

CIMP QUARTERLY REPORT

Q1 2024: JANUARY - MARCH 2024

This is the Civilian Impact Monitoring Project quarterly report, providing an overview of all incidents of armed violence reported across Yemen in January, February and March 2024 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

Q1 2024: JANUARY - MARCH 2024

	Total number	Compared to previous quarter	Compared to 2023 average
Civilian Impact Incidents	165	- 8%	- 33%
Civilian Casualties* (Fatalities / Injuries)	272 (104 / 168)	- 17%	- 35%
Child Casualties (Fatalities / Injuries)	48 (13 / 35)	- 13%	- 32%
Women Casualties (Fatalities / Injuries)	23 (13 / 10)	- 34%	- 30%

**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

Civilian fatalities as a result of armed violence increased in Q1 2024

From January to March 2024, armed violence was directly responsible for 272 civilian casualties in Yemen. This is the lowest quarterly civilian casualty count on CIMP records. Although this marks a decrease of 17% from the 326 civilian casualties reported in Q4 2023, the number and proportion of fatalities among the casualties saw a slight increase, up from 103 civilian fatalities in Q4 2023, to 104 in Q1 2024. The number of children among the casualties decreased for the second quarter in a row, down to 48, the lowest CIMP has recorded in one quarter since the project commenced in 2018. There was also a significant decrease in the number of women among the casualties, down 34% from 35 to 23, also the lowest on CIMP records.

99 civilians were killed or injured in small arms fire shootings, amid increasing levels of dispute-driven violence

For the fourth consecutive quarter, small arms fire (SAF) shootings were responsible for the highest civilian casualty numbers countrywide, increasing by 34% from Q4 2023, up from 74 to 99. Shooting incidents were reported across 17 different governorates, with Ibb seeing the highest civilian SAF casualty count, at 16, followed by 13 in Ma'rib and 11 in Ta'izz. At least half of the civilian SAF casualties were the result of incidents linked to dispute-driven violence, including four shootings that were reported in marketplaces, where economic tensions can drive swift escalations; dispute-driven shootings resulted in 56 civilian casualties, the highest quarterly count since Q2 2023, likely exacerbated by ongoing localised grievances. Checkpoints also remain a flashpoint for shootings, and the past quarter saw three checkpoint shootings, resulting in 12 civilian casualties. In the deadliest of these incidents, on 30 January, three women were shot dead, and another seven civilians were injured, all migrants, when their car came under fire at a checkpoint near Ar Ruwayk in Marib. Of the 23 women casualties reported, 65% were the result of SAF.

West coast continues to see highest civilian ERW casualties

Explosive remnants of warfare (ERW), including landmines and UXO, remain one of the primary drivers of civilian casualties in the country. ERW was responsible for 63 civilian casualties in Q1 2024, the second highest casualty count by type of armed violence, and unchanged from the 63 ERW casualties reported in Q4 2023. Hudaydah again saw the highest ERW casualty numbers in the country, at 22, 35% of the countrywide total. However, the incident to see the highest civilian casualties, on 29 March, six civilians were injured when a landmine exploded while they were traveling on a bus in Ar Rimmah area in Al-Mukha, western Ta'izz. Lahij saw its first ERW incident in a year. On 12 February, two children were killed and another three children were injured in a UXO blast on a farm near Al-Mishqafah IDP camp in Tuban district. Children are particularly vulnerable to ERW incidents, particularly UXO incidents, likely due in part to heightened mobility and inquisitiveness, coupled with lower threat awareness. Of the 63 civilian ERW casualties reported in Q1 2024, almost a third (18) were children.

Increase in civilian IED casualties amid house demolitions in Bayda and VEO activity in Shabwah and Abyan.

There was a notable increase in civilian casualties as a result of IED incidents in Q1 2024, with 26 civilian IED casualties reported. Throughout 2023, the average quarterly IED casualty count was four, and 26 marks the highest since Q2 2022. 16 of the casualties were reported in one incident alone: two houses were blown up in Rada city when a security campaign escalated

into violence on 19 March, resulting in the collapse of another six surrounding homes, burying people under the rubble. Eight civilians were reportedly killed, and another eight were injured, including four children and two women. Another house in the neighbourhood was said to have been hit by a rocket-propelled grenade during the campaign, killing another five civilians. This is the second instance this year of houses being detonated during security campaigns; another house was destroyed with explosives in Ibb in February. Throughout 2023, 19 houses were destroyed in targeted IED demolitions, including 12 demolitions in Sirwah district, Ma'rib, where the tactic is often used for punitive or intimidatory purposes, linked to wider conflict dynamics. The series of incidents in Rada city in March drove a high civilian casualty count in the governorate in Q1 2024, with Bayda seeing the second highest civilian casualty count in the country at 38, which is the highest quarterly casualty count to be reported in the governorate since Q2 2023. Another eight civilian casualties were reported as a result of IED attacks in Al-Musayniah area in As Said district, Shabwah, which has been a flashpoint for VEO activity in recent months. On 19 January, one civilian was killed and two others injured when an IED targeted a military vehicle in the area, and in February, one civilian was killed and four were injured when another military vehicle in the area was targeted in an IED blast. The remaining two civilian IED casualties were reported across the governorate border in Mudiyah district, eastern Abyan, where on 4 February two civilians were injured when an IED was detonated in front of the Mudiyah Security Administration. Mudiyah is another flashpoint for VEO activity.

Civilian casualties see significant decrease in Sa'dah amid border violence de-escalation

30 civilian casualties were reported in Sa'dah in Q1 2024, all but five of whom were the result of violence in the governorate's western border areas. However, border violence saw a de-escalation, and this is a notable 70% decrease in casualty numbers compared to Q4 2023, when 99 civilian casualties were reported in the governorate. On average, throughout 2023, 153 civilian casualties were reported each quarter in Sa'dah. Over the past quarter, Sa'dah saw the third highest civilian casualty count in the country, marking the first quarter since Q4 2022 during which Sa'dah has not seen the highest civilian casualty count in the country. Moreover, with 30 civilian casualties reported, this is the lowest quarterly casualty count to be reported in the governorate since Q1 2020. At the district level, Shada'a saw the highest civilian casualties in Q1 2024, at nine, down from 39 in Q4 2023. Monabbih, another flashpoint on the border, saw eight casualties in Q1 2024, down from 44 in Q4 2023. Casualty numbers remained unchanged in Qatabir district, at six, due to ongoing border shootings in Al-Thabit area, and for the first time since 2021, border violence in the form of drone attacks and shellfire was responsible for two civilian casualties in Ghamr district.

Resumption in airstrikes on Yemen results in 10 civilian casualties in Q1 2024

January 2024 saw the launch of an aerial campaign on Yemen. The previous aerial campaign on the country came to a cease when a UN-mediated countrywide truce entered into force in early April 2022. February saw the first reports of civilian casualties as a result of airstrikes in almost two years, including a fatality. In the incident to see the highest civilian casualty count, on 24 February, one civilian was killed and six more were injured, including a 15-year-old child, when airstrikes hit a telecommunications network in the Shamir area in Maqbanah district, western Ta'izz. Telecommunications networks have also reportedly been hit by airstrikes in Hayfan, in southern Ta'izz. These are the first reports of telecommunications networks being impacted by armed violence since Q1 2022. A range of other civilian infrastructure has also reportedly been hit, including Ta'izz, Hodaydah and Abs airports, all of which have been closed for years on account of ongoing hostilities. A former technical institute was also reportedly impacted in As Sawmaah, Bayda, while farmland is reported to have been hit in Abs district, Hajjah, and in Ad Dahi, Hodaydah. No civilian airstrike casualties have been reported since February.

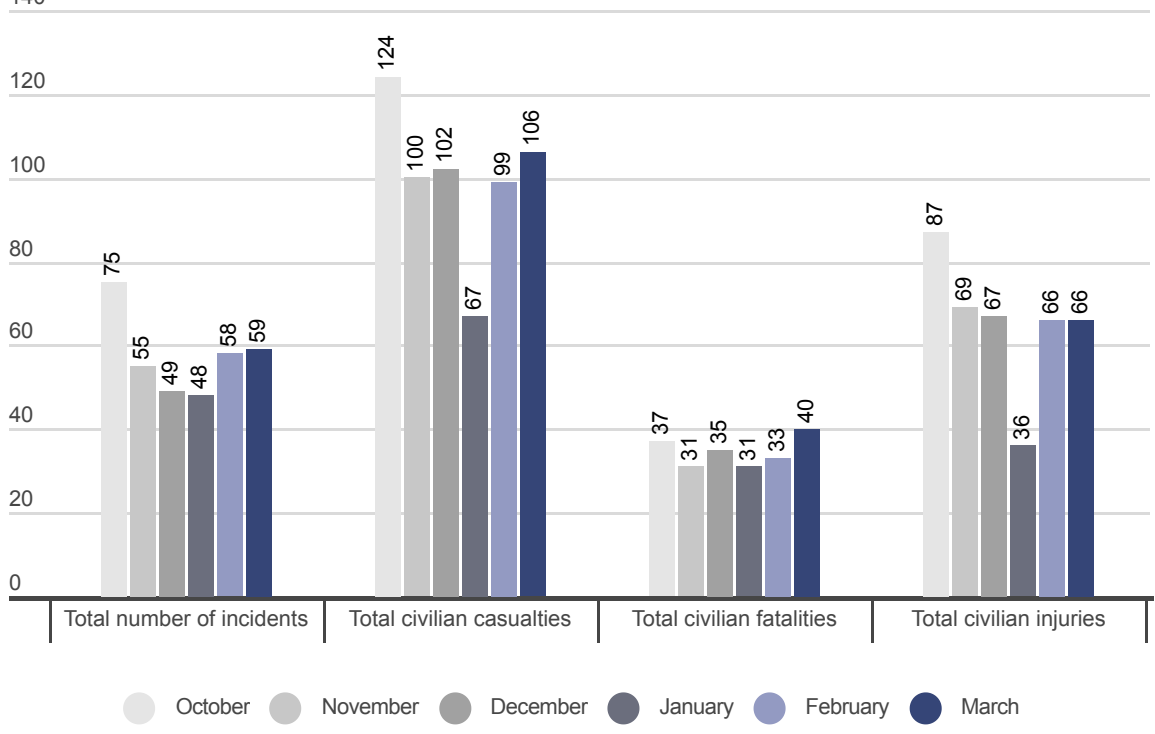
Ta'izz saw the highest civilian casualty count in the country

Ta'izz governorate saw the highest civilian casualties in the country in Q1 2024, with 57 civilian casualties reported. This is an increase from Q4 2023, when 33 civilian casualties were reported in the governorate, and is slightly higher than the 2023 average of 56 civilian casualties reported quarterly in Ta'izz. The majority of the casualties were the result of remote violence, including airstrikes, shellfire and drone activity. Shellfire was responsible for the highest civilian casualties in the governorate, accounting for 12 casualties, nine of whom were the result of artillery fire hitting residential neighbourhoods in Ta'izz city. This is more than double the five civilian shelling casualties reported in the governorate throughout Q4 2023. There was also a threefold increase in the number of drone casualties reported, from three to nine, all of whom were reported in the west of the governorate, in Maqbanah (6) and Dhubab (3). Seven airstrike casualties were reported in Maqbanah district, as detailed above. Amid ongoing frontline hostilities, the number of civilian ERW casualties reported in Ta'izz more than doubled, from four in Q4 2023 to ten in Q1 2024. The governorate also continues to see high levels of localised violence, with shooting incidents accounted for another 11 civilian casualties in the governorate. Ta'izz city and frontline areas to the west are likely to remain flashpoints for armed violence, although districts to the south also continue to see relatively high levels of unrest.

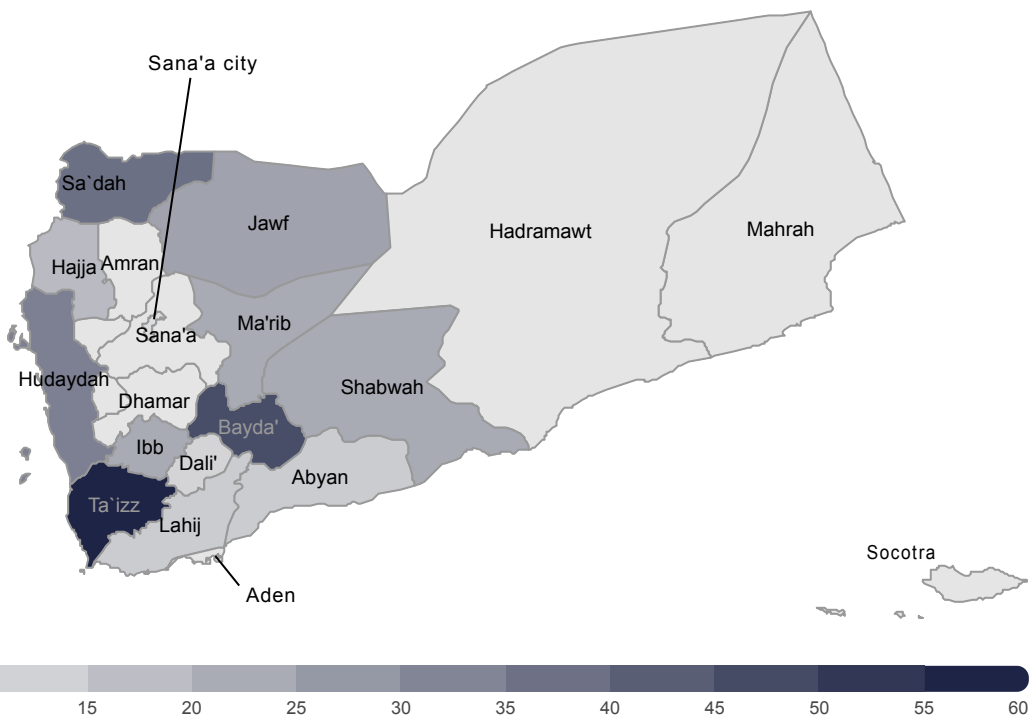
Decrease in reports of civilian homes being impacted by armed violence

There were 26 reports of armed violence impacting civilian houses in Yemen in Q1 2024, down from 43 in Q4 2023, and the lowest quarterly count of such incidents on CIMP records. Artillery fire was responsible for the majority of incidents reported to have impacted civilian homes, accounting for 15 incidents. Drone strikes were responsible for another three incidents. 44 civilian casualties were reported as a result of homes being impacted, almost halving from the 81 reported in Q4 2023. More than a quarter (12) of the casualties were children, and another seven were women. Of the 18 civilian casualties reported as a result of homes being hit by artillery fire or drones, nine were in Bayda, and another four were reported in Ta'izz. When armed violence impacts civilian homes, it not only puts civilians at direct risk of harm, but also threatens displacement, with as many as 74 households estimated to have faced displacement as a result of the past quarter's hostilities.

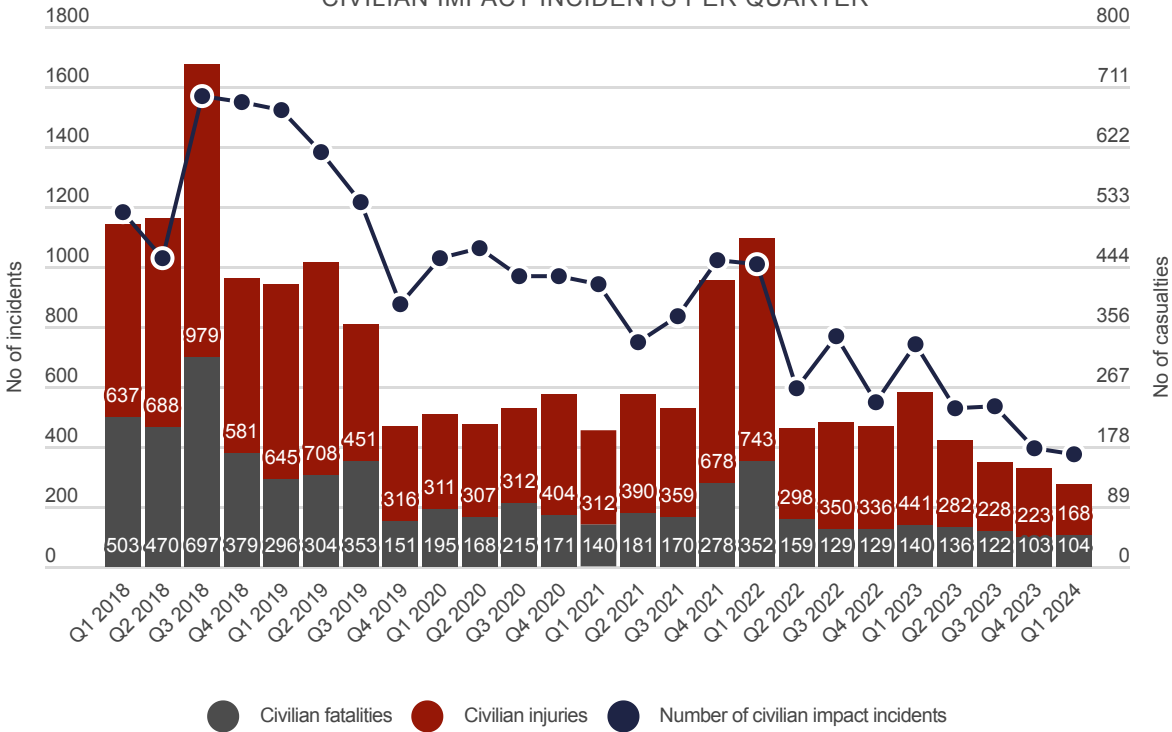
TOTAL NUMBER OF CIVILIAN IMPACT INCIDENTS AND CIVILIAN CASUALTIES BY MONTH OVER THE PAST SIX MONTHS



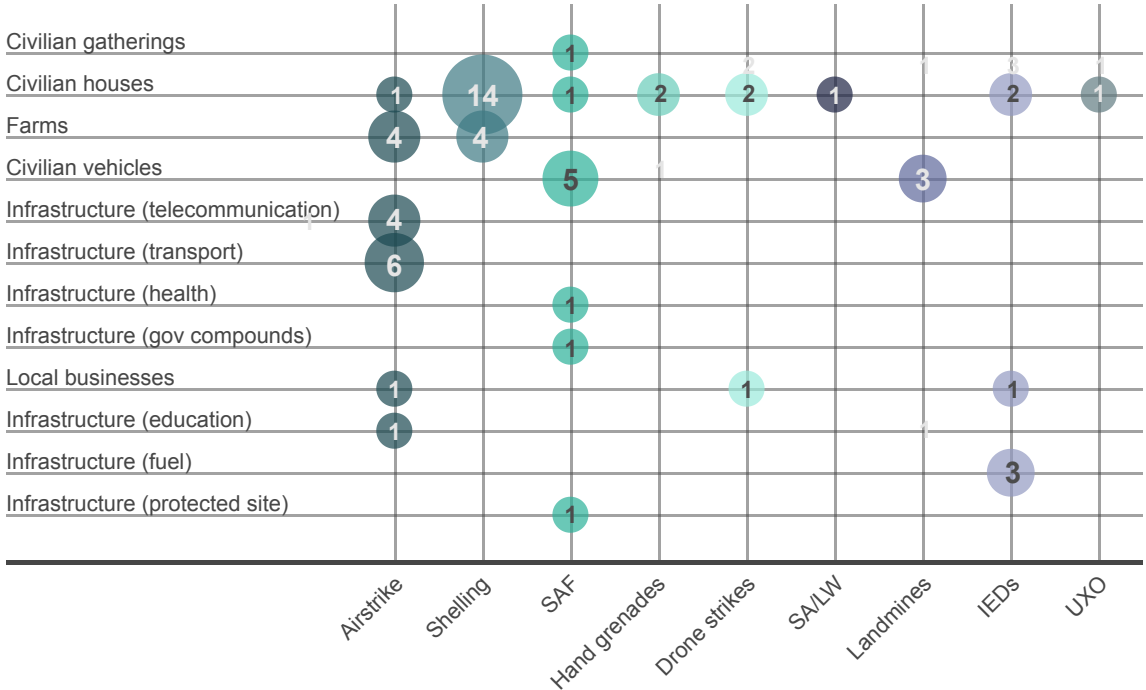
DISTRIBUTION OF CIVILIAN CASUALTIES IN Q1 2024 BY GOVERNORATE



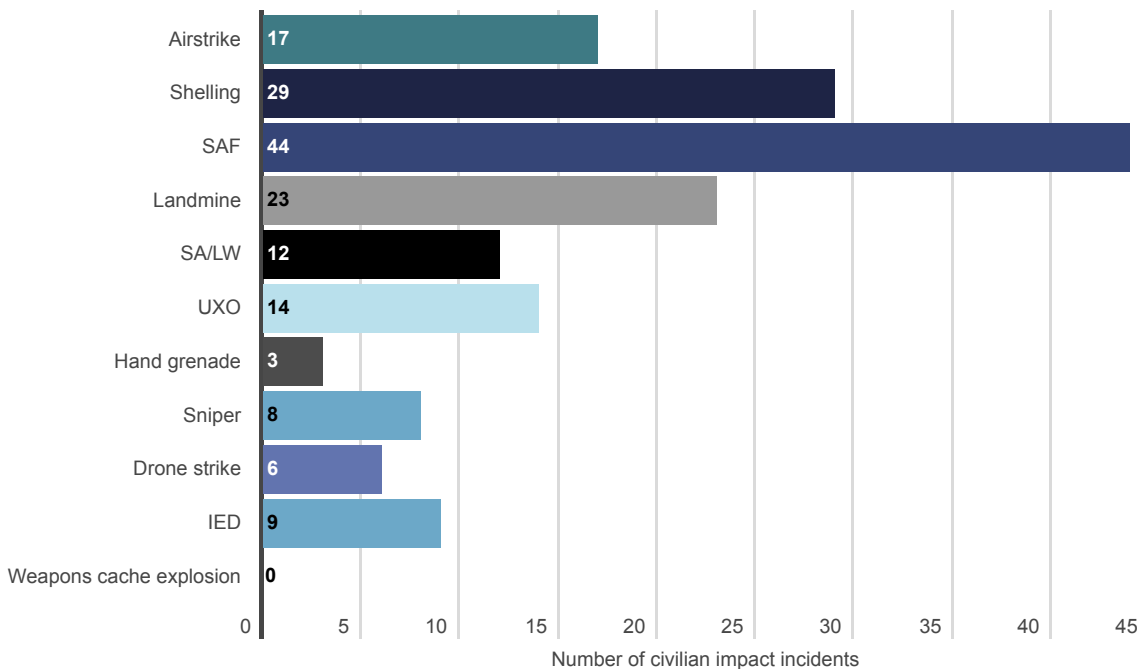
NUMBER OF CIVILIAN CASUALTIES, DISAGGREGATED BY FATALITIES AND INJURIES, AND CIVILIAN IMPACT INCIDENTS PER QUARTER



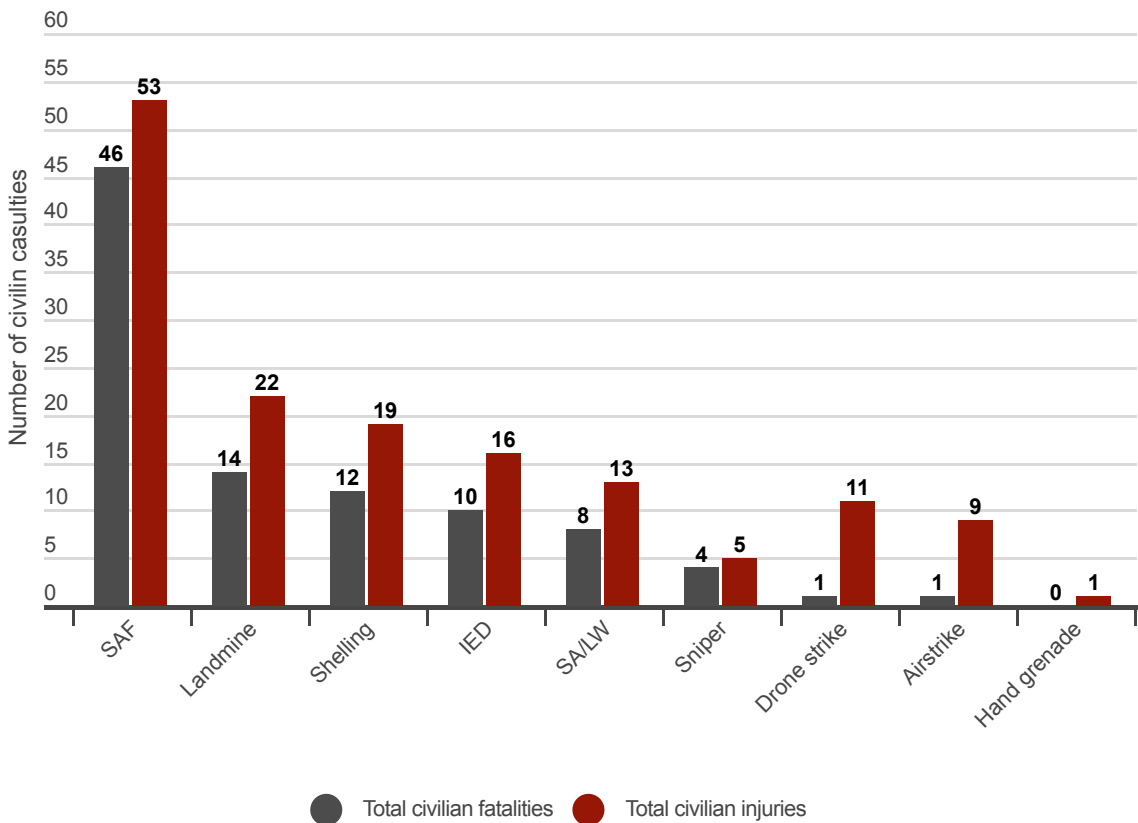
NUMBER OF INCIDENTS IMPACTING CIVILIAN PROPERTY AND INFRASTRUCTURE DURING Q1 2024 BY TYPE OF ARMED VIOLENCE



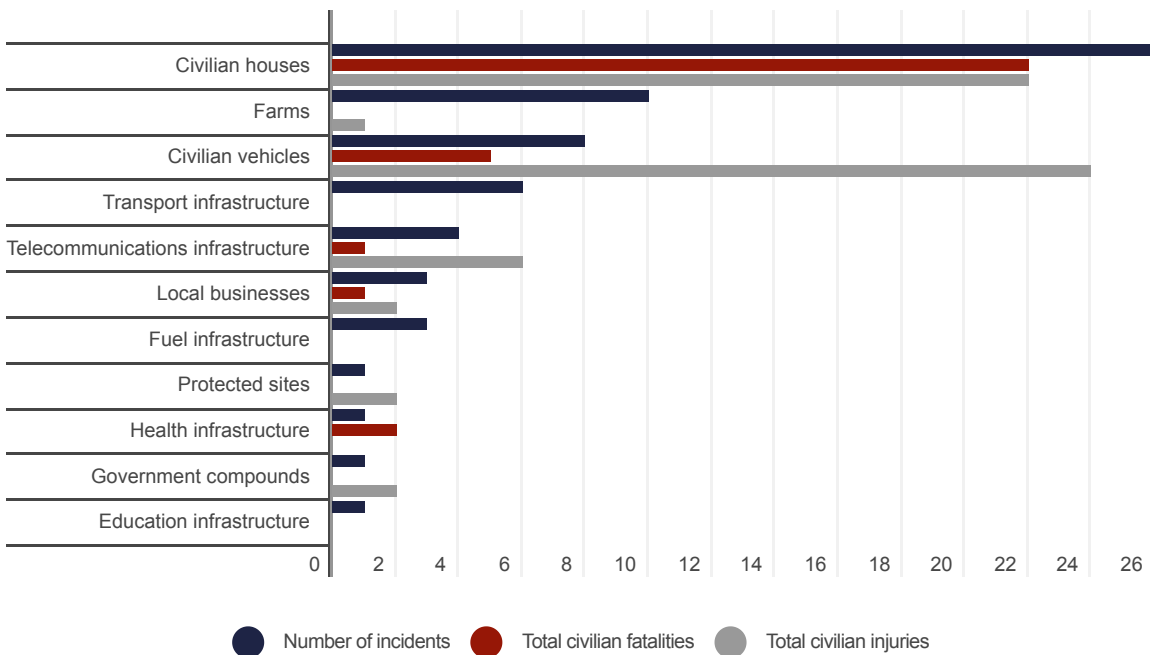
INCIDENTS IMPACTING CIVILIANS IN Q1 2024 BY TYPE OF ARMED VIOLENCE



CIVILIAN FATALITIES AND INJURIES BY TYPE OF ARMED VIOLENCE IN Q1 2024



NUMBER OF INCIDENTS, FATALITIES AND INJURIES BY CIVILIAN STRUCTURE IN Q1 2024



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