

4.1.9. Violent acts against healthcare and education provision

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Different forms of direct and indirect violence against health care institutions and health workers continued to be reported in the reference period in 2023,554 2024,555 and 2025.556 In 2023, there were 511 attacks against healthcare recorded, reaching 'unprecedented numbers', according to the Pan American Health Organization.557 During 2024, ICRC reported 201 infractions against health service providers related to the armed conflict, including threats, restricted access to health, forcing healthcare workers to operate in inadequate conditions, theft of medicine and equipment, and actions hindering the care of sick and wounded people.558 The majority of the ICRC's reported incidents occurred in Cauca, Antioquia, Arauca, Bolívar, and Chocó.559 In 2025, several incidents were reported, including attacks on medical missions560 and a drone attack on a hospital in Cauca.561 ICRC documented 101 violent acts against healthcare related to the armed conflict in the first half of 2025.562

In a 2024 UN Security Council report, Secretary General addressed the cycles of violence against children, with armed groups using schools for military purposes and attacking schools and hospitals, affecting children.563 Sources indicated that there were increased incidents of attacks on educational facilities in 2024, including the use of unexploded ordnance, compared to 2023. 564 The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) recorded 52 attacks on schools or schools routes in the first half of 2025, in the departments of Antioquia, Chocó, Cauca, Norte de Santander, Putumayo, and Valle del Cauca, affecting nearly 9 500 students, teachers, and staff.565

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