



# VICTIMS OF LANDMINES IN YEMEN

September 2014 – June 2018

التحالف اليمني لرصد  
انتهاكات حقوق الإنسان

Yemeni Coalition for Monitoring  
Human Rights Violations





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September 2014 – June 2018



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**Cover Photo;  
A Landmine Laid by  
Houthis; Removed**

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## **Arbitrary Detention and Enforced disappearance**

Yemeni Coalition to Monitor Human Rights Violations (YCMHRV), also known as “Rasd Coalition”, is a coalition of a number of specialized Yemeni NGOs active in human rights issues including monitoring and documenting human rights violations in the country. YCMHRV was established in January 2015, License No. 1240 in response to valid need in the field of human rights, and considering the deteriorating human rights situation in Yemen, the matter that necessitated establishment of such Coalition.

YCMHRV monitors and documents all human rights violations in Yemen and issues specialized reports on them. Also, organizes seminars and various events to disseminate and publicize these reports. YCMHRV submits these reports to relevant concerned entities. Noting that the first step in bringing justice to victims is to document their grievances for the moment of truth, committing ourselves in this respect with relevant human rights standards and laws.

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## Executive Summary

Yemen is classified as a country contaminated by mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), and suffers mainly from unexploded ordnance (UXO) as a result of the numerous conflicts that have occurred since 1962 to 2010, as reported by many international and local reports addressing mines.

Over the last four years, such a problem – which Yemen already suffers from - has been compounded by the fact that, since its coup on September 21, 2014, the Houthi-Saleh militia has used landmines intensively as one of the most important means and methods of warfare in its armed confrontation with the forces of the legitimate government in order to curb and hinder their progress in the areas the militia used to control and was later defeated or in the areas it still controls and expects to witness military confrontations with the government forces.

The monitoring process documented in this report included: the registration of (906) people killed by landmine explosions from September 2014 to June 2018. These deaths occurred in 19 out of the total of 22 Yemeni governorates. The highest death toll occurred in Taiz governorate, totaling (289), followed by other governorates such as Lahj, al-Dhale', Marib and Aden. The number of men killed by landmines was (713), and (60) for women. A large number of children were killed, totaling (133). Civilians represent the largest number, totaling (665), of



**906**  
people killed by landmine

the total landmine casualties in Yemen during the reporting period. Most of the victims were killed by antipersonnel mines, totaling (654) and accounted for 72% of the total casualties.

(1034) injured victims of landmine explosions and improvised explosive devices (IEDs) planted by Houthi-Saleh militia were distributed to 17 governorates. Taiz governorate ranked highest in the number of injured, totaling (417), followed by some governorates such as Marib (136), Lahj (85), al-Bayda (70), Aden (61), Jawf (58), Shabwah (51), al-Dhale' (36), Sana'a (36) and Abyan (26), as well as other governorates.

The number of men casualties reached (795), women (56) and children (183). The largest number of casualties were caused by antipersonnel mines (542), followed by anti-vehicle mines (AVM) reaching (477) and (15) who were wounded by (IEDs).

The majority of landmine victims, whether killed, injured, disabled or maimed, were civilians.

The Houthi militia bears direct responsibility for such casualties, whether killed or injured, because they are responsible for the planting of thousands of landmines of various kinds in most of the areas from which they have withdrawn or are still under their control.

This report provides a number of recommendations on landmine ac-

tion addressed to the international community, the Houthi group, the Yemeni government and the Arab Coalition forces to do their utmost to eliminate landmines of various kinds and reduce their effects.

## **Report Methodology**

The Yemeni Coalition for Monitoring Human Rights Violations (YCMHRV) in Yemen has sought to equip its monitors by the monitoring and documentation standards in line with the monitoring methodology of international organizations and CSOs. By virtue of the YCMHRV monitoring expertise, which it gained from its frequent field monitoring processes, its monitors present in all governorates of the Republic of Yemen have gained the required skills and sufficient experience for monitoring human rights violations taking place in Yemen, including violations related to the crimes of planting landmines.

The YCMHRV in Yemen has used a number of instruments to reach and gather information about the victims covered by this report. The most prominent of these are field visits, telephone calls and alternative sources of access if the victim is inaccessible due to the dangers that the monitors might face during the field visits to these areas.

The field monitoring team interviewed many of the families of victims of antipersonnel mines and AVMs, which were indiscriminately planted. It also visited a number of villages, sub-districts and districts in the governorates affected by the planting of antipersonnel mines and AVMs. In these governorates, the monitoring team heard many

testimonies of those affected by landmines or the testimonies of their families. It collected information on the victims covered in this report from hospitals and health centers in the victims' areas of residence.

The monitors have looked at the national reports on the planting of mines in Yemen, reports from international organizations, CSOs and specialized medical centers to receive maimed victims of mines.

## Introduction

Landmines and UXOs constitute a serious threat to the lives of hundreds of civilians in the conflict-affected areas since the outbreak of the current war in Yemen in 2014. As of this writing, the Houthi-Saleh militia has planted thousands of landmines, including banned antipersonnel mines, AVMs and IEDs, as well as the proliferation of UXOs as a result of armed military confrontations between the legitimate forces and Houthi-Saleh militias in most Yemeni governorates and regions. These landmines, IEDs and UXOs have resulted in the killing and wounding of hundreds of adult civilians (men and women) and children, as well as military personnel.

Since then and until this writing, Houthi militia and its allied forces have continued to commit, through impunity, violations of human rights and international humanitarian law (IHL), in which hundreds of thousands of people, most of them overwhelmingly civilians, have been endangered by the planting of various landmines, killing many

citizens, most of them civilians, in areas where they have been defeated or are still in, which the militia expects to witness confrontations with the government forces.

This report sheds light on the victims of landmines, UXOs and booby traps planted by Houthi-Saleh militia, both those killed by these mines and those injured during the period from September 2014 to June 2018. Minelaying is a serious violation of an inherent human right, the right to life.

The main objective of this report is to monitor and document the cases of victims of landmines planted by Houthi militia during armed confrontations with the legitimate government and to draw attention to the victims of minelaying or UXO remnants left behind by the ongoing war in the country on the one hand, and the imminent and increased risks on people's lives due to the existence of large areas planted with landmines and UXOs on the other hand, not to mention that Houthi militia is still planting new mines in new areas where they expect to witness armed confrontations with the legitimate forces.

The number of victims of mines planted by Houthi-Saleh militia documented in this report is not representative of all cases of those killed, injured or maimed by the landmine explosions in Yemen during the reporting and monitoring period, yet it is representative of the heinous crime of the perpetrator, which had long complained of and its

consequences in the past during the six rounds of conflict between the government forces and Houthi rebels between 2004 and 2010.

The YCMHRV monitoring team was able to document the information despite the difficulties it faced attempting to reach the victims of mine explosions, especially in areas where fierce military confrontations are still ongoing.

The report can therefore be an indicator of the magnitude of the crime perpetrated against landmine victims and the imminent future dangers facing thousands of citizens who may be at risk of the explosion of landmines planted in their homes and surrounding environment, especially in light of the continuing armed conflict in Yemen and the continued and increased minelaying by the armed militia in areas believed to be the scene of new military confrontations with the forces of the legitimate authority or popular resistance.

### **First: International and Domestic Legal Framework for the Criminalization of Landmines Use:**

Planting landmines, AVMS, IEDs and UXOs is one of the war crimes. Minelaying is also a violation criminalized by the IHL and related conventions, including the Ottawa Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines.

Article 3, which is common to the four Geneva Conventions, Para. A prohibits many acts that constitute an attack on physical integrity, in particular murder of all kinds, mutilation ... or outrages upon human

dignity or any arbitrary acts in connection with arrests and prosecutions.

The IHL criminalizes the use of anti-personnel landmines or AVMs and IEDs as weapons of war. The parties to an armed conflict have the right to use the means and methods of warfare in a restricted manner; where the use of means and methods whose effects are indiscriminate and cause unnecessary harm and pain for individuals is banned, such as anti-personnel mines. The antipersonnel mines are considered illegal weapons and are prohibited from being used entirely.

The IHL also prohibits the planting of non-remotely delivered anti-vehicle mines, and criminalizes their indiscriminate planting, even if they can be remotely controlled in accordance with the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices. Protocol II also requires marking and mapping the use of these mines, and therefore it can be argued that international law does not distinguish between the victims of these antipersonnel mines or AVMs planted indiscriminately, whether the victims are civilians or military.

The 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction is based on the principle of international humanitarian law that the right of the parties to an armed conflict to choose methods of warfare or their means is not unlimited; the principle that prohibits resort in armed conflicts to the use of weapons, missiles, equipment and meth-

ods of warfare of a nature to cause excessive damage or unnecessary suffering; and to the principle of distinction between civilians and combatants.

Article (1) of this Convention, General Obligations provides that each State Party undertakes never under any circumstances use antipersonnel mines or to develop, produce, otherwise acquire, stockpile, retain or transfer to anyone, directly or indirectly, anti-personnel mines. Each State Party undertakes to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in accordance with the provisions of this Convention and to assist, encourage or induce, in any way to engage in any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Convention.

As provided for in Article 3 of this Convention on Exceptions, a number of antipersonnel mines may be retained or transferred for the purpose of development, mine clearance, mine destruction techniques or training in mine detection. The amount of such mines shall not exceed the minimum number absolutely necessary for the above-mentioned purposes. Article (4) of this Convention provides that each State Party undertakes to destroy or ensure the destruction of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines it owns or possesses, or that are under its jurisdiction or control, as soon as possible but not later than four Years after the entry into force of this Convention for that State party.

Yemen is a party to the four Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols of 1977, which prohibit the use of weapons, missiles, materials and means of killing that cause unnecessary injury or suffering, including weapons that their use is regulated by an international treaty.

Yemen also signed the Mine Ban Treaty on 4 December 1997 and ratified it on 1 September 1998. National legislation for the implementation of the Convention was promulgated on 19 April 2005. Yemeni law No. 25 of 2005 on banning the Production, Possession, Transfer, and Trafficking of Anti-personnel Mines in Yemen, Article (3) prohibits anyone from planting, possessing, producing, designing, importing, exporting, trafficking, transferring, keeping, stockpiling or disposing of antipersonnel mines.

Articles (4 and 5) prohibit anyone from trafficking or transferring mines for the purpose of helping to plant them within the territory of the Republic or any other State Party to the Convention and to assist in their transfer through the territory of the Republic to any other State. Article (6) stipulates that anyone who possesses or produces anti-personnel mines shall hand them over to the competent authorities for destruction within two months from the date of entry into force of this law.

## Second: Deaths of Landmines and IEDs

Information collected by YCMHRV in Yemen on the victims of the landmine explosion planted by the Houthi-Saleh militia during the period from September 2014 to June 2018 shows the following:

- The number of people killed by landmine explosions reached (906) from 19 out of the total 22 Yemeni governorates. The highest death toll occurred in Taiz, totaling (289) deaths, followed by Lahj (117) and Aden (112) deaths, and then Marib (84) deaths; Al-Bayda (49) deaths, Al Jawf (47) deaths as well as Al-Dhale' (46) deaths. The death toll in the governorates of Abyan, Ho-deidah, Hajjah, Shabwa, Ibb and Sana'a were 36, 32, 21, 16, 16 and 14 respectively. This number has decreased in some governorates such as Hadramout reaching (9) deaths, Saada (8) deaths, Amran (3) deaths, Mahwit (3) deaths, Dhamar (3) deaths and one death was recorded Capital Sana'a.
- The increase in the number of landmine deaths in some governorates, in particular Taiz, is attributable to the nature of the military confrontations that has been going for four years between Saleh-Houthi militia and the legitimate forces as well as to the siege imposed by the militias on the governorate. Directly followed Taiz are the other governorates that are still witnessing ongoing military confrontations such as Lahj, al-Dhale' and Marib or some governorates where government forces were able to defeat the militia and fully control them such as Aden. The number of peo-

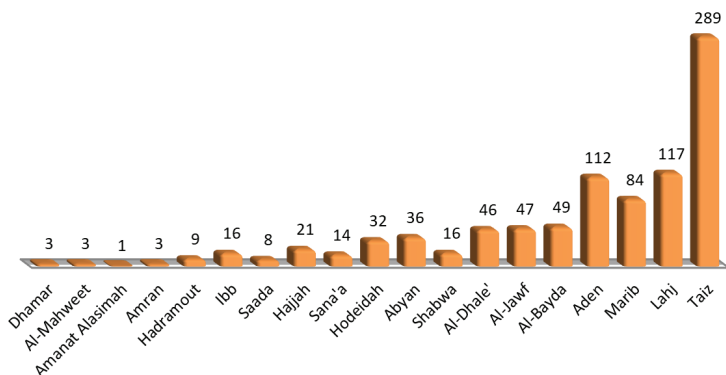
ple killed by the landmine explosions in the governorates of Abyan, Shabwa and Hadhramout, however, has been relatively low, where the legitimate forces have been able to defeat Houthi-Saleh militia and control them, too.

- The number of people killed by landmines in some of the governorates that have not witnessed military confrontations between the legitimate forces and the Houthi-Saleh militia has decreased, which are still under Houthi control, such as the governorates of Hodeidah, Hajjah, Ibb, Amran, Dhamar, Al-Mahweet and Capital Sana'a. However, the victims of the landmines explosions and IEDs in some of these governorates or some areas therein are likely to rise because of the intensification of military confrontations in the last period such as the governorates of Hodeidah, Hajjah and Saada, where the Houthi militia is expected to plant more landmines and IEDs in these governorates. This is the behavior that Houthi militia has been practicing during the past period in an attempt to impede any progress of the legitimate forces and the Popular Resistance to control these governorates or some of their districts.

Table (1) the number of deaths by landmines by governorate

No.	Governorate	Deaths
1.	Taiz	289
2.	Lahj	117
3.	Marib	84
4.	Aden	112
5.	Al-Bayda	49
6.	Al-Jawf	47
7.	Al-Dhale'	46
8.	Shabwa	16
9.	Abyan	36
10.	Hodeidah	32
11.	Sana'a	14
12.	Hajjah	21
13.	Saada	8
14.	Ibb	16
15.	Hadramout	9
16.	Amran	3
17.	Capital Sana'a	1
18.	Al-Mahweet	3
	Dhamar	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>906</b>

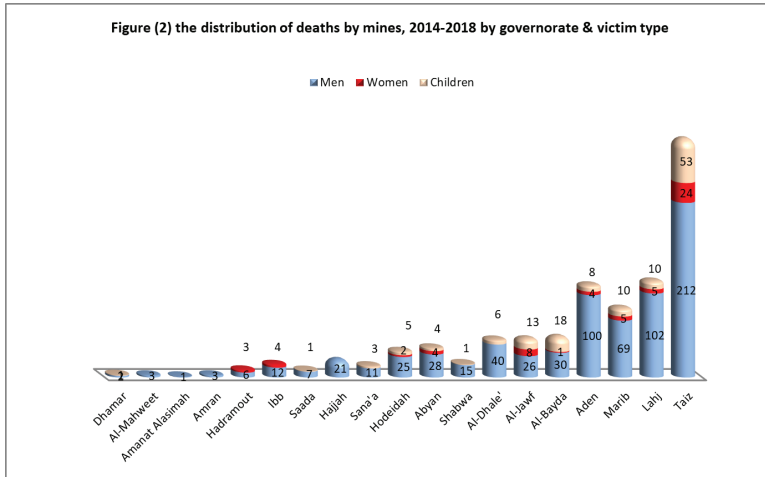
Figure (1) the distribution of deaths by mines, 2014-2018 by governorate



- Regarding the type of deaths of landmines planted by Houthi-Saleh militia, adults ranked the highest, including (713) men and (60) women. (133) children were killed by landmine explosions. This indicates that the risk of minelaying has affected men, women and a large number of children because of the indiscriminate use of landmines by Houthi-Saleh militia in planting the landmines, since the minelaying was not only limited to the locations and areas of military confrontations, but also reached the populated areas, thus endangering the life of citizens and residents of these areas, especially after the end of the armed confrontations there. This also poses a real threat to the daily lives of citizens in their areas of residence or the environment in which they live.

Table (2) the number of deaths by the explosion of landmines and IEDs, by governorate and victim type

No.	Governorate	Men	Women	Children
1-	Taiz	212	24	53
2-	Lahj	102	5	10
3-	Marib	69	5	10
4-	Aden	100	4	8
5-	Al-Bayda	30	1	18
6-	Al-Jawf	26	8	13
7-	Al-Dhale'	40		6
8-	Shabwa	15		1
9-	Abyan	28	4	4
10-	Hodeidah	25	2	5
11-	Sana'a	11		3
12-	Hajjah	21		
13-	Saada	7		1
14-	Ibb	12	4	
15-	Hadramout	6	3	
16-	Amran	3		
17-	Capital Sana'a	1		
18-	Al-Mahweet	3		
19-	Dhamar	2		1
Total		713	60	133

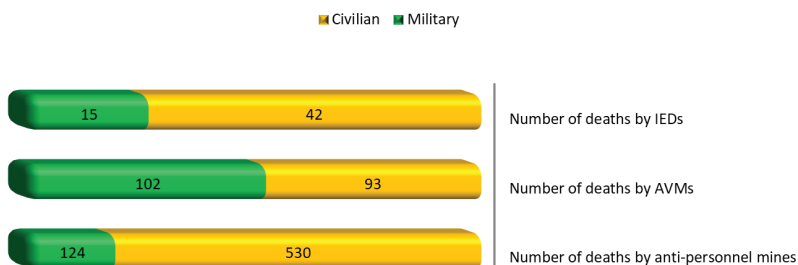


- In terms of the number of deaths by type of mines planted, which are classified as antipersonnel mines, AVMs, IEDs or booby traps, the largest number of landmine deaths in Yemen during the reporting period were killed by the explosion of antipersonnel mines, totaling (654) deaths, representing 72% of those killed by landmines and IEDs. The number of people killed by AVMs was (195), representing 21% of all those killed by landmines and IEDs. (57) were killed by IEDs or remnants of weapons and ammunition, representing 6% of those killed by landmines and IEDs. The high number of people killed by anti-personnel mines indicates that the Houthi-Saleh militia has intensively used anti-personnel mines to kill and injure a large number of people, ignoring the current and future dangers posed by the use of this type of landmine to civilians and their lives.

**Table (3) the number of deaths by the explosion of landmines and IEDs, by type of mines and type of victims**

Type of victim	Number of deaths by anti-personnel mines	Number of deaths by AVMs	Number of deaths by IEDs	Total
Civilian	530	93	42	665
Military	124	102	15	241
<b>Total</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>906</b>

**Figure (3) the distribution of deaths by mines, by type of mine**



- Civilians ranked the highest in the number of those killed by landmine explosions, i.e. (665), mostly men, children and then women, mostly killed by anti-personnel mines. The number of military personnel killed by landmines was (241), (124) of them killed by anti-personnel mines, (102) killed by AVMs and (15) killed by IEDs. The anti-personnel mines planted by Houthi-Saleh militia and the IEDs have killed many children as well as men and women.

**Table (4) shows the number of deaths due to the explosion of mines according to the device used and the type of victims**

Type of victim	Deaths by anti-personnel mines				Deaths by AVMs				Deaths by IEDs				Total
	Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total	
Civilian	357	54	119	530	87	6	0	93	28	0	14	42	665
Military	124	0	0	124	102	0	0	102	15	0	0	15	241
<b>Total</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>906</b>

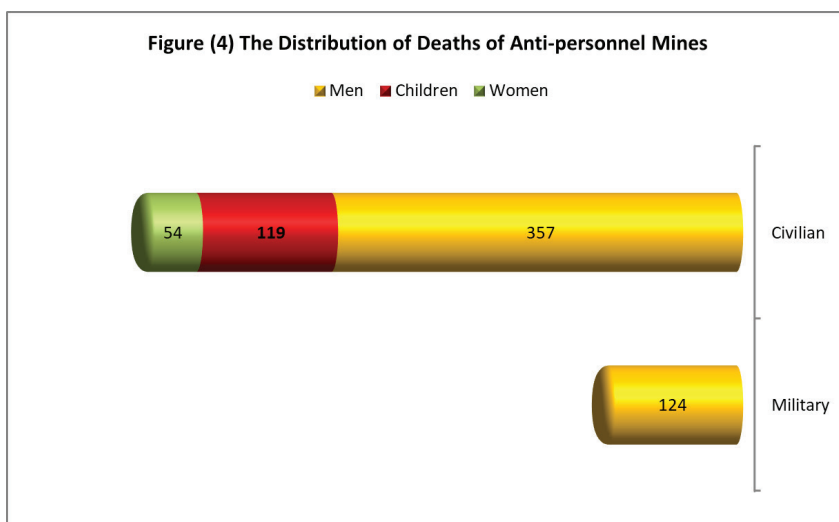


Figure (5) The Distribution of Deaths of AVMs

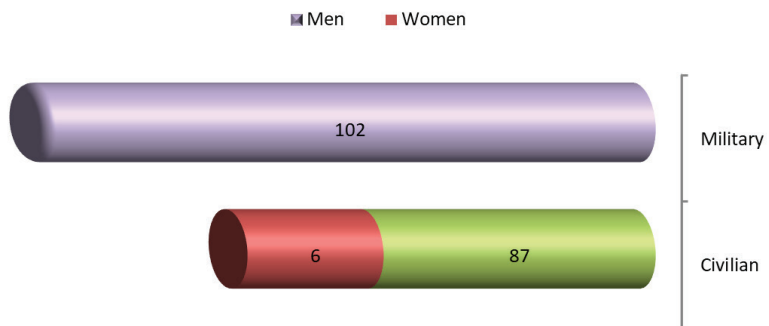
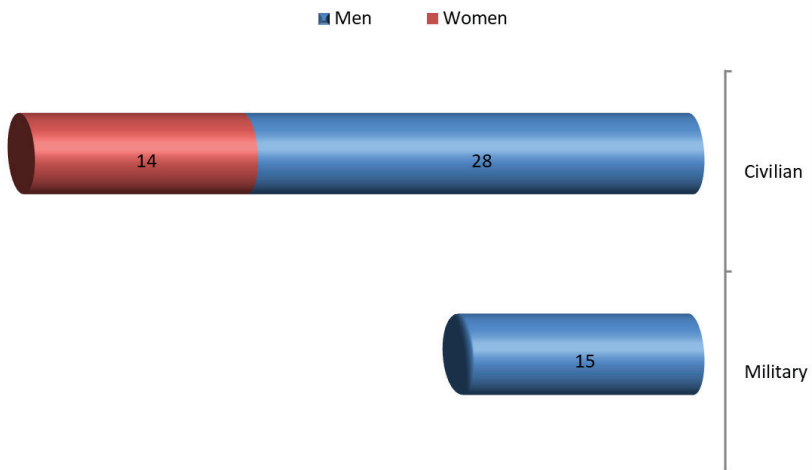


Figure (6) The Distribution of Deaths of IEDs



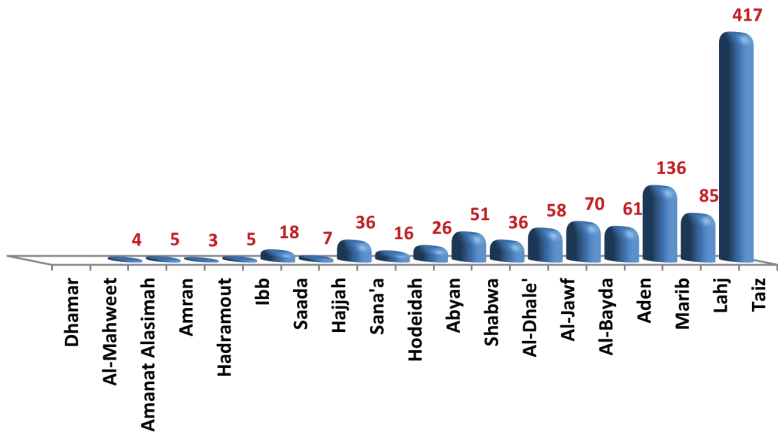
### Third: Injuries Caused by Landmines and IEDs

YCMHRV has, during the reporting period, recorded (1034) victims who were injured due to the explosion of landmines and IEDs planted by Houthi-Saleh militia. The injured were from 17 out of the 22 Yemeni governorates. Taiz topped the list among the governorates in the number of people affected by the explosion of landmines and IEDs, where the number of injured in the governorate was (417), followed by Marib of about (136), (85) in Lahj, (70) in al-Bayda, (61) in Aden, (58) in al-Jawf, (51) in Shabwah, (36) in al-Dhale' and Sana'a and (26) in Abyan. The number of injured in Saada, Hodeidah, Hajjah, Ibb, Amran, Capital Sana'a and Hadramout governorates reached 7, 16, 18, 5, 5, 3, and 4 respectively.

**Table (5) the number of injured by landmine explosion by governorate**

No	Governorate	The injured
1-	Taiz	417
2-	Lahj	85
3-	Marib	136
4-	Aden	61
5-	Al-Bayda	70
6-	Al-Jawf	58
7-	Al-Dhale'	36
8-	Shabwa	51
9-	Abyan	26
10-	Hodeidah	16
11-	Sana'a	36
12-	Hajjah	7
13-	Saada	18
14-	Ibb	5
15-	Hadramout	3
16-	Amran	5
17-	Capital Sana'a	4
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1034</b>

Figure (7) the number of injured by mines by governorate



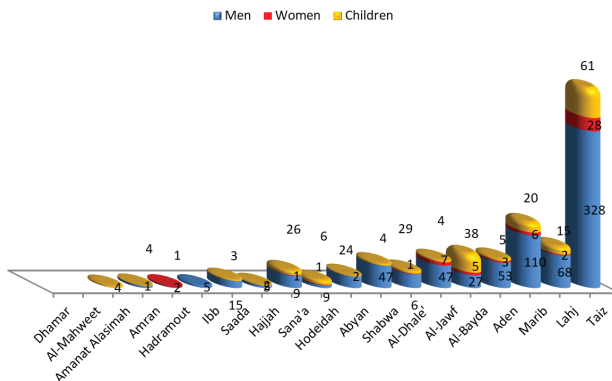
The information provided by YCMHRV also shows the following injured cases by landmine and IEDs:

- Out of (1,034) people who were injured by landmine explosions, men recorded the highest number by (795), most of them in Taiz, Marib and Lahj governorates. In the other governorates, the number of injured was relatively lower. (56) women were injured by the explosion of the landmines; mostly from the governorates of Taiz, Al-Jawf and Marib. (183) children were injured by the explosion of the landmines; mostly from the governorates of Taiz, Al-Bayda, Marib, Lahj, Hodeidah and Sana'a.
- The number of people affected by the landmine explosions in some Yemeni governorates such as Taiz, Lahj, Marib, Al-Jawf, Bayda and Sana'a is attributable to the nature of the ongoing military confrontations in these governorates between the legitimate and popular resistance forces on the one hand and the Houthi militia on the other hand for more than three years. The continuation of these confrontations leads to the continuation of planting more mines by these militias in order to prevent the legitimate and popular resistance forces from taking control of the areas where they are located. The number of people at risk of landmine explosions and injuries is also likely to increase as military confrontations continue in these governorates.

Table (6) the number of injuries by mine explosions, by type of victim

No.	Governorate	Men	Women	Children
1-	Taiz	328	28	61
2-	Lahj	68	2	15
3-	Marib	110	6	20
4-	Aden	53	3	5
5-	Al-Bayda	27	5	38
6-	Al-Jawf	47	7	4
7-	Al-Dhale'	29	1	6
8-	Shabwa	47	-	4
9-	Abyan	24	-	2
10-	Hodeidah	6	1	9
11-	Sana'a	26	1	9
12-	Hajjah	5	-	2
13-	Saada	15	-	3
14-	Ibb	5	-	-
15-	Hadramout	1	2	-
16-	Amran	4	-	1
17-	Capital Sana'a		-	4
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>183</b>

Figure (8) the number of injuries by mine explosions, by type of victim and governorate

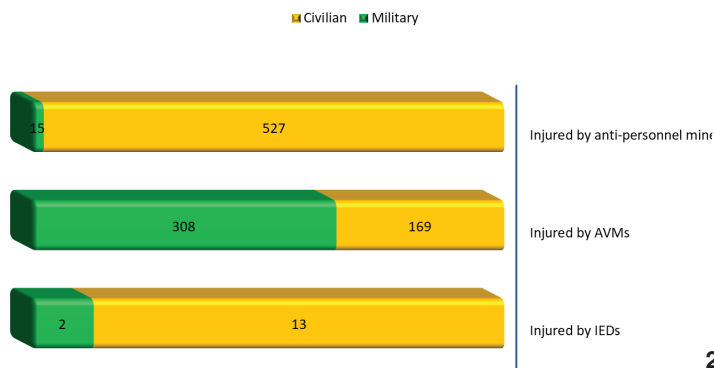


- Out of the (1,034) people who were injured by landmine explosions, (542) were injured by the explosion of anti-personnel mines, (477) were injured by the explosion of AVMs, (15) were injured by IEDs. The majority of those affected by the landmine explosions are civilians, with (709) injured, representing 69% of the total number of injured, while (325) were military personnel, representing 31% of the total injured. This data indicates that the majority of those affected by the landmine explosion are civilians, and that the cause of the various injuries was the explosion of anti-personnel mines, i.e. (527 injured), while the majority of military personnel injuries, i.e. (308), were by the explosion of AVMs.

**Table (7) the number of injuries by landmine by type of mine and type of victim**

Type of victim	Injured by anti-personnel mines	Injured by AVMs	Injured by IEDs	Total
Civilian	527	169	13	709
Military	15	308	2	325
<b>Total</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1034</b>

**Figure (9) the number of injuries by landmine by type of mine and type of victim**



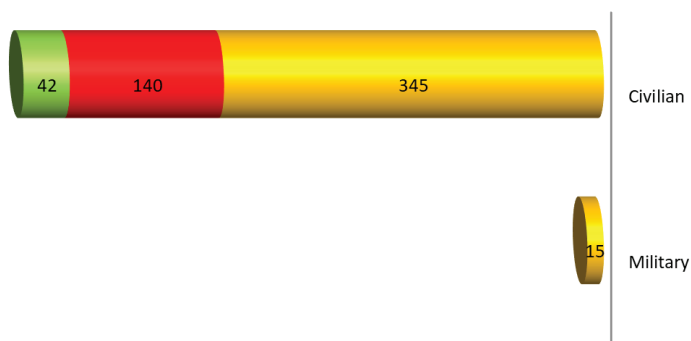
- The information collected shows that the largest number of people injured by landmine explosions are civilians, i.e. (709), mostly men and children, most of whom were injured by an explosion of antipersonnel mines, and (325) military men were injured by the explosion of landmines, most of whom were injured by the explosion of AVMs.

**Table (8) the number of injured by landmines by type of mine and type of victim**

Type of victim	Number of injured by anti-personnel mines				Number of injured by AVMs				Number of injured by IEDs				Total
	Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total	
Civilian	345	42	140	527	116	13	40	169	9	1	3	13	709
Military	15	-	-	15	308	-	-	308	2	-	-	2	325
<b>Total</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1034</b>

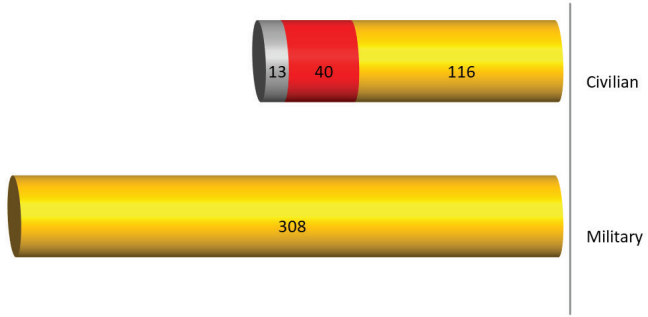
**Figure (10) the distribution of injured by anti-personnel mines**

Men Children Women



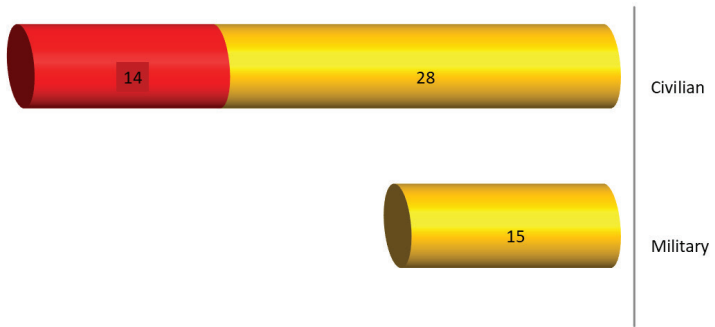
**Figure (11) the distribution of injured by AVMs**

■ Men ■ Children ■ Women



**Figure (12) the distribution of injured by IEDs**

■ Men ■ Children ■ Women



## Conclusions

This report sheds light on landmine victims in Yemen. The report monitored the deaths and injured by landmines and UXOs during the period from September 2014 to June 2018. The report has monitored a number of landmine casualties in 19 governorates in order to draw attention to this form of human rights violations in Yemen and to address the magnitude of the risks to which quite a few populations are exposed in mined areas and societies.

The report has reached a number of conclusions, most notably are the following:

1. Minelaying, AVMs and IEDs are among the crimes associated with the ongoing war in Yemen for four years.
2. Minelaying and UXOs have seriously threatened the lives and safety of a large sector of Yemenis over the past years. Minelaying in many areas has killed, injured and maimed many civilians and military personnel. It has also led to the disruption of life in the affected areas and affected thousands of people living in mined areas, as well as represented a long-term threat to civilians after the end of the war.
3. One of the most serious and repeated violations perpetrated by

the militia during the current war is putting a large sector of the population in Yemen at risk as they continue to plant large number of mines in many populated areas.

4. Indicators and information on the governorates and areas planted with landmines and the victims of mine explosions indicate that the use of anti-personnel landmines, AVMs, other explosives and booby-traps by the Houthi militia have been heavily used as one of the most important means and methods of warfare to confront the armed legitimate forces to curb their progress to the areas they control, in order to keep them under their control.
5. The problem of landmines and UXOs in Yemen adversely affects access to important resources, such as the denial of people access to agricultural land, rangelands, water sources for drinking and irrigation, as well as posing a threat to the return of hundreds of families displaced from their homes and areas by war. This problem also impedes the development of infrastructure and the application of economic and social development projects in mined areas and societies.
6. Although some governmental and non-governmental bodies, such as YCMHRV in Yemen, have collected statistics on landmine victims, one of which is the current report, the number of victims of landmines planted and UXOs in Yemen is not known precisely because of the lack of accurate surveys. Such statistics are still under development, and therefore it is very difficult to give any real

number of casualties or types of people injured as a result of mine accidents, especially as the current war continues and minelaying operations continue. Consequently, more people are still at risk of being killed or injured by the explosion of these mines.

7. There is a clear failure to limit minelaying and the dangers resulting from them during the past four years. There is also no evidence that those responsible for minelaying will be held responsible and the perpetrators of these crimes will be prosecuted and brought to court.

## **Recommendations:**

### *To the International Community:*

- Take an urgent action by the use of all means of pressure, including the resolutions of the United Nations and the Security Council to prevent the Houthi militia from continuing to plant mines in the areas of the Republic of Yemen.
- Compel the Houthi militia to respect the commitment of the Republic of Yemen to the international community when it ratified the Ottawa Convention and other international resolutions.
- Support Yemen's mine clearance efforts through training and rehabilitation or awareness of the dangers of minelaying and its damages.

### *To Houthi Militia:*

- Immediately cease planting antipersonnel mines, all anti-tank

mines, improvised explosive devices and unexploded ordnance in their areas of presence.

- Immediately discontinue the manufacture and production of anti-personnel mines and destroy the stockpile of mines it possesses.
- Allow demining teams to operate in those areas without any impediments or complications and provide them with maps of mine-laying.

***To the Yemen Government and Coalition Forces:***

- Provide trained and equipped teams who can detect and clear landmines, booby traps and other UXOs or contract with a demining company to be legally authorized to detect and clear mines of all its kinds, which were indiscriminately planted by the militias in the Yemeni territory, especially in light of the shortage, which Yemen has been suffering from, of equipped and trained teams to carry out the task of demining.
- Provide adequate mine action programs, including clearance, mine risk education and victim support.
- Develop a national mine action budget and mobilize the support required for its implementation.
- Urgently identify and mark mined areas, in the foreseeable future, through the specialized teams involved in the detection of many areas filled with unknown and unmarked mines to alert citizens first and clear them of mines and explosive remnants.

- Coordinate the official efforts of government agencies and non-governmental organizations engaged in mine action and monitoring of victims.
- Conduct strategic planning for mine action in the medium and long term through building a national strategic plan for mine action to reach effective results. This plan should be reviewed periodically to end the suffering of the Yemeni people and reduce injuries caused by anti-personnel mines in mined areas since their existence without clearance poses an ongoing threat to Yemeni citizens, the economy and social life of the country.
- Adopt and implement programs for the rehabilitation of mines' victims physically and psychologically and establish specialized centers.