

Costs of Israel-Hezbollah conflict on Lebanon, Israel

By Reuters / November 27, 2024

Nov 27 (Reuters) - Israel and Lebanon's Hezbollah <u>ceased fire</u> under a deal that aims to end more than a year of hostilities ignited by the <u>Gaza conflict</u>.

Here are some of the main costs of the conflict, which escalated two months ago when Israel went on the offensive against the Iran-backed group.

CASUALTIES

At least 3,768 people have been killed in Lebanon and 15,699 wounded since October 2023, according to Lebanon's health ministry as of Nov. 24. The figures do not differentiate between Hezbollah fighters and civilians. The vast majority of casualties were inflicted after Israel went on the offensive in September.

The number of Hezbollah dead has yet to emerge. The group had announced the deaths of about 500 of its fighters in the hostilities up until the point that Israel launched its offensive in September, but stopped doing so at that point.

Tel Aviv University's Institute for National Security Studies, which has deep ties to the military establishment, says Hezbollah has lost a total of 2,450.

Hezbollah strikes have killed 45 civilians in northern Israel and the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights.

At least 73 Israeli soldiers have been killed in northern Israel, the Golan Heights, and in combat in southern Lebanon, according to Israeli authorities.

DESTRUCTION

In Lebanon, the cost of damage to housing is estimated at \$2.8 billion, with more than 99,000 housing units partially or fully destroyed, according a World Bank report.

In Beirut's southern suburb alone, a stronghold of Hezbollah, Israeli strikes have demolished at least 262 buildings, according to the American University Beirut Urban Lab.

The Israeli military has also done extensive damage in villages and towns in the Bekaa Valley and south Lebanon, both areas where Hezbollah holds sway.

The World Bank report estimated damage in agriculture at \$124 million, with losses of more than \$1.1 billion, driven by lost harvest caused by destruction of crops and livestock and displacement of farmers.

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