

Report of the month July 2020

Social movements, Suicides and Violence

798 collective protests and 11 cases of suicide and attempted suicide

Number 82

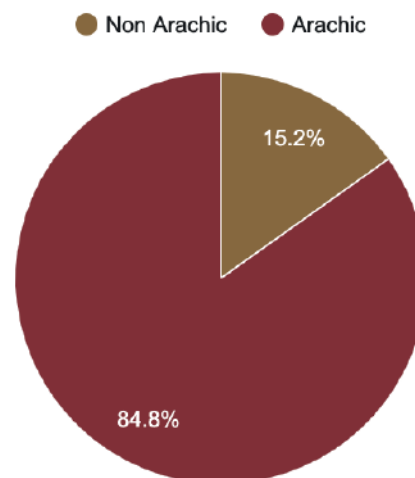
Introduction

Despite the decrease in the level of social movements compared to June 2020, the social situation in the country did not improve during July 2020. The state of grumbling and anger continued in most regions. In the face of political instability and uncertainty, a general feeling of despair and dissatisfaction prevails in the country, which largely explains the strong wave of irregular migration recorded during the month of July. This wave has been classified as the most important by leading experts since the revolution, has included all the social groups and is characterized by the collective departure of entire families and a significant presence of women, minors and children.

Protest Movements during the month of July 2020

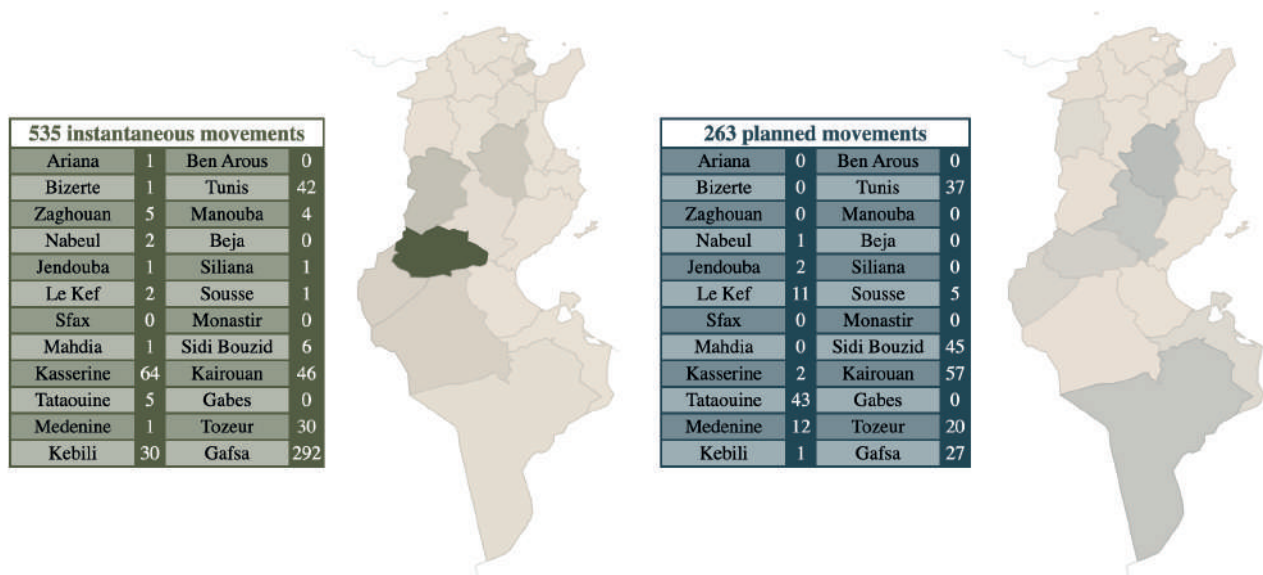
According to the work results of the Tunisian Social Observatory and what emerges from the monitoring sample consisting of all the daily and weekly newspapers and the most important electronic sites, Tunisians experienced during the month of July 2020 the impact of 798 protest movements recorded, more than half of which took place in the western region of the country. The governorate of Gafsa alone experienced 319 protest demonstrations, representing 39.9% of the total number of protests in the different governorates of the republic during this month. Most of the movements were centralized in the mining basin and took the form of sit-ins, causing a total paralysis of the phosphate production sites for more than a month and a complete halt to the transfer to the chemical group's factories, which led the latter to announce a case of major force at the global level and to consider the possibility of sending its workers back to technical unemployment if the situation remains as it is.

798 movements			
Ariana	1	Ben Arous	0
Bizerte	1	Tunis	79
Zaghouan	5	Manouba	4
Nabeul	3	Beja	0
Jendouba	3	Siliana	1
Le Kef	13	Sousse	6
Sfax	0	Monastir	0
Mahdia	1	Sidi Bouzid	51
Kasserine	66	Kairouan	103
Tataouine	48	Gabes	0
Medenine	13	Tozeur	50
Kebili	31	Gafsa	319



The governorate of Kairouan comes in second place with 103 protest movements, followed by the governorate of Tunis with 79 protests, the governorate of Kasserine with 66 protests and then the governorate of Sidi Bouzid with 51 movements and almost the same number in Tozeur, which had 50 protests. The governorate of Tataouine ranked seventh with 48 protest movements, which were all related to the agreements of Camour dating back to the year 2017 and that didn't know any progress through successive governments, which led the youth of the Camour coordination to resume the movement amidst strong regional support.

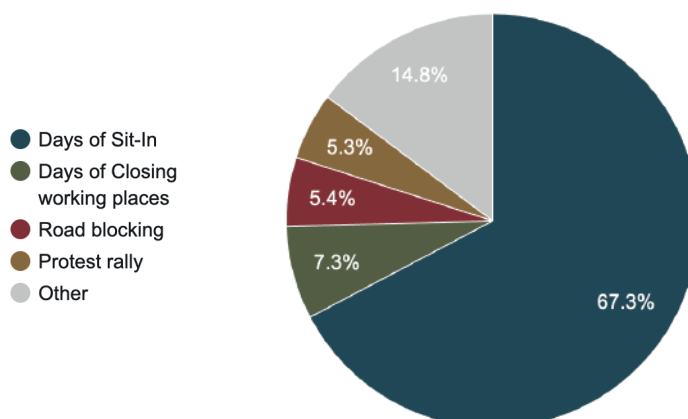
What we see is that most of the sit-in known last June continued during the month of July, such as the sit-in of Camour in the governorate of Tataouine, as well as the sit-in of the station number 4 of the delegation of El Metlaoui and the sit-in of the unemployed in each of the delegations of El-Mdhila, El Gsar and Moulares. The movements of the unemployed also continued in the governorate of Kasserine, in the governorates of Tozeur and Sidi Bouzid.



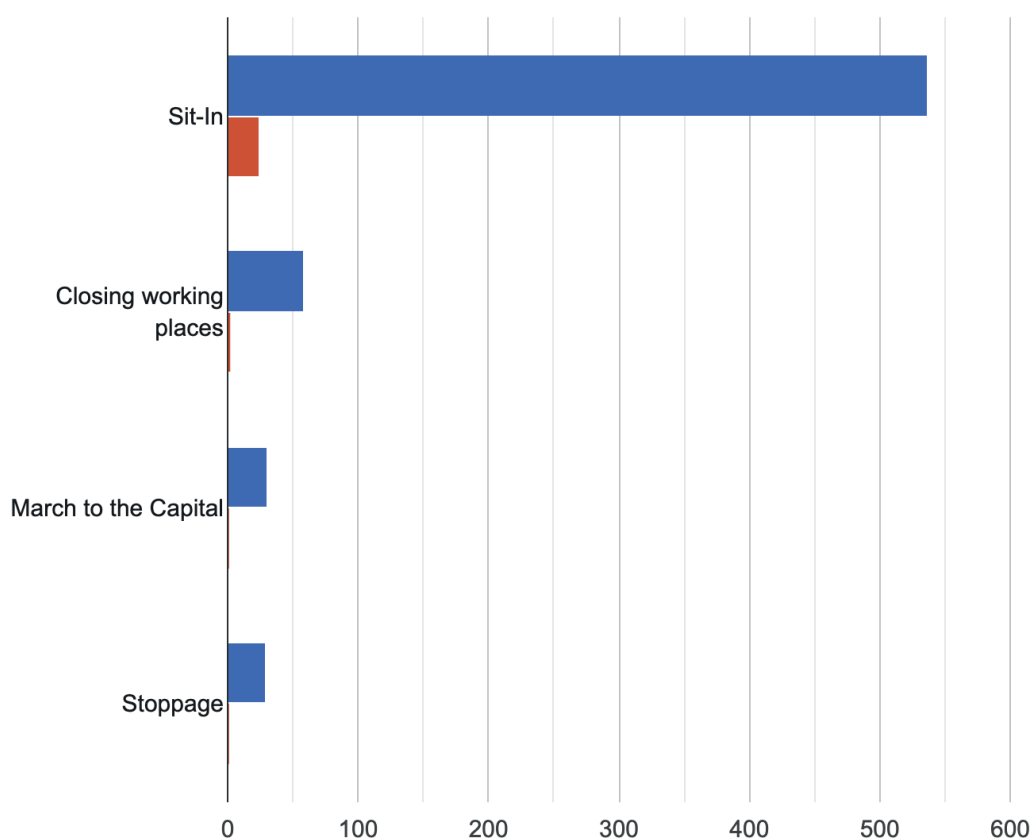
These social movements mainly explain the increase in planned protest movements during the month of July, which represented about 67% of the total movements, while unplanned movements were about 33%.

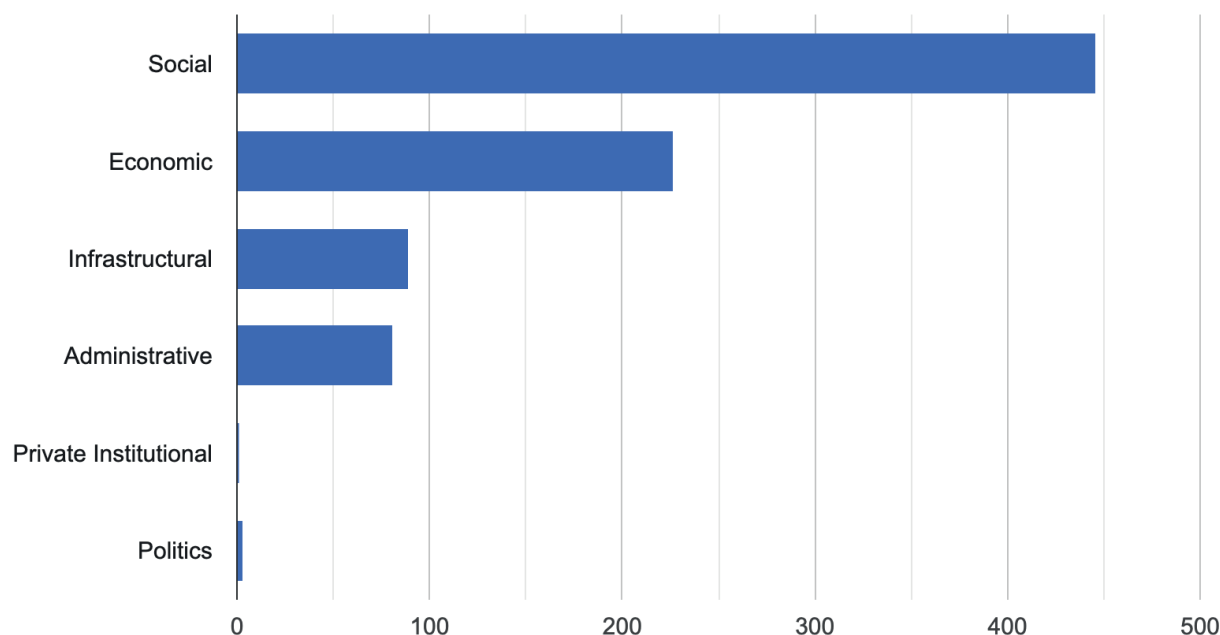
These different social movements, whatever their form: sit-in, road blockade, protest rally or marches towards the capital have not experienced significant reactions from state, regional or central institutions.

Even with the sit-ins (Camour and Mineral Basin) that have been going on for weeks, the production stoppages and the repercussions they have caused on the Tunisian economy, this month of July has not seen any dialogue meetings, agreements or initiatives to remedy the social and economic situation in these regions.



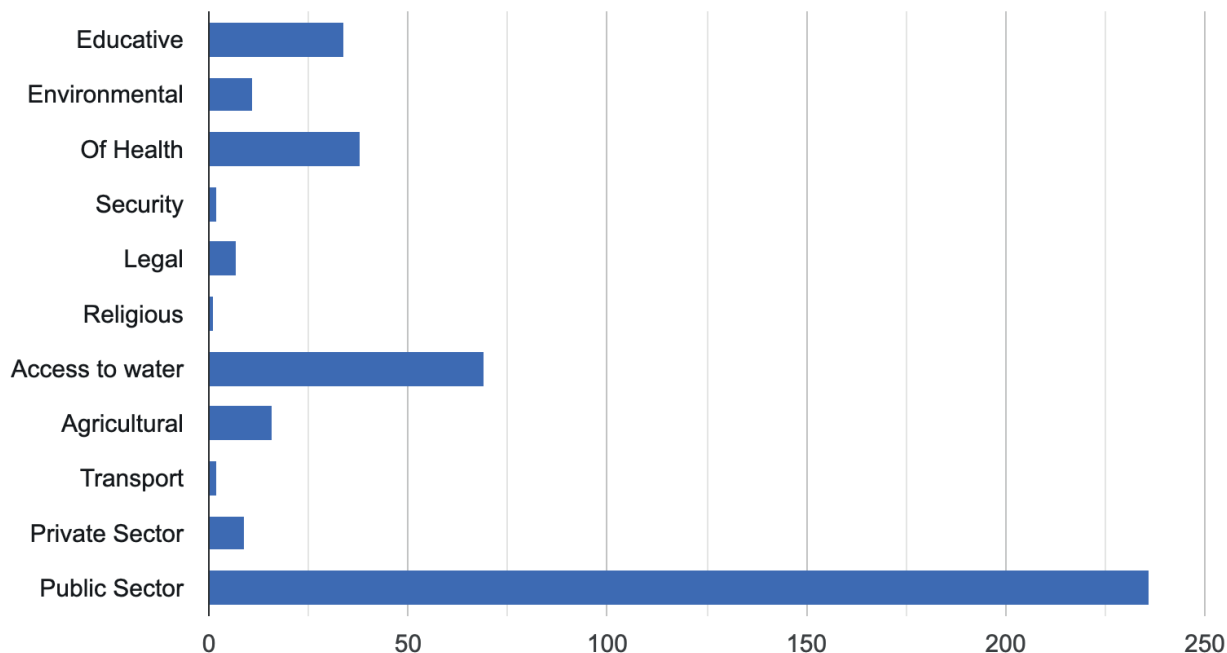
According to the results of the work of the Tunisian Social Observatory team, the month of July saw more than 530 days of sit-in, which represents 67.3% of the total volume of protest movements recorded during the month. The unemployed represented the most present actors in these protest movements, they were the authors of about half of the movements that the country experienced during this month of July: 40% were unemployed and 7% of the holders of higher degrees. On the other hand, the citizen in general was the author of about 20% of the protest movements while the rest was in the context of the demand that concerns those who protest against precarious social and economic situations such as urban workers, teachers and temporary teachers.





This month of July marked the beginning of the emergence of thirst movements and the problem of drinking water supply which is worsening year after year, they accounted for nearly 10% of the causes of protests during the month. On the other hand, social and economic motivation remains the primary cause of social movements, followed by movements calling for improvements in infrastructure, security, administrative services and health services.

Typologie	Percentage
Social	53 %
Economic	27 %
Infrastructural	11 %
Administrative	10 %
Private Institutional	1 %
Politics	1 %



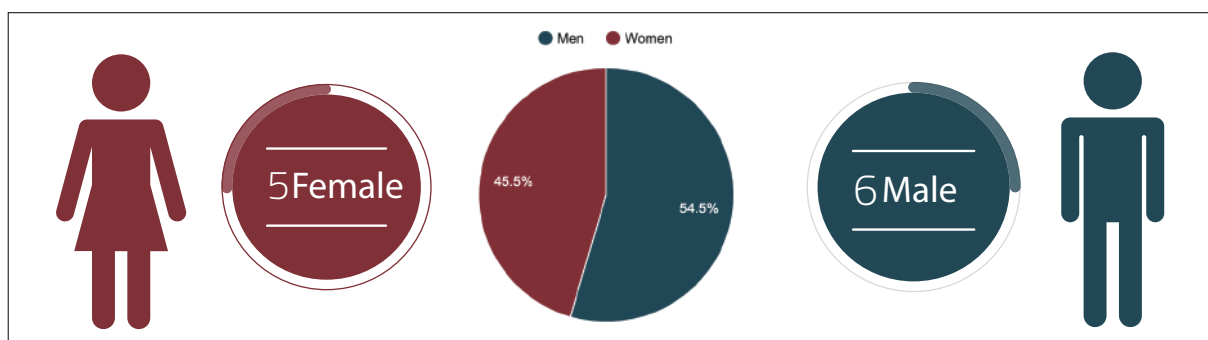
And on the basis of what happened in the last days of the month coinciding with the days of Eid al-Idh'ha, such as interruptions in drinking water and water supply problems affecting almost all the governorates of the republic in both rural and urban areas, the coming days should again witness the emergence of the thirst problem.

This dilemma seems to be heading towards further complication, not resolution.

Sector	Percentage
Educative	8 %
Environmental	3 %
Of Health	9 %
Security	1 %
Legal	2 %
Religious	1 %
Access to water	17 %
Agricultural	4 %
Transport	1 %
Private Sector	3 %
Public Sector	56 %

Suicide and Attempted Suicide during the month of July 2020

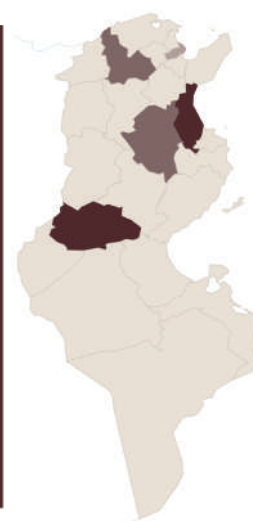
The month of July 2020 recorded 11 suicides and suicide attempts in the governorates of Gafsa, Kairouan, Sousse and Tunis.



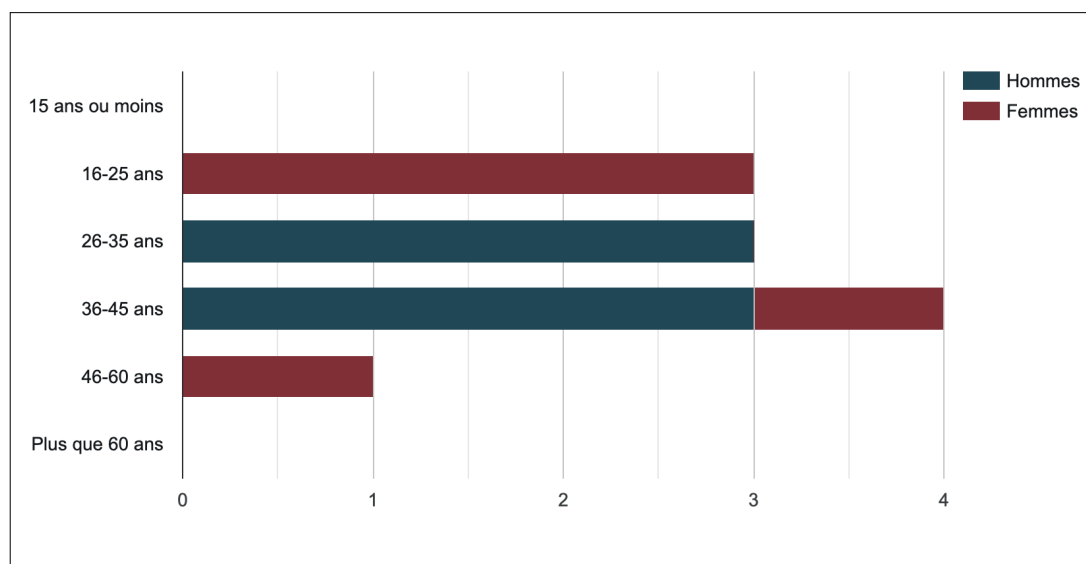
Women accounted for more than 54%. The victims were spread over all age groups, ranging from children under 15 to people over 60 years of age.

Most of them were recorded in the 25 - 45 age group. The different forms of suicide and attempted suicide varied from hanging, immolation, ingestion of drugs, toxic substances and jumping and rushing.

11 suicides			
Ariana	0	Ben Arous	0
Bizerte	0	Tunis	1
Zaghuan	0	Manouba	0
Nabeul	0	Beja	2
Jendouba	0	Siliana	0
Le Kef	0	Sousse	3
Sfax	0	Monastir	0
Mahdia	0	Sidi Bouzid	0
Kasserine	0	Kairouan	2
Tataouine	0	Gabes	0
Medenine	0	Tozeur	0
Kebili	0	Gafsa	3



Suicides and suicide attempts by age group

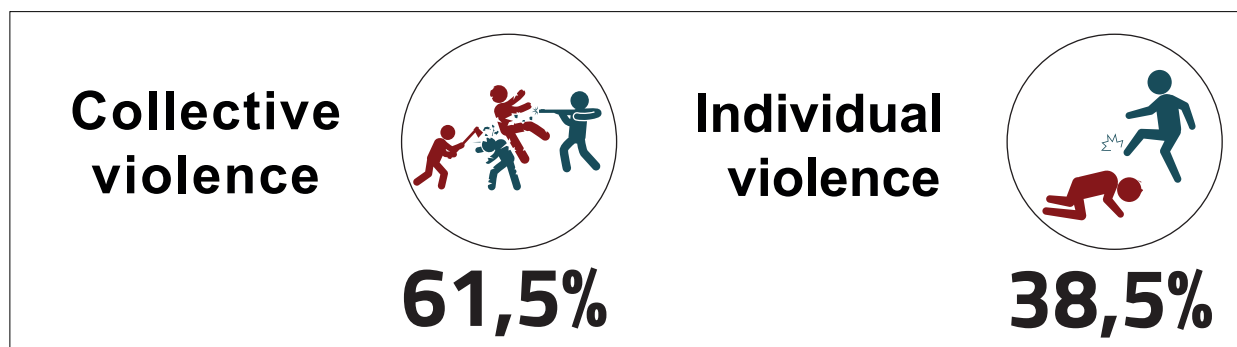


Violence Report of the month of July 2020

The situation of violence observed by the Tunisian Social Observatory during the month of July 2020 does not differ from that of the previous June. The psychological and social readings of the high level of violence have been confirmed for the period following the total and targeted confinement.

The phenomenon of robberies and thefts under threat and violence intensified during July as much as during the previous month.

And because it is difficult to quantify the phenomenon of violence in a definitive figure through a working sample covering what is published in paper and electronic newspapers, audio-visual sites and social networks, the cases of violence that were recorded during the month of July do not necessarily reflect the reality of the state of brutality in the country. This violence has confirmed its presence in all three spaces: first, the public space, second, the family space and third, the head offices of the administrations.



The July 2020 report showed that the majority of aggressors were male with a rate of 87.2% and individual violence came first with a rate of 61.5%, followed by collective violence at 38.5%.

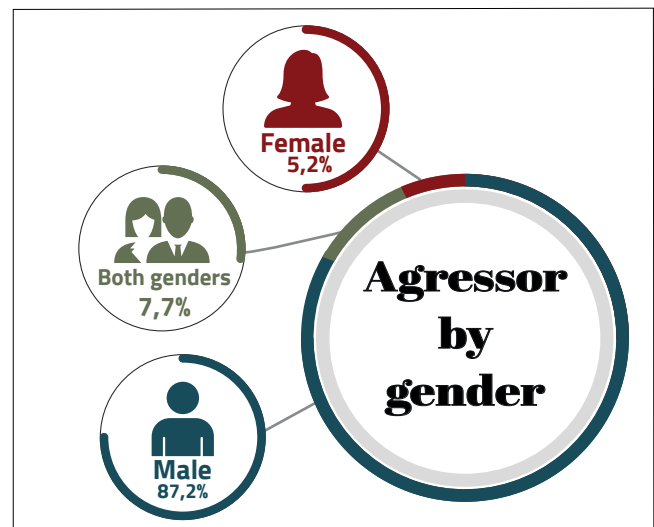
Criminal violence is at the forefront of the violence observed, with about a third of the acts of violence recorded.

It should be noted through the cases of violence that were observed throughout the month of July that social networks (Facebook) have represented a space to attract victims of sexual assault and among the cases observed, the harassment of a hundred children by an adult via Facebook and the 16-year-old girl who was lured via the web and raped without forgetting the rape of a child by a fifty-year-old who diverted his destination to his café to rape him. There was also a case of an 11-year-old child raping a 10-year-old girl.

Domestic violence was also present through the aggression until the death of a father in front of his 13 year old child by his wife with a stick in the region of E Jaouf in Hammam El-Zriba (Zaghouan) this was the most aggressive case reflecting the state of domestic violence that can exist in a space supposed to be the safest space for the family and the child.

There have also been assaults and cases of violence leading to death for sometimes trivial reasons, reflecting the state of scolding that characterizes the public space as well as the culture of violence that has permeated the behavior of individuals.

A simple dispute over the theft of a mobile phone with his cousin claimed the life of a young man in the El-Jehina neighborhood of Kairouan.

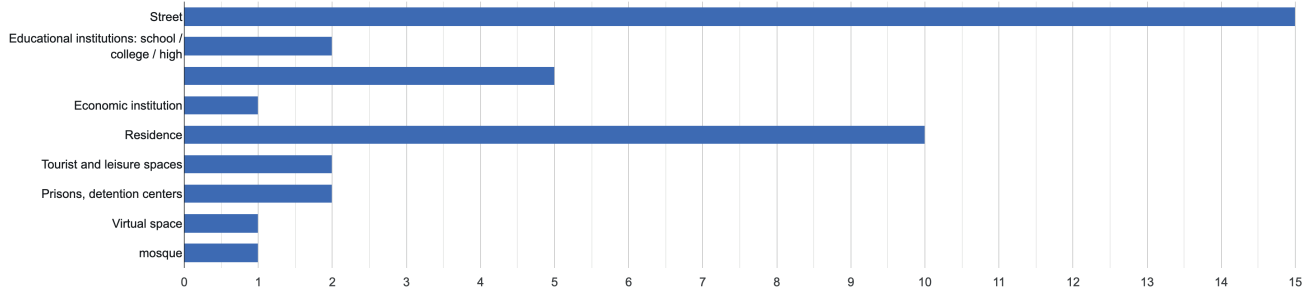


A young man was stabbed in the groin by his neighbor after an argument over the abuser's coarse language outside his neighbor's house.

This state of congestion and culture of violence has turned several encounters at alcohol parties into crime scenes between friends.

The head offices of institutions have not been spared violence either, in a context of the spread of a culture of violence in the streets and in the behavior of individuals, nor have they been isolated from the growing discourse of violence and hatred that has become characteristic of the public space and political debate fuelled by a complex economic and social crisis that has been aggravated by the Corona pandemic.

Intensity of violence by space



Furthermore, a loss of around 7% of economic growth and its impact on the level of unemployment, redundancies and the closure of economic institutions, will double the levels of collective and individual violence, increase the level of congestion in the public space, which will have a cost in the family space.

Conclusion

If the political class and the new government do not put an end to the general instability, conflicts and political tensions that the country has been witnessing for more than a month, the Tunisian Forum for Economic and Social Rights foresees that the social situation will evolve towards more tension and grumbling.

Moreover, the repercussions of the period of total containment imposed by the Corona virus, which has continued to spread, will only increase the seriousness of the various social groups' situation, particularly the most vulnerable and the most important actors of the various protest movements that are being experienced in the different governorates of the Republic.

New scientific calculation methodology:

As of March, the Tunisian Social Observatory of the Tunisian Forum for Economic and Social Rights has adopted a new methodology of scientific calculation, the bases of which are as follows:

Definitions:

Instantaneous movements: characterized by the surprise and speed of movement resulting from the anger of the crowd and the rumble it generates but are limited in time and space. This type of movement seeks to mobilize attention and social mobilization and is characterized by its peaceful nature. However, these movements vary in the parameters of protest development, including the use of violence.

Planned movements: movements which were essentially immediate but which changed and developed mechanisms of action in time and space and were able to acquire the capacity to organize and prepare for and seek to develop counter-mobilization but remain essentially peaceful. They are distinguished by their organizational means and their capacity to ensure its continuous action and mobilization for the same reasons.

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Violent movements: these are movements that make use of counter-violence as one of their mechanisms of action and are often direct reactions employing all means for confrontation and the achievement of their objectives, but they often lack clear organisational elements, programs and means.

The methodology of Calculation:

The uniqueness of a movement is defined by a mode of action, a place and a day.

A protest taking place in several places will be counted as several movements.

A movement taking place over several days will be counted each day.

A protest using different action modes will be counted once for each action.