

# School Threats & Violence



NORTH CAROLINA

# Stoneman Douglas High School Shooting



On February 14, 2018, a mass shooting occurred at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. Seventeen people were killed and seventeen more were wounded, making it one of the world's deadliest school massacres.





That afternoon, at 1:22 PM,  
Everytownresearch.org tweeted:

**Everytown**   
@Everytown Follow

Our hearts are with all those impacted by the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida today.

This is the 18th school shooting in the U.S. in 2018.




**The Latest: Students describe shooting suspect as troubled**  
PARKLAND, Fla. (AP) — The Latest on the deadly shooting at a Florida high school (all times local): 9:55 p.m. Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel says  
apnews.com

1:22 PM - 14 Feb 2018

831 Retweets 1,231 Likes 


120 831 1.2K

... it quickly caught on.

**Bernie Sanders**   
@SenSanders Follow

Maybe, just maybe, after 18 school shootings in America in just 43 days of 2018 the Congress might want to consider common-sense gun safety legislation and save innocent lives.

1:58 PM - 14 Feb 2018

23,546 Retweets 53,400 Likes 

3.1K 24K 53K

**Cher**   
@cher Follow

2018. There Have Been 18 School Shootings in 45 Days.  
Women Can We Change This!?! Is It Possible To Change It!?! We Watch Children Walking, Hands In The Air, In Shock.... It Happens Before Our Eyes, There's 48 Hr Constant Coverage, Dems Bitch & Moan, & Then The Cycle Starts Again.

7:43 PM - 14 Feb 2018

1,477 Retweets 6,827 Likes 

546 1.5K 6.8K





News organizations – including MSNBC, ABC News, NBC News, CBS News, Time, MSN, the BBC, the New York Daily News and HuffPost – also used the number in their coverage. **By Wednesday night, the top suggested search after typing “18” into Google was “18 school shootings in 2018.”**

“

Since 2013, there have been more than 300 school shootings in America – an average of about one a week.

”

EVERYTOWNRESEARCH.ORG

Though later discredited as being largely inflammatory, these statistics made national news, and have brought nation wide attention to the combating this crisis.



What about North Carolina?





# OF THE 300 SCHOOL SHOOTINGS SINCE 2013 CITED BY EVERYTOWNRESEARCH.ORG...



## 2013

- 3 shooting incidents - 1 at a High School & 2 at Universities

## 2014

- 3 shooting incidents - 2 High Schools & 1 at University

## 2015

- 5 shooting incidents - 1 at an Elementary School & 4 at Universities
- 1 Gun Fired incident at an Elementary School:

### **ACTIVE SHOOTER SITUATION AVOIDED**

*On June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Macon County Sheriff's Office arrested a male and female on multiple charges. Five loaded handguns were found on their person and on an empty school bus they had hijacked from the driver. The duo stated that they intended to shoot students and staff of a local Elementary school "if it was God's will"*

## 2016

- 1 shooting incident at a University

## 2017

- 1 shooting incident at a High School

## 2018

- 1 shooting incident at a University

# DPI CONSOLIDATED DATA REPORT



## '15 - '16 School Year

ACT	# OF INCIDENTS
Possession of a Weapon	2,746
Possession of a Firearm or Powerful Explosive	118
Bomb Threat	69

## '16 - '17 School Year

ACT	# OF INCIDENTS
Possession of a Weapon	2,745
Possession of a Firearm or Powerful Explosive	105
Bomb Threat	89

Primarily High Schools, then Middle schools, and finally Elementary schools. Significant percentages are committed by regular students.

**10 YEAR TREND DECREASE OF POSSESSION OF A WEAPON (highest in '10-'11 reaching 3,954)**



# CURRENT TRENDS

## INCREASED THREATS OF VIOLENCE



- Since the Parkland shooting, there has been a dramatic uptick in school related threats of violence.
- Law enforcement has faced incredible challenges in confronting rumors that spread rapidly over social media
- Specifically there was a recent bombing threat that spread nationwide through social media, so school bombing threats have received a lot of attention lately **“THE SNAPCHAT THREATS”**

# THE SNAPCHAT THREATS

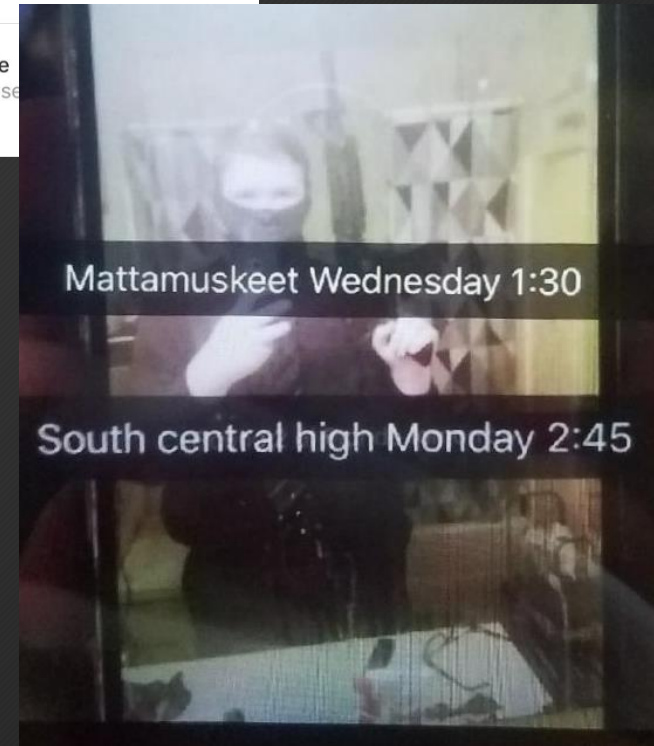
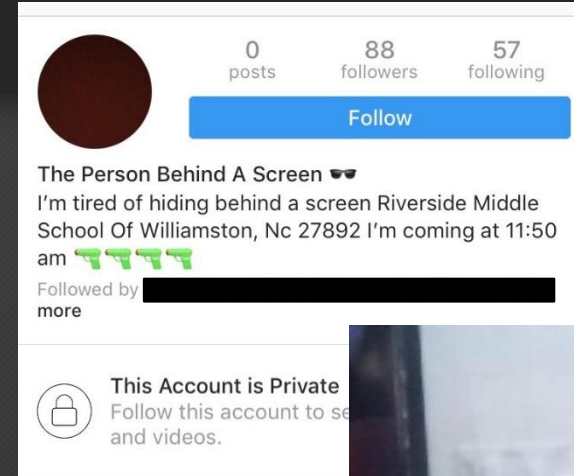
## FEBRUARY 2018



Directly after the Parkland shooting, rumors began circulating on social media of a nationwide “list of schools” (nonexistent) that were going to have shooting events in the subsequent days. The early circulations often included a picture what appears to be a young white male (student aged) taking a selfie in a bathroom mirror holding a rifle.

### **RUMORS SPREAD**

Students would state that they heard there would be a shooting at their school later that day, or the following day, often at a specific time. Sometimes the student would cite the rumored “list” and say their school was on it. The student would post this rumor to their Snapchat and/or Instagram story, others connected would see it and do the same, spreading it quickly.



# THE SNAPCHAT THREATS

FEBRUARY 2018



- Law enforcement manpower and resources were greatly taxed during this time.
- Each school threat was treated as unique and fully investigated.
- The number of schools this rumor touched was truly astounding.
- NC ISAAC alone in 6 days' time assisted in almost 15 threats

## OUTCOME:

- SC Teenager from the original rumored photo was arrested
- Several NC students who would add their school to the rumor and spread it anew were charged



# CURRENT NEWS

## FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup> - PRESENT



- 2/28 - Knightdale High School student arrested after tweeting a rant against the school and posting a photo of himself pointing a gun
- 3/9 - Johnston County Sheriff's Office charged 7 teens who illegally entered West Johnston High School in Benson and got into an altercation with an SRO. School temporarily locked down
- 3/12 - Alexander Co Sheriff's Office arrested a woman who threatened to bomb East Alexander Middle School in Hiddenite
- 3/14 - Garner Magnet High South Campus student arrested for possession of handgun (unloaded, and not displayed threateningly)
- 3/15 - Cumberland County Sheriff's Office arrested a former student at Grays Creek High School in the parking lot with a gun
- 3/15 - Harnett County Sheriff's Office evacuated Triton High School after a note was found in a school bathroom indicated a bomb threat for Th/Fri. Case ongoing.
- 3/20 - Halifax County Community College bomb threat, school evacuated, K9 units deployed. Case ongoing.
- 3/20 - A male walked onto campus at Heritage Middle School in Wake Forest, NC threatening to come back at lunch and "shoot everybody". School locked down. Case ongoing.



# PROACTIVE MEASURES



- Analysts utilize Research tools/technology
- Colleges & Universities Liaisons
- Center for Safer Schools Analyst
- FLO Program

# PROACTIVE MEASURES



1. Identify

2. Investigate

3. Evaluate

4. Manage