Civilian casualties in Ukraine
from 24 February 2022 to 15 February 2023

1. Total civilian casualties

From 24 February 2022, which marked the start of the large-scale armed attack by the Russian Federation, to 15 February 2023, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has recorded 21,293 civilian casualties in 1,141 settlements of Ukraine, including 8,006 killed and 13,287 injured. Of those casualties among adults whose sex was known, men comprised 61.1 per cent and women comprised 39.9 per cent. Of those casualties among children whose sex was known, boys comprised 57.0 percent, and girls comprised 43.0 per cent.

OHCHR has also received information regarding 21 civilian casualties, with 6 killed (5 men and 1 woman) and 15 injured (2 children and 13 adults, whose sex is yet unknown), in the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine (hereinafter Crimea), occupied by the Russian Federation.

Actual numbers of civilian casualties are considerably higher, as many reports of alleged individual civilian casualties in certain locations are still pending corroboration. Such locations include Mariupol (Donetsk region), and Lysychansk, Popasna, and Sievierodonetsk (Luhansk region).

OHCHR has also received information regarding 160 civilian casualties, with 30 killed (15 men, 13 women, and 2 boys) and 130 injured (38 men, 26 women, 7 boys, 2 girls, as well as 3 children, and 54 adults, whose sex is yet unknown), in the territory of the Russian Federation.

1 The increase in figures in this update compared with figures in the most recent updates published by OHCHR is due to the fact that corroboration has been completed on a number of reported civilian casualties that occurred in 2022 both in territory controlled by the Government, and in areas which were occupied by the Russian Federation when casualties occurred.

2 Because of the lack of corroborating information, the alleged civilian casualties in Crimea are still pending verification and have not been included in the total civilian casualty figures above.

3 Because of the lack of corroborating information, the alleged civilian casualties in the territory of the Russian Federation are still pending verification and have not been included in the total civilian casualty figures above.
UKRAINE: TOTAL CIVILIAN CASUALTIES*, PER MONTH, from 24 February 2022 to 15 February 2023

* Individual cases verified by OHCHR; actual numbers are considerably higher (especially in March, April and May)

Creation Date: 16 February 2023  Source: OHCHR HRMMU

UKRAINE: TOTAL CIVILIAN CASUALTIES*, PER TYPE OF WEAPON/INCIDENT, from 24 February 2022 to 15 February 2023

* Individual cases verified by OHCHR; actual numbers are considerably higher

1 Incidents in which civilians were killed or injured by shelling from artillery, tanks and multiple launch rocket systems (MLRS), by cruise and ballistic missiles (air, sea and land-based), and by air strikes, including loitering munitions and other unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).

2 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.

Creation Date: 16 February 2023  Source: OHCHR HRMMU

Embargoed until 21 February 2023, 11:30 Kyiv time (10:30 CET)
2. Civilian casualties caused by explosive weapons with wide area effects

From 24 February 2022 to 15 February 2023, OHCHR recorded 19,220 civilian casualties caused by the use of explosive weapons with wide area effects: 6,585 killed and 12,635 injured. They account for 90.3 per cent of all civilian casualties recorded by OHCHR during that period. The absolute majority of them occurred in populated areas. Of them, 84.2 per cent were recorded in territory controlled by the Government when they occurred, and 15.8 per cent – in territory occupied by the Russian Federation when casualties occurred.
UKRAINE: CIVILIAN CASUALTIES CAUSED BY EXPLOSIVE WEAPONS WITH WIDE AREA EFFECTS*, PER MONTH, from 24 February 2022 to 15 February 2023

* Individual cases verified by OHCHR; actual numbers are considerably higher (especially in March, April and May)

UKRAINE: NUMBERS OF SETTLEMENTS IN WHICH CIVILIAN CASUALTIES WERE CAUSED BY EXPLOSIVE WEAPONS WITH WIDE AREA EFFECTS, PER MONTH, from 24 February 2022 to 15 February 2023

Embargoed until 21 February 2023, 11:30 Kyiv time (10:30 CET)
Civilian casualties caused by attacks on critical infrastructure in Government-controlled territory

Since 10 October 2022, Russian armed forces have initiated a series of strikes using cruise and ballistic missiles, ground-to-air rockets against ground targets, and loitering munitions targeting critical infrastructure objects, in particular energy objects, across Ukraine. In total, by 15 February 2023, these strikes had killed at least 116 civilians and injured at least 393. They comprised 18.9 per cent of the total number of civilian casualties caused by explosive weapons with wide area effects in Government-controlled territory since 10 October 2022.

**UKRAINE: CIVILIAN CASUALTIES CAUSED BY ATTACKS ON CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED TERRITORY**, PER AGE AND SEX, from 10 October 2022 to 15 February 2023

* Individual cases verified by OHCHR; actual numbers are considerably higher

**UKRAINE: CIVILIANS KILLED BY EXPLOSIVE WEAPONS WITH WIDE AREA EFFECTS IN GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED TERRITORY**, PER MONTH, from 10 October 2022 to 15 February 2023

* Individual cases verified by OHCHR; actual numbers are higher

Embargoed until 21 February 2023, 11:30 Kyiv time (10:30 CET)
3. Civilian casualties caused by mines and explosive remnants of war

From 24 February 2022 to 15 February 2023, OHCHR recorded 632 civilian casualties caused by mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW): 219 killed and 413 injured.
4. Civilian casualties among children

From 24 February 2022 to 15 February 2023, OHCHR recorded 1,441 civilian casualties among children in Ukraine: 487 killed and 954 injured. Their actual numbers are considerably higher.

![Graph showing civilian casualties among children in Ukraine]

* Individual cases verified by OHCHR; actual numbers are considerably higher

1 Incidents in which civilians were killed or injured by shelling from artillery, tanks and multiple launch rocket systems (MLRS), by cruise and ballistic missiles (air, sea and land-based), and by air strikes, including loitering munitions and other unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).

2 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.
UKRAINE: CIVILIAN CASUALTIES AMONG CHILDREN*, PER MONTH, from 24 February 2022 to 15 February 2023

* Individual cases verified by OHCHR; actual numbers are considerably higher (especially in March, April and May)

Creation Date: 16 February 2023  Source: OHCHR HRMMU

UKRAINE: CIVILIAN CASUALTIES AMONG CHILDREN*, PER YEAR, from 2014 to 2022

* Individual cases verified by OHCHR; actual numbers in 2022 are considerably higher

Note: Children who perished on Malaysian airlines flight MH17 on 17 July 2014 are not included.

Creation Date: 16 February 2023  Source: OHCHR HRMMU

Embargoed until 21 February 2023, 11:30 Kyiv time (10:30 CET)
The UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine

Since 2014, OHCHR has been documenting civilian casualties in Ukraine. Reports are based on information that the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU) collected through interviews with victims and their relatives; witnesses; analysis of corroborating material confidentially shared with HRMMU; official records; open-source documents, photo and video materials; 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 may take time. This may mean that conclusions on civilian casualties may be revised as more information becomes available and numbers may change as new information emerges over time. Statistics presented in the current update are based on individual civilian casualty records 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 casualty took place as described.

ENDS

Ukrainian and Russian language versions of this update can be accessed at:

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