Education in Danger News Brief

September 2026

Damage and destruction to educational facilities in Gaza, Lebanon and Syria

In Gaza, 49 attacks on education were recorded by Insecurity Insight with 96% of these incidents attributed to Israeli forces. Educational facilities, including schools and universities, many of which shelter internally displaced persons (IDPs), were reportedly damaged or destroyed on 33 occasions by Israeli forces. In nearly three-quarters of these incidents, people were killed or injured inside the schools. In one such incident, at least six Palestinians, including children and a baby, were killed when Israeli forces shelled the school where they were sheltering with artillery fire. Nearly 80% of reported damage was attributed to Israeli aircraft and drone strikes, artillery fire, shelling and gunfire. Six schools were demolished by Israeli forces, either through controlled explosions or with bulldozers.

In Lebanon, 41 attacks on education were recorded between March and September 2026 with 93% of these incidents attributed to Israeli forces. Educational facilities, including kindergartens, schools and universities in southern Lebanon were reportedly damaged or destroyed on 30 occasions by Israeli forces. Two-thirds of incidents recorded the complete destruction of a school with 20 schools demolished either through controlled explosions or with bulldozers. Damage to schools was mainly caused by Israeli aircraft and drone strikes. In two incidents, people were killed or injured inside a school that was attacked and damaged. In one such incident, a university professor and a faculty director were killed when a university was hit by a precision missile from an Israeli drone, while they were walking in the courtyard.

In Syria, 40 attacks on education were recorded between the fall of the previous government in December 2024 and September 2026. Educational facilities, including schools and universities were reportedly damaged on 15 occasions. Turkish forces' airstrikes damaged three schools in Aleppo and Raqqa. Israeli forces damaged or destroyed three schools in southern Quneitra governorate. In a separate incident, armoured vehicles, accompanied by infantry were used to destroy a school. Syrian police deliberately set a school on fire during a raid on a town in Latakia governorate. The Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) damaged three schools in Al-Hasaka and Aleppo: one in a drone strike, one in an artillery strike, and a third when, after converting it into a military position, the SDF destroyed its fence to allow tanks and heavy vehicles onto the premises. In other incidents, the conflict party was not identified.

Past editions: **August**; **July**; **June**; **May**; **April**; **March**; **February**; **January**; **December**; **November**; **October**; **September**; **All**

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For more information on Insecurity Insight's work on 'education in danger' see **our website** and **methodology**.

Safety, security and access incidents

Incidents of threats and violence affecting the provision of education.

Africa

Democratic Republic of the Congo

As reported on 01 October 2026: In Mwenye groupment, Lubero territory, North Kivu province, at least five schools remained closed nearly a month after the start of the 2026–2027 school year due to population displacement and persistent insecurity linked to the activities of Ugandan ADF rebels. The closures affected villages including Mausa, Lumba and Sijambale, with many teachers and students absent and the resumption of classes remaining uncertain. **Source: Actualite**

03-06 October 2026: In Ilebo port city, Kasai province, schools were closed for four days during violent clashes between two groups of youths, including the “Pool ya Zara” gang over a family land dispute. **Source: Radio Okapi**

07 October 2026: In Masisi territory, North Kivu province, and Kalehe territory, South Kivu province, educational activities were severely disrupted by ongoing clashes between the Wazalendo, allied with the FARDC, and AFC/M23 rebels, as well as the use of combat drones in the region. **Source: Radio Okapi**

Sudan

07 October 2026: In Nyala city, South Darfur state, an Arabic teacher was killed and an unspecified number of students from Afaq Al-Mustaqbal Secondary School were injured when a RSF combat vehicle struck them at high speed as they crossed the street. **Source: Darfur24**

07 October 2026: In Damazin city, Blue Nile state, Damazin Technical College was struck by two RSF drone strikes, damaging classrooms, laboratories, administrative offices and other educational facilities. **Sources: Asharq Al-Awsat and Sudanese Echo**

Asia

Myanmar

03 October 2026: In Pyin Chaung village, Sittwe district, Rakhine state, Basic Education High School No. 2. was struck when a Myanmar military aircraft dropped a bomb on the facility, injuring at least four people, including a child. **Sources: Development Media Group and The Irrawaddy**

03 October 2026: In Chaungshay village, Kanbalu township, Shwebo district, Sagaing division, a school and a monastery were hit by two Myanmar military jet fighter aircrafts. **Sources: MFP TV and Myaelatt Athan**

Europe

Ukraine

01 October 2026: In Solomianskyi district, Kyiv city, a school building was hit by a Russian jet-drone, causing the school to catch fire. School children were in a shelter at the time of the incident. **Sources: Al Jazeera and Kaptko Pro**

04 October 2026: In Kharkiv city, raion and oblast, an educational institution and other civilian infrastructure were damaged by Russian drone and missile strikes. **Source: Media Port**

08 October 2026: In Svyatopetryvske village, Bucha raion, Kyiv oblast, a nursery school and a children’s playground were damaged by Russian strikes. **Sources: Kyiv Oblast Governor, The Kyiv Independent and UA Varta**

13 October 2026: In Rivne city, raion and oblast, an educational institution was hit by a Russian strike, injuring at least 25 people. **Source: Euro News, Interfax** and **UA Varta**

Middle East and North Africa

Iran

02 October 2026: Update: In Ilam province, a professor who was arrested and beaten by security forces on 04 January was sentenced to five years in prison and additional penalties, including a travel ban preventing him from leaving Iran and a ban on entering Malekshahi. The professor sustained fractures to his hand and nose after being beaten by Iranian security forces during his arrest. **Source: Hengaw Organisation for Human Rights**

Lebanon

03 October 2026: In Houla municipality, Marjayoun district, Nabatieh governorate, Jabal Amel Preparatory School was destroyed by Israeli forces using booby-trap explosives. **Source: Nile News**

10 October 2026: In Khiyam municipality, Nabatieh governorate, Al-Mabarrat School was set on fire by Israeli forces. **Source: Quds News Network**

14 October 2026: In Kfar Tebnit municipality, Nabatieh district and governorate, Al-Kawthar School was set on fire by Israeli forces. **Source: Quds News Network**

Occupied Palestinian territory

Gaza

03 October 2026: In the Rimal neighbourhood, west of Gaza city, Gaza governorate, an academic at the University of Palestine was killed along with four other Palestinians, including three women, when Israeli forces shelled a building. **Source: Quds News Network**

09 October 2026: In Jabalia Refugee Camp, North Gaza governorate, Abu Hussein School, sheltering IDPs, was fired upon by Israeli forces, injuring a child. **Source: Quds News Network**

West Bank

04 October 2026: In Arraba town, southwest of Jenin city and governorate, a teacher was arrested by Israeli forces during a raid on the town. **Source: Quds News Network**

05 October 2026: In Birzeit town, north of Ramallah city and governorate, Birzeit University was stormed by Israeli forces with about 10 military vehicles and a bulldozer. The Martyrs' Monument inside the campus was destroyed, while the Faculty of Science was damaged and the Physics and Biology laboratories and the offices of the student movement were vandalised. University security personnel were also detained by Israeli forces. **Sources: Negotiation Affairs Department, Quds News Network, Quds News Network I, Quds News Network II and WAFA**

08 October 2026: In Salfit city and governorate, Al-Zaytouna University for Science and Technology was stormed by Israeli forces, who examined its surveillance camera recordings. **Sources: Negotiation Affairs Department, Quds News Network and WAFA**

Saudi Arabia

08 October 2026: In Riyadh city, province and governorate, a kindergarten was damaged by falling missile fragments following the interception of a Houthi ballistic missile. **Sources: BBC and Sene Web**

Yemen

02 October 2026: In Taiz governorate, a community college was hit by a Saudi airstrike. **Sources: 26 September and Yemen News Portal**

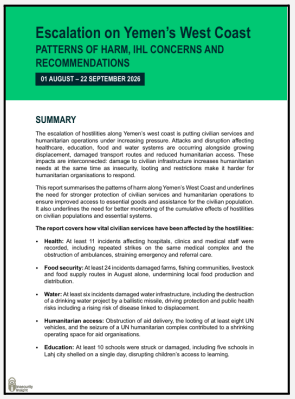
10 October 2026: In Al-Ruwais village, Al-Mudhaffar district, Lahij governorate, Al-Ahmad Bin Hanbal School was destroyed by Houthi shelling involving two ballistic missiles. **Source: South 24**

12 October 2026: In Al-Qahf area, Jabal Habashi district, Taiz governorate, Al-Zahra School for Girls was bombed by a Saudi fighter jet, killing five people and injuring 15 others, including students, teachers and health workers. **Sources: Al Manar and Yemen News Agency**

Other resources

Escalation on Yemen's West Coast: The Impact of Explosive Weapons on Civilian Infrastructure, Essential Services, and the Human Consequences

This **report** provides a structured analysis of how the escalation of hostilities along Yemen's west coast is affecting civilian services and humanitarian operations, drawing on Insecurity Insight's monitoring of incidents between 01 August and 22 September 2026 in Ad Dali, Al Hudaydah, Lahj and Taizz governorates. It explores the implications of attacks on health care, education, food and water systems, alongside growing displacement, damaged transport routes and reduced humanitarian access and accountability under international humanitarian law (IHL). The findings are designed to offer actionable recommendations for parties to the conflict, humanitarian organisations, donors and those responsible for monitoring and accountability, seeking to strengthen the protection of civilian services and humanitarian access as needs continue to rise.


Escalation on Yemen's West Coast
PATTERNS OF HARM, IHL CONCERNS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
01 AUGUST – 22 SEPTEMBER 2026

SUMMARY

The escalation of hostilities along Yemen's west coast is putting civilian services and humanitarian operations under increasing pressure. Attacks and disruption affecting healthcare, education, food and water systems are occurring alongside growing displacement, damaged transport routes and reduced humanitarian access. These impacts are interconnected: damage to civilian infrastructure increases humanitarian needs at the same time as insecurity, looting and restrictions make it harder for humanitarian organisations to respond.

This report summarises the patterns of harm along Yemen's West Coast and underlines the need for stronger protection of civilian services and humanitarian operations to ensure improved access to essential goods and assistance for the civilian population. It also underlines the need for better monitoring of the cumulative effects of hostilities on civilian populations and essential systems.

The report covers how vital civilian services have been affected by the hostilities:

- **Health:** At least 11 incidents affecting hospitals, clinics and medical staff were recorded, including repeated strikes on the same medical complex and the obstruction of ambulances, straining emergency and referral care.
- **Food security:** At least 24 incidents damaged farms, fishing communities, livestock and food supply routes in August alone, undermining local food production and distribution.
- **Water:** At least six incidents damaged water infrastructure, including the destruction of a drinking water project by a ballistic missile, driving protection and public health risks including a rising risk of disease linked to displacement.
- **Humanitarian access:** Obstruction of aid delivery, the looting of at least eight UN vehicles, and the seizure of a UN humanitarian complex contributed to a shrinking operating space for aid organisations.
- **Education:** At least 10 schools were struck or damaged, including five schools in Lahj city shelled on a single day, disrupting children's access to learning.

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.

Visit our **website**, join our **mailing list.** Get in **touch** to report an incident or have additional information on an incident we have reported on.

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