

Africa Press Freedom Tracker

IPI Africa Programme

APRIL - JUNE 2026

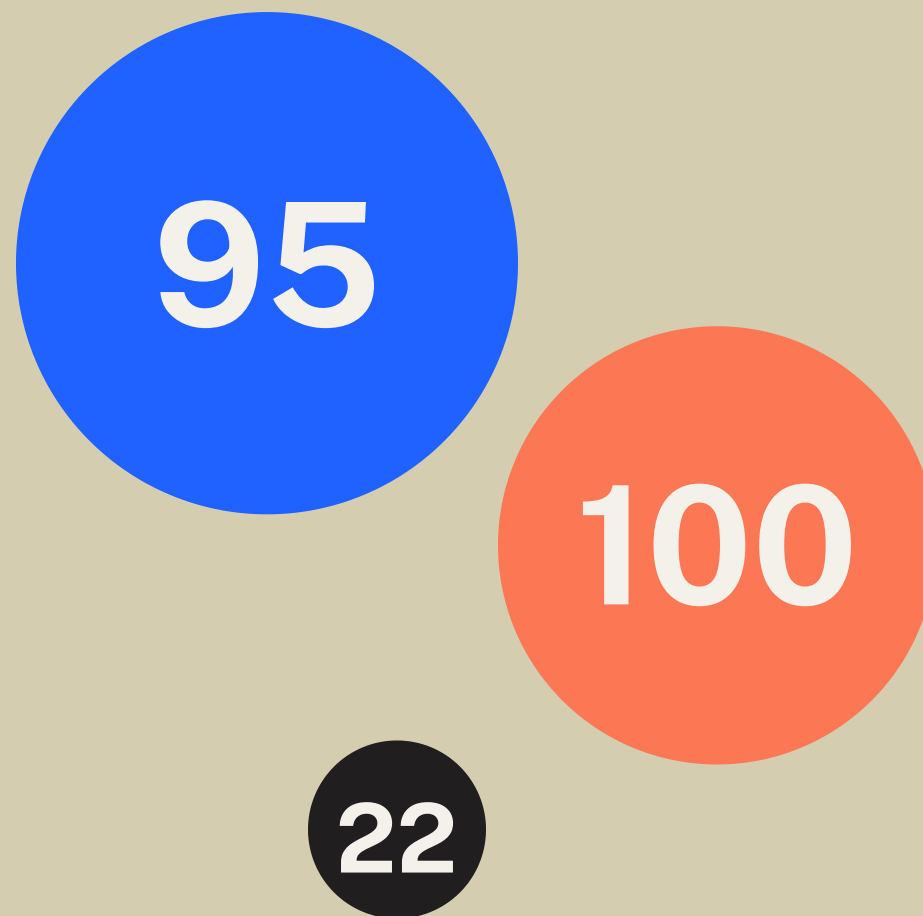


Key findings

The International Press Institute (IPI) recorded 100 cases of threats and attacks on journalists across 22 countries in sub-Saharan Africa between April and June 2026.

Physical and verbal attacks, as well as arrests and detention, were the most frequent types of incidents.

An Ethiopian journalist in exile was found dead in Kenya under suspicious circumstances.



- IPI identified 95 press freedom violations
- affecting 100 journalists
- in 22 countries

Press freedom violations and threats per country

● **How we count and categorize cases:** IPI collects data on press freedom violations and threats across Africa. These incidents can involve individual journalists and/or media outlets. Each incident is assigned different categories of violations (which can include physical assaults to legal threats). There can be multiple types of violations or threats involving the same case and the same journalist or media outlet. When these incidents involve individual journalists, we record the gender of individual journalists, if this information is available. For this reason, the total number of violations does not always equal the total number of incidents recorded by gender.

Country	Incidents	Journalists	
		<i>male</i>	<i>female</i>
Somalia	22	20	5
South Africa	18	10	6
Uganda	8	6	2
Kenya	8	13	1
Nigeria	5	6	0
Ethiopia	4	2	2
Mali	4	2	0
Angola	3	4	0
Burkina Faso	3	2	0
Guinea	3	2	0
DRC	2	2	0
Ghana	2	3	0
Mozambique	2	2	0
Sudan	2	1	1
Tanzania	2	0	0
Benin	1	0	1
Comoros	1	2	0
Niger	1	0	0
Rwanda	1	2	0
Senegal	1	1	0
Sierra Leone	1	1	0
Zambia	1	1	0
TOTAL	95	82	18

Journalist killed in Kenya

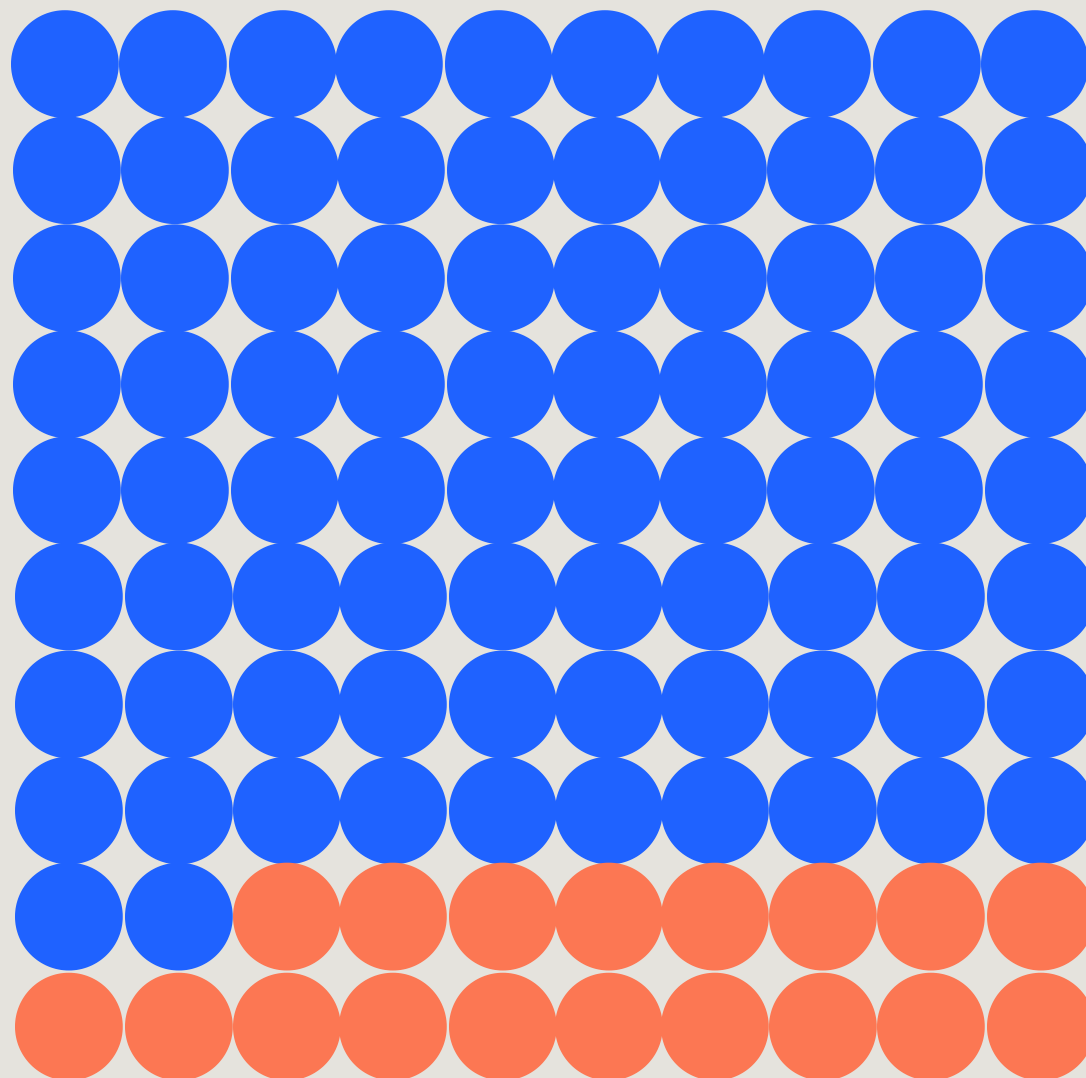
**Ethiopian journalist
Yacob Yatane
exiled in Kenya
killed in
April 2026.**

In April 2026, Yacob Yatane, a prominent journalist living in exile in Kenya, reportedly died from poisoning. His colleagues and family suspect a targeted assassination by poisoning. Yatane was known for uncompromising reporting on political repression and ethnic tensions in Ethiopia. He fled to Kenya in search of safety. The suspicious circumstances surrounding his death raise concerns about the safety of journalists in exile. Before his death, the journalist allegedly complained of persistent threats and being followed by unidentified Amharic-speaking individuals in Nairobi. According to reports, Kenyan authorities and international organisations are investigating the circumstances of his death. However, as of the time of release of this report, the authorities have yet to disclose the conclusions of their investigations.

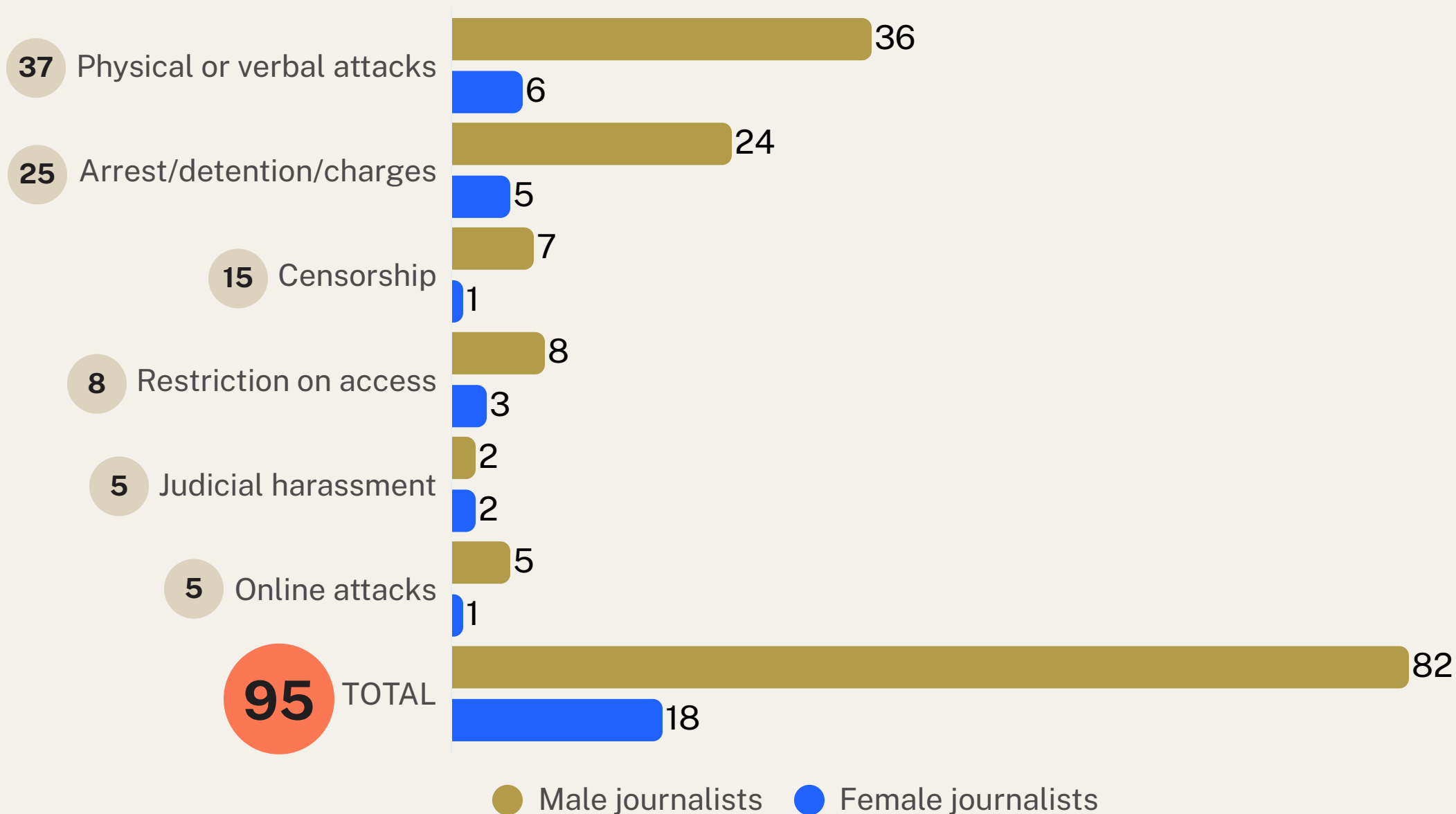
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**95 incidents
affected
100 journalists**

-  82 incidents affecting male journalists
-  18 incidents affecting female journalists

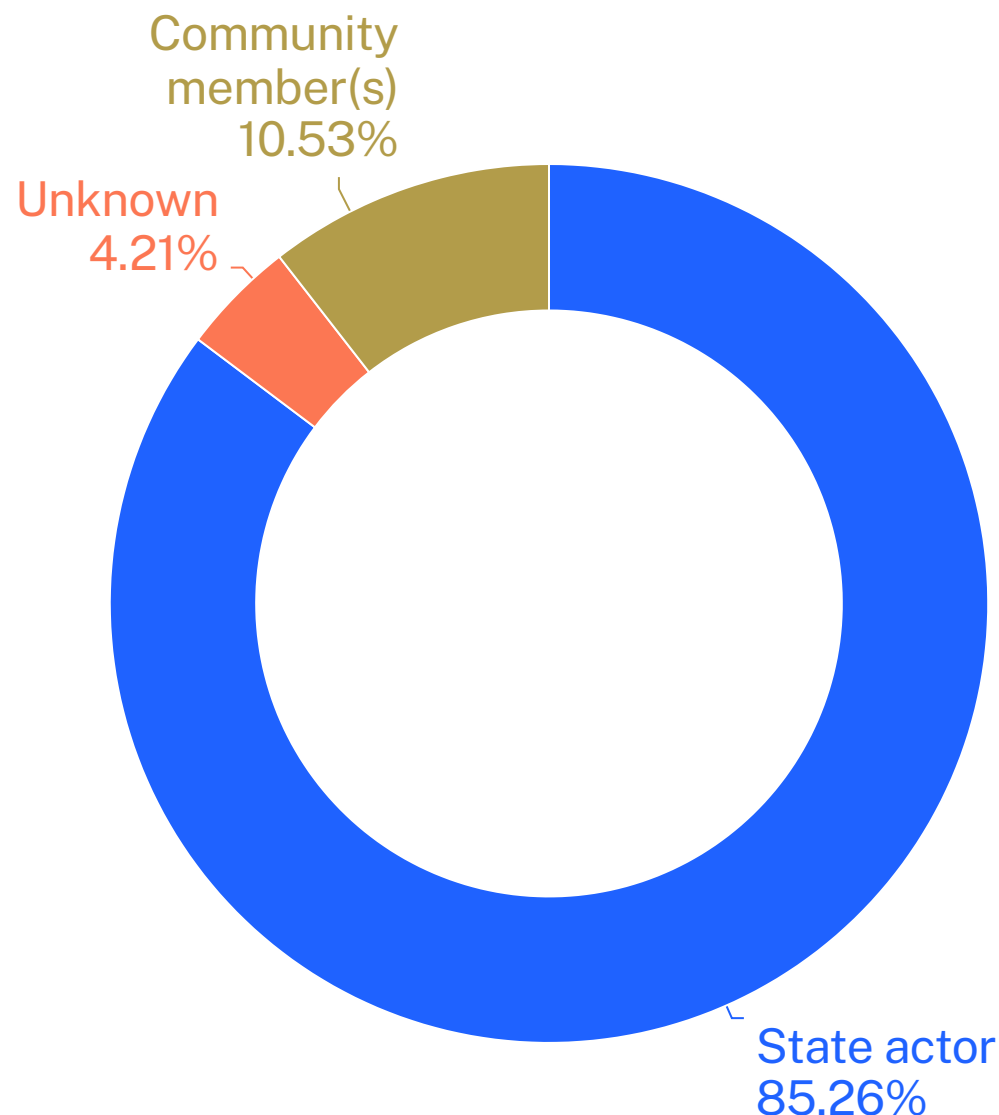


Type of incidents



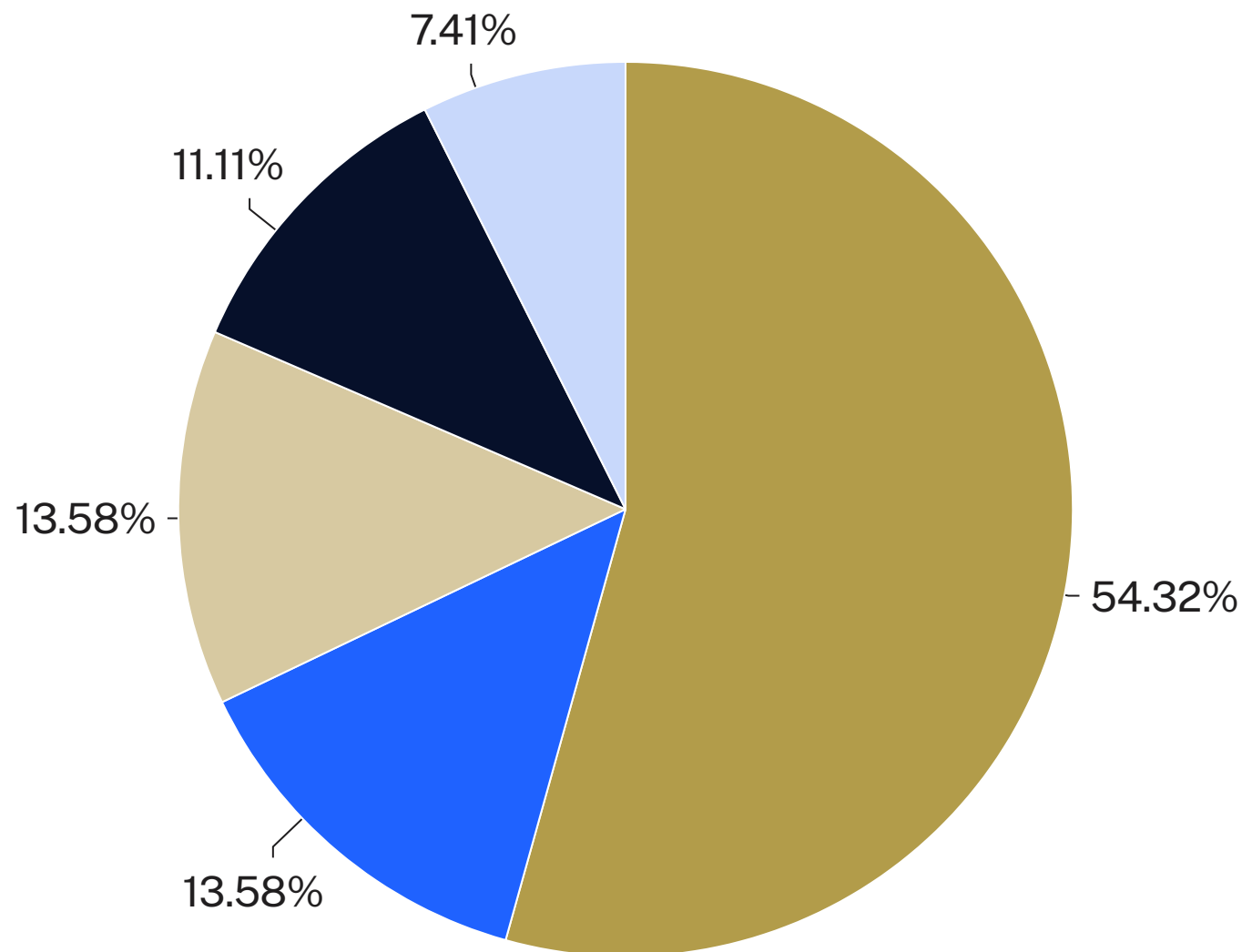
Source of incidents

- As in previous monitoring reports, state actors (81 out of 95 cases) remain the primary source of these violations, especially police and state security actors (54,32%)



State actors

- Police/state security (44)
- Judiciary/court (11)
- Government/public official (11)
- Regulatory body (9)
- Political parties (6)





Free Media. Free World.

The IPI Africa programme seeks to protect and advance press freedom and the safety of journalists in Africa.

[Learn more about our work here](#)