COI QUERY

Country of Origin	**Pakistan**
Title	**Major political, human rights and security developments**
Reference period	24 April to 21 July 2026. Information outside the reference period has been included where relevant or necessary, including district-level information for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP).
Topics	1. Political and human rights developments 2. Attacks on polio vaccination personnel 3. Girls and women subjected to arranged or forced marriage 4. Consequences of refusal to enter arranged and forced marriage 5. Acts against persons transgressing Islamic norms by non-state actors 6. Recent security developments 7. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) district-level security situation overview
Date of completion	21 July 2026
Query Code	Q23-2026
Contributing EU+ COI units (if applicable)	**N/A**

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It was produced in response to COI information requests received from the EUAA Country Guidance drafting team in the development of country guidance on Pakistan.

All sources used are referenced and cited in the bibliography section. A quality review has been performed in line with the above mentioned COI methodology. This document does not claim to be exhaustive or conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to international protection. If a certain event, person or organisation is not mentioned in the report, this does not mean that the event has not taken place or that the person or organisation does not exist. Terminology used should not be regarded as indicative of a particular legal position.

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Cite as: EUAA, Country of Origin Information Query, Pakistan: Major political, human rights and security developments, 21 July 2026, url

COI QUERY RESPONSE – Pakistan

Major political, human rights and security developments

1. Political and human rights developments

According to European Parliament, as of 9 July 2026, human rights violations remained a concern in Pakistan, including reported cases of abduction, forced conversion, and forced marriage of girls under the age of 18 belonging to religious minorities.[1] On 5 June 2026, authorities in Pakistan-administered Kashmir designated the Joint Awami Action Committee (JAAC) as a proscribed organisation under the Azad Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Terrorism Act, 2014.[2] Amnesty International reported that the designation followed a crackdown on protests that included reports of an internet shutdown, mass arrests and the use of force, while JAAC-linked activists stated that the measures had restricted the flow of information from the region and that individuals reporting on the protests had been targeted by authorities.[3] The announcement came alongside the government's decision to hold elections in Pakistan-administered Jammu and Kashmir on 27 July 2026.[4] As of 11 July 2026, political tension continued in Azad Jammu and Kashmir following the proscription of JAAC.[5]

On 22 June 2026, Pakistan's Anti-Terrorism Court in Balochistan sentenced Dr Mahrang Baloch, leader of the Baloch Yakjehti Committee (BYC), and human rights defender Sibghatullah Shahji to life imprisonment in connection with allegations that speeches delivered during a July 2024 protest had incited violence leading to the death of a security officer.[6] On 8 July 2026, UN experts stated that the convictions raised serious due process concerns and reflected the misuse of counter-terrorism legislation to restrict the peaceful exercise of fundamental rights.[7] On 10 July 2026, police in Hyderabad (Sindh Province) registered anti-terrorism cases against 41 workers and leaders of the banned Tehreek-e Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) political party, alleging that they had continued organising and recruiting for the party despite the federal ban.[8]

[1] European Parliament, News, Human rights violations in Sudan, Pakistan and Nigeria, 9 July 2026, url
[2] Dawn, AJK govt bans Joint Awami Action Committee under anti-terrorism act, 5 June 2026, url
[3] AI, Pakistan: "Terrorism" designation of protest movement marks dangerous escalation in Jammu and Kashmir crackdown, 9 June 2026, url
[4] AI, Pakistan: "Terrorism" designation of protest movement marks dangerous escalation in Jammu and Kashmir crackdown, 9 June 2026, url; Dawn, AJK govt bans Joint Awami Action Committee under anti-terrorism act, 5 June 2026, url
[5] PICSS, Escalating Threats and Strategic Responses: PICSS Weekly Security Review (3–9 July 2026), 11 July 2026, url
[6] Frontline Defenders, Human rights defenders Mahrang Baloch and Sibghatullah Shahji sentenced to life imprisonment by Anti-Terrorism Court, 25 June 2026, url; AI, Pakistan: Authorities must immediately release Baloch activists handed life sentences following secret trial, 23 June 2026, url
[7] UN OHCHR, UN experts condemn life sentence against Baloch woman human rights defender in Pakistan as grave injustice, 8 July 2026, url
[8] Express Tribune (The), 41 TLP workers, leaders booked on terrorism charges, 10 July 2026, url

2. Attacks on polio vaccination personnel

Pakistan's polio eradication programme relies on thousands of vaccination workers operating nationwide.[9] However, militant groups, particularly the Tehreek-e Taliban Pakistan (TTP), have fuelled opposition to vaccination campaigns through disinformation claiming that polio vaccines are a Western plot to sterilise Muslim children, are religiously prohibited due to alleged pig-derived ingredients, or are linked to foreign intelligence operations in the country.[10] On 18 May 2026, two police officers were killed while protecting polio vaccination workers in Bajaur district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP).[11] By 20 May 2026, healthcare workers continued polio vaccination efforts despite the attack, while Pakistan remained one of two countries, alongside Afghanistan, where polio is endemic.[12] Vaccination campaigns have continued to face attacks by militant groups,[13] particularly in KP[14] and Balochistan,[15] with the TTP and its allies among the groups involved.[16] Between 1 November 2024 and 1 July 2026, four vaccination workers were killed and ten abducted in Pakistan, primarily by non-state actors.[17]

3. Girls and women subjected to arranged or forced marriage

In Pakistan, children under 18 represent approximately 47 % of the population (112 million in 2023), including an estimated 841 402 children aged 10–17 who were married, widowed, divorced, or separated.[18] Gallup Pakistan, a Pakistani public opinion and social research organisation, conducted a survey in August 2024 which found that among married Pakistanis, 81 % reported that their marriage was arranged by their parents, while 18 % reported marrying by their own choice (love marriage), and adults under 30 years had the highest rate of love marriage (21 %).[19]

[9] WHO, Mobilizing 400 000 WHO-trained polio workers to vaccinate 45 million children in Pakistan, 16 February 2026, url
[10] Express Tribune (The), The dilemma of our polio workforce, 31 May 2026, url
[11] DW, Pakistan: 2 killed protecting polio workers in tribal area, 18 May 2026, url; Arab News, Gunmen in Pakistan kill two police officers guarding polio workers, 18 May 2026, url
[12] Arab News, 'We feel scared' says Pakistani polio worker after gunmen kill police guards, 20 May 2026, url
[13] Arab News, 'We feel scared' says Pakistani polio worker after gunmen kill police guards, 20 May 2026, url
[14] Dawn, Attacks on vaccinators, their police guards claim 20 deaths in KP this year, 19 December 2024, url; Insecurity Insight, Attacked and Threatened: Health Care at Risk [interactive map], information observed on 1 July 2026, url
[15] Insecurity Insight, Attacked and Threatened: Health Care at Risk [interactive map], information observed on 1 July 2026, url
[16] Fatima M., and Kugelman M., How Terrorism imperils Pakistan's polio eradication efforts, Atlantic Council, 28 May 2026, url
[17] Insecurity Insight, Attacked and Threatened: Health Care at Risk [interactive map], information observed on 1 July 2026, url
[18] NCRC, The state of children in Pakistan in 2025, May 2026, n.d., url, p. 10 and 13
[19] Gallup, Daily poll, 24 August 2024, url

In Pakistan, marriages are often arranged by families for both boys and girls, and marriages within families and tribes remain a common practice, while a significant proportion of married girls aged 15 to 19 are married to relatives, including first cousins on their father's side.[20]

In 2025, approximately 75 % of women and girls affected by forced conversion through marriage were Hindu and 25 % were Christian, and almost 80 % of reported incidents occurred in Sindh Province, with girls aged 14–18 years particularly targeted, although some victims were younger.[21]

Child marriage is associated with a range of social, cultural, religious, economic and educational factors in the country, with some harmful practices, including *swara* (marrying girls to resolve disputes or debts), *watta satta* (the exchange of female family members through marriage between two families), and *pait likkhi* (arrangements to marry girls before birth or at a very young age), continue in some communities.[22] Reports also identify poverty, dowry-related pressures, limited access to education, and beliefs among some Pakistani Muslims that daughters should be married after reaching puberty, which are linked in some communities to concerns about protecting a girl's *izzat* (honour) and the chastity of unmarried girls.[23]

4. Consequences of refusal to enter arranged and forced marriage

In Pakistan, refusing to enter an arranged marriage can lead to an honour killing,[24] as it is perceived to bring shame to the family.[25] In some cases, couples who marry by choice have been accused of having an 'immoral relationship' by local tribal leaders, and such accusations have, at times, led to honour killings.[26]

On 10 March 2025, an 18-year-old bride was allegedly stabbed to death by her father during her wedding ceremony in Bahawalnagar district of Punjab, after marrying a neighbour against the wish of her father.[27] On 1 June 2025, a woman in Rawalpindi (Punjab province) was allegedly shot dead by her father after refusing to proceed with a planned marriage to her paternal cousin.[28] In July 2025, 23-year-old girl was allegedly killed in Badin district, Sindh, by her grandfather and two other relatives in an alleged 'honour' killing following disputes over her marriages, including her decision to leave a marriage arranged by her family.[29] During the same period, police in Rawalpindi arrested nine people, including an 18-year-old woman's

[20] Childs Not Brides, Pakistan, What drives child marriage in Pakistan, information observed on 2 July 2026, url
[21] UN OHCHR, UN experts concerned by forced conversion through marriage in Pakistan, 22 April 2026, url
[22] Childs not Brides, Pakistan, What drives child marriage in Pakistan, information observed on 2 July 2026, url
[23] Childs not Brides, Pakistan, What drives child marriage in Pakistan, information observed on 2 July 2026, url
[24] BBC, Pakistan: Woman killed after being seen with man in viral photo, 28 November 2023, url
[25] Al Jazeera, Father, ex-husband, among 9 arrested in alleged honour killing in Pakistan, 29 July 2025, url
[26] Al Jazeera, Pakistan arrests 13 suspects as 'honour killing' video goes viral, 21 July 2025, url; Guardian (The), Pakistan authorities arrest 13 suspects over 'honour' killing video, 21 July 2025, url
[27] Dawn, Drop scene of love marriage Bride killed by father on wedding day, 12 March 2025, url
[28] Daily Pakistan, Rawalpindi father allegedly kills daughter over cousin marriage refusal, 1 June 2025, url
[29] Pakistan Today, Family members charged with murdering young woman over forced marriage dispute, 28 July 2025, url

father and ex-husband, in connection with the alleged honour killing of Sidra Bibi after she married a man of her own choosing; authorities stated the killing had allegedly been ordered by a local council of elders.[30] No information on the consequences of the refusal to enter an arranged marriage for men could be found within the time constraints of this query response.

5. Acts against persons transgressing Islamic norms by non-state actors

Pakistan is a multi-ethnic and multicultural country where Islam is the state religion and approximately 95 % of the population is Muslim, with social life generally influenced by Islamic beliefs and traditional family values that vary across regions and between rural and urban areas, alongside a longstanding Sufi heritage and a visible diversity of religious practice, while clothing ranges from traditional *shalwar kameez* to modern attire such as tailored suits and neckties commonly worn by men in formal settings, particularly in offices and schools.[31]

According to TTP's publication on its beliefs (*Aqeedah*) and methodology (*Manhaj*), 'Whoever changed his religion (Islam), then kill him', and 'We believe that the sole authority to declare anything as lawful (Halal) or forbidden (haram) rests only with Allah [...] and no other person has this right.' The group considers followers of the Ahmadiyya (Qadyani) belief as apostates (*kafir*). The publication states that the implementation of Islam requires armed *jihad* (armed struggle; *Qitaal Fee'Sabilillah*,) and considers those who reject or denly *Qitaal Fee'Sabilillah*, to be outside the fold of Islam, similar to those who reject other Islamic obligations such as prayers (*namaz*) and *shariah* (Islamic law) obligations. The group also refers to the statement, 'And fight them until there is no fitnah [rebellion] and until the religion, all of it, is for Allah.' The publication further states that all concepts and ideologies other than Islam and *khilafah* (Islamic caliphate) are apostasy (*kufr*, disbelief) and similarly states that democracy and secularism are apostasy. It states that 'We legitimize the suicide attacks and consider them as [a potent] weapon in the jihad against the *kuffaar* (non-believers).' The TTP further states that its constitution is based on the *Quran* (the Islamic holy book), *sunnah* (the traditions and practices of the Prophet Muhammad), and the opinions of righteous scholars, rejecting religious innovation (*Bida'ah*) and considering personal interpretations or self-desired explanations of the *Quran* and *sunnah* as *Haram* and *zindiqa* (deviation from Islamic belief).[32]

The TTP's 2026 *Laiha* (code of conduct for its fighters, whom the group refers to as *mujahideen*) states that individuals supporting the government in the ongoing conflict, serving in the military or government, fighting against the TTP, mocking or insulting the symbols or teachings of Islam, or committing blasphemy against the *Quran*, the Prophets, or the Companions (*Sahaba*), are considered targets by the group.[33]

In addition, the 2026 TTP *Laiha* prohibits its fighters from consuming cigarettes and other intoxicants. It also states that TTP members are not permitted to keep boys, referred to as *be*

[30] Al Jazeera, Father, ex-husband, among 9 arrested in alleged honour killing in Pakistan, 29 July 2025, url
[31] Pakistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Pakistan, Culture, information observed on 2 July 2026, url
[32] Umar Media, Who we are?, 17 April 2026, url
[33] Umar Media, لائحه عمل تحریک طالبان پاکستان 2026-1447, [Code of conduct for Pakistan Tehreek-e Pakistan], 17 April 2026, url, pp. 68-69

reesh (young boys whose beards have not yet grown due to their young age), It also states that TTP members are not permitted to keep boys, referred to as *be reesh* (young boys whose beards have not yet grown due to their age), in *mujahideen* (TTP fighters) residential villages or military centres, and instructs fighters to provide them with a separate place to live.[34]

On 10 July 2026, Mufti Muhammad Taqi Usmani reportedly issued a fatwa stating that cryptocurrency, including USDT and other crypto tokens, is not recognised as *maal* (wealth) under *sharia*, making the purchase of goods or services with cryptocurrency impermissible, including, for example, books bought with cryptocurrency should be returned, and prohibiting the use of an educational course purchased with cryptocurrency and unauthorised distribution, with instructions to permanently delete the digital course materials.[35]

6. Recent security developments

According to the Center for Research and Security Studies (CRSS), between April and June 2026, in Pakistan, 774 violence-linked fatalities and 336 injuries were recorded across 267 incidents involving terrorists, security personnel, and civilians in both terrorist attacks and counter-terrorism operations, with KP accounting for approximately 61 % of fatalities and Balochistan for approximately 34 %.[36] On 6 July 2026, Pakistan Institute for Conflict and Security Studies (PICSS) reported that Pakistan's security situation deteriorated between 19 June and 2 July 2026, with 68 militant attacks recorded nationwide resulting in 58 deaths and 72 injuries, amid increased use of tactics including suicide bombings, IED attacks, quadcopter strikes and targeted killings.[37]

According to PICSS, between 3 and 9 July 2026, Pakistan recorded 37 militant attacks resulting in 108 fatalities and 65 injuries, with Balochistan remaining the most affected region, accounting for 25 attacks, 102 deaths and 46 injuries, followed by KP with eight attacks resulting in one death and 14 injuries.[38] As of 11 July 2026, the security situation in Balochistan had deteriorated, with increased TTP activity reported in the northern districts.[39] While civilians continued to face attacks by insurgents in Balochistan, on 8 July 2026, militants reportedly killed 18 abducted police officers and 11 soldiers in separate attacks in the province.[40]

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[34] Umar Media, لائحه عمل تحریک طالبان پاکستان 2026-1447, [Code of conduct for Pakistan Tehreek-e Pakistan], 17 April 2026, url, p. 62
[35] Geo News, Mufti Taqi Usmani's fatwa rules cryptocurrency purchases impermissible, 10 July 2026, url; Dawn, Mufti Taqi Usmani declares crypto-based purchases impermissible under Islamic law, 10 July 2026, url; Pakistan Today, Mufti Taqi Usmani declares cryptocurrency purchases impermissible under Sharia, 10 July 2026, url
[36] CRSS, Pakistan Records Downtick in Violence, But KP Fatalities Surge 53%, 1 July 2026, url
[37] PICSS, Mounting Security Pressures: Pakistan's Counterterrorism Campaign Amid Regional Friction, 6 July 2026, url
[38] PICSS, Escalating Threats and Strategic Responses: PICSS Weekly Security Review (3–9 July 2026), 11 July 2026, url
[39] PICSS, Escalating Threats and Strategic Responses: PICSS Weekly Security Review (3–9 July 2026), 11 July 2026, url
[40] AP, Pakistan military says insurgents killed 18 abducted policemen and 11 soldiers in separate attacks, 8 July 2026, url; WION, Pakistan insurgency escalates: 18 abducted policemen and 11 soldiers killed, 8 July 2026, url

Following the attack, authorities vowed to crack down on militants,[41] and as of 12 July 2026, security sources reported that 105 militants, referred to by Pakistani authorities as Fitna al-Khawarij (TTP and affiliated groups), had been killed through air and ground operations, including intelligence-based operations, under Operation Shaban in Balochistan since 5 July 2026.[42]

Earlier in April 2026, the TTP claimed to condemn attacks targeting civilians, whom it described as innocent Muslims, in markets, mosques and other locations, and stated that it dissociated itself from such attacks and from acts of looting allegedly carried out in the name of the Taliban, which it alleged were conducted by the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI).[43] According to the TTP's 2026 *Laiha*, the movement identifies Pakistan's security institutions, including the army, intelligence agencies, militias, *Khasadar*, Levies, the air force, and the police, as its military targets. The *Laiha* states that individuals working within the legislature and the judiciary, including government lawyers, are also considered as targets.[44]

7. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) district-level security situation

KP is divided into seven divisions comprising 35 districts.[45] Malakand Division includes Upper Chitral, Lower Chitral, Upper Dir, Lower Dir, Swat, Shangla, Buner, Malakand and Bajaur. Hazara Division includes Abbottabad, Haripur, Mansehra, Battagram, Torghar, Upper Kohistan, Lower Kohistan and Kolai-Palas Kohistan. Mardan Division includes Mardan and Swabi. Peshawar Division includes Peshawar, Charsadda, Nowshera, Khyber and Mohmand. Kohat Division includes Kohat, Karak, Hangu, Orakzai and Kurram. Bannu Division includes Bannu, Lakki Marwat and North Waziristan. Dera Ismail Khan Division includes Dera Ismail Khan, Tank and South Waziristan.[46] In May 2018, Pakistan merged the former Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) with KP, incorporating the seven former tribal districts of Bajaur, Khyber, Kurram, Mohmand, Orakzai, North Waziristan, and South Waziristan into the province.[47]

According to the 7th Population and Housing Census of Pakistan of 2023, the majority of the population in KP speaks Pashto (81.0 %), followed by Hindko (9.4 %), Saraiki (3.2 %), Urdu (2.8 %), Kohistani (2.5 %), Sindhi (0.6 %), Shina (0.2 %), Punjabi (0.2 %) and Balochi (0.1 %).[48]

[41] AP, Pakistani leader vows to press militant crackdown after 42 killed in Balochistan attacks, 9 July 2026, url; PICSS, Escalating Threats and Strategic Responses: PICSS Weekly Security Review (3–9 July 2026), 11 July 2026, url
[42] Radio Pakistan, 105 terrorists killed in Balochistan since July 5: Security sources, 12 July 2026, url; Arab News, Pakistan says 114 militants killed in air, ground operations in Balochistan since July 5, 13 July 2026, url
[43] Umar Media, Who we are?, 17 April 2026, url
[44] Umar Media, لائحه عمل تحریک طالبان پاکستان 2026-1447, [Code of conduct for Pakistan Tehreek-e Pakistan], 17 April 2026, url, p. 43
[45] Pakistan, PBS, 7th Population & Housing Census 2023 – Provincial Census Report Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, n.d., url, p. 50
[46] Pakistan, PBS, List of administrative districts by division & and province, 1 March 2023, url
[47] Al Jazeera, Pakistan's tribal area: 'neither faith nor union found', 22 August 2019, url
[48] Pakistan, PBS, 7TH Population & Housing Census of Pakistan – 2023, information extracted on 21 July 2026, url

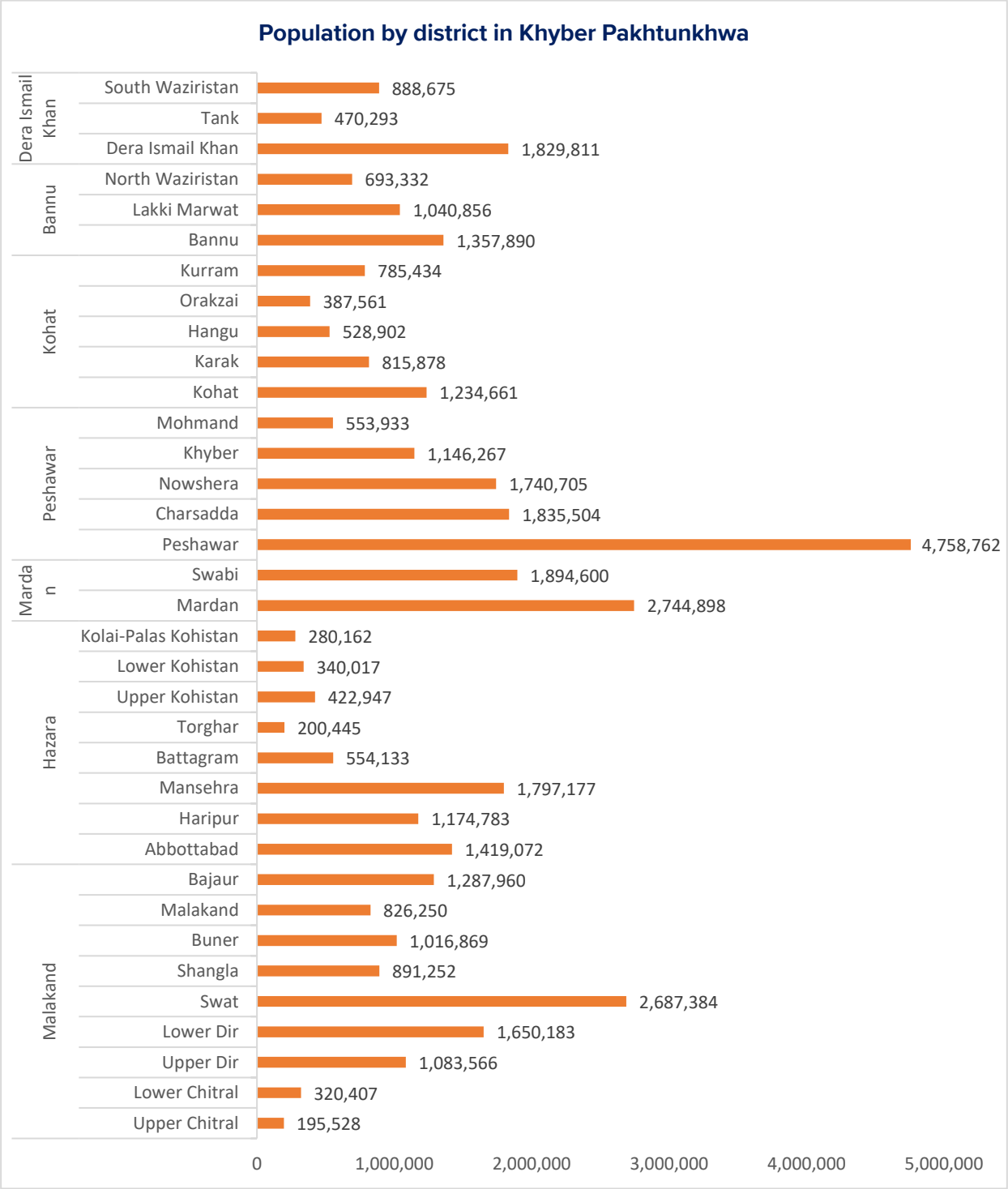


Figure 1: Total population by district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, PBS based statistics[49]

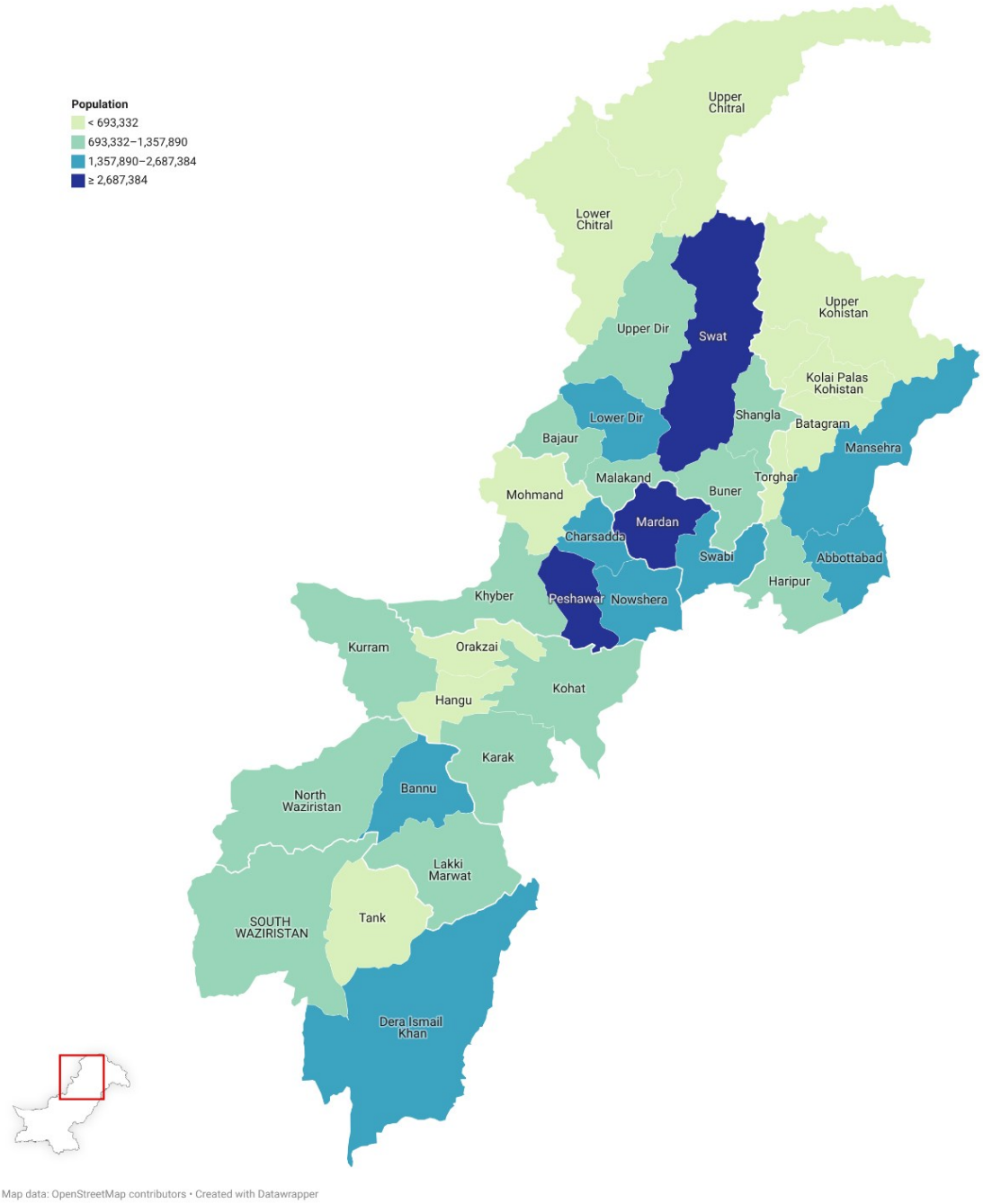
[49] Pakistan, PBS, 7TH Population & Housing Census of Pakistan – 2023, information extracted on 16 July 2026, url

Prior to the merger with KP under the 25th Constitutional Amendment (2018), the FATA seven districts were called tribal agencies and six Frontier Regions (FRs). The agencies were administered by Political Agents under the Frontier Crimes Regulation (FCR), while the Frontier Regions were administered through the adjacent settled districts. The agencies and Frontier Regions were named after the predominant tribes inhabiting those areas.[50]

According to CRSS report on FATA tribes, the former tribal agencies and frontier regions of KP are characterised by diverse tribal compositions:

- Khyber Agency is primarily inhabited by the Afridi and Shinwari tribes, and major Afridi and Shinwari sub-tribes include Khugahkhel (Shinwari), Sultan Khel (Afridi), Zakhakhel, Kokikhel, Khandad Afridi, Khansaid Afridi, Qambar Khel, Malik Din Khel, Akakhel, and Sipah, with the latter four primarily found in Bara Tehsil;
- Kurram Agency is inhabited by the major tribes of Bangash, Tori (Turi), Mangal, Muqabal, Jaji, Zemush, and Para Chamkani, with the Tori being predominantly Shia Muslims and the Bangash comprising both Sunni and Shia Muslims;
- South Waziristan Agency is mainly inhabited by the Ahmedzai Wazir, Mehsud, and Burki (Warmar) tribes; the Ahmedzai Wazir consist of the sub-tribes Zalikhel, Tojikhel, Ganjikhel, Khogelkhel, Tarkikhel, Mughal, Poniaykhel, Shodyakankhel, and Terkai, with Zalikhel being the most prominent, while the Mehsud include Shamakhel, Alizai, Balolzai, Gidikhel, Palikhel, Manzai, Malakhel, Ishangai, Langerkhel, Shabikhel, Slimikhel, and Idari, and the Burki (Warmar) tribe includes Piraan as one of its sub-castes;
- North Waziristan Agency is predominantly inhabited by the Utmanzai Wazir tribe, whose two main branches are Wazir and Dawar; the principal Wazir sub-tribes include Toorikhel, Borakhel, Kabulkhel, and Madakhel, while the Dawar branch consists of Upper Dawar and Lower Dawar, with Upper Dawars settled in Darpakhel, Hamzooni, Digan, Mohammadkhel, and Landi Datakhel, and Lower Dawars concentrated in Miramshah, Haiderkhel, and Mir Ali; other tribes present include Gurbaz, Saidgai, and Hasukhel;
- Mohmand Agency is mainly inhabited by the Mohmand, Safi, and Uthmankhel tribes;
- Bajaur Agency is predominantly inhabited by the Uthmankhel and Tarkani tribes;
- Orakzai Agency consists of around 21 tribes, with Ali Khel being the largest and most prominent, followed by Mishtikhel, Sheikhaan, Mahmoozai, Bar Mohammadkhel, Molakhel, Ferozkhel, Rabiakhel, Sturikhel, Utmankhel, Bezottee, Manikhel, Sipah, Khoidadkhel, Esakhel, Kalaya Saidaan, Khadizai, and Ali Sherzai, along with several smaller tribes, with both Sunni and Shia communities represented;
- The Frontier Regions are inhabited by the following major tribes: Afridis in FR Peshawar and FR Kohat; Wazir in FR Bannu; Bhittani in FR Lakki Marwat and FR Tank; and Ustran and Sherani in FR Dera Ismail Khan.[51]

[50] CRSS, FATA Tribes: Finally Out of Colonial Clutches? Past, Present and Future, June 2018, url
[51] CRSS, FATA Tribes: Finally Out of Colonial Clutches? Past, Present and Future, June 2018, url



Map 1: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa districts map[52]

[52] Map of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. EUAA Pakistan KP districts visualisation created with Datawrapper, OpenStreetMap contributors, 21 July 2026

From 1 November 2024 to 3 July 2026, ACLED recorded 2 283 security incidents in KP: 1 193 (52 %) were coded as battles, 592 (26 %) as explosions/remote violence, and 498 (22 %) as violence against civilians. The highest numbers of security incidents were recorded in Bannu (383 incidents; 17 % of the provincial total), Lakki Marwat (297; 13 %), South Waziristan (249; 11 %), and North Waziristan (208; 9 %).[53]

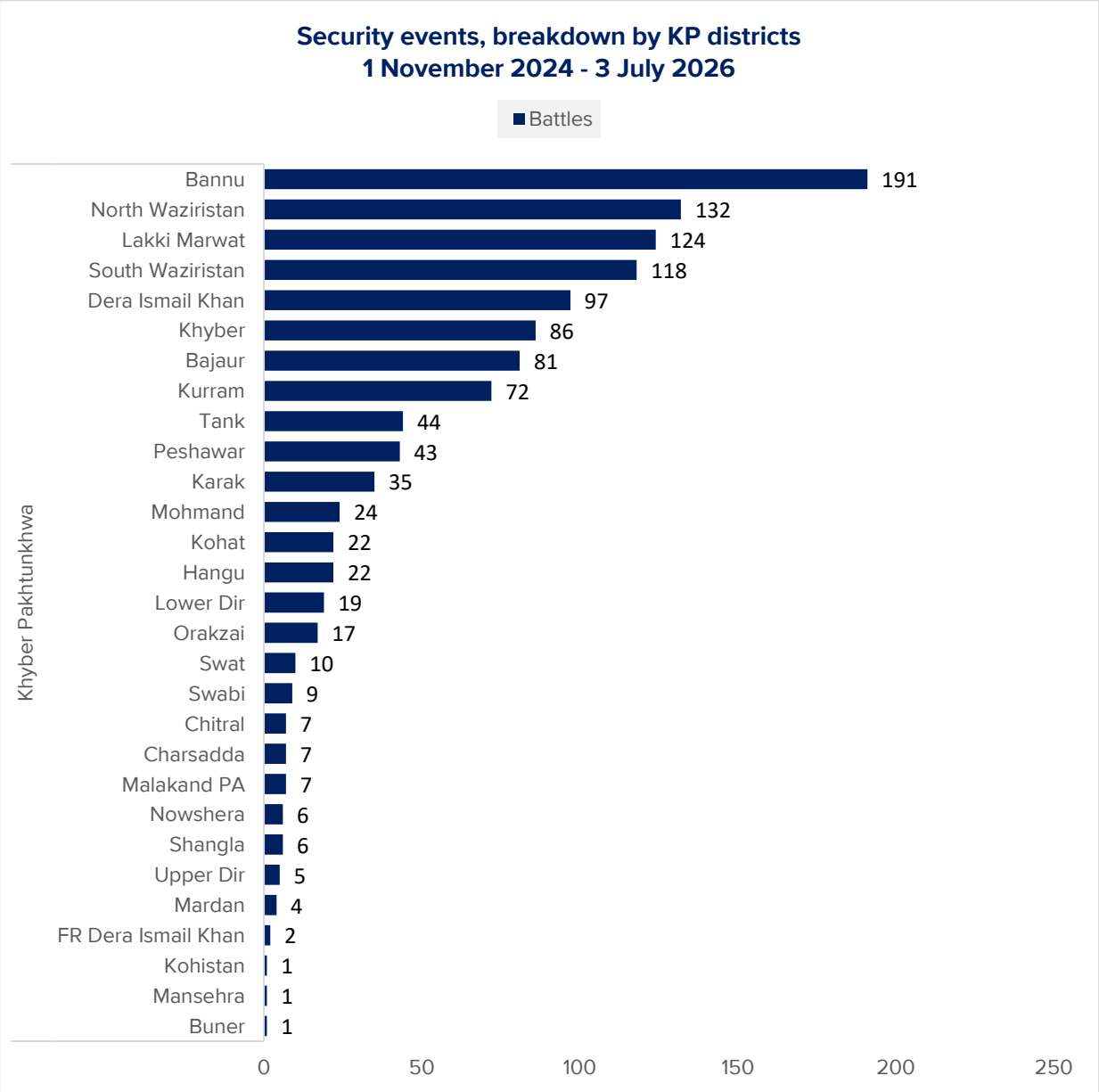


Figure 2: security events coded as battles by district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 1 November 2024 – 3 July 2026, based on ACLED data[54]

[53] EUAA analysis based on publicly available ACLED data. ACLED, Data Export Tool, Pakistan, data covering 1 November 2024 to 3 July 2026, as of 9 July 2026, url
[54] EUAA analysis based on publicly available ACLED data. ACLED, Data Export Tool, Pakistan, data covering 1 November 2024 to 3 July 2026, as of 9 July 2026, url

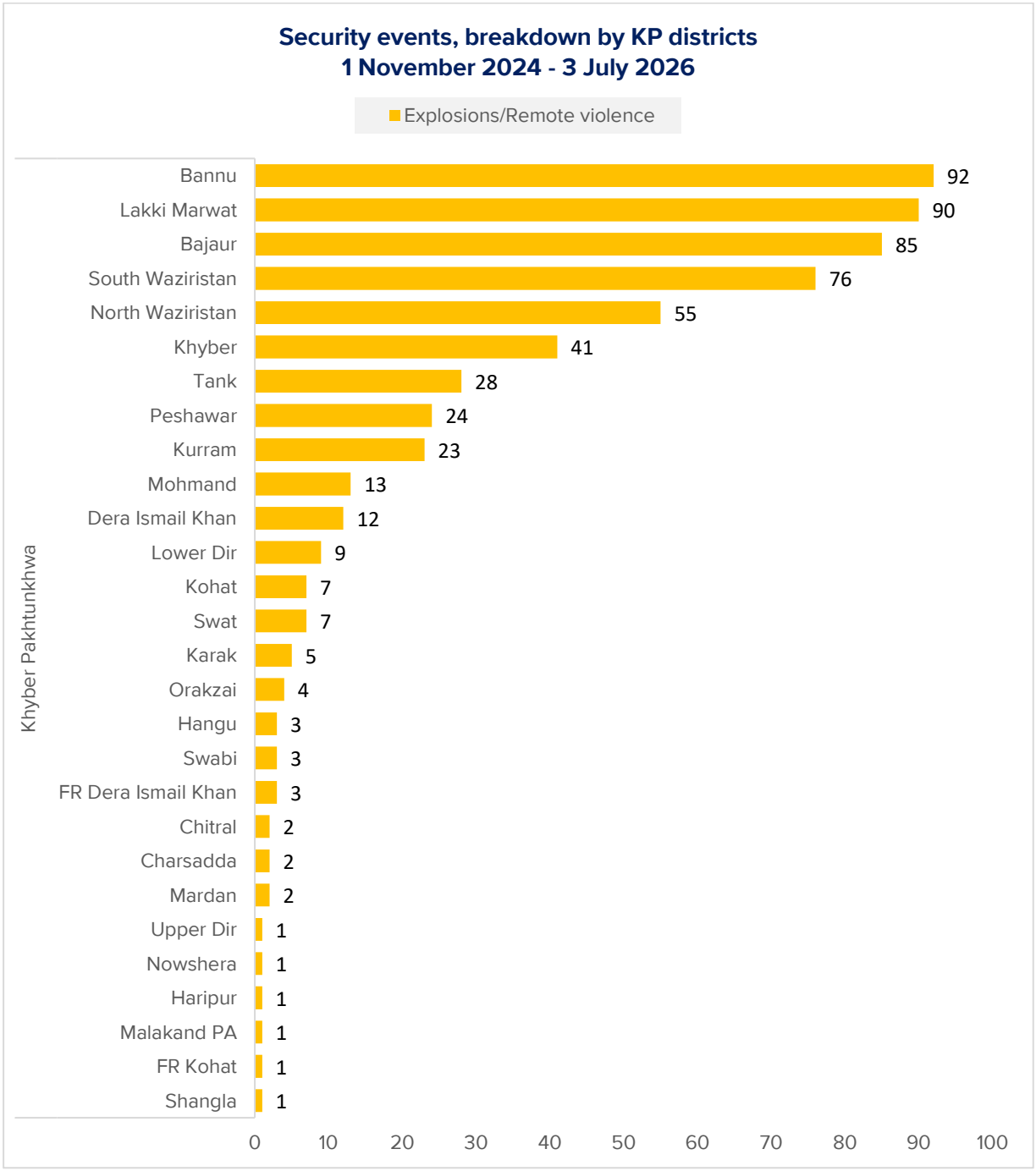


Figure 3: security events coded as explosions/remote violence by district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 1 November 2024 – 3 July 2026, based on ACLED data[55]

[55] EUAA analysis based on publicly available ACLED data. ACLED, Data Export Tool, Pakistan, data covering 1 November 2024 to 3 July 2026, as of 9 July 2026, url

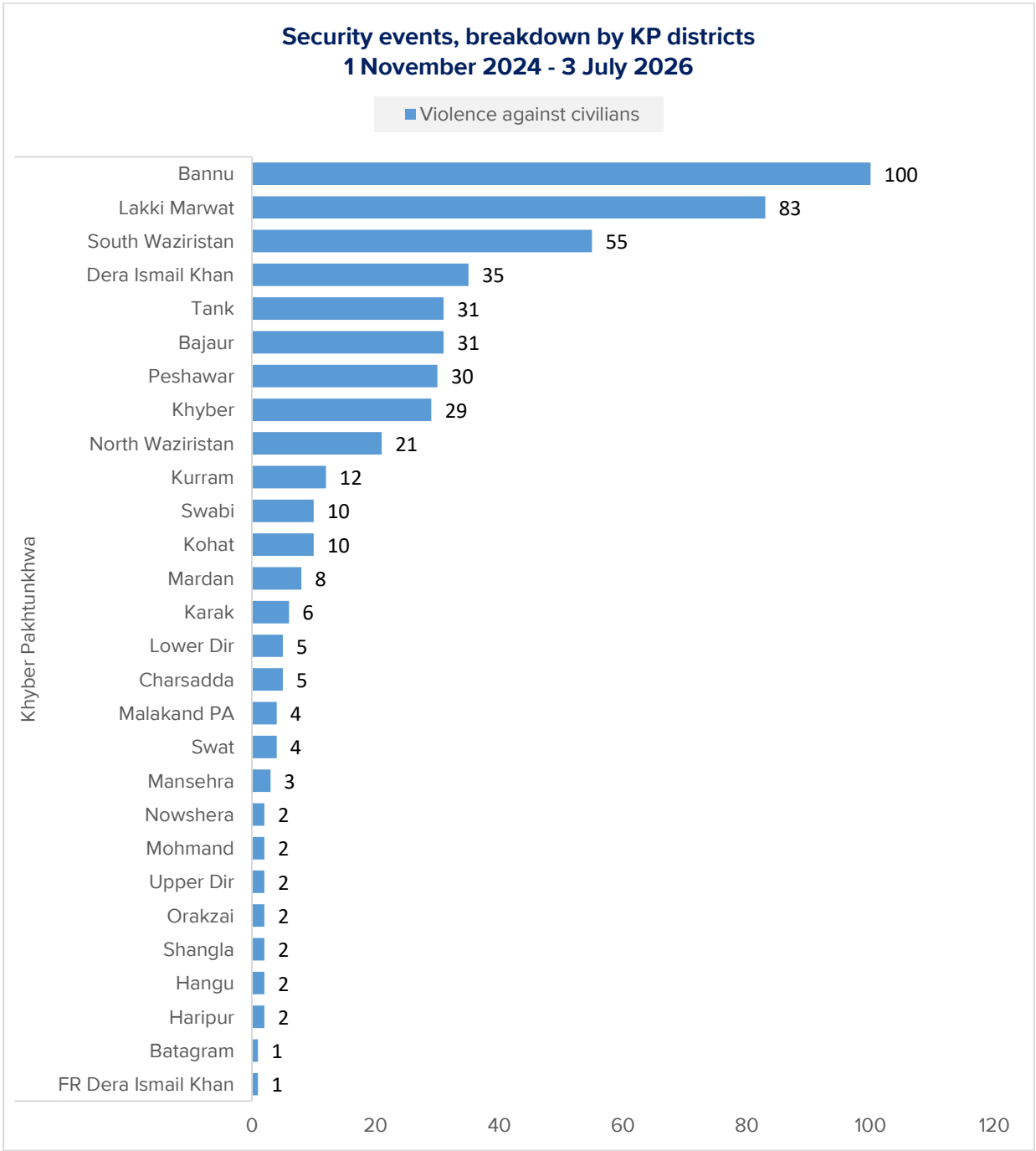


Figure 4: security events coded as violence against civilians by district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 1 November 2024 – 3 July 2026, based on ACLED data[56]

[56] EUAA analysis based on publicly available ACLED data. ACLED, Data Export Tool, Pakistan, data covering 1 November 2024 to 3 July 2026, as of 9 July 2026, url

According to a 2025 TTP annual report, the group claimed responsibility for 3 573 operations in Pakistan in 2025, the majority in KP province, including 819 operations in North Waziristan and 588 in South Waziristan.[57] The group further claimed that its operations primarily consisted of sniper and laser attacks (1 280), guerrilla operations (950), ambushes (336), hand grenade attacks and explosions (301), retaliatory operations (260), assault operations (212), targeted operations (174), mortar attacks (100), and five martyrdom-seeker (*istishadi*) operations. The TTP also claimed casualties amongst security forces, law enforcement, intelligence personnel, and peace committee members.[58] These figures are based on claims made by the TTP and could not be independently verified within the time constraints of drafting this query response. The 2026 *Laiha* of the TTP describes a district-based operational structure in which fighters are organised into military units (referred to as *delgai*) operating within each district. These units reportedly operate under district governor (*wuluswal*), who report to provincial governor (*waali*). Provincial governors report to a TTP military commission, which is under the deputy leader and ultimately the leader.[59]

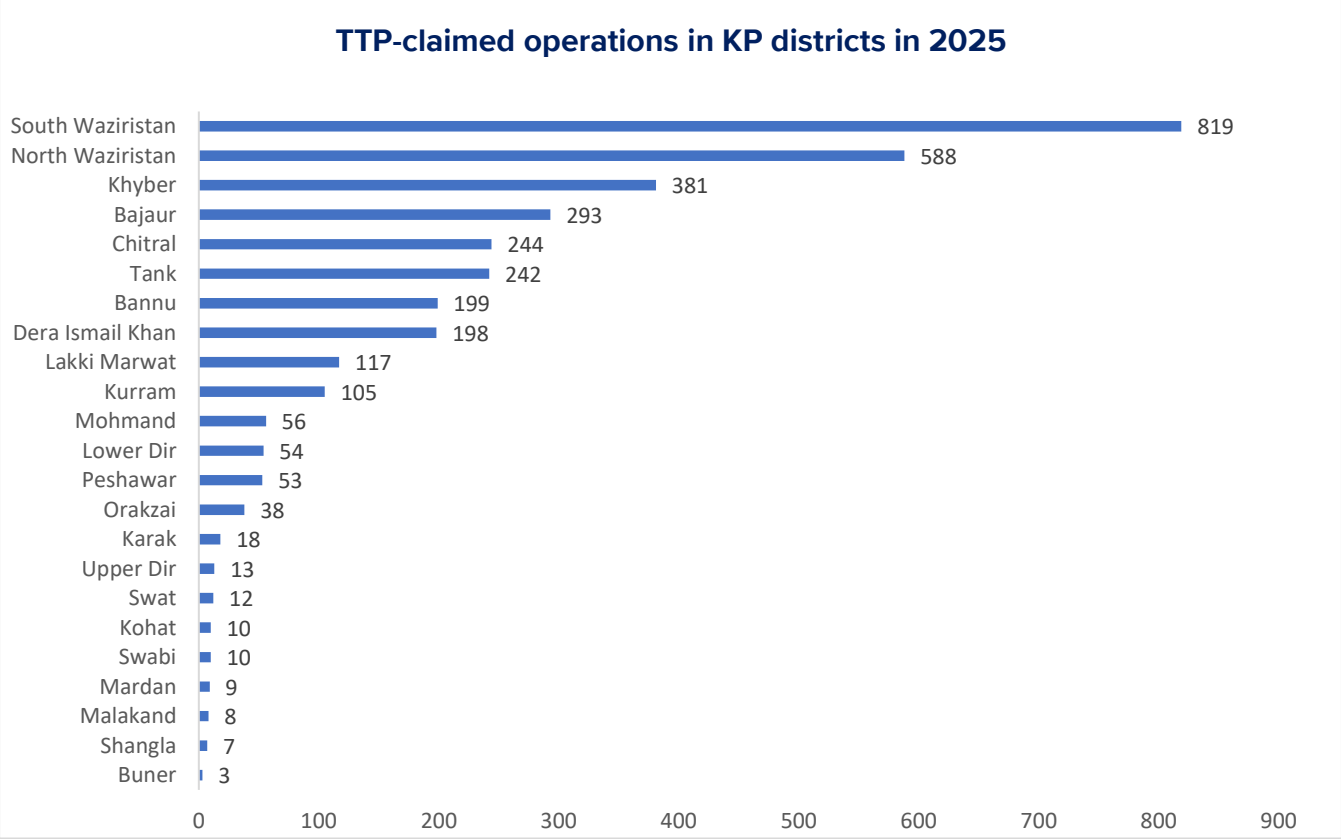


Figure 5: TTP claimed operations in 2025 in KP districts[60]

[57] Umar Media, Annual Comprehensive Operational Report of Tehreek Taliban Pakistan (TTP) for the Year 2025 (1446–1447 AH), 27 April 2026, url

[58] Umar Media, Annual Comprehensive Operational Report of Tehreek Taliban Pakistan (TTP) for the Year 2025 (1446–1447 AH), 27 April 2026, url

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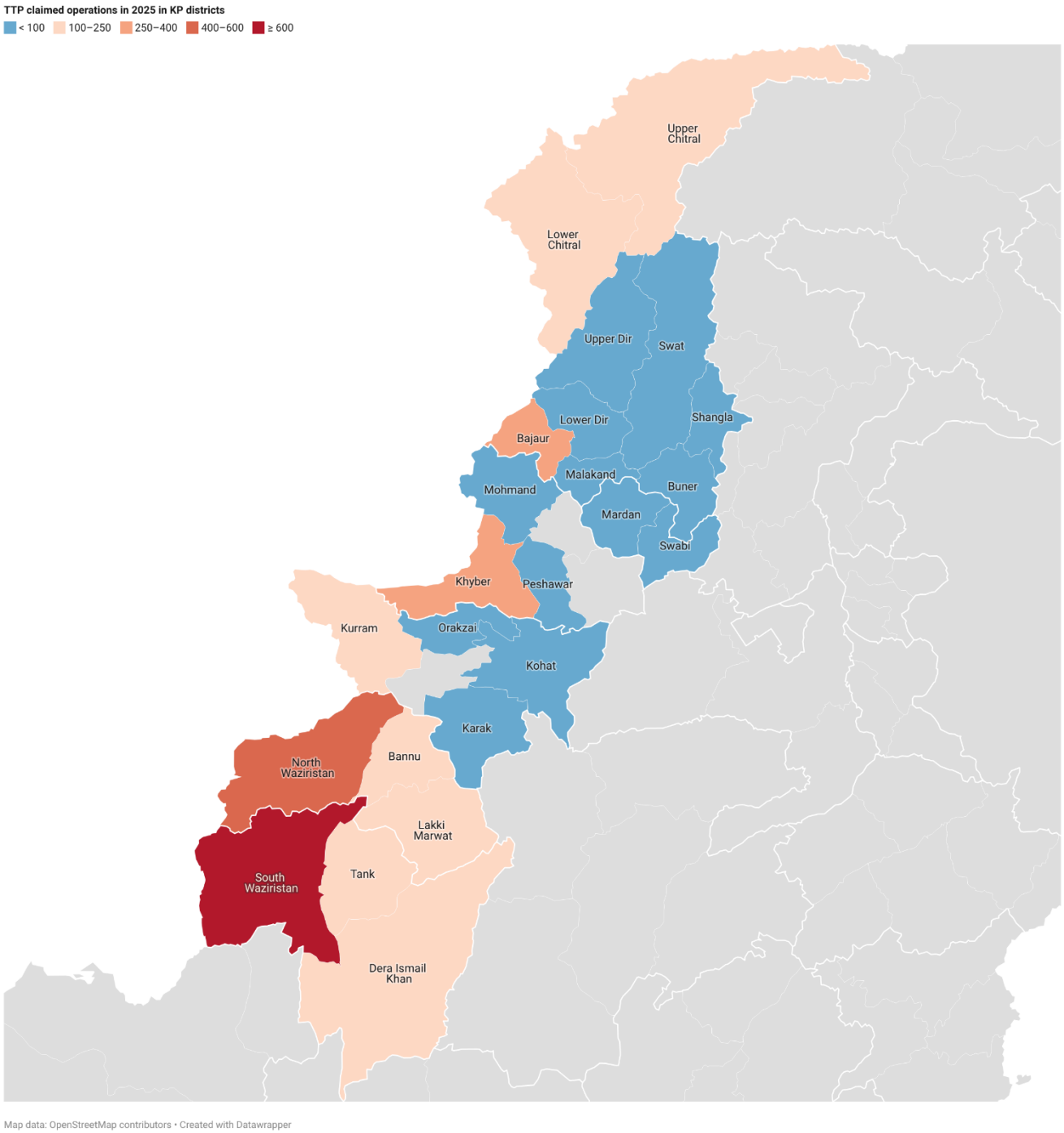

Map 2: TTP claimed operations in 2025 in KP districts[61]

[61] Map of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. EUAA Pakistan KP districts visualisation created with Datawrapper, OpenStreetMap contributors, 21 July 2026; with data from Umar Media, Annual Comprehensive Operational Report of Tehreek Taliban Pakistan (TTP) for the Year 2025 (1446–1447 AH), 27 April 2026, url

From 1 November 2024 to 3 July 2026, ACLED recorded 4 502 fatalities in KP. The highest numbers of fatalities were reported in North Waziristan (902 fatalities; 20 % of the provincial total), Bannu (567; 13 %), South Waziristan (450; 10 %), Kurram (374; 8 %), Lakki Marwat (372; 8 %), Dera Ismail Khan (321; 7 %), Bajaur (301; 7 %), and Khyber (280; 6 %).[62]

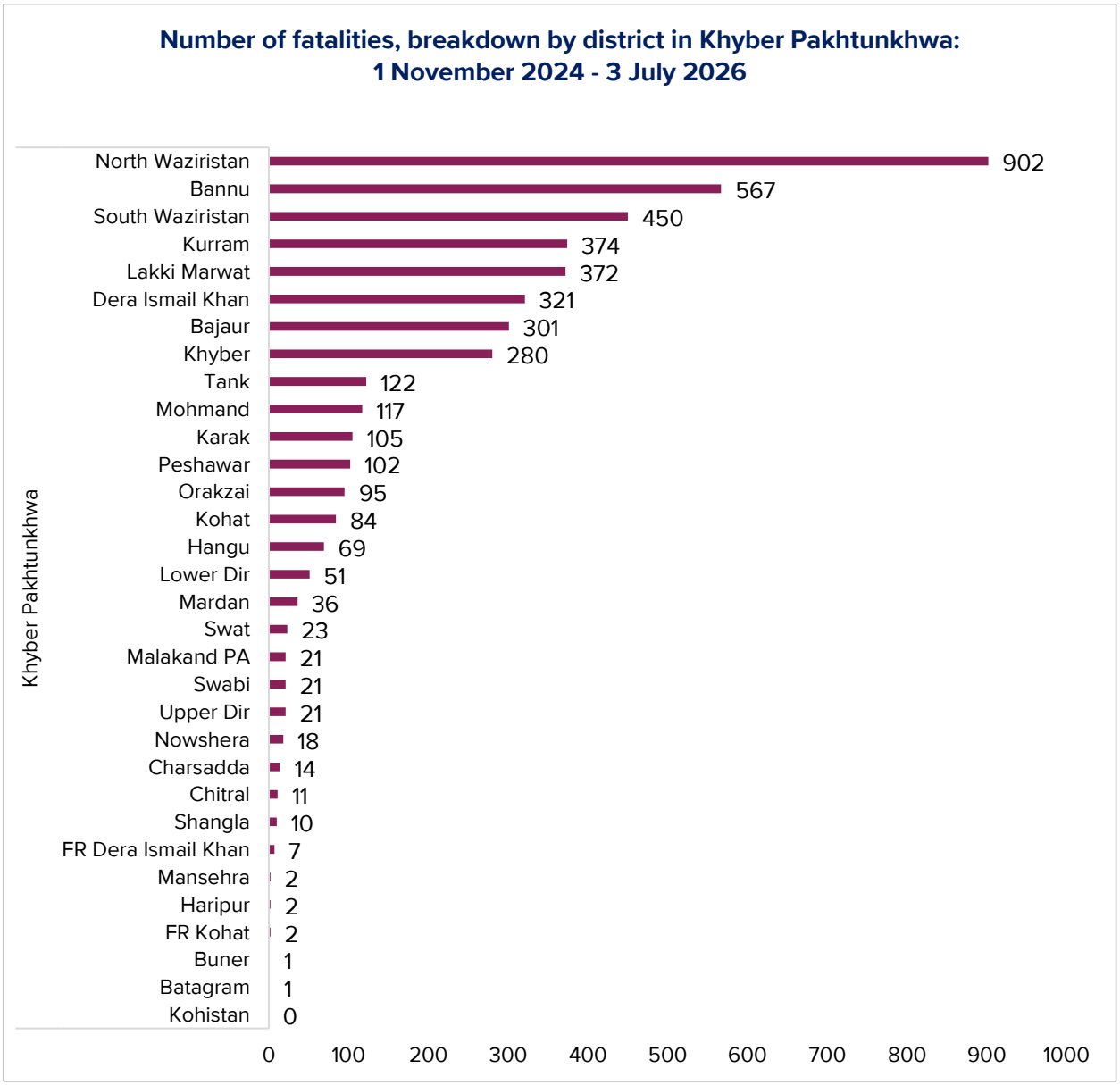

Figure 6: Fatalities by district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 1 November 2024 – 3 July 2026, based on ACLED data[63]

[62] EUAA analysis based on publicly available ACLED data. ACLED, Data Export Tool, Pakistan, data covering 1 November 2024 to 3 July 2026, as of 18 June 2026, url

[63] EUAA analysis based on publicly available ACLED data. ACLED, Data Export Tool, Pakistan, data covering 1 November 2024 to 5 June 2026, as of 18 June 2026, url

In May 2026, militant violence has risen significantly in KP and Balochistan,[64] with authorities intensifying security operations and imposing movement restrictions in several areas, including Upper and Lower South Waziristan, where key roads were temporarily closed to facilitate security operations.[65] Between January and May 2026, security forces in KP reportedly intercepted and neutralised 246 attempted militant drone attacks across KP, including 215 in the Bannu, alongside 15 in Dera Ismail Khan, seven in Malakand, four in Peshawar, two each in Mardan and Kohat, and one in Hazara Division, as officials warned of the increasing use of modified commercial drones by armed groups.[66] On 9 May 2026, militants carried out a car bomb attack followed by an ambush on a police post in Bannu district, killing several police officers.[67] As of 10 May 2026, security forces continued military operations in Shewa tehsil, North Waziristan district, including door-to-door search in Dorwazanda and nearby areas.[68]

On 11 May 2026, UNICEF reported continued attacks on schools in KP, including a government girls primary school, which was destroyed by explosives on 11 May 2026 in Tank district of KP.[69] Between 1 and 4 June 2026, militant activities continued in KP targeting security personnel, civilians and critical infrastructure.[70] On 9 June 2026, at least six paramilitary personnel were killed and three were taken hostage in an attack on a security checkpoint near Peshawar, for which no group claimed responsibility.[71] On 18 June 2026, KP Police reportedly announced the establishment of a 400-member Special Combat Unit to conduct intelligence-based counterterrorism operations in the province.[72] As of 8 July 2026, attacks in KP merged districts (former FATA) continued affecting civilians and security personnel.[73]

[64] News Pakistan (The), Security situation worsens as militant violence escalates in May, 2 June 2026, url; Dawn, Militant violence surged 27pc in May: PICSS, 2 June 2026, url; Pakistan Today, Militant attacks rose 27pc in May: PICSS report, 2 June 2026, url
[65] Dawn, Section 144 imposed in several areas of Upper, Lower South Waziristan amid security concerns, 15 June 2026, url
[66] Pakistan Today, KP foils 246 drone attacks as terrorist tactics shift to aerial warfare, 4 May 2026, url
[67] Al Jazeera, Car bomb attack and ambush in northwest Pakistan kill at least 21 police, 9 May 2026, url; Reuters, Car bombing and shootout kills 14 Pakistani police officers, 10 May 2026, url; BBC, Pakistan car bomb attack kills 15 police officers, 10 May 2026, url
[68] Dawn, Suicide attack on Bannu police post claims 15 lives, 10 May 2026, url
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[70] PICCS, Weekly Security Insight: Militant Attacks Persist Amid Counterterrorism Operations and Strategic Project Reviews (1-4 June 2026), 6 June 2026, url
[71] AA, 6 paramilitary troops killed, 3 taken hostage in NW Pakistan: Report, 9 June 2026, url
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