





# Attacks on Health Care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories

26 December 2023-01 January 2024



## Recorded Violence Against Health Care in Israel and the oPt, 07 October-21 December 2023

	 REPORTED INCIDENTS	 HEALTH WORKERS KILLED	 INCIDENTS WHERE HEALTH FACILITIES WERE DAMAGED	 HEALTH WORKERS ARRESTED
Israel	14	9	1	0
oPt	556	123	117	111

Data source: [Insecurity Insight](#) on [HDX](#). [Contact](#) us for curated datasets.

Explore the incidents on our [interactive map](#)<sup>1</sup> and on this [data visualisation](#) by Soha Elghany.

**Insecurity Insight has identified 570 incidents of violence against or obstruction of access to health care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories between 07 October and 21 December 2023.** Fourteen incidents were reported in Israel including nine health workers killed in attacks carried out by Hamas militants. In the oPt where 556 incidents were recorded, 417 took place in the Gaza Strip and 86 in the West Bank and East Jerusalem.<sup>2</sup> Of the 117 incidents that reported health facilities being extensively damaged, at least 14 hospitals were damaged more than once. In addition, 123 health workers were killed in 82 incidents mostly by explosive weapons used by Israeli forces in Gaza.<sup>3</sup> In the West Bank, at least 45 health workers have been detained in 25 incidents, mostly while responding to health emergencies, and ambulances have frequently been obstructed from reaching patients in need of care. Insecurity Insight calls for independent investigations and for all conflict parties to uphold international humanitarian law. Health workers and facilities are protected.

Past incident reports: [19-25 December](#); [12-18 December](#); [01-11 December](#); [24-30 November](#); [12-23 November](#); [All](#)

Visit our [oPt](#) webpage. Join our [mailing](#) for the latest information. 2022 Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC) factsheets: [Arabic](#) and [English](#)

The incidents reported below are not a complete nor a representative list of all events that affected the provision of health care between 26 December 2023-01 January 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](#). **Help support the protection of health care by sharing this resource. Please copy and paste this link: [bit.ly/26Dec-01Jan2024OPTHealth](https://bit.ly/26Dec-01Jan2024OPTHealth)**

## Israel

*No incidents identified during the reporting period.*



## Occupied Palestinian Territories

### *Gaza Strip*

**27 December 2023:** In Nuseirat Refugee Camp, Deir al-Balah governorate, medical and rescue teams were unable to reach areas hit by Israeli missiles and shelling due to constant bombing.

**Source:** [IMEMC](#)

**27 December 2023:** In Beit Hanoun and Jabalia towns, North Gaza governorate, telecommunication blackouts made it difficult for medics and hospitals to reach and receive information on casualties in these areas subjected to heavy Israeli bombings. **Source:** [IMEMC](#)

**27 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis city and governorate, Israeli shelling in front of al-Amal Hospital killed 31 people and injured 25 others. This is the fourth time the hospital's surroundings were hit in less than a week. **Sources:** [Middle East Eye](#), [PRCS I](#), [PRCS II](#) and [WAFA](#)

**27 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis city and governorate, the Palestinian Health Ministry reported that Israeli bombings around the Nasser Medical Complex were increasing. **Source:** [Middle East Eye](#)

**27 December 2023:** In Gaza city and governorate, Israeli forces entered and searched Al-Quds Hospital and the PRCS building. **Source:** [Middle East Eye](#)

**27 December 2023:** In Gaza city and governorate, Israeli shelling was reported in the vicinity of the Al-Quds Hospital and PRCS building causing widespread destruction. Emergency services were unable to reach the area due to the heavy bombing. **Source:** [Middle East Eye](#)

**28 December 2023:** In Rafah city and governorate, 20 people were killed after an Israeli airstrike hit the vicinity of the Kuwait Specialty Hospital. **Source:** [Al Jazeera I](#)

**28 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis city and governorate, a home near Al-Amal Hospital was hit by an Israeli missile. At least 10 people were killed and over 12 injured. This is the fifth time the hospital was hit in less than a week and the third time the surroundings of the hospital was hit in less than an hour. **Sources:** [IMEMC](#), [PRCS I](#), [PRCS II](#), [PRCS III](#) and [WAFA](#)

**28 December 2023:** In Jabalia city, Northern Gaza governorate, Israeli forces forced an unspecified number of children, women and elderly sheltering inside Saftawi Health Centre to leave. **Source:** [IMEMC](#)

**29 December 2023:** In Khan Younis city and governorate, Israeli forces bombed a residential apartment near the Al-Amal Hospital. PRCS ambulances evacuated casualties and wounded individuals under ongoing Israeli bombardment. **Source:** [PRCS](#)

**30 December 2023:** In Gaza city and governorate, medical and rescue teams were unable to reach areas hit by Israeli missiles and shelling due to constant Israeli bombing. **Source:** [IMEMC](#)

**As reported on 30 December 2023:** Across the Gaza strip, the WHO has warned of the increasing risk of infectious diseases due to the collapse of the health sector and the interruption of most medicines. **Source:** [IMEMC](#)

**31 December 2023:** In Nuseirat Refugee Camp, Deir al-Balah governorate, a paramedic was killed and another injured by Israeli airstrikes inside the camp whilst trying to reach injured Palestinian. **Sources:** [Quds News Network](#), [IMEMC](#) and [WAFA](#)

**31 December 2023:** In Khan Younis city and governorate, Israeli airstrikes were reported in the vicinity of Nasser Hospital. **Source:** [Quds News Network](#)

**31 December 2023:** In Khan Younis city and governorate, Israeli shelling was reported in the vicinity of the European Hospital. While PRCS teams were responding to the injured, the area was hit again in a 'double-tap' operation. **Source:** [IMEMC](#) and [PRCS](#)

**01 January 2024:** In an unspecified location in the Gaza Strip, an orthopaedic specialist and three of his children were killed by Israeli military tanks. Two other children were detained and later handed over to the Red Cross and received medical treatment at Deir Balah Hospital. **Source:** [Quds News Network](#)

**01 January 2024:** In the Gaza Strip, 10,000 cancer patients are completely without medication after Al-Sadaka Cancer Hospital went out of service. **Source:** [Quds News Network](#)

---

### ***West Bank***

**22 December 2023:** In Barta'a town, Jenin governorate, West Bank, Israeli soldiers prevented an ambulance from entering the town during a security operation. **Source:** [IMEMC](#)

**27 December 2023:** In Nur Sham Refugee camp, Tulkarm governorate, Israeli soldiers stopped ambulances from reaching the wounded individuals for about an hour, after a drone strike on the. One of the wounded was stabbed by an Israeli soldier inside an ambulance. **Sources:** [IMEMC](#) and [Middle East Eye](#)

**27 December 2023:** In Ein Al-Sultan Refugee Camp, Jericho governorate, Israeli soldiers arrested a doctor during a military raid on the camp. **Source:** [WAFA](#)

**28 December 2023:** In Ein Al-Sultan Refugee Camp, Jericho governorate, Israeli soldiers prevented ambulances from reaching a man who had been shot and injured during a military raid on the camp. **Source:** [IMEMC](#)

**29 December 2023:** En route to Tubas city and governorate, Israeli soldiers detained a young man from a PRCS ambulance transporting him to hospital. The man had been shot and injured during a military raid in Al-Fara'a Refugee Camp. **Source:** [IMEMC](#)

**29 December 2023:** At a checkpoint east of Qalqilya, West Bank, a critically wounded 17-year-old boy en route to a hospital was detained from an ambulance by Israeli soldiers. The ambulance was en route from a hospital in Qalqilya to one in Nablus when the youth was detained. **Sources:** [IMEMC](#), [Personal Communication](#) and [Quds News Network](#)

**30 December 2023:** In Tulkarm city and governorate, Israeli soldiers were deployed near the Martyr Thabet Thabet Government Hospital during a military operation inside Nour Shams Refugee Camp. Ambulance were reportedly obstructed at the entrance to the hospital. **Sources:** [IMEMC](#) and [Quds News Network](#)

**30 December 2023:** In Tulkarm city and governorate, Israeli soldiers were deployed near Al-Isra Specialized Hospital during a military operation inside Nour Shams Refugee Camp. Israeli snipers were reportedly positioned in the vicinity. **Source:** [IMEMC](#) and [Quds News Network](#)

**30 December 2023:** In Nur Shams Refugee Camp, Tulkarm governorate, Israeli soldiers obstructed ambulances from transferring injured men to hospital. **Source:** [IMEMC](#)

**30 December 2023:** In Jalazoun Refugee Camp, Ramallah governorate, Israeli soldiers arrested a wounded boy from an ambulance during a security operation in the camp. **Source:** [Quds News Network](#)

**31 December 2023:** In Tulkarm city and governorate, Israeli soldiers obstructed a PRCS ambulance near the Martyr Thabet Thabet Government Hospital. **Source:** [Quds News Network](#)

**31 December 2023:** In Tulkarm city and governorate, Israeli soldiers obstructed a second ambulance near the Martyr Thabet Thabet Government Hospital. **Source:** [Quds News Network II](#)

**01 January 2023:** In Sawahra town, East Jerusalem, Israeli forces prevented Palestinian medics from reaching a man they had shot and injured. The injured man was detained and reportedly taken away by an Israeli ambulance. **Source:** [IMEMC](#)

---

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 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. 26 December 2023-01 January 2024. Attacks on Health Care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories. Switzerland: Insecurity Insight. [bit.ly/26Dec-01Jan2024OPTHealth](https://bit.ly/26Dec-01Jan2024OPTHealth)**

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.

<sup>1</sup> Zoom in and click on Israel or oPT to see the latest figures. Click on the yellow square to read about the recorded events.

<sup>2</sup> 52 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.

<sup>3</sup> We are aware of other sources reporting higher health worker killings. 123 is based on the number of health workers killed where location and date has been identified as we do not report aggregate numbers but compile our numbers based on individually reported cases. We continue to work on collating a complete list from information that has been provided in different formats such as names or professions of health workers who were killed. This cross-checking process is complex to avoid double counting the same individuals based on the fact that different victim information was provided by different information providers. The total number of health workers killed is believed to be higher than the current verified number.

