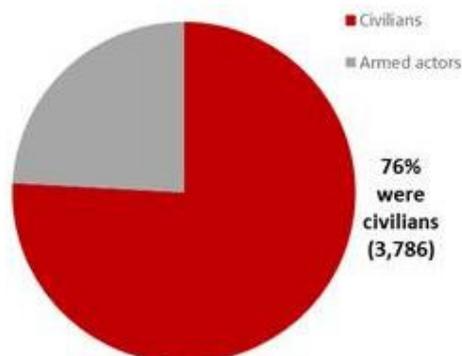
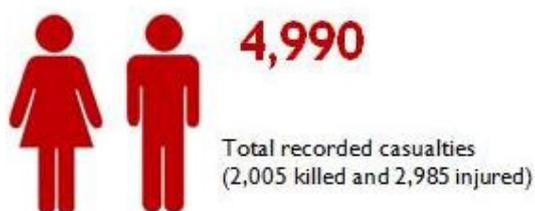


# Explosive Violence: July 2015

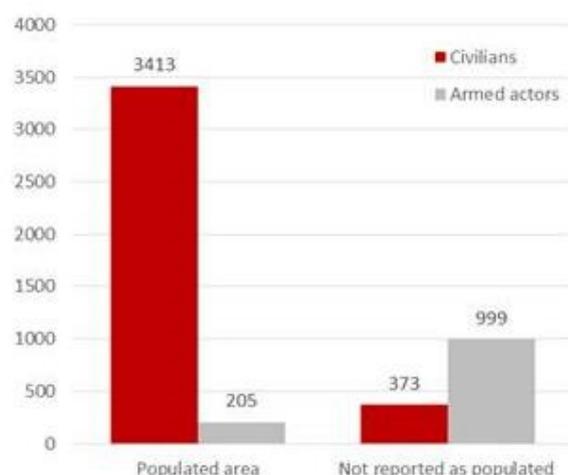
# AOAV

Data presented is based on information gathered by AOAV's explosive violence monitoring project. No claims are made that this data captures every incident or casualty of explosive violence, but is indicative of the scale and scope of explosive weapon use.



Country	Civilians <sup>1</sup>	Armed actors	Incidents
<b>Yemen</b>	962	335	32
<b>Iraq</b>	874	165	44
<b>Syria</b>	546	176	42
<b>Nigeria</b>	492	22	15
<b>Afghanistan</b>	158	164	17

## Explosive weapons in populated areas<sup>2</sup>



## Weapon types



**Air-launched**

**871**  
civilians killed  
and injured



**Ground-launched**

**912**  
civilians killed  
and injured



**IEDs**

**1,913**  
civilians killed  
and injured

## Top Story: An epidemic of suicide bombings

In [June](#), AOAV highlighted the growing risk to civilians worldwide from suicide bombings. July saw a further startling increase in this form of explosive violence, with 1,169 civilian casualties from 36 such attacks globally. This means that almost a third (31%) of all civilian casualties of explosive violence in July 2015 were killed or injured by a suicide bomber.

The worst-hit countries in July were Iraq (390 civilian casualties) and Nigeria (288). On 17 July, a suicide bomber drove a truck filled with more than three tonnes of explosives into a busy market in the Diyala province of Iraq. The attack killed 120 people and injured another 140, destroying fifty buildings. July has been the worst month of 2015 for suicide bombings, and has contributed to a staggering 45% increase in civilian casualties so far this year from suicide bombs, compared to the previous year.

To read an in-depth analysis of the spread of suicide bombs in 2015 read: [An epidemic of suicide bombings](#)

**Aid In Danger: Humanitarian buildings hit in Yemen**

By *Insecurity Insight*: [www.aidindanger.org](http://www.aidindanger.org)



On 1 July, two offices of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) were damaged by mortar fire and airstrikes in the villages of Haradh and Basateen, both in Yemen's Aden Governorate.<sup>3</sup> While no-one was killed or injured in the incident, this was the latest in a series of attacks in Yemen in which humanitarian offices have been damaged by explosive weapons.

Each month since the conflict erupted in March 2015, humanitarians and their life-saving infrastructure have been directly caught up in the widespread use of explosive weapons in populated areas in Yemen.

On 28 June, the UN Development Programme (UNDP) offices were severely damaged by airstrikes in the city of Aden. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon condemned the attack as deplorable, and called for a full investigation by the Saudi-led coalition.<sup>4</sup> On 21 May at least five refugees were killed when shelling hit an international humanitarian aid office near Yemen's border with Saudi Arabia.<sup>5</sup> A month earlier, on 20 April, the offices of International Medical Corps (IMC) and an Oxfam warehouse were damaged in another set of air strikes.<sup>6</sup>

These incidents highlight the due diligence concerns that humanitarian agencies face over how to protect their staff and assets when warring parties cannot guarantee their safety because of the wide-area effects of the explosive weapons in use. Although 80% of Yemen's population is in need of support, agencies say that only a fraction of the country's 21 million-plus people in need can currently receive aid.<sup>7</sup>

**AOAV's Explosive Violence Monitor**

**Methodology:** Information is gathered from English-language news sources on incidents of explosive violence with at least one reported casualty. AOAV uses an RSS reader to scan Google news for key terms which relate to explosive weapon use. Information is extracted on: the date, time, and location of the incident; the number and status of people killed and injured; the weapon type; the reported user and target; the detonation method and whether displacement or damage to the location was reported. AOAV does not attempt to comprehensively capture all incidents of explosive violence around the world, instead this data is intended to serve as a useful indicator of the scale and pattern of harm. Direct casualties are just one aspect of the impact of explosive weapons in populated areas. Damage to civilian infrastructure, psychological and socio-economic impacts on individuals and communities, and the danger of UXO are seldom reported in news sources.

For the latest analysis and research of developments in explosive violence go to:

[Manufactured Explosive Weapons](#)

[IEDs and Suicide Bombings](#)

[1] Actors are defined as civilians if they are not identifiable in reports either as armed actors or security personnel.

[2] Refers to areas likely to contain concentrations of civilians. To see AOAV's recording guidelines see <https://aoav.org.uk/explosiveviolence/methodology/>

[3] International Organization for Migration, "Yemen: Airstrikes, Mortars Damage IOM Premises in Haradh and Basateen," 3 July 2015, <https://www.iom.int/news/yemen-airstrikes-mortars-damage-iom-premises-haradh-and-basateen>; Lisa Schlein, "Conflict in Yemen Blocks Humanitarian Aid," *Voice of America*, 03 July 2015, [www.voanews.com/content/yemen-insecurity-blocks-humanitarian-aid/2847851.html](http://www.voanews.com/content/yemen-insecurity-blocks-humanitarian-aid/2847851.html)

[4] "Yemen: Ban deplores attack on UN compound in Gulf country, calls for full investigation", UN News Centre, 29 June 2015, [www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=51289#.Vc3tcLJVhHw](http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=51289#.Vc3tcLJVhHw)

[5] Mohammed Ghobari and Sami Aboudi, "Saudi shells hit Yemen aid office, killing five refugees-local official," *Reuters*, 21 May 2015, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2015/05/21/uk-yemen-security-idUKKBN0060VF20150521>

[6] "Aid agency Oxfam condemns Saudi air strike in Yemen," *Reuters*, 20 April 2015, [www.reuters.com/article/2015/04/20/us-yemen-security-humanitarian-idUSKBN0NB0DX20150420](http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/04/20/us-yemen-security-humanitarian-idUSKBN0NB0DX20150420)

[7] UNOCHA, "Yemen: Humanitarian Emergency Situation Report No. 16, (20 July 2015),"

<http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/OCHA%20Yemen%20Humanitarian%20Emergency%20Situation%20Report%20No.%2016.pdf>