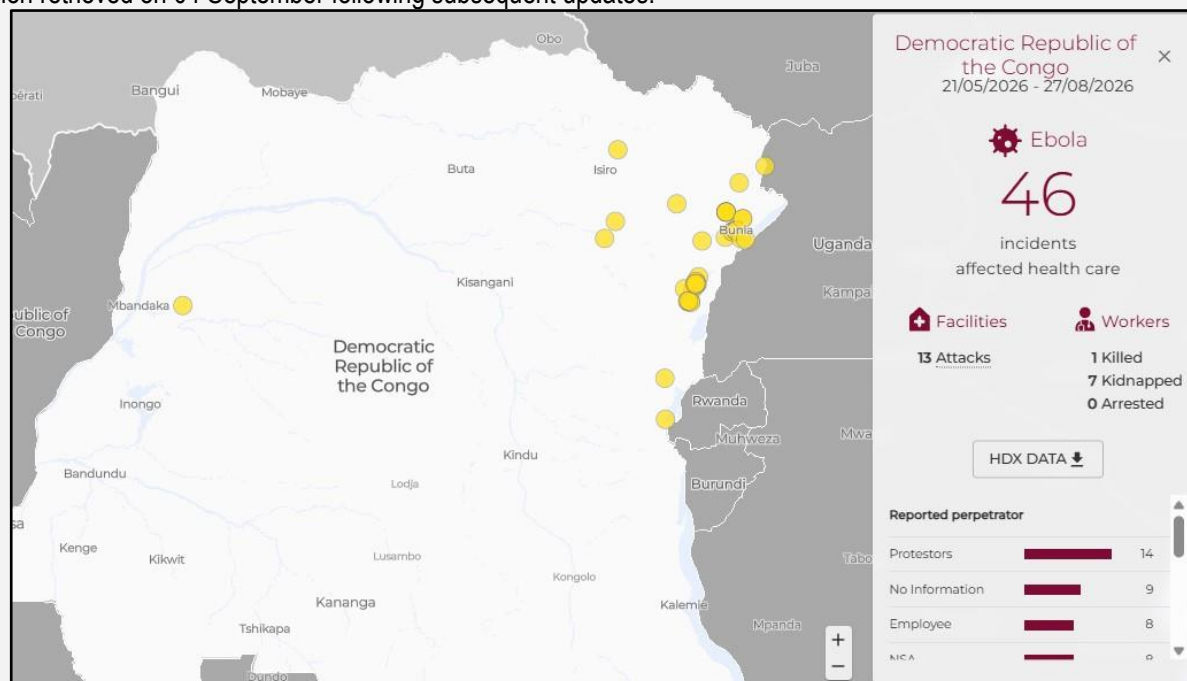


Attacks on Health Care

News Brief

05-18 August
2026

Data by Insecurity Insight shows that since the outbreak on 21 May and 27 August 2026, **46 attacks** on Ebola response measures have been reported in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Ebola treatment centres have been attacked and damaged 14 times, including nine cases of facilities being deliberately set on fire. In addition, 16 response workers were injured and seven others kidnapped. Data is collected daily, with continuous backdating as new sources and incidents are identified or additional information becomes available. Therefore, the data may differ from the version retrieved on 04 September following subsequent updates.



Insecurity Insight's ***Social Media Monitoring*** series on the 17th Ebola outbreak in the DRC provides timely analysis of online narratives shaping public perceptions of the epidemic. Drawing on thousands of social media posts and comments, these reports identify emerging misinformation, public concerns, and reactions to response measures that can influence access to health care and the safety of responders. The series follows key narratives, covering themes such as:

- **"What Evidence That These Statistics Are Not Lies?"** - distrust of official case numbers.
- **"Ebola, a Disease Created by White People"** - conspiracy theories blaming foreign actors;
- **"Embezzlement in Progress"** - allegations of corruption and misuse of response funds;
- **"There is no Ebola in the Congo"** - denial of the outbreak's existence;

Together, these reports provide humanitarian agencies, health responders, researchers, and risk communication specialists with actionable insights into how online discourse evolves during a public health emergency. By identifying harmful narratives early, the series supports evidence-based community engagement, helps counter misinformation, and contributes to safer and more effective outbreak response strategies.

Past editions: **22 July-04 August**; **08-21 July**; **24 June-07 July**; **10-23 June**; **27 May-09 June**; **13-26 May**; **29 April-12 May**; **15-28 April**; **01-14 April**; **18-31 March**; **04-17 March**; **18 February-03 March**; **04-17 February**; **All**

Help support the protection of health care by sharing this resource. Please copy and paste this link: <https://bit.ly/05-18Aug2026Health>

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

Democratic Republic of the Congo

06 August 2026: In Kirumba town, Lubero territory, North Kivu province, a nurse was detained for a week by AFC/M23 rebels, along with four other people, on accusations of collaborating with a national MP and attempting to "destabilize the Kirumba commune" with financial aid allegedly sent by the deputy. **Source:** [Actualite](#)

06 August 2026: In Kirumba town, Lubero territory, North Kivu province, a pharmacy was closed by AFC/M23 rebels. **Source:** [Actualite](#)

11 August 2026: Birambizo locality, Rutshuru territory, North Kivu province, the nurse in charge of the Birambizo health area and two medicine sellers were arrested by AFC/M23 soldiers. **Source:** [Jambo News Channel](#)

12 August 2026: In Birambizo locality, Rutshuru territory, North Kivu province, a nurse and nursing director at Birambizo General Referral Hospital, was arrested by AFC/M23 soldiers. The following day, Birambizo General Referral Hospital suspended its activities, prompting health workers to leave the facility. **Source:** [Jambo News Channel](#)

South Sudan

07 August 2026: In Guit county, Unity state, Thorgow health and nutrition facility operated by Concern Worldwide and Cordaid was looted by unidentified armed men. The security guard was threatened before looting health and nutrition supplies, as well as other facility assets. The facility provided integrated health and nutrition services to an estimated 4,500 people. **Source:** [OCHA](#)

As reported 10 August 2026: In Wechjal town, Walgak payam, Akobo West sub-county, Akobo county, Jonglei state, Wechjal Primary Health Care Centre (PHCC) was looted and stripped of its solar panels, eliminating cold-chain capacity, and was left without medicines, equipment or vaccines. Routine immunisation ceased, while malaria and acute watery diarrhoea were leading health concerns. High levels of acute malnutrition, maternal deaths, and the absence of emergency obstetric care were reported. The only referral option was Pieri Hospital, about a day's walk away through insecure areas. **Source:** [OCHA](#)

11 August 2026: In Balamuke village, along the Yei-Lasu road, Yei county, Central Equatoria state, three UN agency staff members, including a nurse and two drivers, and an international humanitarian organisation staff member were abducted at 1100hrs by unidentified armed men while transporting Ebola prevention supplies to Libogo, a border town in Lasu payam near the DRC. The team was supporting Ebola preparedness efforts in an area considered vulnerable to cross-border disease transmission. A ransom of US\$5,000 was reportedly demanded for each person. The four were subsequently released on 14 August following negotiations by the UN and other partners. **Sources:** [OCHA](#) and [Yei Today](#)

Sudan

Incident briefs: [22 July-04 August](#); [08-21 July](#); [24 June-07 July](#); [10-23 June](#); [27 May-09 June](#); [13-26 May](#); [29 April-12 May](#); [15-28 April](#); [01-14 April](#); [18-31 March](#); [04-17 March](#); [18 February-03 March](#); [04-17 February](#); [All](#)

SHCC chapters (EN): [2025](#); [2024](#); [2023](#); [2022](#); [2021](#). (AR): [2025](#); [2024](#); [2023](#); [2022](#); [2021](#).

Asia

Afghanistan

09 August 2026: In Gardez city, Paktia province, a doctor who was completing his internship at Paktia Regional Hospital was shot and killed by unidentified perpetrators armed with an air rifle outside the hospital in the afternoon. **Source:** [Kabul Now](#)

Myanmar

Incident briefs: [05-18 August](#); [22 July-04 August](#); [08-21 July](#); [24 June-07 July](#); [10-23 June](#); [27 May-09 June](#); [13-26 May](#); [29 April-12 May](#); [15-28 April](#); [01-14 April](#); [18-31 March](#); [04-17 March](#); [18 February-03 March](#); [All](#)

SHCC chapters: Burmese: [2025](#); [2024](#); [2023](#). English: [2025](#); [2024](#); [2023](#); [2022](#); [2021](#)

Europe

Ukraine

06 August 2026: In Balakliia city and urban hromada, Izium raion, Kharkiv oblast, a children's outpatient clinic, an educational institution, a shop, garage and other civilian infrastructure were damaged by Russian missiles. **Sources:** [057](#), [1svobodny](#), [Chronikers](#), [Dumka Media](#), [Gwara Media](#), [MagnoliaTV](#), [Obozrevatel](#), [RegioNews](#), [UA Varta](#) and [Ukrinform](#)

07 August 2026: In Kherson city, urban hromada, raion and oblast, a hospital was struck with a Russian drone at 1820hrs, injuring four nurses with mine blast injuries and contusions. **Sources:** [Apostrophe](#), [Censor](#), [DSNews](#), [Interfax](#), [Kherson City Military Administration](#), [Novosti-N](#), [NV](#), [Radio Liberty](#), [RBC](#), [RayonIN](#), [UA.NEWS](#), [Ukrinform](#) and [Vgoru](#)

07 August 2026: In Dnipro city, urban hromada and raion, Dnipropetrovsk oblast, a WHO warehouse storing medicines for hospitals and people near the front line was hit by Russian forces, damaging supplies. **Sources:** [WHO](#)

07 August 2026: In Dnipro city, urban hromada and raion, Dnipropetrovsk oblast, a WHO warehouse storing medicines for hospitals and people near the front line was hit for a second time in hours by Russian forces, destroying the facility. WHO employees managed to save 130 of approximately 300 pallets of medicines, as some of the medicines had been taken out of the warehouse the day before. **Sources:** [Apostrophe](#), [Capital NEWS](#), [Censor](#), [Commissioner for Human Rights](#), [Donbass News](#), [Hromadske](#), [News.LIVE](#), [OGO](#), [Ostro](#), [Shelter](#), [Ukrinform](#), [UNN](#) and [WHO](#)

11 August 2026: In Shevchenkivskiy district, Kyiv city, the grounds of a children's hospital were hit during a Russian overnight ballistic missile attack. The building's windows and a gas pipeline were damaged. Children and medical staff had moved to the shelter before the strike. Subsequently, the mayor called on doctors from the wider area to come to the district to assist. **Sources:** [Kurazh](#), [Radio Liberty](#) and [UA Varta](#)

16 August 2026: In Kherson oblast, a medical facility, an emergency rescue service vehicle, a humanitarian aid distribution centre, a shop, a police vehicle, five civilian cars, a hangar, a warehouse and a garage were damaged by Russian strikes. **Source:** [UA Varta](#)

Insecurity Insight has documented over **3,300 attacks** on Ukraine's health facilities, health workers and infrastructure since the start of Russia's full-scale invasion on 24 February 2022 to 31 July 2026.

- Hospitals and clinics have been damaged or destroyed **1750** times
- **489** health workers have been killed
- **115** attacks on services provided for women during pregnancy, childbirth and the postnatal period
- **143** attacks on services that provide health care to children
- **269** attacks that impacted a hospital's access to energy or water supply systems

SHCC Chapters: EN: [2025](#); [2024](#); [2023](#); [2022](#). UK: [2025](#); [2024](#); [2023](#)

Middle East and North Africa

Lebanon

05 August 2026: In Majdal Zoun municipality, South governorate, an Israeli military medic and a company commander were killed and four other soldiers were injured when an IED exploded inside a building entered by an Israeli force during search and engineering operations. Israeli authorities stated that the investigation was ongoing and that responsibility for planting the device had not been determined. **Source:** [Janoubia](#) and [Quds News Network](#)

06 August 2026: In the vicinity of Al-Hawsh–Burj area, al-Shamali municipality, Tyre district, South governorate, ambulance workers responding to casualties from an Israeli drone strike were forced to withdraw after Israeli drones carried out two sequential strikes near their location. **Source:** [Quds News Network](#)

11 August 2026: In the “Universities neighborhood”, Nabatieh city and governorate, an unspecified number of Al-Risala Islamic Association health workers were attacked by an Israeli sequential drone strike while evacuating an injured person from the site of an earlier Israeli drone strike. The attack damaged the ambulance, but no injuries were reported among the health workers. **Sources:** [Al Manar](#), [Quds News Network](#) and [UN News](#)

11 August 2026: In Kafr Rumman town, Nabatieh district, Nabatieh governorate, an unspecified number of Message Association for Ambulance health workers were struck by an Israeli drone while evacuating injured people from the site of an earlier strike. The team survived the attack. **Source:** [Quds News Network](#)

12 August 2026: In Zoutar al-Sharqiyah town, Nabatieh governorate, a clinic was destroyed by Israeli forces detonations. **Source:** [PNN](#)

Occupied Palestinian territory

Incident briefs: [05-18 August](#); [22 July-04 August](#); [08-21 July](#); [24 June-07 July](#); [10-23 June](#); [27 May-09 June](#); [13-26 May](#); [29 April-12 May](#); [15-28 April](#); [01-14 April](#); [18-31 March](#); [04-17 March](#); [18 February-03 March](#); [All](#)

SHCC Chapters (EN): [2025](#); [2024](#); [2023](#); [2022](#); [2021](#). (AR): [2025](#); [2024](#); [2023](#); [2022](#); [2021](#).

Yemen

09 August 2026: In Mokha district, Taiz governorate, a building housing health workers of Saudi Hospital was hit and damaged amid a Houthi attack with missiles and drones, killing and injuring an unspecified number of people. **Sources:** [Erem News](#) and [Yemen Online](#)

09 August 2026: In Mokha district, Taiz governorate, the vicinity of Saudi Field Hospital was hit by Houthi attacks with missiles and drones. **Sources:** [Al Montasaf](#) and [Al Ayyam](#)

15 August 2026: In the vicinity of Mokha port, Taiz governorate, ambulance teams were obstructed from reaching the site to evacuate injured people after Houthi forces fired a fourth missile while medical teams were attempting to reach the area. **Source:** [Okaz](#)

The Americas

Colombia

10 August 2026: In Palermo city, Huila department, an ambulance was attacked and damaged while attempting to evacuate a person who was injured during a clash between soldiers and squatters occupying public land. One person was injured and two others were abducted. **Sources:** [A3 QAP Noticias](#) and [La Nacion](#)

Haiti

06 August 2026: Update: In Cité Soleil neighbourhood, Port-au-Prince city and arrondissement, West department, MSF resumed operations at the Isaïe Jeanty Maternity Hospital after they suspended operations on 19 June due to intense gang crossfire surrounding the facility. **Sources:** [Doctors without Borders](#) and [Doctors without Borders I](#)

07 August 2026: In Chancernelles neighbourhood, Cité Soleil, Port-au-Prince arrondissement, MSF suspended activities at Isaïe Jeanty Maternity Hospital for the second time in two months after violent clashes re-emerged between armed groups. On 18 August, MSF resumed their activities. **Sources:** [Doctors without Borders](#) and [Doctors without Borders I](#)

Mexico

11 August 2026: In Miguel Hidalgo neighbourhood, Culiacán city and municipality, Sinaloa state, a doctor was shot and killed inside the La Rosita Pharmacy by an unidentified gunman at around 2100hrs. **Source:** [Guardian Octurna](#)

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.

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](#).

Insecurity Insight. 2026. Attacks on Health Care Bi-Monthly News Brief, 05-18 August 2026. Switzerland: Insecurity Insight. <https://bit.ly/05-18Aug2026Health>



Other resources

Health care provision has unique characteristics that shape its specific exposure to security risks in conflict zones. The Security Risk Management for Health Care (SR4H) Handbook – available in [Arabic](#), [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#) – provides guidance on how to implement a range of actions intended to promote respectful and violence-free environments and prepare individuals or organisations to face and respond appropriately to violent incidents, also dealing with the aftermath of such events.

While this handbook is primarily aimed at health programme managers providing frontline services, it is also highly relevant for non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working with partners who implement healthcare services. The handbook helps to identify practical activities that local health partners can implement and that NGO partners can include in partnership agreements and budget for.

The SR4H Handbook brings together some of the best practices on security risk management and proposes a framework adapted for health care providers working with limited resources. The objective is to promote an approach that considers the safety and security of health professionals while ensuring patients' access to care.



Drawing on ten years of systematically collected data, ***Still Under Attack: A Decade of Monitoring Attacks on Health Care after the Adoption of UNSCR 2286*** by Insecurity Insight documents the scale, patterns, and consequences of attacks on health care in conflict-affected settings worldwide. Among the report's key findings:

- Over 17,500 attacks on health care were recorded between 2016 and 2025
- Over 3,860 health workers were killed and over 2,500 were arrested or detained
- Local health workers remain particularly vulnerable, accounting for more than 65% of documented health worker killings
- The growing use of armed drones and explosive weapons is contributing to increasing damage to health facilities and health worker killings and injuries

Based exclusively on Insecurity Insight's data collection, it highlights how violence against health care is becoming normalised, with serious consequences for civilians, disease response and health systems. The report provides detailed analysis of perpetrators, methods of attack and emerging risks, including the growing role of new technologies in conflict environments. It also offers recommendations for governments, international organisations, humanitarian actors and the diplomatic community aimed at strengthening the protection of health care and improving accountability for violations.

[Full Report](#) | [Executive Summary](#)