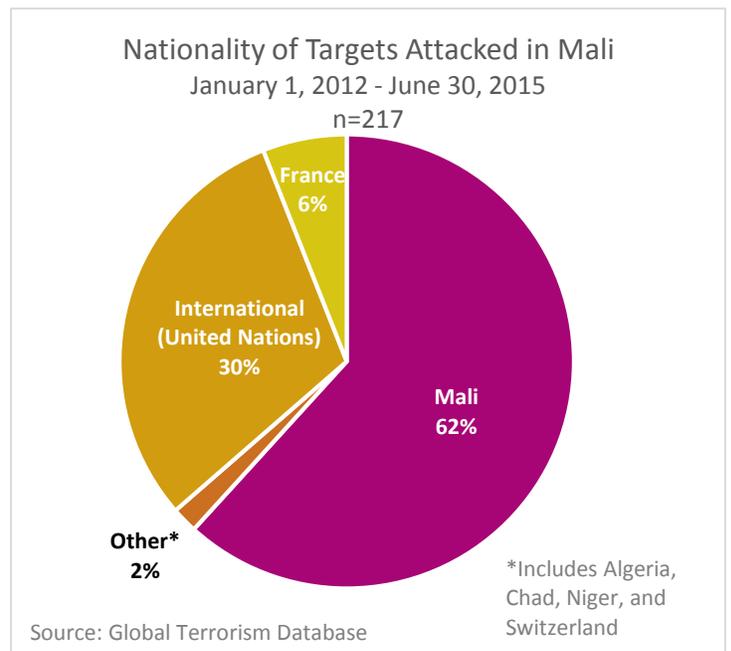


Terrorism in Mali

In response to the attack on a hotel in Bamako, Mali on November 20, 2015, START has compiled the following information from the [Global Terrorism Database \(GTD\)](#).¹

- Between 1990 and 2014, Mali experienced 199 terrorist attacks, which killed a total of 725 people, including 178 perpetrators. The majority of these attacks (70%) took place between 2012 and 2014. In addition, preliminary data from the first six months of 2015 indicate that 77 terrorist attacks were carried out in Mali, killing 154 people, including 48 perpetrators.
- The most common targets of attacks in Mali between 2012 and 2014 were classified as military (28%) and diplomatic (25%) targets. Attacks against military targets were typically aimed at army checkpoints. Nearly all of the attacks against diplomatic targets were against the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA). This trend persists in 2015 when, according to preliminary data, MINUSMA was the target most frequently attacked.
- Attacks against business targets in Mali, like the recent attack on a hotel in Bamako, were very rare during this time period and include a single attack in which perpetrators believed to be Islamist extremists opened fire on a bar in Gao, killing one person.
- Targets of terrorism in Mali were most frequently Malian (62%). However, nearly one-third of attacks targeted the United Nations, 6 percent targeted French targets, and 2 percent targeted other nations, including Algeria, Chad, Niger, and Switzerland.
- The deadliest single attack in Mali since 2012 took place in May 2014, when assailants opened fire on the office of the regional governor in Kidal. Eight soldiers, eight civil servants, and 28 assailants were killed, and 91 others were wounded, including 62 assailants. In addition, 32 civil servants were abducted, and released within two days. The Azawad National Liberation Movement (MNLA) claimed responsibility for the attack, indicating that it was carried out in response to the government's lack of commitment to peace talks.
- From 2012 to 2014, 14 percent of all terrorist attacks in Mali involved hostages or kidnap victims. The attack involving the most hostages was the 2014 attack in Kidal described above, in which 32 civil servants were abducted.
- Information about the perpetrators of terrorist attacks in Mali was reported for approximately two-thirds (66%) of all attacks. Among attacks for which perpetrator information was available, three organizations were responsible for nearly three-quarters (72%) of all attacks: the Movement for Oneness and Jihad in West Africa (MUJAO; 38%), al-Qa'ida in the Lands of the Islamic Maghreb (AQLIM; 17%), and Azawad National Liberation Movement (MNLA; 17%).
- For more information on worldwide trends in terrorism, including incidents involving hostage taking, visit START's Overview of Terrorism in 2014 (http://www.start.umd.edu/pubs/START_GTD_OverviewofTerrorism2014_Aug2015.pdf). Information on hostages begins on [page 5](#).



¹ For additional information on the inclusion criteria and data collection methodology for the Global Terrorism Database, please see the [GTD Codebook](#).

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The data presented here are drawn from START's Global Terrorism Database (GTD) and reports from news media. The GTD contains information on more than 140,000 terrorist incidents that have occurred around the world since 1970. For more information about the GTD, visit www.start.umd.edu/gtd.



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