ACTION ON ARMED VIOLENCE

A DECADE OF MASS CIVILIAN CASUALTY EVENTS FROM IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES (IEDs)
Themes, Patterns and Outcomes Examined

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Over the past decade, Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) have continued to pose a substantial lethal threat to civilians worldwide.

2013-2022:
- 11,099 IED attacks - 36% of the total 30,433 incidents of explosive weapons use in that time
- 114,478 civilian casualties - 47% of the total 245,841 civilian casualties of explosive weapons use
- 93 countries
The 100 most injurious IED attacks over the past decade killed and injured 24,024 civilians (6,935 killed, 17,089 injured) across 20 countries.
83% of civilian casualties

CONFLICT CONTEXT

- Non-international armed conflict: 20,013
- Chronic insecurity: 2,962
- International Coalition: 1049

Incidents: Yellow, Civilian casualties: Red
INSTABILITY

- Lebanon: 1449 incidents, 1 civilian casualty
- Sri Lanka: 753 incidents, 1 civilian casualty
- Chad: 230 incidents, 1 civilian casualty
- Kuwait: 227 incidents, 1 civilian casualty
- Cameroon: 162 incidents, 1 civilian casualty
- Saudi Arabia: 141 incidents, 1 civilian casualty

Legend:
- Orange: Incidents
- Red: Civilian casualties
Socio-Political Context

49% of civilian casualties

Islamist insurgency: 11,791 incidents
Sectarian violence: 6,690 civilian casualties
Anti-Government: 5,543 incidents

Incidents vs. Civilian Casualties
SECTARIAN VIOLENCE

Pakistan: 8 Incidents, 141 Civilian casualties
Afghanistan: 7 Incidents, 1393 Civilian casualties
Nigeria: 4 Incidents, 884 Civilian casualties
Iraq: 4 Incidents, 739 Civilian casualties
Yemen: 1 Incidents, 482 Civilian casualties
Syria: 2 Incidents, 386 Civilian casualties
Lebanon: 1 Incidents, 282 Civilian casualties
Kuwait: 1 Incidents, 227 Civilian casualties
Thailand: 1 Incidents, 145 Civilian casualties
Saudi Arabia: 1 Incidents, 141 Civilian casualties

Legend:
- Gold: Incidents
- Red: Civilian casualties
ACTION ON ARMED VIOLENCE

PERPETRATORS
The Islamic State caused 45% of civilian casualties.
ACTION ON ARMED VIOLENCE

IED TYPE
Non-specific IEDs account for 50% of civilian casualties.
SUICIDE ATTACKS

79 Incidents

18,955 Civilian casualties

- Suicide (79%)
- No suicide (21%)

- Suicide (78.9%)
- No suicide (21.1%)
LOCATIONS OF SUICIDE ATTACKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Incidents</th>
<th>Civilian Casualties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Place of worship</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>2436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple (urban)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public gathering</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2238</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public building</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial premises</td>
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<td>1634</td>
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<tr>
<td>Market</td>
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<td>1568</td>
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<td>Transport related infrastructure</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Entertainment</td>
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<td>1009</td>
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<td>Town centre</td>
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<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotel</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

20% of the suicide attacks occurred in places of worship.
TIMINGS OF SUICIDE ATTACKS

53% of the suicide attacks took place over the weekend.
Attacks targeting civilians caused 43% of civilian casualties.

### INTENDED TARGETS

- **Civilians**: 10387
- **Not reported**: 10082
- **State (armed)**: 1997
- **State (unarmed)**: 4
- **Armed Groups**: 888
- **International Actor (unarmed)**: 531
- **International Actor (unarmed)**: 1

**Incidents** vs. **Civilian casualties**

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*Source: AOAV (Action on Armed Violence)*
TARGETING CIVILIANS

61% of attacks targeting civilians took place over the weekend.
COUNTRIES AND LOCATIONS
Afghanistan accounts for 21% of civilian casualties.
LOCATIONS

- Place of worship: 4107
- Urban: 4097
- Public gathering: 2701
- Market: 2466
- Public building: 2238
- Transport infrastructure: 1707
- Commercial premises: 1634
- Entertainment: 1244
- Road: 963
- Town centre: 924
- School: 659
- Police station: 481
- Public transport: 224
- No information: 218
- Hospital: 190
- Hotel: 171

Places of worship account for 17% of civilian casualties.
Weekends account for 60% of civilian casualties.
ACTION ON ARMED VIOLENCE

COUNTER-TERRORISM MEASURES
CONCLUSION

- Persistent patterns of violence underscoring the urgent need for concerted international efforts to address the threat of IEDs
- Suicide bombings
- Islamist sectarian violence
- Places of worship
- Weekend
- 26-40 degrees celsius
THANK YOU

ACTION ON ARMED VIOLENCE

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https://aoav.org.uk/