

## **The six-month report for the first half of 2024 from Kolbarnews**

The statistics for the first six months of 2024 have been published by Kolbarnews, coinciding with the Islamic Republic of Iran's second round of the 14th farcical presidential election. After the helicopter crash involving Ebrahim Raisi and his team on Sunday, May 19, 2024, the regime attempted to hold what it deemed a magnificent election with maximum public participation. All factions of the regime employed various tricks to draw people to the polls.

A few days after this electoral charade and the vote count, the regime announced a national participation rate of approximately 40 to 42 percent, which is unreliable. The lowest participation rates were recorded in Tehran and Kurdistan provinces at about 23 percent. The participation rates in Kermanshah, West Azerbaijan, Ilam, and "Sistan and Baluchistan" were 32.79%, 40.12%, 47%, and 30%, respectively. Participation in other provinces was similarly low.

These statistics send a powerful message to the people of Iran, the criminal Islamic regime, and the world: the Jina revolution is alive and well, and the revolutionary people of Iran, especially in Kurdistan and Baluchistan, have long rejected this regime, finding it illegitimate. Neither government reformists nor any other internal regime force can delude the revolutionary populace.

The participation rates and figures are far lower than the regime claims. Nevertheless, even by these numbers, the revolutionary people across Iran have said "no" to the regime and are demanding its overthrow.

Capitalism, as a global order with flawed and violent political-economic structures and state-centric systems as its enforcers, has deprived the majority of the world's people of a decent human life and equal access to resources. This has led to numerous crises and human phenomena, including the "Kolbari" in Kurdistan.

Poverty, unemployment, environmental destruction, militarization, denial and erasure of identity, lack of investment, discrimination, and the regime's security-oriented approach to border regions are factors that have led to Kolbari as an unstable and unsafe livelihood in Kurdistan.

In the absence of job opportunities and investment in Kurdistan, a wide range of people, including unemployed workers, graduates, breadwinning women, youth, the sick, the elderly, and border laborers, have been forced into Kolbari.

Kolbars face numerous dangers while traversing treacherous mountains, including landmines, falls from heights, accidents, and direct military fire.

The Islamic regime, representing the global capitalist order in Iran, is directly responsible for the turn to kolbari in Kurdistan through discriminatory policies, identity denial, the spread of poverty, and deliberate underdevelopment of Kurdistan for security and political reasons, and environmental destruction. The regime is not only directly responsible for this situation but also accountable for the ruthless killing of Kolbars. In the three years of Ebrahim Raisi's presidency, from August 3, 2021, to May 19, 2024, a total of 904 kolbars have been killed or injured.

The aforementioned statistics, along with the ones below, illustrate the depth of the tragedy within Kurdish society under the oppressive Islamic regime. The killing of Kolbars by border forces, as a symbol of state terrorism, has continued to increase in recent years. In the current circumstances, silence in the face of the Kolbars' slaughter is unacceptable. Workers, the oppressed people of Kurdistan, activists, labor movement leaders, and all freedom fighters must unite against this atrocity and fight to eradicate Kolbari and establish a humane society.



English

**We draw your attention to the statistics collected by Kolbarnews:**

Based on statistics recorded by Kolbarnews, a **total of 270** Kolbars were killed or injured in the border areas and inter-road routes of West Azerbaijan, Kurdistan, and Kermanshah provinces during the first half of 2024. The incidents were due to factors such as direct shooting by regime military forces, avalanches, frostbite, stepping on landmines, falling from mountains and heights, and other causes.

❖ Of these, 34 Kolbars (13%) were killed and 236 Kolbars (87%) were injured.

❖ **There was a 218% increase in the number of Kolbars killed and injured compared to the first half of 2023.**

❖ Out of the 270 Kolbars who were killed or injured in the first half of 2024, 222 cases (82%) were due to direct shooting or physical assault by regime military forces.

❖ **Among the 270 Kolbars who were killed or injured in the first half of 2024, 20 were children under 18 years old.**

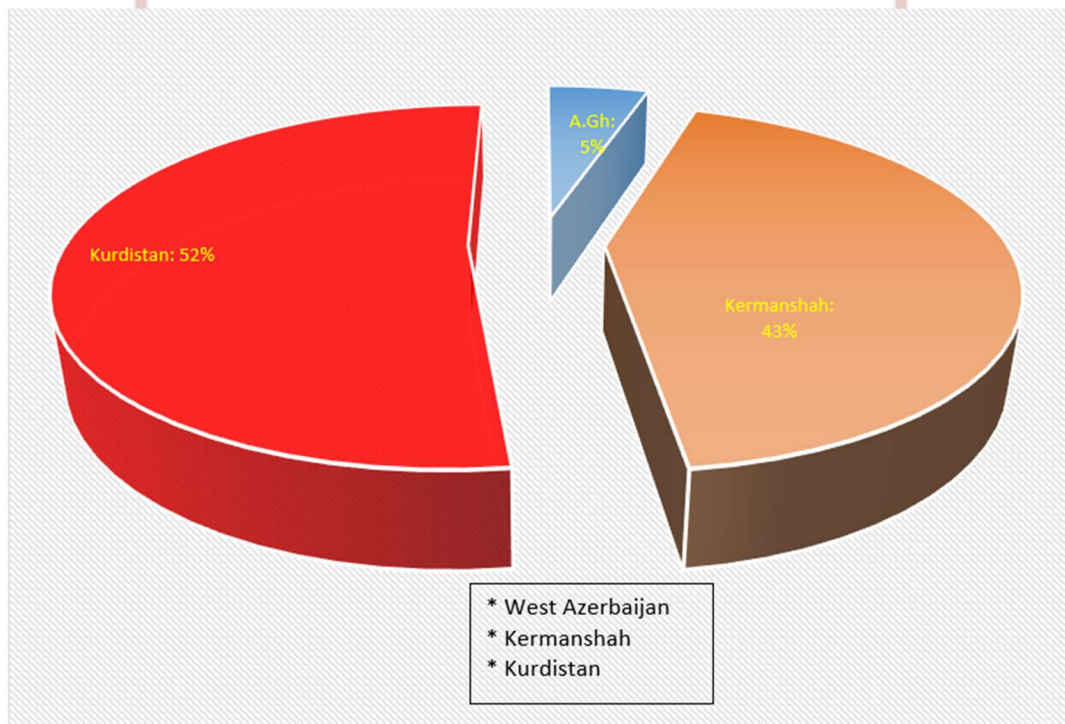
- The details of the fatalities are as follows:
  - Out of the 34 Kolbars who were killed:
    - 25 were due to direct shooting by regime military forces.
    - 1 was due to direct shooting by Iraqi border forces.
    - 3 were due to frostbite.
    - 1 was due to other causes such as a heart attack while Kolbari.
    - 1 was due to a road accident while Kolbari.
    - 3 were due to falling from mountains while Kolbari.
- The details of the injuries are as follows:
  - Out of the 236 Kolbars who were injured:
    - 176 were due to direct shooting by regime military forces.
    - 8 were due to falling from mountains and heights.
    - 4 were due to landmine explosions.
    - 15 were due to physical assault by regime border forces.
    - 13 were due to physical assault by Iraqi border forces.

- 10 were due to road accidents while Kolbari.
  - 10 were due to other causes.
- The number of Kolbars killed and injured in the first half of 2024, broken down by province, is as follows:
- In the borders of Kurdistan province, a total of 141 Kolbars (52%) were killed or injured.
  - In the borders of Kermanshah province, a total of 116 Kolbars (43%) were killed or injured.
  - In the borders of West Azerbaijan province, a total of 13 Kolbars (5%) were killed or injured.

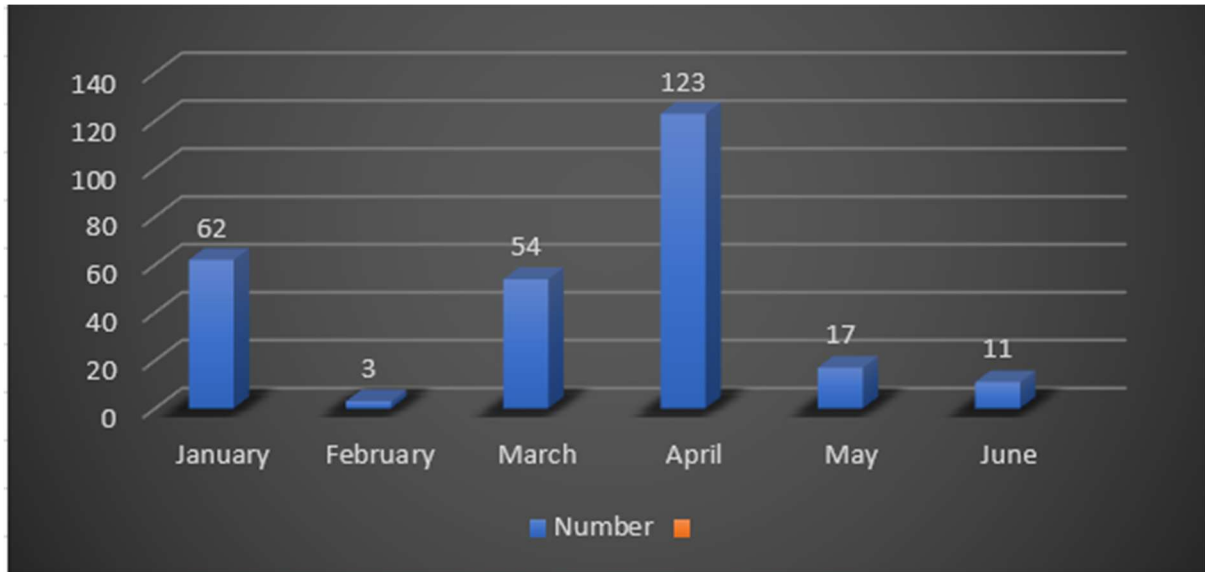
The statistics of Kolbars who were killed or injured in the first half of 2024, broken down by month, are as follows:

Month	January	February	March	April	May	June
Number	62	3	54	123	17	11
Percent	23%	1%	20%	46%	6%	4%

The chart for Kolbars killed and injured in the first half of 2024, broken down by province, is as follows:



The chart for Kolbars who were killed or injured in the first half of 2024, broken down by month, is as follows:



**Here are the official pages for Kolbarnews:**

Persian Website: <https://www.kolbarnews.com>

English Website: <https://en.kolbarnews.com>

Kurdish Website: <http://ku.kolbarnews.com>

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