Attacks on Health Care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory

04-17 June 2024



Recorded Violence Against Health Care in Israel and the oPt, 07 October 2023-03 June 2024				
	REPORTED INCIDENTS	HEALTH WORKERS KILLED	INCIDENTS WHERE HEALTH FACILITIES WERE DAMAGED	HEALTH WORKERS ARRESTED
Israel	46	22	4	0
oPt	1226	208[1]	227	327

Insecurity Insight has identified 1272 incidents of violence against or obstruction of access to health care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory between 07 October 2023 and 03 June 2024. At least 46 incidents were reported in Israel including 22 health workers killed in attacks carried out by Hamas militants. In the oPt where 1226 incidents were recorded, 945 took place in the Gaza Strip and 227 in the West Bank and East Jerusalem.[3] At least 208 health workers have been killed,[1] 327 arrested and health facilities damaged 227 times. Emergency medical teams and ambulances have frequently been obstructed from reaching patients in need of care.

Data source: **Insecurity Insight** on **HDX**. **Contact** us for curated datasets. Explore the incidents on our **interactive map**[2] and on this **data visualisation** by Soha Elghany.

Past incident reports: **21 May-03 June**; **07-20 May**; **23 April-06 May**; **09-22 April**; **02-08 April**; **26 March-01 April**; **All**

Visit our **oPt** webpage. Join our **mailing** for the latest information. **Help support the protection of health care by sharing this resource. Please copy and paste this link: bit.ly/04-17Jun2024OPTHealth**

The incidents reported below are not a complete nor a representative list of all events that affected the provision of health care between 03-17 June 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 Territory

Gaza Strip

04 June 2024: In Khan Yunis city and governorate, Israeli quadcopters dropped bombs at the gates of the Nasser Hospital. **Source:** **Quds News Network**

06 June 2024: In Gaza city and governorate, a doctor and pharmacy owner was reportedly killed by Israeli forces. **Souce:** **Personal Communication**

08 June 2024: In Rafah city and governorate, the NGO-supported Kuwait Hospital caught fire during Israeli forces shelling. **Source:** The New Arab

08 June 2024: In Deir al-Balah city and governorate, the vicinity of the Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital was hit by an Israeli airstrike. **Source:** Quds News Network

08 June 2024: In Deir al-Balah city and governorate, Israeli forces threatened to bomb the main entrance of Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital following an Israeli airstrike in the vicinity, causing panic and chaos among displaced Palestinians inside the hospital. **Source:** Quds News Network

09 June 2024: In Nuseirat Refugee Camp, Deir al-Balah governorate, a doctor and his family were shot and killed by Israeli forces who broke into their home. **Source:** Quds News Network

09 June 2024: In Tal Al-Sultan neighbourhood, Rafah city and governorate, ambulances were prevented by Israeli drones and airstrikes from reaching Palestinian casualties following an attack on the area. **Source:** Quds New Networks

14 June 2024: In Rafah city and governorate, a UNRWA school near the Emirate field hospital was hit by Israeli artillery. **Source:** Quds News Network

16 June 2024: In Tal al-Sultan neighbourhood, Rafah city and governorate, an ambulance was damaged after Israeli forces opened fire whilst they were attempting to provide medical care to Palestinian casualties. **Source:** Quds News Network

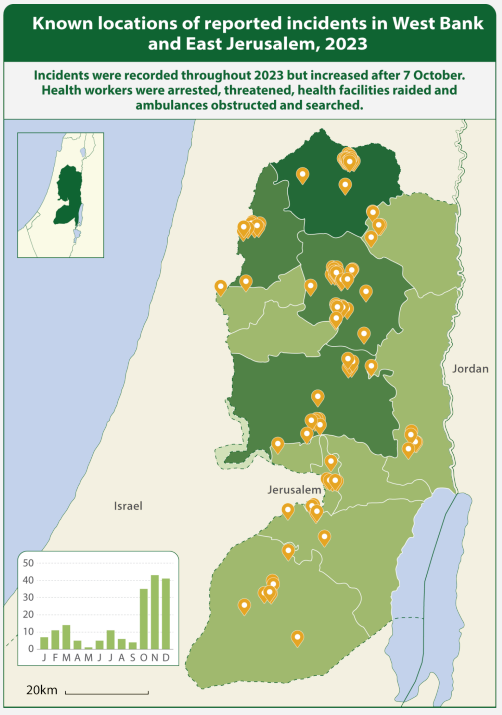
West Bank and East Jerusalem

At least 183 incidents of violence against or obstruction of health care were identified by the Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC) in the West Bank and East Jerusalem in 2023.

Health workers were arrested and threatened, health facilities raided, and ambulances obstructed and searched. Incidents were recorded throughout 2023, with 64 occurring before October 7, which is similar to the number recorded for the whole of 2022. In July, the INGO Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) started to supply bulletproof vests to PRCS teams to protect them from rising settler and military violence.

Ambulances and health workers were prevented from providing vital medical care to people in need at least 91 times in 2023, compared to 60 in 2022. Most obstructions occurred during road travel or at checkpoints where staff were forced to transfer patients to another ambulance under the long-existing "back-to-back" (B2B) method of transferring a patient to a different ambulance when crossing from the West Bank to Jerusalem. The process often involved ambulances being searched, while staff were harassed and prevented from providing care to patients. Ambulances and health workers were also prevented from accessing people in need of medical assistance at refugee camps.

Obstructions also took place outside or near hospitals, including Ibn Sina Specialist Hospital and Thabet Thabet Hospital. On one occasion, ambulances carrying patients outside Jenin Governmental Hospital were stopped by Israeli soldiers and paramedics, and ambulance drivers were forced out, stripped, and forced to kneel in the street. Read more



06 June 2024: In Jenin City and governorate, PRCS emergency medical services came under Israeli fire while providing medical care to an injured person. **Source: PRCS**

09 June 2024: At al Murabba' Checkpoint, Nablus city and governorate, two Palestinian PRCS ambulances were obstructed and detained by Israeli forces while transporting injured people from Urif town. **Source: PRCS**

10 June 2024: In Tulkarm city and governorate, Israeli forces shot at a PRCS ambulance and obstructed its team from evacuating a nine-year boy injured in a military operation in Dhinnaba neighbourhood. **Source: OCHA Update 178**

10 June 2024: In an area between Kafr Ni'ma and the nearby village of Bil'in, west of Ramallah, PRCS medics were denied access by Israeli forces for at least two hours to evacuate injured Palestinians. **Source: OCHA Update 178 and Quds News Network**

10 June 2024: In an area between Kafr Ni'ma and the nearby village of Bil'in, west of Ramallah, the tyres of a PRCS ambulance were punctured by Israeli forces' live ammunition as it attempted to reach injured Palestinians. **Source: OCHA Update 178**

11 June 2024: In Kafr Dan village, Jenin governorate, an Israeli sniper obstructed medical aid from reaching a shot Palestinian, causing him to bleed to death. **Source: Quds News Network**

13 June 2024: In Qabatiya town, Jenin governorate, at least one ambulance was prevented from entering th=e town during a military raid by Israeli forces. **Source: Quds News Network**

13 June 2024: In Jenin city and governorate, an ambulance was stopped by Israeli forces during a military operation on the town and the neighbouring refugee camp. **Source: Quds News Network**

17 June 2024: In Deir Dibwan, Ramallah City and governorate, an ambulance was damaged during an Israeli attack on the village. **Source: Personal Communication**

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 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, USAID, the U.S. Government or the Tides Foundation who are not responsible for the content expressed in this document.

Insecurity Insight. 2024. 04-17 June 2024 Attacks on Health Care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories. Switzerland: Insecurity Insight. bit.ly/04-17Jun2024OPTHealth

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] 208 is based on the number of health workers killed where location and date has been identified. Other sources have reported 458 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.
[2] Zoom in and click on Israel or oPT to see the latest figures. Click on the yellow square to read about the recorded events.
[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.