



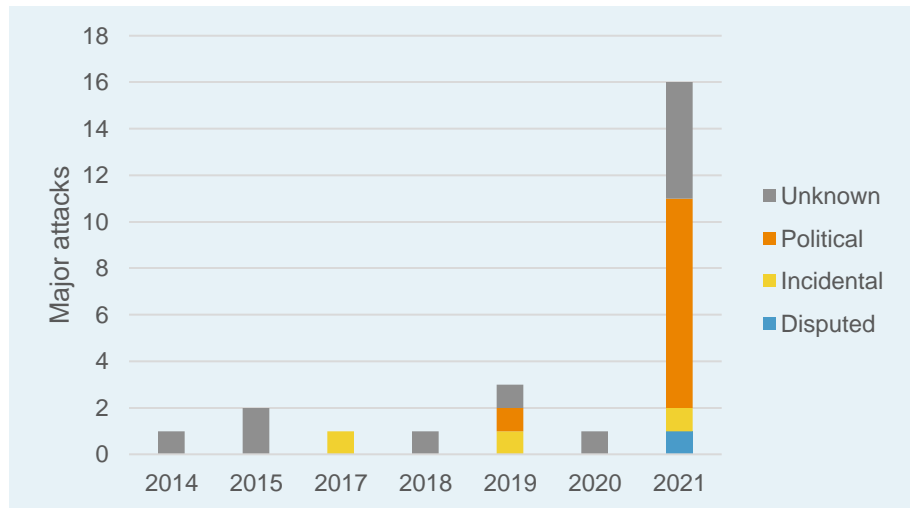
AID WORKER SECURITY DATABASE

DECEMBER 8 2021

SIGNAL ALERT

Politically motivated attacks rising in Myanmar

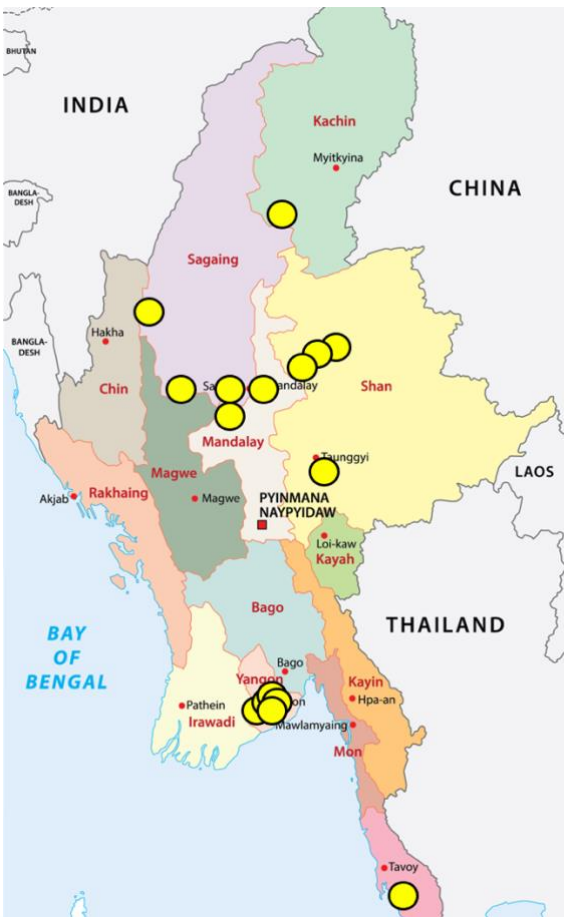
An increase in violence against aid workers in 2021 reflects the continuing instability following the February coup, with the direct targeting of aid workers and violent detentions significantly altering the risk environment for aid operations.



Despite intermittent internet blackouts, international and local news media have chronicled the aggressive moves of military forces, with reports of violent crackdowns on protestors and serious injuries sustained during arrests and detentions. Fighting between the military and the opposing People's Defense Force (NUG) have also made travel outside of the main cities significantly more dangerous.

According to interviews with aid groups, humanitarian access throughout the country (long constrained) is increasingly impeded by insecurity and extensive government controls over the movement of people and funds. Travel in some regions requires government approval one month prior, and NGOs' requests are often denied. One large aid group reported that government-imposed constraints have forced them to reduce programming to 25% of their 2020 operation level.

Given the December 5 military vehicle attack on peaceful protestors in Yangon and the sentencing of Aung Sun Suu Kyi, civil unrest and harsh military reprisals are likely to continue to threaten aid operations in months to come.



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Signal Alert is an occasional publication of the Aid Worker Security Database to inform the humanitarian sector of a statistically significant trend, change, or outlier detected in the security environment for aid operations.

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