



UNITED NATIONS  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER



# UKRAINE

PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS IN ARMED CONFLICT • MARCH 2026 UPDATE

# SUMMARY

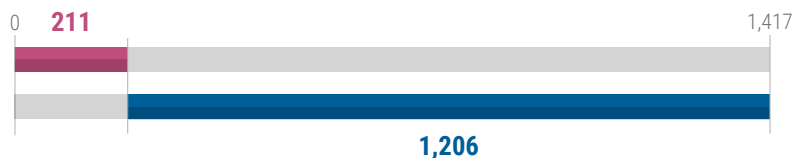
- In March 2026, at least **211 civilians were killed and 1,206 injured**, representing a **49 per cent increase** compared with February 2026 (191 killed; 759 injured) and a 29 per cent increase compared with March 2025 (178 killed; 922 injured). The number of civilian casualties in **March is the highest since July 2025<sup>1</sup>**.
- **Attacks with long-range weapons** (missiles and drones) remained the primary cause of civilian casualties, accounting for **36 per cent** of the total (61 killed; 448 injured), with most casualties occurring in cities and towns far from the frontline.
- **Short-range drones** were the second leading cause of civilian casualties (66 killed; 369 injured) and accounted for the **highest number of civilians killed in March in Ukraine**, while remaining the primary cause of civilian casualties near the frontline.
- Daily attacks near the frontline involving short-range drones, as well as artillery systems and aerial bombs, accounted for 63 per cent of civilian casualties in March, with **older persons disproportionately affected**, representing 50 per cent of those killed and 40 per cent of those injured<sup>2</sup>.
- The vast majority of civilian casualties (**97 per cent<sup>3</sup>**) occurred in areas under the control of the Government of Ukraine. Civilians were killed or injured across 19 regions of Ukraine and the city of Kyiv.
- **In the first quarter of 2026**, civilian casualties (566 killed; 2,731 injured) **were 20 per cent higher than in the first quarter of 2025** (456 killed; 2,284 injured) and remained at similarly high levels to the last quarter of 2025 (588 killed; 2,931 injured).
- Attacks by Russian armed forces on **Ukraine's energy, railway and port infrastructure** continued to severely disrupt daily life and put civilians at risk. In March, intensified **strikes on railway infrastructure affected at least 14 regions**. These attacks pose a serious threat to civilians, who rely on rail transport for evacuation from areas of active hostilities and for the delivery of essential supplies.

## CIVILIAN CASUALTIES MARCH 2026<sup>4</sup>

**1,417**

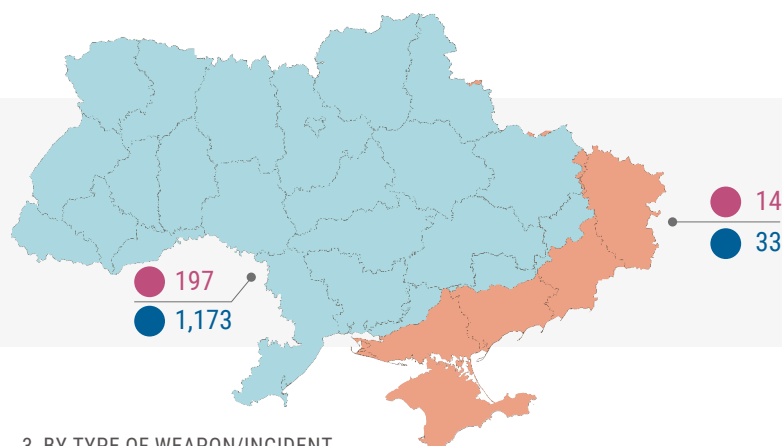
total civilian casualties

- killed
- injured

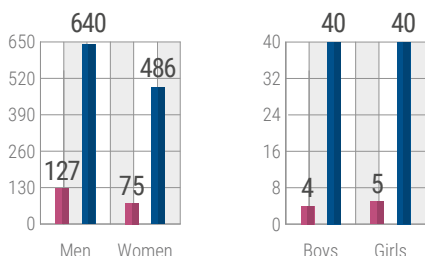


### 1. BY TERRITORY WHERE THEY OCCURRED

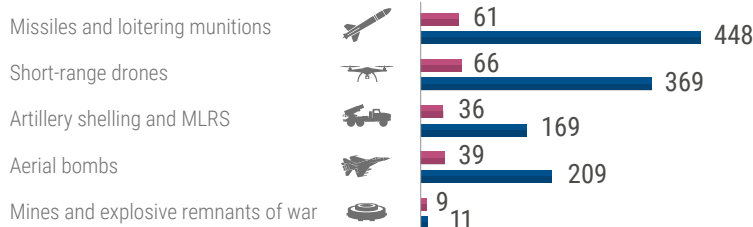
- controlled by the Government of Ukraine
- occupied by the Russian Federation



### 2. BY AGE AND SEX



### 3. BY TYPE OF WEAPON/INCIDENT



# CIVILIAN CASUALTIES: REPRESENTATIVE INCIDENTS<sup>5</sup>

***"Drones strike anything that is not already damaged... It is impossible to move around – everything is covered with fiber-optic cables used by drones."***

—a resident of a frontline community in Zaporizhzhia region.



On 7 March, a missile attack in Kharkiv City killed at least 10 civilians (7 women, 1 man, 1 boy and 1 girl) and injured 8 (4 women, 2 men and 2 boys).



On 10 March, an aerial bombardment of Sloviansk, Donetsk region, killed 5 civilians (3 women and 2 men) and injured at least 20 (11 women, 7 men, 1 boy and 1 girl).



On 14 March, a missile and loitering munitions attack struck several locations in Kyiv region, killing 6 civilians (5 men and 1 woman) and injuring at least 16 (8 women, 7 men, and 1 girl).



On 20 March, a drone struck a clearly marked Proliska NGO vehicle in Oleksiievo-Druzhkivka, Donetsk region, killing 2 female evacuees (aged 83 and 63) and injuring two other evacuees - a 65-year-old woman and a 66-year-old man. A male humanitarian worker driving the vehicle sustained a concussion.



On 24 March, a prolonged missile and loitering munition attack across Ukraine killed 5 civilians (4 men and 1 girl) and injured at least 91 (47 women, 37 men, 4 girls and 3 boys) across 8 regions.

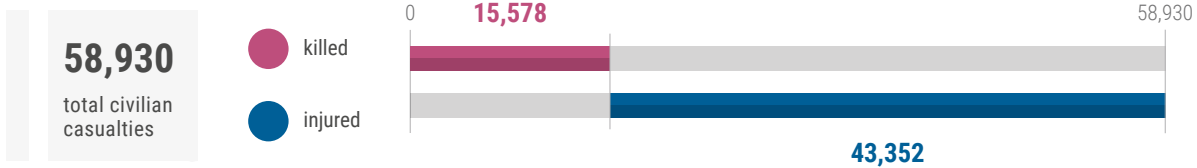


Daily attacks with artillery systems and short-range drones on Kherson City killed at least 14 civilians (9 women and 5 men) and injured 131 (65 women, 59 men, 4 boys and 3 girls).

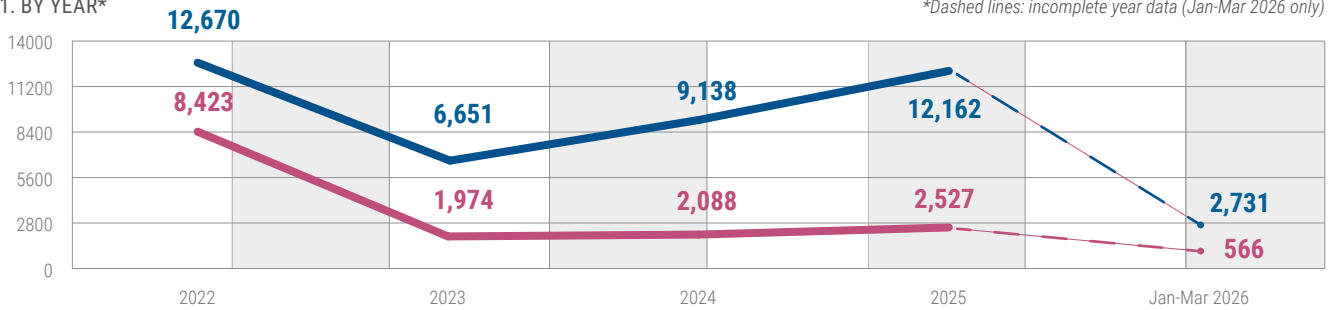


Anti-drone nets stretched across roads in Iziium, Kharkiv region.

# CIVILIAN CASUALTIES SINCE 24 FEBRUARY 2022



## 1. BY YEAR\*



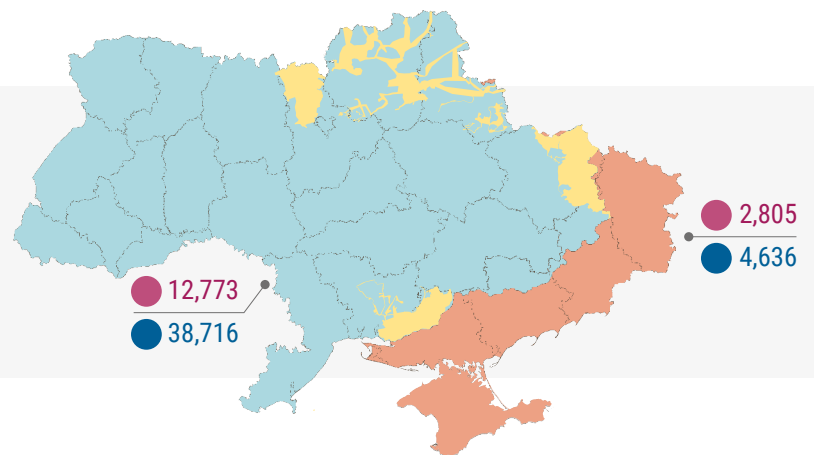
## 2. BY MONTHS\*\*

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>2022</b>		378*	4,313	842	589	435	390	347	415	317	189	208
	539	469	3,019	1,905	1,152	1,109	1,154	922	986	795	542	617
<b>2023</b>	205	144	183	189	178	186	165	158	145	181	113	127
	539	457	590	493	687	693	690	561	548	433	363	597
<b>2024</b>	169	156	130	141	182	162	248	204	215	198	174	109
	524	360	498	603	732	725	1,118	936	1,268	940	912	522
<b>2025</b>	148	130	178	223	191	249	312	259	249	181	241	166
	770	592	922	1,169	865	1,416	1,482	947	1,068	1,021	1,006	904
<b>2026</b>	164	191	211									
	766	759	1,206									

\*\*The data on killed and injured civilians in this update is presented for the period since 24 February 2022.

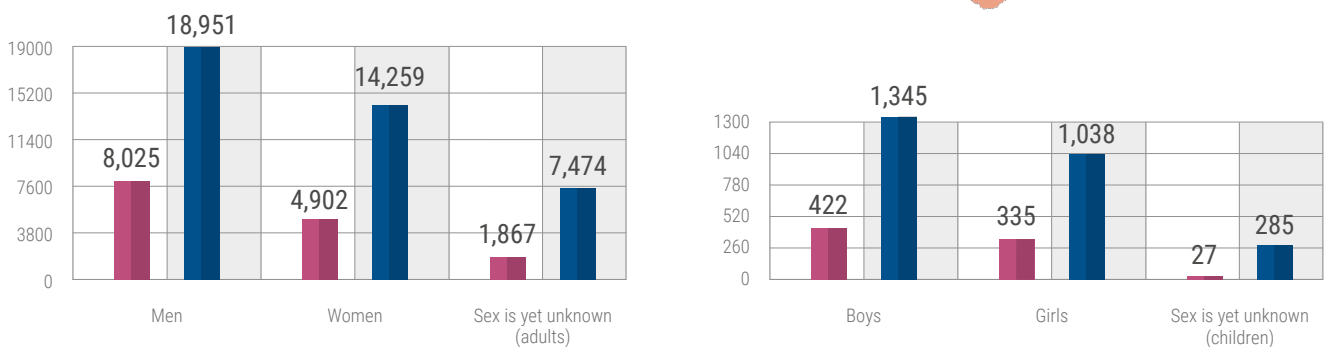
## 3. BY TERRITORY WHERE THEY OCCURRED\*\*\*

- controlled by the Government
- occupied by the Russian Federation
- areas over which Ukraine has regained control since 24 February 2022



\*\*\*Civilian casualty data on this map is presented by territory of control at the time of death or injury. Control of these areas may have changed since the incident occurred.

## 4. BY AGE AND SEX





# 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.

1. 312 killed and 1,482 injured.
2. Based on records of civilians whose age was known.
3. 1,370 civilian casualties in territory controlled by Ukraine and 47 in territory occupied by the Russian Federation.
4. The actual number might be higher as some reports are still pending confirmation.
5. Some high-casualty attacks, particularly in occupied territory, are not included in the data presented in this update due to limited information available to HRMMU and lack of access. For example, on 10 March, a drone attack reportedly killed 10 medical workers and injured 10 others at a hospital in occupied Donetsk. If verified, these figures will be included in future updates.
6. 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.