

# The Impact of Mines/ERW on Children

Child mine/ERW casualties globally in 2017 (2,452 casualties)

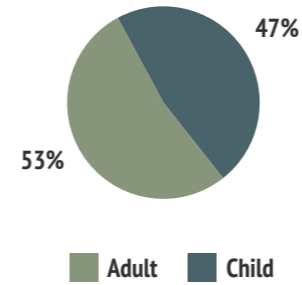


## Countries with the most child casualties in 2017

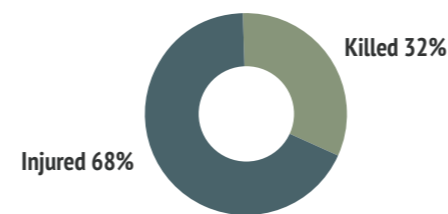
State	Child Casualties	Children as a percentage of total casualties in 2017
<b>Afghanistan</b>	1,270	55%
Syria	491	20%

**Bold:** State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty

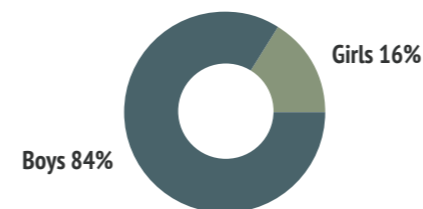
## Child casualties among all civilian casualties



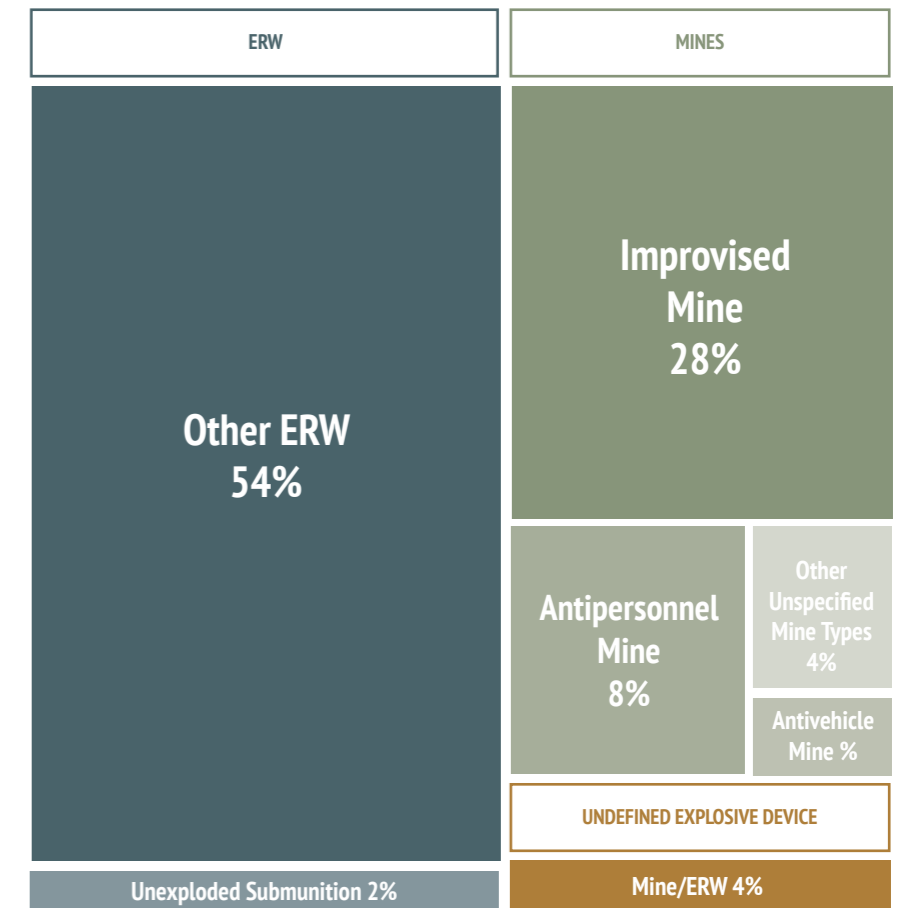
## Survival of child casualties in 2017



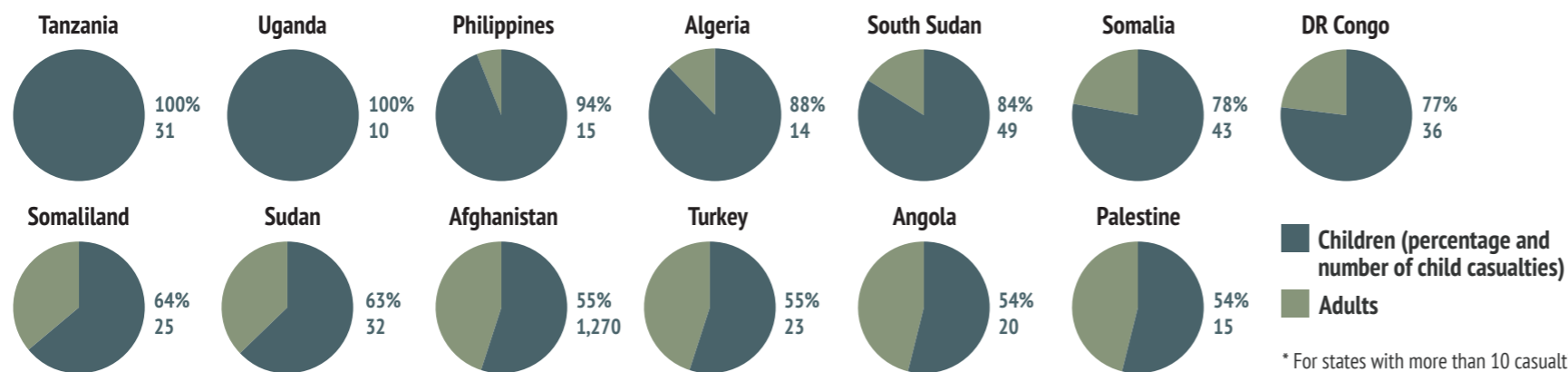
## Child casualties by gender in 2017



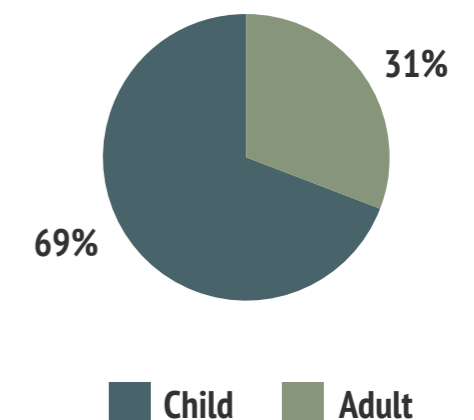
## Devices causing child casualties in 2017



## States and areas with children as the majority of mine/ERW casualties in 2017\*



## ERW casualties by age group in 2017



# The Impact of Mines/ERW on Children

Children are extremely vulnerable to the harm caused by landmines and improvised mines (also called victim-activated improvised explosive devices, or IEDs), cluster munition remnants, and other explosive remnants of war (ERW)—henceforth mines/ERW.

In 2017, there were 2,452 recorded child casualties from mines/ERW in 36 states and two other areas.<sup>1</sup> Of this total, 773 children were killed by mines/ERW and another 1,679 were injured. As in previous years, in 2017 the vast majority of child casualties where the sex was known were boys (84% or 1,775) and 329 were girls.

The 2017 total of child casualties worldwide marked a significant increase (by 658) from 2016. Annual increases in child casualties were recorded in 30 countries or areas and decreases were recorded in 18.

Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor data on child casualties is the most complete global source. However, due to gaps in available data, as with previous years, the actual number of child casualties in 2017 was certainly far higher than recorded. This was due in some cases to data being collected rapidly in hazardous and/or disorderly situations of emergencies, conflict, and displacement.

Child casualties are recorded where the age of the victim is less than 18 years at the time of the mine/ERW explosion, or when the casualty was reported by the source (such as media) as being a child.

As in previous years, Afghanistan recorded the most child mine/ERW casualties in 2017. Children were extremely affected by mines/ERW in Afghanistan, which accounted for just over half of all child casualties for the year (52%).

Compared to adults, children were disproportionately affected by ERW and unexploded cluster submunitions: in 2017 children made up 69% of all ERW casualties (1,332 of 1,919) when the age was known. Children in general are more likely to deliberately handle explosive items than adults, often unknowingly, out of curiosity, or by mistaking them for toys.

Continuing the pattern from past years, ERW continued to kill and injure more children than all other types of explosive devices combined. More than half (54%, or 1,332) of child casualties were caused by ERW while a further 12% (187) of recorded child casualties were caused by devices that were reported as a mix of mines and ERW.

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<sup>1</sup> Afghanistan, Syria, Myanmar, South Sudan, Tanzania, Somalia, Pakistan, Nigeria, Sudan, Algeria, Iraq, DRC, Palestine, Ukraine, Kenya, Mozambique, Vietnam, Iran, Israel, Russian Federation, Colombia, India, Lebanon, Philippines, Senegal, Tajikistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kuwait, Uganda, Cambodia, Mali, Angola, Turkey, Lao PDR, Libya, Yemen, and the two other areas Kosovo and Somaliland.