

Table 3.175.2007

U.S. citizen deaths, injuries, and kidnappings resulting from international terrorism

By type of casualty, 1981-2003, and 2005-2007

	U.S. citizens			
	Total	Killed	Injured	Kidnaped
1981	47	7	40	NA
1982	19	8	11	NA
1983	386	271	115	NA
1984	42	11	31	NA
1985	195	38	157	NA
1986	112	12	100	NA
1987	54	7	47	NA
1988	231	192	39	NA
1989	34	16	18	NA
1990	43	9	34	NA
1991	23	7	16	NA
1992	3	2	1	NA
1993	1,011 ^a	7	1,004	NA
1994	11	6	5	NA
1995	70	10	60	NA
1996	535 ^b	25	510	NA
1997	27	6	21	NA
1998	23	12	11	NA
1999	12	6	6	NA
2000	70	23	47	NA
2001 ^c	2,779	2,689	90	NA
2002	62	27	35	NA
2003	52	35	17	NA
2004	NA	NA	NA	NA
2005	84	56	17	11
2006	67	28	27	12
2007	36	19	0	17

Note: These data are from the U.S. Department of State and the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC). Terrorism is defined as premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against noncombatant targets by subnational groups or clandestine agents. International terrorism involves citizens or territory of more than one country. Noncombatants include civilians, civilian police, and military assets outside of war zones and war-like settings. Diplomatic assets, including personnel, embassies, consulates, and other facilities, also are considered noncombatants. (Source: 2007.) Only those incidents directed against civilians and unarmed military personnel while off duty are considered terrorist attacks. (Source: 2003, p. 2.) Beginning in 2005, the NCTC adopted a slightly expanded definition of terrorism. The criterion for international terrorism, i.e., incidents "involving citizens or territory of more than one country" was omitted. Therefore, the data for 2005 and subsequent years are not directly comparable to previous years.

According to the NCTC, "Tallying attack data involves relying exclusively on frequently incomplete and ambiguous information. Information for these statistics is not derived from Federal government collection programs created or operated specifically to obtain attack data. The quality, accuracy, and volume of open source reporting can vary greatly from country to country. As a result, determining whether an incident meets the NCTC criteria for a terror attack is often difficult and highly subjective." The Source notes that if the attack does not involve mass casualties, little information is typically available on these incidents and they usually receive less media coverage. Furthermore, in parts of the world where there is little press coverage and little non-governmental organization presence, terror attacks often go unreported. As the NCTC also notes, in the cases of Iraq and Afghanistan, it is particularly difficult to gather comprehensive information about all incidents and to distinguish terrorism from the numerous other forms of violence. (Source: 2007.)

Some data have been revised by the Source and may differ from previous editions of SOURCEBOOK.

^aThe bombing of the World Trade Center in New York City on Feb. 26, 1993 accounts for this increase.

^bThe bombing of the Al Khubar U.S. military housing complex near Dhahran, Saudi Arabia on June 25, 1996 accounts for this increase.

^cThese figures may not include complete counts of persons killed and wounded in the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and are subject to revision.

Source: U.S. Department of State, *Patterns of Global Terrorism: 1987*, p.1; *1988*, p. 4; *1995*, p. 74; *2000*, p. 87; *2003*, p. 180 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of State); data provided by U.S. Department of State [Online]. Available: <http://www.state.gov/s/ct/rls/pgtrpt/2003/33777.htm> [June 22, 2004]; *Country Reports on Terrorism: 2005* [Online]. Available: <http://www.state.gov/s/ct/rls/crt/2005/> [May 17, 2007]; *2006* [Online]. Available: <http://www.state.gov/s/ct/rls/crt/2006/> [May 17, 2007]; *2007* [Online]. Available: <http://www.state.gov/s/ct/rls/crt/2007/> [June 30, 2008]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.