

## Key Messages

**All parties to the conflict in Yemen must comply with International Humanitarian Law obligations to protect civilians and civilian infrastructure, and to allow and facilitate the rapid and unimpeded passage of relief supplies and personnel to people in need.**

## Overview

Yemen's Taiz governorate has suffered increased airstrikes, shelling and armed clashes over the past 24 hours. Residential areas in Taiz are reportedly being hit with heavy damage to homes and civilian infrastructure, including hospitals and schools.

Much of basic services in Taiz have ground to a halt. There are reports of hospitals that have ceased to function due to lack of fuel. Heavy fighting has also limited access to the few health facilities that still function.

Humanitarian organisations are struggling to provide much needed life saving assistance due to lack of access and high levels of insecurity.

Ten civilian deaths and over 100 injuries in the last days alone are widely reported while other reports describe that numbers could be much higher. Up until 20 May, 245 people have been killed and 796 injured.

Throughout Yemen, based on data collected from health facilities over 1,870 people have been killed, half of which are believed to be civilians, and about 7,580 people have been injured between 19 March and 18 May (latest available overall figures). Figures are likely to be much higher given the recent escalation of conflict, as well as underreporting. Half of those reported killed in Yemen are civilians.

The intensification of violence has come a day after the indefinite postponement of United Nations sponsored peace talks planned for May 28.

**For further information, please see:**

<http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/operations/yemen>  
<http://www.unocha.org/yemen>

**Or contact:**

Kate Coenthal, Reports Officer, OCHA Yemen, Tel: +962 (0) 79 840 48 45 Email: [coenthal@un.org](mailto:coenthal@un.org)  
Erich Ogoso, Public Information Officer, OCHA Yemen, Tel : +962 795 203 158, Email: [ogoso@un.org](mailto:ogoso@un.org)