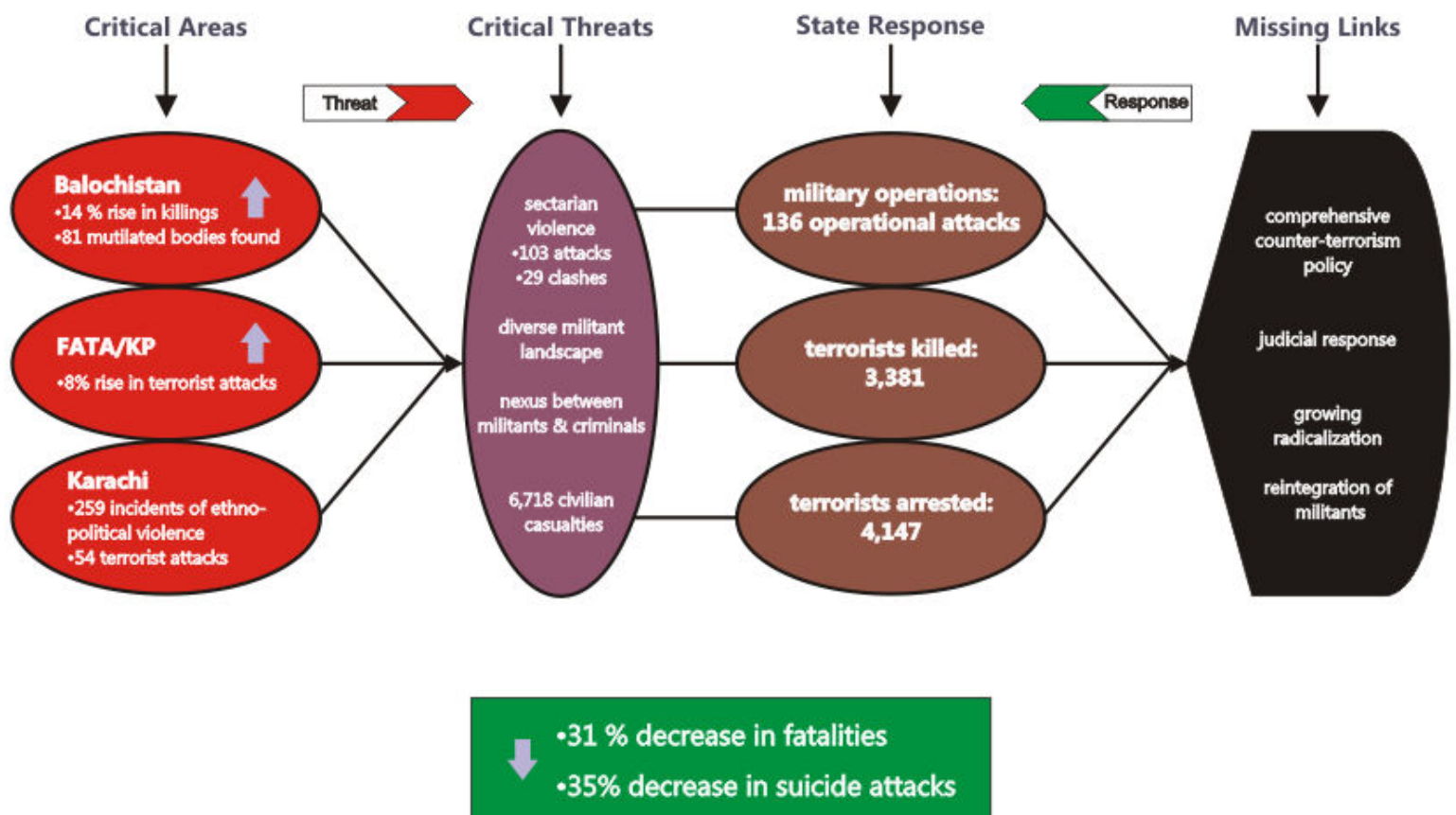


# Pakistan Security Report 2011



## Internal Security Matrix 2011



## Contents

List of Acronyms	2	11. Challenges and Opportunities	27
Methodology & Variables	3	11.1 Critical Areas	27
Glossary	3	11.1.1 Balochistan	27
1. Introduction	5	11.1.2 Karachi	27
2. Overview	7	11.1.3 FATA	27
2.1 Comparison	7	11.1.4 KP	28
3. Security Landscape in 2011	9	11.2 Critical Internal Threats	28
3.1 Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and FATA	9	11.2.1 Sectarian Violence	28
3.1.1 Attacks on Political Leaders and Workers	10	11.2.2 Militant Networks and Nexus	28
3.1.2 Attacks on Anti-Taliban Peace Committees	10	11.2.3 Changing Tactics and Targets by Terrorists	28
3.1.3 Kidnapping	11	11.2.4 Radicalization in State Institutions	28
3.2 Balochistan	11	11.3 Critical Policies/ Initiatives	29
3.2.1 Enforced Disappearances and Recovery of Bullet --Riddled Bodies	11	11.3.1 Counter-Terrorism Policy	29
3.2.2 Attacks on Government Installations	12	11.3.2 Judicial Reforms	29
3.2.3 Politically Motivated Target Killings	12	11.3.3 Witness Protection Program	30
3.2.4 Attacks on NGOs	12	11.3.4 Peace Talk with Taliban	30
3.3 Sindh	12	11.3.5 Rehabilitation of the Detainees	30
3.3.1 Karachi	13	11.3.6 Community Policing in FATA and KP	31
3.4 Punjab	13	12. Recommendations	31
3.5 Azad Kashmir	14	12.1 Internal Security	31
3.6 Gilgit-Baltistan	14	12.2 Critical Areas and Initiatives	31
3.7 Islamabad	14	12.3 Borders Security	32
4. Suicide Attacks	15	• Notes and References	33
5. Sectarian Violence	16	• Appendices	36
5.1 Sectarian-related Terrorist Attacks	17	1. Pakistan and South Asia: A Comparison	36
5.2 Sectarian Clashes	19	• Annexures	38
6. Attacks on NATO Supplies	20	1. Suicide Attacks in 2011	38
7. Attacks on Educational Institutes	21	2. Drone Strikes in 2011	41
8. Border Tensions	22	3. Cross Border Atrocities and Clashes on Afghanistan-Pakistan Border in 2011	44
8.1 Pak-Afghan Border	22	4. Attacks on Educational Institutes	47
9. Drone Attacks	23	5. Attacks on NATO Supplies in 2011	52
10. State Responses	24	6. Attacks on Shrines and Worship Places	57
10.1 Operational Front	24	7. Monthly Breakdown of Terrorist Attacks in 2011	59
10.1.1 Military Operations	24	8. Incidents of Political Violence in 2011	61
10.1.2 Search Operations	24	9. Major Target of Terrorists in 2011	62
10.1.3 Terrorist Arrests	25	10. Terrorists' Tactics Table	62
10.2 Political and Administrative Front	26	• Notes (Appendices)	63
10.2.1 FATA Reform Package	26		
10.2.2 Compensation	26		
10.2.3 Reopening the Schools	26		

## 1. Introduction

The last half of the year 2011 was a period of comparative peace in Pakistan in terms of internal armed conflict, acts of terrorism and the consequent casualties. A decrease in the number of suicide attacks and drone strikes were the major contributing factors. Although the security situation is slowly improving as violence has decreased 24 percent in the last two years, Pakistan is still among the most volatile regions in the world.<sup>1</sup>

A surge in revenge attacks was expected after the death of Osama bin Laden in a US operation in Pakistan on May 2, 2011. The May 22 attack on a naval aviation base in Karachi further fuelled such apprehensions but later a decline was seen in suicide and other terrorist attacks across the country. Security analysts pointed out different factors that prevented the militants from escalating attacks. The ongoing military campaign against militants in parts of the Federally Administrative Tribal Areas (FATA), increased surveillance by law enforcement agencies and arrests of 4,219 suspected militants in 2011 were among the main factors contributing to this decrease. The killing of key militants in US drone strikes in FATA was another factor but it was less effective compared to 2010. Some security analysts also consider decentralization of the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and talks between militants and the state as important factors in the decline in violence.<sup>2</sup> Al Qaeda's increasing concentration in Africa and the Arabian Peninsula could be another reason.<sup>3</sup> The traditional hotspots of sectarian and ethno-political violence in Pakistan remained active in 2011, indicating that structural violence may persist in the years to come.

The security situation in Punjab, Kashmir and Islamabad improved considerably but violent incidents increased in the provinces of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), Balochistan and FATA in 2011. The writ of the state was partially restored in parts of FATA, but the security situation remained volatile as militants dislodged from their strongholds constantly managed to relocate to other parts of FATA. The critical challenges in Balochistan and Karachi remain unaddressed. The government is yet to evolve a workable mechanism to address the grievances of the Baloch. The political and sectarian violence in Karachi demands a comprehensive policy initiative<sup>4</sup> to develop the ethno-political and sectarian equilibrium in the city.

Measures such as better coordination among intelligence agencies, capacity building of law enforcement agencies, effective prosecution of suspected terrorists, a confidence-inspiring witness protection program, rehabilitation of the militants in prisons, curbs on terrorism financing and, most importantly, preventing banned militant groups from operating across the country remained persistently lacking. The increasing trend of abductions for ransom by the militants and criminals posed another threat, which security experts believe will increase in the coming months.<sup>5</sup> The failure to check growing ethno-political and sectarian intolerance and the influence of militants in Karachi as well as the continuing alienation and radicalization of a largely young and poor population in South Punjab have compounded the problem. Peace in Pakistan would be hard to achieve without considerably improved cooperation among the military, the political government and the people.

Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) hopes that the sixth edition of its annual security report would help policymakers, academics, media and civil society understand the gravity of the situation with a view to move toward sustainable solutions. The report contains comprehensive data on violent incidents, comparative analysis of the security situation, the changing targets and tactics of militants, government strategies and the nature of its response to the security challenges.

The credit for this report goes to the entire team at PIPS, especially to Shagufta Hayat and Maryam Naseer for their constant dedication to monitoring and recording security developments in the country throughout the year. Acknowledgements would be incomplete without the mention of Safdar Sial and Mujtaba Rathore, for their invaluable input. A special thanks to Najam U Din for editing and making the final manuscript comprehensive for the readers and Shahzad Ahmed, the IT manager, who developed comprehensive maps of the conflicts.

**Muhammad Amir Rana**

January 4, 2012

## 2. Overview

As many as 1,966 terrorist attacks, perpetrated by militants, nationalist insurgents as well as sectarian-related violence, claimed the lives of 2,391 people and injured another 4,389 across Pakistan in 2011. The highest number of terrorist attacks (675) for any region in the country in 2011 was reported from the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA). The insurgency-hit province of Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) were the second and third most volatile regions of the country in 2011 where 640 and 512 terrorist attacks were reported, respectively. Meanwhile, 58 terrorist attacks were reported in Karachi and 21 in other parts of Sindh, 30 in Punjab, 26 in Gilgit Baltistan and four in the federal capital Islamabad. No terrorist attack was recorded in Azad Jammu and Kashmir during the year under review.

The highest number of casualties in terrorist attacks in 2011 was reported from KP where 820 people were killed and 1,684 wounded, followed by Balochistan (710 dead and 853 injured), and FATA (612 dead and 1,190 injured). A significant number of casualties in terrorist attacks were also reported from Punjab and Karachi.

**Table 1: Terrorist Attacks in Pakistan - 2011**

Province/Area	Frequency	Killed	Injured
KP	512	820	1684
Balochistan	640	710	853
FATA	675	612	1190
Punjab	30	116	378
Karachi	58	115	224
Sindh (excluding Karachi)	21	5	32
Gilgit Baltistan	26	9	24
Kashmir	0	0	0
Islamabad	4	4	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>1966</b>	<b>2391</b>	<b>4389</b>

## 2.1 Comparison

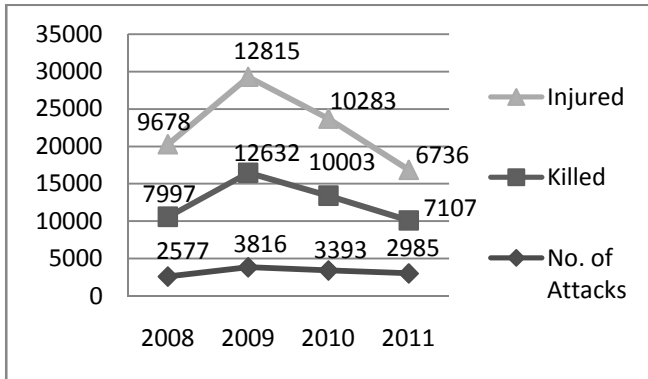
If casualties in terrorist attacks, operations by the security forces and their clashes with militants, ethno-political violence, inter-tribal clashes, drone attacks, and cross-border attacks and clashes are counted, the overall figure in 2011 totals 7,107 people dead and 6,736 injured in 2,985 attacks and clashes of various kinds. (See Table 2)

**Table 2: Nature of Attacks**

Attacks/Clashes	Frequency	Killed	Injured
Terrorist attacks	1966	2391	4389
Clashes between security forces and militants	301	1668	642
Operational attacks by security forces	144	1046	384
Drone attacks	75	557	153
Border clashes/attacks	84	261	206
Political and ethnic violence	265	698	532
Inter-tribal clashes	150	486	430
<b>Total</b>	<b>2985</b>	<b>7107</b>	<b>6736</b>

The trend of an overall decrease in the number of violent incidents and casualties in Pakistan that was witnessed in 2010 continued in 2011. (See Chart 1) A total of 2,985 violent incidents, as listed in Table 2, were reported in 2011, compared to 3,393 in 2010 and 3,816 in 2009, a decrease of 12 percent and 22 percent, respectively. Similarly, the overall casualties in violent incidents also went down, from 10,003 fatalities in 2010 to 7,107 in 2011, representing a decrease of 29 percent. The number of people injured in these attacks also declined from 10,283 in 2010 to 6,736 in 2011, a decrease of about 34 percent.

**Chart 1: Comparison of Overall Attacks and Casualties (2008-11)**



**Notes:**

<sup>1</sup> See; Pakistan and South Asia: A Comparison  
<sup>2</sup> Khaleed Ahmed, consulting editor The Friday Times, Ismail Khan, resident editor Dawn Peshawar & M Zaidi, a Defense analyst, interviews with PIPS, between December 15, 23, 2012  
<sup>3</sup> Leon Panetta, the U.S defence secretary claimed during his visit to Africa in December 2010.  
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/al-qaeda/8953934/US-focus-to-beat-al-Qaeda-shifting-to-Africa.html>  
<sup>4</sup> Omer Khattab, SSP Karachi..., interview with PIPS, December 26, 2011  
<sup>5</sup> Tariq Pervez, security analyst, interview with PIPS.

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