



START

Annex of Statistical Information

Country Reports on Terrorism 2014

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STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON TERRORISM IN 2014

Title 22, Section 2656f of the United States Code requires the Department of State to include in its annual report on terrorism "to the extent practicable, complete statistical information on the number of individuals, including United States citizens and dual nationals, killed, injured, or kidnapped by each terrorist group during the preceding calendar year." The definition found in Title 22 of the U.S. Code provides that terrorism is "premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against noncombatant targets by subnational groups or clandestine agents." From 2004 to 2011, the data for the Annex of Statistical Information were collected by the National Counterterrorism Center, part of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, through the Worldwide Incidents Tracking System (WITS).

Beginning in June 2012, the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) contracted with the U.S. Department of State to collect a Statistical Annex dataset and provide a report to include in the State Department's annual *Country Reports on Terrorism*. Since 2001, START has maintained the Global Terrorism Database (GTD), an unclassified event database compiled from information in open-source reports of terrorist attacks. The first version of the GTD was released in 2006 and included information on worldwide terrorism from 1970 to 1997. START routinely updates and improves the accuracy of the data. The full GTD (1970-2013) and accompanying documentation are available to the public at www.start.umd.edu/gtd. The GTD staff compiled the Statistical Annex dataset to include violent acts carried out by non-state actors that meet all of the GTD inclusion criteria:¹

1. The violent act was aimed at attaining a political, economic, religious, or social goal;
2. The violent act included evidence of an intention to coerce, intimidate, or convey some other message to a larger audience (or audiences) other than the immediate victims; and
3. The violent act was outside the precepts of International Humanitarian Law insofar as it targeted non-combatants.

These data represent START's best efforts to report the most comprehensive, valid information on terrorism, based on the availability of open-source data and resources. The GTD research staff continually evaluates and enhances the methodology to promote comprehensive, accurate, and systematic data collection. In particular, in 2012 START developed data collection tools that expand the number of sources available for analysis and automate the selection of potentially relevant articles from which GTD staff identify unique attacks and record their specific details.

Due to the evolution in data collection methodology with respect to both WITS and prior versions of the GTD it is important to note that the data presented here are not directly comparable with data from either of these sources prior to 2012. In general, comparisons of aggregate statistics over time and between locations should be interpreted with caution due to considerable variation in the availability of source materials.

¹ Readers familiar with the GTD will note that inclusion in the GTD proper from which the Statistical Annex data set was derived requires that an event meet at least two out of the three inclusion criteria. In consultation with the U.S. Department of State, START determined that it was appropriate to include in the Statistical Annex dataset only those events for which all three criteria were met in order to adhere to the definition established in the U.S. Code. In addition, the Statistical Annex dataset excludes any events in the GTD for which there was considerable uncertainty or conflicting reports regarding the inclusion criteria.

This Annex of Statistical Information is a guide to worldwide terrorist activity as reported by unclassified sources. We hope that these data will be useful for improving knowledge about patterns and characteristics of terrorism, and helpful for maintaining global awareness of the threat it poses.

The Annex of Statistical Information is provided for statistical purposes only. The statistical information contained in the Annex is based on reports from a variety of open sources that may be of varying credibility. Nothing in this report should be construed as a determination that individuals associated with the underlying incidents are guilty of terrorism or any other criminal offense. As with all records in the Global Terrorism Database, the information may be modified, as necessary and appropriate, if new information becomes available.

Any assessments and descriptions, including those regarding the nature of the incidents or the factual circumstances thereof, are offered only as part of the analytic work product of the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) and may not reflect the views of the United States Government.

SIGNIFICANT TRENDS

- Although terrorist attacks took place in 95 countries in 2014, they were heavily concentrated geographically. More than 60% of all attacks took place in five countries (Iraq, Pakistan, Afghanistan, India, and Nigeria), and 78% of all fatalities due to terrorist attacks took place in five countries (Iraq, Nigeria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Syria).
- The number of terrorist attacks in 2014 increased 35% and total fatalities increased 81% compared to 2013, largely due to activity in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Nigeria. In certain countries, including Greece, Nepal, Northern Ireland, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Russia, terrorist attacks and total fatalities decreased.
- The 81% increase in total fatalities was, in part, a result of certain attacks that were exceptionally lethal. In 2014, there were 20 attacks that killed more than 100 people, compared to two such attacks in 2013.
- Terrorism in 2014 was marked by numerous kidnappings and hostage-taking events. More than 9,400 people were kidnapped or taken hostage in terrorist attacks in 2014, three times as many as in 2013. This trend was concentrated in certain countries, including Iraq, Nigeria, and Syria, and was particularly influenced by an increase in attacks that involved large numbers of hostages.

INCIDENTS OF TERRORISM WORLDWIDE

In 2014, a total of 13,463 terrorist attacks occurred worldwide, resulting in more than 32,700 deaths and more than 34,700 injuries. In addition, more than 9,400 people were kidnapped or taken hostage. In this report we describe patterns of worldwide terrorist activity with respect to changes during the year, geographic concentration, casualties, perpetrator organizations, tactics, weapons, and targets.

Table 1: Terrorist attacks and casualties worldwide by month, 2014

Month	Total Attacks	Total Fatalities	Total Injuries	Total Kidnapped/ Taken Hostage
January	1150	1805	2932	294
February	1092	1958	2729	449
March	1211	2384	2801	345
April	1223	2659	3476	863
May	1338	3478	3456	801
June	1088	3871	2968	1354
July	1310	3630	2710	370
August	1101	2618	2374	1102
September	1042	2599	3015	852
October	1011	2679	2907	965
November	1001	2341	3136	726
December	896	2705	2287	1307
Total	13463	32727	34791	9428

- On average, there were 1,122 terrorist attacks, 2,727 deaths, and 2,899 injuries per month worldwide in 2014. There were 2.57 fatalities and 2.87 injuries per attack, including perpetrator casualties.
- The months with the most terrorist attacks and combined casualties (deaths and injuries) were May, June, and July.
 - In particular, the high number of attacks in May coincides with the peak of spring “fighting season” in Afghanistan, where attacks increased more than 107% between February and May.
 - Contributing to the high number of fatalities in June, the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) carried out an attack on Badush prison in Mosul, Iraq on June 10, 2014, which resulted in the deaths of 670 Shia prisoners. As of the end of 2014, this was the deadliest terrorist attack worldwide since September 11, 2001.
 - Also in June, there were five attacks in which more than 50 people were kidnapped. Three took place in Iraq, one in Somalia, and one in Syria. In August, four attacks (three in Iraq and one in Nigeria) involved the abduction of more than 50 people.
 - The exceptionally high number of hostages reported in December is largely a result of the attack on the Army Public School in Peshawar, Pakistan. Assailants from Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan held more than 500 individuals hostage during a siege that killed at least 150 people.
- More than 6,200 of the 32,700 people killed in 2014 (19%) were perpetrators of terrorist attacks. Perpetrators were killed intentionally in suicide attacks, accidentally while attempting to carry out attacks, or by security forces or victims responding to attacks.

LOCATION

Although terrorist attacks took place in 95 countries in 2014, they were heavily concentrated geographically. More than 60% of all attacks took place in five countries (Iraq, Pakistan, Afghanistan, India, and Nigeria), and 78% of all fatalities due to terrorist attacks took place in five countries (Iraq, Nigeria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Syria).

Given the limitations of media coverage in Syria, the data presented here are conservative estimates of terrorism in Syria. Consistent with START's practice of including in the GTD only those attacks that have been verified by at least one well-regarded source, these statistics represent those incidents that were reported by independent news outlets.

Globally aggregated statistics do not represent uniform patterns worldwide. They are produced by diverse trends in violence and heavily influenced by events in several key locations. The statistical profiles in Table 2 illustrate many of these dynamics.

- **Attacks:** Large increases in Iraq and Afghanistan, two countries that also experienced high numbers of attacks in 2013, comprise more than one-third (37%) of the 35% increase in total attacks worldwide in 2014 compared to 2013.
- **Fatalities:** Large increases in Nigeria, Iraq, and Afghanistan, three countries that also experienced high numbers of fatalities due to terrorist attacks in 2013, comprise more than two-thirds (72%) of the 81% increase in total fatalities worldwide in 2014 compared to 2013. Also, approximately one-quarter (26%) of the increase in total fatalities was attributable to increases in perpetrator fatalities, which were especially prevalent in Iraq, Nigeria, and Syria.
- **Injuries:** The total number of injuries due to terrorist attacks increased slightly (6%) in 2014. This was largely a product of various regional trends, including a 376% increase in injuries in Nigeria in 2014, and a 44% decrease in injuries in Pakistan in 2014 compared to 2013.
- **Hostages:** Several countries observed large increases in the number of hostages taken in terrorist attacks in 2014. However, the largest increases took place in Iraq, Nigeria, and Syria, comprising more than two-thirds (68%) of the 201% increase in hostages worldwide in 2014 compared to 2013. This considerable increase in the total number of hostages taken by perpetrators of terrorist attacks is a result of a large increase in the number of attacks that involved any hostages as well as a large increase in the number of attacks that involved more than 100 hostages.

Four of the five countries that experienced the most terrorist attacks in 2014 were the same as those that experienced the most terrorism in 2013. The one exception was the Philippines, which experienced a 24% decline in attacks, and ranked 10th among countries with the most terrorism in 2014. Nigeria, which ranked 7th among countries with the most terrorist attacks in 2013, experienced a 114% increase in attacks and a 308% increase in fatalities in 2014.

Table 2: Countries with the most terrorist attacks or fatalities, 2014

	Total Attacks		Total Fatalities		Fatalities per Attack		Total Injuries		Injured per Attack		Hostages Taken	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Iraq	3370	2501	9929	6387	3.07	2.59	15137	14976	4.79	6.10	2658	267
Pakistan	1821	1941	1757	2351	0.99	1.24	2837	5075	1.61	2.71	869	417
Afghanistan	1591	1149	4505	3111	2.92	2.76	4699	3724	3.16	3.37	719	273
India	763	632	426	409	0.59	0.66	643	717	0.90	1.18	302	190
Nigeria	662	309	7512	1842	12.8	6.46	2246	472	6.31	1.98	1298	89
Syria	232	222	1698	1084	8.24	5.19	1473	1776	9.32	9.45	872	214
Worldwide	13463	9964	32727	18066	2.57	1.86	34791	32880	2.86	3.45	9428	3137

NOTE: India, which was among the five countries with the most attacks in 2014, ranked 13th in terms of fatalities. Syria, which was among the five countries with the most fatalities in 2014, ranked 14th in terms of attacks.

COUNTRY PROFILES

IRAQ

- By a wide margin, the highest numbers of total attacks, total fatalities, and total injuries took place in Iraq. The average lethality of attacks in Iraq was 3.07, nearly 20 percent higher than the global average (2.57 fatalities per attack), and 19% higher than the 2013 average in Iraq (2.56).
- The increases in terrorism in Iraq in 2014 coincided with the expansion of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). The percentage of attacks in Iraq for which no perpetrator group was identified decreased from 84% in 2013 to 70% in 2014. During the same time period, the number of attacks in Iraq attributed to ISIL (also known as al-Qa'ida in Iraq in 2013) increased from 400 to more than 950, representing 96% of all attacks in Iraq for which a perpetrator group was identified in 2014.
- Five of the 20 most lethal individual attacks in 2014 took place in Iraq; all were carried out by ISIL. In addition, terrorism in Iraq continued to be marked by extremely deadly coordinated attacks. On 160 occasions in 2014, there were more than 10 attacks on a single day within a particular country. Of these, more than two-thirds (71%) took place in Iraq. Likewise, there were 109 occasions in 2014 when more than 50 people were killed in terrorist attacks on one day in a particular country. Approximately one-third of these highly lethal days (36%) occurred in Iraq and involved up to 27 attacks on a single day.
- More than three-quarters of all attacks in Iraq (77%) were classified as bombings/explosions and 7% were suicide attacks. An additional 12% were armed

assaults, 5% were kidnappings, and 5% were assassinations, often targeting government figures and police leadership.

- Although the percentage of attacks involving hostages in Iraq (5%) was half that of the global percentage (10%) in 2014, in 2014 Iraq experienced an extraordinary increase in the total number of hostages taken (896%) in terrorist attacks compared to 2013. This increase was due to a small number of attacks that involved extremely high numbers of hostages.
- The most common types of targets in Iraq were private citizens and property² (41%), police (24%), and general (non-diplomatic) government entities (9%).
- The majority of the attacks in Iraq took place in the governorates of Baghdad (26%), Saladin (22%), Nineveh (13%), Diyala (13%), and al-Anbar (12%).

PAKISTAN

- The total number of terrorist attacks reported in Pakistan decreased 6%, total fatalities decreased 25%, and total injuries decreased 44% in 2014 compared to 2013.
- No specific perpetrator organization was identified in source materials for 79% of all attacks in Pakistan. Of the remaining attacks, 29% were carried out by Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP). Attacks attributed to TTP killed more than 540 and wounded more than 770 in 2014.
- Thirty other groups, including a number of Baloch nationalist groups such as the Baloch Republican Army, the Baloch Liberation Front, the United Baloch Army, the Baloch Liberation Army, and the Balochistan Liberation United Front, carried out attacks in Pakistan, particularly in Balochistan.
- In 2014, 32% of all terrorist attacks in Pakistan took place in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, 29% took place in Balochistan, 22% took place in Sindh, and 12% took place in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA).
- The most frequently attacked types of targets in Pakistan were generally consistent with global patterns: more than 22% of all attacks primarily targeted private citizens and property and 21% primarily targeted the police. However, government targets (7%) were less prevalent in Pakistan compared to global patterns (13%), and utilities (8%) and educational institutions (6%) were more likely to be the target of terrorism in Pakistan compared to global patterns, where they each comprise 3% of all attacks.

AFGHANISTAN

- The total number of terrorist attacks in Afghanistan increased 38% between 2013 and 2014, while the total number of fatalities increased 45%. However, in Afghanistan the percentage of total fatalities comprised by perpetrator deaths was especially high – 43% , compared to 19% worldwide.

² Note that attacks classified as having targeted “private citizens and property” in the Statistical Annex dataset represent those for which a more specific descriptor, such as “business,” “educational institution,” or “religious figures and institutions,” was not appropriate. Because these other types of targets also describe private citizens and property, the statistics in this report pertaining to targets specifically classified as private citizens and property are a conservative representation. See Table 4 for a full listing of the target classifications used in the dataset.

- Although less severe than the increases in Iraq, Nigeria, and Syria, in 2014, Afghanistan also experienced a large increase (168%) in the number of hostages taken in terrorist attacks.
- Information about the perpetrator group responsible for the attack was reported for more than half of all attacks in Afghanistan in 2014 (57%). Nearly all of these (99%) were attributed to the Taliban. Attacks carried out by the Taliban in 2014 killed more than 3,400 people, including perpetrators, and wounded more than 3,300.
- Attacks against police targets, especially checkpoints, patrols, and security forces, comprised more than 42% of terrorist attacks in Afghanistan in 2014. Police targets in Afghanistan were more than twice as prevalent as police targets worldwide (21%).
- As in Iraq, suicide attacks remained especially frequent in Afghanistan, comprising 10% of all terrorist attacks in 2014. This represents a 51% increase in the number of suicide attacks in Afghanistan since 2013.
- Terrorist attacks took place in all 34 of Afghanistan's provinces in 2014, but were somewhat concentrated in Helmand (10%) and Kandahar (8%) provinces in the South, and Ghazni province (8%) in the East.

INDIA

- Among the countries with the highest numbers of terrorist attacks and fatalities in 2014, India was unusual on several dimensions. In particular, terrorist attacks in India were less likely to be lethal (32% were lethal compared to 51% worldwide) and resulted in fewer casualties (both fatalities and injuries) per attack.
- Several casualty metrics for fatalities and injuries in India decreased in 2014; a smaller percentage of attacks were lethal, and there were fewer deaths and injuries per attack. However, the total number of terrorist attacks increased 21%, the total number of fatalities increased 4%, and the number of hostages recorded in India increased by 59%.
- Terrorist attacks in which the primary tactic was bombing/explosion were less prevalent in India (42%) than worldwide (56%), and there were no suicide attacks in India in 2014. The types of tactics that were considerably more common in India than the rest of the world included kidnappings (17% compared to 10% worldwide) and facility/infrastructure attacks (9% compared to 6% worldwide).
- More than half of the terrorist attacks in India in 2014 took place in four states: Jharkhand (15%), Jammu and Kashmir (13%), Assam (12%), and Manipur (12%).
- Compared to the other countries that experienced the most terrorist attacks and fatalities in 2014, the diversity of perpetrator groups was much greater in India, with 45 groups active in 2014. However, nearly 60% of the terrorist attacks carried out in India in 2014 were attributed to the Communist Party of India-Maoist or Maoist perpetrators not specifically identified as belonging to a particular organization.

NIGERIA

- Terrorism in Nigeria in 2014 was marked by severe increases in the total number of attacks (114%), fatalities (308%), injuries (376%), and hostages (1,358%) compared to 2013.

- Like Iraq, Nigeria was particularly likely to experience highly lethal individual attacks, as well as highly lethal coordinated attacks. Nine of the 20 deadliest individual terrorist attacks in 2014 took place in Nigeria. Two others occurred across the border in Cameroon and were attributed to the Nigerian group Boko Haram. In 2014, the average number of deaths caused by attacks in Nigeria was 12.8. This was nearly twice as high as the rate in 2013, and nearly five times as high as the global average (2.57 deaths per attack) in 2014. Of the 109 occasions in 2014 when more than 50 people were killed in terrorist attacks on a single day in a particular country, more than one-third (37%) occurred in Nigeria, involving up to seven attacks in one day.
- Nearly 1,300 people were kidnapped or taken hostage in terrorist attacks in Nigeria in 2014, compared to fewer than 100 in 2013. In particular, there were two attacks that involved several hundred hostages. In April, 276 students were abducted from a government-run secondary school for girls in Chibok. In December, 185 people were kidnapped from Gumsuri village. Both attacks were attributed to Boko Haram.
- Information about perpetrator groups was reported for 86% of terrorist attacks in Nigeria in 2014. Of the attacks for which perpetrators were identified, most were attributed to Boko Haram (71%) or assailants described as “Fulani militants” (26%), who are engaged in a land resource conflict in Nigeria.
- The majority of terrorist attacks in Nigeria in 2014 (66%) targeted private citizens and property. This is twice as high as the global rate (33%) of attacks against private citizens and property. Almost three-quarters (73%) of the terrorist attacks in Nigeria that targeted private citizens and property victimized the residents of entire villages, towns, or cities, rather than isolated individuals.
- In 2014, terrorist attacks took place in 28 states and the Federal Capital Territory; however, they were heavily concentrated in Borno, where 40% of the attacks took place.

SYRIA³

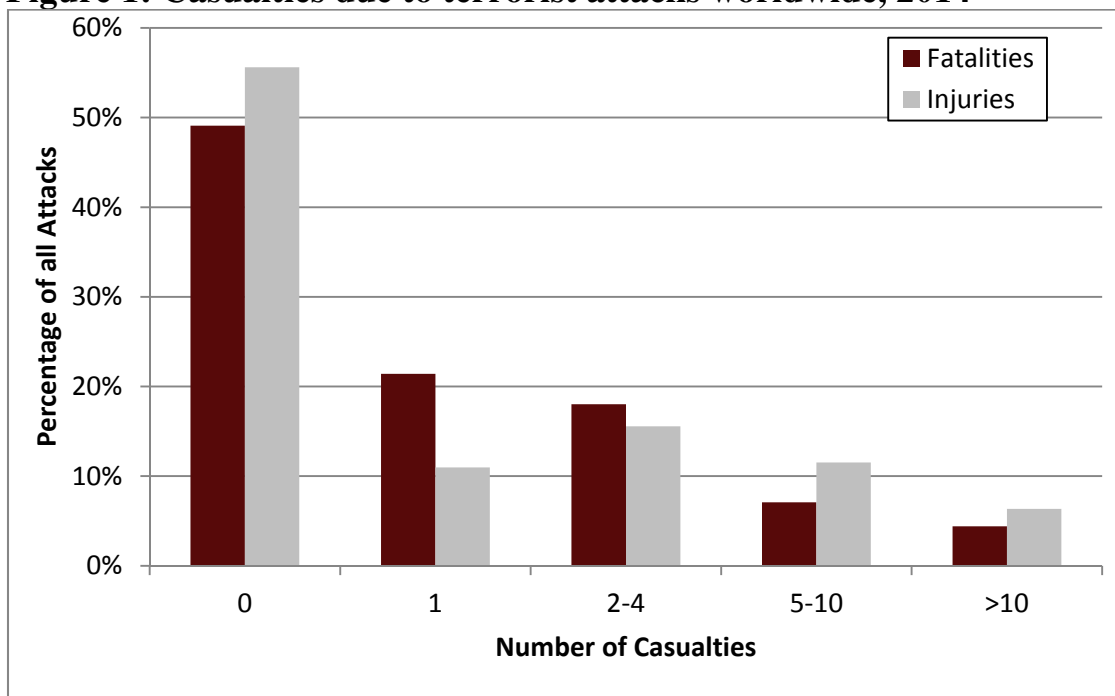
- While the number of terrorist attacks recorded in Syria in 2014 remained relatively stable compared to 2013, the total number of deaths increased 57%. Approximately one-quarter of the increase in fatalities (26%) in Syria was a result of a large increase in the number of perpetrators killed while carrying out attacks, however.
- The average lethality of terrorist attacks in Syria in 2014 (8.24) was more than three times as high as the global average (2.57) and 59% higher than the average lethality of terrorist attacks in Syria in 2013.
- As in 2013, the average number of people wounded in attacks in Syria in 2014 was particularly high at 9.32. This was 226% higher than the global average for injuries (2.86), but 1% lower than the average number injured in terrorist attacks in Syria in 2013.
- Syria experienced a more than 300% increase in the number of hostages taken in 2014, compared to 2013. More than 870 people were kidnapped or taken hostage in 30 terrorist attacks in Syria, including three attacks in which more than 100 people were taken hostage. These three attacks targeted Kurdish civilians, particularly children, and were attributed to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL).

³ Recall that, given the limitations of media coverage in Syria, the data presented here are conservative estimates of terrorism in Syria. Consistent with START’s practice of including in the GTD only those attacks that have been verified by at least one well-regarded source, these statistics represent those incidents that were reported by independent news outlets.

- Information about the perpetrator groups responsible for terrorist attacks in Syria was reported in 61% of all cases. Among those attacks for which perpetrator group information was available, ISIL was responsible for 62% and al-Nusrah Front was responsible for 20%.
- Approximately two-thirds of all terrorist attacks in Syria in 2014 took place in the governorates of Aleppo (32%), Damascus (17%), and Homs (17%).

CASUALTIES

Figure 1: Casualties due to terrorist attacks worldwide, 2014⁴



- The total number of deaths from terrorist attacks worldwide increased 81% in 2014 compared to 2013. Although the percentages of attacks that resulted in zero, one, two to four, or five to 10 fatalities mirrored 2013 levels, the percentage of attacks involving more than 10 deaths increased from 3.2% to 4.4%. Attacks that caused more than 10 deaths represented a relatively small proportion of all terrorist attacks, yet this change corresponds to more than 100 additional attacks that resulted in more than 10 fatalities in 2014, compared to 2013.
- Nearly 18,000 people were killed in 561 attacks that resulted in more than 10 deaths in 2014. These attacks occurred in 23 different countries, including most frequently: Nigeria (155), Iraq (141), Afghanistan (66), and Syria (46).
- The overall increase in fatalities in 2014 was particularly impacted by exceptionally lethal terrorist attacks that killed more than 100 people. In 2014, 20 such attacks took place compared to two in 2013.
- Among the attacks that resulted in only one fatality in 2014, 42% were bombings, 33% were armed assaults, 14% were assassinations, and 7% were kidnappings. In 7% of attacks that resulted in only one death, the person killed was the perpetrator. Nearly half

⁴ Total casualty statistics presented include perpetrator casualties.

of the attacks that killed only a perpetrator were suicide attacks (46%), but in the remainder the perpetrator was either killed accidentally when explosives detonated prematurely, or the attack was repelled by authorities.

- The majority of non-lethal attacks in 2014 were bombings (66%), and approximately one-quarter (24%) of the non-lethal attacks were unsuccessful (e.g., an explosive was planted but it was defused or failed to detonate).
- More than 9,400 people were kidnapped or taken hostage in 1,337 attacks in 2014, 201% more hostages than were reported in 2013. In 14 attacks in 2014, more than 100 victims were kidnapped or taken hostage. These include several attacks targeting Yazidi civilians in Iraq, as well as attacks targeting students in Nigeria, Pakistan, and Syria. More than 2,900 hostages were released, rescued, or escaped from their captors. The remaining hostages were either killed or the outcome of the event was not reported.

PERPETRATORS

- Information about perpetrators was reported in source materials for 46% of terrorist attacks in 2014. More than 250 organizations were named as perpetrators of terrorist attacks, including 33 organizations that had not previously been identified as perpetrators in the Global Terrorism Database.
- In 30% of the attacks with information about perpetrator groups, the groups explicitly claimed responsibility. In the remaining attacks, source documents attributed responsibility to a particular group or groups based on reports from authorities or observers.
- The perpetrator groups responsible for the most terrorist attacks in 2014 were the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), the Taliban in Afghanistan, al-Shabaab, Boko Haram, and Maoists in India. These groups were also responsible for the most attacks in 2013. All five increased the frequency of their attacks in 2014, though at different rates.
- Of the attacks for which perpetrator information was reported, 17% were attributed to ISIL. Although ISIL operated primarily in Iraq and Syria, the group expanded its influence geographically in 2014 by carrying out attacks in Lebanon and Egypt for the first time. In addition, several organizations based in other countries pledged allegiance to ISIL and self-identified as a “province,” “chapter,” or “supporter” of the Islamic State.

Table 3: Five perpetrator groups with the most attacks worldwide, 2014

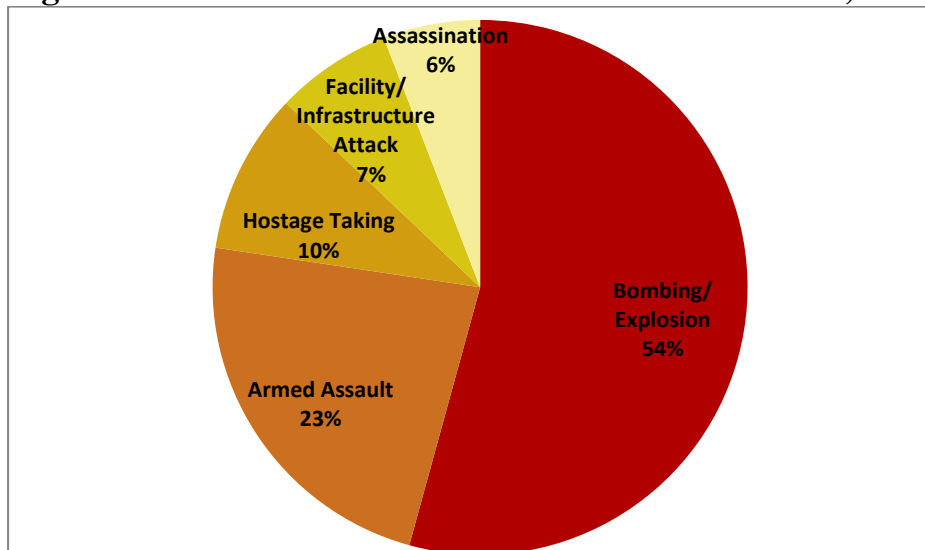
	Total Attacks		Total Fatalities		Total Injuries		Hostages Taken		Number of Countries	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL)	1083	429	6286	1752	5808	4529	3158	114	5	4
Taliban	894	648	3492	2356	3312	2249	649	229	2	2
Al-Shabaab	497	196	1022	517	850	761	579	132	4	4
Boko Haram	453	217	6644	1595	1742	370	1217	38	3	3
Maoists/Communist Party of India-Maoist	305	203	188	192	165	126	160	83	1	1

- Among these five perpetrator groups, the average lethality of attacks carried out by ISIL (6.46 people killed per attack), the Taliban (4.07), and Boko Haram (16.86) were higher than the global average (2.57) in 2014. The average lethality of attacks carried out by al-Shabaab (2.46) was slightly lower than the global average. Attacks carried out by Maoist perpetrators in India were by far the least deadly and the least likely to be deadly, causing 0.63 deaths per attack.
- All five of the most active groups markedly increased the number of hostages taken in 2014; however, the increases in hostage-takings by ISIL and Boko Haram were exceptionally large. Attacks carried out by these two groups in 2014 involved more than 4,300 hostages, 50% of all hostages taken in terrorist attacks worldwide in which the perpetrator group was identified.
- Boko Haram also increased its use of suicide tactics in 2014, carrying out 31 suicide attacks, compared to three in 2013.

TACTICS AND WEAPONS

- Each recorded terrorist attack can involve one or more tactics in a continuous sequence of actions. The most commonly used tactic in 2014 involved explosives (54%), followed by armed assaults (23%), which almost always involved firearms.
- Although the pattern of tactics in 2014 generally remained consistent with 2013, bombings and assassinations were slightly less prevalent in 2014, while hostage takings (a combination of kidnapping and barricade events) were relatively more prevalent. In particular, the percentage of attacks classified as bombings decreased from 57% to 54%, and the percentage of assassinations decreased from 8% to 6%. Hostage takings, however, comprised 10% of all tactics in 2014, compared to 6% in 2013.

Figure 2: Tactics used in terrorist attacks worldwide, 2014



- In addition to the tactics shown in Figure 2, there were 39 unarmed assaults in 2014. There were also 42 hijackings carried out in 2014, primarily involving cars, trucks, and buses as well as three maritime targets and one airplane.
- A total of 574 terrorist suicide attacks took place in 2014, resulting in more than 4,700 deaths and more than 7,800 injuries. Although these attacks took place in 17 countries, 70% of them occurred in Iraq and Afghanistan. On average, suicide attacks in 2014 were 3.6 times as lethal as non-suicide attacks.

TARGETS

Each attack in the Statistical Annex dataset includes information on up to three different targets and/or victims, regardless of whether or not the attack successfully impacted the intended target. Fewer than 1,300 terrorist attacks in 2014 involved multiple types of targets.

- More than half of all targets attacked in 2014 (55%) were classified as either private citizens and property or police. Terrorist attacks were particularly likely to target private citizens and property in Nigeria (66% of attacks in Nigeria) and Iraq (41% of attacks in Iraq).
- Attacks targeting police were most frequently aimed at police officers, security forces, or patrols, and took place disproportionately in Afghanistan (43%).
- The most ubiquitous targets of terrorist attacks in 2014 were private citizens and property (attacked in 72 countries) and non-diplomatic government entities (attacked in 62 countries).
- Attacks on journalism and media targets increased 34% in 2014 compared to 2013, and occurred in 30 countries; . Attacks on journalists and media targets were most frequently classified as kidnappings (31%), assassinations (27%), and bombings (18%).

Table 4: Targets of terrorist attacks worldwide, 2014

Target Type	Number of Targets
Private Citizens & Property	5016
Police	2679
Government (General)	1545
Business	1127
Military	805
Religious Figures/Institutions	418
Terrorists/Non-State Militia	400
Educational Institutions	384
Transportation	355
Utilities	344
Journalists & Media	231
Government (Diplomatic)	155
Violent Political Party ⁵	131
Other	85
NGO	82
Airports & Airlines	58
Telecommunication	50
Food or Water Supply	21
Maritime	16
Total	13911

⁵ “Violent Political Parties” are organizations that engage in electoral politics and are also attributed responsibility for terrorist attacks in the Global Terrorism Database.