

Attacks on Health Care

Bi-Monthly News Brief

28 June-11
July 2023

Over 800 Attacks on Health Care So Far in 2023

Monitoring by Insecurity Insight has identified at least 824 attacks on health care in 53 countries and territories between 01 January and 25 June 2023. In these incidents, health facilities have been damaged over 200 times and 155 health workers have been killed, 52 kidnapped, 163 injured and 88 arrested. High incident numbers have been reported in Ukraine (245), Myanmar (170), Sudan (111) and the occupied Palestinian territories (71). Download this data on [HDX](#).

Informing Policy Making at the UN and Beyond with Insecurity Insight Data

Our data on attacks on health care was cited earlier this summer in the United Nations Secretary-General's report *Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict*. Among other observations, it highlighted the persistence of violence "against medical personnel and facilities" in 2022 in countries and territories affected by conflict based on our data. The full report can be viewed [here](#).

Past News Brief editions: [14-27 June](#); [31 May-13 June](#); [17-30 May](#); [03-16 May](#); [19 April-02 May](#); [05-18 April](#); [All](#).

Please [get in touch](#) if you are interested in curated datasets, if you have made a public statement that you would like us to include in our Bi Monthly News Brief, to report an incident or if you have additional information on an incident we have reported on. Visit our [website](#), join our [mailing list](#). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Help support the protection of health care by sharing this resource. Please copy and paste this link: bit.ly/28Jun-11Jul2023HealthBMNB

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).

Africa

Burkina Faso

05 July 2023: In Doro town, Seno province, Sahel region, an ambulance driver was shot and injured by suspected IS Sahel militants who stole his motorcycle. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Mali

03 July 202: Between Dia and Diafarabe, Tenenkou commune, Mopti region, an ambulance driver transporting a woman in child-birth was killed by Wagner forces during a large-scale patrol in the area conducted by FAMa and Wagner forces. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

05 July 2023: In Ambiri village, Youwarou commune, Mopti region, four health workers were kidnapped by suspected JNIM militants. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Somalia

11 July 2023: In Las Anod city and district, Sool region, Somaliland, the lab department of a hospital was hit amid a wider attack by the Somaliland military. Dozens of people were killed and injured, including health workers and patients. Two ambulances were destroyed. **Source:** [Garowe I](#), [Garowe II](#) and [Garowe III](#)

Sudan

Attacks on Health Care in Sudan

Incident reports: [28 Jun-11 Jul](#); [14-27 Jun](#); [17 May-13 Jun](#); [27 Apr-16 May](#); [All](#)
SHCC Sudan Factsheet. Available in [Arabic](#) and [English](#). Access the data on [HDX](#).

Asia

Afghanistan

28 June 2023: In Mazar-e-Sharif city, Balkh province, a midwife was severely beaten by three Taliban members who accused the midwife of causing the death of a Taliban member's baby during its delivery in Abu Ali Sina-e Balkhi Hospital. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Myanmar

Attacks on Health Care in Myanmar

Incident reports: [28 Jun-11 Jul](#); [14-27 Jun](#); [31 May-13 Jun](#); [17-30 May](#); [03-16 May](#); [All](#)
Safeguarding Health in Conflict Myanmar Factsheet: [2022](#); [2021](#). Access the dataset on [HDX](#).

Europe

Ukraine

Attacks on Health Data in Ukraine

At least 972 attacks on Ukraine's health care system have been documented between 24 February 2022 and 10 June 2023. Explore this [interactive map](#) (available in English and Ukrainian) to see incidents where health facilities were damaged or destroyed in Ukraine since February 2022.

Middle East and North Africa

Iran

26 June 2023: In an unspecified prison facility, Kermanshah province, an imprisoned Kurdish women's rights activist is being denied access to health care by Iranian authorities. Throughout her detention she has endured physical abuse and threats of sexual violence and currently has breathing difficulties and a worsening eye condition believed to be the result of torture-induced injuries. **Source:** [Amnesty International](#) and [Medya News](#)

Occupied Palestinian Territories

19 June 2023: In Jenin city and governorate, West Bank, Israeli forces targeted three ambulances with live ammunition. One of the vehicles received five bullets. Another one was rammed from behind by an Israeli military vehicle. Its crew members were forced out of the vehicle, causing a delay in the transportation of an injured patient. **Source:** [Personal Communication](#)

20 June 2023: In Huwara town, Nablus governorate, West Bank, a PRCS ambulance caught fire after being hit with a teargas grenade by Israeli forces. **Source:** [Personal Communication](#)

20 June 2023: In Nablus governorate, West Bank, Israeli settlers prevented a PRCS ambulance from reaching Beit Furik village, throwing stones and assaulting its crew. **Source:** [Personal Communication](#)

21 June 2023: In Ramallah/Al-Bireh governorate, Israeli settlers prevented a PRCS ambulance from reaching Turmusayya village, firing shots in the air and threatening its crew. **Source:** [Personal Communication](#)

03-04 July 2023: In the Jenin Refugee Camp, Jenin city and governorate, West Bank, hospitals were hit during a large-scale military operation by Israeli forces. **Source:** [Al Jazeera](#)

03-04 July 2023: In the Jenin Refugee Camp, Jenin city and governorate, West Bank, Israeli forces conducting a military operation restricted the entry and exit of vehicles, including ambulances, forcing paramedics to enter the camp on foot to provide first aid to casualties. Moreover, as about 3.9 kilometres of roads in and around the camp had been destroyed, ambulances were unable to reach and provide assistance to the injured. **Sources:** [Global Security](#), [Mondoweiss](#), [OCHA I](#) and [OCHA II](#), [Personal Communication I](#), [Personal Communication II](#)

03-04 July 2023: In the Jenin Refugee Camp, Jenin city and governorate, West Bank, Israeli forces confiscated the keys of two ambulances belonging to the PRCS, and seized the mobile phones of staff who were trying to respond to an emergency call. **Sources:** [MAP](#) and [Mondoweiss](#)

03-04 July 2023: In the Jenin Refugee Camp, Jenin city and governorate, West Bank, Israeli forces obstructed a PRCS ambulance carrying a pregnant woman in labour on its way to hospital. **Source:** [MAP](#)

03 July 2023: In the Jenin Refugee Camp, Jenin city and governorate, West Bank, several teargas canisters fired by Israeli forces conducting a military operation landed inside the courtyards of the Jenin Governmental Hospital. **Sources:** [OCHA](#) and [Quds News Network](#)

03 July 2023: In the Jenin Refugee Camp, Jenin city and governorate, West Bank, all UNRWA installations, including one health centre and four schools, were unable to operate due to exchange of fire between Israeli forces and Palestinians. **Source:** [UNRWA](#)

04 July 2023: In the Jenin Refugee Camp, Jenin city and governorate, West Bank, Israeli forces stormed the Jenin Governmental Hospital, firing live ammunition inside, and injuring at least three Palestinians, two seriously. **Sources:** [MAP](#), [Personal Communication I](#), [Personal Communication II](#)

04 July 2023: In the Jenin Refugee Camp, Jenin city and governorate, West Bank, Israeli forces stormed the Ibn Sina Hospital, firing live ammunition inside. **Source:** [MAP](#)

04 July 2023: In the Jenin Refugee Camp, Jenin city and governorate, West Bank, Israeli forces fired teargas several times inside the Khalil Suleiman Hospital, rendering the Emergency Room unusable due to smoke. **Sources:** [MSF International I](#) and [MSF International II](#)

MAP providing bulletproof vests and helmets to PRCS emergency teams amid recurrent attacks on health workers

Amid a serious rise in attacks on frontline health workers in the occupied West Bank this year, [Medical Aid for Palestinians \(MAP\)](#) has agreed to supply bulletproof vests to Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) emergency medical teams as they continue to provide life-saving medical care to Palestinians impacted by escalating Israeli settler and military violence. Melanie Ward, MAP's CEO, said: "We have taken this unprecedented step in response to an urgent call from Palestinian health workers for protection from the violence they face in the line of duty". MAP is calling for the international community to take urgent action to address attacks against Palestinian health workers, including by ensuring that violations of international law are met with meaningful accountability. In 2022, the SHCC identified 171 incidents of violence against or obstruction of health care in the oPt. At least 136 health workers were injured, and patients' access to health care was obstructed at least 60 times. Violence resulted in the temporary closure of health facilities, and health care was interrupted during hospital raids. Factsheet available in [Arabic](#) and [English](#)

Yemen

04 July 2023: In Al Qarn, Abyan governorate, AQAP militants detonated an IED targeting an ambulance of the Support and Reinforcement Brigades (SRB) forces, injuring three fighters and a civilian. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

The Americas

Haiti

06 July 2023: In Tabarre neighbourhood, Port-au-Prince, around 20 armed men entered the MSF hospital, forcibly removing a patient being treated for gunshot wounds from the operating room.

Sources: [Doctors Without Borders](#) and [OCHA](#)

Global Health Insecurity

These events affect the provision of health care but are not directly conflict related. These include events perpetrated by patients, relatives of patients, private individuals and criminals as well as significant strike action or protests by health care personnel.

Europe

Sweden

As reported on 28 June 2023: The hacker group Anonymous Sudan has targeted nine hospitals.

Source: [Falcon Feedsio](#)

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 part of the Attacks on Health Care project by Insecurity Insight. It 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, by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and by the Tides Foundation. The opinions expressed in it do not reflect in any way the position of the UK government, USAID, the U.S. Government or the Tides Foundation who are not responsible for the content expressed in this document.

Insecurity Insight. 2023. Attacks on Health Care Bi-Monthly News Brief, 28 June-11 July 2023. Switzerland: Insecurity Insight. bit.ly/28Jun-11Jul2023HealthBMNB

¹ Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) [database attribution policy](#). Accessed 13 July 2023.

