

Attacks on Health Care

Bi-Monthly News Brief

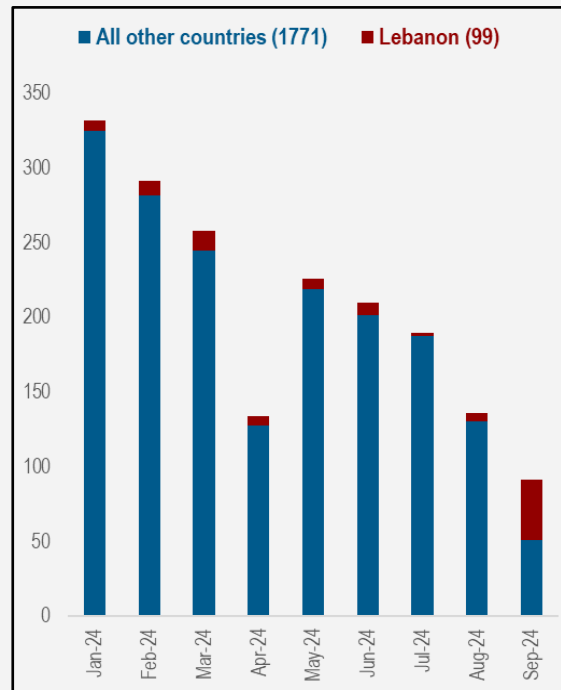
18 September-
01 October
2024

Insecurity Insight identified 1873 of violence against or obstruction of health care in 48 countries and territories between 01 January and 02 September 2024. In these incidents, at least 402 health workers were killed, 209 injured, 96 kidnapped and 193 arrested. Health facilities were damaged over 480 times. High incident numbers continue to be reported in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt), followed by Myanmar, Ukraine and Sudan.

Since September, incidents have increased in Lebanon. Coming soon, a new incident brief on incidents of violence against or obstruction of health care in Lebanon. Join our [Lebanon mailing list](#) for updates. Read our latest press release [here](#).

Attacks on polio campaigns in Pakistan's Dera Ismail Khan district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, also increased in September.

The data with details on location, reported conflict party, weapon used and brief description is available [here](#) for download. Explore this [interactive map](#) to see where incidents happened. Data is updated on [HDX](#) every Monday. Due to [HDX policy](#), our data on the oPt and Lebanon does not include geo-coordinates. [Contact](#) us for curated datasets. Registered HDX user? [Follow us](#) for the latest dataset updates. Numbers may change if or when further information is made available.



Past editions: [04-17 September](#); [21 August-03 September](#); [07-20 August](#); [24 July-06 August](#); [10-23 July](#); [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: <https://bit.ly/18Sept-01Oct2024Health>

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

South Sudan

20 September 2024: In Yei county, Central Equatoria state, two clearly-marked MSF vehicles were stopped on their way back to Yei town by armed men, suspected of being National Salvation Front (NAS), who forced the four staff members to disembark from their vehicles at gunpoint, while looting MSF and the staff's personal belongings. They then abducted a MSF staff member and another aid worker belonging to a partner organisation while letting the two drivers proceed onwards with the vehicles. The abductees were released after 24 hours. Following the incident, MSF suspended their activities in Yei and Morobo counties over security concerns. **Sources:** [MSF](#) and [Radio Tamazuj](#)



Insecurity Insight – Monitoring incidents around the world affecting aid, health care, education, and protection.

Sudan

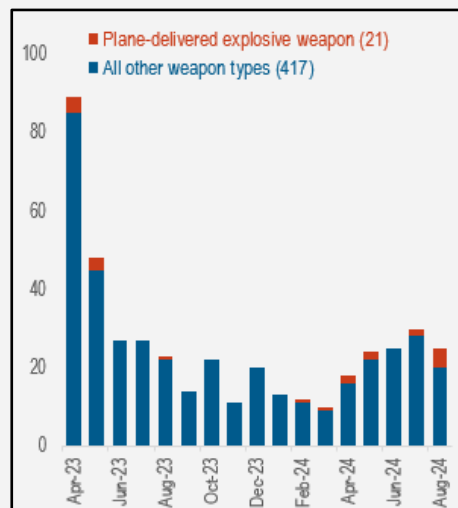
Insecurity Insight identified 440 attacks on Sudan's health care system since fighting started between Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in April 2023 and 03 September 2024. At least 105 health workers have been killed and health facilities damaged 118 times.

The use of plane-delivered explosive weapons by the SAF damaging health facilities has nearly doubled so far in 2024, compared to 2023 (from 8 to 13). All eight recorded incidents in 2023 were recorded in Khartoum. In contrast, all but one incident in 2024 occurred in the Darfur states.

The data with details on location, reported conflict party, weapon used and brief description is available [here](#) for download. Explore this [interactive map](#) to see where incidents happened. Data is updated on [HDX](#) every Monday. Registered HDX user? [Follow us](#) for the latest dataset updates. Numbers may change if or when further information is made available. Please [get in touch](#) if you're interested in curated datasets.

Past incident briefs: [18 September-01 October](#); [04-17 September](#); [21 August-03 September](#); [07-20 August](#); [All](#)

SHCC factsheets (EN): [2023](#); [2022](#); [2021](#). (AR): [2023](#); [2022](#); [2021](#)



Asia

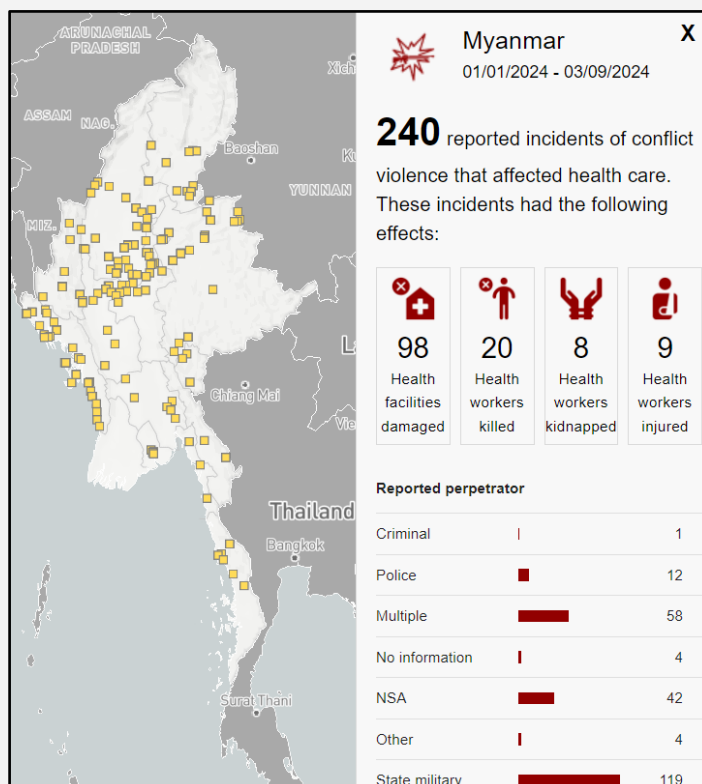
Myanmar

Insecurity Insight identified 240 attacks on Myanmar's health care system between 01 January-03 September 2024. In these incidents, 20 health workers have been killed and health facilities damaged 98 times. In addition, hospitals and clinics were used for non-medical purposes by conflict parties on at least 43 occasions. High numbers continue to be recorded in Sagaing region. Cases have doubled in Rakhine state in 2024, compared to previous years. Since June, incidents have increased in the Mandalay region.

The data with details on location, reported conflict party, weapon used and brief description is available [here](#) for download. Explore this [interactive map](#) to see where incidents happened.

Data is updated on [HDX](#) every Monday. Registered HDX user? [Follow us](#) for the latest dataset updates. Numbers may change if or when further information is made available. Please [get in touch](#) if you're interested in curated datasets.

Incident briefs: [18 September-01 October](#); [04-17 September](#); [21 August-03 September](#); [07-20 August](#); [All](#)
SHCC factsheets: [2023](#); [2022](#); [2021](#); [2020](#)



Pakistan

19 September 2024: In Mirpur Khas city and district, Sindh province, a doctor accused of sharing blasphemous content on social media was killed by police who opened fire on them. Umerkot police had arrested the doctor in Karachi and handed them over to the Mirpur Khas police. A police inquiry found that the encounter was staged by the Mirpur Khas police, who brought him to Mirpur Khas before staging the encounter. **Source:** [Dawn](#)

23 September 2024: In Kulachi town, Dera Ismail Khan district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, two polio vaccination health workers were kidnapped by militants. Both were released the same day on the condition that they would no longer participate in the government's vaccination drive in the area. **Sources:** [SATP](#) and [The Khorasan Diary](#)

24 September 2024: In the Kulachi area, Dera Ismail Khan district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, a polio vaccination health team being escorted by police personnel were attacked by an IED detonated by unidentified individuals. **Source:** [The Khorasan Diary](#)

25 September 2024: Near the Malangi Mor area, Dera Ismail Khan district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, a polio vaccination team was attacked by unidentified militants. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

27 September 2024: Near Gul Imam village, Tank district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, a police van escorting a polio vaccination team was attacked and partially damaged. **Source:** [The Khorasan Diary](#)

Blog Post: When Vaccine Hesitancy Turns Violent

Vaccinations have often been treated with suspicion in Pakistan following [reports](#) of a fake hepatitis vaccination campaign in the country by US intelligence agencies and subsequent propaganda campaigns by militant groups. Insecurity Insight's [blog post](#) for the [RIAH project](#) at the University of Manchester, UK, discusses recorded incidents of critical violence against vaccination campaigns between January 2016 and February 2022 across 16 countries including Pakistan.

Europe

Ukraine

18-19 September 2024: In an undisclosed location, a pharmacy was damaged amid wider attacks affecting Donetsk, Kharkiv, Kherson and Dnipro oblasts. **Source:** [OCHA](#)

19 September 2024: In Dnipro district, Kherson city and oblast, a 39-year-old male health worker was seriously injured by a Russian drone attack on the area. **Source:** [Suspilne Media](#)

19 September 2024: In Sumy city, raion and oblast, a care facility for the elderly was damaged amidst continued fighting, with one person killed, and 13 injured. Hundreds of residents of the facility, including people with limited mobility and some staff, were relocated to safer areas. The Sumy Regional Clinical Cardiology Dispensary and the Sumy Regional Children's Hospital were also damaged during the strike on the geriatric centre. **Sources:** [OCHA](#), [Reuters](#), [State Emergency Service](#) and [United Nations Ukraine](#)

As reported on 20 September 2024: In undisclosed locations, homes, schools and a hospital were damaged amid attacks in Donetsk, Kharkiv and Kherson oblasts, and Sumy city. **Source:** [OCHA](#)

23-24 September 2024: In Donetsk and Kherson oblasts, homes, a health facility, an ambulance, a gas pipeline, and a coal mine were damaged amid attacks that killed scores of people, including children. **Source:** [OCHA](#)

25 September 2024: In Kramatorsk city and raion, Donetsk oblast, three health workers of the Ukrainian Red Cross Society, including the head of the Kramatorsk municipal branch, the driver and a volunteer, were wounded by Russian airstrikes on the city centre at around 16:00. **Sources:** [Kyiv Independent](#), [Ukrainian Red Cross Society](#), [Ukrinform](#) and [UN News](#)

Since the onset of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, there have been **1519 attacks** on the country's health care facilities, workers, and medical infrastructure:

- Hospitals and clinics have been damaged or destroyed 773 times
- 232 health workers have been killed
- 103 attacks that impacted a hospital's access to energy or water supply systems
- 86 attacks on services that provide health care to children
- 63 attacks on services provided for women during pregnancy, childbirth and the postnatal period

Explore this [interactive map](#) (available in English and Ukrainian) to see where incidents took place between 24 February 2022 and 16 July 2024.

Russian Forces Continued its Attack on Ukraine's Health System in 2023

The Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC) report (available in [English](#) and [Ukrainian](#)) documents 394 incidents of violence against or obstruction of health care in Ukraine in 2023. The ongoing conflict, initiated by Russia's full-scale invasion in February 2022, has left nearly a fifth of Ukraine's territory under occupation and has caused extensive damage to civilian and energy infrastructure. Over 12 million Ukrainians have faced energy disruptions, and severe flooding in June 2023 further exacerbated the humanitarian crisis, affecting over sixty thousand people. About 40% of the Ukrainian population is estimated to require humanitarian assistance in 2024.

SHCC factsheets: 2023: [English](#) and [Ukrainian](#); 2022: [English](#)



Middle East and North Africa

Israel

18 September 2024: Update: A doctor died while detained in an Israeli prison. He was arrested in March at Al-Shifa Medical Complex. **Source:** [Quds News Network](#)

22 September 2024: In Bat Galim neighbourhood, Haifa city and district, staff at Rambam Health Care Campus and Hospital moved patients from the upper floors to its fortified underground parking lot due to Hezbollah rocket fire from Lebanon. **Source:** [The Times of Israel](#)

22 September 2024: In Ahuzat Shmuel neighbourhood, Haifa city and district, staff at Carmel Medical Centre moved patients from the upper floors to protected areas from Hezbollah rocket fire from Lebanon. **Source:** [The Times of Israel](#)

22 September 2024: In Safed city, Northern district, staff at Rebecca Sieff Hospital/Ziv Medical Centre moved patients from the upper floors to protected areas from Hezbollah rocket fire from Lebanon. **Source:** [The Times of Israel](#)

22 September 2024: In Nahariya city, Northern district, staff at Galilee Medical Centre moved patients from the upper floors to protected areas from Hezbollah rocket fire from Lebanon. **Source:** [The Times of Israel](#)

22 September 2024: In the Jezreel Valley, Afula city, Northern district, staff at Emek Medical Centre moved patients from the upper floors to protected areas due to Hezbollah rocket fire from Lebanon. **Source:** [The Times of Israel](#)

22 September 2024: In Poriya area, near Tiberias city, Galilee district, staff at Baruch Padeh Medical Centre moved patients from the upper floors to protected areas from Hezbollah rocket fire from Lebanon. **Source:** [The Times of Israel](#)

22 September 2024: In Nazareth city, Northern district, staff at the Holy Family/Italian Hospital moved patients from the upper floors to its fortified underground parking lot due to Hezbollah rocket fire from Lebanon. **Source:** [The Times of Israel](#)

22 September 2024: In Nazareth city, Northern district, staff at the EMMS Nazareth Hospital/English Hospital/Scottish Hospital moved patients from the upper floors to its fortified underground parking lot due to Hezbollah rocket fire from Lebanon. **Source:** [The Times of Israel](#)

Lebanon

Coming soon: A new incident brief on incidents of violence against or obstruction of health care in Lebanon. Join our [Lebanon mailing list](#) for updates. Read our latest press release [here](#).

Occupied Palestinian Territory Gaza Strip

Insecurity Insight identified 1662 incidents of violence against or obstruction of access to health care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory between 07 October 2023 and 12 September 2024. In the Gaza Strip, where 1255 incidents were recorded, health facilities were damaged 234 times and 469 health workers killed. At least 298 incidents were reported in the West Bank and East Jerusalem², including 73 health workers who were arrested or detained by Israeli forces. The data with details on location, reported conflict party, weapon used and brief description is available [here](#) for download. Due to [HDX policy](#), this data does not include geo-coordinates. [Contact](#) us for curated datasets. Explore the incidents on our [interactive map](#)³ and on this [data visualisation](#) by Soha Elghany. Data is updated on [HDX](#) every Monday. Follow [us](#) on HDX for the latest updates. Numbers may change if or when further information is made available.

Incident briefs: [18 September-01 October](#); [04-17 September](#); [21 August-03 September](#); [13-20 August](#); [30 July-12 August](#); [16-29 July](#); [02-15 July](#); [All](#)

SHCC Factsheets (EN): [2023](#); [2022](#); [2021](#). (AR): [2023](#); [2022](#); [2021](#)

Recorded Violence Against Health Care in Israel and the oPt, 07 October 2023-12 September 2024				
	 REPORTED INCIDENTS	 HEALTH WORKERS KILLED	 INCIDENTS WHERE HEALTH FACILITIES WERE DAMAGED	 HEALTH WORKERS ARRESTED
Israel	48	23	4	0
oPt	1617	488 ¹	250	341

Syrian Arab Republic

20 September 2024: In Taftanaz town and sub-district, an off-duty 42-year-old male nurse and Head of the Al Hikma Hospital was killed, alongside a child, their home was hit by artillery shells from Syrian/Russian/Iranian forces. Eight adults and six children were injured. **Sources:** [OCHA](#), [Personal Communication I](#), [Personal Communication II](#) and [UOSSM](#)

The Americas

Mexico

15 September 2024: In Villa Unión town, Mazatlán municipality, Sinaloa state, the IMSS Bienestar hospital was stormed by armed individuals carrying injured men with gunshot wounds and threatening health workers to treat them. In response, the hospital staff have requested security and have threatened strike action if it's not given. **Source:** [El Siglo de Durango](#)

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, 18 September-01 October 2024. Switzerland: Insecurity Insight. bit.ly/18Sept-01Oct2024Health

¹ Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) [database attribution policy](#). Accessed 02 October 2024

