

# Ukraine: Protection of civilians in armed conflict

## August 2025 update



*The aftermath of a missile and loitering munition attack in Kyiv on 28 August.*

10 September 2025

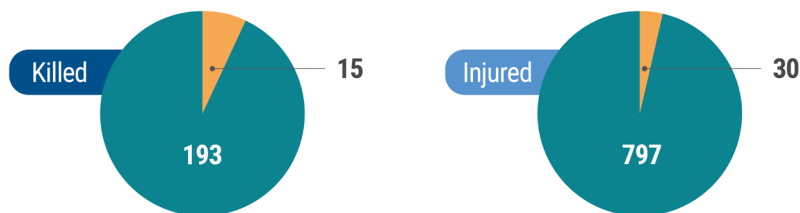
### Summary

- In August 2025, at least **208 civilians were killed and 827 injured**, a 41 per cent decrease from July 2025 (307 killed; 1,461 injured), mainly attributed to a reduction in long-range attacks targeting urban areas during the first weeks of August.
- Most casualties (around **72 percent**) occurred **near the frontline**, where overall civilian casualty levels remained consistent with recent months.
- **Short-range drones**, including First-Person-View drones, caused the highest number of casualties (58 killed; 272 injured), **surpassing the impact of any other weapon type** in August.
- **Long-range strikes with missiles and loitering munitions** launched by Russian armed forces were the second leading cause of civilian casualties, accounting for around **28 per cent** of the casualties (44 killed; 237 injured). These attacks continued to pose a serious threat to civilians, including in urban centres such as Kyiv, Zaporizhzhia, and Kharkiv.
- The remaining casualties were caused by artillery shelling and multiple launch rocket systems (260) and aerial bombs (146), near the frontline. Mines and explosive remnants of war caused 18 civilian casualties.
- As in previous month, the vast majority of civilian casualties (**96 per cent**)<sup>1</sup> occurred in areas controlled by the Government of Ukraine. Civilian casualties were recorded **across 15 regions of Ukraine and the city of Kyiv**, including the Zakarpattia region for the first time since 24 February 2022.
- August 2025 also saw **an increase** in attacks affecting energy infrastructure, **particularly gas facilities**. At least **9 such attacks** were documented in areas controlled by the Government of Ukraine.

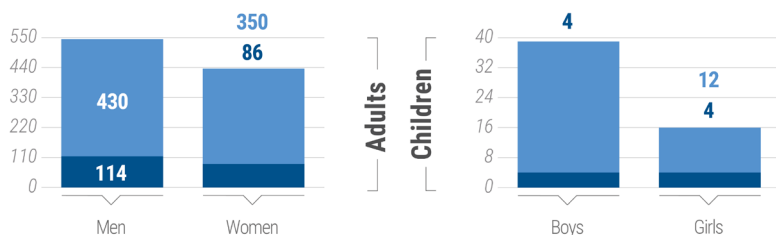
## Civilian casualties August 2025<sup>2</sup>

Total civilian casualties **1,035** [ **208** Killed **827** Injured ]

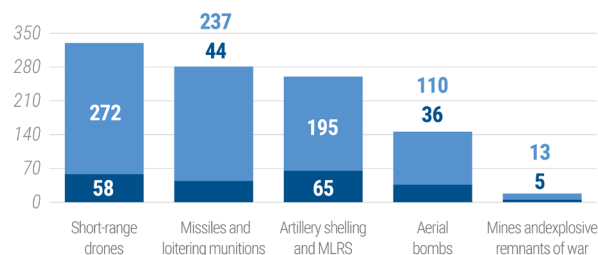
### 1. By territory where they occurred



### 2. By age and sex



### 3. By type of weapon/incident



## Representative incidents

*"My mother's legs were trapped under rubble, and she also had head injuries. I tried not to look in that direction because I was scared."*

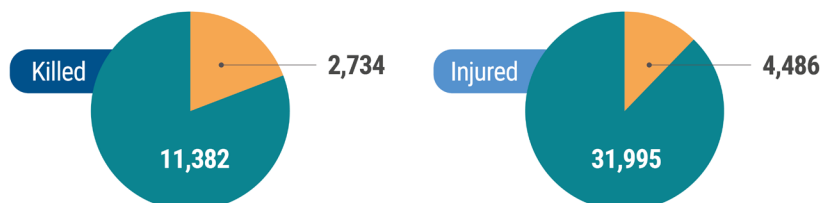
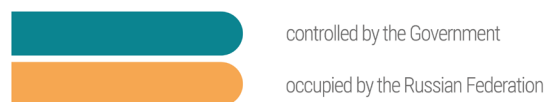
— a young woman injured in the 18 August attack on Kharkiv, which also killed her mother and injured her father and brother.

- » On 6 August, aerial glide bombs struck a resort near Kanivske, Zaporizhzhia region, killing a man and a woman, and injuring 12 civilians (7 men, 3 women, and 2 boys).
- » On 9 August, a short-range drone struck a passenger bus near Inzhenerne, Kherson region, killing 3 civilian men and injuring 15 civilians (9 women and 6 men).
- » On 10 August, aerial bombs struck the area near the central bus station in Zaporizhzhia, injuring 21 civilians (10 men, 8 women, and 3 boys).
- » On 18 August, a missile attack on Zaporizhzhia killed a 60-year-old man and injured 20 civilians (13 women, 4 men, 2 boys, and 1 girl).
- » On 18 August, a loitering munitions attack in Kharkiv struck a residential building, killing 7 civilians (4 women, 1 man, 1 boy, and 1 girl) and injuring at least 9 (4 men, 2 women, 2 boys, and 1 girl).
- » On 21 August, a large-scale attack with missiles and loitering munitions resulted in the first verified casualties in Zakarpattia region since 24 February 2022. In Mukacheve, 19 civilians were injured (14 women and 5 men).
- » On 28 August, a large-scale attack with missiles and loitering munitions struck Kyiv, resulting in at least 24 civilians killed (12 women, 8 men, 3 girls, and 1 boy) and 51 injured (24 women, 20 men, 6 boys, and 1 girl). The majority of those killed, including the children, were in a residential building that sustained significant damage during the attack.
- » On 30 August, a combined missile and loitering munitions attack on Zaporizhzhia killed 2 women and injured 33 civilians (16 men, 14 women, 2 boys, and 1 girl).

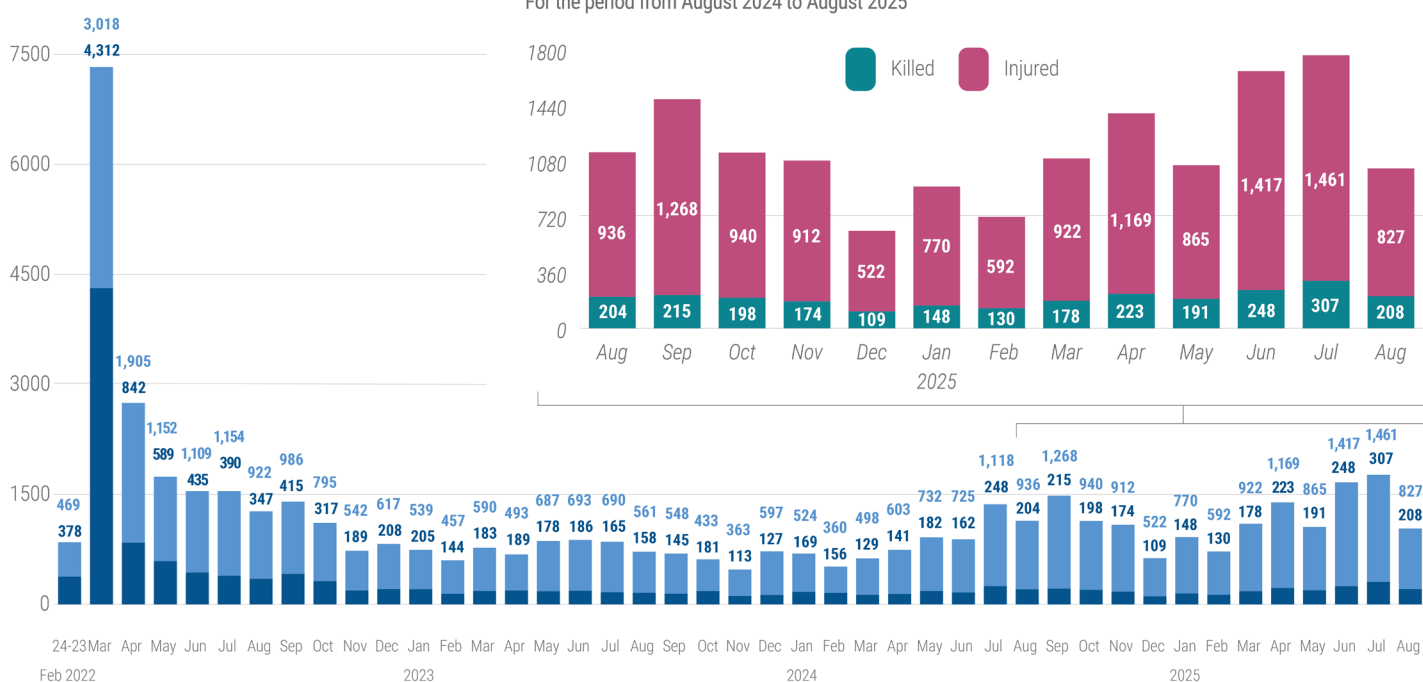
## Civilian casualties since 24 February 2022<sup>3</sup>

**Total civilian casualties** 50,597 [ 14,116 Killed 36,481 Injured ]

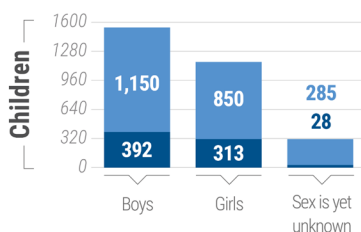
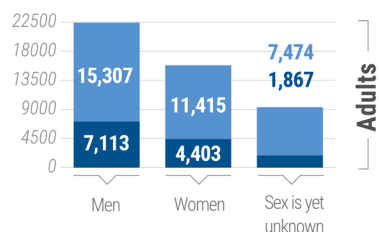
1. By territory where they occurred



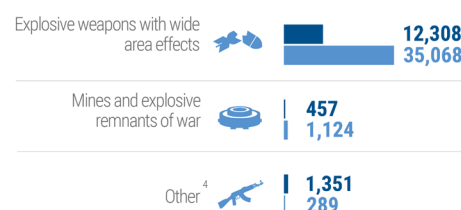
## 2. By month



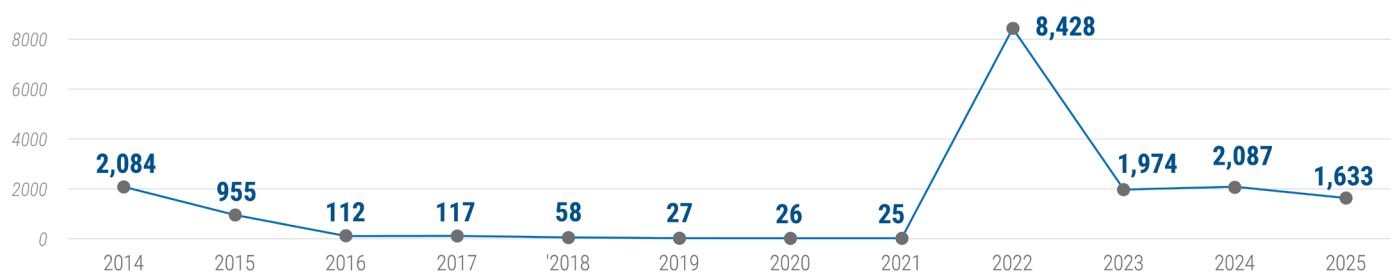
### 3. By age and sex



#### 4. By type of weapon/incident



## Civilians killed since 2014







## The UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine

HRMMU collects information about civilian harm from conflict-related violence from a wide range of sources, including through interviews with victims, their relatives, and witnesses; open-source information, including photo and video material; forensic records and reports; criminal investigation materials; court documents; reports by international and national non-governmental organisations; public reports by law enforcement and military actors; data from medical facilities and local authorities.

All sources and information are assessed for their relevance and credibility and cross-checked against other information. In some instances, corroboration takes time. This means that as more information becomes available, conclusions on civilian casualties may be revised and numbers may change.

Statistics presented in the current update are based on individual records of civilian harm where the “reasonable grounds to believe” standard of proof was met, namely where, based on a body of verified information, an ordinarily prudent observer would have reasonable

grounds to believe that the harm took place as described. HRMMU refers to information that meets this criterion as “verified.” When HRMMU has not yet verified a casualty or reported an individual case of death or injury, it does not necessarily mean that HRMMU has established the individual as an active member of an armed group or as someone who directly participated in hostilities. In many cases, the non-designation of an individual as a civilian reflects a lack of information, rather than a confirmation the individual’s status as a combatant.

The actual extent of civilian harm – both casualties and infrastructure damage – is likely considerably higher as many reports of civilian harm, particularly from the period immediately after the full-scale armed attack of 24 February 2022, have not been possible to verify due to the large number of reports and the lack of access to relevant areas. The number of civilian casualties is likely particularly undercounted in cities such as Mariupol (Donetsk region), Lysychansk, Popasna, and Sievierodonetsk (Luhansk region), where there was protracted intensive fighting at the start of the armed attack in 2022.

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<sup>1</sup> 990 civilian casualties in territory controlled by Ukraine and 45 in territory occupied by the Russian Federation.

<sup>2</sup> The actual number might be higher as some reports are still pending confirmation.

<sup>3</sup> In comparison with the previous update, an increase in total figures in this update is not only due to casualties that occurred in the reporting period, but also to the corroboration by OHCHR of cases that occurred before the reporting period.

<sup>4</sup> Incidents in which civilians were killed or injured by fire from small arms and light weapons, including as a result of crossfire, sniper fire, escalation of force incidents (cases in which military opened fire on civilians whom they perceived as a threat), and wilful killings, as well as road accidents involving either military vehicles or civilian vehicles driven by military in the area of hostilities.