

**Mr. Q.** @Mister\_\_Q\_ Mon Apr 26 09:35:45 +0000 2021

[THREAD] 1/ Focus on the attacks claimed by the Islamic State in the Central **#Sahel** region. Over the past two years, **#ISGS** has claimed 144 operations in the **#LikpatoGourma** area which borders Mali ■■■, Burkina Faso ■■■ and Niger ■■■. Far less attacks than it has actually conducted. <https://t.co/HMEzEkHVh0>

2/ Detail about the methodology: I have collected and analysed the data of every single attack claimed in all the issues of the Islamic State's weekly magazine al-Naba' published between 28/03/2019 and 15/04/2021. Data include targets, weapons used, spoils of war, geolocation.

3/ Among the 144 **#ISGS** claimed attacks, 62 were reportedly conducted in Burkina Faso ■■■, 59 in Mali ■■■ and 23 in Niger ■■■. Over the past twelve months, the number of attacks has been low but steady, with two peaks in July and October 2020. <https://t.co/JzKJOsgJxS>

4/ Since the start of the year, **#ISGS** has only claimed nine attacks, including six in Mali ■■■, two in Niger ■■■ and one in Burkina Faso ■■■. A figure far below the 107 attacks probably conducted by ISGS, as reported by the expert on the **#Sahel** @MENASTREAM. <https://t.co/EE1DrEqzRu>

5/ Even if the group tends to overstate the number of casualties, it is interesting and sad to note that despite the small number of claimed attacks, **#ISGS** caused many casualties in **#BurkinaFaso**, **#Mali** and **#Niger** during its operations. <https://t.co/qEYIWXHRjh>

6/ Regarding the type of attacks, **#ISGS** mostly claimed targeted operations against its "enemies". Among the biggest attacks: Akabar, Tongo Tongo, Indelimane, N'Daki and In-Ates. It is noteworthy that the group has conducted six suicide attacks in the area in the past two years. <https://t.co/or0iqNFpmD>

7/ As for the targets, **#ISGS** mostly targeted **#AQIM** in Burkina Faso ■■■ and Mali ■■■, even more than national military forces and French forces ■■■. Again, let's keep in mind that the group has only claimed a tiny fraction of the operations it has actually conducted. Cf. @MENASTREAM. <https://t.co/DBC2sJFLWI>

8/ With respect to weapons, the Islamic State did not always provide all the detail in its weekly magazine al-Naba'. From the information gathered though, one can note that **#ISGS** reportedly used IEDs, machine guns, rockets and SVBIEDs. <https://t.co/cpDs2ctZha>

9/ Key takeaways:

- Over the past two years, **#ISGS** has claimed far less attacks than it has actually conducted. Cf. @MENASTREAM.
- It has inflicted many casualties during its operations.
- **#AQIM** has been the most targeted by the group in Mali ■■■ and Burkina Faso ■■■.

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