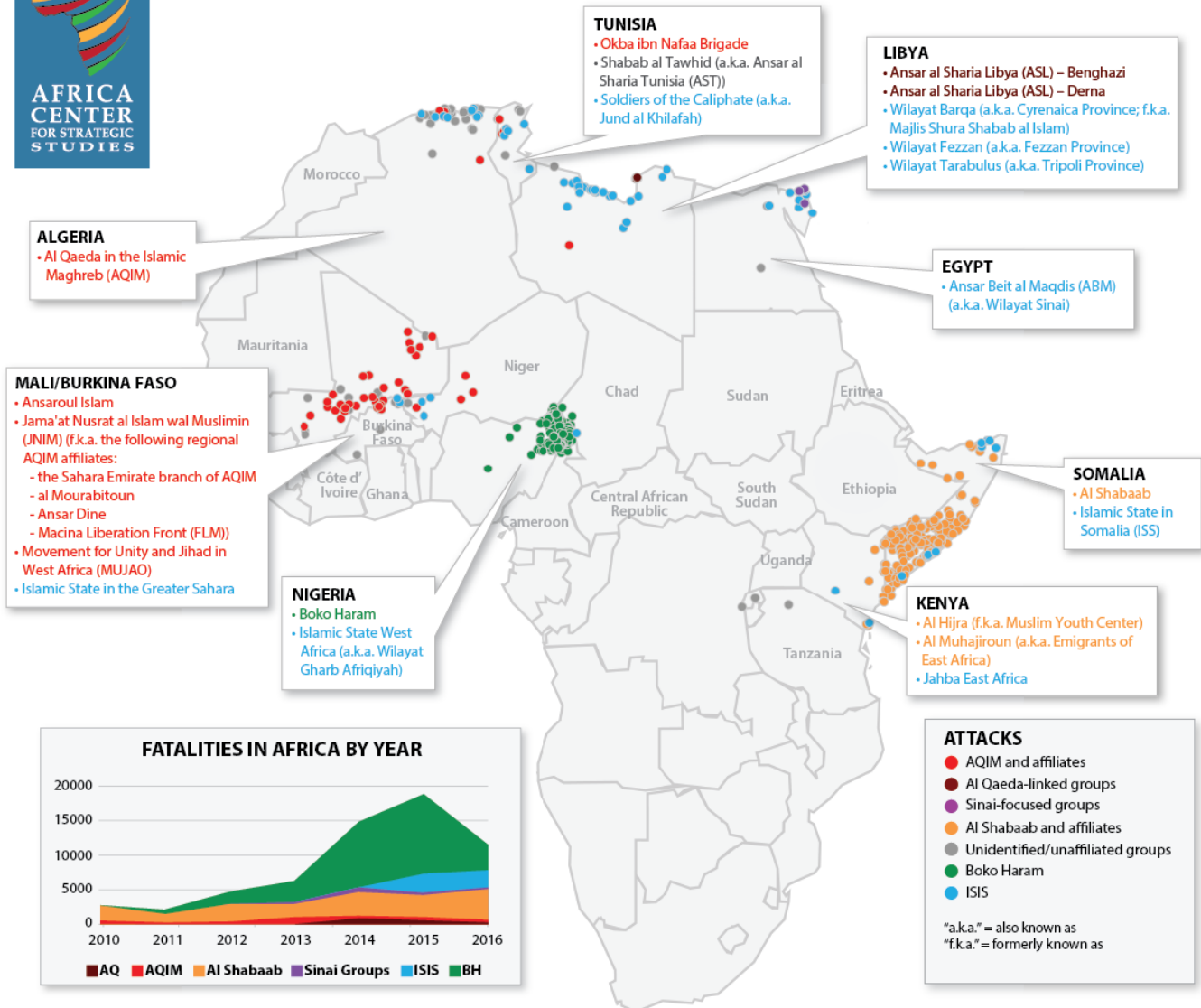




# AFRICA'S ACTIVE MILITANT ISLAMIST GROUPS



Updated: April 2017 rev.  
Note: Compiled by the Africa Center, this graphic shows violent events involving the listed groups over the 12-month period ending March 31, 2017. Data on attacks or fatalities does not attempt to distinguish the perpetrators of the events. Group listings are intended for informational purposes only and should not be considered official designations. Due to the fluid nature of many groups, the listed affiliates may change.  
Sources: Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED); Daniel Byman; Jane's Terrorism and Insurgency Centre; Thomas Joscelyn; SITE Intelligence Group; The Soufan Group; Stanford University's Mapping Militants Project; Stratfor; Terrorism Research & Analysis Consortium (TRAC); and Aaron Y. Zelin.

A review of violent events involving militant Islamist groups in Africa over the past year highlights several notable observations:

- Fatalities caused by Boko Haram dropped by 70 percent between 2015 and 2016 (from 11,519 to 3,499). This has led to a decline in the total number of fatalities caused by militant Islamist groups in Africa, reversing four years of accelerating violence.
- Al Shabaab grew more lethal in 2016, with fatalities increasing by a third—from 3,046 in 2015 to 4,281 in 2016. Al Shabaab has now surpassed Boko Haram as Africa's most deadly militant Islamic group.
- Sahelian militant groups formerly associated with al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) have demonstrated increased organizational capacity by establishing locally based affiliates in Mali and Burkina Faso. They have also created a unified front under one al Qaeda banner, Jama'at Nusrat al Islam wal Muslimin (JNIM).
- The Islamic State's self-declared African provinces in Algeria, Tunisia, and Libya have made only limited progress in rooting themselves in local communities.

This is the third update of a map the Africa Center for Strategic Studies initially released in April 2016. It reflects events that occurred between April 2016 and March 2017.