



2.11.2. Territorial control and main armed actors

Rural Damascus governorate is primarily under the control of the transitional government.[1074](#) As of November 2025, the 44th Special Forces Division was active in the governorate's west, the 52nd Special Forces Division (formerly the 103rd Division) along the Syrian-Lebanese border region – both HTS-led, and the 70th Division, formed of Jaysh Al-Islam and the Syrian Free Army (Maghawhir Al-Thawra), in the eastern parts of the governorate and into the Badia desert.[1075](#)

Israeli forces occupied southern parts of the governorate[1076](#) and attacked residents.[1077](#) Furthermore, they had instructions 'to defend local Druze neighbourhoods'.[1078](#) IDF intercepted presumably Iranian missiles in the airspace of Rural Damascus.[1079](#)

ISIL cells reportedly existed in Al-Dhumayr[1080](#) (Duma district) and Muaddamiyah (Darayya district).[1081](#)

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