

Attacks on Health Care

Bi-Monthly News Brief

23 August-05
September
2023

Past News Brief editions: [09-22 August](#); [26 July-08 August](#); [12-25 July](#); [28 June-11 July](#); [14-27 June](#); [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. Join our [mailing list](#).

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<https://bit.ly/23Aug-05Sept2023HealthBMNB>

Data on incidents of violence affecting health care between 01 January 2016 to 22 August 2023 is available for download on [HDX](#). Registered HDX user? [Follow us](#) for the latest dataset updates.

The Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition's (SHCC) [annual](#) report documented 1,989 attacks and threats against health care facilities and personnel across 32 countries and territories in armed conflict and situations of political violence in 2022.

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

Central African Republic

26 August 2023: In Batangafo town, Ouham-Fafa prefecture, MSF staff were attacked by members of an armed group. **Source:** [MSF](#)

30 August 2023: In Batangafo town, Ouham-Fafa prefecture, MSF staff were attacked by members of an armed group. **Source:** [MSF](#)

01 September 2023: On the outskirts of Batangafo town, Ouham-Fafa prefecture, violent robberies against MSF staff and community health workers have forced MSF to temporarily suspend the movement of its staff to MSF-supported health centres. **Source:** [MSF](#)

Niger

23 August 2023: On a road between Niamey and Tera department, Tillabery region, armed men on motorcycles intercepted an ambulance of the district hospital of Tera. The ambulance was subsequently recovered by military forces on patrol. **Source:** [Urgence Tillabery](#)

Nigeria

25 August 2023: In Wusasa area, Zaria LGA, Kaduna state, suspected bandits kidnapped a health worker and his brother, as they shot sporadically into a crowd. **Source:** [Daily Post](#)

Around 26 August 2023: Update: In Ukum LGA, Benue state, a male doctor of the Sakera General Hospital, who was kidnapped on 23 July, has been released by his captors. **Sources:** [Independent](#) and [Vanguard](#)

Somalia

16 August 2023: In Hantiwadag, Middle Shabelle region, the head of the IMC hospital was shot and injured by suspected Al Shabaab while he was on the way home. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹



Sudan

At least **172 attacks** on Sudan's health care system have been documented by Insecurity Insight between **01 January-22 August**. In these incidents, 25 health workers have been killed and health facilities have been damaged in shelling or taken over. Vital medical supplies have been looted, and patients deliberately obstructed from accessing health care. These attacks undermine health care providers' ability to effectively meet patient needs, maintain safe staffing levels and impact the population's access to health care. Explore the incidents on this [interactive map](#). Access the data on [HDX](#).
Past incident reports: [09-22 August](#); [26 July-08 August](#); [28 June-11 July](#); [28 June-11 July](#); [All](#)
Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC) 2022 Factsheet: [Arabic](#); [English](#)

Asia

Myanmar

At least **258 attacks** on Myanmar's health care system have been documented by Insecurity Insight between **01 January-08 August 2023**. In these incidents, 27 health workers have been killed and health facilities have been set on fire, occupied and damaged by air bombing, drone strikes, and shelling. These attacks undermine health care providers' ability to effectively meet patient needs, maintain safe staffing levels and impact the population's access to health care. Explore this [interactive map](#) to see where incidents happened. Access the data on [HDX](#).

Past incident reports: [09-22 August](#); [26 July-08 August](#); [12-25 July](#); [28 June-11 July](#); [14-27 June](#); [All](#).
Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC) factsheets: [2022](#); [2021](#); [2020](#)

Europe

Ukraine

At least **1042 attacks** on Ukraine's health care system have been documented between **24 February 2022 and 07 August 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

Occupied Palestinian Territories

19 August 2023: In Nablus city and governorate, West Bank, Israeli soldiers stopped a PRCS ambulance, and used weapons to threaten the medical team on board, before inspecting the vehicle and detaining staff for over one hour. **Source:** [PRCS](#)

As reported on 20 August 2023: In Jenin city and governorate, West Bank, a female health worker was shot while on her way to hospital. **Source:** [WHO](#)

28 August 2023: In Mevo Dotan settlement, near Yabad town, Jenin governorate, West Bank, a medic attempting to assist the injured was attacked by Israeli soldiers after a clash broke out between Israeli soldiers and four Palestinian fighters near an Israeli military checkpoint. **Source:** [The New Arab](#)

As reported on 01 September 2023: In Akbah town, Tubas governorate, West Bank, Israeli soldiers shot directly at an ambulance to prevent it from operating. **Source:** [Personal Communication](#)

Yemen

28 August 2023: On the road connecting Marib to Hadramawt, Marib governorate, two INGO international health workers were reportedly ambushed and kidnapped by unidentified gunmen who intercepted the staff's vehicle. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹ and [Personal Communication](#)

The Americas

Chile

18 August 2023: On a road leading to Temucuicui locality, Ercilla commune, Malleco province, Araucania region, three hooded armed men on a truck attacked a team of five health workers, including a doctor and a nurse, aboard a van, forcing them out of the vehicle, before stealing their phones and the van. **Source:** [Mega Noticias](#)

Haiti

As reported on 25 August 2023: In Carrefour-Feuilles, Ouest department, the Elizabeth Health Centre and Sanatorium Hospital faced challenges in delivering health care services after gang members set fires to homes in the area. **Source:** [Radio Tele Galaxie](#)

28 August 2023: In Tabarre, Port-au-Prince, MSF resumed operations after suspending activity following an armed intrusion on 07 July. **Sources:** [Le Nouvelliste](#), [MSF I](#), [MSF II](#) and [ReliefWeb](#)

As reported on 30 August 2023: In Ruelle Berne, Bois-Verna, Port-au-Prince, Ouest Department, a Urologist was kidnapped by armed individuals near his workplace while he was about to enter a pharmacy. **Sources:** [Le Nouvelliste](#) and [Radio Tele Metronome](#)

As reported on 01 September 2023: In Carrefour-Feuilles, Ouest department, patients at the Sanatorium Hospital fled the facility and health workers were unable to access the facility following increased violence by armed groups who have seized control of the area. In addition, hospital authorities have voiced concerns about the risk of a tuberculosis outbreak across the region. **Sources:** [AlterPresse](#), [Le Nouvelliste](#) and [RFI](#)

Mexico

23 August 2023: In Zacualpan de Amilpas municipality, Morelos state, two civil protection paramedics were shot inside a building, as they responded to a call for help. They died when they were taken to hospital for treatment in Cuautla city. **Source:** [Jornada](#)

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.

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¹ Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) [database attribution policy](#). Accessed 05 September 2023.

