WHAT IS THE GLOBAL TERRORISM INDEX?

The Global Terrorism Index, produced by the Institute for Economics and Peace, is the first index to systematically rank and compare 158 countries worldwide over a ten year period to shed light on the impact of terrorism.

The Index is based on data from the Global Terrorism Database (GTD) of the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) - the most comprehensive dataset on terrorist activity with over 104,000 cases of terrorist attacks codified.

The GTI ranks countries based on the following four indicators weighted over five years:

- Total number of terrorist incidents
- Total number of fatalities from terrorism
- Total number of injuries from terrorism
- Estimated property damage from terrorism

Each of the factors is weighted between zero and three, with fatalities having the highest weighting, and a five year weighted average is applied to reflect the lasting psychological effect of terrorist acts over time.

RESULTS

The global impact of terrorism increased significantly from 2002 to 2007, reaching its peak in 2007 and has since plateaued. The biggest rise took place over the period from 2005 to 2007 when the majority of the global increase in terrorism was driven by events in Iraq.

It is worth noting only 31 nations did not experience a terrorist incident between 2002 and 2011, indicating the impact of terror, while heavily concentrated in some places like Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India, is nonetheless distributed around the world.

The Ten Countries Most Affected by Terrorism in 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th>GTI SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>9.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>9.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>8.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>8.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Yemen</td>
<td>7.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>7.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>7.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>7.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>7.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>6.80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

KEY FINDINGS

- The number of terrorist incidents and the number of successful attacks has steadily increased over the last decade.
- In 2011, 91% of terrorist attacks were successful.
- From 2002 to 2011 over one third of all victims killed in terrorist attacks were Iraqi.
- In 2011 there were 4564 terrorist incidents globally, resulting in 7473 deaths and 13961 injuries.
- Most terrorist attacks occur in the context of a wider conflict situation.
- Whilst religious terrorism often gets widespread coverage, there is a significant level of terrorism from non-religious groups.
- Western Europe experiences many more terrorist incidents than the U.S. having also suffered 19 times more fatalities than the U.S.
- Over the period 2002-2011, terrorists were most likely to target private citizens and property, government, police, and business. The trends for these attacks have been increasing as a percentage for all targets since 2002. Military installations and personnel were only targeted in 4% of incidents.
- Global incidents, fatalities and injuries are dominated by events in lower middle income countries. Seven of the ten countries most affected by terrorism are from the lower middle income bracket.
- Low income countries are much less likely to suffer from terrorism than lower middle income countries. This suggests that poverty is not a prime driver of terrorism.
- The majority of global incidents, fatalities and injuries occur in countries with hybrid regimes and account for 46% of incidents, 54% of fatalities and 60% of all injuries.
- Terrorism correlates with low political stability, low intergroup cohesion, human rights violations and with high levels of group grievances.
- From 2002 to 2011, North America was the least likely region to suffer from a terrorist attack, followed by Western Europe.

1. Hybrid regimes are broadly understood as regimes with authoritarian control but also with some democratic aspects.

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