A faint, light blue outline of a world map is visible in the background of the entire page. The map shows the continents and major landmasses.

# **National Counterterrorism Center**

**2009 Report on Terrorism**

**30 April 2010**



The National Counterterrorism Center publishes the *NCTC Report on Terrorism* in electronic format. US Government officials and the public may access the report via the Internet at:

<http://www.nctc.gov/>

Information available as of March 19, 2010 was used for this edition of the report. For updated information on attacks, consult the Worldwide Incidents Tracking System on the Internet at the NCTC public web site.

Office of the Director of National Intelligence  
National Counterterrorism Center  
Washington, DC 20511

ISSN 1949-2103



## 2009 NCTC Report on Terrorism

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## CONTENTS

Foreword	1
Methodology Utilized to Compile NCTC's Database of Attacks	4
NCTC Observations Related to Terrorist Incidents Statistical Material	9
Trend Observed in WITS Data: Attacks on Oil and Gas Sectors Decline in 2009	12
Statistical Charts and Graphs	13
Chronology of High-Fatality Terrorist Attacks	29
Academic Letter: <i>Challenges, Accomplishments, and Prospects</i>	68





## FOREWORD

### *Developing Statistical Information*

Consistent with its statutory mission to serve as the United States (US) government's knowledge bank on international terrorism, the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) is providing the Department of State with the statistical information required to assist it in the satisfying the requirements of Section 2656f of title 22 of the US Code (USC).

This statute requires the State Department 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." NCTC keeps statistics on the annual number of incidents of "terrorism," but its ability to identify the specific group responsible for each incident resulting in death, injury or kidnapping is significantly limited by the availability of reliable open source information, particularly when attacks involve few casualties or occur in remote regions of the world. Moreover, specific details regarding victims, perpetrators, damage or other elements of the incident are frequently not fully addressed in open source reporting.

- Therefore, the statistical material in this report reflects the most comprehensive body of information available to NCTC for compiling data to satisfy the above-referenced statistical requirements and details incidents of "terrorism" that occurred in 2009 as reported in open source information.

This report is provided for statistical purposes only. The statistical information contained in the report is based on factual reports from a variety of open sources that may be of varying credibility. Any assessments regarding the nature of the incidents or the factual circumstances thereof are offered only as part of the analytic work product of the National Counterterrorism Center and may not reflect the assessments of other departments and agencies of the United States Government. 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 entries in the Worldwide Incident Tracking System, the statistical information will be modified, as necessary and appropriate, when and if the underlying incidents are finally adjudicated.

In deriving its figures for incidents of terrorism, NCTC in 2005 adopted the definition of "terrorism" that appears in 22 USC § 2656f(d)(2), i.e., "premeditated, politically



motivated violence perpetrated against noncombatant targets by subnational groups or clandestine agents."

To record and update attack records, NCTC posts information in the repository for the US government's authoritative database on terror attacks, the Worldwide Incidents Tracking System (WITS). WITS is accessible on the NCTC website at [www.nctc.gov](http://www.nctc.gov) for the public to have an open and transparent view of the NCTC data. NCTC will ensure that the data posted to the website is updated as often as necessary by regularly posting information about new or prior attacks.

### ***Considerations for Interpreting the Data***

Tracking and analyzing terrorist incidents can help us understand some important characteristics about terrorism, including the geographic distribution of attacks and information about the perpetrators, their victims, and other details. Year-to-year changes in the gross number of attacks across the globe, however, may tell us little about the international community's effectiveness either in preventing these incidents, or in reducing the capacity of terrorists to advance their agenda through violence against the innocent.

NCTC cautions against placing too much emphasis on the use of attack data to gauge success or failure against the forces of terrorism. Furthermore, NCTC does not believe that a simple comparison of the total number of attacks from year to year provides a meaningful measure.

- Tallying attack data necessarily involves relying on frequently incomplete and ambiguous information—information for these statistics is not derived from federal government collection programs that are created or operated specifically to obtain attack data. The quality, accuracy, and volume of open source reporting can vary greatly from country to country. As a result, determining whether an attack meets the statutory criteria for a terrorist attack is often difficult and highly subjective. This is particularly true if the attack does not involve a large number of casualties because detailed information is not typically available on these events since they often do not receive heavy media coverage. Furthermore, in the parts of the world where there is little press coverage and sparse non-governmental organization presence, terrorist attacks often go unreported.
- Attack tallies do not provide a complete picture of the magnitude or seriousness of the terrorism challenge confronting a country or region. For example, the fact that 50 percent of the attacks in the NCTC database resulted in no loss of life means tallies are only one factor for assessing the danger of terrorism globally. Moreover, different factors weigh more heavily than others in assessing the dangers posed by terrorism. For example, an attack that kills 100 civilians is likely to be considered



more alarming than an attack that damages a pipeline but harms no one; however, each attack is simply tallied as one incident.

- Counting protocols are necessary and inevitably require judgment calls that may impact the results. For example, NCTC protocols dictate that events identified as simultaneous and coordinated be recorded as one attack, as are secondary attacks that targeted first responders. For instance, on the morning of August 17, 2005, there were approximately 450 small bomb attacks in Bangladesh<sup>1</sup>, and, because they were coordinated according to a central plan, NCTC counted them as a single event. Other valid counting protocols could register these attacks as 450 separate attacks.
- Analyzing attack data from year to year to identify patterns and notable deviations or trends in the data is problematic, and may not always be meaningful. The availability, quality, and depth of open source reporting vary, making it hard to isolate whether the rise or fall of a particular data element from one year to the next is related to an increase or decrease in open source reporting or to a change in actual events.

Despite these limitations, WITS can be a valuable tool for facilitating empirical research on terrorism.

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<sup>1</sup> “ICN 200574834.” Online posting. Worldwide Incidents Tracking System. Last updated, 3/31/2010. National Counterterrorism Center. 4/29/2010 <<http://wits.nctc.gov/>>.



## Methodology Utilized to Compile NCTC's Database of Terrorist Incidents

The data provided in WITS consists of incidents in which subnational or clandestine groups or individuals deliberately or recklessly attacked civilians or noncombatants (including military personnel and assets outside war zones and war-like settings). Determination of what constitutes a terrorist act, however, can be more art than science; information is often incomplete, fact patterns may be open to interpretation, and perpetrators' intent is rarely clear. Moreover, information may become available over time, changing initial judgments about attacks. Users of this database should therefore recognize that reasonable people may differ on whether a particular attack actually constitutes terrorism or some other form of political violence. NCTC has made every effort to limit the degree of subjectivity involved in the judgments and, in the interests of transparency, has adopted a set of counting rules that are delineated below.

Disclaimer: The Worldwide Incidents Tracking System (WITS) contains details about incidents of violence against civilians and non-combatants (including military personnel and assets outside of war-like settings) from publicly available information. NCTC does not conduct research other than a review of information contained in open source reporting. NCTC analysts determine if an event meets the definitional criteria of 22 U.S.C. § 2656f(d)(2) as an act of terrorism. NCTC is not responsible for errors and omissions in open source reporting. The judgment of NCTC is not intended to be a legally binding determination that an event is a terrorist act for any purpose other than providing statistical information.

Terrorists must have initiated and executed the attack for it to be included in the database; failed or foiled attacks, as well as hoaxes, are not included. Spontaneous hate crimes without intent to cause mass casualties are excluded, though it should be understood that often there is insufficient information to judge whether an attack was planned or spontaneous. While genocidal events can be interpreted as the most extreme form of politically motivated violence against civilians, these types of attacks are excluded, in part because of the inherent difficulty in counting such events and because the inevitable undercount does not do justice to the scope and depth of such atrocities. Moreover, the question of whether or not acts of genocide should be included in the WITS database was posed to a panel of academics at the 2008 Brain Trust on Terrorism Metrics. The panel concluded that acts that meet the criteria for genocide are fundamentally separate from terrorist acts and should not be included in the database.

Determining when perpetrators have targeted noncombatants can also be difficult. Military personnel and assets outside war zones and war-like settings pose one challenge to the noncombatant provision of the definition, while police under military command and control, and organized groups of armed civilians inside war zones and war-like settings pose another challenge. With the approval of the 2007 Brain Trust on Terrorism Metrics, NCTC developed a combatant matrix which details the various areas of war-like settings, and the common actors such as military police, militias, soldiers and other combatant-like actors. The analysts use the matrix in complex cases to determine



when an act targeting combatant-like actors should be included in WITS. The combatant matrix is adjusted as the circumstances in world conflicts change or evolve. The distinction between terrorism and insurgency in Iraq was especially challenging in previous years, as Iraqis participated in both the Sunni terrorist networks as well as the former-regime-elements insurgency, targeting both civilians and combatants and often affecting both populaces. Terrorist attacks against combatants count as reckless and indiscriminate when terrorists could have reasonably foreseen that their attack would result in civilian casualties. Therefore, combatants may be included as victims in some attacks when their presence was incidental to an attack aimed at noncombatants, and some attacks may be deemed terrorism when it recklessly affects combatants.

The WITS database contains a field that allows analysts to categorize an incident by **event type**. Event types are coded in the database as the following: armed attack, arson/firebombing, assassination, assault, barricade/hostage, bombing, CBRN, crime, firebombing, hijacking, hoax, kidnapping, near miss/non-attack, other, theft, unknown, and vandalism. While some incidents can easily be coded using this taxonomy, other kinds of attacks are more difficult to define. When it can be determined, incidents that involve multiple types of attacks are coded with multiple event types. Incidents involving mortars, rocket-propelled grenades, and missiles generally fall under armed attack, although improvised explosive devices (IED) fall under bombing, including vehicle-borne IEDs (VBIED). VBIEDs include any IED built into or made a part of a vehicle including cars, trucks, bicycles, and motorcycles. Suicide events are also captured, but the perpetrator must have died in the attack for the event type **suicide** to be included.

Note: When an incident results in a premeditated kinetic event, then it is considered an attack under the methodology used by NCTC. For instance, the 25 December 2009 incident on a flight to Detroit, Michigan is counted in our statistics as an attack rather than excluded as a near-miss. The assailant detonated the IED, but it malfunctioned setting the bomber's clothing on fire, wounding one other passenger, and damaging the aircraft. Also when a would-be suicide bomber does not die in the attack, it is not considered a suicide attack. Therefore, the same Detroit flight incident, while counting as an attack, did not meet the criteria for a suicide attack.

The WITS database categorizes victims of an incident. Civilians, businesses, students, military and police are some of the several dozen victims types captured in WITS. Additionally, the nationalities are recorded in WITS where open source media reports such information. The methodology presumes most victims to be local nationals unless otherwise reported in the press.

In the cases of Iraq and Afghanistan, it is particularly difficult to gather comprehensive information about all attacks and to distinguish terrorism from the numerous other forms of violence, including crime and sectarian violence. During the past twelve months, analysts have noted a decline in open source reporting in some provinces in Afghanistan where security has deteriorated. Thus, WITS has limited attack information for these provinces. We note, however, that because of the difficulty in gathering data





### Filtering Inferred in WITS Classic

WITS Classic search interface showing filtering options. The 'CONFIDENCE' dropdown menu is highlighted with a red circle, showing options: Unknown, Inferred, Likely, and Plausible. The 'EXCLUDE' radio button is selected.

### Filtering Inferred in WITS NextGen

(use minus sign next to Inferred)

WITS NextGen search results page. The 'Perpetrator [+]' filter is highlighted with a red circle. The results table shows various group types and confidence levels, with 'Inferred [-]' highlighted by a red circle.

Group Type (multi-or)	Confidence (multi-or)
Unknown [-] (34835)	Unknown [-] (34617)
Secular/Political/Anarchist [-] (15853)	Likely [-] (19922)
Islamic Extremist (Sunni) [-] (14539)	Inferred [-] (8363)
Islamic Extremist (Shia) [-] (558)	Plausible [-] (5835)
Tribal/Clan/Ethnic [-] (523)	

Thus far, this data value is being utilized largely for the inference of **Sunni extremist** attacks in some countries and only applies to the 2008 and 2009 data. Such an inference is based upon the specific parts of the country in which the attack occurred, the attack method used, or both factors.

NOTE: Users must be aware that such an analytic reference has not been applied in earlier years and as such queries must be carefully constructed to avoid fallacious conclusions about the change in the number of attacks conducted by Sunni extremists. If users do not wish to use this additional analytic reference they can maintain consistency across time-series data by filtering out the value as described above. Moreover, perpetrator characteristics may change over time. For instance, the Chechen rebels were previously categorized as secular/political, but are now categorized Sunni extremists because they declared themselves to be the Islamic Emirate of the Caucasus in October of 2007 and claimed attacks under this name.



To be more analytically useful, the database also enables greater granularity with respect to the impact of attacks. Killed, wounded, and kidnapped figures are provided. Kidnapped victims who were later killed are counted as killed; and kidnapped victims either liberated or still in captivity are counted as kidnapped. Any attack hitting a facility is now coded with a damage estimate of Light (\$1 to \$500 thousand), Moderate (\$500 thousand to \$20 million), or Heavy (over \$20 million). While it is inherently difficult to make damage assessments for attacks in different countries with different economic circumstances, these estimates allow users to garner a general sense of the overall level of attacks.

Because terrorism is a tactic, used on many fronts, by diverse perpetrators in different circumstances and with different aims, NCTC cautions against using attack data alone to gauge success against the forces of terrorism. NCTC does not believe that a simple comparison of the total number of attacks from year to year provides a meaningful metric, for the following reasons:

- We continue to refine our counting rules as the study of terrorism evolves. Interaction with academics and outside terrorism experts has convinced us that there will never be a bright red line around terrorist attacks, but that the definition of terrorism will always be a point of thoughtful debate. This evolution in our methodology for counting attacks is reflected in WITS and means that some types of year-to-year comparisons may be misleading.
- Fifty percent of the attacks in the database actually involve no loss of life whatsoever. An attack against a pipeline and a VBIED attack that kills 100 civilians each count as one attack in the database. Therefore, a comparison of such attacks may hardly seem meaningful.
- The nature of this exercise necessarily involves incomplete and ambiguous information. The motivation behind attacks, particularly those that do not involve mass casualties can be especially difficult to discern.
- As additional sources of information are found and as more information becomes available from the remoter parts of the world, we will continue to enrich the database. In the case of 2005, for example, incidents in Nepal grew dramatically, but this data can't be meaningfully compared to 2004 because it is clear that attacks on civilians were occurring at a substantially higher rate than was reflected in previous years' accounting.

In summary, tracking attacks against civilians and noncombatants can help us understand important trends related to the nature of the attacks, where they are occurring and who are the victims and the perpetrators. However, year-to-year changes in the gross number of attacks across the globe may tell us little about the effectiveness of the international community in preventing attacks, reducing the capacity of extremists to wage war, or preventing extremists from advancing their agenda through violence against the innocent.



## NCTC Observations Related to Terrorist Incidents Statistical Material

Approximately 11,000 terrorist attacks occurred in 83 countries during 2009, resulting in over 58,000 victims, including nearly 15,000 fatalities. Attacks decreased by about six percent in 2009 and deaths by about 5 percent. This marks the second consecutive year for declines of both attacks and fatalities. Unlike the preceding four years where the Near East witnessed the greatest number of attacks, the largest number of reported terrorist attacks in 2009 occurred in South Asia, which also had, for the second consecutive year, the greatest number of fatalities. Together, South Asia and the Near East were the locations for almost two-thirds of the 234 high-casualty attacks (those that killed 10 or more people) in 2009.

- Of the 10,999 reported attacks, about 4,850, or 44 percent, occurred in South Asia. These attacks accounted for approximately 6,270 fatalities, or 42 percent of the worldwide total in 2009. Attacks in Afghanistan nearly doubled from 2008 and increased in Pakistan for the third consecutive year.
- Another 30 percent of the attacks occurred in the Near East with attacks in Iraq accounting for three-fourths of these incidents. Compared with 2008, attacks in Iraq declined by nearly one-quarter, continuing an ongoing decline since August of 2007. Since 2005, Iraq continues to be the country with the most attacks and fatalities due to terrorism.
- Almost 700 of the 850 reported attacks in Africa were associated with turmoil in the Somalia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Compared with 2008, attacks in Africa rose by 140 (19 percent) and fatalities increased by over 250 (8 percent).
- The number of reported attacks in 2009 increased in the Western Hemisphere by about 27 percent, mostly attributable to increases in Colombia; in East Asia and the Pacific the number of reported attacks declined by 16 percent, mostly attributable to declines in the Philippines.
- Islamic extremists conducted several attacks in the United States, including two that resulted in fatalities. These attacks represent the most significant activity by such extremists in the United States since 2001.

### Attackers

Sunni extremists were identified with about one-half of all attacks in 2009. Almost 90 groups were associated with these attacks. According to open source reports, the Taliban claimed credit for the largest number of attacks causing the highest number of fatalities. Al-Shabaab was the second deadliest group, followed by al-Qa'ida in Iraq as the third deadliest group.



### Largest Sunni extremist attacks

- On October 25, 2009, al-Qa'ida in Iraq killed 155 people including 24 children, and wounded 720 in a double suicide VBIED attack in Baghdad, Iraq
- On December 8, 2009, al-Qa'ida in Iraq killed 127 people including 12 students, and wounded 513 others in multiple suicide VBIED attack in Baghdad, Iraq
- On October 28, 2009, Sunni extremists killed 117 people and injured 200 others in a VBIED attack in Peshawar, North-West Frontier, Pakistan
- On August 19, 2009, al-Qa'ida in Iraq killed 101 people and wounded 1,200 others in a coordinated SVBIED and VBIED attack in Baghdad, Iraq
- On May 10, 2009, Sunni extremists killed 88 people and wounded 245 others including several journalists in mortar attacks in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia

### Other notable Sunni extremist attacks

- On February 9, 2009, the Taliban killed 15 people including 11 children, and wounded 15 others in a mortar attack on a school in Darra Adam Khel, North-West Frontier, Pakistan
- On August 27, 2009, al-Qa'ida in the Arabian Peninsula slightly wounded the Saudi minister of the interior for security affairs in a suicide bombing in Jiddah, Makkah, Saudi Arabia
- On November 27, 2009, Caucasus Emirate killed 39 people and wounded 95 others in an IED attack against a passenger train near Bologoye, Tverskaya Oblast', Russia
- On December 25, 2009, Omar Farouk Abdulmutallab injured one person when he allegedly detonated an IED that malfunctioned on a flight over Detroit, Michigan, United States

Of the remaining incidents, as many as 150 groups were identified as perpetrators. The largest non-Sunni attacks include the following:

- On January 17, 2009, the Lord's Resistance Army killed approximately 400 people in assaults and incendiary attacks near Tora, Orientale, Democratic Republic of the Congo
- On May 9, 2009, the Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) killed 86 people including 25 children, and wounded 24 others including one child in an assault and armed attack in Nord-Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo
- On November 23, 2009, Ampatuan clan members killed 66 people including 34 journalists in armed attacks in Ampatuan, Maguindanao, Philippines and Datu Abdullah Sangki, Maguindanao, Philippines

### Types of Attacks

Most attacks in 2009 were perpetrated by terrorists applying conventional fighting methods such as armed attacks, bombings, and kidnappings. Drawing on the lessons learned from the Mumbai attack in 2008, Sunni extremist elements used suicidal militia style attacks in numerous large scale attacks in 2009. Terrorists continued their



practice of coordinated attacks that included secondary attacks on first responders at attack sites; they also continued to reconfigure weapons and other materials to create improvised explosive devices, and used women and children to evade security counter-measures.

- Suicide attacks declined from 405 in 2008 to 299 in 2009. This was largely due to declining violence in Iraq. A total of 13 countries experienced suicide attacks in 2009. The country with the highest number of suicide bombings was Afghanistan with 99, followed by Pakistan with 84, and Iraq with 82.
- Attacks in Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan accounted for about 60 percent of all terrorist attacks.
- Attacks by female suicide bombers declined significantly from 2008, accounting for only seven of the 299 total suicide attacks. Three of these attacks occurred in Iraq, two occurred in Sri Lanka, and two occurred in Russia.
- In Thailand, Muslim separatists used a woman and child to park VBIEDs in an effort to avoid suspicion and security procedures.

**Victims and Targets of Attacks**

As has been the case since 2005, substantial numbers of victims of terrorist attacks in 2009 were Muslim.

- Almost 48,000 individuals worldwide were either killed or injured by terrorist attacks in 2009. Based upon a combination of reporting and demographic analysis of the countries involved, well over 50 percent of the victims were Muslims, and most were victims of Sunni extremist attacks in Iraq, Pakistan, and Afghanistan.

Open source reporting largely identifies victims as civilians – approximately two-thirds of almost 48,000 killed or injured. As such, the fidelity of victim types is difficult to obtain, but the fragmented reporting on it does yield some insights about the demographics of these victims.

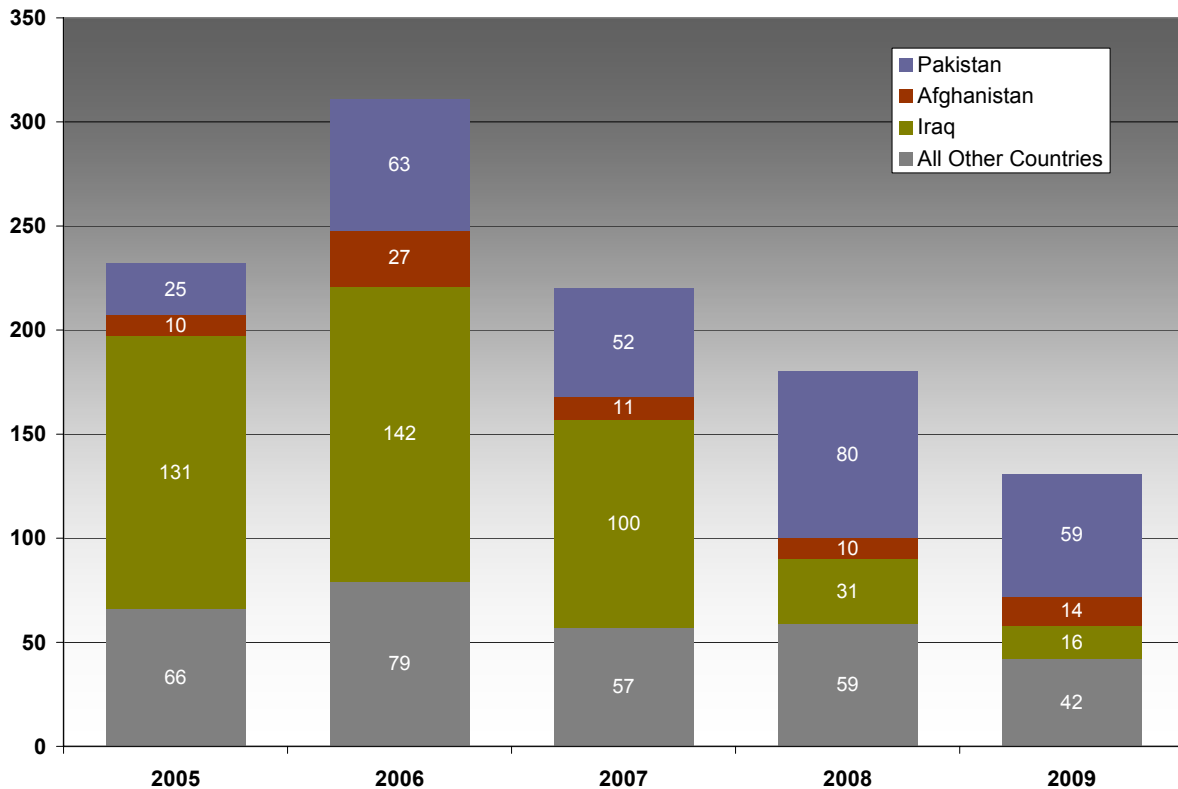
- Police officers were a favored terrorist target, accounting for 14 percent of the total killed and wounded in 2009.
- Government officials, employees and contractors killed and wounded from terrorist attacks doubled from 2008 and accounted for five percent of the total victims.
- The press experienced its single worst day in history on November 23rd in a terrorist massacre in the Philippines that killed 34 members of the media, the largest number of reporters ever killed in a single incident.



### Trend Observed in WITS Data: Attacks on Oil and Gas Sectors Decline in 2009

Total attacks against oil and gas targets worldwide declined by 27 percent in 2009 and have steadily declined since 2006, according to Worldwide Incidents Tracking System (WITS) data. One of the most significant declines was in Iraq where attacks were down almost 50 percent—from 31 in 2008 to 16 in 2009—possibly due to the country’s improved security situation. Excluding Iraq, attacks on the oil and gas sector in the Middle East were low, with four in 2009 versus eight in 2008. Attacks were also down 28 percent in Nigeria, where a ceasefire in the oil producing Niger Delta region temporarily halted militant attacks and thousands of militants accepted a government amnesty offer and disarmed in October 2009. Afghanistan saw a slight increase in attacks with 14 in 2009 compared to 10 in 2008, which is still relatively low for a war zone. While Pakistan saw attacks decline—59 in 2009 versus 80 in 2008—the number of attacks remained high in comparison to war zones due to the deteriorating security situation across the country that has prompted the Pakistani military to pursue operations against militants that operate there.

**Total Attacks Against Oil and Gas Sectors: 2005-09**



Statistical Charts and Graphs

Chart 1 - Lethality - Comparison of Fatalities and Incidents by Region

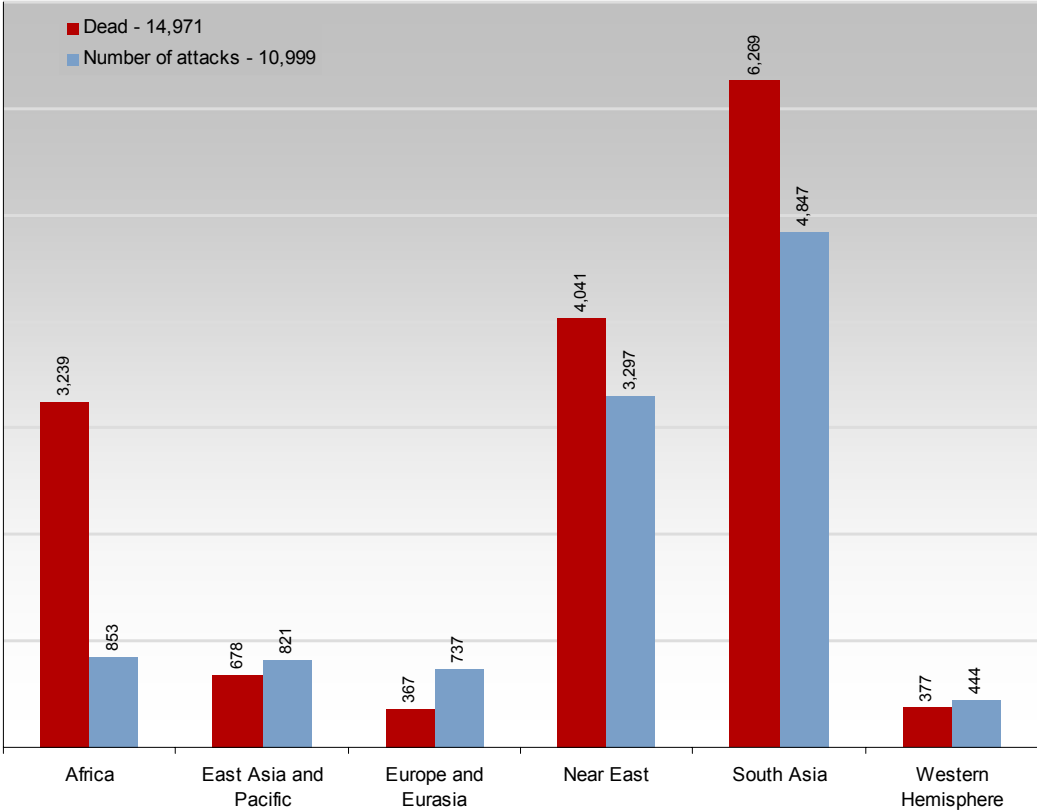
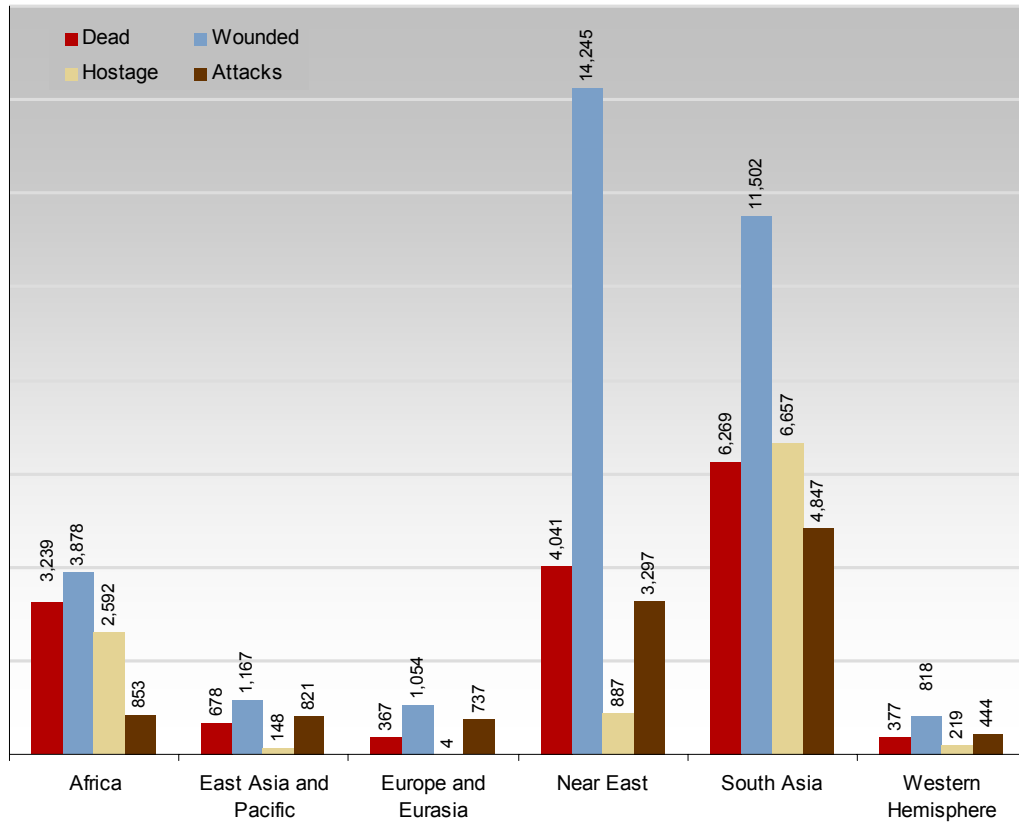
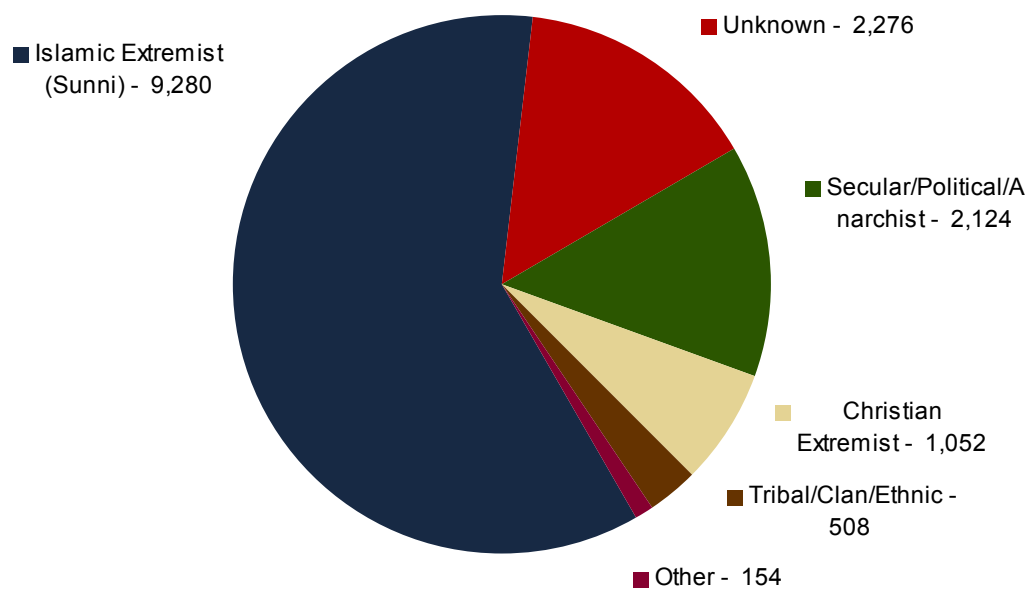


Chart 2 - Comparison of Attacks and Victims by Region





**Chart 4 - Deaths by Perpetrator Category**

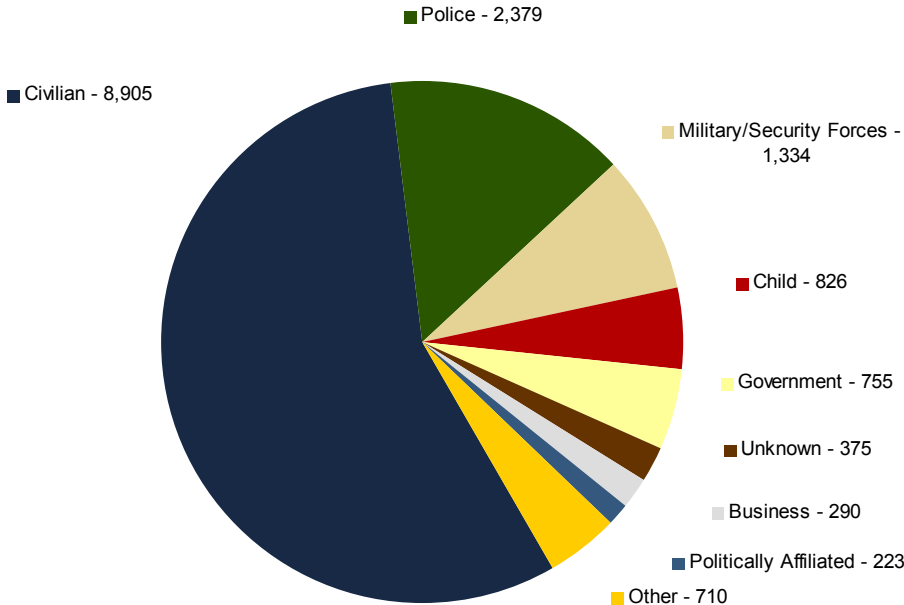


14,971 Total Deaths

There is some double counting when joint claims are made. Categories include attacks either claimed, suspected, inferred or unknown.



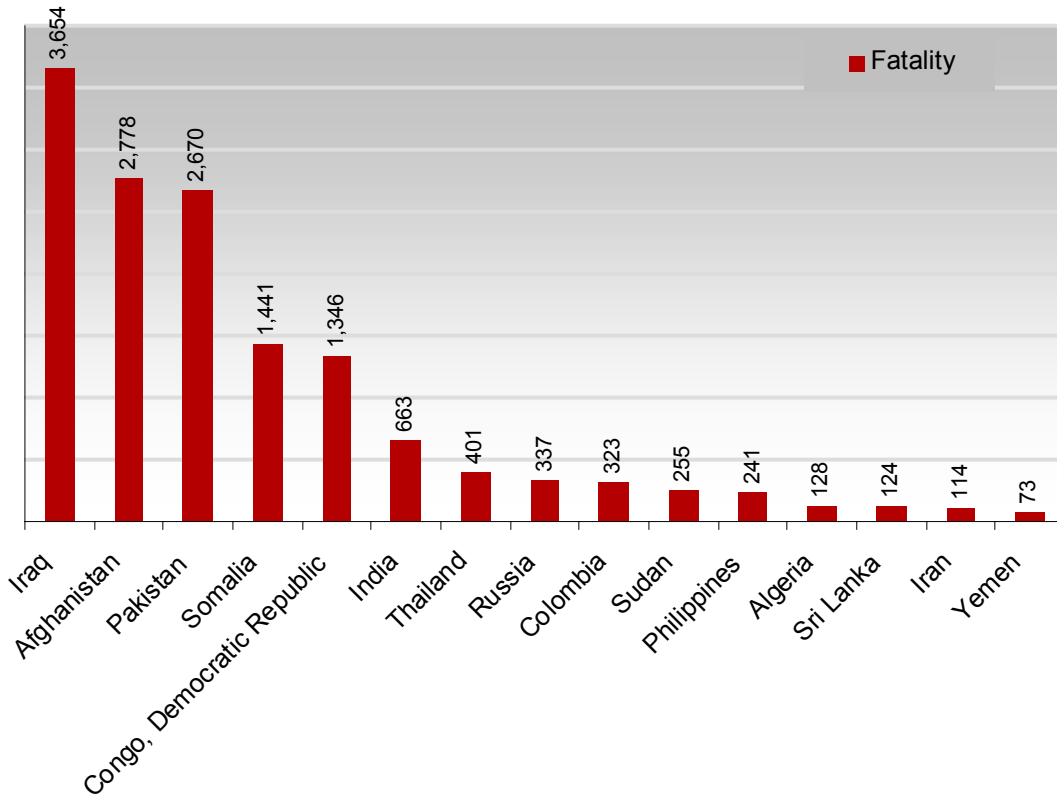
Chart 5 - Deaths by Victim Category



14,971 Total Deaths  
Children are double counted, typically as either civilians or students.

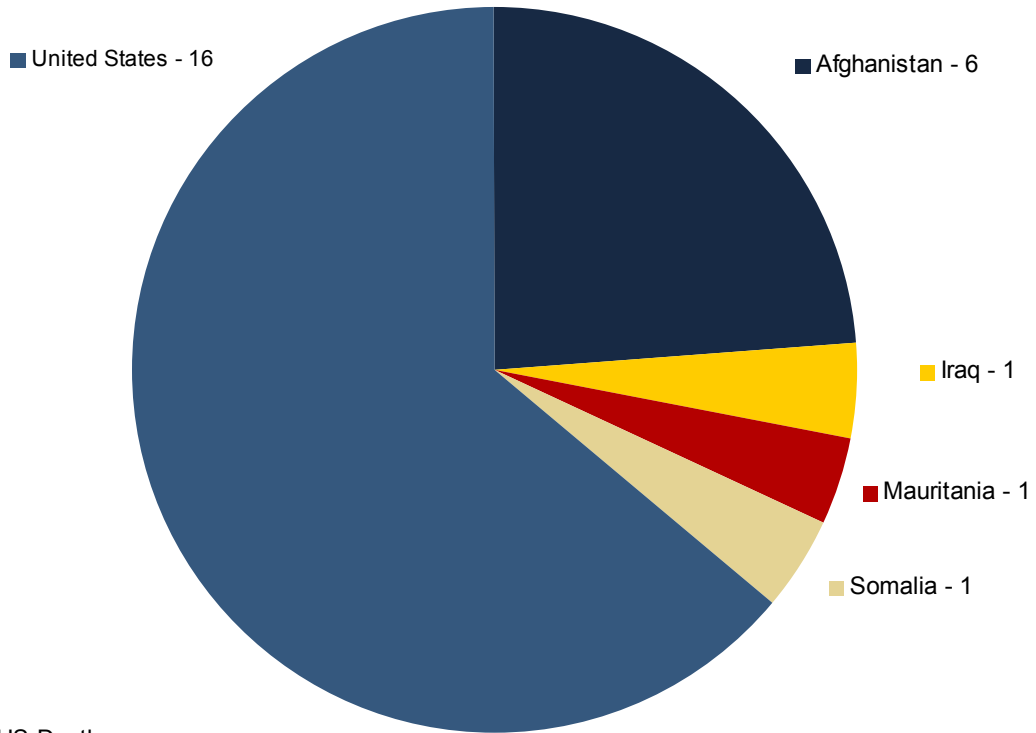


**Chart 6 - Deaths by Country**



### Chart 7 - US Citizen Fatalities by Country

Numbers provided by the Department of State - Bureau of Consular Affairs and US numbers provided by the FBI



25 Total US Deaths

Numbers provided by Department of State - Bureau of Consular Affairs  
US number provided by the FBI



### Chart 8 - US Fatalities as a Share of Total Fatalities

*Numbers provided by the Department of State - Bureau of Consular Affairs and US numbers provided by the FBI*

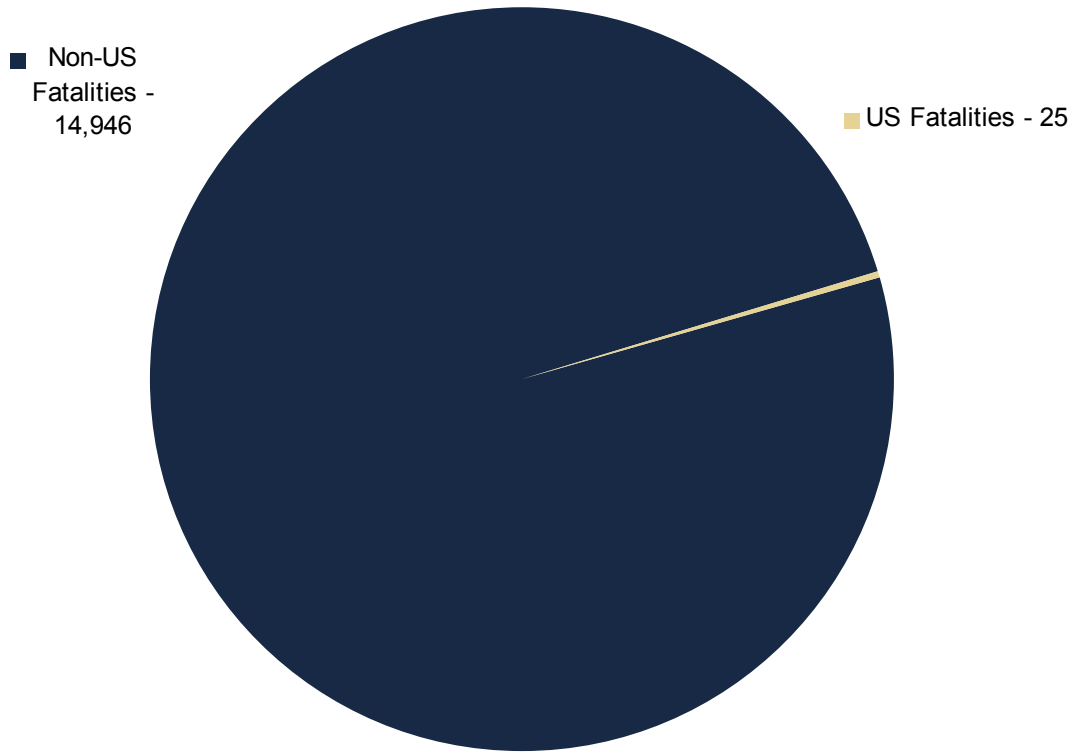
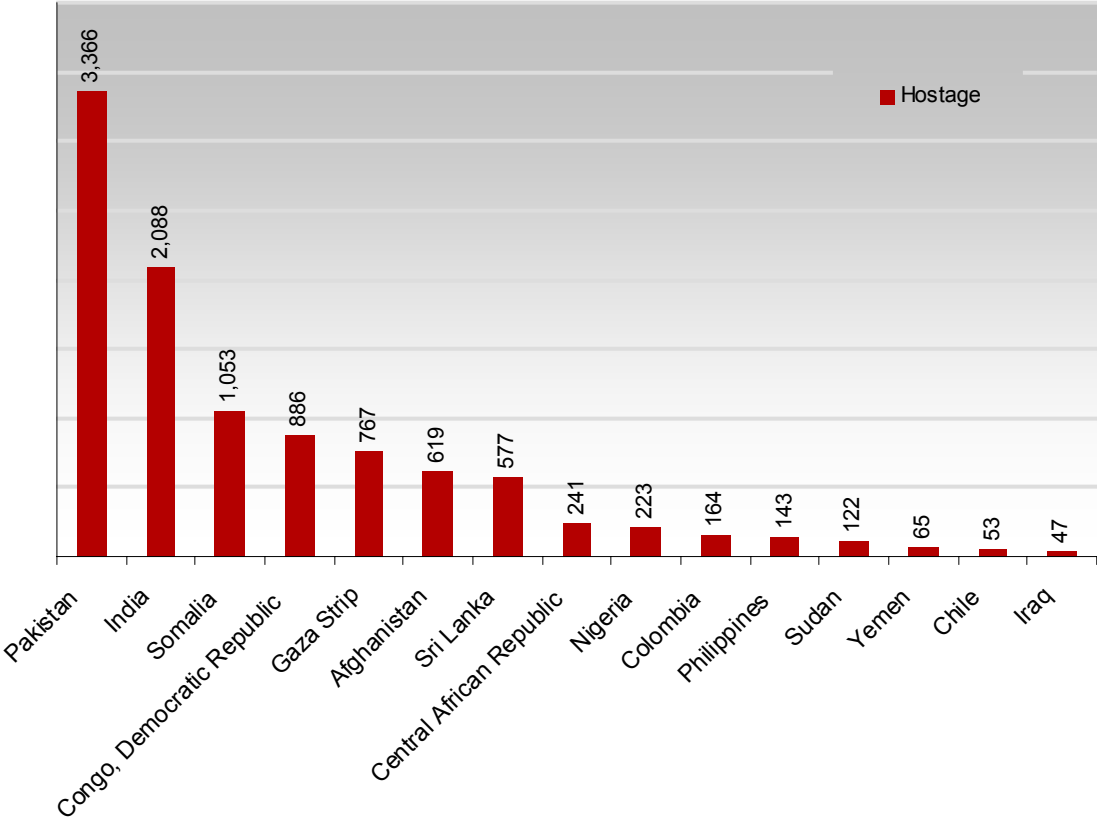
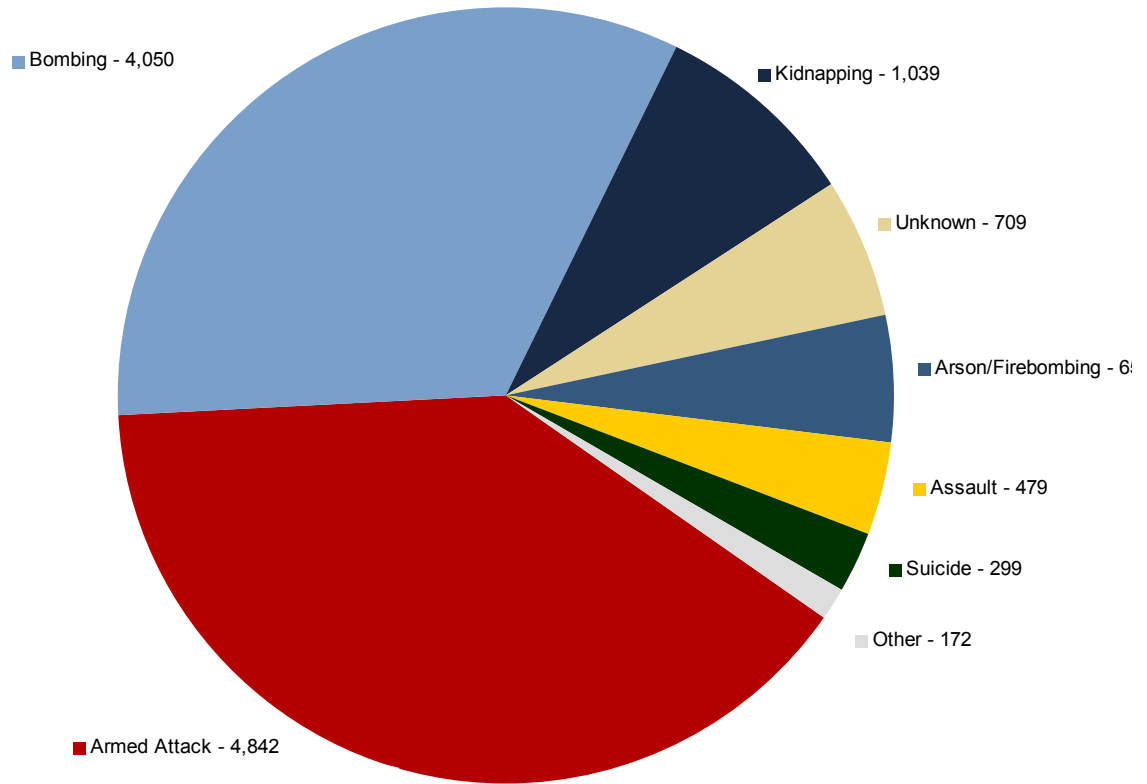


Chart 9 - Kidnappings by Country



**Chart 10 - Primary Methods Used in Attacks**

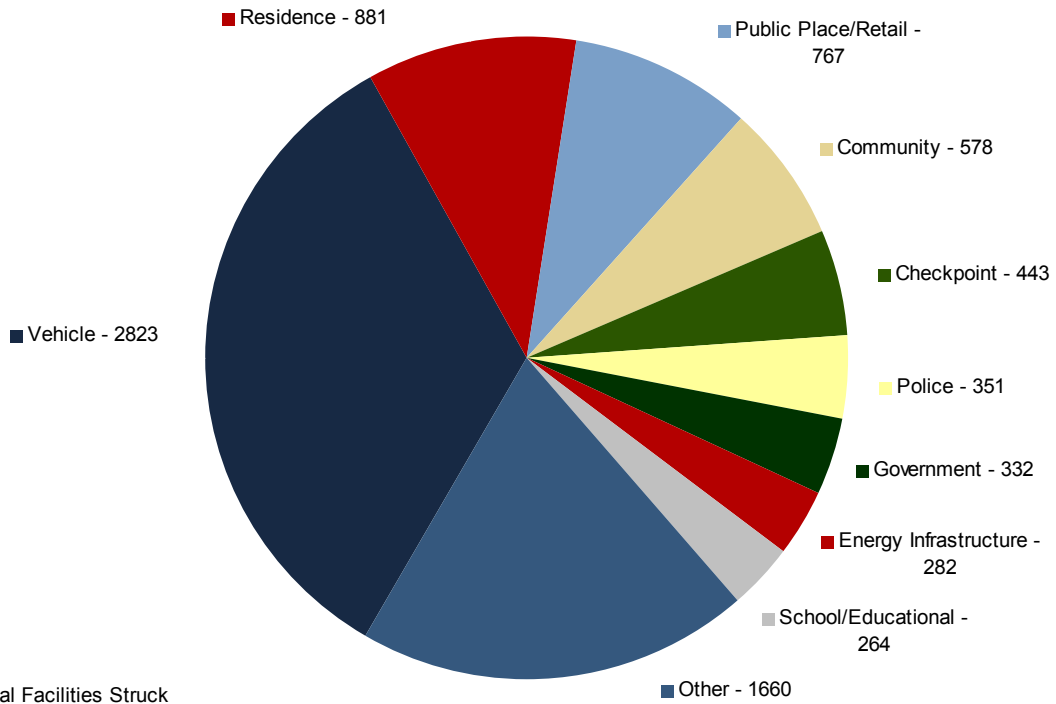


10,999 Total Attacks  
Some double counting occurs when multiple methods are used.





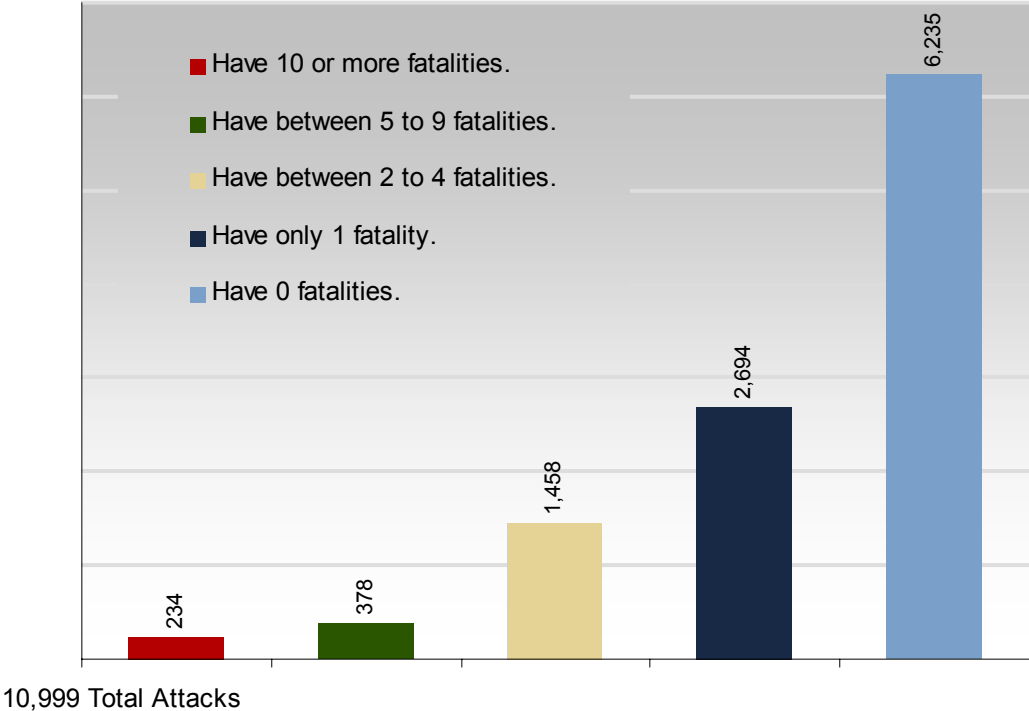
**Chart 12 - All Attacks Involving Facilities by Category**



7,469 Total Facilities Struck  
Double counting occurs when multiple facility types are attacked.

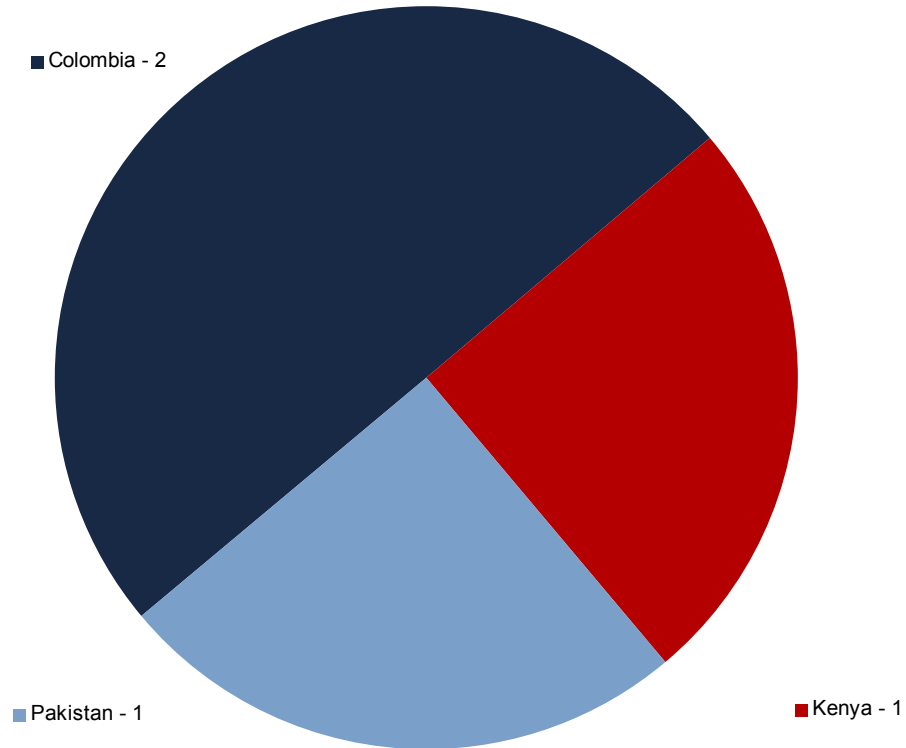


**Chart 13 - Attacks Grouped by Fatality Range**



### Chart 14 - US Citizen Terrorism Kidnappings by Country

*Numbers provided by the Department of State - Bureau of Consular Affairs*

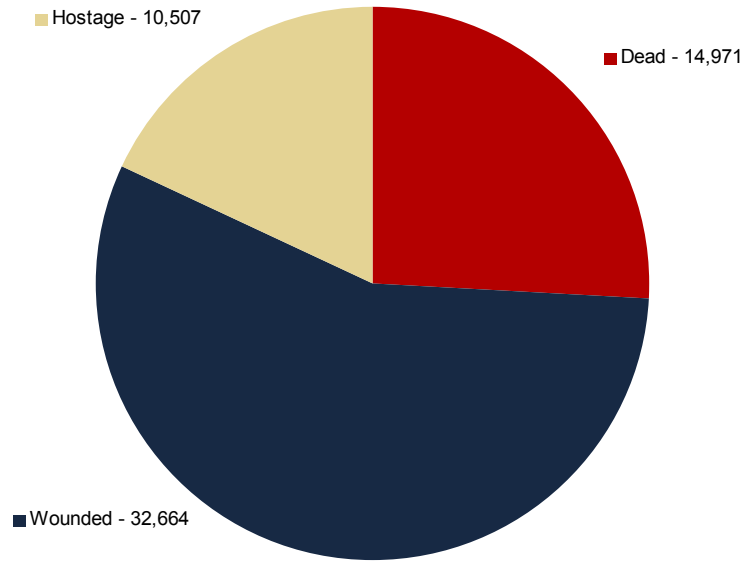


4 Total US Kidnappings

*Numbers provided by Department of State - Bureau of Consular*



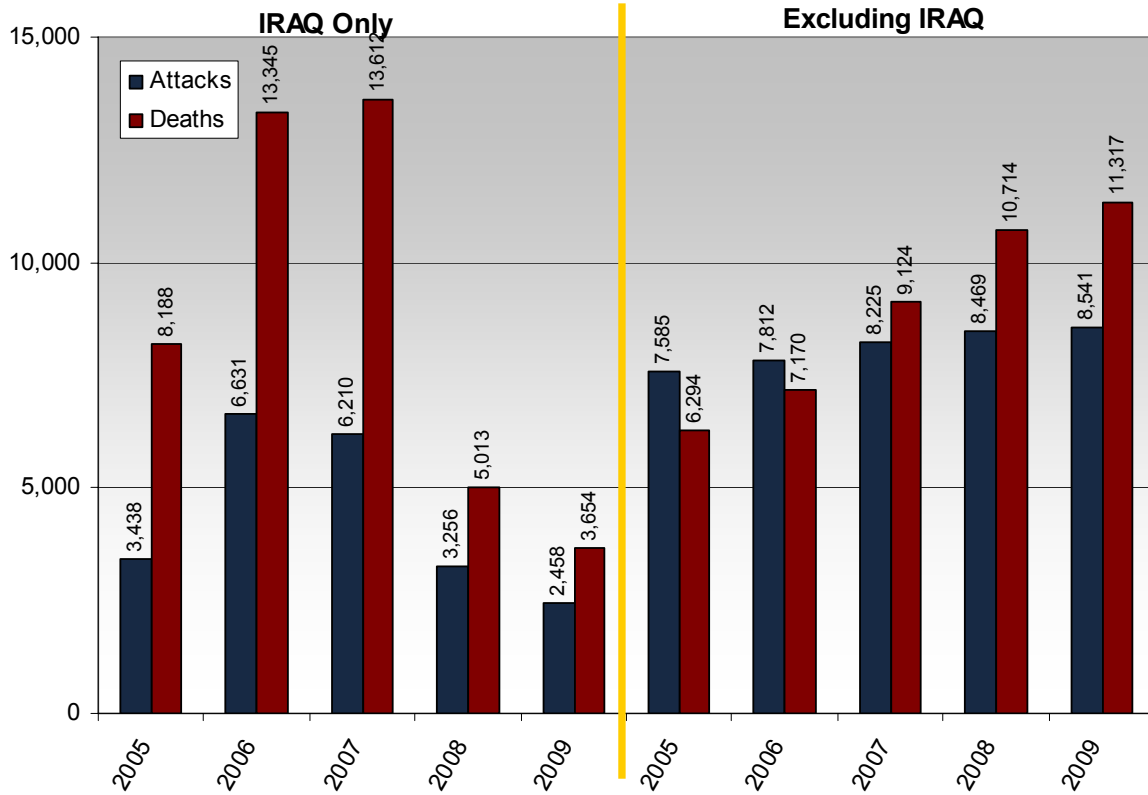
**Chart 15 - Comparison of Attacks by Victims**



58,142 Total Victims  
10,999 Total Attacks



Chart 16 - Attacks & Deaths Compared - 2005 to 2009



**Chronology of High-Fatality Terrorist Attacks**

High-fatality terrorist attacks were acts of violence that meet the statutory criteria for terrorism and involve 10 or more deaths.

**January**

From on or about 1 January 2009 until on or about 31 January 2009, in Khan Yunis, Gaza Strip, and Gaza City, Gaza Strip, armed assailants fired upon and assaulted a group of political affiliates, killing up to 19 Fatah supporters, wounding at least 80 others, and arresting or putting under house arrest scores of others. The assailants stole cellular phones and computers belonging to Fatah during the arrests. Several schools and hospitals were used by HAMAS as makeshift detainment centers, causing unspecified damage. Izz al-Din al-Qassam Brigades and HAMAS Executive Force claimed responsibility.

On 2 January 2009, in Nagero, Orientale, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), assailants fired upon the headquarters of the Garamba National Park, killing eight civilians, eight unidentified people, and two park rangers, wounding five people, and damaging the building and one aircraft. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) was responsible.

On 2 January 2009, between 2:00 and 2:30 PM, in Al Yusufiyah, Babil, Iraq, a suicide bomber detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) he was wearing near a political campaign meeting and luncheon being hosted by a Sunni tribal leader in a meeting hall adjacent to his home, killing 23 people including tribal leaders, Sahwa Council members, and civilians; wounding 42 other people including tribal leaders, Sahwa Council members, and civilians; and damaging the tent. The Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) claimed responsibility.

On 4 January 2009, at about 11:30 AM, in the Al Kazimiyah district of Baghdad, Iraq, a suicide bomber, wearing an improvised explosive device (IED), attacked the Imam Musa al-Kazim shrine during the Ashura pilgrimage, killing 29 Shia civilians (16 Iranian; 13 Iraqi) including children and six interior ministry (MOI) guards, wounding 72 Shia civilians (32 Iranian; 40 Iraqi) and seven MOI guards, and damaging an MOI checkpoint and several adjacent shops. It was believed that the bomber intended to detonate his explosives inside the mosque, but detonated his explosives at the outside MOI checkpoint upon fear of detection. No group claimed responsibility, but the United States military and Department of State both blamed the attack on the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI).

On 4 January 2009, at 7:07 PM, in front of the Government Polytechnic College, in Dera Ismail Khan, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, assailants detonated an improvised



explosive device (IED) after which a suicide bomber detonated another IED targeting the police officers responding to the first explosion, killing five police officers, three civilians, two journalists, and wounding 14 police officers and 13 civilians. No group claimed responsibility.

On 5 January 2009, in Mboroko sub-county, near Maridi, Gharb al Istiwa'yiah, Sudan, assailants with machetes and clubs attacked a village, killing between 35 and 45 civilians, two local chiefs, and several children, kidnapping nine civilians; and then set fire to residences, damaging several huts. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) was responsible.

On 8 January 2009, in Sambia, Orientale, Democratic Republic of the Congo, assailants attacked the village, killing between five and 30 civilians and setting fire to and damaging many residences. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) was responsible.

On 8 January 2009, in Garbahaarrey, Gedo, Somalia, assailants attacked the city by unknown means, killing many police officers and several government officials. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed al-Shabaab al-Islamiya was responsible.

On 9 January 2009, in Zaranj, Nimruz, Afghanistan, at a market on the Zaranj to Dilaram highway, a suicide bomber detonated his improvised explosive device (IED) near a police patrol, killing 12 civilians, one police officer, injuring five civilians, one police officer, and damaging several shops. No group claimed responsibility.

On 9 January 2009, in Kana, Orientale, Democratic Republic of the Congo, assailants attacked the village, killing 15 civilians; set fire to the village, destroying the entire village. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) was responsible.

On 9 January 2009, in Faradje, Orientale, Democratic Republic of the Congo, assailants attacked the town, killing 20 civilians; and set fire to facilities, damaging a church and several residences. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) was responsible.

From 10 January 2009 to 11 January 2009, in Sambia, Orientale, Democratic Republic of the Congo, armed assailants attacked the village; then fired upon occupants, killing six civilians and one army Colonel and several of his troops. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) was responsible.



On 16 January 2009, in Muhajiriyah, Janub Darfur, Sudan, armed assailants fired upon and fired artillery at areas held by another group, killing as many as 47 civilians and wounding as many as 80 others. The assailants also set fire to and damaged the town. The Mani Arkoi Minawi faction of the Sudan Liberation Army/Movement (SLA/SLM) claimed its members were attacked by the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM).

On 17 January 2009, in the evening, in the village of Tora and Libombi, near Tora, Orientale, Democratic Republic of the Congo, assailants set fire to a church, killing hundreds of worshippers. The assailants then attacked residents of several homesteads with axes and similar weapons, killing several civilians at each homestead. The assailants also set fire to and damaged several residences and businesses. On or about 29 January 2009, local self-defense forces found the bodies of 100 more victims. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) was responsible.

On 24 January 2009, in the morning, on Maka Al-Mukarama Road in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, a suicide bomber attempted to detonate a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) near an African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) vehicle. When police officers fired at the vehicle, the bomber intentionally crashed into a civilian bus, which detonated the VBIED, killing all 14 civilians on board and one police officer, wounding 14 civilians, and damaging the bus. In the fighting that followed, assailants and security forces fought with guns and mortars, killing between five and 15 civilians and wounding 16 others and seven children. Al-Shabaab al-Islamiya claimed responsibility.

On 26 January 2009, in the villages of Melembe, Katambira, Nyamimba, and Mianga, Nord-Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and near Masisi, Nord-Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo, armed assailants used machetes and fired upon civilians, killing 36 civilians. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) was responsible.

On 26 January 2009, in Saravan, Sistan va Baluchestan, Iran, armed assailants fired upon and killed 12 border police officers. No group claimed responsibility.

## February

On or about 1 February 2009, in Remeka, Nord-Kivu of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), armed assailants using guns, rocket-propelled grenades (RPG) and machetes killed dozens of civilians and children. Assailants raped more than a dozen women, wounding the civilians and accusing them of collaborating with the Rwandan military. No group claimed responsibility, however it was widely believed the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) were responsible.



On 1 February 2009, in Markegaon, Kurkheda, Gadchiroli, Maharashtra, India, assailants fired upon a police patrol, killing 15 police officers. No group claimed responsibility, but authorities believed the Communist Party of India-Maoist (CPI-Maoist) was responsible.

On 2 February 2009, at about 10:00 AM, in Tarin Kowt, Oruzgan, Afghanistan, a suicide bomber detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) targeting a police checkpoint, killing 25 police officers, wounding scores of others and damaging the checkpoint. The Taliban claimed responsibility.

On 4 February 2009, near Barbacoas, Narino, Colombia, assailants stabbed 17 civilians to death. The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) claimed responsibility.

On 5 February 2009, at about 2:00 PM, in Khanaqin, Diyala, Iraq, a suicide bomber detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) he was wearing near the Abu Dalshad restaurant, killing 16 civilians, wounding 12 others, and damaging the restaurant, seven vehicles, and 10 nearby shops. The Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) claimed responsibility.

On 5 February 2009, at about 6:35 PM, in Dera Ghazi Khan, Punjab, Pakistan, a suicide bomber detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) targeting a Muslim religious procession, killing 30 civilians, 2 children, and wounding 48 civilians. No group claimed responsibility.

On 9 February 2009, near Warder, Sumale, Ethiopia, assailants detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) and fired upon a minivan, killing seven civilians, three local officials from the towns of Warder and Galadi, and damaging the minivan. Assailants subsequently shot the survivors, killing three other civilians. No group claimed responsibility.

On 9 February 2009, in Mahuliatand village, Nawada, Bihar, India, assailants fired upon a police team providing security for a Hindu festival, killing 10 police officers and wounding three others. The assailants also looted several weapons and rounds of ammunition. No group claimed responsibility, but it was widely believed the Communist Party of India-Maoist (CPI-Maoist) was responsible.

On 9 February 2009, at about 2:00 PM, in Darra Adam Khel, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, armed assailants fired mortars at a military checkpoint but instead hit a school, killing 11 students, three civilians, one soldier, wounding fifteen people, and damaging the school. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Taliban was responsible.

On 9 February 2009, near Vishvamadu, in Mullaittivu, North Eastern Province, Sri Lanka, a female suicide bomber mingled with a large group of internally displaced



persons (IDP) seeking refuge and detonated the improvised explosive device (IED) strapped to her body, killing 20 soldiers, eight IDPs, injuring 48 soldiers, and 40 IDPs and children. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) was responsible.

On 10 February 2009, in the morning, in Putukkudiyiruppu, North Eastern Province, Sri Lanka, armed assailants fired on a group of internally displaced persons (IDP) who were attempting to flee their village, killing 19 IDPs including children and injuring 75 others including children. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) was responsible.

On 11 February 2009, in Hokumati Nad-e 'Ali, in Helmand, Afghanistan, assailants detonated two improvised explosive devices (IED) targeting two private security vehicles, killing 14 security guards, wounding four others, and destroying two vehicles. The Taliban claimed responsibility.

On 11 February 2009, in the morning, in Kabul, Kabul, Afghanistan, two suicide bombers detonated two improvised explosive devices (IED) targeting two buildings of the prison department, while other assailants simultaneously entered and fired small arms on and threw grenades at both prison department buildings and a justice ministry building, killing 12 government employees, nine police officers, seven civilians, one child, wounding 60 government employees, 40 police officers, 28 civilians, damaging three government buildings and 10 police vehicles. The Taliban claimed responsibility.

On 11 February 2009, at about 5:00 PM, near Ricaurte, Narino, Colombia, assailants fired upon and killed 10 civilians. No group claimed responsibility, although the National Indigenous Organization of Colombia (ONIC) reported that the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) was responsible.

On 11 February 2009, at about 3:00 PM, in the Rashid district of Baghdad, Iraq, assailants detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) near a southwestern Madinat al Bayaa' neighborhood bus terminal where Shiite pilgrims were gathered for transportation to Karbala' to observe Arba'een, killing between eight and 16 Shia civilians, wounding between 33 and 45 others, and damaging 10 cars, the bus terminal, and a several vendor stalls in a nearby market. No group claimed responsibility.

On 11 February 2009, near Al Fashir, Shamal Darfur, Sudan, assailants fired upon residents of the Wad'a area, killing 17 civilians, wounding 12 civilians, and destroying several military hardware, several businesses in the market, several livestock, and several residences. No group claimed responsibility, but it was widely believed the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/SPLA) was responsible.



Between 12 February 2009 to 13 February 2009, in Kilambo and Kipopo, Masisi, Nord-Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo, assailants fired upon a village, killing 13 civilians, wounding six others, and damaged 50 huts. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) were responsible.

On or about 13 February 2009, in Sambia near Dungu, Orientale, Democratic Republic of the Congo, assailants killed 14 Garamba Forest National Park guards and one soldier and damaged one vehicle by unknown means. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) was responsible.

On 13 February 2009, at about noon, in Al Musayyib, Babil, Iraq, a female suicide bomber detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) she was wearing near a tent filled with Shia pilgrims walking to Karbala' for Arbae'en, killing between 32 and 41 civilians including children and wounding between 40 and 53 other civilians and 28 children. No group claimed responsibility, although it was suspected the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) was responsible.

On 20 February 2009, in Chipopo, Kalehe, Sud-Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo, assailants killed 40 civilians by unknown means and wounded several others. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) was responsible.

On 21 February 2009, at 5:00 PM, in Ampara, North Eastern Province, Sri Lanka, armed assailants fired on a group of farmers, killing 12 civilians, two children, injuring many more civilians and two children. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) was responsible.

On 22 February 2009, at about 12:00 PM, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, two suicide bombers detonated vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices (VBIED) at the former Somali National University used by African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) members from Burundi, killing 11 or 12 peacekeepers, wounding 15 others, and damaging the complex. Assailants also fired mortars at the peacekeepers, killing two civilians and damaging one house. Al-Shabaab al-Islamiya claimed responsibility.

On 24 February 2009, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, assailants fired mortar rounds at the military base in Tarabunka and fired upon soldiers in Taleex, Dabka junction and Howl Wadaag. The fighting killed 17 civilians, three police officers, two soldiers and one child, wounded between 47 and 88 civilians and three children, and damaged a pharmacy and several residences. The Islamic Party claimed responsibility.

On 24 February 2009, in Malakal, A'ali an Nil, Sudan, assailants fired upon Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) troops, killing 16 soldiers and 26 civilians; wounding 33 soldiers



and 21 civilians. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) was responsible.

On 25 February 2009, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, assailants fired mortar rounds at the military base in Tarabunka and fired upon soldiers and African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) peacekeepers in other parts of the city, killing as many as 45 civilians and three police officers and damaging several houses. A mortar or artillery round fired by the security forces landed on a Koranic school in Towfiq, killing two children and wounding between four and nine others. A leader of the Islamic Party claimed renegade elements of his group were responsible.

On 25 February 2009, in Oddur, Bakool, Somalia, armed assailants attacked the town, killing 17 soldiers and civilians and wounding several others. Al-Shabaab al-Islamiya claimed responsibility.

## March

On 5 March 2009, at 8:25 AM, in Hamza, Babil, Iraq, assailants detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) in the al-Medhatiaya livestock market, killing between 12 and 13 civilians, wounding between 56 and 60 others, and damaging the market and killing 15 sheep. The VBIED attack was planned to target the market during its busiest day of the week. Hamza is a predominantly Shia community. No group claimed responsibility.

Between 6 March 2009 and 7 March 2009, in Mustahil, Sumale, Ethiopia, assailants detonated improvised explosive devices (IED), fired mortar rounds, and fired upon an Ethiopian military convoy, killing 25 soldiers and civilians, wounding 30 soldiers and civilians, and damaging several vehicles. Fighting spread into nearby towns along the Somali-Ethiopian border. The Ogaden National Liberation Front (ONLF) claimed responsibility.

On 6 March 2009, in Mangaize, Tillaberi, Niger, armed assailants fired upon two cattle camps, killing 10 civilians, and set fire to hundreds of hectares of pasture. No group claimed responsibility although it was believed either the Niger Justice Movement (MNJ) or Malian bandits were responsible.

On 8 March 2009, at about 10:30 AM, in the Sab'ah Nisan district of Baghdad, Iraq, a suicide bomber wearing an improvised explosive device (IED) and riding a motorcycle, attacked a crowd of police recruits outside the Baghdad Police Academy on Palestine Street in the eastern Bab ash Shaykh neighborhood, killing between 20 and 22 civilians and eight police officers and wounding between 58 and 61 civilians. The Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) claimed responsibility.



On 9 March 2009, in the evening, in Bender Cassim, Bari, Somalia, assailants threw a hand grenade at a police checkpoint, killing seven police, several civilians, wounding six civilians, damaging several vehicles and a checkpoint. No group claimed responsibility.

On 10 March 2009, at about 1:15 PM, in Abu Ghurayb, Al Anbar, Iraq, a suicide bomber, wearing an improvised explosive device (IED), attacked a group of Sunni and Shia tribal leaders and senior security officials touring a public market after attending a reconciliation meeting, killing 25 civilians, several tribal leaders and Iraqi military officers, and two reporters; wounding 42 other people, including tribal leaders, Iraqi military personnel, civilians, and children, and four reporters; and damaging several market stalls. The Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) claimed responsibility.

On 10 March 2009, in Matara, Southern Province, Sri Lanka, a suicide bomber joined a crowd of civilians celebrating a festival and detonated the improvised explosive device (IED) strapped to his body, killing 15 civilians, injuring at least 45 others and a government official. The attack also damaged many vehicles and nearby shops. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) was responsible.

On 16 March 2009, in the morning, in Lashkar Gah, Helmand, Afghanistan, a suicide bomber dressed in a police uniform and standing 50 meters from the entrance of a security command, detonated the improvised explosive device (IED) strapped to his body, killing nine police officers, two civilians, injuring 13 police officers, and 12 civilians. No group claimed responsibility.

On 16 March 2009, near Pir Wadhai, in Rawalpindi, Punjab, Pakistan, at a busy bus stop, a suicide bomber detonated the improvised explosive device (IED) strapped to his body, killing 14 civilians, injuring 27 others and one child, destroying the bus stop, and damaging at least three vehicles including a passenger bus. The explosion also damaged a nearby rescue response building. No group claimed responsibility.

On 19 March 2009, at 8:10 PM, in Landi Kotal, Federally Administered Tribal Areas, Pakistan, armed assailants fired rockets and mortars at a military installation, injuring one Frontier Corps soldier and damaging the base. Several of the weapons landed in a warehouse in the nearby village of Gagra, killing eight Afghan civilians and damaging the warehouse. Other weapons landed in Kharghali village, where one mortar hit a passenger bus, killing seven civilians and damaging the bus. The attack resulted in 29 injured civilians and damage to several residences and buildings, a school, a market, and a religious school. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Taliban was responsible.

On 20 March 2009, at about 10:00 AM, in Qarzai Kotal, Qush Tapa, Jowzjan, Afghanistan, armed assailants fired on a convoy of senior Qush Tapa officials, killing



seven police officers, four province officials, and damaging at least one vehicle. The Taliban claimed responsibility.

On 21 March 2009, in several villages including Yanguma, Orientale, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), armed assailants using machetes killed 12 civilians and kidnapped between 40 and 60 others including children. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) was responsible.

On 23 March 2009, in the evening, in Jalula', Diyala, Iraq, a suicide bomber detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) inside a funeral tent for a family member of a Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) official, killing between 11 and 24 civilians, several political affiliates, wounding between 28 and 47 civilians, several political affiliates, and damaging one tent. No group claimed responsibility, although it was believed the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) was responsible.

On 25 March 2009, in Sabari, Khowst, Afghanistan, assailants detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) targeting a civilian van, killing 10 civilians, wounding five civilians, two children, and damaging one van. No group claimed responsibility.

On 26 March 2009, between noon and 1:00 PM, in the 'Azamiyah district of Baghdad, Iraq, assailants detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) in an outdoor market in the northern Ash Sha'b neighborhood, killing between 12 and 22 civilians, four children, wounding between 35 and 48 civilians, and damaging several stalls and vehicles. No group claimed responsibility, although it was believed the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) was responsible.

On 26 March 2009, in Jandola, Federally Administered Tribal Areas, Pakistan, a suicide bomber detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) targeting a restaurant, killing 12 civilians, wounding 22 others, and damaging one restaurant. The Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility.

On 27 March 2009, in Bogyani, Jamrud, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, a suicide bomber entered a mosque during Friday prayers and detonated the improvised explosive device (IED) strapped to his body, killing at least 55 civilians (28 Pakistani; 27 Afghan), 16 soldiers, 11 children (6 Pakistani; 5 Afghan), injuring at least 100 civilians (50 Pakistani; 50 Afghan), 55 children (30 Pakistani; 25 Afghan), at least 25 soldiers, and destroying the mosque. The mosque was near a military checkpost which was damaged as well. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Taliban was responsible.

On 30 March 2009, at about 8:00 AM, in Manawan, Punjab, Pakistan, between eight and 14 armed assailants, some wearing police uniforms, stormed the Manawan police



training facility and began firing and throwing grenades indiscriminately at the parade field where hundreds of recruits were training. During the nearly eight hour siege, the assailants continued to fire with small weapons and detonated several improvised explosive devices (IED), and also held approximately 400 officers and trainees hostage. At least three of the attackers detonated the IEDs they were carrying when the police closed-in on them. In the end, at least 11 police officers and recruits, one civilian were killed, and at least 90 officers and recruits were injured. The facility also suffered unsubstantiated damage. The Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility.

## April

On 1 April 2009, at about noon, in Kandahar, Kandahar, Afghanistan, a suicide bomber detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) at the front of a provincial government building. Three suicide bombers entered the building and fired small arms on its occupants and one of the suicide bombers detonated their improvised explosive device (IED), killing six police officers, five body guards, four government officials, two civilians, wounding 16 people, and damaging one government building. The Taliban claimed responsibility.

On 5 April 2009, at about 12:15 PM, in Chakwal, Punjab, Pakistan, a suicide bomber detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) targeting a gathering at a Shia meeting hall, killing 21 civilians, three children, wounding 140 civilians, and damaging one meeting hall. No group claimed responsibility.

On 5 April 2009, in Miram Shah, Federally Administered Tribal Areas, Pakistan, a suicide bomber detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) targeting a military checkpoint and a military convoy, killing 12 civilians, five children, one soldier, wounding 21 civilians, 12 children, six soldiers, damaging five civilian vehicles, and one military checkpoint. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Taliban was responsible.

On 6 April 2009, at about 2:00 PM, in Maligaon, Guwahati, Kamrup, Assam, India, assailants detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) in the parking area of a busy market, killing nine civilians, wounding approximately 57 others, and damaging two bicycles, two cars, approximately 20 motorcycles, and one police station. About two hours later, in Dhekiajuli, Sonapur, Assam, India, assailants detonated a VBIED in a marketplace, killing one civilian, wounding three others, and damaging the market. No group claimed responsibility, but authorities believed the United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) was responsible.

On 6 April 2009, at about 9:00 AM, in the Sadr City district of Baghdad, Iraq, assailants detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) in the al-Dakhel market, killing six civilians and four children, wounding 65 civilians, and damaging the



market. No group claimed responsibility, but the United States (US) military blamed this attack on the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) while an Iraqi government source blamed Jaysh al-Mahdi (JAM) splinter groups.

On 6 April 2009, at about noon, in the Rashid district of Baghdad, Iraq, assailants detonated two vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices (VBIED) nearly simultaneously in the predominantly Shia southwestern Umm al Maalif neighborhood near a market and health clinic, killing 12 civilians, wounding 32 others, and damaging the market, clinic, and several vehicles. No group claimed responsibility, but the United States (US) military blamed this attack on the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) while an Iraqi government source blamed Jaysh al-Mahdi (JAM) splinter groups.

On 9 April 2009, in Kart-i-Lagan, Lashkar Gah, Helmand, Afghanistan, a suicide bomber approached police drug eradication unit convoy and detonated the improvised explosive device (IED) strapped to his body, killing six police officers, four civilians, injuring 10 others, seven police officers, and damaging at least four vehicles and several nearby shops. The Taliban claimed responsibility.

On 11 April 2009, at about 11:30 AM, near Al Iskandariyah, Babil, Iraq, a suicide bomber detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) near a crowd of 250 Sunni Sahwa Council paramilitary members who were waiting to be paid by the Iraqi Army at a checkpoint, killing between nine and 12 paramilitary members and wounding 28 other paramilitary members and several Iraqi soldiers. The Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) claimed responsibility.

On or about 11 April 2009, at the Mogadishu port in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, assailants launched mortar rounds at an African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) peacekeeping ship docked in the port, damaging a warehouse and the port but causing no injuries. Some of the mortar shells landed in nearby residential areas killing one civilian and nine people, and wounding three civilians and 15 people. AMISOM peacekeepers retaliated with mortar fire wounding or killing several people and damaging several buildings. Al-Shabaab al-Islamiya claimed responsibility.

On 12 April 2009, in the morning, in Mianga, Nord-Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), assailants fired upon DRC army positions, killing 10 soldiers and 4 civilians including some children. Following the attack, the assailants kidnapped the village chief and cut his throat, killing him. No group claimed responsibility, although it was believed the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) were responsible.

On 12 April 2009, at about 9:30 PM, in Damanjodi, Koraput, Orissa, India, approximately 250 assailants fired upon the National Aluminum Company (NALCO) bauxite mine, killing 10 Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) members, wounding



eight others, and damaging the mine premises. The Communist Party of India-Maoist (CPI-Maoist) claimed responsibility.

On 15 April 2009, at about 4:00 PM, in the Wasti district of southern Kirkuk, At Ta'mim, Iraq, assailants detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) near a bus transporting Interior Ministry Oil Police (OP) personnel, killing 11 OP officers; wounding 13 others, five civilians, and three children; destroying the bus, and damaging several shops and civilian cars. The OP personnel all worked at Northern Oil Company facilities. The Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) claimed responsibility.

On 15 April 2009, at 6:45 PM, in Charsadda, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, a suicide bomber detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) targeting a police checkpoint, killing 10 police officers, nine civilians, wounding seven police officers, nine civilians, and destroying one checkpoint. No group claimed responsibility.

On 18 April 2009, at about 4:15 PM, in Doaba, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, a suicide bomber drove his vehicle into a military checkpost and detonated his vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED), killing 25 soldiers, two police officers, injuring 48 soldiers, seven police officers, destroying eight military vehicles, the checkpost, damaging several military buildings, and two police vehicles. Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility.

On 20 April 2009, in Beledweyne, Hiiraan, Somalia, two groups fired upon each other, killing 10 people, wounding 30 others and one journalist from Holy Koran Radio. On 25 May 2009, the journalist died from his wounds. No group claimed responsibility, although it was believed the Islamic Courts Union and the Islamic Party were responsible.

On 23 April 2009, in the afternoon, in the Karradah district of Baghdad, Iraq, a female suicide bomber detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) from where she was hiding under an abaya near police officers and Red Crescent workers handing out food to displaced people, killing five children, two Red Crescent workers, between eight and 12 police officers, between 11 and 13 civilians, wounding between 50 and 52 people, damaging one apartment building and several nearby shops. The Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) claimed responsibility.

On 23 April 2009, at about 2:30 PM, in Imam Ways, Diyala, Iraq, a suicide bomber detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) he was wearing inside a restaurant where Iranian Shiite pilgrims had stopped, killing between 45 and 53 Iranian civilians, one Iranian child, two Iraqi civilians, wounding 60 Iranian civilians, between eight and 17 Iraqi civilians, destroying one restaurant, and damaging several nearby vehicles. No group claimed responsibility.



On 24 April 2009, at about noon, in the Al Kazimiyah district of Baghdad, Iraq, two female suicide bombers, either wearing or carrying improvised explosive devices (IED) in their purses, detonated within five minutes of each other near the Shiite Imam Musa al-Kadhim Mosque, killing between 60 and 66 Shia pilgrims (41 Iraqis; 25 Iranians) and five children, wounding 124 Shia pilgrims (44 Iraqis; 80 Iranians) and several children, and damaging several shops. One bomber detonated her explosives close to one of the mosque's gated entrances and the other in a shopping area outside the mosque. No group claimed responsibility, but the Iraqi Interior Ministry blamed the attack on the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI).

On 25 April 2009, in Dir, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, an improvised explosive device (IED) exploded when a group of children began playing with it, killing 13 children, wounding 40 children, and one civilian. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Taliban was responsible.

On 29 April 2009, at about 4:30 PM, in the Sadr City district of Baghdad, Iraq, assailants detonated two vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices (VBIED) about 10 minutes apart, one in a popular market and the other nearby, killing between 38 and 42 civilians, several children, wounding between 65 and 75 civilians, several children, and damaging several stalls in the market. A third VBIED was found and defused nearby before it exploded. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Islamic State of Iraq was responsible.

## May

On 1 May 2009, in the evening, in Ghaziabad, Konar, Afghanistan, assailants fired on a military outpost, killing nine soldiers (4 Afghan; 3 American; 2 Latvian), one contractor, and damaging the outpost. The Taliban claimed responsibility.

On 1 May 2009, at about 4:30 PM, near Daw' al Qamar, Ninawa, Iraq, a suicide bomber detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) he was wearing at a cafe near the Mosul Dam reservoir, killing between five and 10 Shiite Turkomans, wounding six others, and damaging the cafe. No group claimed responsibility.

On 4 May 2009, in Shamal Zay, Zabol, Afghanistan, assailants detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) targeting a tractor-trolley, killing 10 civilians, two children, and damaging the vehicle. No group claimed responsibility.

On 6 May 2009, near Sirguda village, in Dantewara, Chhattisgarh, India, assailants detonated a landmine improvised explosive device (IED) on a police party traveling on a tractor, killing two Special Police Officers (SPO), four civilians, and two Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) members and wounding three SPOs and damaging the tractor. The assailants also stole weapons and ammunition from the victims. No group claimed



responsibility, but it was widely believed the Communist Party of India-Maoist (CPI-Maoist) was responsible.

On 6 May 2009, at about 7:00 AM, in the Rashid district of Baghdad, Iraq, assailants detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) in the Alwat al-Rasheed produce market in the southern Durah neighborhood, killing between 11 and 15 civilians, wounding between 37 and 40 others, and damaging several market stalls and six cars. Police officers conducted a controlled detonation of a second VBIED found near the market's entrance and likely intended for first responders, causing no injuries or damage. No group claimed responsibility.

On 7 May 2009, in southern Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, pro-government armed assailants attempted to kill a commander from another armed group. The ensuing fighting included the use of mortars and anti-aircraft guns, killing up to 12 civilians and wounding 55 others. Al-Shabaab al-Islamiya claimed responsibility for fighting with Islamic Courts Union, who admitted to being part of the fighting.

Between 9 May 2009 and 10 May 2009, in Busurungi, Nord-Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo, assailants fired small arms and wielded machetes, killing at least 61 civilians and 25 children, wounding between three and 23 civilians and one child, and also set fire to the village, destroying the village. No group claimed responsibility, although it was believed Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) was responsible.

On 9 May 2009, throughout the day, in the Wardhigley, Dayniile and Yaaqshid districts of Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, two groups fought each other with firearms, rocket-propelled grenades (RPG), and mortar rounds, killing up to 18 civilians and children, wounding as many as 96 civilians and children, and damaging several residences and a tea shop. Assailants fired an RPG at a vehicle, killing a government security official and two of his bodyguards and damaging the vehicle. Assailants also fired upon and killed two business people in the Bakara market. Assailants threw a grenade into the home of a Member of Parliament (MP), wounding three relatives and a neighbor and damaging the residence. Al-Shabaab al-Islamiya claimed responsibility in the fighting with what was believed to be the Islamic Courts Union. It was widely believed the Islamic Party was also involved in the fighting.

On 10 May 2009, in the afternoon, in Gereshk, Helmand, Afghanistan, a suicide bomber drove his vehicle into a public market and detonated his vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED), killing 18 civilians and children, two North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) soldiers, two police officers, injuring 30 civilians and children, and damaging the market. No group claimed responsibility.



On 10 May 2009, throughout the day, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, assailants fired a mortar round which landed on the Abdarir Awrere mosque during afternoon prayers, killing 14 worshipers and the mosque's Imam, wounding 10 worshipers, and damaging the mosque. A mortar round from a separate attack landed near Mogadishu's soccer stadium, wounding several journalists. Assailants also fired mortar rounds at the presidential palace, causing no injuries or damage. Fighting erupted throughout the city between two armed groups against another armed group, killing an additional 73 civilians and wounding up to 229 others. Spokesmen for both the Islamic Party and al-Shabaab al-Islamiya claimed the groups had fought with what was widely believed to be the pro-government Islamic Courts Union.

On 11 May 2009, in Darra Adam Khel, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, a suicide bomber detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) targeting a military checkpoint, killing seven civilians, two soldiers, one child; wounding 14 soldiers, 13 civilians; and damaging the checkpoint, one passenger van, and several trucks. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) was responsible.

On 14 May 2009, throughout the day, in the Bondhere, Yaaqshid, Karaan and Wardhigley districts of Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, armed assailants fired mortar rounds at and fired upon Somali soldiers who returned fire in kind, killing 10 civilians and wounding up to 31 others. Assailants also fired mortar rounds at the presidential palace, but there were no injuries or damage reported. No group claimed responsibility, although it was believed al-Shabaab al-Islamiya was responsible.

On 15 May 2009, throughout the day, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, two groups of assailants fired small arms and mortars at each other, killing up to 18 civilians and wounding up to 42 others. No group claimed responsibility, although it was believed al-Shabaab al-Islamiya was responsible for attacking the Islamic Courts Union.

On 16 May 2009, at about 2:20 PM, in Kashkal, Peshawar, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, outside an internet cafe and a car dealer on City Circular Road, assailants detonated a remote-controlled vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED), killing eight civilians, five children; injuring 32 civilians, one child; damaging at least 17 vehicles, 15 shops, and several nearby residences. No group claimed responsibility.

On 16 May 2009, throughout the day, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, two groups of assailants fired small arms and mortars at each other, killing 17 civilians and wounding up to 40 others. No group claimed responsibility, although it was believed al-Shabaab al-Islamiya was responsible for attacking the Islamic Courts Union.

On 20 May 2009, between 7:00 PM and 7:30 PM, in the Al Kazimiyah district of Baghdad, Iraq, assailants detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device



(VBIED) in a shopping district of the western Shu'lah neighborhood, killing 34 or 35 civilians, several children, three Iraqi soldiers; wounding between 67 and 80 civilians, several children; destroying one building; damaging about 11 vehicles and several other nearby shops. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) was responsible.

On 21 May 2009, in Tawitola, Gadchiroli, Maharashtra, India, assailants fired upon a police patrol, killing 16 police officers and damaging two police vehicles. The assailants also looted weapons and ammunition and set fire to the police vehicles. No group claimed responsibility, but it was widely believed the Communist Party of India-Maoist (CPI-Maoist) was responsible.

On 21 May 2009, between 10:00 AM and 11:00 AM, in Durah neighborhood, in the Rashid district of Baghdad, Iraq, a suicide bomber detonated the improvised explosive device (IED) he was wearing in al Athuriyin marketplace near United States (US) soldiers leaving a meeting in the southern Durah neighborhood, killing three US soldiers, 12 civilians, wounding between five and nine US soldiers, 25 civilians, and damaging several nearby shops. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) was responsible.

On 22 May 2009, at about 12:00 PM, near Miti, Sud-Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo, armed assailants fired upon a truck near Kahuzi-Biega Park, killing 10 civilians and three military passengers, wounding eight passengers, and damaging the truck. No group claimed responsibility.

On 22 May 2009, at about 10:00 AM, about 12 kilometers from Pinga, Nord-Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo, armed assailants fired upon a truck, killing 14 civilians, the driver and his security guard and damaging the truck. No group claimed responsibility, although it was believed the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) was responsible.

On 22 May 2009, in Peshawar, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, assailants detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) in a busy downtown intersection, killing 10 civilians, wounding 75 others, damaging 24 shops, several vehicles, two hotels, and two movie theaters. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Taliban was responsible.

On 24 May 2009, in the morning, in the Hamar-jajab area of the Wardhigley district of Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, a suicide bomber attempted to enter either a police or military facility with a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED). When guards fired at the vehicle, the bomber intentionally detonated the VBIED, killing seven soldiers and police officers and three civilians; and wounding four soldiers and five police officers and civilians. Al-Shabaab al-Islamiya claimed responsibility.



On 26 May 2009, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, armed assailants fought security forces with firearms, killing up to 10 civilians and wounding two others. No group claimed responsibility.

On 26 May 2009, in the Wardhigley district of Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, assailants fired mortar rounds at the presidential palace which missed and landed in nearby neighborhoods, killing seven civilians and wounding several others. Three unidentified people died at a hospital from wounds they received from the attack. No group claimed responsibility.

On 27 May 2009, at about 10:10 AM, in Lahore, Punjab, Pakistan, on Lawrence Road, between the offices of the Rescue-15 emergency police unit and the Inter-Service Intelligence Agency (ISI), between two and four armed assailants stepped out of a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) and began firing and throwing grenades at the ISI building. When ISI guards returned fire, a suicide bomber detonated the VBIED, killing 14 police officers, nine civilians, five soldiers, one child, injuring at least 326 people, and causing severe damage to both the ISI and police buildings. The explosion also damaged several official police residences located in the compound, a nearby hospital and several other unidentified buildings as well as tens of vehicles. The Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility.

On 28 May 2009, at 7:45 PM, in Zahedan, Sistan va Baluchestan, Iran, an assailant detonated a suicide improvised explosive device (IED) at the Amir al-Mo'menin mosque, killing 25 civilians, wounding 145 others, and destroying the mosque. A second IED was discovered and safely disabled nearby. Jundullah claimed responsibility.

On 29 May 2009, in Pashi Kotal, Shinkay, Zabol, Afghanistan, armed assailants fired at a logistics convoy, killing 15 contractors and damaging many vehicles. The assailants also set fire to several of the vehicles. The Taliban claimed responsibility.

## June

On 1 June 2009, in Farah, Afghanistan, armed assailants ambushed and fired upon guards working for a security firm, killing between 10 and 18 private security contractors and damaging 10 vehicles. The Taliban claimed responsibility.

Between 1 June 2009 and 3 June 2009, in the Yaaqshid district of Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, assailants fired firearms and artillery against Somali government troops, killing 18 civilians and about 12 soldiers, wounding several dozen civilians and soldiers. Nine of the civilians were killed and one civilian was wounded by at least 10 mortars, which also resulted in the killing of many animals, and destroying of several residences. In one attack a civilian was killed by unknown means and then his body was



burned. Al-Shabaab al-Islamiya and the Islamic Party claimed responsibility for the attacks.

On 2 June 2009, in the afternoon, in Taawint Tassemat, between Timezrit II Matten, Boumerdes, Algeria and Les Issers, Boumerdes, Algeria, armed assailants detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) and fired upon a convoy, killing seven police officers and two educators, wounding one police officer, one educator and one civilian, and damaging three vehicles. One of the damaged police vehicles, driven by the injured police officer, went out of control and the assailants again attacked the vehicle, killing the formerly wounded police officer with a knife and then set fire to that vehicle. The assailants looted eight of the police officers' weapons. Al-Qa'ida Organization in Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) claimed responsibility.

On 5 June 2009, in the Hayagai Sharqai village, near Dir, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, a suicide bomber detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) outside a mosque, killing 37 civilians, 12 children, wounding 37 civilians, 24 children, and damaging the mosque. No group claimed responsibility.

On 5 June 2009 in Wabxo village, Ceelbuur, Galguduud, Somalia, armed assailants fired upon the pro-government Sufi group, Ahlu Sunnah Wal Jamee'a, killing between five and nine civilians, between 32 and 60 paramilitary, wounding several dozen paramilitary and capturing four armed trucks. Al-Shabaab al-Islamiya and the Islamic Party claimed responsibility.

On 9 June 2009, at about 10:00 PM, in Peshawar, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, armed assailants drove a vehicle and shot their way through the guard-house of the Pearl Continental Hotel and injured seven security guards. Immediately after, at least one suicide bomber followed in a second vehicle and once inside the hotel premises, detonated his vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED), killing 14 civilians (13 Pakistani; 1 foreign), five non-government organization (NGO) workers, two United Nations (UN) employees (1 Serb; 1 Filipino), one security guard, one journalist, injuring at least 42 civilians, 18 UN employees (1 British; 1 Somali; 1 German; 15 foreigners), two NGO workers, destroying the hotel, and damaging nearly 100 vehicles. The blast also damaged many shops located in and near the hotel, several banks, many residences and offices, and a mosque. The Abdullah Uzaam Brigade claimed responsibility. On 12 June 2009, the Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility.

On 10 June 2009, at about 9:00 AM, in Al Bathah, Dhi Qar, Iraq, assailants detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) in a predominantly Shia outdoor vegetable market crowded with shoppers, killing 24 civilians and five children, wounding between 47 and 70 civilians, and damaging the market. No group claimed responsibility, but authorities suspected that the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) perpetrated this attack.



On 17 June 2009 between El Mehir, Bordj Bou Arreridj, Algeria and Mansourah, Bordj Bou Arreridj, Algeria, armed assailants detonated two improvised explosive devices (IED) and fired upon a convoy, killing 18 or 19 National Gendarmerie police (gendarmes) and one civilian, wounding six gendarmes, one civilian, and one child and stealing six gendarme off-road vehicles, several weapons and several gendarme uniforms. One civilian was killed prior to the ambush when the assailants tried to use the civilian's vehicle for the attack. Al-Qa'ida Organization in Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) claimed responsibility.

On 18 June 2009, at about 9:00 AM, in Beledweyne, Hiiraan, Somalia, a suicide bomber drove into the Medina Hotel with a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED), killing the Somali National Security Minister, the former Somali ambassador to Ethiopia, 10 military officers (6 Ethiopian; 4 Somali), several tribal elders, several Ethiopian and Somali soldiers, nine civilians and dozens of people; wounding two government officials and scores of people; and damaging the hotel. Al-Shabaab al-Islamiya claimed responsibility.

On 20 June 2009, at about 1:00 PM, in Taza Khurmatu, At Ta'mim, Iraq, a suicide bomber, driving a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED), attacked the Shia Al-Rasul Mosque as worshippers were departing noon prayers, killing 47 Turkmen Shia civilians and 35 children, wounding 211 civilians including several children, and damaging between 30-50 homes, several shops, two dozen cars, and the mosque. A truck, carrying over an estimated ton of explosives was used as the VBIED. No group claimed responsibility, but it was widely believed that the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) perpetrated this attack.

On or about 21 June 2009, in Orientale, Democratic Republic of the Congo, assailants killed 16 people in several villages by unknown means. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) was responsible.

On 22 June 2009, at 1:30 PM, in Khowst, Khowst, Afghanistan, assailants detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) and a suicide bomber detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) targeting a government building, killing 10 civilians, wounding 34 civilians, seven children, and damaging several shops, several vehicles, and the government building. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Taliban was responsible.

On 24 June 2009, between 6:45 and 7:00 PM, in the Sadr City district of Baghdad, Iraq, assailants detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) in the Muraydi Market, killing between 62 and 76 civilians including children, wounding between 116 and 158 others, and damaging dozens of market kiosks and several vehicles. The bomb was placed on a trailer attached to a motorcycle and hidden



underneath fruit and vegetables. No group claimed responsibility, although the district mayor blamed this attack on the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI).

On 26 June 2009, shortly after 9:00 AM, in the Ar Rusafa district of Baghdad, Iraq, assailants detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) in a market selling motorcycles in the central Nahdha neighborhood, killing between 13 and 19 civilians, wounding 45 others, and damaging several motorcycles. A motorcycle was used as the VBIED. No group claimed responsibility.

On 29 June 2009, at about 2:30 PM, in Qada al Hamdaniyah, Ninawa, Iraq, assailants detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) parked in a parking lot as police approached to defuse it, killing six police officers, one paramilitary member, two civilians, one child, wounding two police officers, nine civilians, damaging several vehicles, and one parking lot. No group claimed responsibility.

On 30 June 2009, at about 5:30 PM, in the Shurjah district of northern Kirkuk, At Ta'mim, Iraq, assailants detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) in a Kurdish outdoor vegetable market, killing 35 civilians including several children, wounding 95 others including several children, and damaging 17 shops and houses. No group claimed responsibility, although the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) was suspected of perpetrating this attack.

## July

Between 1 July 2009 and 4 July 2009, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, assailants fired upon an army post, damaging the facility. Then, government troops, supported by African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) troops, exchanged mortar and rocket fire with the assailants; killing at least 53 civilians, one journalist, at least one child, several Somali government soldiers, and several AMISOM soldiers; wounding several children, scores of civilians, several Somali government soldiers, and several AMISOM soldiers; and destroying several residences and one gas station. Al-Shabaab al-Islamiya and the Islamic Party claimed responsibility.

On 1 July 2009, in Kuma Giridat, Shamal Darfur, Sudan, assailants attacked the village by unknown means, killing 13 civilians and wounding four others. No group claimed responsibility, although it was believed the Sudan Liberation Army/Movement (SLA/SLM) was responsible.

On 4 July 2009, near Arshty, Ingushetiya, Russia, assailants fired upon a convoy of Chechen police vehicles, killing 10 police officers and wounding 10 others and damaging six police vehicles. No group claimed responsibility.



On 8 July 2009, in the morning, in Mohammad Agha, Lowgar, Afghanistan, assailants detonated a remote-controlled vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED), killing 12 students, 11 civilians, and four police officers; injuring many people; and damaging many shops. No group claimed responsibility.

On 8 July 2009, at about 8:00 PM, in Qaryat Ba'wizah, Ninawa, Iraq, assailants detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) near a Shiite mosque, killing between nine and 13 civilians, wounding between 15 and 27 others, and damaging the mosque. No group claimed responsibility.

On 9 July 2009, between 6:30 and 7:30 AM, in the Qalah district of central Tall 'Afar, Ninawa, Iraq, a suicide bomber disguised as a police officer detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) near the home of an anti-terrorism police sergeant, killing the police sergeant, his wife, and his daughter; wounding his brother; and damaging their home. Shortly afterward, a second suicide bomber, also disguised as a police officer, detonated an IED near the crowd of civilians and first responders that had gathered at the site of the first bombing, killing 11 police officers and 22 civilians and wounding 82 civilians, including several children, and one other police officer. No group claimed responsibility, but authorities believed the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) was responsible.

Between 11 July 2009 and 12 July 2009, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, armed assailants fired mortars at the presidential palace, killing three Ugandan members of African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). Then, government troops, supported by AMISOM, exchanged firearm, mortar and rocket fire with al-Shabaab al-Islamiya and the Islamic Party, killing at least 19 civilians, one senior official of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG), and at least 12 Somali government soldiers; wounding 75 civilians and several dozen Somali government soldiers; and destroying several residences. Al-Shabaab al-Islamiya and the Islamic Party claimed responsibility.

On 17 July 2009, at 7:00 AM, in Bakalwa, Spin Buldak, Kandahar, Afghanistan, assailants detonated an improvised explosive device (IED), killing six civilians, five children, injuring three civilians, and damaging one vehicle. No group claimed responsibility.

On 20 July 2009, in Syah Koshah, Gulistan, Farah, Afghanistan, an improvised explosive device (IED) exploded when it was struck by a vehicle, killing 12 civilians and children, injuring four civilians, and destroying the vehicle. Later, a second IED exploded after being struck by a vehicle transporting the bodies of the first attack, injuring the driver and damaging the vehicle. No group claimed responsibility.

Between 20 July 2009 and 21 July 2009, at about 11:00 PM, in Mandje, about 100 kilometers west of Goma, Nord-Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), assailants fired upon an Army base and fought with Congolese soldiers, killing 14



civilians, two children, and three soldiers. No group claimed responsibility, although it was believed Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) was responsible.

On 21 July 2009, in Konduz, Kondo, Afghanistan, assailants fired a rocket at military forces but missed, killing seven civilians and four children and damaging a mosque. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Taliban was responsible.

Between 22 July 2009 to 23 July 2009, in the Hodan district of Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, assailants exchanged gunfire and mortar fire with soldiers, killing between 15 and 25 civilians, wounding between 31 and 51 civilians, and damaging many homes. No group claimed responsibility, although it was believed al-Shabaab al-Islamiya was responsible.

Between 26 July 2009 and 1 August 2009, in Maiduguri, Borno, Nigeria, assailants attacked police headquarters and churches using arrows, sticks, firearms, machetes and gasoline bombs, killing one prison guard, 23 police officers, and nine Christian civilians by unknown means, beheading and killing three Christian pastors, firing upon and wounding one police officer, assaulting and wounding one religious scholar, and kidnapping a correspondent of Daily Trust. The assailants set fire to and damaged 10 residences, 14 vehicles, two police stations, at least 20 churches, a government primary school, a prison, and offices of a state unemployment bureau, but caused no further injuries. The majority of the attacks occurred between 26 July 2009 and 27 July 2009, from late evening and throughout the next day. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed Taliban Nigeria was responsible.

On 30 July 2009, in Chattar, Sui, Balochistan, Pakistan, assailants fired upon a group of laborers who were loading sand into vehicles but caused no injuries. The assailants then kidnapped 11 laborers and set fire to and damaged two vehicles. Later, in Sangsila area, the assailants fired upon the police patrol dispatched to respond, killing one police officer, injuring 16 police officers, and kidnapping 19 others. On 31 July 2009, the assailants fired upon and killed four of the kidnapped officers, while one police officer escaped from captivity. On 9 August 2009, the assailants fired upon and killed four other police officers and released seven of the laborers. On or about 14 August 2009, the assailants killed nine more police hostages by unknown means. On 18 August 2009, three laborers and one police officer escaped captivity. The Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) claimed responsibility.

On 31 July 2009, between 1:00 and 1:30 PM, in the Sab'ah Nisan, 'Azamiyah, Karradah, and Rashid districts of Baghdad, Iraq, assailants detonated improvised explosive devices (IED) and a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) outside Shia mosques as worshippers were leaving afternoon prayers, killing 29 civilians, wounding 141 others, and damaging five Shia mosques. At about 1:00 PM, in



the eastern Kamaliyah neighborhood, an IED was detonated near the Al-Hikmah Mosque wounding six worshippers. Also at about 1:00 PM, in the northern Ash Sha'b neighborhood, a VBIED was detonated near the Al-Shurufi Mosque, killing 24 worshippers and wounding 107 others. Again at about 1:00 PM, in the southeastern Az Za'faraniyah neighborhood, two IEDs were detonated near the Al-Sadriyyun Mosque, killing one civilian and wounding seven others. At about 1:00 PM, in the southeastern Diyala neighborhood, two IEDs were detonated near the Al-Rasul al-A'zam Mosque, killing four worshippers and wounding 17 others. At about 1:30 PM, in the southern I'lam neighborhood, assailants detonated an IED near the Al-Imam al-Sadiq Mosque, wounding four worshippers. No group claimed responsibility, but Sadrist officials blamed the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI).

## August

On 1 August 2009, in the Central African Republic, assailants attacked several border towns by unknown means, killing 10 people and wounding several others. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) was responsible.

On 3 August 2009, at 8:00 AM, in Herat, Herat, Afghanistan, assailants detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) targeting the vehicle of a district police chief, killing eight civilians and three police officers including the police chief, wounding 27 civilians and one police officer, and damaging several police and civilian vehicles. The Taliban claimed responsibility.

On 6 August 2009, in Darveshan, Garmsir, Helmand, Afghanistan, an improvised explosive device (IED) exploded when it was struck by a vehicle, killing 26 civilians and children, injuring six civilians and children, and destroying the vehicle. No group claimed responsibility.

On 6 August 2009, in Niangara, Orientale, Democratic Republic of the Congo, assailants kidnapped approximately 100 civilians. On or about 14 August 2009, a mass grave was discovered which contained the bodies of approximately 100 civilians, believed to be the victims of the kidnapping. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) was responsible.

On 7 August 2009, at about 1:00 PM, in Shirakhan, Ninawa, Iraq, a suicide bomber detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) near a Shiite Turkmen mosque as worshippers were leaving a joint prayer and funeral service, killing 39 civilians, wounding between 140 and 276 others, and destroying the mosque and a dozen surrounding houses. No group claimed responsibility, but authorities suspected the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) was responsible.



On 10 August 2009, at about 4:50 AM, in Khaznah, Ninawa, Iraq, assailants near-simultaneously detonated two vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices (VBIED), killing 30 civilians, wounding between 130 and 155 others, and damaging 72 homes and dozens of cars. The village was home to the Kurdish Shiite Shabak minority. No group claimed responsibility, but it was widely believed the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) was responsible.

On 11 August 2009, at 10:00 AM, in Maywand, Kandahar, Afghanistan, assailants detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) targeting a civilian vehicle, killing nine civilians and one child, wounding five civilians, and damaging the vehicle. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Taliban was responsible.

On 12 August 2009, in Gereshk, Helmand, Afghanistan, assailants detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) targeting a civilian van, killing eight civilians and several children, wounding one child, and destroying the van. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Taliban was responsible.

On 12 August 2009, in Bisiye, Nord-Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo, assailants killed nine civilians, two police officers, and two Democratic Republic of the Congo Armed Forces (FARDC) soldiers by unknown means. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) were responsible.

On 12 August 2009, at about 3:00 AM, in Mpama, Walikale, Nord-Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo armed assailants fired upon the area of the Bisie cassiterite mine, killing three police officers and at least 16 miners, wounding at least 45 miners, and looting mineral ores, money and mining equipment. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Mai-Mai and the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) were responsible.

On 13 August 2009, at about 5:00 PM, in the Kala'a district of Sinjar, Ninawa, Iraq, two suicide bombers detonated improvised explosive devices (IED) they were wearing near the Ayoub Cafe, killing 21 civilians (20 Iraqi; 1 Egyptian), wounding between 30 and 34 others, and damaging the cafe. The cafe was frequented by members of the Yazidi sect. No group claimed responsibility.

On 13 August 2009, in Lahore, Punjab, Pakistan, a suicide bomber detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) targeting a group of police officers in front of the Iqbal Town police station, killing eight civilians and two police officers, wounding 22 civilians and 12 police officers, and damaging the police station and several other buildings. No group claimed responsibility.



On 13 August 2009, at about 8:30 PM, in Buynaksk, Dagestan, Russia, assailants fired upon a police station and a nearby sauna, killing seven civilians, four police officers, and damaging the police station and the sauna. No group claimed responsibility.

On 17 August 2009, at about 9:00 AM, in Nazran, Ingushetiya, Russia, a suicide bomber drove a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) through the gates of the Ingushetiya Interior Ministry headquarters and detonated the VBIED in the courtyard near a police station, killing 17 police officers and five civilians; wounding 194 civilians, 74 police officers, and 10 children; and damaging 30 vehicles, three government buildings and one apartment building. Later, assailants fired upon the police officers and emergency personnel that responded to the attack, killing three police officers and wounding two others. The Riyadh us-Saliheyn Martyrs' Brigade of the Caucasus Emirate claimed responsibility.

On 19 August 2009, between 10:30 AM and 11:00 AM, in the Ar Rusafa and Al Karkh districts of Baghdad, Iraq, a suicide bomber detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) on an overpass near the Finance Ministry in the central Bab al Muazzam neighborhood and assailants detonated a VBIED outside the Foreign Ministry near the central International (Green) Zone nearly simultaneously, killing between 82 and 101 government employees, civilians, and children; wounding between 563 and 1,203 government employees, civilians, and children; and damaging one overpass, scores of vehicles, three government buildings, scores of residences including apartment buildings, one school, one hotel, and several other buildings. Authorities discovered and safely defused two more VBIEDs near the Foreign Ministry. The Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) claimed responsibility, but authorities also blamed Baathists from the former regime.

Between 20 August 2009 and 22 August 2009, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, assailants fired mortar rounds and firearms at at least one base and at least one checkpoint controlled by the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia (TFG), prompting retaliatory fire. In the ensuing crossfire, mortars and bullets hit populated locations, killing 12 civilians, six shop keepers, two members of Parliament, several AMISOM troops, and several soldiers; wounding at least 36 civilians, 12 children, several AMISOM troops, several soldiers, and dozens of people; and damaging one restaurant, at least one home, one hotel, at least one checkpoint, and at least one AMISOM base. Al-Shabaab al-Islamiya and the Islamic Party claimed responsibility.

On 24 August 2009, at about 2:30 PM and 3:00 PM, in An Nu'maniyah, Wasit, Iraq and near Al Kut, Wasit, Iraq, assailants detonated two improvised explosive devices (IED) magnetically attached to two buses transporting passengers from Baghdad, killing two children and between eight and 18 civilians, wounding between 11 and 25 civilians, and damaging both buses. No group claimed responsibility.



On 24 August 2009, in Mingaora, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, assailants fired upon and killed 15 civilians. No group claimed responsibility.

On 25 August 2009, at about 7:00 PM, in Kandahar, Kandahar, Afghanistan, assailants detonated five vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices (VBIED) targeting the local headquarters of a Japanese construction company, killing 23 contractors (20 Pakistani; several Afghani), 14 civilians, several children, and one humanitarian worker; wounding 62 civilians and several children; and damaging 40 shops, dozens of residences, and the company headquarters. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Taliban was responsible.

On 26 August 2009, in the morning, in Gran Rosario, near Tumaco, Narino, Colombia, armed assailants broke into a residence, then fired upon the occupants who were members of the Awa tribe, killing seven civilians and five children, wounding one civilian and one child, and damaging the house. No group claimed responsibility, although authorities believed the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) was responsible.

On or before 26 August 2009, in the Baish Banr area, in Manglaur, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, assailants attacked civilians by unknown means, killing 29 civilians. No group claimed responsibility.

On 29 August 2009, at about 8:00 AM, in Ash Sharqat, Salah ad Din, Iraq, a suicide bomber detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) near a police station, killing between five and nine police officers, between two and five civilians, and one child; wounding between 13 and 19 police officers and between seven and nine civilians; and damaging one police station, 16 vehicles, and 20 stores. No group claimed responsibility, although it was believed the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) was responsible.

On 30 August 2009, in Mingaora, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, a suicide bomber infiltrated a yard on the grounds of a police station where police trainees were gathered and detonated the improvised explosive device (IED) strapped to his body, killing 16 police officers, injuring 11 others, and damaging the police station. No group claimed responsibility.

## September

On 2 September 2009, at 10:30 AM, in Mehtar Lam, Laghman, Afghanistan, a suicide bomber detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) in front of the main mosque, killing 12 civilians, three government officials, several tribal elders, several religious scholars, and two security guards; wounding 48 civilians, several tribal elders, and



several religious scholars; and damaging several government vehicles. The Taliban claimed responsibility.

Between 5 September 2009 and 6 September 2009, overnight, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, armed assailants fired mortars at the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia (TFG) and African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) troops and a government checkpoint, prompting retaliatory fire. In the ensuing crossfire, mortars and bullets hit populated locations, killing at least three civilians, several children, and four other people, wounding at least 18 civilians, and damaging at least one house. No group claimed responsibility.

On 6 September 2009, in Zuwaybi, Al Jawf, Yemen, armed assailants fired upon a community, killing many civilians and many children and damaging several residences. No group claimed responsibility, but it was believed that Huthist rebels were responsible.

Between 10 September 2009 and 16 September 2009, in the villages of Bangadi, Orientale, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Doromo, Orientale, Democratic Republic of the Congo, assailants conducted a series of attacks, killing 12 civilians and 28 people by unknown means and kidnapping 30 civilians and 17 people. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) was responsible.

On 10 September 2009, at about 12:30 AM, in Wardak, Ninawa, Iraq, a suicide bomber detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) in a Kurdish village, killing 24 civilians and children and one Peshmerga paramilitary member, wounding between 13 and 41 civilians and children and two Peshmerga paramilitary members, and damaging 60 homes. A second suicide VBIED bomber subsequently attempted to attack the same village, but was shot and killed by Peshmerga militiamen before he could detonate his explosives. Other Peshmerga members found and safely defused a second VBIED. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed that the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) was responsible.

On 11 September 2009, in Chowreh, Oruzgan, Afghanistan, assailants detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) targeting civilian vehicles, killing 11 civilians and three children and damaging two vehicles. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Taliban was responsible.

On 11 September 2009, in Dur Baba, Nangarhar, Afghanistan, assailants attacked a police checkpoint by unknown means, killing 12 police officers, wounding three others, and damaging the checkpoint. The Taliban claimed responsibility.



On 11 September 2009, in the evening, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, assailants fired mortars at the city port but instead hit the local jail and a disabled veterans housing facility, killing 15 civilians, wounding 21 civilians, and damaging the jail and the veteran housing. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed that al-Shabaab al-Islamiya was responsible.

On 12 September 2009, in Farah, Afghanistan, assailants fired upon a convoy carrying power supply equipment and food, killing nine soldiers (7 Afghan; 2 American) and two Water and Energy Department employees, wounding 12 soldiers, and damaging three military vehicles. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Taliban was responsible.

On 17 September 2009, at noon, in Kabul, Kabul, Afghanistan, a suicide bomber drove his vehicle into a North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) convoy and detonated his vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED), killing 10 civilians and six Italian soldiers, injuring 55 people and four Italian soldiers, and damaging eight vehicles, many buildings, many offices, and and many residences. The Taliban claimed responsibility.

On 17 September 2009, at about 11:30 AM, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, five suicide bombers detonated two vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices (VBIED) enclosed in United Nations (UN) vehicles nearly simultaneously at different locations on the Xalane African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) base, killing 16 peacekeepers (12 Burundian; 4 Ugandan), several Senior Somali military officers, one civilian, and the deputy commander of the national police force; wounding at least three Senior Somali military officers, at least 21 peacekeepers, one American security employee, and 14 people; damaging the AMISOM headquarters and one building housing Dyncorp operations; and destroying the two stolen UN vehicles. The first VBIED targeted the AMISOM headquarters building where a high-profile meeting was taking place, and the second VBIED detonated on the Dyncorp compound. Al-Shabaab al-Islamiya claimed responsibility.

On 18 September 2009, in Uztarzai, Kohat, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, a suicide bomber drove his vehicle into a public market near a hotel and detonated his vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED), killing 40 civilians, injuring 80 others, and damaging the hotel, at least 49 shops, and 16 vehicles. Lashkar i Jhangvi claimed responsibility.

Between 22 September 2009 and 23 September 2009, overnight, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, armed assailants fired mortars and rocket-propelled grenades (RPG) at the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia (TFG) and African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) troop bases, prompting retaliatory fire. In the ensuing crossfire, mortars hit populated locations, killing at least eight civilians and four people,



wounding at least 17 civilians, and damaging several houses. The Islamic Party claimed responsibility.

On 25 September 2009, in Dingba, Ango, Orientale, Democratic Republic of the Congo, armed assailants assaulted the village, killing 22 civilians with machetes and knives and kidnapping nearly a dozen people. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) was responsible.

On 26 September 2009, at noon, in Peshawar, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, a suicide bomber threw a grenade and then detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) in front of a bank, killing 11 civilians, wounding 94 others, and damaging 100 businesses, 100 shops, 49 vehicles, and the bank. No group claimed responsibility.

On 26 September 2009, at 7:00 AM, in Bannu, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, a suicide bomber detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) in front of a police station, killing seven civilians, five police officers, and one child; wounding 40 civilians, 31 police officers, and nine children; and damaging the police station. The Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility.

On 29 September 2009, at about 9:00 AM, in Maywand, Kandahar, Afghanistan, an improvised explosive device (IED) exploded when it was struck by a passenger bus, killing 20 civilians and 10 children, injuring 39 civilians and children, and destroying the bus. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Taliban was responsible.

Between 30 September 2009 and 6 October 2009, in villages in and around Dingba, Ango, Orientale, Democratic Republic of the Congo, armed assailants attacked communities by unknown means, killing 26 people. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) was responsible.

## October

On 1 October 2009, at about 7:00 AM, in Chisimayu, Jubbada Hoose, Somalia, armed assailants from al-Shabaab al-Islamiya and the Islamic Party fired upon one another with mortars, rocket-propelled grenades (RPG) and light weapons. In the crossfire, mortars and bullets hit populated locations, killing 28 civilians and wounding 120 others. Al-Shabaab al-Islamiya and the Islamic Party both claimed responsibility for the fighting, but neither claimed responsibility for killing the civilians.

On 5 October 2009, in the Bhimajuli area of Sonapur, Assam, India, assailants entered the village and fired upon civilians, killing 15 civilians and wounding six others. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB) was responsible.



On 8 October 2009, at 8:30 AM, in Kabul, Kabul, Afghanistan, a suicide bomber detonated his vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) near the outer wall of the Indian Embassy, killing 17 police officers and civilians, injuring at least 83 police officers and civilians, and damaging the embassy, many vehicles, many residences, and many shops. The Indian embassy was located near Afghanistan's Ministry of Interior, which was also damaged. The Taliban claimed responsibility.

On 8 October 2009, in Gadchiroli, Maharashtra, India, assailants fired upon a police patrol, killing 17 police officers and wounding three others. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed a Maoist faction was responsible.

On 9 October 2009, in the morning, in Peshawar, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, a suicide bomber approached two passenger buses at the busy Khyber Bazaar and detonated his vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED), killing 46 Pakistani and Afghan civilians and eight Pakistani and Afghan children, injuring at least 166 Pakistani and Afghan civilians and children, and damaging the two buses, approximately 60 shops, 20 vehicles, and a bus stop. No group claimed responsibility.

On 10 October 2009, in Rawalpindi, Punjab, Pakistan, assailants wearing army uniforms fired grenades and small arms upon a Pakistan Army headquarters checkpoint, killing at least six soldiers and damaging the checkpoint. Then, the assailants entered the headquarters compound and the headquarters building, where they held up to 40 civilians and military personnel hostage. On 11 October 2009, following a 22-hour standoff with the perpetrators, the Pakistan Army conducted a siege and exchanged gunfire with the assailants, killing two civilians and two soldiers, wounding five soldiers, and damaging the military building in the crossfire. Authorities rescued the hostages after the siege. Several of the assailants detonated improvised explosive devices (IED) strapped to their bodies to avoid capture, causing no further injuries. Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility.

On 11 October 2009, at about 12:30 PM, in Ar Ramadi, Al Anbar, Iraq, assailants detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) in a parking lot near the Al Anbar Provincial Government building, followed approximately seven minutes later by a second VBIED in the same parking lot targeting first responders, killing 10 civilians and seven police officers, wounding 77 civilians, and damaging 30 vehicles. At about 1:20 PM, security personnel manning a checkpoint fired upon an assailant, causing the suicide bomber to detonate a VBIED near the Ar Ramadi General Hospital, where most of the evacuated casualties from the initial explosions had been brought, killing two police officers, wounding four others, and damaging the checkpoint. No group claimed responsibility, but authorities believed the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) was responsible based on the tactics employed.



On 11 October 2009, in Churchuru, Tachira, Venezuela, armed assailants kidnapped 12 civilian soccer players who were in the midst of a soccer match. On 25 October 2009, in Tachira, Venezuela, the bodies of 10 victims were found bearing gunshot wounds. A few days later, another body was found. One victim survived a gun shot wound to the neck. No group claimed responsibility, although authorities believed the National Liberation Army (ELN) was responsible.

On 12 October 2009, at 11:00 AM, in Shangla, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, a suicide bomber detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) targeting two military vehicles, killing 38 civilians, four soldiers, and three police officers, wounding 46 civilians and 10 soldiers, and damaging 12 shops and seven vehicles. The Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility.

On 15 October 2009, between 9:00 AM and 9:30 AM, in Manawan, Punjab, Pakistan, suicide bombers detonated improvised explosive devices (IED), fired small arms, and threw grenades at three different police installations, killing 12 police officers and nine civilians, wounding 50 police officers, and damaging all three police installations. In the first attack, at 9:10 AM, suicide bombers fired small arms, threw grenades, and detonated several IEDs targeting the Manawan Police Training School, killing nine police officers and one civilian, wounding 50 police officers, and damaging the police school. In the second attack, at 9:25 AM, one would-be suicide bomber fired small arms and threw grenades at the Federal Investigative Agency (FIA) Provincial Headquarters, killing two police officers and seven civilians and damaging the headquarters. The would-be suicide bomber was killed by police officers before he could detonate his IED. In the third attack, at 9:30 AM, three suicide bombers fired small arms, threw grenades, and detonated three IEDs targeting the Elite Force Headquarters, killing one police officer and one civilian, taking hostage several civilians, and damaging the headquarters. Later the same day, police officers safely rescued the hostages. The Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility.

On 15 October 2009, in Kohat, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, a suicide bomber detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) near a police station, killing eight civilians and three police officers, wounding 15 civilians, four police officers, and several children, and damaging the police station, seven civilian vehicles, and one police vehicle. The Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility.

On 16 October 2009, at about noon, in Tall 'Afar, Ninawa, Iraq, an armed suicide bomber attacked the Sunni Al Taqwa Mosque during Friday noon prayer services, firing upon and killing the mosque imam and one investigative judge. Then, the suicide bomber detonated the improvised explosive device (IED) he was wearing, killing 13 civilians and children, wounding between 80 and 98 civilians, and damaging the mosque. No group claimed responsibility, but authorities suspected the Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) was responsible.



On 16 October 2009, at about 12:45 PM, in Cantonement, Peshawar, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, a suicide bomber approached the Police Criminal Investigative Agency building and detonated his vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED), killing 10 civilians, three police officers, and two children; injuring 25 police officers, civilians, and children; and damaging the police building, a mosque on the premises, and several other nearby buildings. No group claimed responsibility.

On 18 October 2009, in Pishin, Sistan va Baluchestan, Iran, a suicide bomber detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) vest in a marketplace, killing 20 senior commanders of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and 37 civilians, wounding 150 civilians, and damaging the marketplace. Jundullah claimed responsibility.

On 23 October 2009, at 1:45 PM, in Mohmand, Federally Administered Tribal Areas, Pakistan, a landmine exploded when it was struck by a bus, killing 15 civilians and several children, wounding six civilians, and damaging the bus. No group claimed responsibility.

On or about 24 October 2009, in Kiseguru, Nord-Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo, assailants attacked the checkpoint at Kiseguru by unknown means, killing 10 civilians, wounding several others, and damaging several vehicles. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) was responsible. The FDLR denied responsibility.

On 25 October 2009, at about 10:30 AM, in the Al Karkh district of Baghdad, Iraq, two suicide bombers near-simultaneously detonated vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices (VBIED) outside the Ministry of Justice and the Baghdad Provincial Administration buildings in the central As Salihiyah neighborhood, killing 70 government employees, between 34 and 57 civilians, 24 children, and four Iraqi soldiers; wounding between 498 and 707 government employees and civilians (705 Iraqi; 2 Chinese), between six and 10 children, and three private security contractors; and damaging three government buildings (Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Municipalities and Public Works, and Baghdad Provincial Administration), several water main pipes, one hotel, one embassy, and 156 vehicles. The Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) claimed responsibility.

On 26 October 2009, at about 3:00 PM, in Karbala', Karbala', Iraq, assailants detonated a improvised explosive device (IED) attached to a minibus at a police checkpoint, killing between one and three police officers and between two and nine people, wounding five police officers, between one and seven people, and two children, and damaging the police checkpoint and the minibus. No group claimed responsibility.



On 28 October 2009, at about 1:00 PM, in People's Mandi, Peshawar, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, assailants detonated a remote-controlled vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) at the crowded Mina Bazaar market, killing 117 civilians and children, injuring 200 others, and damaging at least 50 shops, 50 vehicles, many residences, many buildings, and a nearby mosque. No group claimed responsibility.

On 28 October 2009, in the morning, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, armed assailants fired mortars at the Mogadishu International Airport as the President of Somalia's flight arrived, the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) headquarters, and the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia (TFG) in Hodan district, prompting retaliatory fire. In the ensuing crossfire, mortars and bullets hit populated locations, killing at least three civilians and seven people and wounding at least 11 civilians and 12 people and destroying one AMISOM tank. Al-Shabaab al-Islamiya claimed responsibility.

## November

On 2 November 2009, at about 10:40 AM, in Rawalpindi, Punjab, Pakistan, a suicide bomber threw a grenade and detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) in front of a National Bank of Pakistan (NBP) branch, killing 31 civilians, four soldiers, and three children; wounding 54 civilians and nine soldiers; and damaging many vehicles, several offices, one hotel, and the bank. No group claimed responsibility.

On 5 November 2009, at 1:30 PM, in Fort Hood, Texas, United States, an armed assailant entered the Fort Hood Soldier Readiness Processing Center and opened fire, killing one civilian and 12 soldiers, wounding seven civilians, 17 soldiers, and 18 people, and damaging the facility. Civilian police officers from Fort Hood's Department of Emergency Services (DES) responded and the assailant fired upon them, wounding one police officer. No group claimed responsibility, although authorities believed an unaffiliated Sunni extremist was responsible.

On 9 November 2009, at about 9:45 AM, in Adezai Village, Peshawar, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, a suicide bomber approached a crowd of people at a cattle market and detonated the improvised explosive device (IED) strapped to his body, killing 11 civilians, one government official, and one child; injuring 44 civilians and children; and damaging six vehicles, six shops, and killing 12 cattle. The TTP claimed responsibility.

On 10 November 2009, in the afternoon, in Charsadda, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, a suicide bomber detonated his vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) at a crowded market on Farooq-e-Azam Chowkat, killing 27 civilians and seven children, injuring at least 100 civilians and children, and damaging many shops, four vehicles, and two passenger buses. The explosion also knocked down electrical wires. No group claimed responsibility.



Between 13 November 2009 and 14 November 2009, overnight, in Dungu, Orientale, Democratic Republic of the Congo, assailants attacked the Ngilima and Nongo localities by unknown means, killing eight civilians, two soldiers, and three people. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) was responsible.

On 13 November 2009, at 6:45 AM, in Peshawar, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, a suicide bomber detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) inside a military checkpoint in front of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) regional headquarters building, killing seven soldiers, seven ISI employees, and three civilians; wounding 11 ISI employees and 69 soldiers and civilians; damaging the headquarters building, the military checkpoint, one school, many vehicles, and several military and civilian offices. The Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility.

On 13 November 2009, at 7:15 AM, in Bannu, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, a suicide bomber detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) targeting a police station, killing nine police officers, two soldiers, three civilians, and one child; wounding 15 police officers, two civilians, and four soldiers; and damaging the police station and several vehicles. The Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility.

On 14 November 2009, at about 4:30 PM, in Peshawar, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, a suicide bomber detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) targeting a police checkpoint, killing seven civilians, four children, and one police officer; wounding 35 police officers and civilians; and damaging the checkpoint, seven vehicles, and many homes and shops. The Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility.

On 16 November 2009, at 11:00 AM, in Tagab, Kapisa, Afghanistan, armed assailants fired two rockets into a crowded market where tribal leaders were meeting with French military forces, killing 12 Afghan civilians, injuring at least 38 others and five French soldiers, and damaging the market. No group claimed responsibility.

On 16 November 2009, at about 1:30 AM, near Abu Ghurayb, Al Anbar, Iraq, assailants wearing Iraqi Army uniforms and utilizing eight sport-utility vehicles (SUV) kidnapped and later fired upon and killed 12 civilians and children and one local Iraqi Islamic Party local leader who was also the imam of a nearby mosque. The Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) claimed responsibility.

On 18 November 2009, in Sha'riyah, Janub Darfur, Sudan, assailants attacked members of the Al-Burgud Tribe by unknown means, killing 13 civilians, wounding three others, and kidnapping five others. No group claimed responsibility, although it was believed the Sudan Liberation Army/Movement (SLA/SLM) was responsible.



On 19 November 2009, in Deh Rawod, Oruzgan, Afghanistan, a suicide bomber detonated the improvised explosive device (IED) strapped to his body at a crowded shopping bazaar, killing eight civilians and two children, injuring eight civilians and two children, and damaging the bazaar. No group claimed responsibility.

On 19 November 2009, at about 10:20 AM, in Peshawar, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, on Khyber Road, a suicide bomber approached the main gate of the Judicial Complex and detonated the improvised explosive device (IED) strapped to his body, killing 17 civilians and three police officers, injuring 50 people, and damaging many vehicles, several nearby buildings, and the complex gate. No group claimed responsibility.

On 20 November 2009, at 9:30 AM, in Farah, Farah, Afghanistan, at a busy public square, a suicide bomber detonated his vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) near a police post, killing 18 civilians, two police officers, and one government employee; injuring 22 civilians and police officers and eight children; and damaging the police post and the square. No group claimed responsibility.

On 22 November 2009, in Djema, Haut-Mbomou, Central African Republic, 40 armed assailants attacked the village with guns, machetes and clubs, killing 12 people and kidnapping two government officials and at least two civilians. The assailants also set fire to and damaged several houses and looted at least two shops. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) was responsible.

On 22 November 2009, at about 5:00 PM, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, armed assailants fired mortars at Transitional Federal Government of Somalia (TFG) and African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) troop bases, prompting retaliatory fire. In the ensuing crossfire, mortars and bullets hit populated locations, killing at least 14 civilians, wounding at least 20 civilians, and damaging several houses. Al-Shabaab al-Islamiya and the Islamic Party both claimed responsibility.

On 23 November 2009, at about 9:30 AM, in Ampatuan, Maguindanao, Philippines, approximately 100 armed men stopped a five-vehicle convoy of civilians, journalists, and support staff en route to file a certificate of candidacy (COC) for a prospective candidate for the office of provincial governor, plus one additional vehicle believed by the assailants to belong to the convoy and held the occupants hostage. The assailants then fired upon the convoy and the additional vehicle, killing 13 of the prospective candidate's female family members, 34 journalists, nine political support staff members (2 lawyers; 6 drivers; 1 business supervisor), and six civilians, and damaging all six vehicles. On or about 23 November 2009, in or around Datu Abdullah Sangki, Maguindanao, Philippines, the assailants kidnapped, then fired upon and killed a backhoe operator and one other unidentified person. Authorities stated the backhoe



operator and other person may have been killed in order to prevent them from appearing as witnesses to the armed attack. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed Ampatuan clan members and persons loyal to them were responsible. The Ampatuan clan denied responsibility and suggested the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) may have been responsible. The MILF denied responsibility.

On 24 November 2009, in the morning, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, armed assailants fired mortars at an African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) troop base, prompting retaliatory fire by AMISOM backed by Transitional Federal Government of Somalia (TFG) troops. In the ensuing crossfire, mortars and bullets hit populated locations, killing 14 civilians, peacekeepers, and soldiers and wounding 15 civilians, peacekeepers, and soldiers. The Islamic Party claimed responsibility.

On 27 November 2009, at 9:34 PM, near Bologoye, Tverskaya Oblast', Russia, an improvised explosive device (IED) exploded on a section of railway tracks as the Nevsky Express train was passing by, killing 39 civilians, wounding 95 others, and damaging the train and a section of the tracks. Caucasus Emirate claimed responsibility.

Between 29 November 2009 and 30 November 2009, overnight, in Nepopo village, Dungu, Orientale, Democratic Republic of the Congo, assailants attacked the village by unknown means, killing 10 civilians, wounding several others, and kidnapping several children. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) was responsible.

## December

On 3 December 2009, in the morning, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, a suicide bomber walked into the Shamo Hotel and detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) during a graduation ceremony for Banaadir University, killing 18 students, four government ministers (3 Somali; 1 American), three journalists, at least one professor, and at least one doctor; wounding six journalists, one government minister, 26 students, three doctors and a dozen people; and damaging the hotel. No group claimed responsibility, although it was widely believed al-Shabaab al-Islamiya was responsible. Al-Shabaab al-Islamiya denied responsibility.

On 4 December 2009, at about 1:15 PM, in Rawalpindi, Punjab, Pakistan, a group of assailants, including suicide bombers, threw grenades, fired small arms, and detonated four improvised explosive devices (IED) targeting a mosque used by military personnel and their families, killing 17 children, 13 soldiers, and 10 civilians; wounding 86 children, soldiers, and civilians; and damaging the mosque and several nearby buildings. The Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility.



On 7 December 2009, at 8:45 PM, in Allama Iqbal Town, Lahore, Punjab, Pakistan, at the Moon Market in Allama Iqbal Town, two suicide bombers near-simultaneously detonated the improvised explosive devices (IED) strapped to their bodies, killing 61 civilians and nine children, injuring 180 civilians and children, and damaging dozens of vehicles, several shops, several buildings, a police station, and a bank. No group claimed responsibility.

On 7 December 2009, in Peshawar, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, on Sher Shah Suri Road, a suicide bomber approached the entrance of the sessions court and detonated the improvised explosive device (IED) strapped to his body, killing eight civilians, two police officers, and one government employee; injuring 50 people; and damaging at least 10 vehicles, several nearby buildings, and the court entrance. No group claimed responsibility.

On 8 December 2009, at 10:00 AM, in the Rashid district of Baghdad, Iraq, a suicide bomber detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) targeting a police checkpoint in the southern Durah neighborhood near the Baghdad Technical Institute, killing three police officers and 12 students, wounding between five and 23 students and civilians, and damaging the checkpoint and several vehicles. Approximately 30 minutes later, three suicide VBIEDs exploded within minutes of each other near the New Finance Ministry and Labor and Social Affairs Ministry buildings in the central Shorja neighborhood in the Ar Rusafa district, near the Nida'a Mosque on Palestine Street in the northern Al Qahirah neighborhood of the 'Azamiyah district, and near the Karkh Civil Court building in the Al Karkh district, killing 112 government employees and civilians, wounding between 425 and 490 government employees and civilians, and damaging dozens of vehicles, several police vehicles, three government buildings, three houses, and a public market. Thirty-four of the total fatalities occurred at the New Finance Ministry bombing. The Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) claimed responsibility.

On 8 December 2009, at noon, in Qasim Bela, Multan, Punjab, Pakistan, a group of suicide bombers approached the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) Agency's building, fired small arms and rockets at the checkpoint, then detonated their vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED), killing eight civilians and four soldiers, injuring 30 civilians, soldiers, and children, and damaging the checkpoint, the ISI building, and several other nearby buildings. The Taliban claimed responsibility.

On 14 December 2009, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, armed assailants fired mortars at the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) troop base at Jaalle Siyad, prompting retaliatory fire by AMISOM and Transitional Federal Government of Somalia (TFG) troops. In the ensuing crossfire, mortars and bullets hit populated locations, killing at least 12 civilians, several peacekeepers, and several soldiers and wounding at least eight civilians and seven people. Al-Shabaab al-Islamiya and the Islamic Party claimed responsibility.



On 15 December 2009, at 2:45 PM, in Dera Ghazi Khan, Punjab, Pakistan, a suicide bomber detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) targeting the home of a government official, killing 30 civilians and several children, wounding 90 civilians, and damaging the home of the government official, scores of shops, scores of vehicles, many other homes, several buildings, two banks, and one mosque. The government official was not injured. No group claimed responsibility.

On 18 December 2009, at about 1:30 PM, in Timurgara, North-West Frontier, Pakistan, a suicide bomber detonated his vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) near a mosque next to a police station, killing 10 civilians and two children, injuring 20 civilians and children and 12 police officers, and damaging the mosque, the police compound, and five vehicles. No group claimed responsibility.

On 24 December 2009, between 1:20 PM and 1:30 PM, in Al Hillah, Babil, Iraq, assailants detonated a roadside improvised explosive device (IED) outside a bus station, then 25 minutes later detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) in the same area, killing 11 civilians and between five and 14 police officers, wounding between 70 and 75 civilians and 35 police officers, and damaging the bus station. No group claimed responsibility.

On 24 December 2009, at about 6:00 PM, in Mogadishu, Banaadir, Somalia, armed assailants fired mortars at Transitional Federal Government of Somalia (TFG) and African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) troop bases, prompting retaliatory fire. In the ensuing crossfire, mortars and bullets hit populated locations, killing at least 10 civilians and five people, wounding at least 25 civilians and five people, and damaging several houses. The Islamic Party claimed responsibility.

On 27 December 2009, at about 6:30 PM, in Muzaffarabad, Azad Kashmir, Pakistan, in front of the Markazi mosque on CMH Road, a suicide bomber detonated the improvised explosive device (IED) strapped to his body during a Shiite religious procession, killing seven civilians and three police officers, injuring 80 civilians and police officers, and damaging the mosque and several shops and vehicles. No group claimed responsibility.

On 28 December 2009, at about 4:10 PM, in Karachi, Sindh, Pakistan, on MA Jinnah Road, a suicide bomber joined a Shiite Muslim procession and detonated the improvised explosive device (IED) strapped to his body, killing 39 civilians and four children, injuring 83 civilians and children, and damaging many shops and vehicles. No group claimed responsibility.

On 30 December 2009, between 9:30 AM and 10:10 AM, in Ar Ramadi, Al Anbar, Iraq, a possible suicide bomber detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) at a security checkpoint near the provincial government building; then



approximately thirty minutes later, as the provincial governor went to survey the scene, a suicide bomber approached and detonated an improvised explosive device (IED), killing between 24 and 29 civilians and police officers and one provincial council member, wounding between 54 and 102 civilians and police officers, two provincial council members, and one governor, and damaging the security checkpoint and 20 vehicles. The Islamic State of Iraq (ISI) claimed responsibility.





AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

W A S H I N G T O N , D C

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, LAW AND SOCIETY

**To:** NCTC  
**From:** Brian Forst  
**Date:** March 12, 2010  
**Re:** Afterword to the State Department's Country Reports on Terrorism for 2010:  
Challenges, Accomplishments, and Prospects

## Introduction

The National Counterterrorism Center deserves high praise for its work to expand our understanding of terrorism. Since the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century era of Enlightenment, humans have learned -- often slowly and painfully -- to overcome counterproductive impulsive responses to threats to their security by engaging instead in a process of creative and systematic reflection based on analysis of the evidence. Courage on the battlefield was indispensable in the Allied victory over Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan, but victory was attributable in no small part as well to the enlightened analysis of data. It turns out that bravery is much more effective when it is deployed intelligently.

The Worldwide Incidents Tracking System (WITS) data reflect the same preference for understanding over primal impulses that can produce much graver threats to security than the things initially feared. The NCTC mission statement paves the way for such an approach to thinking about terrorism and developing effective counterterrorism strategy: "Lead our nation's effort to combat terrorism at home and abroad by analyzing the threat, sharing that information with our partners, and integrating all instruments of national power to ensure unity of effort."

## Barriers to Orderly Understanding of Terrorism

Criminologists have been stymied since long before World War II -- at least since the time of Cesare Lombroso -- by the problem of understanding the causes of aggression generally. The controversy still rages between the respective roles of nature and nurture, poverty and peers, urban, family, and personal stressors, and so on, but we do know much more today about importance of these influences and interactions among them than we did a century ago. This story of the evolution of thinking offers seeds of hope for an enlightened understanding of terrorism.

The challenges presented by terrorism are in many ways more formidable than those presented by conventional crime. For one thing, while terrorism cases share the property of

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having a political motive, terrorism cases are in a kettle that contains a stew of cases that vary by type of extremism (Islamic, Christian fundamentalist, environmental, anti-globalization, etc.), whether connected to a larger network, extent of planning, type of attack (assassination, hostage taking, mass killing, etc.), ideological justification, nature of the target, weapon of choice, lethality, and other distinctive factors. These various subcategories of terrorism are as diverse as the major crime categories are different from one another.

Terrorism is difficult to analyze empirically for a second reason: terrorists, to a greater extent than other criminals, tend to operate in unpredictable ways, aiming to create fear and turmoil. They rely on surprise to achieve both, striving to defy deterrence interventions. When terrorist screening protocols used in the months after the 9/11 attack ignored women as suicide bombers, terrorists responded by enlisting women to participate in suicide bombing. Terrorists tend to operate intentionally outside of predictable patterns to exploit elements of fear and uncertainty, so such patterns are less likely to show up in the data. In the case of terrorism, it may well be that the only thing that can be safely predicted is that successful acts of terrorism will continue to surprise us, even if infrequently.

Terrorism is more difficult to analyze than other crimes for yet another reason: we do not have enough reliable data on cases of each major type of terrorism to provide a basis for statistical inference along the lines that parallel the analysis of conventional criminal justice data. That there have been too few terrorist cases on American soil to permit empirical analysis is a blessing for those of us who care first and foremost about the well-being of our children and grandchildren, but it is a curse for empirically oriented analysts interested in understanding terrorism. Open source data, which track terrorist incidents worldwide, are a beginning in the development of such analysis, but the relationship between cases reported in the open source arena and actual terrorist incidents remains largely unknown. Newspaper reporter Lincoln Steffens's (1931) remarkable account of creating the strong impression of a crime wave in New York solely by aggressively reporting ordinary crime incidents he had previously regarded as unworthy of coverage is a cautionary tale against temptations to put too much reliance on open source data. Nonetheless, the NCTC data sets provide a vital starting point to overcome barriers that impede useful empirical analysis for the prevention of terrorism.

### **Prospects for an Understanding of Terrorism Through Empirical Analysis**

That terrorism is more difficult to analyze than crime is no cause for despair. The prospects for our understanding of terrorism through the analysis of data maintained by the NCTC and other sources are considerable. The challenge is to see how the data can be improved and the analysis shaped to help us develop sound policies for preventing terrorism and responding to it when our efforts at prevention fail.

The NCTC maintains data on the lethality of terrorism incidents (number of people killed) and the frequency of attacks annually by country, as well as data on the frequency of attacks committed by terrorist groups and longevity of each group. The distributions of these critical factors are more than interesting: they offer clear suggestions for the allocation of

security resources. More can be done to establish the strongest predictors of each of these factors.

One way to organize our thinking about *how* to establish the causal drivers behind these factors is through the development of coherent theoretical models, toward the goal of preventing terrorism. Several such models have clear relevance to the prevention of terrorism. (For more on these models, see Forst, 2009)

The routine activities theory (or opportunity theory) gives us one such model. Opportunities for terrorism and other predatory crimes can exist only when there are willing offenders, suitable targets, and the absence of adequate guardianship to protect the targets from attacks. (Cohen and Felson, 1979) If any of these three components is absent or unmet for a particular situation, there will be no opportunity for terrorism. This theory has particular relevance for the development of commonsense situational controls in determining how to allocate scarce guardianship resources toward the prevention of crime -- even in the absence of valid empirical estimates. On the willing offenders side, it has implications for a focus on the surveillance of extremists and the targeting of individuals and groups known to have ties with terrorists. Such analysis might begin with NCTC data or similar data maintained under the University of Maryland's START project, or by the RAND Corporation. Routine activities theory can offer insights as well into the development of a system of weights to assign to the allocation of target hardening and protective resources to accessible targets, in order to maximize the effectiveness of these resources. (Clarke and Newman, 2006) After the 9/11 attack, the United States has been much more diligent than before in tracking willing offenders, hardening targets, and creating guardianship. It may be no coincidence that several years have passed without a major attack. Still, the mix appears to be driven by factors that are often more political than rational, and analysts may be able to bring these problems to light and pave the way for more efficient allocations.

Another model, which can be used in conjunction with the routine activities theory, is provided by the theory of games: the idea of a mixed strategy. (Luce and Raiffa, 1989; Enders and Sandler, 2006) From the guardian's perspective, the terrorist will have the most difficulty anticipating the likelihood of detection and capture if security agents and surveillance instruments are allocated randomly across the array of vulnerable targets in proportion to the value that the terrorist attaches to each prospective target, taking into account the cost to the terrorist of attacking each target. This randomized strategy will apply primarily to the allocation of personnel and other movable resources, although fixed protective resources such as barricades and other target-hardening capital resources should also be allocated in proportion to the value of the target, but in a fixed rather than random manner.

Randomized and other strategies for preventing terrorist attacks can be assessed under a variety of scenarios by applying simulation gaming models. This analytic approach has proven useful in developing military strategies for dealing with both conventional (as in World War II) and unconventional combat operations, including insurgency and guerrilla warfare. (Myerson, 1997) It could prove equally useful for assessing alternative approaches to protecting any prospective target against threats posed by terrorism.

## Conclusion

I opened this afterword by recalling successes of World War II attributable to the enlightened analysis of data. The NCTC's own John Wigle, Chief of the Worldwide Incidents Team, has recommended, along a similar line (2009): "(A)n interdisciplinary team with operations research and social science experience -- using a suite of systems tools to collect, organize, analyze, and present data -- will most likely achieve the combination required for success" (p. 609). Reliance on an organized, thoughtful, and empirically informed approach will not prevent all future acts of terrorism. But such an approach can substantially reduce the risk of failures in our ongoing attempts to prevent terrorism.

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