

Attacks on Health Care

Bi-Monthly News Brief

24 January-06
February
2024

🚨 Insecurity Insight has identified at least 253 attacks on health care in ten countries and territories between 01 January and 06 February 2024. In these incidents, health facilities have been damaged 42 times, 25 health workers have been killed and 21 arrested. Nearly 85% of the reported 253 incidents were recorded in the occupied Palestinian territories (213). 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.

Past editions: [10-23 January](#); [27 December-09 January](#); [13-26 December](#); [29 November 12 December](#); [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/24Jan-06Feb2024HealthBMNB

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

Abyei Special Administrative Area

As reported on 04 February 2024: In Abyei Special Administrative Area. two South Sudanese MSF staff members were killed during fighting. Source: [MSF](#)

Sudan

🚨 Since fighting started between the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) on 15 April 2023, Insecurity Insight has identified at least 267 attacks on Sudan's health care system. At least 58 incidents recorded health facilities being damaged, mostly by explosive weapon use by the RSF and SAF. This was particularly frequently recorded in Khartoum state with Ibn Sina University Hospital hit multiple times. In one incident on 19 April 2023, three bombs of unidentified origin hit and damaged the hospital. A fourth bomb hit the nurses residence, setting it on fire.

Explore this [interactive map](#) to see where incidents happened. Access the data on [HDX](#). Please [get in touch](#) if you are interested in curated datasets. Numbers may change if or when further information is made available.

Past editions: [24 January-06 February](#); [10-23 January](#); [27 December-09 January](#); [13-26 December](#); [All](#)

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



Asia

Myanmar

🚨 Insecurity Insight has identified at least 1219 attacks on Myanmar's health care system between 01 February 2021-14 January 2024. In these incidents, 104 health workers have been killed and health facilities have been damaged 308 times. 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. Numbers may change if or when further information is made available. In the early months following the coup, attacks on health care were characterised by health workers being arrested on allegations of Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM) affiliation or because of the care they provided to injured CDM members. Since then, at least 897 health workers have been arrested in 302 incidents. Health facilities were frequently raided by the military searching for pro-democracy health workers or injured protesters, and patients were routinely searched and risked being arrested or forcibly discharged. [Read more](#)



Explore this [interactive map](#) to see where incidents happened. Access the data on [HDX](#). Numbers may change if or when further information is made available. Please [get in touch](#) if you are interested in curated datasets.

Pakistan

19 January 2024: In Bajaur district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, a doctor who was the coordinator of the polio inoculation campaign was shot and injured by unidentified armed men while travelling in his car from the District Headquarters (DHQ) Hospital Khar in the Tarkhoo area of Mamond Tehsil during the evening. **Sources:** [Dawn](#) and [RFERL](#)

Europe

Ukraine

🚨 This [case study](#) reveals lesser known aspects of Russia's destruction and weaponization of Ukraine's health care system, specifically that Russian armed forces have limited and conditioned civilians' access to health care in temporarily occupied territories. **These reported practices include requiring forced adoption of Russian nationality as a precondition for gaining access to health care (otherwise known as "passportization").** This not only imposes an external identity on Ukrainians – a forced change of nationality – but also restricts their ability to access health care and other medical support. "Our research sheds new light on the grim realities that patients and providers alike are forced to endure in order to access and provide basic health services," said Christina Wille, the Director of Insecurity Insight.

The study follows a February 2023 [report](#) that documented extensive attacks against Ukraine's hospitals, health workers, and other medical infrastructure since February 2022. Explore this [interactive map](#) to see where incidents took place.

Reported locations of "Passportization" of Population Through Medical Services by Russian forces, February 2022 – August 2023

Incidents became more frequent from March 2023 onward, with most taking place in Zaporizka oblast



Middle East and North Africa

Israel

As reported on 25 January 2024: In Ktzi'ot Prison, Negev desert, Southern District, sick Palestinian detainees were reportedly being denied access to clinics or civilian hospitals by the Israeli Prison Services (IPS). **Source:** [WAFA](#)

Lebanon

31 January 2024: In Blida village, Al Nabatieh district, Marjayoun governorate, an ambulance was damaged when Israeli drones carried out three strikes on a house in the area. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Occupied Palestinian Territories

■ Insecurity Insight has identified 885 incidents of violence against or obstruction of access to health care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories between 07 October 2023 and 05 February 2024.² Seventeen incidents were reported in Israel including ten health workers killed in attacks carried out by Hamas militants. In the oPt where 868 incidents were recorded, 652 took place in the Gaza Strip and 162 in the West Bank and East Jerusalem.³ At least 154 health workers have been killed,⁴ 227 arrested and health facilities damaged 155 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.

Explore this [interactive map](#) to see where incidents happened. Access the data on [HDX](#).

Past editions: [06-12 February](#); [30 January-05 February](#); [23-29 January](#); [16-22 January](#); [09-15 January](#); [All](#)

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

Syrian Arab Republic

22 January 2024: In Ariha town, sub-district and district, Idlib governorate, a rocket fired by Syrian government forces landed about 50 metres away from the Pediatric and Maternity Hospital and al-Fateh Mosque, with no damages recorded. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

As reported on 24 January 2024: In Idlib governorate, many humanitarian organisations stopped their relief projects, including the closure of three health centres, impacting a large number of IDP camps. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

30 January 2024: In Aleppo governorate, a hospital and surrounding areas were shelled by YPG forces shelled with rockets. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Yemen

06 January 2024: In Ad Dhale' governorate, a male doctor working for the NGO ADRA was shot and killed in front of his house by unidentified gunmen. **Source:** [UN](#)

As reported on 31 January 2024: In Sana'a, Amanat al Asimah governorate, a doctor was kidnapped from his house, tortured and killed by Houthi forces. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

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.

Asia

India

01 February 2024: In Imphal city, Imphal West, Manipur state, bullets were fired towards Medilane Eye Care Store by two unidentified men on a bike. **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. 2024. Attacks on Health Care Bi-Monthly News Brief, 24 January-06 February Switzerland: Insecurity Insight. bit.ly/24Jan-06Feb2024HealthBMNB

¹ Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) [database attribution policy](#). Accessed 08 February 2024.

