

Where did the incidents occur in relation to the IHE?

It may initially seem as though only incidents occurring on-campus are relevant to understanding targeted violence that affects IHEs. However, such a view neglects the role of campus safety departments and campus threat assessment teams in securing the area surrounding the campus and assessing the threats posed by and to IHE students, faculty, and staff, regardless of whether the ultimate act of violence occurs within the confines of the campus boundaries. Thus, the current project aimed to identify incidents that could fall within the purview of a campus threat assessment. A majority of the incidents occurred on-campus (79 percent, $n = 214$), while approximately one-fifth (19 percent, $n = 52$) were off-campus. The remaining six incidents occurred either at non-campus³⁰ locations (1 percent, $n = 3$) or at undetermined sites (1 percent, $n = 3$).

Of those incidents that occurred at on-campus or non-campus sites ($n = 217$), similar numbers of incidents took place in residential buildings (28 percent, $n = 60$), parking lots or campus grounds (27 percent, $n = 58$), and administrative and/or academic buildings such as offices, classrooms, laboratories (26 percent, $n = 56$; see Table 4). In only 3 percent ($n = 6$) of the on/non-campus incidents did the subject move from the campus grounds or parking lots to buildings, move between buildings, or cause injuries and/or deaths in more than one location on campus. In addition to the Virginia Tech attack in 2007, two other examples in which subjects moved from one location or building to another are the following:

Table 4: On and Non-campus Directed Assaults, by Building, 1900-2008

Buildings	$n =$	%
IHE Residence	60	27.7
IHE Grounds & Parking Lots	58	26.7
Administrative or Academic	56	25.8
Student/Employee Services	22	10.1
Other/Undetermined	15	6.9
Multiple Facilities/Buildings	6	2.8
Total	217	100.0

On August 1, 1966, a 25-year-old student and former marine seized an observation tower on campus, killing and/or injuring several people on his way up the tower, then randomly fired a rifle at passersby for approximately 96 minutes. He was eventually shot by police. In the aftermath, 13 people were killed and 31 were wounded on the campus. The evening before the incident, the subject typed a final letter of explanation detailing his thoughts. He then went to his mother's home, choking and fatally stabbing her shortly after midnight. After writing another letter, which he left there, he returned home and fatally stabbed his wife as she slept. Penning notes to other family members, he prepared for his attack later that day.

On December 14, 1992, an 18-year-old student killed one professor, one student, and wounded four others in a random sweep across campus. The subject first approached a security-guard shack on the campus and shot the guard inside. Critically wounding him, he then fatally shot a professor, who was driving past. From there, he walked to the library where he fatally shot a student. He then entered a dormitory and resumed firing. He surrendered to police after his rifle jammed and he called 911, informing them that he was the shooter. Reportedly, the subject held views that were perceived as racist, homophobic and anti-Semitic by fellow students and was not adjusting well to the campus environment.

See Appendix B for descriptions of the remaining three incidents.

³⁰ See Appendix A for definition.