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MONTHLY REPORT for Victims of Extrajudicial Killing in Syria

**The Death of 2818 Civilian Including
201 Children and 194 Women, and
17 Death due to Torture Recorded
in the First Half of 2025**

In June, the Death of **140 Civilians**, including 10 Children and 15 Women, and One Death due to Torture was Recorded

Thursday 03 July 2025

2818





The Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR), founded in June 2011, is a non-governmental, independent group that is considered a primary source for the OHCHR on all death toll-related analyses in Syria.

Contents:

I. Background and Methodology	1
II. Extrajudicial Killings.....	2
A. Extrajudicial killing since the start of 2025	2
B. Extrajudicial killings in June 2025	5
C. Massacres	7
D. Deaths due to torture.....	8
E. Victims among medical personnel.....	9
F. Victims among media personnel	10
G. Victims among civil defense personnel.....	10
III. Brief on the Most Notable Killings in May 2025.....	11
A. Transitional Government forces	11
B. Syrian Democratic Forces	12
C. Landmine explosions	12
D. Bombings by unidentified source	12
E. Gunfire of unidentified source and stray bullets	14
F. Israeli forces	15
IV. Attacks on Vital Civilian Facilities	15
V. Recently Documented Cases of Previously Killed Victims Whose Remains Were Recently Discovered	20
VI. SNHR Most Notable Work with Regards to the Extrajudicial Killing File.....	21
VII Conclusions and Recommendations	23
Acknowledgment.....	27

I. BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY

This report outlines the victims documented by the Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR) as having been killed by the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in the first half of 2025 and the month of June 2025. The report focuses particularly on deaths due to torture, victims among medical personnel, media workers, and Civil Defense personnel, and the massacres committed during the period covered by this report. Furthermore, the report outlines the most notable incidents. SNHR stores the full details of these incidents on its database. It also includes the documented attacks on civilian vital facilities during these two periods.

The fatalities recorded in this report are limited to civilian deaths documented in the first half of 2025 and the preceding month. Some of these deaths may have taken place months or years before and only have been formally confirmed or documented during the past month, in which case we list the date on which the death was officially documented, as well as the estimated date of death.

We have taken into consideration the major changes in Syria with the downfall of the Assad regime on December 8, 2024. However, we are still recording civilian deaths at the hands of pro-Assad forces in various forms, despite the ousting of the Assad regime. These forms include:

- Pro-Assad militias killing civilians or Syrian security personnel.
- Explosion of cluster bomblets left from past attacks carried out by Russian forces or Assad regime forces.
- Citizens injured in attacks by Assad regime forces and died later from their injuries.

This report catalogues the civilian deaths according to the parties responsible. In some cases, this may require additional time to properly investigate, especially in cases of joint attacks. To address this, our teams continue investigations until accurately identifying the perpetrators. In the event that identifying the perpetrator was found to be not possible, however, we catalogue such incidents under other parties until new evidence comes to light.

While we, at SNHR, are keen to assign culpability to the parties responsible, two types of cases are excluded: anti-personnel landmines (APLs) and remote bombings, with the latter including suicide or forced bombings. We have explained our reasoning behind this in detail in separate reports.

As for anonymous victims, that is, victims whom we have not been able to identify or obtain any information indicating their identity, we store these cases in a separate archive until we can obtain new information.

SNHR also documents deaths from drowning during irregular migration attempts, since the group views those attempts as a result of the overall conditions in Syria being worsened by the conflict and violations. Additionally, SNHR monitors munition-related incidents and unexploded ordnances (UXO) incidents, particularly those involving children. Similarly, such incidents underline the unregulated security situation and poor management of the weapon circulation issue but are not considered violations committed by a party to the conflict.

This report draws upon the continuous monitoring of news and developments carried out by SNHR, and through an extensive network that includes dozens of resources that SNHR has fostered since 2011. In this regard, SNHR has created a special form that can be filled out with the names and information of victims, so our victim documentation team can follow up and verify these information before adding them to our database.

Most of the attacks included in this report have targeted civilian areas. We recorded no military presence in the attack sites. Civilians have also not been alerted prior to the attack by the aggressor forces as required by international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

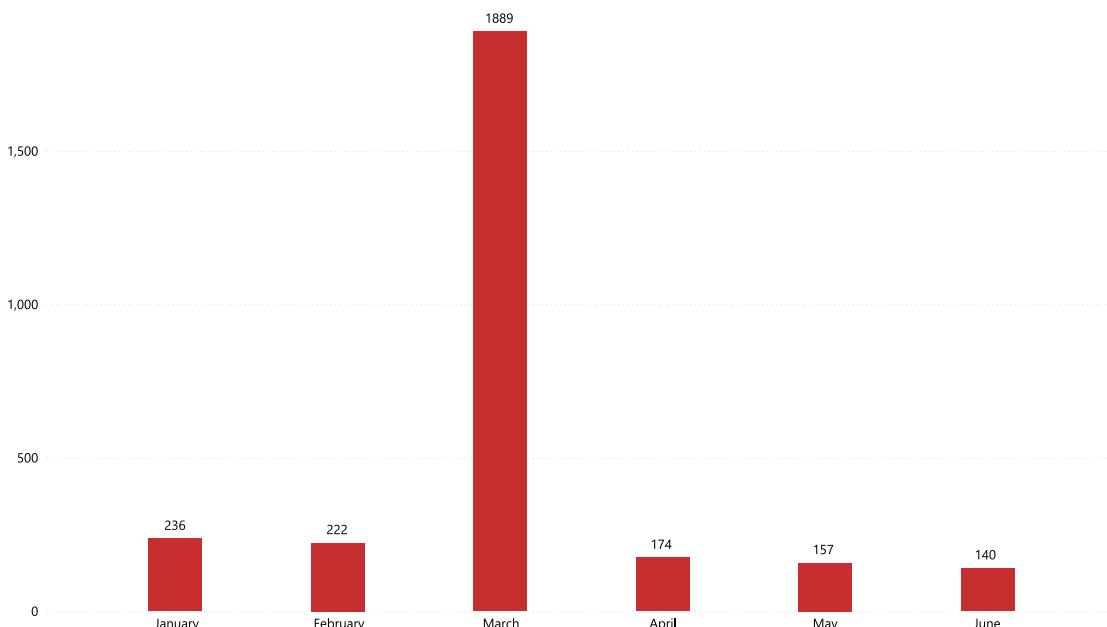
In the end, it is important to note that this report only covers the bare minimum of the volume and magnitude of the violations that occurred, which SNHR was able to document. It also does not cover the social, economic, and psychological of these violations.

II. EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLINGS

A. Extrajudicial killing since the start of 2025

In the first half of 2025, SNHR has documented the killing of **2,818** individuals, including 201 children, 194 women, and 17 deaths due to torture at the hands of the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria.

Civilian victims killed by the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria since the start of 2025 are distributed as follows

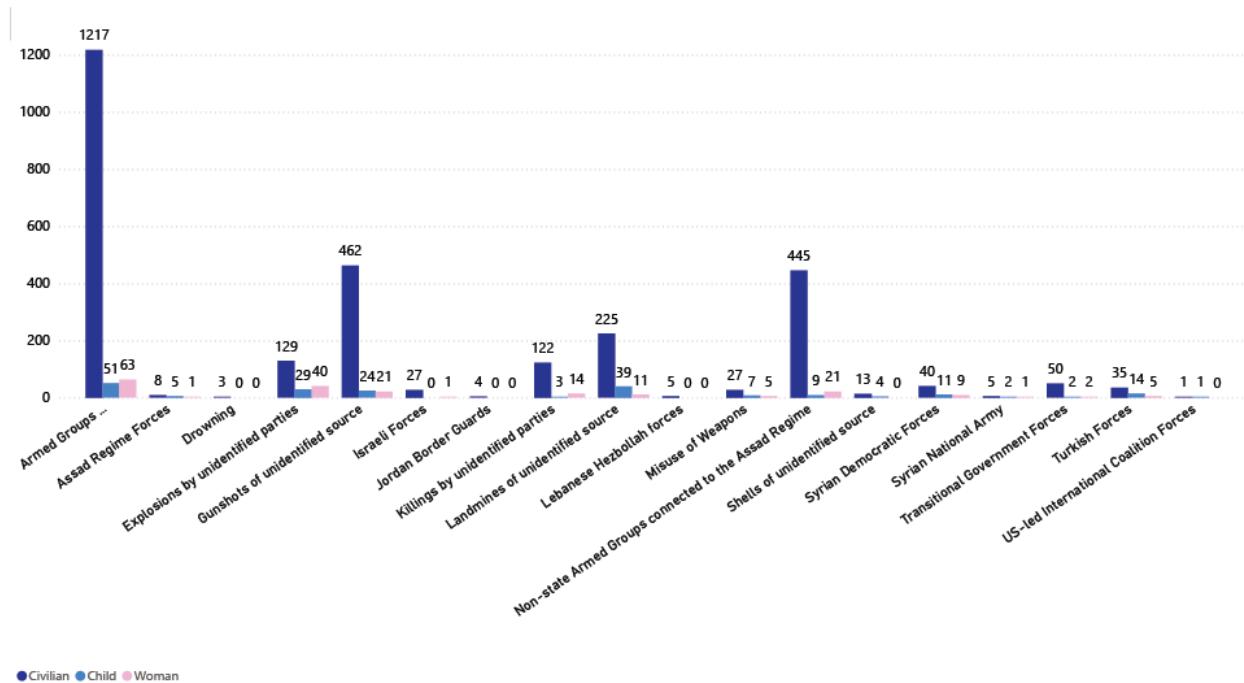


The chart above shows that the highest civilian death toll since the beginning of 2025 was recorded in March, with **1,889** victims, representing approximately **%67** of the total death toll since the beginning of the year. This was due to the escalation of violence and military operations in and around the Syrian coastal region. This was followed by January, with **%8**, then February, with approximately **%8**, while June recorded the lowest death toll of the year.

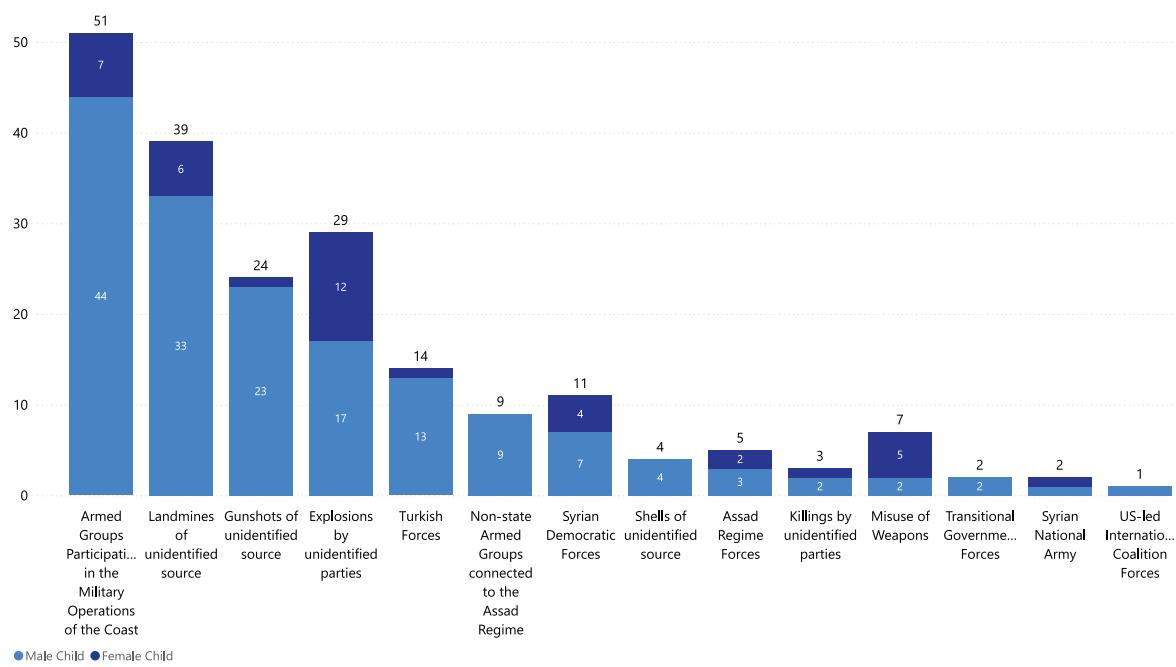
The death toll we documented in the first half of 2025 is distributed by conflicting parties and controlling forces as follows:

- **Transitional Government Forces:** 50 civilians killed, including 2 children and 2 women.
- **Assad Regime Forces:** 8 civilians killed, including 5 children and 1 woman.
- **Syrian Democratic Forces:** 40 civilians killed, including 11 children and 9 women.
- **National Army:** 5 civilians killed, including 2 children and 1 woman.
- **International Coalition Forces:** 1 child killed.
- **Armed forces participating in military operations in the coast (March):** 1217 people killed, including 51 children and 63 women.
- **Non-state armed groups affiliated with the Assad regime:** 445 people killed, including 9 children and 21 women.

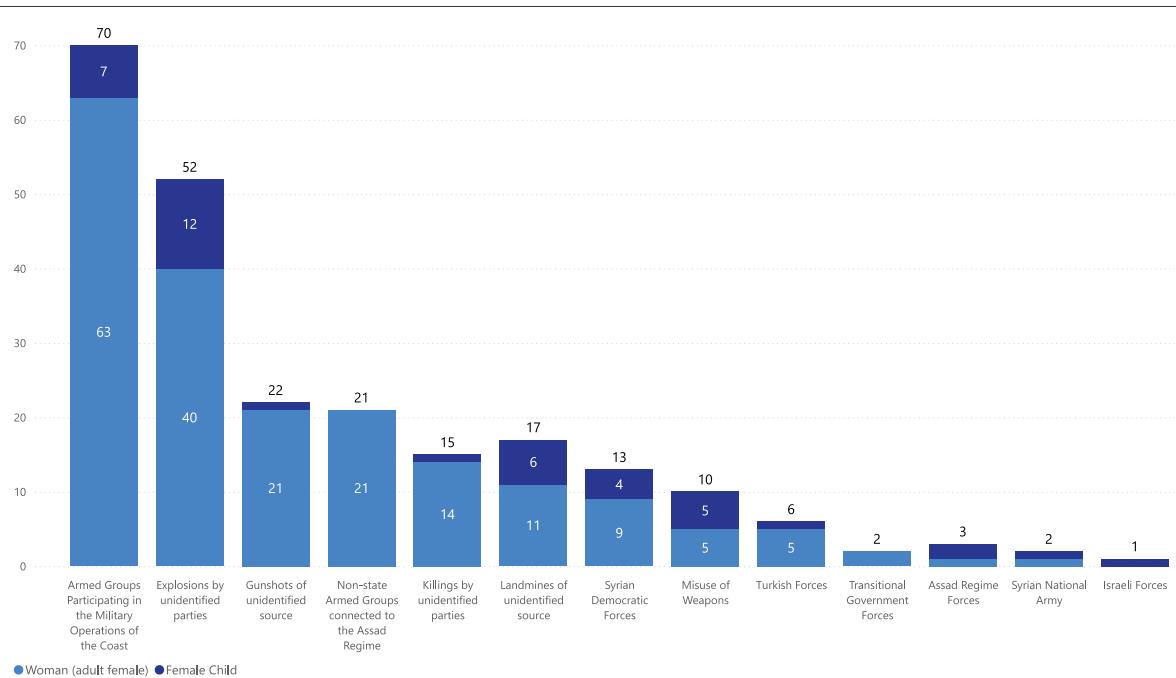
- **Shells whose source we were unable to determine:** 13 civilians killed, including 4 children.
- **Landmine victims (of unknown origin):** 225 civilians killed, including 39 children and 11 women.
- **Bullet victims of unknown origin:** 462 civilians killed, including 24 children and 21 women.
- **Bombing victims whose perpetrators were not identified:** 129 civilians killed, including 29 children and 40 women.
- **Victims killed by unidentified individuals:** 122 civilians killed, including 3 children and 14 women.
- **Victims of accidents resulting from mishandling weapons:** 27 civilians killed, including 7 children and 5 women.
- **Israeli forces:** 27 civilians killed, including 1 woman.
- **Turkish forces:** 35 civilians killed, including 14 children and 5 women.
- **Lebanese Hezbollah:** 5 civilians killed.
- **Jordanian border guards:** 4 civilians killed.
- **Drowning:** 3 civilians killed.



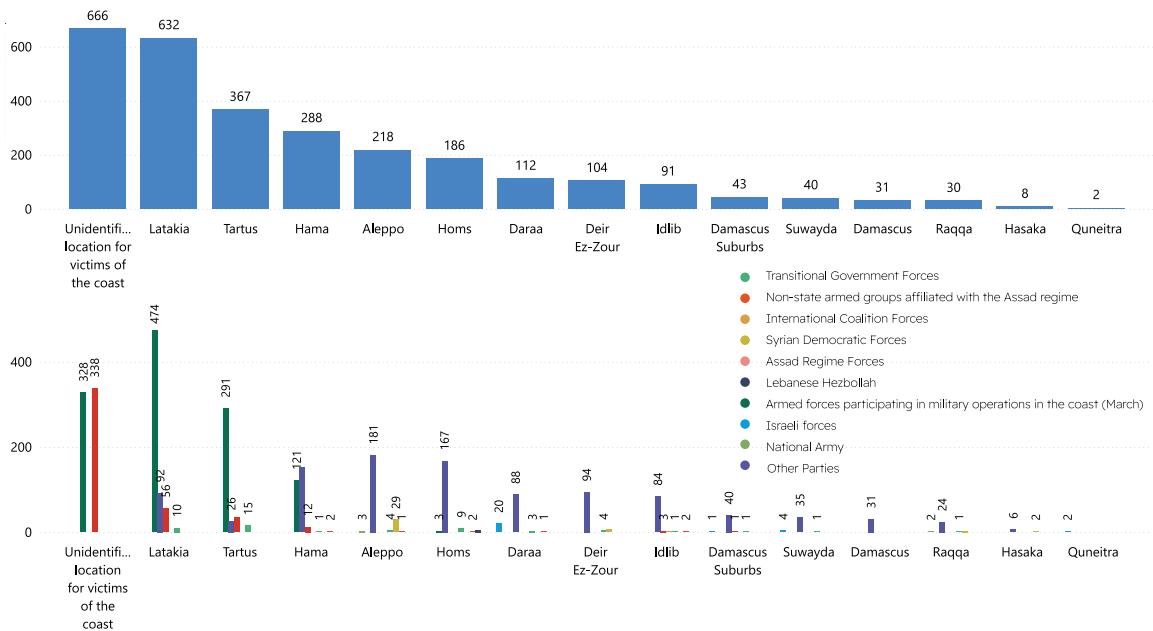
201 children were killed at the hands of the main parties in Syria in 2025



234 females were killed at the hands of the main parties in Syria in 2025



The civilian death toll in the first half of 2025 at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces was distributed by Syrian governorate as follows:

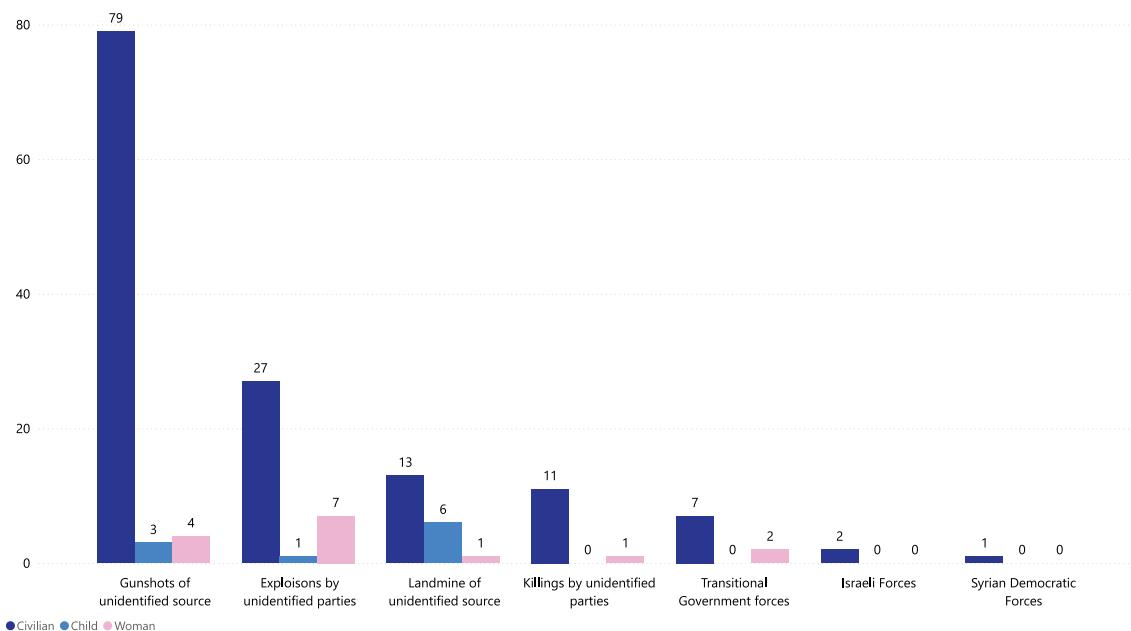


The previous chart shows that Latakia Governorate accounted for approximately 22% of the total number of victims, followed by Tartous Governorate, which accounted for approximately 13%, most of whom were killed by the parties involved in the coastal operation.

B. Extrajudicial killings in June 2025

In June 2025, SNHR documented the killing of **140 civilians** including 10 children and 15 women (adult female), at the hands of the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria. Among the victims were also three civil defense members, and one victim who died due to torture.

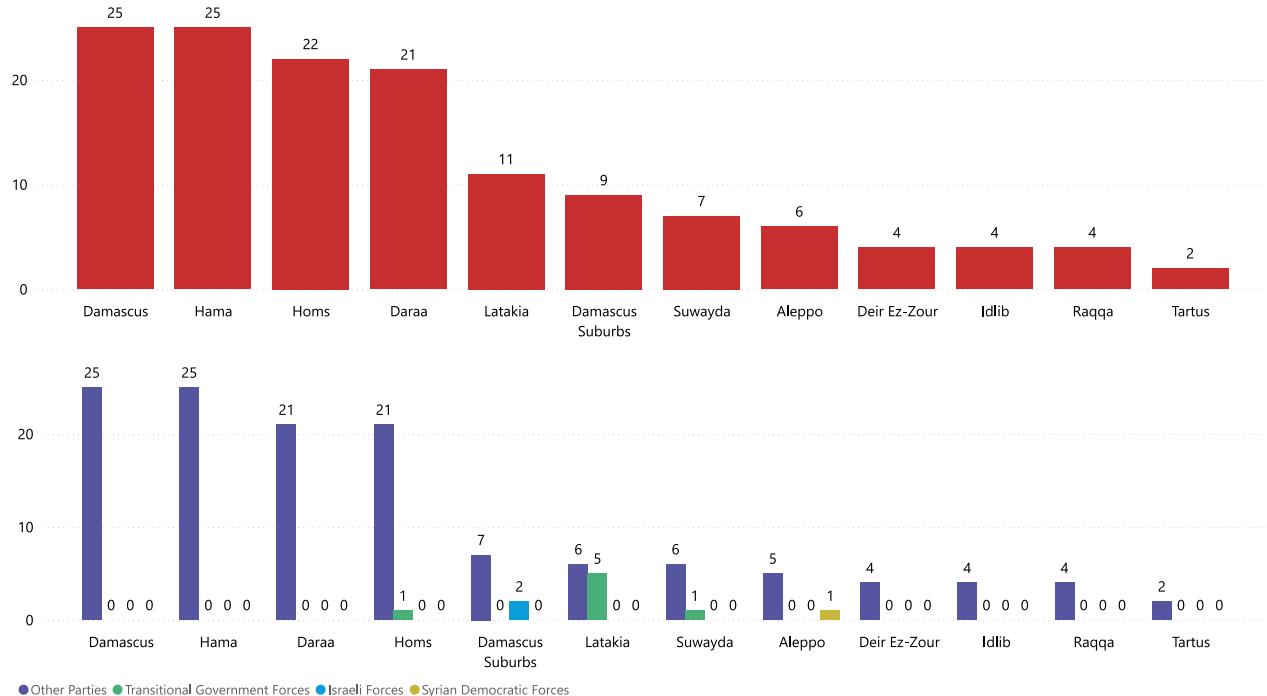
Deaths documented in June 2025 are distributed according to the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria as follows:



A. Main parties:

- **Syrian transitional government forces:** We documented the killing of seven civilians, including two women, by Syrian transitional government forces.
- **Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF):** We documented the killing of one civilian by the SDF..
- **Landmines of unidentified sources:** We documented the killing of 13 civilians, including six children and one woman.
- **Gunfire of unidentified source:** We documented the killing of 79 civilians, including three children and four women.
- **Killings by unidentified parties:** We documented the killing of 11 civilians, including one woman.
- **Bombings by unidentified parties:** We documented the killing of 27 civilians, including one child and seven women.
- **Israeli forces:** We documented the killing of two civilians.

Deaths at the hands of the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria that were documented in June 2025 are distributed across Syrian governorates as follows:



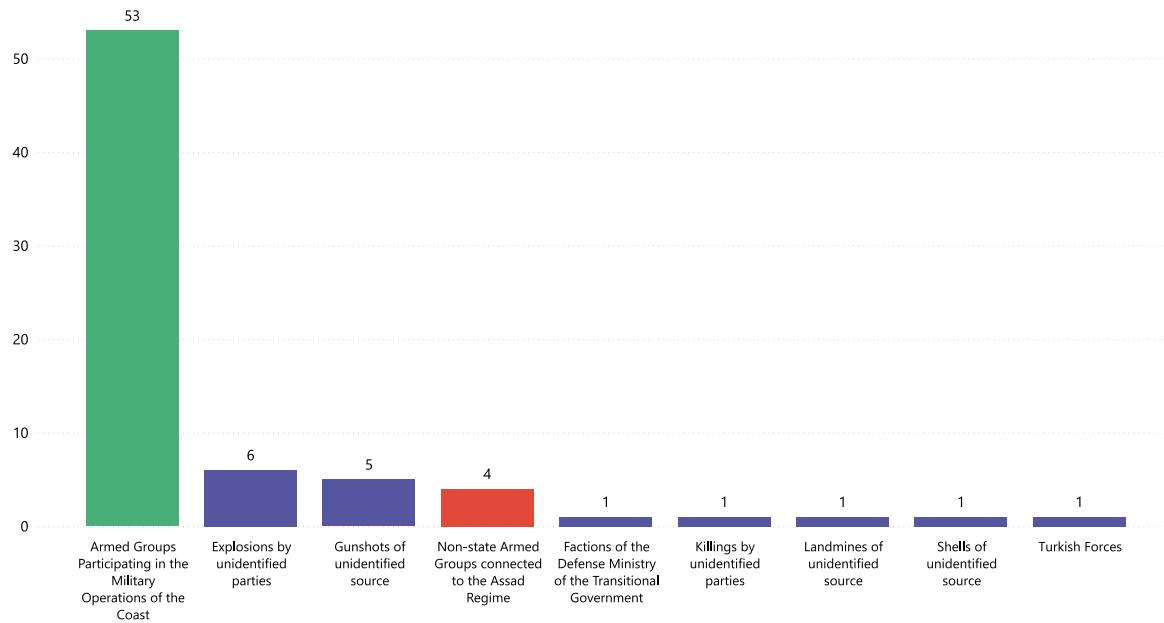
As the chart shows, **Damascus and Hama governorates** each accounted for approximately %18 of the total number of victims, followed by **Homs and Daraa governorates**, which accounted for approximately %15, most of whom were killed by **parties we were unable to identify**.

C. Massacres

1- In the first half of 2025:

The Syrian Network for Human Rights documented **73 massacres** in the first half of 2025, distributed as follows:

- Armed forces participating in military operations in the coastal region (March): 53
- Non-state armed groups linked to the Assad regime: Four.
- Factions affiliated with the Ministry of Defense in the transitional government: One.
- Explosions whose perpetrators we were unable to identify: Six.
- Bulletproof by parties we were unable to identify: One.
- Minefields whose source we were unable to identify: One.
- Israeli forces: One.
- Killing by parties we were unable to identify: One.
- Turkish forces: One.



2- In June 2025:

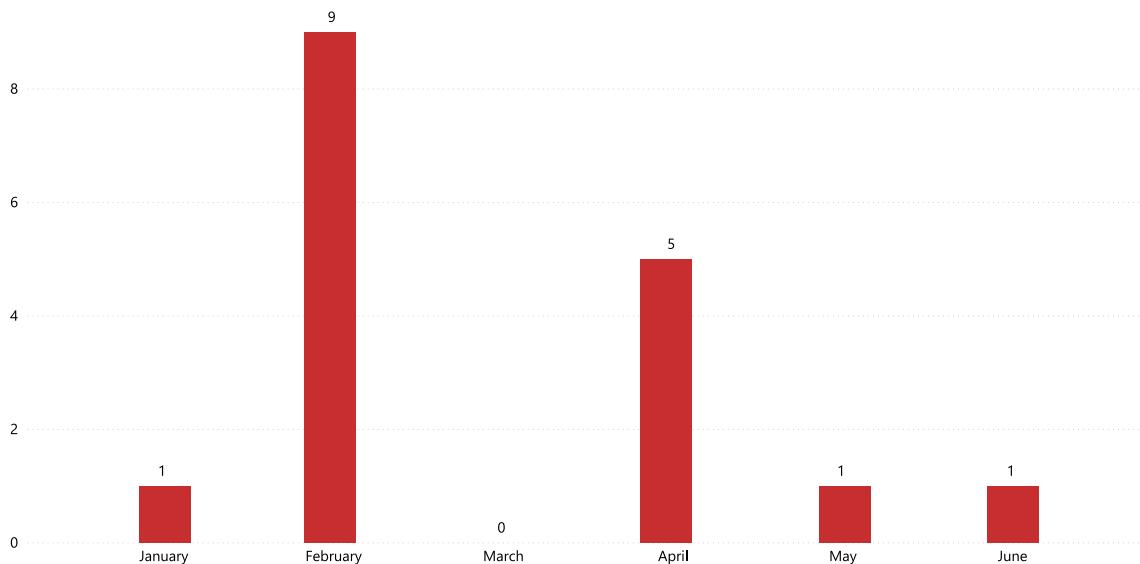
In June 2025, SNHR documented **two massacres**, one of which was by gunshots from unidentified gunmen, while the other was due to bombings by unidentified parties.

D. Deaths due to torture

1- In the first half of 2025:

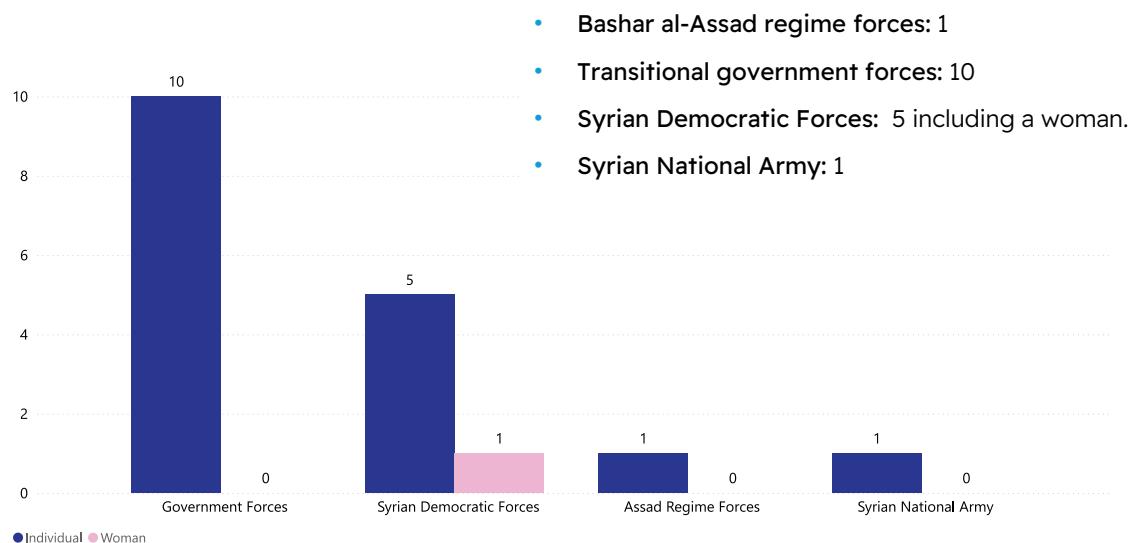
In the first half of 2025, the Syrian Network for Human Rights documented the deaths of **17 individuals**, including a woman, due to torture at the hands of the controlling forces.

The death toll of victims we documented as a result of torture at the hands of parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria since the beginning of 2025 is distributed as follows:



The percentage of victims of torture at the hands of transitional government forces amounted to approximately 59% of the total number of victims of torture at the hands of the controlling forces in 2025. February witnessed the highest number of victims of torture in 2025, accounting for 53% of the total number of victims.

The number of victims documented as having been killed by torture in the first half of 2025 is distributed by conflicting parties and controlling forces as follows:



2- In June 2025:

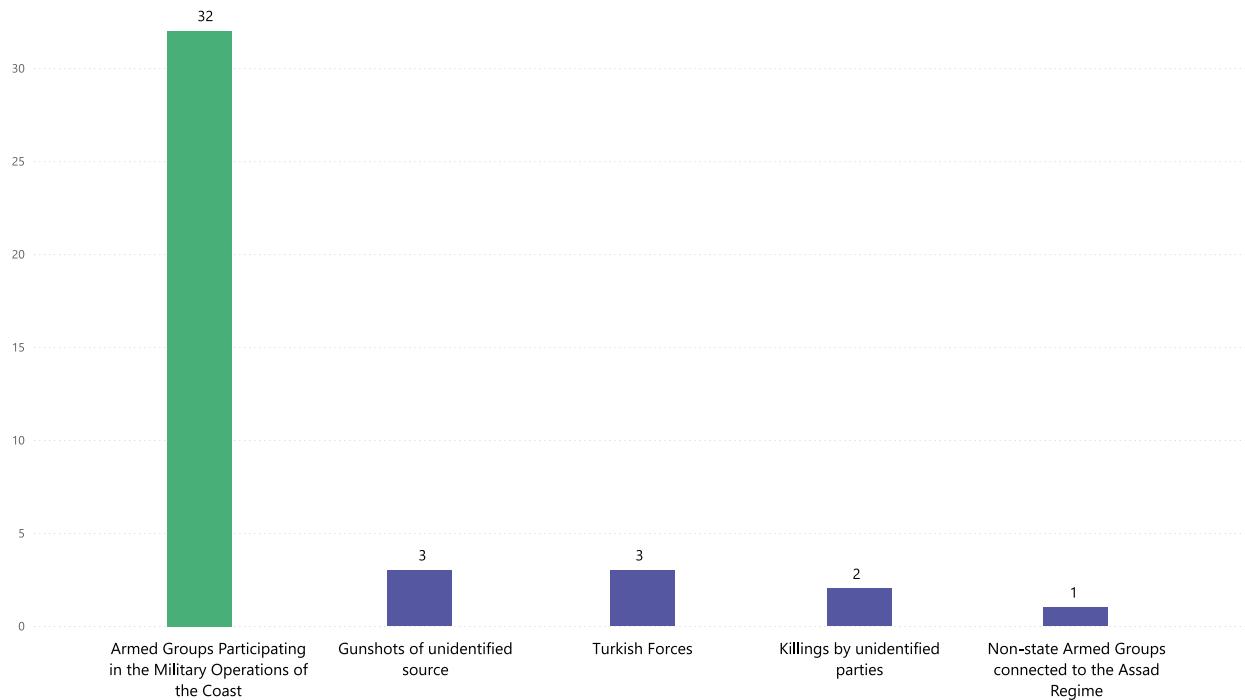
In June 2025, SNHR documented **one death** due to torture at the hands of the transitional government forces.

E. Victims among medical personnel

1- In the first half of 2025

We documented the killing of **41 medical** personnel in the first half of 2025, distributed as follows:

- Non-state armed groups affiliated with the Assad regime: One.
- Armed forces participating in military operations in the coast (March): 32
- Gunshots from unidentified parties: Three.
- Turkish forces: Three.
- Killed by unidentified parties: Two.



2- In June:

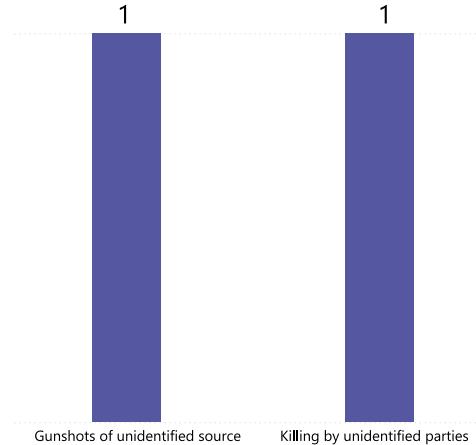
We documented the killing of **one medical personnel** (a woman) by gunshots from unidentified parties.

F. Victims among media personnel

1- In the first half of 2025

we documented the deaths of **two media personnel**, distributed as follows:

- Bullets whose source we were unable to determine: One.
- Killed by parties we were unable to determine: One.



2- In June:

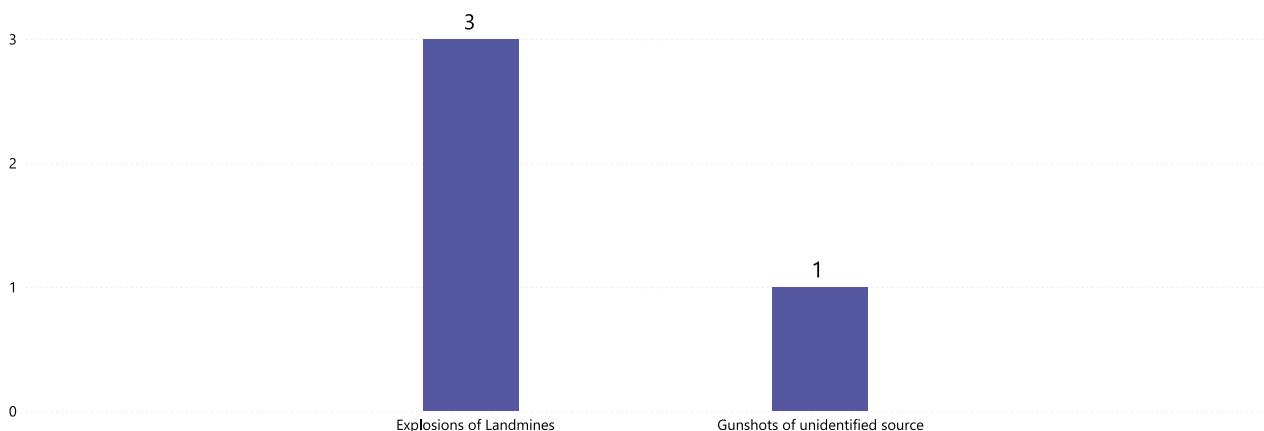
No media personnel casualties were documented.

G. Victims among civil defense personnel

1- In the first half of 2025

We documented the deaths of **four Civil Defense personnel** distributed as follows:

- Landmine explosions: Three.
- Bullet wounds by unidentified parties: One.



2- In June:

No Civil Defense personnel casualties were documented.

III. BRIEF ON THE MOST NOTABLE KILLINGS IN MAY 2025

The documented killings during June reflect the ongoing security and human rights challenges facing Syria during the transitional period. They highlight the fragility of the security structure in several areas, particularly with the emergence of armed groups outside the state and the continuing impact of the prolonged conflict on civilians. Patterns of extrajudicial killings appear in multiple contexts, most notably:

A. Transitional Government forces:

Some internal security units under the Ministry of Interior of the transitional government continued to commit abuses, including direct shooting of civilians without clear legal justification and the victimization of torture.

On Sunday, June 1, 2025, members of the Internal Security Forces affiliated with the Syrian transitional government detained [Hafez Yousef al-Tawil](#), a resident of the village of Barouha in the western countryside of Homs Governorate, after raiding his home in the village. According to information obtained by the Syrian Network for Human Rights from reliable local sources, Hafez was detained on charges of possessing a weapon in his home following a raid and search of homes in the village by Internal Security forces. He was then taken to one of the organization's detention centers in Homs Governorate.

On Thursday, June 5, 2025, just five days after his detention, his family received a report from Internal Security Forces that Hafez had died inside the detention center. Internal Security personnel handed over his body to them at his home, bearing signs of torture. According to testimonies collected by the Syrian Network for Human Rights, Hafez was in good health at the time of his detention, reinforcing the hypothesis that he died as a result of torture and medical neglect. Information also confirmed that Hafez collaborated with the security branches of Bashar al-Assad's regime and was a former member of the National Defense Militia. He seized one of his neighbors' farm and built a house on it.

On Thursday, June 12, 2025, two women were killed, one of whom succumbed to her injuries after being taken to the hospital. A child was also injured when an Internal Security Forces patrol opened fire on a civilian car in the middle of the night in the Blue Beach area of Latakia. The area is under the control of the transitional government in Syria.

B. Syrian Democratic Forces

Despite the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) signing agreements to protect civilians and abide by international humanitarian law, we documented the killing of a civilian by SDF gunfire in June 2025.

On Monday, June 23, 2025, [Mahmoud al-Muhammad Ali al-Junaid](#), a resident of al-Safira in the eastern countryside of Aleppo Governorate, was killed after being directly shot by SDF members in the Deir Hafer area of rural Aleppo. It should be noted that the area is under SDF control.



↑ [Mahmoud Al-Muhammad Ali Al-Junaid](#)

C. Landmine explosions

Landmines, which have been planted over the years during the conflict, are still claiming civilian lives to this day across Syria. Since the start of 2025 and up till the end of June, a total of **226 civilians**, including 39 children and 11 women, have been killed by the explosion of landmines.

On Sunday, June 1, 2025, [two children were killed and a third was seriously injured](#). All of the children were from the same family and from the town of Mahkan in the eastern countryside of Deir Ez-Zour Governorate. A landmine exploded while they were grazing sheep near the town of Al-Marei'iyah, east of Deir Ez-Zour Governorate. The area was under the control of the transitional government at the time of the incident.

On Thursday, June 12, 2025, 10-year-old [Ayham Fayyad al-Suwaihin](#), from the city of Ma'dan, east of Raqqa Governorate, was killed by a landmine explosion while he was in the Jabal al-Bishri desert, west of Deir Ez-Zour Governorate. This area is among the sites that have witnessed shifts in control between the warring parties, making determining who planted the mine extremely complex.

D. Bombings by unidentified source

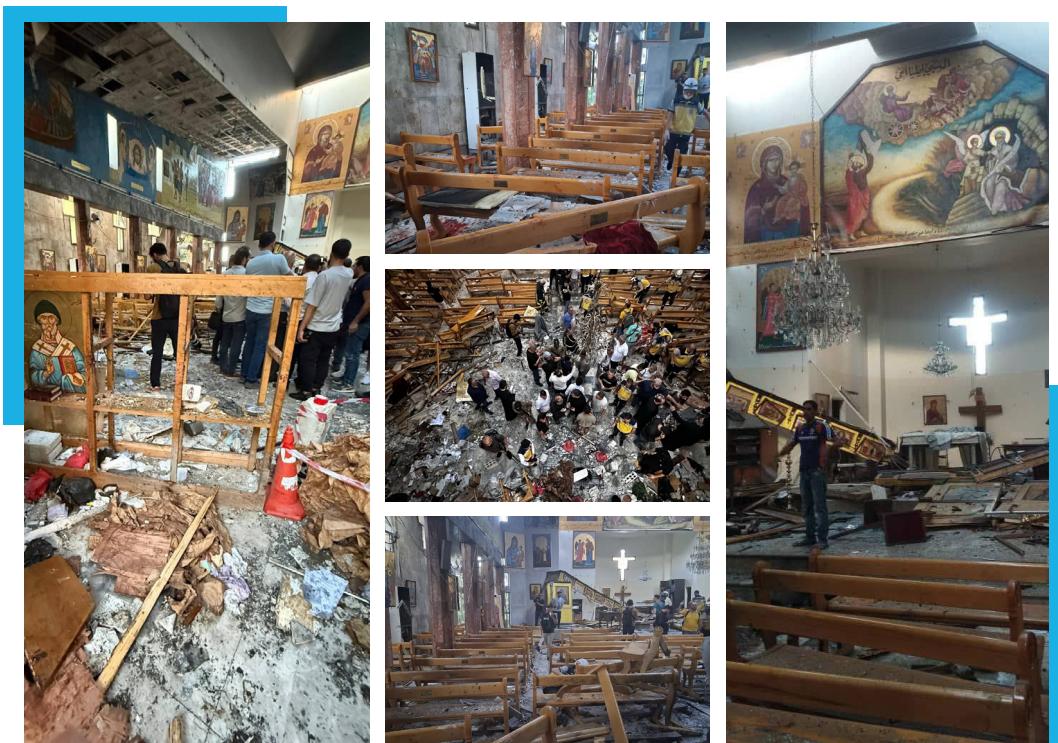
Explosions have been recorded in populated areas and places of worship, some of which were caused by suicide bombings, others by unexploded bombs or missiles. We also recorded a massacre resulting from an explosion at the Mar Elias Church in the Douweila neighborhood of Damascus. The most notable of these cases are:

On Thursday, June 12, 2025, five-year-old [Alia Lawrence al-Qassem](#), from the town of Karnaz in the northern Hama countryside, was killed when an unexploded ordnance (UXO) exploded near her home in the town's southern neighborhood. The area is under the control of the transitional government in Syria.

On Sunday, June 22, 2025, a suicide bomber detonated an explosive vest inside St. Elias Church in the Douweila neighborhood of Damascus as worshippers gathered for Sunday Mass. The attack killed **25 civilians**, including several women, and **injured 63 others** with varying degrees of severity, according to a preliminary toll. The attack also caused extensive damage to the church building and its furnishings. The area is under the control of the transitional government.

According to information we obtained from local sources, the bombing was preceded by gunfire, and the perpetrator then detonated his explosives inside the church, resulting in a large number of civilian casualties.

The Syrian Network for Human Rights issued [a statement](#) mourning all the lives lost in this horrific attack on a place of worship. It expressed its solidarity with the victims, their families, and the Christian community in Syria, and condemned the attack. SNHR affirms that it is still gathering more details and eyewitness accounts to fully verify and document the circumstances of the incident.



↑ Damage from the suicide bombing that targeted Mar Elias Church in the Douweila neighborhood of Damascus on June 22, 2025

On Monday, June 23, 2025, the Syrian Ministry of Interior announced that, following the attack on St. Elias Church in the Douweila neighborhood of Damascus, its security units continued their intensive efforts, gathering information, analyzing evidence, and establishing a joint operations room with the General Intelligence Service to cross-check and confirm information.

The ministry stated that, based on initial information and in coordination with the General Intelligence Service, security operations were carried out in Harasta and Kafr Batna, targeting locations of terrorist cells linked to ISIS. The operations resulted in clashes during which the cell leader and five other members were arrested, in addition to the deaths of two others, one of whom was the main person involved in facilitating the suicide bomber's entry into the church, and the other who was preparing to carry out a terrorist attack in one of the capital's neighborhoods.

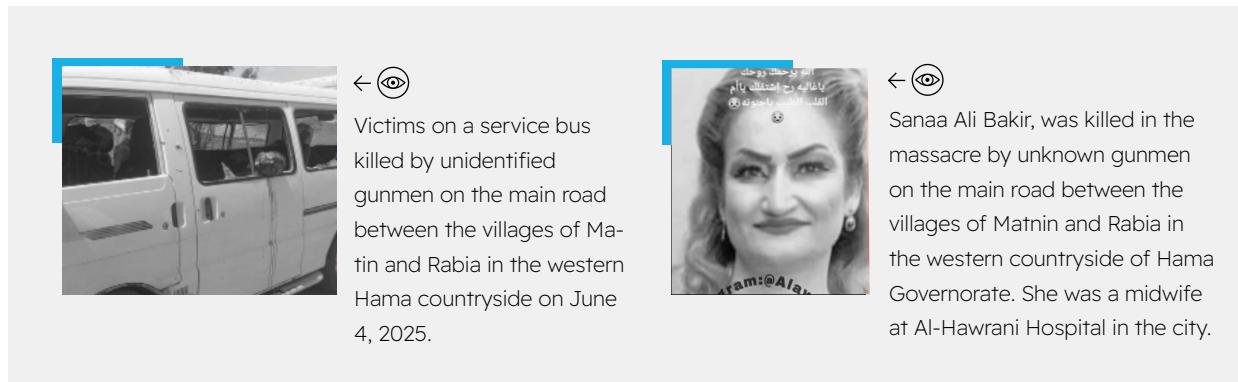
E. Gunfire of unidentified source and stray bullets

SNHR documented the deaths of dozens of civilians as a result of gunfire from unknown sources, including direct targeting and stray bullets during celebrations or local conflicts. This phenomenon is an indicator of weak security control, particularly in areas that have recently changed hands. The death toll from gunfire was distributed as follows:

- **Gunshots by unidentified parties:** 76 civilians, including two children and four women.
- **Random/celebratory gunshots:** three civilians, including one child.

We also documented a massacre that claimed the lives of **eight civilians** on Wednesday, June 4, 2025. Eight civilians, including three women, one of whom was a medical worker, were killed, and four others, including three women, were injured with varying degrees of severity. All were residents of the village of Rabia in the western countryside of Hama Governorate. The incident occurred when a civilian minibus (a service taxi) carrying them was directly shot at by unknown gunmen while passing on the main road between the villages of Matin and Rabia, located northeast of Rabia. It is worth noting that the area is under the control of the transitional government.

According to documentation by the Syrian Network for Human Rights, based on reliable local sources, the bus, which was traveling from the city of Hama towards the village of Rabia, was attacked by unknown assailants riding a motorcycle. The assailants opened direct and indiscriminate fire on the passengers, killing eight and wounding several others. Signs of gunfire were visible on the bus in multiple locations.



F. Israeli forces

On the evening **of Friday, May 30, 2025**, at approximately 10:08 PM local time, fixed-wing [aircraft of the Israeli occupation forces](#) carried out several successive airstrikes targeting military sites in the countryside of Latakia and Tartous governorates. The attacks resulted in the death of one civilian and the injury of three others in the Latakia countryside, and caused extensive material damage to military infrastructure. The targeted areas are under the control of the transitional government.

IV. ATTACKS ON VITAL CIVILIAN FACILITIES

1: In the first half of 2025:

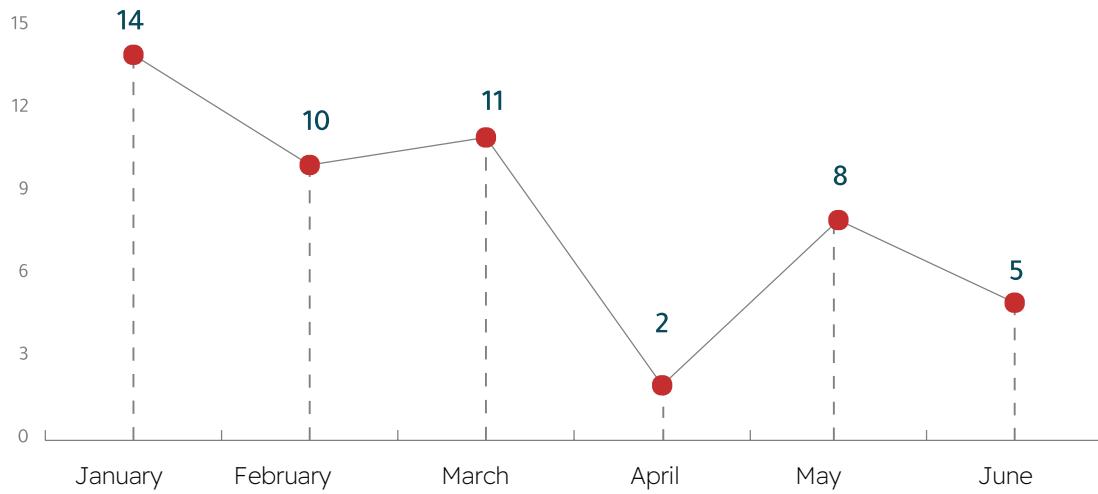
The Syrian Network for Human Rights documented at least **50 attacks** on vital civilian facilities in Syria in the first half of 2025.

Among these attacks, we documented 3 attacks on educational facilities (schools), 8 on medical facilities, and 7 on places of worship (mosques and churches).

These attacks are distributed according to the perpetrators as follows:

- **Syrian National Army forces:** One
- **Syrian Democratic Forces:** Ten
- **Turkish forces:** One
- **Israeli forces:** Five
- **Lebanese Hezbollah:** One
- **Non-state armed groups linked to the Assad regime:** Eight
- **Explosions whose perpetrators we were unable to determine:** Three
- **Explosions whose perpetrators we were unable to determine:** Eight
- **Attack whose perpetrators we were unable to determine:** Eleven
- **Shells whose source we were unable to determine:** One
- **Militants whose affiliation we were unable to determine:** One

The monthly distribution of attacks on vital civilian facilities in the first half of 2025 was as follows:



This tally indicates that attacks on vital facilities and civilian objects in Syria have continued since the beginning of 2025, representing a clear violation of international humanitarian law, which requires the protection of these essential facilities for civilians. The chart shows that January 2025 recorded the highest number of attacks on vital civilian facilities, accounting for approximately %28 of the total documented incidents during the first half of the year (14 out of 50 incidents), followed by March, with approximately %22 (11 incidents).

According to the Syrian Network for Human Rights' database, **50 attacks** on vital civilian facilities were documented during the first half of 2025. Aleppo governorate was the most affected, recording 18 incidents, followed by Latakia governorate with eight.

Below are the most prominent attacks on vital civilian facilities in the first half of 2025:

On Saturday, January 18, 2025, artillery belonging to the Syrian National Army shelled the Al-Hisha water station located in the village of Al-Hisha in the northern countryside of Raqqa Governorate, partially destroying the station's building and severely damaging its equipment, putting it out of service. It should be noted that the area was under the control of the Syrian Democratic Forces at the time of the incident.

According to what the Syrian Network for Human Rights documented through field sources, several artillery shells were fired directly at the station, causing extensive damage, particularly to the pumping and feeding units, and completely halting its operation.

It's worth noting that the Al-Hisha water station is a vital facility in the region, supplying approximately 12 villages in the northern Raqqa countryside. Its disruption poses a direct threat to the water security of the civilian population.

On Saturday, February 15, 2025, the Al-Wastani Mosque, located in the town of Al-Khafsa in the eastern countryside of Aleppo Governorate, was bombed with multiple rocket launchers by the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), resulting in extensive destruction to the mosque's building and moderate damage to its contents and furnishings. It should be noted that the town was under the control of the Syrian National Army at the time of the incident.

According to what the Syrian Network for Human Rights documented through reliable local sources, one of the missiles fell directly on the mosque building, destroying part of its walls and causing damage to the mosque's grounds and furnishings.

It's worth noting that the shelling of the town on the same day also resulted in the death of a woman and the injury of six civilians with varying degrees of severity, as missiles targeted homes and residential buildings.



Destruction following a ground attack by the Syrian Democratic Forces on the Al-Wastani Mosque in the town of Al-Khafsa, Aleppo, on February 15, 2025.

Jableh National Hospital, located in the city of Jableh in the Latakia countryside, was subjected to an armed attack on Thursday and Friday, March 6 and 7, 2025, by non-state armed groups linked to the Assad regime.

According to information obtained by the Syrian Network for Human Rights from reliable local sources, the attack involved targeting the hospital with bullets, grenades, and RPGs, followed by storming the building in an attempt to reach the third floor, where wounded Internal Security personnel were being treated. They had been injured in previous clashes with these groups before arriving at the hospital.

The attack resulted in [varying degrees of damage to the hospital's infrastructure and medical equipment](#). It should be noted that the area was under the control of the transitional government at the time of the incident.

On Sunday, April 6, 2025, St. George's Church, located in the city of Bloudan, west of Rif Dimashq Governorate, was subjected to an attempted arson attack and partial bombing by unidentified individuals. The attack resulted in [limited material damage](#) but no human casualties. The area where the attack occurred is under the control of the transitional government.

According to information we obtained from reliable local sources, the attackers poured gasoline into the church grounds through a window and set it on fire. They also threw two hand grenades without removing their safety pins, causing a limited fire around the outer window but not extending into the church. Residents were able to contain the fire before it caused widespread damage.

On Thursday, May 22, 2025, a newly planted remotely controlled explosive device (IED) exploded on a railway near the village of Karah in the northeastern Hama countryside, while the Syrian Civil Defense (White Helmets) explosive remnants of war clearance team was carrying out a mission to remove a suspicious object. The explosion resulted in the deaths of three team members: Mamoun Al-Omar, Jalal Tako, and Shaaban Shushan, in addition to damaging the railway. The area is under the control of the Syrian transitional government.

According to information obtained by the Syrian Network for Human Rights from reliable local sources, a report was received by the Souran Civil Defense Center about a strange object on the railway line linking Aleppo and Damascus, which is still in service. Upon the team's arrival at the site, three members, wearing their official uniforms and protective gear, went to inspect the object, which was later revealed to be an explosive device or a mine intended for remote detonation. Before they could move away, it detonated, killing them instantly and damaging the railway line.

On May 24, 2025, the Syrian Network for Human Rights issued [a statement](#) condemning the incident and stressing the need to protect those clearing explosive remnants of war as humanitarian workers.

2: In June 2025:

The Syrian Network for Human Rights recorded at least five attacks on vital civilian facilities in June, concentrated in the governorates of Damascus, Homs, Latakia, Quneitra, and Suwayda.

These attacks are distributed according to the perpetrators as follows:

Among these attacks, we documented 1 incident of assault on an educational facility (school), and 2 on a place of worship.

- **Israeli forces:** One
- **Explosions whose perpetrators we could not determine:** One
- **Explosions whose perpetrators we could not determine:** One
- **Attack whose perpetrators we could not determine:** Two

Below are the most prominent attacks on vital civilian facilities in June 2025:

On the morning of Sunday, **June 15, 2025**, at approximately 05:30 local time, an Israeli occupation army force carried out a ground incursion into the village of Al-Hurriya in the northern countryside of Quneitra Governorate, which resulted in storming the official school (Al-Hurriya School) and vandalizing its contents.

According to what the Syrian Network for Human Rights documented from reliable local sources, three armored vehicles accompanied by infantry entered the village and headed directly to the school building located in the center of the village. [The force broke down the doors and ransacked the classrooms and furniture.](#) No students or faculty were present in the school, given the end of the school year.

This incursion comes in the context of repeated Israeli military operations, which seek to impose a new security reality through ground operations that threaten the local population and lead to further tension in the region.



Vandalism of the contents and furniture of Al-Hurriya School in Al-Hurriya village in the northern Quneitra countryside after an incursion carried out by the Israeli occupation forces on June 15, 2025.

On Sunday, June 8, 2025, the Umm al-Zannar Church, located in the al-Hamidiyah neighborhood of Homs, was attacked by an unidentified gunman. The attack resulted in minor material damage but no human casualties. The identity of the gunman remains unknown at the time of writing. The area where the attack occurred is under the control of the transitional government.

According to what the Syrian Network for Human Rights documented from reliable local sources, in addition to what was shown in [a video recording](#) from the scene of the incident published via open sources and verified by us, the attacker fired at the cross erected on top of the church building using a Kalashnikov machine gun, causing damage as a result of being hit by several bullets. The network is still collecting eyewitness testimonies to verify the circumstances of the incident and fully document it.

V. RECENTLY DOCUMENTED CASES OF PREVIOUSLY KILLED VICTIMS WHOSE REMAINS WERE RECENTLY DISCOVERED

During June 2025, the Syrian Network for Human Rights recorded twenty-two civilian victims after their bodies were found in locations suspected of being used as mass graves or hiding places for victims' bodies, such as water wells or abandoned buildings.

Initial information indicates that these crimes occurred prior to the fall of the Bashar al-Assad regime on December 8, 2024, and date back to various phases of the armed conflict in Syria.

Although these crimes occurred before the period covered by the report, their inclusion in this report is based on SNHR's commitment to cumulative documentation of crimes according to the date of confirmation, highlighting the severity of these discoveries and the urgent need for independent judicial and forensic investigations to identify the victims and those responsible for their deaths.

These cases are not included in the official figures for April but are recorded separately until investigations are completed and evidence is gathered. They will then be incorporated into SNHR's databases, with victim timelines updated according to estimated dates of death.

On Wednesday, June 11, 2025, local residents found the remains of at least 11 people inside an abandoned water well near a house in the village of Al-Talisiyyah in the eastern countryside of Hama Governorate. The remains belonged to civilians killed during the 2012 takeover of the village by Bashar al-Assad regime forces. According to information obtained by the Syrian Network for Human Rights from reliable local sources, civilians who had recently returned to their homes in the village of Al-Talisiyyah and were attempting to rehabilitate an old water well found the remains of the individuals, who had been missing since the 2012 takeover of the area by Bashar al-Assad regime. The locals worked to recover the remains and transport them to another location for burial.

SNHR MOST NOTABLE WORK WITH REGARDS TO THE EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLING FILE:

1. Establishment and documentation since 2011

Since it began operating in 2011, SNHR has dedicated its efforts to documenting all forms of extrajudicial killings in Syria, including field executions, deaths due to torture, massacres, indiscriminate bombardment, and the deliberate targeting of civilians.

SNHR developed an advanced electronic documentation system that enables the archiving of victim data and their classification by gender, age, geographic location, date of death, method of killing, type of weapon used, and responsible party. This system has served as the backbone for tracking patterns of violence, analyzing the geographic distribution of victims, and providing accurate data to support justice and accountability efforts both locally and internationally.

2. Focus on vulnerable civilian groups and expanding documentation categories

SNHR has given special attention to documenting violations against children and women, due to the symbolic significance of these groups in armed conflicts and the degree to which they reflect systematic targeting of civilians. The database later expanded to include victims among media workers, medical personnel, humanitarian workers, and civil defense volunteers, i.e., individuals who played central roles in the civil and humanitarian efforts.

3. Producing periodic reports and visual and qualitative data analysis

SNHR has consistently issued daily, monthly, semi-annual, and annual reports documenting victim tolls, along with dozens of thematic reports on specific patterns or perpetrators. In an effort to enhance transparency and public accessibility, the database has been transformed into interactive maps and charts published on SNHR's official website which are updated regularly. This enables researchers, journalists, and institutions to track the evolution of violations and filter the data using various criteria.

4. International partnerships and data submissions to the United Nationsations

Since the early years of the conflict, SNHR has sent detailed forms to UN Special Rapporteurs concerned with extrajudicial killings and torture, with the consent of victims' families. This coordination continues to this day.

SNHR has become one of the most trusted and recognized sources of information for UN agencies, international human rights organizations, and global media outlets. It has also signed memoranda of understanding with entities such as Humanitarian Outcomes as part of the Aid Worker Security Database (AWSD) project, in addition to other partnerships that reinforce its status as a principal reference source in this field.

5. Post-Assad regime phase and expanding the scope of work

With the fall of the Assad regime in December 2024, SNHR entered a pivotal stage in documenting extrajudicial killings. A significant portion of its work has shifted to monitoring new patterns of violations, which are no less serious but are tied to the post-conflict reality, including:

- Civilian casualties caused by war remnants such as landmines and UXOs.
- Collapses of buildings previously damaged by shelling, as in the case of the death of Mrs. Sanaa Al-Darwish in t Abu al-Dohour town in Idlib after she returned to her damaged home.
- Killings resulting from the proliferation of weapons and the breakdown of security.
- Killings under mysterious circumstances or by unknown parties.

With these new major developments, SNHR was able to expand its operations, allowing access to previously restricted locations, reopening delayed investigations, reviewing new testimonies, and collecting additional material evidence. It also strengthened its presence by forming local documentation teams and providing extensive training in documentation, testimonial collection, and safe data handling.

6. SNHR's role in supporting transitional justice and accountability

Through this continuous and diligent work, SNHR has become a key reference in supporting mechanisms of transitional justice and contributing to the building of a national memory that preserves victims' rights and promotes accountability for those involved in violations.

The data provided by SNHR forms a cornerstone for building legal case files that can be used before national and international courts, whether through UN mechanisms or through independent domestic investigations that may emerge during Syria's transitional phase.

VII. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusions

- 1. Attacks on civilians and civilian objects:** The evidence collected by SNHR indicates that most of the attacks documented in this report were deliberately directed against civilians, including the destruction of civilian facilities.
- 2. Landmines:** A large proportion of the Syrians killed in February died as a result of landmine explosions, with none of the perpetrator forces involved in the Syrian conflict, past or present, issuing maps revealing the locations where landmines have been planted. This indicates a chilling total indifference by all parties to the lives of civilians, particularly children.
- 3. Indiscriminate bombing by SDF:** The indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks carried out by the SDF are clearly violations of international humanitarian law, with the crimes of indiscriminate killing amounting to war crimes.
- 4. Remote bombings:** The use of remote bombings to target densely populated areas reflects a criminal mindset intent on deliberately inflicting the greatest possible number of deaths, which is a clear contravention of international human rights law and a flagrant violation of the Geneva IV Convention on Civilians of 1949, Articles 27, 31, and 32.
- 5. Turkish forces** have failed to respect the principle of proportionality, as prescribed in international law, in their attacks on SDF sites, which resulted in civilian casualties. Meanwhile, the SDF has violated international humanitarian law by stationing its personnel in civilian areas.
- 6. Continued lack of security oversight even after the regime change**

Despite the downfall of the Assad regime, killings and armed attacks continue. This indicates that the transitional phase has yet to establish security and stability, underlining the imperative need for reforming and restructuring the security apparatus into a human rights-based, effective entity.

- 7. Ongoing patterns of violations linked to the post-conflict reality**

April 2025 witnessed patterns of killings related to the misuse of weapons and drowning incidents resulting from migration. These reflect post-conflict challenges that require a different type of response, one that goes beyond documentation of violations to include prevention and community education.

Recommendations

These recommendations represent a practical roadmap for addressing the consequences of extrajudicial killings in Syria. They contribute to advancing the path of transitional justice, building institutions that respect human dignity and rights, and preventing the recurrence of violations.

Transitional Syrian government

1. Cooperate with international mechanisms

- Issue official invitations to independent UN and international mechanisms, including:
 - » International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism (IIIM)
 - » Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic
 - » International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP).
 - » International Red Cross, Human Rights Watch (HRW), and Amnesty International.
- Enable these organizations to have unrestricted access to detention centers and crime scenes.

2. Protect evidence and crime locations

- Take urgent measures to safeguard evidence, including documenting mass graves and detention facilities and preventing any tampering or trespassing.
- Register and clearly mark important sites to ensure they can serve as legal evidence in the future.

3. Promote justice and accountability

- Collect evidence on violations, including official records and crime sites.
- Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and grant the court retroactive jurisdiction.
- Adopt comprehensive transitional justice policies, including holding perpetrators accountable, compensating victims, and ensuring transparency and credibility.

4. Protect civilians and cultural sites

- Ensure the safety of civilians and minorities and protect their fundamental rights to live securely.
- Prioritize the removal of mines and remnants of war, allocate the necessary funding, and raise awareness of related risks.
- Protect cultural and heritage sites from looting or destruction..

5. Governance reform

- Build an inclusive governance structure representing all components of Syrian society, including women and minorities, as well as civil society organizations.
- Document and safeguard abandoned properties to ensure their rightful owners receive compensation in the future.
- Improve essential services and ensure they're accessible to all citizens, including those with disabilities.

6. Prevent further violations

- Ensure respect for fundamental rights and freedoms for all without discrimination.
- Reform the judiciary and security apparatus in accordance with international human rights standards.

7. Support affected populations and rehabilitation

- Provide psychological and social support to families of missing persons and conflict victims.
- Develop comprehensive programs for the rehabilitation of survivors and released detainees.

UN Security Council and the international community

1. Refer crimes to the ICC

- Refer the Syrian dossier to the ICC or establish a special tribunal to prosecute those involved in war crimes and crimes against humanity.
- Pressure international actors, including the Russian government, to hand over individuals responsible for crimes, including Bashar Assad and his family, to international courts.

2. Freeze and confiscate the former regime's funds

- Work on freezing the financial assets of the former Assad regime and its affiliates and allocate them to support transitional justice efforts and humanitarian aid, as well as for the victims and their families.

3. Enhance humanitarian efforts

- Urge UN agencies to intensify the delivery of humanitarian aid, including food and medicine, in affected areas and internally displaced persons (IDP) camps.
- Ensure humanitarian aid reaches northeastern Syria, in coordination with local authorities, to meet the needs of IDPs and facilities detaining individuals accused of formerly belonging to or being affiliated with ISIS.
- Guarantee that aid provided to the current or future government promotes respect for human rights and creates conditions for free and fair elections.

4. Remove mines and war remnants

- Allocate funding from the UN fund to support landmine removal efforts in affected areas to reduce long-term risks and ensure a safe environment for civilians.

5. Support the missing persons issue and national reconciliation

- Provide resources to strengthen the efforts of the ICMP, including training local staff and using advanced technologies to identify missing persons.
- Support initiatives contributing to national reconciliation and offer psychological and social support to families of missing persons.

6. Lift sanctions to ensure they don't adversely affect humanitarian operations

- Review economic sanctions imposed on Syria to ensure they do not adversely affect humanitarian operations while maintaining sanctions targeting designated terrorist groups.

7. Ensure protection of Syrian refugees

- Urge host countries to refrain from forcibly deporting refugees or pressuring them to return.
- Work to create conditions within Syria for the safe, voluntary, and dignified return of refugees in accordance with international standards, prioritizing infrastructure improvement and security stability.

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCR)

Submit reports to the UN Human Rights Council and the UN on documented violations in this and previous reports, highlighting that killing is still going on in Syria.

Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic (COI)

1. Open comprehensive investigations into the violations mentioned in this and previous reports. SNHR is willing to collaborate in such endeavors and share more evidence.
2. Work to identify individuals responsible for war crimes and publish their names to expose them internationally and halt political and economic dealings with them.

International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism (IIIM)

Collect further evidence of the crimes documented in this report and share expertise with Syrian organizations working on documentation and data collection.

Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF)

1. Establish an internal committee to investigate violations committed by the SDF, hold those responsible accountable, and compensate the victims.
2. Refrain from positioning military forces in civilian areas, which poses a threat to their lives.
3. Provide maps indicating the locations of landmines planted by SDF personnel in civilian areas.

Armed opposition factions/Syrian National Army (SNA)

1. Protect civilians in all areas under their control.
2. Launch investigations into human rights violations, hold perpetrators accountable, and disclose the investigation results to the local community.
3. Provide maps indicating the locations of landmines planted by the factions in civilian areas.

Turkish forces

Launch investigations into the incidents documented in this report, compensate the victims, and respect the principles of international law, particularly the principles of distinction and proportionality.

Humanitarian organizations

1. Develop urgent plans to provide decent shelter for IDPs, particularly widows and orphans.
2. Intensify efforts to remove landmines alongside relief operations.
3. Equip vital facilities, such as medical facilities and schools, with ambulances marked with clear, recognizable signs visible from long distances.

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No justice without accountability

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