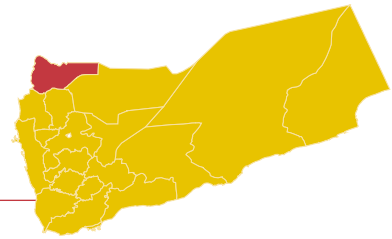


Sa'ada Governorate



Sa'ada

A. Summary

In Sa'ada Governorate, there are 23 communities with a total population of 27,545 impacted by landmine/UXO contamination. No fewer than 12 of those are located in Al-Safraa' district. A total of 50 mined areas with a reported surface of 764,325 square meters have been identified. Of this, 528,700 square meters is reported to be hillside, ridge, or gully overgrown, at least in part, with short and tall grasses, bushes, and/or trees. The survey also recorded seven recent¹ and 141 less-recent² mine victims in the affected communities.

B. Location

Sa'ada Governorate is located in the northwest of the country, bordering with Saudi Arabia in the north and west, with an area of 13,245 square kilometers and a population of approximately 481,600³.

C. Scope and history of the landmine contamination

Of the 14 districts in Sa'ada, four are affected by landmines/UXO, while one additional district is impacted by UXO alone. Levels of contamination vary from district to district. The landmine-affected districts include Al-Safraa', Ketaf, Majaz, and Sehar. Al-Hashwa district is affected only by UXO. No landmine/UXO contamination has been reported from the remaining nine districts.

Of the 320 communities in the four affected districts, 23 reported mine/UXO impacts. In these 23 communities, 50 mined areas are reportedly blocking access to an estimated 764,325 square meters of land. The landmine problem in Sa'ada is primarily concentrated in Al-Safraa' district, affecting 12 communities. The survey information concurs that the landmines/UXO in Sa'ada originated between the years of 1963 and 1972.

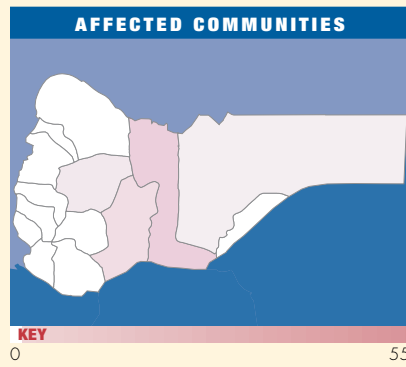
Eleven communities reported UXO contamination only. Two of those communities are located in Al-Hashwa district where UXO is the only kind of contamination. The remainder of the communities are in districts where mines were found in other communities. Four of the remaining UXO contaminations reports are from Al-Safraa' district, four from Ketaf, and one from Sehar.

¹ During the past two years.

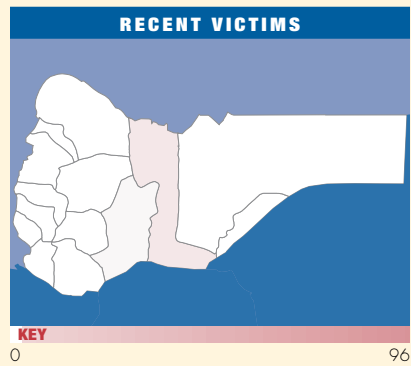
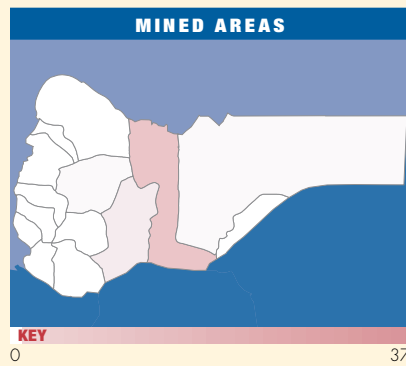
² Before the past two years.

³ Population figures from the Central Statistics Organization (CSO).

AT A GLANCE: LANDMINE CONTAMINATION IN SA'ADA GOVERNORATE



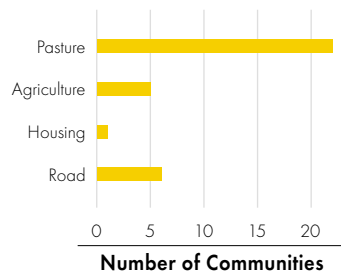
District	Affected communities	Mined areas	All victims
Al-Safraa'	12	34	60
Ketaf	1	3	3
Majaz	3	3	8
Sehar	7	10	77



D. Impact upon communities

Landmine/UXO contamination affects 23 communities with a total population of 27,545. The communities affected consist of 11 dispersed and seven compact villages, and 4 suburban and one urban settlements. As per the survey's scoring mechanism, 4 communities suffer a medium level of impact and 19 a low level.

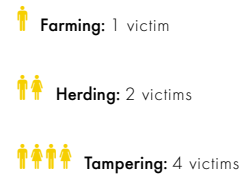
ACCESS BLOCKED BY LAND TYPE



In the majority of affected communities, landmine/UXO contamination is blocking access to pastureland. As many as 22 communities reported blocked access to some pastureland, while six do not have access to some of their roads. Among the other types of blockages, five communities reported agriculture and one housing.

In terms of mine victims, the survey found that 148 people in Sa'ada were injured or killed by mines: seven in the past two years, and 141 previously. Of the seven recent mine victims, five had come to harm in Al-Safraa', and two in Sehar districts. The chart at right provides further details on the recent victims concerning their activities at the time of accident.

MINE ACCIDENTS BY ACTIVITY



E. Implications for mine action

Landmines in Sa'ada were laid primarily along access routes to points of strategic importance and around former military positions during the years of 1963 to 1972. An estimated total surface of 764,325 square meters is contaminated by mines or UXO. Of this, 520,000 square meters area, much of it is hillside, ridge, or gully overgrown, at least in part, with short and tall grasses, bushes, and/or trees.

ESTIMATED CONTAMINATED SURFACE LAND IN SQUARE METERS BY VEGETATION AND GROUND PROFILE

Vegetation	Ground Profile			Total
	Flat land only	Hillside, ridge, and gully	Other	
None	0	0	225	225
Short grass only	34,100	122,800	0	156,900
Tall grass, at least some	0	29,000	0	29,000
Bushes or trees, at least some	197,700	376,900	0	574,600
Other	3,600	0	0	3,600
Grand total	235,400	528,700	225	764,325

A majority of the mined areas are reported to contain AP mines, though some contain only AT mines and some a combination of mines/UXO.

Among the communities surveyed, only one community in Al-Safraa' district reported to have received mine awareness training from local people during the past two years. No mine survey/clearance or victim assistance program was evident during the same period. However, local people in two communities of Al-Safraa' district reported to have attempted some mine/UXO clearance. All the seven recent mine victims were reported to have received emergency medical care.

**ESTIMATED AFFECTED SURFACE LAND
BY TYPE OF DEVICES AND NUMBER OF MINED AREAS**

Type of device	Mined areas	Surface land (Sqm)
Anti-personnel mines	29	530,200
Anti-tank mines	9	199,100
Mines and UXO	12	35,025
Total	50	764,325

COMMUNITY-WIDE DETAILS OF LANDMINE/UXO CONTAMINATION IN SA'ADA

	Communities affected	Population affected	Mined areas	Estimated surface area (Sqm)	Victims				
					Recently killed	Recently injured	Killed earlier	Injured earlier	All victims
Al-Safraa'	Al-Maqam	250	3	2,700	0	0	0	0	0
	Al-Quma' Al-Asfal	800	1	30,000	0	0	0	2	2
	Al-Wadi	800	1	1,500	0	1	1	3	5
	Al-Hadhairah	500	4	16,900	0	0	10	1	11
	Al-Lojaij	200	1	1,000	0	2	0	2	4
	Al-Namer	4,000	1	3,600	0	0	7	1	8
	Al-Razamat	1,000	3	23,800	0	1	2	1	4
	Al-Darb	1,500	4	330,000	0	0	10	8	18
	Al-Sahwa	2,000	4	6,800	0	1	1	0	2
	Damaj	6,000	8	38,000	0	0	0	0	0
	Al-Eashra	70	2	60,000	0	0	1	4	5
	Al-Salsal	25	2	5,500	0	0	1	0	1
	Total 12	17,145	34	519,800	0	5	33	22	60
Ketaf	Al-Sadr	1,200	3	1,625	0	0	1	2	3
	Total 1	1,200	3	1,625	0	0	1	2	3
Majaz	Abtah	150	1	1,000	0	0	1	2	3
	Al-Ghareesa	800	1	1,200	0	0	1	0	1
	Tandhoor	150	1	600	0	0	4	0	4
Total 3	1,100	3	2,800	0	0	6	2	8	
Sehar	Al-Jabajeb	2,000	1	3,000	0	0	2	2	4
	Al-Qudami	500	1	87,500	0	0	4	1	5
	Al-Hadab	3,000	1	100,000	0	0	3	25	28
	Al-Malaha	300	1	20,000	0	0	0	0	0
	Aal Ali	1,500	2	1,100	0	2	7	20	29
	Al-Fohaish	500	2	27,500	0	0	8	3	11
	Al-Kawaza'ah	300	2	1,000	0	0	0	0	0
Total 7	8,100	10	240,100	0	2	24	51	77	
Sa'ada Total 23	27,545	50	764,325	0	7	64	77	148	

MINE-AFFECTED COMMUNITIES IN SA'ADA GOVERNORATE, RANKED BY IMPACT

