



UNITED NATIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

UKRAINE

PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS IN ARMED CONFLICT • SEPTEMBER 2026 UPDATE

SUMMARY



At least **328 civilians were killed and 2,105 injured in September 2026**, the highest for September since the start of the full-scale invasion, and 85 per cent higher than in September 2025 (249 killed; 1,068 injured).



Civilian casualties from January to September 2026 (2,570 killed; 15,211 injured) were **59 per cent higher** than in the same period in 2025 and **more than twice as high** as during same period in 2024.¹



Long-range weapons (missiles and drones) remained the **leading cause of civilian casualties**, accounting for **53 per cent of the total** (165 killed; 1,119 injured). **Short-range drones were the second leading cause** (87 killed; 475 injured), **accounting for 23 per cent** of all civilian casualties in September.



Civilians were killed and injured across **22 regions** of Ukraine and the city of Kyiv. The highest numbers of killed and injured were documented in **Kyiv** (32 killed; 340 injured), where civilian casualties were recorded on 22 of 30 days, more frequently than in any previous month since the start of the full-scale invasion. Other cities heavily affected were **Kherson** (16 killed; 202 injured), **Sumy** (11 killed; 131 injured), and **Zaporizhzhia** (7 killed; 127 injured).



The verified figures include 18 civilians killed and 44 injured in **territory of Ukraine occupied by the Russian Federation**. According to public statements by Russian authorities on individual incidents in September, at least 87 people were killed and 436 injured in occupied territory and at least 53 people were killed and 462 injured in the Russian Federation. Due to lack of access and independent sources of information, HRMMU has not been able to verify the vast majority of allegations.

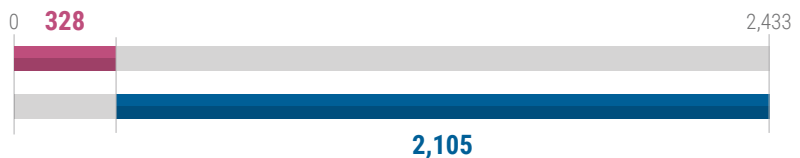


Russian armed forces **resumed large-scale coordinated attacks on electricity and heating infrastructure across Ukraine**. On 30 September, attacks damaged electricity generation, distribution and transmission facilities in three regions and Kyiv city, causing emergency power outages. Ukrainian armed forces attacked electricity infrastructure in territory of Ukraine occupied by the Russian Federation.

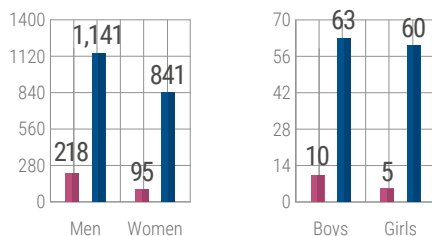
CIVILIAN CASUALTIES SEPTEMBER 2026²

2,433

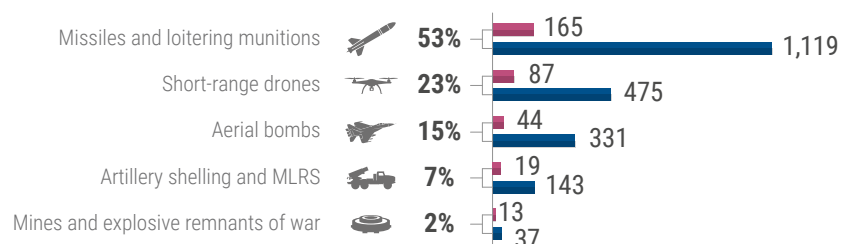
total civilian casualties



1. BY AGE AND SEX



2. BY TYPE OF WEAPON/INCIDENT



CIVILIAN CASUALTIES: REPRESENTATIVE INCIDENTS³

“My mother was injured in both legs, her chest and head when a bomb exploded next to our apartment building. We were lucky the ambulance arrived immediately and took her to hospital. Her injuries are serious, and she has a long recovery ahead of her.”

— A woman in her 60s described the injuries her 81-year-old mother sustained during an aerial bomb attack in Izium, Kharkiv region, on 22 September .



Aftermath of a drone attack on residential areas of Mykolaiv city on 9 September 2026.



On 1 September, a missile and drone attack on Kyiv city killed 9 civilians, including 7 railway workers, and injured at least 6 (4 men, 1 woman, and 1 boy).



On 10 September, a drone attack on Pavlohrad, Dnipropetrovsk region, damaged a shopping centre, killing 5 civilian men and injuring 68 civilians (32 women, 29 men, 4 boys, and 3 girls).



On 23 September, an aerial bombardment in Oleksandrivka, Donetsk region, killed at least 6 civilians (4 women and 2 men) and injured 6 (4 men, 1 woman, and 1 boy).

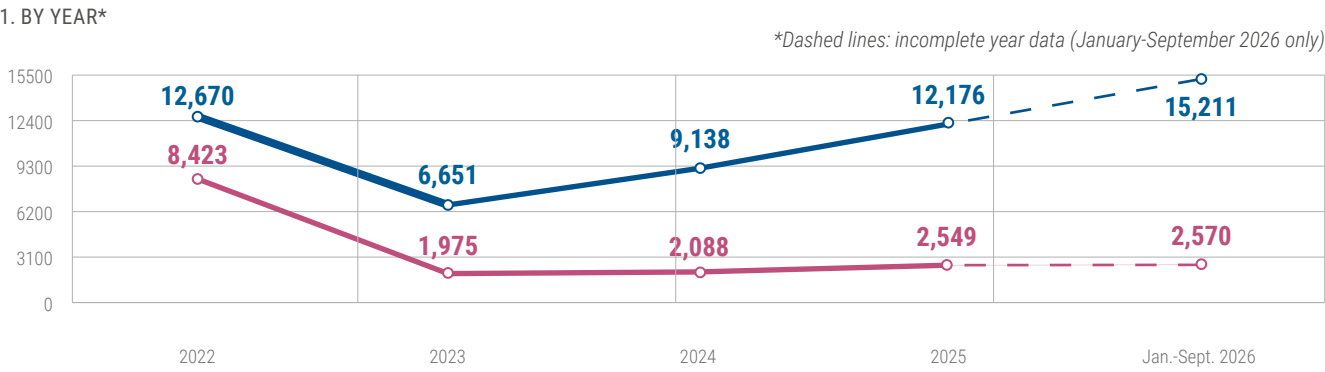
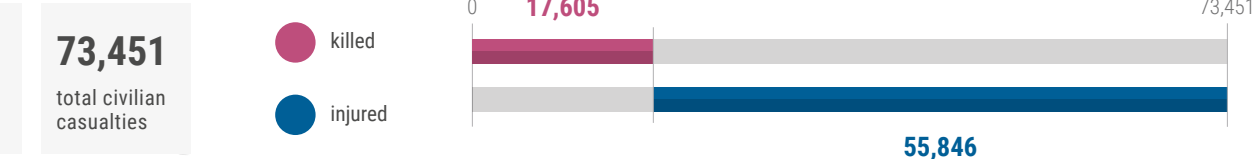


On 24 September, a drone attack on an agricultural facility in Stara Hnylytsia, Kharkiv region, killed 6 civilians (4 women and 2 men) and injured 10 (8 women and 2 men).



On 25 September, multiple attacks involving jet-powered drones on residential areas of Kyiv city killed 7 civilians (4 men, 2 women, and 1 boy) and injured 64 (34 women, 28 men, and 2 boys).

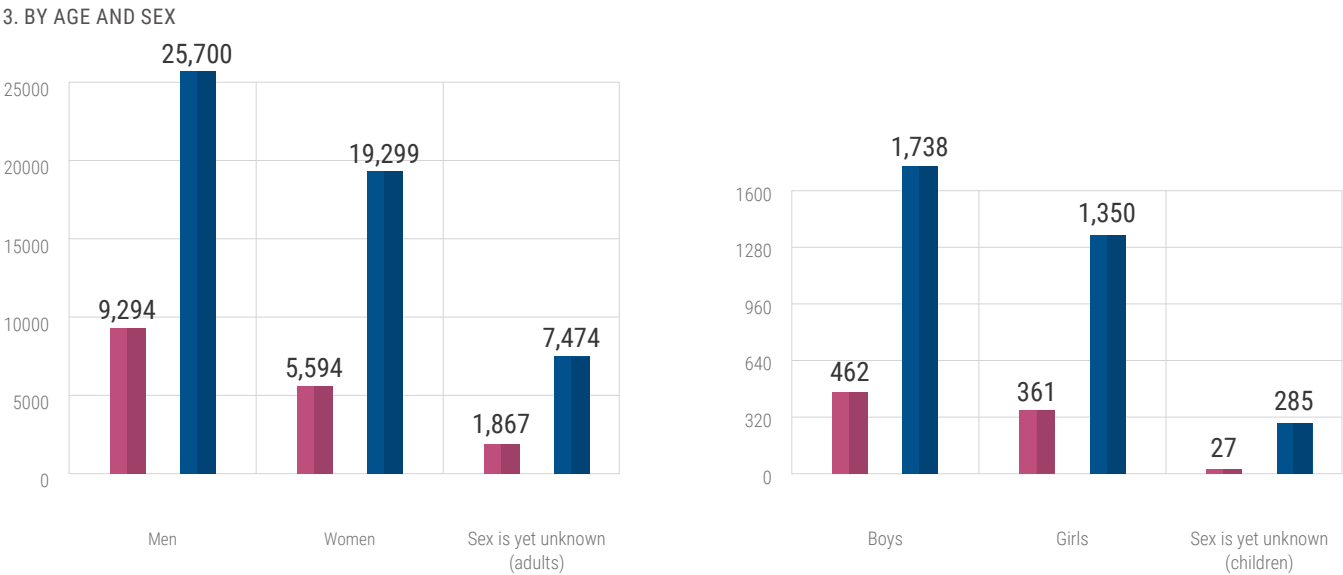
CIVILIAN CASUALTIES SINCE 24 FEBRUARY 2022



2. BY MONTHS**

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2022		378* 469	4,313 3,019	842 1,905	589 1,152	435 1,109	390 1,154	347 922	415 986	317 795	189 542	208 617
2023	205 539	144 457	183 590	189 493	178 687	186 693	166 690	158 561	145 548	181 433	113 363	127 597
2024	169 524	156 360	130 498	141 603	182 732	162 725	248 1,118	204 936	215 1,268	198 940	174 912	109 522
2025	149 770	131 592	179 922	223 1,169	191 865	249 1,416	312 1,482	260 949	249 1,068	183 1,021	242 1,006	181 916
2026	167 767	195 761	218 1,242	242 1,423	285 1,796	298 2,056	448 2,695	389 2,366	328 2,105			

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





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. January-September 2024: 1,607 killed and 6,764 injured; January-September 2025: 1,943 killed and 9,233 injured.
2. The actual number might be higher as some reports are still pending confirmation.
3. 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 HRMMU of cases that occurred before the reporting period.