

FATA SECURITY

First Quarter 2018



FATA SECURITY REPORT
FIRST QUARTER 2018
(January-March)

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Map of FATA

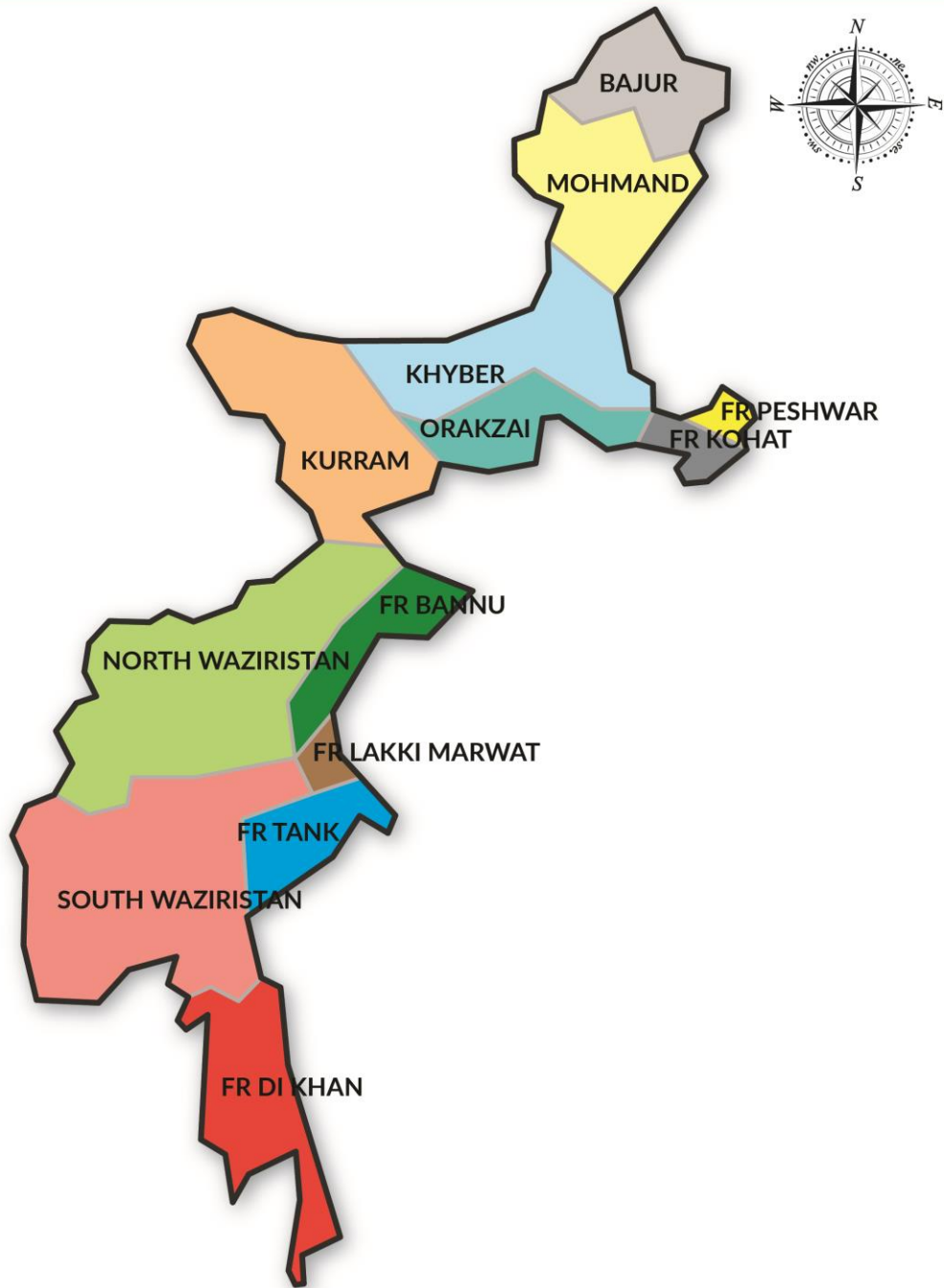


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About FATA Research Centre

The FATA Research Centre (FRC) is a non-partisan, non-political and non-governmental research organization based in Islamabad. It is the first ever think-tank that specifically focuses on the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) of Pakistan in its entirety. The purpose of establishing the FRC is to create a better understanding about the conflict in FATA among the concerned stakeholders through undertaking independent, impartial and objective research and analysis. The FRC endeavors to create awareness among all segments of the Pakistani society and the government to jointly strive for a peaceful, tolerant and progressive FATA.

FATA Quarterly Security Report

The FATA Quarterly Security Report reviews recent trends in conflict in FATA such as the number and type of terrorist attacks, tactics and strategies used by the terrorists and the resultant casualties. The objective of this security report is to outline and categorize all forms of violent extremism, role of terrorist groups and the scale of terrorist activities in the area. This report is the result of regular monitoring of terrorist and counter-terrorist activities by employing primary and secondary sources. FRC collects data from the field through its field researchers working in FATA, and also consults reliable secondary sources to ensure the quality and veracity of its research. However, it also faces certain limitations since the area under discussion is undergoing counter-insurgency operations and imposition of curfews. Hence, terrorist and counter-terrorist attacks sometimes restrict the mobility of our field staff. Thus, the number of actual occurrences of violent acts may be greater than those being reported here.

Methodology

The FRC research team collects information and data from both primary and secondary sources and presents its analysis on the security issues. FRC's internal database prepared through daily monitoring of more than a dozen English and Urdu newspapers, periodicals, magazines, monitoring and reviews of locally distributed literature in the area and data collected from political administration in FATA Agencies contributed to the compilation of this report. Additionally, an up-to-date archive system at the FRC is consulted for authenticity and reference to important events and incidents. FRC correspondents, based in all the seven Agencies of FATA, provide information and data verification from concerned political administration offices and locals of the area.

Acronyms

FATA	Federally Administered Tribal Areas
FRC	FATA Research Centre
IED	Improvised Explosive Devices
ISPR	Inter-Services Public Relations
TTP-JuA	Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan Jamaat-ul-Ahrar
NAP	National Action Plan
NWA	North Waziristan Agency
SWA	South Waziristan Agency
TTP	Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan
CT	Counter-Terrorism
LeJ	Lashkar-e-Jhangvi
LeJA	Lashkar-e-Jhangvi al-Almi
VBIED	Vehicle Borne Improvised Explosive Device

Glossary

Terrorist Attacks	Indiscriminate use of violence by local, non-local, and foreign terrorist outfits.
Counter-Terrorist Attacks	Large-scale military operations launched by security forces and para-military troops against terrorist in FATA in order to restore law and order and to establish the writ of state.
Amn Lashkar (Urdu for Peace Militias)	Volunteer tribal militias formed by tribes, clans, and sub-clans living in FATA to aid the Pakistani government and security forces in their battle against terrorists of all shades.

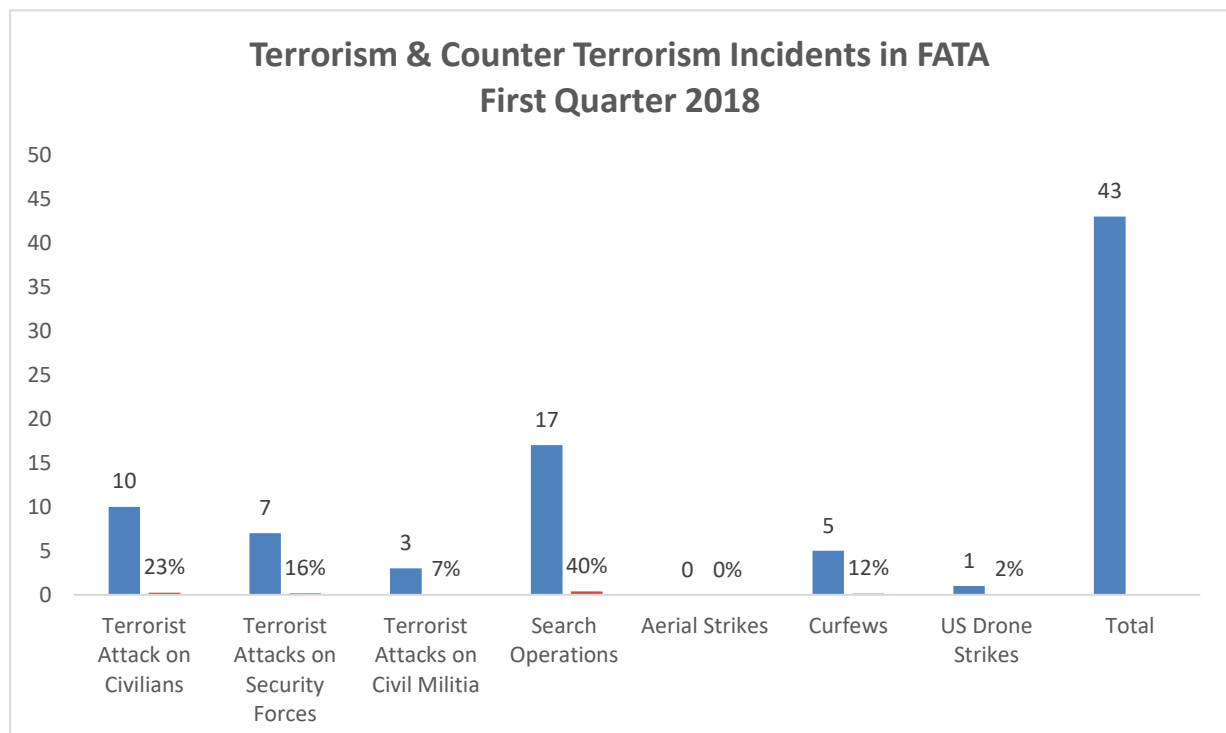
Chapter 1

Introduction

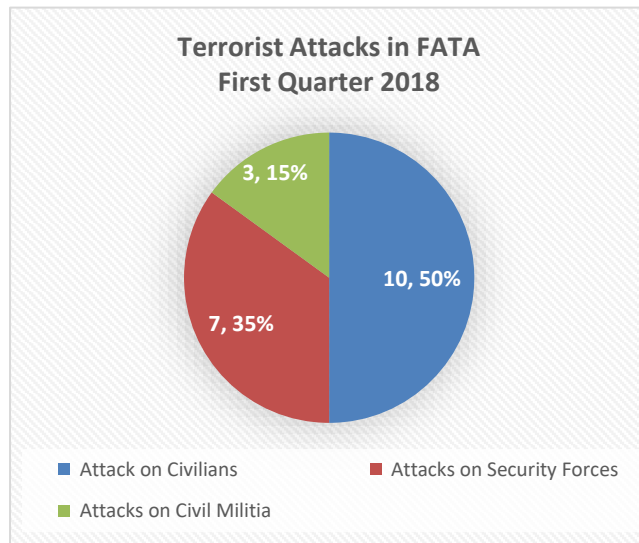
Security Overview of FATA 1st Quarter – 2018

During the first Quarter (January – March) 2018, a downward trend in terrorism and counter terrorism incidents was recorded in all the seven agencies of FATA. A total of 43 terrorism and counter-terrorism incidents were recorded during first quarter (January-March) 2018. The number of violent incidents, both terrorism and CT, witnessed 177% decrease during the first quarter of 2018, compared to the same period (March-December 2017), which recorded 119 such incidents.

The following table and graph give an overview of nature of incidents during this quarter in entire FATA region:



Between January-March 2018, a total of 20 terrorist attacks were carried out by various terrorist outfits. Of the total terrorist attacks 10 targeted the civilians which makes up for 50 percent of



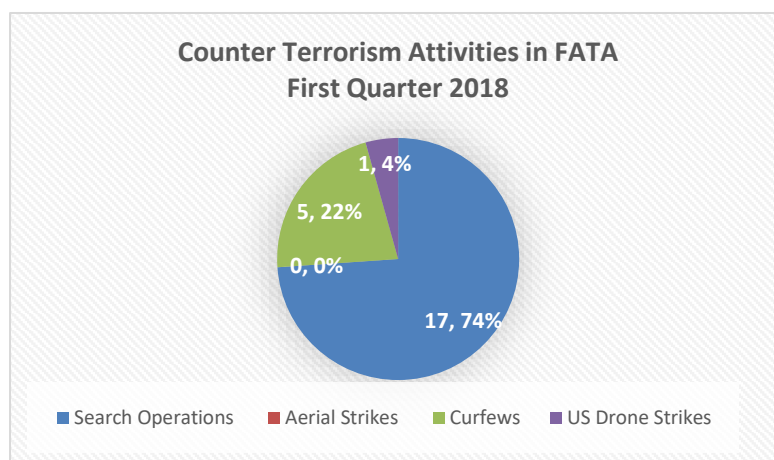
the total attacks during the first quarter 2018. On 14 January 2018, two children were injured when a toy bomb they were playing with exploded in Brond area of Sarvekai tehsil of the agency of South Waziristan Agency. On 24 January 2018, in another such incident a woman was critically injured when she stepped on a landmine in at Sararogha tehsil of South Waziristan Agency. Similarly, on 30

January 2018, six members of a family were killed while one other was injured when their vehicle came in contact with IED planted by unknown militants in Ghoz Ghari area of upper Kurram Agency.

Seven of the terrorist attacks were aimed against the security personnel during the first quarter of 2018. On 07 February 2018, two soldiers were martyred and three others sustained injuries in a rocket attack in Eidak area of North Waziristan Agency

On three occasions terrorist also targeted members of *Amn Lashkar*/Civil Militia. On 07 February 2018, a tribal malik was killed in a remote controlled blast in Nawagai tehsil of Bajaur Agency.

Conversely, security forces conducted 23 CT operations against the terrorists. The following graphs illustrate terrorist attacks in FATA during the first quarter (January-March) 2018.

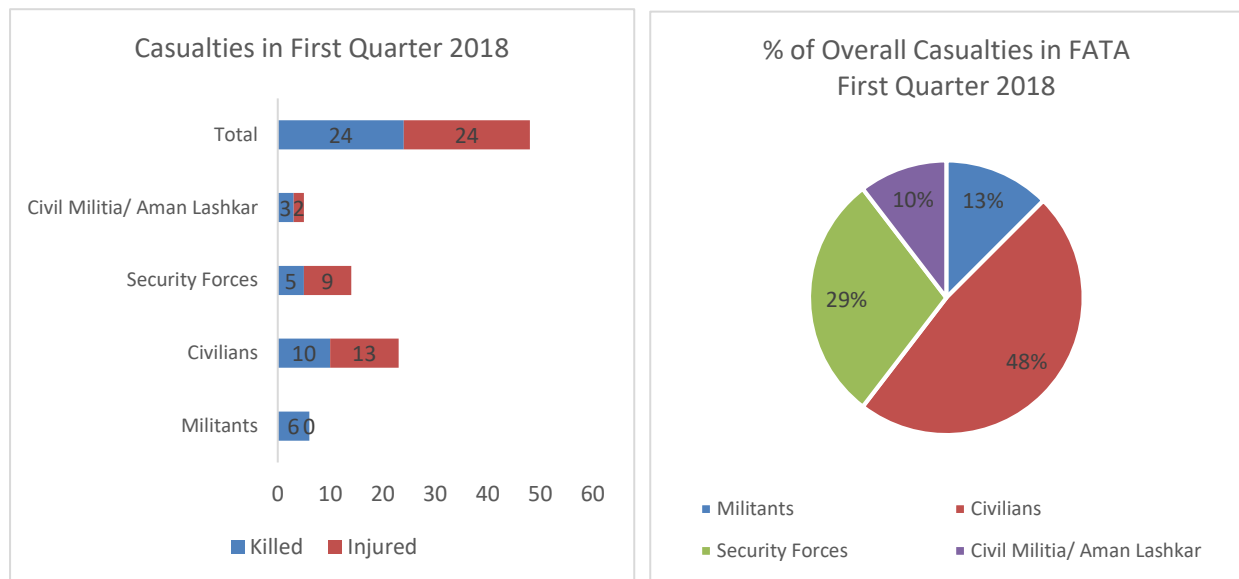


Pakistani security forces carried out regular counter offensives, which included search operations and aerial strikes, during the first quarter (January-March) 2018. On 17 occasions, security forces conducted search operations in all the seven agencies of FATA

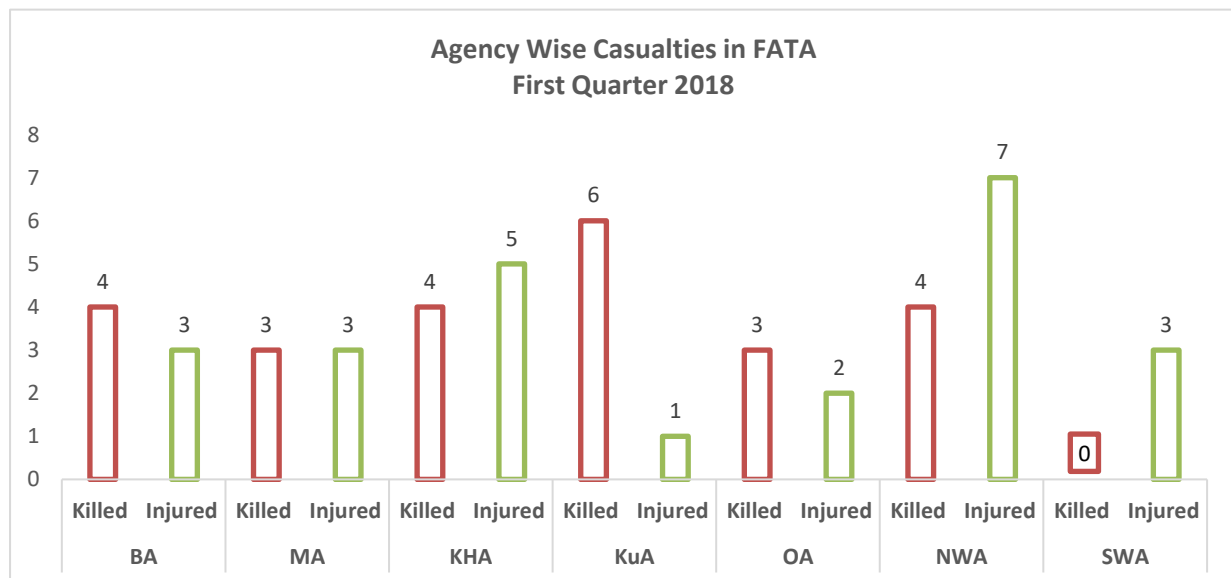
which accounts for 74% of the overall CT operations. Moreover, the security forces also clamped curfews five occasions while one drone strike was also reported during the outgoing

quarter 2018.

These terrorist and counter-terrorist operations resulted in a total of 48 casualties – 24 killed and 28 injured – across FATA. Following table provides an overview of these casualties.



In terms of casualties North Waziristan Agency remained at the top where four people were killed while seven other were injured. Khyber Agency remained second in the list where nine casualties were reported (four killed and five injured). The graph given below illustrates agency wise number of casualties in FATA during first quarter of 2018



A breakdown of the terrorist attacks highlights that IEDs remained the most preferred tactic of militants during the first quarter of 2018. On 16 occasions, militants opted for IED attacks, which accounts for around 89% of the total terrorist attacks during the quarter. Similarly,

kidnapping remained the second preferred mode of terrorists and accounted for 10% of the total attacks.

The table and graph given below illustrates the militants tactics used by various terrorist outfits during first quarter of 2018 in FATA

Militant Tactics First Quarter 2017			
Tactic	Civilians	Security Forces	Peace Militia
IED	8	5	3
Target Killing	0	1	0
Suicide	0	0	0
Cross Border	0	1	0
Ambush	0		0
Kidnapping	2	0	0



