



DATA ON EXPLOSIVE WEAPONS WITH WIDE AREA EFFECTS IN POPULATED AREAS

Action on Armed Violence (AOAV) has been recording casualties from the use of explosive weapons from English-language news media since October 2010. In the last nine years, AOAV has recorded 26,000 explosive violence incidents. These have resulted in at least 338,000 casualties across 120 countries. Of the dead and injured, three-quarters were civilians.

AOAV are particularly concerned by the use of explosive weapons in populated areas, specifically those with wide area effects.

When explosive weapons were used in populated areas the outcomes for civilians are even worse. Over the last nine years, when explosive weapons were used in populated areas, including towns and cities, more than 90% of casualties were recorded as civilians.

When used in areas recorded as residential areas over this period, civilians accounted for 92% of casualties; when explosive weapons hit markets that percentage stood at 97%; or 95% when explosive weapons struck places of worship.

When explosive weapons were used in areas not reported as populated areas, there were far less civilian casualties, with civilians accounting for a quarter of deaths and injuries recorded from such weapon use.

The data collected for each year since 2011 shows this has been a consistent and predictable trend observed since AOAV began recording the data. It is also preventable.

Over 227,000 civilians were killed and injured in the last nine years – since 2011 - by the use of explosive weapons in populated areas, accounting for more than 90% of the total civilian casualties recorded in this time.

AOAV urges that a political declaration must establish a clear standard and commitment against the use of explosive weapons with wide area effects in populated areas.

Thank you.