



Annex of Statistical Information

Country Reports on Terrorism 2019

June 10, 2020

Prepared for
U.S. Department of State
Bureau of Counterterrorism

Prepared by
Development Services Group, Inc.
Global Terrorism Trends and Analysis Center
7315 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 800 East
Bethesda, MD 20814
www.dsgonline.com

Prepared by Development Services Group, Inc., under
Department of State Contract No. 19AQMM18F2564.

Contents

Methodology	1
1. Significant Trends	5
2. Perpetrators	10
3. Locations.....	19
4. Tactics, Weapons, and Attack Types.....	21
5. Profiles of Top 11 Countries/Regions With the Highest Number of Terrorist Incidents	26

Tables and Figures

Table M.1. Quantifying Imprecise Amounts	3
Table 1.1. Global Terrorist Incidents and Casualties, 2019 Compared With 2018.....	5
Figure 1.1. Global Terrorist Incidents and Deaths, 2019.....	8
Figure 1.2. Severity of Incidents by Casualties, 2019 Compared With 2018.....	9
Table 2.1. Top 10 Known Perpetrator Groups With the Most Incidents, 2019.....	10
Table 2.2. Top 10 Perpetrators With the Most Casualties, 2019	11
Figure 2.1. Primary Victims of Terrorism Incidents Worldwide, 2019.....	13
Figure 2.2. Victims by Top Five Perpetrators With Most Incidents, 2019.....	14
Table 2.3. Spotlight on the National Liberation Army (ELN) Incidents and Casualties, 2019....	16
Table 2.4. Spotlight on ISIS-West Africa Incidents and Casualties, 2019	17
Table 2.5. Spotlight on Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham Incidents and Casualties, 2019.....	17
Table 2.6. Spotlight on National Thowheed Jamath (NTJ) Incidents and Casualties, 2019	18
Table 3.1. Top 10 Countries With the Most Terrorist Incidents, 2019.....	19
Table 3.2. Top 10 Countries With the Most Casualties, 2019.....	20
Figure 4.1. Primary Tactics of Perpetrators, 2019.....	21
Figure 4.2. The Proportion of Attack Types and Breakdown by Top Five Perpetrators, 2019....	22
Figure 4.3. Weapon Types by Terrorist Incidents Worldwide, 2019 Compared With 2018.....	23
Figure 4.4. Weapon Types by Top Five Perpetrators With Most Incidents, 2019	24

Methodology

About the 2019 Annex of Statistical Information

Title 22, Section 2656f, of the United States Code, requires the U.S. Department of State to present 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.”

Title 22 of the U.S. Code defines terrorism as “premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against non-combatant targets by subnational groups or clandestine agents.” From 2004 to 2011, the data for the Annex of Statistical Information were collected by the National Counterterrorism Center, part of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, through the Worldwide Incidents Tracking System.

In June 2012, the Department of State contracted with the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) to collect an Annex of Statistical Information dataset and provide a report to supplement the Department of State’s annual Country Reports on Terrorism. Using its Global Terrorism Database, START produced the Annex from 2012 through 2017.

In August 2018, the Department of State awarded the Annex of Statistical Information contract to Development Services Group, Inc. (DSG), a national research firm with headquarters in Bethesda, Maryland. DSG and its subcontractor, the Terrorism, Transnational Crime and Corruption Center operated by the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University (GMU), are responsible for data collection and analysis, creation of a global database of terrorist incidents, the production of the Annex, and the editing of the Country Reports on Terrorism.

Defining Terrorism

For this Annex, an incident is deemed “terrorist” if it conforms with Title 22, Section 2656f, of the U.S. Code. It is therefore defined as a violent act carried out by non-state actors that meets the following inclusion criteria:

1. The violent act aims to attain a political, economic, religious, or social goal.
2. The violent act includes evidence of an intention to coerce, intimidate, or convey some other message to an audience (or audiences) larger than the immediate victims.

GTTAC DATA ELEMENTS

- The number of individuals killed/wounded
- The number of individuals kidnapped
- The geo-location (country and state/province) of the incident
- The perpetrator responsible for the incident
- The attack type (e.g., assassination, suicide, armed assault, bombing/explosion, hijacking)
- The type of target (e.g., business, government, police, military)

3. The violent act occurred outside the precepts of international humanitarian law insofar as it targeted non-combatants.

The Global Terrorism Trends and Analysis Center (GTTAC) includes only those incidents for which all three criteria were met. In some cases, where terrorists initiate an action that targets military forces rather than non-combatants this would be considered an incident. An example would be an IED attack on a military patrol. A coordinated counterterrorism operation where the military initiates the attack would not be considered an incident. Additionally, all identified terrorist incidents must be reported by at least one independent and reliable source. For example, GTTAC does not use any reports from terrorist media sources, and it excludes any incidents for which there was considerable uncertainty or conflicting reporting.

About GTTAC

DSG created the GTTAC database that the Annex uses to summarize global terrorism incidents. GTTAC accesses five of the most comprehensive, open-source, multimedia data aggregators to identify reports of potential terrorist incidents. Data acquisition begins with using open-source technology tools developed in Python atop a Linux platform for text analysis, predictive modeling, and feature extraction. GTTAC applies ontologies for terrorist incidents, perpetrators, tactics for attack, weapon use, and the targeting of victims and facilities. Once the automated processes have established a body of data for human review and validation, the database of global terrorism incidents begins to take form within regional and other geographic locales.

Limitations

A rigorous approach using open-source material has its challenges; not all media outlets were created equally, nor do they have the same reporting standards. There are also media blackouts that will hinder anyone using open-source material from that area. We strive to ensure that the data collection process is not biased by unreliable media coverage, especially in conflict zones. Quantifying harm to victims or identifying the perpetrator of terrorist incidents is challenging when open-source information (persons killed or injured) is imprecise.

This report mitigates these challenges by employing a well-trained, multilingual, and multicultural team of subject-matter experts, technologists, and researchers to continually monitor and enhance the methodology and thereby maintain a comprehensive, accurate, and systematic data collection process in more than 90 languages.

We have made use of technological advancements in data collection that employed different processes for identifying, coding, and counting terrorism incidents. Given the difference in methodology, comparisons of aggregate statistics over time may not be reliable.

GTTAC has also created a Global Terrorism Experts Group, an international advisory board that reviews content and ensures objectivity by capturing local context and nuance.

Additionally, GTTAC created the following scale to ensure consistency in the recording of casualties:

When Media Articulate	GTTAC Records
A couple	2
A number of, a few, several, or some	3
Many	5
Tens	11
A dozen	12
More than a dozen, dozens	13

It is GTTAC’s understanding that previous Annexes omitted data on deaths and injuries when open-source reports did not cite numbers; casualties described in terms such as “a few,” “huge losses,” or “scores” were classified as “missing data” and were not counted. Because of this methodological difference, GTTAC’s numbers may be higher than those reported in previous Annexes.

For 2019, we have introduced improvements to several typologies to enhance the clarity of the incidents being included in this report. These improvements include

- A. Intended and actual victim types
- B. Tactics and delivery mechanisms
- C. Detailed weapon types

These changes simply provide more information about each incident and do not affect data integrity. We are also tracking 933 known perpetrators of global terrorism, and we collect up to 126 different attributes for each incident. Unfortunately, it is not possible to share them all in a written report. This report conducts comparisons and looks at trends with data from 2018 that were processed under the same conditions and for which direct comparisons are more appropriate.

Trend Analysis and Presentation

Each year the Annex reports on the top 10 perpetrators of terrorist activity and casualties as well as the top 10 countries with the most terrorist activity and casualties. For each year, we recalculate the reporting year’s top 10 perpetrators and countries and look back at the trends of what has changed in these categories.

When reporting on perpetrators and countries that show relatively large increases in activity or casualties, we delve into a second-level geographic location, victims, facilities, and weapon types to examine these increases in greater depth. We present these data in Perpetrator and Country Spotlights.

Disclaimers

Nothing in this report should be construed as a determination that individuals associated with particular incidents are guilty of terrorism or any other criminal offense.

The data on terrorist incidents collected and stored in GTTAC are not static. Rather, the database is dynamic and will evolve as new incidents are identified and new details about existing incidents become available. For this reason, the data provided in this report may not exactly match data provided in subsequent reports.

1. Significant Trends

There were 8,302 terrorist incidents, resulting in 25,082 fatalities, 19,924 injuries, and 2,895 kidnappings in 2019, detailed in Table 1.1 below. 2019 had 208 more terrorism incidents, 7,754 fewer fatalities, 2,727 fewer injuries, and 639 fewer kidnappings than 2018. In 2019, terrorist incidents occurred in 89 countries and territories. Approximately 84 percent of these were concentrated in three geographic regions: Western Asia, Southern Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa. In order, Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq, India, Somalia, Nigeria, Yemen, the Philippines, Colombia, and Congo (Kinshasa) experienced the greatest number of terrorist incidents in 2019. Incidents in these 10 countries accounted for 74 percent of all global terrorist incidents.

Table 1.1. Global Terrorist Incidents and Casualties, 2019 Compared With 2018

Months	Total Incidents			Total Deaths			Total Injured			Kidnapped/Hostages		
	2018	2019	Perc. Chg.	2018	2019	Perc. Chg.	2018	2019	Perc. Chg.	2018	2019	Perc. Chg.
January	843	800	-5%	2,660	2,363	-11%	2,326	2,085	-10%	212	400	89%
February	747	755	1%	1,691	2,212	31%	1,716	1,445	-16%	241	368	53%
March	723	767	6%	2,711	2,523	-7%	1,902	1,773	-7%	204	355	74%
April	640	673	5%	2,468	2,417	-2%	1,719	1,995	16%	178	195	10%
May	698	775	11%	3,542	2,269	-36%	2,194	1,633	-26%	243	302	24%
June	656	659	0.5%	3,122	2,284	-27%	1,987	1,328	-33%	214	132	-38%
July	576	752	31%	2,640	2,492	-6%	2,017	2,500	24%	161	210	30%
August	614	602	-2%	2,654	1,705	-36%	1,692	1,676	-1%	503	296	-41%
September	604	625	3%	2,613	1,753	-33%	1,790	1,557	-13%	259	146	-44%
October	714	562	-21%	2,664	1,486	-44%	1,917	1,231	-36%	505	211	-58%
November	716	546	-24%	3,966	1,582	-60%	2,156	1,178	-45%	546	94	-83%
December	563	786	40%	2,105	1,996	-5%	1,235	1,523	23%	268	186	-31%
Total	8,094	8,302	3%	32,836	25,082	-24%	22,651	19,924	-12%	3,534	2,895	-18%
Monthly avg	675	692		2,736	2,090		1,888	1,660		295	241	

As can be seen later in this report through Tables 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, and 3.2, Afghanistan had the largest number of incidents (1,750) and casualties (16,324 combined fatalities and injured) attributable to terrorism in 2019. The Taliban was responsible for 83.4 percent of casualties in Afghanistan. For this report, attacks attributed to the Taliban are also inclusive of attacks committed by the Haqqani Network. Among other global perpetrators, the Taliban was responsible for the most incidents and casualties (persons killed or injured), followed by ISIS and al-Shabaab. The Taliban was responsible for 13,964 deaths and injuries, about 31 percent of the total casualties attributed to terrorism globally in 2019. (In 2018, the Taliban was responsible for 13,452 deaths and injuries, about 25 percent of the global total.) With 575 terrorist attacks, ISIS was the next-most-active terrorist organization, responsible for 2,770 fatalities and injuries (compared with 647 attacks and 5,346 fatalities and injuries in 2018). Having conducted 484 attacks, al-Shabaab was responsible for 2,637 deaths and injuries (compared with 535 attacks and 3,340 fatalities and injuries in 2018). Boko Haram was among the top five terrorist perpetrators, with 220 incidents and 1,964 deaths and

AFFILIATES

GTTAC defines an “affiliated group” as pledging allegiance, declaring loyalty, breaking away from the group but still linked, by finance, communications, technical, HR, or being a splinter/offshoot organization.”

injuries (compared with 220 attacks and 2,238 fatalities and injuries in 2018). It should be noted that local sources do not always differentiate between Boko Haram and ISIS-West Africa.

As reported in 2018, ISIS lost most of the remaining territory of its so-called caliphate in Iraq, and in 2019 lost the remainder of its territory in Syria; the group and its affiliates, however, remained active in 26 countries, including Iraq and Syria. Around Ramadan in 2019, ISIS declared new affiliates in India, Pakistan, and Central Africa.

The most active ISIS affiliates of 2019 were

- The Islamic State in Iraq and Syria-ISIS (575 incidents, 2,770 casualties) in Iraq, Syria, and claimed responsibility for individual attacks in Turkey, Russia, Pakistan, and Lebanon.
- ISIS-Khorasan (47 incidents, 724 casualties) in Afghanistan and Tajikistan.
- ISIS-West Africa (85 incidents, 1,222 casualties) in Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Mali, Niger, and Nigeria.
- ISIS-Sinai Province (30 incidents, 187 casualties) in Egypt.
- ISIS-Philippines (78 incidents, 501 casualties) in the Philippines and Malaysia.
- Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (34 incidents, 116 casualties) in the Philippines.
- ISIS-Greater Sahara (14 incidents, 33 casualties) in Mali, Niger, and Burkina Faso.
- Jamaah Ansharut Daulah (3 incidents, 10 casualties) in Indonesia.
- ISIS-Central Africa Province (4 incidents, 17 casualties) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. (Reporting often conflates ISIS-Central Africa Province with the Allied Democratic Forces).
- ISIS-Jammu Kashmir (3 incidents, 5 casualties) in India and Pakistan.
- National Towheed Jama'ath (NTJ) (11 incidents, 773 casualties) in Sri Lanka.
- Caucasus Province of the Islamic State (7 incidents, 13 casualties) in Russia.
- ISIS-Bangladesh (6 incidents, 5 casualties) in Bangladesh.
- ISIS-Mozambique (9 incidents, 69 casualties) in Mozambique.
- ISIS-Yemen (13 incidents, 110 casualties) in Yemen.
- ISIS-Somalia (5 incidents, 19 casualties) in Somalia.
- ISIS-Tunisia (4 incidents, 11 casualties) in Tunisia.
- ISIS-Libya (14 incidents, 53 casualties) in Libya.
- Maute Group (4 incidents, 18 casualties) in the Philippines.

Al-Qa'ida networks continue to primarily operate in the Middle East, South Asia, and Africa. Some of the major al-Qa'ida affiliate groups in 2019 were

- Al-Shabaab (484 incidents, 2,637 casualties) in Somalia and Kenya.
- Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (117 incidents, 908 casualties) in Syria.
- Lashkar-e-Tayyiba (21 incidents, 53 casualties) in India.
- Al-Qa'ida in the Arabian Peninsula (16 incidents, 95 casualties) in Yemen and Saudi Arabia.
- Jamaat Nusrat al-Islam Wal-Muslimin (54 incidents, 372 casualties) in Mali and Burkina Faso
- Al-Qa'ida in the Indian Subcontinent was active in 2018; however, it had no incidents in 2019. We are continuing to monitor the organization for activity.

- Al-Qa'ida in the Islamic Maghreb (1 incident, 3 casualties) in Libya.
- Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind (3 incidents, 6 casualties) in India.
- Ansar al-Tawhid (3 incidents, 43 casualties) in Syria.
- Rouse the Believers Operations Room-Syria (28 incidents, 123 casualties) in Syria.

In 2019, there were numerous incidents attributed to racially or ethnically motivated terrorists, including those perpetrated by white-supremacist lone actors. One of the most prominent REMT attacks consisted of two consecutive shootings at mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand, during Friday prayer on March 15, 2019. The attack, carried out by a single gunman who entered both mosques, began at the al Noor Mosque and continued at Linwood Islamic Center. It killed 51 persons and injured 49.

Another REMT incident occurred on August 3, 2019, at a Walmart store in El Paso, Texas, United States. A gunman who expressed support for the Christchurch attack shot and killed 23 people and injured 23 others. The Federal Bureau of Investigation has designated this shooting as an act of domestic terrorism.

Figure 1.1. Global Terrorist Incidents and Deaths, 2019

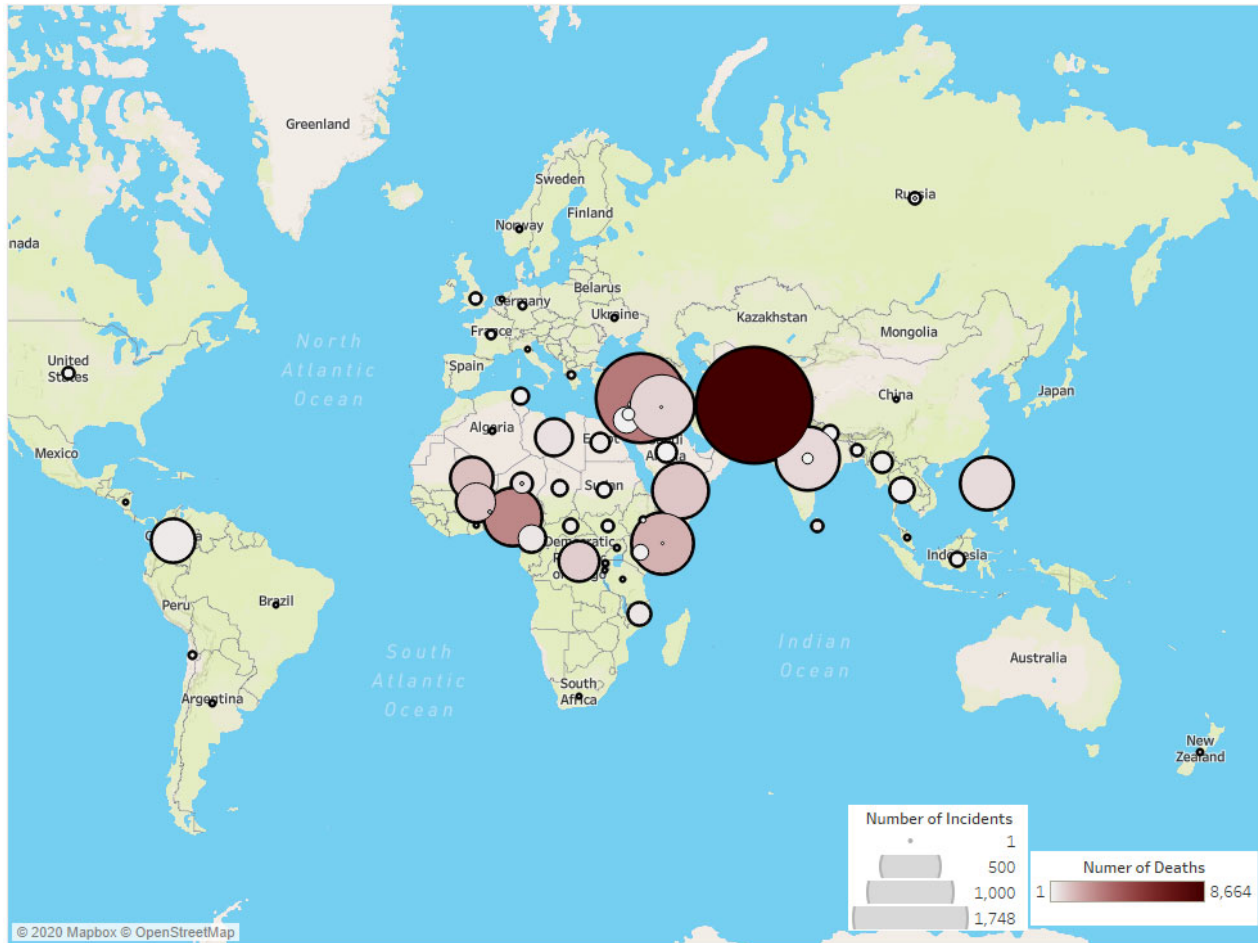
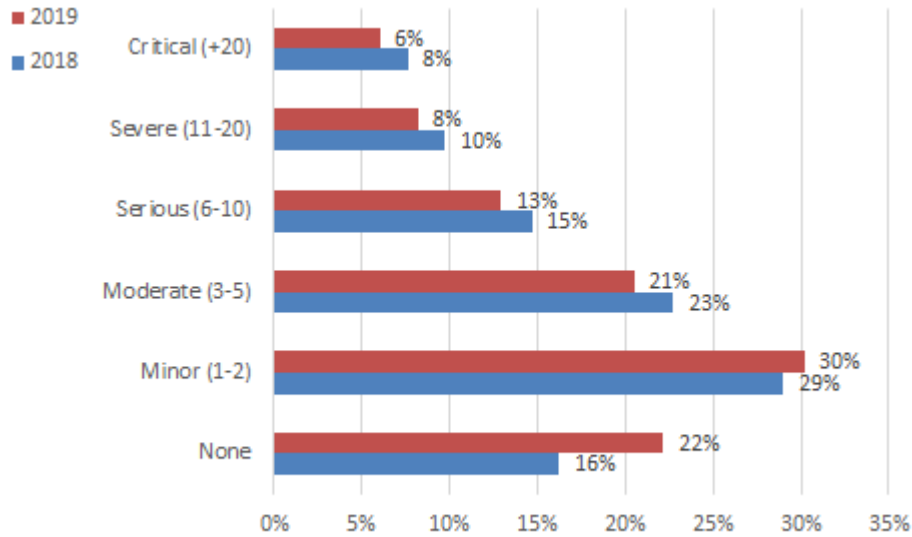


Figure 1.1 shows the country hotspots of global terrorist incidents for 2019, as defined by the highest number of incidents (1,750) and deaths (8,681) in Afghanistan. The continued expansion of terrorism in West Africa resulted in a dramatic increase in the number of incidents and casualties there. This increased terrorist activity was largely attributable to ISIS-West Africa, Jamaat Nusrat al-Islam Wal-Muslimin (an al-Qa’ida affiliate), and Boko Haram.

Figure 1.2 Severity of Incidents by Casualties, 2019 Compared With 2018



Not all terrorism incidents make the same impact or cause the same damage. One measure of the severity of an attack is the number of casualties the incident causes. In 2019, there were 2,141 incidents with six or more casualties (27 percent), a decrease of 6 percent from 2018.

Figure 1.2 also shows that there has been a 6 percent increase in the number of incidents where there were no casualties and the target of the attack was property — such as land, houses, and infrastructure.

2. Perpetrators

2.1. Perpetrator Activity

As in previous years, a significant percentage of terrorism incidents were either not claimed or not credibly attributable to one perpetrator or another. Following our methodology, if the perpetrator is not named or identified by a credible source, we will simply record it as unknown. In 2019, for 2,469 incidents (30 percent of the total number of incidents), the perpetrators were either unclaimed or unknown. Some groups, such as al-Shabaab, have a stated policy of not claiming responsibility for incidents outside a single country — even though they may be active in neighboring countries.

The evolving geographic clustering of terrorism hotspots (see Figure 1.1, page 8) suggests that as counterterrorism activities displace terror groups from their traditional areas of operations there is a dramatic impact elsewhere. Groups, including ISIS and al-Qa’ida, have continued to find refuge across a huge swath of Africa: the tri-border area of the Sahel alone saw an increase in the number of incidents by 51 percent from 2018 to 2019.

Table 2.1. Top 10 Known Perpetrator Groups With the Most Incidents, 2019

Perpetrator	Total Incidents				
	2018	Perc.*	2019	Perc.*	Perc. Chg.**
Taliban	1,079	13%	1,459	18%	35%
ISIS	647	8%	575	7%	-11%
al-Shabaab	535	7%	484	6%	-10%
Communist Party of India - Maoist (CPI-Maoist)	177	2%	292	4%	65%
Boko Haram	220	3%	272	3%	24%
Communist Party of the Philippines/New People's Army (CPP/NPA)	194	2%	217	3%	12%
National Liberation Army (ELN)	67	1%	157	2%	134%
Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham	119	1%	117	1%	-2%
Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK, aka Kongra-Gel)	164	2%	93	1%	-43%
ISIS-West Africa	20	0.2%	85	1%	325%
Sub-Total	5,240	65%	3,751	45%	-28%
Year-End Total	8,094		8,302		3%

*Percent of incidents against the annual total

**Percent change in number of incidents in 2019 compared with 2018

Table 2.1 shows the top 10 perpetrators in 2019 ranked by the number of incidents. These were the Taliban, ISIS, al-Shabaab, the Communist Party of India-Maoist (CPI-Maoist), Boko Haram, the Communist Party of the Philippines/New People's Army (CPP/NPA), the National Liberation Army (ELN), Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham, the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK, aka Kongra-Gel), and ISIS-

West Africa. While these top 10 perpetrators account for 45 percent of global terrorism activity for 2019, there was a 28 percent decrease in terrorism incidents among the 2019 top 10 from their activities in 2018. Two exceptions to this are the National Liberation Army (ELN) and ISIS-West Africa.

A more detailed review of the National Liberation Army (ELN), Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham, and ISIS-West Africa is provided in section 2.5, Perpetrator Spotlight.

In 2018, the top 10 perpetrators ranked by the number of incidents were the Taliban, ISIS, al-Shabaab, Boko Haram, the Communist Party of the Philippines/New People's Army (CPP/NPA), the Communist Party of India (CPI-Maoist), the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK, aka Kongra-Gel), Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham, 'Individual,' and ISIS-Khorasan.

2.2. Perpetrator and Casualties

Table 2.2. Top 10 Perpetrators With the Most Casualties, 2019

Perpetrator	Total Casualties (Fatalities plus Injuries)				
	2018	Perc.*	2019	Perc.*	Perc. Chg.**
Taliban	13,452	24%	13,964	31%	4%
ISIS	5,346	10%	2,770	6%	-48%
al-Shabaab	3,340	6%	2,637	6%	-21%
Boko Haram	2,238	4%	1,964	4%	-12%
ISIS-West Africa	142	0.3%	1,222	3%	761%
Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham	384	1%	908	2%	136%
National Thowheed Jamath (NTJ)	0	0%	773	2%	n/a
ISIS-Khorasan (ISIS-K)	2,973	5%	724	2%	-76%
Communist Party of the Philippines/New People's Army (CPP/NPA)	403	1%	471	1%	17%
ISIS-Philippines	336	1%	470	1%	40%
Sub-Total	28,614	52%	25,903	58%	-9%
Year-End Total	55,487		45,006		-19%

*Percent of casualties against the annual total

**Percent change in number of casualties in 2019 compared with 2018

Table 2.2 shows the top 10 perpetrators in 2019 ranked in the order of casualties. These are the Taliban, ISIS, al-Shabaab, Boko Haram, ISIS-West Africa, Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham, National Thowheed Jamath (NTJ), ISIS-Khorasan, the Communist Party of the Philippines/New People's Army, and ISIS-Philippines. The ISIS-affiliated NTJ carried out the Sri Lanka suicide bombings on Easter Sunday of 2019, which killed and injured 773 people, propelling the organization onto this list despite no history of conducting attacks before 2019. The top 10 perpetrators accounted for a 9 percent decrease in casualties from the previous year, and total casualties attributable to terrorism decreased by 19 percent globally. There are three exceptions to this general trend; NTJ, ISIS-West Africa, and Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham. ISIS-West Africa not only increased its terrorist

activity from 2018 to 2019 but it also increased its lethality by 761 percent in 2019 compared with 2018. Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham also increased its lethality by 136 percent in 2019 from 2018.

More details on the National Thowheed Jamath (NTJ) activities and casualties for 2019 are provided in section 2.5, Perpetrator Spotlight.

The top 10 perpetrators in 2018 ranked in the order of casualties were Taliban (24 percent of global casualties in 2018), ISIS (10 percent), al-Shabaab (6 percent), ISIS-Khorasan (5 percent), Boko Haram (4 percent), followed by ISIS Sinai Province, Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK, aka Kongra-Gel), Communist Party of India-Maoist (CPI-Maoist), Communist Party of the Philippines/New People's Army (CPP/NPA), and Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) with each individually contributing 1 percent of the global casualty count of 2018.

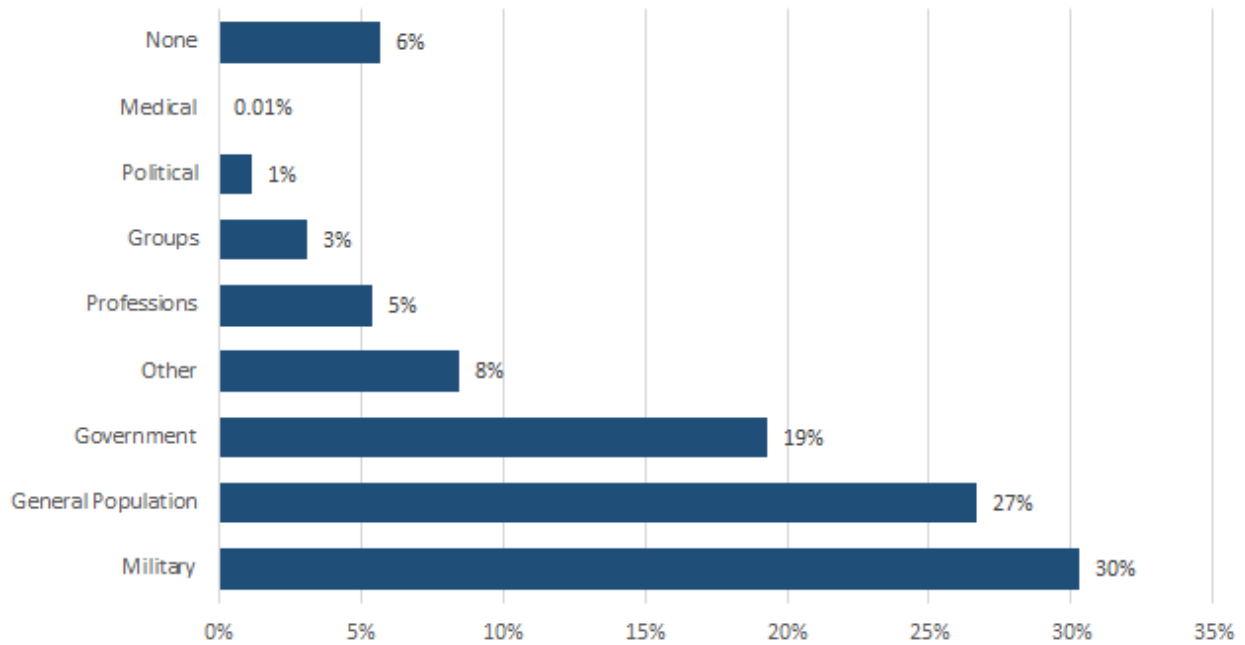
2.3. Hostage Taking and Kidnapping

There were 2,895 people kidnapped or taken hostage by terrorist groups in 2019. This is an 18 percent decrease from 2018. The perpetrators that were responsible for the most terrorism-related kidnappings were the Taliban (694 hostages), al-Shabaab (295 hostages), Ambazonia Defense Forces (253 hostages), Allied Democratic Forces (218 hostages), and Boko Haram (166 hostages).

2.4. Victims

Many incidents are complex, and a single incident may affect different types of victims. As shown in Figure 2.1, the military was the single largest category of victims, accounting for 30 percent of victims globally, followed by the general population and civilians (27 percent).

Figure 2.1. Primary Victims of Terrorism Incidents Worldwide, 2019



Government (such as civil servants, local government, high-level officials, judiciary, or law enforcement and legislators) comprised 19 percent of victims globally. As we mentioned in the Methodology section, open-source media are often imprecise when identifying who was the victim of an incident.

Figure 2.2. Victims by Top Five Perpetrators With the Most Incidents, 2019

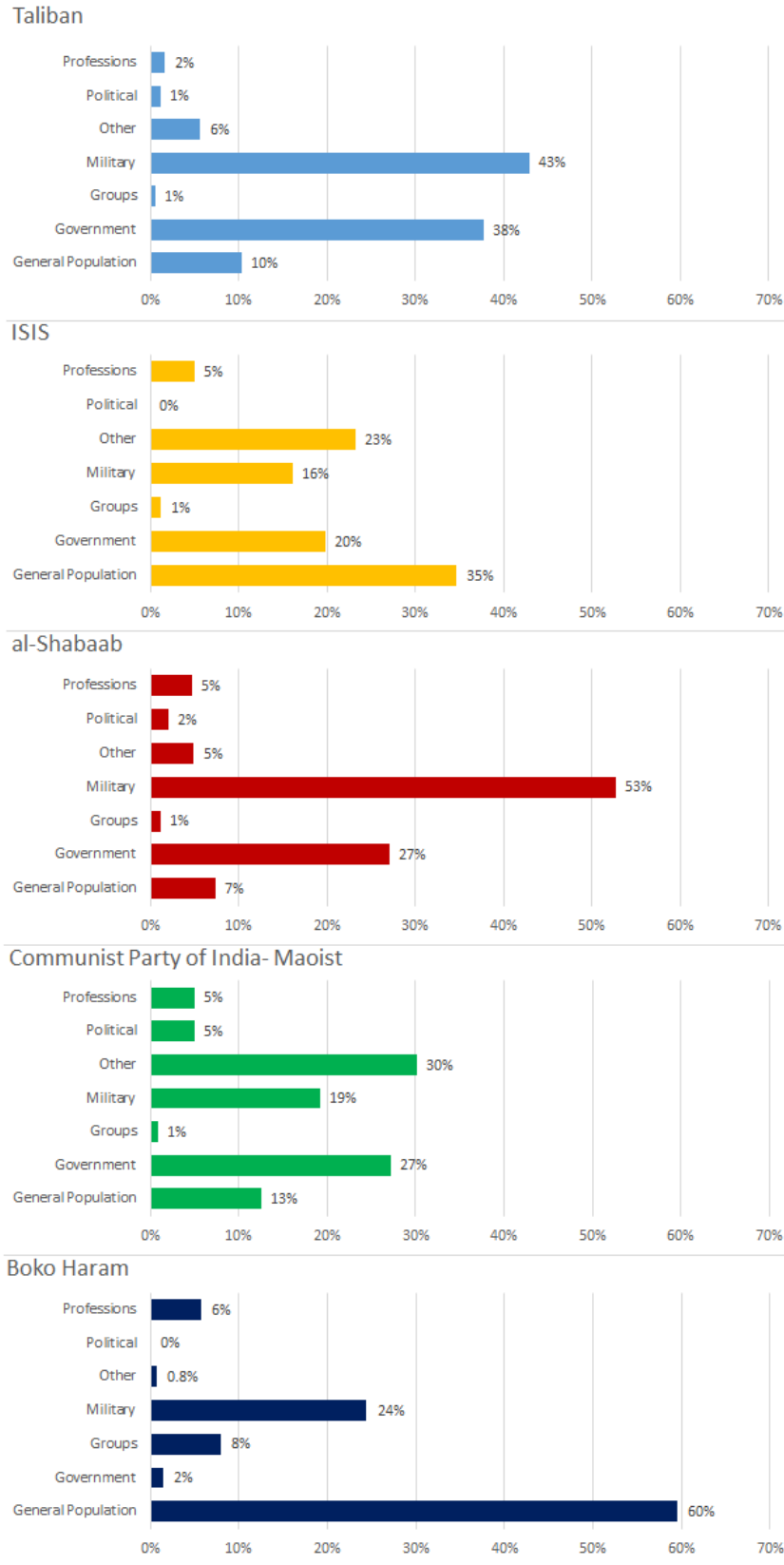


Figure 2.2 shows the targeted victims of the top five perpetrator groups with the greatest number of terrorist attacks in 2019. Boko Haram and ISIS targeted the general population more than any other perpetrator group (60 percent and 35 percent, respectively). Other groups — such as the Taliban, al-Shabaab, and CPI-Maoist — targeted the military and government more frequently. CPI-Maoist targeted ‘Other’ victims more than any of the other top five perpetrator groups in 2019. In the GTTAC database, ‘Other’ victims being tracked include Informants (real/alleged), Processions (funerals, weddings, religious), other Terrorist Perpetrators, Militant Group Members, and Pro-Government Forces. CPI-Maoist targeted informants (real or alleged) and other terrorist or militant group members.

2.5. Perpetrator Spotlight

As observed in Tables 2.1 and 2.2, the National Liberation Army (ELN) and ISIS-West Africa were exceptionally active in 2019 — with ELN experiencing a 134 percent increase in activity, and ISIS-West Africa experiencing a 325 percent increase in activity and a 761 percent increase in casualties from 2018. Additionally, Hay’at Tahrir al-Sham decreased its terrorist activity by 2 percent in 2019, while its casualties increased by 136 percent from 2018. Lastly, National Thowheed Jamath (NTJ) is in the spotlight for 2019 for its unusually high casualty rates. Below is a closer examination of the secondary-level incident attributes of these four perpetrators.

National Liberation Army (ELN)

Table 2.3 shows that, overall, the ELN has more than doubled its number of incidents in 2019 (compared with 2018). Notably, the provinces of Nariño (433 percent), Norte de Santander (241 percent), and Bolívar in Venezuela (175 percent) experienced the highest increases (other than Chocó, which had a relatively low number in both years). Arauca saw the highest increase in casualties (132 percent) among all areas targeted by the ELN.

In 2019 ELN targeted the general population in 54 percent of its incidents (84 incidents in 2019), an 833 percent increase from 2018, when only 9 incidents targeted the general population. ELN also targeted the national military in 27 percent of its activity (42 incidents) in 2019 — a 100 percent increase from 2018, when only 21 incidents targeted the national military. Additionally, among known targeted facilities in 2019, ELN targeted law enforcement and intelligence facilities in 16 incidents (an increase of 129 percent over 2018), land transportation in 23 incidents (an increase of 64 percent over 2018), utilities and mining facilities in 35 incidents (an increase of 218 percent from 2018), and national military facilities in 19 incidents (an increase of 90 percent from 2018).

Table 2.3. Spotlight on the National Liberation Army (ELN) Incidents and Casualties, 2019

Country	Province	Incidents			Casualties		
		2018	2019	Perc. Chg.	2018	2019	Perc. Chg.
Brazil	Amazonas	2	0	-100%	26	0	-100%
Colombia	Antioquia	5	10	100%	16	16	0%
Colombia	Arauca	20	38	90%	28	65	132%
Colombia	Atlántico	2	0	-100%	54	0	-100%
Colombia	Bogotá	1	1	0%	0	89	n/a
Venezuela	Bolívar	4	11	175%	71	28	-61%
Colombia	Boyacá	1	3	200%	1	3	200%
Colombia	Casanare	1	2	100%	0	2	n/a
Colombia	Cauca	3	6	100%	13	17	31%
Colombia	Cesar	5	2	-60%	6	2	-67%
Colombia	Chocó	1	7	600%	0	1	n/a
Colombia	La Guaji	0	1	n/a	0	2	n/a
Colombia	Nariño	3	16	433%	3	2	-33%
Colombia	Norte de Santander	17	58	241%	54	80	48%
Colombia	Valle del Cauca	2	2	0%	8	11	38%
	Total	67	157	134%	280	318	14%

ISIS-West Africa

Table 2.4 shows how ISIS-West Africa expanded its activity in Burkina Faso, Nigeria, and Cameroon from 2018 to include Mali and Niger in 2019. ISIS-WA concentrated its activity in 2019 in Borno, Nigeria, with an increase of 288 percent in terrorist incidents from 2018. In 2019, new provinces in this border region saw an escalation of incidents but with significantly higher casualties.

Other notable trends for ISIS-West Africa are increases in targeting victims identified by religion, multinational military, the national military, other perpetrators — as well as NGOs and relief agencies. Together these account for a 307 percent increase in targeted victims in 2019 over 2018. Additionally, ISIS-West Africa targeted facilities in 2019 to include land transportation facilities, public places, utilities and mining facilities, and national and multi-national military facilities. Together these account for an increase of 325 percent in targeted facilities over 2018.

Table 2.4. Spotlight on ISIS-West Africa Incidents and Casualties, 2019

Country	Province	Incidents			Casualties		
		2018	2019	Perc. Chg.	2018	2019	Perc. Chg.
Nigeria	Unspecified	1	4	n/a	1	75	n/a
Nigeria	Borno	16	62	288%	128	631	393%
Niger	Diffa	0	9	n/a	0	91	n/a
Cameroon	Extrême-Nord	1	1	n/a	1	7	n/a
Burkina Faso	Koulikoro	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a
Mali	Mopti	0	2	n/a	0	77	n/a
Burkina Faso	Soum	0	1	n/a	0	142	n/a
Niger	Tillabé	0	3	n/a	0	135	n/a
Nigeria	Yobe	2	3	50%	12	64	433%
	Total	20	85	325%	142	1222	761%

Hay’at Tahrir al-Sham

Table 2.5 shows that while the overall terrorist activities of Hay’at Tahrir al-Sham dropped by 2 percent, their lethality has increased by 136 percent over 2018. In 2019 they accelerated their activities in the following provinces in Syria: Aleppo, Hama, and Idlib. Casualties in these three provinces experienced a significant increase in 2019, 431 percent, 209 percent, and 717 percent respectively.

Table 2.5. Spotlight on Hay’at Tahrir al-Sham Incidents and Casualties, 2019

Country	Province	Incidents			Casualties		
		2018	2019	Perc. Chg.	2018	2019	Perc. Chg.
Syria	Unspecified	5	1	-80%	20	20	0%
Syria	Al-Hasakah	1	0	-100%	0	0	n/a
Syria	Aleppo	11	22	100%	35	186	431%
Syria	Damascus	17	0	-100%	27	0	-100%
Syria	Deir ez-Zor	6	1	-83%	47	2	-96%
Syria	Hama	11	30	173%	70	216	209%
Syria	Idlib	20	54	170%	53	433	717%
Syria	Latakia	21	9	-57%	91	51	-44%
Syria	Quneitra	6	0	-100%	2	0	-100%
Syria	Rif Dimashq	21	0	-100%	39	0	-100%
	Total	119	117	-2%	384	908	136%

There are no other notable increases in tactics, targeted victims, or facilities in 2019 from 2018. Hay’at Tahrir al-Sham has simply increased its terrorist activity in 2019 from 2018.

National Thowheed Jamath (NTJ)

Table 2.6 shows that NTJ’s activity in 2019 was concentrated in Colombo and other high-population areas to ensure maximum casualties. The incidents captured in the table represent the locations of a complex coordinated attack that became known as the Sri Lanka Easter Bombings on April 21, 2019.

NTJ’s predominant victims are the general population. NTJ mainly targeted tourist facilities (4 incidents), religious sites (3 incidents) and private property, residences, and public places (3 incidents), as well as land transports (1 incident). NTJ’s weapons of choice were explosives and improvised explosive devices (100 percent of all incidents). Coupled with their choice of victims and targeted facilities, these made for a high casualty rate.

Table 2.6. Spotlight on National Thowheed Jamath (NTJ) Incidents and Casualties, 2019

Country	Province	Incidents 2019	Casualties 2019	Casualty rate 2019
Sri Lanka	Ampara	1	18	18
Sri Lanka	Batticaloa	1	98	98
Sri Lanka	Colombo	8	382	48
Sri Lanka	Gampaha	1	275	275
	Total	11	773	70

3. Locations

3.1. Location of Terrorist Activity

Table 3.1 shows that during 2019 the three countries with the highest number of terrorist incidents were Afghanistan (1,750 incidents), Syria (1,028 incidents), and India (655 incidents). This is a slight difference from 2018, when Afghanistan (1,294 incidents), Syria (871 incidents), and Iraq (765 incidents), were the countries with the most terrorist incidents. Overall, there was an 11 percent increase in terrorism incidents among the 2019 top 10 countries compared with their 2018 incidents and a 3 percent increase in incidents globally between 2018 and 2019. Pakistan and Cameroon fell off the top 10 list.

Table 3.1. Top 10 Countries With the Most Terrorist Incidents, 2019

Country	Total Incidents				
	2018	Perc.*	2019	Perc.*	Perc. Chg**
Afghanistan	1,294	16%	1,750	21%	35%
Syria	871	11%	1,028	12%	18%
India	671	8%	655	8%	-2%
Iraq	765	9%	540	7%	-29%
Somalia	526	6%	486	6%	-8%
Nigeria	546	7%	458	6%	-16%
Yemen	224	3%	395	5%	76%
Philippines	350	4%	351	4%	0.3%
Colombia	121	1%	291	4%	140%
Congo (kinshasa)	185	2%	230	3%	24%
Sub-Total	5,553	69%	6,184	74%	11%
Year-End Total	8,094		8,302		3%

*Percent of incidents against the annual total

**Percent change in number of incidents in 2019 compared with 2018

3.2. Casualties by Location

The majority of terrorist incidents were concentrated in the Middle East, West and South Asia, and Africa. As Table 3.2 shows, the top 10 countries with the most casualties (in order of the number of casualties) during 2019 were Afghanistan, Syria, Nigeria, Somalia, Yemen, Iraq, Mali, the Philippines, Pakistan, and Burkina Faso. These 10 countries accounted for 80 percent of all casualties in 2019. This shows an 18 percent decrease in casualties among the 2019 top 10 countries compared with their casualties in 2018 and a 19 percent decrease in global casualties from 2018. The most prominent exception to this general observation is Burkina Faso, which experienced a 219 percent increase in casualties in 2019 over 2018.

In 2018, the top 10 countries with the most casualties were Afghanistan (31 percent of global casualties in 2018), Syria (12 percent), Nigeria (8 percent), Yemen (7 percent), Somalia (6 percent), Iraq (6 percent), Pakistan (3 percent), India (3 percent), Mali (3 percent), Libya (2 percent).

Table 3.2. Top 10 Countries With the Most Casualties, 2019

Country	Total Casualties (Fatalities plus Injuries)				
	2018	Perc.*	2019	Perc.*	Perc. Chg.**
Afghanistan	17,000	31%	16,324	36%	-4%
Syria	6,506	12%	4,906	11%	-25%
Nigeria	4,521	8%	3,630	8%	-20%
Somalia	3,380	6%	2,570	6%	-24%
Yemen	4,133	7%	1,908	4%	-54%
Iraq	3,349	6%	1,671	4%	-50%
Mali	1,390	3%	1,468	3%	6%
Philippines	1,118	2%	1,192	3%	7%
Pakistan	1,896	3%	1,154	3%	-39%
Burkina Faso	358	1%	1,142	3%	219%
Sub- Total	43,651	79%	35,965	80%	-18%
Year-End Total	55,487		45,006		-19%

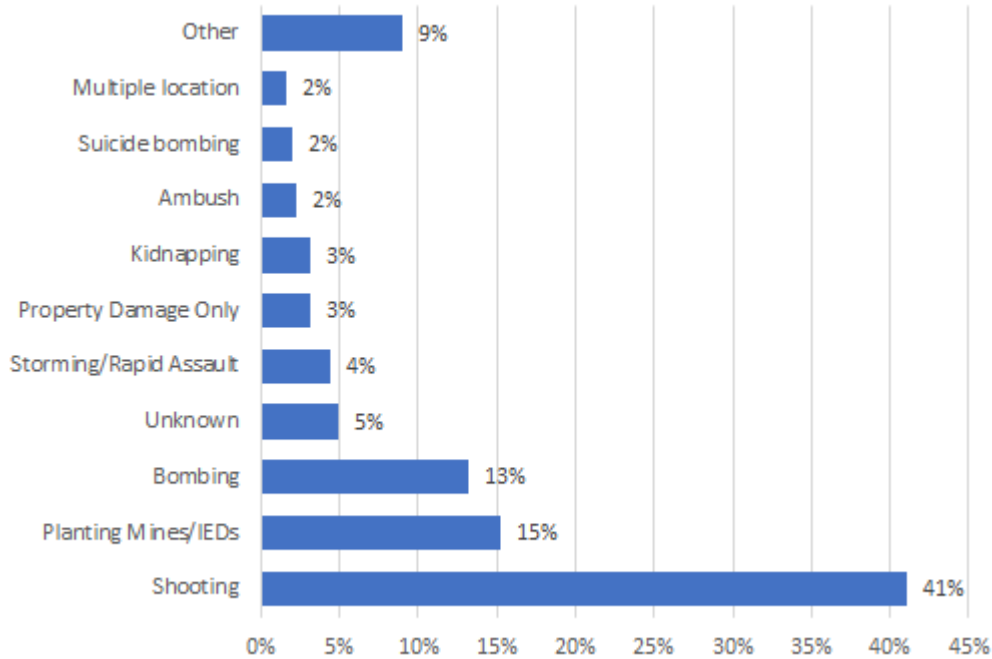
*Percent of casualties against the annual total

**Percent change in number of casualties in 2019 compared with 2018

4. Tactics, Weapons, and Attack Types

4.1. Tactics

Figure 4.1. Primary Tactics of Perpetrators, 2019



In the GTTAC database, we record 30 different tactic types. Shown in Figure 4.1 (above) are the top 10 tactics used in 2019, with all other tactic types consolidated into the “other” category.

Forty-seven percent of incidents were armed attacks. Among these, 41 percent (of all attacks) were shootings, 4 percent were storming/rapid assaults, and 2 percent were ambushing. Thirty percent of incidents were carried out with bombs and explosives; among these, 15 percent (of all attacks) were improvised explosive devices (IEDs) or landmines planted in a static location, 13 percent were bombings used in an assault, and 2 percent were suicide bombings. Three percent of all incidents were kidnappings.

Figure 4.2. The Proportion of Attack Types and Breakdown by Top Five Perpetrators, 2019

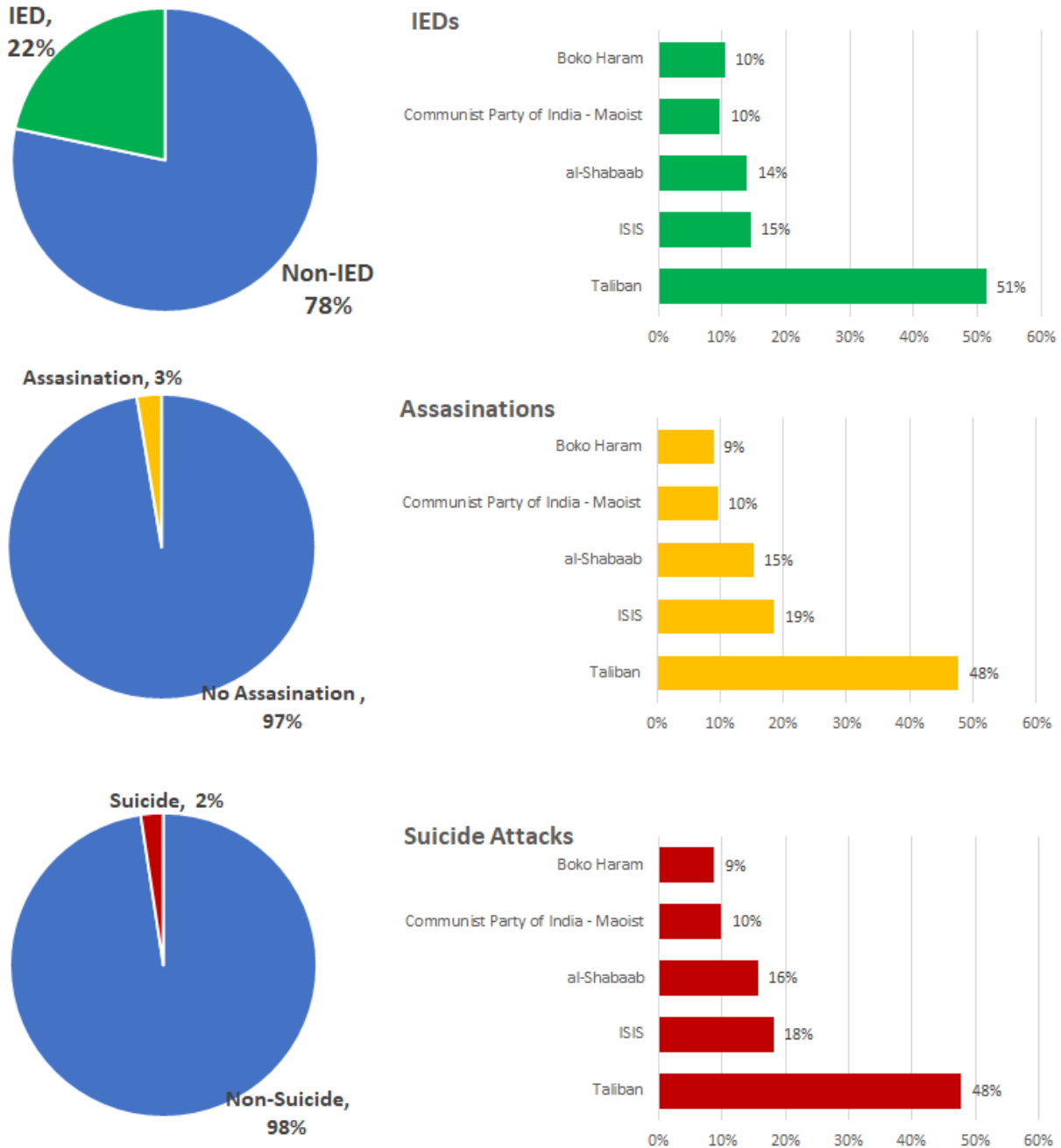
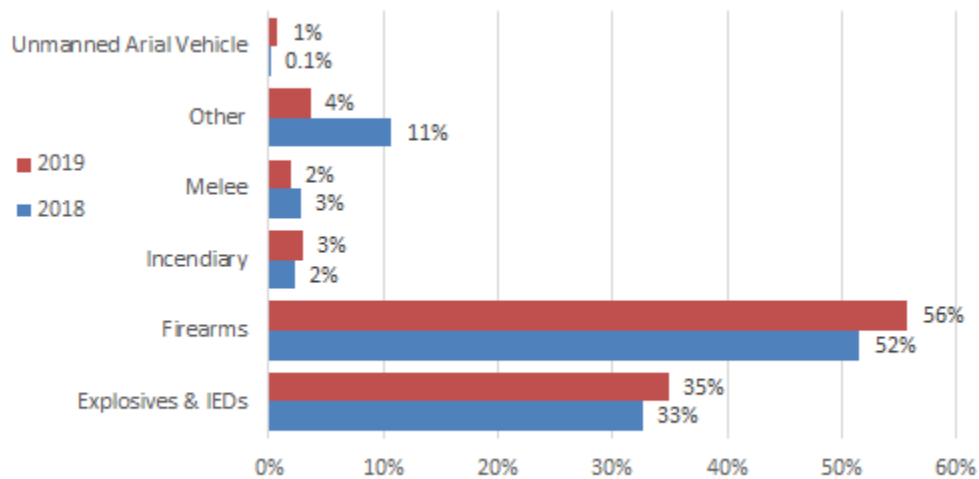


Figure 4.2 shows the frequency with which three attack types (suicides, assassinations, and IEDs) were used globally and the distribution of those attacks among the top five perpetrators. In 2019, IEDs were the weapon the terrorists chose most often (22 percent). Suicide attacks accounted for 2 percent of primary attack types, and assassination accounted for 3 percent.

The Taliban had the highest percentage use of IEDs among the top five perpetrators, having carried out 51 percent of all IED attacks conducted by the top five perpetrators, followed by ISIS, which carried out 15 percent of all IED attacks by the top five perpetrators. Of the top five terrorist groups in 2019, the Taliban was again responsible for 48 percent of the assassinations carried out by the top five perpetrators, followed by ISIS at 19 percent. Among suicide attacks, the Taliban was responsible for 48 percent of the suicide attacks among the top five perpetrators, followed again by ISIS (18 percent).

4.2. Weapons and Technology

Figure 4.3. Weapon Types by Terrorist Incidents Worldwide, 2019 Compared With 2018



'Melee' category covers a variety of hand-held weapons including knives, blunt objects, truncheons, etc.

Figure 4.3 shows that, during 2019, firearms were used in 56 percent of the terrorist incidents, followed by explosives/IEDs in 35 percent of terrorist incidents. Compared with the previous year, we see a slight increase in the usage of firearms (4 percentage-point increase) and a slight increase in the use of explosives/IEDs (2 percentage-point increase).

Figure 4.4. Weapon Types by Top Five Perpetrators With the Most Incidents, 2019

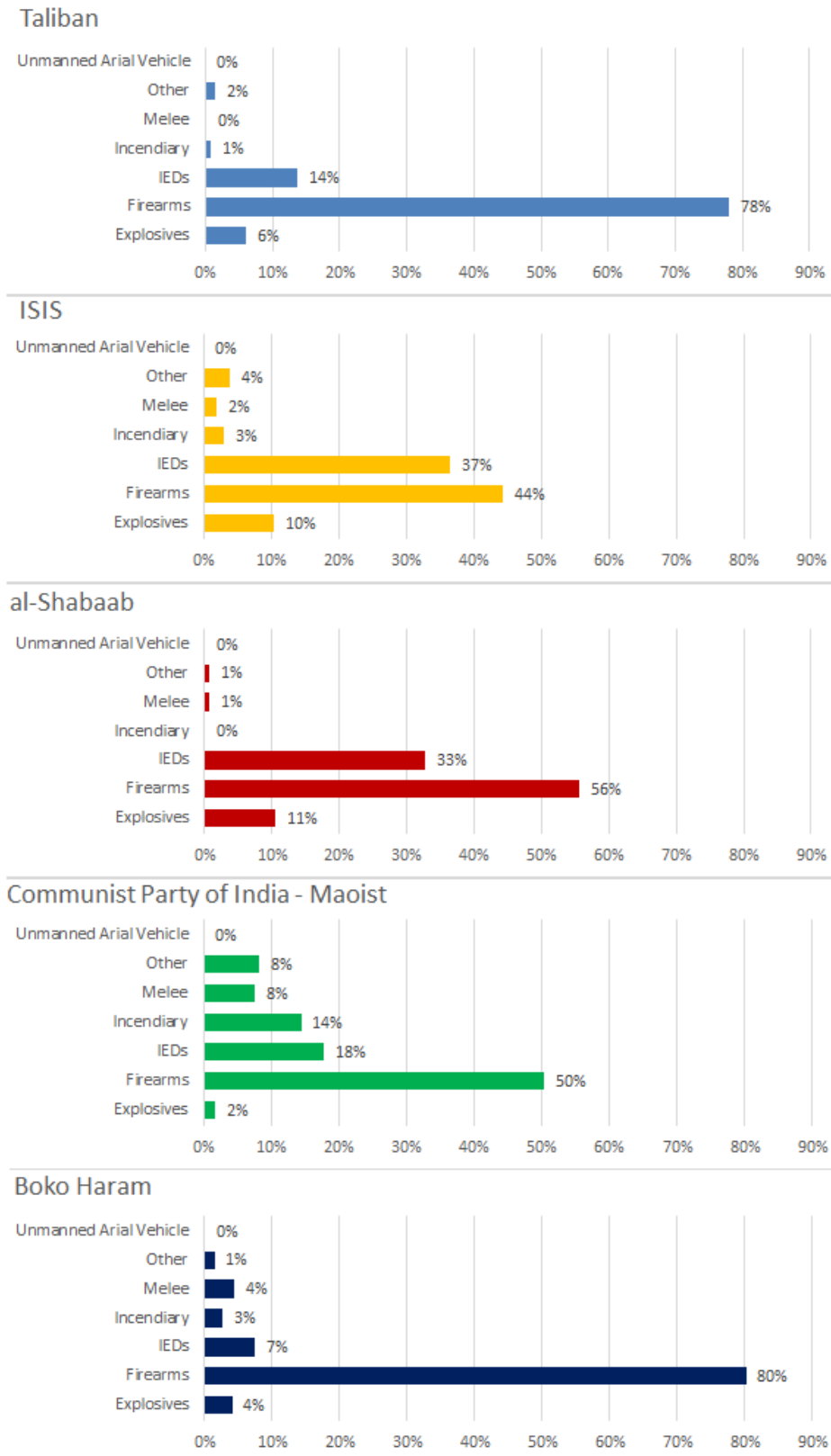


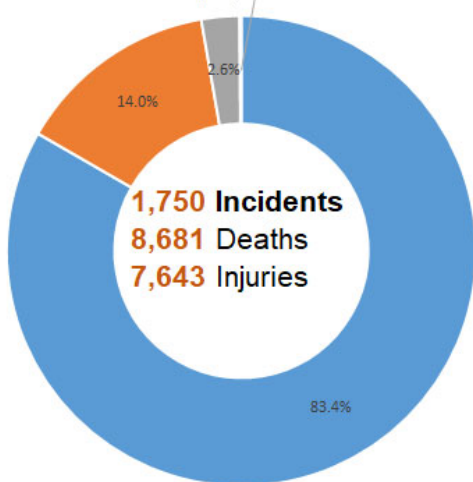
Figure 4.4 shows the frequency in which the top five perpetrators used a particular weapon type in 2019. An overwhelming percentage of terrorism incidents carried out by the most active terrorist groups involved the use of firearms. ISIS and al-Shabaab were different in that they used IED attacks more than other perpetrators (37 percent and 33 percent, respectively), and the Communist Party of India differed in that it used incendiary weapons more than any other group (14 percent).

5. Profiles of Top 11 Countries/Regions With the Highest Number of Terrorist Incidents (In order)

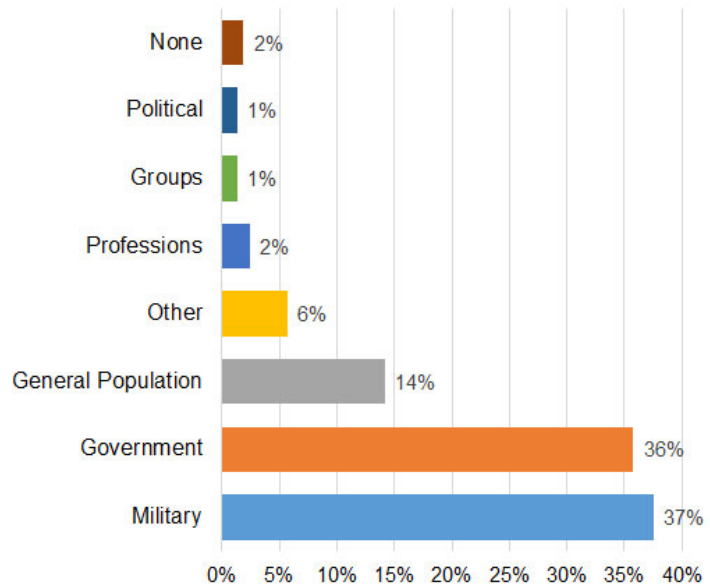


Perpetrators

- Taliban
- Unknown
- ISIS-Khorasan (ISIS-K)
- Tehrik-e Taliban Pakistan (TTP)



Victims

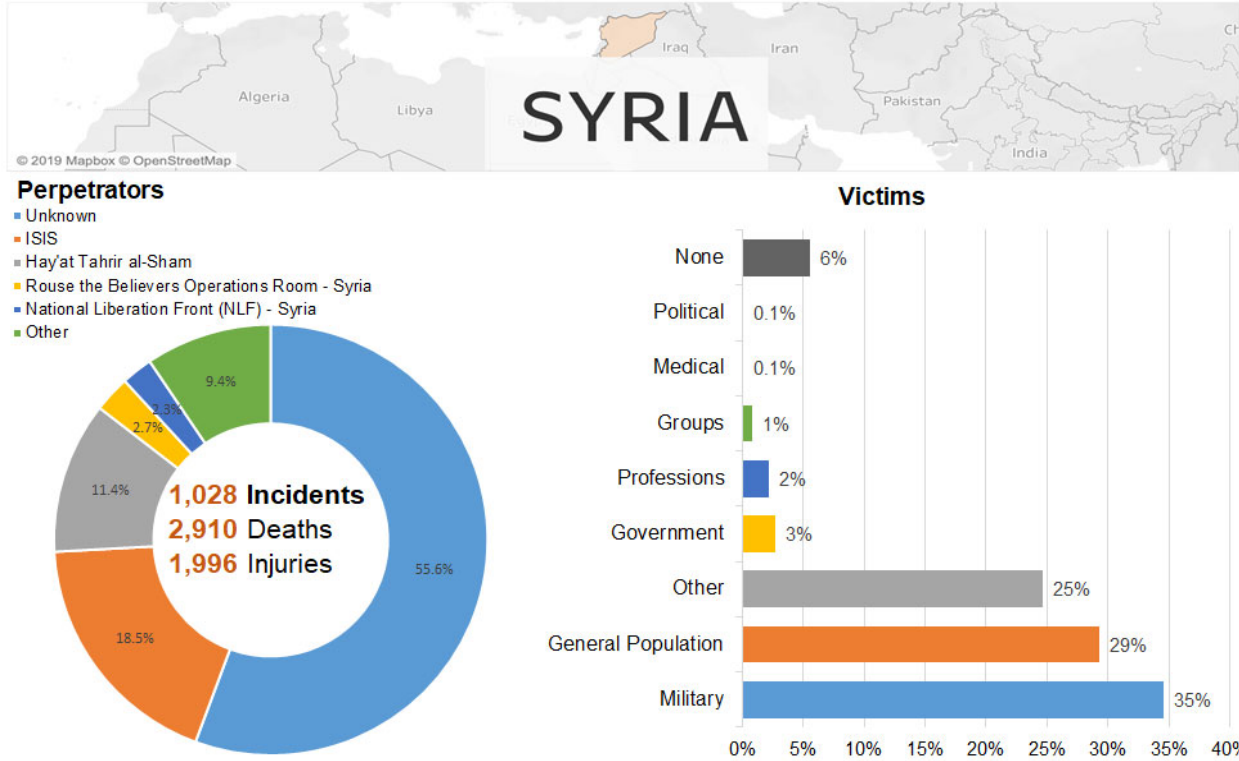


In 2019 there were 1,750 incidents in Afghanistan, with 16,324 casualties (36 percent of the global total of casualties). This constitutes a 35 percent increase in incidents from 2018 and a 4 percent decrease in casualties, as seen in Tables 3.1 and 3.2 previously.

The Taliban were the main perpetrators of incidents in Afghanistan in 2019, responsible for 83 percent of incidents. ISIS-Khorasan was responsible for 3 percent of all incidents. Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan was responsible for less than 1 percent of incidents. Fourteen percent of incidents in Afghanistan were not attributed to a specific perpetrator group.

Common attack types in Afghanistan included shootings (44 percent), planted mines/IEDs (20 percent), and storming/rapid assault (16 percent). Thirty-seven percent of all terrorist incidents primarily targeted the military in Afghanistan in 2019. Other prominent targeted groups included government (36 percent), general population (14 percent), and Other victims (6 percent): consisting of informants, processions (funerals, weddings, religious gatherings), other members of terrorist or militant groups, and pro-government forces.

In Afghanistan, the districts that experienced the most incidents were Kunduz with 112 incidents (6 percent), Balkh with 110 incidents (6 percent), and Faryab with 95 incidents (5 percent).



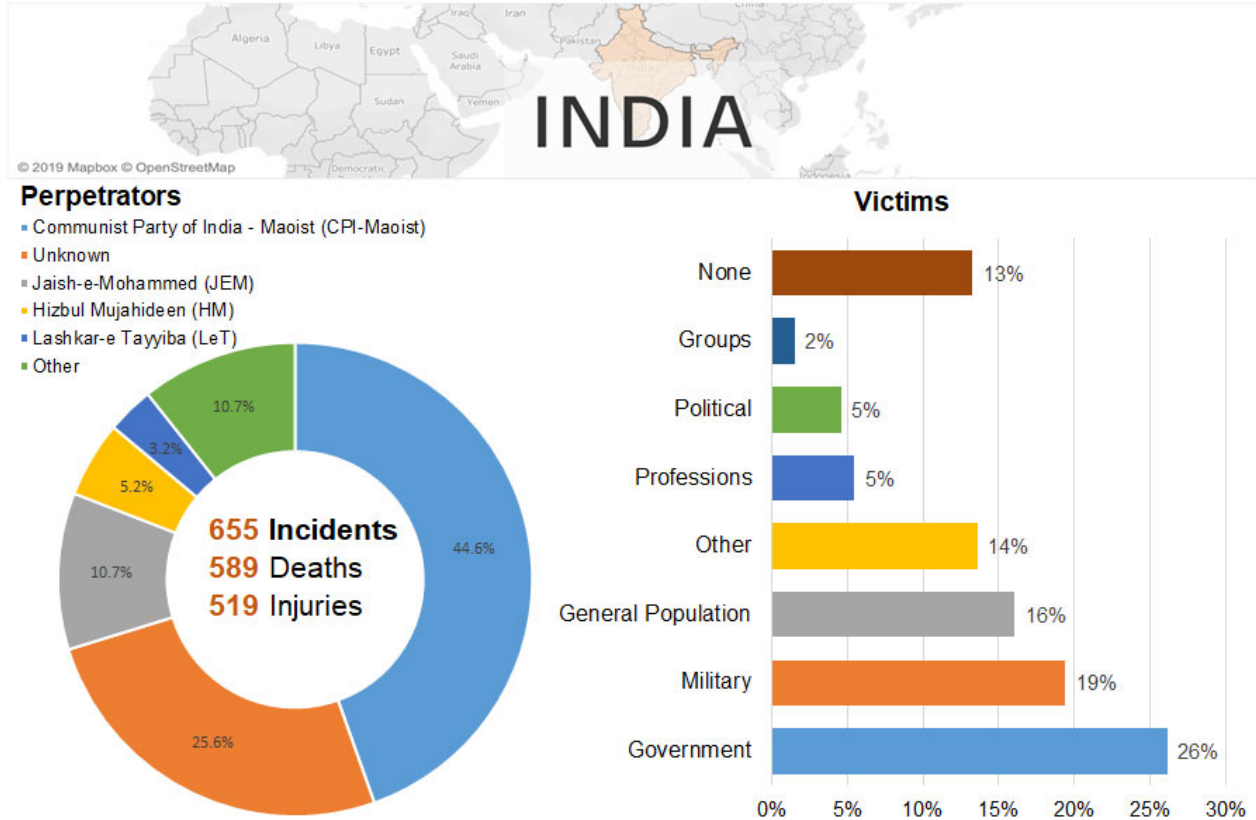
In 2019, there were 1,028 incidents in Syria, with 4,906 casualties (11 percent of the global total of casualties). This constitutes an 18 percent increase in incidents from 2018 and a 25 percent decrease in casualties as seen in tables 3.1 and 3.2 previously.

ISIS was the main perpetrator of incidents in Syria in 2019, responsible for 19 percent of incidents. The next-most active group was Hay’at Tahrir al-Sham, responsible for 11 percent. Other groups active in Syria were the al-Qa’ida-linked Rouse the Believers Operations Room-Syria, and the National Liberation Front-Syria.

Common attack types in Syria included bombings (43 percent), shootings (23 percent), and planted mines/IEDs (6 percent).

Thirty-five percent of terrorist incidents primarily targeted the military in Syria in 2019. Other prominent targeted groups included the general population (29 percent) and other victims (25 percent): consisting of informants, other terrorists, or members of militant groups, or pro-government forces.

In Syria, the provinces that experienced the most incidents were Idlib with 179 incidents (17 percent), Dayr az Zawr with 142 incidents (14 percent), and Halab with 96 incidents (9 percent).



In 2019, there were 655 incidents in India. There were 1,108 casualties (2 percent of the global total of casualties). While India was in the top 10 list for most terrorism incidents, it is not in the top 10 list for casualties (fatalities plus injuries).

CPI-Maoist was the main perpetrator of incidents in India in 2019, responsible for 44.6 percent of all incidents. JEM was responsible for 10.7 percent of all incidents. Hizbul Mujahideen was responsible for 5.2 percent of all incidents. Lashkar-e Tayyiba (LeT) was responsible for 3.2 percent of all incidents. Almost 26 percent of incidents were unattributable to any perpetrator group.

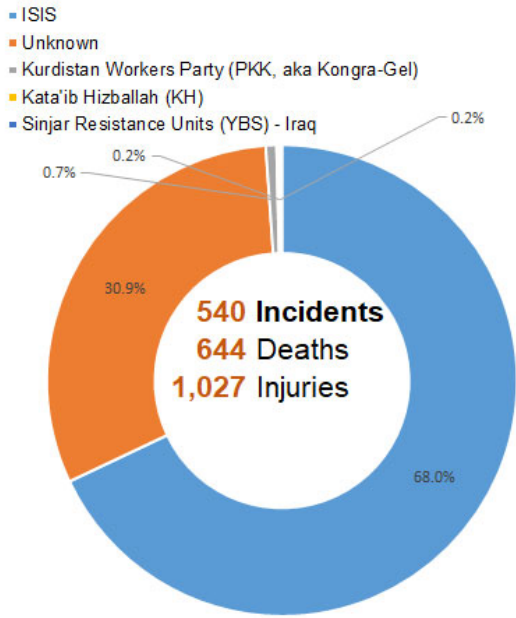
Common attack types in India included shootings (47 percent), planted mines/IEDs (13 percent), and bombings (11 percent).

Twenty-six percent of terrorist incidents primarily targeted government in India in 2019. Other prominent targeted groups included military (19 percent), general population (16 percent), and other informants, terrorist, or militant group members (14 percent).

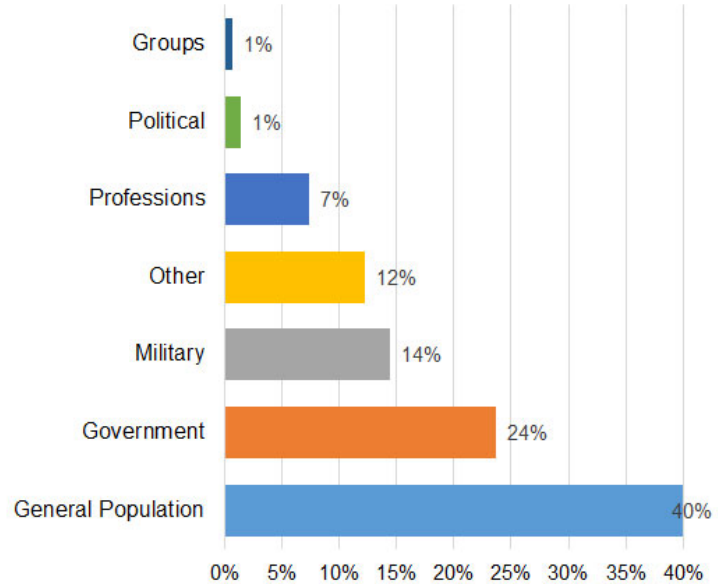
The states in India that experienced the most incidents were Jammu and Kashmir with 247 incidents (38 percent), Chattisgarh with 110 incidents (17 percent), and Jharkand with 69 incidents (10 percent).



Perpetrators



Victims

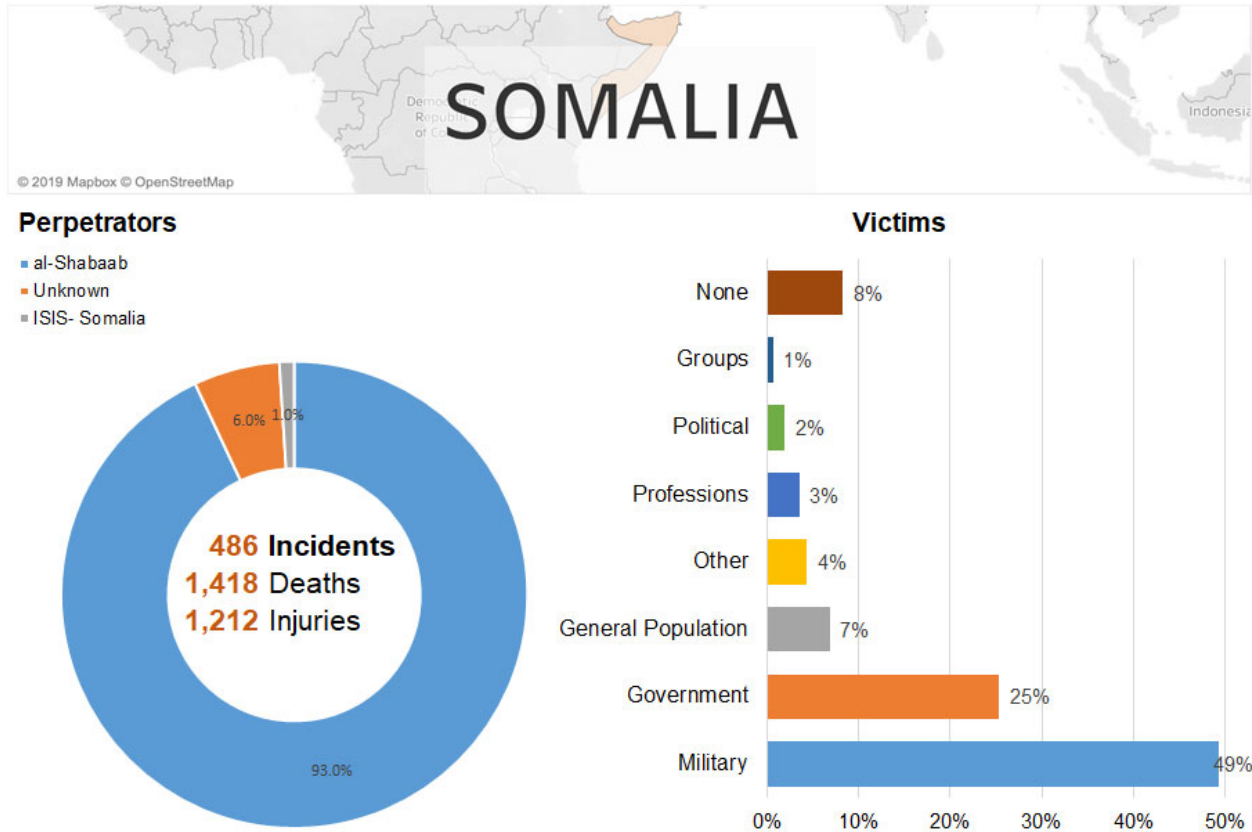


In 2019, there were 540 incidents in Iraq, with 1,671 casualties (4 percent of the global total of casualties). This constitutes a 29 percent decrease in incidents from 2018 and a 50 percent decrease in casualties from 2018.

ISIS was the main perpetrator of incidents in Iraq in 2019, responsible for 68 percent of incidents. Unlike in the past, in some cases, ISIS did not claim various attacks. The PKK was responsible for less than 1 percent of incidents. Other groups, such as Iran-backed Kata'ib Hizballah, were also active in Iraq and targeted U.S and Defeat-ISIS forces. Almost 31 percent of incidents in Iraq were not attributed to a particular perpetrator group.

Common attack types in Iraq included planted mines/IEDs (41 percent), shootings (31 percent), and bombings (10 percent). In June, following Ramadan, ISIS started to burn fields of crops in the northern and western provinces. These incidents were recorded throughout the second half of the year.

Forty percent of terrorist incidents in Iraq in 2019 primarily targeted the general population. Other prominent targeted groups included government (24 percent), military (14 percent), and other victims (12 percent): consisting of other perpetrators, members of terrorist or militant groups, or pro-government forces. In Iraq, the provinces that experienced the most incidents were Diyala with 146 incidents (44 percent), Kirkuk with 91 incidents (17 percent), and Baghdad with 60 incidents (11 percent).



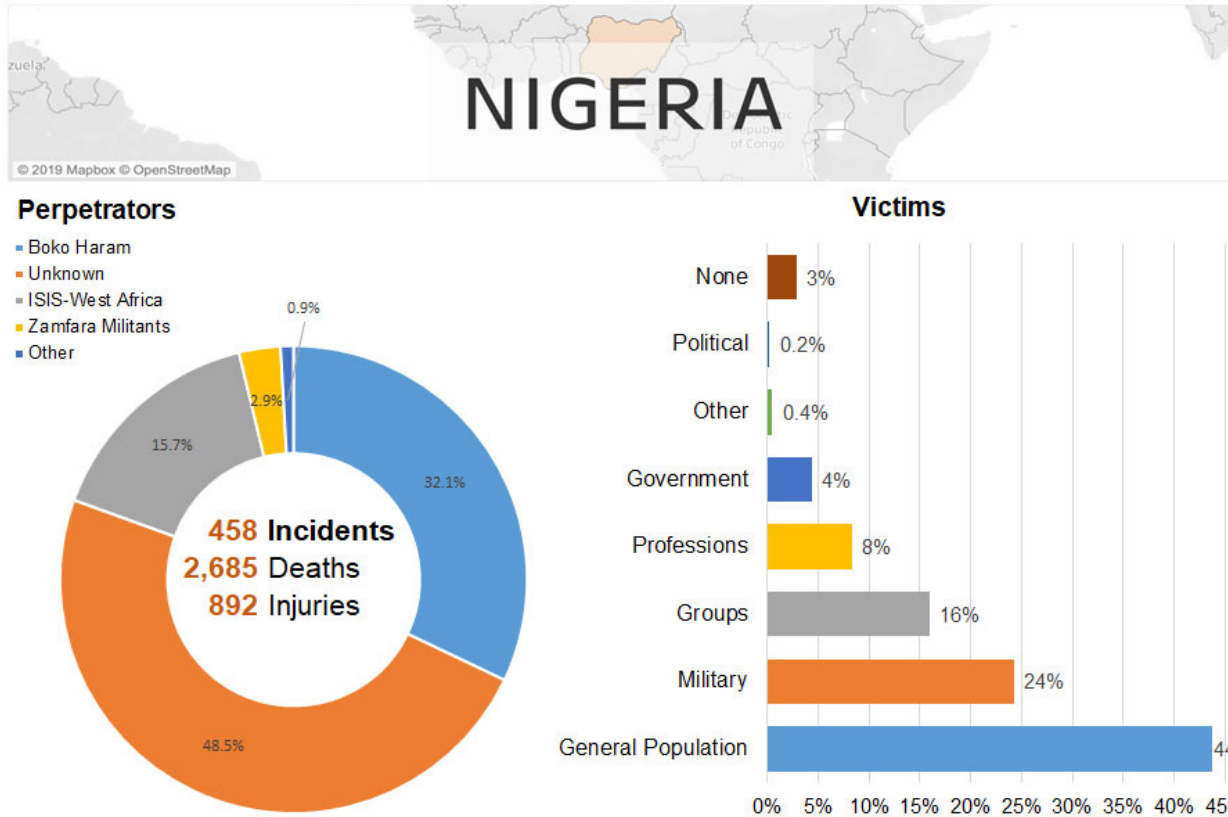
In 2019, there were 486 incidents in Somalia with 2,630 casualties (6 percent of the global total of casualties). This constitutes an 8 percent decrease in incidents from 2018, as well as a 24 percent decrease in casualties from 2018.

Al-Shabaab was the main perpetrator of incidents in Somalia in 2019, responsible for 93 percent of incidents. ISIS-Somalia was responsible for 1 percent. Six percent of incidents in Somalia were not attributed to a perpetrator group.

Common attack types in Somalia included shootings (48 percent), planted mines/IEDs (24 percent), and bombings (10 percent).

Forty-nine percent of terrorist incidents in Somalia in 2019 primarily targeted the military. Other prominent targeted groups included government (25 percent) and the general population (7 percent).

In Somalia, the provinces that experienced the most incidents were Shabeellaha Hoose with 145 incidents (30 percent), Banaadir with 143 incidents (29 percent), and Jubbada Hoose with 43 incidents (9 percent).



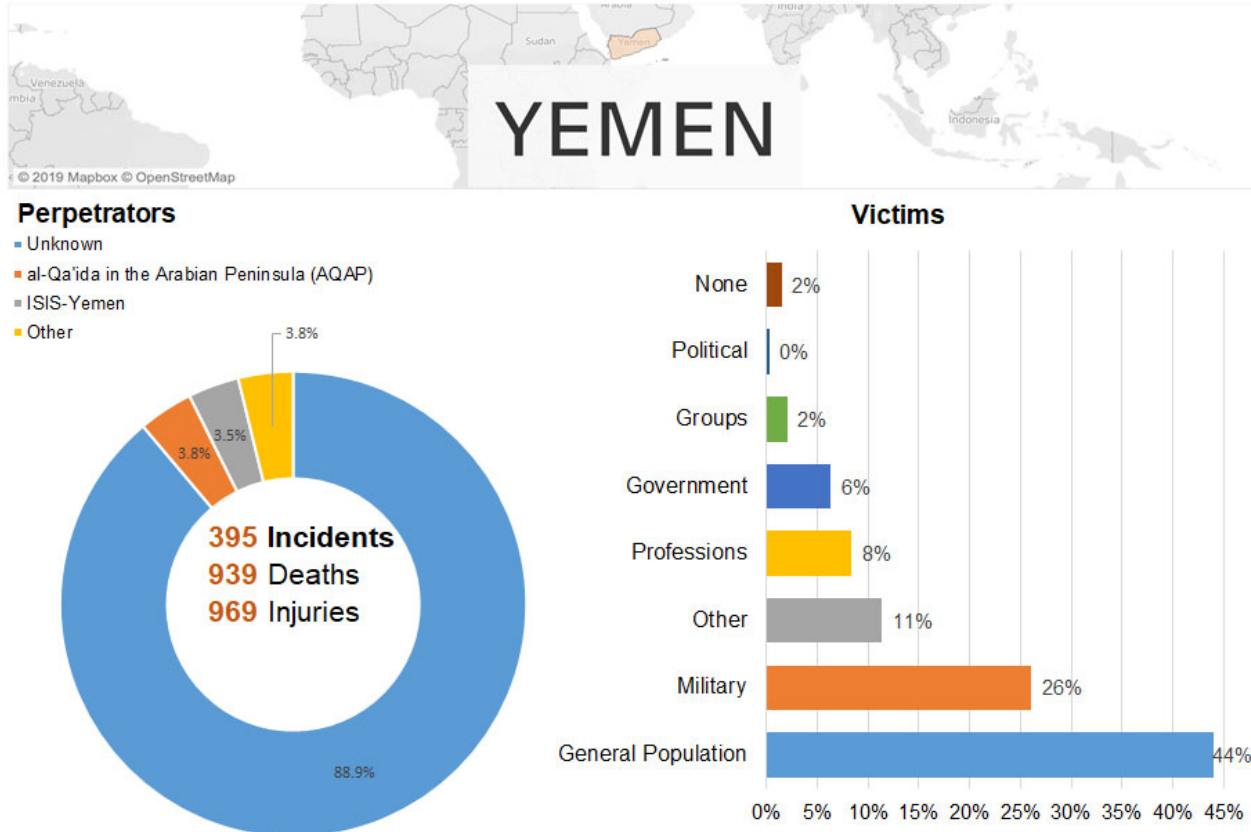
In 2019, there were 458 incidents in Nigeria, with 3,577 casualties (8 percent of the global total of casualties). This constitutes a 16 percent decrease in incidents from 2018, as well as a 20 percent decrease in casualties from 2018.

Boko Haram was the main known perpetrator of incidents in Nigeria in 2019, responsible for 32 percent of all incidents. ISIS-West Africa was responsible for 16 percent of all incidents. As noted earlier, local sources do not always differentiate between Boko Haram and ISIS-West Africa. Other groups such as the Zamfara Militants and the Tiv Militia were also active in Nigeria. Nearly 49 percent of incidents in Nigeria were not attributed to a particular perpetrator group.

Common attack types in Nigeria included shootings (66 percent), hostage-taking/kidnapping (6 percent), and multiple-location attacks (5 percent).

Forty-four percent of terrorist incidents primarily targeted the general population in Nigeria in 2019. Other prominent targeted groups included the military (24 percent) and specific groups of civilians (16 percent): consisting of those identified by gender, identified by race or ethnicity, identified by religion (Muslim, Christian or other religion), refugees/internally displaced persons, and students/children.

In Nigeria, the states that experienced the most incidents were Borno with 178 incidents (40 percent), Kaduna with 42 incidents (10 percent), and Adamawa with 32 incidents (7 percent).



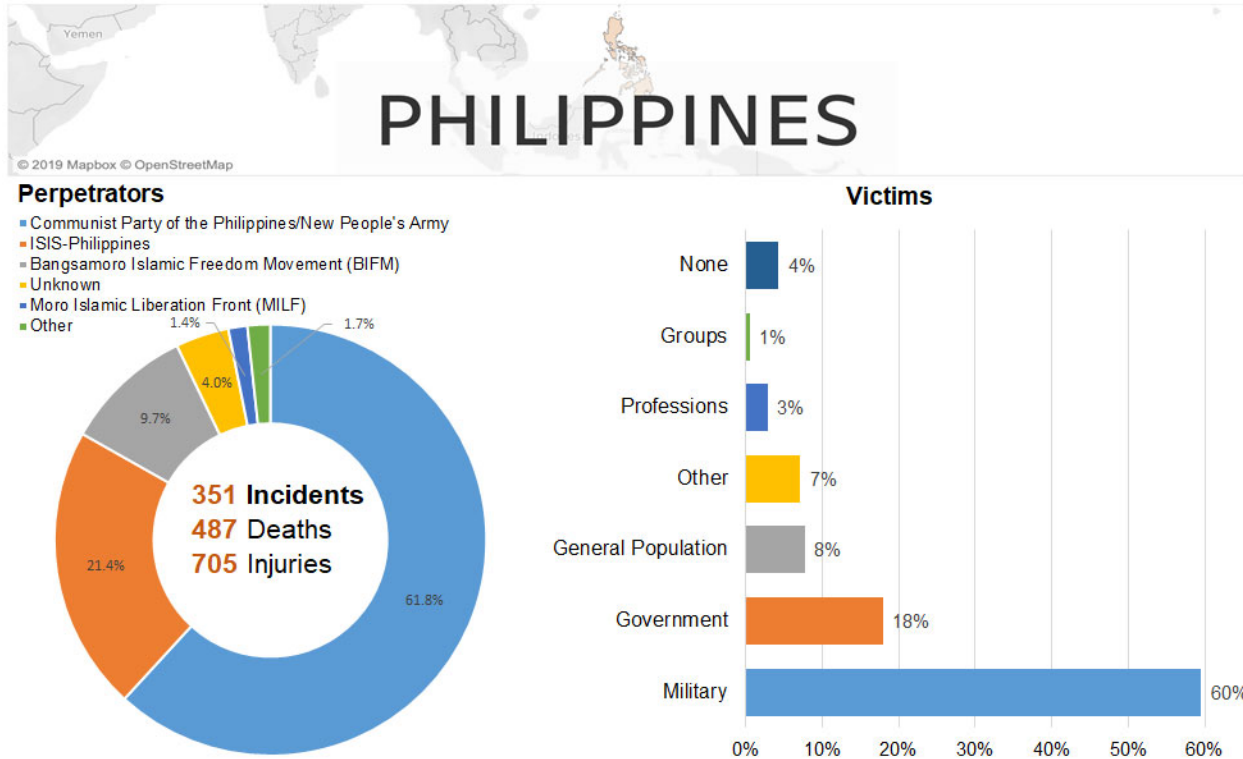
In 2019, there were 395 incidents in Yemen, with 1,908 casualties (4 percent of the global total of casualties). This constitutes a 76 percent increase in incidents from 2018, as well as a 54 percent decrease in casualties in 2018.

In Yemen, almost 89 percent of the incidents were attributed to unknown perpetrators. AQAP perpetrated almost 4 percent. ISIS-Yemen was responsible for 4 percent of incidents, and another 4 percent of incidents were attributed to Other perpetrators. Additionally, there was fragmentation taking place between some of the major groups; Abd-Alraheem Mufthal group attacked Ayad al-Abiadh group, and Abu Sajid Suliaman group attacked Abu Shaddad group.

Common attack types in Yemen included bombings (29 percent), shootings (25 percent), and planted mines/IEDs (22 percent).

Forty-four percent of terrorist incidents primarily targeted the general population in Yemen in 2019. Other prominent targeted groups included military (26 percent) and other victims (11 percent): consisting of informants, other perpetrators, or members of terrorist or militant groups, or pro-government forces.

In Yemen, the provinces that experienced the most incidents were al Hudaydah with 103 incidents (26 percent), Taizz with 54 incidents (14 percent), and Ad Dali with 36 incidents (9 percent).



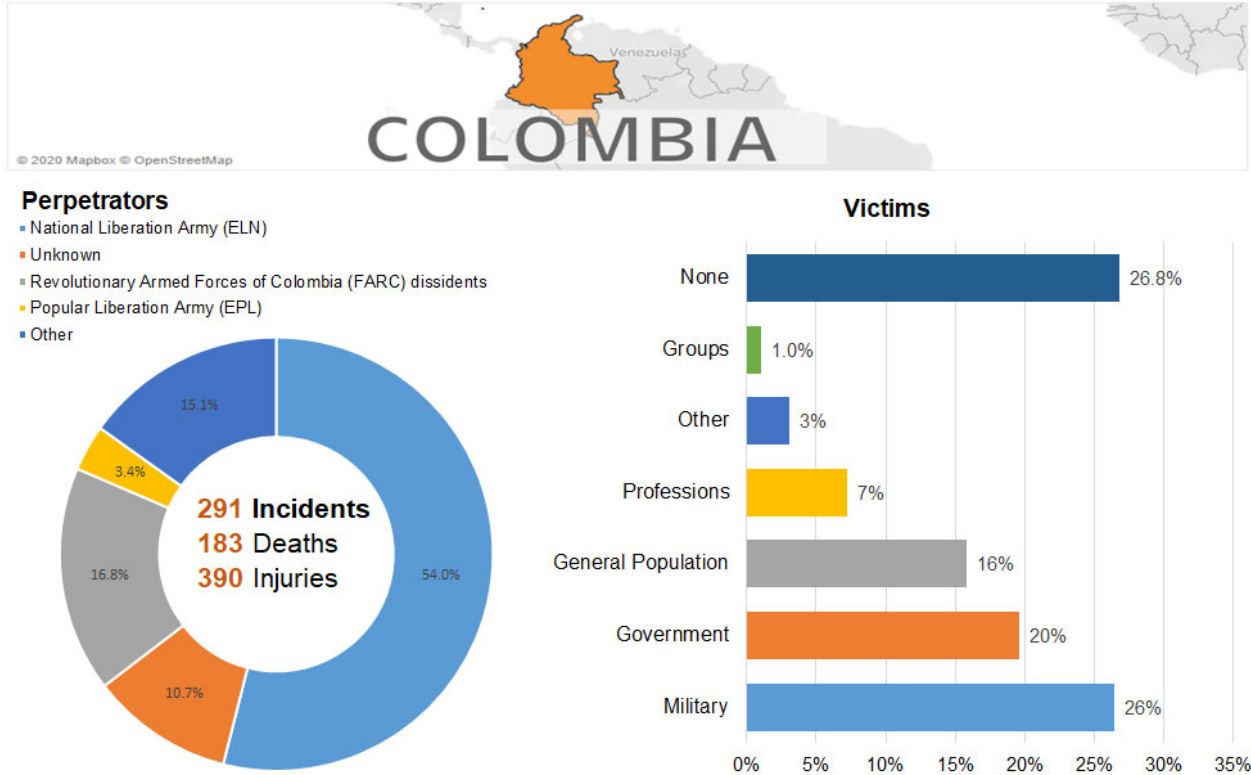
In 2019, there were 351 incidents in the Philippines, with 1,192 casualties (3 percent of the global total of casualties). This constitutes a less than 0.3 percent increase in incidents over 2018, as well as a 7 percent increase in casualties.

The Communist Party of the Philippines/News People’s Army was the main perpetrator of incidents in the Philippines in 2019, responsible for 62 percent of all incidents. ISIS-Philippines was responsible for 21 percent of incidents. Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Movement was responsible for 10 percent of incidents. Other groups such as the Moro Islamic Liberation Front were also active in the Philippines. Four percent of incidents in the Philippines were not attributed to a specific perpetrator group.

Common attack types in the Philippines included shootings (75 percent), planted mines/IEDs (8 percent), and bombings (3 percent).

Sixty percent of terrorist incidents primarily targeted the military in the Philippines in 2019. Other prominent targeted groups included government (18 percent) and the general population (8 percent).

In the Philippines in 2019, the provinces that experienced the most incidents were Sulu with 60 incidents (17 percent), Negros Occidental with 43 incidents (12 percent), and Maguindanao with 33 incidents (9 percent).



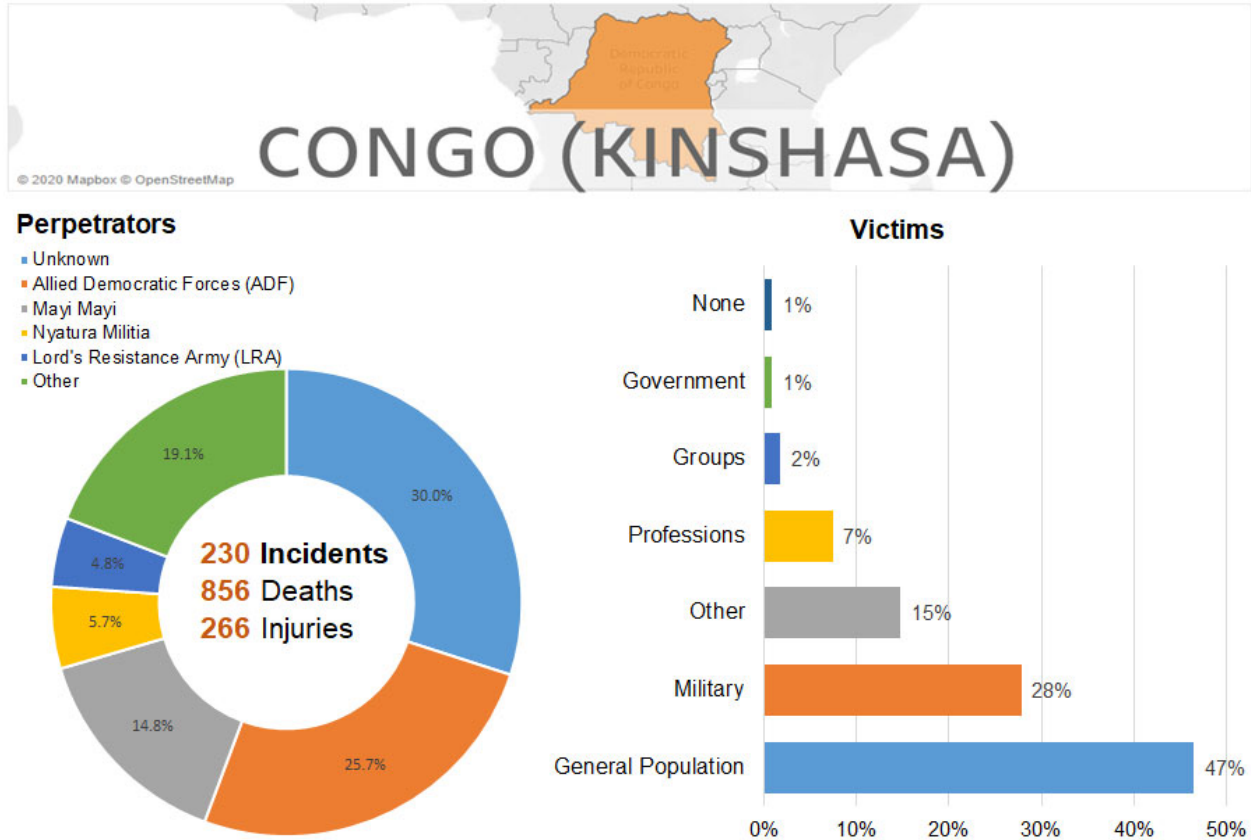
In 2019, there were 291 incidents in Colombia, with 573 casualties (around 1 percent of the global total of casualties). While Colombia made the top 10 list of most terrorism incidents, it did not make the list for top 10 countries with the most casualties. In 2019, Colombia experienced a 140 percent increase in incidents from 2018.

ELN was the main perpetrator of incidents in Colombia in 2019, responsible for 54 percent of incidents. The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) dissidents were responsible for 17 percent of incidents. Other groups such as the Popular Liberation Army were also active in Colombia. Fifteen percent of incidents in Colombia could not be attributed to a perpetrator group.

Common attack types in Colombia included shootings (29 percent), planted mines/IEDs (21 percent), and sabotage (13 percent).

Roughly 26 percent of terrorist incidents primarily targeted military personnel in Colombia in 2019. Other prominent targeted groups included government (20 percent), and the general population (16 percent).

In Colombia, the states that experienced the most incidents were Norte de Santander with 74 incidents (25 percent), Arauca with 66 incidents (23 percent), and Cauca with 40 incidents (14 percent).



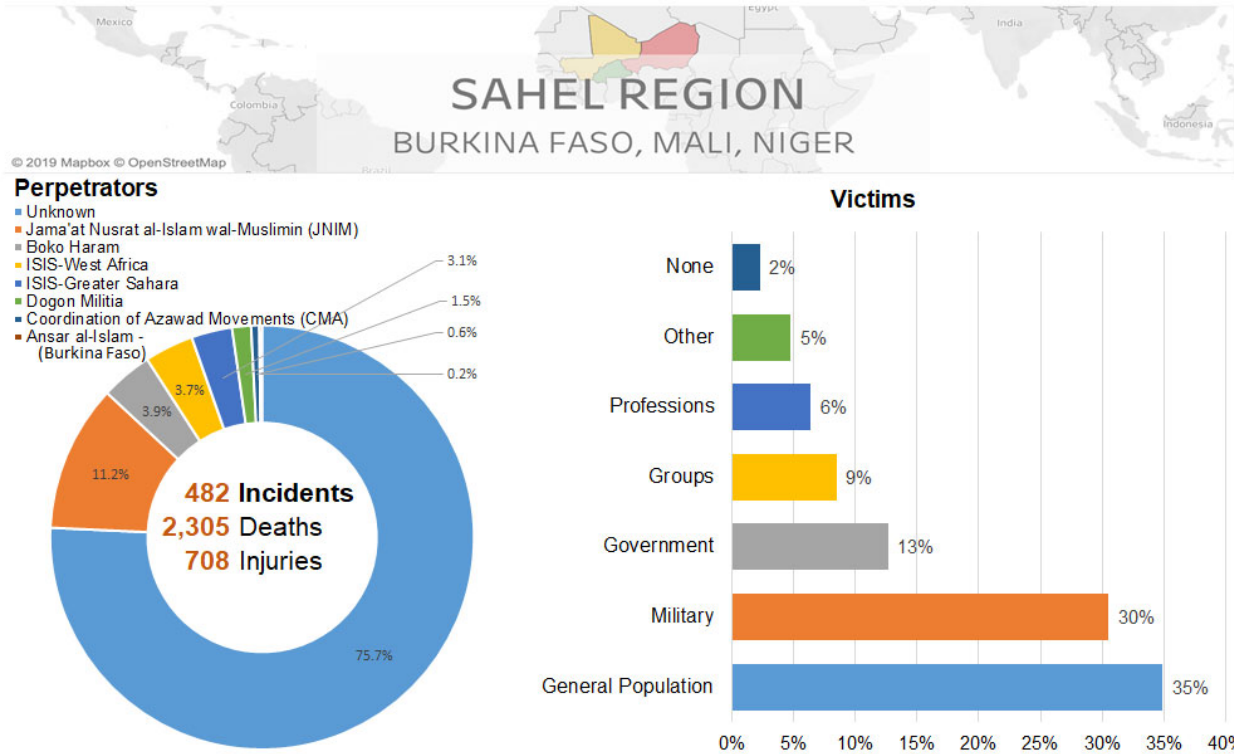
In 2019, there were 230 incidents in Congo (Kinshasa), with 1,122 casualties (2.5 percent of the global total of casualties). While Congo (Kinshasa) made the top 10 list of countries with the most terrorism incidents, it did not make the list for top 10 countries with the most casualties. In 2019, Congo (Kinshasa) experienced a 24 percent increase in incidents over 2018.

The Allied Democratic Forces were the main perpetrator of incidents in Congo (Kinshasa) in 2019, responsible for 26 percent of incidents. The Mayi Mayi Militia was responsible for 15 percent of incidents. Other groups — such as the Nyatura Militia, and ISIS-Central Africa — were also active in Congo (Kinshasa). Thirty percent of incidents in Congo (Kinshasa) could not be attributed to a perpetrator group.

Common attack types in Congo (Kinshasa) included shootings (63 percent), kidnappings/hostage taking (10 percent), and ambushes (4 percent).

Nearly 47 percent of terrorist incidents primarily targeted the general population in Congo (Kinshasa) in 2019. Other prominent targeted groups included the military (28 percent), and other victims (15 percent): consisting of other perpetrators or members of terrorist or militant groups.

In Congo (Kinshasa), the states that experienced the most incidents were Nord-Kivu with 116 incidents (50 percent), Oriental with 25 incidents (11 percent), and Sud-Kivu with 23 incidents (10 percent).



In the Sahel, terrorist groups — including affiliates and adherents of al-Qa’ida, ISIS, and non-aligned groups — have expanded their operations in north and central Mali and the tri-border region of Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger. The number of incidents nearly doubled in 2018 and continued to climb in 2019.

In 2019, there were 482 incidents in the Sahel, with 3,013 casualties (7 percent of the global total). This constitutes a 54 percent increase in incidents from 2018, as well as a 55 percent increase in casualties from 2018.

Burkina Faso

In 2019, there were 206 incidents in Burkina Faso with 1,142 casualties. This represents a 58 percent increase in terrorist activity and a 219 percent increase in casualties over 2018.

Jama’at Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimin was the main perpetrator of incidents in Burkina Faso in 2019, responsible for 11 incidents (5 percent). ISIS-Greater Sahara was responsible for three incidents (1.5 percent). Other groups, such as ISIS-West Africa and Ansar al-Islam, were also active in Burkina Faso. Ninety-two percent of incidents in Burkina Faso could not be attributed to a particular perpetrator group.

Common attack types in Burkina Faso included shootings (66 percent), ambushes (7 percent), and property damage (6 percent).

Twenty-eight percent of terrorist incidents in Burkina Faso in 2019 primarily targeted the general population. Other prominent targeted groups included military (25 percent) and government (19 percent).

In Burkina Faso, the provinces that experienced the most incidents were Soum (23 percent), Sanmatenga (9 percent), and Bam (8 percent).

Mali

In 2019, there were 221 incidents in Mali with 1,468 casualties. While Mali experienced a 35 percent increase in terrorist activity over 2018, it experienced only a 6 percent increase in casualties over 2018.

Jamaat Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimin was the main perpetrator of incidents in Mali in 2019, responsible for 43 incidents (20 percent). The Dogon Militia was responsible for seven incidents (3 percent). ISIS-Greater Sahara was responsible for four incidents (2 percent). Seventy percent of incidents in Mali were not attributed to a specific perpetrator group.

Common attack types in Mali included shootings (61 percent), planted mines/IEDs (24 percent), and kidnappings (3 percent).

Thirty-seven percent of terrorist incidents in Mali primarily targeted the general population in 2019. Other prominent targeted groups included military (35 percent) and groups (9 percent): consisting of those identified by race or ethnicity and refugees or internally displaced persons.

In Mali, the provinces that experienced the most incidents were Mopti (58 percent), Gao (9 percent), and Tombouctou (5 percent).

Niger

In 2019, there were 55 incidents in Niger, with 403 casualties. This constitutes a 175 percent increase in terrorist activity from 2018 and a 102 percent increase in casualties from 2018.

Boko Haram was the main perpetrator of incidents in Niger in 2019, responsible for 19 incidents (35 percent). ISIS-West Africa was responsible for 14 incidents (26 percent). Twenty-two percent of incidents in Niger could not be attributed to a specific perpetrator.

Common attack types in Niger included shootings (51 percent), kidnappings (11 percent), and suicide bombings (11 percent).

Forty-two percent of terrorist incidents in Niger primarily targeted the general population. Other prominent targeted groups included military (33 percent) and government (18 percent).

In Niger, the provinces that experienced the most terrorism were Diffa (44 percent), Tillabe (26 percent), and Niamey (7 percent).