

Data from a dangerous year in journalism



www.rtdna.org/first

Despite pandemic and protests, journalists helped us understand the world around us while the work became increasingly dangerous for them.

IN 2020:

20% 1 in 5 Television News Directors reported attacks on employees.

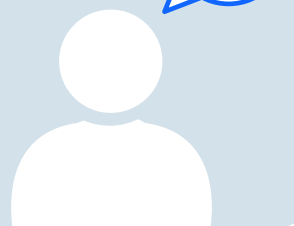
86% 86% of Television News Directors changed newsroom procedures to protect employees.

50% More than half of attacks occurred during coverage of civil unrest, protests, marches/rallies or riots.

15% About 15% of attacks were seemingly random while teams were in the field.



During the election, someone shot out the living room window of the News Director.



Journalist Checklist

Local newsrooms increased security with:

-  **Bulletproof Vests**
-  **Gas Masks and Goggles**
-  **Locked Gates and Fences**
-  **Large Field Crews**
-  **Security Teams**

*Data from a survey of all 1,762 operating, non-satellite television stations and 3,379 radio stations supported by RTDNA and completed by Bob Papper, Adjunct Professor of Journalism and Digital Media at the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University.



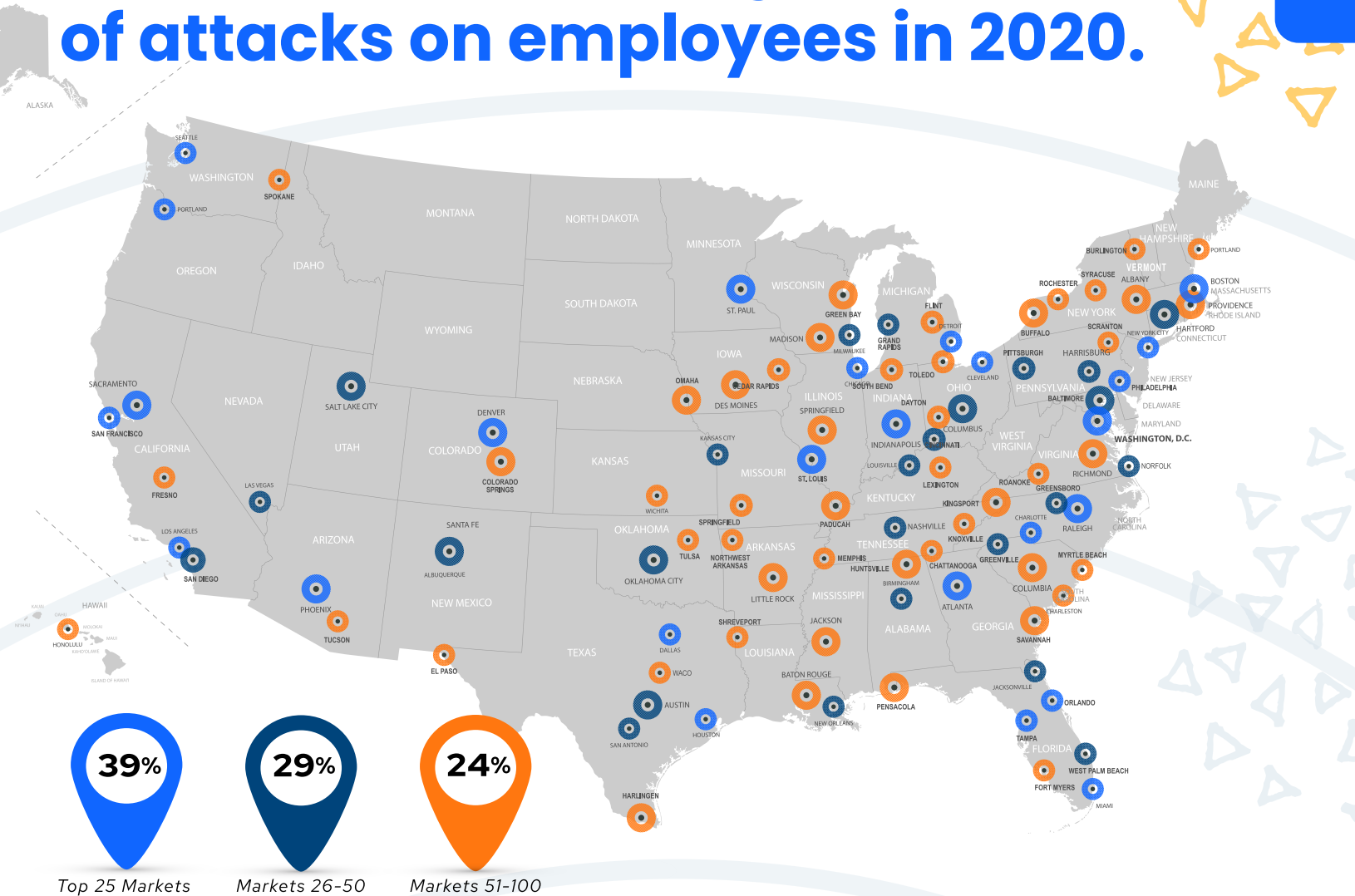
Take Action

Tell Congress protecting journalists is essential to our democracy. Sign our petition www.rtdna.org/first

More Data



Across the country, newsrooms report an astonishing number of attacks on employees in 2020.



PERCENTAGE OF NEWSROOMS REPORTING

ATTACKS ON JOURNALISTS

IN TOP MEDIA MARKETS*

If your work has been impacted by violence against journalists, share your story with us. Email PressFreedom@RTDNA.org or share your story on:

@RTDNA

@RTDNA.RTDNF

@rtdna.rtdnf

with hashtags **#JournalistProtectionAct** and **#RightToRecordPolice**

* Data as provided by News Directors reporting attacks on newsroom employees in 2020.

Your story allows us to educate Congress on the importance of this issue and will bring us one step closer to passing these pieces of legislation.

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“ We’ve purchased a lot of protective equipment, including **bullet proof vests**. We’ve also formalized our guidance to staff on how to stay safe at protests. ”

- Anonymous News Director

