



3.3. Main geographical control and operational presence of armed groups

In KP, the militant landscape is dominated by TTP and affiliated factions, HGB, local Taliban groups, and Lashkar-e Islam (LeI), with factions linked to TTP now present in nearly all of the province's districts.^{[479](#)} HGB maintains a particularly strong presence in North Waziristan^{[480](#)} while also operating in South Waziristan and adjoining areas of KP. In 2025, the group extended its influence into Khyber district through an alliance with LeI.^{[481](#)} ISKP maintains a presence in Pakistan,^{[482](#)} where it has major footholds in KP's Bajaur district and Balochistan.^{[483](#)} While the southern and southwestern districts of Balochistan have been the traditional hotbeds of the Baloch insurgency, Baloch militants have increasingly extended their operations into central Balochistan districts such as Bolan, Kalat, Harnai, and Kachhi.^{[484](#)}

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PIPS, Pakistan Security Report 2025, Vol. 18, No. 1, January 2026, [url](#), p. 29

- ^{[480](#)}

ACLED, The battle for the borderlands: The Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan challenges the state's control, 6 October 2025, [url](#)

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PICSS, Pakistan's Comprehensive National Security Profile – Annual Report 2025, 7 January 2026, [url](#), pp. 26-27

- ^{[482](#)}

PICSS, Pakistan's Comprehensive National Security Profile – Annual Report 2025, 7 January 2026, [url](#), p. 32

- ^{[483](#)}

CRSS, Complex terrorism landscape in Pakistan-Afghanistan region: Afghan Emirate as counter-terror partner, 24 January 2025, [url](#), p. 35

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PIPS, Pakistan Security Report 2025, Vol. 18, No. 1, January 2026, [url](#), p. 30