

This overview document presents available information on KIK incidents<sup>1</sup> that affected aid agencies and their staff.<sup>2</sup> The report is based on incidents identified by Insecurity Insight's monitoring of open sources and reported by Aid in Danger partner agencies using the Security in Numbers Database (SiND).

The available open-source and confidentially shared information is an indication of the number of aid workers killed, injured or kidnapped. However, no claim is made that the total number of aid workers affected has been documented or is known.

In 2017, 506 aid workers were reportedly killed, injured or kidnapped in 240 incidents in 49 countries. Total KIK figures for 2017 are available on [HDX](#).



## Killed

- 179 aid workers were reportedly killed in 98 incidents in 20 countries.
- The highest numbers of deaths occurred in Syria (66), South Sudan (30), CAR (15), Nigeria (12) and Bangladesh (10).
- Over half of reported incidents were attributed to **non-state actors** (57 out of 98 incidents). **State actors** were reportedly responsible for 33 incidents. For eight incidents, the identity of the perpetrators is unclear.



## Injured

- 121 aid workers were reportedly injured in 64 incidents in 24 countries.
- The highest numbers of injuries occurred in Syria (47), South Sudan (16), Nigeria (14) and Bangladesh (10).
- Over half of reported incidents were attributed to **non-state actors** (35/64). **State actors** were reportedly responsible for 19 incidents.
- Two incidents were attributed to **beneficiaries**. For eight incidents, the identity of the perpetrators is unclear.

## Similar reported locations and weapons types

- Nearly half of the affected aid workers were killed and injured by **explosives weapons** while they were in health-care facilities, NGO offices, project sites, public buildings (hotels and restaurants), refugee and IDP camps, and NGO warehouses (79/179 aid workers killed and 53/121 aid workers injured).
- 33 aid workers were reportedly killed and 19 injured by **firearms** during road travel.
- Ten aid workers were reportedly killed and two injured in guesthouse and NGO office invasions by perpetrators armed with **firearms** and **machetes**.
- One NGO security guard was injured by robbers armed with **spears**.

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## Kidnapped



- 141 aid workers were reportedly kidnapped in 38 incidents in 20 countries.
- The highest numbers of kidnappings occurred in the DRC (53), South Sudan (29) and Somalia (16).
- Nearly half of the affected aid workers were reportedly kidnapped during **road travel** (63/141).
- In addition, 24 staff were reportedly kidnapped from hotels, NGO compounds and residences, and project sites.
- 72% of affected aid workers were reportedly **released** (101/141).
- In addition, ransom demands were made for the release of eight aid workers in South Sudan and one in CAR; one aid worker escaped from captivity in the DRC and one was reportedly killed following their abduction in Nigeria. 29 staff members reportedly remain in captivity.

## Assaulted



- 65 aid workers were reportedly assaulted in 56 incidents in 30 countries.
- Over 55% of reported incidents were attributed to **non-state actors** (31/56). **State actors** were reportedly responsible for two incidents.
- Four assaults were reportedly perpetrated by **other aid workers** and three by **beneficiaries**. For 16 incidents, the identify of the perpetrators is unclear.
- Over a third of reported aid workers assaults were sustained during **armed** and **unarmed robberies** at NGO compounds, guesthouses, offices and warehouses (25/65).
- In addition, 14 aid workers were reportedly assaulted during armed and unarmed **street robberies**.

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<sup>1</sup> **KIK incidents:** Any incident that resulted in a staff member being killed, injured or kidnapped. Includes: beaten, kidnapped, killed, missing, tortured, and wounded.

In our coding, assaults describe violence against staff where no specific injuries are reported. Injuries count the number of aid workers explicitly described as having sustained injuries. Most injuries are inflicted with either firearms or explosive weapons. Many assaults are carried out with body parts (fists, feet) or objects.

<sup>2</sup> In our coding, an aid worker is defined as an individual employed by or attached to a humanitarian, UN, international, national, or government aid agency.