

Attacks on Health Care

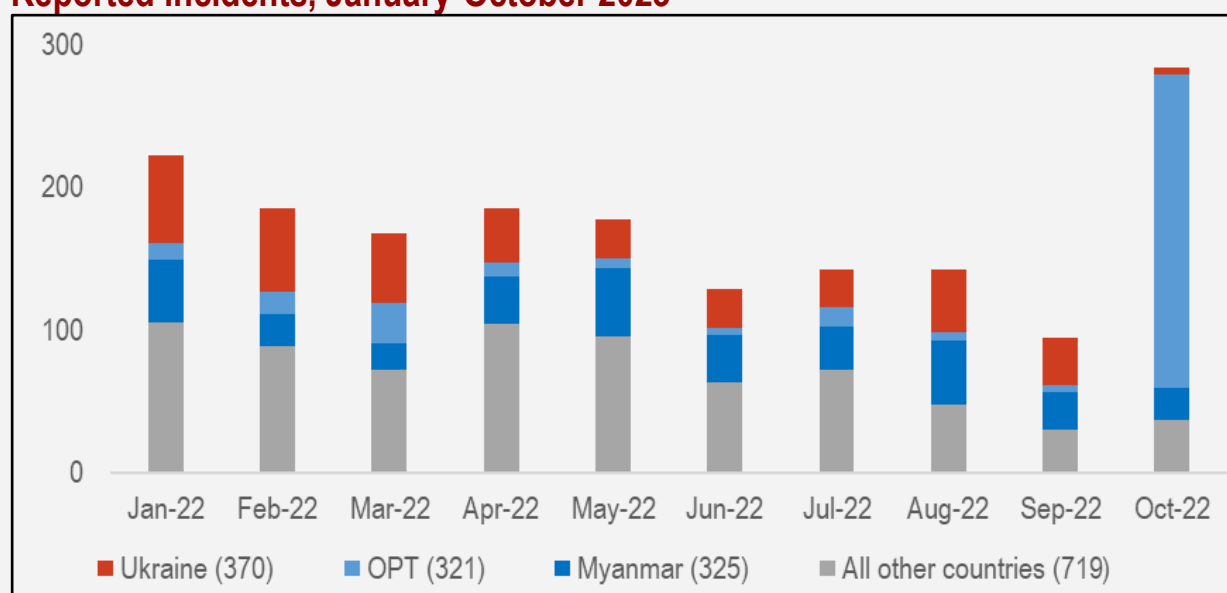
Bi-Monthly News Brief

01-13
November
2023

At Least 1843 Attacks on Health Care So Far in 2023

Monitoring by Insecurity Insight has identified at least 1843 attacks on health care in 62 countries and territories between 01 January and 21 November 2023. In these incidents, health facilities have been damaged 457 times, 364 health workers have been killed, 137 kidnapped, 368 injured and 210 arrested. High incident numbers have been reported in the occupied Palestinian territories (427), Ukraine (372), Myanmar (325) and Sudan (210). See where incidents happened on this [interactive map](#). Download this data on [HDX](#). Numbers may change if or when further information is made available. The map and the dataset does not yet include incidents reported in this News Brief.

Reported incidents, January-October 2023



Ignoring Red Lines

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. Includes 16 factsheets in Arabic, English and French:

Arabic: [oPt](#), [Sudan](#), [Syria](#), [Yemen](#) and [Executive Summary](#)

English: [Afghanistan](#), [Burkina Faso](#), [Cameroon](#), [CAR](#), [DRC](#), [Iran](#), [Mali](#), [Myanmar](#), [Nigeria](#), [oPt](#), [Pakistan](#), [South Sudan](#), [Sudan](#), [Syria](#), [Ukraine](#), [Yemen](#) and [Executive Summary](#)

French: [Burkina Faso](#), [Cameroon](#), [DRC](#), [Mali](#) and [Executive Summary](#)

Past News Brief editions: [18-31 October](#); [04-17 October](#); [20 September-03 October](#); [06-19 September](#); [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](#).

Help support the protection of health care by sharing this resource. Please copy and paste this link:
bit.ly/01-14Nov2023HealthBMNB



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

Democratic Republic of the Congo

26 October 2023: In Bambu town, Ituri province, the Bambu General Hospital was damaged by explosives by March 23 Movement (M23) militiamen. **Source:** [WikiRumours](#)

Mali

04 November 2023: In Bazi-Gourma village, Ansongo cercle, Gao region, a nurse and a farmer were reportedly killed by IS Sahel militants. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

05 November 2023: In Tinalgar, Gao cercle and region, a health centre was set on fire and shops and houses looted by suspected Wagner mercenaries. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Niger

10 November 2023: In Kakou village, Torodi department, Tillaberi region, a nurse and ten other civilians were kidnapped and six civilians killed by suspected JNIM militants. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Nigeria

04 November 2023: In Ituku-Ozalla, Nkanu West LGA, Enugu state, a male doctor on duty at the University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital was kidnapped by an unidentified armed group. The doctor was driving out of the hospital gate to buy food, “since food vendors stopped supplying to the hospital due to non-payment” when the incident happened. The doctor escaped later that same day. **Source:** [The Guardian](#)

10 November 2023: In Walale River area, near Yargalma village, Bukuyum LGA, Zamfara state, at least 20 people, including a community health worker and farmers, were seized at a roadblock set up by members of an armed group. **Source:** [HumAngle](#)

Sudan

Incident reports: [01-14 November](#); [18-31 October](#); [04-17 October 2023](#); [20 September-03 October](#); [All](#)

2022 Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC) Factsheets: [Arabic](#) and [English](#)

Asia

Myanmar

A Tragic Milestone: More Than 1,000 Attacks on Health Care in Myanmar Since the February 2021 Military Coup

Insecurity Insight has identified at least 1,087 attacks on Myanmar's health care system since the 01 February 2021 military coup. At least 880 health workers have been arrested, 97 killed and 117 injured undermining health care providers' ability to maintain safe staffing levels to effectively meet patient needs. Health facilities have been damaged over 180 times impacting the population's access to health care. Insecurity Insight calls upon all conflict parties to uphold international humanitarian law. Health workers and facilities are protected. Perpetrators must be held accountable. *"I have been in regular communication with frontline health workers in Myanmar since the military coup. I wholeheartedly agree with Dr Ko Htoo of Spring Health Hospital in Karenni, who recently told me that everyone must have the right to get the health care they need safely. Health care must not be a military target,"* said Dr Thinn Hlaing, Myanmar Country Director at the Tropical Health and Education Trust (THET). Read the full press release [here](#).

Incident reports: [01-14 November](#); [18-31 October](#); [04-17 October](#); [20 September-03 October 2023](#); [All](#)

Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC) Factsheets: [2022](#); [2021](#); [2020](#)

Europe

Ukraine

At least 1157 attacks on Ukraine's health care system have been documented between 24 February 2022 and 09 September 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

Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories

Incident reports: [06-11 November](#); [01-05 Nov](#); [23-30 October](#); [16-22 October](#); [12 -15 October](#); [07-11 October](#)

2022 Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC) factsheets: [Arabic](#) and [English](#)

Over A Month of Attacks on Food Security in Gaza

This flash [analysis report](#) documents a highly concerning trend in conflict incidents directly affecting food security in Gaza between 7 October and 17 November 2023. They include the damaging and destruction of bakeries, markets, food shops and fishing ports, and the use of explosive weapons striking agricultural land. The report also provides testimonies from displaced residents in Gaza and insights into the broader impact of violence on food security based on key informant interviews conducted in late October and November.

Lebanon

05 November 2023: On the outskirts of Tayr Harfa, Tyre governorate, an Israeli armed drone reportedly hit an ambulance with a missile, injuring four health workers. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

10 November 2023: On the outskirts of Mays el Jabal city, Marjayoun governorate, Israeli forces reportedly shelled the area, damaging a hospital and injuring a health worker. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Syrian Arab Republic

Incident reports: [06-11 November](#); [01-05 Nov](#); [23-30 October](#); [16-22 October](#); [12 -15 October](#); [07-11 October](#)

2022 Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC) factsheets: [Arabic](#) and [English](#)

18 Attacks on Health Care in Syria between 04-09 October 2023

Insecurity Insight has identified 18 incidents of violence against or obstruction of access to health care in Syria between 04-09 October 2023. All these reported events involved explosive weapon use by Syrian regime and Turkish forces which damaged health facilities and transport and killed a health worker. This intensive use of explosive weapons affecting health care is a marked escalation in the observed patterns of continued violence against health care in Syria. [Read more](#)

Yemen

07 November 2023: In As Safra district, Sa'dah governorate, a doctor and his son were injured after a Houthi landmine reportedly targeting a tribal leader detonated in front of the leaders farm. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

The Americas

Colombia

06 November 2023: In La Alboreda neighbourhood, Jamundi town, Valle del Cauca department, a female official of the Jamundi Health Department was reportedly shot and injured by armed perpetrators in a drive-by shooting. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

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, 01-13 November 2023. Switzerland: Insecurity Insight. bit.ly/01-14Nov2023HealthBMNB

¹ Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) [database attribution policy](#). Accessed 14 November 2023

