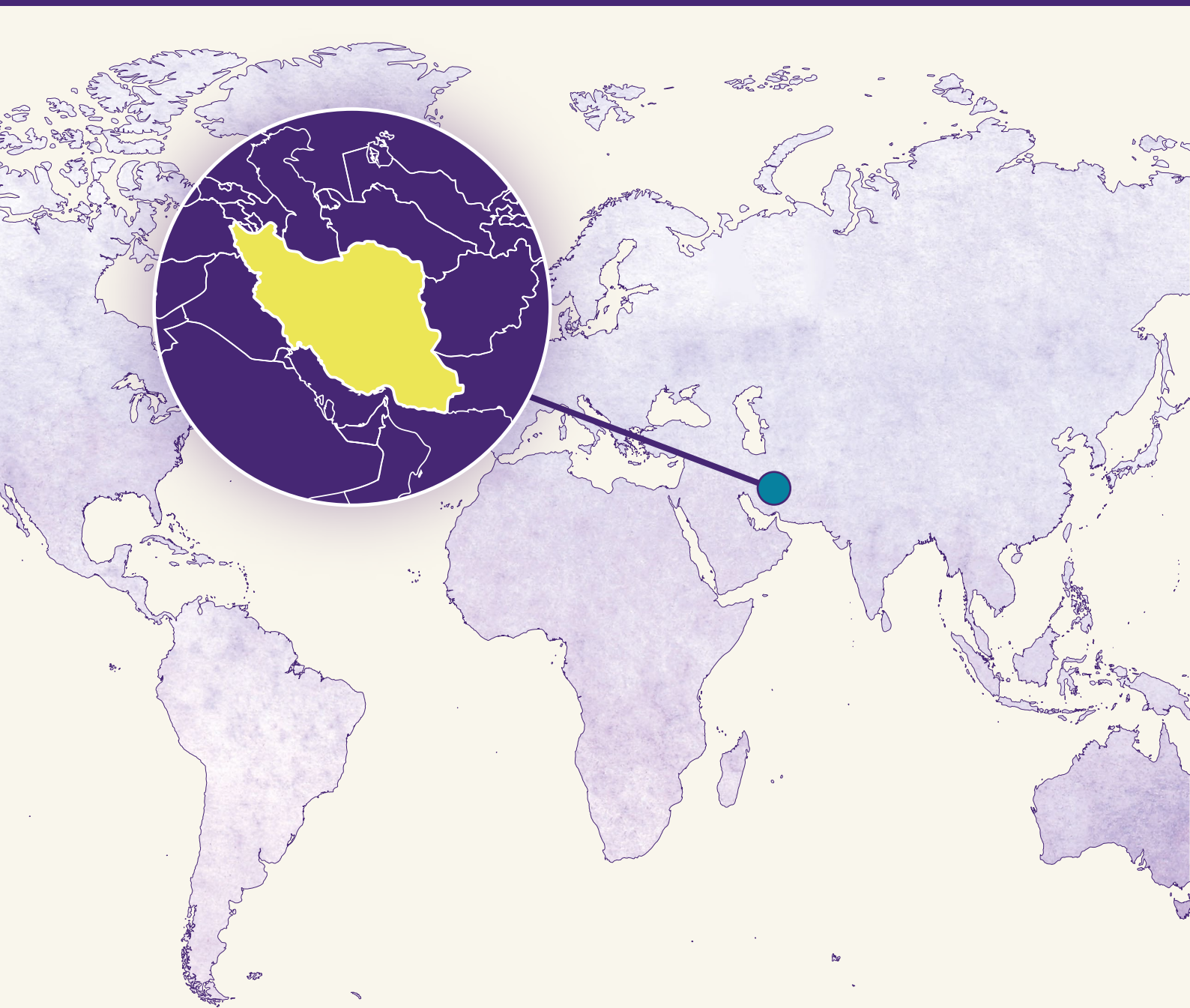


IRAN

Violence Against Health Care in Conflict 2025



**SAFEGUARDING
HEALTH
IN CONFLICT**



**Insecurity
Insight**
Data on People in Danger



REPORTED INCIDENTS AND MOST COMMONLY REPORTED CONCERNS

 REPORTED INCIDENTS	 HEALTH WORKERS KILLED	 INCIDENTS WHERE HEALTH FACILITIES WERE DAMAGED/ DESTROYED
JUNE 13-24, 2025		
27	19	14

Source: Insecurity Insight for the SHCC.

OVERVIEW

Using data collected by Insecurity Insight, the Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC) identified 27 incidents of violence against or obstruction of health care in Iran during the Iran-Israel war in June 2025. Among reported incidents, 19 health workers were killed, while health facilities were damaged 14 times.

The actual number of incidents and the severity of the problem are likely greater, because attacks on health care may not have been reported in some locations.

Methodology and sources

After 2022, 2025 marked only the second time that incidents of violence against or obstruction of health care in Iran were covered in a standalone chapter in the SHCC's Annual Report. In 2022, at least 72 health workers were arrested and four killed during protests following Mahsa Amini's death.¹ In January 2024, three paramedics were killed by an Islamic State double-tap bomb attack as they responded to the victims of an earlier blast.²

Information on incidents of violence against health care in Iran are compiled from open sources, information projects, aid agency data-sharing mechanisms and private sources. Data is continuously updated and numbers may change if new information is made publicly available. For the latest available figures, see Insecurity Insight's [global map](#) on attacks on health care. See [Methodology](#) for further information.

THE CONTEXT

Armed conflict between Iran and Israel erupted on June 13, 2025, when the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) launched air strikes reportedly targeting military and nuclear facilities in Iran. Over 935 people, including women and children, were reportedly killed, thousands fled Tehran and other cities, and many types of



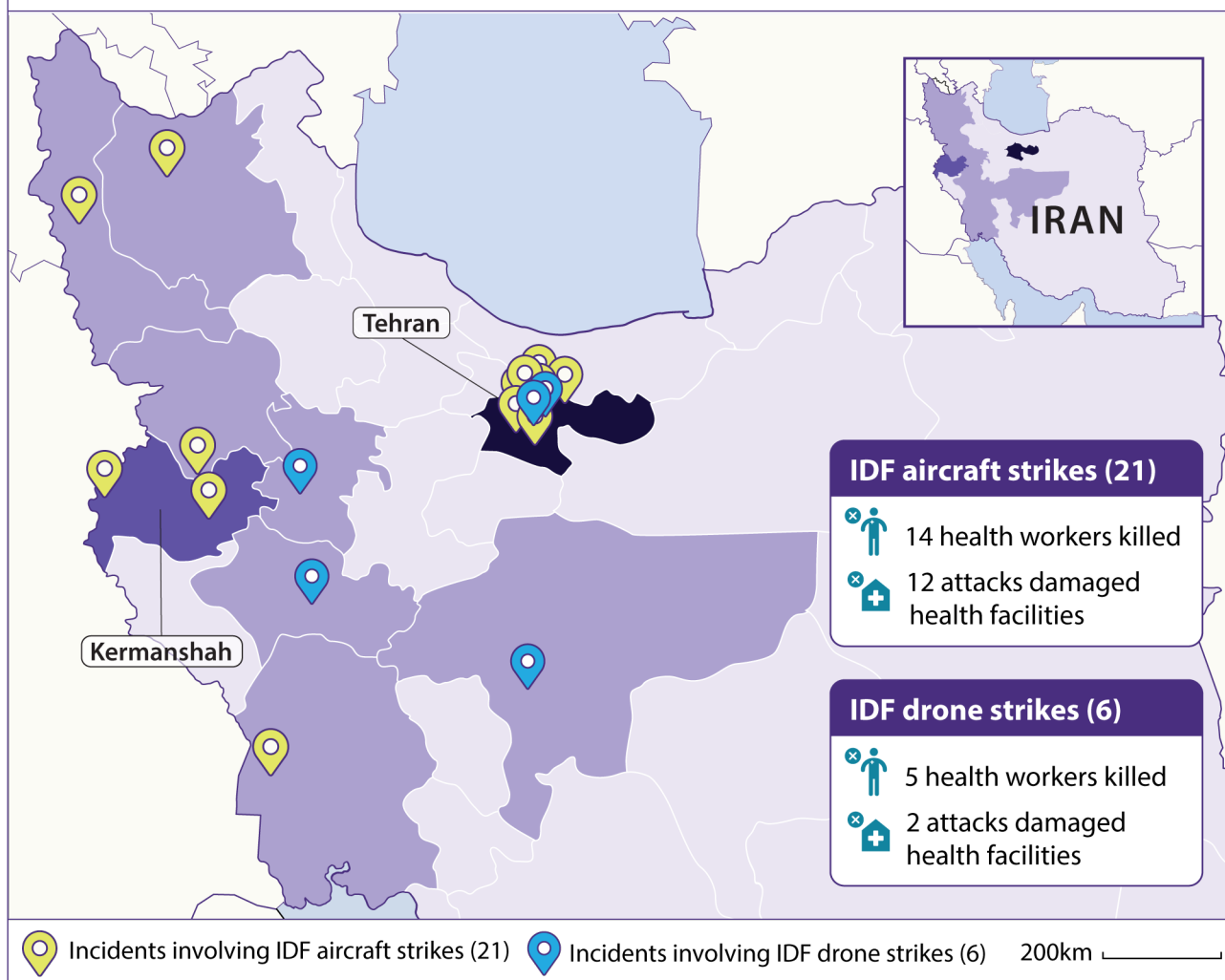
civilian infrastructure, such as health facilities, schools, and water and energy networks, were damaged. The United States also carried out strikes on Iranian nuclear sites on June 21. On June 24, a ceasefire was declared amid growing international concern over civilian casualties and the risk of wider regional escalation of the conflict.

VIOLENCE AGAINST OR OBSTRUCTION OF HEALTH CARE IN 2025

All 27 reported incidents of violence against or obstruction of health care in Iran between June 13 and 24 were attributed to the IDF using explosive weapons. On average, health care was impacted by explosive weapons use at least 2.5 times each day throughout the conflict, with higher numbers recorded on the first day and again the day before the ceasefire was declared on June 24.

Known locations of reported incidents where IDF aircraft and drone strikes affected health care in Iran, June 13-24, 2025

Around 64% of incidents took place in Tehran. The remaining incidents were recorded in Iran's western provinces bordering Iraq.



Source: Insecurity Insight for the SHCC.



All reported health worker killings were recorded in the first four days of the conflict, while subsequent IDF-issued evacuation warnings in some areas may have explained the low number killed inside health facilities after the warnings were issued.

Most incidents involved IDF aircraft-delivered strikes damaging health facilities and ambulances and harming health workers, while six incidents involved IDF drones armed with explosives causing similar harm.

Incidents were reported across nine of Iran's 31 provinces, with around 64% taking place in the capital, Tehran. The remaining incidents were recorded in Iran's western provinces bordering Iraq.

The majority of cases affected health care providers working for national health structures, with eight incidents affecting Red Cross societies and one incident each affecting an NGO and a private health organization.³

Maternal and child services were repeatedly affected by IDF aircraft and drone strikes in Tehran between June 13 and 24, 2025.⁴ The fence of a children's hospital was damaged by a nighttime drone strike, while infants and children were evacuated from a children's hospital following IDF warnings to evacuate the area prior to a bombing offensive. A surgeon and obstetrician-gynecologist and her husband were severely burned and their baby was killed when an IDF aircraft strike hit their home, and a neonatal specialist and her three-year-old daughter were killed in a separate IDF aircraft strike.

Health workers killed

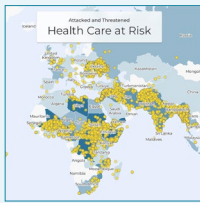
At least 19 health workers were reportedly killed in 14 incidents. Along with the two staff members killed in hospital bombings, 11 other health workers were killed in double tap strikes while responding to victims of previous IDF bombings, while at least six were traveling in ambulances when they were killed.⁵ Two doctors and a dentist were killed when their homes in Tehran were struck by IDF aircraft strikes in three separate incidents.⁶

Health workers at a hospital in Karaj reported exhaustion after back-to-back shifts as injured people continued to arrive from other hospitals.

Health facilities damaged or destroyed

Health facilities were reportedly damaged 14 times between June 13 and 24 by 12 reported Israeli aircraft strikes and two drone strikes. Nearly 72% of damaged health facilities were located in Tehran. IDF aircraft strikes damaged health facilities in Kermanshah, Khuzestan, and Kurdistan provinces, including a children's facility, a burn hospital, and the Evin Prison infirmary, as well as health centers and emergency health care buildings.⁷

Two health workers were killed in hospital bombings. The IDF issued evacuation warnings in some areas that could explain the low number of health workers killed in the recorded hospital bombings. IDF aircraft strikes reportedly hit and badly damaged the Evin Prison infirmary, killing a doctor, while a physician and infectious disease specialist, who volunteered at the prison clinic once a week, sustained major injuries requiring amputation.⁸ An ear, nose and throat (ENT) specialist was killed when two Israeli air strikes hit Tajrish Square, 50 meters away from the Tajrish Martyrs Hospital in Tehran.⁹



This chapter is based on 2022-2025 IRN SHCC Health Care Data. Download this data on the [Humanitarian Data Exchange \(HDX\)](#).

Insecurity Insight updates data continuously and numbers may change if new information is made publicly available. For the latest available figures, see Insecurity Insight's [global map](#) on attacks on health care.

THE IMPACT OF ATTACKS ON HEALTH CARE

Patients' access to health care was disrupted during the conflict, including in Tehran, where infants and children were evacuated from Ameneh Infant Care Center following an Israeli warning to clear the surrounding district, interrupting specialized pediatric services.¹⁰ Mehrad Private Hospital reportedly reduced clinic opening hours in response to IDF air strikes, while patients at Shahid Motahari Hospital and Labafinejad Hospital were evacuated and transferred to other facilities.¹¹ The Iranian Red Crescent Society stated that approximately 1,500 hospital beds were damaged across Iran during the conflict.

The 12-day conflict put pressure on Iran's health care system, particularly in underserved areas, reflecting disparities in the distribution of specialists, 42% of whom were concentrated in five major cities: Isfahan, Karaj, Mashhad, Shiraz and Tehran. The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) mobilised health workers from multiple provinces, including Gilan, Isfahan, Khuzestan and Qazvin, to reinforce hospitals in Tehran, reducing staffing in their home regions. Reports indicated that elective surgeries and essential services, including maternal care, dialysis, and oncology treatment, were denied or delayed, with a greater impact in remote and underserved areas.

Health facilities and staff were overwhelmed by increasing numbers of casualties, particularly in rural areas, while facing shortages due to health workers moving to larger cities, forcing hospitals to reconfigure services and relocate medical equipment to manage the influx. At Imam Khomeini Hospital in Tehran, intensive care unit capacity was expanded, and patients with minor injuries were transferred to other clinics. Health workers at a hospital in Karaj reported exhaustion after back-to-back shifts as injured people continued to arrive from other hospitals.



- 1 <https://mapaction-maps.herokuapp.com/health?fromDate=01-01-2022&toDate=31-12-2022&lat=32.71682&lng=53.66684&zoom=4.24&country=IRN&category=Political>.
- 2 <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-67872281>.
- 3 Insecurity Insight. Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition 2025 Report Dataset: 2022-2025 IRN SHCC Health Care Data. Incident numbers 104367; 104369; 104370; 104371; 104376; 104378; 104383; 108929; 108930.
- 4 Insecurity Insight. Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition 2025 Report Dataset: 2022-2025 IRN SHCC Health Care Data. Incident numbers 104354; 104373; 104374.
- 5 Insecurity Insight. Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition 2025 Report Dataset: 2022-2025 IRN SHCC Health Care Data. Incident numbers 104369; 104376; 104377; 104378.
- 6 Insecurity Insight. Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition 2025 Report Dataset: 2022-2025 IRN SHCC Health Care Data. Incident numbers 104373; 104374; 104379.
- 7 Insecurity Insight. Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition 2025 Report Dataset: 2022-2025 IRN SHCC Health Care Data. Incident numbers 104355; 104356; 104357; 104366.
- 8 Insecurity Insight. Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition 2025 Report Dataset: 2022-2025 IRN SHCC Health Care Data. Incident number 104360.
- 9 Insecurity Insight. Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition 2025 Report Dataset: 2022-2025 IRN SHCC Health Care Data. Incident number 104375.
- 10 Insecurity Insight. Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition 2025 Report Dataset: 2022-2025 IRN SHCC Health Care Data. Incident number 104381.
- 11 Insecurity Insight. Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition 2025 Report Dataset: 2022-2025 IRN SHCC Health Care Data. Incident numbers 104361; 104362.

SAFEGUARDING HEALTH IN CONFLICT

The Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition is a group of more than 40 organizations working to protect health workers and services threatened by war or civil unrest. We have raised awareness of global attacks on health and pressed United Nations agencies for greater global action to protect the security of health care. We monitor attacks, strengthen universal norms of respect for the right to health, and demand accountability for perpetrators. Suggested citation: Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC) 2026. Care in the Crosshairs: Violence Against Health Care in Conflict, May 2026. <https://shcc.pub/SHCCAnnualReport2025>
<https://safeguarding-health.com>

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