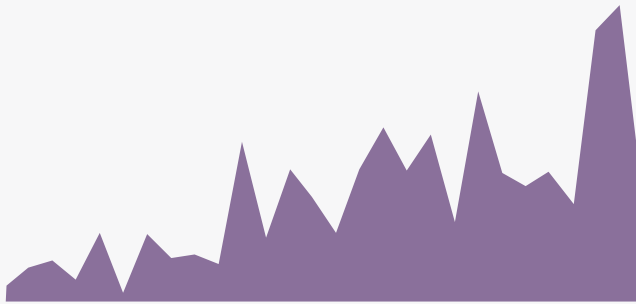


ISP DATA MATTERS

No. 47, June 14, 2023

Conflict, Peace and Security

Counting the Cost: Civilian Deaths Reach Record High in Early 2023



In the first five months of 2023, the number of civilian deaths reached a record high, with **at least 748** individuals losing their lives in clashes. This figure accounts for nearly 60 percent of the total civilian casualties reported in the previous year. Since the coup, **at least 8,640** civilians have been killed. Approximately **2,183** of these deaths were caused by gunshots inflicted by the State Administration Council (SAC), either during protests or while individuals were in SAC detention. Another **2,454** people were killed in armed conflicts. According to SAC statistics, **4,003** individuals accused of being SAC informants were allegedly murdered. However, due to the lack of independent verification of these statistics, their accuracy remains uncertain.

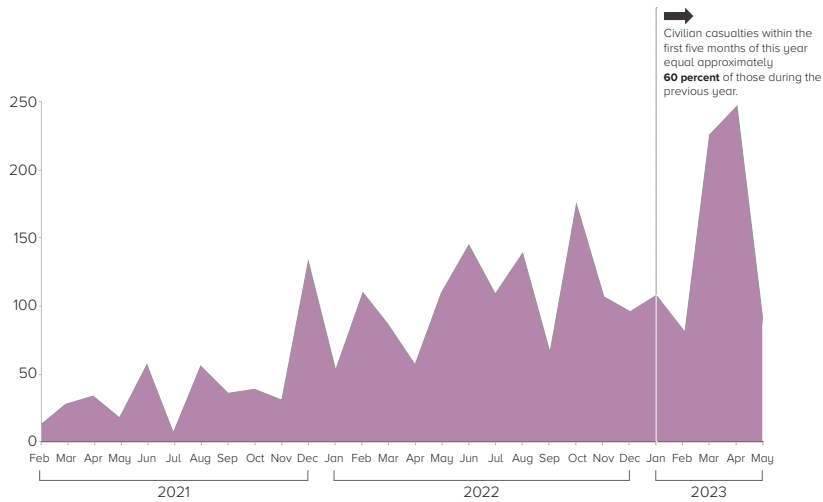
When compared to international incidents, the total number of civilian casualties in Myanmar over the course of two years and four months since the coup is alarmingly high. For instance, as of May 20, 2023, the war in Ukraine resulting from Russia's invasion has claimed the lives of **at least 8,895** civilians. This highlights the significant similarity between the number of civilian casualties caused by the destructive weapons utilized in Russia's invasion and the casualties resulting from armed conflicts in Myanmar.



■ A record number of 748 civilians killed in five months

(February 1, 2021 - May 31, 2023)

At least 748 civilians were killed in armed conflicts in Myanmar in the first five months of 2023. This marks the highest increase in civilian deaths in over two years since the 2021 coup, accounting for approximately **60 percent** of the total civilian casualties in 2022. **A total of 8,640** civilians have been killed since the coup.

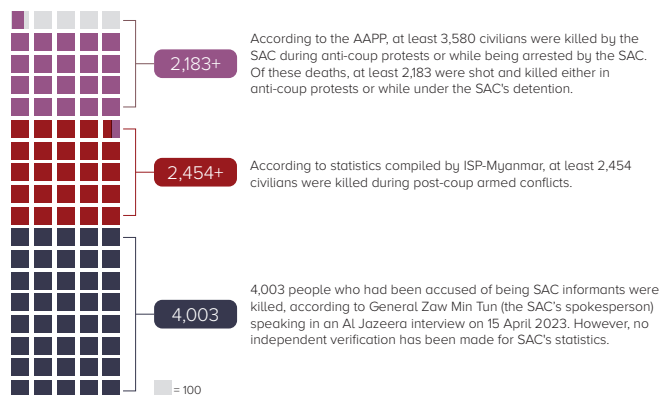


Source : Data is collected in accordance with ISP-Myanmar's system for documenting information on armed conflicts, and it is cross-checked with reports from various independent organizations. Actual figures might be higher.

■ Over 8,600 civilian deaths since the 2021 coup

(February 1, 2021 - May 31, 2023)

At least 8,640 civilians have been killed since the coup. Of that total, **at least 2,183** were shot and killed either in protests or while under SAC's detention. **At least 2,454** civilians were killed in armed conflicts. According to the SAC, **4,003** people were murdered after being accused of being informants despite a lack of independent verification of the SAC's statistics. According to a research paper published by Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) on June 12, 2023, **at least 6,337** civilians were killed in the aftermath of the coup as of September 30, 2022.



Source : Data is collected in accordance with ISP-Myanmar's system for documenting information on armed conflicts, and it is cross-checked with reports from various independent organizations. Actual figures might be higher.

- 49% of civilian deaths caused by armed conflicts occurred in Sagaing Region (February 1, 2021 - May 31, 2023)

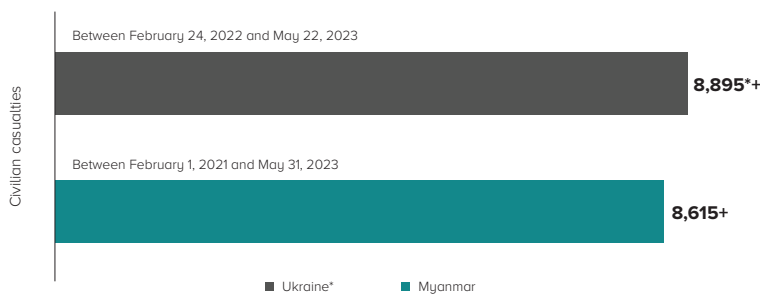
At least **2,454** civilians have been killed in armed conflicts across the country since the coup. Sagaing Region saw **49%** of these total deaths, with a numeral figure of **no fewer than 1,208**. Magway Region ranks second with **at least 208** civilian deaths.



Source : Data is collected in accordance with ISP-Myanmar's system for documenting information on armed conflicts, and it is cross-checked with reports from various independent organizations. Actual figures might be higher.

- Insignificant gap between civilian deaths in Myanmar's conflict and the war in Ukraine

When compared to international incidents, the total number of civilian casualties in Myanmar over the course of two years and four months since the coup is alarmingly high. For instance, as of May 20, 2023, the war in Ukraine resulting from Russia's invasion has claimed the lives of at least **8,895** civilians. This highlights the significant similarity between the number of civilian casualties caused by the destructive weapons utilized in Russia's invasion and the casualties resulting from violent clashes in Myanmar.



Source : Data is collected in accordance with ISP-Myanmar's system for documenting information on armed conflicts, and it is cross-checked with reports from various independent organizations. Actual figures might be higher.

*The total number of Ukrainian civilian casualties since Russia's invasion is taken from UNOHCHR statements.

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+66 80 747 9712



PO Box 149, Chiang Mai University PO, Chiang Mai 50202