

Attacks on Health Care

Bi-Monthly News Brief

15-28 June
2022

Past editions: [01-14 June](#); [18-31 May](#); [04-17 May](#); [20 April-03 May](#); [06-19 April](#); [All](#). Help support the protection of health care by sharing this resource. Please copy and paste this link: bit.ly/15-28June2022HealthBMNB

Please [get in touch](#) if you are interested in curated datasets or if you have made a public statement that you would like us to include in our Bi Monthly News Brief.

Explore our [Attacked and Threatened: Health Care at Risk](#) interactive global map to see incidents where health workers were killed, kidnapped or injured, incidents where health facilities were damaged or destroyed, who the perpetrators were and the weapons used. The data on the map is as of 06 July 2022.

How to use the map:

- Click on a country to show key statistics on perpetrators of violence, weapons use, the number of health workers killed, injured and kidnapped (KIK), and health facilities damaged or destroyed.
- Zoom in on a country to show yellow squares. Click on these to display the incident description.

SHCC Attacks on Health Care

The section aligns with the [definition](#) of attacks on health care used by the [Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition](#) (SHCC).



Unrelenting Violence

Out now: The 2021 SHCC report 'Unrelenting Violence' on attacks on health care in 2021 with country factsheets available for: [Afghanistan](#), [Burkina Faso](#), [CAR](#), [DRC](#), [Ethiopia](#), [Haiti](#), [Mali](#), [Myanmar](#), [Nigeria](#), [oPt](#), [South Sudan](#), [Sudan](#), [Syria](#) and [Yemen](#).

Alternatively, you can download the [Full Report](#) or the [Executive Summary](#).

Download the data cited in the report on [HDX](#).

Africa

Burkina Faso

22 June 2022: In Bogande town and department, Gnagna province, Est region, armed men intercepted an ambulance along the Fada-Diapangou axis. The driver was released a few hours later. **Source:** [Infowakat](#)

Violence against or obstruction of health care in Burkina Faso in 2021

According to the SHCC, a sharp increase in health worker kidnappings was seen in 2021, with at least 36 cases, compared to two in 2020. Most occurred in the last four months of the year. Health workers were abducted in small groups, often while travelling to provide health care to remote areas of the country. Four kidnapped health workers were killed by their ISWAP captors. Read the full factsheet [here](#).

Cameroon

10 June 2022: In Mamfe city, Manyu division, Southwest region, suspected separatist fighters burned down the district hospital, depriving 85,000 people of access to health care. **Source:** [Human Rights Watch](#)

As reported on 25 June 2022: In Mabanda suburb, Kumba town, Meme department, Southwest region, a team of MSF workers was stopped at a checkpoint and returned to Kumba, where it was quizzed for several hours by members of the gendarmerie brigade. The team were eventually allowed to return to Buea city where it had obtained the permission to deliver medicine and medical equipment in Meme. **Source:** [HumAngle](#)

Violence against or obstruction of health care in Cameroon

So far in 2022, eight conflict-related attacks on health care have been reported - two more than reported in the whole of 2021. During 2020, the SHCC reported [17 conflict-related attacks](#) on health care in Cameroon. See our [global map](#) for data on Cameroon by choosing 'Conflict', zooming in on the country, clicking on the country and selecting the desired data range. Click on the yellow squares to read about the incident. The data on the map is as of 06 July 2022 and does not include incidents reported in this news brief.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

13 June 2022: In Baraka-Mushimbakye, Fizi territory, South Kivu province, an armed group attacked Mshimbakye hospital, looted medicines and beat civilians. **Source:** [Infos Urbaines](#)

19 June 2022: In Rwanguba town, North Kivu province, the local hospital was evacuated and patients transferred to another general hospital in Rutshuru town due to ongoing fighting between the Congolese army and M23 rebels in nearby areas. **Source:** [Radio Okapi](#)

21 June 2022: In Oicha-Mabasele village, North Kivu province, suspected Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) rebels attacked the village, pillaging a pharmacy and killing four civilians. **Source:** [Radio Moto](#)

24 June 2022: In Samboko-Tchanitchani village, Beni territory, North Kivu, suspected ADF rebels ransacked the village, pillaging a pharmacy and killing seven civilians and kidnapping 16 others. **Sources:** [Actualité](#), [Radio Moto](#) and [Radio Okapi](#)

27 June 2022: In Bunia city, Ituri province, a building storing medical equipment worth around two million USDs was destroyed by a fire of unknown origin. The medical equipment consisted of refrigerated vaccines intended to inoculate locals against COVID-19, poliomyelitis, measles, the whooping cough, yellow fever, and tuberculosis, amongst others. As a result, most health zones in the province will be deprived of vaccine supplies. **Source:** [Radio Okapi](#)

Mali

12 June 2022: In Aglal village, Tombouctou region, gunmen vandalised and looted medicine from a health centre. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Nigeria

10 June 2022: In Abakaliki city, Ebonyi state, gunmen attacked and killed with a machete the Chairman of the Hospital branch of the Enugu Welfare Association and staff of the Alex Ekwueme Federal University Teaching Hospital. The next day, his body was found near his car on Ojeowerri Street. **Source:** [The Nation](#)

21 June 2022: Along the Geregu-Ajaokuta stretch of the Geregy Ajaokuta-Lokoja road, Kogi state, unidentified perpetrators kidnapped a doctor as she was returning from an official assignment in Anyigba town. She was released unharmed on 25 June. **Source:** [Daily Post](#)

25 June 2022: Between Ero Dam and the Ekiti State Farm Settlement, Idi-Osi LGA, Ikiti state, seven gunmen kidnapped a pharmacist whilst he was working on his farm. He was released a few hours later after paying a ransom of NGN4.5 million. **Sources:** [Daily Post](#) and [Vanguard](#)

As reported on 28 June 2022: Along the Gusau-Dansadau Road, Mashayar Zaki area, Maru LGA, Zamfara state, armed bandits kidnapped the Chief Medical Doctor of the Dansadau General Hospital. **Source:** [The Heritage Times](#)

Violence against or obstruction of health care in Nigeria in 2021

According to the SHCC, at least 30 health workers were kidnapped in 2021. A quarter of kidnappings took place in Kaduna state - a change from 2020, when most were reported in Katsina state. Health workers were kidnapped on their own or in small groups, either from health facilities, when travelling to or from work, or when working in the field. Four of the 30 kidnapped health workers were killed by their captors. Read the full factsheet [here](#).

Somalia

13 June 2022: In Mogadishu, a government soldier fatally shot a tuk-tuk driver at a checkpoint in the Digfer neighbourhood. The victim was operating a local clinic. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Sudan

As reported on 16 June 2022: In Abbasiya locality, South Kordofan state, three armed men raped a nurse at gunpoint and assaulted teachers, as they stormed a clinic. **Source:** [Radio Dabanga](#)

Asia

Afghanistan

Around 08 June 2022: In Dasht-e-Barche area, Kabul city, Taliban members arrested and reportedly tortured a doctor over photos of the dead guerilla commander Ahmad Shah Masoud that were found on his phone. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

20 June 2022: In Shergar Bazaar area, Shinwar district, Nangarhar province, an IS-planted IED targeted a Taliban health official's vehicle and exploded. The vehicle was carrying the district health chief who was a doctor. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Myanmar

31 May 2022: In Laung Shay area, Saw township, Magway division, military forces arrested a health worker from the Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM), and tortured him during interrogation, leading to his death. His wife, an educator, was also arrested. **Source:** [DVB](#)

02 June 2022: In an undisclosed location, a health worker was kidnapped and killed. **Source:** [WHOSSA](#)¹

05 June 2022: In an undisclosed location, a health worker was detained. **Source:** [WHOSSA](#)¹

09 June 2022: In Ingabo village, Kyaikto township, Thaton district, Mon state, an armed group opened fire on a moving ambulance belonging to the Sittaung Social Relief Association, killing one team member, and wounding another. **Source:** [DVB](#) and [WHOSSA](#)¹

14 June 2022: In Peit Thin Kap village, Yesagyo township, Magway region, the bodies of three CDM members, including a 27-year-old female senior nurse, a 54-year-old headmaster, and a 28-year-old pregnant teacher, were found burned following their violent arrest and torture by military forces during raids across villages. **Sources:** [DVB](#), [Myanmar Now](#) and [WHOSSA](#)¹

21 June 2022: In an undisclosed location, violence against a health facility was reported. **Source:** [WHOSSA](#)¹

Visit our [website](#) for further resources on Myanmar.

Pakistan

28 June 2022: In North Waziristan district, Bannu division, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, unidentified gunmen on motorcycles opened fire on a polio vaccination team during a United Nations-funded door-to-door inoculation campaign, killing a health care worker and two policemen. A passerby also got wounded. **Source:** [Al Jazeera](#)

When vaccine hesitancy turns violent

Incidents of critical violence against vaccination campaigns have remained a regular feature since 2016, although COVID-19 restrictions may have (at least partly) been responsible for a decrease in incidents in 2020 due to the temporary suspension of vaccination rollouts. According to our data the most frequent targets of these attacks are polio vaccination campaigns.

Vaccination campaigns are particularly frequently violently attacked in Pakistan and Afghanistan, which are the only two countries in the world where polio has remained endemic. However, the phenomenon is widening, targeting vaccination campaigns against other diseases including COVID-19, measles, cholera, ebola and malaria. Read this blog on the [RIAH website](#) or download as a [PDF](#).

Europe

Ukraine

Latest data release

The 24 February-29 June 2022 data on incidents of violence against or obstruction of health care in Ukraine is now available for download on [HDX](#) or to explore on our [interactive map](#). **Our data includes available information on who the perpetrators were and what weapons were used. We are currently carrying out a verification process against other sources.** Join our [Ukraine mailing list](#) for regular updates.

Middle East North Africa

Iraq

22 June 2022: In the Ashar area, Basrah city, militants shot and killed a pharmacist at a hospital in a suspected tribal-motivated attack. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Occupied Palestinian Territories

17 June 2022: In Nablus city and governorate, West Bank, a Palestinian Red Crescent ambulance was hit by a teargas canister amid clashes between Palestinian anti-settlement demonstrators and Israeli forces and settlers. **Source:** [The New Arab](#).

New Report: 15 years of blockade and collective punishment of patients in Gaza

This new report by [MAP](#) and [Al Mezan Center for Human Rights](#), highlights how Israel's 15-year illegal closure and blockade, and repeated military attacks, have degraded Gaza's healthcare system and routinely prevented patients from accessing essential care. Read the full report [here](#).

According to the SHCC, 61 Palestinian health workers were injured in 2021, mostly in the context of protests against the construction of settlements in the West Bank. Health workers were often blocked from reaching the injured and had stones thrown at them by Israeli settlers while providing emergency care to injured Palestinians. Obstructions at checkpoints and routine delays and denials of permits to allow patients to leave Gaza or the West Bank to receive medical care elsewhere were reported throughout the year. Read the full factsheet [here](#).

Syrian Arab Republic

12 June 2022: At Al-Hol camp, Al Hasakah governorate, unidentified armed individuals kidnapped a Kurdish Red Crescent aid worker. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

15 June 2022: In Raqqa city and governorate, Syrian Democratic Forces militants broke into a pharmacy and arrested the owner's daughter. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

Yemen

14 June 2022: In Taizz city and governorate, armed men opened fire at the front gate of the Riyadh Hospital, injuring several hospital staff and killing a security guard. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

The Americas

Colombia

13 June 2022: In Tumaco city, Narino department, armed men entered the San Andres Hospital, and shot dead two patients who had been admitted for gunshot injuries earlier that day. The perpetrators then fled the facility on a motorcycle. **Source:** [El Tiempo](#)

Global Health Insecurity

These events go beyond the definition used by the SHCC to cover a wider range of events that affect the provision of health care including events perpetrated by patients or relatives of patients, private individuals and criminals as well as significant strike action or protests by health care personnel.

The Americas

United States of America

24 June 2022: In Little Rock city, Palusko county, Arkansas state, an abortion clinic shut its doors and turned away patients following the Supreme Court ruling that removed the constitutional right to abortion. **Source:** [BBC](#)

¹ Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) [database attribution policy](#). Accessed 29 June 2022.

² WHOSSA accessed 29 June 2022.

This Bi-Monthly News Brief comprises threats and violence as well as protests and other events affecting the delivery of and access to health care. It is part of the Attacks on Health Care project by Insecurity Insight. It is prepared from information available in local, national and international news outlets and online databases. The incidents reported are not a complete nor a representative list of all events that affected the provision of health care and have not been independently verified. All decisions made, on the basis of, or with consideration to, such information remains the responsibility of their respective organisations. This document is funded and supported by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) of the UK government through the RIAH project at the Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute at the University of Manchester, the European Commission through the 'Ending violence against healthcare in conflict' project .and by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of Insecurity Insight and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID, the U.S. Government, the European Commission, the FCDO or Save the Children Federation, Inc **Insecurity Insight. 2022. Attacks on Health Care Bi-Monthly News Brief, 15-28 June 2022. Switzerland: Insecurity Insight. bit.ly/15-28June2022HealthBMNB**

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