International Rescue Committee

Mortality and Humanitarian Need in the Democratic Republic of Congo

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Refugee Relief, Respect, Renewal

Mortality and DR Congo: IRC Mortality Surveys

- New York Times, Feb 2000
  - Total deaths = 100,000
- Surveys 2000, 2001, 2002
  - 3.3 million excess deaths
- 2002 survey
  - 1.5% due to violence
  - National CMR highest in the world

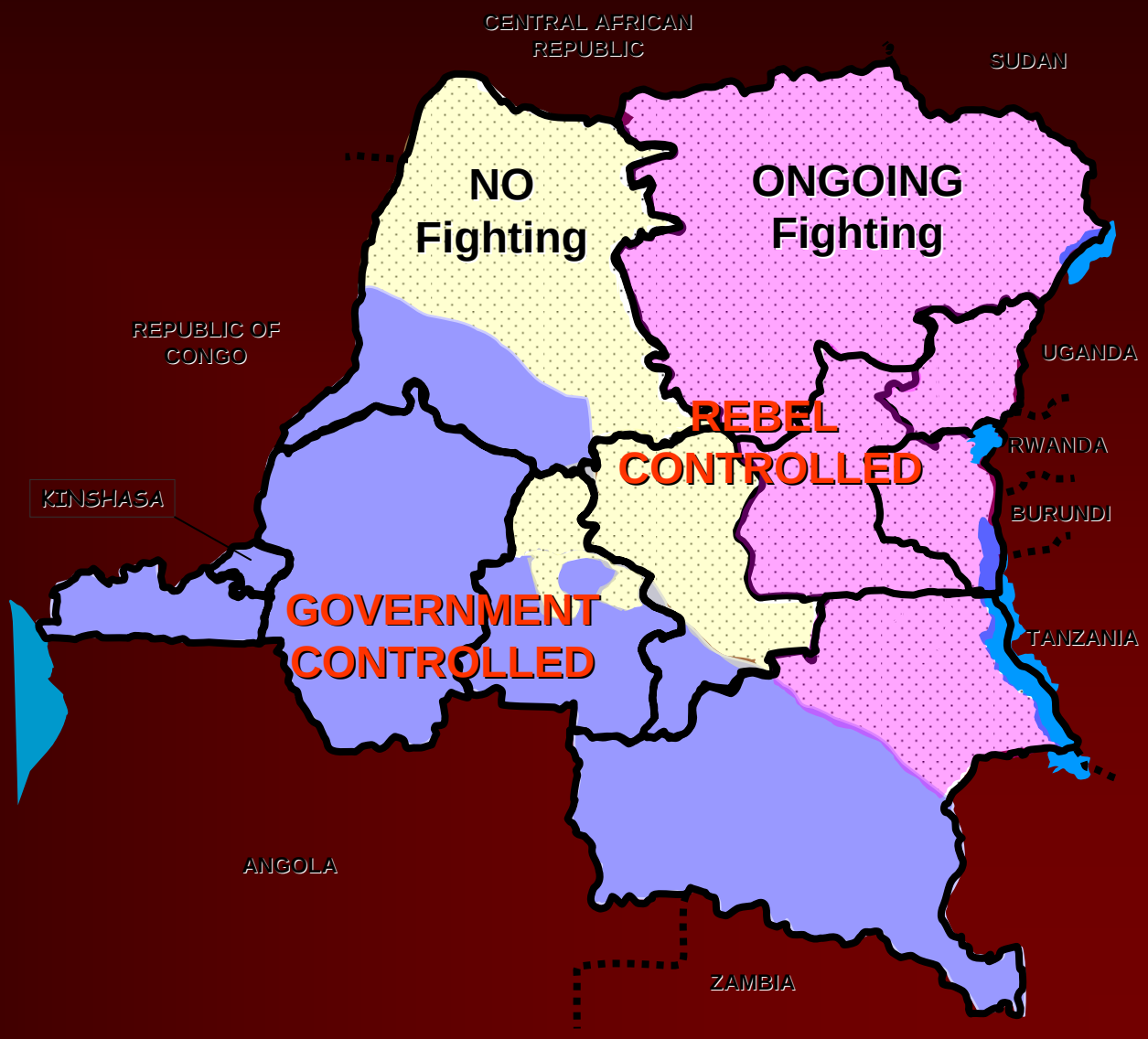
→ Deadliest conflict since WW II

Methodology: Stratification

- Stratification along lines of 2001 military control
- EAST & WEST

- 3-stage, household-based cluster sampling technique
  - Cluster = group of households

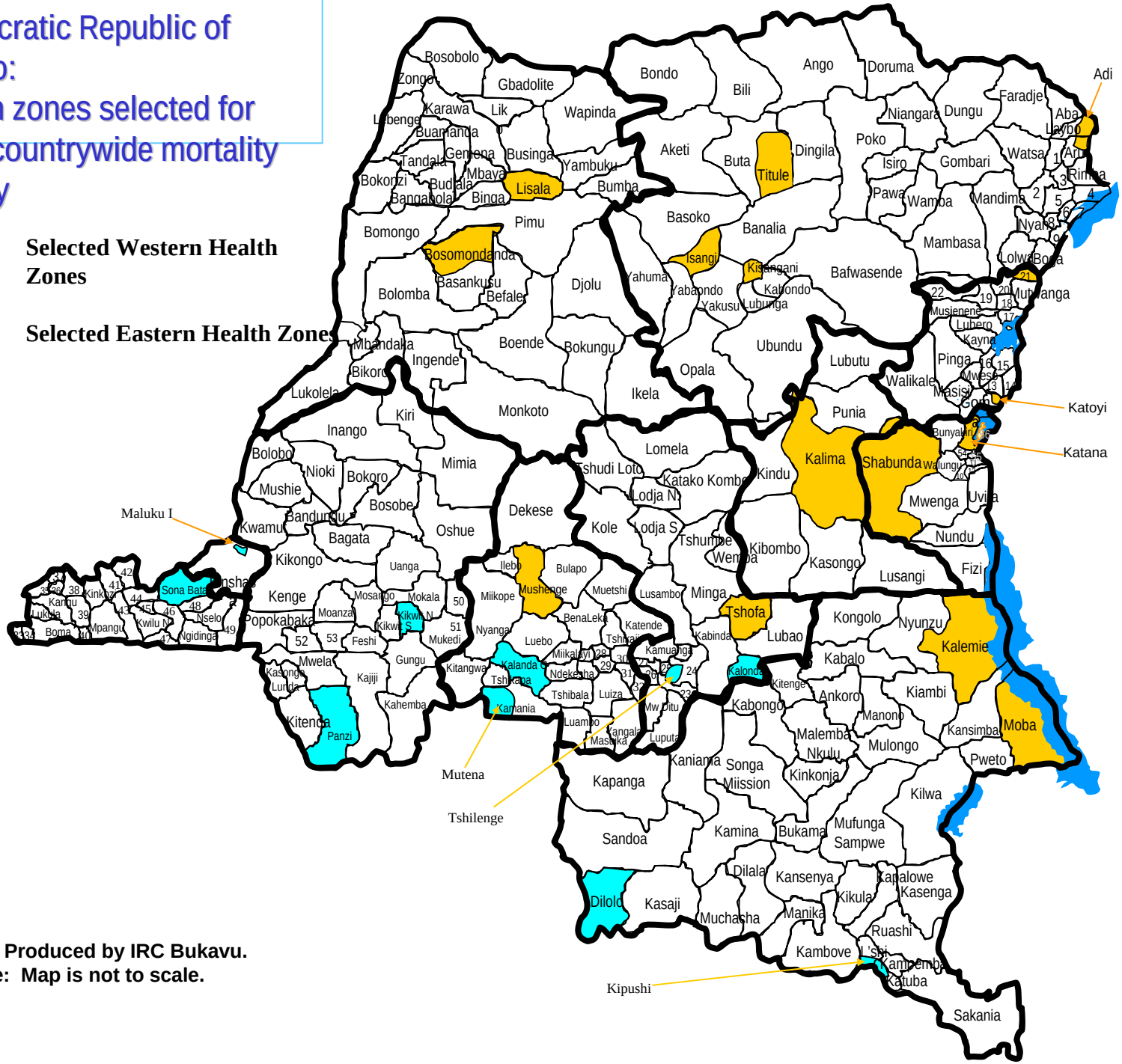
- Sample size = 19,500 households



Democratic Republic of Congo: Health zones selected for 2004 countrywide mortality survey

Selected Western Health Zones

Selected Eastern Health Zones

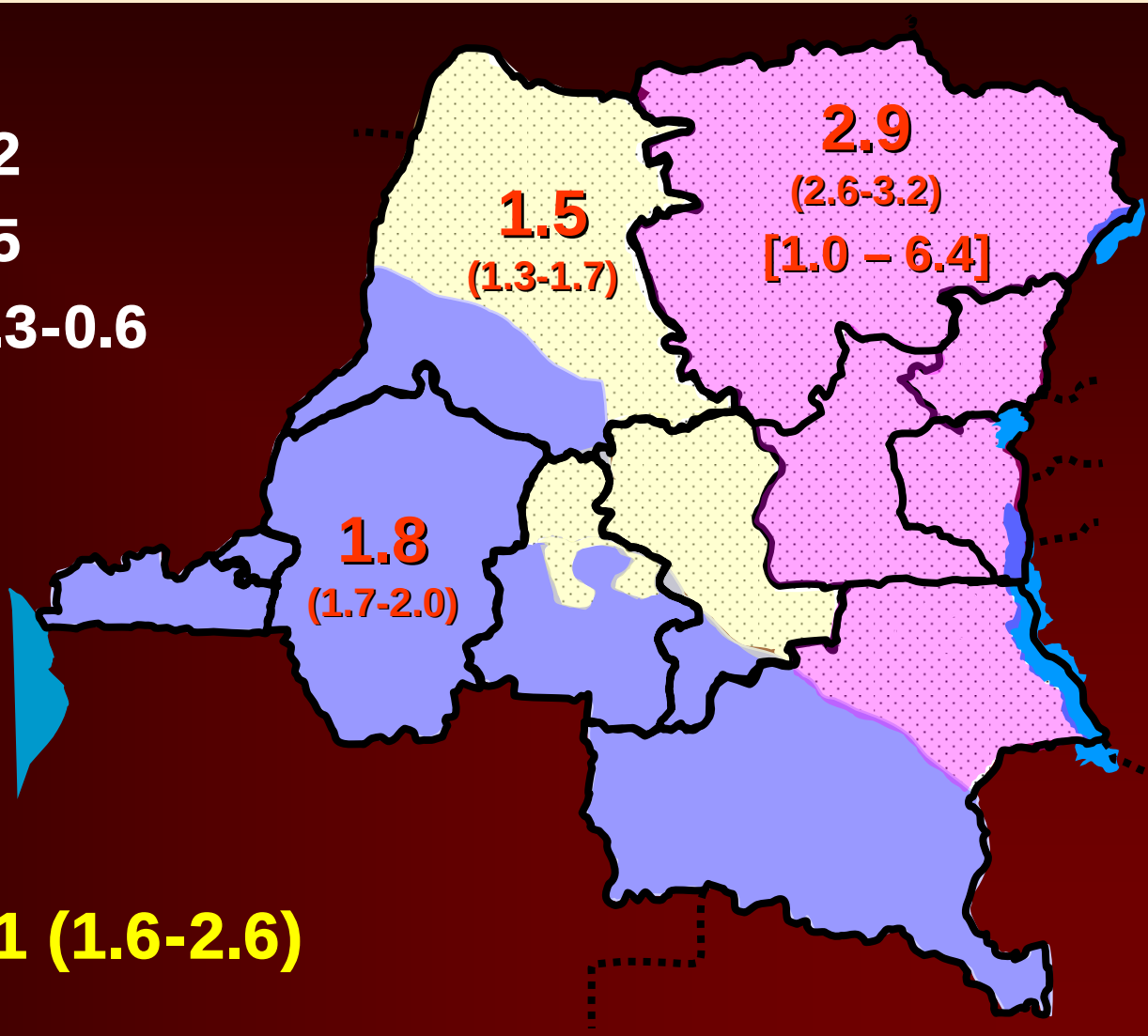


1 Biringo
2 Mongwalu
3 Logo
4 Nyarambe
5 Fataki
6 Rethy
7 Drodro
8 Bunia
9 Tshomia
10 Kaziba
11 Nyangezi
12 Lemera
13 Kirotshe
14 Rwanguba
15 Rutshuru
16 Birambizo
17 Kayondo
18 Katwa
19 Butembo
20 Beni
21 Oicha
22 Manguredjipa
23 Ngandajika
24 Bibanga
25 Miabi
26 Tshilundu
27 Mbuji Mayi
28 Kananga
29 Bunkonde
30 Tshikula
31 Dibaya
32 Lubandaie
33 Kitona
34 Moanda
35 Kwuimba
36 Tshela
37 Kizu
38 Uaki
39 Seke Banza
40 Matadi
41 Kibunzi
42 Luozi
43 Kimpese
44 Gombe Matadi
45 Mbanza Ngungu
46 Kimpangu
47 Boko Kivulu
48 Kisantu
49 Kimvula
50 Idiofa
51 Ipamu
52 M. Manimba
53 Y. Bonga
54 Kabare
55 Bukavu

Map Produced by IRC Bukavu.
Note: Map is not to scale.

Results

- Pre-war DRC: 1.2
- Regional norm: 1.5
- Camps: 0.3-0.6



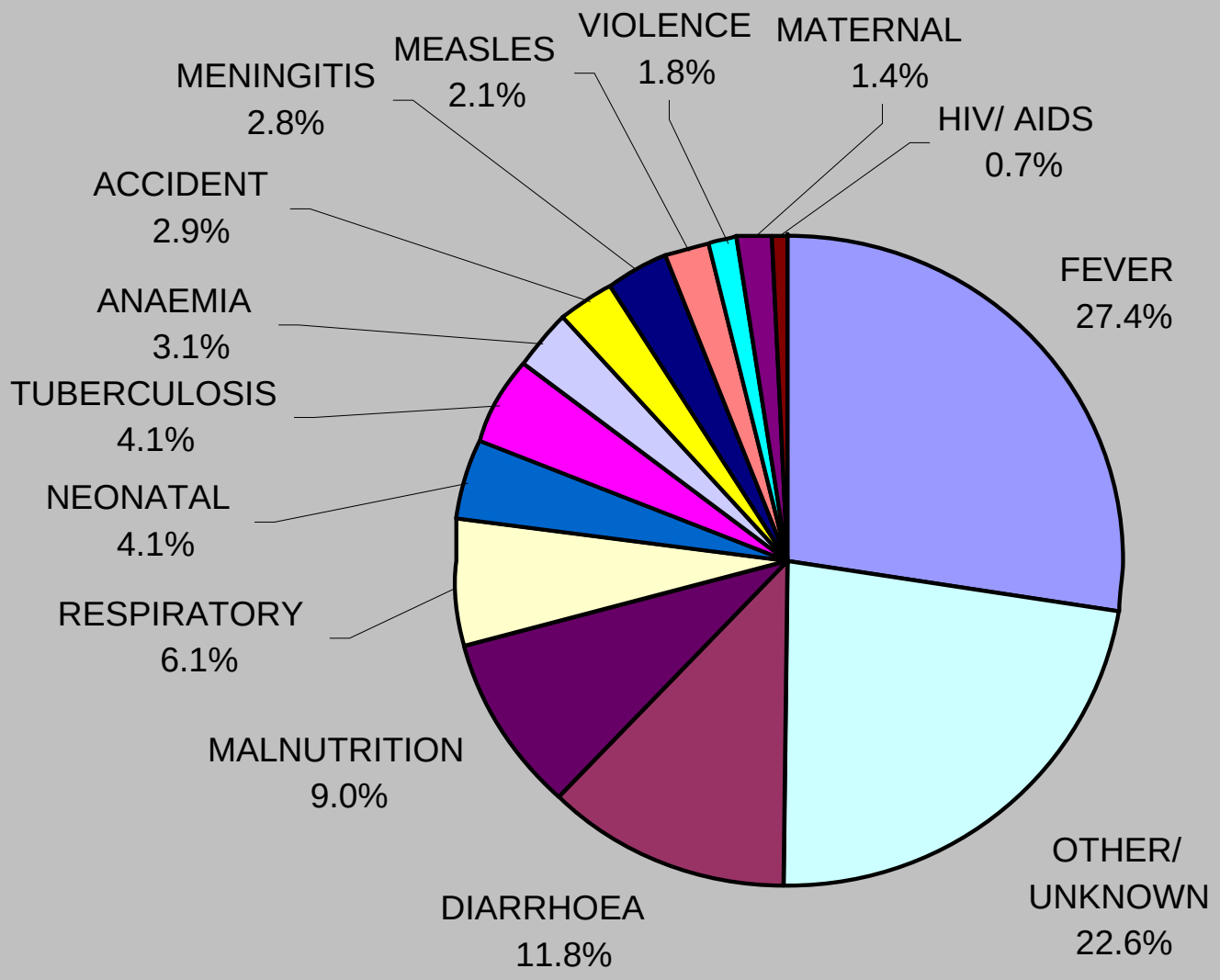
- **<u>NATIONAL</u> : 2.1 (1.6-2.6)**

**Rates = deaths/1,000/month*

Results: Excess Mortality

- 607,000 excess deaths over 16 months
  - 38,000 deaths per month
  - 45.4% children < 5 years
  - 77% in 5 eastern provinces
- 3.9 million excess deaths since 8/98

Figure 5:
Proportionate cause specific mortality for all age groups in East DR Congo from 1/1/03 to 30/4/04



Results: Insecurity and All-cause Mortality

- Nine of 15 health zones in East recorded a violent death

Health Zone	CMR
Violent deaths	3.0
No violent deaths	1.7

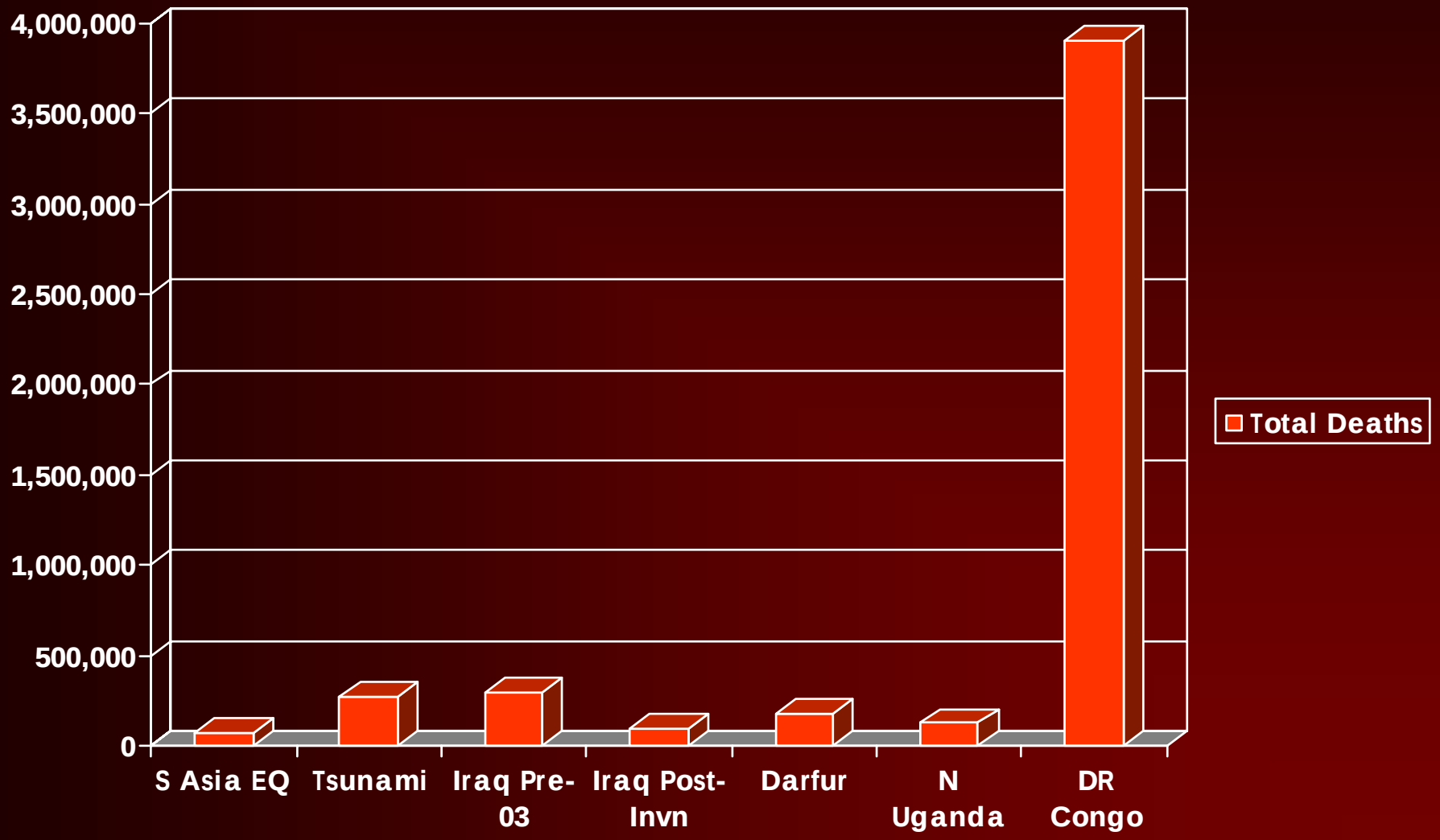
Results: Insecurity and All-cause Mortality

- Regression analysis

Eastern HZs	CMR
No violence	1.7

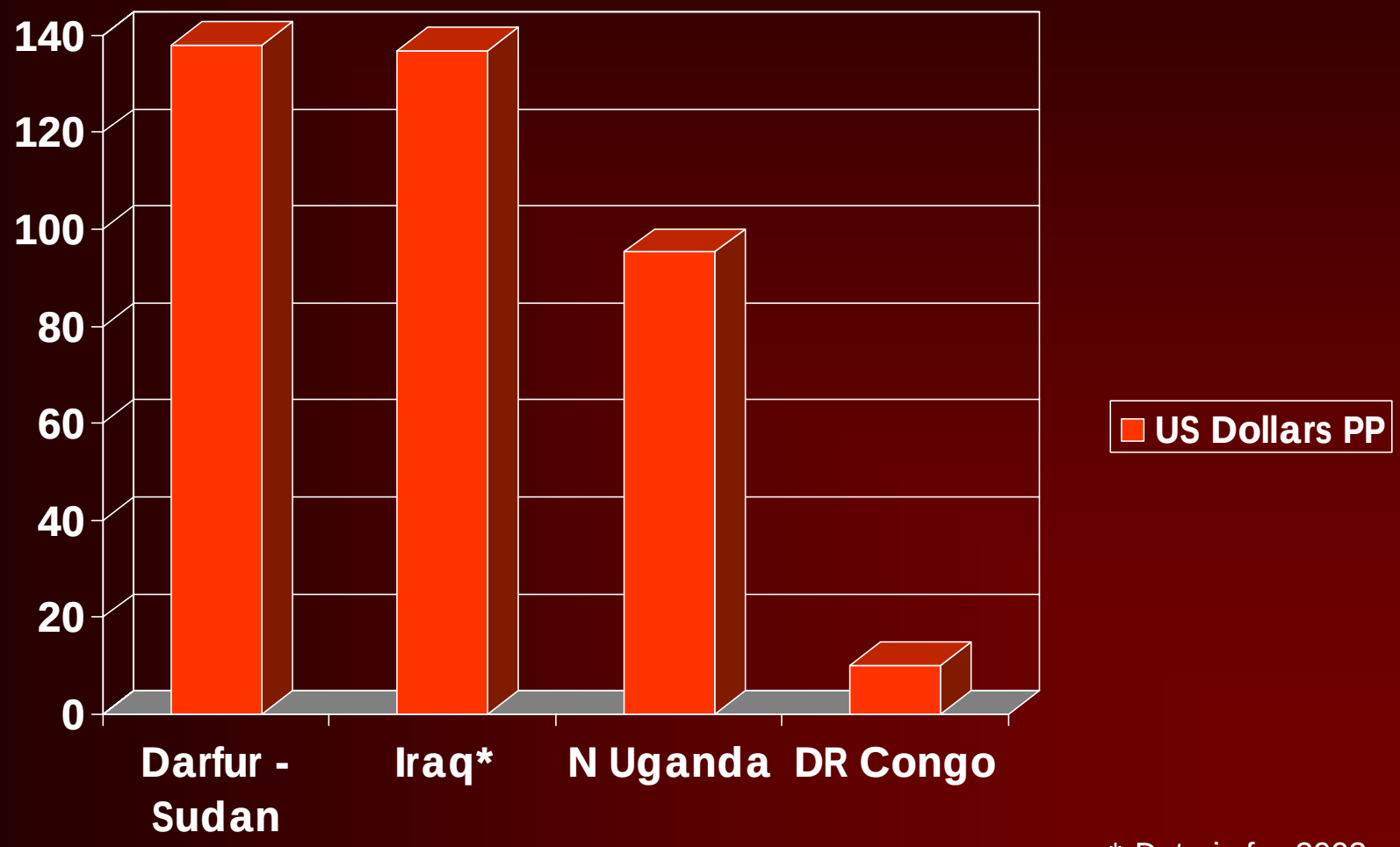
- Example: Kisangani-Ville
  - 2002 CMR = 6.2
  - 2004 CMR = 1.3

Total Deaths – Selected Disasters



Sources: USAID, Roberts, IRC, White, UNOCHA

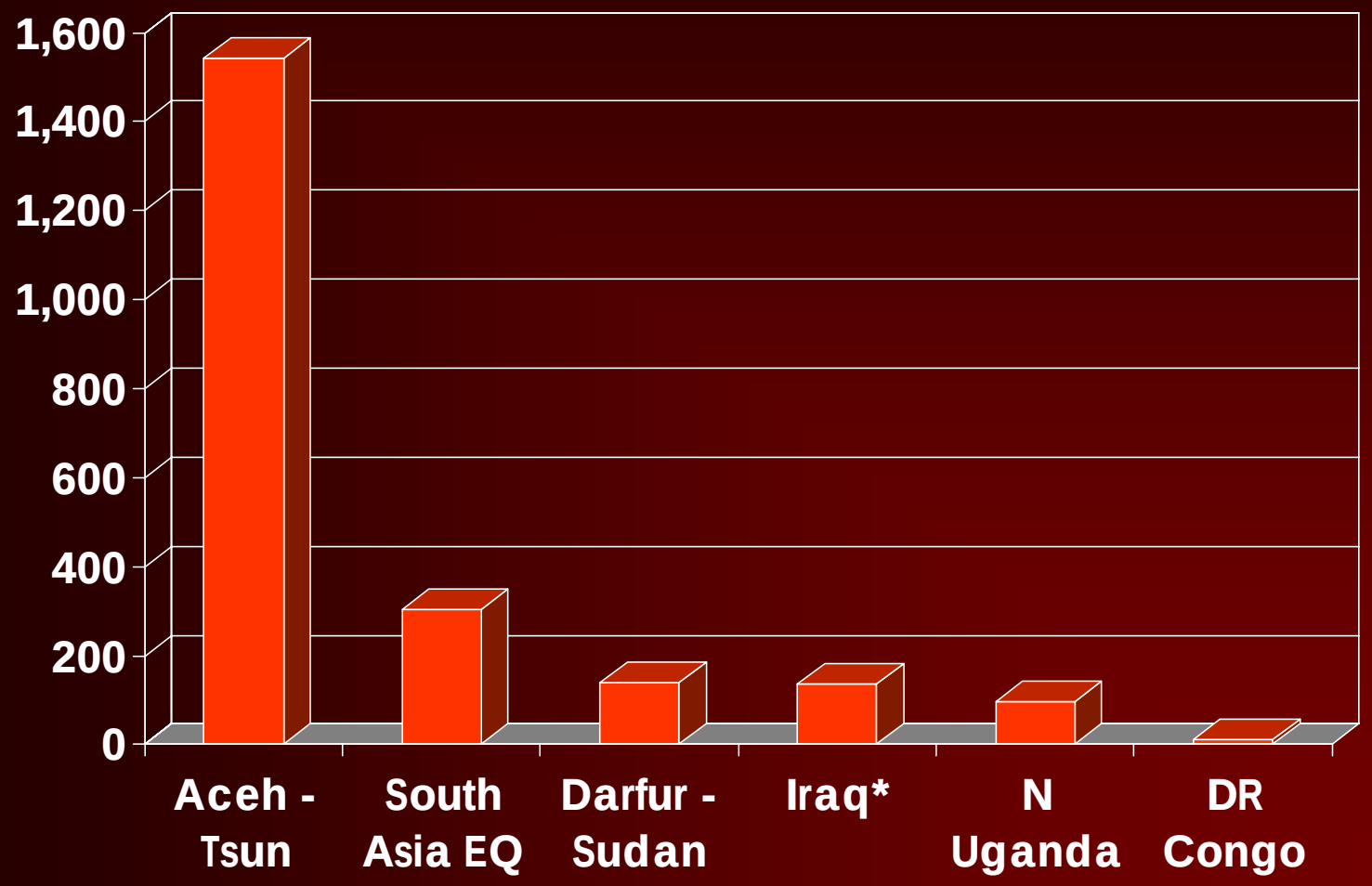
Distributions of Aid, 2005 Per Capita



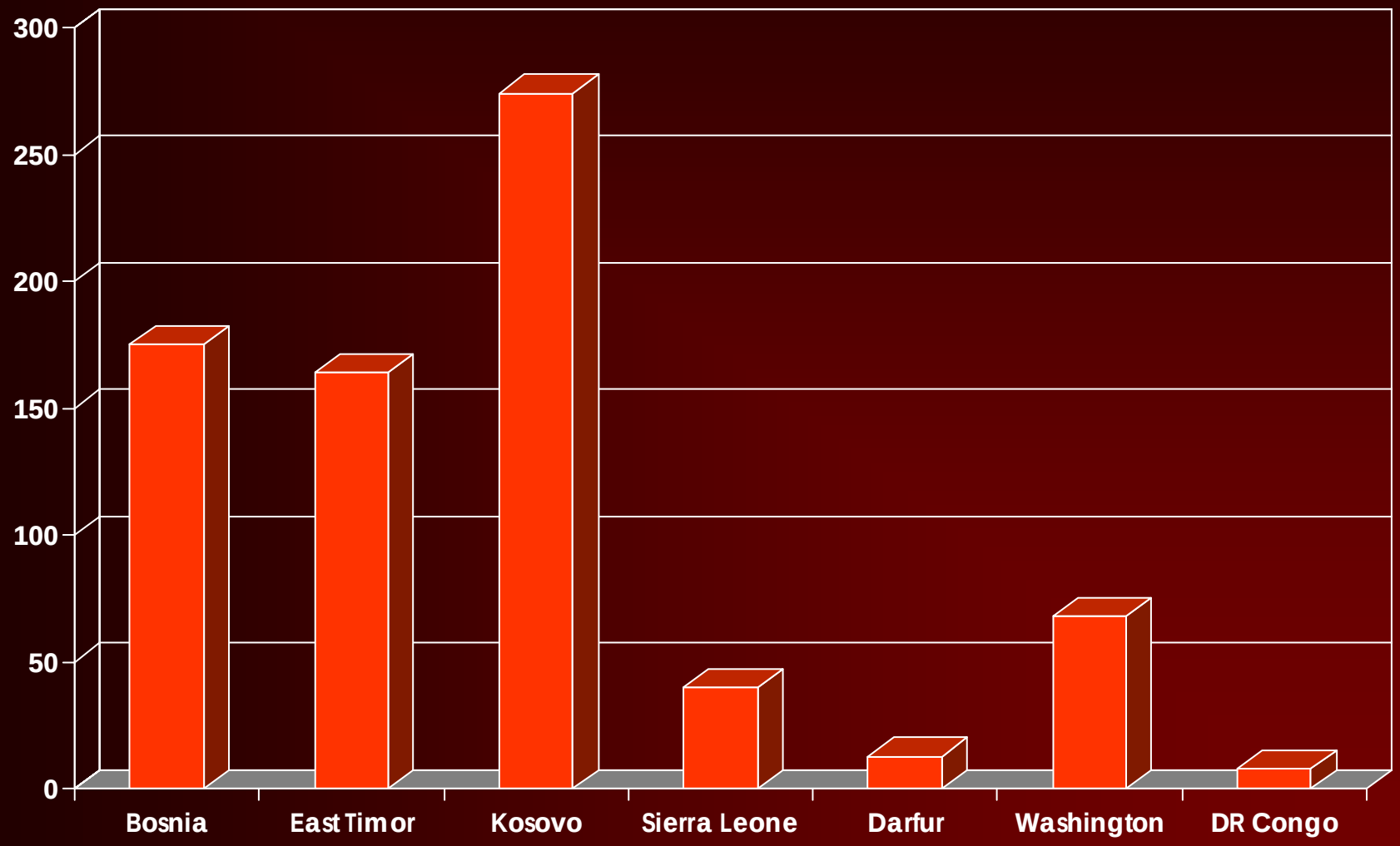
* Data is for 2003

Source: UNOCHA

Distributions of Aid, 2005 Per Capita



Peacekeeping Levels Per 10,000 Population (peak)



Sources: DPKO, NATO, AU

Conclusions

- DRC = world's deadliest humanitarian crisis
- Most deaths due to preventable and treatable diseases
- Improved security reduces deaths from all causes
- International engagement out of proportion to enormous humanitarian need