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Epidemiological patterns of suicide terrorism In Pakistan (2002 – Oct 2009)

PRESENTER

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AUTHORS

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Introduction (1)

- Violence disease burden – 1.6 million deaths worldwide
 - HIC: 14 deaths per 100,000
 - LMIC: 32 deaths per 100,000
- Regional and national trends
 - Eastern Mediterranean region - 40% injury deaths
- Terrorism
 - An increasingly seen type of violence

Introduction (2)

➤ Suicide terrorism

« diversity of violent actions perpetrated by people who are aware that the odds they will return alive are close to zero »

➤ Pakistan

- Low-income country with 180 million
- Administrative divisions
 - Four provinces subdivided in 108 districts
 - Federally administered territories – Islamabad, Azad Kashmir, Northern Area, 7 Tribal Agencies (TA)

➤ Wave of suicide terrorism recently

Objectives

- Assess overall burden, particularly in civilians
- Assess spatial and temporal patterns
- Assess patterns of targets, installations, mode of attack

Methods

- Design: Retrospective observational study

- Data: South-Asian Terrorism Portal (media reports)
 - Events included from 2002 to Oct 2009

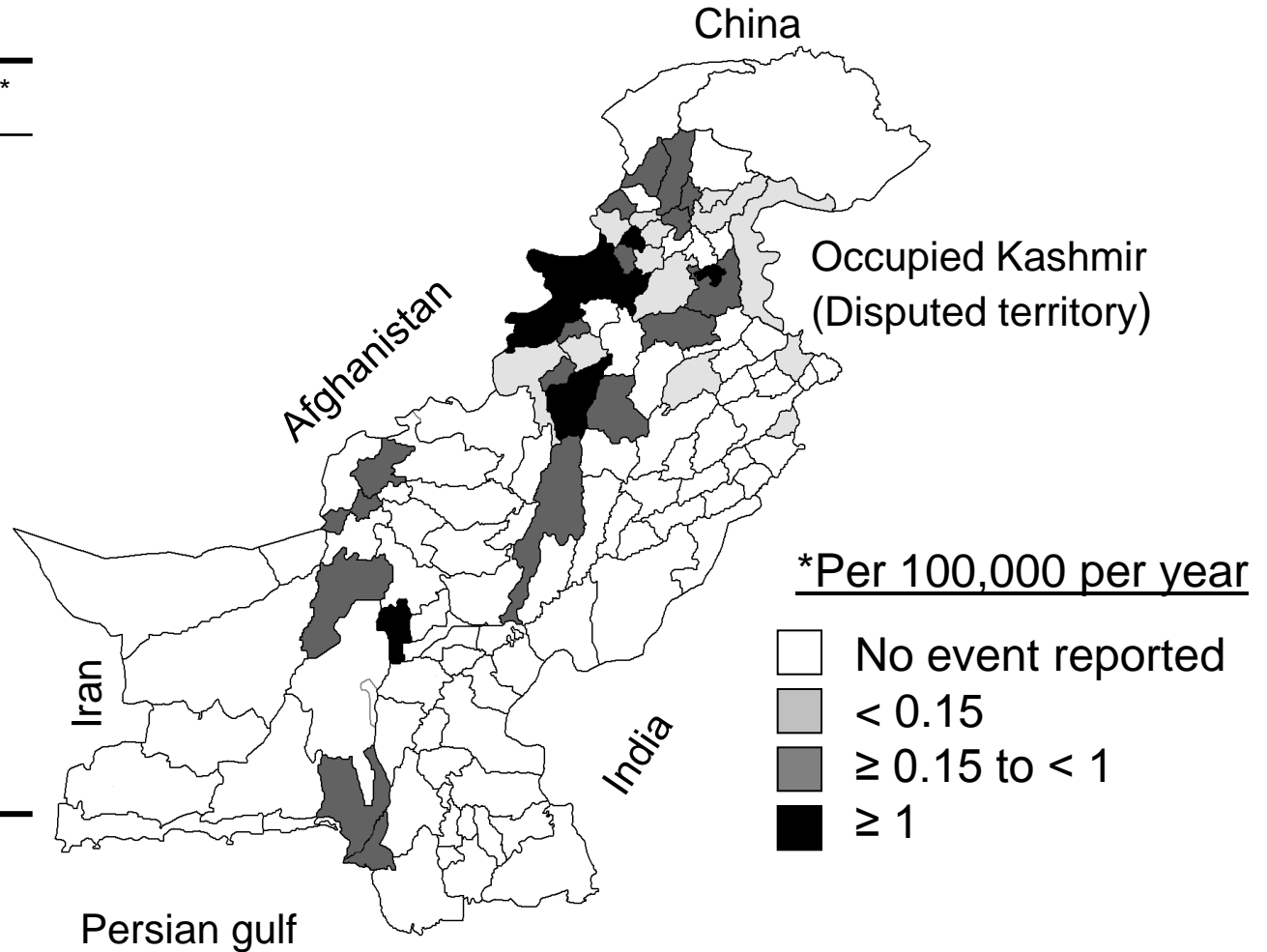
- Measures (text was extracted)
 - Date
 - District or Tribal Agency
 - Deaths & Injuries (Civilians or security forces)
 - Target (Security forces, sectarian, politicians, foreigners, public)
 - Mode used (person, car, motorcycle, bicycle)
 - Installations (security/public installation or gathering)

Results (1): Burden and civilian involvement

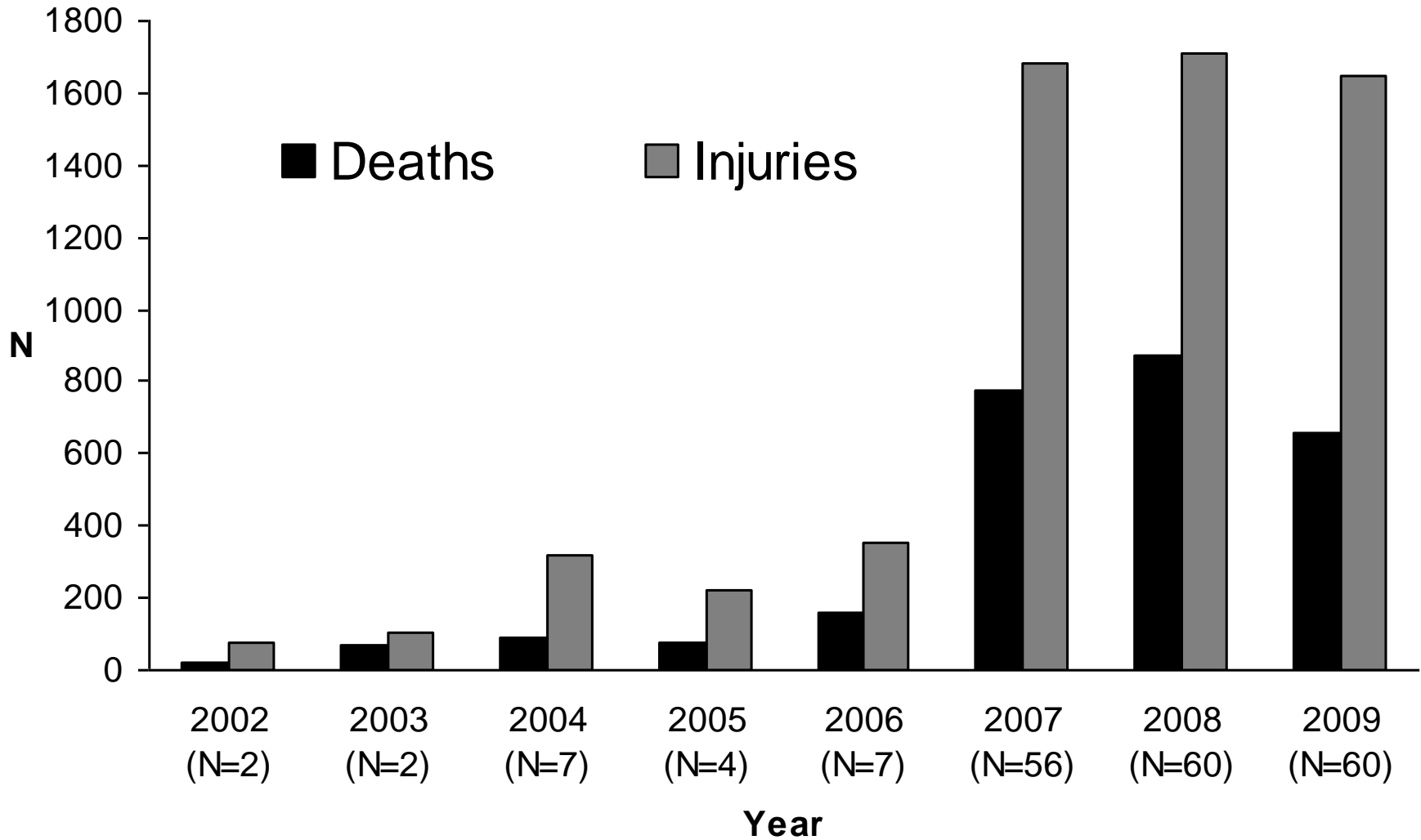
	Total	Civilians (%)
Events	198	97.9
Deaths	2 722	74.1
Injuries	6 129	93.8

Results (2): Spatial patterns

District/TA	Death*
Jhal-Magsi	4.5
Orakzai	3.9
Islamabad	1.7
Hungu	1.5
Kohat	1.4
N.Waziristan	1.3
Khyber	1.3
Kurram	1.3
Charsadda	1.2

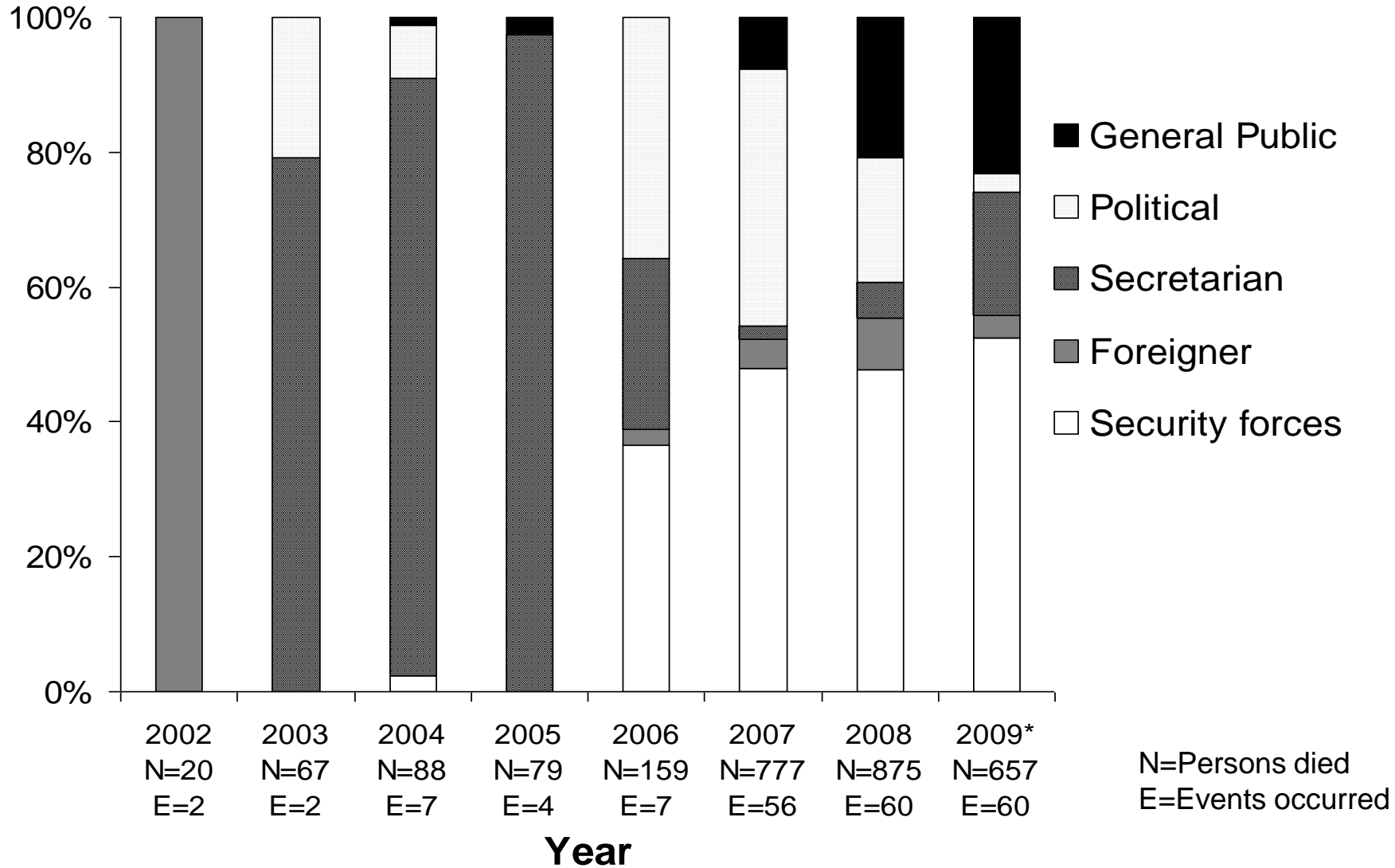


Results (3): Time trends



(Source: South Asian Terrorism Portal)

Results (4): Variations in targets



Results (5): Mode of attack

	Events		Deaths		Injuries		<i>P</i>
	N	Mean	(SD)	Mean	(SD)		
All	198	13.8	(18.1)	38.3	(62.2)		
Mode							≥0.05
- Person	109	14.7	16.6	35.7	41.2		
- Car	80	13.0	20.8	43.1	83.2		
Installations							<0.02
- Security Installation	111	8.8	10.5	24.3	40.7		
- Public installation	42	18.5	18.4	49.8	49.3		
- Public gathering	35	26.3	28.3	73.5	108.5		

Results (6): Installation

	Events	Deaths	% Civilian
Security forces'			
- Installation	37	391	54.2
- Check-post	42	322	34.2
- Convoy	32	273	49.1
Public			
- Installation			
→Mosque	20	484	88.6
→General public	18	268	81.7
→Diplomatic area	4	23	78.2
- Gathering			
→Political	23	693	94.5
→General public	12	228	93.9

Discussion

- Unprecedented increase in last three years
 - Limitation – Media reports
 - High mortality rate per population

- Suggestive context of attacks
 - International
 - Sectarian
 - Political

- Prevention
 - Reinforcing security measures for religious and political gathering
 - Loss of political freedom could facilitate terrorism
 - Geopolitical and social research is required

Thank You