

CIMP QUARTERLY REPORT

Q3 2023: JULY - SEPTEMBER 2023

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 2023 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.

NATIONWIDE SNAPSHOT: CIVILIAN IMPACT FROM INCIDENTS OF ARMED VIOLENCE

Q3 2023: JULY - SEPTEMBER 2023

	Total number	Compared to previous quarter	Compared to 2022 average
Civilian Impact Incidents	238	+ 2%	- 26%
Civilian Casualties* (Fatalities / Injuries)	350 (122 / 228)	- 16%	- 44%
Child Casualties (Fatalities / Injuries)	85 (28 / 57)	+ 70%	- 16%
Women Casualties (Fatalities / Injuries)	33 (13 / 20)	+ 10%	- 28%

**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*

ANALYTICAL HIGHLIGHTS

Overall casualty numbers decreased in Q3 2023, but children and women casualties increased

350 civilian casualties were reported as a direct result of armed violence in Yemen during the third quarter of 2023, from July to September. This marks a decrease of 16% from the 418 civilian casualties reported in Q2 2023. The decrease in the number of fatalities among the casualties was less prominent, dropping by 10% from 136 to 122; in Q2, 33% of the casualties were fatalities, but in Q3, this proportion rose slightly to 35%. Despite the overall decrease in casualties, the number of children among the casualties increased by 70%, up from 50 in Q2 to 85 in Q3. There was also a 10% increase in the number of women among the casualties, up from 30 in Q2 to 33 in Q3.

On a month-by-month basis, casualties saw a significant decrease in September 2023

Coinciding with a renewal of peace talks, hostility levels and corresponding civilian casualties saw a notable decline in September, down to 91, decreasing by 31% from 131 in August, and also 30% lower than the 128 civilian casualties reported in July. 28 fatalities were reported in September, down from 42 in August and 52 in July, which was the highest fatality count seen this year. September saw the second lowest monthly casualty count and lowest monthly fatality count on CIMP records.

Artillery casualties decreased to second lowest quarterly total on CIMP records

Q3 2023 saw the second lowest quarterly civilian shelling casualty numbers on CIMP records. Shelling was responsible for 83 civilian casualties from July to September 2023, down from 108 during Q2. 53 of the shelling casualties were reported in Sa'dah, amid ongoing border violence, and another 20 were reported in Ta'izz, the majority of whom were the result of a mass casualty incident. In September, shelling casualties dropped to 18, all of whom were reported in Sa'dah.

Sa'dah again saw the highest casualty numbers countrywide, but fewer than the first two quarters of 2023

For the third consecutive quarter, Sa'dah saw more civilian casualties than anywhere else in the country, as weekly reports of civilian casualties amid shelling and border shootings persist. Shada'a and Monabbih districts remain the primary flashpoints on the western border, seeing 40 and 23 civilian casualties in Q3 2023 respectively, more than any other districts. The two districts have consistently seen the highest civilian casualty numbers in the country this year. Nonetheless, casualty numbers are decreasing on the western border. 87 civilian casualties were reported in Sa'dah throughout Q3 2023, marking a decrease for the second quarter in a row, down from 126 in Q2 and 199 in Q1.

Ta'izz casualties increased for second consecutive quarter

Conversely, for two consecutive quarters, casualty numbers in Ta'izz have been increasing. 75 civilian casualties were reported in Ta'izz in Q3 2023, up from 67 in Q2, and up from 46 in Q1. Small arms fire (SAF) shootings were responsible for the highest casualty numbers in Ta'izz, at 21, primarily on account of dispute-driven violence, driven by persisting rivalries, economic grievances and weak rule of law and order. This number is unchanged from Q2, with almost half of the SAF casualties reported in Ta'izz city. Shelling was responsible for another 20 civilian casualties in Ta'izz in Q3, up 25% from the 16 reported in Q2. All but three of the casualties were reported in one incident in the western district of Maqbanah, which sees weekly reports of hostilities. Meanwhile, in Ta'izz city, the number of civilian shelling casualties reported decreased for the second consecutive quarter. Another 14 civilian casualties were on account of ERW, almost triple the five civilian ERW casualties reported in Ta'izz in Q2.

Over a third of the child casualties reported in Q3 2023 were in Ta'izz

Ta'izz saw more child casualties than any other governorate, at 30, more than a third of the countrywide total. This is more than triple the nine child casualties reported in the governorate in Q2 2023. This is due in part to the mass casualty shelling incident in Maqbanah, where on 24 August, five civilians were killed and 12 others were injured when shellfire hit a house in Al-Akhdu area. Four children were among the fatalities and another six were injured. Another 13 child casualties were on account of ERW incidents in the governorate, more than triple the four child ERW casualties reported in Ta'izz in Q2. Moreover, another four children were injured in sniper shootings in Ta'izz over the past quarter, double the two reported in Q2.

ERW casualties increased from Q2 2023 to Q3 2023

ERW were responsible for 88 civilian casualties during Q3 2023, marking an increase of 31% from the 67 ERW casualties seen in Q2 2023. Nonetheless, the casualty numbers over the past six months have been at their lowest seen since the Hudaydah frontlines shifted in November 2021. The average quarterly ERW casualty count from January 2018, when CIMP commenced monitoring, and Q3 2021, was 77. The frontlines saw a significant shift in Hudaydah in November 2021, however, enabling greater civilian freedom of movement in areas that were not yet clear or remnant explosive ordnance. Since Q4 2021, the average quarterly ERW count has been 120, and the highest ERW casualty numbers were during the six months of the UN-mediated truce, when the average was 150 ERW casualties per quarter. The numbers reflect the significant threat ERW continues to pose to civilians, particularly in periods of heightened civilian mobility and confidence such as in the immediate aftermath of frontline shifts and ceasefire agreements.

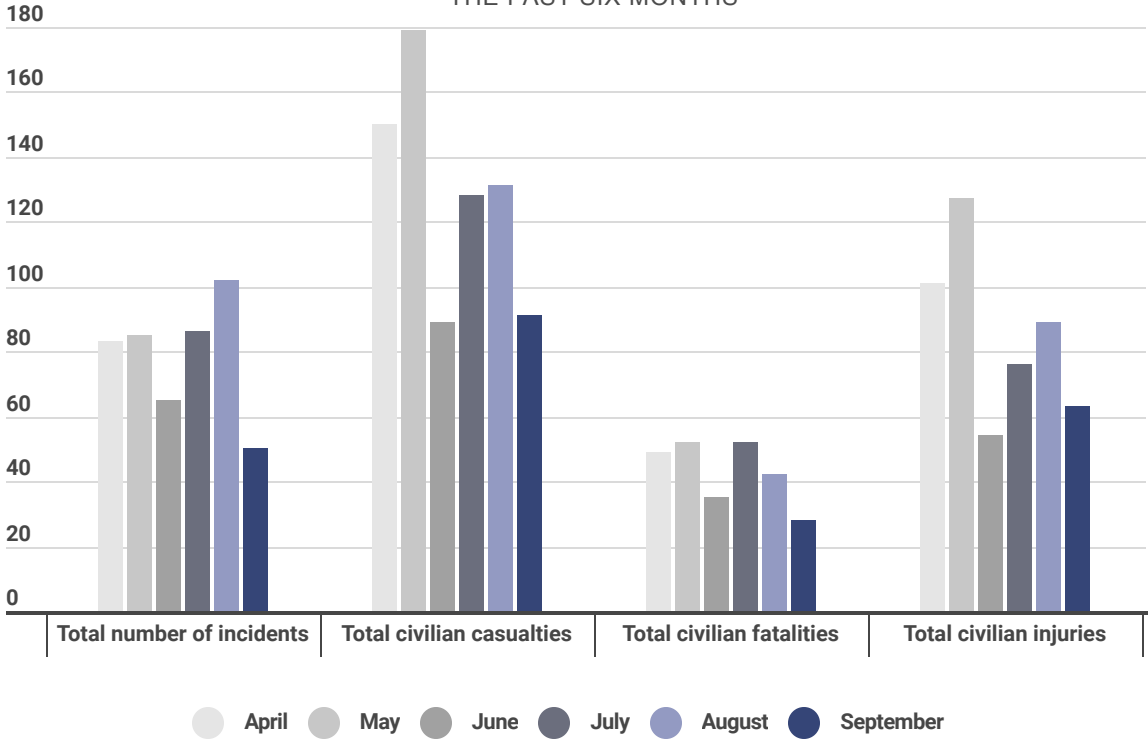
15% increase in casualty numbers in Hudaydah from Q2 2023, primarily driven by ERW

Hudaydah saw the third highest number of civilian casualties, at 53, marking an increase from the 46 civilian casualties reported in the governorate during the previous quarter. The most notable driver of this increase was ERW. Landmines were responsible for 18 civilian casualties in Hudaydah in Q2 2023, but this rose to 24 in Q3, while UXO casualty numbers doubled from nine in Q2 to 18 in Q3. In total, ERW was responsible for 42 civilian casualties in Hudaydah from July to September 2023, up 56% from 27 in Q2. Moreover, these numbers included 19 children, almost double the 10 reported in Q2. There was also a slight increase in shelling casualties, from four to six, all but one the result of one incident in Hays on 4 July, when five children aged between 8 and 14 years were injured when artillery shells hit Qaryat Al-Muharraq while they were tending to livestock in the area.

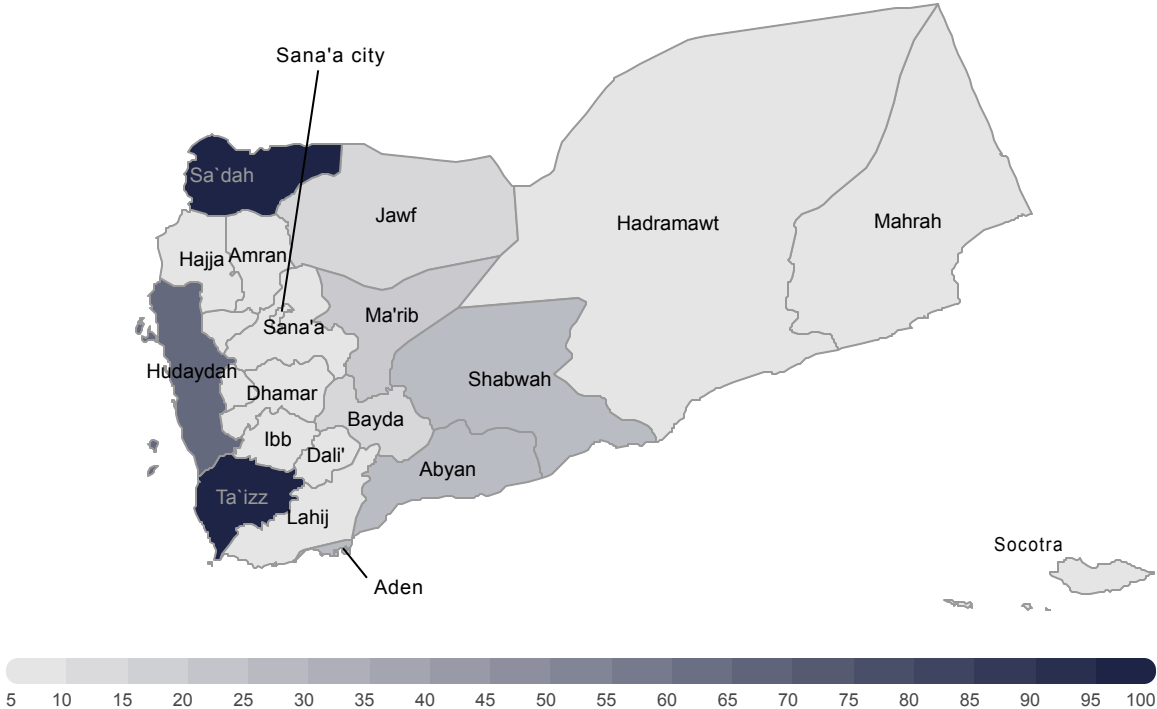
Five IDP settlements impacted by armed violence in Q3 2023

There were five reports of IDP sites being impacted during Q3 2023, including four incidents on 30 August when a number of rockets were reportedly launched towards Ma'rib city, with shrapnel falling on Al-Misallal, Hajbah, Mustawsaf Shaqman and Al-Manin IDP camps on the outskirts of the city. A number of tents and other shelters were reported to have sustained damages, but no casualties were reported. Despite no casualties being reported, IDPs are a particularly vulnerable group, having already been displaced at least once. When IDP sites are impacted by armed violence, residents may face secondary or even tertiary displacement, further exacerbating the disruption and psychosocial impact of the conflict. In the fifth incident, in July, two children were killed and another injured when a landmine detonated in As Suwayda IDP camp, in Al-Jalal area, also in Ma'rib. The device had reportedly been swept into the camp by floodwaters. This is the highest number of IDP sites to have been impacted by armed violence in one quarter since Q4 2021.

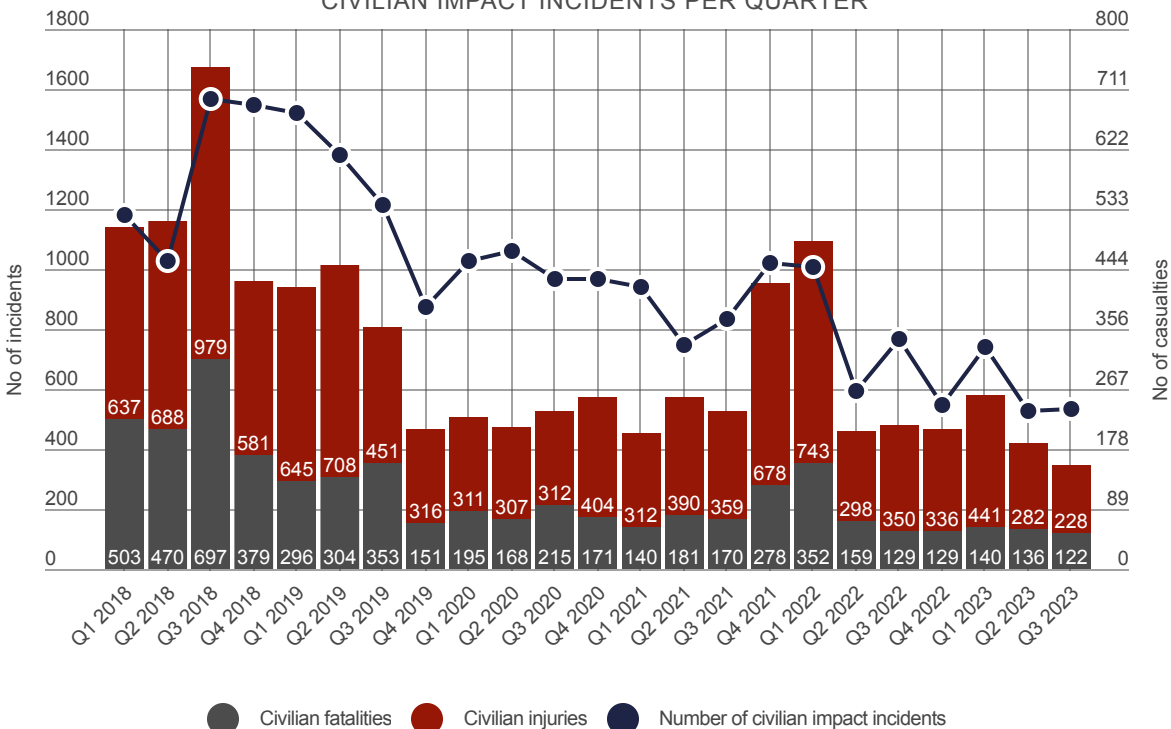
TOTAL NUMBER OF CIVILIAN IMPACT INCIDENTS AND CIVILIAN CASUALTIES BY MONTH OVER THE PAST SIX MONTHS



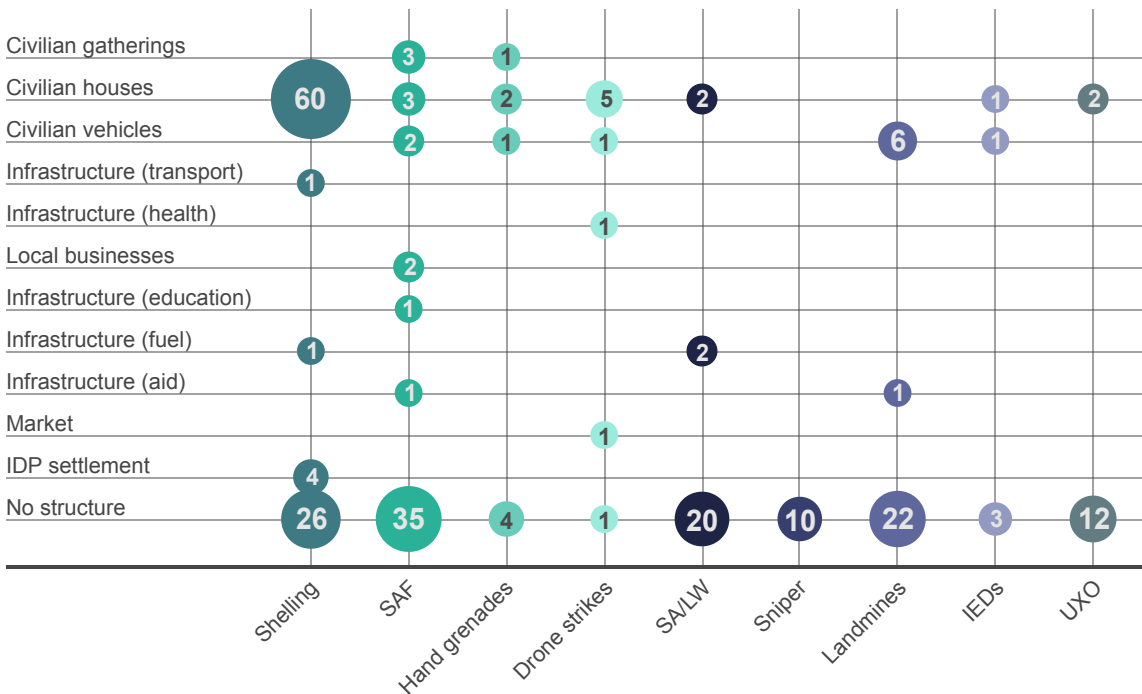
DISTRIBUTION OF CIVILIAN CASUALTIES IN Q3 2023 BY GOVERNORATE



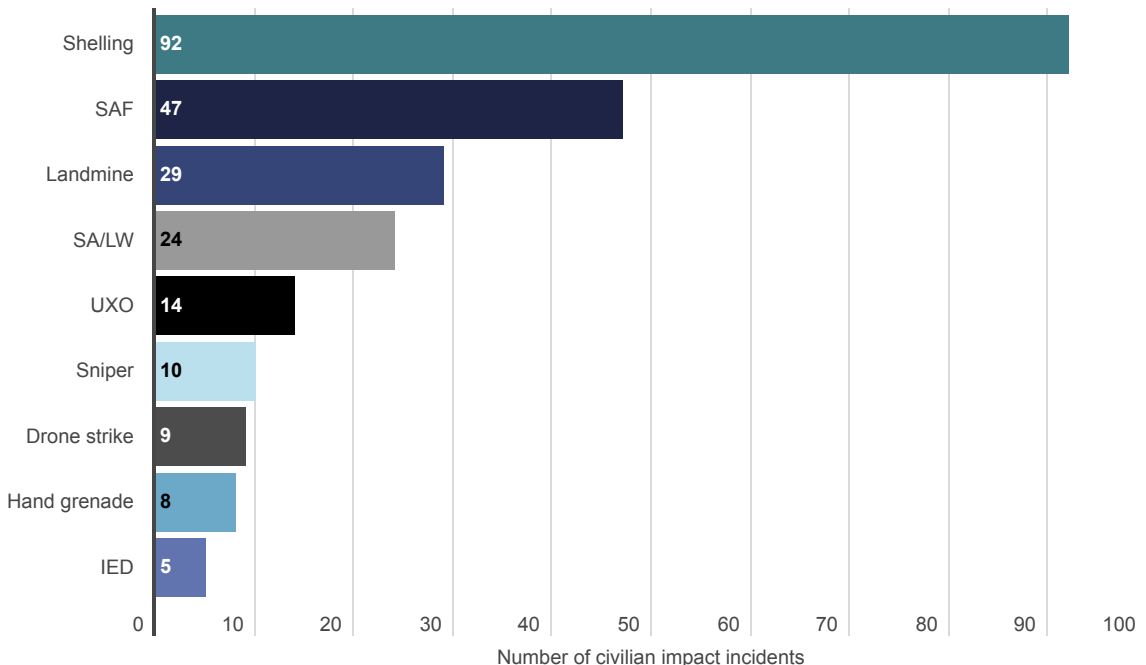
NUMBER OF CIVILIAN CASUALTIES, DISAGGREGATED BY FATALITIES AND INJURIES, AND CIVILIAN IMPACT INCIDENTS PER QUARTER



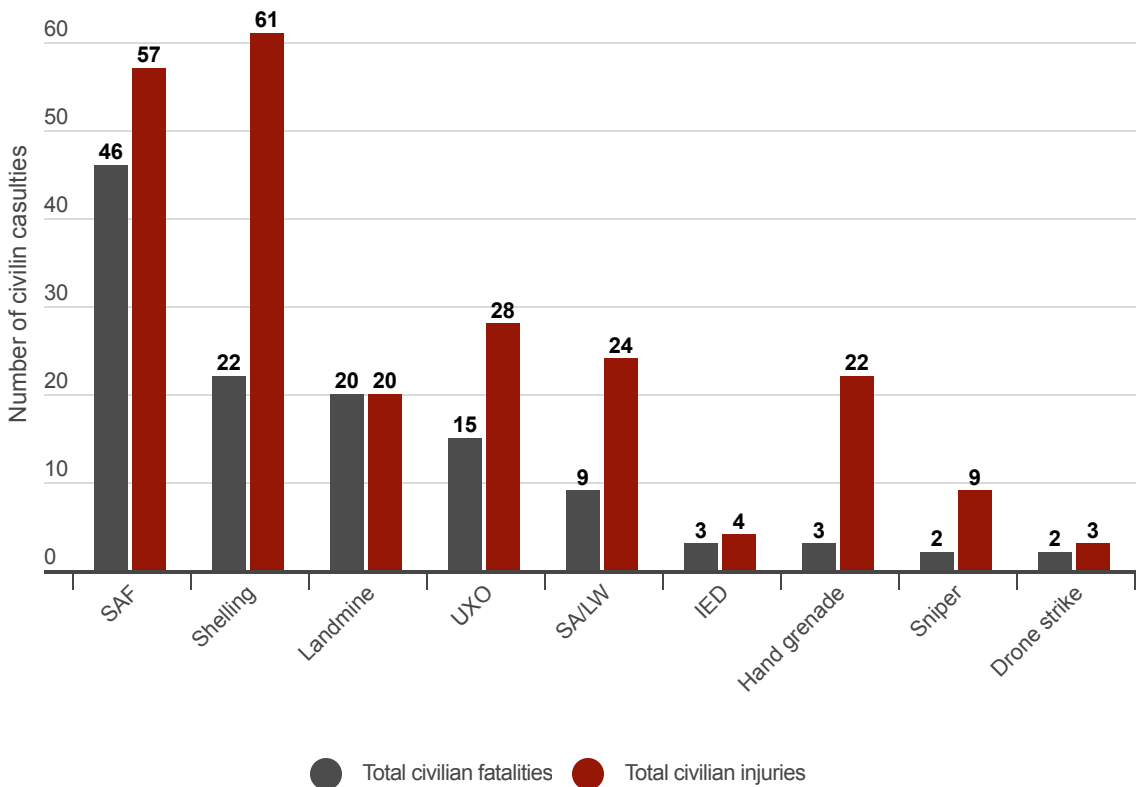
NUMBER OF INCIDENTS IMPACTING CIVILIAN PROPERTY AND INFRASTRUCTURE DURING Q3 2023 BY TYPE OF ARMED VIOLENCE



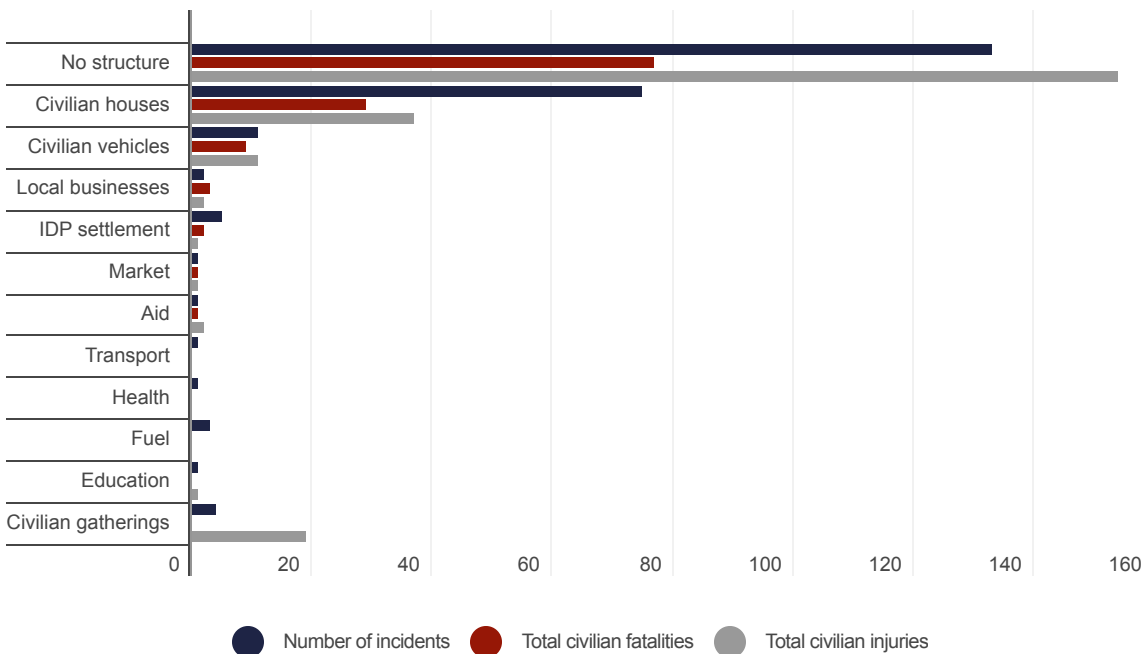
INCIDENTS IMPACTING CIVILIANS IN Q3 2023 BY TYPE OF ARMED VIOLENCE



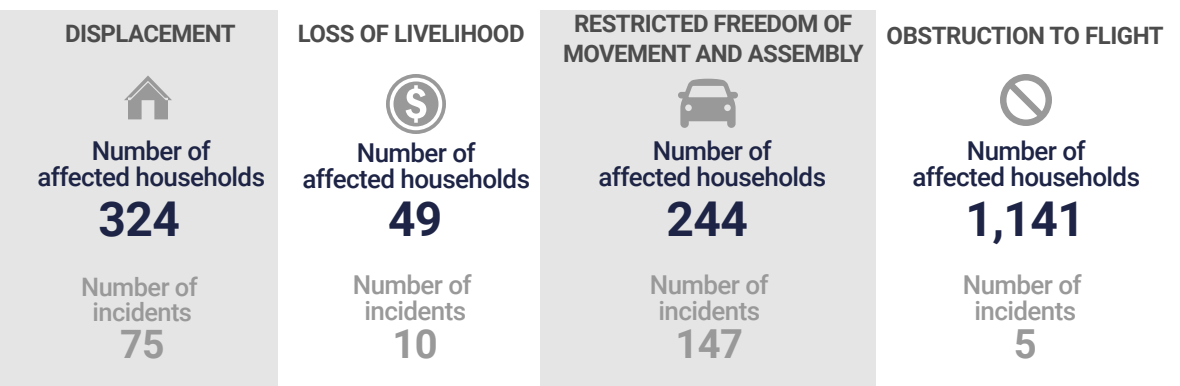
CIVILIAN FATALITIES AND INJURIES BY TYPE OF ARMED VIOLENCE IN Q3 2023



NUMBER OF INCIDENTS, FATALITIES AND INJURIES BY CIVILIAN STRUCTURE IN Q3 2023



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