

Study finds 300 active ISIS supporters online in the US

This is the number we know. How many more are out there that we don't know? [ISIS in America: From Retweets to Raqqa](#)", also found that 71 people had been charged in the U.S. with ISIS-related activities since March 2014. 56 of those arrests have occurred since the start of 2015, the most terrorism-related arrests in any year since the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

In addition to online recruiters, the study also identifies several small groups of friends or acquaintances who support ISIS. One of the cells, the researchers said, is based in Texas and "revolves around a few charismatic individuals and an Islamic studies group." The second is located "in the suburbs of a large Midwestern city [and] appears to be composed of former high-school friends and a handful of their acquaintances."

The study's authors did not identify the groups further, saying they did not want to compromise potential criminal investigations.

The study finds that defendants accused of ISIS-supporting activities have an average age of 26 and are overwhelmingly male. Just over half had traveled or attempted to travel abroad, and approximately one quarter were involved in plots to attack the U.S.

"The profiles ... differ widely in race, age, social class, education, and family background," the study's executive summary said. "Their motivations are equally diverse and defy easy analysis."

The summary added that U.S.-based sympathizers' actual involvement with ISIS ranged from "those who are merely inspired by its message to those few who reached mid-level

leadership positions within the group.”