

# CIMP QUARTERLY REPORT

Q2 2023: APRIL - JUNE 2023

This is the Civilian Impact Monitoring Project quarterly report, providing an overview of all incidents of armed violence reported across Yemen in April, May and June 2023 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.

## NATIONWIDE SNAPSHOT: CIVILIAN IMPACT FROM INCIDENTS OF ARMED VIOLENCE

Q2 2023: APRIL - JUNE 2023

	Total number	Compared to previous quarter	Compared to 2022 average
<b>Civilian Impact Incidents</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>- 29%</b>	<b>- 28%</b>
<b>Civilian Casualties*</b> (Fatalities / Injuries)	<b>418</b> (136 / 282)	<b>- 28%</b>	<b>- 33%</b>
<b>Child Casualties</b> (Fatalities / Injuries)	<b>50</b> (22 / 28)	<b>- 47%</b>	<b>- 50%</b>
<b>Women Casualties</b> (Fatalities / Injuries)	<b>30</b> (14 / 16)	<b>- 12%</b>	<b>- 35%</b>

*\*Please note, all information and numbers included in CIMP reporting are based on information publicly available in open sources, and have not been independently verified*

## ANALYTICAL HIGHLIGHTS

### Q2 2023 sees lowest quarterly civilian casualty count on CIMP records

During Q2 2023, 418 civilian casualties were reported as a direct result of armed violence in Yemen, including 136 fatalities. Although this is the lowest total quarterly casualty count seen since CIMP commenced at the start of 2018, it is the second lowest fatality count; Q3 and Q4 of 2022 each saw 130 civilian fatalities. 50 children were among the casualties, almost halving from the 94 reported in the previous quarter, while the number of women among the casualties saw a slight decrease, down to 30 from 34 in Q1, and also both the lowest on CIMP records. Casualty numbers were roughly aligned with monthly averages over the past year in April and May, then saw a significant decrease in June, which was largely responsible for the low quarterly casualty count.

### Small arms fire shootings were responsible for more civilian casualties than any other type of armed violence

For what is only the second time on CIMP records, SAF saw more civilian casualties than any other type of armed violence during Q2 2023, accounting for 141 civilian casualties across the country, half of whom were fatalities. Ta'izz and Shabwah saw the highest numbers of SAF casualties, at 21 each. In Shabwah, almost half of the casualties were the result of one shooting on 11 May, when two civilians were shot dead and another eight were injured in Al-Khabr in Habban district, in a tribal vengeance incident. Another five shootings were reported as a result of tribal vengeance issues, including two in Rada city in Bayda, which resulted in six civilian casualties, and another 20 casualties, including 14 fatalities, were the result of family disputes escalating into shootings, including three shootings in Dali' and two in Ta'izz.

There were also two instances of protest-related violence; on 16 April, four civilians were injured when a protest was dispersed with live fire in An Nashamah in Al-Maafer district in southern Ta'izz, and across the border in northern Lahij, on 7 May, two civilians were injured when a protest was dispersed with live fire in Al-Madaribah Wa Al-Arah district. Totalling six, this is the highest number of civilian casualties to result from protest-related violence in one quarter since Q3 2021. Another 14 civilian casualties were the result of clashes among local armed factions, among whom rivalries remain rife; in Lahij in particular, each month saw reports of civilian casualties as a result of rival factions clashing at the market in Tur Al-Bahah. Economic grievances and rivalries remain among the main drivers of shootings in Yemen, with nine civilian casualties reported in total as a result of marketplace violence, while there were also seven civilian casualties reported as a result of checkpoint shootings, which are often connected to economic issues such as disputes over levy demands.

### **Shelling on the Sa'dah border was responsible for 88 civilian casualties in Q2 2023**

Throughout Q2 2023, shelling was responsible for 108 civilian casualties, 88 of whom were reported in Sa'dah, as a result of cross-border artillery fire. In recent years, Shada'a district has consistently been one of the main flashpoints for border violence in western Sa'dah, and of the 88 civilian shelling casualties reported in Sa'dah over the past quarter, all but seven were in Shada'a. The proportion of fatalities among the casualties has been low compared to the impact of armed violence in other parts of the country; one in ten of the 88 civilian shelling casualties reported in Sa'dah in Q3 2023 was a fatality. Two of the casualties were children.

The remaining 20 civilian shelling casualties were reported in the frontline areas in Hudaydah and Ta'izz, where one in four of the casualties were fatalities, and one in five of the casualties were children. In the deadliest incident, on 22 April, three civilians were killed, including a woman and a 12-year-old child, and another nine were injured, all from the same family, when shellfire hit houses in Al-Majash Al-Ala area in Mawza district, western Ta'izz. Despite the frontlines seeing relatively limited hostilities in recent months on account of the persisting, albeit unofficial, ceasefire, a low level of shellfire has continued.

### **ERW casualty numbers decreased for the third consecutive quarter in Q2 2023**

At the end of 2021, civilian casualties as a result of ERW started rising. One of the primary triggers at the time appeared to be a shift in the frontlines in Hudaydah in November 2021, which saw hostilities refocus in southern parts of the governorate. In tandem, civilian ERW casualties in former frontline districts in the governorate started to pick up, likely linked to an increase in civilian mobility, including in areas where remnant explosive ordnance had not yet been cleared. Numbers remained high throughout 2022, with weekly reports of ERW incidents on the west coast, and similar issues then being seen in other parts of the country, albeit on a lesser scale, as a countrywide truce entered into force from April 2022. Other factors including limited threat awareness among local populations particularly displaced populations, and heavy rainfall shifting devices into new areas, were also likely accountable for the heightened casualty numbers. However, since Q3 2022, ERW casualty numbers have been gradually declining on a quarterly basis. The most significant decrease was seen from Q1 2023 to Q2 2023, when numbers almost halved, from 121 to 67, the lowest quarterly ERW casualty count seen since before the Hudaydah frontlines shifted. It is unclear as to what has driven the decreases, but may be linked to awareness raising campaigns, more stable frontlines resulting in lower population movement, and/or increased clearance efforts.

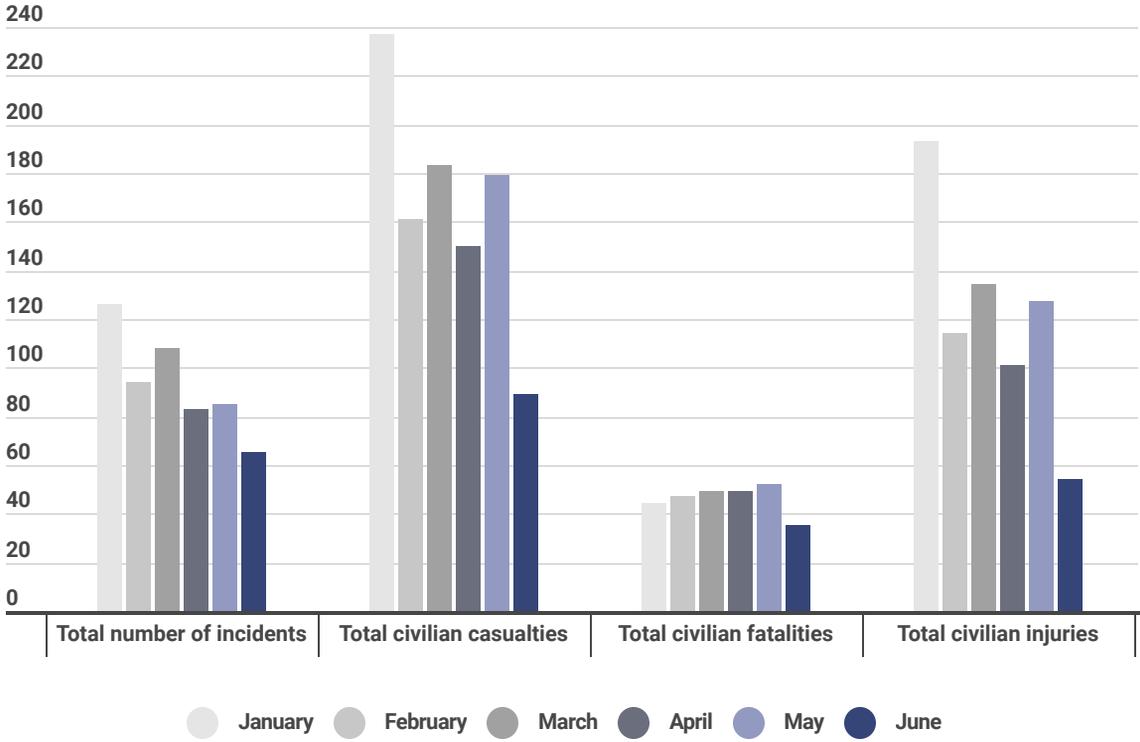
Of the 67 ERW casualties reported in Q2 2023, almost half (27) were children; half of the UXO casualties were children and a third of the landmine casualties were children. ERW was responsible for more child casualties across Yemen than all other types of armed violence combined. Children remain particularly vulnerable to ERW incidents on account of lower threat awareness levels and heightened mobility in areas that may not have been cleared, such as while playing, collecting firewood or tending to livestock.

### **Wide range of infrastructure impacted by armed violence in Q2 2023**

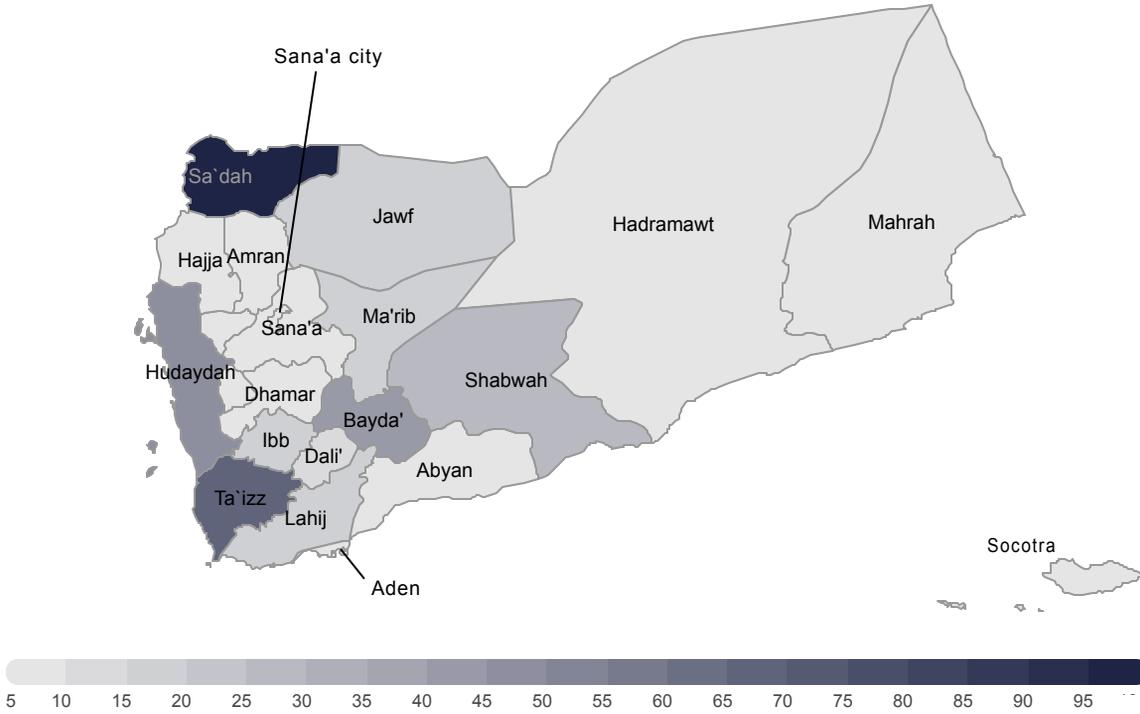
Although numbers were relatively limited, a broad range of civilian structures and infrastructure were impacted. Of note, two medical centres were reported to have been impacted by drones, including a medical unit in Hays in southern Hudaydah, which was hit by drones on 18 April, and another that was hit by drone strikes in the Hajar area, in western Qa'atabah. This is the highest number of medical facilities reported to have been impacted by armed violence in one quarter since Q2 2022. A 12-year-old boy was killed in the Hays incident. A school also sustained damages in Hays on 21 April, when missiles hit nearby Dar Al-Harbi, injuring another child.

Two mosques were also impacted by armed violence, including a mosque that was hit by artillery fire in Maqbanah district in western Ta'izz on 3 April, and another in Al-Quraishyah in Bayda that was subjected to a grenade attack on 12 May, killing two civilians and injuring 21. Also, more civilian vehicles were impacted by armed violence in Q2 2023 than during the previous two quarters, at 18, including two trucks, two motorbikes, a tractor and a car that were caught in landmine explosions, threatening civilians' freedom of movement, particularly in cases where incidents took place on main roads.

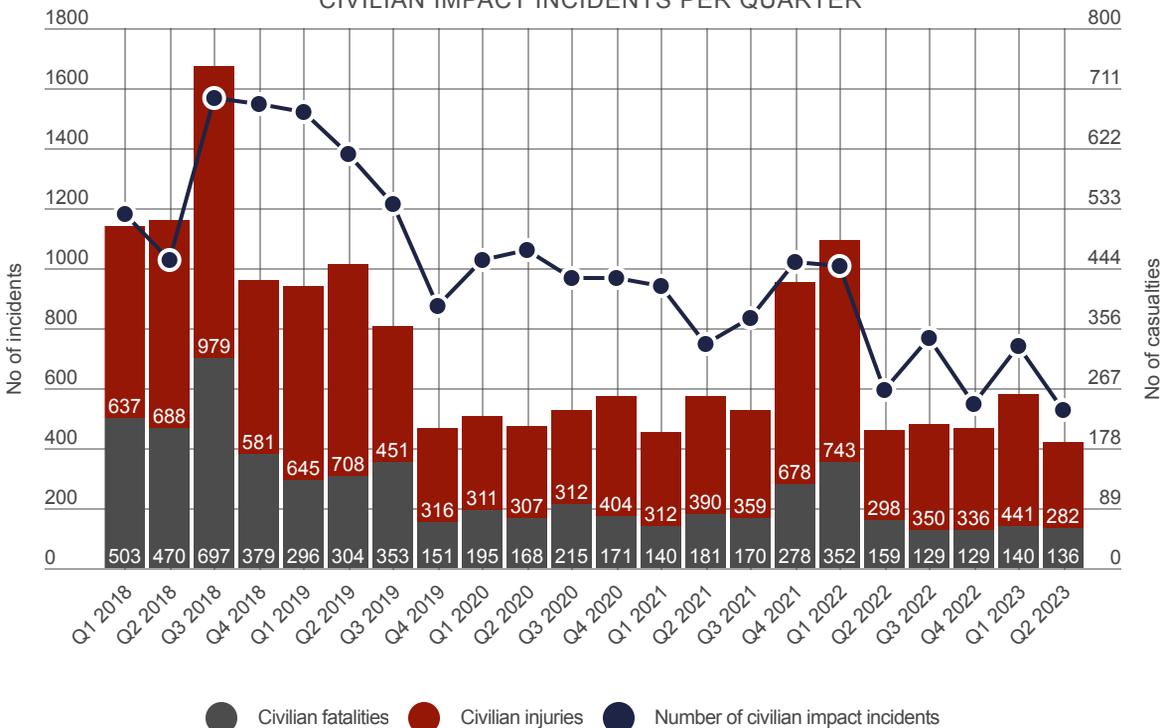
# TOTAL NUMBER OF CIVILIAN IMPACT INCIDENTS AND CIVILIAN CASUALTIES BY MONTH OVER THE PAST SIX MONTHS



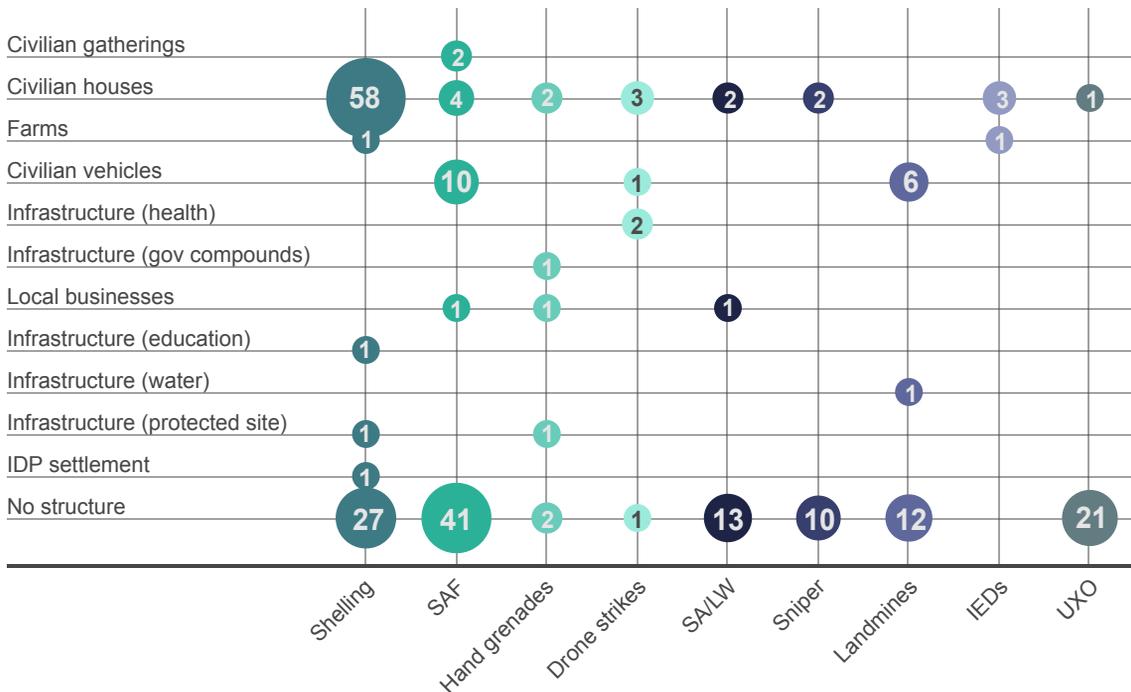
## DISTRIBUTION OF CIVILIAN CASUALTIES IN Q2 2023 BY GOVERNORATE



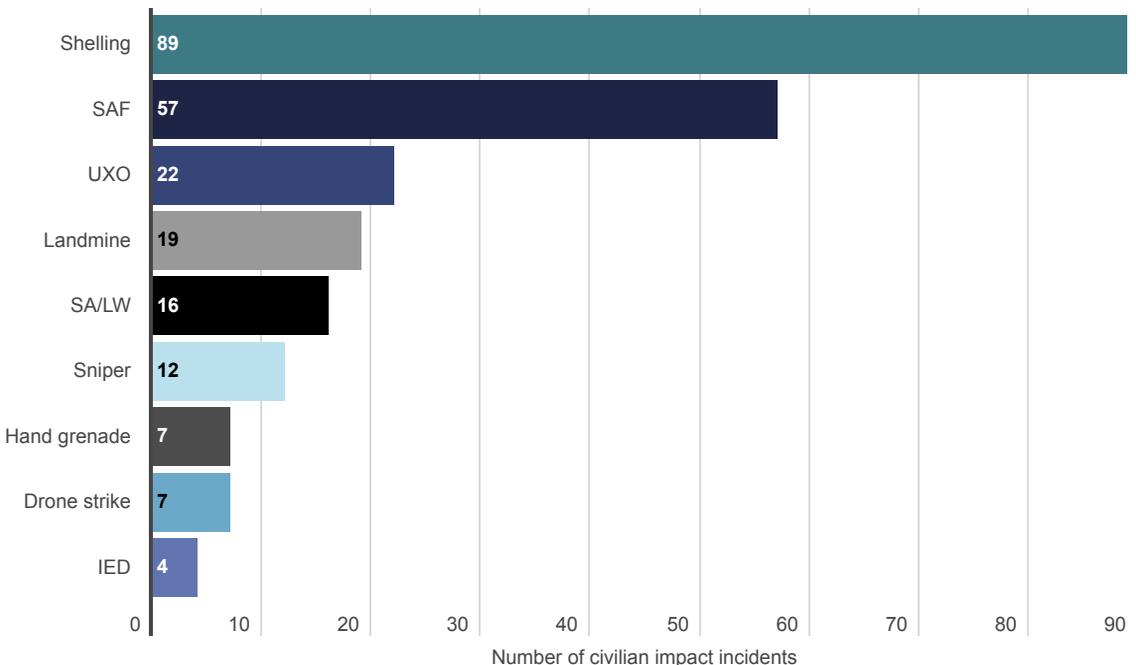
## NUMBER OF CIVILIAN CASUALTIES, DISAGGREGATED BY FATALITIES AND INJURIES, AND CIVILIAN IMPACT INCIDENTS PER QUARTER



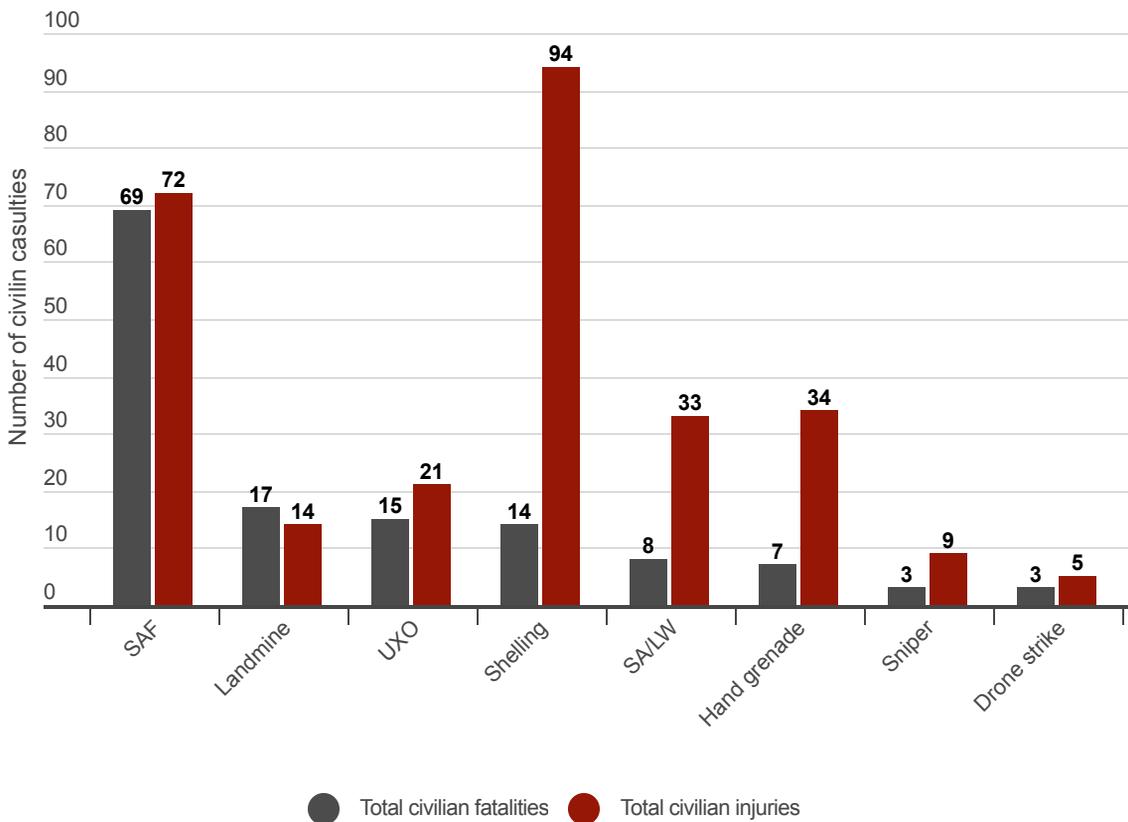
## NUMBER OF INCIDENTS IMPACTING CIVILIAN PROPERTY AND INFRASTRUCTURE DURING Q2 2023 BY TYPE OF ARMED VIOLENCE



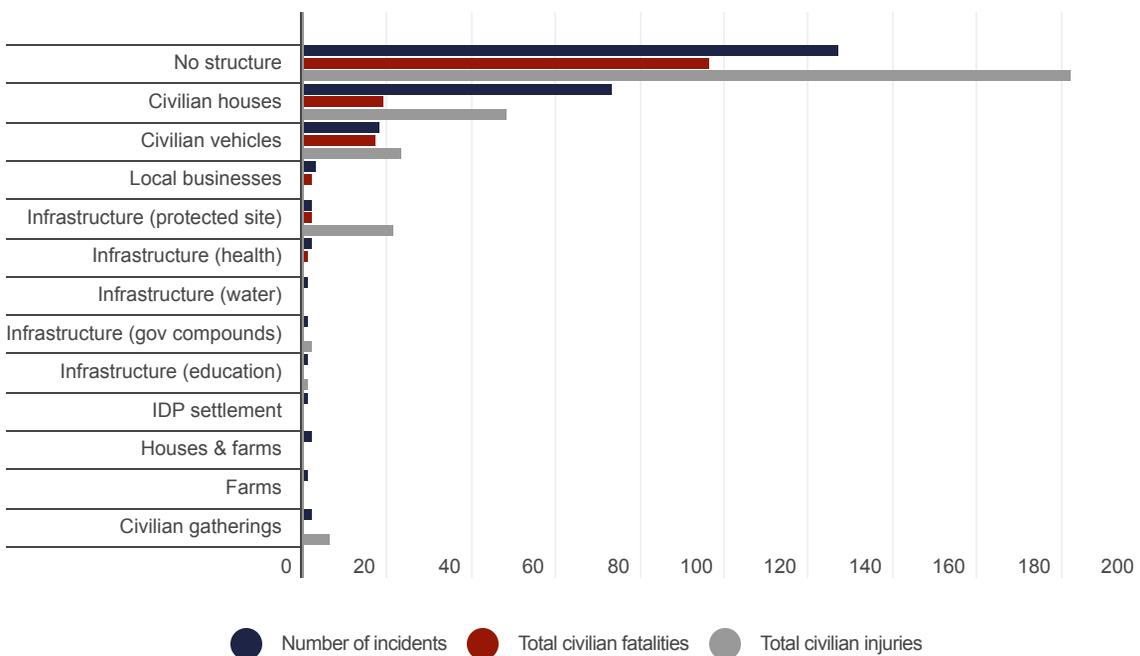
## INCIDENTS IMPACTING CIVILIANS IN Q2 2023 BY TYPE OF ARMED VIOLENCE



## CIVILIAN FATALITIES AND INJURIES BY TYPE OF ARMED VIOLENCE IN Q2 2023



## NUMBER OF INCIDENTS, FATALITIES AND INJURIES BY CIVILIAN STRUCTURE IN Q2 2023



## DIRECT PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS OF INCIDENTS OF ARMED VIOLENCE ON CIVILIANS



## INDIRECT PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS - HOUSEHOLDS EXPERIENCING RESTRICTED ACCESS



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](mailto:contact@civilianimpact.org) or visit our website: [civilianimpactmonitoring.org](http://civilianimpactmonitoring.org)