Vehicles as Weapons of Terror

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Via Alamy

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On July 14, 2016, Tunisian-born Mohamed Lahouaiej-Bouhlel drove a 19-ton truck into a crowd celebrating Bastille Day at Nice's Promenade des Anglais, killing 86 people and wounding more than 430 others. ISIS claimed responsibility for the terrorist attack two days later, calling Lahouaiej-Bouhlel a "soldier of the Islamic State."[1] The attack in Nice, though not the first of its kind, was the deadliest modern vehicular terrorist attack[2] in Europe, launching a wave of terrorist and ISIS-claimed vehicular attacks around the world. Since the Nice attacks, CEP has documented

[1] Sam Jones, Angelique Chrisafis, and Caroline Davies, "Nice truck attack: Islamic State claims responsibility," *Guardian* (London), July 16, 2016, https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jul/16/islamic-state-claims-responsibility-for-nice-truck-attack.

[2] The U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) defines vehicle ramming as an "attack in which a perpetrator deliberately aims a motor vehicle at a target with the intent to inflict fatal injuries or significant property damage by striking with concussive force."

major vehicular incidents in Vienna,[3] Ohio,[4] Berlin,[5] London,[6] Antwerp,[7] Stockholm,[8] Paris,[9] Barcelona,[10] Edmonton,[11] and New York.[12] On August 14, 2018, an attacker struck pedestrians and bicyclists in London before crashing his car into security barriers outside the Houses of Parliament, leaving three people wounded.[13]

The 2016 Nice attack set off a wave of vehicular terrorist attacks in autumn of that year, which collectively left 12 people dead and 67 others wounded. In September 2016, an assailant drove his car at shoppers in Vienna's Favoriten district while shouting "Allahu Akbar," leaving no injuries.[14]

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[3] "Vehicle Ramming Attacks," Transportation Security Administration, May 2017, https://info.publicintelligence.net/TSA-VehicleRamming.pdf; Lizzie Dearden, "Man Who Drove Into Pedestrians Shouting Allahu Akbar 'Was Just Singing Along To Rap Music While Buying Pizza' Parents Say," *Independent* (London), October 7, 2016, http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/vienna-favoriten-car-ramming-attack-allahu-akbar-pizza-against-isis-rap-music-singing-cannabis-a7349876.html.

[4] Mitch Smith, Richard Perez-Pena, and Adam Goldman, "Suspect Is Killed in Attack at Ohio State University That Injured 11," *New York Times*, November 28, 2016, http://www.nytimes.com/2016/11/28/us/active-shooter-ohio-state-university.html.

[5] "Truck Plows into Berlin Christmas Market," Reuters, last updated December 23, 2016, http://live.reuters.com/Event/Truck_plows_into_Berlin_Christmas_market_2.

[6] Vikram Dodd and Josh Halliday, "Lee Rigby Killing: Two British Muslim Converts Convicted of Murder," *Guardian* (London), December 19, 2013, https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2013/dec/19/lee-rigby-killing-woolwich-verdict-convicted-murder.

[7] Milan Schreuer, "Man in Antwerp, Belgium, Tries to Drive Into Crowd," *New York Times*, March 23, 2017, https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/23/world/europe/antwerp-belgium-car-attack.html; Erin McLaughlin and Holly Yan, "Antwerp Police Intercept Speeding Car and Thwart 'Attempted Terrorist Attack,'" CNN, March 23, 2017, http://www.cnn.com/2017/03/23/europe/belgium-antwerp-car-intercepted/.

[8] David Crouch and Helena Bengtsson, "Truck Drives into Crowd in Stockholm, Killing Four People," *Guardian* (London), April 8, 2017, https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/apr/07/truck-crashes-in-central-stockholm-sweden.

[9] Henry Samuel, "Paris Police Launch Terror Investigation After Car 'Deliberately' Crashes Into Police Van On The Champs-Elysees," *Telegraph* (London), June 19, 2017, http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/06/19/police-operation-way-champs-elysees-paris/.

[10] "Barcelona Attack: Van Driven Into Crowd In Las Ramblas District - Latest Updates," *Guardian* (London), August 17, 2017, https://www.theguardian.com/world/live/2017/aug/17/barcelona-attack-van-driven-into-crowd-in-las-ramblas-district.

[11] Madison Park and Dakin Andone, "Five Hurt as Edmonton Attacks Spark Terror Investigation," CNN, October 2, 2017, http://www.cnn.com/2017/10/01/americas/edmonton-vehicle-attacks-investigation/index.html.

[12] Benjamin Mueller, William K. Rashbaum, and Al Baker, "At Least 6 Reported Dead as Truck Careens Down Bike Path in Manhattan," *New York Times*, October 31, 2017, https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/31/nyregion/police-shooting-lower-manhattan.html?hp&action=click&pgtype=Homepage&clickSource=story-heading&module=a-lede-package-region&region=top-news&WT.nav=top-news; Melanie Grayce West, Kate King, and Mara Gay, "Eight Killed in Terror Attack in New York," *Wall Street Journal*, October 31, 2017, https://www.wsj.com/articles/at-least-6-die-in-lower-manhattan-incident-1509483701.

[13] "Westminster car crash: Man arrested on suspicion of terror offences," BBC News, August 14, 2018, https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-45180120; William Booth, "London police: Car rampage outside Westminister treated as 'terrorist incident,'" *Washington Post*, August 14, 2018, https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/car-smashes-into-security-barriers-outside-britains-parliament-driver-arrested-amid-injuries/2018/08/14/c778ce66-9f97-11e8-8e87-c869fe70a721_story.html?utm_term=.8eec4ea9eaa6&wpisrc=al_world__alert-world&wpmk=1.

[14] "Vehicle Ramming Attacks," Transportation Security Administration, May 2017, https://info.publicintelligence.net/TSA-VehicleRamming.pdf; Lizzie Dearden, "Man Who Drove Into Pedestrians

In November 2016, Somali-born Abdul Razak Ali Artan carried out a car and knife attack at Ohio State University, wounding 11 people.[15] In December 2016, Tunisian-born Anis Amri charged at pedestrians attending the Christmas Market in Berlin, killing 12 people and wounding 56 others in an attack claimed by ISIS. Footage released by the ISIS-affiliated Amaq News Agency showed Amri pledging allegiance to the group's leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, vowing "we will slaughter" the "crusaders who are shelling the Muslims every day."[16]

CEP has documented at least 100 vehicular terrorist attacks since 2006, collectively resulting in the deaths of at least 270 people and the injury of at least 1,785 others.

Vehicular attacks continued into 2017 and 2018, leaving at least 34 people dead and more than 240 wounded. On March 22, 2017, terrorist assailant Khalid Masood killed five people and wounded 50 more during a vehicle and stabbing attack in London.[17] The following day, a similar attack was thwarted in Antwerp, Belgium.[18] On April 7, another assailant hijacked a truck and careened into crowds of pedestrians at the Ahlens Mall in Stockholm, Sweden, killing four people and wounding 15 more.[19]

On the evening of June 3, 2017, three assailants drove a van at high speed into crowds on the London Bridge and exited the vehicle to stab other pedestrians at the nearby Borough Market.[20] The attack, claimed by ISIS, left eight people dead and 48 wounded, and followed a call by ISIS on May 17 to carry out terrorist attacks in the United States, United Kingdom, and European Union

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Shouting Allahu Akbar 'Was Just Singing Along To Rap Music While Buying Pizza' Parents Say," *Independent* (London), October 7, 2016, http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/vienna-favoriten-car-ramming-attack-allahu-akbar-pizza-against-isis-rap-music-singing-cannabis-a7349876.html.

[15] Katie Mettler, "Ohio State Attacker Complained Bitterly in Facebook Post of Treatment of Muslims 'Everywhere,' Report Says," *Washington Post*, November 29, 2016, https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2016/11/29/ohio-state-attacker-in-facebook-post-complained-bitterly-of-treatment-of-muslims-everywhere-reports-say/.

[16] "Anis Amri: Three arrested including suspect's nephew," CNN, December 24, 2016, http://www.cnn.com/2016/12/24/europe/anis-amri-berlin-attack-milan.

[17] Robert Mendick and Emily Allen, "Khalid Masood: Everything We Know about the London Attacker," *Telegraph* (London), March 27, 2017, http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/03/24/khalid-masood-everything-know-london-attacker/; Kim Sengupta, "Last Message Left by Westminster Attacker Khalid Masood Uncovered by Security Agencies," *Independent* (London) April 27, 2017, http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/last-message-left-by-westminster-attacker-khalid-masood-uncovered-by-security-agencies-a7706561.html.

[18] Milan Schreuer, "Man in Antwerp, Belgium, Tries to Drive Into Crowd," *New York Times*, March 23, 2017, https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/23/world/europe/antwerp-belgium-car-attack.html; Erin McLaughlin and Holly Yan, "Antwerp Police Intercept Speeding Car and Thwart 'Attempted Terrorist Attack,'" CNN, March 23, 2017, http://www.cnn.com/2017/03/23/europe/belgium-antwerp-car-intercepted/.

[19] David Crouch and Helena Bengtsson, "Truck Drives into Crowd in Stockholm, Killing Four People," *Guardian* (London), April 8, 2017, https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/apr/07/truck-crashes-in-central-stockholm-sweden.

[20] "London Attack: Theresa May Says Enough is Enough after Seven Die," BBC News, June 4, 2017, http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-40148737;

using knives and trucks.[21] On June 19, 2017, an assailant drove at a crowd of worshipers near a mosque in north London, leaving at least eight people wounded.[22] Later that day, an armed assailant rammed his vehicle at a police car on the Champs-Elysees street in Paris, seriously injuring himself but leaving no other casualties.[23]

On August 17, 2017, a van was deliberately driven into a crowd of tourists in Las Ramblas, a tree-lined street in the center of Barcelona. The attack, claimed by ISIS, left 16 people dead and 120 others wounded.[24] On September 30, 2017, an assailant launched two vehicular terror attacks in Edmonton, Canada, collectively injuring five people. In the first attack, the assailant used a car to ram into a police officer before exiting the car and stabbing him. The assailant later used a truck to ram into pedestrians, injuring another four people. An ISIS flag was later found in the suspect's vehicle.[25]

Vehicular attacks are not a new phenomenon. Terrorists have carried out car-ramming attacks for more than a decade, in locations ranging from North Carolina[26] to Jerusalem,[27] Tel Aviv,[28]

[21] CEP, Twitter post, June 4, 2017, 3:53 p.m. EST, https://twitter.com/FightExtremism/status/871137860346404864; "Islamic State Claims Responsibility for London Attack," Reuters, June 4, 2017, http://www.reuters.com/article/us-britain-security-claim-idUSKBN18V14P?il=0; "London Bridge attack: last of eight victims identified as Xavier Thomas," *Guardian* (London), June 7, 2017, https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/jun/07/london-bridge-attack-last-of-eight-victims-identified-as-xavier-thomas.

[22] "What We Know So Far About the Finsbury Park Terror Attack," *Guardian* (London), June 19, 2017, https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/jun/19/what-we-know-so-far-van-hits-pedestrians-near-london-mosque.

[23] Henry Samuel, "Paris Police Launch Terror Investigation After Car 'Deliberately' Crashes Into Police Van On The Champs-Elysees," *Telegraph* (London), June 19, 2017, http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/06/19/police-operation-way-champs-elysees-paris/.

[24] "Van Hits Crowds in Barcelona – Latest Updates," BBC News, August 17, 2017, http://www.bbc.com/news/live/40966524; Associated Press, Twitter post, August 17, 2017, https://twitter.com/AP/status/898268669465198598; Stephen Burgen, "Spanish Attacks Death Toll Rises to 16 after Woman Dies in Hospital," *Guardian* (London), August 27, 2017, https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/aug/27/death-toll-spain-terror-attacks-rises-barcelona.

[25] Madison Park and Dakin Andone, "Five Hurt as Edmonton Attacks Spark Terror Investigation," CNN, October 2, 2017, http://www.cnn.com/2017/10/01/americas/edmonton-vehicle-attacks-investigation/index.html.

[26] "Terrorist Use of Vehicle Ramming Tactics," Federal Bureau of Investigation, December 13, 2010, https://info.publicintelligence.net/DHS-TerroristRamming.pdf.

[27] Jeffrey Heller and Avida Landau, "Palestinian Kills 3 in Jerusalem Bulldozer Attack," Reuters, July 2, 2008, http://uk.reuters.com/article/us-israel-tractor-idUKL0243020020080702.

[28] Alexander Marquardt and Bruno Nota, "Terror Attack Outside Tel Aviv Nightclub Filled With 2,000 Teenagers," ABC News, August 29, 2011, http://abcnews.go.com/International/palestinian-drives-stolen-taxi-israelis-stabs/story?id=14403744.

Quebec,[29] Dijon,[30] Nantes,[31] the West Bank,[32] Graz,[33] and Xinjiang.[34] The uptick in vehicular attacks in recent years, however, appears to have been in large part inspired by ISIS's explicit calls to employ cars as weapons. And while groups such as ISIS and al-Qaeda have long called for vehicular attacks as a tactic to sow fear, since 2016, vehicle attacks have also become a tool against protesters. For instance, an online propaganda campaign by the far right has legitimized vehicle

[29] Ian Austen, "Hit-and-Run That Killed Canadian Soldier Is Called Terrorist Attack," *New York Times*, October 21, 2014, https://www.nytimes.com/2014/10/22/world/americas/canadian-soldier-run-down-in-what-officials-call-act-of-terror-dies.html.

[30] "French Driver Reportedly Heard Yelling 'Allahu Akbar' Slams Pedestrians, Injures 13," Fox News, December 22, 2014, http://www.foxnews.com/world/2014/12/22/in-tense-france-driver-rampages-in-lyon-area-slamming-into-passersby.html.

[31] Guillaume Frouin, "Man Rams Van into Christmas Market in France," Reuters, December 23, 2014, http://www.reuters.com/article/uk-france-crash-idUKKBN0K01Q120141223.

[32] Ilan Ben Zion, "Palestinian Vehicle Smashes into IDF Soldiers in West Bank," Times of Israel, November 5, 2014, http://www.timesofisrael.com/car-rams-west-bank-bus-stop-in-possible-fresh-terror-attack/; "Palestinian Confesses to West Bank Car-Ramming Attack," Times of Israel, May 14, 2015, http://www.timesofisrael.com/palestinian-confesses-to-west-bank-car-ramming-attack/; Stuart Winer, "Hamas and Islamic Jihad Praise 'Brave' Attack, Call for Escalation," Times of Israel, August 6, 2015, http://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-and-islamic-jihad-praise-brave-attack-call-for-escalation/; "Lapid: PM Using Latest Car-Ramming Attack to Deepen Societal Divide," Times of Israel, August 7, 2015, http://www.timesofisrael.com/lapid-pm-using-latest-car-ramming-attack-to-deepen-societal-divide/; "Soldier Lightly Hurt in Suspected Car-Ramming Attack," Times of Israel, August 30, 2015, http://www.timesofisrael.com/soldier-lightly-hurt-in-suspected-car-ramming-attack/; Gili Cohen, "Four Wounded in Car-Ramming Attack at Tapuah Junction, West Bank," *Haaretz* (Tel Aviv), November 24, 2015, http://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/1.687957; Adiv Sterman and Raoul Wootliff, "IDF Soldier Said Lightly Hurt in Possible Car-Ramming Attack," Times of Israel, January 26, 2016, http://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-soldier-said-lightly-hurt-in-possible-car-ramming-attack/; "Four Israeli Border Police Injured in Suspected Car Ramming in West Bank," i24NEWS, February 13, 2016, https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/diplomacy-defense/102735-160213-hebron-palestinian-assailant-attempts-to-stab-israeli-soldier-is-shot-dead; Judah Ari Gross, "Troops Thwart Attempted Car-Ramming in West Bank," Times of Israel, February 19, 2016, http://www.timesofisrael.com/troops-thwart-attempted-car-ramming-in-west-bank/; Judah Ari Gross, "Soldier Lightly Hurt in West Bank Car-Ramming Attack," Times of Israel, March 4, 2016, http://www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-lightly-hurt-in-apparent-west-bank-car-ramming-attack/; Yaakov Lappin and Daniel K. Eisenbud, "Gun Attack Followed by Car Ramming Near Hebron; 3 Palestinian Terrorists Shot Dead," *Jerusalem Post*, March 14, 2016, http://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/Initial-report-Attempted-car-ramming-attack-at-Kiryat-Arba-entrance-447827; Tovah Lazaroff, "3 Soldiers Wounded in Vehicular Terrorist Attack Near Talmon," *Jerusalem Post*, May 3, 2016, http://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/Report-Palestinian-allegedly-rams-car-into-three-Israelis-in-West-Bank-452993; Tovah Lazaroff, "Watch: Security Cameras Capture Car Ramming Attack Near Kiryat Arba," *Jerusalem Post*, June 24, 2016, http://www.jpost.com/Israel-News/One-lightly-injured-in-attempted-car-ramming-attack-in-Kiryat-Arba-457628; "Palestinian Attempts To Injure Israeli Soldiers In Car-Ramming, Stabbing Attack," i24NEWS, October 29, 2016, http://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/diplomacy-defense/128812-161029-palestinian-attempts-to-injure-israeli-soldiers-in-car-ramming-stabbing-attack; Tovah Lazaroff and Anna Ahronheim, "Israeli Soldier Killed in West Bank Ramming Attack," *Jerusalem Post*, April 6, 2017, http://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/Initial-report-Suspected-car-ramming-attack-in-West-Bank-486259; Judah Ari Gross, "Israeli Man Lightly Hurt In West Bank Car-Ramming Attack," Times of Israel, April 19, 2017, http://www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-man-lightly-hurt-in-west-bank-car-ramming-attack/.

[33] Melanie Hall, "Bosnian 'With History Of Beating Wife' Accused Of Ploughing Car Into Austria Crowd," *Telegraph* (London), June 21, 2015, http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/austria/11689726/Graz-car-attack-kills-three.html.

[34] "Vehicle Ramming Attacks," Transportation Security Administration, May 2017, https://info.publicintelligence.net/TSA-VehicleRamming.pdf.

attacks against protesters as part of a concerted effort to diminish their causes.[35] Members of the far left have also utilized the tactic in response to counterprotests.[36] Vehicle attacks have also been a consequence of other criminal activity. On November 21, 2021, for example, an SUV sped through a Christmas parade in Waukesha, Wisconsin, killing at least five and wounding at least 40. Investigators did not link the incident to terrorism or extremism and charged the driver with multiple counts of homicide.[37]

In May 2017, the U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) issued a warning to truck and bus companies to watch out for potential vehicular terrorist assailants and listing more than a dozen car-ramming attacks since 2014 that have collectively killed more than 170 people.[38] As the TSA wrote in its memo, terrorist groups will likely continue to encourage "unsophisticated tactics such as vehicle-ramming" since these types of attacks are difficult to prevent and "could inflict mass casualties if successful."[39]

Al-Qaeda, ISIS, and Hamas Call for (and Claim) Attacks

Terrorist groups like al-Qaeda, ISIS, and Hamas have long called for—and claimed responsibility for—vehicular terrorist attacks. Al-Qaeda's second issue of *Inspire* magazine, released in October 2010, contained an article calling for vehicular attacks and referring to a pickup truck as a potential "mowing machine" that can be used to "mow down the enemies of Allah."[40] *Inspire* editor-in-chief Yahya Ibrahim urged al-Qaeda followers to "[g]o for the most crowded location" and "pick up as much speed as you can" in order "strike as many people as possible."[41] An FBI memo released in December of that year noted the emerging danger from vehicular attacks, which may

[35] Hannah Allam, "Vehicle Attacks Rise As Extremists Target Protesters," NPR, June 21, 2020, https://www.npr.org/2020/06/21/880963592/vehicle-attacks-rise-as-extremists-target-protesters; Grace Hauk, "Cars have hit demonstrators 104 times since George Floyd protests began," *USA Today*, last updated September 27, 2020, https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2020/07/08/vehicle-ramming-attacks-66-us-since-may-27/5397700002/.

[36] Marie Fazio, "California Driver Charged After Striking Two Protesters, Police Say," *New York Times*, September 27, 2020, https://www.nytimes.com/2020/09/27/us/tatiana-turner-yorba-linda-protest.html; Henry Holloway, "CROOK CHARGED Black Lives Matter supporter charged with ATTEMPTED MURDER for ramming car through crowd of Trump fans," *U.S. Sun*, September 27, 2020, https://www.the-sun.com/news/1541992/black-lives-matter-charged-car-ram-attempted-murder-trump/; "Woman Charged with Attempted Murder in Yorba Linda Protest," NBC 4, September 29, 2020, https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/yorba-linda-protest-car-crowd-charges-murder/2435982/.

[37] Eric Beech and Alexandra Ulmer, "Five dead, 40 injured after SUV hits Wisconsin Christmas parade," Reuters, last updated November 22, 2021, https://www.reuters.com/world/us/gunshots-fired-holiday-parade-wisconsin-local-cbs-affiliate-2021-11-21/.

[38] CEP has added to the TSA's findings, identifying several other terrorist incidents during this period and since 2006.

[39] Jason Hanna, "TSA Warns Truckers: Watch For Possible Ramming Terror Attacks," CNN, May 5, 2017, http://www.cnn.com/2017/05/04/politics/tsa-ramming-terror-attacks-warning/.

[40] Yahya Ibrahim, "The Ultimate Mowing Machine," *Inspire*, October 2010.

[41] Yahya Ibrahim, "The Ultimate Mowing Machine," *Inspire*, October 2010.

allow terrorists with "limited access to explosives or weapons" the ability to conduct an attack with "minimal prior training or experience."[42]

Following the October 31, 2017, truck-ramming attack in New York City, several old images praising vehicular and other attacks reappeared on pro-ISIS channels on the encrypted messaging service Telegram. In addition, ISIS propaganda calling for vehicular attacks was accessible online the same day of the attack.



An old ISIS propaganda image from Nashir, a news organization affiliated with the group, recirculated on a pro-ISIS Telegram channel on October 31, 2017.

On October 16, 2017, an Internet user uploaded to the U.S. Internet Archive an ISIS video instructing how to carry out a ramming attack. The video is a 26-second segment of the longer video, "*We Will Surely Guide Them to Our Ways*," which features the self-identified American fighter Abu Hamza Al-Amriki, who encourages lone wolf attacks with knives and motor vehicles. The video also features several short clips of U.S.-based locations, including New York City's Times Square. The video was originally released on May 17, 2017.

[42] "Terrorist Use of Vehicle Ramming Tactics," Federal Bureau of Investigation, December 13, 2010, https://info.publicintelligence.net/DHS-TerroristRamming.pdf.



A 26-second video clip on truck attacks available on the Internet Archive, taken from the longer ISIS video "We Will Surely Guide Them to Our Ways," (originally released May 17, 2017). CEP located the clip October 31, 2017.

In September 2014, ISIS spokesman Abu Muhammad al-Adnani issued a call to kill non-believers using any means at their disposal. "[S]ingle out the disbelieving American, Frenchman, or any of his allies," he said. "Smash his head with a rock, or slaughter him with a knife, or run him over with your car."[43] In November of that year, French foreign fighter Abu Salman al-Faranci appeared in a video reiterating ISIS's call for followers—particularly in France—to carry out domestic attacks if they could not join ISIS abroad. As Faranci said to his viewers: "Terrorize them and do not allow them to sleep due to fear and horror. There are weapons and cars available and targets ready to be hit."[44]

In mid-November 2016, ISIS's third issue of online magazine *Rumiyah* included an article calling for its followers to carry out vehicle attacks. The article specified the ideal type, weight, and speed of a car needed for terror purposes, and encouraged attacks on "large outdoor conventions and celebrations, pedestrian-congested streets, outdoor markets, festivals, festivals, parades[, and] political rallies."[45] Later that month, Somali-born Abdul Razak Ali Artan carried out a car and knife attack at Ohio State University, wounding 11 people.[46]

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[43] Yara Bayoumy, "Isis Urges More Attacks On Western 'Disbelievers,'" *Independent* (London) September 22, 2014, http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/isis-urges-more-attacks-on-western-disbelievers-9749512.html.
[44] Duncan Gardham, "ISIL Issued Warning to 'Filthy French,'" Politico, November 15, 2015, http://www.politico.eu/article/paris-terrorist-attacks-isil-issued-warning-to-filthy-french/.
[45] "Just Terror Attacks," *Rumiyah*, November 2016.
[46] Katie Mettler, "Ohio State Attacker Complained Bitterly in Facebook Post of Treatment of Muslims 'Everywhere,' Report Says," *Washington Post*, November 29, 2016,

Following the wave of vehicular terrorist attacks in 2016 and 2017, ISIS has continued to issue calls to violence and warnings of additional car-ramming attacks. On May 17, 2017, the group released a video threatening attacks in the United Kingdom, Europe, and the United States, especially in New York, Las Vegas, and Washington, D.C. ISIS has also threatened and encouraged vehicular attacks on gay pride parades.[47] In June 2017, an account operating under the name of ISIS's Nashir agency released a renewed call for ISIS supporters to "[r]un over people by vehicles and [c]ut off their necks in any time [sic]."[48] In April 2020, the third issue of pro-ISIS online magazine Sawt al-Hind (Voice of India) issued a new call for vehicular attacks as one of multiple inexpensive and easy ways to attack non-believers.[49]



The English-language, pro-ISIS online magazine Voice of Hind called for vehicular attacks in April 2020.

ISIS and al-Qaeda are not the only terrorist groups to urge or claim credit for vehicular terrorist attacks. One of the first documented vehicular attacks was carried out by an unaffiliated Iranian-American, who wounded nine people at the University of North Carolina in 2006.[50] As the assailant Mohammed Reza Taheri-azar told investigators, he had had carried out the attack in an

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2016/11/29/ohio-state-attacker-in-facebook-post-complained-bitterly-of-treatment-of-muslims-everywhere-reports-say/.

[47] "We Will Surely Guide Them To Our Ways," Islamic State Wilayah Ninawa, May 17, 2017; CEP, Twitter post, June 4, 2017, 3:53 p.m. EST, https://twitter.com/FightExtremism/status/871137860346404864.

[48] Counter Extremism Project.

[49] "So, Annihilate the Disbelievers," Voice of Hind, April 2020.

[50] "Terrorist Use of Vehicle Ramming Tactics," Federal Bureau of Investigation, December 13, 2010, https://info.publicintelligence.net/DHS-TerroristRamming.pdf.

effort to punish the U.S. government and "avenge the deaths or murders of Muslims around the world."[51]

A slew of car-ramming attacks have also been carried out by Palestinian assailants in Israel and the West Bank. In November of 2014, Hamas and other Palestinian terrorist groups—including the Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ)—praised a wave of vehicular attacks and called for more. One such image posted online read, "Run [them] over, son of Hebron...and son of Jerusalem. Take your car...and run over the Zionists."[52] Individuals aligned with Hamas and PIJ have continued to target civilians and soldiers alike in ramming attacks in and around Israeli settlements across the West Bank, as well as in Israel proper.

Recent Vehicular Terrorist Attacks

Terrorists have carried out attacks using cars and trucks in a wide range of countries, including the United States, United Kingdom, France, Canada, China, Germany, Israel, and Belgium. In some cases, assailants have used gas canisters or other explosives to supplement the potential damage from car-ramming attacks. This type of planning could be seen in the June 2007 Islamist attack targeting Glasgow Airport in Scotland,[53] the May 2014 attack in China's Xinjiang province,[54] and the June 2015 attack on a gas plant in southern France.[55]

In other cases, extremists have managed to launch deadly or harmful vehicular attacks using low-sophistication tactics like car-ramming and stabbing. CEP has documented more than four dozen vehicular terrorist attacks since 2000. Of these, the single deadliest attack was the July 2016 Bastille Day attack in Nice, when terrorist assailant Mohamed Lahouaiej-Bouhlel killed 86 people and wounded 434 more at Nice's Promenade Des Anglais.[56]

- **March 4, 2006:** North Carolina, United States. Iranian-born Mohammed Reza Taheri-azar uses an SUV to ram into pedestrians at the University of North Carolina, wounding nine

[51] Associated Press, "Man Is Charged After Driving Into Group of Students," *New York Times*, March 5, 2006, http://www.nytimes.com/2006/03/05/us/man-is-charged-after-driving-into-group-of-students.html.
[52] "Vehicular Attack in Jerusalem," Meir Amit Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center, November 6, 2014, http://www.terrorism-info.org.il/en/articleprint.aspx?id=20726.
[53] Associated Press, "4 Arrested In Glasgow Incident; Officials Link It To London Events," *USA Today*, July 1, 2007, http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/news/world/2007-06-30-britain-saturday_N.htm.
[54] "Vehicle Ramming Attacks," Transportation Security Administration, May 2017, https://info.publicintelligence.net/TSA-VehicleRamming.pdf.
[55] "France Attack: Man Decapitated at Factory near Lyon," BBC News, June 26, 2015, http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-33284937.
[56] "Nice Attack: What We Know about the Bastille Day Killings," BBC News, August 19, 2016, http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-36801671; "Vehicle Ramming Attacks," Transportation Security Administration, May 2017, https://info.publicintelligence.net/TSA-VehicleRamming.pdf.

people.[57] Taheri-azar tells investigators that he carried out the attack in order to punish the U.S. government and "avenge the deaths or murders of Muslims around the world."[58]

- **June 30, 2007:** Scotland, United Kingdom. Terrorists drive a flaming jeep into the entrance of Scotland's Glasgow Airport, wounding five people.[59]
- **2008—Present:** West Bank. Assailants carry out more than two dozen vehicular terrorist attacks targeting Israeli civilians and soldiers in the West Bank since 2008. The attacks collectively leave dozens of people wounded and at least one person dead.[60]
- **July 2, 2008:** Jerusalem, Israel. Assailant rams a front-end loader into buses and cars in Jerusalem, killing three people and wounding 40 others.[61]

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[59] Associated Press, "4 Arrested In Glasgow Incident; Officials Link It To London Events," *USA Today*, July 1, 2007, http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/news/world/2007-06-30-britain-saturday_N.htm.

[60] Ilan Ben Zion, "Palestinian Vehicle Smashes into IDF Soldiers in West Bank," Times of Israel, November 5, 2014, http://www.timesofisrael.com/car-rams-west-bank-bus-stop-in-possible-fresh-terror-attack/; "Palestinian Confesses to West Bank Car-Ramming Attack," Times of Israel, May 14, 2015, http://www.timesofisrael.com/palestinian-confesses-to-west-bank-car-ramming-attack/; Stuart Winer, "Hamas and Islamic Jihad Praise 'Brave' Attack, Call for Escalation," Times of Israel, August 6, 2015, http://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-and-islamic-jihad-praise-brave-attack-call-for-escalation/; "Lapid: PM Using Latest Car-Ramming Attack to Deepen Societal Divide," Times of Israel, August 7, 2015, http://www.timesofisrael.com/lapid-pm-using-latest-car-ramming-attack-to-deepen-societal-divide/; "Soldier Lightly Hurt in Suspected Car-Ramming Attack," Times of Israel, August 30, 2015, http://www.timesofisrael.com/soldier-lightly-hurt-in-suspected-car-ramming-attack/; Gili Cohen, "Four Wounded in Car-Ramming Attack at Tapuah Junction, West Bank," *Haaretz* (Tel Aviv), November 24, 2015, http://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/1.687957; Adiv Sterman and Raoul Wootliff, "IDF Soldier Said Lightly Hurt in Possible Car-Ramming Attack," Times of Israel, January 26, 2016, http://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-soldier-said-lightly-hurt-in-possible-car-ramming-attack/; "Four Israeli Border Police Injured in Suspected Car Ramming in West Bank," i24NEWS, February 13, 2016, https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/diplomacy-defense/102735-160213-hebron-palestinian-assailant-attempts-to-stab-israeli-soldier-is-shot-dead; Judah Ari Gross, "Troops Thwart Attempted Car-Ramming in West Bank," Times of Israel, February 19, 2016, http://www.timesofisrael.com/troops-thwart-attempted-car-ramming-in-west-bank/; Judah Ari Gross, "Soldier Lightly Hurt in West Bank Car-Ramming Attack," Times of Israel, March 4, 2016, http://www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-lightly-hurt-in-apparent-west-bank-car-ramming-attack/; Yaakov Lappin and Daniel K. Eisenbud, "Gun Attack Followed by Car Ramming Near Hebron; 3 Palestinian Terrorists Shot Dead," *Jerusalem Post*, March 14, 2016, http://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/Initial-report-Attempted-car-ramming-attack-at-Kiryat-Arba-entrance-447827; Tovah Lazaroff, "3 Soldiers Wounded in Vehicular Terrorist Attack Near Talmon," *Jerusalem Post*, May 3, 2016, http://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/Report-Palestinian-allegedly-rams-car-into-three-Israelis-in-West-Bank-452993; Tovah Lazaroff, "Watch: Security Cameras Capture Car Ramming Attack Near Kiryat Arba," *Jerusalem Post*, June 24, 2016, http://www.jpost.com/Israel-News/One-lightly-injured-in-attempted-car-ramming-attack-in-Kiryat-Arba-457628; "Palestinian Attempts To Injure Israeli Soldiers In Car-Ramming, Stabbing Attack," i24NEWS, October 29, 2016, http://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/diplomacy-defense/128812-161029-palestinian-attempts-to-injure-israeli-soldiers-in-car-ramming-stabbing-attack; Tovah Lazaroff and Anna Ahronheim, "Israeli Soldier Killed in West Bank Ramming Attack," *Jerusalem Post*, April 6, 2017, http://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/Initial-report-Suspected-car-ramming-attack-in-West-Bank-486259; Judah Ari Gross, "Israeli Man Lightly Hurt In West Bank Car-Ramming Attack," Times of Israel, April 19, 2017, http://www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-man-lightly-hurt-in-west-bank-car-ramming-attack/.

[61] Jeffrey Heller and Avida Landau, "Palestinian Kills 3 in Jerusalem Bulldozer Attack," Reuters, July 2, 2008, http://uk.reuters.com/article/us-israel-tractor-idUKL0243020020080702.

- **July 22, 2008:** Jerusalem, Israel. Assailant rams a bulldozer into nearby vehicles in Jerusalem, wounding at least 16 people.[62]
- **September 22, 2008:** Jerusalem, Israel. Assailant rams his car into a group of Israelis in Jerusalem, injuring 15 Israeli soldiers and four civilians.[63]
- **March 5, 2009:** Jerusalem, Israel. Assailant uses a bulldozer to ram into an Israeli police car in Jerusalem, injuring two officers.[64]
- **August 29, 2011:** Tel Aviv, Israel. A suspected Hamas member drives a stolen taxi into a police checkpoint outside of a Tel Aviv nightclub filled with teenagers before exiting the vehicle and stabbing pedestrians. Nine people are wounded in the attack, including four police officers.[65]
- **May 22, 2013:** London, United Kingdom. Two British-born assailants—Michael Adebolajo and Michael Adebowale—ram a car into British soldier Lee Rigby before attacking and killing him with knives and a meat cleaver.[66]
- **May 23, 2014:** Xinjiang, China. Assailants ram two SUVs into a street market and throw explosives in Urumqi, the capital of China's Xinjiang province, killing 39 people and injuring more than 90 others.[67]
- **August 4, 2014:** Jerusalem, Israel. Assailant plows a construction tractor at pedestrians, killing one person and wounding five others.[68]
- **October 20, 2014:** Quebec, Canada. Canadian-born ISIS supporter Martin Couture-Rouleau rams a car into a group of soldiers at a shopping center in Quebec, killing one soldier and wounding another. During the attack, Couture-Rouleau instructed a 911 dispatcher "to alert Canada, the governor and everyone who is responsible for the army" to leave the anti-ISIS coalition.[69]

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[62] Rebecca Harrison, "Bulldozer in Jerusalem Rampage Before Obama Visit," Reuters, July 22, 2008, http://www.reuters.com/article/us-palestinians-israel-idUSL2252341920080722.

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[67] "Vehicle Ramming Attacks," Transportation Security Administration, May 2017, https://info.publicintelligence.net/TSA-VehicleRamming.pdf; "Urumqi Attack Kills 31 in China's Xinjiang Region," BBC News, May 23, 2014, http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-27502652.

[68] "Vehicle Ramming Attacks," Transportation Security Administration, May 2017, https://info.publicintelligence.net/TSA-VehicleRamming.pdf.

[69] Kamika Hinkson, "Assailant in Quebec Hit-and-Run Attack Was Intent on Killing Other Soldiers, Coroner's Report Reveals," CBC News, December 16, 2016, http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/martin-couture-rouleau-patrice-vincent-coroners-report-1.3899842; Mark Gollom and Tracey Lindeman, "Who Is Martin Couture-Rouleau?" CBC News, October 21, 2014, http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/who-is-martin-couture-rouleau-1.2807285.

- **October 22, 2014:** Jerusalem, Israel. A suspected Hamas member rams his car into a crowd of pedestrians at a light rail train station in Jerusalem, killing two people—including a three-month-old girl—and wounding seven more.[70]
- **November 5, 2014:** Jerusalem, Israel. Assailant with alleged ties to Hamas drives into a crowded area in Jerusalem and continues to attack pedestrians using a metal pipe, killing three people and wounding 13 others. Hamas and PIJ both praise the recent wave of vehicular attacks and call for more.[71]
- **December 21, 2014:** Dijon, France. A man rams his car into crowds in the eastern French city of Dijon while shouting "Allahu Akbar," injuring 13 people.[72]
- **December 22, 2014:** Nantes, France. A man rams a van into a crowd of pedestrians at a Christmas market in Nantes, western France, killing one person and wounding 10 others.[73]
- **March 6, 2015:** Jerusalem, Israel. Assailant rams his car at border police in Jerusalem, wounding four policewomen and one pedestrian, before exiting the vehicle wielding a meat cleaver. Hamas spokesman Sami Abu Zuhri posts a statement on Facebook praising the attack on behalf of the terrorist group and calling it "historic."[74]
- **April 15, 2015:** Jerusalem, Israel. Assailant rams his car into a bus stop in Jerusalem, killing one person and wounding another.[75]
- **June 20, 2015:** Graz, Austria. Assailant rams into a crowd of pedestrians before exiting the vehicle and stabbing passersby, killing three people and wounding three dozen more.[76]

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[70] Sasha Goldstein, "Second Victim Dies after Jerusalem Terror Attack that Killed 3-Month-Old American Baby," *New York Daily News*, October 26, 2014, http://www.nydailynews.com/news/world/victim-dies-jerusalem-terror-attack-killed-3-month-old-baby-article-1.1987915.

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[73] Guillaume Frouin, "Man Rams Van into Christmas Market in France," Reuters, December 23, 2014, http://www.reuters.com/article/uk-france-crash-idUKKBN0K01Q120141223; Milos Krivokapic and Lori Hinnant, "France Finds No Links among 3 Attacks in 3 Days," Associated Press, http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/sdut-france-says-car-attackers-apparently-mentally-ill-2014dec23-story.html.

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[75] "Palestinian Rams Car into Bus Stop, Killing Israeli," Reuters, April 16, 2015, http://www.reuters.com/article/us-israel-palestinians-violence-idUSKBN0N71CI20150416.

[76] "Vehicle Ramming Attacks," Transportation Security Administration, May 2017, https://info.publicintelligence.net/TSA-VehicleRamming.pdf; Melanie Hall, "Bosnian 'With History Of Beating Wife' Accused Of Ploughing Car Into Austria Crowd," *Telegraph* (London), June 21, 2015, http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/austria/11689726/Graz-car-attack-kills-three.html.

- **June 26, 2015:** Lyon, France. Assailant Yassin Salhi decapitates his boss and drives his van into a gas plant where he worked in Lyon, southern France, lobbing gas cylinders, causing an explosion, and wounding two people.[77]
- **October 13, 2015:** Jerusalem, Israel. Assailant rams his car into a bus stop in Jerusalem before exiting the vehicle and stabbing pedestrians, killing one person and wounding two others.[78]
- **January 1, 2016:** Valence, France. Assailant drives his car into a group of French soldiers guarding a mosque in Valence, southern France, injuring one person.[79]
- **July 14, 2016:** Nice, France. Tunisian-born Mohamed Lahouaiej-Bouhlel carries out the Bastille Day attacks in France, killing 86 people and wounding 434 more. ISIS claims responsibility.[80]
- **September 29, 2016:** Vienna, Austria. Assailant drives his car at shoppers in Vienna's Favoriten district while shouting "Allahu Akbar," leaving no injuries.[81]
- **November 28, 2016:** Ohio, United States. Somali-born Abdul Razak Ali Artan carries out the car and knife attack at Ohio State University, wounding 11 people. Prior to the attack, Artan calls al-Qaeda propagandist Anwar al-Awlaki "our hero" in a message posted to Facebook. ISIS claims responsibility.[82]
- **December 19, 2016:** Berlin, Germany. Tunisian-born Anis Amri carries out the Christmas Market attack in Berlin, killing 12 people and wounding 56 others. ISIS claims responsibility.[83]
- **March 22, 2017:** London, United Kingdom. British-born Khalid Masood carries out a car-ramming and stabbing attack, killing five people and wounding 50 others. Masood first

[77] "France Attack: Man Decapitated at Factory near Lyon," BBC News, June 26, 2015, http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-33284937; "Vehicle Ramming Attacks," Transportation Security Administration, May 2017, https://info.publicintelligence.net/TSA-VehicleRamming.pdf.

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[80] "Nice Attack: What We Know about the Bastille Day Killings," BBC News, August 19, 2016, http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-36801671; "Vehicle Ramming Attacks," Transportation Security Administration, May 2017, https://info.publicintelligence.net/TSA-VehicleRamming.pdf.

[81] "Vehicle Ramming Attacks," Transportation Security Administration, May 2017, https://info.publicintelligence.net/TSA-VehicleRamming.pdf; Lizzie Dearden, "Man Who Drove Into Pedestrians Shouting Allahu Akbar 'Was Just Singing Along To Rap Music While Buying Pizza' Parents Say," *Independent* (London), October 7, 2016, http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/vienna-favoriten-car-ramming-attack-allahu-akbar-pizza-against-isis-rap-music-singing-cannabis-a7349876.html.

[82] Katie Mettler, "Ohio State Attacker Complained Bitterly in Facebook Post of Treatment of Muslims 'Everywhere,' Report Says," *Washington Post*, November 29, 2016, https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2016/11/29/ohio-state-attacker-in-facebook-post-complained-bitterly-of-treatment-of-muslims-everywhere-reports-say/.

[83] "Vehicle Ramming Attacks," Transportation Security Administration, May 2017, https://info.publicintelligence.net/TSA-VehicleRamming.pdf; "Truck Plows into Berlin Christmas Market," Reuters, last updated December 23, 2016, http://live.reuters.com/Event/Truck_plows_into_Berlin_Christmas_market_2.

rams a crowd of pedestrians on London's Westminster Bridge, killing four people and wounding dozens more. Masood then crashes his car into the gates of the Palace of Westminster. He stabs to death a police officer outside the nearby Houses of Parliament before being shot and killed by police. ISIS claims responsibility.[84]

- **March 23, 2017:** Antwerp, Belgium. A man is intercepted while driving at high speed toward crowds at De Meir, the major shopping street in Antwerp.[85]
- **April 7, 2017:** Stockholm, Sweden. An assailant drives a truck into a crowd at a shopping mall in Stockholm, killing four people and wounding 15 more.[86]
- **June 3, 2017:** London, United Kingdom. Three assailants drive a van at high speed into crowds on the London Bridge and exit the vehicle to stab other pedestrians at the nearby Borough Market. The attack leaves at least eight people dead and least 48 others wounded. The attackers are later identified as Youssef Zaghba, Khuram Butt, and Rachid Redouane.[87]
- **June 19, 2017:** London, United Kingdom. An assailant drives at a crowd of worshipers near a mosque in north London, leaving at least eight people wounded.[88]
- **June 19, 2017:** Paris, France. An armed assailant rams his vehicle at a police car on the Champs-Elysees street in Paris, seriously injuring himself but leaving no other casualties.[89]
- **August 17, 2017:** Barcelona, Spain. A van is deliberately driven into a crowd of tourists in Las Ramblas, a tree-lined street in the center of Barcelona. The attack, claimed by ISIS, leaves 16 people dead and 120 others wounded.[90]

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[84] Jodie Halford, "London Attack: Khalid Masood Identified As Killer," BBC News, March 23, 2017, http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-39372154; Dominic Evans and Omar Fahmy, "London Attack Bears Islamic State 'Signature' but No Clear Link," Reuters, March 24, 2017, http://www.reuters.com/article/us-britain-security-islamicstate-idUSKBN16V25A; Dan Bilefsky, "Andreea Cristea, Who Fell Into Thames During U.K. Attack, Dies," *New York Times*, April 7, 2017, https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/07/world/europe/uk-andreea-cristea-thames-westminster-attack.html; "Vehicle Ramming Attacks," Transportation Security Administration, May 2017, https://info.publicintelligence.net/TSA-VehicleRamming.pdf.

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[86] David Crouch and Helena Bengtsson, "Truck Drives into Crowd in Stockholm, Killing Four People," *Guardian* (London), April 8, 2017, https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/apr/07/truck-crashes-in-central-stockholm-sweden.

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[88] "What We Know So Far About the Finsbury Park Terror Attack," *Guardian* (London), June 19, 2017, https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/jun/19/what-we-know-so-far-van-hits-pedestrians-near-london-mosque.

[89] Henry Samuel, "Paris Police Launch Terror Investigation After Car 'Deliberately' Crashes Into Police Van On The Champs-Elysees," *Telegraph* (London), June 19, 2017, http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/06/19/police-operation-way-champs-elysees-paris/.

[90] "Van Hits Crowds in Barcelona – Latest Updates," BBC News, August 17, 2017, http://www.bbc.com/news/live/40966524; Associated Press, Twitter post, August 17, 2017, https://twitter.com/AP/status/898268669465198598; Stephen Burgen, "Spanish Attacks Death Toll Rises to 16 after

- **September 30, 2017:** Edmonton, Canada. A Somali assailant is suspected behind two vehicular attacks, collectively injuring five people. In the first attack, the assailant uses a car to ram into a police officer before exiting the car and stabbing him. The assailant later uses a truck to ram into pedestrians, injuring another four people. An ISIS flag is later found in the suspect's vehicle.[91]
- **October 31, 2017:** New York, United States. Uzbek immigrant Sayfullo Saipov drives a rented Home Depot truck onto a bicycle path along New York City's West Side Highway for approximately 20 blocks. The driver strikes several people before he drives into a school bus. Police shoot and arrest the driver after he exits the truck carrying a paintball gun and a pellet gun. At least eight people are killed and at least 12 are wounded. Mayor Bill de Blasio calls the attack "an act of terror." It is the deadliest terror attack in New York since 9/11. Police find handwritten notes near the truck attributing the attack to ISIS, and Saipov is reportedly linked to social media accounts that posted ISIS-related material.[92]
- **November 17, 2017:** West Bank. A 17-year-old Palestinian attacker drives a car into a 70-year-old pedestrian at the Efrat South Junction near the Israeli settlement of Efrat. The attacker then continues to the nearby Gush Etzion Junction where he strikes a 35-year-old pedestrian. The attacker exits his vehicle and attempts to stab an Israeli soldier, who shoots and wounds the attacker. Both pedestrians are wounded but survive. The attacker is arrested.[93]
- **March 16, 2018:** West Bank. Alaa Rateb Aa-Latif Kabha drives a car into a group of soldiers outside the Mevo Dotan settlement in the northern West Bank, killing two soldiers and wounding two others. Kabha is detained and taken to a hospital with injuries. The Israeli military labels the ramming a terrorist attack. Hamas praises the attack but does not claim credit.[94]
- **August 14, 2018:** London, United Kingdom. A man drives his car into bicyclists and pedestrians during morning rush hour in London before crashing into security barriers

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[93] Yotam Berger, "Two Israelis Wounded in West Bank Car-ramming Attack," *Haaretz* (Tel Aviv), November 17, 2017, https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/1.823342; "Palestinian Stabs, Rams Israelis in Terror Spree Across West Bank," *Jerusalem Post*, November 17, 2017, http://www.jpost.com/Israel-News/Politics-And-Diplomacy/Two-morning-terror-attacks-in-West-Bank-leave-three-wounded-514496.

[94] Ali Samudi, "Palestinian ramming attack kills 2 Israeli soldiers in West Bank: military," Reuters, March 16, 2018, https://www.reuters.com/article/us-israel-palestinian-ramming/palestinian-ramming-attack-kills-2-israeli-soldiers-in-west-bank-military-idUSKCN1GS214.

outside the Houses of Parliament, wounding three. Police label the incident an act of terrorism and arrest the driver, whose identity is not immediately revealed.[95]

- **August 20, 2018:** Grozny, Chechnya. A man attempts to run over a police officer with his car and instead wounds two other officers before he is killed. ISIS claims responsibility.[96]
- **November 26, 2018:** West Bank. Ramzi Abu Yabes drives his car into a group of soldiers on a sidewalk along the Route 60 highway near the Karmei Tzur settlement, wounding three. The driver is shot dead.[97]
- **January 1, 2019:** Germany. A 50-year-old German man rams his car into two groups of New Year's revelers shortly after midnight in the city of Bottrop and then again in Essen, wounding eight people, including a 4-year-old boy. Seven of the victims are from Syria and Afghanistan. The eighth victim is identified as a German-Turk from Essen. The driver is charged with multiple counts of attempted murder and is suspected of carrying out a hate crime after telling police he wanted to kill foreigners.[98]
- **March 4, 2019:** West Bank. A car drives into a group of soldiers on the side of the road at the entrance to the village of N'ima near Ramallah, injuring two. The soldiers open fire at the three occupants in the car, killing two and wounding the third. Soldiers find Molotov cocktails in the car. The two slain attackers are identified as Amir Daraj and Yousef Inqawi. The wounded attacker is not publicly identified. Hamas praises the attack.[99]
- **August 19, 2019:** West Bank. A car hits two teenage siblings at a bus stop outside the Elazar settlement in the central West Bank, wounding both, one seriously. The vehicle rolls over after the attack and police shoot the driver dead as he tries to exit. The driver is

[95] "Westminster car crash: Man arrested on suspicion of terror offences," BBC News, August 14, 2018, https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-45180120; William Booth, "London police: Car rampage outside Westminister treated as 'terrorist incident,'" *Washington Post*, August 14, 2018, https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/car-smashes-into-security-barriers-outside-britains-parliament-driver-arrested-amid-injuries/2018/08/14/c778ce66-9f97-11e8-8e87-c869fe70a721_story.html?utm_term=.8eec4ea9eaa6&wpisrc=al_world__alert-world&wpmk=1.

[96] "Police officers injured in multiple attacks in Chechnya," Defense Post, August 20, 2018, https://www.thedefensepost.com/2018/08/20/chechnya-attacks-police-grozny-shali-mesker-yurt/.

[97] Judah Ari Gross, "3 soldiers hurt in suspected car-ramming attack in central West Bank," Times of Israel, November 26, 2018, https://www.timesofisrael.com/three-injured-in-suspected-car-ramming-attack-in-central-west-bank/.

[98] Justin Huggler, "Far-Right vigilante groups take to streets of small German town following migrant violence," *Telegraph* (London), January 3, 2019, https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/01/03/far-right-vigilante-groups-take-streets-small-german-town-following/; "Germany charges man suspected of racist car attacks with attempted murder," Reuters, January 2, 2019, https://www.reuters.com/article/us-germany-attack/germany-charges-man-suspected-of-racist-car-attacks-with-attempted-murder-idUSKCN1OW0LO; "Four injured after German man rams car into crowd; racist motive suspected," Reuters, January 1, 2019, https://www.reuters.com/article/us-germany-attack/four-injured-after-german-man-rams-car-into-crowd-racist-motive-suspected-idUSKCN1OV1KN.

[99] Judah Ari Gross and staff, "Two soldiers wounded in West Bank car-ramming; 2 attackers killed," Times of Israel, March 4, 2019, https://www.timesofisrael.com/two-israelis-wounded-in-suspected-west-bank-car-ramming-2-in-vehicle-killed/.

identified as 26-year-old Ala'a Harimi of Bethlehem. The car he was driving had been reported as stolen. Hamas praises the attack.[100]

- **September 20, 2019:** Illinois, United States. Javier Garcia drives his SUV through the front entrance of a Sears store at the Woodfield Mall in Schaumburg, Illinois, wounding seven people. State authorities charge Garcia with terrorism and criminal damage to property. Authorities do not immediately determine a motive. Garcia suffers from schizophrenia, paranoia, and bipolar disorder and accidentally drove through the mall because of his mental illness, according to Garcia's attorney.[101]
- **October 22, 2019:** Oslo, Norway. An armed man steals an ambulance and drives it into a crowd, wounding three, including 7-month-old twins. The hijacker is wounded in a firefight with police who then arrest him and charge him with attempted murder. A woman at a nearby shopping center is also arrested in connection with the attack on a charge of illegal possession of a firearm. Police find a shotgun and an Uzi machine gun at the scene where the ambulance was stolen. Authorities do not immediately identify a motive for the attack. The attacker reportedly had previously distributed propaganda for the Nordic Resistance Movement, raising suspicion of a far-right motive, though he allegedly did not belong to the group.[102]
- **December 31, 2019:** Magas, Ingushetia. Two armed men strike a police officer with their car and then attack three other officers with knives, altogether wounding four before one of the attackers is shot dead and the other is wounded. ISIS claims responsibility.[103]
- **February 6, 2020:** Jerusalem, Israel. An assailant rams his car into a group of Israeli soldiers standing outside an entertainment complex, wounding 12. Police recover the car hours later in Bethlehem in the West Bank and shortly after arrest the suspect, identified as 24-year-old Khaled al-Tourman. Hamas praises the attack as a response to U.S. President Donald Trump's peace plan.[104]

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[100] "2 Israeli teens injured in car-ramming attack in West Bank," Times of Israel, August 16, 2019, https://www.timesofisrael.com/2-seriously-injured-in-suspected-car-ramming-attack-next-to-elazar-settlement/.

[101] Mariel Padilla, "Man Is Charged With Terrorism After Driving S.U.V. Through Illinois Mall," *New York Times*, September 29, 2019, https://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/29/us/mall-driver-charges.html; George Houde, "'It was an accident. It's not terrorism,' says lawyer of Palatine man charged with driving SUV into Woodfield Mall," *Chicago Tribune*, October 1, 2019, https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/breaking/ct-woodfield-mall-terrorism-charge-court-hearing-20191001-w6qimo4grfaiffto5xhufrk2se-story.html.

[102] "Norway ambulance hijack: Oslo rampage leaves three hurt," BBC News, October 22, 2019, https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-50142821; Agence France-Presse, "Norwegian police in 'actions' after ambulance hijack as suspects await questioning," The Local – Norway, October 23, 2019, https://www.thelocal.no/20191023/norwegian-police-in-actions-after-ambulance-hijack-as-suspects-await-questioning; Richard Orange, "Two arrested in Oslo after hijacked ambulance was driven at crowds," *Telegraph* (London), October 22, 2019, https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/10/22/armed-man-steals-ambulance-drives-crowds-oslo/.

[103] "Islamic State Claims Responsibility For Deadly Attack In Ingushetia," Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, January 2, 2020, https://www.rferl.org/a/islamic-state-claims-responsibility-for-deadly-attack-in-ingushetia/30356052.html; Associated Press, "IS claims attack on Russian police that killed 1 officer," CityNews Vancouver, January 2, 2020, https://vancouver.citynews.ca/2020/01/02/is-claims-attack-on-russian-police-that-killed-1-officer/.

[104] Judah Ari Gross, "IDF finds car used in Jerusalem ramming that injured 12, driver still at large," Times of Israel, February 6, 2020, https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-finds-car-used-in-jerusalem-ramming-that-injured-12-driver-still-at-large/; "Suspected Jerusalem car-ramming terrorist named as Khaled al-Tourman, 24," Times of Israel,

- **April 22, 2020:** West Bank. A van strikes a border policeman at a checkpoint near the Israeli settlement of Maale Adumim. The driver then exits the van and stabs the officer with a pair of scissors, wounding him. The attacker is shot and killed by police. The Palestinian Authority identifies the attacker as 25-year-old Ibrahim Halaseh.[105]
- **April 27, 2020:** Colombes, France. A 29-year-old Frenchman drives his car into a group of police cars and motorcycles in the Paris suburb, injuring three officers. The suspect is arrested at the scene. While searching the suspect's car, police find a knife and a letter pledging loyalty to ISIS. Police identify the attacker as Youssef T. He reportedly tells police he was inspired by watching videos about Palestine and the Gaza Strip.[106]
- **May 14, 2020:** West Bank. A Palestinian man strikes an Israeli soldier with his car at a military observation post near the West Bank settlement of Negohot near Hebron, wounding the soldier. Nearby soldiers shoot and wound the attacker, who later dies of his wounds.[107]
- **June 23, 2020:** West Bank. A Palestinian man attempts to ram his car into an Israeli checkpoint in the east Jerusalem suburb of Abu Dis. One Israeli soldier is wounded. The attacker is shot and killed.[108]
- **August 18, 2020:** Berlin, Germany. A 30-year-old Iraqi man crashes his car into other vehicles on the A100 highway in Berlin, injuring six people. The man later stops on the road and places an ammunitions crate on top of his car, claiming the box is filled with explosives. Witnesses report the man shouted "Allahu akbar" as he got out of the car. Police apprehend the man and find only tools inside the crate. Berlin authorities call the incident a deliberate Islamist-motivated attack.[109]
- **December 1, 2020:** Trier, Germany. A 51-year-old man identified as Bernd W. drives an SUV through a pedestrian area, killing at least five and wounding 15 others. Police stop the vehicle after about a kilometer and arrest the driver. The driver intentionally drove into the pedestrians, according to police. Authorities do not immediately identify a motive, but they investigate on the assumption the driver was not politically or religiously

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February 6, 2020, https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/suspected-jerusalem-car-ramming-terrorist-named-as-khaled-al-tourman-24/.

[105] Agence France-Presse, "Israel police kill Palestinian who launched van, stabbing attack," France 24, April 22, 2020, https://www.france24.com/en/20200422-israel-police-kill-palestinian-who-launched-van-stabbing-attack.

[106] Sudip Kar-Gupta, "Driver who rammed Paris police pledged allegiance to Islamic State: prosecutor," Reuters, April 28, 2020, https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-security/suspect-behind-attack-on-police-near-paris-pledged-allegiance-to-islamic-state-idUSKCN22A23O?il=0; Donna Rachel Edmunds, "Paris ramming attacker may have been inspired by Palestinian cause," *Jerusalem Post*, April 28, 2020, https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/paris-ramming-attacker-may-have-been-inspired-by-palestinian-cause-626247; "France: Terrorism probe into car attack that hurt 3 police," Associated Press, April 28, 2020, https://apnews.com/89b293eacb4b084796a5cf4d7905ac1f.

[107] Anna Ahronheim, "IDF soldier injured in car ramming attack near Hebron," *Jerusalem Post*, May 14, 2020, https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/car-ramming-terror-attack-near-negohot-terrorist-628003.

[108] Tzvi Joffre, "Border Police officer lightly injured in attempted ramming attack," *Jerusalem Post*, June 23, 2020, https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/attempted-ramming-attack-near-maale-adumim-no-injuries-report-632505.

[109] Bertrand Benoit, "Berlin Highway Crash Is Investigated as a Terrorist Attack," *Wall Street Journal*, August 19, 2020, https://www.wsj.com/articles/berlin-highway-crash-is-investigated-as-a-terror-attack-11597825219.

motivated. Police determine the driver had a blood alcohol level of 1.4 as well as "indications of psychological illness." Police believe the attacker acted alone.[110]

- **April 2, 2021:** Washington, D.C. A suspect later identified as Noah Green drives a sedan into two U.S. Capitol police officers at a barricade outside of the Capitol Building, wounding both officers. Green then emerges from the car brandishing a knife and is shot by Capitol police. Both Green and one of the officers die from their wounds after they are transported to a nearby hospital. Shortly after the attack, the acting chief of Washington's Metropolitan Police Department says the attack did not appear to be terrorism related but an investigation is ongoing. Green's social media reveals he was a follower of the Nation of Islam and its leader, Louis Farrakhan, who is accused of promoting antisemitism and racism. Green's family and friends say prior to the attack he was suffering from issues such as hallucinations, heart palpitations, headaches, and suicidal thoughts, which could have stemmed from drug use or mental illness.[111]
- **May 16, 2021:** Jerusalem, Israel. An east Jerusalem resident drives his car into a police checkpoint in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood, wounding seven. The driver is shot and killed. Sheikh Jarrah is a flashpoint for recent violence as the Israeli supreme court debates the eviction of a group of Arab residents, sparking Arab-Jewish violence across the country.[112]
- **June 6, 2021:** London, Ontario, Canada. Nathaniel Veltman jumps a curb with his pickup truck and strikes a Muslim family of five, killing four and wounding one. He drives off but is arrested soon after and charged with four counts of first-degree murder and one count of attempted murder. Police say there is evidence the attack was planned and premeditated and Veltman targeted the family because they were Muslim. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau calls the incident a "terrorist attack" and pledges to combat far-right groups and online hate.[113]

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[110] Justin Huggler and staff, "Trier: Four killed by car in pedestrian zone in German town, driver arrested," *Telegraph* (London), December 1, 2020, https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/12/01/several-injured-car-pedestrian-zone-german-town/; Stephanie Halasz and Sara Mazloumsaki, "Nine-month-old baby among 5 dead in Germany after car hits pedestrians, police say," CNN, December 1, 2020, https://www.cnn.com/2020/12/01/europe/germany-trier-car-incident-grm-intl/index.html; "Trier: Five die as car ploughs through Germany pedestrian zone," BBC News, December 1, 2020, https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-55148518.

[111] Michael Balsamo and Colleen Long, "Car rams into police at Capitol barricade; officer killed," Associated Press, April 2, 2021, https://apnews.com/article/car-rams-capitol-barricade-add0fea76244f1755344aa856ee64ecd; "Acting Metropolitan Police chief says attack doesn't 'appear to be terrorism related,'" CNN, April 2, 2021, https://www.cnn.com/politics/live-news/capitol-security-threat-04-02-21/h_db1848a70d35ed305c50a8b8134a3d01; Ben Decker, Adam Goldman, and Zolan Kanno-Youngs, "Suspect in Capitol attack appears to have been a follower of Louis Farrakhan," *New York Times*, April 2, 2021, https://www.nytimes.com/2021/04/02/us/noah-green-farrakhan.html; Emily Davies, Justin Jouvenal, and Michael E. Miller, "Family and friends concerned Noah Green was unraveling before Capitol attack," *Washington Post*, April 2, 2021, https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/public-safety/noah-green-capitol-attack/2021/04/02/74f75802-93fe-11eb-a74e-1f4cf89fd948_story.html.

[112] "Seven police injured in Sheikh Jarrah ramming attack as riots continue," *Jerusalem Post*, May 16, 2021, https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/shin-bet-makes-arrests-as-violence-continues-in-israels-mixed-cities-668297.

[113] "Man suspected of killing Canadian Muslim family was motivated by hate -police," Reuters, June 8, 2021, https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/four-killed-by-car-were-victims-anti-islamic-hate-crime-canada-police-2021-06-07/; "Thousands march in support of Muslim family killed in truck attack in Canada," Reuters, June 12,

- **June 16, 2021:** West Bank. A Palestinian woman identified as Mai Afanah attempts to run over a group of Israeli soldiers in the town of Hizma, wounding one. Afanah exits her vehicle and attempts to stab other soldiers before she is shot and killed. Hours before the attack, Afanah reportedly wrote on Facebook, "I don't have much time left in life."[114]
- **October 14, 2021:** West Bank. A 22-year-old Palestinian man drives his vehicle into a group of Israeli border police officers evacuating an illegal settlement in Kalandiya, striking and injuring one officer before crashing his vehicle into a wall. Israeli police arrest the driver.[115]
- **December 13, 2021:** West Bank. A 15-year-old Palestinian boy identified as Mohammed Younes drives his vehicle into an Israeli army checkpoint south of the city of Tulkarem, injuring one security guard. The boy is killed when other guards open fire.[116]
- **January 11, 2022:** West Bank. A Palestinian man identified as Muhammad Nazmi Yassin drives his vehicle into a group of Israeli soldiers outside the Neveh Tzuf settlement, wounding one. Yassin is arrested. Palestinian media share videos and photos of the attack and the arrest.[117]
- **March 22, 2022:** Beersheba, Israel. An Israeli Bedouin man identified as Muhammad Alab Ahmed abu Alkiyan stabs a woman at a gas station and then returns to his car and proceeds to run over a bicyclist at a nearby shopping center. The attacker then exits his vehicle and attacks passersby with a knife, wounding two. A passerby shoots and kills the assailant. At least four people are killed in the attack. Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad praise the attack but do not claim responsibility.[118]
- **October 30, 2022:** West Bank. A Palestinian man drives his vehicle into Israeli soldiers at two locations south of the West Bank city of Jericho, injuring five of them before

2021, https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/thousands-march-support-muslim-family-killed-truck-attack-canada-2021-06-12/.

[114] "Attempted stabbing, ramming attack thwarted near Jerusalem," *Jerusalem Post*, June 16, 2021, https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/attempted-stabbing-ramming-attack-near-jerusalem-no-injuries-reported-671156; "Palestinian attempts West Bank car-ramming and stabbing attack, is shot dead," Times of Israel, June 16, 2021, https://www.timesofisrael.com/woman-attempts-car-ramming-and-stabbing-attack-in-west-bank-is-shot-idf/.

[115] Tzvi Joffre, "Border Police officer injured in ramming attack north of Jerusalem," *Jerusalem Post*, October 14, 2021, https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/attempted-attacker-killed-at-qalandiya-checkpoint-681950.

[116] Andrew Carey, "Suspected car-ramming attack by Palestinian teen highlights rising tensions, amid questions over Israeli police actions," CNN, last updated December 15, 2021, https://www.cnn.com/2021/12/06/middleeast/israeli-police-kill-palestinian-jerusalem-intl/index.html.

[117] "IDF soldier injured in West Bank car-ramming attack," *Jerusalem Post*, January 11, 2022, https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-692209.

[118] Agence France-Presse, "Four dead in stabbing, car-ramming in southern Israel," France 24, March 22, 2022, https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20220322-four-dead-in-stabbing-car-ramming-in-southern-israel; Ron Kampeas, "Assailant kills 4 in stabbing attack in Beersheba, Israel," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, March 22, 2022, https://www.jta.org/2022/03/22/israel/assailant-kills-4-in-stabbing-attack-in-beersheba-israel; Tzvi Joffre, "Four Israelis killed in stabbing attack in Beersheba, terrorist shot dead," *Jerusalem Post*, March 22, 2022, https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-702009; "A look at how the Beersheba attack unfolded," Times of Israel, March 22, 2022, https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/a-look-at-how-the-beersheba-attack-unfolded/.

being shot dead. He first strikes a group of soldiers at Nabi Musa before ramming his vehicle into a bus stop at the Almog Junction where he is shot and killed.[119]

- **November 2, 2022:** West Bank. A Palestinian man identified as Habas Rayan strikes an Israeli soldier at a West Bank checkpoint near the Israeli town of Modiin, wounding the soldier. Video footage shows Rayan exit his vehicle after hitting the soldier and attempt to attack the soldier with a pickax before the soldier shoots him dead. According to media reports, two of Rayan's son have served prison time for terror offenses.[120]
- **November 24, 2022:** Beersheba, Israel. Amr Alkirnawi, a resident of the Bedouin-majority city of Rahat, drives onto a sidewalk in Beersheba, striking and wounding a teenage college student. The driver flees the scene but is quickly arrested. The driver says he lost control of his vehicle and says it was an accident. Authorities later label the incident a terror attack. Alkirnawi is indicted on December 12 and charged with charged with a terrorist act of attempted murder, aggravated assault, and illegal use of a vehicle.[121]
- **December 8, 2022:** Tel Aviv, Israel. Ali Hamad rams his vehicle into a man on a motorcycle, wounding the rider. Hamad is arrested shortly after. Police initially label the incident a traffic accident but later redesignate it as a terror attack after Hamad confessed to carrying out the attack in revenge for his cousin, Mojahed al-Najjar, who died after attacking a West Bank Israeli military post on December 7. Hamad had entered Israel illegally.[122]
- **December 23, 2022:** Kfar Qassem, Israel. 20-year-old West Bank resident Naim Badir calls an emergency police line in the middle of the night to report a false domestic violence incident. When police arrive, Badir runs out of the house with a makeshift machine gun, which jams when he attempts to fire at the police. He runs back into the building and throws Molotov cocktails at the police. Badir then runs to his car and attempts to run over the officers, wounding three. Police shoot and kill Badir. Police label the incident a terrorist attack, which the family denies.[123]

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[119] Emanuel Fabian, "Officer seriously wounded in West Bank car-ramming; attacker shot dead — IDF," Times of Israel, November 2, 2022, https://www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-man-seriously-wounded-in-west-bank-car-ramming-driver-shot-dead/; Emanuel Fabian, "IDF: 5 soldiers hurt in ramming attack near Jericho; Palestinian assailant shot dead," Times of Israel, October 30, 2022, https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-5-soldiers-hurt-in-ramming-attack-near-jericho-palestinian-assailant-shot/.

[120] Emanuel Fabian, "Officer seriously wounded in West Bank car-ramming; attacker shot dead — IDF," Times of Israel, November 2, 2022, https://www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-man-seriously-wounded-in-west-bank-car-ramming-driver-shot-dead/.

[121] Emanuel Fabian, "Teen moderately hurt in suspected terror car-ramming in Beersheba; driver arrested," Times of Israel, November 24, 2022, https://www.timesofisrael.com/teen-moderately-hurt-in-suspected-terror-car-ramming-in-beersheba-driver-arrested/; Emanuel Fabian, "Terror charges filed against Bedouin man for ramming student in Beersheba," Times of Israel, December 12, 2022, https://www.timesofisrael.com/terror-charges-filed-against-bedouin-man-for-ramming-student-in-beersheba/.

[122] Emanuel Fabian, "Palestinian to be charged with terror over Tel Aviv ramming of motorcyclist," Times of Israel, December 19, 2022, https://www.timesofisrael.com/palestinian-to-be-charged-with-terror-over-tel-aviv-ramming-of-motorcyclist/.

[123] Mahmoud Ilean, "Armed Arab assailant rams car into Israeli police, shot dead," Associated Press, December 23, 2022, https://apnews.com/article/jerusalem-israel-crime-fc41e3e20105e33492f8aad060d4c88d; "Assailant in Kafr Qasim attack buried, with dozens on hand, including mayor," Times of Israel, December 25, 2022, https://www.timesofisrael.com/assailant-in-kafr-qasim-shooting-ramming-attack-buried-as-dozens-attend-funeral/.

- **February 10, 2023:** Jerusalem, Israel. Israeli citizen and east Jerusalem resident Hussein Qaraqa drives a Mazda sedan into a bus stop in east Jerusalem's Ramot neighborhood, killing at least three and wounding four others. Qaraqa is shot dead by a police officer who happened to be on the scene. The attack immediately kills a 20-year-old student and a 6-year-old boy. The 6-year-old's 8-year-old brother dies from his injuries the following day. Hamas and PIJ praise the attack but do not claim responsibility. A senior Israeli official tells the Times of Israel Qaraqa was mentally ill and was released from a hospital in Tel Aviv a few days before the attack. According to his uncle, Qaraqa had been hospitalized for a back injury. Police label the incident a terror attack. A review of Qaraqa's Facebook page reveals posts praising attacks against Israeli soldiers and civilians, as well as praising PIJ leader Ziad al-Nakhalah. Police reportedly arrest Qaraqa's wife, father, and brother. The Israeli government orders the demolition of Qaraqa's house.[124]
- **April 7, 2023:** Tel Aviv, Israel. Israeli-Arab citizen Yousef Abu Jaber drives a Kia car along Tel Aviv's beachside boardwalk, striking several pedestrians before the vehicle overturns. Police shoot and kill Abu Jaber when he appears to reach for a firearm after crashing the vehicle. The attack kills Italian tourist Alessandro Parini and wounds seven other foreign tourists. Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni calls the attack "cowardly."[125]
- **April 24, 2023:** Jerusalem, Israel. Palestinian Hatem Najma wounds five people in a ramming attack at Jerusalem's Mahane Yehuda market before he is shot and killed by a civilian bystander. According to police, Najma "deliberately hit several pedestrians, some of whom were crossing the road." He then attempted to drive backward before he was shot. The police announce they are investigating the attacker's medical background. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu calls the ramming a terror attack.[126]
- **July 4, 2023:** Tel Aviv, Israel. A Palestinian man from the West Bank begins striking people with his pick-up truck outside of a mall in Tel Aviv, wounding nine. The assailant exits his car and stabs one of the victims before he is shot and killed by an armed civilian. The attacker is identified as 20-year-old Abed al-Wahab Khalaila from the West Bank town of as-Samu. Hamas claims responsibility, calling the attack "an act of self-defence in the face of the ongoing Zionist massacre in Jenin." Hamas spokesman Hazem Qasim praises the "heroic attack" as "the first response to the occupation's crimes against our

[124] Emanuel Fabian, "Two killed in Jerusalem terror ramming, including 6-year-old boy; driver shot dead," Times of Israel, February 10, 2023, https://www.timesofisrael.com/at-least-6-wounded-2-seriously-in-suspected-car-ramming-attack-in-jerusalem/; Hadas Gold and Amir Tal, "Second child dies in car ramming attack in Jerusalem," CNN, February 11, 2023, https://www.cnn.com/2023/02/10/middleeast/jerusalem-car-ramming-intl/index.html; Isabel Debre, "Israeli police: 2 killed, 5 wounded in Jerusalem car-ramming," Associated Press, February 10, 2023, https://apnews.com/article/jerusalem-middle-east-israel-health-ae159ce918b816afc2ef8a0b296ae0d6.

[125] Yolande Knell & Christy Cooney, "Tel Aviv car-ramming kills Italian tourist and injures 7," BBC News, April 8, 2023, https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-65217134; Ash Obel, "Autopsy confirms Italian killed in Tel Aviv car-ramming wasn't shot," Times of Israel, April 9, 2023, https://www.timesofisrael.com/autopsy-confirms-italian-killed-in-suspected-tel-aviv-ramming-attack-wasnt-shot/.

[126] Alon Bernstein, "Israeli police: 5 wounded in ramming near Jerusalem market," Associated Press, April 24, 2023, https://apnews.com/article/israel-palestinian-killed-raid-west-bank-ab367512b9e89a0875bcef93b1cd39f1; Emanuel Fabian, "Five wounded in terror car-ramming near busy Jerusalem market," Times of Israel, April 24, 2023, https://www.timesofisrael.com/five-wounded-in-suspected-car-ramming-attack-near-busy-jerusalem-market/.

people in Jenin." Overnight, militants in Gaza fire five rockets toward southern Israel. Israeli defenses intercept the rockets. In retaliation, Israeli air strikes target Hamas weapons and rocket sites in Gaza. No casualties are reported. Israel completes its withdrawal from Jenin by July 5.[127]

- **August 3, 2023:** Seongnam, South Korea. A suspect rams his vehicle into a sidewalk, wounding at least five people. The suspect then exits the vehicle and begins stabbing people inside a shopping mall, wounding at least nine people. The suspect is arrested at the scene. Police do not immediately identify a motive for the attack, but the head of the National Police Agency describes it as "virtually an act of terrorism."[128]
- **August 31, 2023.** Israel. A Palestinian suspect drives a pickup truck to the Israeli side of the Maccabim checkpoint along the northern West Bank, where he makes a U-turn and strikes a group of off-duty soldiers walking along the road. The suspect flees toward the Hashmonaim checkpoint a little over four miles away, where security forces shoot and kill him while he reportedly attempts another ramming attack at that checkpoint. In total, the attacker wounds four soldiers, one of whom dies of his injuries hours later, a Palestinian teenager, and an Israeli couple in their 20s. The attacker is identified as 41-year-old Daoud Abdel Razak Faiz Faiz, a father of five, from the West Bank town of Deir 'Ammar. According to investigations, Faiz entered Israel with a work permit and then picked up the truck in the Israeli city of Gedera. The truck did not belong to him.[129]
- **September 20, 2023:** New Jersey, United States. John Hargreaves drives his Toyota SUV into the garage door of a home in Independence Township. Hargreaves then drives to the Independence Township police station and crashes through the station. Hargreaves emerges from the vehicle with his hands in the air while playing the song "Welcome to the Jungle" on his car's stereo. The ramming at the police station causes significant damage, but no casualties are reported in either incident. Hargreaves is arrested at the police station. On September 29, he is charged with terrorism, two counts of burglary, aggravated assault, and two counts of possession of a weapon for an unlawful purpose. According to prosecutors, Hargreaves wanted to scare the homeowner when he drove through the garage door. Authorities say Hargreaves was upset with how New Jersey State Police handled a complaint he made a year ago against the homeowner, though the Independence Township Police Department had no connection to the complaint.[130]

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[127] Gadi Zaig and staff, "Terror in Tel Aviv: At least nine wounded in stabbing, ramming attack," *Jerusalem Post*, July 4, 2023, https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-748809; "Hamas praises Tel Aviv terror attack as 'heroic' response to IDF operation in Jenin," Times of Israel, July 4, 2023, https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-praises-tel-aviv-terror-attack-as-heroic-response-to-idf-operation-in-jenin/; Rami Amichay, "Eight hurt in Palestinian car-ramming, stabbing in Tel Aviv," Reuters, July 4, 2023, https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/ten-hurt-suspected-palestinian-car-ramming-tel-aviv-israeli-media-2023-07-04/; Hadas Gold and Rob Picheta, "Israel ended a huge military operation in Jenin. Here's what you need to know," CNN, July 5, 2023, https://www.cnn.com/2023/07/05/middleeast/jenin-israel-operations-explainer-mime-intl/index.html.

[128] Kim Tong-Hyung, "Man rams car onto sidewalk in South Korea and stabs people; at least 14 hurt," Associated Press, August 3, 2023, https://apnews.com/article/south-korea-stabbing-sidewalk-9dddc21d452f7d97d4be02202992c025.

[129] Emanuel Fabian, "Soldier killed, six injured in truck-ramming terror attack near Modiin," Times of Israel, August 31, 2023, https://www.timesofisrael.com/three-wounded-two-seriously-in-truck-ramming-near-modiin/.

[130] Priscilla Liguori, "Belvidere man drives into Independence Township Police headquarters," WFMZ News, September 29, 2023, https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/western-newjersey/belvidere-man-drives-into-

- **November 30, 2023:** West Bank. A Palestinian man rams his car into a group of Israeli soldiers at the security checkpoint to Moshav Beka'ot, wounding two. The soldiers shoot and kill the attacker.[131]
- **December 12, 2023:** Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. Tehreek-e-Jihad Pakistan, a Tehrik-e Taliban Pakistan (TTP)–affiliated group, rams an explosive-laden vehicle into a military base in Dera Ismail Khan in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. The explosion kills at least 23 soldiers and wounds another 36.
- **January 7, 2024:** West Bank. A Palestinian man and woman ram a vehicle into a group of Israeli border police at the Ras-Bidu security checkpoint, wounding a 20-year-old female officer. Police return fire, killing the couple in the vehicle. The Israeli fire also hits and kills a toddler in a car next to the attacking vehicle. Israel's police misconduct unit launches an investigation.[132]
- **January 15, 2024:** Tel Aviv, Israel. Two Palestinian men steal a car and run over pedestrians in the Tel Aviv suburb of Ra'anana, killing one and wounding 17 others. Both suspects are arrested. Hamas calls the assailants heroes and praises what it calls the "Ra'anana attack" as a natural response to Israel's crimes. The suspects are identified as Ahmad Zidat and Mahmoud Zidat, both members of the same family from the West Bank village of Bani Naim.[133]
- **January 29, 2024:** Haifa, Israel. A man rams his vehicle into a soldier outside an Israeli naval base, wounding him. The suspect then exits the vehicle and runs toward the base waving an axe. Security forces shoot and kill the suspect as he approaches the base. Police identify the suspect as 27-year-old Wassim Abu al-Hoga from Tamra in northern

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independence-township-police-headquarters/article_b4012076-5ee2-11ee-8db3-abd13af1532d.html; Sam Barron, "'Welcome To The Jungle' Blasts From Vehicle After Driver Slams It Into NJ Police Station," Teaneck Daily Voice, September 29, 2023, https://dailyvoice.com/new-jersey/teaneck/nj-driver-blasts-welcome-to-the-jungle-after-slamming-car-into-police-hq/.

[131] Emanuel Fabian, "Two soldiers lightly hurt in suspected car-ramming attack in West Bank's Jordan Valley," Times of Israel, November 30, 2023, https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/two-soldiers-lightly-hurt-in-suspected-car-ramming-attack-in-west-banks-jordan-valley/; "Terrorist wounds two Israelis in Jordan Valley car-ramming," Jewish News Syndicate, November 30, 2023, https://www.jns.org/two-israelis-wounded-in-terror-attack-in-jordan-valley/.

[132] "Israeli police kill Palestinian girl during response to ramming attack," Reuters, January 7, 2024, https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/israeli-police-kill-palestinian-girl-when-responding-ramming-attack-emergency-2024-01-07/; "Ramming attack in West Bank wounds young woman," i24News, January 7, 2024, https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/defense/1704642064-ramming-attack-in-west-bank-wounds-two; Emanuel Fabian, "Police: Palestinian girl accidentally shot dead by officers responding to car-ramming attack," Times of Israel, January 7, 2024, https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/police-palestinian-girl-accidentally-shot-dead-by-officers-responding-to-car-ramming-attack/; Aaron Rabinowitz and Ido Efrati, "Palestinian Toddler Killed by Stray Fire When Israeli Border Police Shoot at Another Vehicle That Rammed Policewoman in W. Bank," *Haaretz* (Tel Aviv), January 7, 2024, https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/2024-01-07/ty-article/.premium/palestinian-child-killed-by-stray-fire-from-israeli-border-police-in-w-bank-car-ramming/0000018c-e55c-db55-a39e-f7dcde820000.

[133] Adam Rasgon, "Car-Ramming Attack in Israel Kills 1 and Wounds 17, Officials Say," *New York Times*, January 15, 2024, https://www.nytimes.com/2024/01/15/world/middleeast/israel-raanana-attack.html.

Israel. According to police, al-Hoga has a criminal record for illegally transporting Palestinians into Israel from the West Bank.[134]

- **April 3, 2024:** Tira, Israel. An Arab-Israeli driver rams a group of police officers at a temporary checkpoint near the Kokhav Ya'ir Junction, wounding four. The attacker then drives to the nearby Eliyahu checkpoint, gets out of his car, and attempts to stab security guards. The attacker is shot and killed. The police had set up the checkpoint to search for car thieves.[135]
- **April 22, 2024:** Jerusalem, Israel. Two suspects in a white car strike pedestrians at two separate locations in Jerusalem at the beginning of Passover, wounding three. The first attack takes place on Tchelet Mordechai Street. The second attack occurs on the nearby Yirmiyahu Street, where the suspects crash into a parked car and attempt to open fire on pedestrians with a submachine gun. The suspects then escape on foot after the gun reportedly jams. Police recover an improvised machine gun in the car. Police arrest two suspects hours later. The suspects are identified as 17-year-old Palestinians from Hebron.[136]
- **May 29, 2024:** West Bank. A vehicle strikes two Israeli soldiers near the Itamar settlement at the entrance to Nablus, seriously wounding them. The suspect escapes into Nablus. The soldiers die of their wounds the following day as the Israeli military launches a manhunt for the suspect. The suspect reportedly turns himself over to Palestinian Authority security forces.[137]
- **December 20, 2024:** Magdeburg, Germany. A vehicle crashes through barriers in front of a Christmas market, striking pedestrians as it speeds down narrow alleys between the stalls. The attack kills at least five and wounds 200 others. The driver is arrested. Authorities suspect terrorism. German media report that the suspect is identified as Taleb al-Abdulmohsen, a 50-year-old Saudi citizen who arrived in Germany in 2006. Investigators note that the suspect has no known links to Islamic extremism and may have launched his attack in response to how Saudi Arabian refugees are treated in Germany.[138]

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[134] "IDF soldier seriously wounded in Haifa ramming by axe-wielding terrorist," *Jerusalem Post*, January 29, 2024, https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-784139; "Suspect in Haifa ramming named as Tamra resident," Times of Israel, January 29, 2024, https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/suspect-in-haifa-ramming-named-as-tamra-resident/.

[135] Matthias Inbar, "Ramming attack near Arab-Israeli town: 4 police wounded, terrorist eliminated," i24NEWS, April 3, 2024, https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/defense/artc-ramming-attack-near-arab-israeli-town-4-police-wounded-terrorist-eliminated.

[136] Agence France-Presse, "Two injured in Jerusalem car ramming attack, suspects arrested," Al-Monitor, April 22, 2024, https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2024/04/two-injured-jerusalem-car-ramming-attack-suspects-arrested; Emanuel Fabian, "Three lightly hurt in Jerusalem car-ramming; 2 suspects captured," Times of Israel, April 22, 2024, https://www.timesofisrael.com/three-lightly-hurt-in-jerusalem-car-ramming-police-searching-for-suspects/.

[137] Emanuel Fabian, "Two soldiers killed in car-ramming attack outside West Bank city of Nablus," Times of Israel, May 30, 2024, https://www.timesofisrael.com/two-seriously-wounded-in-car-ramming-attack-outside-west-bank-city-of-nablus/; "2 SOLDIERS KILLED IN CAR-RAMMING ATTACK IN THE WEST BANK, ISRAELI MILITARY SAYS," Associated Press, May 30, 2024, https://apnews.com/article/israel-iran-hamas-latest-05-30-2024-db1561901fcab2ab0835c981a885d661.

[138] "Car drives into crowd in German Christmas market 'terror attack,'" *Telegraph* (London), December 20, 2024, https://www.telegraph.co.uk/world-news/2024/12/20/germany-magdeburg-christmas-market/; Aditi Sangal and Elise Hammond, "At least 2 dead and dozens injured in attack on German Christmas market, authorities say," CNN,

- **January 1, 2025:** Louisiana, United States. U.S. Army veteran Shamsud-Din Jabbar rams his car through a crowd of people on Bourbon Street in New Orleans at approximately 3:15 a.m. on New Year's Day, killing at least 14 and wounding 35. Jabbar dies in a shootout with police, during which two officers are also wounded. Police subsequently find guns and an IED in the car, which also has an ISIS flag on display. According to the FBI, surveillance videos showed Jabbar placing potential explosive devices concealed in coolers in the French Quarter. The FBI finds multiple videos posted to Facebook of the suspect pledging allegiance to ISIS and describing the planned vehicular attack. According to the videos, Jabbar joined ISIS the summer before the attack. Investigators believe Jabbar acted alone. Police identify Jabbar as a U.S. citizen born in Texas. The College Football Playoff quarterfinal at the Sugar Bowl, scheduled for that afternoon, is postponed until January 2. Bourbon Street reopens the afternoon of January 2.[139]
- **February 13, 2025:** Munich, Germany. A vehicle drives into a crowd of pedestrians in the center of Munich, injuring at least 30. Police arrest the driver, an Afghan asylum-seeker. According to German police, the driver was known to authorities for drug and theft incidents. Officials label the incident a "suspected attack." The attack occurs hours before world leaders are set to convene for the Munich Security Conference.[140]
- **February 27, 2025:** Pardes Hanna Karkur, Israel. A suspect rams a vehicle into a bus stop, wounding 13 people. The suspect flees the scene after the attack. One of the wounded, 17-year-old Yahli Gur, dies from her injuries a week later. Police identify the attacker as a 53-year-old Palestinian from Jenin named Jamil Zayoud, who had reportedly been illegally living in Ma'ale Iron with his Arab Israeli wife. After fleeing the scene, Gur reportedly crashes into a police car. He then exits the vehicle and attempts to stab officers with a screwdriver. Police shoot and kill Zayoud. Hamas praises the attack but does not claim responsibility for it.[141]
- **March 24, 2025:** Yokne'am, Israel. An attacker identified as Karem Jabarin rams his vehicle into a bus stop at the Tishbi Junction on Route 66 near Yokne'am in northern

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December 20, 2024, https://www.cnn.com/world/live-news/magdeburg-germany-christmas-market-deaths-12-20-24/index.html; Jacqueline Howard, "Nine-year-old among five killed in attack on German Christmas market," BBC News, December 21, 2024, https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cdr0zx4e04no.

[139] "What we know about the New Year's Day attack in New Orleans," Associated Press, last updated January 2, 2025, https://apnews.com/article/new-orleans-car-bourbon-street-1685016388d65039ce62e720aab2ba14; "15 dead in New Orleans attack; FBI believes driver wasn't 'solely responsible,'" NBC News, January 2, 2024, https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/live-blog/live-updates-new-orleans-car-drives-into-crowd-french-quarter-rcna185915.

[140] Carlo Angerer and Patrick Smith, "Car rams into Munich crowd injuring at least 28 in suspected attack," NBC News, February 13, 2025, https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/munich-car-driven-pedestrians-germany-security-conference-police-rcna191990; Joern Poltz, Wolfgang Rattay, and Anja Guder, "Dozens hurt in suspected car ramming attack in Munich before German election," Reuters, February 13, 2025, https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/several-injured-after-car-drives-into-people-munich-bild-reports-2025-02-13/.

[141] "Seven injured in ramming attack at Israeli bus stop," Reuters, February 27, 2025, https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/seven-injured-ramming-attack-israeli-bus-stop-2025-02-27/; "Teenage girl critically hurt in car-ramming terror attack last week dies of her wounds," Times of Israel, March 5, 2025, https://www.timesofisrael.com/teenage-girl-critically-hurt-in-car-ramming-terror-attack-last-week-dies-of-her-wounds/.

Israel. Jabarin targets a soldier waiting at the bus stop. After crashing his car, Jabarin exits his car and stabs the soldier. He grabs the soldier's gun and begins firing at passing cars on the highway, killing one. Border police officers shoot and kill Jabarin.[142]

- **July 24, 2025:** Kfar Yona, Israel. A driver accelerates toward a bus stop outside of the city, wounding eight soldiers waiting at the stop. The driver then flees the scene, reportedly abandoning the vehicle in the nearby Beit Lid area. Police describe the incident as a suspected terror attack. Police release a photo of Arkan Khaled, whom they suspect of perpetrating the attack.[143]
- **September 27, 2025:** Michigan, United States. Thomas Jacob Sanford rams his vehicle through the front doors of a meetinghouse of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Grand Blanc Township during Sunday services. Sanford exits the vehicle and begins firing an assault rifle at worshippers, killing at least four and wounding eight. He also sets fire to the building. Police respond within one minute of an emergency call and shoot and kill Sanford in the parking lot. Authorities find suspected explosives in the vehicle. The FBI investigates the attack as a "targeted act of violence."[144]
- **September 30, 2025:** West Bank. A suspect rams his vehicle into a group of pedestrians waiting on the side of the Route 60 highway before getting out and attempting a stabbing. The suspect wounds two Israeli teenagers before he is shot and killed by a senior reservist officer passing by. Palestinian media identifies the suspect as 32-year-old Mahdi Muhammad Awad Dirieh from Beit Fajjar in the West Bank.[145]
- **October 2, 2025:** Manchester, England. On Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement and the holiest day on the Jewish calendar, a British man of Syrian descent named Jihad Al-Shamie rams his vehicle into the front gates of Heaton Park Hebrew Congregation Synagogue in Manchester, England. He then exits the vehicle and attacks the synagogue's security guard and congregants with a knife. Al-Shamie kills two Jewish worshipers and wounds four others before police shoot and wound him. However, police suspect Al-Shamie of attempting to detonate a bomb from the ground, so they shoot and kill him. Police label the incident a terrorist attack and declare "Plato," the national code word used by police and emergency services when responding to a "marauding terror attack." Following the attack, police arrest three suspects—two men in their 30s and a

[142] Charlie Summers, Emanuel Fabian, and staff, "Elderly man killed as terrorist rams bus stop, opens fire on cars in north," Times of Israel, March 24, 2025, https://www.timesofisrael.com/man-75-killed-as-terror-suspect-rams-bus-stop-opens-fire-on-cars-in-north/.
[143] Charlie Summers, "8 soldiers injured in car-ramming terror attack in central Israel; manhunt underway," Times of Israel, July 24, 2025, https://www.timesofisrael.com/eight-injured-in-suspected-ramming-attack-in-central-israel-manhunt-underway/.
[144] Joe Hernandez and Chris Arnold, "Schools to close Monday in Michigan community that experienced deadly church attack," NPR, September 28, 2025, https://www.npr.org/2025/09/28/nx-s1-5555970/multiple-people-shot-mormon-church-michigan-shooter-down; Amber Eikenberry, "Grand Blanc Township church shooting: 5 dead after shooting, fire at LDS church," Fox 2 Detroit, September 28, 2025, https://www.fox2detroit.com/news/multiple-people-shot-grand-blanc-church-jesus-christ-latter-day-saints.
[145] Emanuel Fabian, "Two teens injured in car-ramming terror attack on West Bank highway near Jerusalem," Times of Israel, September 30, 2025, https://www.timesofisrael.com/two-teens-injured-in-car-ramming-terror-attack-on-west-bank-highway-near-jerusalem/.

woman in her 60s—on suspicion of commission, preparation, and instigation of acts of terrorism.[146]

- **November 5, 2025:** Oléron, France. A driver strikes pedestrians and cyclists over the course of 35 minutes on the French island of Oléron, wounding at least five people. Police arrest the driver "with difficulty," according to local sources. The suspect reportedly shouts "Allahu akbar" during his arrest. Police do not immediately identify a motive but open an investigation into attempted murder. French counterterrorism police assist in an "observer" capacity. Authorities say that the suspect is known to local police for common law offenses, including theft and driving under the influence of alcohol. According to police, the suspect "deliberately" drove into the crowd. A day after the attack, French Interior Minister Laurent Nunez says the suspect had "explicit religious references" at home and "self-radicalized." Arnaud Laraize, prosecutor for the La Rochelle region, says there is no evidence of links between the suspect and Islamist militant groups.[147]
- **December 25, 2025:** Deir Jari, West Bank. An Israeli reserve soldier driving an ATV strikes a Palestinian man kneeling for prayer on the side of the road, knocking him over. In video footage of the incident, the soldier is seen yelling at the injured man afterward to leave the area. The attacker then shoots at a nearby taxi driver and drives away on the ATV. The Israeli military identifies the soldier and arrests him that night.[148]
- **December 26, 2025:** Beit She'an, Israel. A Palestinian man, later identified as Ahmed al-Rub from the West Bank town of Qabatiya, strikes two pedestrians, wounding a teenage boy and killing a 68-year-old man. The attacker then drives northwest toward the city of Afula, but stops near Kibbutz Ein Harod, where he stabs a 19-year-old kibbutz member to death. Upon reaching Afula, the attacker drives into a utility pole while attempting to run over another victim. The attacker then exits the vehicle and throws a stone at the intended ramming victim, wounding him. The attacker is shot and wounded by a civilian while attempting to escape. According to media reports, al-Rub had illegally entered Israel days earlier and used his employer's car in the attack. Israeli forces arrest al-Rub's father

[146] Brian Melley, Pan Pylas, and Ian Hodgson, "Man kills 2 in car ramming and stabbing attack at English synagogue on Jewish holy day," Associated Press, October 2, 2025, https://apnews.com/article/uk-synagogue-stabbing-774d7feee44643f5f9667ec882f284d6; Marc Waddington and James Chater, "Police name Manchester attacker who killed two at synagogue," BBC News, October 2, 2025, https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cpd93x0ql0do; Ewan Somerville, "Starmer vows to protect Jewish communities after Manchester attack," BBC News, October 2, 2025, https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/czrpxgk6x68o.

[147] Sana Noor Haq and Joseph Ataman, "Car ramming injures 10 people on French island, interior minister says," CNN, November 5, 2025, https://www.cnn.com/2025/11/05/europe/oleron-french-island-car-ramming-intl; Yohan Bonnet, "Motorist 'deliberately' hit 5 people in car ramming on French Atlantic island," Associated Press, November 5, 2025, https://apnews.com/article/france-car-ramming-le-doleron-8b05df57d84cb42d5c9eb47bfbfd009d; Karl Sexton and Maren Sass, "France: Several injured after car rams into pedestrians," Deutsche Welle, November 5, 2025, https://www.dw.com/en/france-several-injured-after-car-rams-into-pedestrians/a-74625523; "Frenchman who rammed car into pedestrians suspected of 'self-radicalisation', minister says," Reuters, November 6, 2025, https://www.reuters.com/world/western-france-attacker-suspected-self-radicalisation-minister-says-2025-11-06/.

[148] Noam Lehmann, Times of Israel Staff, and Agencies, "Settler reservist rams ATV into praying Palestinian in West Bank, is detained," Times of Israel, December 25, 2025, https://www.timesofisrael.com/settler-reservist-rams-atv-into-praying-palestinian-in-west-bank-idf-launches-probe/.

following the attack. Hamas calls the attack an "expression of the growing, popular anger" and a "result of the Zionist occupation's daily crimes." Hamas does not claim responsibility.[149]

- **December 26, 2025:** West Bank. A suspected attacker accelerates his vehicle and rams an Israeli military vehicle near the Adorayim area in the southern West Bank, lightly wounding the four soldiers inside. The attacker is arrested on the scene.[150]
- **January 28, 2026:** New York, United States. A man rams a Honda Accord into the world headquarters of the Chabad-Lubavitch movement in Crown Heights, Brooklyn. The driver backs up and then rams the building again multiple times. Police arrest the driver, identified as Dan Sohail of Carteret, New Jersey. No injuries are reported. According to media reports, Sohail had come to the building earlier that night and removed two metal bollards blocking the area he drove through. Sohail had reportedly told his father and multiple Chabad rabbis that he wanted to convert to Judaism. According to Chabad's media arm, the suspect had previously attempted to enter multiple synagogues in New Jersey, including a Chabad, and had been turned away. Sohail is charged with multiple hate crimes, including attempted assault, reckless endangerment, criminal mischief and aggravated harassment.[151]
- **March 12, 2026:** Michigan, United States. Ayman Mohamad Ghazali rams a truck through the main doors of Temple Israel in West Bloomfield Township, striking and wounding a security guard. Ghazali begins shooting through the front windshield of his truck while driving through a hallway inside the building. Security guards inside the building return fire on the vehicle, which catches fire. Ghazali dies from a self-inflicted gunshot wound, according to the FBI. Authorities discover explosives in the truck. The synagogue hosts a preschool during the week. Approximately 140 students and staff members are safely evacuated. No injuries are reported in the attack except for the security guard. At least 30 first responders are treated for smoke inhalation. The FBI calls the attack a "targeted act of violence against the Jewish community." Authorities identify

[149] Charlie Summers, "Two killed in terror attack in northern Israel; assailant shot, injured by passerby," Times of Israel, December 26, 2025, https://www.timesofisrael.com/two-killed-in-terror-attack-in-northern-israel-assailant-shot-injured-by-passerby/; Noah Lehmann, "IDF commences operation in Qabatiya following ramming-stabbing attack in northern Israel," Times of Israel, December 26, 2025, https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/idf-said-to-commence-operation-in-qabatiya-following-ramming-stabbing-attack-in-northern-israel/; Adam Rasgon and Johnatan Reiss, "2 Killed in Vehicle Ramming and Stabbing in Israel, Officials Say," *New York Times*, December 26, 2025, https://www.nytimes.com/2025/12/26/world/middleeast/israel-car-ramming.html.

[150] Stav Levaton, "IDF arrests suspect after ramming attack on military vehicle in the West Bank, injuring 4 soldiers," Times of Israel, December 26, 2025, https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/idf-arrests-suspect-after-ramming-attack-on-military-vehicle-in-the-west-bank/.

[151] James Genn, Fraidy Moser, and staff, "WATCH: Man drives vehicle into Chabad's New York headquarters, charged with hate crime," *Jerusalem Post*, last updated January 30, 2026, https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-884928; Sarah Maslin Nir, Mark Bonamo, Maria Cramer, and Maia Coleman, "Man Charged With Hate Crimes After He Rams Car Into Chabad Headquarters," *New York Times*, January 20, 2026, https://www.nytimes.com/2026/01/29/nyregion/chabad-brooklyn-car-ramming.html; Hannah Feuer and Louis Keene, "Chabad 'let me down,' suspect said, in hours before allegedly attacking their headquarters," Forward, January 29, 2026, https://forward.com/fast-forward/801589/chabad-headquarters-attack-suspect-history/; Elijah Westbrook and Doug Williams, "Suspect in Brooklyn Chabad HQ ramming incident appears in court," CBS News, February 2, 2026, https://www.cbsnews.com/newyork/news/brooklyn-chabad-hq-ramming-incident-dan-sohail/.

Ghazali as a 41-year-old naturalized U.S. citizen born in Lebanon whose brother was reportedly a Hezbollah commander who had recently been killed by Israeli forces in Lebanon. U.S. law enforcement had previously flagged Ghazali in 2019 for possible links to Hezbollah but did not believe he was himself a member of the terrorist group. According to the Israel Defense Forces, Hezbollah commander Ibrahim Muhammad Ghazali was responsible for managing weapons operations within a specialized branch of a unit responsible for launching hundreds of rockets toward Israeli civilians.[152]

- **May 4, 2026:** Leipzig, Germany. A 33-year-old man drives into a pedestrian-only shopping street in the city center, killing two and wounding two others. Authorities call the attack intentional but do not identify a motive. Investigators conclude the driver acted alone. On May 5, a judge orders the attacker to be placed in a psychiatric hospital. Authorities say the suspect "wanted to kill and seriously injure as many people as possible," but they also say they do not believe he had a religious or political motive.[153]
- **May 31, 2026:** West Bank. A 30-year-old Palestinian from the Hebron area drives a car into a bus stop at the Gush Etzion Junction, wounding two. A soldier at the bus stop shoots and kills the assailant. The two wounded victims are identified as a 17-year-old girl and a 15-year-old girl.[154]
- **July 25, 2027:** Berlin, Germany. Abdul Ballout, a 21-year-old German-born citizen of Lebanese origin, drives a rented minivan into a crowd near Berlin's Pride festival before he attacks attendees with a machete, killing one and wounding 29. Police find the suspect's vehicle abandoned nearby and launch a manhunt for the perpetrator. During a July 26 confrontation with Ballout in the Berlin suburb of Spandau, police shoot and kill Ballout after he allegedly ran toward them with a sharp instrument. Ballout had previously been imprisoned in Lebanon for attempting to join ISIS. He returned to Germany in November 2025 after completing a three-month sentence in Lebanon and was arrested at the Berlin airport. In May 2025, a juvenile court in Berlin convicted Ballout on multiple charges, including "preparing a serious act of subversive violence" and publishing ISIS propaganda on Instagram. He was sentenced to one year and 10 months in prison, but the sentence was suspended because of time served in Lebanon.

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[152] Alexandra E. Petri and Mark Walker, "What We Know About the Synagogue Attack in Michigan," *New York Times*, March 12, 2026, https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/12/us/michigan-synagogue-shooting-temple-israel.html; "Suspect dead after ramming, shooting incident at Temple Israel in suburban Detroit," Jewish Telegraphic Agency, March 12, 2026, https://www.jta.org/2026/03/12/united-states/police-responding-to-active-shooter-situation-at-major-suburban-detroit-synagogue; Emanuel Fabian, Times of Israel staff, and agencies, "IDF says slain brother of Michigan synagogue attacker was a Hezbollah commander," Times of Israel, March 15, 2026, https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-says-slain-brother-of-michigan-synagogue-attacker-was-a-hezbollah-commander/; Casey Tolan, John Miller, Charbel Mallo, and Jeff Winter, "Michigan synagogue assailant had connections to Hezbollah members in Lebanon, sources say," CNN, March 13, 2026, https://edition.cnn.com/2026/03/13/us/michigan-synagogue-attacker-lebanon-airstrike-invs.

[153] Christopher F. Schuetze and Sam Gurwitt, "2 Dead After Driver Plows Into Crowd in 'Rampage' in Germany," *New York Times*, May 4, 2026, https://www.nytimes.com/2026/05/04/world/europe/leipzig-car-ramming-germany.html; "Judge orders Leipzig car ramming suspect to be placed in psychiatric care," Deutsche Welle, May 5, 2026, https://p.dw.com/p/5DKQf.

[154] Emanuel Fabian and staff, "Two teen girls hurt, one seriously, in car-ramming terror attack at West Bank junction," Times of Israel, June 1, 2026, https://www.timesofisrael.com/two-teen-girls-hurt-one-seriously-in-car-ramming-terror-attack-at-west-bank-junction/.

The court ordered Ballout to attend a deradicalization program for high-risk offenders. According to the Berlin-based Violence Prevention Network, which interviewed Ballout twice, he showed "fake cooperation" and did not appear interested in deradicalization. German Chancellor Friedrich Merz calls for stricter measures monitoring individuals deemed to be security threats.[155]

- **October 19, 2026:** Victoria, Australia. At approximately 3:35 p.m., a white Toyota Landcruiser strikes parliamentarian Helen Haines as she is standing outside of her office in the city of Wangaratta in Victoria. A passerby detains the driver after he steps out of his vehicle. Police recover a knife from inside the vehicle. Prime Minister Anthony Albanese announces that a terrorism taskforce will investigate the attack, which he calls "deliberate" and "not an accident." Victoria Police label the attack an isolated incident with no further threat to the public. Police do not publicly identify the suspected attack but identify him as a 43-year-old man from Tarrawingee, Victoria.[156]

Vehicle Attacks Against Protesters

Vehicle attacks have been associated with Islamist terrorism as a tactic of groups such as ISIS, al-Qaeda, and Hamas. Since 2016, however, vehicular attacks against protesters have risen.[157] Authorities recorded at least 50 vehicular rammings against protesters between May and June 2020. Officials classified at least 18 of those as deliberate attacks.[158] Between May 27 and

[155] Agence France-Presse, "German manhunt after deadly car ramming near Berlin Gay Pride," RFI, July 26, 2026, https://www.rfi.fr/en/international-news/20260726-german-police-hunt-suspect-after-deadly-car-ramming-near-berlin-gay-pride; Deborah Cole and Jennifer Rankin, "Police shoot dead Berlin Pride van and knife rampage suspect, officials say," *Guardian* (London), July 26, 2026, https://www.theguardian.com/world/2026/jul/26/berlin-pride-van-knife-rampage-islamist-terrorist-attack-germany; Geir Moulson, Kirsten Gr ieshaber, and Stefanie Dazio, "The suspect in the deadly Berlin Pride attack is killed in a confrontation with police," Associated Press, July 26, 2026, https://apnews.com/article/germany-berlin-lgbtq-pride-parade-van-ramming-3ba5e3f1becffd0da5f47b29aa08da9d; Chris Livesay, Lucia I Suarez Sang, and Anna Schecter, "Berlin Pride attack suspect raised red flags, group says, amid questions about prior release from prison despite ISIS ties," CBS News, July 27, 2026, https://www.cbsnews.com/news/berlin-germany-pride-attack-abdul-ballout-isis/; Amelia Nierenberg and Tatiana Firsova, "Merz Criticizes Terrorism Laws After Deadly Berlin Pride Attack," *New York Times*, July 27, 2026, https://www.nytimes.com/2026/07/27/world/europe/berlin-pride-attack-suspect-isis.html.

[156] Emily Smith, "Australian MP seriously injured in car-ramming attack," *Telegraph* (London), October 19, 2026, https://www.telegraph.co.uk/world-news/2026/10/19/australian-mp-helen-haines-critically-injured-in-car-attack/; Rod McGuirk and Charlotte Graham-McLay, "Australian prime minister says lawmaker critically injured by car is 'no accident,'" Associated Press, October 19, 2026, https://apnews.com/article/australia-lawmaker-car-attack-da7cd6758cfd082e0a52ee49ab1aedd9; Alasdair Pal, "Terrorism squad probes vehicle attack that critically injured Australian lawmaker," Reuters, October 19, 2026, https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/australia-pm-says-independent-mp-helen-haines-has-been-attacked-2026-10-19/.

[157] Grace Hauk, "Cars have hit demonstrators 104 times since George Floyd protests began," *USA Today*, last updated September 27, 2020, https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2020/07/08/vehicle-ramming-attacks-66-us-since-may-27/5397700002/.

[158] Hannah Allam, "Vehicle Attacks Rise As Extremists Target Protesters," NPR, June 21, 2020, https://www.npr.org/2020/06/21/880963592/vehicle-attacks-rise-as-extremists-target-protesters.

September 5, 2020, there were at least 104 incidents of people driving vehicles into protests.[159] While many of these intentional attacks appear attributable to those subscribing to far-right ideologies, some were also perpetrated by those on the left against right-wing protesters. In other cases, police vehicles drove through protester crowds when surrounded.[160]

CEP examined a sample of 24 vehicular attacks against protesters since 2016, which wounded at least 73 and killed at least two.

The utilization of vehicle rammings in protests by both the right and the left dates to at least 2016 with street protests against the Dakota Access Pipeline, a 1,172-mile-long underground oil pipeline in the United States. Advocates for Native American rights protested the pipeline's encroachment on tribal lands and the hazardous ecological and health effects of possible leaks.[161] During a protest on October 10, 2016, in Reno, Nevada, 18-year-old Nicholas Mahaffey injured four people after driving his pickup truck through a group of demonstrators. Witnesses recorded Mahaffey antagonizing protesters before the collision and called the attack a hate crime. Mahaffey later pled guilty to provoking an assault.[162] Later that month, protesters Michael Fasig of Minnesota and Israel Hernandez rammed their vehicles into a private security officer's truck during protests against the Dakota Access Pipeline in North Dakota. The pair reportedly did not recognize the driver as a security officer and believed he posed a threat to the protesters. Fasig and Hernandez both pled guilty to counts of menacing and criminal mischief.[163]

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[159] Grace Hauk, "Cars have hit demonstrators 104 times since George Floyd protests began," *USA Today*, last updated September 27, 2020, https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2020/07/08/vehicle-ramming-attacks-66-us-since-may-27/5397700002/.

[160] Dana Rubinstein and Jeffery C. Mays, "Police Cars Rammed Protesters. Here's What de Blasio's Response Tells Us," *New York Times*, May 31, 2020, https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/31/nyregion/bill-de-blasio-nypd-reform.html; Virginia Breen, "Brooklyn Protesters Slammed by NYPD SUV Vow to Keep Marching," City, June 2, 2020, https://www.thecity.nyc/2020/6/2/21278766/brooklyn-protesters-slammed-by-nypd-suv-vow-to-keep-marching.

[161] Erin Brodwin, "People at the front lines of the battle over the Dakota Access Pipeline are calling it a 'death sentence,'" Business Insider, November 1, 2016, https://www.businessinsider.com/north-dakota-access-pipeline-protest-drinking-water-2016-10; "Dakota Access Pipeline Protests Spread to 300 Cities as Pipeline Owner Sues to Continue Construction," Democracy Now, November 16, 2016, https://www.democracynow.org/2016/11/16/nodapl_protests_spread_to_300_cities.

[162] *Reno Gazette-Journal*, "Man drives through crowd of Columbus Day protesters," *USA Today*, October 11, 2016, https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2016/10/11/columbus-day-protest-assault/91885460/; "Truck hits Native American crowd during Columbus Day protest in Nevada; no arrest yet," CBS News, October 11, 2016, https://www.cbsnews.com/news/truck-hits-nevada-crowd-during-columbus-day-protest-no-arrest-yet/; Marcella Corona, "Driver pleads not guilty in Arch incident," *Reno Gazette Journal*, last updated November 10, 2020, https://www.rgj.com/story/news/2016/11/09/driver-pleads-not-guilty-arch-incident/93569670/; "Driver who hit protesters under Reno Arch pleads guilty, gets no jail time," KOLO ABC 8, February 15, 2017, https://www.kolotv.com/content/news/Reno-Arch-incident-driver-pleads-guilty-gets-no-jail-time-413796443.html.

[163] "2 suspects in Dakota Access pipeline protests avoid trial," Associated Press, October 20, 2017, https://apnews.com/article/39ac403d84234cb0ab5f46e27a5fcc61; "DAPL Protest Wanted Suspects - Criminal Complaint," ND Response, December 1, 2016, https://ndresponse.gov/archive/2016/dakota-access-pipeline/press-releases/december-2016/dapl-protest-wanted-suspects; Caroline Greuskin, "Security worker with rifle at DAPL protests arrested for domestic violence," *Bismark Tribune*, April 18, 2017, https://bismarcktribune.com/news/local/security-worker-with-rifle-at-dapl-protests-arrested-for-domestic-

The use of vehicle rammings during protests gained national attention after the Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, on August 12, 2017. James Alex Fields drove his car into a group of people, wounding 30 and killing one. He later pled guilty to 29 of 30 hate crime charges and is sentenced to life in prison.[164] Fields's attack was not random. He targeted the protesters because of their opposition to the far-right rally.

The far right has since encouraged vehicle attacks against protesters by dehumanizing and objectifying protesters in online propaganda. Ultimately, this propaganda appears designed to delegitimize the protests, which broadly support values anathema to the far right such as racial equality and the Black Lives Matter movement specifically. Online memes promote the perversion of the "Black Lives Matter" slogan into "All Lives Splatter," with depictions of cars driving into protesters. Other memes portray protesters as deserving of being hit by cars while demonstrating in the streets and creating inconveniences to non-protesters. For example, memes in this category praise the idea of running over protesters to avoid being late to work. There is also an attempt to normalize the idea that protesters should expect to be struck by vehicles when protesting in the streets. Multiple memes in this category use celebrity images to express faux shock that protesters are hit by cars while standing in the street. Others revel in hitting demonstrators or portray vehicles covered in blood while proclaiming the drivers encountered speed bumps but did not see any protesters.



"All Lives Splatter" meme mimic the slogan Black Lives Matter.

violence/article_db6bf981-6ba5-5bfa-9966-1359260511ed.html; Alleen Brown, Will Parrish, and Alice Speri, "The Battle of Treaty Camp," Intercept, October 27, 2017, https://theintercept.com/2017/10/27/law-enforcement-descended-on-standing-rock-a-year-ago-and-changed-the-dapl-fight-forever/.

[164] Elisha Fieldstadt, "James Alex Fields, driver in deadly car attack at Charlottesville rally, sentenced to life in prison," NBC News, June 28, 2019, https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/james-alex-fields-driver-deadly-car-attack-charlottesville-rally-sentenced-n1024436.



Another set of memes glorifies vehicular attacks against protesters through the delegitimization of protesters' lives. These memes portray the message that they deserve to be victims of violence for demonstrating on streets and highways.

These memes not only delegitimize the reasons behind the protests, they broadly encourage violence against protesters by characterizing them as inconveniences. Thus, whether the protesters are demonstrating for racial justice, the environment, or any other cause becomes inconsequential. These memes shift the focus from the specific cause to the objectification of the protesters themselves.

While the far right have created a paradigm of memes glorifying vehicular attacks, the far left have also adopted the vehicle ramming tactic during protests.[165] On September 26, 2020, for example, a reportedly pro-Donald Trump group of counter-protesters began rallying against a Black Lives Matter demonstration in Yorba Linda, California. One of the Black Lives Matter protesters, Tatiana Turner of the car-based protest movement Caravan4Justice, struck and injured two counter-protesters with her vehicle.[166]

At least 39 people were charged for ramming attacks between May 27 and September 5, 2020. According to Ari Weil, a terrorism researcher at the University of Chicago's Project on Security and Threats, just more than 40 percent of 107 ramming incidents recorded in that timeframe were

[165] Joel Finkelstein, Alex Goldenberg, Sean Stevens, Lee Jussim, et al., "Network-Enabled Anarchy: How Militant Anarcho-Socialist Networks Use Social Media to Instigate Widespread Violence Against Political Opponents and Law Enforcement," Network Contagion Research Institute, September 14, 2020, https://ncri.io/reports/network-enabled-anarchy/.

[166] Marie Fazio, "California Driver Charged After Striking Two Protesters, Police Say," *New York Times*, September 27, 2020, https://www.nytimes.com/2020/09/27/us/tatiana-turner-yorba-linda-protest.html; Henry Holloway, "CROOK CHARGED Black Lives Matter supporter charged with ATTEMPTED MURDER for ramming car through crowd of Trump fans," *U.S. Sun*, September 27, 2020, https://www.the-sun.com/news/1541992/black-lives-matter-charged-car-ram-attempted-murder-trump/; "Woman Charged with Attempted Murder in Yorba Linda Protest," NBC 4, September 29, 2020, https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/yorba-linda-protest-car-crowd-charges-murder/2435982/.

malicious.[167] In other cases, protesters attacked cars and drivers were exculpated after authorities determined they were acting in self-defense while attempting to escape violence. This was the case on May 30, 2020, when Travis Mixon drove through a group of Black Lives Matter protesters in Tallahassee, Florida. While several protesters were reportedly injured, prosecutors determined Mixon acted in self-defense while trying to escape the protest.[168]

Protests against police brutality spread nationwide in 2020, spurred by the May 25 death of George Floyd in custody. Some of the protests have been marred by violence during widespread rioting and looting. On May 30, 2020, suspect Anthony Knapp allegedly drove his Chevrolet sedan into three police officers and a bystander during a protest against police brutality. Knapp's motives were not immediately clear but the investigation marked one of the first into attacks on police during protests.[169] Police vehicles have also been involved in ramming attacks on protesters. Between May and September 2020, at least eight rammings were attributed to police officers.[170] After two police cruisers struck protesters in Brooklyn, New York, on May 29, 2020, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio blamed the incident on "a group of protesters blocking and surrounding a police vehicle, a tactic that we had seen before in the last few days, a tactic that can be very, very dangerous to everyone involved."[171]

Recent Vehicle Attacks Against Protesters

- **October 10, 2016:** Reno, Nevada. A driver in a pickup truck with a 17-year-old passenger approaches a group of 40 people protesting Columbus Day and the Dakota Access Pipeline with a Native American rights group. The crowd encircles the truck and the driver begins arguing with the protesters. He then drives through the crowd, wounding four. Protesters call the attack a hate crime. Police arrest the suspected driver, 18-year-old Nicholas Mahaffey, on charges of provoking an assault. No vehicular charges are made because the

[167] Grace Hauk, "Cars have hit demonstrators 104 times since George Floyd protests began," *USA Today*, last updated September 27, 2020, https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2020/07/08/vehicle-ramming-attacks-66-us-since-may-27/5397700002/.
[168] Jeffrey Schweers, "Tallahassee's top prosecutor won't pursue charges against man who drove truck through marchers," *Tallahassee Democrat*, June 11, 2020, https://www.tallahassee.com/story/news/local/state/2020/06/11/prosecutor-concludes-no-crime-man-who-drove-into-protest-marchers/5345930002/.
[169] Matt Sebastian, "Denver police arrest suspect accused of crashing car into 3 officers and a civilian," *Denver Post*, May 31, 2020, https://www.denverpost.com/2020/05/31/denver-protest-police-injured-crash/; Shelly Bradbury, "Denver police ID suspect accused of driving into 3 officers during George Floyd protest," *Greeley Tribune*, June 3, 2020, https://www.greeleytribune.com/2020/06/03/denver-police-hit-and-run-suspect/; "June 2 George Floyd protest news," CNN, last updated June 2, 2020, https://edition.cnn.com/us/live-news/george-floyd-protests-06-02-20/h_ec92756b8756cd0ad5d4ab45e71973b7.
[170] Grace Hauk, "Cars have hit demonstrators 104 times since George Floyd protests began," *USA Today*, last updated September 27, 2020, https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2020/07/08/vehicle-ramming-attacks-66-us-since-may-27/5397700002/.
[171] Dana Rubinstein and Jeffery C. Mays, "Police Cars Rammed Protesters. Here's What de Blasio's Response Tells Us," *New York Times*, May 31, 2020, https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/31/nyregion/bill-de-blasio-nypd-reform.html; Virginia Breen, "Brooklyn Protesters Slammed by NYPD SUV Vow to Keep Marching," City, June 2, 2020, https://www.thecity.nyc/2020/6/2/21278766/brooklyn-protesters-slammed-by-nypd-suv-vow-to-keep-marching.

protesters threatened and punched Mahaffey and his passenger after Mahaffey initially stopped the vehicle at the protest. Mahaffey pleads not guilty. Two others, James Fletcher and Samuel Harry, are arrested on misdemeanor simple battery charges. In February 2017, Mahaffey pleads guilty to provoking an assault and is sentenced to 14 weeks of anger management and 120 hours of community service.[172]

- **October 27, 2016:** Morton County, North Dakota. Protesters Michael Fasig of Minnesota and Israel Hernandez of New York ram their vehicles into a private security officer's truck during protests against the Dakota Access Pipeline in North Dakota. Kyle Thompson was reportedly disguised as a protester and Fasig and Hernandez allegedly did not know he worked for the security company. The pair reportedly believed Thompson posed a threat to the protesters. Fasig and Hernandez are charged with reckless endangerment and criminal mischief. In October 2017, Fasig and Hernandez plead guilty to lesser misdemeanor counts of menacing and criminal mischief in exchange for dismissing the felony charges. They are ordered to pay fines and Hernandez is ordered to complete community service.[173]
- **August 12, 2017:** Charlottesville, Virginia. James Alex Fields drives his car into a group of people protesting the Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, wounding 30 and killing one. He later pleads guilty to 29 of 30 hate crime charges and is sentenced to life in prison.[174]
- **May 28, 2020:** Denver, Colorado. A woman drives a black SUV through a crowd of protesters on the street. One man hops on the hood, then falls off when the car accelerates, video shows. The car then turns and hits the man, who is knocked down. The woman drives away, and protesters chase the car on foot. Police search for the driver. In July, authorities charge Jennifer Watson with assault and reckless driving. Her attorney claims Watson was trying to get home when protesters attacked her car.[175]

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[172] *Reno Gazette-Journal*, "Man drives through crowd of Columbus Day protesters," *USA Today*, October 11, 2016, https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2016/10/11/columbus-day-protest-assault/91885460/; "Truck hits Native American crowd during Columbus Day protest in Nevada; no arrest yet," CBS News, October 11, 2016, https://www.cbsnews.com/news/truck-hits-nevada-crowd-during-columbus-day-protest-no-arrest-yet/; Marcella Corona, "Driver pleads not guilty in Arch incident," *Reno Gazette Journal*, last updated November 10, 2020, https://www.rgj.com/story/news/2016/11/09/driver-pleads-not-guilty-arch-incident/93569670/; "Driver who hit protesters under Reno Arch pleads guilty, gets no jail time," KOLO ABC 8, February 15, 2017, https://www.kolotv.com/content/news/Reno-Arch-incident-driver-pleads-guilty-gets-no-jail-time-413796443.html.

[173] "2 suspects in Dakota Access pipeline protests avoid trial," Associated Press, October 20, 2017, https://apnews.com/article/39ac403d84234cb0ab5f46e27a5fcc61; "DAPL Protest Wanted Suspects - Criminal Complaint," ND Response, December 1, 2016, https://ndresponse.gov/archive/2016/dakota-access-pipeline/press-releases/december-2016/dapl-protest-wanted-suspects; Caroline Greuskin, "Security worker with rifle at DAPL protests arrested for domestic violence," *Bismark Tribune*, April 18, 2017, https://bismarcktribune.com/news/local/security-worker-with-rifle-at-dapl-protests-arrested-for-domestic-violence/article_db6bf981-6ba5-5bfa-9966-1359260511ed.html; Alleen Brown, Will Parrish, and Alice Speri, "The Battle of Treaty Camp," Intercept, October 27, 2017, https://theintercept.com/2017/10/27/law-enforcement-descended-on-standing-rock-a-year-ago-and-changed-the-dapl-fight-forever/.

[174] Elisha Fieldstadt, "James Alex Fields, driver in deadly car attack at Charlottesville rally, sentenced to life in prison," NBC News, June 28, 2019, https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/james-alex-fields-driver-deadly-car-attack-charlottesville-rally-sentenced-n1024436.

[175] Joshua Bote, "Woman drives vehicle into protesters at George Floyd rally in Denver," *USA Today*, May 29, 2020, https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2020/05/29/george-floyd-protests-car-driven-into-protesters-

- **May 30, 2020:** Brooklyn, New York. Two police cruisers drive into a crowd of protesters, sending people sprawling across the street. Protesters claim police then pepper-spray and beat them with batons. New York City Mayor Bill De Blasio calls for an investigation but says the situation "was created by a group of protesters blocking and surrounding a police vehicle, a tactic that we had seen before in the last few days, a tactic that can be very, very dangerous to everyone involved." No are casualties reported.[176]
- **May 30, 2020:** Denver, Colorado. During a protest against police brutality spurred by the May 25 death of George Floyd in police custody in Minneapolis, Minnesota, a dark Chevrolet sedan drives into a patrol vehicle, injuring three police officers and a bystander. Police later identify Anthony Knapp as the driver and arrest him on multiple charges of first-degree assault and attempted assault. According to some reports, Knapp was a protester at the rally but his motives were not immediately clear. The investigation is reportedly among the first opened into attacks on police during protests.[177]
- **May 30, 2020:** Tallahassee, Florida. Travis Mixon drives two passengers in a pickup truck into a Black Lives Matter demonstration protesting the death of George Floyd. Mixon revs his engine—admittedly to scare the protesters—and then slowly starts driving through the protesters, causing light injuries. Prosecutors do not file charges after deciding Mixon acted in self-defense while trying to escape the protest.[178]
- **May 31, 2020:** Los Angeles, California. Protesters surrounded a police SUV, which accelerates to get away and at the same time strikes and injures two people. The Los Angeles Police Department says the officers were responding to a possible robbery.[179]
- **May 31, 2020:** Minneapolis, Minnesota. An 18-wheel semi-truck drives into a crowd of peaceful demonstrators in Minneapolis on Interstate 35, which had been closed to traffic for the protest against police brutality spurred by the May 25 death of George Floyd in

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denver-rally/5283621002/; "Car Plows Into Man Outside Colorado Capitol During George Floyd Protest," CBS 4 Denver, May 29, 2020, https://denver.cbslocal.com/2020/05/29/suv-hits-man-colorado-capitol-george-floyd-protest-denver/; Danielle Chavira, "Driver Jennifer Watson Charged In Protester Hit & Run Near State Capitol," CBS 4 Denver, July 20, 2020, https://denver.cbslocal.com/2020/07/20/jennifer-watson-hit-run-protester/.

[176] Dana Rubinstein and Jeffery C. Mays, "Police Cars Rammed Protesters. Here's What de Blasio's Response Tells Us," *New York Times*, May 31, 2020, https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/31/nyregion/bill-de-blasio-nypd-reform.html; Virginia Breen, "Brooklyn Protesters Slammed by NYPD SUV Vow to Keep Marching," City, June 2, 2020, https://www.thecity.nyc/2020/6/2/21278766/brooklyn-protesters-slammed-by-nypd-suv-vow-to-keep-marching.

[177] Matt Sebastian, "Denver police arrest suspect accused of crashing car into 3 officers and a civilian," *Denver Post*, May 31, 2020, https://www.denverpost.com/2020/05/31/denver-protest-police-injured-crash/; Shelly Bradbury, "Denver police ID suspect accused of driving into 3 officers during George Floyd protest," *Greeley Tribune*, June 3, 2020, https://www.greeleytribune.com/2020/06/03/denver-police-hit-and-run-suspect/; "June 2 George Floyd protest news," CNN, last updated June 2, 2020, https://edition.cnn.com/us/live-news/george-floyd-protests-06-02-20/h_ec92756b8756cd0ad5d4ab45e71973b7.

[178] Jeffrey Schweers, "Tallahassee's top prosecutor won't pursue charges against man who drove truck through marchers," *Tallahassee Democrat*, June 11, 2020, https://www.tallahassee.com/story/news/local/state/2020/06/11/prosecutor-concludes-no-crime-man-who-drove-into-protest-marchers/5345930002/.

[179] "Protesters struck after surrounding police vehicle in DTLA – VIDEO," ABC 7 Eyewitness News, June 1, 2020, https://abc7.com/police-car-hits-protester-vehicle-strikes-person-lapd-black-lives-matter-protest/6223842/.

police custody. No casualties are reported. Protesters reportedly pull driver Bogdan Vechirko from the truck and he sustains light injuries. Vechirko is arrested on suspicion of assault, but he is later released without charges after officials conclude he did not intend to cause harm. An online petition to have Vechirko charged gathers more than 52,000 signatures.[180]

- **June 2, 2020:** Queens, New York. Frank Cavalluzzi of Queens puts on a glove with four long, serrated-edge blades and begins chasing Black Lives Matter protesters in Queens' Whitestone neighborhood. Cavalluzzi then gets into his SUV and drives onto the sidewalk to chase protesters while shouting "I will kill you." The attack is captured on camera from several angles. Cavalluzzi is arrested two days later after he surrenders to the police. He is charged with multiple counts of attempted murder, attempted assault, reckless endangerment, menacing, endangering the welfare of a child, and criminal possession of a weapon.[181]
- **June 6, 2020:** Pensacola, Florida. A Ford Flex SUV drives into a group of Black Lives Matter protesters blocking traffic on the Bayfront Parkway. One protester, Jason Uphaus, throws himself on the hood of SUV, which carries him for the entire length of the bridge before the police stop the vehicle. Uphaus calls for charges to be filed against the driver. Uphaus is arrested on July 2 and charged with disorderly conduct and criminal mischief. The charges are later dropped after Uphaus filed a Stand Your Ground motion against the SUV driver.[182]
- **June 7, 2020:** Richmond, Virginia. Harry H. Rogers drives his pickup truck through a crowd of Black Lives Matter protesters in the roadway, wounding three. Rogers is reportedly an admitted Ku Klux Klan leader. In August, Rogers is convicted on six counts of assault, destruction of property, and hit-and-run charges. He is sentenced to six years in prison.[183]

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[182] Jake Newby, "Police investigating after protester carried across Pensacola Bay Bridge on vehicle's hood," *Pensacola News Journal*, June 6, 2020, https://www.pnj.com/story/news/2020/06/06/police-investigating-after-protester-carried-across-pensacola-bay-bridge-vehicles-hood/3164141001/; Jake Newby, "Protester carried on hood of SUV over Pensacola Bay Bridge speaks out," *Pensacola News Journal*, June 7, 2020, https://www.pnj.com/story/news/2020/06/07/pensacola-protester-carried-car-hood-over-bridge-speaks-out/3170045001/; "Charges dismissed against man who jumped on hood of car crossing Pensacola bridge," ABC 3 WEAR-TV, August 20, 2020, https://weartv.com/news/local/charges-dismissed-against-man-who-jumped-on-hood-of-car-crossing-pensacola-bridge.

[183] Reed Williams, "Henrico prosecutor: Hanover man who drove into protest is admitted KKK leader," *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, June 8, 2020, https://richmond.com/news/local/crime/henrico-prosecutor-hanover-man-who-drove-into-protest-is-admitted-kkk-leader/article_54776922-5870-5657-8900-eb2969ae9140.html; Allyson Waller,

- **June 28, 2020:** Detroit, Michigan. Protesters demonstrating against racism and police brutality surround a police SUV and begin to climb on top of it. The police vehicle proceeds to accelerate through the crowd and strike at least 10 protesters as it leaves the scene. Detroit Police Chief James Craig praises the officers for doing "the right thing" to escape the situation.[184]
- **July 4, 2020:** Seattle, Washington. Dawit Kelete allegedly drives his Jaguar car the wrong way onto an exit ramp onto a closed section of the Interstate 5 freeway where a Black Lives Matter is taking place. The vehicle strikes two protesters who were walking on the highway's shoulder. The Jaguar reportedly continues driving for one mile until protesters force it to stop. One of the victims dies in the hospital that night. Kelete is arrested on charges of vehicular manslaughter and pleads not guilty.[185]
- **July 6, 2020:** Long Island, New York. Anthony Cambareri of Coram, Long Island, allegedly slows down as he drives his Toyota RAV4 toward a Black Lives Matter protest in Huntington Station and then speeds up to drive through the protest, wounding one. Cambareri drives away as protesters chase his car. Police pull Cambareri over and arrest him. He is charged with third-degree assault. A second protester claims initially he had also been hit but then recants.[186]
- **July 6, 2020:** Bloomington, Indiana. A driver of a Toyota Corolla approaches an anti-racism protest as it begins to disperse. The driver and a passenger reportedly step out of the vehicle to remove an electric scooter from the road and protesters surround the car. The driver allegedly revs her engine and drives into the large crowd, injuring two before driving away. Two days later, police arrest suspected driver Christi Bennett on charges of criminal recklessness and leaving the scene of an accident.[187]

"Virginia Man, Said to Be a Klan Leader, Gets 6 Years in Prison After Driving Into a Protest," *New York Times*, August 11, 2020, https://www.nytimes.com/2020/08/11/us/kkk-harry-rogers-guilty.html.

[184] Timothy Bella, "'He just floored it': Detroit police SUV plows through protesters, flings people who climbed on hood," *Washington Post*, June 28, 2020, https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2020/06/29/detroit-police-suv-protesters/.

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[186] Pei-Sze Cheng, "Suffolk Police Arrest Man Who Allegedly Hit 2 Black Lives Matter Protesters With SUV," NBC 4 New York, July 7, 2020, https://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/suffolk-police-arrest-man-who-allegedly-hit-2-black-lives-matter-protesters-with-suv/2502763/?_osource=SocialFlowTwt_NYBrand; "Police: Black Lives Matter protester lied about being hit by car," News 12 New York, July 9, 2020, https://longisland.news12.com/police-black-lives-matter-protester-lied-about-being-hit-by-car-42351406.

[187] Ernest Rollins and Emily Ernsberger, "Driver strikes pedestrian after Bloomington rally, march over alleged racist assault," *Indianapolis Star*, July 7, 2020, https://www.indystar.com/story/news/local/2020/07/07/bloomington-indiana-vaughn-booker-protests-driver-strikes-pedestrian/5389013002/; Vic Ryckaert, "66-year-old woman accused of driving into Bloomington protesters arrested," *Indianapolis Star*, July 9, 2020, https://www.indystar.com/story/news/crime/2020/07/09/66-year-old-woman-arrested-for-driving-into-bloomington-protesters/5404561002/.

- **July 7, 2020:** New York, New York. A black Dodge Durango SUV approaches a group of Black Lives Matter protesters demonstrating at an intersection near Times Square. Protesters surround the vehicle and pound on the windows while yelling at the driver to turn around. According to the New York Police Department, protesters also place bicycles in front of the car to stop the driver from moving forward. The vehicle drives through the protesters, injuring one and reportedly destroying three bicycles. The driver is taken into custody, but no charges are filed.[188]
- **September 3, 2020:** New York, New York. A black Ford Taurus drives through a group of Black Lives Matter protesters, injuring five. Two of the victims file a police report against the driver after police say they cannot file charges without one. According to the New York Police Department (NYPD), the vehicle was filled with counter-protesters who were ordered to leave the area that evening prior to the attack. The NYPD was escorting the vehicle from the scene when the Taurus reportedly "missed a turn" and instead drove into protesters. The incident is caught on video and social media posts identify the driver as Hakim Gibson, a Trump supporter and pro-police activist who had purchased the SUV at a police auction and appeared at other pro-Trump demonstrations in the past. Police interview all six passengers in the car but do not file charges. One of the passengers tells the Associated Press that Gibson had offered to drive the other counter-protesters away out of fear of a growing mob.[189]
- **September 23, 2020:** Buffalo, New York. A pickup truck drives into a group of demonstrators protesting against the decision not to indict officers in the death of Breonna Taylor, hitting a protester on a bicycle. Protesters yell at the driver to stop and pound on the truck, which then quickly drives away.[190]
- **September 23, 2020:** Denver, Colorado. Protesters demonstrating outside the Capitol Building against the decision not to indict officers in the death of Breonna Taylor surround a Volvo and tell the driver to turn around. The driver instead accelerates and hits one protester before driving away.[191]
- **September 24, 2020:** Los Angeles, California. A pickup truck hits one protester in downtown Los Angeles during a protest against the decision not to charge police officers for the death of Breonna Taylor. The protester sustains minor injuries. Later in the evening, a Prius hits a parked Mustang while trying to drive away from the protest. Protesters

[188] Sydney Pereira, "Man In SUV Drives Through Anti-Police Brutality Protesters In Midtown," Gothamist, July 8, 2020, https://gothamist.com/news/man-suv-drives-through-anti-police-brutality-protesters-midtown.
[189] Jake Offenhartz and Gwynne Hogan, "Video Shows Driver Plowing Into Black Lives Matter Protesters In Times Square," Gothamist, September 3, 2020, https://gothamist.com/news/video-shows-driver-plowing-black-lives-matter-protesters-times-square; David Cruz, "Black Lives Matter Protesters Hit By Driver In Times Square Attack Come Forward To File Police Report," Gothamist, September 5, 2020, https://gothamist.com/news/black-lives-matter-protesters-hit-driver-times-square-attack-come-forward-file-police-report; Michael R. Sisack, "Passenger: Car sped through Times Square protest to escape," Associated Press, September 4, 2020, https://apnews.com/article/79ebdf21664f18f6ac52039aaaed8c75.
[190] William Mansell, "2 vehicles hit protesters in Los Angeles as Breonna Taylor protests continue throughout US," ABC News, September 25, 2020, https://abcnews.go.com/US/vehicles-hit-protesters-los-angeles-breonna-taylor-protests/story?id=73234687.
[191] William Mansell, "2 vehicles hit protesters in Los Angeles as Breonna Taylor protests continue throughout US," ABC News, September 25, 2020, https://abcnews.go.com/US/vehicles-hit-protesters-los-angeles-breonna-taylor-protests/story?id=73234687.

attempt to pull the drive out of the car, but he escapes. No injuries are reported in the second incident and police detain the driver.[192]

- **September 26, 2020:** Yorba Linda, California. Supporters of U.S. President Donald Trump begin a counterprotest during a rally by a group demonstrating for Black Lives Matter and against police brutality. Tatiana Turner of the car-based protest movement Caravan4Justice strikes two counter-protesters with her vehicle. Turner is charged with attempted murder, six counts of assault with a deadly weapon, one count of mayhem, and two counts of illegal use of tear gas.[193]
- **October 3, 2020:** New York, New York. A black Infinity SUV approaches a group of Black Lives Matter protesters on bicycles participating in a "Justice Ride" in Manhattan's Flatiron District organized by Street Riders NYC. The SUV's driver honks at the protesters and speeds up while driving through the group, injuring two. The vehicle drives away. According to Street Riders NYC, the driver had initially parked nearby and engaged in a verbal confrontation with the protesters—including threats of physical violence, insults, and racial epithets—prior to the attack.[194]
- **June 24, 2022:** Cedar Rapids, Iowa. A male driver reportedly rams his truck into a group of women protesting the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade, wounding at least one. Police reportedly interview the driver, but no arrests are made.[195]

Conclusion:

[192] William Mansell, "2 vehicles hit protesters in Los Angeles as Breonna Taylor protests continue throughout US," ABC News, September 25, 2020, https://abcnews.go.com/US/vehicles-hit-protesters-los-angeles-breonna-taylor-protests/story?id=73234687.

[193] Marie Fazio, "California Driver Charged After Striking Two Protesters, Police Say," *New York Times*, September 27, 2020, https://www.nytimes.com/2020/09/27/us/tatiana-turner-yorba-linda-protest.html; Henry Holloway, "CROOK CHARGED Black Lives Matter supporter charged with ATTEMPTED MURDER for ramming car through crowd of Trump fans," *U.S. Sun*, September 27, 2020, https://www.the-sun.com/news/1541992/black-lives-matter-charged-car-ram-attempted-murder-trump/; "Woman Charged with Attempted Murder in Yorba Linda Protest," NBC 4, September 29, 2020, https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/yorba-linda-protest-car-crowd-charges-murder/2435982/.

[194] Zack Budryk, "SUV plows through cycling Black Lives Matter protesters in New York," *Hill*, October 4, 2020, https://thehill.com/blogs/blog-briefing-room/news/519549-suv-plows-through-cycling-black-lives-matter-protesters-in-new; Sydney Pereira, "Video Shows SUV Driver Speeding Into Crowd Of Protesters On Bikes In NYC," Gothamist, October 4, 2020, https://gothamist.com/news/video-shows-suv-driver-speeding-crowd-nyc-protesters-bikes.

[195] Noah Y. Kim, "Driver Rams Truck Into Abortion Rights Protesters in Iowa," Mother Jones, June 25, 2022, https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2022/06/truck-collision-abortion-roe-cedar-rapids-womens-rights-protesters-iowa/; "Live updates | Supreme Court overturns Roe v. Wade," Associated Press, June 25, 2022, https://apnews.com/article/live-updates-supreme-court-abortion-ruling-4d85faa212aab22970ae92507d380527; Andy Campbell and Alanna Vagianos, "Truck Driver Rams Into Abortion Rights Demonstrators At Roe Rally In Iowa," Huffington Post, June 24, 2022, https://www.huffpost.com/entry/truck-driver-rams-into-protesters-roe-demonstration-in-iowa_n_62b66490e4b0cdccbe6b9399.

As the TSA notes, vehicular terrorist attacks are becoming "more commonplace around the globe."[196] Indeed, terrorists are increasingly relying on low-sophistication tactics like car-ramming and stabbing to kill or injure large groups of people without easy detection or intervention by law enforcement. These assailants often target locations where large numbers of people congregate, particularly on or around major national holidays, when civilians are likely to be outdoors shopping or celebrating.[197] Protests also provide desirable targets because of the large crowds and flaring tempers among both protesters and counter-protesters.

Although there is little that can be done to prevent the weaponization of motor vehicles, the TSA has encouraged bus and trucking companies to be vigilant about indicators—like modifications to vehicles—that may suggest a vehicular terrorist attack. The TSA has also encouraged the use of vehicle barriers to prevent vehicles from accelerating into populated areas, protecting large crowds of people from attacks at outdoor venues like concerts, sporting events, and holiday markets.[198]

As CEP notes, far more can also be done by tech companies to counteract calls to violence by groups like ISIS, al-Qaeda, and Hamas, as well as the proliferation of violent memes. In their Terms of Service agreements, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram all prohibit the promotion of violence or behavior that may cause harm.[199] Nonetheless, memes glorifying and promoting violence against protesters remain easily accessible online across various platforms. After the March 2017 Westminster attack, YouTube was "inundated with violent ISIS recruitment videos," according to findings by the U.K. government. The British government noted that YouTube failed to block this slew of content, despite the videos being easily searchable and posted under usernames like "Islamic Caliphate."[200] After the June 2017 London Bridge attack, U.K. Prime Minister Theresa May called for increased regulation on the Internet, where terrorist recruitment and incitement to violence largely takes place remotely.[201] Despite Google's claims to have improved its takedown efforts, CEP has tracked the appearance and reappearance of major ISIS videos on YouTube (Google's subsidiary), including those calling for vehicular terrorist attacks. CEP's findings raise serious questions about Google's stated commitment to confronting terrorist recruitment using hashing technology, which prevents flagged content from being re-uploaded to a platform.

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[196] Jason Hanna, "TSA Warns Truckers: Watch for Possible Ramming Terror Attacks," CNN, May 5, 2017, http://www.cnn.com/2017/05/04/politics/tsa-ramming-terror-attacks-warning/.
[197] For more on common terror targets, see CEP's report, *Terror Targets in the West: Where and Why*.
[198] "Vehicle Ramming Attacks," Transportation Security Administration, May 2017, https://info.publicintelligence.net/TSA-VehicleRamming.pdf.
[199] "Community Standards – Violence and Criminal Behavior," Facebook, accessed October 1, 2020, https://www.facebook.com/communitystandards/violence_criminal_behavior; "The Twitter Rules," Twitter, accessed October 1, 2020, https://help.twitter.com/en/rules-and-policies/twitter-rules; "Community Guidelines," Instagram, accessed October 1, 2020, https://help.instagram.com/477434105621119/.
[200] "Hate Crime: Abuse, Hate and Extremism Online Fourteenth Report of Session 2016–17," U.K. House of Commons Home Affairs Committee, May 1, 2017, https://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201617/cmselect/cmhaff/609/609.pdf.
[201] "Theresa May Says the Internet Must Now Be Regulated Following London Bridge Terror Attack," *Independent* (London), June 4, 2017, http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/theresa-may-internet-regulated-london-bridge-terror-attack-google-facebook-whatsapp-borough-security-a7771896.html.

CEP has tracked the appearance and reappearance of major ISIS videos on YouTube calling for vehicular terrorist attacks. CEP's findings raise serious questions about the company's stated commitment to confronting terrorist recruitment on its platform.

In many cases, assailants themselves are active on tech platforms like Google, Facebook, and WhatsApp prior to carrying out an attack. Abdul Razak Ali Artan, perpetrator of the November 2016 Ohio State University attack, called al-Qaeda cleric Anwar al-Awlaki "our hero" in a message posted to Facebook.[202] Khalid Masood, perpetrator of the March 2017 Westminster attack, sent a message on WhatsApp announcing his intention to wage jihad minutes before launching his assault.[203]

While it is impossible to prevent all vehicular terrorist attacks, far more can and should be done to reduce the threat. Tech companies, for one, can do far more to prevent groups like ISIS, al-Qaeda, and Hamas from using their platforms to recruit new members and reach their target audiences. These companies can also be more proactive and cooperative with law enforcement about the activity of lone-wolf terrorists on their platforms. Tech companies must also take into consideration the emergence in recent years of propaganda promoting and normalizing vehicular attacks. Although we cannot prevent each and every vehicular attack, efforts to prevent even a few attacks can have the foreseeably large impact of reducing widespread fear and, most importantly, saving lives.

[202] Jake Tapper, Twitter post, November 28, 2016, 5:56 p.m., https://twitter.com/jaketapper/status/803417243547799552.
[203] Rozina Sabur, "Westminster Terror Attacker Khalid Masood's Final Message Revealed," *Telegraph* (London), April 28, 2017, http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/04/28/westminster-terror-attacker-khalid-masoods-final-message-revealed/.