

Ukraine: Protection of civilians in armed conflict

November 2024 update



A building in Tsarychanka (Dnipropetrovsk region) impacted by a missile attack on 30 November 2024

10 December 2024

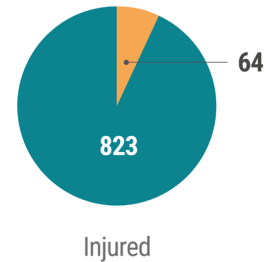
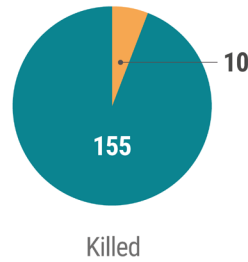
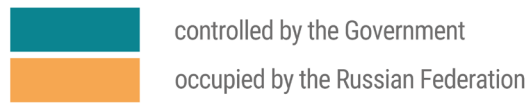
Summary

- **At least 165 civilians were killed and 887 injured in Ukraine in November.** Eight of the killed and 57 of the injured were children. While the November casualty number was lower than in October, it was significantly higher than in November 2023 (113 killed; 363 injured).
- The vast majority of civilian casualties (**93 per cent**)¹ and damage to educational and health facilities (**97.5 per cent**)² occurred in territory controlled by Ukraine.
- 42 per cent of the casualties (65 killed; 372 injured) resulted from the use of **long-range weapons** (missiles and loitering munitions) launched by Russian armed forces, a significant increase from previous months. Civilian casualties from missiles and loitering munitions were recorded in 11 regions of Ukraine.
- Russian armed forces resumed large-scale, coordinated **attacks on Ukraine's energy infrastructure**. The most recent attack before November occurred in August. Two attacks in November damaged **24 electricity generation and distribution facilities in 13 regions**, including facilities involved in the conversion and transmission of electricity from nuclear power plants, resulting in emergency power outages in many regions and the resumption of daily scheduled power outages across the country.
- **Around 57 per cent of casualties in November occurred near the frontline**, mostly from aerial bombardments, artillery shelling, MLRS strikes and short-range drone attacks, with the highest numbers **in Kherson and Donetsk regions**. Aerial bombs caused 14 per cent of overall casualties.³
- In Kherson region, attacks with **short-range unmanned aerial vehicles** (drones) killed and injured civilians on a near-daily basis, accounting for nearly half of the civilian casualties in the region in November.⁴

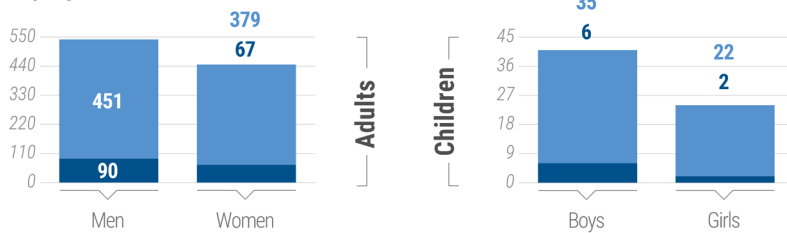
Civilian casualties November 2024⁵

Total civilian casualties **1,052** [**165** Killed **887** Injured]

1. By territory where they occurred



2. By age and sex



3. By type of weapon/incident



Attacks damaging educational and health facilities November 2024



Representative incidents

- On 5 November, a missile attack in Zaporizhzhia city killed 8 civilians (7 men and 1 woman), and injured 24 (19 men and 5 women).
- On 7 November, aerial glide bombs killed 9 civilians (4 men, 4 women and 1 boy) and injured 42 (21 women, 17 men, 3 boys and 1 girl) in Zaporizhzhia city.
- On 17 November, a coordinated missile and loitering munitions attack damaged 17 energy infrastructure facilities in 11 regions. The attack also resulted in 6 civilians killed and at least 14 injured, including 2 children, nationwide power outages, and damage to housing and property.
- On 17 November, a missile attack struck a residential area in Sumy, killing 11 civilians (5 women, 4 men, 1 boy and 1 girl) and injuring 74 (32 men, 27 women, 8 boys and 7 girls).
- On 18 November, loitering munitions killed 12 civilians (7 women, 4 men and 1 boy) and injured at least 6 injured (3 women, 1 man, 1 boy and 1 girl), the majority of them internally displaced persons, in Hlukhiv, Sumy region.
- On 26 November, artillery shells struck a bus close to a bus stop in occupied Nova Kakhovka (Kherson region), killing at least 3 women and injuring 10 civilians (8 women and 2 men).
- On 28 November, a coordinated missile and loitering munitions attack damaged 17 energy infrastructure facilities in 11 regions, further exacerbating the difficult electricity situation in Ukraine. The attack also injured at least one civilian (a woman).
- On 30 November, a missile struck residential areas in Tsarychanka village (Dnipropetrovsk region), damaging a moving bus. 3 women were killed and 24 civilians (13 women, 10 men and 1 boy) injured.



"We leave the house only twice a week to buy groceries because of all the attacks. But only if we had a quiet night and morning. Alarms, aerial bombs, drones - there are always risks".

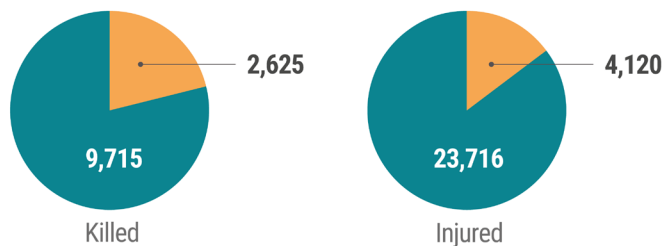
- a 58-year-old woman in Kherson city describing the impact on her life from the threat of attack

Civilian casualties since 24 February 2022⁷

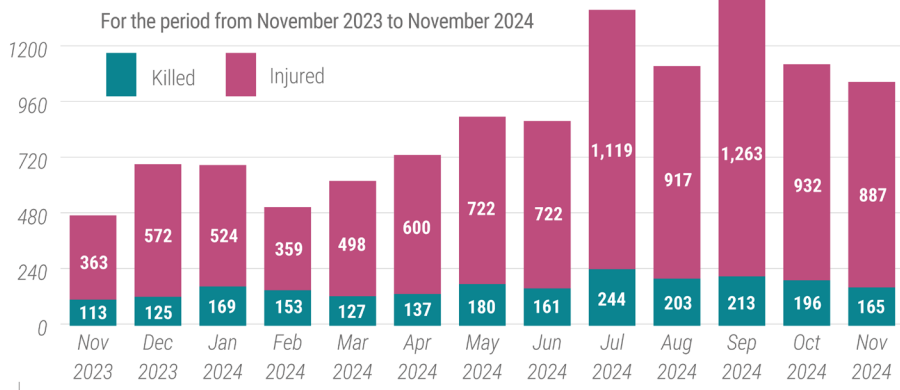
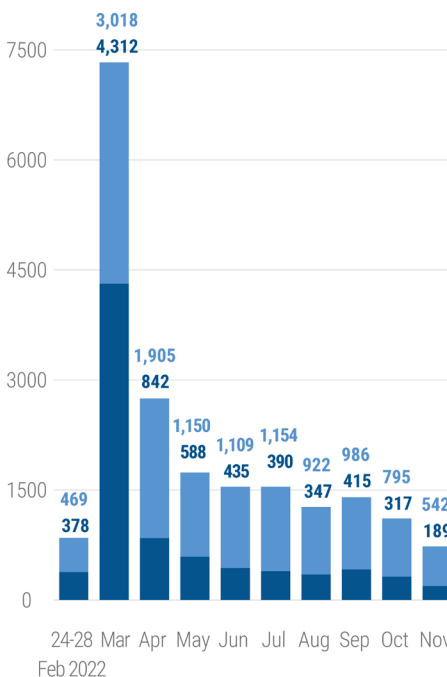
Total civilian casualties **40,176** { **12,340** Killed **27,836** Injured

1. By territory where they occurred

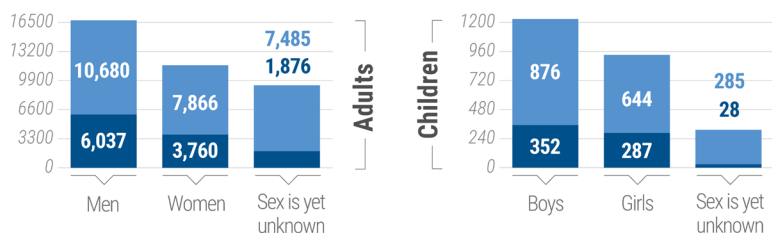
 controlled by the Government
 occupied by the Russian Federation



2. By month



3. By age and sex



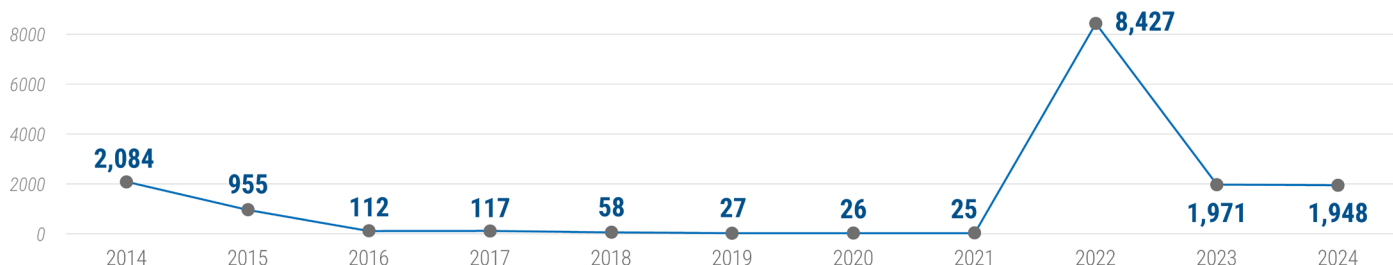
4. By type of weapon/incident



Attacks damaging educational and health facilities since 24 February 2022



Civilians killed since 2014





The UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine

HRMMU collects information about civilian harm from conflict-related violence from a wide range of sources, including through interviews with victims, their relatives, and witnesses; open-source information, including photo and video material; 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 takes time. This means that as more information becomes available, conclusions on civilian casualties may be revised and numbers may change.

Statistics presented in the current update are based on individual records of civilian harm 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 harm took place as described. HRMMU refers to information that meets this criterion as “verified.” When HRMMU has not yet verified a casualty or reported an individual case of death or injury, it does not necessarily mean that HRMMU has established the individual as an active member of an armed group or as someone who directly participated in hostilities. In many cases, the non-designation of an individual as a civilian reflects a lack of information, rather than a confirmation the individual’s status as a combatant.

The actual extent of civilian harm – both casualties and infrastructure damage – is likely considerably higher as many reports of civilian harm, particularly from the period immediately after the full-scale armed attack of 24 February 2022, have not been possible to verify due to the large number of reports and the lack of access to relevant areas. The number of civilian casualties is likely particularly undercounted in cities such as Mariupol (Donetsk region), Lysychansk, Popasna, and Sievierodonetsk (Luhansk region), where there was protracted intensive fighting at the start of the armed attack in 2022.

¹ 978 civilian casualties in territory controlled by Ukraine and 74 in territory occupied by the Russian Federation.

² 79 in territory controlled by Ukraine and 2 in territory occupied by the Russian Federation.

³ 19 killed and 131 injured.

⁴ Attacks with short-range unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) accounted for 118 out of 246 civilian casualties in Kherson region in November.

⁵ The actual number might be higher as some reports are still pending confirmation.

⁶ 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).

⁷ An increase in total figures in this update compared with the previous update is not only due to casualties and damage to civilian infrastructure that occurred in the reporting period as OHCHR also continues to corroborate cases that occurred before the reporting period.

⁸ 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.