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# Uptick in Violence

## Pakistan's Continuous Challenge

Annual Security Report 2021



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*Rule of Law - Security - Governance*

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Annual Security Report 2021

**Author:**

**Muhammad Nafees**

Senior Research Fellow - CRSS



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## Introduction

The Center for Research and Security Studies is pleased to release the Annual Security Report 2021. This report, compiled with the help of open-source data such as newspapers and web-based news portals, mirrors the trajectory of various forms of violence across Pakistan to help readers understand the dynamics of terrorist and extremist violence in the country, which suffered a renewed surge in violence in the latter part of 2021. Much of it was ostensibly linked to the return of the Taliban to power in Afghanistan in mid-August 2021. They promised to deny terrorist groups such as TTP, IMU, ETIM, and ISIK the use of Afghan soil for their operations in Pakistan, Central Asia, China, and elsewhere in the region. Yet, terrorist violence spiked after August and continued to claim casualties into 2022, particularly among Pakistani security forces in Baluchistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

## Acronyms

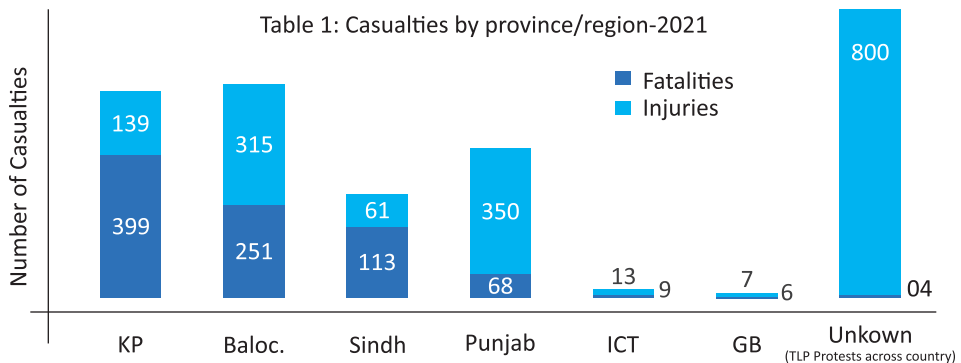
Acronym	Meaning
AJK	Azad Jammu Kashmir
ANF	Anti Narcotics Force
ANP	Awami National Party
AQ	Al Qaeda
AQIS	Al Qaida Indian Subcontinent
ASWJ	Ahl-e-Sunnat-Wal-Jamaat
BLA	Balochistan Liberation Army
BLF	Baloch Liberation Front
BLT	Baloch Liberation Tigers
BRA	Baloch Republican Army
BRAS	Baloch Raji Ajoi Sangar
CTD	Counter-Terrorism Department
FATA	Federally Administered Tribal Areas
FC	Frontier Corps
FIA	Federal Investigation Agency
GB	Gilgit Baltistan
ICT	Islamabad Capital Territory
IED	Improvised Explosive Device
IS	Islamic State
JI	Jamaat-e-Islami
JSQM	Jeay Sindh Qaumi Mahaz
JUIF	Jamiat Ulema-e Islam
KP	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
LeI	Lashkar-e-Islami
LeJ	Lashkar-e-Jhangvi
MQM	Muttahida Qaumi Movement
OGDCL	Oil and Gas Development Company Limited
PMLN	Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz
PPP	Pakistan Peoples Party
PSX	Pakistan Stock Exchange
PTI	Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf
PTM	Pushtun Tahaffuz Movement
RAW	Research and Analysis Wing
SeM	Sipah-e-Muhammad
SHO	Station House Officer
SRA	Sindhudesh Revolutionary Army
SSG	Special Service Group
TNT	Trinitrotoluene
TTP	Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan
UBA	United Baloch Army

# Casualties of Terror Attacks and Counter-Terror Operations - 2021

After a steady decline in violence since 2015, partly due to two major security operations (Zarb-e-Azb and Radd-ul-Fasad), the country witnessed a rise in violence in 2021. Violence-related incidents resulted in the deaths of 850 persons and caused injuries to 1,685 others. Among the various regions of the country, Balochistan suffered the highest number of fatalities (251), followed by the formerly Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) (232), Khyber Pukhtunkhwa (KP) (167), Sindh (113), Punjab (68), Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) (9), and Gilgit Baltistan (GB) (6) (table 01). Like last year, the two provinces bordering Afghanistan – Balochistan, and KP (including former FATA), were the center of violence this year with over three-quarters of fatalities to violence reported. The Punjab province remained the least affected by violence as it recorded 8% of all fatalities while Sindh had 13% and the remaining 2% were recorded in ICT and GB.

**Table 1: Fatalities from terror attacks and counter-terror operations by province/region – 2021**

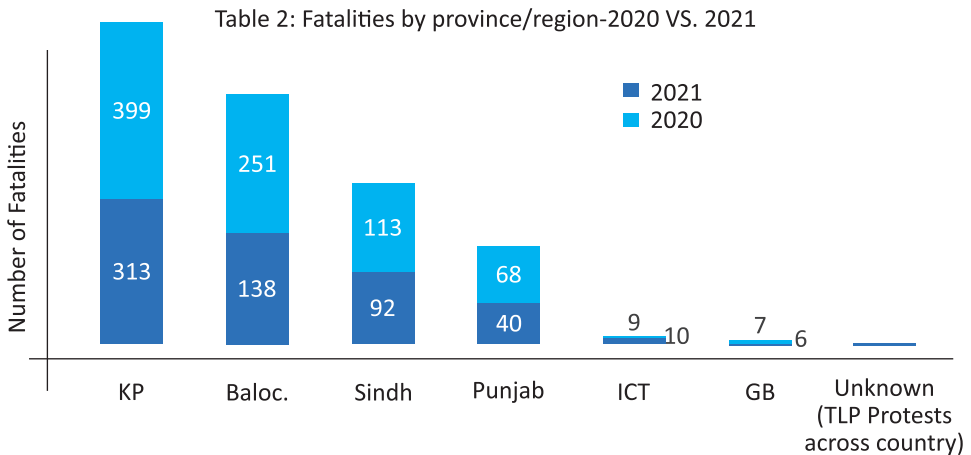
Province/Region	Fatalities	Injuries	Casualties
Khyber Pukhtunkhwa (KP)	399	139	538
- within KP, former Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) alone	[232]	[98]	[330]
Balochistan	251	315	566
Sindh	113	61	174
Punjab	68	350	418
Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT)	9	13	22
Gilgit Baltistan (GB)	6	7	13
Unknown Locations (TLP violence across Pakistan)	4	800	804
<b>Total</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>1685</b>	<b>2535</b>





Except for ICT and GB, all other regions of the country showed a rise in violence as compared to several previous years with Balochistan topping the list with an 82% rise. Despite its lowest fatality rate, Punjab showed a significant rise of 65% rise in violence compared to last year while KP (including ex-FATA) showed a 58%, and Sindh 23% surge in violent incidents.

Province/Region	2020	2021	Percentage Change
Khyber Pukhtunkhwa (KP)	313	399	27.48%
Balochistan	138	251	81.88%
- within KP, former Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) alone	[191]	[232]	21.47%
Sindh	92	113	22.83%
Punjab	40	68	70.00%
Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT)	10	9	-10.00%
Gilgit Baltistan (GB)	7	6	-14.29%
Unknown Locations (TLP violence across Pakistan)	0	4	n/a
<b>Total</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>41.67%</b>



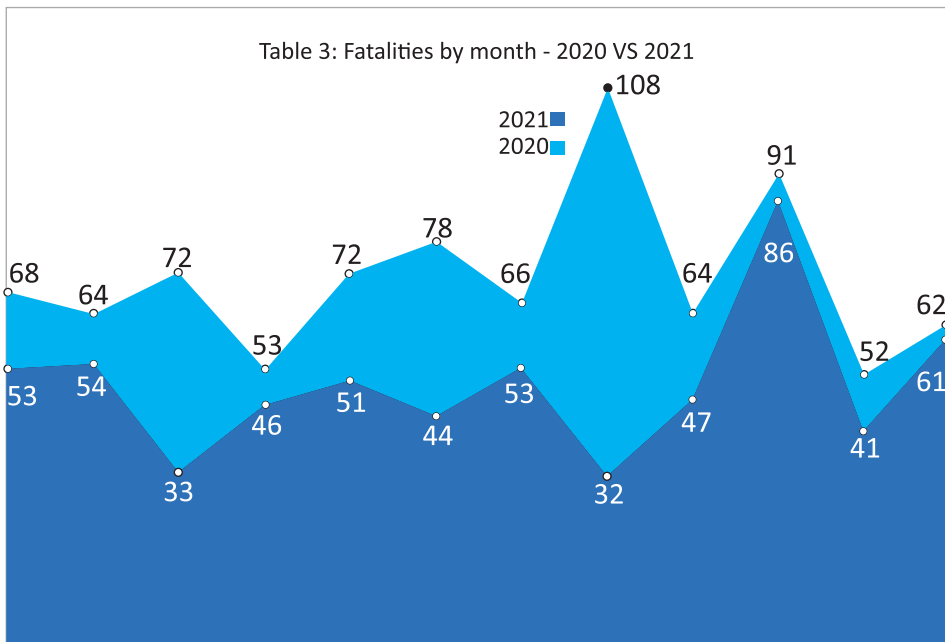
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The monthly data also shows an increase, with August exhibiting casualties in the three digits. Coincidentally, this is the month when the Afghan Taliban took over Afghanistan. The Pakistani government also requested the Afghan Taliban in convincing the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) leadership, presumably sheltering in Afghanistan, to hold negotiations for peace. A ceasefire was also announced between the TTP and the Pakistan government for one month from November 9, 2021, to

December 9, 2021. The TTP refused to extend the ceasefire thereafter, reminiscent of similar ceasefires in the past, both by the TTP and the Afghan Taliban. The ceasefire in November led to the least violent month of the year. See table 3).

**Table 3: Fatalities by month – 2020 vs. 2021**

Month	2020	2021	Percentage Change
January	53	68	28.30%
February	54	64	18.52%
March	33	72	118.18%
April	46	53	15.22%
May	51	72	41.18%
June	44	78	77.27%
July	53	66	24.53%
August	32	108	237.50%
September	47	64	36.17%
October	86	91	5.81%
November	41	52	26.83%
December	60	62	3.33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>41.67%</b>



## Victims of Terror Attacks and Counter-terror Operations

There was a significant increase in the fatalities of civilians and security personnel. Civilian fatalities went up by 32% (316) while there was a 40% increase in the killings of security personnel compared to last year's fatalities (263). The outlaws, on the other hand, showed a 33% increase (271) in casualties (table 4).

**Table 4: Identities of victims of terror attacks and counter-terror operations – 2020 vs. 2021**

<b>Civilians</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Civilians	214	273
Foreigners	1	9
Media	4	2
Politicians	6	13
Religious party	5	17
Religious persons	9	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>316</b>
Percentage of total	39.8%	37.2%

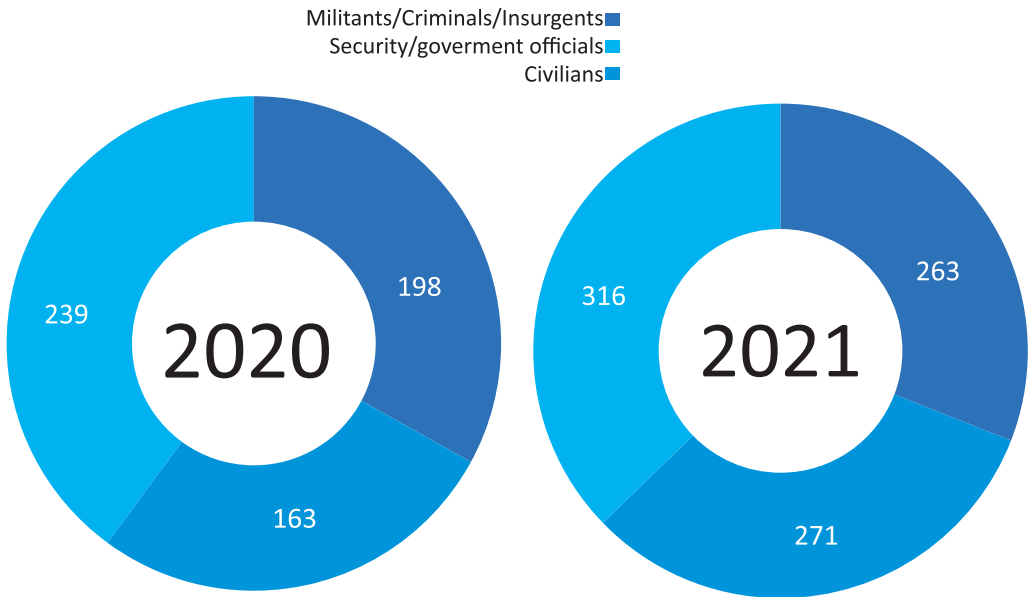
  

<b>Militants/criminals/insurgents</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Criminals	37	52
Insurgents	39	43
Militants (including four foreign militants)	121	163
Political criminals	1	1
Religious militants	0	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>263</b>
Percentage of total	33.0%	30.9%

<b>Security/government officials</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Government officials	2	3
Security official	161	268
<b>Total</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>271</b>
Percentage of total	27.2%	31.9%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>850</b>

**Table 4: Fatalities by victims - 2020 VS 2021**



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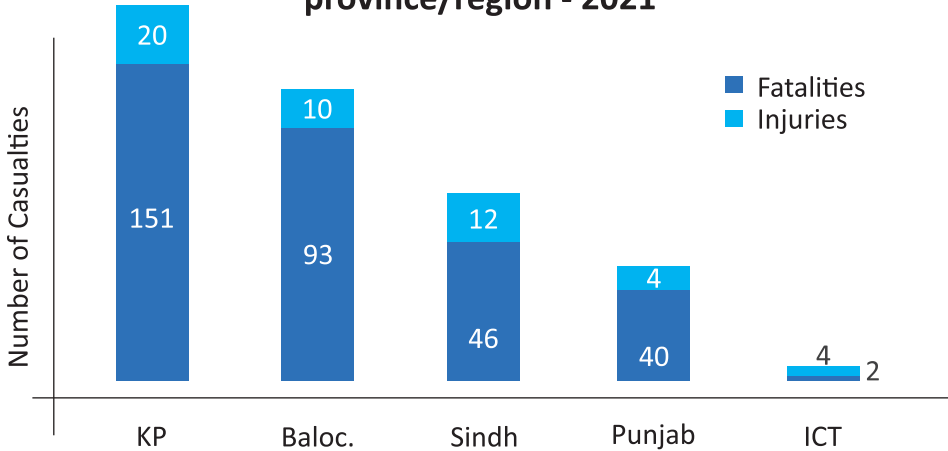
## Security Operations

The rise of violence in the regions neighboring Afghanistan (Balochistan and KP) also saw an acceleration in security operations. This resulted in the fatalities of 93 outlaws in Balochistan and 152 in KP, followed by Sindh (46), Punjab (23), and ICT (2) (table 5).

**Table 5: Casualties from security operations by province/region – 2021**

Province/Region	Fatalities	Injuries	Casualties
Khyber Pukhtunkhwa (KP)	151	20	171
- within KP, former Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) alone	[99]	[14]	[113]
Balochistan	93	10	103
Sindh	46	12	58
Punjab	23	4	27
Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT)	2	4	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>365</b>

**Table 5: Casualties from security operations by province/region - 2021**



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## Nature of Security Operations

A total of 153 security operations were carried out during the year 2021, of which 38 met failures, costing a loss of 55 lives. It is worth mentioning that no less than 10 operations were challenged by the families of the victims, questioning the official claims (table 5).

**Table 6: Nature of security operations - 2021**

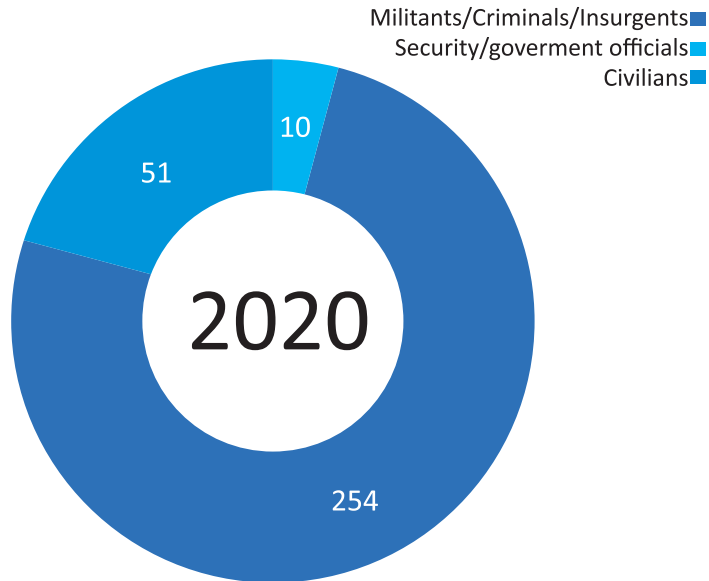
Type	Fatalities	Injuries	Number of operations
Security operations	248	25	105
Security operations failed	55	24	38
Security operations suspected	12	1	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>153</b>

As a result of these security operations, 254 alleged outlaws lost their lives, followed by security personnel (51) and civilians (10).

**Table 7: Victims of security operations – 2021**

Victims	Fatalities	Injuries	Casualties
Civilians	10	15	25
Government and Security Officials	51	15	66
Militants/Insurgents/Criminals	254	20	274
<b>Total</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>365</b>

**Table 7: Victims of security operations - 2021**



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Of the 254 alleged outlaws killed during the security operations in 2021, some 152 were militants, 43 insurgents, and 59 were criminals. Among the militants, 76 were unidentifiable, 49 belonged to the TTP, and 19 of the Islamic State (IS or Daish). Four militants having dual affiliation with Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LJ) and IS were also killed.

Of the alleged insurgents, 34 of them belonged to the defunct Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA), 4 were unidentifiable, and 2 belonged to Balochistan Liberation Force (BLF). A surge in kidnapping and extortion cases led the security forces to take action against them which left a large number of gangsters and dacoits dead. Some of them were reported to have had links with the insurgent group BLA.

Table 8: Affiliation of the victims of security operations - 2021	
Militants, Insurgents, & criminals	Fatalities
Militants – unknown	76
Tehreek-i-Taliban (TTP) and splinter groups	49
Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA)	34
Gangsters	21
Islamic State (IS) / Daish	19
Dacoits	13
Kidnappers	12

Insurgents – unknown	7
Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ) / IS	4
Balochistan Liberation Force (BLF)	2
Others	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>254</b>

Security officials/civilians	Fatalities
Police	22
Army	25
Frontier Corps (FC)	4
Others	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>315</b>

Among the security officials who lost their lives during operations against the alleged outlaws, the most belonged to the Pakistan Army (25) or Police (22), followed by the Frontier Corps (FC). Ten were civilians who, in most cases, were caught during the operation or subjected to suspected encounters by the police.

## Militants, Criminals, and Foreign Spies arrested in 2021

As many as 164 militants were arrested during the year including members of TTP (46), followed by IS (30), and Al Qaida (AQ) (8) (table 9). The alleged mastermind of the 26/11 Mumbai attacks, Zaki-ur-Rehman Lakhvi of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) was also arrested on January 2, 2021, on charges of terror financing, almost five years after he was freed on bail. He was reported to have been running a dispensary in Lahore as a front for financing militant activities. Two masterminds of a suicide blast that took place at the entrance gate of the Mardan courts in 2016 were also arrested.

**Table 9: Militants, insurgents, and criminals arrested - 2021**

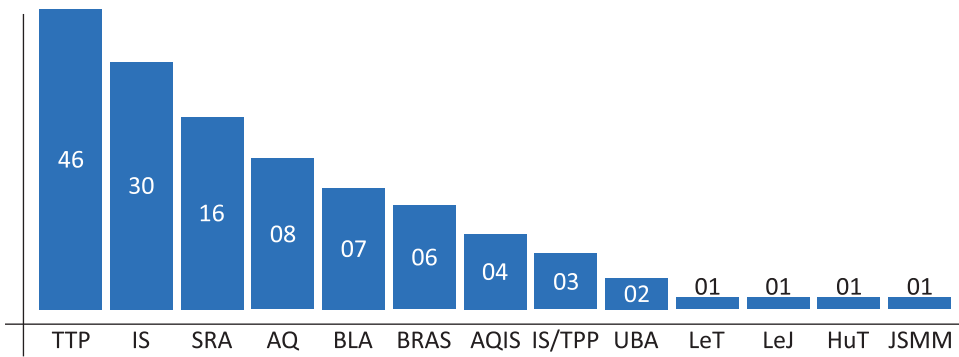
Criminals	Arrested
MQM-related	14
Gangsters	10
Dacoits	4
Others	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>

Militants	Arrested
Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP)	46
Islamic State (IS) / Daish	30
Al Qaida (AQ)	8
Zainebyuon Brigade	5
IS / TTP	3
Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS)	4
Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT)	1
Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ)	1
Hizb-ut-Tahrir (HuT)	1
Other militants	69
<b>Total</b>	<b>168</b>

Insurgents	Arrested
Sindh Revolution Army (SRA)	16
Baloch Liberation Army (BLA)	7
Baloch Raji Ajoi Sangar (BRAS)	6
Insurgents – unknown	5
United Baloch Army (UBA)	2
Jeay Sindh Muttahida Mahaz (JSMM)	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>234</b>

**Table 9: Arrests of members of banned/proscribed organizations**



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Four dacoits were arrested in Punjab by the security forces. Gangsters of Lyari areas affiliated with the Shiraz Comrade gang and the Zahid Ladla gang were also arrested along with five other unidentified gangsters. Several criminal activists of the banned political party Muttahida Qaum Movement (MQM) -



London were also arrested for their involvement in different criminal activities. One Member Provincial Assembly (MPA) of KP was also arrested for his alleged involvement in a murder (table 06).

Security forces also arrested 16 members of the Sindh Revolutionary Army (SRA), 7 members of BLA, and two of the United Baloch Army (UBA) during the year.

Indian spy agency Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) appears to have enhanced its subversive activities in the country. Officials claim that four Afghan militants with links to RAW and two others were arrested during the year. Seven RAW-trained activists of the banned MQM-London and one RAW-trained insurgent from SRA were apprehended. Nine military contractors were also arrested for sharing secret information about the country with foreign spy agencies.

**Table 10: Foreign agents and criminals arrested – 2021**

Foreign militants	Arrested
Afghan - RAW Links	4
Afghan Militant	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>

Foreign spy	Arrested
Other Foreign Agents	9
MQM-UK - RAW trained	7
Sindh Revolution Army (SRA) - RAW trained	1
Police – Spy	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>24</b>

## Terror Attacks - 2021

### Provincial Data of Terror Attacks

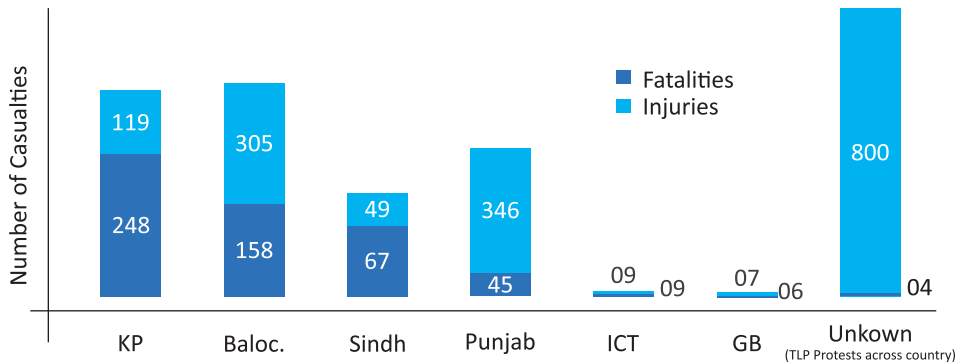
Fatalities from terror attacks were 68% more than the security operations. KP (including ex-FATA), and Balochistan suffered nearly 77% of the total fatalities. Sindh recorded 12% fatalities, followed by Punjab 8%, ICT (1%), and GB (1%) (Table 11).

**Table 11: Casualties from terror attacks – 2021**

Province/Region	Fatalities	Injuries	Casualties
Khyber Pukhtunkhwa (KP)	248	119	367
- within KP, former Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) alone	[133]	[84]	[217]
Balochistan	158	305	463

Sindh	67	49	116
Punjab	45	346	391
Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT)	7	9	16
Gilgit Baltistan (GB)	6	7	13
Unknown Locations (TLP violence across Pakistan)	4	800	804
<b>Total</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>1516</b>	<b>1803</b>

**Table 11: Casualties from terror attacks - 2021**



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Civilians accounted for 57% of these fatalities and included foreigners, media personnel, politicians, religious party activists, and religious persons. Security personnel lost 220 personnel (41%) and the remaining 2% were militants and criminals, primarily victims of infighting (table 12).

**Table 12: Fatalities of terror attacks by affiliation - 2021**

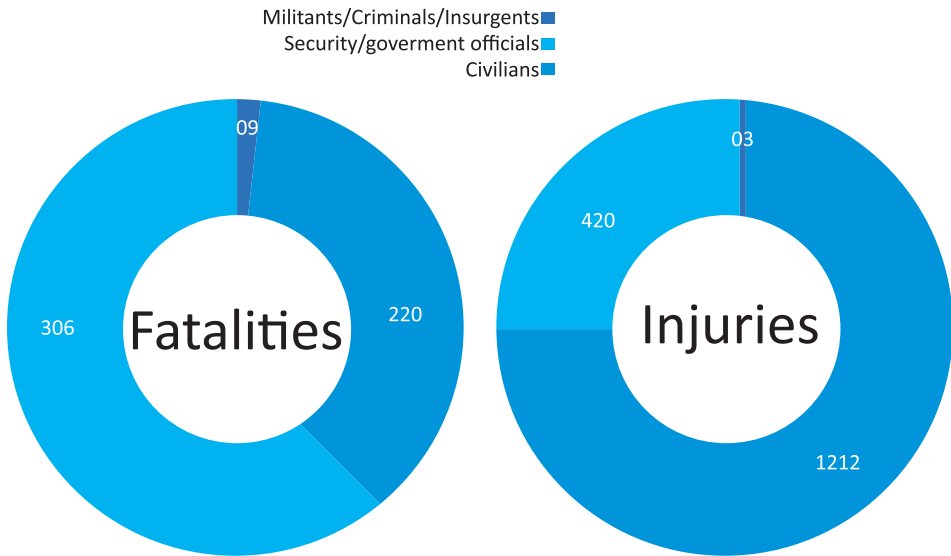
Victims	Fatalities	Injuries	Casualties
Civilians	263	358	621
Foreigners	9	3	12
Media	2	4	6
Politicians	13	23	36
Religious parties	17	30	47
Religious persons	2	2	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>726</b>

**Militants/criminals/insurgents**

Criminals	3	0	3
Militants	2	0	2
Foreign militants	4	3	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>

Security/government officials			
Government officials	3	0	3
Security officials	217	1212	1429
Total	220	1212	1432
Grand Total	535	1635	2170

**Table 12: Fatalities of terror attacks by affiliation - 2021**



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## Nature of Terrorism

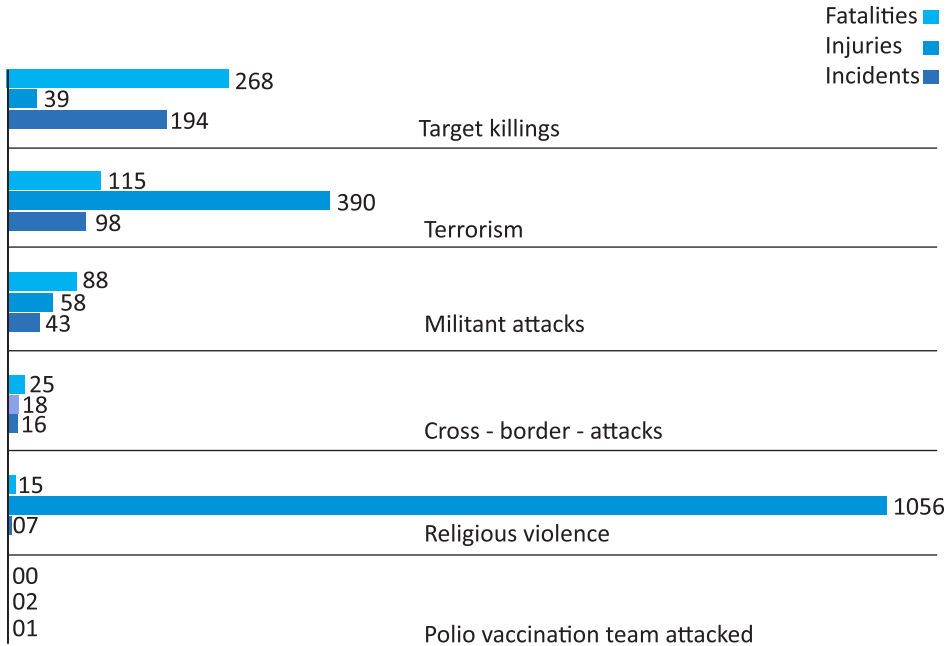
The most commonly used form of violence was target killings causing 268 fatalities followed by terrorism (115), militant attacks (88), and cross-border attacks (25). Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) resorted to severe violence during two agitational protests that they launched seeking the ouster of the French Ambassador from Pakistan, resulting in an unprecedented number of casualties and unrest (table 13).

**Table 13: Casualties of terror incidents by attack type - 2021**

Terror attacks	Fatalities	Injuries	Number of incidents
Target killings	268	39	194
Terrorism	115	390	98
Militant attacks	88	58	43
Cross-border attacks	25	18	16
Religious violence	15	1056	7

Political violence/militancy/rivalry	4	15	5
Polio teams attacked	0	2	1
Others	20	57	35
<b>Total</b>			

**Table 13: Casualties of terror incidents by attack type - 2021**



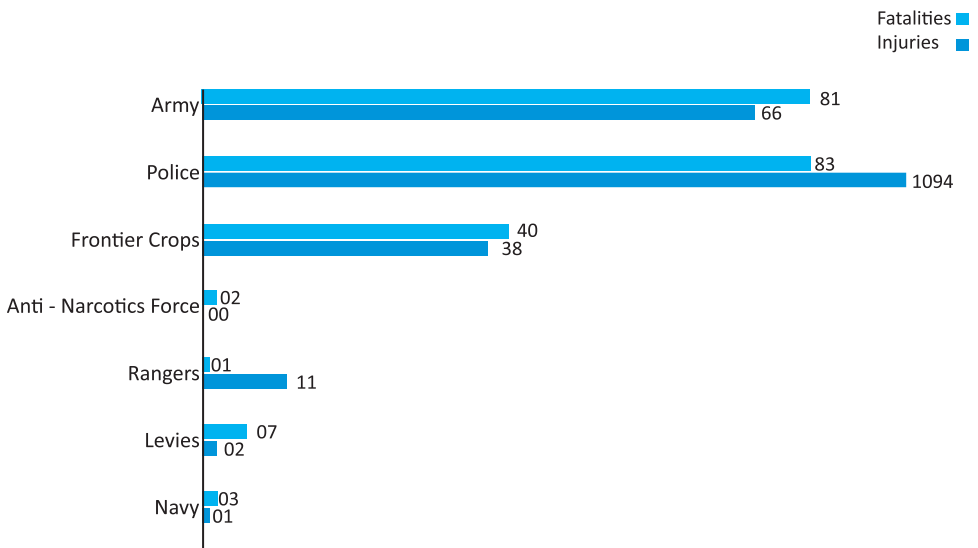
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## Fatalities of Security Personnel from Terror Attacks

Military and paramilitary forces like FC, levies, rangers, and Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) suffered the heaviest casualties from terror attacks this year (131 fatalities and 106 injuries). The police also lost 81 personnel, with a staggering 1,094 wounded. Around 85 terror attacks were carried out against the military and 76 against police forces. In 2020, the military had lost 88 persons compared to 131 this year (a 33% rise), while police losses were 41 against 81 this year, a rise of nearly 100% (table 14).

Table 14: Casualties of security/government officials by affiliation – 2021				
Organization/Affiliation	Fatalities	Injuries	Casualties	No. of Attacks
Army	81	66	147	57
Police (including former)	83	1094	1177	77
Frontier Corps (FC)	40	38	78	18
Anti-Narcotics Force	2	0	2	1
Rangers	1	11	12	2
Levies	7	2	9	5
Navy	3	1	4	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>1212</b>	<b>1429</b>	<b>162</b>

Table 14: Casualties of security/government officials by affiliation - 2021



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## Fatalities of Outlaws from Terror Attacks

Some of the victims of terror attacks were outlaws as well. A militant who had killed a Peace Committee member was later killed by the brother of the slain member in revenge while a member of an insurgent death squad in Balochistan was killed by an unknown attacker. Four militants from Afghanistan were also killed by some unidentified militants (table 15).

**Table 15: militant/criminal/insurgent victims of terror attacks - 2021**

Victims	Fatalities	Injuries	Casualties
Militants	2	0	2
Foreign militants	4	3	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>

## Fatalities of Civilians from Terror Attacks

Civilians from all segments of the society suffered terror attacks, including tribesmen, workers, coal miners, polio team members, female teachers, female workers of NGOs, typhoid and polio vaccinators, and others. 16 dead bodies of laborers were also found from a mass grave in Toor Chapper, a remote area of KP's Darra Adam Khel town. They were suspected to be the coalminers abducted by the militants from the Kalakhel area in 2011. Social activists, social workers, and Peace Committee members were also the victims of violence this year. Families (women and children) of Jamat-e-Islami (JI) and Awami National Party (ANP) also lost their lives in Baldia Karachi when a hand grenade was hurled into the mini-truck they were traveling in. A bomb blast near the house of the chief of Jamat-ud-Dawa had left 3 persons dead. Two bomb blasts in Quetta and Sibi had targeted the Kashmir rallies that were claimed by BLA and BRA.

**Table 16: Civilian Victims of terror attacks - 2021**

Victims	Fatalities	Injuries	Casualties
Businessman	1	0	1
Darul Uloom Sharia	0	1	1
Dhori Tribesmen	2	0	2
Football game viewers	0	14	14
Government supporters	2	0	2
Hairdresser	1	0	1
JI & ANP family	13	0	13
JuD's residence	3	21	24
Kashmir rally - Quetta	2	20	22
Kashmir rally - Sibi	0	16	16
Female school teachers	0	4	4
Females of Sabawoon NGO	4	0	4
Polio team	0	3	3
Typhoid vaccinators	0	3	3
Punjabi workers	8	6	14
Coal Miners	6	0	6
Laborers - found dead after 16 years	16	0	16
Civilians - Police on target	0	6	6

Civilians - Chinese on target	9	15	24
Coast Guard Vehicle attacked	1	0	1
Levies HQ targeted	4	21	25
Peace Committee	3	0	3
Peace Restorer	0	3	3
social activist	2	0	2
Social Worker	2	0	2
Tribal Elder	6	3	9
Unknown	178	222	400
<b>Total</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>621</b>

Media persons also suffered terror attacks that left two dead and four injured. Among the victims were journalists from print and electronic media. The wife of a senior journalist, Ahmed Noorani, was also attacked by an unidentified person in Lahore who smashed her car with an iron rod when she was in her car along with her children. It appeared to be an attempt at harassment (table 16B).

**Table 16B: Civilian victims of terror attacks - Media - 2021**

Media personnel	Fatalities	Injuries	Casualties
Absar Alam	0	1	1
Asad Ali Toor	0	1	1
Geo Cameraman	0	1	1
Metro-One	1	0	1
Royal News TV	1	0	1
Wife of Ahmed Noorani	0	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>

## Methods of Terror Attacks

A sharp, 44% rise in terror attacks was observed this year. The use of firearms, lethal explosives like bombs, IEDs, landmines, hand grenades, mortars, rockets, and toy bombs were the common methods of attacks. Suicide and armed attacks also doubled this year, as did the resultant fatalities (Table 17).

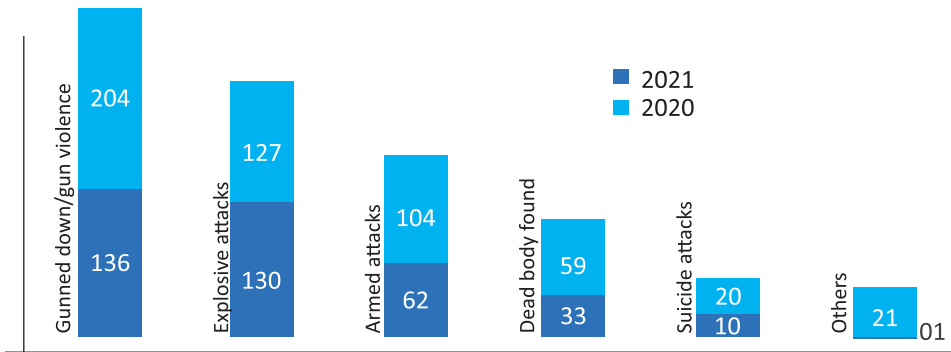
**Table 17: Fatalities by methods of violence - 2020 vs. 2021**

Methods of violence	2020		2021	
	Fatalities	No. of attacks	Fatalities	No. of attacks
Gunned down/gun violence	136	109	204	155
Explosive attacks*	130	78	127	106
Armed attacks	62	29	104	64

Dead bodies found	33	26	59	35
Suicide attacks	10	2	20	4
Others	1	16	21	35
<b>Total</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>372</b>

**\*Note:** Bombs, IEDs, landmines, accidental detonations, mortar, rocket attacks, hand grenade attacks, cracker attacks, toy bombs

**Table 17: Fatalities by methods of violence - 2020 VS. 2021**



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## Claimants of Terror Attacks

Among all claimants of terror attacks, TTP claimed responsibility for ten attacks that left 34 persons dead and 32 injured. Afghan-based militants also carried out nine cross-border attacks on Pakistani security check posts. IS also remained active and killed 11 coal miners in the Mach area of Balochistan. In another attack, they killed a Sikh person in Peshawar. An Afghan Taliban commander was killed in Tarnab by his rival belonging to another group of Afghan Taliban.

Insurgent groups like BLA, BLF, BRA, BRG, and SRA also claimed to have carried out 25 attacks this year but the casualties of their attacks were not as high as of TTP and are victims. Some criminals like dacoits and other gangsters were also involved in terror attacks that left 10 persons dead and 2 injured. The highest casualties were inflicted by the TLP activists during their protests against the French Ambassador (table 18).

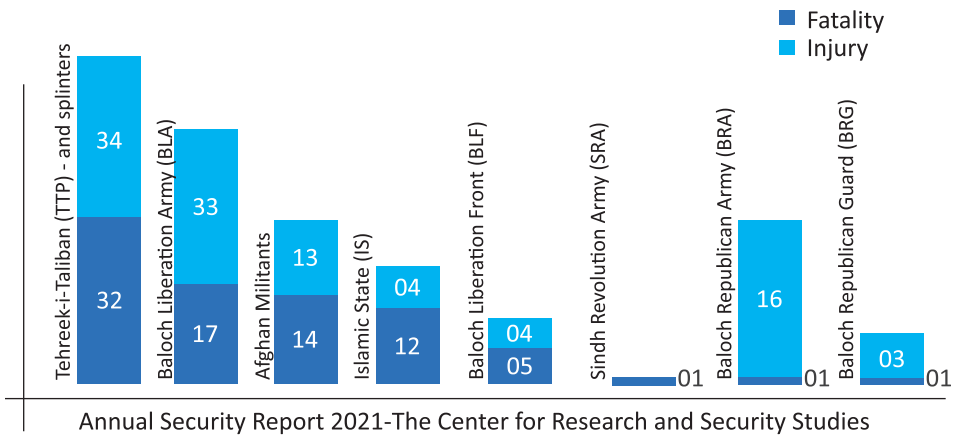
**Table 18: Casualties claimed by militant outfits - 2021**

Claimants	Fatalities	Injuries	Casualties
Tehreek-i-Taliban (TTP) - and splinters	34	32	66
Baloch Liberation Army (BLA)	17	33	50
Afghan Militants	14	13	27
TLP Protesters	13	1056	1069



Islamic State (IS)	12	4	16
Baloch Liberation Front (BLF)	5	4	9
Sindh Revolution Army (SRA)	1	0	1
Baloch Republican Army (BRA)	1	16	17
Baloch Republican Guard (BRG)	1	3	4
Others	38	3	41
Unclaimed	714	521	1235
<b>Total</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>1685</b>	<b>2535</b>

Table 18: Casualties claimed by militant outfits - 2021



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## Casualties from Terror Attacks and Counter-terror Operations across Pakistan - 2021

### Balochistan

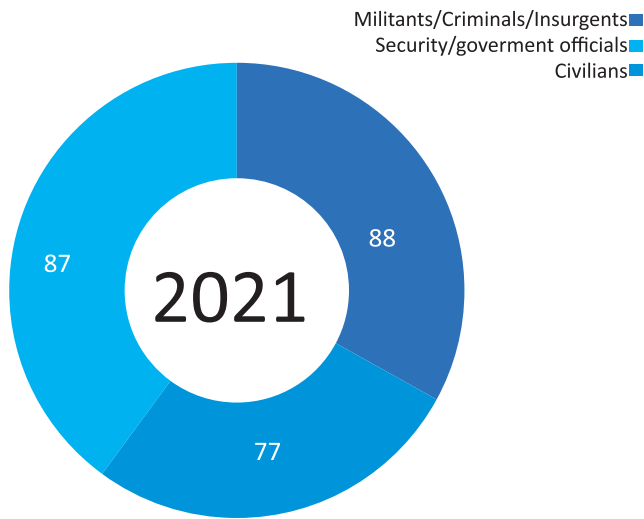
Balochistan suffered 123 incidents of violence that caused 251 fatalities and 80 injuries. Except for KP and ex-FATA, the casualties of violence in Balochistan were the highest in the country. A total of 101 terror attacks were recorded in Balochistan, while the number of total security operations was 27. There were roughly four terror attacks for every security operation.

Civilians and outlaws had a similar number of fatalities but the number of wounded civilians was abnormally high. The nine security operations carried out against insurgents left all victims (43) dead but none were wounded. The criminals also suffered a similar fate. In the case of militants, there were 38 fatalities and 8 injuries while the security officials suffered 43 attacks causing 77 fatalities and 80 injuries (table 19).

Table 19: Casualties in Balochistan by affiliation - 2021

Category	Fatalities	Injuries	Casualties	Number of operations
Civilians	87	227	314	58
Insurgents/Militants	88	8	96	23
Security officials	77	80	157	43
Total	252	315	567	124

Table 19: Fatalities in Balochistan by affiliation - 2021



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Quetta, the capital city of Balochistan, had the highest casualties this year (60 fatalities and 161 injuries), a nearly 100% increase compared to last year. Mastung, Kech, Sibi, Bolan, Harnai, Qilla Abdullah, and Machh districts also witnessed a similar increase in violence this year (table 20).

Table 20: Fatalities in Balochistan by district - 2021

District	Fatalities	Injuries	Casualties	No. of Attacks
Quetta	60	161	221	33
Mastung	28	4	32	6
Kech	18	6	24	16
Sibi	17	31	48	8
Bolan	14	1	15	4
Harnai	13	2	15	3
Killa Abdullah	12	43	55	4

Machh	12	6	18	2
Kharan	9	13	22	5
Panjgur	8	6	14	6
Pishin	7	0	7	3
Awaran	6	0	6	2
Gwadar	6	4	10	4
Kohlu	6	4	10	3
Dera Bugti	4	0	4	2
Kalat	4	1	5	2
Lasbela	4	14	18	4
Loralai	4	2	6	2
Zhob	4	6	10	1
Ziarat	3	0	3	1
Khuzdar	2	5	7	3
Makran	2	0	2	1
Pasni	2	0	2	1
Chagai	1	0	1	1
Hoshab	1	0	1	1
Hub	1	0	1	1
Nushki	1	0	1	1
Unknown	1	0	1	1
Tobo	1	2	3	1
Naseerabad	0	4	4	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>123</b>

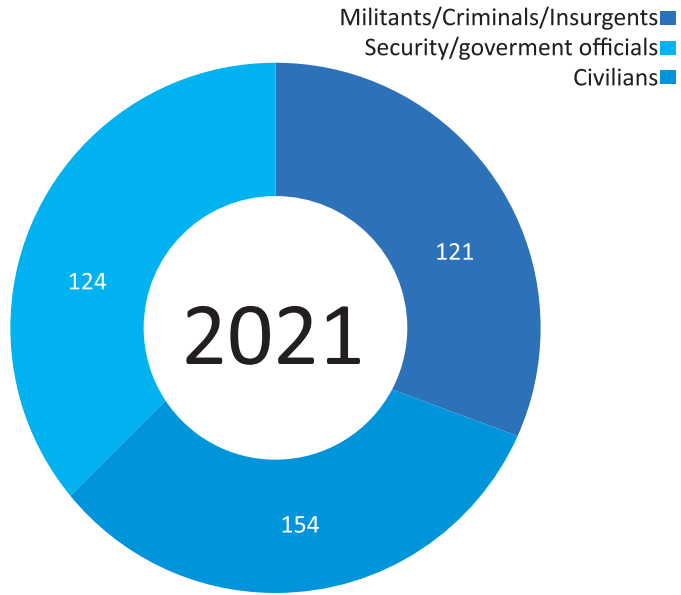
## Khyber Pukhtunkhwa (including ex-FATA)

Security officials suffered 154 fatalities from violent incidents in KP, followed by civilians 124, and militants 121. Security agencies carried out many operations against the outlaws, with 12 of them meeting failures and two becoming suspected (Table 21).

Table 21: Casualties in KP (incl ex-FATA) by affiliation - 2021

Category	Fatalities	Injuries	Number of operations
Security/Government officials	154	66	122
Militants	121	6	61
Civilians	124	67	85
<b>Total</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>268</b>

**Table 21: Casualties in KP (incl. FATA) by affiliation - 2021**



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Peshawar had the highest number of fatalities this year, followed by Lakki Marwat, Kohat, Bannu, D.I. Khan, Kohistan, and Tank. In Kohat, a mere two incidents caused 17 fatalities. In September 2011, 34 coal miners had gone missing in K-P's Shangla district after at least two dozen militants had raided the base camp of the laborers; 16 of them remained missing. Why these laborers were killed by the abductors is not reported (Table 22).

**Table 22: Casualties in KP (incl ex-FATA) by district - 2021**

District	Fatalities	Injuries	Number of operations
N. Waziristan	138	28	90
S. Waziristan	47	22	22
Peshawar	31	4	23
Bajaur	26	24	27
Lakki Marwat	21	5	17
Kohat	17	0	2
Bannu	15	9	13
D.I. Khan	13	6	13
Kohistan (adjoining)	13	0	1
Tank	11	1	8

Dir	9	8	9
Khyber	8	10	5
Kurram	7	12	6
Mardan	6	0	5
Mohmand	5	2	6
Hangu	5	0	2
Tank	5	0	2
Bajaur	4	0	2
Buner	3	0	1
Charsadda	2	0	2
Haripur	2	4	2
Karak	2	0	2
S. Waziristan	2	1	1
Swat	2	0	2
Chitral	1	0	1
Malakand	1	0	1
Mansehra	1	0	1
Nowshera	1	1	1
Swabi	1	0	1
Muzaffargarh	0	2	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>269</b>

## Former-FATA (now included in KP above)

We have segregated the data to showcase how pronounced the problem in former-FATA regions is. This region had the highest fatalities from violence in the country. A total of 46 security operations were carried out in ex-FATA, 8 of them suffered failures resulting in the loss of 18 security personnel. The security personnel suffered the highest casualties (94 fatalities and 44 injuries), followed by militants (79 fatalities with zero injuries), and civilians (59 fatalities and 54 injuries). The zero injuries of militants from 35 security operations appear questionable (table 21).

North Waziristan, once the main hub of militants before the Zarb-e-Azb operation, re-emerged this year as the most violence-ridden region in the country. South Waziristan, Bajaur, and other districts (formerly agencies) also suffered fatalities from violence (table 22).

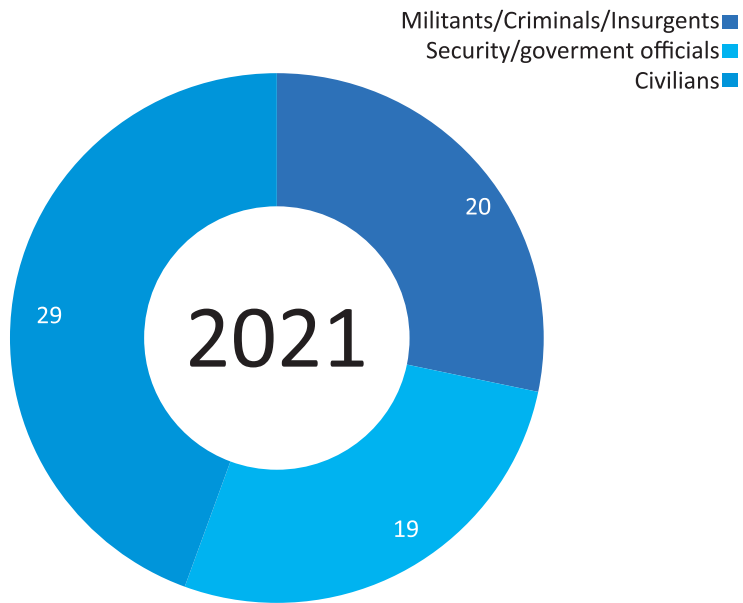
## Punjab

Punjab lost 68 persons to violence and suffered 350 injuries in 2021. Civilians were reported to have been the largest victim group, followed by outlaws, and security officials. Some 42 attacks were carried out by the outlaws while the security officials conducted 12 operations, with 3 failures (Table 23).

Table 23: Casualties in Punjab by affiliation - 2021

Affiliation	Fatalities	Injuries	Number of operations
Civilians	29	91	27
Security officials	19	259	15
Criminals/Insurgents/Militants	20	0	9
Total	68	350	51

Table 23: Casualties in Punjab by affiliation - 2021



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Lahore recorded the highest number of fatalities from violence in Punjab. Rawalpindi, D.G. Khan, Bahawalnagar, and Gujranwala were the other four districts where fatalities were more than 5 persons this year (table 24). The nature of violence experienced in Punjab was different from what other provinces experienced this year. TLP staged protests twice this year – one in April and the other in October. The protest in October was confined to the Punjab province. While Punjab police reported 4 of their policemen dead and 253 wounded in Gujranwala, TLP also claimed to lose 4 members of their party in Punjab.

Table 24: Fatalities in Punjab by District - 2021

District	Fatalities	Injuries	Number of operations
Lahore	15	26	12
Rawalpindi	8	2	9
D.G. Khan	7	0	3
Bahawalnagar	5	50	2
Gujranwala	7	253	3
Punjab	4	0	1
Attock	3	0	3
Chichawatani	3	0	2
Faisalabad	3	3	2
Pakpattan	3	0	1
Multan	2	0	1
Sialkot	2	8	1
Burewala	1	0	1
Gujjar Khan	1	0	1
Hafizabad	1	0	1
Haripur	1	0	1
Jhelum	1	2	2
Nankana Sahib	1	0	1
Layyah	0	1	1
Muzaffargarh	0	3	1
Toba Tek Singh	0	2	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>50</b>

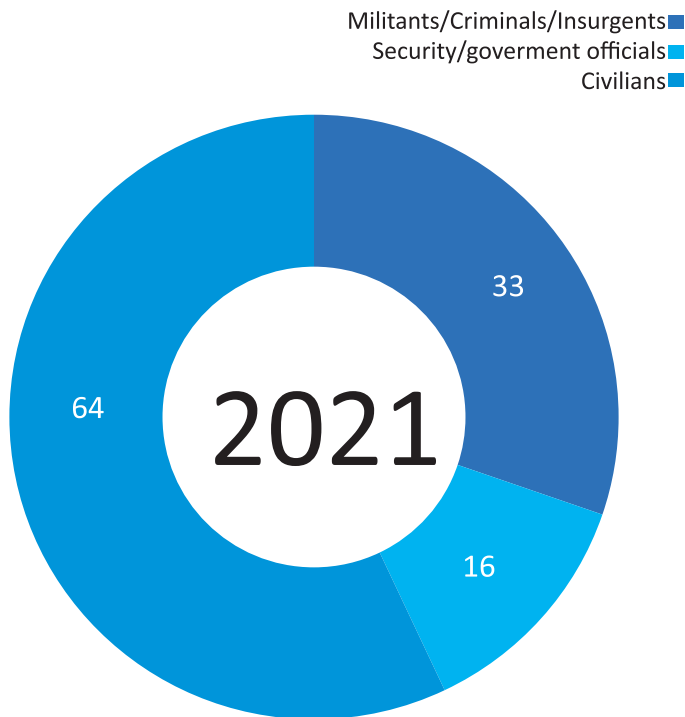
## Sindh

While civilians experienced the highest number of casualties of violence, the security officials had the lowest number of casualties in Sindh this year. The outlaws such as target killers, dacoits, kidnappers, and gangsters were more active in this province. A total of 29 security operations were reported in Sindh and 9 of them met failures. While security officials encountered 15 attacks, the civilians suffered 62 attacks (Table 25).

Table 25: Casualties in Sindh by affiliation - 2021

Affiliation	Fatalities	Injuries	Number of operations
Civilians	64	34	62
Criminals	33	9	18
Security officials	16	18	15
Total	113	61	95

**Table 25: Casualties in Sindh by affiliation - 2021**



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The highest number of violent attacks and their casualties were reported, predictably, from Karachi in Sindh. Sukkur, Shikarpur, Larkana, and Khairpur were the other districts that have lost more than 5 persons to the violence (table 26).



Table 26: Fatalities in Sindh by district - 2021

District	Fatalities	Injuries	Number of operations
Karachi	69	28	61
Sukkur	10	3	9
Shikarpur	9	8	3
Larkana	7	11	5
Khairpur	6	3	4
Badin	2	0	1
Garhi Yasin	2	0	1
Hyderabad	2	1	3
Ghotki	1	4	2
Jacobabad	1	0	1
Kandhkot	1	3	2
Qambar Shahdadt	1	0	1
Shahdadpur	1	0	1
Thatta	1	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>95</b>

## ICT, AJK, and GB

While AJK reported zero casualties during the year, GB and Islamabad recorded six and nine fatalities from violence during the year. Among the victims were civilians, media persons, and security officials. No outlaw suffered any loss in these regions. In Islamabad, security officials carried out four operations, three of which failed, and one was suspected of targeting the wrong person.

Table 27: Fatalities in AJK, GB, and ICT by affiliation - 2021

Region	Affiliation	Fatalities	Injuries	Number of operations
AJK	n/a	0	0	0
GB	Civilians	6	7	1
ICT	Civilians (including media)	6	9	10
	Security officials	3	4	3
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>14</b>

Six persons including a woman, traveling in a passenger van, were killed in the Naltar area of GB when the van came under attack by some unidentified assailants on March 25, 2021 (table 27).

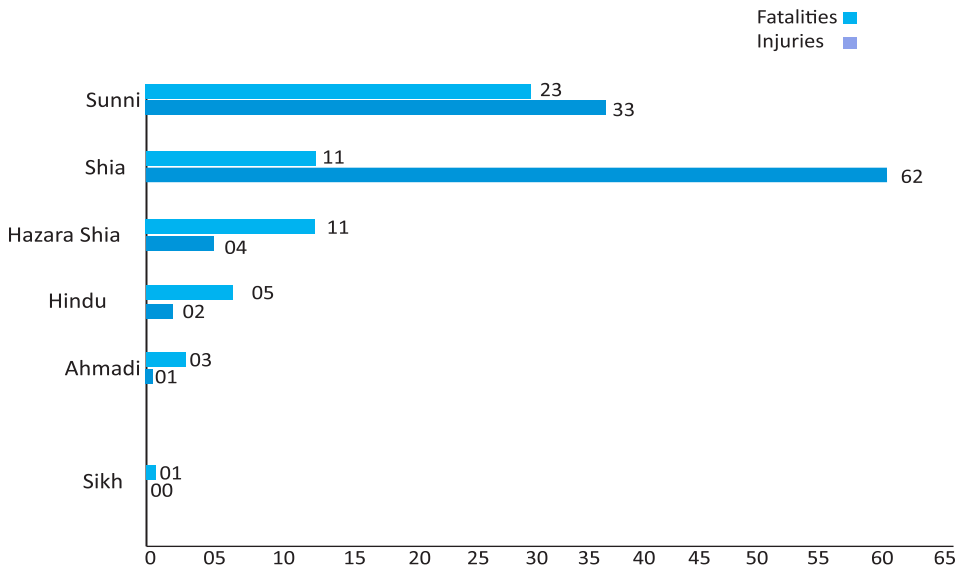
## Sectarian Violence in Pakistan - 2021

Sectarian or religion-based violence got worse in 2021. Among the victims of sectarian violence this year, the majority were ordinary citizens (30), religious party members (21), security persons (15), religious persons (2), and media (1).

Among the victims of sectarian violence, the majority belonged to the dominant Sunni sect (23), then the Shia and Hazara Shia communities (22), Hindus (5), Ahmedis (3), and Sikhs (1) Table 28).

Religion/sect	Fatalities	Injuries	Casualties	Number of operations
Sunni	23	33	56	14
Shia	11	62	73	4
Hazara Shia	11	4	15	1
Hindu	5	2	7	6
Ahmadi	3	1	4	4
Sikh	1	0	1	1
Police (presumed predominantly Sunni)	15	1056	1071	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>1158</b>	<b>1227</b>	<b>37</b>

**Table 28: Fatalities from sectarian violence by religion/sect - 2021**



Barring AJK, all regions of the country witnessed sectarian violence this year. Balochistan lost 26 persons to this crime, followed by Punjab (20), KP (7), GB (6), Sindh (5), and Islamabad (1). There were 4 fatalities and 800 injuries from the violent protest of TLP in the country, but the locations of said injuries were not included in the reports.

Balochistan suffered the highest number of fatalities due to sectarian violence with 26 persons dead, mostly Sunni religious parties – JUIF, JUI-Nazaryati, and JUI-Ideological which altogether lost 14 persons. On May 22, 2021, a bomb blast occurred during a pro-Palestine rally organized by JUI-N at Murghi Bazar in Chaman that caused 7 fatalities and 14 injuries. On December 31, an IED explosion in Quetta targeted leaders and workers of JUI-I attending the Shuhada Conference organized by the party's student wing.

The second highest group of victims of sectarian violence in Balochistan were Hazara Shias. Eleven coal miners belonging to the Hazara Shia community were selectively kidnapped from coal mines in Machh, Balochistan on January 3, 2021, and were later shot dead. Four miners were reported to have been seriously wounded as well. IS claimed responsibility for this attack. According to HRCP, at least 176 miners were reported to have been killed and 180 injured in 2021 as of November 22. However, their religious identity was not declared in the report.

An elderly Jamaat-i-Islami activist was gunned down in Salarzai tehsil of the Bajaur, and JUI-F also lost two activists to violence in Bajaur – one was targeted by a bomb explosion and the other was gunned down. In Gilgit, a mysterious incident of violence took place on March 25, 2021, when some unidentified persons opened fire on a passenger vehicle in Naltar valley. The reports claimed this incident was a result of enmity without quoting the religious identity of the victims. Six months later, the Gilgit-Baltistan anti-terrorism court awarded a death sentence to eight men after convicting them of killing nine people in two Naltar valley sectarian attacks, one in May 2020 and the other in March 2021.

Three teenagers, two from Punjab and one from KP, attacked Ahmadis. One Ahmedi homeopathic doctor was killed by Ihsanullah (18 years old) in the Bazidkhel area of Peshawar while a headmaster in Layyah, Punjab was injured when two teenagers chanting slogans of 'Labbaik ya Rasul Allah' attacked him.

The highest ever casualties of religious-based violence were recorded this year because of the two violent protests launched by the religious party TLP, leaving at least 15 policemen and 4 TLP protestors dead and about 1,056 persons, mostly policemen, injured. Both the victims and perpetrators of the violence was Muslims and both had nothing to do with the act of blasphemy that was committed in France.

Ajay Lalwani, a Hindu by religion and a reporter for a local Royal News television station, was shot dead while getting a haircut at a barbershop in Sukkur on Mar 20, 2021. It wasn't immediately clear if he was

killed because of his professional duties or his religious faith. Two persons from the Hindu community were attacked in Clifton, Karachi when they were returning from attending the Holi festival. One was killed and the other was injured. A Hindu youth was found dead in Shahdadtown.

A leader of JUI and his son were seriously injured when their car came under attack near the Waggan area of Larkana on April 6, 2021. A religious scholar from the Binnori Town seminary was shot at and wounded in a suspected sectarian attack in Orangi Town on April 1, 2021. Unknown assailants opened fire and killed one person and injured five others near Bilal Masjid and Marhaba Hotel in Abbas Town, Karachi.

## The Center

### CRSS Background

The Center for Research and Security Studies (CRSS) is a think tank/advocacy center launched in September, 2007. Founded by noted security expert and media personality Imtiaz Gul, it is committed to the cause of independent research, nonpartisan analysis, and informed advocacy. The goal is to help people inside and outside Pakistan understand this nation of 212 million people.

As an advocacy center, CRSS is dedicated to trigger critical thinking through discourse anchored in global democratic values such as socio-political diversity, rule of law, equal citizenry, and acceptance of diversity, fundamental human rights, all at the intersection of empirical research in security studies.

### CRSS Core Values

CRSS strives to embed the national conversation in constitutionalism, and rationalize it over extremism and sectarianism. CRSS believes the path to peace is through embodying fundamental human rights, specifically:

- strict adherence to the rule of law, and stringent implementation
- informing the public on civic education, especially good governance and public accountability
- promoting equal rights for all citizens of Pakistan
- championing women empowerment
- providing training and opportunities to youth to veer them away from radicalization through critical thinking

CRSS' programming reflects its core values, which CRSS believes can, along with time-tested methodologies in strategic communications, impactful message development, research and advocacy result in a more tolerant and cohesive Pakistan.

You can find past and current CRSS projects by clicking on the respective links.

### CRSS Publications

CRSS produces several publications annually. Our flagship publications are the NAP Tracker, an annual audit of the counter-terrorism/counter-extremism National Action Plan (NAP) of the Government of Pakistan; and the Annual Security Report, a measure of the state of security in Pakistan by gauging the number of violence-related casualties across the country.

In addition, our most recent publication was the Role of Madrassas, which provided answers to why parents continue to send their children to madrassas. CRSS also regularly publishes papers, commentary and analysis by our research fellows from around the world. You can find all of our publications freely online here, or collect copies free of cost from our offices in Islamabad.

You can also visit the CRSS Blog here, as well as the website of our sister organization Afghan Studies Center.

### Center For Research & Security Studies

14-M, Ali Plaza, Second Floor, F-8 Markaz, Islamabad

Tel: +92-51-831-4801-03 Fax: +92-51-831-4804

E-mail: mail@crss.pk, web: www.crss.pk

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### CRSS Peshawar Office

Flat # 306, 3rd Floor, Badshah Tower, Bara Road,  
Cantt Peshawar. Tel: 091-5252311-12