

# Terrorism Trends against Tourist and Government Targets in Tunisia, 1970-2019

## Introduction

Tunisia has faced a number of high-profile terrorist attacks in the past decade following the Arab Spring despite having a longstanding reputation as a relatively safe and stable country in comparison to its neighbors in the Middle East and North Africa. While the most recent and high-profile terrorist attacks have largely targeted Tunisia's fledgling tourism industry, historical trends in terrorism have typically focused on government targets. This project aims to identify where attacks have been concentrated in Tunisia and which types of targets are most susceptible to repeated attacks, as well as if certain types of targets are more susceptible to the same type of attack (ex. bombings, shootings, kidnappings).

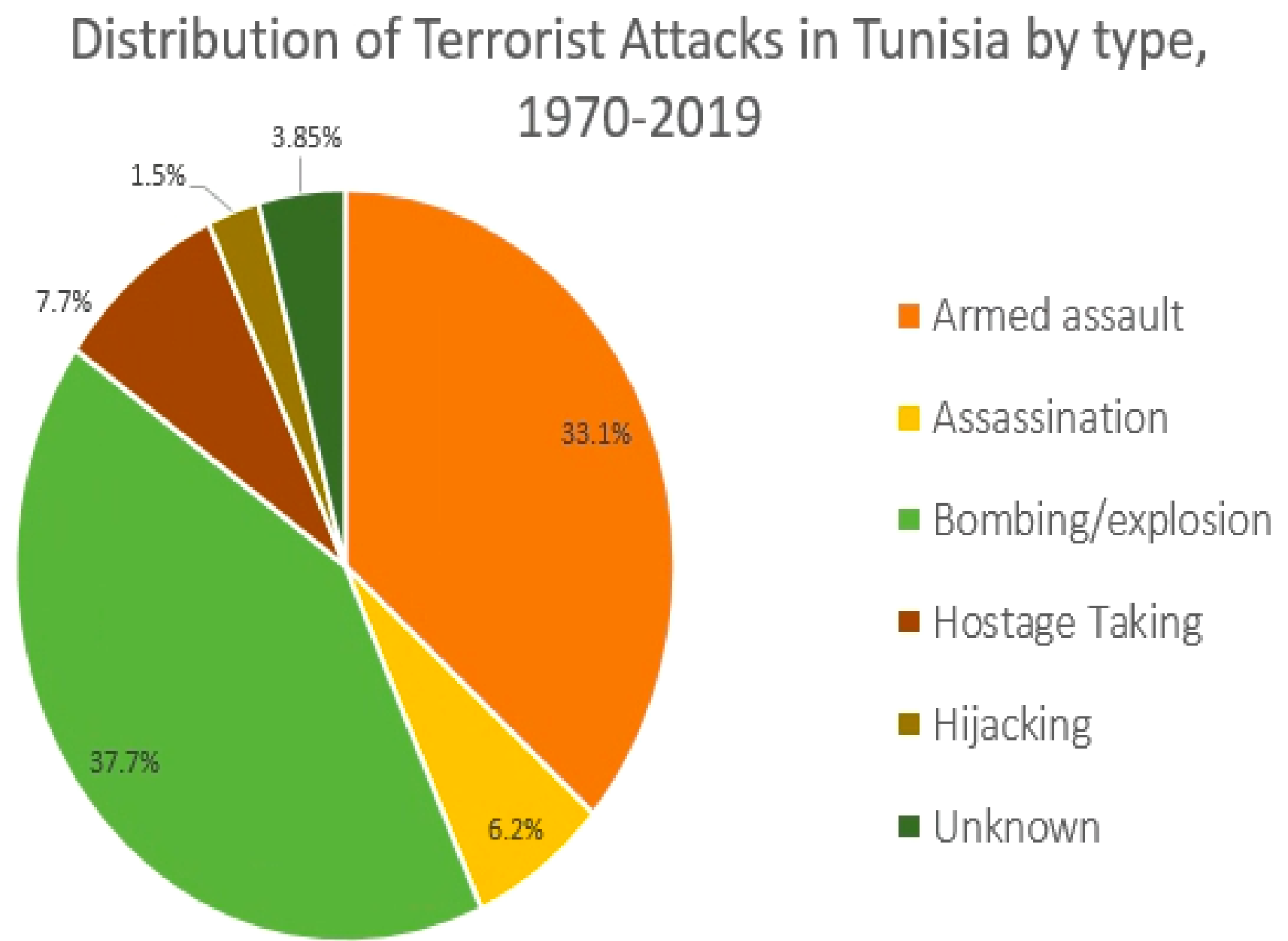
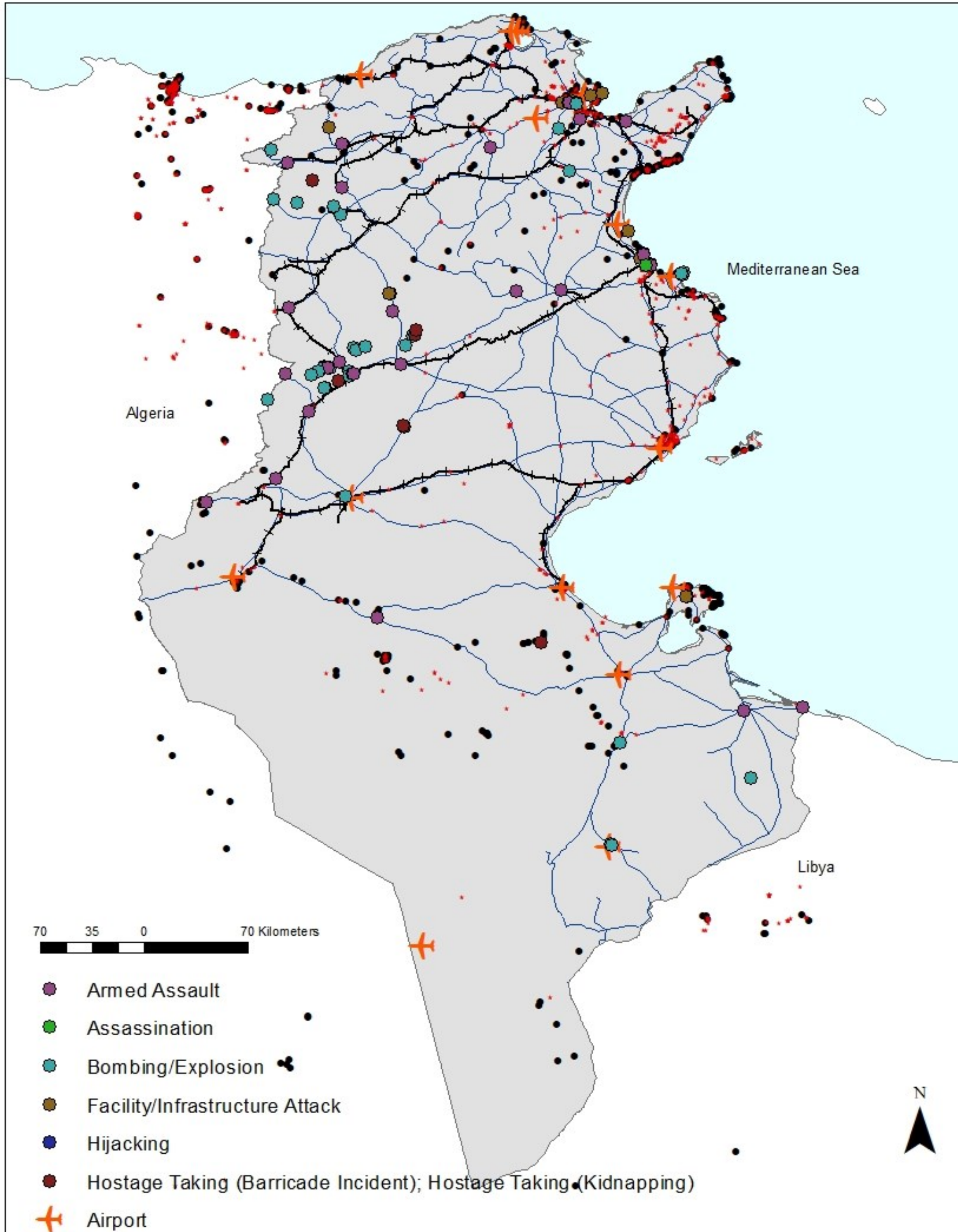
## Methodology

This project used specific Proximity to government buildings (such as government offices, military installations, and foreign embassies) as well as emergency services (such as police stations) was used to determine what sort of typical hard targets terrorists may attack. This was gathered through publicly available data from Open Street Map. Data on Tunisian transportation, such as highways, railways, ports, and airports went through the same proximity analysis; this data was collected by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa and OurAirports.com. Data from the START Global Terrorism Database covers all acts of terrorist violence in Tunisia from 1970 and

2019; this analysis primarily used the 'attacktype' category to separate types of terrorist violence, though other dataset information such as the number of casualties and affected nationalities could warrant further study.

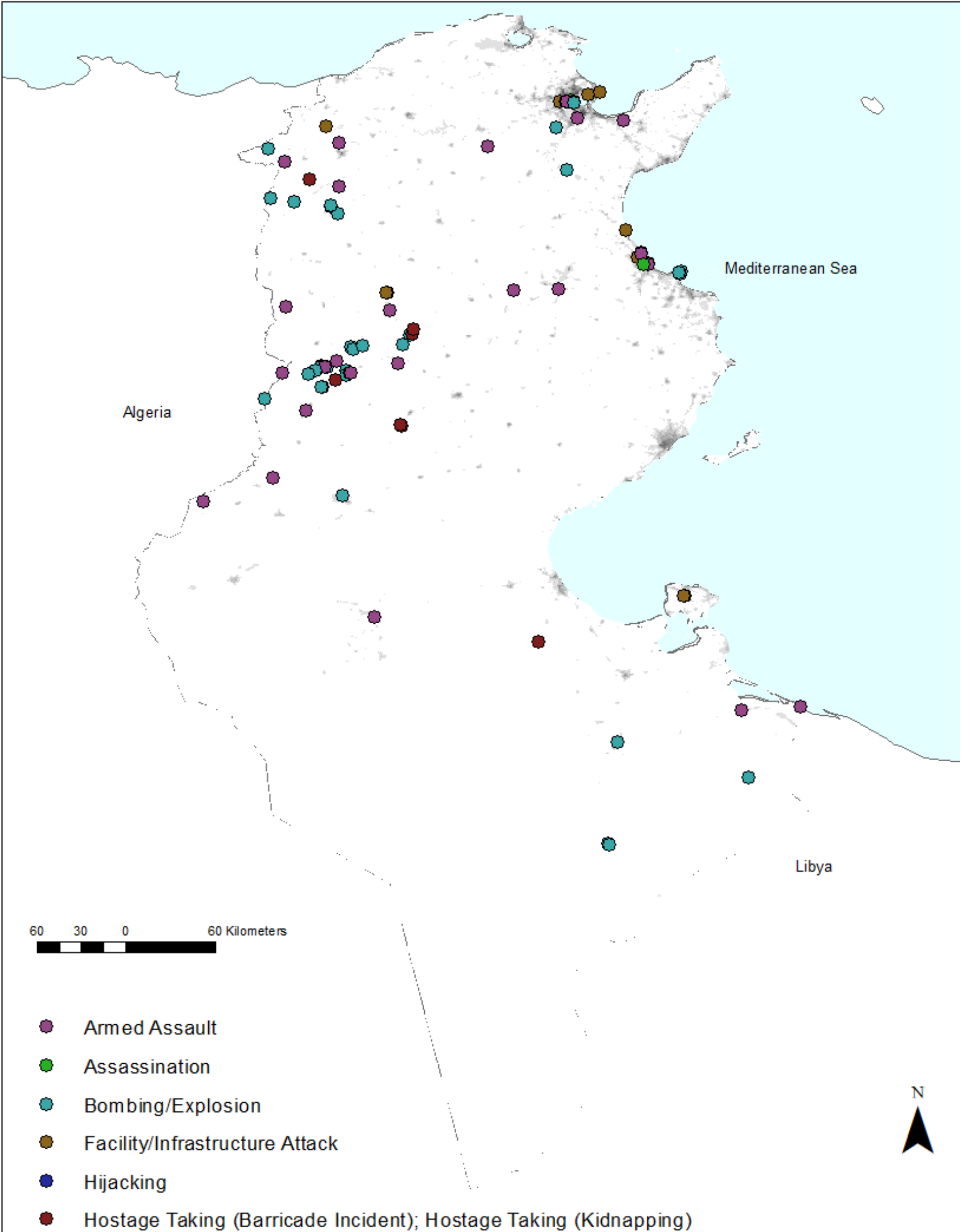
## Results

Terrorist attacks were highly concentrated in the capital Tunis, as well as the mountainous regions bordering Algeria. Almost all attacks took place on or near major infrastructure, particularly national highways. Areas with low population density still experienced occasional terrorist attacks. Government buildings and tourist sites were frequent targets, even in areas that were less densely populated. Bombings and armed assaults were most common at these locations as well as general-ly throughout the country.

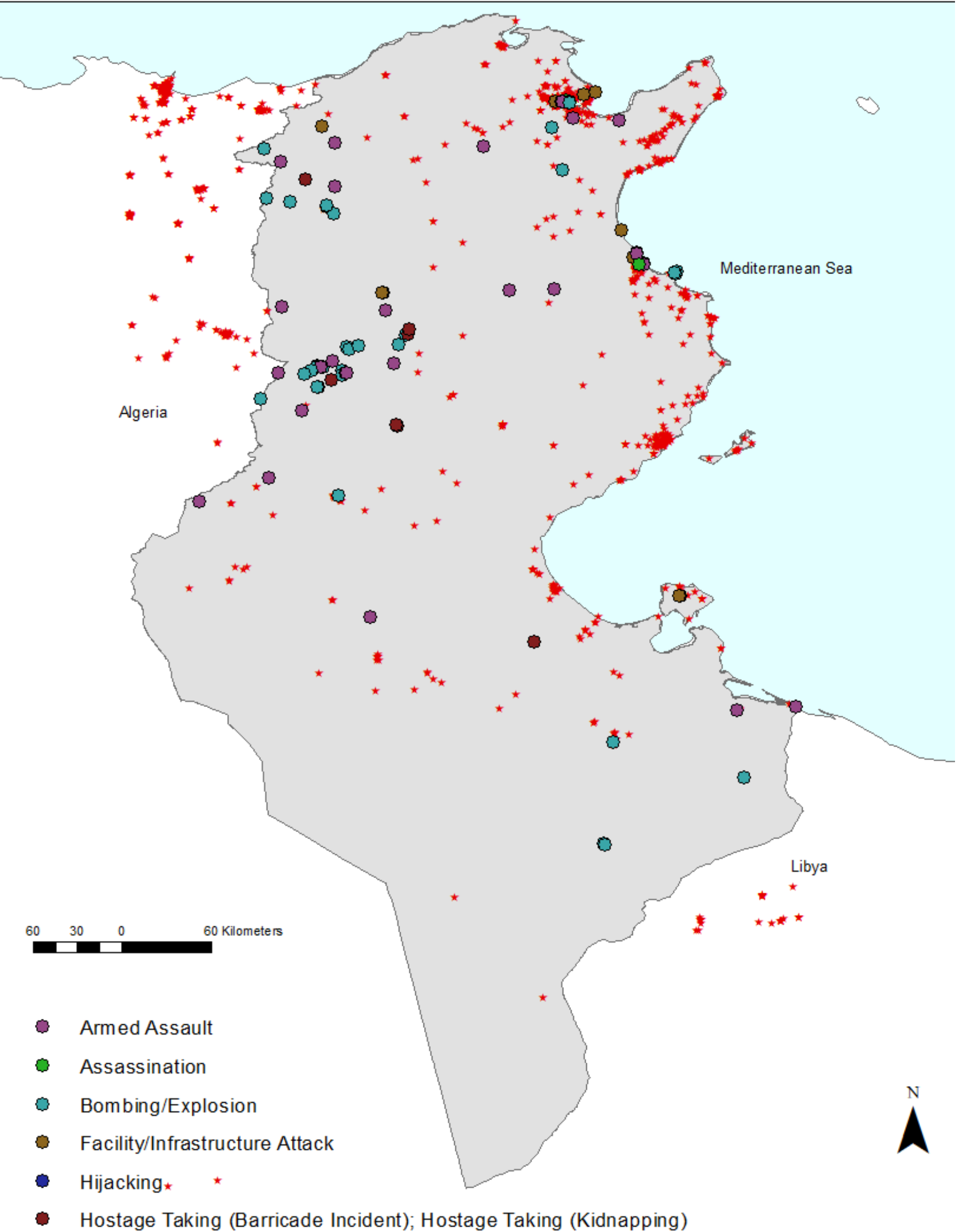


Cartographer: Gioia Chaouch  
 The Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy  
 Course: DHP 207: GIS for Int'l Applications  
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 Data sources: Humanitarian Data Exchange, Open Street Map, START Global Terrorism Database, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa

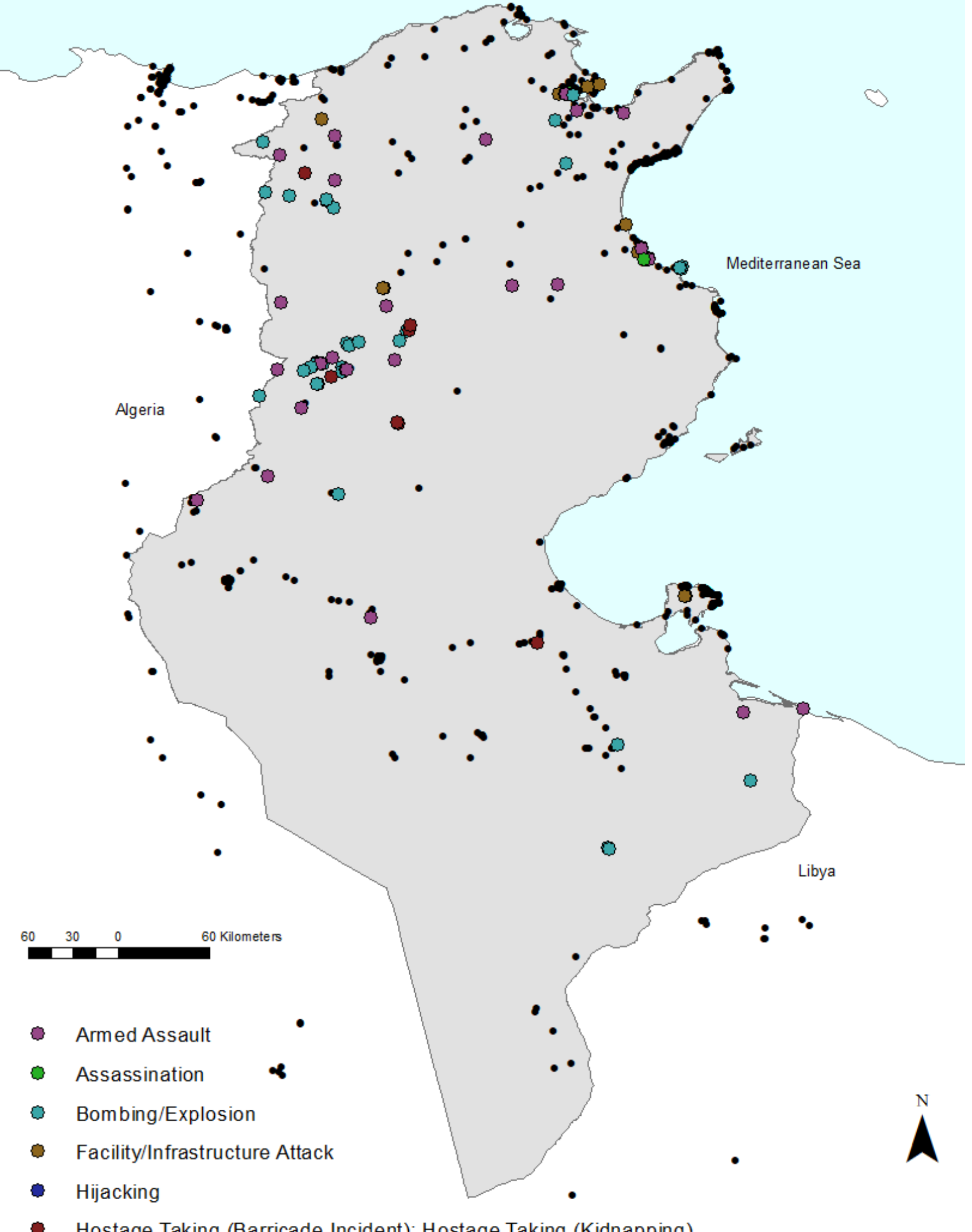
### Population density & terrorist attacks



### Terrorist attacks near government buildings



### Terrorist attacks near tourist sites



### Terrorist attacks near major infrastructure

