

OUR RESEARCH FOUND THAT IN 2020:



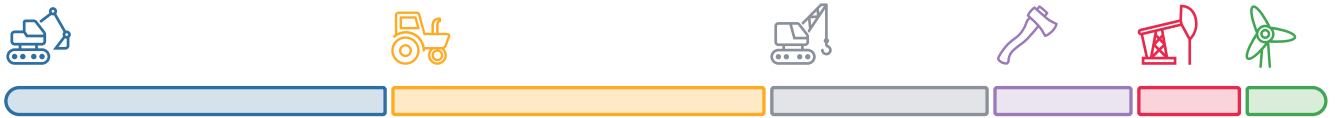
were recorded on defenders working on **business-related human rights issues** in 2020, up from **572 attacks in 2019**.



(**210 cases**) stemmed from **lack of consultation** or the failure to secure free, prior and informed consent of affected communities.



(**270 cases**) of the attacks were related to peaceful **protests against business** activities.

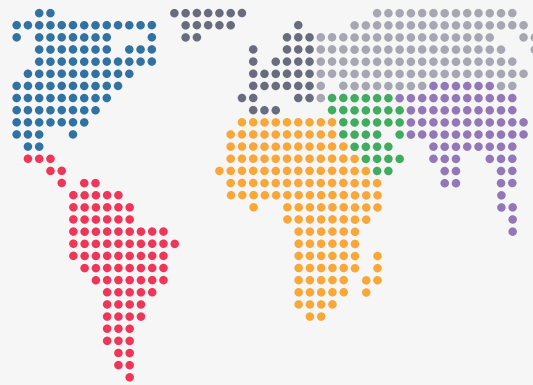


As in 2019, agribusiness and mining are the sectors most related to attacks, with **140 cases related to mining** and **137 cases related to agribusiness** in 2020. Other sectors are **construction (80 cases)**, **logging & lumber (51 cases)**, **oil, gas & coal (38 cases)** and **renewable energy (30 cases)**.

In at least **80 cases**, COVID-19 was a key factor

41 cases involved attacks which had a digital element or took place online

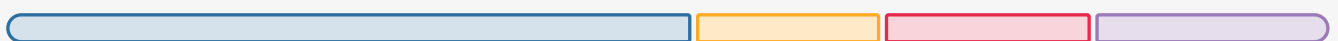
1 in 5 attacks were recorded against women HRDs



Latin America	194
Asia-Pacific	173
Eastern Europe & Russia	129
Africa	79
North America	14
Middle East	12
Western Europe	3



The most common type of attack continued to be **judicial harassment (334 cases)**, such as arbitrary detentions and lawsuits, including criminal lawsuits allegedly based on trumped up charges, which shows the prominent use of this tactic to intimidate and silence HRDs. This was followed by **intimidation & death threats (143 cases)**, **killings (71 cases)**, **beatings & violence (34 cases)** and **disappearances & abductions (9 cases)**.



316 cases attacks were allegedly perpetrated by state agents

85 cases organised crime

95 cases alleged cases direct links to companies

108 cases illegal economy or other drivers