Ukraine: civilian casualty update

Date: 9 October 2023

Civilian casualties from 1 to 8 October 2023

From 1 to 8 October 2023, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) recorded 188 civilian casualties in Ukraine:

- 66 killed (35 women, 27 men, and 4 boys), and
- 122 injured (54 men, 51 women, 5 boys, 1 girl, as well as 11 adults whose sex is not yet known).

This included:

- 64 killed and 108 injured in 54 settlements in territory controlled by the Government when casualties occurred (91 percent of the total), and
- 2 killed and 14 injured in 5 settlements in territory occupied by the Russian Federation when casualties occurred (9 percent of the total).

Per type of weapon/incident:

- Explosive weapons with wide area effects: 63 killed and 113 injured (94 per cent):
  - 165 casualties (62 killed and 103 injured) in territory controlled by the Government when casualties occurred, and
  - 11 casualties (1 killed and 10 injured) in territory occupied by the Russian Federation when casualties occurred.

- Mines and explosive remnants of war: 3 killed and 9 injured (6 per cent):
  - 7 casualties (2 killed and 5 injured) in territory controlled by the Government when casualties occurred, and
  - 5 casualties (1 killed and 4 injured) in territory occupied by the Russian Federation when casualties occurred.

Total civilian casualties

From 24 February 2022, which marked the start of the large-scale armed attack by the Russian Federation, to 8 October 2023, OHCHR recorded 27,768 civilian casualties in the country: 9,806 killed and 17,962 injured. This included:

- 22,468 casualties (7,649 killed and 14,819 injured) in territory controlled by the Government when casualties occurred:
  - In Donetsk and Luhansk regions: 10,668 casualties (4,305 killed and 6,363 injured); and
  - In other regions: 11,800 casualties (3,344 killed and 8,456 injured).
- 5,300 casualties (2,157 killed and 3,143 injured) in territory occupied by the Russian Federation when casualties occurred:

An increase in figures in this update compared with the previous update (as of 24 September 2023) should not be attributed to civilian casualties that occurred from 25 September to 8 October 2023 only, as during these days OHCHR also corroborated casualties that occurred on previous days. Similarly, not all civilian casualties that were reported from 25 September to 8 October 2023 have been included into the above figures. Some of them are still pending corroboration and if confirmed, will be reported on in future updates.

The city of Kyiv, and Cherkasy, Chernihiv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Kherson, Kirovohrad, Kyiv, Mykolaiv, Odesa, Sumy, Zaporizhzhia, Dnipropetrovsk, Khmelnytskyi, Lviv, Poltava, Rivne, Ternopil, Vinnytsia, Volyn, and Zhytomyr regions.

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2 The city of Kyiv, and Cherkasy, Chernihiv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Kherson, Kirovohrad, Kyiv, Mykolaiv, Odesa, Sumy, Zaporizhzhia, Dnipropetrovsk, Khmelnytskyi, Lviv, Poltava, Rivne, Ternopil, Vinnytsia, Volyn, and Zhytomyr regions.
In Donetsk and Luhansk regions: 3,651 casualties (808 killed and 2,843 injured); and

In other regions:\(^3\): 1,649 casualties (1,349 killed and 300 injured).

OHCHR believes that the actual figures are considerably higher, as the receipt of information from some locations where intense hostilities have been going on has been delayed and many reports are still pending corroboration. This concerns, for example, Mariupol (Donetsk region), Lysychansk, Popasna, and Sievierodonetsk (Luhansk region), where there are allegations of numerous civilian casualties.

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\(^3\) Chernihiv, Kharkiv, Kherson, Kyiv, Mykolaiv, Sumy, and Zaporizhzhia regions.
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 as they become available, please visit this page.

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