



1.4.3. Conflict-related infrastructure damage and explosive remnants of war

As a result of more than fourteen years of conflict, 52 % of the country's housing stock remained partially or completely damaged as of late 2025.[389](#) In the period since the fall of the Al-Assad regime, conflict-related incidents continued to inflict significant damage to civilian infrastructure, [390](#) including to residential buildings, medical and educational facilities, religious places of worship, agricultural lands and infrastructure, livestock, and water-related infrastructure.[391](#) Both the hostilities in Latakia, Tartous, Homs and Hama in March 2025 and in Sweida in July 2025 led to the looting and destruction of houses and property.[392](#) The March 2025 violence led to homes and shops being burnt[393](#) and looted, leaving entire residential areas and villages decimated.[394](#) In the context of combing operations led by transitional government forces, homes of Alawites[395](#) and Shiites, as well as shops and other sources of income were looted, damaged or destroyed. In July 2025, multiple homes and businesses were set on fire in Sweida City, while most homes, businesses and Druze religious sites were looted and burnt across at least 35 Druze-majority villages in the governorate after their capture by government forces or armed tribesmen, according to the UNCOI. In several areas, Druze fighters in turn pillaged businesses, livestock and vehicles of Bedouins and destroyed their houses.[396](#) The military escalation in the Ashrafieh and Sheikh Maqsoud neighbourhoods of Aleppo City in early January 2026 involved wide-spread looting of homes and shops, as well as destruction to private property after their residents/owners had fled.[397](#)

Israeli military operations also caused damage and destruction to civilian property,[398](#) affecting 23 structures in three villages in Quneitra between December 2024 and May/June 2025.[399](#) Further clashes resulting from an IDF ground incursion in Beit Jinn (Rural Damascus) in late November 2025 caused extensive damage and destruction to property.[400](#) In January 2026, it was further reported that Israeli aircraft had sprayed pesticides over farmland in Quneitra for several days, allegedly to prevent the growth of vegetation used for cattle grazing.[401](#)

Landmines and explosive remnants of war remained a significant threat to civilians across Syria, [402](#) especially in rural and agricultural areas.[403](#) While the exact extent of contamination was unknown,[404](#) it was reported to be highest in Latakia, Hama, Homs, Sweida, Deir Ez-Zor, and Raqqqa.[405](#) Between December 2024 and December 2025, around 900 explosive ordnance-linked incidents were recorded.[406](#) Several sources estimated the number of deaths caused by such incidents since December 2024 at 607 as of the end of 2025[407](#) (with an additional 1 061 injured)[408](#) and at least 700 as of March/early April 2026[409](#) (1 193 injuries).[410](#) Meanwhile, SNHR recorded that at least 317 civilians had been killed by landmines between the fall of the Al-Assad regime in December 2024 and April 2026.[411](#) Deir Ez-Zor, Aleppo, and Idlib accounted

for the highest numbers of incidents⁴¹² and deaths from landmines and explosive remnants.⁴¹³ Other areas highly affected by contamination included Homs, Hama,⁴¹⁴ Dar'a,⁴¹⁵ Raqqa and Hasaka.⁴¹⁶ Unexploded ordnance posed a significant hazard to movements of IDPs⁴¹⁷ and returning refugees, with former frontline zones deemed as areas most at risk.⁴¹⁸ Children have been disproportionately affected by explosive remnants of war,⁴¹⁹ accounting for 30 % of deaths and 40 % of injuries between December 2024 and February 2026,⁴²⁰ although such reported figures were likely to be below the actual numbers.⁴²¹ Mine action organisations in 2025 surveyed more than 2.9 billion square metres of land, significantly extending the area assessed for contamination levels, and destroyed over 27 000 pieces of explosive ordnance found on farmland, along former frontlines, in civilian facilities, and along roads.⁴²² Despite these efforts, the country lacked comprehensive mine clearance programmes⁴²³ and, as of early 2026, many contaminated areas remained where no demining operations were underway.⁴²⁴

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