

Introduction

Protest movements in January 2019 were dominated by the institutional crisis at multiple levels, particularly at the primary and secondary educational levels.

The long conflict between the secondary teacher's union and the Minister of Education generated many forms of protest movements by teachers, students and parents.

While some student protest movements were secured in educational institutions, like a protest movement with reading and music at the pilot college in Nabeul, other institutions went under violent protest movements committed by students to show their frustration faced with the lasting crisis and confusion surrounding the second semester after the boycotting of exams in the first semester imposed by the teachers and a threat of a canceled school year.

This type of contestation has also appeared in parent movements, as much in statements and behavior with teachers. At the primary school in Sidi Said, Sfax 1, a parent insulted a teacher based on the color of his skin while phrasing racial slurs.

Sit-ins by substitute teachers at regional education delegations were the subject of frustration and protests by parents of students at the primary level asked for a quick resolution of the crisis and a return to regular school schedules.

The month of January 2019 ended without a solution for the secondary level institutions, because the problem has not been solved. In the month of February, protest movements by parents and students will continue, unless the problem is addressed with plausible solutions for a return to school schedules and exams.

Furthermore, the crisis has created an open-space for violence. A case in Bizerte college revealed that a student assaulted his friend on the thigh with a weapon.

Despite its magnitude, the education crises did not overpower the protest movements recorded in the country, because traditional problems keep being addressed in the country against inflation, regulation of work status, jobs, improving the socio-economic situation that has been downgrading in the past eight years and the establishment of an official list of martyrs and injured people during the revolution.

Other demands concerning infrastructures have been highly fought over, to improve school transportation, to put an end to the lack of water (like in the Khit El Oued, Ain Baydha and Ouled Fraj regions and the Kairouan governorate).

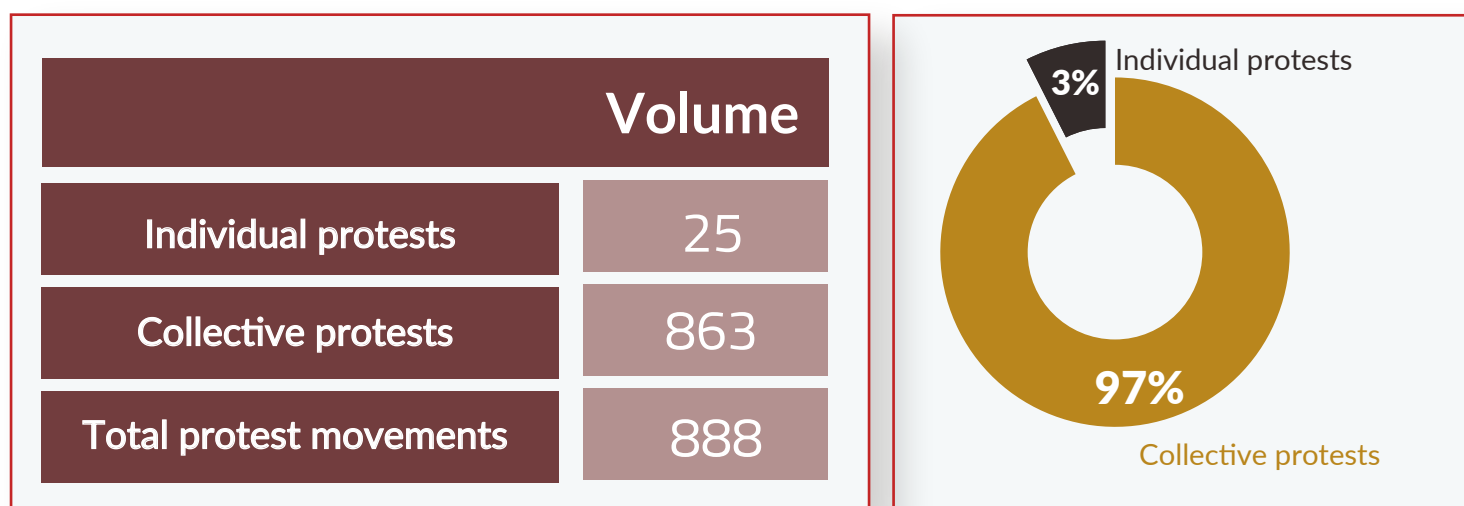
There are also demands for the improvement of the quality of services for victims of the cold wave by allowing access to necessary oil and wood for heating, as well as demands concerning the emergency of stopping the environmental crisis caused by illegal unloading of toxic waste.

There was also a protest (first of its kind) at Cité Hached, in the Bou Argoub delegation, Nabeul, against the consumption of cannabis and other drugs, demanding for more cultural and educational spaces for the youth to decrease criminality and substance addiction.

The nature of protest movements in January 2019

In the month of January 2019, the number of protest movements rose to 888, with 97% of cases being social protest movements. The Kairouan governorate remains at the top of the list, with an average of three protests a day in January 2019 (99 protests were registered in January 2019).

Individual and collective protest movements

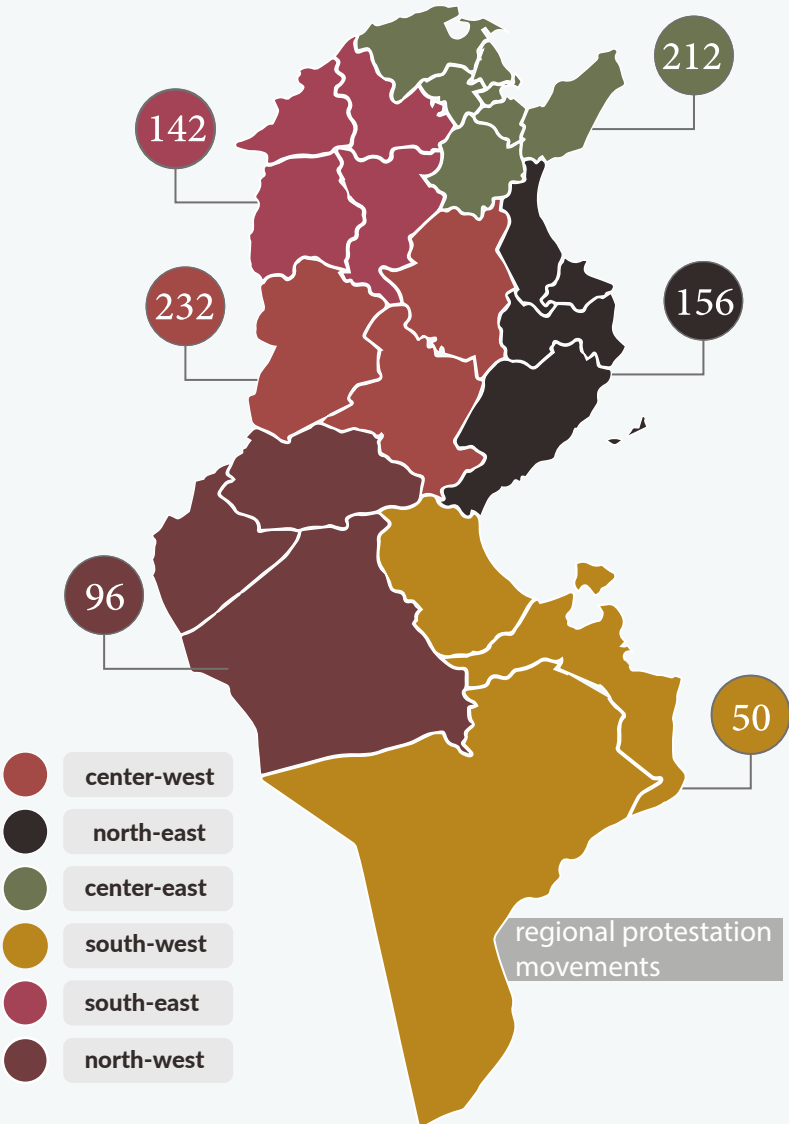


In addition, 86 protest movements were registered in the capital, followed by Sidi Bozid with 77, Nabeul with 69, Jendouba with 67, Sfax with 63, Gafsa with 61 and Kasserine with 68

This hierarchy shows the traditional protest regions in the protest map established monthly by the Observatoire Social Tunisien.

Individual and collective protest movements by gouvernorate

Gouvernorate	Volume		
Bizerte	16	Monastir	33
Tunis	86	Mahdia	12
Ariana	4	Sfax	63
Manouba	19	Kairouan	99
Ben Arous	17	Kasserine	56
Zaghouan	1	Sidi Bouzid	77
Nabeul	69	Gabes	7
Jendouba	67	Medenine	26
Beja	31	Tataouine	17
Kef	22	Gafsa	61
Seliana	22	Tozeur	20
Sousse	48	Kebili	15
		Total	888



collective protest movements

Nature of collective social movements

366

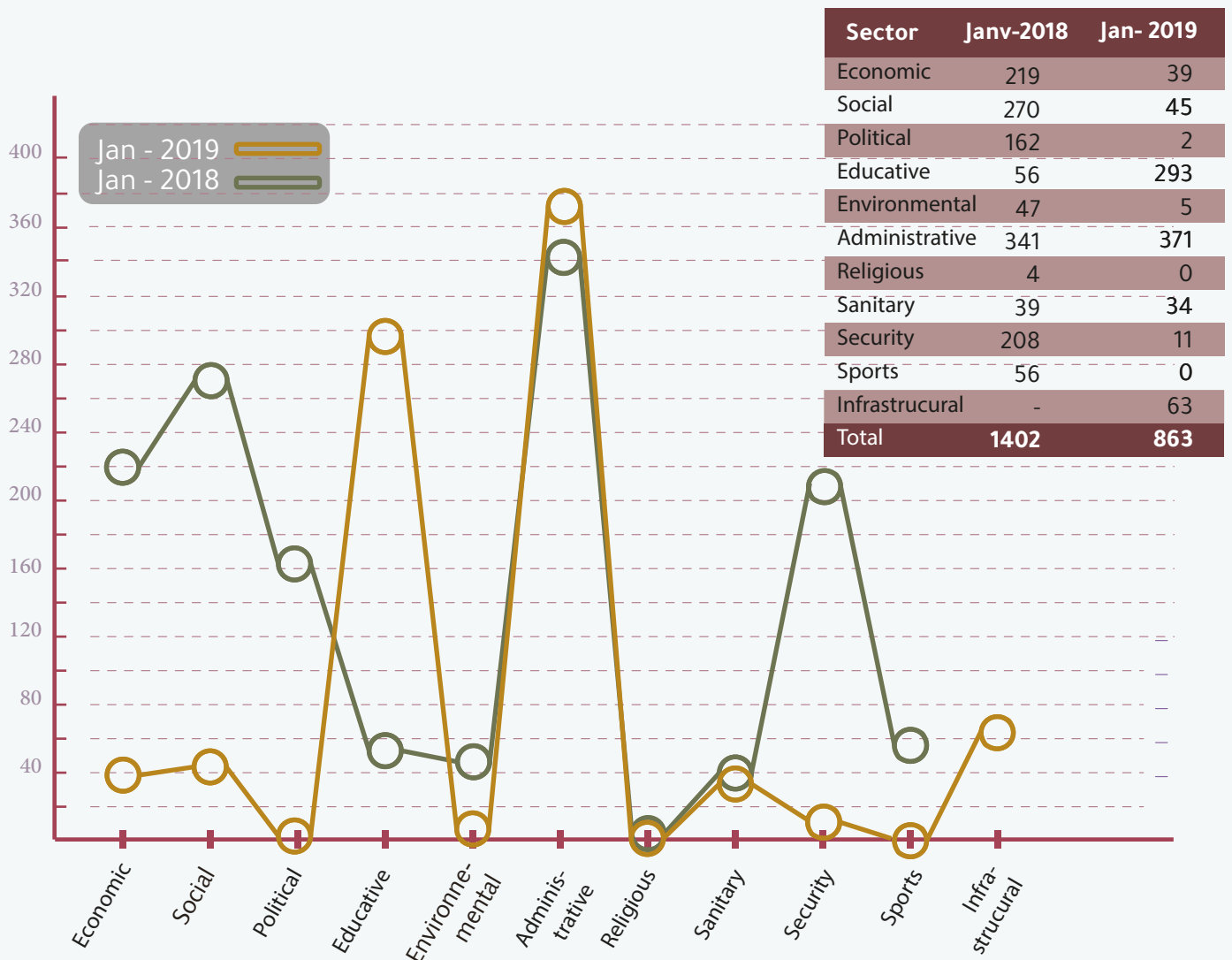
instant protests

292

spontaneous
protests

205

violent protests



Forms of protests

Social media, peaceful walks, boycotting of studies, restricting students' access to classes	★ ★ ★
Media calls, road blocks, forced entry into administrative headquarters, burnt tires	★ ★ ★
Sit-in, strikes	★ ★
Petitions of protests, forced closure of workspaces, wearing armbands, boat migration, walks to the capital, collective migration	★

actors initiating the social movements

Parents, habitants, activists	★ ★ ★
Employees, workers, activists	★ ★ ★
Precarious workers, unemployed graduates, unemployed, doctors, paramedical staff	★ ★
Journalists, taxi drivers, collective taxi drivers, agricultors, fishermen	★

Spaces of protests

Educational institutions	★ ★ ★
Roads, administrative head quarter, public spaces, municipal services, governorate offices, delegation offices	★ ★ ★
Workspace, hospitals	★ ★
Judicial institutions, ministry headquarters, presidential palace	★

subjects of protests

Educational institutions	★ ★ ★
Municipal services, S.O.N.E.D.E, governorates, delegations	★ ★ ★
Ministers, head of government, hospitals	★ ★
Judiciary authorities, president	★

Types of protests by sector

instant protests	Sector	Economic	Social	Political	Educative	Environmental	Administrative	Infrastructural	Sanitary	Security	Sports
	Volume	18	24	0	112	2	147	38	17	8	0
spontaneous protests	Sector	Economic	Social	Political	Educative	Environmental	Administrative	Infrastructural	Sanitary	Security	Sports
	Volume	14	16	2	103	2	135	9	10	1	0
violent protests	Sector	Economic	Social	Political	Educative	Environmental	Administrative	Infrastructural	Sanitary	Security	Sports
	Volume	7	5	0	78	1	89	16	7	2	0

Geographical distribution of protests

Instant protests

Bizerte	5	Monastir	10
Tunis	28	Mahdia	6
Ariana	2	Sfax	22
Manouba	12	Kairouan	41
Ben Arous	6	Kasserine	21
Zaghouan	2	Sidi Bouzid	32
Nabeul	35	Gabes	1
Jendouba	36	Medenine	11
Beja	12	Tataouine	8
Kef	10	Gafsa	21
Seliana	6	Tozeur	10
Sousse	24	Kebili	7

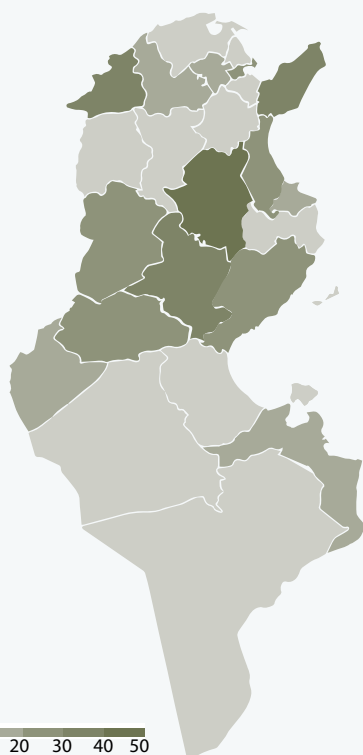
Spontaneous protests

Bizerte	7	Monastir	10
Tunis	31	Mahdia	2
Ariana	0	Sfax	26
Manouba	0	Kairouan	28
Ben Arous	2	Kasserine	21
Zaghouan	8	Sidi Bouzid	37
Nabeul	22	Gabes	2
Jendouba	7	Medenine	14
Beja	10	Tataouine	5
Kef	4	Gafsa	20
Seliana	10	Tozeur	10
Sousse	24	Kebili	0

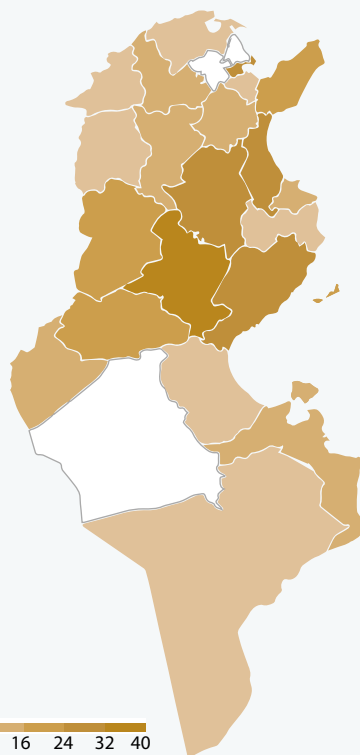
Violent protests

Bizerte	4	Monastir	10
Tunis	24	Mahdia	4
Ariana	2	Sfax	15
Manouba	6	Kairouan	27
Ben Arous	8	Kasserine	14
Zaghouan	2	Sidi Bouzid	6
Nabeul	10	Gabes	2
Jendouba	24	Medenine	1
Beja	9	Tataouine	4
Kef	8	Gafsa	19
Seliana	1	Tozeur	0
Sousse	0	Kebili	7

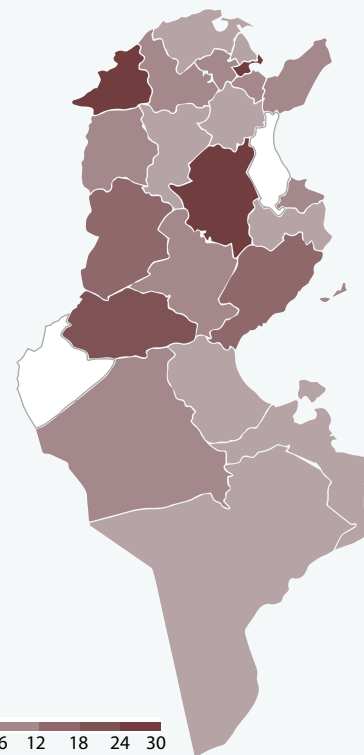
Instant protests



Spontaneous protests



Violent protests



Acts and attempts of suicide in January 2019

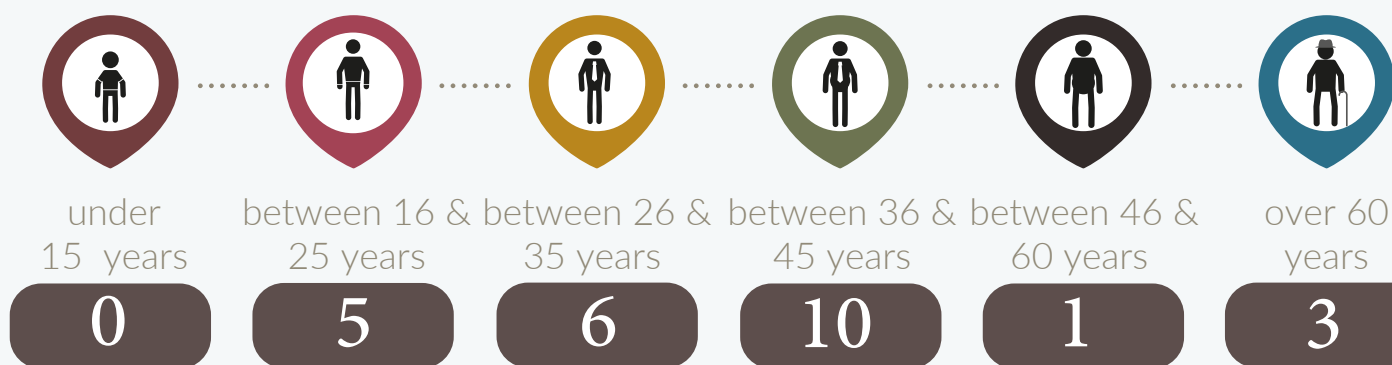
The month of January 2019 has registered a drop in the number of acts and attempts of female suicides compared to the previous months. An estimated 16% of registered acts and attempts of suicide were committed by women and 84% were committed by men).

The 26-36 year-old age group was the most affected by acts and attempts of suicide (40%) followed by the 36-45 year-old age group (24%).

Suicides and attempts of suicide by gender

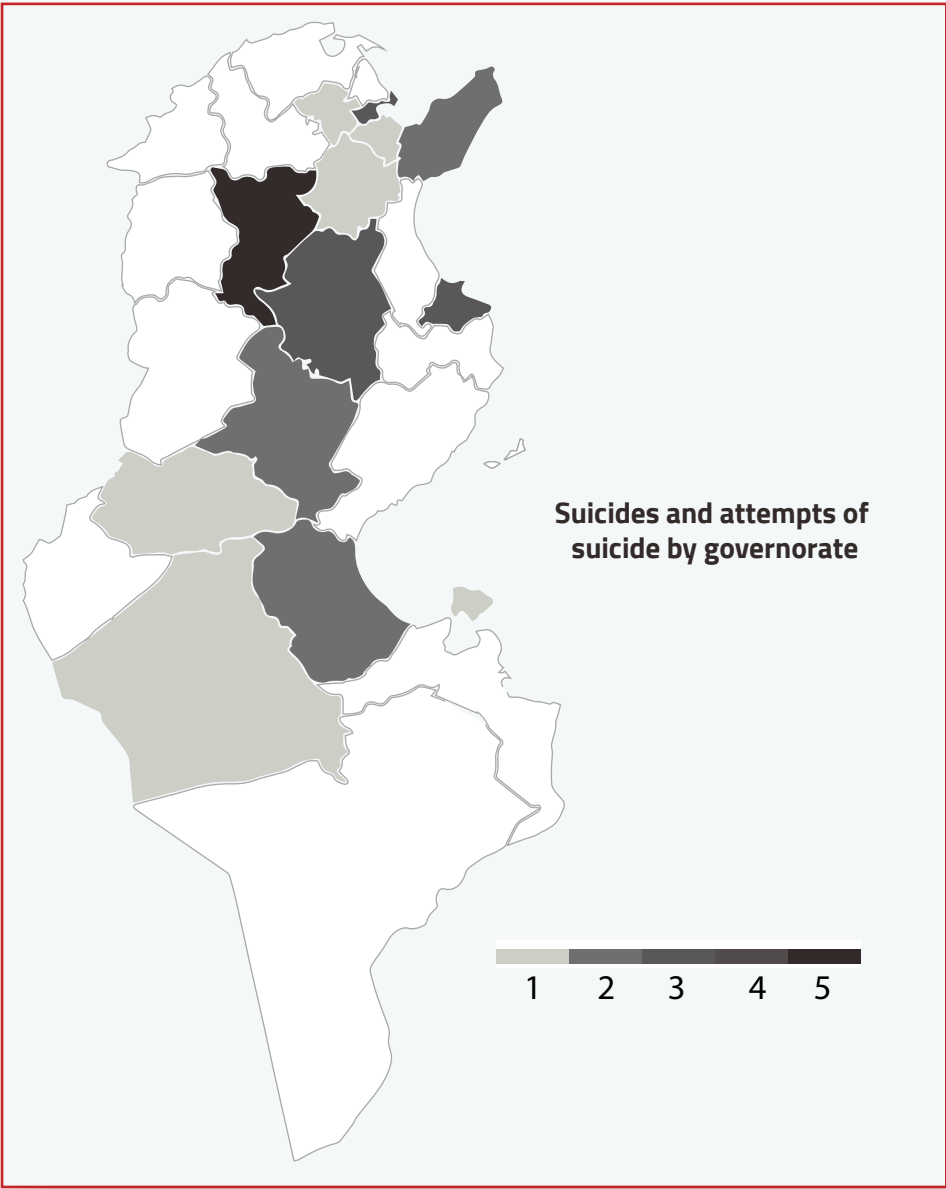


Suicides and suicide attempts by age group



Suicides and attempts of suicide by governorate

Governorate	Bizerte	Tunis	Ariana	Manouba	Ben Arous	Zaghouan	Nabeul	Jendouba	Beja
Volume	0	3	0	1	1	1	2	0	0
Governorate	Le kef	Seliana	Sousse	Monastir	Mahdia	Sfax	Kairouan	Kasserine	Sidi Bouzid
Volume	0	5	0	3	0	0	3	0	2
Governorate	Gabes	Medenine	Tataouine	Gafsa	Tozeur	Kebili			
Volume	2	0	0	1	0	1			

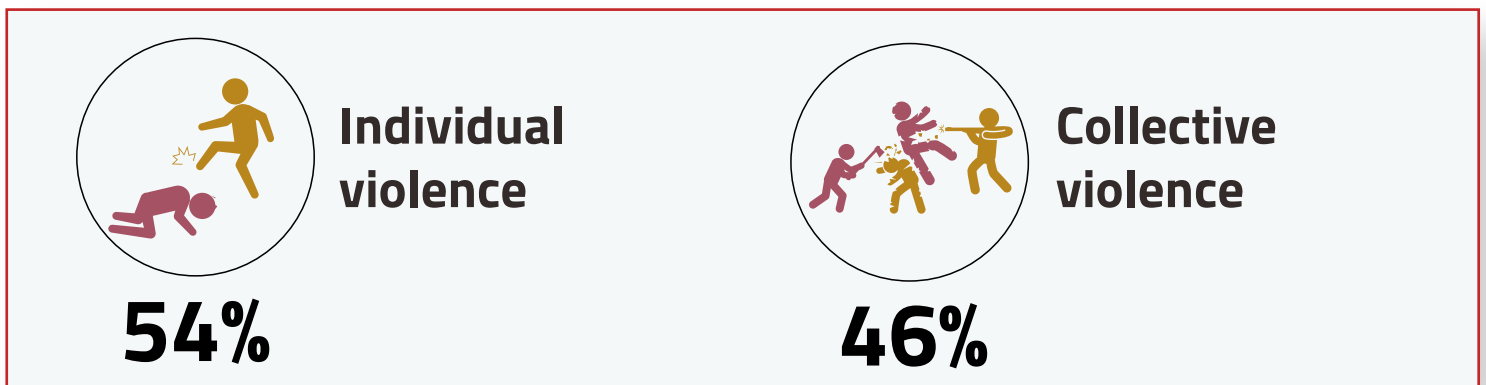


Violence

In the month of January 2019, individual and collective violence did not shift significantly compared to previous months in 2018.

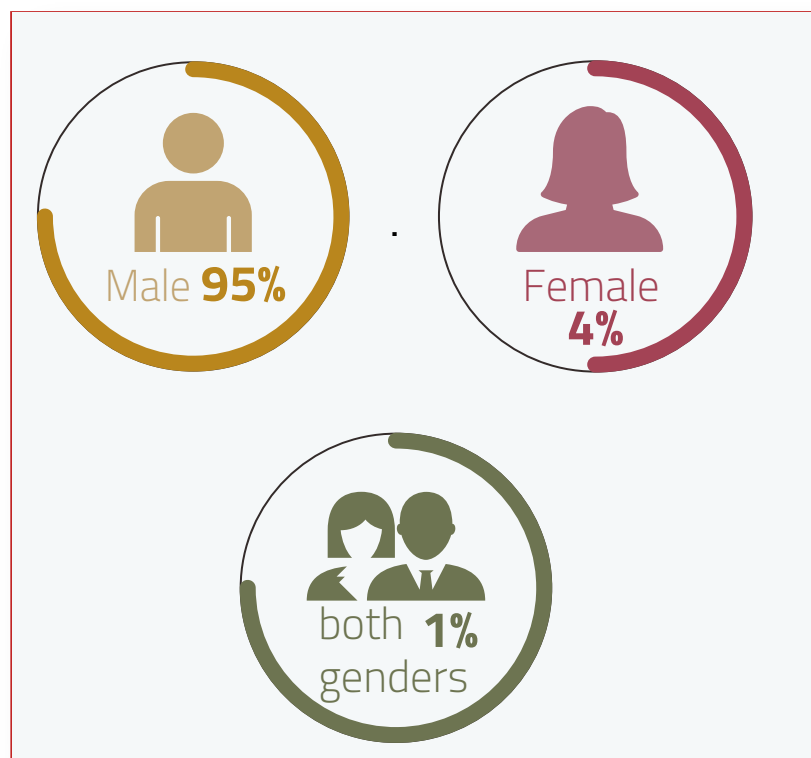
The results recorded by the Observatoire Social Tunisien indicate that individual violence represent 54% of cases, and collective violence represents 46% of recorded violence.

cases of violence



95% of recorded cases of violence in January were committed by men, 4% committed by women and 1% of recorded cases were committed by people from both sexes (male and female).

Agressors by gender



Criminal violence remains the most common form of violence. Robbery and theft are the most common form of violence in dispersed areas of the country.

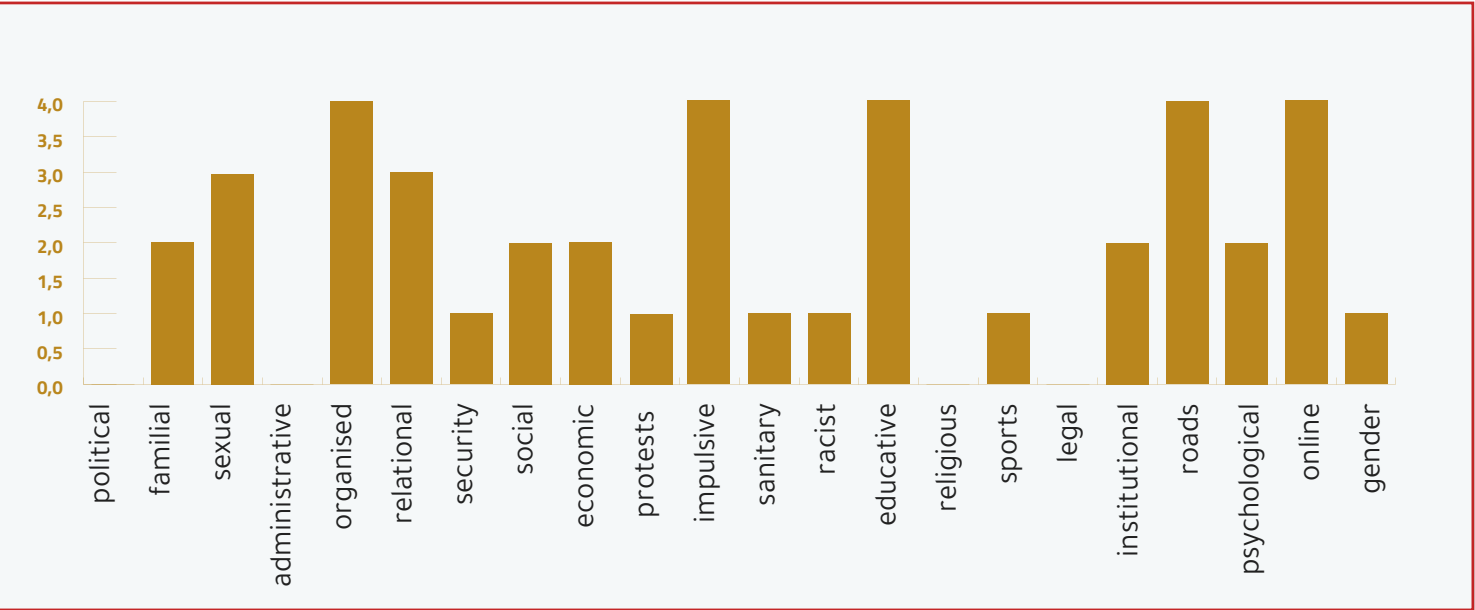
In the Al Mnihla region, a store owner was stabbed to death during an armed robbery.

In Sejnene, an argument between two students ended with one of them stabbing the other on school grounds. In the Chbika delegation, a group of delinquents broke in a school property and had a party.

In Manouba, one of the most horrible incidents occurred when a 10-year-old girl was kidnapped and raped by an adult and was found in a critical state and unconscious on the side of the road.

In the same governorate, specifically in the Battane region, a group of young men raped a woman in her thirties, causing severe bleeding, to settle a dispute they had with her when they were younger.

Forms of violence



In most recorded cases, the forms of violence can be classified as either criminal-relational, criminal-within the family or criminal-sexual.

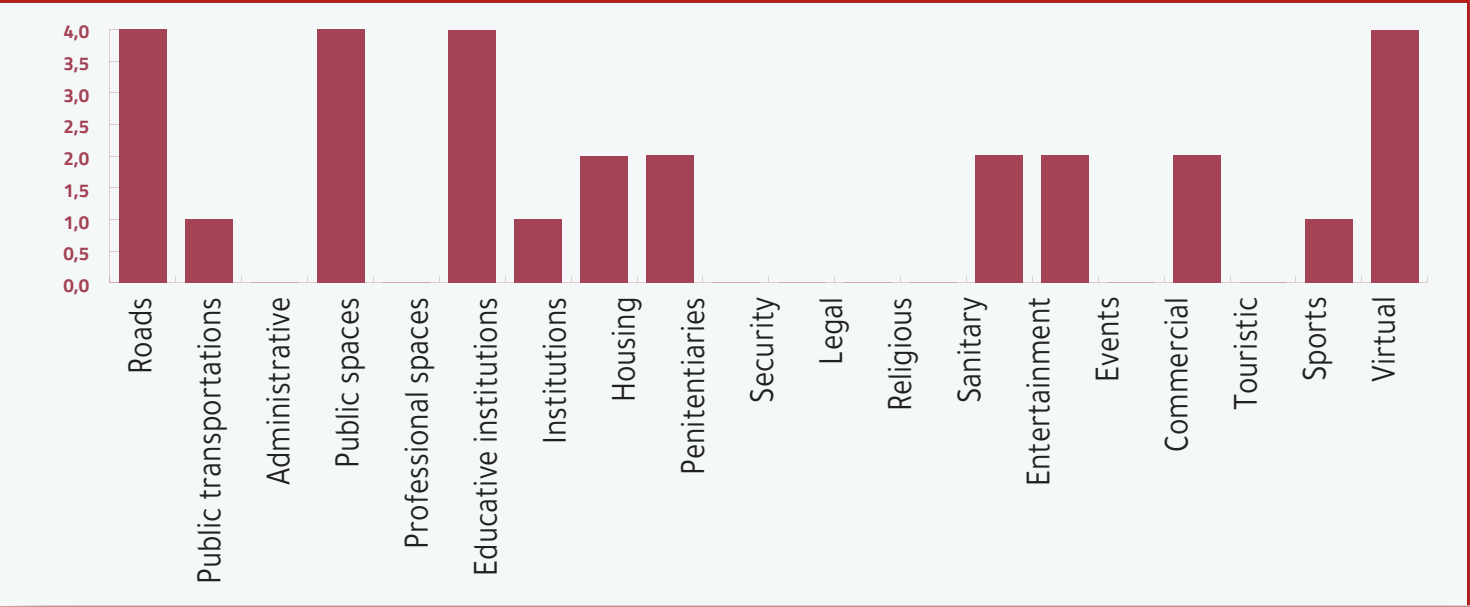
Sexual abuse on children remain the most recorded cases of violence by the Observatoire Social Tunisien. In January 2019, half of the recorded cases were committed on children. It is important to observe that sexual aggression on men has risen quite noticeably.

There was also an act of violence registered in an educational institution, when a teacher insulted and abused a student at school in Beni Khalled.

Impulsive violence and relation-based violence were mostly committed with alcohol involved in the mix and to settle disputes between people. In the Sbiba region, a dispute of this nature was followed by the crashing of a vehicle carrying members of the person involved in an argument in the same night.

At the Kairouan transport station, a conflict involving two colleagues ended with one of them getting stabbed by the other.

Intensity of violence by space

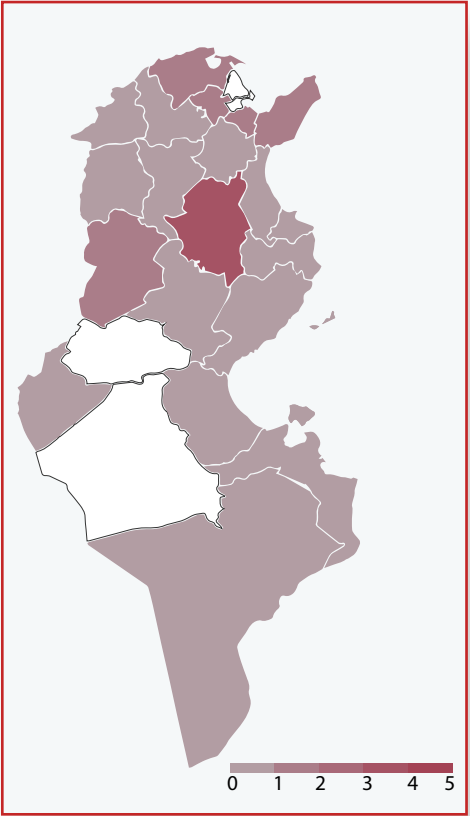


Concerning domestic violence, one of the most remarkable cases registered in Kairouan happened when a young man dumped gasoline on his father and lit up a fire and caused many burns on his father.

In the Fernena region, a young man tried to sexually assault his mother and tear her clothes. In Kairouan, a father threatened to kill his son for protesting the demolition of his kiosque.

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Violence by governorate





Conclusion

Overall, the month of January 2019 was not as hectic as the previous year because of the numerous framed protests overshadowing unstructured social movements. Nonetheless, this has not prevented the continuity of protest movements in traditional protest regions, as indicated above in the protest movement hierarchy.

