

Civilian Casualties in Ukraine in July Hit Highest Monthly Toll Since March 2022, UN Says

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Ukrainian State Emergency Service

Civilian casualties in Ukraine in July reached their highest level since the early months of Russia's full-scale invasion, as Russian forces intensified long-range missile and drone strikes on towns and cities far from the front line, the UN said in a report [published](#) Friday.

The UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine confirmed that at least 437 civilians were killed and 2,610 injured last month, the highest toll in any month since March 2022. The figures represent a 30% jump from June and a 70% increase compared to July 2025.

Long-range weapons, including cruise and ballistic missiles and drones, remained the primary cause of civilian casualties, accounting for 38% of all deaths and injuries in July.

"Most casualties from these weapons occurred far from the front line in urban centers," the UN report read.

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In recent months, Russia has stepped up attacks using ballistic missiles, which fly at high speeds along steep trajectories that make them far harder to intercept than drones or cruise missiles.

Facing a critical shortage of U.S.-made Patriot air defense interceptors, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky issued an urgent appeal to Washington this week for additional supplies.

In its report, the UN also noted a rise in the number of deaths from short-range drone attacks near the front line, which killed 111 people and wounded 710 in July, the highest monthly level since the war began in February 2022.

Overall, Kyiv was the hardest-hit city last month, with a total of 54 civilians killed, followed by the cities of Kherson and Zaporizhzhia.

More than 16,000 civilians have been killed since Russia's full-scale invasion, according to the UN, with the overwhelming majority of them Ukrainian.

Reuters contributed reporting.

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