

Education in Danger News Brief

February 2026



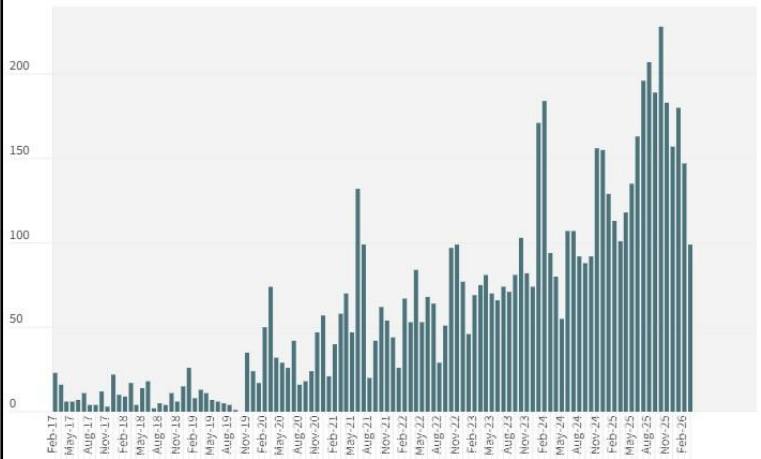
Since the start of Insecurity Insight's Education in Danger open-source monitoring in January 2017 and February 2026, on average 63 incidents per month were identified, covering both political and conflict violence, averaging 2.1 attacks on education every day. The average rose from 32 per month in 2017-2022, to 168 per month in 2025, reflecting both improved open-source reporting as well as a growing frequency in which education comes under attack.

At least 292 attacks on education in 25 countries and one territory were recorded between January and February 2026. In these 292 incidents, educational facilities were damaged at least 176 times, 44 teachers were killed, 12 kidnapped and 40 arrested.

Contact us for data enquiries.

Documented Education in Danger incidents, January 2017-February 2026

Since January 2017, 6,943 incidents were documented. 3,660 incidents reported damage to educational facilities. In addition, 752 educators were killed, 795 injured, 823 kidnapped and 1,841 arrested.



Source: Insecurity Insight

Developments in February 2026

Iran: On 28 February, a devastating airstrike struck **Shajarah Tayyebah School for Girls** in Minab city, destroying the school and killing at least 165 students, including dozens of girls aged 7 to 12. The attack, reportedly carried out with a U.S. Tomahawk missile, occurred near a site alleged to be an IRGC base, which U.S. officials cited to justify the strike. Tomahawks are **tightly controlled** under U.S. export regulations; they are not part of Iran's arsenal. Preliminary U.S. military investigations indicate the **strike was carried out by U.S forces**, following an initial **misattribution** by U.S. President Trump, who briefly blamed Iran - without evidence - and claimed their munitions were "very inaccurate".

The attack, which occurred during the opening day of U.S. and Israeli air operations in Iran, may have resulted from **outdated intelligence**, including target coordinates that misidentified or failed to register the school's civilian status despite it being a longstanding civilian facility separate from the alleged military site. While advanced targeting systems, including AI-assisted tools, may have been used, the civilian casualties were catastrophic.

The combination of initial denials, misattributions of responsibility, and the massive loss of life at a clearly civilian site makes this strike one of the deadliest attacks on civilians in decades of U.S. conflicts, raising serious concerns of a war crime under international humanitarian law. The incident underscores the urgent need for accountability and protective measures for civilian infrastructure in conflict zones.

Mexico: In February, educators in Mexico faced violence, with the academic coordinator of High School 20 at the University of Colima and a primary school teacher in Guerrero's Costa Chica region both killed by armed perpetrators. Violence and insecurity also disrupted access to education more broadly, as schools in several states were suspended following the death of the Jalisco New Generation Cartel leader during a military operation. These events underscore the acute threats to educators, the broader disruption to schooling, and the urgent need for enhanced protection measures in affected regions. See *Mexico* section below for more details.

Past editions: [January](#); [December](#); [November](#); [October](#); [September](#); [August](#); [July](#); [June](#); [May](#); [April](#); [March](#); [February](#); [All](#)

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For more information on Insecurity Insight's work on 'education in danger' see [our website](#), [methodology](#) and the [TRACE Portal](#).

Safety, security and access incidents

Incidents of threats and violence affecting the provision of education.

Africa

Cameroon

12 February 2026: In Kumbo city, Bui division, Northwest region, 15 students of Government Bilingual High School were abducted on the way home from school by suspected Ambazonia fighters, who accused the students of taking part in Youth Day celebrations. **Source:** [MMI News](#)

Central African Republic

07 February 2026: In Bambouti sub-prefecture, Haut-Mbomou prefecture, a MINUSCA-built school was destroyed after Wagner militia fighters, supported by Central African soldiers, opened heavy fire, using heavy weapons, rockets, and machine guns. **Source:** [Corbeau News](#)

Democratic Republic of the Congo

January 2026: In South Kivu province, 1,768 schools remained non-functional due to armed clashes, depriving over 688,000 students of access to education. **Source:** [Actualite](#)

As reported on 06 February 2026: In Malio area, Bashu chiefdom, Beni territory, North Kivu province, 23 schools, including 15 primary and eight secondary schools, were closed for over a week due to an increase in attacks by Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) rebels in the area. **Source:** [Radio Okapi](#)

08 February 2026: In Kinshasa city, a Faculty of Agronomy lecturer at the University of Kinshasa (UNIKIN) was attacked by an armed group while about to board a bus to Kikwit city to attend an event. Both his arms were broken as well as head injuries. **Source:** [Actualite](#) and [Radio Okapi](#)

13 February 2026: Near Kpangba area, Djugu territory, Ituri province, Tuungane Primary School was hit by a shell fired by suspected Convention for the Popular Revolution (CRP) militiamen, damaging its windows. **Source:** [Radio Okapi](#)

13 February 2026: In Goma city, North Kivu province, a student and two other people were abducted from Bulengo University Campus by members of M23/RDF. **Source:** [Personal Communication](#)

23 February 2026: In Kalehe territory, South Kivu province, ten schools suspended classes due to armed clashes between Wazalendo and M23 groups. **Source:** [La Prunelle](#)

Ethiopia

Between 09 and 10 February 2026: In Amarit village, Chertekel kebele, Gozamin woreda, East Gojjam zone, Amarit Primary School was raided by Ethiopian National Defense Force (ENDF) destroying educational materials. **Source:** [Amhara Association of America](#)

14 February 2026: In Washa-Niget kebele, Antsokiyana-Gemza woreda, North Shewa zone, Washa-Niget Primary School was hit by an ENDF drone strike, destroying the school hall. **Source:** [Amhara Association of America](#)

24 February 2026: In Motta town, Hulet-Eju-Enese woreda, East Gojjam zone, Amhara region, Abba-Motsa Primary School was hit by ENDF mortar shelling, killing a father and child and injuring seven people. **Source:** [Amhara War Updates](#)

Between 24 and 25 February 2026: In Awi zone, Jawi woreda, Amhara region, Sewatam Primary School was destroyed after the ENDF dropped at least 29 drone strikes in the area. **Source:** [Amhara War Updates](#)

Nigeria

12 February 2026: In Challenge area, Ibadan city, Oyo state, a student was kidnapped by unidentified armed men near the entrance of a private secondary school. **Source:** [Sahara Reporters](#)

15 February 2026: In Awka city, Anambra state, an unspecified number of students were attacked and injured by suspected herdsmen whilst they were on their way to a night lesson at the Nnamdi Azikiwe University. One of the students had three fingers cut off whilst trying to defend himself. **Source:** [Nigerian Eye](#)

24 February 2026: In Garaha village, Hong local government area, Adamawa state, a school was set on fire by suspected Islamist militants. **Source:** [Bob News](#)

Senegal

09 February 2026: In Dakar city, a dental surgery student was reportedly killed during clashes between security forces and students due to protests over unpaid financial aid at Cheikh Anta Diop University (UCAD). Students claimed that the student was tortured to death by the police, whilst the Dakar court's prosecutor claimed his injuries were caused by him jumping from a window, leading to massive internal bleeding. Clashes began when students attacked the food hall and accused them of possessing tear gas and Molotov cocktails. Videos posted on social media showed security forces firing tear gas into campus buildings with students retaliating by throwing stones. 105 students were detained at the police station. **Sources:** [Africa News I](#), [Africa News II](#) and [Reuters](#)

Sudan

10 February 2026: In Dilling town, South Kordofan state, a primary school was hit by a drone strike by unidentified perpetrators, injuring an unspecified number of people. **Source:** [SKNVibes](#)

11 February 2026: In Dilling city, South Kordofan state, a primary education office was bombed and damaged by the SAF. **Sources:** [Darfur 24](#) and [Sudan War Monitor](#)

14 February 2026: In Dilling city, South Kordofan state, two primary schools were attacked by the RSF and Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N), partially collapsing classrooms and destroying offices and furniture. **Source:** [Darfur 24](#) and [Sudan War Monitor](#)

18 February 2026: In Kurmuk town, Blue Nile state, a school was hit by a drone strike by an unidentified perpetrator. It is unclear whether the drone belonged to RSF or SPLM. **Source:** [Arab News](#)

24 February 2026: In El Obeid city, North Kordofan state, the University of Kordofan was hit by an RSF drone attack, destroying parts of the university. **Source:** [Sudanese Echo](#)

Asia

Myanmar

As from 01 February 2026: In Indawgyi area, Moehnyin township, Kachin state, underage elementary students were pressured and threatened by Shan Red SNA forces to attend military training after completing their exams. **Source:** [Khit Thit Media](#)

03-04 February 2026: In Myingyan township and district, Mandalay region, a school was burned down when the Myanmar military attacked and burned down five villages overnight. **Source:** [Khit Thit Media](#)

08 February 2026: In Matupi township and district, Chin state, an unspecified number of schools, churches, and homes were damaged by airstrikes from the Myanmar military. **Source:** [Zalen](#)

10 February 2026: In Tlang Kwa village, Thantlang township, Hakha district, Chin state, a school and buildings were damaged by a Myanmar military airstrike. **Source:** [Voice of Myanmar](#)

13 February 2026: In Pe Khin Kyaw village, Thaingtha township, Myingyan district, Mandalay region, the village primary school and monastery were burned down by Myanmar military forces. **Sources:** [Khit Thit Media](#) and [Taungtha Community Action Committee](#)

15 February 2026: In Lone Khin village, Hpakant township, Mohnyin district, Kachin state, a public primary school was occupied by the Myanmar military and Shan-Ni Army. **Sources:** [Khit Thit Media](#)

17 February 2026: In Nyaung Pin Gyi Su village, Yone Su village tract, Khin-U township, Shwebo district, Sagaing region, a public high school used as a makeshift hospital and at least five houses were damaged by bombs dropped by a Myanmar military fighter jet. **Sources:** [Khit Thit Media](#), [Maun](#), [Myaelatt Athan](#), [Myanmar Witness](#) and [People's Spring](#)

18 February 2026: In Ywar Kone Gyi village, Yae Shin village tract, Kyunhla township, Kanbalu district, Sagaing region, a public high school was damaged by bombs dropped by a Myanmar military fighter jet. **Sources:** [Democratic Voice of Burma](#), [Khit Thit Media](#), and [Red Peacock](#)

20 February 2026: In Chon In village, Shwe Kyin township, Nyaunglebin district, Bago region, a village school was destroyed by a Myanmar military drone strike. **Source:** [Khit Thit Media](#)

As reported on 25 February 2026: In Mogoke town and township, Thabeikkyin district, Mandalay region, public schools were used as temporary offices for Immigration Department. **Source:** [Mandalay Free Press](#)

Pakistan

21 February 2026: In Barmal district, Paktika province, Banuchi School was hit by a Pakistani military drone strike. **Source:** [Zawia News](#)

Europe

Ukraine

03 February 2026: In Vinnytsia oblast, an educational facility was damaged by Russian forces strikes. **Source:** [UA Varta](#)

06 February 2026: In Kindrativka village, Kramatorsk raion, Donetsk oblast, an educational facility was damaged by Russian forces strikes. **Source:** [UA Varta](#)

11 February 2026: In Sloviansk city and urban hromada, Kramatorsk raion, Donetsk oblast, an educational facility and other civilian infrastructure were damaged after Russian forces attacked the city 10 times, 8 of them with KAB-250 bombs. **Source:** [UA Varta](#)

11 February 2026: In Dmytrivka village, Kutsurubsky rural settlement, Mykolaiv raion and oblast, a non-functional educational facility was damaged in a Russian forces FPV drone attack. **Source:** [UA Varta](#)

16 February 2026: In Kherson city, urban hromada, raion and oblast, a dormitory was damaged by Russian forces artillery shelling. **Sources:** [Kavun City](#) and [Kherson Region Police Communications Department](#)

21 February 2026: In Znob-Novhorodka rural settlement and settlement hromada, Shostka raion, Sumy oblast, a school building was damaged by Russian forces strikes. **Source:** [UA Varta](#)

21-22 February 2026: In Synelnykove raion, Dnipropetrovsk oblast, an educational facility was damaged when Russian forces struck the Pokrovska and Novopavlivska communities with cluster munitions and drones. **Source:** [UA Varta](#)

Middle East and North Africa

Iran

Due to the high number of reported events in Iran during the reporting period, the corresponding data is available on [request](#).

Israel

05 February 2026: In Sakhnin city, Northern district, Palestinian students from Ibn Khaldoun Arab School were assaulted, verbally harassed and exposed to gas by Israeli settlers while on a school trip, causing an unspecified number of injuries. **Source:** [Quds News Network](#)

Occupied Palestinian Territory

Due to the high number of reported events in the occupied Palestinian territory during the reporting period, the corresponding data is available on [request](#).

The Americas

Mexico

03 February 2026: In Colima city, municipality and state, the academic coordinator of High School 20 of the University of Colima, was reported missing. His body was found on a road in the municipality of Tecomán two days later with gunshot wounds. **Sources:** [El Diario de Chihuahua](#) and [La Jornada](#)

05 February 2026: On Azoyú-Arcelia highway, Costa Chica region, Guerrero state, a teacher and principal of a primary school was intercepted and shot by armed men on his way to work. He had previously served as president of the Municipal Committee of the political party PRI. **Sources:** [Infobae](#) and [NMAS](#)

22 February 2026: Schools were suspended in several Mexican states after the Jalisco New Generation Cartel's leader was killed in a shoot-out as the Mexican Army tried to arrest him. **Source:** [Arab News](#)

This Monthly News Brief comprises reported incidents of threatened or actual violence affecting education. It is part of the Education in Danger 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 education and have not been independently verified.

This document is funded and supported by the Education Above All Foundation. The opinions expressed in it do not reflect in any way the position of the Education Above All Foundation who are not responsible for the content expressed in this document.

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Insecurity Insight. 2026. Education in Danger Monthly News Brief, February 2026. Switzerland: Insecurity Insight. <https://bit.ly/Feb2026Edu>

