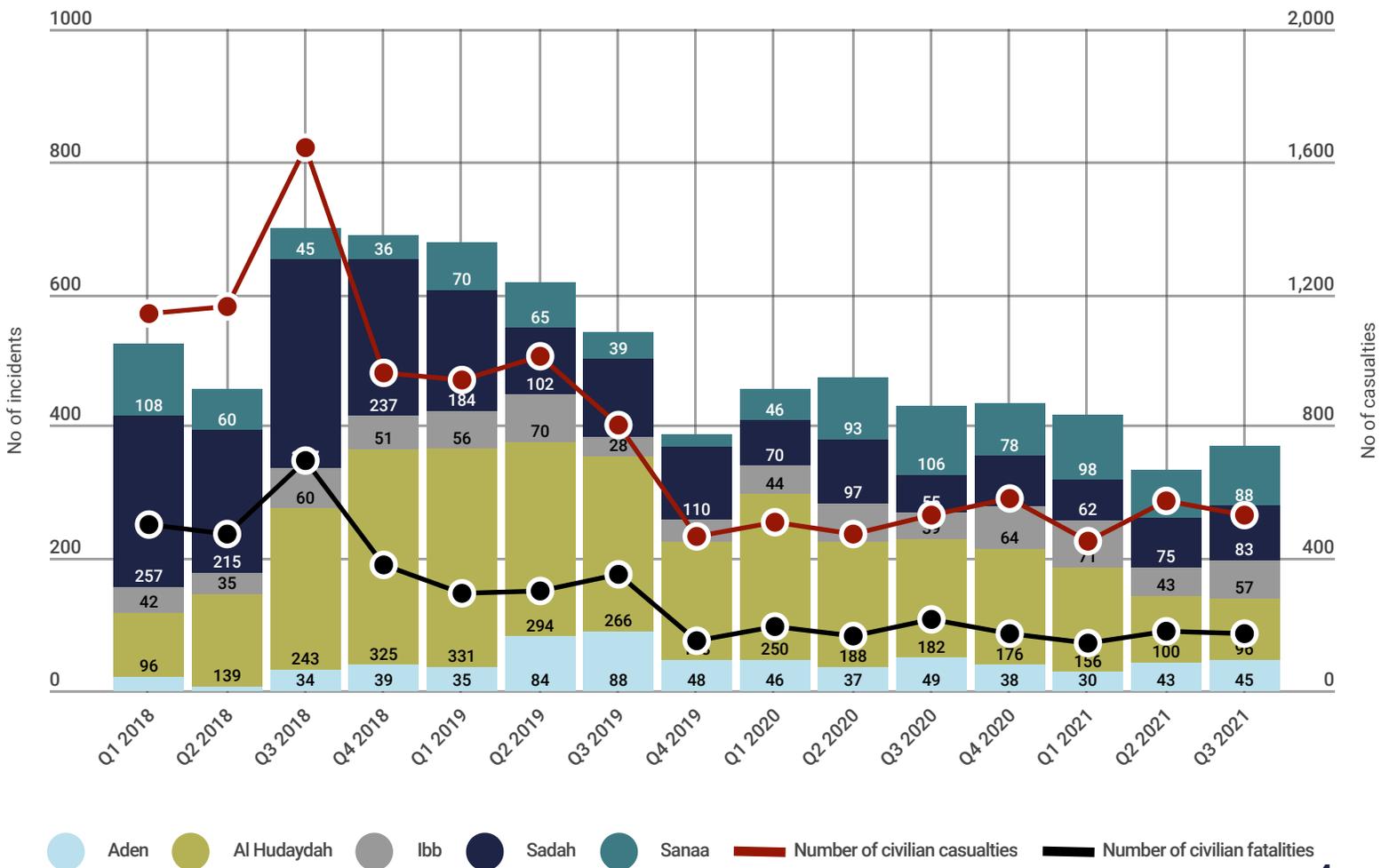
TOTAL NUMBER OF CIVILIAN IMPACT INCIDENTS AND CIVILIAN CASUALTIES BY MONTH



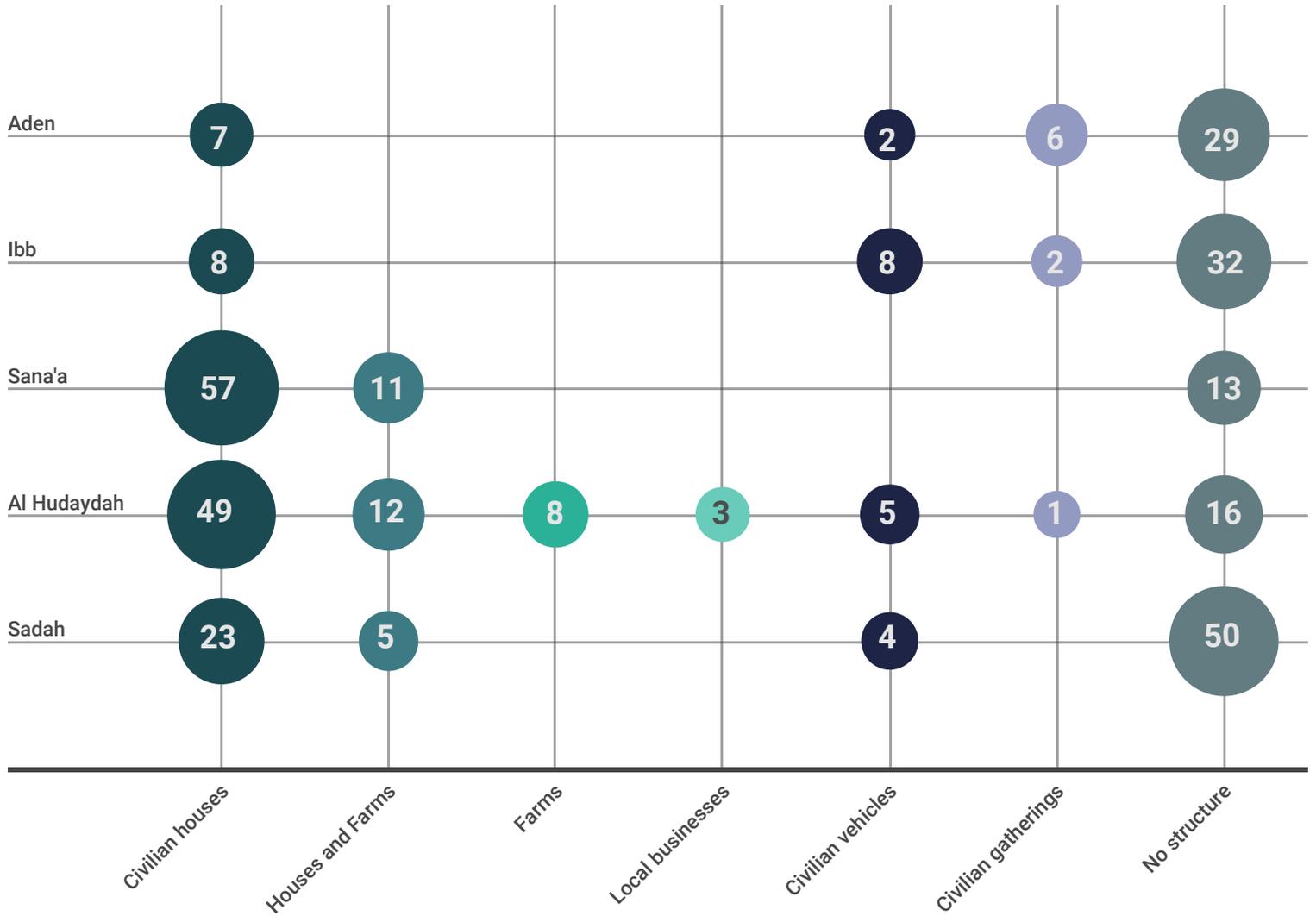
DISTRIBUTION OF CIVILIAN IMPACT INCIDENTS IN Q3 2021 BY GOVERNORATE



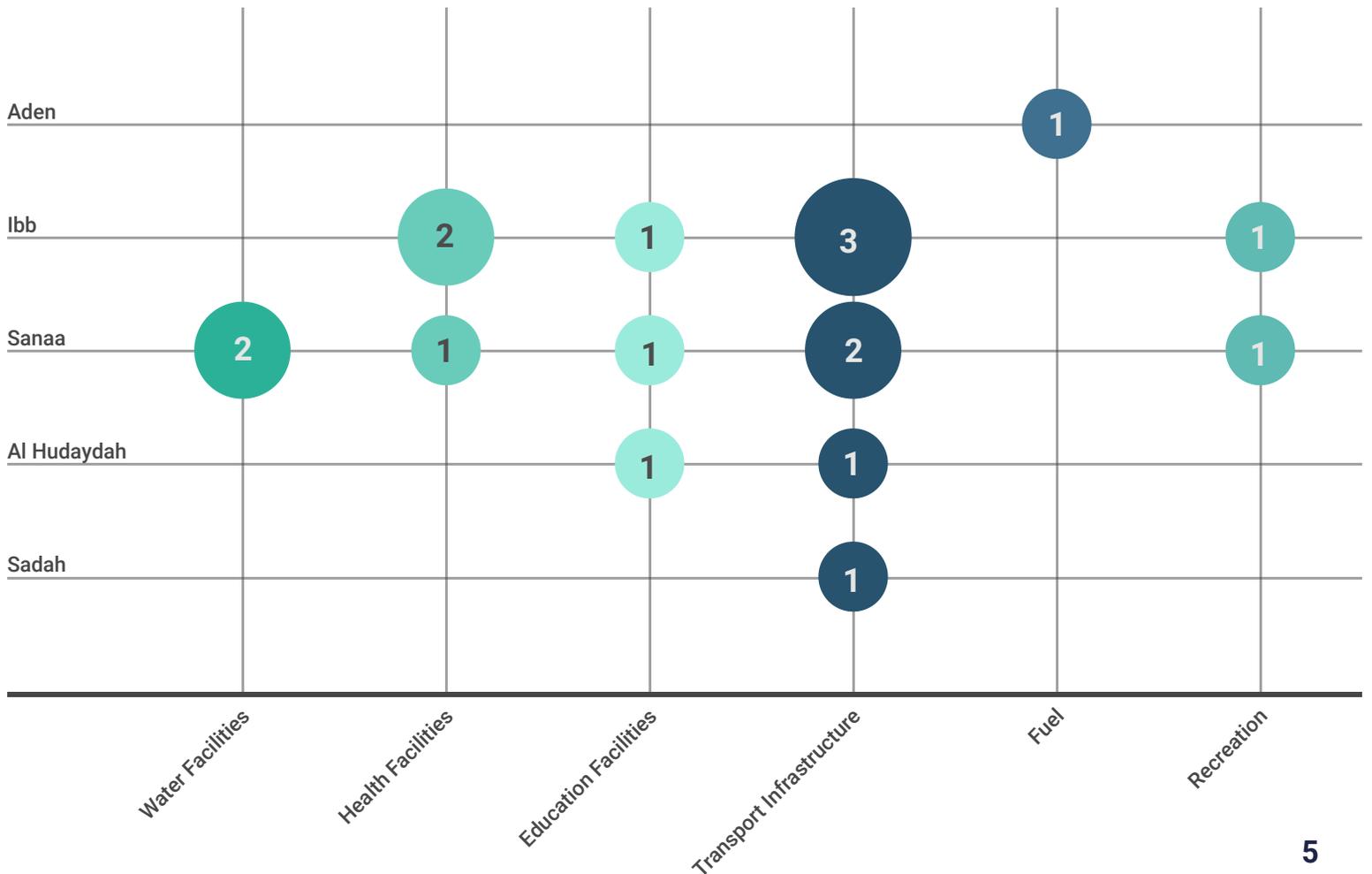
NUMBER OF INCIDENTS PER HUB AND TOTAL CIVILIAN CASUALTIES PER QUARTER



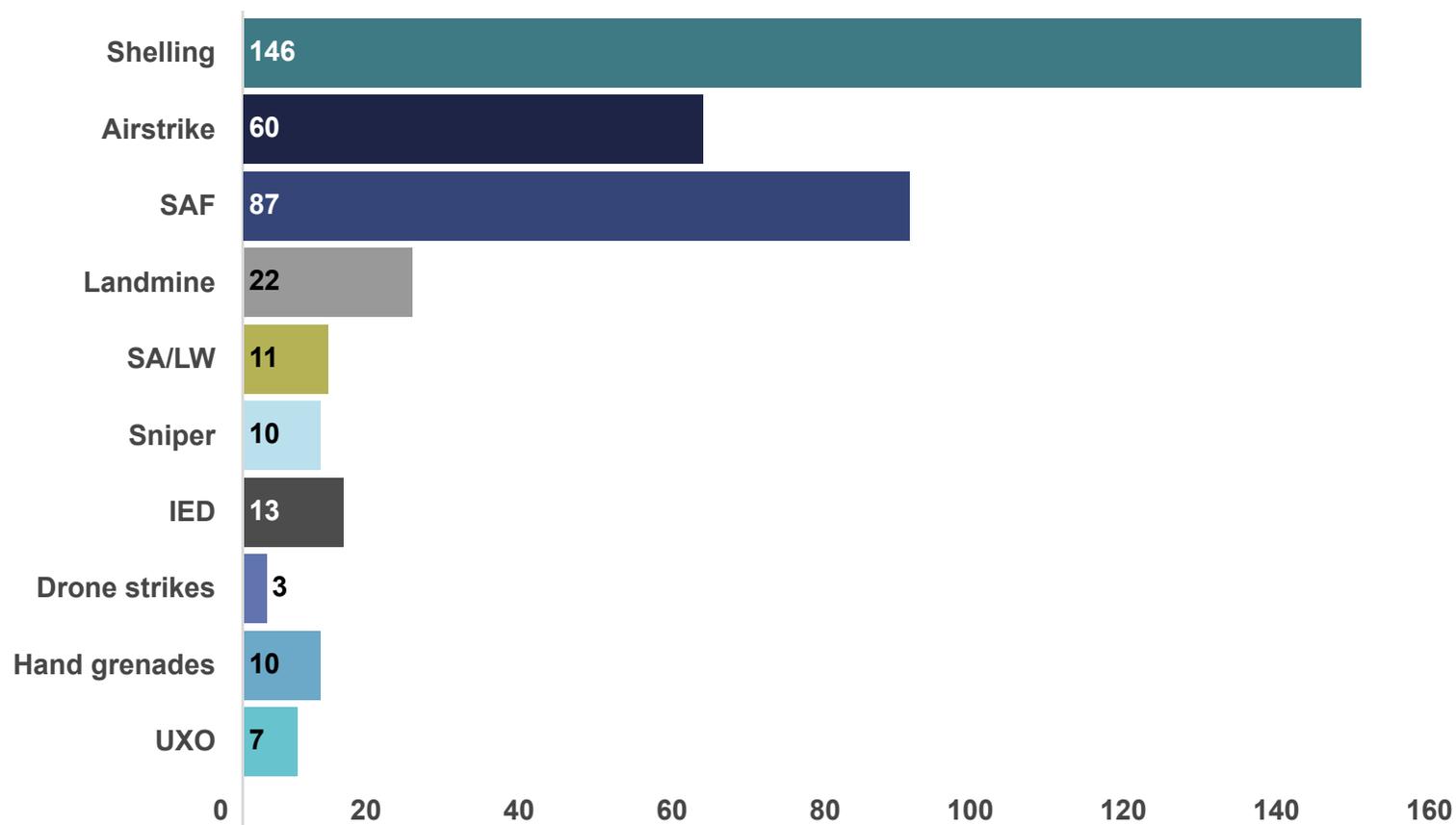
NUMBER OF INCIDENTS IMPACTING CIVILIAN STRUCTURES DURING Q3 2021 BY HUB



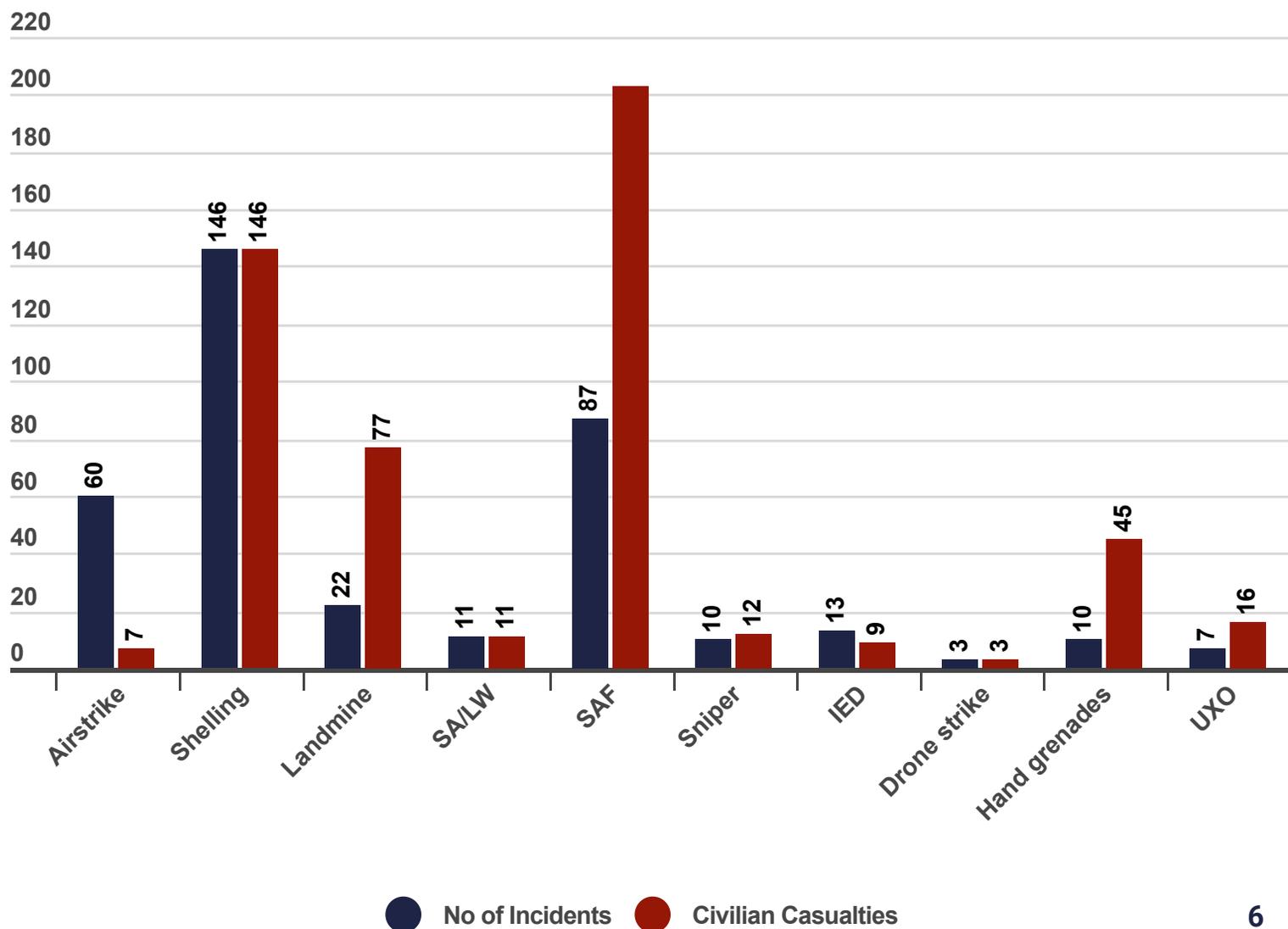
NUMBER OF INCIDENTS IMPACTING INFRASTRUCTURE DURING Q3 2021 BY HUB



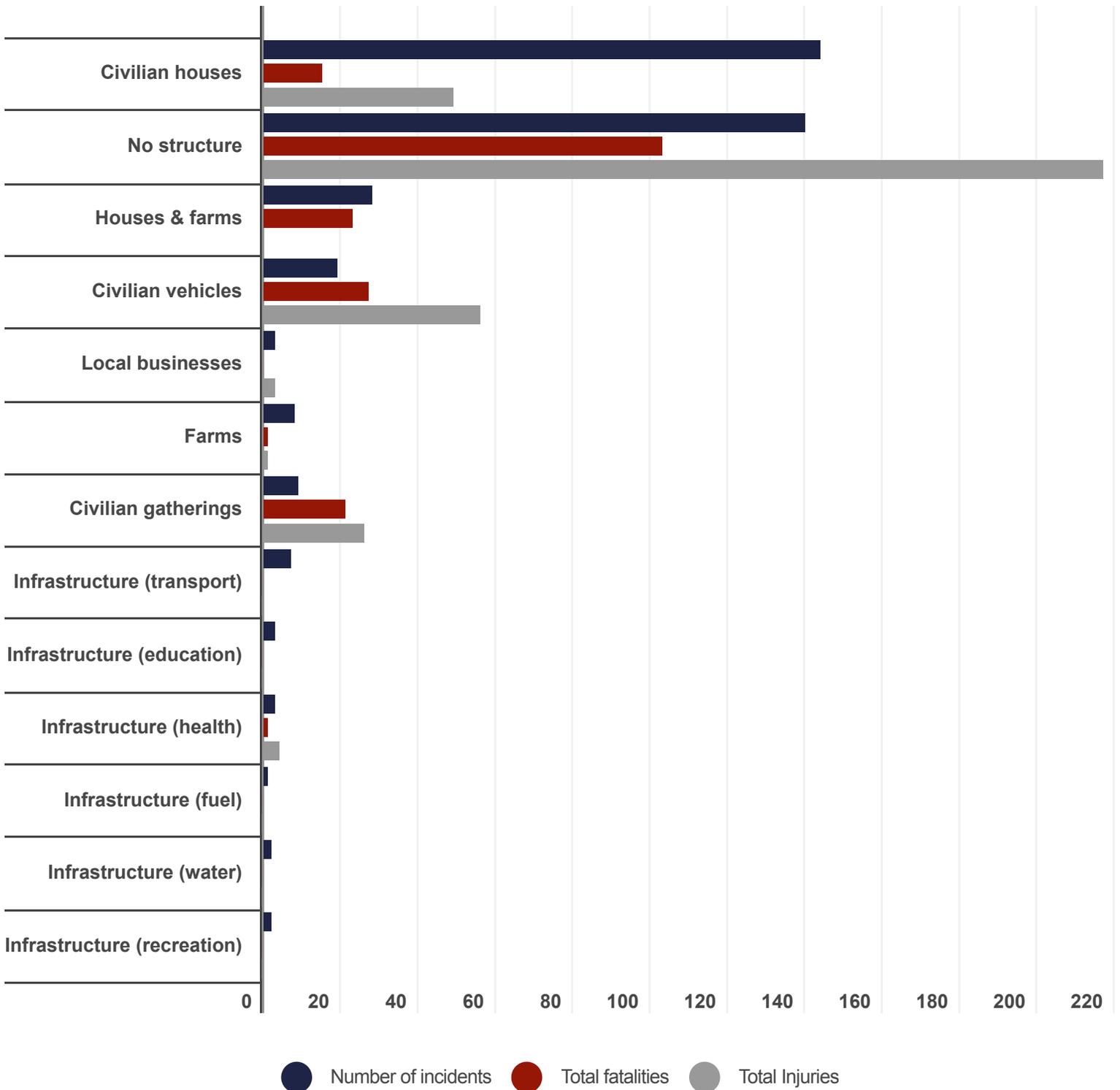
INCIDENTS IMPACTING CIVILIANS IN Q3 2021, BY TYPE OF ARMED VIOLENCE



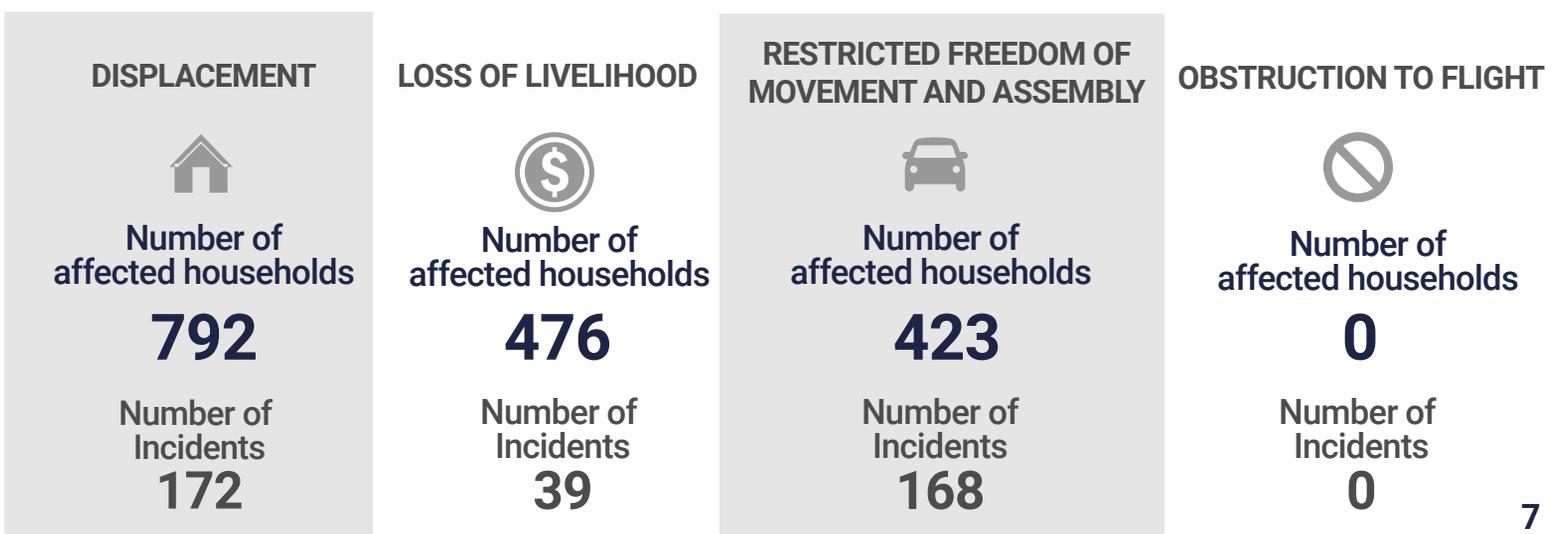
CIVILIAN CASUALTIES BY TYPE OF ARMED VIOLENCE IN Q3 2021



NUMBER OF INCIDENTS, FATALITIES AND INJURIES BY CIVILIAN STRUCTURE IN Q3 2021



DIRECT PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS OF INCIDENTS OF ARMED VIOLENCE ON CIVILIANS



INDIRECT PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS - HOUSEHOLDS EXPERIENCING RESTRICTED ACCESS



14,523

households facing restricted access to:

Health, education, first responders, worship

Number of Incidents

6



485,456

households facing restricted access to:

Transport, telecommunication, media, fuel, governmental buildings, recreation, electricity

Number of Incidents

10



8,588

households facing restricted access to:

Water facilities, aid, food storage

Number of Incidents

2

The Civilian Impact Monitoring Project is a monitoring mechanism for the collection, analysis and dissemination of open source data on the civilian impact from armed violence in Yemen, in order to inform and complement protection programming.



For further information, please contact us at contact@civilianimpact.org or visit our website: civilianimpactmonitoring.org