GRID

GTTAC Record of Incident Database

2023 Codebook
Version 2023.2

Global Terrorism Trends and Analysis Center

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Introduction

Purpose

The *Global Terrorism Trends and Analysis Center (GTTAC) Record of Incident Database (GRID)* uses open-source information to record terrorist incidents in the United States and around the world. The 2023 GRID Codebook is designed to help a wide range of users—including federal agencies, universities, counterterrorism experts, practitioners in criminal justice and other fields, and the general public—navigate the data. The *Codebook* is intended to be a working document rather than a finished publication.

Organization

The Methodology section provides a brief history of GTTAC, presents the definition of *terrorist incident* employed in *GRID,* and outlines some of the measures GTTAC takes to ensure that the data presented by *GRID* are as accurate and comprehensive as possible.

The Data Dictionary section describes *GRID* variables. The variables are organized in 13 categories: 1) incident identification, 2) incident and publication dates, 3) incident summary, 4) incident location, 5) perpetrator information, 6) casualty information, 7) weapon types, 8) logistics types, 9) tactic types, 10) victim types, 11) intended victim types, 12) facility types, and 13) source and publication information.

Methodology

About the *Annex of Statistical Information on Terrorism*

Title 22, Section 2656f, of the United States Code requires the 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, wounded, or kidnapped by each terrorist group during the preceding calendar year."

From 2004 through 2011, the information was 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 continue this work and present the data in a report titled *Annex of Statistical Information on Terrorism* that would

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 contract to Development Services Group, Inc. (DSG), an international research firm with headquarters in Bethesda, Md., and its subcontractor, the Terrorism, Transnational Crime and Corruption Center (TraCCC) at George Mason University. We are responsible for

- Operating the Global Terrorism Trends and Analysis Center (GTTAC) and *GRID,*

- Producing the *Annex of Statistical Information*, and

- Editing the *Country Reports on Terrorism.*

About *GRID*

GTTAC created *GRID* to collect and summarize the data on terrorist incidents needed for the *Annex of Statistical Information on Terrorism.* GTTAC analyzes comprehensive, open-source intelligence gathered through multimedia data aggregators to identify reports of potential terrorist incidents. Data acquisition begins with the use of 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. After the automated processes have established a body of data for human review and validation, GTTAC aggregates the data based on region and other geographic characteristics. The GTTAC team then reviews the information and enters it in *GRID.*

GRID is dynamic: It is updated bi-weekly with the incident reports that GTTAC has validated. The availability in *GRID* of contemporaneous incident reports (i.e., reports published by open-source media within the last 2 to 6 months) is contingent on GTTAC research staff being allocated within that timeframe to cover the different geographic areas where the incidents occurred. A calendar year of data is considered "finalized" by the end of the first quarter of the following year (i.e., data entered in *GRID* throughout calendar year 2022 will be considered finalized on April 30, 2023). However, data about incidents entered in previous years are updated as necessary when GTTAC obtains corrections or additional information published by open-source media concerning those incidents.

GRID 2023 is distributed in three files: an Incident File, a Perpetrator File, and a Source file. Each row in the Incident File is dedicated to a unique incident. Each row in the Perpetrator File is dedicated to a unique perpetrator's involvement in an incident. Because multiple perpetrators can be involved in a single incident, some incidents appear multiple times in the Perpetrator File. Finally, each row in the Source File is dedicated to each source used in the construction of an incident report. Because multiple sources can report on a single incident, some incidents appear multiple times in the Source File.

How *Terrorist Incident* Is Defined in *GRID*

The definition of *terrorist incident* that *GRID* uses is approved by the Department of State; conforms with Title 22, Section 2656f, of the U.S. Code; and incorporates elements from the Departments of State and Defense, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the UN. As defined in *GRID,* a terrorist incident is a violent act carried out by nonstate actors and individuals (lone actors) that meets the following 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.
3. The violent act occurred outside the precepts of international humanitarian law in that it targeted non-combatants.

GRID only includes incidents that meet all three criteria. *If terrorists initiate an action that targets military or police forces, GRID considers these non-civilian targets as non-combatants and classifies the action as a terrorist incident.* Example: Terrorists plant an improvised explosive device or carry out another type of ambush attack on a military patrol. However, a coordinated counterterrorism operation in which military forces initiate an attack against terrorists is not classified as a terrorist incident.

Other Considerations

A rigorous approach to data collection when the information is open source must include strategies for addressing two major challenges. First, not all media outlets have the same reporting standards. GTTAC strives to keep the data collection process from being biased by unreliable media coverage, especially in conflict zones. To this end,

GRID includes only terrorist incidents that are reported by independent and reliable sources. *GRID* does not use any reports from terrorist media sources, and it excludes any incidents about which there is considerable uncertainty or conflicting reporting.

Second, quantifying harm to victims and identifying the perpetrators of terrorist incidents are challenging when the open-source information (particularly about the number of persons killed or wounded) is imprecise. We address this issue in several ways:

1. GTTAC employs a well-trained, multilingual, and multicultural team of subject-matter experts, technologists, and researchers who continually monitor and enhance the methodology and thereby maintain a comprehensive, accurate, and systematic process for collecting data in more than 90 languages.
2. GTTAC has established an international advisory board, the Global Terrorism Experts Group, which reviews content and ensures objectivity by capturing local contexts and nuances.
3. To strengthen data accuracy and completeness while maintaining consistency, GTTAC created a scale (Table M.1) that uses the principle of the lowest reasonable estimate for quantifying imprecise amounts reported in the media:

Table M.1. Quantifying Imprecise Amounts	
When Media Articulate	***GRID* Records**
A couple	2
A number of, a few, several, or some	3
Many, large, heavy	5
Tens	11
A dozen	12
More than a dozen, dozens	13

Before 2018, data on persons killed and wounded were omitted when open-source information did not cite specific numbers; casualties described in terms such as "a few," "many," or "dozens" were classified as "missing data" and were not counted. Because *GRID* counts these casualties in accordance with the scale in Table M.1, its numbers tend to be higher than those reported by START (2012–17) and the Worldwide Incidents Tracking System (2004–11).

Incident and Perpetrator Files - Data Dictionary

Incident Identification

unique_incident_id
Numeric variable

Each record of an incident has a unique nine-digit incident ID number.

incident_id
Numeric variable

Each record of an incident also has a seven-digit incident_id that is used to identify a multi-incident event. An event can include one or more incidents. Multiple related incidents that form an event share the same incident ID but have a different incident sequence number (incident_seq).

incident_seq
Numeric variable

Each record of an incident contains an incident sequence number used to identify multiple, related incidents that form an event. When only one incident occurred, the sequence number is always "00." In cases of related incidents, the incident sequence begins with "01."

perp_incident_id
String variable

[This variable is in the Perpetrator File only.] Each record of a perpetrator's involvement in an incident contains a unique perpetrator_incident_id consisting of an alphanumeric string of characters. Because multiple perpetrators can be involved in the same incident, *GRID*'s Perpetrator File contains multiple occurrences of the unique_incident_id, one for each unique perp_incident_id involved in the same incident.

Incident and Publication Dates

incident_date
Date variable

This field contains the date of the incident in a dd/mm/yyyy format.

publication_date
Date variable

This field contains the date that the source published information about the incident, in a dd/mm/yyyy format.

incident_year
Date variable

This field contains the year the incident occurred and is entered as a numeric value (e.g., "2018").

incident_month
Date variable

This field contains the month in which the incident occurred and is entered as a numeric value (e.g., "04" for April). Months before "10" always have "0"as the first digit.

incident_day
Date variable

This field contains the day of the month in which the incident occurred and is entered as a numeric value (e.g., "15"). Days before "10" always have "0" as the first digit.

is_multi_day
Binary variable

This variable indicates whether an incident occurred over the course of more than one day.

1 = "Yes" – The incident occurred over the course of more than one day.
0 = "No" – The incident only occurred within one day.

Incident Summary

summary
String variable

This variable gives a brief description of the recorded incident.

is_multi_source_corr
Binary variable

This variable indicates whether the incident report draws from multiple sources.

1 = "Yes" – The incident report draws from multiple sources of information.
0 = "No" – The incident only has one source for information.

Incident Location

country_genc
Categorical variable

This variable is the appropriate country code from the *Geographical Entities, Names, and Codes (GENC) Register (Edition 3, Update 11)*. More information about GENC, including the full library of codes, is available here: https://nsgreg.nga.mil/genc/

country_genc_txt
String variable

This variable is the appropriate country text label from the *Geographical Entities, Names, and Codes (GENC) Register (Edition 3, Update 11)*. More information about GENC, including the full library of codes, is available here: https://nsgreg.nga.mil/genc/

region
Categorical variable

This variable is the appropriate region code from the *Geographical Entities, Names, and Codes (GENC) Register (Edition 3, Update 11)*. More information about GENC, including the full library of codes, is available here: https://nsgreg.nga.mil/genc/

region_txt
String variable

This variable is the appropriate region text label from the *Geographical Entities, Names, and Codes (GENC) Register (Edition 3, Update 11).* More information about GENC, including the full library of codes, is available here: https://nsgreg.nga.mil/genc/

stateprovince_genc
Categorical variable

This variable is the appropriate subnational state or province a code from the *Geographical Entities, Names, and Codes (GENC) Register (Edition 3, Update 11).* More information about GENC, including the full library of codes, is available here: https://nsgreg.nga.mil/genc/

stateprovince_genc_txt
String variable

This variable is the appropriate subnational state or province text label from the *Geographical Entities, Names, and Codes (GENC) Register (Edition 3, Update 11).* More information about GENC, including the full library of codes, is available here: https://nsgreg.nga.mil/genc/

stateprovince_nongenc
String variable

This variable is used to identify the state or province if the entity is not listed in the *Geographical Entities, Names, and Codes (GENC) Register (Edition 3, Update 11)* or when additional geographic data are available.

city
String variable

This variable gives the name of the city, village, or district.

is_multi_location
Binary variable

This variable indicates whether the incident occurred in multiple locations.
1 = "Yes" – The incident occurred in more than one location.
0 = "No" – The incident only occurred in one location.

Perpetrator Information

claimed
Binary variable

This variable indicates whether the perpetrator of the incident claimed responsibility for the incident. If there is no indication of a claim of responsibility, the default is "0" or "No."

1 = "Yes" – The perpetrator claimed responsibility for the incident.
0 = "No" – The perpetrator did not claim responsibility for the incident.

perp_cd
Categorical variable

[This variable is in the Perpetrator File only.] Each perpetrator is identified by a unique code consisting of one to four digits.

perp_name
String variable

[This variable is in the Perpetrator File only.] This string variable gives the perpetrator's name.

ICat
Binary variable

[This variable is in the Incident File only.] This variable gives the perpetrator's characteristics. Each characteristic that applies to the perpetrator is coded as "Yes." Thus, multiple characteristics may be coded as "Yes" for a single perpetrator.

1 = "Yes" – The perpetrator has characteristics in this category.
0 = "No" – The perpetrator does not have characteristics in this category.

Variable	Value	Label
ICat_ANA	[0] or [1]	Anarchist
ICat_Ethn	[0] or [1]	Ethnonationalist/Separatist
ICat_Iran	[0] or [1]	Iranian-Backed
ICat_Left	[0] or [1]	Left-Wing/Revolutionary Extremist
ICat_Right	[0] or [1]	Right-Wing Extremists
ICat_Rhbjc	[0] or [1]	Religious (Other - Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish, Christian)
ICat_Rjih	[0] or [1]	Religious (Jihadist)

Variable	Value	Label
ICat_Single	[0] or [1]	Single Issue
ICat_Unknown	[0] or [1]	Unknown
ICat_Vig	[0] or [1]	Vigilante (Pro-Government)

Casualty Information

num_killed
Numeric scale variable

This variable is the total sum of persons (both U.S. and non-U.S. citizens) killed in the incident, including victims and perpetrators. The default number is "0" if no one was killed.

num_killed_perp
Numeric scale variable

This variable is the number of perpetrators killed in the incident. The default number is "0" if no perpetrators were killed.

num_killed_us
Numeric scale variable

This variable is the number of U.S. citizens killed in the incident. The default number is "0" if no U.S. citizens were killed.

num_wounded
Numeric scale variable

This variable is the total sum of persons (both U.S. and non-U.S. citizens) wounded in the incident, including victims and perpetrators. The default number is "0" if no one was wounded.

num_wounded_perp
Numeric scale variable

This variable is the number of perpetrators wounded in the incident. The default number is "0" if no perpetrators were wounded.

num_wounded_us
Numeric scale variable

This variable is the number of U.S. citizens wounded in the incident. The default number is "0" if no U.S. citizens were wounded.

num_hostkid
Numeric scale variable

This variable is the total sum of persons taken hostage, kidnapped, and/or reported "missing" in the incident, including both U.S. and non-U.S. citizens. The default number is "0" if no one was taken hostage, kidnapped, or reported "missing."

num_hostkid_us
Numeric scale variable

This variable is the number of U.S. citizens taken hostage or kidnapped in the incident. The default number is "0" if no U.S. citizens were taken hostage or kidnapped.

Weapon Types

Binary variables

Weapon type variables are broken down into level 1 (parent category) and level 2 (specific attribute). Each variable has a unique alphanumeric code corresponding to its level 1 parent category and level 2 attribute, as well as a text label.

1 = "Yes" – The specific type of weapon was used in the incident.

0 = "No" – The specific type of weapon was not used in the incident.

If more than one weapon type was used in the incident, the binary variable for each type is coded as "Yes." Thus, multiple binary weapon type variables may be coded as "Yes" for a single incident.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
weapon_lvl1_fi	[0] or [1]	FIREARMS	Parent category for Firearms weapon type.
Weapon_lvl1_im	[0] or [1]	IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE (IED)	Parent category for Improvised Explosive Device (IED) weapon type.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
Weapon_lvl1_ex	[0] or [1]	EXPLOSIVES	Parent category for Explosives weapon type.
Weapon_lvl1_ua	[0] or [1]	UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE (UAV)	Parent category for Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) weapon type.
Weapon_lvl1_in	[0] or [1]	INCENDIARY	Parent category for Incendiary weapon type.
Weapon_lvl1_ml	[0] or [1]	MELEE	Parent category for Melee weapon type.
Weapon_lvl1_ot	[0] or [1]	OTHER	Parent category for Other weapon type.
Weapon_lvl1_un	[0] or [1]	UNKNOWN	Parent category for Unknown weapon type.
Weapon_lvl2_un_01	[0] or [1]	Unclear/Unknown Weapon	An armed confrontation occurred but no information is available on the weapon type.
Weapon_lvl2_fi_01	[0] or [1]	Unclear/Unknown Firearm	A firearm was used, but no details are given about the firearm.
Weapon_lvl2_fi_02	[0] or [1]	Small Arms	Handgun (e.g., Glock, M1911, M9, 9 mm, .45 caliber, pistol); long gun/rifle; and intermediate-caliber rifle. Examples: AK-47, AK-74, M4, M16, assault rifle, bolt action rifle, submachine gun.
Weapon_lvl2_fi_03	[0] or [1]	Full-Automatic	Intermediate-caliber firearms that provide sustained automatic fire, such as squad automatic weapons and belt-fed weapons. Examples: M249, SAW, RPK, RPD, PKM, machine gun.
Weapon_lvl2_fi_04	[0] or [1]	Improvised/ Homemade	A homemade firearm was used.
Weapon_lvl2_fi_05	[0] or [1]	Heavy Weaponry	High-caliber rifles and machine guns designed to damage vehicles and provide sustained automatic fire. Examples: .50 caliber rifle, anti-tank rifle, anti-vehicle rifle, large-caliber rifle, DShK.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
Weapon_lvl2_im_03	[0] or [1]	Suicide Vest IED	An improvised explosive device (IED) attached to a person (i.e., a suicide bomber) by means of a vest or other object (e.g., backpack, belt, clothing, footwear).
Weapon_lvl2_im_04	[0] or [1]	Non-Suicide Vest IED	Any improvised explosive device (IED) not attached to a person that is created with easily obtained materials. Includes magnetic vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices (VBIEDs) and sticky bombs. The explosive could be manufactured using common chemicals. Alternatively, it could be a retrofitted artillery shell, an old military explosive, or another type of manufactured explosive.
Weapon_lvl2_ex_01	[0] or [1]	Unclear/Unknown Explosive	An explosion occurred, but no additional information about explosive use is given.
Weapon_lvl2_ex_02	[0] or [1]	Rocket Artillery (NOT RPG)	Artillery and other ground-to-ground munitions propelled by their own explosive/fuel charge and designed to deliver artillery payloads across medium-range distances. Examples: Qassam rocket, rocket, rocket artillery.
Weapon_lvl2_ex_03	[0] or [1]	Mortars/Non-rocket artillery	Mortars and artillery not propelled by their own explosive charge. Often referred to as "shelling."
Weapon_lvl2_ex_04	[0] or [1]	Conventional Explosives/Munitions	Explosives (generally military explosives) designed as weapons that cause explosive damage. Examples: simple bomb, C-4, Semtex, 500 lb. bomb, dynamite.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
Weapon_lvl2_ex_05	[0] or [1]	Grenades (RPG, Hand, Non-RPG)	Shoulder-fired, rocket-propelled grenades (RPGs); rocket-propelled munitions designed as anti-tank weapons; and non-RPGs such as stun grenades and hand grenades (anti-personnel explosive devices designed to be thrown that explode and fragment their metal shells). Includes all types of grenades except incendiary grenades.
Weapon_lvl2_ex_06	[0] or [1]	Mines (Anti-personnel, anti-vehicle)	Mines manufactured for military use.
Weapon_lvl2_ex_07	[0] or [1]	Missiles	Self-propelled explosive munitions equipped with guidance technology that allow direction to be changed in midflight.
Weapon_lvl2_ua_01	[0] or [1]	Unclear/Unknown UAV	An unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) [i.e., a drone] was used, but no details about the UAV are given.
Weapon_lvl2_ua_02	[0] or [1]	Military UAV	An unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) [i.e., a drone] manufactured for military purposes.
Weapon_lvl2_ua_03	[0] or [1]	Commercial UAV	An unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) [i.e., a drone] manufactured for commercial purposes.
Weapon_lvl2_in_01	[0] or [1]	Unclear/Unknown Incendiary	A weapon that acts mainly through fire and heat was used, but no additional information about the weapon is given.
Weapon_lvl2_in_02	[0] or [1]	Molotov Cocktail/Petrol Bomb	An improvised incendiary device. Normally consists of a glass bottle filled with gasoline or another highly flammable substance and a cloth that is lit; the contents of the bottle ignite on impact.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
Weapon_lvl2_in_03	[0] or [1]	Manufactured Incendiary Device/Weapon	A weapon designed for military use that ignites and causes fire damage. Examples: napalm, other incendiary weapons, incendiary grenades. Does not include other types of grenades, such as fragmentation, high-explosive, antitank, stun, smoke, flash, and nonlethal grenades.
Weapon_lvl2_in_04	[0] or [1]	Gasoline/Diesel/Oil	Fuel (gasoline, diesel, oil, or a similar substance) used as a weapon without any other device.
Weapon_lvl2_ml_01	[0] or [1]	Unclear/Unknown melee	A person was killed in a crowd situation, but how the killing occurred is unclear.
Weapon_lvl2_ml_02	[0] or [1]	Knives/Machetes/ Swords	An attack involving any sharp object.
Weapon_lvl2_ml_03	[0] or [1]	Blunt Object	Blunt objects such as stones and unarmed attacks using fists.
Weapon_lvl2_ot_02	[0] or [1]	Fake Weapons	Fake guns, fake knives, and fake bombs.
Weapon_lvl2_ot_03	[0] or [1]	Vehicle	A vehicle was used as a weapon rather than as a method of transport. Example: A car was employed to ram civilians.
Weapon_lvl2_ot_05	[0] or [1]	Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear (CBRN/WMD)	Chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) weapons of mass destruction (WMDs).

Logistics Types

Binary variables

Logistics type variables give additional information about the attack by characterizing the way the weapon reached its target. These variables describe neither the weapon nor the tactic, but rather the intermediary transport step used to connect the weapon to its victim.

Logistics type variables are broken down into level 1 (parent category) and level 2 (specific attribute). Each variable has a unique alphanumeric code corresponding to its level 1 parent category and level 2 attribute, as well as a text label.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
logistic_lvl1_ve	[0] or [1]	VEHICLE	Parent category for Vehicle logistics type.
logistic_lvl1_mp	[0] or [1]	MAIL/POSTAGE	Parent category for Mail/Postage delivery type.
logistic_lvl1_ot	[0] or [1]	OTHER	Parent category for Other logistics types (i.e., types other than those listed in the GRID Codebook).
logistic_lvl1_un	[0] or [1]	UNKNOWN	Parent category for Unknown logistics type.
logistic_lvl1_nn	[0] or [1]	NONE	Parent category for No Logistics Type found or used.
logistic_lvl2_nn_01	[0] or [1]	None Used	No logistics type was found or used.
logistic_lvl2_ve_07	[0] or [1]	Unclear/Unknown	A vehicle was used as a logistics type, but the delivery mechanism is unclear.
logistic_lvl2_ve_01	[0] or [1]	Plane	Civilian and military aircraft.
logistic_lvl2_ve_02	[0] or [1]	Helicopter	Civilian and military helicopters.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
logistic_lvl2_ve_03	[0] or [1]	Civilian Vehicle	The weapon was delivered by a vehicle such as a car, truck, or van. Examples: car bomb, vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED), sticky bomb attached to a car, drive-by shooting in which the perpetrator used a civilian vehicle.
logistic_lvl2_ve_04	[0] or [1]	Military Vehicle	Unarmored and wheeled military vehicle (e.g., jeep, truck, car).
logistic_lvl2_ve_05	[0] or [1]	Military Armored Vehicle	Wheeled or tracked vehicle professionally built with armor and intended for use by a military force (i.e., not an improvised armored vehicle consisting of a civilian vehicle with armor added to it). Examples: tank, armored car, Humvee, armored self-propelled gun, armored personnel carrier.
logistic_lvl2_ve_06	[0] or [1]	Improvised Armored/Technical Fighting Vehicle	An improvised fighting vehicle that operates like a light (unarmored) military gun truck and is typically an open-backed civilian pickup truck or four-wheel-drive vehicle mounting a heavy weapon. Examples: machine gun, anti-aircraft gun, rotary cannon, anti-tank weapon, anti-tank gun, ATGM, mortar, howitzer, multiple rocket launcher, recoilless rifle.
logistic_lvl2_ve_08	[0] or [1]	UAV	Any type of unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) [i.e., a drone].
logistic_lvl2_ve_09	[0] or [1]	Public Transport/Government Vehicle	Trains, trams, buses, and official government cars and limousines.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
logistic_lvl2_ve_10	[0] or [1]	Boat	Any waterborne vehicle.
logistic_lvl2_ve_11	[0] or [1]	Bicycles and Motorcycles	Any two-wheeled vehicle (e.g., bicycle, motorcycle, moped).
logistic_lvl2_mp_01	[0] or [1]	Targeted	Any incident in which the weapon was delivered by mail/postage and the goal was to harm or intimidate a specific intended target or individual, rather than create fear within a larger community.
logistic_lvl2_mp_02	[0] or [1]	Random targets	Any incident in which the weapon was delivered by mail/postage and the apparent goal was to create fear rather than harm a specific individual.
logistic_lvl2_ot_01	[0] or [1]	Hand Propelled	Any logistics type that is thrown or dropped.
logistic_lvl2_ot_02	[0] or [1]	Kite	Kites (e.g., in Gaza) were set aflame and flown with the intent of setting fire to a property or fields.
logistic_lvl2_ot_03	[0] or [1]	Balloon	Balloons were used to deliver a payload or munition (e.g., Molotov cocktail, explosives) to a specific or random target.
logistic_lvl2_ot_04	[0] or [1]	Slingshot	Slingshots were used to launch or fire a projectile.
logistic_lvl2_ot_05	[0] or [1]	Aerosols	Aerosols were used to spread contaminants (i.e., chemical, biological, or radiological agents).
logistic_lvl2_ot_06	[0] or [1]	Animal Borne	Improvised explosive devices (IEDs) were attached to animals and detonated.
logistic_lvl2_un_01	[0] or [1]	Unclear/Unknown Logistics	No information is given on whether a delivery vehicle was used.

Tactic Types

Flagged Tactic Variables: IED, Assassination, and Suicide

is_ied

Binary variable

This variable indicates whether an improvised explosive device (IED) was used in the incident.

1 = "Yes" – An IED was used in the incident.

0 = "No" – An IED was not used in the incident.

is_assassination

Binary variable

This variable indicates whether Assassination characteristics were present in the incident. Assassination is the targeted killing, or attempted killing, of a specific individual who holds a position of high authority.

1 = "Yes" – The incident included an assassination.

0 = "No" – The incident did not include an assassination.

is_suicide

Binary variable

This variable indicates whether suicide tactics, including suicide bombing, were used.

1 = "Yes" – A suicide tactic was used in the incident.

0 = "No" – A suicide tactic was not used in the incident.

Tactic Parent Categories and Specific Attributes

Binary variables

Tactic type variables are broken down into level 1 (parent category) and level 2 (specific attribute). Each variable has a unique alphanumeric code corresponding to its level 1 parent category and level 2 attribute, as well as a text label.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
tactic_lvl1_tr	[0] or [1]	TRAUMA	Parent category for Trauma-associated tactic types.
tactic_lvl1_as	[0] or [1]	ASSAULT	Parent category for Assault tactic types.
tactic_lvl1_cv	[0] or [1]	COVERT	Parent category for Covert tactic types.
tactic_lvl1_co	[0] or [1]	COORDINATED	Parent category for Coordinated tactic types.
tactic_lvl1_ex	[0] or [1]	EXPLOITIVE	Parent category for Exploitive tactic types.
tactic_lvl1_un	[0] or [1]	UNKNOWN	Parent category for Unknown tactic types.
tactic_lvl2_un_01	[0] or [1]	Unclear Tactic Used	The tactic used does not fit in any of the GRID Codebook's categories.
tactic_lvl2_tr_01	[0] or [1]	Gender based violence and rape	Gender–based violence and rape are always viewed as a tactic, whether the rape itself is characterized as the terrorist incident, or it accompanies other terrorist incidents such as looting or armed assaults. Rape is considered an injury, so the number of rape victims, if cited, is added to the number of injured victims.
tactic_lvl2_tr_02	[0] or [1]	Executions	Deliberate killing of a detained individual, usually in a public or publicized manner (e.g., beheading, public execution of hostages or prisoners).

Variable	Value	Label	Description
tactic_lvl2_tr_03	[0] or [1]	Bodily Mutilations	Deliberate maiming or amputation, as well as torture that does not result in death. When terrorist groups control territory and have established a judicial system that calls for mutilations as standard punishments, the mutilations are not considered terrorist incidents. However, the mutilations may qualify as incidents if they were publicized with the goal of intimidating others.
tactic_lvl2_tr_04	[0] or [1]	Suicide bombing	The assailant intended to die during the attack. These incidents usually involve a bomb or other explosive device.
tactic_lvl2_tr_05	[0] or [1]	Kidnapping	The main distinctions between a kidnapping and a hostage-taking are the location and targeting of the victims. Kidnapping is usually more targeted, with the perpetrators selecting specific victims in advance, taking control of them, and moving them to a different site.
tactic_lvl2_tr_06	[0] or [1]	Car-Ramming	A car, truck, or other vehicle was driven into individuals or crowds with the intent of causing casualties.
tactic_lvl2_tr_07	[0] or [1]	Hostage taking	In a hostage-taking, unlike a kidnapping, the victims are generally held at the site where they are captured until the hostage-takers' conditions are met. The victims of a hostage-taking are often random individuals captured at the site of the attack.
tactic_lvl2_tr_08	[0] or [1]	Assassinations	An act of violence aiming to murder a public figure or a prominent person for political or ideological motives. The victim is usually a well-known individual within the context of the incident.
tactic_lvl2_tr_09	[0] or [1]	Stabbing	A sharp object was used to publicly maim or kill a targeted person.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
tactic_lvl2_tr_10	[0] or [1]	Hijacking	An armed attack aimed at taking over any vehicle (e.g., airplane, truck, car, boat, train, bus) for a specific purpose, such as achieving political goals, releasing prisoners, or acquiring transport out of the country. Hijacking often involves hostage-taking; the vehicle carrying the hostages is the target of the attack.
tactic_lvl2_as_01	[0] or [1]	Shooting	The perpetrator shot at the target from a static point, or a firearm was used but details about the tactic are not given.
tactic_lvl2_as_02	[0] or [1]	Storming/Rapid Assault	The perpetrator assaulted the target's location with the intent of forcefully entering or occupying it.
tactic_lvl2_as_03	[0] or [1]	Drive-by	The perpetrator fired on a target and quickly vacated the area by means of a vehicle.
tactic_lvl2_as_04	[0] or [1]	Bombing	A bomb or munition was used with the intent of destroying the target. Includes conventional bombs (e.g., TNT, car bombs, mail bombs, pipe bombs) and most IEDs and suicide bombs.
tactic_lvl2_as_05	[0] or [1]	Unarmed Assault	Any physical attack that aims to harm, intimidate, or kill victims without using conventional weapons (e.g., firearms, knives, incendiaries, explosives). Examples: attacks with fists, rocks, or sticks.
tactic_lvl2_cv_01	[0] or [1]	Booby-trapping	An explosive device was concealed in an object or piece of infrastructure, with the aim of injuring or killing anyone who walks by, touches, or seeks to use it.
tactic_lvl2_cv_02	[0] or [1]	Ambush	A surprise attack, usually from a concealed place, on an intended victim traveling through the area under attack.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
tactic_lvl2_cv_03	[0] or [1]	Sabotage	The act of damaging structures or facilities (e.g., buildings, bridges, power supplies) to make them unusable, and, in certain cases, to injure or kill those who seek to use them. Includes an initial effort to conceal the damage, unlike the Property Damage Only category.
tactic_lvl2_cv_04	[0] or [1]	Planting Mines/IEDs	Anti-personnel mines, anti-vehicle mines, or IEDs placed or planted to deny access to an area, route, or structure.
tactic_lvl2_cv_05	[0] or [1]	Disguise/Infiltration	Men wearing women's clothing to conceal weapons, or individuals wearing military, police, or other types of uniforms to access sites or people.
tactic_lvl2_co_01	[0] or [1]	One country	The incident involved coordination in one country.
tactic_lvl2_co_02	[0] or [1]	Multiple countries	The incident involved coordination in multiple countries.
tactic_lvl2_co_03	[0] or [1]	One location	The incident involved coordination in one location.
tactic_lvl2_co_04	[0] or [1]	Multiple location	The incident involved coordination across multiple locations.
tactic_lvl2_co_05	[0] or [1]	One team	The incident involved coordination with one team of perpetrators.
tactic_lvl2_co_06	[0] or [1]	Multiple teams	The incident involved coordination across multiple teams of perpetrators.
tactic_lvl2_ex_01	[0] or [1]	Use of foreign fighters as perpetrators	The perpetrator's tactics included utilizing foreign fighters.
tactic_lvl2_ex_02	[0] or [1]	Use of female fighters as perpetrators	The perpetrator's tactics included utilizing female fighters.
tactic_lvl2_ex_03	[0] or [1]	Use of children as perpetrators	The perpetrator's tactics included utilizing children.
tactic_lvl2_ex_04	[0] or [1]	Involvement of illicit trade	The perpetrator's tactics included illicit trade.
tactic_lvl2_ex_05	[0] or [1]	Use of extortion practices (ransom, extortion, robbery)	The perpetrator's tactics included extortion, ransom, robbery, or racketeering.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
tactic_lvl2_ex_06	[0] or [1]	Use of Corruption (bribery, ill-gotten tenders, illegal permits)	The perpetrator's tactics included corruption practices.
tactic_lvl2_ex_07	[0] or [1]	Use of money laundering processes	The perpetrator's tactics included money laundering processes.
tactic_lvl2_ex_08	[0] or [1]	Property Damage Only	The perpetrators deliberately targeted property or infrastructure in their attack with no intention of inflicting direct casualties.
tactic_lvl2_ex_10	[0] or [1]	Cyber Attack	The perpetrators used computer systems to carry out an attack. Examples: ransomware attack, cyberattack on infrastructure, unauthorized access of computer systems to inflict physical or monetary damage on a system or institution.
Tactic_lvl2_as_06	[0] or [1]	Unknown Armed Assault	The perpetrator used armed assault, but the circumstances of the assault are unknown.

Victim Types

Binary variables

Each record has two victim variables: Actual Victim and Intended Victim. Actual Victim is the person(s) whom the perpetrators actually attacked, injured, and/or killed. Intended Victim is the person(s) whom the perpetrators targeted. Victim type variables are broken down into level 1 (parent category) and level 2 (specific attribute). Each variable has a unique alphanumeric code corresponding to its level 1 parent category and level 2 attribute, as well as a text label.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
victim_lvl1_ci	[0] or [1]	GROUPS	Parent category for civilians who are identified as belonging to a specific societal, religious, or ethnic group.
victim_lvl1_go	[0] or [1]	GOVERNMENT	Parent category for individuals who hold positions in government.
victim_lvl1_gp	[0] or [1]	GENERAL POPULATION	Parent category for General Population.
victim_lvl1_mi	[0] or [1]	MILITARY	Parent category for individuals who are actively serving in a country's military.
victim_lvl1_ot	[0] or [1]	OTHER	Parent category for Other victim types.
victim_lvl1_po	[0] or [1]	POLITICAL	Parent category for individuals who are involved in a country's political system, including those who do not hold positions in government.
victim_lvl1_pr	[0] or [1]	PROFESSIONS	Parent category for civilians who are identified and targeted based on their profession.
victim_lvl1_nn	[0] or [1]	NONE	Parent category denoting that there were no victims.
victim_lvl2_ci_02	[0] or [1]	Identified by Gender	Attacks on women's schools or other incidents in which a large majority of the victims belong to the same gender.
victim_lvl2_ci_03	[0] or [1]	Identified by Race or Ethnicity	A large majority of the victims belong to a specific racial or ethnic group and may have been targeted for that reason.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
victim_lvl2_ci_05	[0] or [1]	LGBTQIA	Victims identified as LGBTQIA were targeted or likely to be present in large numbers (e.g., incidents involving gay bars or gay parades).
victim_lvl2_ci_07	[0] or [1]	Refugees/IDPs	Refugees or internally displaced persons (IDPs) were among the victims, whether or not they were the targets.
Victim_lvl2_ci_08	[0] or [1]	Students/Children	Students or children were targeted, or an attack occurred at a site where students or children normally congregate (e.g., school, university building, dormitory, playground).
Victim_lvl2_ci_09	[0] or [1]	Identified by religion, Muslim	Followers of Islam or members of a Muslim minority group formed a large majority of the victims and may have been targeted for that reason.
Victim_lvl2_ci_10	[0] or [1]	Identified by religion, Christian	Followers of Christianity or members of a Christian minority group formed a large majority of the victims and may have been targeted for that reason.
Victim_lvl2_ci_11	[0] or [1]	Identified by religion, Jewish	Followers of Judaism or members of a Jewish minority group formed a large majority of the victims and may have been targeted for that reason.
Victim_lvl2_ci_12	[0] or [1]	Identified by religion, Hindu	Followers of Hinduism or members of a Hindu minority group formed a large majority of the victims and may have been targeted for that reason.
Victim_lvl2_ci_13	[0] or [1]	Identified by religion, Buddhist	Followers of Buddhism or members of a Buddhist minority group formed a large majority of the victims and may have been targeted for that reason.
Victim_lvl2_ci_14	[0] or [1]	Identified by religion, Other	Followers of another specific religion or members of another religious minority group formed a large majority of the victims and may have been targeted for that reason.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
Victim_lvl2_go_01	[0] or [1]	Civil Servants & Local Government	Government employees and low-level officials unless they fall into any of the categories below. Includes local dignitaries who are not employed by the government (e.g., tribal leaders, social leaders) and others who occupy honorary posts in the community.
Victim_lvl2_go_02	[0] or [1]	Foreign Diplomatic Personnel	All foreign diplomatic personnel (including employees of international organizations with diplomatic status such as the UN and World Bank) and military attachés who are attached to embassies.
Victim_lvl2_go_04	[0] or [1]	High Level Officials/Heads of State/Royalty	High-level officials (e.g., the president, prime minister, royalty, other heads of state); and high-level officials below the rank of head of state (e.g., governors, senators, ministers, chief justices). Some individuals are classified under two categories. For example, a senator is under 1) High Level Officials and 2) Legislators, and a chief justice is under 1) High Level Officials and 2) Judiciary & Legal Personnel.
victim_lvl2_go_05	[0] or [1]	Intelligence (non-military)	Only members of the government's official intelligence services. Does not include members of military intelligence, who are classified under Military - National; or alleged informants, who are under Other - Informants (real/alleged).
victim_lvl2_go_06	[0] or [1]	Judiciary & Legal Personnel	All individuals involved in the judiciary and legal profession, whether or not they are government officials.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
victim_lvl2_go_07	[0] or [1]	Law Enforcement	All individuals who work for the country's law enforcement. Does not include military police, who are classified as Military - National, or individuals working for private security companies, who are classified as Professions - Private Security. When a recognized government is not in control of the area, individuals from armed groups can be classified under Law Enforcement if they were acting as de facto law enforcement and were targeted for that reason.
victim_lvl2_go_08	[0] or [1]	Legislators	Anyone who works in the government's legislative branch (e.g., staffers, advisors). A senator or parliamentarian is classified under both Government - Legislators and Government - High Level Officials.
victim_lvl2_gp_01	[0] or [1]	General Population - or Unknown	Insufficient information is available about the victims, or they appear to have been victimized solely because they were at the site of the incident. Applies to most cases of "random" shootings and bombings in public places or along major transportation routes. Also applies when there appear to have been casualties, but the number is unknown.
victim_lvl2_mi_01	[0] or [1]	Military - Foreign	Third-country militaries that are present in the country, whether or not they are there at the invitation of the government. Does not include U.S. or NATO forces, or third-country militaries that are present as part of an internationally sanctioned peacekeeping operation.
victim_lvl2_mi_03	[0] or [1]	Military - Multi-national	All members of internationally sanctioned multinational peacekeeping units in a country (e.g., NATO, the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia [ATMIS]), except U.S. forces.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
victim_lvl2_mi_04	[0] or [1]	Military - National	All members of the national military, whether or not they are engaged in military operations.
victim_lvl2_mi_05	[0] or [1]	Military - US	Only members of the U.S. military and U.S. military contractors.
victim_lvl2_ot_01	[0] or [1]	Informants (real/alleged)	Known informants and individuals believed to have been informants for the authorities or for a terrorist group or militia, who were targeted for that reason.
victim_lvl2_ot_04	[0] or [1]	Processions (Funerals, weddings, religious)	Processions whose main impetus is social, religious, or cultural rather than political. Such processions can often take on a strong political tone during periods of conflict or political strife, but they can still be classified in this category.
victim_lvl2_ot_02	[0] or [1]	Labor Unions	Officials or members of labor unions, whether pro- or anti-government.
victim_lvl2_ot_03	[0] or [1]	Perpetrators	Perpetrators of an attack who were killed or wounded in the incident.
victim_lvl2_ot_06	[0] or [1]	Pro-Government Forces	Pro-government forces that are present in a country, whether or not they receive funding from the government, as long as they are not the official forces of a national government.
victim_lvl2_ot_05	[0] or [1]	Other Violent non-State Actors	Members of other groups, members of factions, and individuals in the perpetrator's group who were targeted because they were deemed disloyal or who were accidental victims of the attack.
victim_lvl2_po_01	[0] or [1]	Candidates	All individuals who are running for office, either as incumbents or as opposition candidates. Includes defeated opposition candidates if they were targeted as part of election or post-election violence.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
victim_lvl2_po_02	[0] or [1]	Election Personnel	All election workers, including election observers and individuals who work at election sites, register voters, or canvass for candidates (other than themselves).
victim_lvl2_po_03	[0] or [1]	Parties	Members of political parties who were targeted because of their membership. Includes legal, illegal, and government parties.
victim_lvl2_po_04	[0] or [1]	Political Demonstrations	Victims of assaults on demonstrators by terrorist groups or individuals. Does not cover actions by government forces to break up peaceful demonstrations.
victim_lvl2_pr_01	[0] or [1]	Agriculture	Anyone involved in agriculture, including peasants, laborers, and landowners.
victim_lvl2_pr_03	[0] or [1]	Commerce and Trade	Anyone involved in business, whether foreign or domestic (e.g., small and large businesses, street sellers, hairdressers).
victim_lvl2_pr_04	[0] or [1]	Cultural Figures	Musicians and all other kinds of performers, film crew and athletes.
victim_lvl2_pr_05	[0] or [1]	Education	All persons who work in schools, from cleaners to directors. Schools include all levels, from daycare to university.
victim_lvl2_pr_06	[0] or [1]	Infrastructure, Communications, Maintenance	All persons who work on any kind of infrastructure (e.g., roads, bridges, all utilities, pipelines, mines, oil fields).
victim_lvl2_pr_07	[0] or [1]	Journalism & Media	All persons who work in any form of media in any capacity, including radio and TV news personnel and online journalists.
victim_lvl2_pr_08	[0] or [1]	Maritime & Fisheries	All individuals involved with maritime trade and fisheries, but not ferries.
victim_lvl2_pr_10	[0] or [1]	NGO & Relief	All civilians who work or volunteer for any type of domestic or international organization that is not beholden to a state's government.
victim_lvl2_pr_11	[0] or [1]	Private Security	All individuals involved in security who are not paid by a state, local government, or military group.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
victim_lvl2_pr_12	[0] or [1]	Religious Figures	Religious leaders, such as priests, imams, preachers, prominent religious scholars, and others who hold authority or are in positions of prominence.
victim_lvl2_pr_13	[0] or [1]	Tourism	Tourists and all individuals involved in the tourism industry.
victim_lvl2_pr_14	[0] or [1]	Transport	All individuals involved in public and private transport (e.g., buses, taxis, rickshaws, ferries). Includes airport staff and all aviation workers, except the military.
victim_lvl2_pr_15	[0] or [1]	Utilities & Mining	All individuals working in gas, oil, electricity, water, hydroelectric power, coal, telecommunication, and mining.
victim_lvl2_pr_16	[0] or [1]	Medical, Abortion Related	All individuals involved in the provision of abortion services, whether or not they are medical personnel.
victim_lvl2_pr_17	[0] or [1]	Medical, Emergency First Responders	All medical personnel who are responding to emergency situations outside a hospital facility; other first responders (e.g., emergency medical technicians, firefighters, detonation experts) when they are responding to an emergency; and military medics if they are responding to an emergency.
victim_lvl2_pr_18	[0] or [1]	Medical, Non-Emergency	All medical personnel working in medical settings (e.g., hospitals, clinics, doctor's offices); all public health workers and officials (e.g., midwives, vaccination workers); and all staff working in the emergency departments of hospitals and other medical facilities. Does not include emergency medical technicians and other medical personnel who are responding to emergencies outside a hospital facility.
victim_lvl2_nn_01	[0] or [1]	None	Denotes that there were no victims and no intended victims.

Intended Victim Types

Binary variables

Each record has two victim variables: Intended Victim and Actual Victim. Intended Victim is the person(s) whom the perpetrators targeted. Actual Victim is the person(s) whom the perpetrators actually attacked, injured, and/or killed.

Intended Victim type variables are broken down into level 1 (parent category) and level 2 (specific attribute). Each variable has a unique alphanumeric code corresponding to its level 1 parent category and level 2 attribute, as well as a text label.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
intended_victim_lvl1_ci	[0] or [1]	GROUPS	Parent category for civilians who are identified as belonging to a specific societal, religious, or ethnic group.
intended_victim_lvl1_go	[0] or [1]	GOVERNMENT	Parent category for individuals who hold positions in government.
intended_victim_lvl1_gp	[0] or [1]	GENERAL POPULATION	Parent category for General Population.
victim_lvl1_mi	[0] or [1]	MILITARY	Parent category for individuals who are actively serving in a country's military.
intended_victim_lvl1_ot	[0] or [1]	OTHER	Parent category for Other victim types.
intended_victim_lvl1_po	[0] or [1]	POLITICAL	Parent category for individuals who are involved in a country's political system, including those who do not hold positions in government.
intended_victim_lvl1_pr	[0] or [1]	PROFESSIONS	Parent category for civilians who are identified and targeted based on their profession.
intended_victim_lvl1_nn	[0] or [1]	NONE	Parent category denoting that there were no victims.
intended_victim_lvl2_ci_02	[0] or [1]	Identified by Gender	Attacks on women's schools or other incidents in which a large majority of the victims belong to the same gender.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
intended_victim_lvl2_ci_03	[0] or [1]	Identified by Race or Ethnicity	A large majority of the victims belong to a specific racial or ethnic group and may have been targeted for that reason.
intended_victim_lvl2_ci_05	[0] or [1]	LGBTQIA	Victims identified as LGBTQIA, were targeted or likely to be present in large numbers (e.g., incidents involving gay bars or parades).
intended_victim_lvl2_ci_07	[0] or [1]	Refugees/IDPs	Refugees or internally displaced persons (IDPs) were among the targets.
intended_victim_lvl2_ci_08	[0] or [1]	Students/Children	Students or children were targeted, or an attack occurred at a site where students or children normally congregate (e.g., school, university building, dormitory, playground).
intended_victim_lvl2_ci_09	[0] or [1]	Identified by religion, Muslim	Followers of Islam or members of a Muslim minority group formed a large majority of the victims and may have been targeted for that reason.
intended_victim_lvl2_ci_10	[0] or [1]	Identified by religion, Christian	Followers of Christianity or members of a Christian minority group formed a large majority of the victims and may have been targeted for that reason.
intended_victim_lvl2_ci_11	[0] or [1]	Identified by religion, Jewish	Followers of Judaism or members of a Jewish minority group formed a large majority of the victims and may have been targeted for that reason.
intended_victim_lvl2_ci_12	[0] or [1]	Identified by religion, Hindu	Followers of Hinduism or members of a Hindu minority group formed a large majority of the victims and may have been targeted for that reason.
intended_victim_lvl2_ci_13	[0] or [1]	Identified by religion, Buddhist	Followers of Buddhism or members of a Buddhist minority group formed a large majority of the victims and may have been targeted for that reason.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
intended_victim_lvl2_ci_14	[0] or [1]	Identified by religion, Other	Followers of another specific religion or members of another religious minority group formed a large majority of the victims and may have been targeted for that reason.
intended_victim_lvl2_go_01	[0] or [1]	Civil Servants & Local Government	Government employees and low-level officials unless they fall into any of the categories below. Includes local dignitaries who are not employed by the government (e.g., tribal leaders, social leaders) and others who occupy honorary posts in the community.
intended_victim_lvl2_go_02	[0] or [1]	Foreign Diplomatic Personnel	All foreign diplomatic personnel, including employees of international organizations with diplomatic status such as the UN and World Bank. Includes military attachés who are attached to embassies.
intended_victim_lvl2_go_04	[0] or [1]	High Level Officials/Heads of State/Royalty	High-level officials (e.g., the president, prime minister, royalty, other heads of state); and high-level officials below the rank of head of state (e.g., governors, senators, ministers, chief Justices). Some individuals are classified under two categories. For example, a senator is classified under 1) High Level Officials and 2) Legislators, and a chief justice is under 1) High Level Officials and 2) Judiciary & Legal Personnel.
intended_victim_lvl2_go_05	[0] or [1]	Intelligence (non-military)	Only members of the official intelligence services of the government. Does not include members of military intelligence, who are classified under Military - National or alleged informants, who are under Other - Informants (real/alleged).

Variable	Value	Label	Description
intended_victim_lvl2_go_06	[0] or [1]	Judiciary & Legal Personnel	All individuals who are involved in the judiciary and legal profession, whether or not they are government officials.
intended_victim_lvl2_go_07	[0] or [1]	Law Enforcement	All individuals who work for the country's law enforcement. Does not include military police, who are classified under Military - National, or individuals who are working for private security companies, who are under Professions - Private Security. When a recognized government is not in control of the area, individuals from armed groups can be classified under Law Enforcement if they were acting as de facto law enforcement and were targeted for that reason.
intended_victim_lvl2_go_08	[0] or [1]	Legislators	Anyone who works in the government's legislative branch (e.g., staffers, advisors). A senator or parliamentarian is classified under both Government - Legislators and Government - High Level Officials.
intended_victim_lvl2_gp_01	[0] or [1]	General Population or Unknown	Insufficient information is available about the victims, or they appear to have been victimized solely because they were at the site of the incident. Applies to most "random" shootings and bombings in public places or along major transportation routes. Also applies when there appear to have been casualties, but the number is unknown.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
intended_victim_lvl2_mi_01	[0] or [1]	Military - Foreign	Third-country militaries that are present in the country, whether or not they are there at the invitation of the government. Does not include U.S. or NATO forces, or third-country militaries that are present as part of an internationally sanctioned peacekeeping operation.
intended_victim_lvl2_mi_03	[0] or [1]	Military - Multi-national	All members of internationally sanctioned multinational peacekeeping units in a country (e.g., NATO, the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia [ATMIS]), except U.S. forces.
intended_victim_lvl2_mi_04	[0] or [1]	Military - National	All members of the national military, whether or not they are engaged in military operations. Includes military contractors.
intended_victim_lvl2_mi_05	[0] or [1]	Military - US	Only members of the U.S. military and U.S. military contractors.
intended_victim_lvl2_ot_01	[0] or [1]	Informants (real/alleged)	Known informants or individuals believed to have been informants for the authorities or for a terrorist group or militia, who were targeted for that reason.
intended_victim_lvl2_ot_04	[0] or [1]	Processions (Funerals, weddings, religious)	Processions whose main impetus is social, religious, or cultural rather than political. Such processions can often take on a strong political tone during periods of conflict or political strife, but they can still be classified in this category.
intended_victim_lvl2_ot_02	[0] or [1]	Labor Unions	Officials or members of labor unions, whether pro- or anti-government.
intended_victim_lvl2_ot_03	[0] or [1]	Perpetrators	Perpetrators of an attack who are killed or wounded in the incident.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
intended_victim_lvl2_ot_06	[0] or [1]	Pro-Government Forces	Pro-government forces that are present in a country, whether or not they receive funding from the government, as long as they are not the official forces of a national government.
intended_victim_lvl2_ot_05	[0] or [1]	Other Violent Non-State Actors	Members of other groups, members of factions, and individuals in the perpetrator's group who targeted because they were deemed disloyal or who were accidental victims of the attack.
intended_victim_lvl2_po_01	[0] or [1]	Candidates	All individuals who are running for office, either as incumbents or as opposition candidates. Includes defeated opposition candidates if they were targeted as part of election or post-election violence.
intended_victim_lvl2_po_02	[0] or [1]	Election Personnel	All election workers, including election observers and individuals who work at election sites, register voters, or canvass for candidates (other than themselves).
intended_victim_lvl2_po_03	[0] or [1]	Parties	Members of political parties who were targeted because of their membership. Includes legal, illegal and government parties.
intended_victim_lvl2_po_04	[0] or [1]	Political Demonstrations	Victims of assaults on demonstrators are made by terrorist groups or individuals. Does not cover actions by government forces to break up peaceful demonstrations.
intended_victim_lvl2_pr_01	[0] or [1]	Agriculture	Anyone involved in agriculture, including peasants, laborers, and landowners
intended_victim_lvl2_pr_03	[0] or [1]	Commerce and Trade	Anyone involved in business, whether foreign or domestic (e.g., small and large businesses, street sellers, hairdressers).

Variable	Value	Label	Description
intended_victim_lvl2_pr_04	[0] or [1]	Cultural Figures	Musicians and all other kinds of performers, film crew, and athletes.
intended_victim_lvl2_pr_05	[0] or [1]	Education	Everyone who works in schools, from cleaners to directors. Schools include all levels, from daycare to university.
intended_victim_lvl2_pr_06	[0] or [1]	Infrastructure, Communications, Maintenance	Everyone who works on any kind of infrastructure (e.g., roads, bridges, all utilities, pipelines, mines, oil fields).
intended_victim_lvl2_pr_07	[0] or [1]	Journalism & Media	All persons who work in any form of media in any capacity, including radio and TV news personnel and online journalists.
intended_victim_lvl2_pr_08	[0] or [1]	Maritime & Fisheries	All individuals involved in maritime trade and fisheries, but not ferries.
intended_victim_lvl2_pr_10	[0] or [1]	NGO & Relief	All civilians who work, or volunteer for, any type of domestic or international aid organization that is not beholden to a state's government.
intended_victim_lvl2_pr_11	[0] or [1]	Private Security	All individuals involved in security who are not paid by a state, local government, military group, or terrorist organization.
intended_victim_lvl2_pr_12	[0] or [1]	Religious Figures	Religious leaders, such as priests, imams, preachers, prominent religious scholars, and others who hold authority or are in positions of prominence.
intended_victim_lvl2_pr_13	[0] or [1]	Tourism	Tourists and all individuals involved in the tourism industry.
intended_victim_lvl2_pr_14	[0] or [1]	Transport	All individuals involved in public and private transport (e.g., buses, taxis, rickshaws, ferries). Includes airport staff and all aviation workers except the military.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
intended_victim_lvl2_pr_15	[0] or [1]	Utilities & Mining	All individuals involved in gas, oil, electricity, water, hydroelectric power, coal, telecommunication, and mining.
Intended_victim_lvl2_pr_16	[0] or [1]	Medical, Abortion Related	All individuals involved in the provision of abortion services, whether or not they are medical personnel.
intended_victim_lvl2_pr_17	[0] or [1]	Medical, Emergency First Responders	All medical personnel who are responding to emergency situations outside a hospital facility. Includes other first responders (e.g., emergency medical technicians, firefighters, detonation experts) and military medics when they are responding to an emergency.
intended_victim_lvl2_pr_18	[0] or [1]	Medical, Non-Emergency	All medical personnel who are working in medical settings (e.g., hospitals, clinics, doctor's offices); all public health workers and officials (e.g., midwives, vaccination workers); and all staff working in the emergency departments of hospitals and other medical facilities. Does not include emergency medical technicians and other medical personnel who are responding to emergencies outside a hospital facility.
intended_victim_lvl2_nn_01	[0] or [1]	None	Denotes that there were no victims and no intended or targeted victims.

Facility Types

Binary variables

Facility type variables are broken down into level 1 (parent category) and level 2 (specific attribute). Each variable has a unique alphanumeric code corresponding to its level 1 parent category and level 2 attribute, as well as a text label.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
facility_lvl1_co	[0] or [1]	COMMERCIAL	Parent category for any facilities used for commercial purposes.
facility_lvl1_cu	[0] or [1]	CULTURE	Parent category for any facilities that are used for cultural purposes or have cultural significance.
facility_lvl1_go	[0] or [1]	GOVERNMENT	Parent category for any government-owned or operated facilities.
facility_lvl1_in	[0] or [1]	INFRASTRUCTURE	Parent category for any facilities related to infrastructure and development.
facility_lvl1_mi	[0] or [1]	MILITARY FACILITY	Parent category for any military-owned or operated facilities.
facility_lvl1_ms	[0] or [1]	MISCELLANEOUS	Parent category for any miscellaneous facility types.
facility_lvl1_un	[0] or [1]	UNKNOWN OR UNCLEAR	Parent category for unknown or unclear facility types.
facility_lvl1_nn	[0] or [1]	NONE	Parent category for if there was no specific facility type.
facility_lvl2_co_01	[0] or [1]	Individual Retail	Retail stores, department stores, and indoor malls.
facility_lvl2_co_02	[0] or [1]	Offices	All offices and office buildings.
facility_lvl2_co_03	[0] or [1]	Tourist Facilities	Hotels and other destinations that are primarily frequented by foreigners and tourists.
facility_lvl2_cu_01	[0] or [1]	Entertainment, Sports	All theaters, movie theaters, night clubs, bars, concert halls, arenas, sports facilities, and similar venues, both indoor and outdoor.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
facility_lvl2_cu_02	[0] or [1]	Media	All media offices (e.g., newspaper headquarters or field offices, radio stations), printing plants and other facilities, and any vehicle (e.g., boat, jeep, helicopter) that transports media personnel.
facility_lvl2_cu_03	[0] or [1]	Religious Sites	All buildings of all religious faiths and groups, including houses of worship, schools, and any other buildings or compounds that they own or occupy. Includes religious shrines, cemeteries, and other monuments.
facility_lvl2_cu_04	[0] or [1]	Tourist Sites	Museums, historical buildings, secular cemeteries, monuments, castles, archeological sites, ruins, and other settings that are of cultural importance to the local, national, and/or international community.
facility_lvl2_go_01	[0] or [1]	Buildings or Vehicles	All buildings and facilities known to belong to any level of government. Examples: local government buildings, courthouses and judicial buildings, buildings used by the governing party, all election facilities, buildings temporarily used as polling places during an election. Includes government buses, limousines, and other vehicles.
facility_lvl2_go_02	[0] or [1]	Diplomatic	Buildings with diplomatic status (e.g., embassies, consulates, cultural centers) and offices of international entities with diplomatic status such as the World Bank and UN organizations.
facility_lvl2_go_03	[0] or [1]	Law Enforcement & Intelligence	All police buildings and vehicles, checkpoints, check posts, patrols, prisons, and jails attached to the national, state, or local government; and buildings and facilities associated with government intelligence services. Does not include any checkpoints or other installations associated with military, paramilitary, or militia forces.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
facility_lvl2_in_01	[0] or [1]	Agriculture & Food	All farms, farm equipment, and farm produce and food storage and distribution networks.
facility_lvl2_in_02	[0] or [1]	Civilian Aviation	All civilian aircraft, airfields, airports, offices of commercial aviation companies, and other infrastructure. Does not include any kind of military aircraft.
facility_lvl2_in_03	[0] or [1]	Communications, Cyber/Digital	All television and radio broadcast infrastructure (e.g., broadcasting equipment, studios, offices) and telephone infrastructure, cell towers, and computer servers.
facility_lvl2_in_04	[0] or [1]	Construction & Factory	All construction sites, working and abandoned factories, warehouses, and other industrial infrastructure.
facility_lvl2_in_05	[0] or [1]	Education	All buildings, buses, and facilities of schools, universities, and other educational facilities (e.g., libraries, language schools, computing schools, training centers, daycare centers). However, certain specialized or affiliated schools are classified under other categories because they are often targeted because of their affiliations. Examples: Police academies are entered under Government - Law Enforcement & Intelligence. Military academies are under Military Facility - National or Military Facility - Multi-National. Religious schools are under Culture - Religious Sites. When the incident involves a school classified under a category other than education, mention is made in the summary that the facility is a school.
facility_lvl2_in_06	[0] or [1]	Healthcare Facilities	All medical offices, hospitals, clinics, and abortion-related facilities; all ambulances, fire engines, and other first-responder vehicles; and all military medical facilities.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
facility_lvl2_in_07	[0] or [1]	Land Transport	All kinds of land vehicles (e.g., cars, trains, buses, subways) and the infrastructure that supports them (e.g., railroad tracks, railroad stations, bus stations, roads). Does not include special-purpose vehicles (e.g., police cars, military vehicles, ambulances, government vehicles).
facility_lvl2_in_08	[0] or [1]	Maritime & Fishing	All water vehicles used in transport, trade, commerce, fishing, or leisure; the infrastructure supporting them (e.g., docks, ferry stations, warehouses); and all vessels used in the transport of natural resources and fuel (e.g., oil tankers).
facility_lvl2_in_09	[0] or [1]	Private Property, Residences	Privately owned land, apartment buildings, and individual homes.
facility_lvl2_in_10	[0] or [1]	Public Places	All outdoor public spaces (e.g., marketplaces, city streets, plazas, parks, parking lots, garages, beaches).
facility_lvl2_in_11	[0] or [1]	Relief	Offices of domestic and international NGOs and their vehicles, refugee camps, internally displaced person (IDP) camps and informal refugee settlements, relief shipments and their distribution network, de-militarized zones, and any areas or facilities established to protect civilian populations in conflict zones. However, emergency medical technicians' vehicles, ambulances, and Red Cross vehicles are classified as Infrastructure - Healthcare Facilities, not Infrastructure - Relief.
facility_lvl2_in_12	[0] or [1]	Utilities & Mining	All energy infrastructure (e.g., coal, charcoal, oil, gas, hydroelectric power, nuclear power, solar, wind); other domestic utilities (e.g., water, sewage); and extraction, transport, and distribution networks for all minerals and energy sources, including commercial and artisanal mining.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
facility_lvl2_mi_01	[0] or [1]	Military Facility – Foreign	Third-country military facilities that are present in the country, whether or not they are there by invitation of the government, and all installations, checkpoints, weapons, and vehicles. Does not include U.S. or NATO forces, nor third-country militaries that are present as part of an internationally sanctioned peacekeeping operation.
facility_lvl2_mi_04	[0] or [1]	Military Facility – Multi-national	All facilities of members of internationally sanctioned multinational peacekeeping units in a country (e.g., NATO, the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia [ATMIS]), except U.S. forces.
facility_lvl2_mi_05	[0] or [1]	Military Facility – National	All facilities, installations, weapons, and vehicles of the national military (whether or not they are engaged in military operations) and military contractors.
facility_lvl2_mi_06	[0] or [1]	Military Facility – US	Only facilities of the U.S. military and U.S. military contractors. Includes all installations, checkpoints, weapons, and vehicles.
facility_lvl2_ms_01	[0] or [1]	Labor Unions & Political Organizations	Facilities of labor unions, other organized social groups, and any political parties except the governing party, which is classified under Government - Buildings or Vehicles.
facility_lvl2_ms_02	[0] or [1]	Property of PEPs	Property that is targeted because the owners are Politically Exposed Persons (PEPs) [persons who are susceptible to involvement in corruption or bribery] or who are believed to be involved in corruption, bribery, money laundering, or similar practices.
facility_lvl2_ms_04	[0] or [1]	Perpetrators	Facilities owned and operated by a perpetrator group.

Variable	Value	Label	Description
facility_lvl2_ms_03	[0] or [1]	Pro-Government Forces	All facilities, installations, checkpoints, weapons, and vehicles of pro-government forces that are not part of the official military, whether or not the pro-government forces receive funding from the government.
facility_lvl2_ms_05	[0] or [1]	Violent non-State Actors	Facilities owned and operated by a violent non-state actor.
facility_lvl2_un_01	[0] or [1]	Unknown/Unclear	The site is unknown, impossible to determine, or not important to the incident. Examples: attacks targeting specific individuals or groups of people, random rocket and mortar attacks, incidents resulting from interactions with police. In such cases, there is no need to try to track down the facility category.
Facility_lvl2_nn_01	[0] or [1]	None	No facility was targeted.

Source File - Data Dictionary

Incident Identification

unique_incident_id
Numeric variable

Each record of an incident has a unique nine-digit incident ID number.

incident_id
Numeric variable

Each record of an incident also has a seven-digit incident_id that is used to identify a multi-incident event. An event can include one or more incidents. Multiple related incidents that form an event share the same incident ID but have a different incident sequence number (incident_seq).

incident_seq
Numeric variable

Each record of an incident contains an incident sequence number used to identify multiple, related incidents that form an event. When only one incident occurred, the sequence number is always "00." In cases of related incidents, the incident sequence begins with "01."

Source and Publication Information

headline
String variable

This variable indicates the name of the article containing the information used to identify the incident.

publication_date

Date variable

This numeric variable indicates the date the source material was published and is entered as dd/mm/yyyy.

publication_source

String variable

This variable gives the name of the media outlet that published the article containing the information recorded in *GRID* about the incident.

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    ii. In-text citation or acknowledgement 1) stating that GTTAC is the source of the data and that the data are publicly available, and 2) giving the date of publication.
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    ii. In the manner of the *Chicago Manual of Style:*

         GTTAC (Global Terrorism Trends and Analysis Center). *GTTAC Global Record of Incident Database, 2018–22* [data file]. Bethesda, MD: Development Services Group, Inc., 2023. Retrieved September 30, 2023, from https://gttac.com/data/

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    iv. In the manner of the *Chicago Manual of Style:*

         GTTAC. (Global Terrorism Trends and Analysis Center). *GTTAC Record of Incident Database 2023 Codebook.* Bethesda, Md.: Development Services Group, Inc., 2023.

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    If you are *citing* the GRID Codebook, write it using one of the following two formats:

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(GTTAC, 2023)

    vii.   In the manner of *Chicago* and DSG style:

(GTTAC 2023)

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