

CIMP QUARTERLY REPORT

Q3 2022: JULY - SEPTEMBER 2022

This is the Civilian Impact Monitoring Project quarterly report, providing an overview of all incidents of armed violence reported across Yemen in July, August and September 2022 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.

ANALYTICAL HIGHLIGHTS

481 civilians killed or injured by armed violence during Q3 2022

Q3 2022 saw a slight increase in civilian casualties, up 5% to 481 from 457 during Q2 2022. The increase was on account of a hike in civilian injuries; 351 civilians were reported to have sustained injuries as a result of armed violence in Q3 2022, compared to 298 in Q2. Meanwhile, the number of fatalities decreased, from 159 to 130 in Q3. The most notable increase in Q3 was among child casualties. During Q2, armed violence resulted in 61 child casualties, which had been the lowest on CIMP records. However, in Q3, this rose up to 108, surpassing the 2021 quarterly average child casualty count of 105. Sa'dah saw more civilian casualties than any other governorate throughout Q3, at 98, followed by 85 in Hudaydah and 77 in Ta'izz.

Lower casualty numbers coincide with six-month truce, but ERW casualties increase

The UN-mediated truce entered into force on 2 April 2022, lasting for six months, through Q2 and Q3 2022. Civilian casualty numbers were significantly lower in this time, especially when compared to the spike in civilian casualties seen during Q1. The average quarterly casualty count during the six months of the truce was 469, well below the average quarterly casualty count throughout 2021, of 627. Moreover, the main type of armed violence responsible for civilian casualties during the six months of the truce was ERW, including landmines and UXO, whereas during every quarter prior to the truce commencing since CIMP began monitoring at the start of 2018, ERW casualty numbers have been superseded by shelling casualty numbers, and often also by airstrike and shooting casualty numbers.

Explosion at weapons store in Lawdar, Abyan, results in 43 civilian casualties

The incident to see the highest number of civilian casualties over the past quarter was in Lawdar city, Abyan. On 5 July, a weapons store next to a busy arms market in the city exploded, killing six civilians and injuring another 37. A residential building above the store was also demolished, while houses, shops and vehicles in the vicinity sustained damages. The high casualty count was driven by the crowded nature of the area, with the blast taking place during working hours. It is unclear as to what caused the blast, but it appears to have been an accident. The incident was responsible for a fifth of all 221 civilian casualties reported in the governorate since CIMP commenced reporting at the start of 2018, another half of whom have been the result of shooting incidents.

Border violence in western Sa'dah drove a spate of mass casualty incidents

Despite the truce over the past six months, intermittent reports of border violence have persisted on the western border of Sa'dah, including during Q3 2022, predominantly in Shada'a and Razih districts. In the incident to see the highest casualty count on the border, on 8 September, four civilians were killed and 18 others injured when artillery shells hit border areas in Shada'a. The group were allegedly qat smugglers. Moreover, on 10 July, at least one civilian was killed and 16 others were injured when artillery shells hit the Birkan area in Razih. As well as artillery fire, shootings from border outposts and border patrols, most likely with machine guns, have also driven civilian casualties in the border areas. On 17 July, 10 civilians were injured amid light weapons fire along the Razih border, and three days later, one civilian was killed and five others injured by light weapons fire in the Shada'a border. During Q3 2022, 92 of the 98 civilian casualties in Sa'dah were reported in the western border districts, including 54 on account of artillery fire, 24 on account of light weapons fire, and another 14 ERW casualties. This marks an increase compared to Q2 2022, when artillery was responsible for 18 civilian casualties and light weapons fire for two civilian casualties. Civilians in border areas, including those involved in informal trade networks or attempting crossings, are at particularly high risk of harm amid ongoing border violence. There have already been further reports of casualties among civilians involved in informal qat trading networks on the border in Q4, also in Shada'a.

Civilian casualties increase in Ta'izz city for second consecutive quarter

41 civilian casualties were reported in Ta'izz city during Q3 2022, more than half of the total Q3 civilian casualty count across the governorate of 77. This also marks the second quarter during which reports of civilian casualties in the city have increased, and is the highest quarterly civilian casualty count to be reported in the city since Q1 2021. The high casualty numbers were driven in part by a mass casualty incident on 22 July, when a 7-year-old boy was killed and 11 other children were injured when artillery shells hit Ar Rawda neighbourhood in Al-Qahirah district, in the city centre. Shelling was responsible for another five civilian casualties in the city during Q3. Sniper fire was responsible for the second highest number of civilian casualties, at 14, the highest number of civilian sniper casualties to be reported in the city during one quarter since Q3 2018. It remains unclear as to what drove the increase, but despite the truce, hostilities have been persisting in close proximity to residential areas, in the east, north and west of the city, presenting an ongoing threat to civilian inhabitants.

ERW casualties surge, especially on the west coast, likely exacerbated by flooding

Landmines and UXO were responsible for 164 civilian casualties across Yemen during Q3 2022, the highest on CIMP records. Rates were particularly high in July 2022, when 69 ERW casualties were reported. The west coast continues to see among the highest rates of ERW casualties, due likely to the entrenched nature of the frontlines around Hudaydah city and to the south for over three years. Of the 164, 71 were reported in Hudaydah, which has been seeing heightened ERW casualty numbers since the frontlines shifted south in November 2021, likely as the drop in hostilities around Hudaydah city and its environs gave civilians the confidence to return home, but not necessarily to areas that had been fully cleared of remnant explosives. Another factor likely to have exacerbated the ERW threat over the summer months was the heavy rainfall, which may have caused unexploded devices to drift into areas previously considered safe, and brought others to the surface, including in residential and agricultural areas, and along roads. For example, another high casualty incident was reported in southern Jawf, where there were several reports of heavy rains washing landmines onto the desert roads in the area. On 24 August, seven civilians, including five women and a child, were injured in a landmine explosion while driving through the Libnat area in Khabb wa ash Sha'af district.

Children casualties increase, due to uptick in child ERW casualties

108 child casualties were reported across Yemen in 2022, marking a 77% increase from the 61 child casualties reported in Q2 2022. More than two thirds (69%) of the child casualties were on account of explosive remnants of warfare (ERW), including 41 child casualties reported as a result of UXO incidents, and another 33 in landmine explosions. During the previous quarter, ERW resulted in 39 child casualties. In the incident to see the highest number of child ERW casualties during Q3, on 24 September, 10 children were injured when a UXO exploded in Al-Jah in Bayt Al-Faqih district, just south of Hudaydah city. Children are particularly vulnerable to UXO incidents, due to their inquisitiveness and lack of threat awareness making them more likely to tamper with unfamiliar devices, and also due to their heightened mobility, including in areas that may not yet have been cleared.

Increase in reports of drone incidents impacting civilian houses in frontline areas

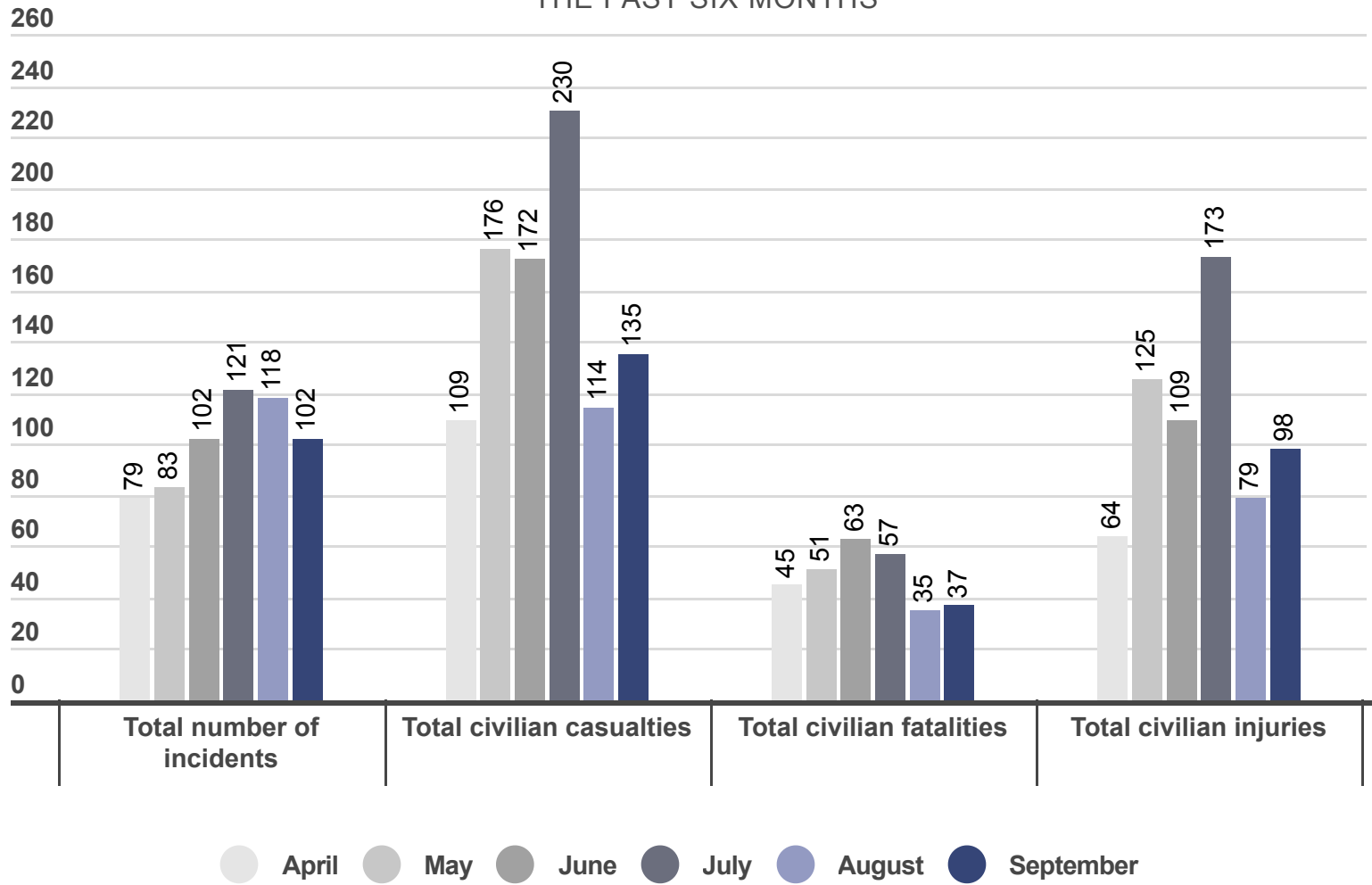
There was a significant increase in reports of civilian homes being impacted by armed violence during Q3 2022. 168 incidents of armed violence were reported to have impacted civilian houses during Q3, the highest since Q1 2021, and almost double the 90 incidents reported during Q2 2022. 115 of these incidents were allegedly the result of drones; during the six months of the truce, there was a steady increase in reports of drones being used to drop explosives onto targets, but residential areas were also reported to have been impacted. Another 37 instances were the result of shellfire, as intermittent hostilities were reported to have continued in the frontline areas despite the countrywide truce. The majority of reports of homes being impacted were seen on the frontlines in Dali' (45), Ta'izz (44) and Hudaydah (43).

NATIONWIDE SNAPSHOT: CIVILIAN IMPACT FROM INCIDENTS OF ARMED VIOLENCE Q3 2022: JULY - SEPTEMBER 2022

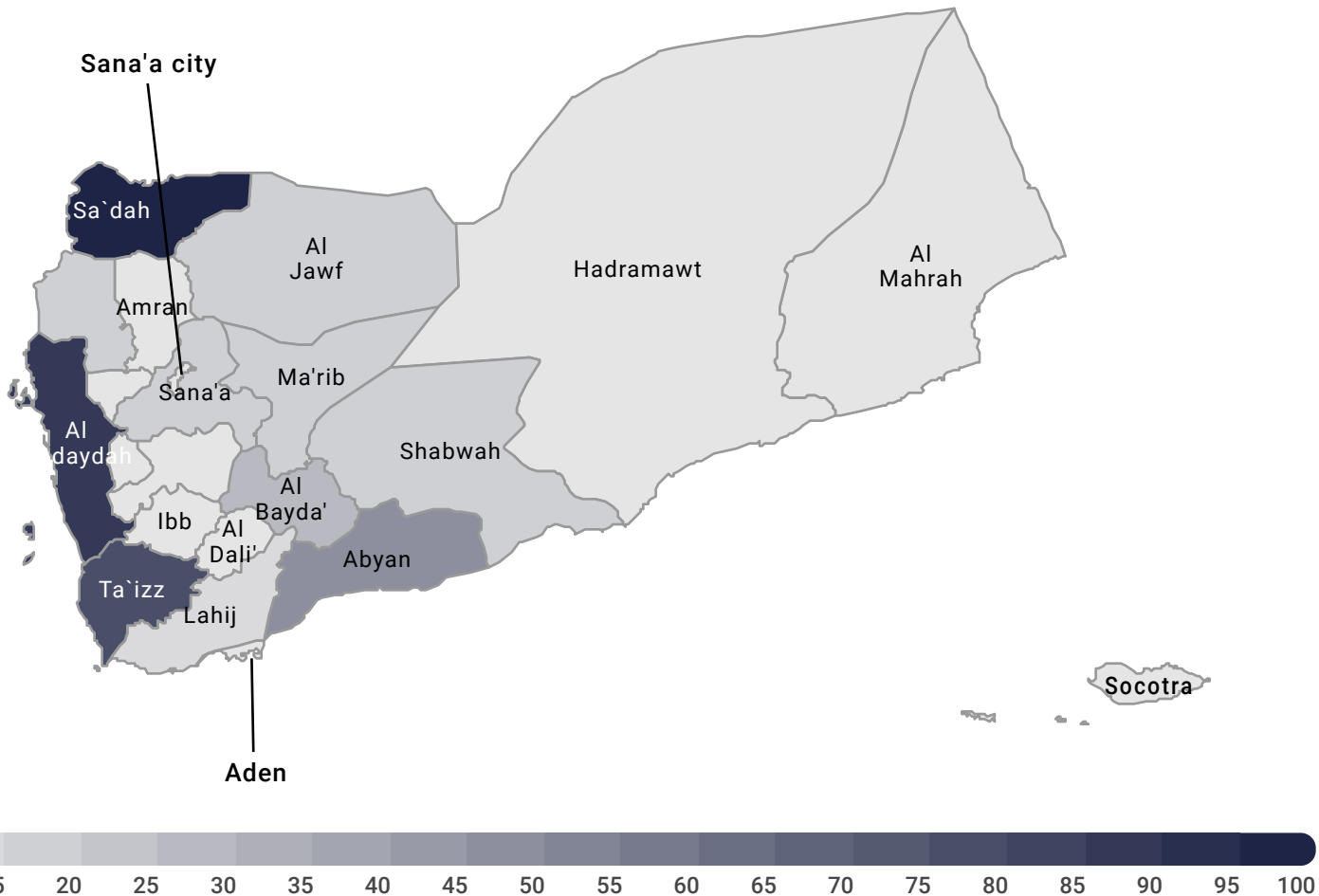
	Total number	Compared to previous quarter	Compared to 2021 average
Civilian Impact Incidents	342	+ 29%	- 13%
Civilian Casualties* (Fatalities / Injuries)	481 (130 / 351)	+ 5%	- 23%
Child Casualties (Fatalities / Injuries)	108 (18 / 90)	+ 77%	+ 2%
Women Casualties (Fatalities / Injuries)	30 (6 / 24)	- 38%	- 43%

**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*

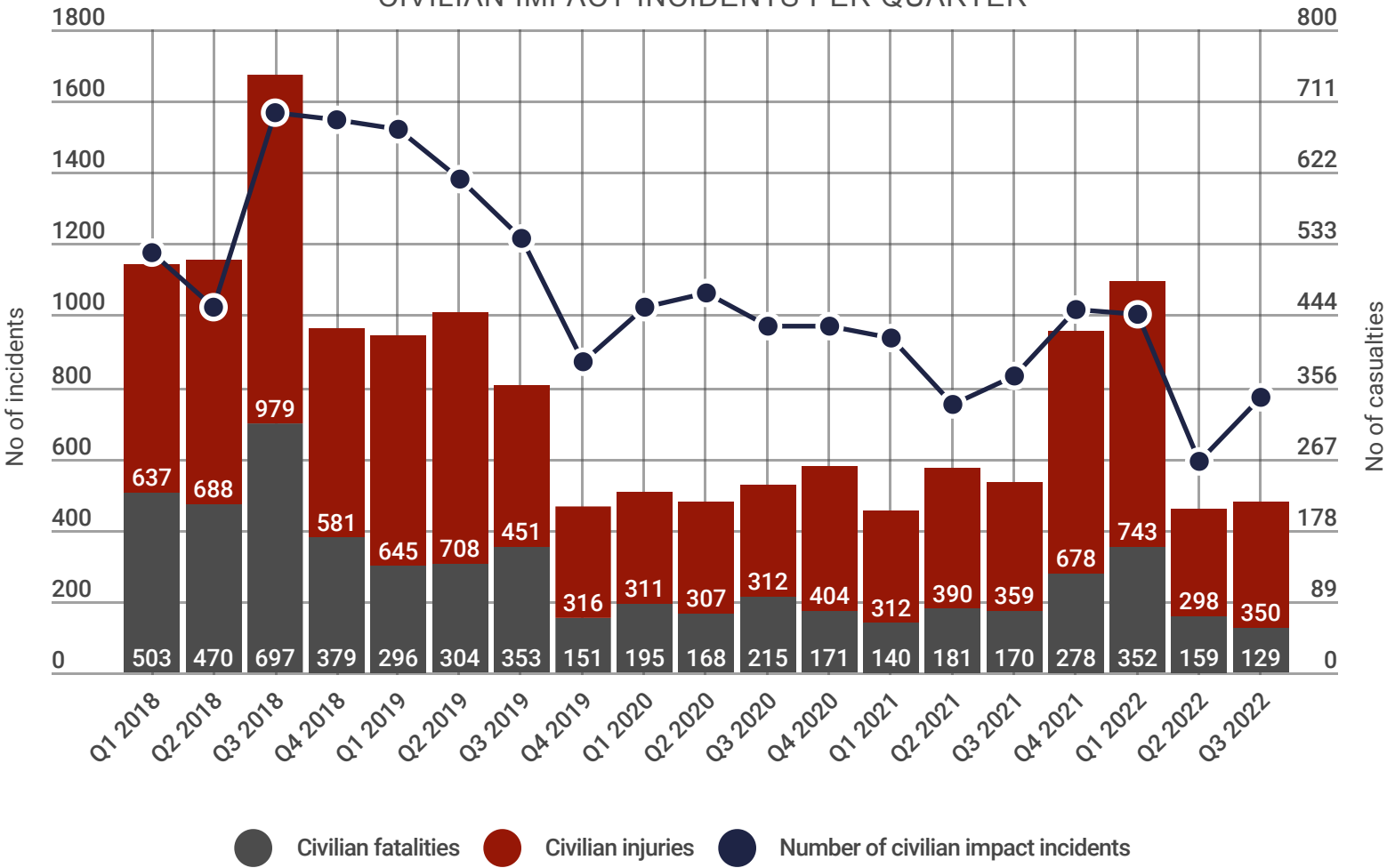
TOTAL NUMBER OF CIVILIAN IMPACT INCIDENTS AND CIVILIAN CASUALTIES BY MONTH OVER THE PAST SIX MONTHS



DISTRIBUTION OF CIVILIAN CASUALTIES IN Q3 2022 BY GOVERNORATE



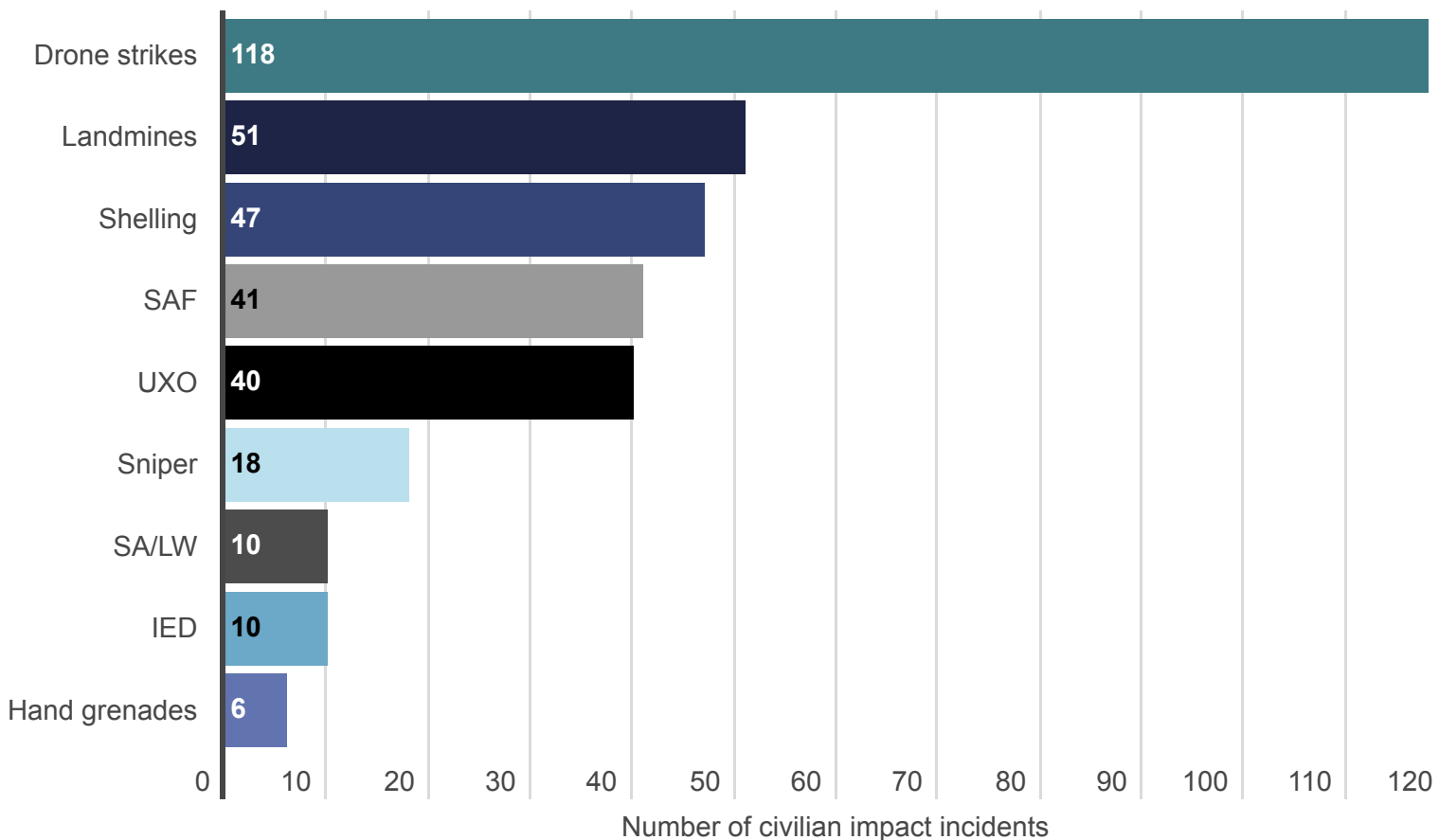
NUMBER OF CIVILIAN CASUALTIES, DISAGGREGATED BY FATALITIES AND INJURIES, AND CIVILIAN IMPACT INCIDENTS PER QUARTER



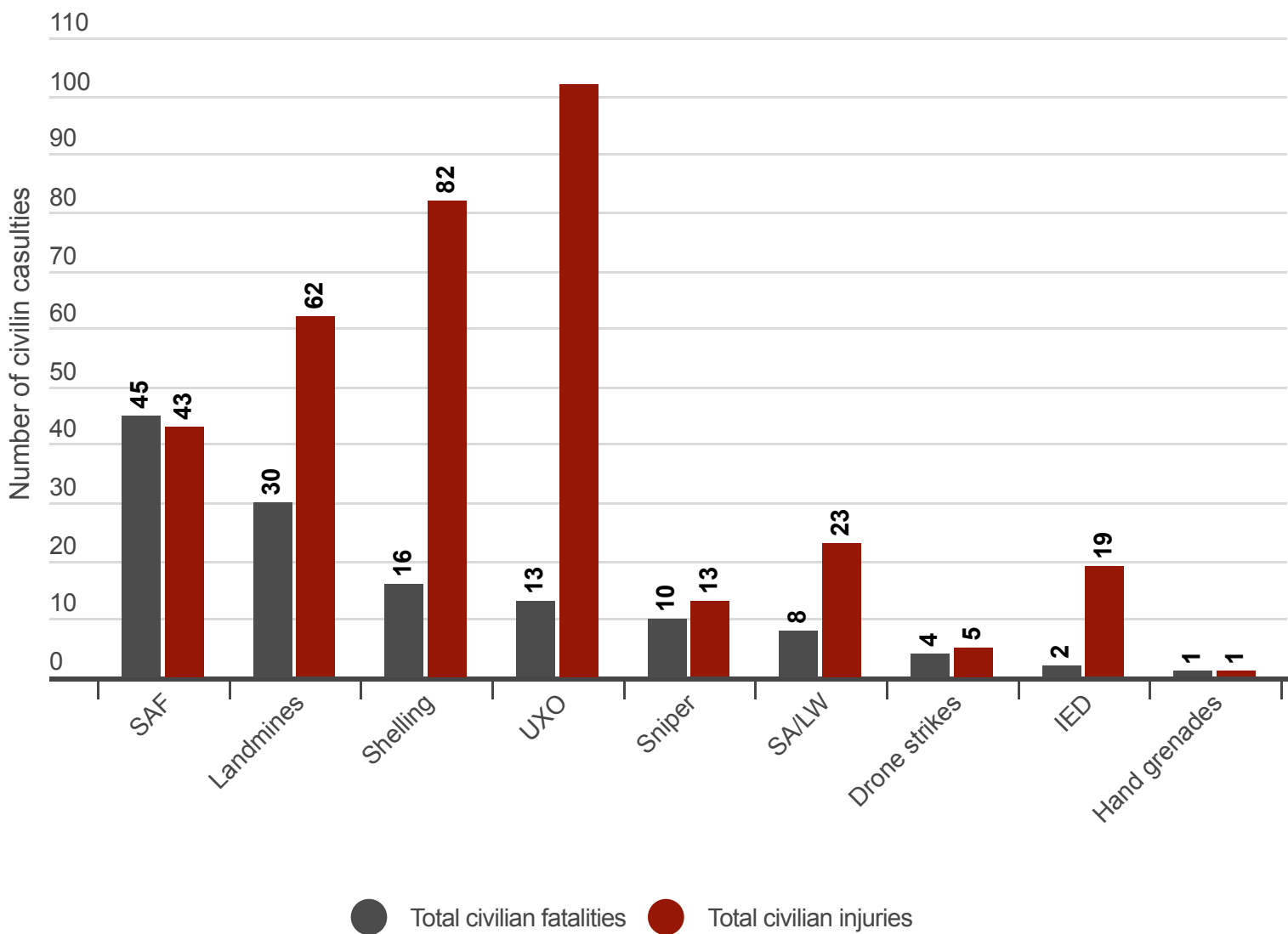
NUMBER OF INCIDENTS IMPACTING CIVILIAN PROPERTY AND INFRASTRUCTURE DURING Q3 2022 BY TYPE OF ARMED VIOLENCE



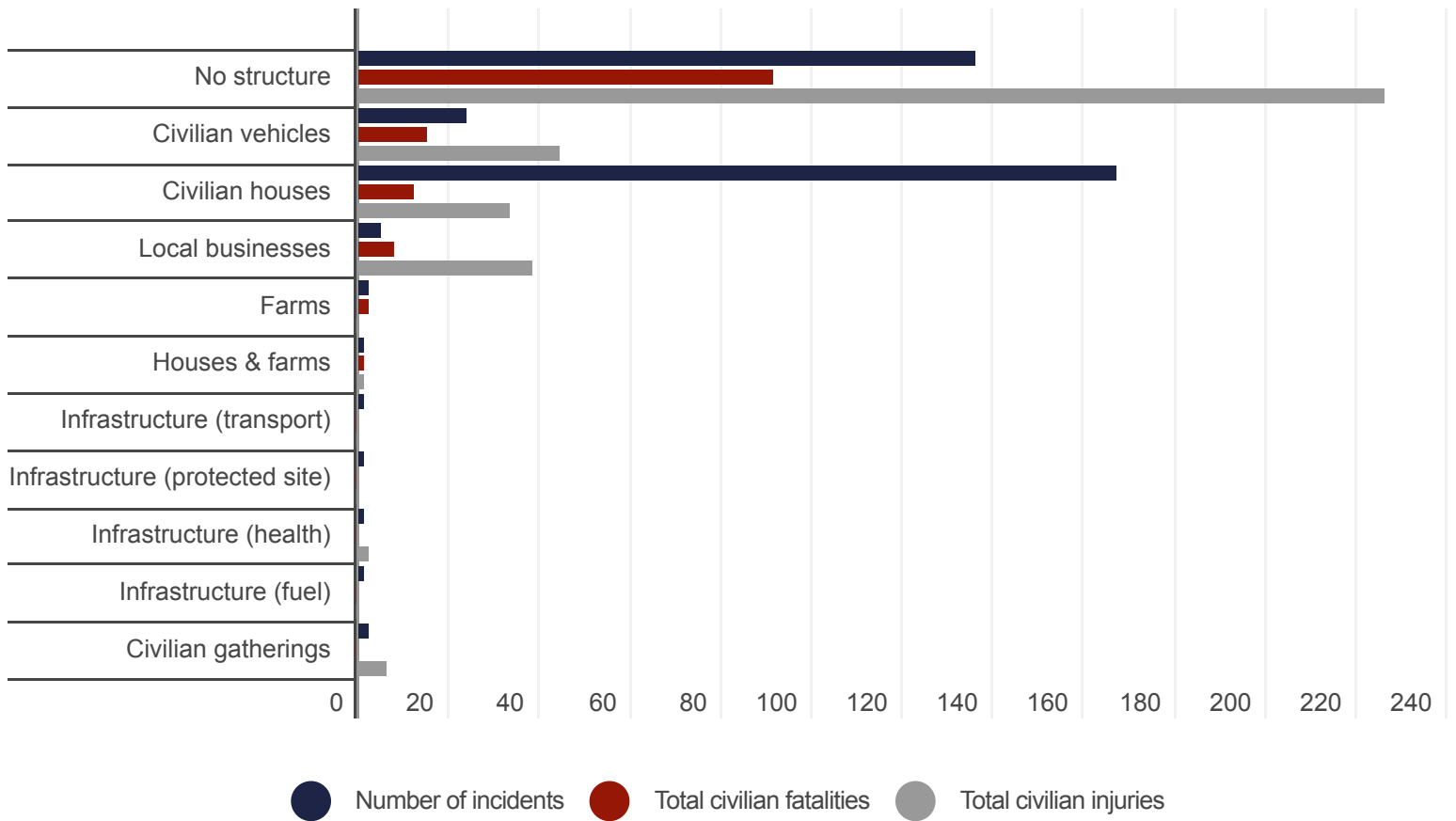
INCIDENTS IMPACTING CIVILIANS IN Q3 2022 BY TYPE OF ARMED VIOLENCE



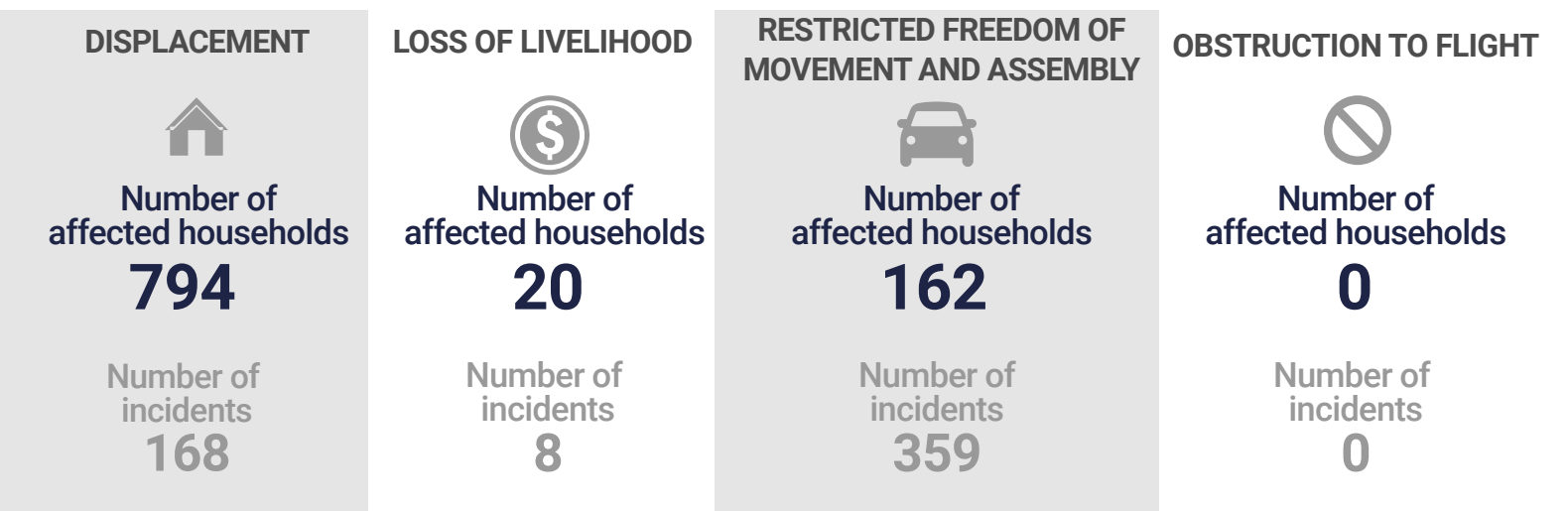
CIVILIAN FATALITIES AND INJURIES BY TYPE OF ARMED VIOLENCE IN Q3



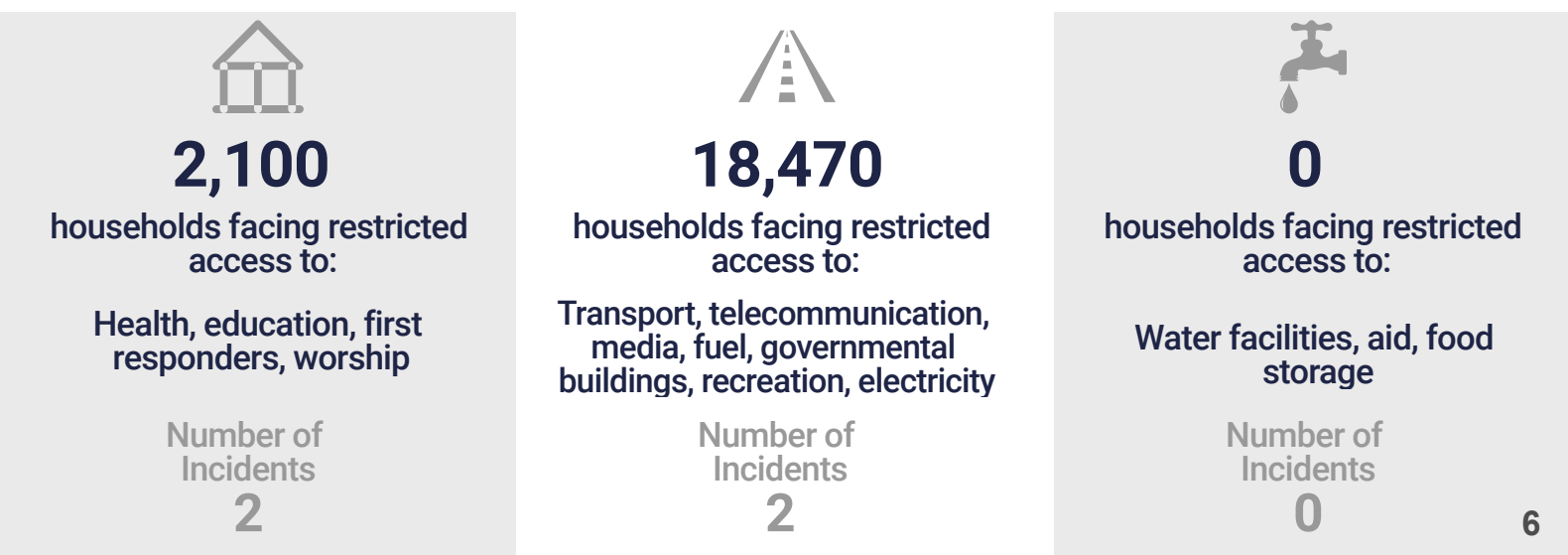
NUMBER OF INCIDENTS, FATALITIES AND INJURIES BY CIVILIAN STRUCTURE IN Q3 2022



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 or visit our website: civilianimpactmonitoring.org