



# Aid Worker Security Report Figures at a glance

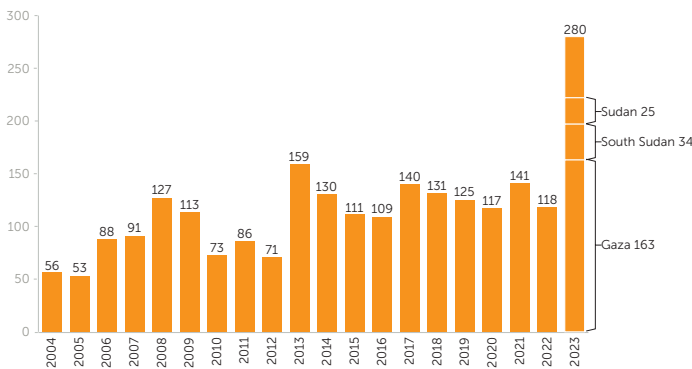
# 2024

**595** aid workers were victims of major attacks in 2023

**280** killed **224** wounded<sup>1</sup> **91** kidnapped

In 2023, more aid workers died by violence than in any previous year on record, with 280 fatalities reported in 33 countries. More than half of these deaths (163) were aid workers killed in the first three months of the conflict in Gaza, mostly as a result of airstrikes.

### Aid worker fatalities, 2004-2023

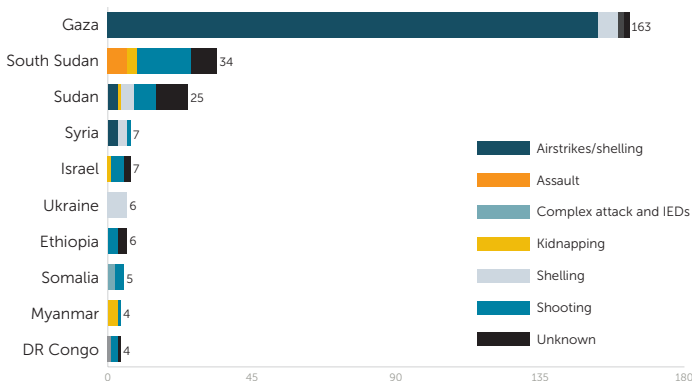


Ongoing civil and intercommunal violence and impunity in South Sudan, especially in Jonglei and Upper Nile states, resulted in 34 aid worker fatalities in 2023, and was the second biggest driver of last year's unprecedented toll.

Major conflict erupted in neighbouring Sudan in April 2023, leading to the deaths of 25 aid workers by the end of the year in attacks by various fighting forces and collateral violence.

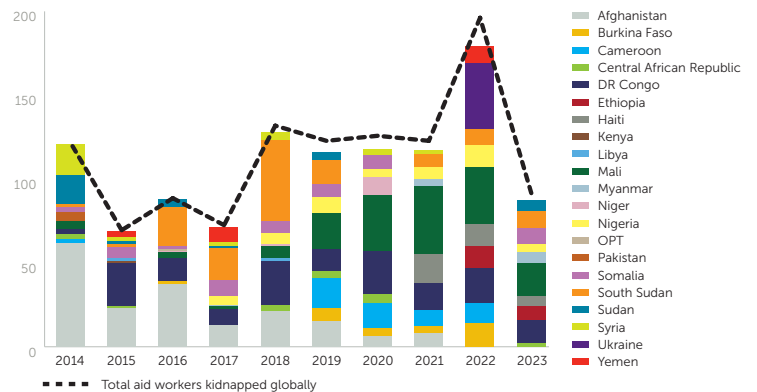
The seven other countries in the 10 highest-fatality contexts were Israel and Syria (7 each); Ethiopia and Ukraine (6 each); Somalia (5); and Democratic Republic of Congo and Myanmar (4 each).

### Total fatalities by means of attack in the 10 deadliest contexts, 2023



After a sharp spike in 2022, aid worker kidnappings fell to the lowest level in five years. The largest drops were seen in Ukraine, where battle-lines have stabilised, and in the Sahel, notably Burkina Faso and Mali, where the presence of Wagner mercenary forces may have thwarted or diverted armed group activity.

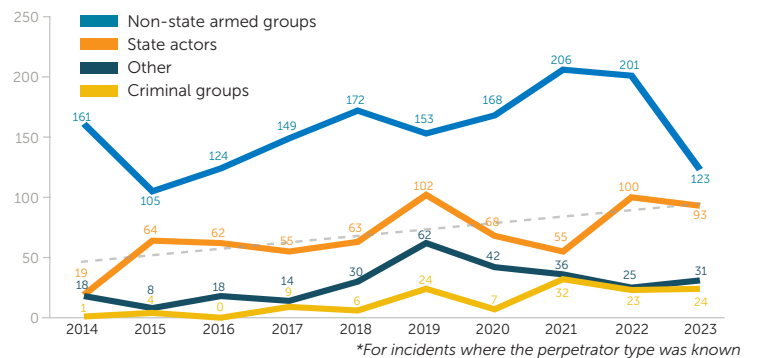
### Total number of aid workers kidnapped, 2014-2023



The extreme levels of violence in Gaza, South Sudan, and Sudan continued into 2024, with mounting aid worker fatalities. As of August 7, 2024, the provisional global fatality count had reached 172 – already a higher number than seen in most past years. The three contexts alone accounted for 137 of these aid worker deaths.

In recent years, the resurgence of major armed conflicts involving national militaries, such as those in Gaza, Sudan, and Ukraine, has resulted in a higher proportion of aid worker attacks being committed by state actors compared to non-state armed groups (NSAGs). Although NSAGs remain the most frequent perpetrators of attacks on aid workers, the relative rise in state actor involvement has disturbing implications for international humanitarian law and the rules of war.

### Aid worker victims by perpetrator type, 2014-2023



This year's *Aid Worker Security Report* (August 2024) will focus on the challenge of practising humanitarian advocacy in the face of increasingly besieged norms of protected access for aid in conflicts.

<sup>1</sup> This total does not include a full count of aid workers wounded in Gaza, due to the difficulty in obtaining verified reports of non-fatal injuries amid the ongoing conflict.