

# Bloomberg

## Killings Grip Arab Towns in Israel as Wave of Violence Builds

- Arab communities succumb to attacks ahead of local elections
- Far right government under pressure to act as assaults spread

By Galit Altstein / September 3, 2023

Gunshots felled Abdel Rahman Kashua last month right in front of a police station, escalating a wave of violence in Arab Israeli cities that's stoking broader tensions in the country.

[...]

Although many murders go unsolved by the police, the **Institute for Security Studies at Tel Aviv University** concluded that more than half over the past six years were carried out by criminal organizations or resulted from clashes between clans and gangs. Another 9% was attributed to domestic violence and personal conflicts.

[...]

An added fear is of a broad spillover of violence into other societies. Neighboring Druze communities are already experiencing an increase in criminality, though it has yet to spread across the country at large, according to **Meir Elran**, a senior researcher at Tel Aviv's **Institute for National Securities Studies**.

"Criminal organizations are constantly testing the boundaries and will continue to do so that if they aren't stopped," he said.

*For full article:*

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