30 days since Parkland: School-based violent incidents and threats from Feb 15th-Mar 16th

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Since 2015, The Educator’s School Safety Network, a national non-profit school safety organization, has done academic research into school based violent incidents and threats, compiling the most current information on violence and threats of violence in America’s schools to determine the scope and severity of the threats and violent incidents that schools face.

In the 30 days since the tragedy in Parkland, U.S. schools have been inundated with a dramatic increase in threats and incidents of violence with an average of 59.4 threats and incidents of violence per school day. This is more than 300% increase from the average of 13.2 in the prior 108 school days of this academic year.

47% of all threats we’ve tracked in the ’17-’18 school year have occurred in the wake of Parkland.

What is the research methodology of this study?

Media reports of violent incidents and threats in schools are reviewed by ESSN researchers and data collected on the specifics of the event. For the complete research methodology, head to www.eSchoolSafety.org/concern

What are the limitations of this study?

We know that our data is incomplete. If no information about a threat or incident was reported, then it is not included in the data set. It is likely that some incidents have either not been reported, or inadvertently missed by the data collection methods used. Rather than undermining the findings, this potential “under-reporting” only seeks to emphasize the significance of the data found in the study.
Since Parkland, threats were delivered via social media

45.6% of the time.

Definitions - For the purposes of this study:

“threats of violence” includes bomb threats, threats involving a weapon (such as a gun), threats involving BOTH guns and bombs, generalized threats of violence, and other school-based threats when the specific nature of the threat was not reported (unknown threats).

“incidents of violence” includes events where something actually occurred (not just a threat). These included shootings, shots fired, weapons found, suspicious items, actual explosive devices, detonations, intruders, attacks, assaults, etc.

School-based threats of violence: 30 days after Parkland

This abbreviated report is a 30 day analysis of what has occurred in the wake of the tragedy in Parkland, FL. For more information, or for full reports from past school years, head to www.eSchoolSafety.org/concern.

For more information, or to interview one of our experts, email us: info AT eSchoolSafety DOT org

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