

Violations Documentation Center in Syria

May 20**25**



Number of victims since March 13, 2025

Between **March 13** and the end of **May 2025**, the Violations Documentation Project documented the deaths of **488** individuals in Syria.

- Civilians: 379 (78%)
- military personnel¹: 109 (22%)



1- Ministry of Defense - General Security- Factions affiliated with the Ministry of Defense

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Parties Responsible for the Total Number of Civilian Deaths between March 13 and the End of May 2025



Non-Civilian Deaths by Perpetrating Party

Parties Responsible for the Total Number of Non-Civilian Deaths between March 13 and the End of May 2025



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Number of Victims in May 2025

In May 2025, the Violations Documentation Project documented 119 deaths across various Syrian governorates. All individuals were fully identified by their full names.





Civilian Deaths Attributed to Each Party

Parties Responsible for the Total Number of Civilian Deaths in May 2025.



Non-Civilian Deaths by Perpetrating Party

Parties Responsible for the Total Number of Non-Civilian Deaths in May 2025



Deaths by Governorate



An additional **48** deaths were documented across the remaining Syrian governorates.



Distribution of Deaths by Cause

The number of deaths caused by direct gunfire and sniper fire reached **78**. Aerial bombardment resulted in **4** fatalities. Deaths due to unexploded ordnance and landmines totaled **27**. Finally, the project documented **10** deaths attributed to other causes.



Deaths by Gender

The number of male adult deaths (aged over 18) reached **99**. The number of female adult deaths was **7**.

Meanwhile, the number of male child deaths was **13**, and female child deaths totaled **0**.





The Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression (SCM) applies a rigorous methodology for documenting human rights violations grounded in international standards and best practices. This ensures that our documentation adheres to the fundamental principles of documentation, including impartiality, objectivity, accuracy, confidentiality, and do no harm.

Key aspects of SCM's documentation methodology include:

- Information Collection: Our team of documentation officers and field reporters gathers information through firsthand testimonies and open-source investigations.
- Information Verification: Each reported violation is corroborated by at least two independent and authentic sources that our team has thoroughly verified.
- Cross-Verification Process: All collected information, including testimonies, undergoes a comprehensive cross-checking process to ensure accuracy and reliability.
- Victim Identification: Only victims whom we can identify by name are recorded in the SCM data management system and included in our statistical reports. Unidentified victims are not included in these reports, but their information is securely stored until verification and completion are possible.
- Standard of Proof: SCM applies the "reasonable grounds to believe" standard, which requires that there be a reliable and credible basis for concluding that a violation has occurred based on corroborated information.
- Monitoring and Updating the Database: The database is continuously monitored for developments and changes, with new information and elements such as images and videos regularly added. In addition, periodic reviews are conducted to minimize potential errors that may occur during the data entry process.



All figures and statistics presented in this report were retrieved from the database of the Violations Documentation Center (VDC). They are not final and are subject to continuous and periodic scrutiny by the VDC's database administrators and the field documentation team. Figures differ between reports and the most recent report is considered to be the most accurate.

We are very grateful to the members of the Field Documentation Team who risk their lives every day in order to document human rights violations committed in Syria and without whom the publications of the VDC would not have been possible.



Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression



For more information or to get in contact, please email us: inquiry@vdc-sy.info

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