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Attacks on Health Care in Myanmar

09-22 August 2023

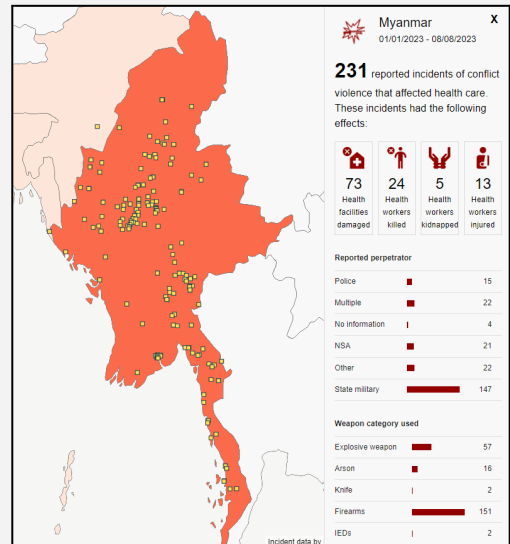


At least 231 attacks on Myanmar's health care system have been documented by Insecurity Insight between 01 January-08 August 2023. In these incidents, 24 health workers have been killed undermining health care providers' ability to effectively meet patient needs and maintain safe staffing levels. In addition, health facilities have been damaged by air bombing, drone strikes, and shelling on at least 73 occasions, impacting the population's access to health care.

Explore this [interactive map](#) to see where incidents happened. Access the data on [HDX](#).

If you have additional information on an incident documented here, or a new incident, please get in [touch](#).

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Incident reports: [26 July-08 August](#); [12-25 July](#); [28 June-11 July](#); [14-27 June](#); [31 May-13 June](#); [All](#).

Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC) factsheets: [2022](#); [2021](#); [2020](#)

Documented incidents

11 August 2023: On the highway connecting Shwegyin town, near Puzun Myaung village, Swea Da Lwe village tract, Nyaunglebin township, Bago region, two ambulances were attacked with small firearms, injuring a male aid worker and damaging the roof and windows of one of the ambulances. The junta authorities accused an ethnic armed group and local resistance forces of the attack. **Sources:** [Myaelat Athan](#), [Popular News Journal](#) and [Telegram](#)

12 August 2023: In Kanbalu town, township, and district, Sagaing region, a female midwife and four family members were stabbed and killed at their home by an unidentified armed group. The midwife was not affiliated with the Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM). After being warned by the local resistance forces to be affiliated with CDM, she moved to the town. The junta authorities accused the local resistance forces of the attack. **Sources:** [Delta News Agency](#), [Mandalay Free Press](#) and [Popular News Journal](#)

12 August 2023: On the highway connecting Falam town and Hakha town in Chin state, an ambulance leaving Falam town for Ramthlo village, Falam township was blocked by the Myanmar military while on its way to rescue seven civilians wounded in an air and ground attack of the village by the Myanmar military. **Source:** [Chin Human Rights Organization](#)

12 August 2023: At the military checkpoint in Dawei town, township, and district, the restrictions of transport of medicine and rice from Dawei town to the villages in the east of this town was reinforced with a warning that the people would be arrested and vehicles would be seized if they

were found with medicine and rice cargoes. The restrictions have been in place since late 2021.

Sources: [Khit Thit Media and Tanintharyi Times](#)

13 August 2023: In Tha Khut Ta Nei village and village tract, Budalin township, Monywa district, Sagaing region, a rural health centre, a monastery, market stalls, and civilian houses were torched in a two-day raid on the village by the Myanmar military. **Sources:** [Mandalay Free Press](#), [Myaelatt Athan](#) and [Myanmar Now](#)

13 August 2023: In Pauk Kan village and village tract, Wetlet township, Shwebo district, Sagaing region, a rural health centre, a school, and civilian houses were attacked by the Myanmar military air force, injuring four civilians. The impact on the health facility and health workers was reported to be not known at the time of report. At the time of the attack the health facility was functioning with CDM-affiliated health workers. **Sources:** [Kachin News Group](#), [Khit Thit Media](#) and [Myaelatt Athan](#)

14 August 2023: In Chanayethazan town and township, Mandalay city, district, and region, a CDM-affiliated obstetrician was arrested from her home by the junta authorities and security forces. **Sources:** [Facebook](#), [Irrawaddy](#) and [Telegram](#)

As reported on 15 August 2023: In Thin Gan Nyi Naung village and village tract, Myawaddy township and district, Kayin state, civilians were denied access to health care at a station hospital due to Border Guard Force and Myanmar military members receiving health care at the hospital and for the security reason of the junta forces. **Source:** [Myanmar Pressphoto Agency](#)

15 August 2023: On the highway connecting Monywa town and Mandalay town, near Myay Ne village and village tract, Monywa township and district, Sagaing region, a doctor, who was a political prisoner, was killed in a landmine attack on a convoy of five military trucks transferring prisoners from Monywa Prison to prisons in Myingyan town and Mandalay town. He was arrested on 24 September 2021 and sentenced to 11-year imprisonment for allegedly providing health care to civilians in areas affected by armed clashes, and for supporting local resistance forces. **Sources:** [Mandalay Free Press](#) and [Radio Free Asia](#)

As reported on 16 August 2023: In Mese town, township, and district, Kayah state, a township hospital was damaged during armed clashes between the Myanmar military and a joint force of ethnic armed groups and local resistance forces that took place between 13 to 15 June 2023. The ceiling and window glasses were damaged and bullet holes on the walls of the hospital buildings. Artillery fire was used by both sides and airstrikes were conducted by the Myanmar military. **Source:** [Myanmar Now](#)

18 August 2023: In Nam Poke village and village tract, Mohnyin township and district, Kachin state, a female nurse and six civilians were injured during artillery shelling by the ethnic armed organisation Shan-Ni Army. **Source:** [Mekong News](#)

18 August 2023: In Mahaaungmyay town and township, Mandalay city, district, and region, the Mingalar Private Hospital was ordered to temporarily close for three months starting 25 August 2023. The junta's order does not mention any reasons; however, the hospital employed two CDM-affiliated doctors arrested in February and August 2022. **Sources:** [Delta News Agency](#), [Mandalay Free Press](#) and [Radio Free Asia](#)

19 August 2023: At the military checkpoint near Za Wea village and village tract, Tanintharyi township, Myeik district, Tanintharyi region, the Myanmar military blocked the transport of medicine, rice, and fuel from Myeik town to Tanintharyi town. **Sources:** [Dawei Watch](#) and [Tanintharyi Times](#)

20 August 2023: In Htee Paw So village and village tract, Hpruso township, Demoso district, Kayah state, a rural health centre was damaged during artillery shelling by the Myanmar military.

Source: [Kantarawaddy Times](#)

21 August 2023: In Mindat town, township, and district, Chin state, a district hospital and three public schools were ordered to temporarily close down. The junta's order does not mention any reasons; however, there were heightened clashes in the downtown area of Mindat town, and an ambulance owned by the hospital was seized from the hospital by the ethnic armed organisation Chin Defence Force on 20 August. At the time of the attack, the hospital was functioning, but only in a low profile. Before this attack, six health facilities with in-patient service, 40 health facilities with out-patient service, and 180 schools in this township were under the control of the ethnic armed organisation. **Sources:** [Delta News Agency](#), [Irrawaddy](#), [The Mindat Post](#) and [Zalen](#)

22 August 2023: In Myawaddy town, township, and district, Kayin state, a fully-functioning district hospital was damaged by a drone armed with explosives to drop two bombs. The roofs of mortuary and public latrines were damaged. The junta authorities accused the ethnic armed group Karen National Union and local resistance forces for the attack. **Source:** [Telegram](#)

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 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 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, the European Commission through the 'Ending violence against healthcare in conflict' project and through the project 'Ending violence against healthcare in conflict: documentation, tools, and data-informed advocacy to stop and prevent attacks' funded by the European Union. The contents are the responsibility of Insecurity Insight. **Insecurity Insight. 2023. 09-22 August 2023 Attacks on Health Care in Myanmar. Switzerland: Insecurity Insight. <https://bit.ly/09-22Aug2023HealthBMNB>**

