





Attacks on Health Care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories

20-26 February 2024



Recorded Violence Against Health Care in Israel and the oPt, 07 October 2023-18 February 2024

	 REPORTED INCIDENTS	 HEALTH WORKERS KILLED	 INCIDENTS WHERE HEALTH FACILITIES WERE DAMAGED	 HEALTH WORKERS ARRESTED
Israel	17	11	2	0
oPt	942	163	171	236

Data source: [Insecurity Insight](#) on [HDX](#). [Contact](#) us for curated datasets.

Explore the incidents on our [interactive map](#)¹ and on this [data visualisation](#) by Soha Elghany.

Insecurity Insight has identified 959 incidents of violence against or obstruction of access to health care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories between 07 October 2023 and 18 February 2024.² Seventeen incidents were reported in Israel including 11 health workers killed in attacks carried out by Hamas militants. In the oPt where 942 incidents were recorded, 722 took place in the Gaza Strip and 171 in the West Bank and East Jerusalem.³ At least 161 health workers have been killed,⁴ 236 arrested and health facilities damaged 163 times. Emergency medical teams and ambulances have frequently been obstructed from reaching patients in need of care.

Insecurity Insight calls for independent investigations and for all conflict parties to uphold international humanitarian law. Health workers and facilities are protected.

Past incident reports: [13-19 February](#); [06-12 February](#); [30 January-05 February](#); [23-29 January](#); [16-22 January](#); [All](#)

Visit our [oPt](#) webpage. Join our [mailing](#) for the latest information. 2022 Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC) factsheets: [Arabic](#) and [English](#)

Help support the protection of health care by sharing this resource. Please copy and paste this link: bit.ly/20-26Feb2024OPTHealth.

The incidents reported below are not a complete nor a representative list of all events that affected the provision of health care between 20-26 February 2024 and have not been verified through ground investigations. There is a delay in reporting incidents due to our open source verification protocol. Numbers may change if or when further information is made available. If you have additional information on an incident documented here, or a new incident, please get in [touch](#).

Israel

No incidents identified during the reporting period.

Occupied Palestinian Territories

Gaza Strip

20 February 2024: In Al-Mawasi town, Khan Yunis governorate, an Israeli tank fired on a house sheltering MSF staff and their families, killing the daughter-in-law and wife of an MSF staffer, and injuring six people, five of whom were women and children. Helicopters hovered in low altitudes over the facility. **Sources:** [MSF](#) and [Personal Communication](#)

20 February 2024: In an unspecified location, the Dean of the Faculty of Nursing at the Islamic University of Gaza was killed, along with seven of his family members, in an Israeli airstrike on his house. **Sources:** [OCHA Flash 124](#) and [Quds News Network](#)

20 February 2024: Update: In Khan Yunis city and governorate, PRCS Al-Amal Hospital continued to be directly impacted by artillery shelling, causing damage and an unspecified number of casualties. **Source:** [OCHA Flash 123](#)

As reported on 20 February 2024: In Khan Yunis city and governorate, Nasser Hospital's ICU was no longer functioning and the remaining patient was transferred to a different part of the complex where other patients receive basic care. **Source:** [OCHA Flash 122](#)

As reported on 20 February 2024: Update: In Khan Yunis city and governorate, 110 patients and around 15 doctors and nurses remained in Nasser Hospital with no electricity or running water, sewage water flooding some departments, medical waste accumulating, and the decomposing bodies of eight ICU patients who died for lack of oxygen. **Source:** [OCHA Flash 123](#)

22 February 2024: In Deir al-Balah governorate, a volunteer doctor in Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital was killed by Israeli airstrikes. **Source:** [Quds News Network](#)

22 February 2024: In Khan Yunis city and governorate, PRCS's VHF system was not working due to artillery shelling near the PRCS Al-Amal Hospital, aggravating challenges in communicating with field teams, in particular ambulances. **Source:** [OCHA Flash 125](#)

As reported on 22 February 2024: In Netzarim, Gaza governorate, an Israeli soldier posted a 3.5 minute video of himself flattening the Turkish Friendship Hospital with the comment "The hospital accidentally broke". The hospital is the only cancer hospital in the Gaza Strip and for the last three months has been used as an Israeli military base. **Source:** [Personal Communication](#)

23 February 2024: In Rafah city and governorate, a PRCS volunteer paramedic and five others including two women and two children were killed when an Israeli air strike hit his family home. **Sources:** [OCHA Flash 126](#) and [Personal Communication](#)

As reported on 23 February 2024: In Rafah governorate, only five beds remained for deliveries at the Al Helal Al Emirati Maternity Hospital, one of the few remaining functioning hospitals in Gaza. Despite the lack of basics, the facility delivered 78 babies in one night. **Source:** [OCHA Flash 126](#)

As of 23 February 2024: Update: In Khan Yunis city and governorate, Nasser Hospital was struggling to operate, with no electricity, running water, sufficient food supplies, or drinking water as well as a heavy Israeli military presence inside the hospital and heavy fighting in its vicinity. At least 12 patients still required medical evacuation. There were ongoing attempts to restore electricity. **Source:** [OCHA Flash 124](#)

24 February 2024: In Gaza city and governorate, the entrance of a clinic sheltering displaced people was bombed by Israeli forces, injuring nine people. **Source:** [Personal Communication](#)

As reported on 24 February 2024: Update: In Jabalia city, Northern Gaza governorate, Israeli drone footage revealed the destruction and aftermath of an Israeli raid on the NGO Al-Awda Hospital during the first week of December. **Source:** [Al Jazeera](#)

25 February 2024: In northern Gaza, hospitals were running out of fuel, including the NGO Al-Ahli Arab Hospital which was managing to perform 13 operations per day and cater to 300 outpatients, and ran at only 30% capacity due to the lack of power. **Source:** [OCHA Flash 126](#)

25 February 2024: In northern Gaza, a 20-year-old nurse and an unspecified number of his family members were killed when an Israeli missile hit their home. **Sources:** [Personal Communication I](#), [Personal Communication II](#) and [Quds News Network](#)

As reported on 25 February 2024: In Khan Yunis governorate, Israeli soldiers graffitied walls of Nasser Medical Hospital with "the land of Israel to the people of Israel" in addition to death calls. **Source:** [Personal Communication](#)

26 February 2024: In the Gaza Strip, PRCS halted all coordination of medical missions in the Gaza Strip for 48 hours, citing its inability to guarantee the safety of crews, patients, and facilities due to the ongoing and persistent Israeli attacks and targeting of its medical teams and facilities. **Sources:** [PRCS](#), [Personal Communication](#) and [Quds News Network](#)

26 February 2024: In Khan Yunis governorate, an Israeli airstrike was reported in the vicinity of European Hospital. **Source:** [Personal Communication](#)

26 February 2024: In Deir al-Balah city and governorate, Israeli airstrikes were reported in the vicinity of Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital. **Source:** [Quds News Network](#)

26 February 2024: In Rafah city and governorate, Israeli airstrikes were reported in the vicinity of the NGO Kuwait Hospital. **Source:** [Quds News Network](#)

As reported on 26 February 2024: Update: In Khan Yunis city and governorate, the PRCS, supported by OCHA and WHO, evacuated 72 critical cases from Nasser Hospital to hospitals in Deir al Balah, Khan Yunis, and Rafah and included two newborn babies whose mothers had been killed or died. **Source:** [OCHA Flash 126](#)

West Bank

21 February 2024: In Azzun village, Qalqilya governorate, Israeli forces shot and killed a 15-year-old boy during clashes between Palestinians and Israeli forces during a raid. An ambulance was allowed by Israeli forces to evacuate the boy after around 20 minutes. **Source:** [OCHA Flash 124](#)

This document 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 verified through ground investigations. This report 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. 2024. 20-26 February 2024. Attacks on Health Care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories. Switzerland: Insecurity Insight. bit.ly/20-26Feb2024OPTHealth**

Health facility: Refers to any facility that provides direct health-related support to patients, including clinics, hospitals, laboratories, makeshift hospitals, medical education facilities, mobile clinics, pharmacies, warehouses, or any other health facility not named here. Health worker: Refers to any person working in a professional or voluntary capacity in the provision of health services or who provides direct support to patients, including administrators, ambulance personnel, community health workers, dentists, doctors, government health officials, hospital staff, medical education

staff, nurses, midwives, paramedics, physiotherapists, surgeons, vaccination workers, volunteers, or any other health-related personnel not named here.

In accordance with the WHO's definition, incidents of violence against health care can include bombings, explosions, looting, robberies, hijackings, shootings, gunfire, the forced closure of health facilities, the violent searching of health facilities, fire, arson, the military use of health facilities, the military takeover of health facilities, chemical attacks, cyber attacks, the abduction of health workers, the denial or delay of health services, assaults, forcing staff to act against their ethical principles, executions, torture, violent demonstrations, administrative harassment, obstruction, sexual violence, psychological violence, and threats of violence.

¹ Zoom in and click on Israel or oPT to see the latest figures. Click on the yellow square to read about the recorded events.

² These figures do not include all the incidents below due to the high volume of incidents that took place during the reporting period.

³ 54 incidents were recorded by the WHO SSA without specifying the location and no additional source could be identified to determine the location of the reported incident.

⁴ 161 is based on the number of health workers killed where location and date has been identified. Other sources have reported 403 health workers killed. Insecurity Insight carries out cross-checking of individual events and names and does not re-report aggregate figures. The work of collating a complete list of health workers killed based on information provided in different formats by different organisations is ongoing. This cross-checking process is complex to avoid double counting the same individuals in cases when sources report different victim information about the same individual. The lack of a consistent standard in transcribing Arab names into Latin script based languages complicates the matching process. The total number of health workers killed is believed to be higher than the current verified number and we continue to backdate information.

