The Global Terrorism Database (GTD) is an open-source database including information on terrorist events around the world from 1970 through 2016 (with additional annual updates planned for the future). Unlike many other event databases, the GTD includes systematic data on domestic as well as transnational and international terrorist incidents that have occurred during this time period and now includes more than 170,000 cases. For each GTD incident, information is available on the date and location of the incident, the weapons used and nature of the target, the number of casualties, and--when identifiable--the group or individual responsible.

Statistical information contained in the Global Terrorism Database is based on reports from a variety of open media sources. Information is not added to the GTD unless and until we have determined the sources are credible. Users should not infer any additional actions or results beyond what is presented in a GTD entry and specifically, users should not infer an individual associated with a particular incident was tried and convicted of terrorism or any other criminal offense. If new documentation about an event becomes available, an entry may be modified, as necessary and appropriate.

The National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) makes the GTD available via this online interface in an effort to increase understanding of terrorist violence so that it can be more readily studied and defeated.

**Characteristics of the GTD**

Contains information on over 170,000 terrorist attacks

Currently the most comprehensive unclassified database on terrorist events in the world

Includes information on more than 83,000 bombings, 18,000 assassinations, and 11,000 kidnappings since 1970

Includes information on at least 45 variables for each case, with more recent incidents including information on more than 120 variables

Over 4,000,000 news articles and 25,000 news sources were reviewed to collect incident data from 1998 to 2016 alone

Codebook.pdf contains a detailed description of all the attributes present in the dataset, while the important attributes mostly used in the analysis have been listed below:

**Most important attributes from the dataset:**

* Number of people killed
* Number of people injured
* City, region and country of attack
* Year of attack
* Type of perpetrators
* Type of attack
* Type of weapon used
* Type of target in the terrorist attack
* Indicator variable representing the success of the attack
* Indicator variable – if there a suicide or not
* If the terrorist organization claimed responsibility or not
* Property damage
* Information on hostages
* Information on ransom paid