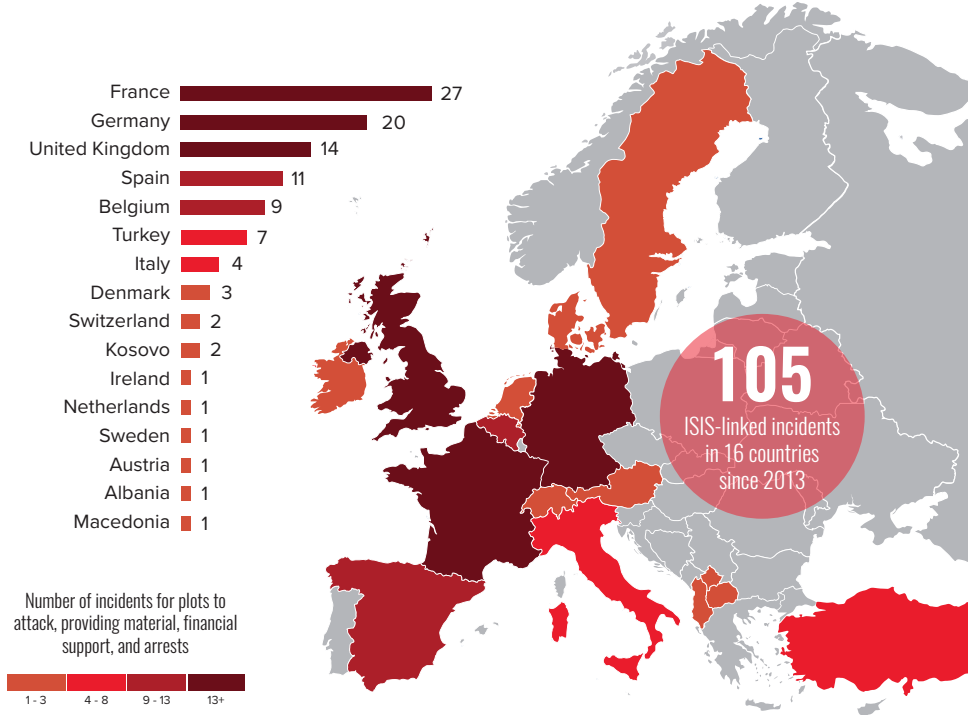




## TERROR CAMPAIGN IN EUROPE

ISIS-linked incidents in Europe since 2013



## ISIS-LINKED PLOTS AGAINST THE WEST

Incidents since 2013 broken down by weapon\*



**70 CASES**

ISIS used or attempted to build or use explosives



**16 CASES**

Of a vehicle being used as a weapon



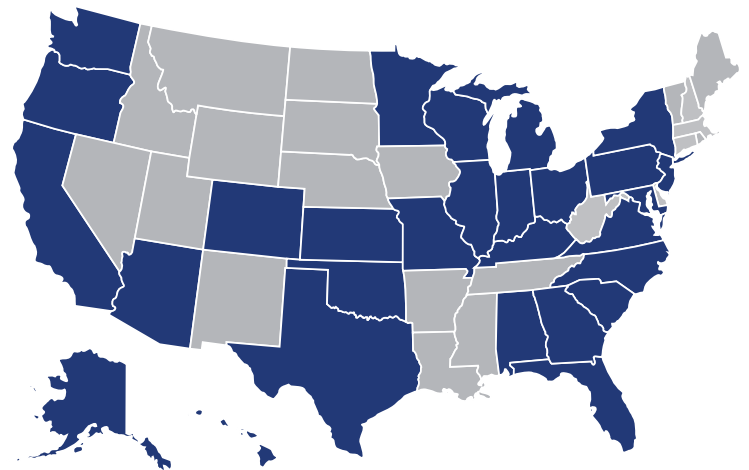
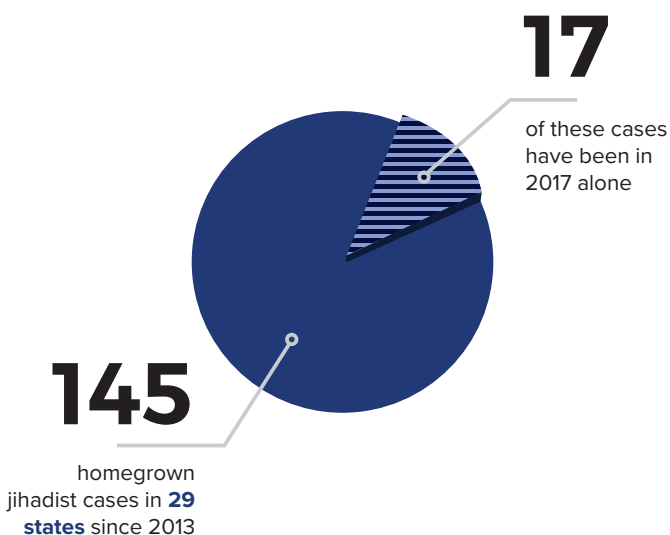
**50 CASES**

Where an edged weapon was used

This document is produced by the Majority Staff of the House Homeland Security Committee. It is based on information culled from open source materials. Plots and attacks utilizing multiple weapons are included in the totals for each weapon.

## THE PERSISTENT TERROR THREAT TO AMERICA

Homegrown jihadist cases include plots to attack, overseas travel, financial support, lying to authorities, and weapons charges



Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin

## KEY POINTS

- ◆ Western foreign fighters who have travelled to join ISIS continue to be of concern, as they begin [returning home](#). Some countries have responded by [stripping those involved of citizenship](#) and others by [freezing known militant's assets](#).
- ◆ As ISIS continues to lose territory, they have begun [calling for more attacks](#) in the West, the effect of which was seen in the [coordinated attacks in Spain](#).
- ◆ Cases of Islamist extremism continue to challenge security services in Europe. Since 2013 there have been 105 ISIS attacks, arrests, and plots in 16 countries.<sup>1</sup> The most highly impacted countries are France, with 27 ISIS incidents, Germany, with 20, and the U.K. with 14. European foreign terrorist fighters returning from Syria and Iraq [remain a high priority](#) for security services in the region.
- ◆ Coordinated counterterrorism efforts around the world have resulted in senior members from ISIS, the Taliban, Boko Haram, and al Shabaab being eliminated.
- ◆ Coalition forces [continue to make progress](#) in reclaiming Tal Afar, Iraq, one of the last ISIS strongholds. The city sits on a major supply route between Mosul and the Syrian border. On August 31, the Prime Minister of Iraq [declared the city liberated](#).

## HOMEGROWN ISLAMIST EXTREMISM

- ◆ Cases of homegrown Islamist extremism in the U.S. are on the rise as U.S. persons continue to radicalize. Since the September 11 attacks, there have been 215 homegrown jihadist arrests in the United States, of which 137 were ISIS-related.<sup>2</sup>

## Recent Developments

- ◆ [August 29, 2017](#): Parveg Ahmed, 22, of Queens, New York, was arrested for attempting to provide material support to ISIS. Ahmed claimed he travelled to Saudi Arabia in June 2017 for a religious holiday, however while there he attempted to travel to ISIS-held territory in Syria.

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<sup>1</sup> These figures are based on open-source data compiled and analyzed by the Majority Staff of the Homeland Security Committee.

<sup>2</sup> These figures are based on open-source data compiled and analyzed by the Majority Staff of the Homeland Security Committee.

## ISIS TERROR PLOTS AGAINST THE WEST

### Recent Developments

- ◆ [August 16, 2017](#): Imam Abdelbaki Es Satty, 45, Yousef Aallaa, 22, were killed and Mohamed Houli Chemlal, arrested following an explosion in Alcanar, Spain. Satty and Aallaa were killed in the blast, and Chemlal was wounded. Police found 120 gas canisters, and Chemlal later confirmed that they were planning to use them to attack multiple targets.
- ◆ [August 17, 2017](#): Younes Abouyaaqoub, 22, attacked civilians in Las Ramblas, Barcelona. Abouyaaqoub drove a van through a pedestrian area for over a mile, before exiting the vehicle and escaping on foot. He fled the scene in a stolen car after stabbing the driver to death. The attack killed 14 and wounded dozens.
- ◆ [August 18, 2017](#): Houssaine Aqouyaaqoub, Mohamed Hychami, 24, Omar Hychami Moussa Oukabir, and Said Aallaa, 18, attacked pedestrians in Cambrils, Spain. The group rammed a crowd with a car, which overturned. All five emerged from the car armed with knives and axes and before a policeman opened fire. Four of the attackers were immediately killed, but the fifth managed to stab a woman before being shot and killed. [One person died and six were wounded](#) in the attack.
- ◆ [August 21, 2017](#): Younes Abouyaaqoub was killed by police after a tip lead them to Subirats, a town west of Barcelona. Abouyaaqoub was found wearing a fake suicide vest and in possession of number of knives.
- ◆ [August 21, 2017](#): Spanish security services confirmed that the attacks were all linked and believed to have been organized by Imam Abdelbaki Es Satty, who died in the Alcanar explosion on August 16. The cell was planning a larger attack, but the explosion forced them to change their plan. Es Satty is believed to be responsible for radicalizing the other attackers and ISIS has claimed responsibility for the attacks.
- ◆ [August 21, 2017](#): Amer Khayyat, Khaled Khayyat, and Mahmoud Khayyat attempted to bomb a flight originating from Sydney, Australia. Amer attempted to smuggle an explosive, hidden in a toy doll and meat grinder, onto the flight and planned to detonate the explosive during the flight. His bag was overweight, and he was unable to get the explosive on board. He was detained in Lebanon, and Khaled and Mahmoud were arrested in Sydney. The three are brothers, and their fourth brother, Tarek, is a senior member of ISIS.

- ◆ [August 31, 2017](#): Dilshod Khusanov, 31, an Uzbek citizen living in Chicago, was arrested by the FBI on terrorism charges. Khusanov is accused of conspiring with a network of six others to provide support to ISIS and al-Nusrah Front.

## **THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST ISLAMIST TERROR**

### ***ISIS***

#### **Operations Against ISIS**

- ◆ [August 17, 2017](#): U.S.-led coalition forces launched 29 strikes on key ISIS targets in both Iraq and Syria. The targets included oil stills and tankers, tactical units, headquarters buildings, communications arrays, vehicles, and a command-and-control node.
- ◆ [August 22, 2017](#): The Israeli government stripped 20 Israelis of their citizenship for joining ISIS, after security services provided a list of known Israeli ISIS members. A law enabling the government to strip citizenship from those who join foreign terrorist organizations went into effect days before the announcement.
- ◆ [August 24, 2017](#): Iraqi forces gained significant ground in their operation to retake the city of Tal Afar, one of ISIS' last remaining strongholds. The city is west of Mosul and an estimated 2,000 militants remain in Tal Afar.
- ◆ [August 30, 2017](#): U.S. warplanes blocked a convoy of ISIS militants from evacuating a besieged town near the Lebanese-Syrian border, after Hezbollah negotiated the militants' safe passage. The convoy was headed toward an ISIS-controlled town on the Syrian-Iraqi border when U.S. warplanes cratered the road and destroyed a bridge to halt the groups' progress. The planes did not target the convoy itself, as approximately 300 family members are also traveling with the militants.

#### **Notable ISIS Members Targeted**

- ◆ [August 3, 2017](#): U.S.-led coalition forces confirmed the deaths of several ISIS leaders: Abd al-Ghafur, an external operations officer; his assistant Abu Hammam; Abu Futtum, an explosives specialist; Jetmir Ismaili, an external terror attack planner; Razim Kastrati, an external terror attack coordinator; and Orhan Ramadani, an external terror attack planner.
- ◆ [August 14, 2017](#): Abdul Rahman, ISIS' provincial emir in Afghanistan's Kunar province, was killed in a U.S. airstrike.

## **Recent Non-Western ISIS Plots/Attacks**

- ◆ [August 12, 2017](#): 15 were killed and approximately 40 were wounded by an ISIS militant in Quetta, Pakistan. The ISIS attacker used an explosive-laden motorcycle to charge a paramilitary patrol near a crowded marketplace.
- ◆ [August 15, 2017](#): Four unidentified men were arrested for plotting suicide attacks in Moscow, Russia. Security services stated that two of the four were planning suicide attacks on the metro system and a shopping mall. The men have all been identified as members of ISIS.
- ◆ [August 19, 2017](#): An unidentified man stabbed seven people in Surgut, Russia. The man acted alone and stabbed people at random before being shot dead by police. He has been identified as a member of ISIS.
- ◆ [August 25, 2017](#): ISIS-K militants attacked a Shiite mosque in Kabul, Afghanistan. Four gunmen killed the security guard outside, before storming the mosque during evening prayers. Two of the attackers were suicide bombers, and the others were eliminated by security forces. 20 people have been reported killed and over 50 wounded.

## ***BOKO HARAM***

- ◆ [August 2, 2017](#): Members of a Nigerian oil prospecting team were kidnapped by Boko Haram. The resulting rescue attempt left 37 dead, including members of the team, military troops, and militants.
- ◆ [August 6, 2017](#): A suicide bomber left seven dead near Amchide, Cameroon. Although no group has claimed responsibility, the region has become a frequent target for Boko Haram.

## ***TALIBAN***

- ◆ [August 5, 2017](#): Taliban insurgents launched an attack on the Sayad district in northern Afghanistan. The coordinated effort killed at least seven members of the Afghan security forces and a provincial official. The insurgents seized a strategic area in Sayad earlier that day. The provincial governor's spokesman stated that they had requested reinforcements from the central government, but never received them.

- ◆ [August 7, 2017](#): A Taliban truck bombing wounded 11 civilians and two U.S. soldiers at a U.S. military base in Logar province, Afghanistan. The bomb was in a truck carrying building supplies, and had passed through one security checkpoint before detonating.
- ◆ [August 13, 2017](#): Taliban militants seized the district headquarters of Faryab province, in northern Afghanistan. Afghan security forces withdrew to prevent civilian casualties, allowing the Taliban seized control.
- ◆ [August 23, 2017](#): A Taliban suicide car bomber killed seven in Helmand province, Afghanistan. The attacker appears to have been targeting a military convoy, but civilians were also killed in the attack.

## **AL SHABAAB**

### **Notable al Shabaab Members Targeted**

- ◆ [August 4, 2017](#): Ali Muhammad Hussein, a senior al Shabaab commander, was killed in U.S. airstrikes near Tortorow, Somalia. Hussein was responsible for leading forces in Mogadishu and Banadiir.
- ◆ [August 13, 2017](#): Mukhtar Robow Ali, deputy leader, spokesman, and co-founder of al Shabaab, surrendered to Somali authorities in Hudur, Somalia.

### **Recent Non-Western al Shabaab Plots/Attacks**

- ◆ [August 18, 2017](#): Three people were killed by al Shabaab in the Kenyan coastal town of Maleli. The civilians were rounded up by al Shabaab gunmen and beheaded.

### **SELECT PLOTS/ATTACKS BY OTHER ISLAMIST EXTREMISTS**

- ◆ [August 1, 2017](#): A Shiite mosque was attacked by a suicide bomber and a gunman in western Afghanistan. The two men entered the mosque shooting and throwing grenades, before the bomber detonated his vest. No group claimed responsibility for the attack, which left 29 dead and 64 wounded.
- ◆ [August 9, 2017](#): An unidentified man was arrested by French police after ramming his car into a group of soldiers outside of Paris. Six soldiers and three policemen were wounded in the attack and resulting chase and arrest. The man appears to have acted alone but the

attack has been described as a “terrorist undertaking” by the prosecutor assigned to the case.

- ◆ [August 14, 2017](#): Abdurahman Kaabar, 22, was charged with seven offences under the Terrorism Act in Sheffield, England. The charges include “possessing a record of a kind likely to be useful to a person committing or preparing an act of terrorism” as well as distributing terrorist publications.
- ◆ [August 15, 2017](#): Salvador Muktadil, a senior Abu Sayyaf commander, was killed in a naval counter-operation by the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Muktadil specialized in organizing and executing kidnappings.
- ◆ [August 18, 2017](#): Abderrahman Mechkah, 18, a Moroccan asylum-seeker, killed two and wounded eight in a knife attack in Turku, Finland. Additional arrests have been made in connection with the attack. The attacker reportedly used false identities in Germany and was arrested for “causing bodily harm.”
- ◆ [August 22, 2017](#): Two unidentified men, aged 30 and 32, were arrested by counter terrorism police for unspecified charges in Warrington, England.
- ◆ [August 21, 2017](#): A roadside bomb in northern Mali wounded 9 U.N. peacekeepers. No group has claimed responsibility, but there are several active Islamist extremist groups operating in the region.
- ◆ [August 21, 2017](#): Abu Sayyaf militants killed nine and wounded 16 in an attack on a village on Basilan island in the Philippines. Approximately 20 militants opened fire on the villagers before torching buildings. Government forces were able to repel the attack after additional troops arrived.
- ◆ [August 23, 2017](#): A concert was cancelled in Rotterdam, Netherlands after security services received reliable information about an imminent terror attack from Spanish authorities. One man was arrested, and subsequently released. A second, unidentified 22-year-old man was arrested on August 24. There is no apparent connection between the planned attack and the recent attacks in Spain.
- ◆ [August 25, 2017](#): Five unidentified militants were arrested in West Java, Indonesia for planning an attack on a significant government target. The militants were plotting to create a dirty bomb using radioactive material and a homemade explosive compound. The militants are suspected members of Jamaah Ansharut Daulah (JAD) an ISIS-alligned Islamist extremist group.

- ◆ [August 25, 2017](#): An unidentified Somali man in his 30s attacked Belgian soldiers in Brussels, Belgium. The man allegedly shouted “Allahu Akbar” before attempting to stab the soldiers with a knife. Both soldiers received mild injuries. The man was shot and killed.
- ◆ [August 25, 2017](#): An unidentified 26-year-old man wounded three police officers stationed outside Buckingham Palace in London, England. The man drove a car up to the officers’ police van, before attacking them with a sword while shouting “Allahu akbar.” The officers arrested the man. A second unidentified man, aged 30, was arrested on August 27 in connection to the attack.