

83,047 ceasefire violations

including **1,163** explosions attributable to fire from MLRS, artillery, mortars and tanks

757 weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

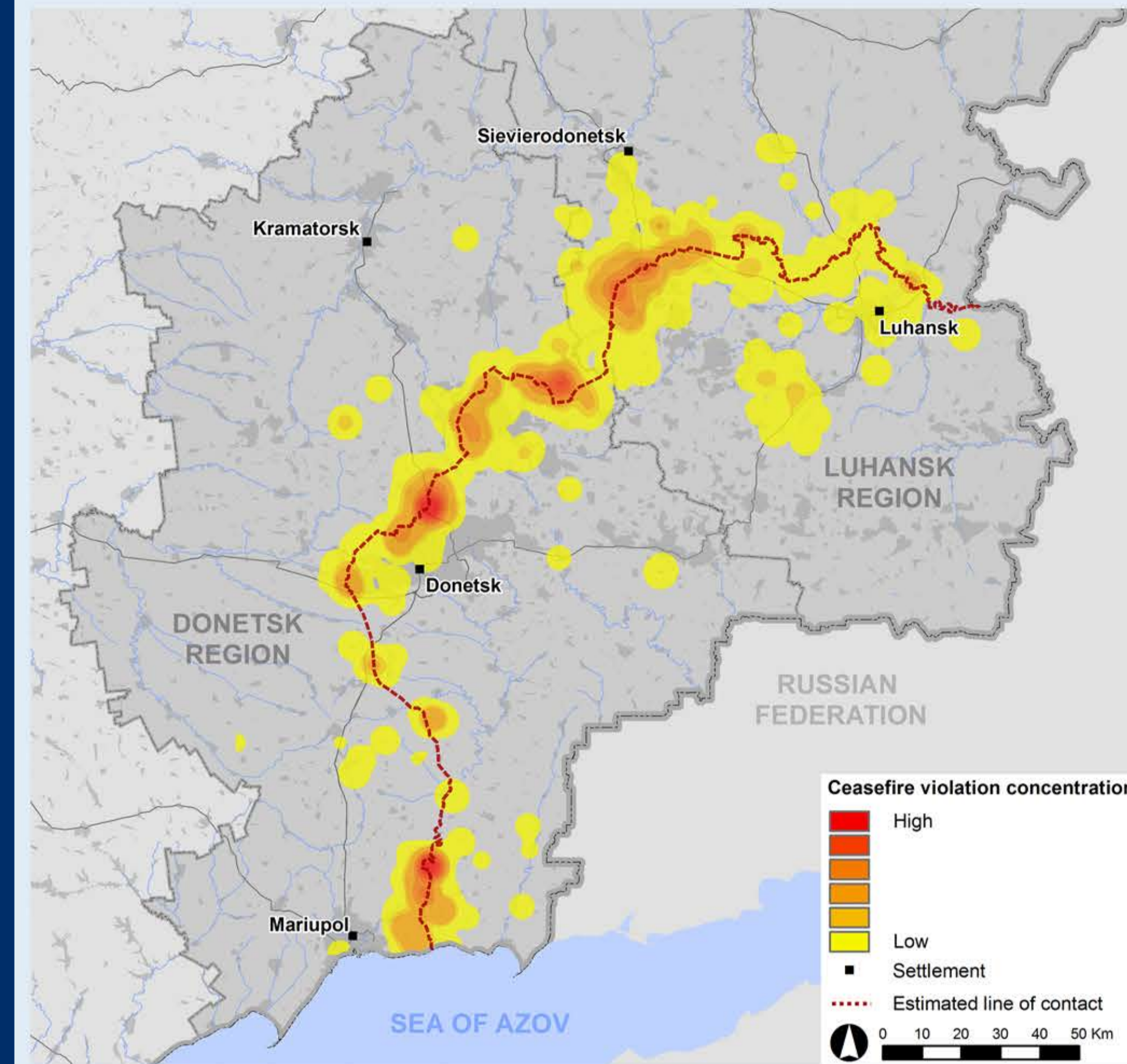
Trends and observations

JAN-MAR 2019

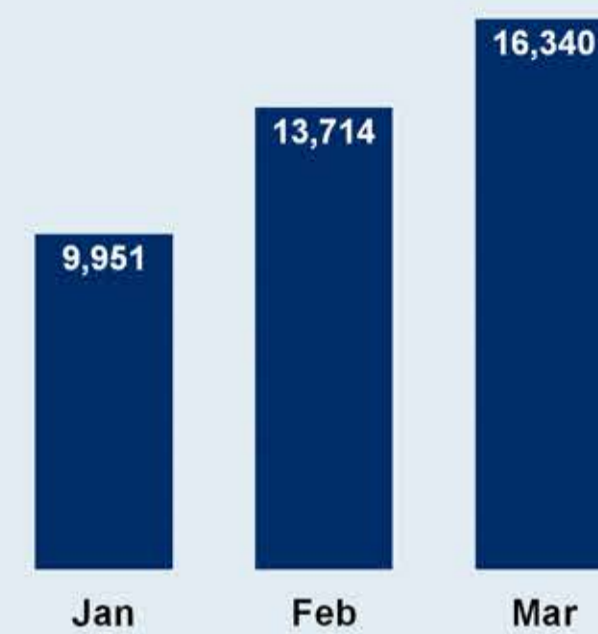
199 freedom of movement restrictions*

1 recommitment to ceasefire

Ceasefire violations (CFVs)



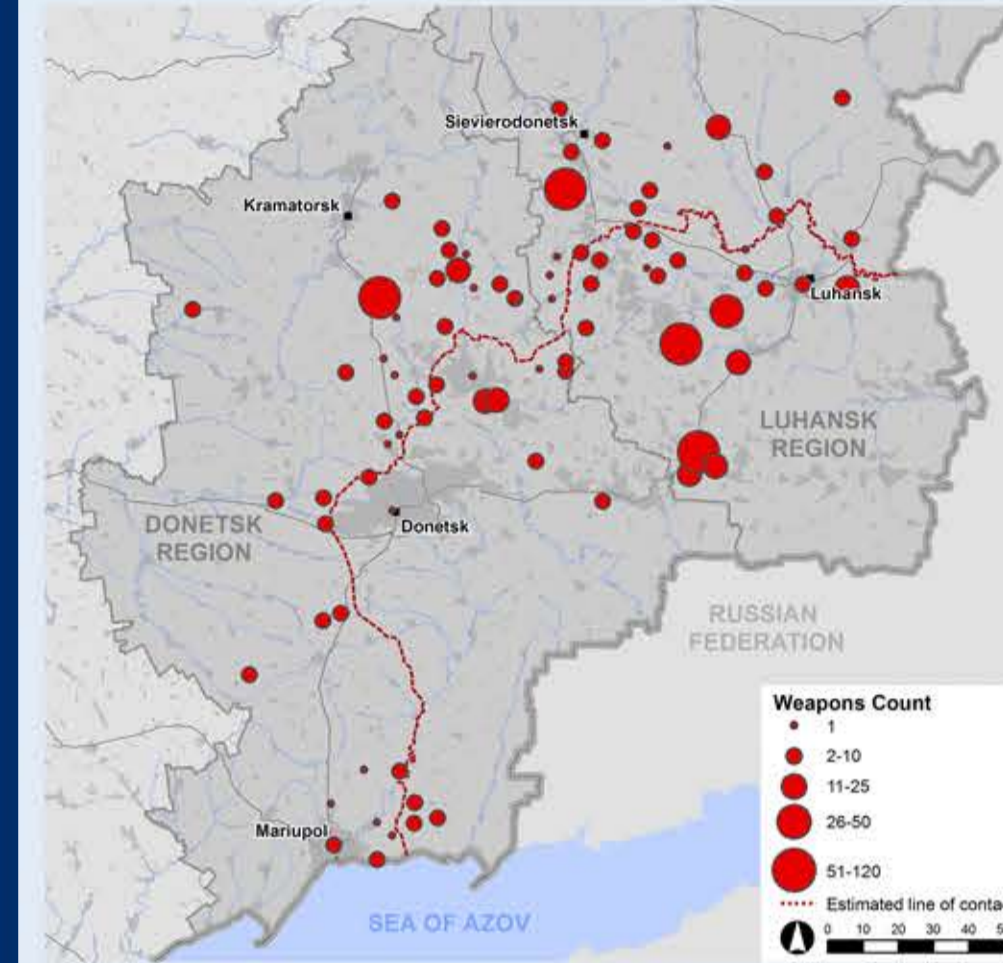
Comparison by month



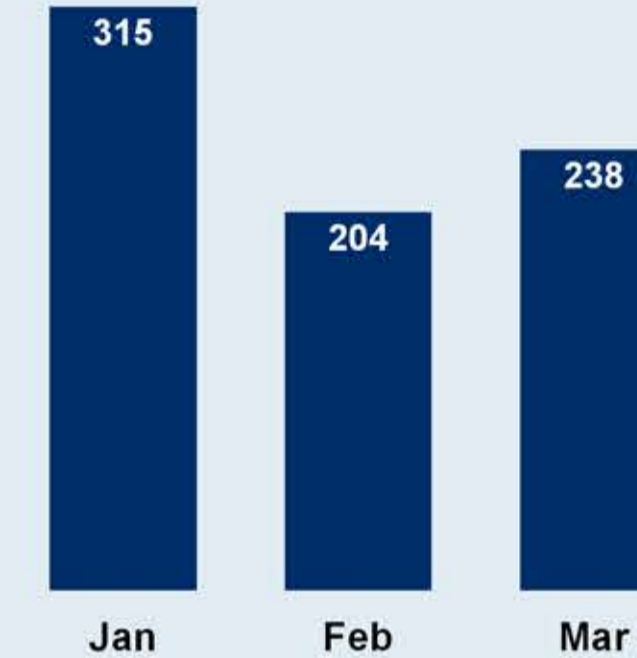
Recommitments to ceasefire

Date of recommitment	Decrease of CFVs observed (%)	Days before number of CFVs reaches half of that prior to recommitment	Days before number of CFVs exceeds that prior to recommitment
29-Dec	78%	5	16
8-Mar	61%	2	4

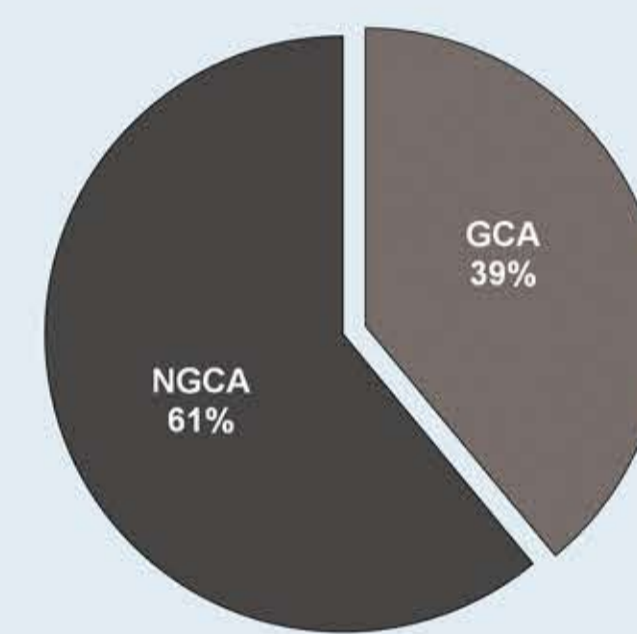
Weapons in violation of withdrawal lines



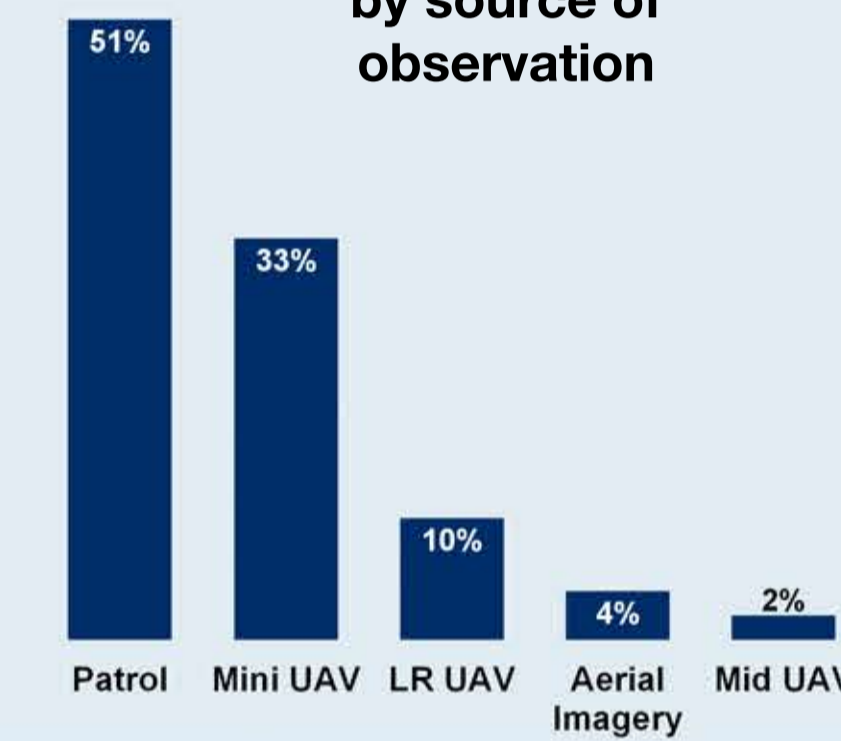
by month



by control



by source of observation



Main trends:

In the first quarter of 2019, the Mission registered about 19 per cent fewer ceasefire violations when compared with the last quarter of 2018 (Oct-Dec 2018). The number of explosions attributed to weapons that should have been withdrawn according to the Minsk agreements decreased by 13 per cent.

Most of the ceasefire violations recorded in the first quarter of 2019 was concentrated in four hotspots along the contact line, which accounted for about 86 per cent of all recorded ceasefire violations:

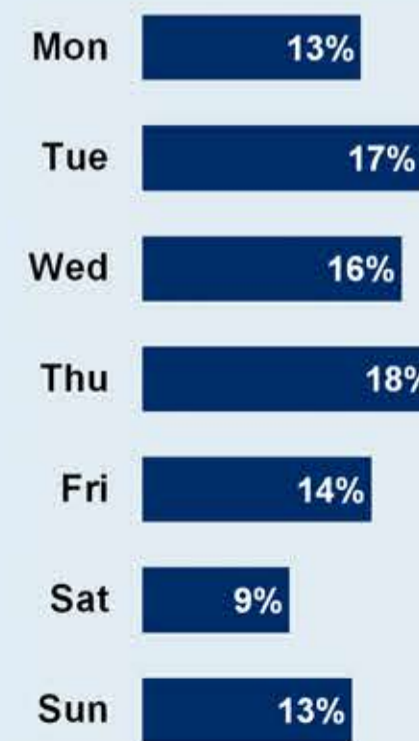
- 1) the Avdiivka-Yasynuvata-Donetsk airport area,
- 2) areas east and northeast of Mariupol,
- 3) the Popasna-Kalynove-Pervomaisk-Zolote area and
- 4) areas southwest, south and southeast of Svitlodarsk.

Ceasefire violations recorded outside the security zone were assessed as related to live-fire exercises. In the first quarter of 2019, the SMM recorded about 1,400 such ceasefire violations, about 70 per cent of which were recorded in non-government-controlled areas.

In the first quarter of 2019, the sides agreed on one recommitment to the ceasefire coinciding with International Women's Day. However, the effects of it have not been long-lasting – after two days, the number of ceasefire violations reached half of that prior to the recommitment, and after four days, the number of recorded ceasefire violations exceeded the pre-recommitment levels.

Ceasefire violations distributed by:

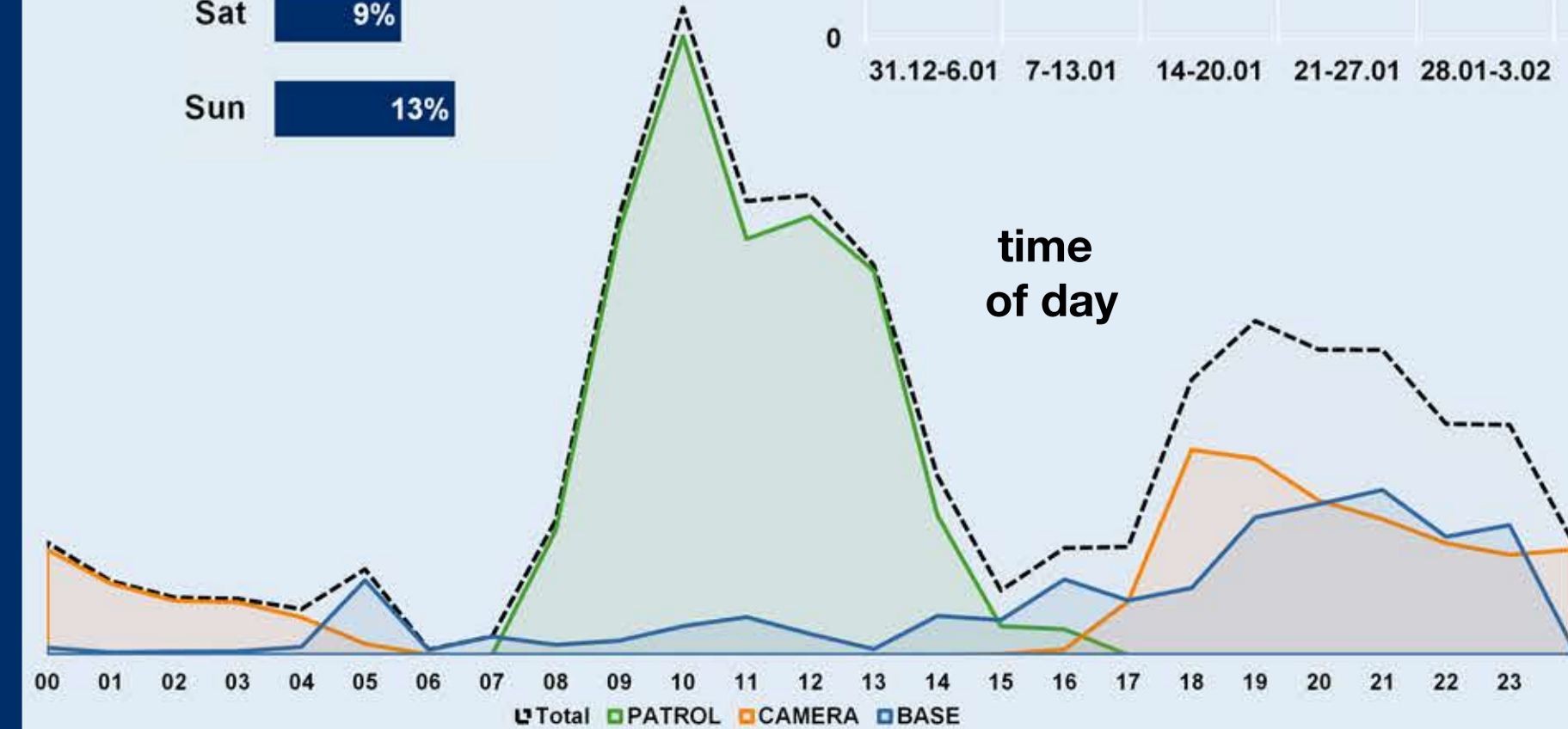
day of week



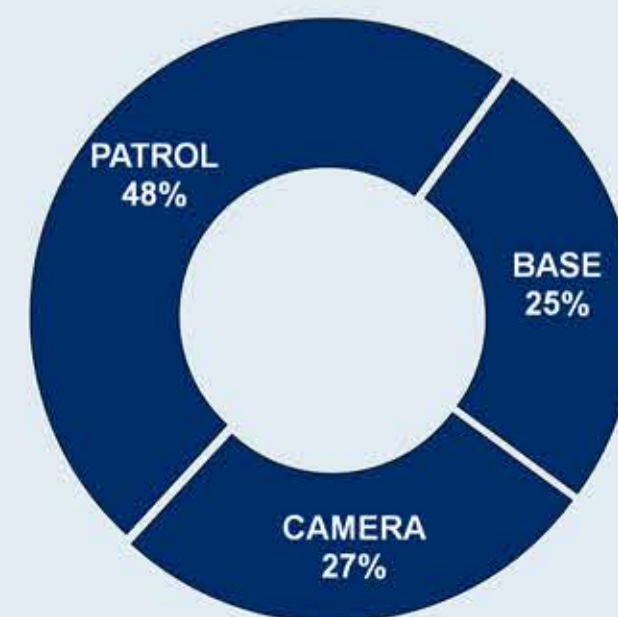
number per week



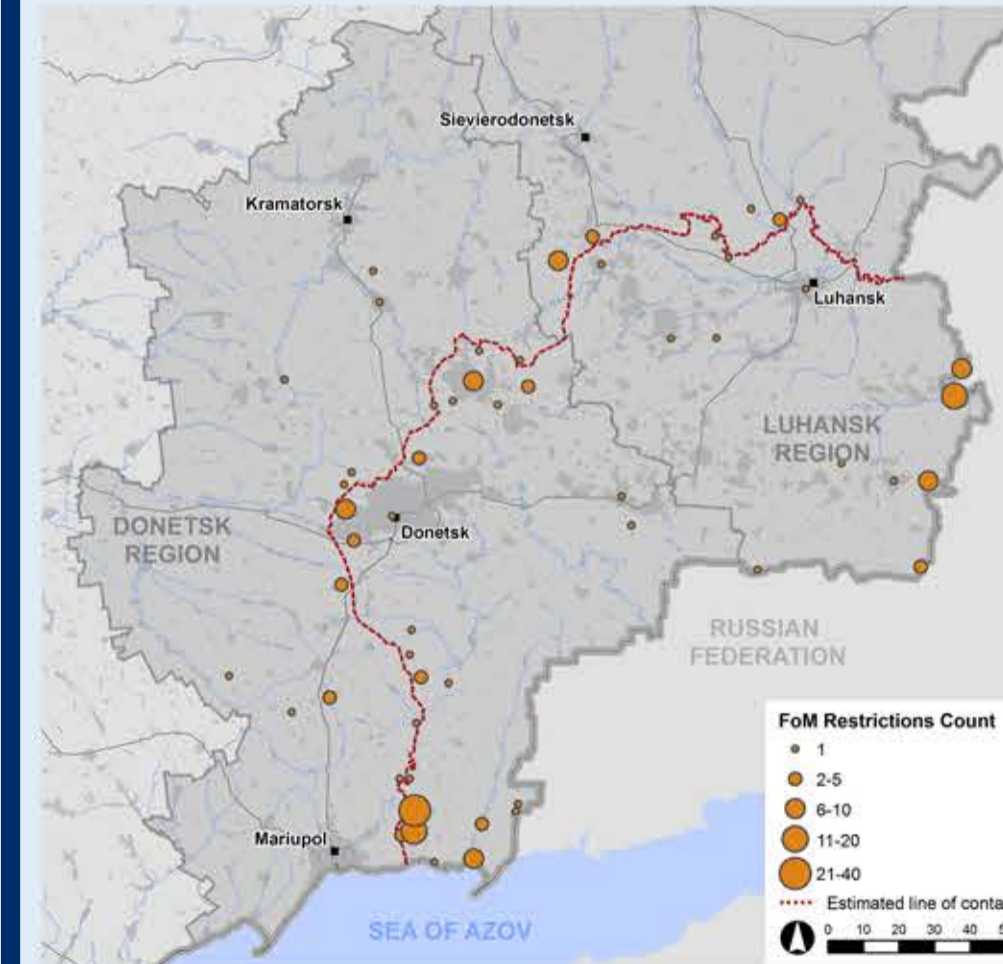
time of day



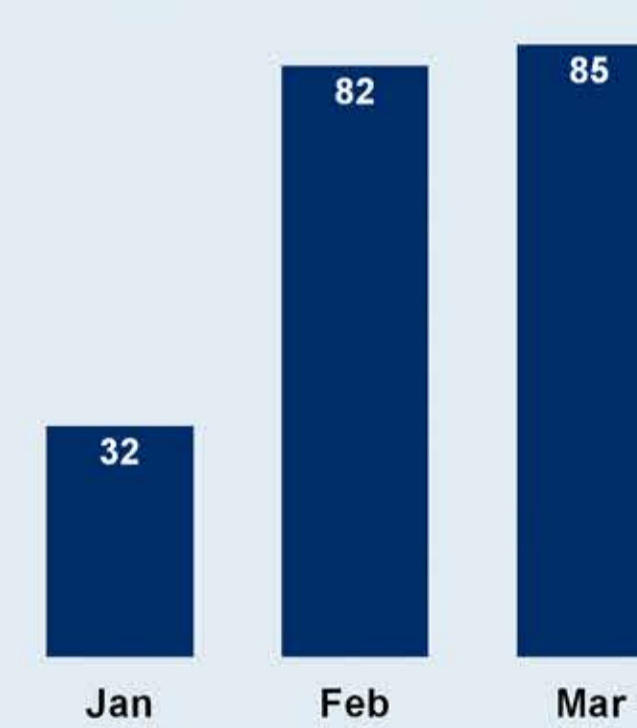
source of observation



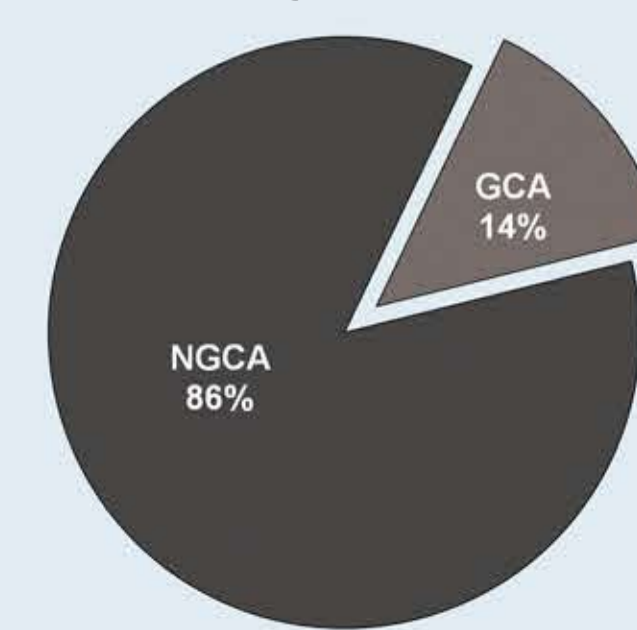
Freedom of movement (FoM) restrictions*



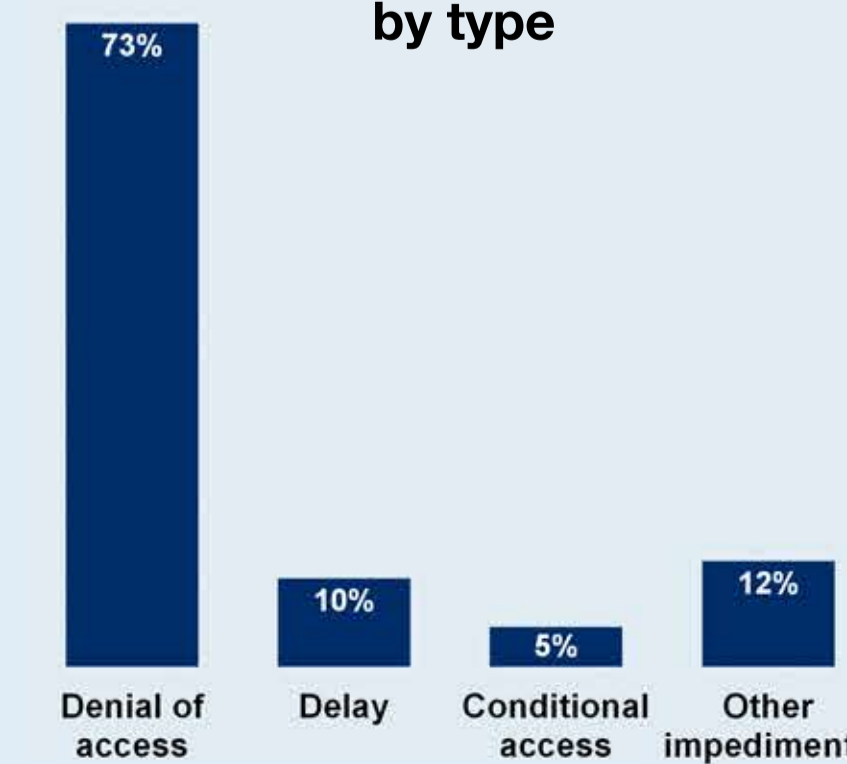
by month



by control



by type



About 55 per cent of all the ceasefire violations have been recorded during night-time. The primary sources of these observations were SMM cameras and monitors at forward patrol bases. During daytime, most observations were made by patrols in the field.

In the first quarter of 2019, the SMM observed 757 weapons in violation of agreed withdrawal lines – about 19 per cent less than in the last quarter of 2018. Over 60 per cent of such weapons in violation were in non-government-controlled areas and about 40 per cent were observed in government-controlled areas. About 55 per cent of these observations were made by patrols, while 45 per cent were made by unmanned aerial vehicles.

In the first quarter of 2019, SMM monitors faced 199 freedom of movement restrictions not related to mines or unexploded ordnance. The vast majority of such restrictions took place in non-government-controlled areas of Donets and Luhansk regions (86 per cent of the total). Such incidents were concentrated in non-government-controlled areas near the border with the Russian Federation, as well as in areas north of non-government-controlled Novoazovsk.

Sources for maps: Administrative boundaries – OCHA; Roads, Rivers – OpenStreetMap; Sea – VLIZ (2005). IHO Sea Areas; Other – OSCE. Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 37N. These maps are provided for illustrative purposes only. Their content is not warranted to be error-free and does not imply endorsement or acceptance by the OSCE SMM. © OSCE SMM 2019. Use, copy, reproduction, transmission, broadcasting, sale, license, or exploitation not permitted without OSCE prior written authorization.

* Excluding regular restrictions faced by SMM related to disengagement areas and mines/UXO.