



Yesh Din

Volunteers for Human Rights

Yesh Din releases new data sheet: Law Enforcement on Israeli Civilians in the West Bank (Settler Violence) 2005-2022

February 6, 2023

Yesh Din has released our newest [data sheet](#) presenting updated findings following 18 years of monitoring police investigations of offenses committed by Israeli civilians against Palestinians and their property in the West Bank, based on 1,597 investigations conducted between 2005 and 2022. [Yesh Din has documented hundreds more incidents of settler violence in which the Palestinian victims chose not to file complaints].

The release of this datasheet follows a period of intense settler violence, during which Yesh Din received reports of at least 12 incidents of attacks in the past 10 days. Yesterday, the New York Times [published an article](#) on settler violence under the new era of Israel's far-right government, which is based heavily on data provided by Yesh Din, including from the new datasheet.



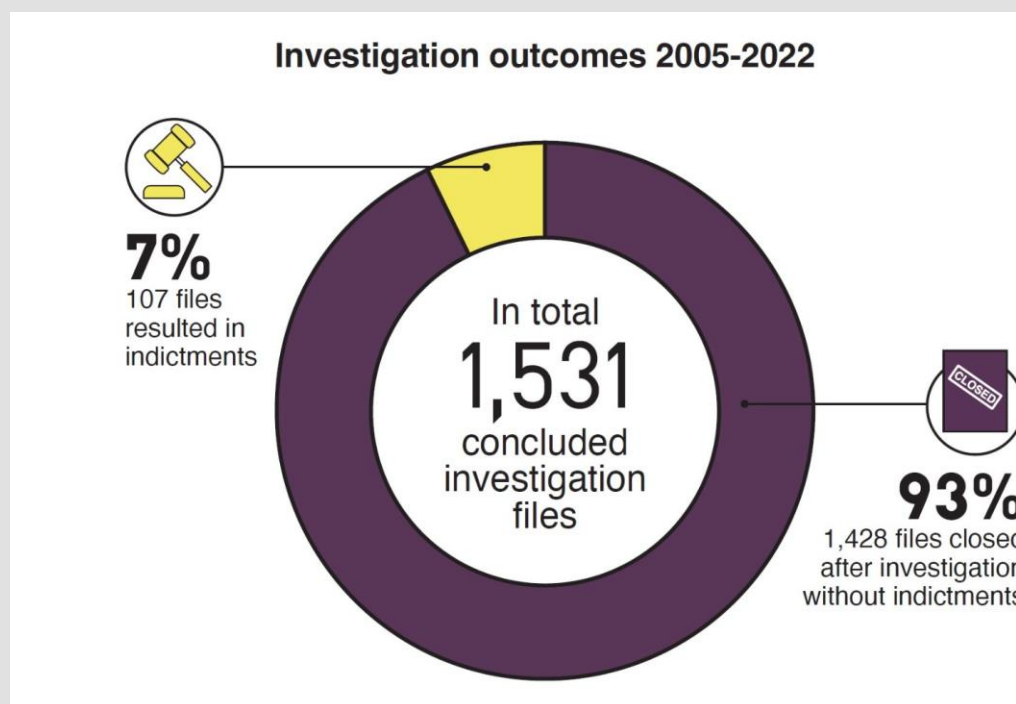
In Turmusayya, a destroyed car and severely damaged home following a settler arson attack on the night of January 28. Photo: Turmusayya resident.

Central findings detailed in the datasheet – of all complaints monitored by Yesh Din between 2005-2022:

- The Israel police failed in the investigation of 81.5% of the investigative files opened between 2005-2022 concerning crimes committed by Israelis against Palestinians and their property.
- 93% of all investigative files were closed with no indictment filed against the offenders.
- Since 2005, only 3% of investigations opened into cases of Israeli ideological crime against Palestinians have resulted in convictions.

The discriminatory practices of the Israel police have also been revealed in data the police provided Yesh Din pursuant to Freedom of Information requests:

- The chance that an indictment will be filed against an Israeli who hurt a non-Palestinian in the West Bank (security forces or others) is 2.5 times higher than in a case in which the victim of the crime is Palestinian.



Following 18 years of documenting and monitoring police investigations into incidents of settler violence, Yesh Din concludes:

Israel continues to fail in its duty to protect the local population in the West Bank as stipulated in the Fourth Geneva Convention. The shortcomings of Israeli law enforcement are clearly visible in every phase of the treatment of ideological crime against Palestinians: ineffective prevention, inadequate criminal investigations, low rate of

indictment and unreasonably lenient sentences for those few who are eventually convicted. All of these factors create a lack of deterrence for criminals and leave Palestinians in occupied territory defenseless in the face of attacks against them by Israelis.

The fact that this systemic failure has persisted for at least two decades indicates that this is deliberate policy of the State of Israel, which normalizes ideological settler violence against Palestinians in the West Bank, supports it and then reaps the rewards resulting from it.

[Click here for the datasheet](#)

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