



Social Science and Policy Factors Affecting Detector Design and Implementation – Year 3

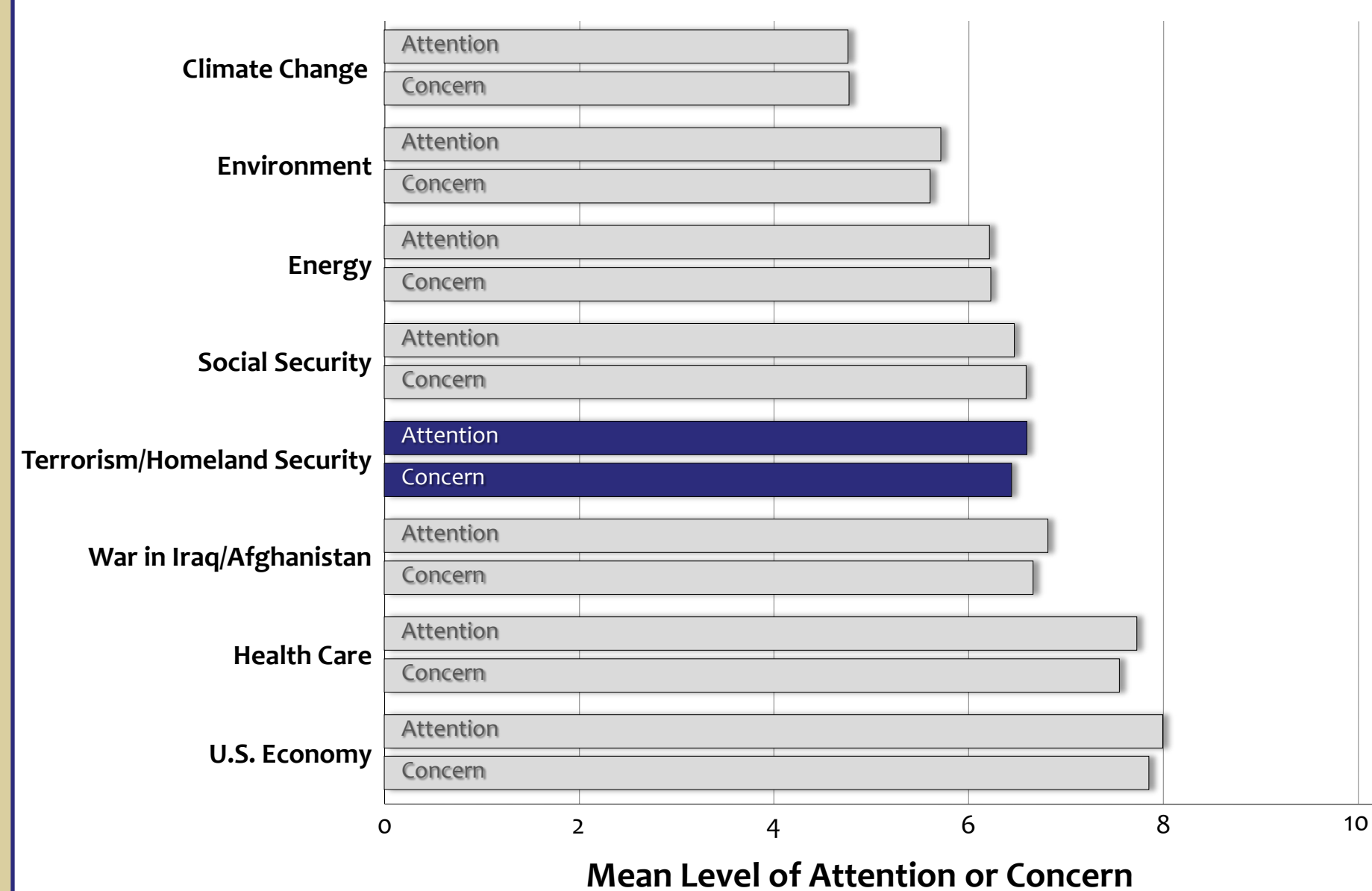
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Public Opinion Survey

The goal of the public opinion survey was to examine citizen attitudes and behaviors regarding national security issues.

A telephone survey was conducted in August 2009 with a total of 924 completed interviews from a random digit sample of all telephone households in the U.S.

- The survey found only moderate levels of attention and concern about Terrorism/Homeland Security issues.



On a scale from 0 to 10, with 0 meaning “pay no attention” or “not very concerned,” and 10 meaning “pay a great deal of attention” or “extremely concerned.”

- DHS and DNDI receive relatively high marks on trust and competency.
- People are willing to accept higher costs and delays, as well as some personal intrusion, if they believe it will result in increased security.

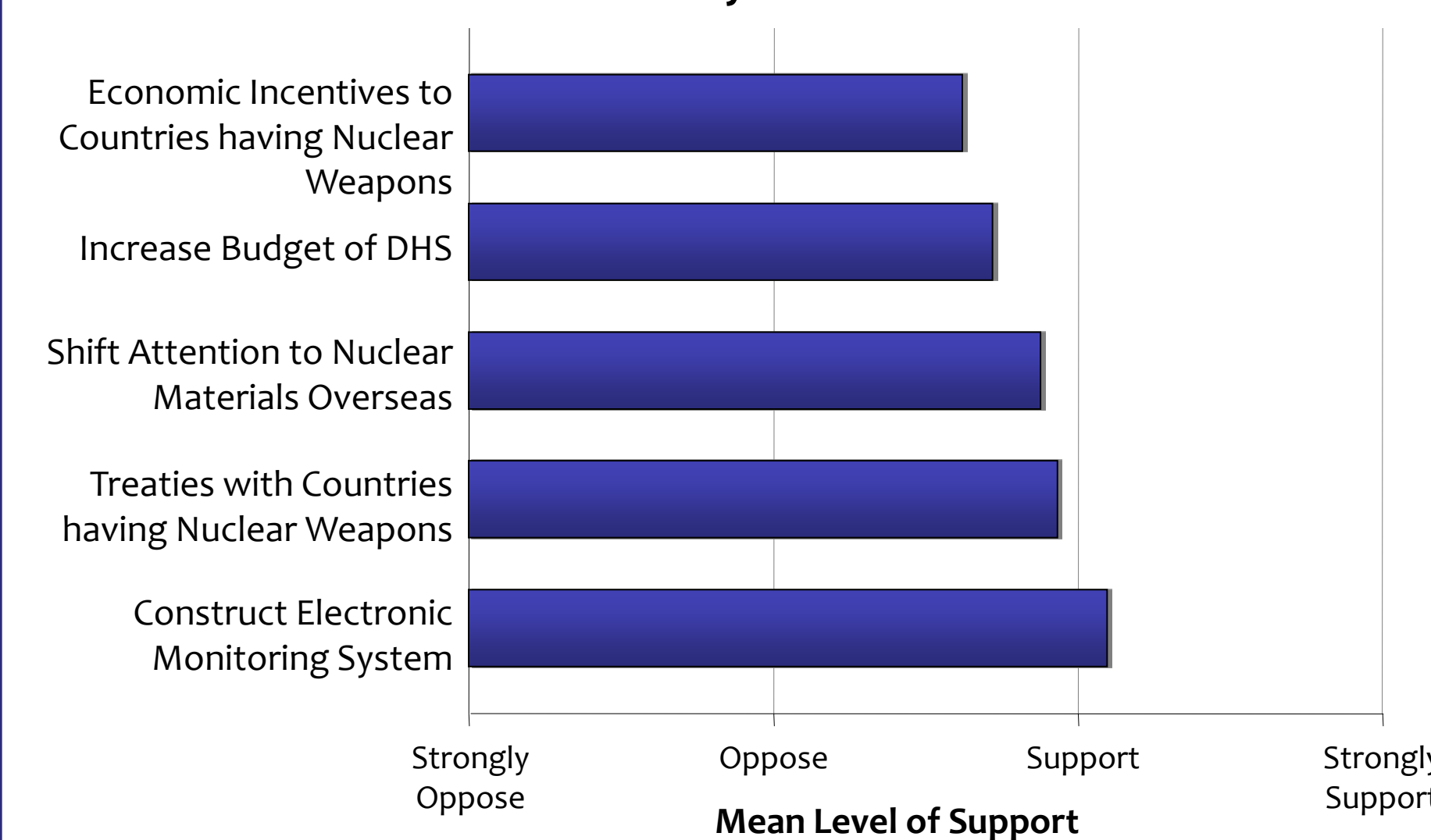
- Perceived costs and policy actions are ordered to some extent by partisanship and ideology.

WHO IS MOST CONCERNED ABOUT TERRORISM AND HOMELAND SECURITY?

Key Category	Mean Score				
	Based on a scale from 0-10, with 0 meaning “not very concerned” and 10 meaning “extremely concerned”				
Political Party	Democrat	Independent	Republican		
	6.53	6.99	7.46		
Ideology	Liberal	Middle of the Road	Conservative		
	6.09	6.78	7.53		
Urban/Rural	Rural	Suburban	Urban		
	7.22	7.09	6.75		
Age	18-24	25-49	50 or Older		
	5.57	6.57	7.25		
Region	Northeast	South	West	Midwest	
	7.11	7.51	6.51	6.81	
Income	\$20K or Less	\$21-\$40K	\$41-\$70K	\$70-\$100K	Over \$100K
	7.68	7.18	6.76	6.57	6.76

- People want nuclear protections focused both at home and abroad.
- Fairly broad support for policy actions exists.

Support for Various Policy Options to Address Nuclear Security and Terrorism



News Media Analysis

Social Science Theories and Research Questions

- Issue Attention and Salience
- Issue Definition and Framing

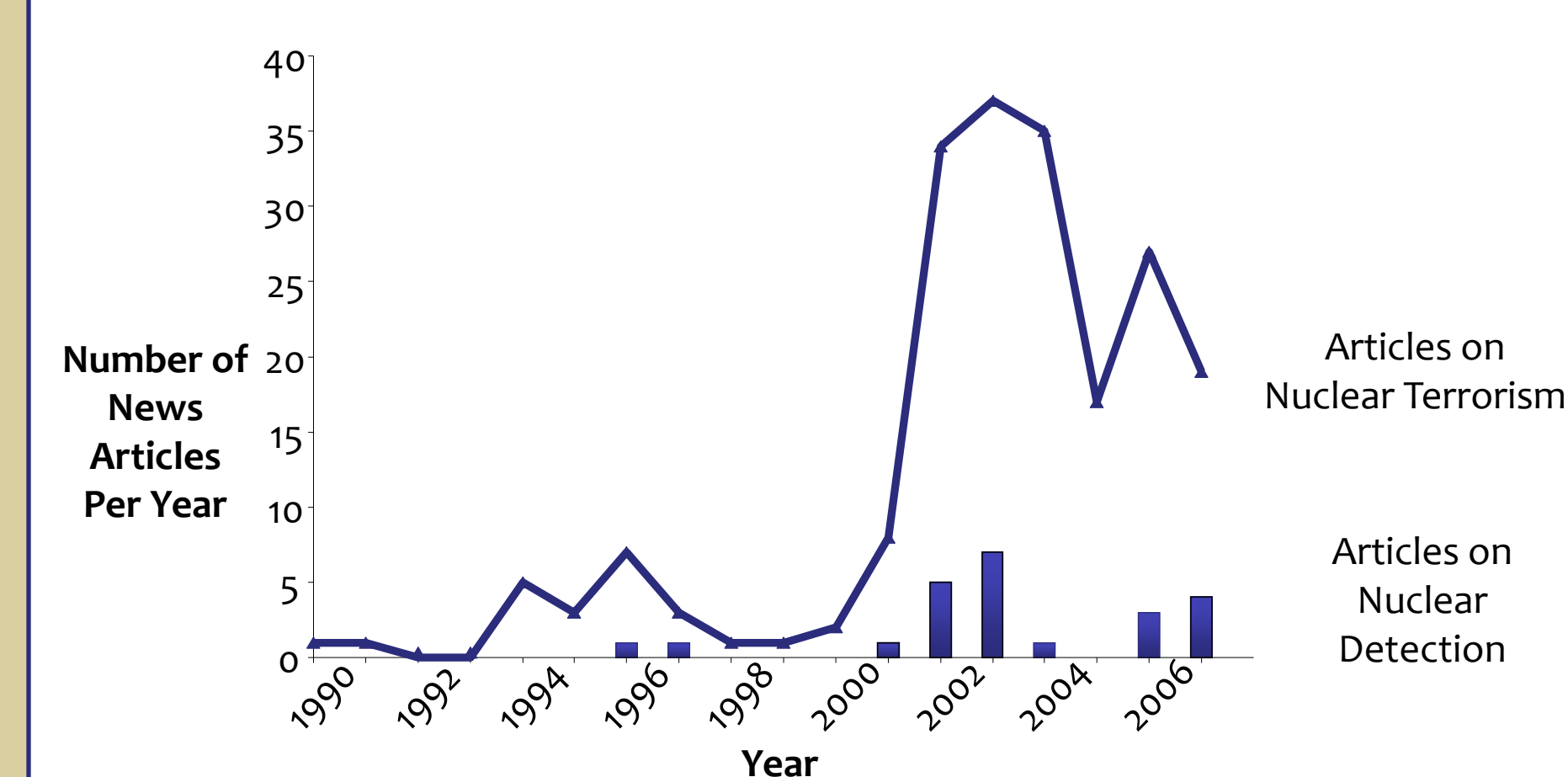
Content Analysis Methods

- News media articles on nuclear terrorism and nuclear detection

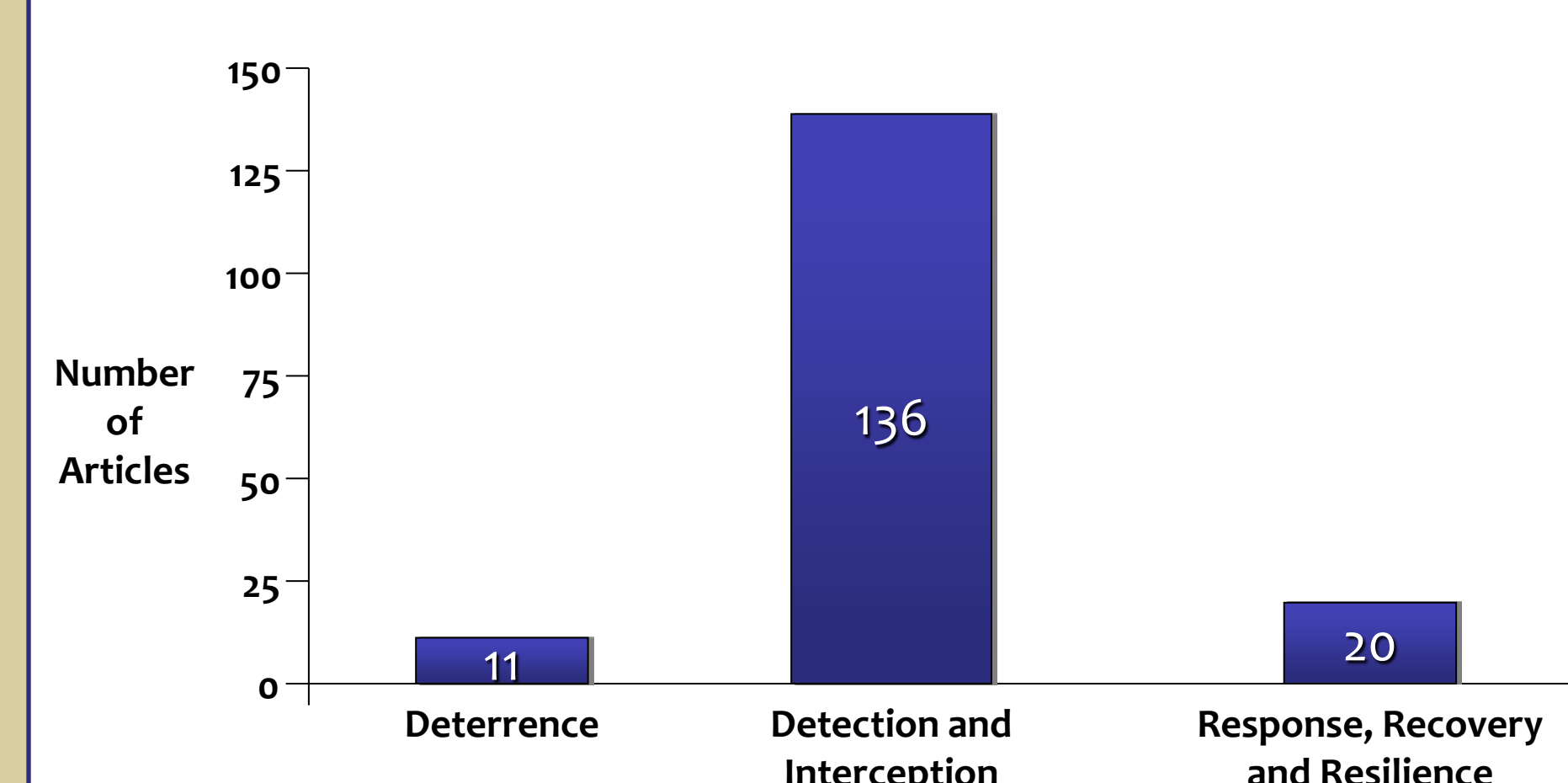
Data

- News articles on nuclear terrorism from 15 U.S. major newspapers (10% random sample, N=251); News articles on nuclear detection (100% sample, N=89)

Increasing Attention to Nuclear Terrorism and Nuclear Detection in the News Media



News Media Overwhelmingly Focused On Detection And Interception of Nuclear Terrorism Threat



Congressional Hearing Analysis

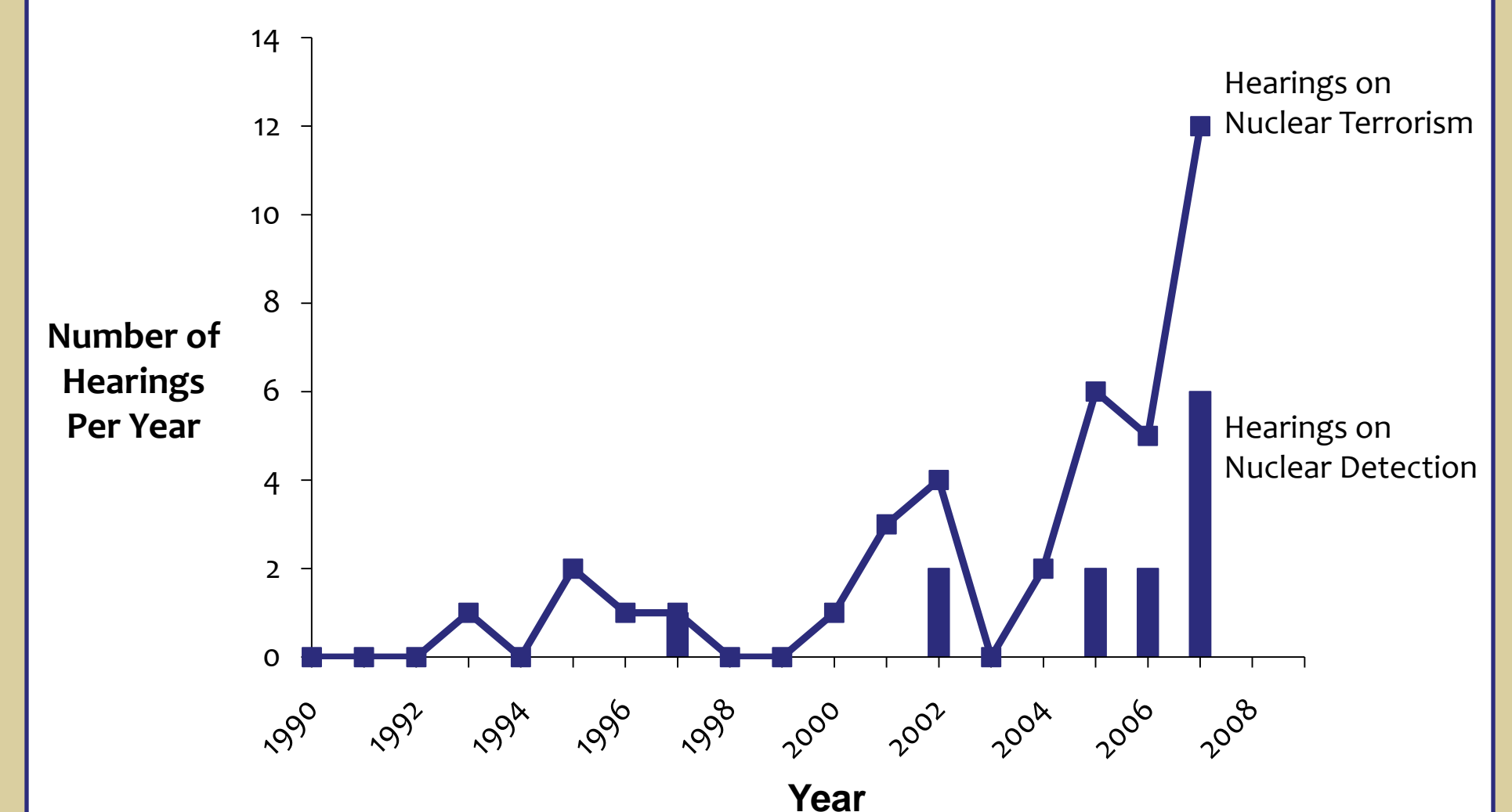
Content Analysis Methods

- Congressional activities on nuclear terrorism and nuclear detection

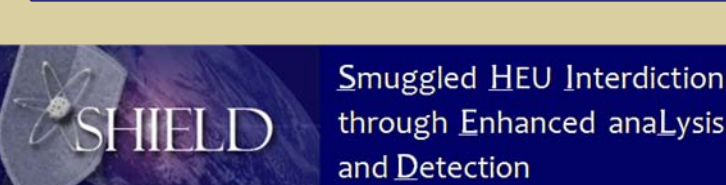
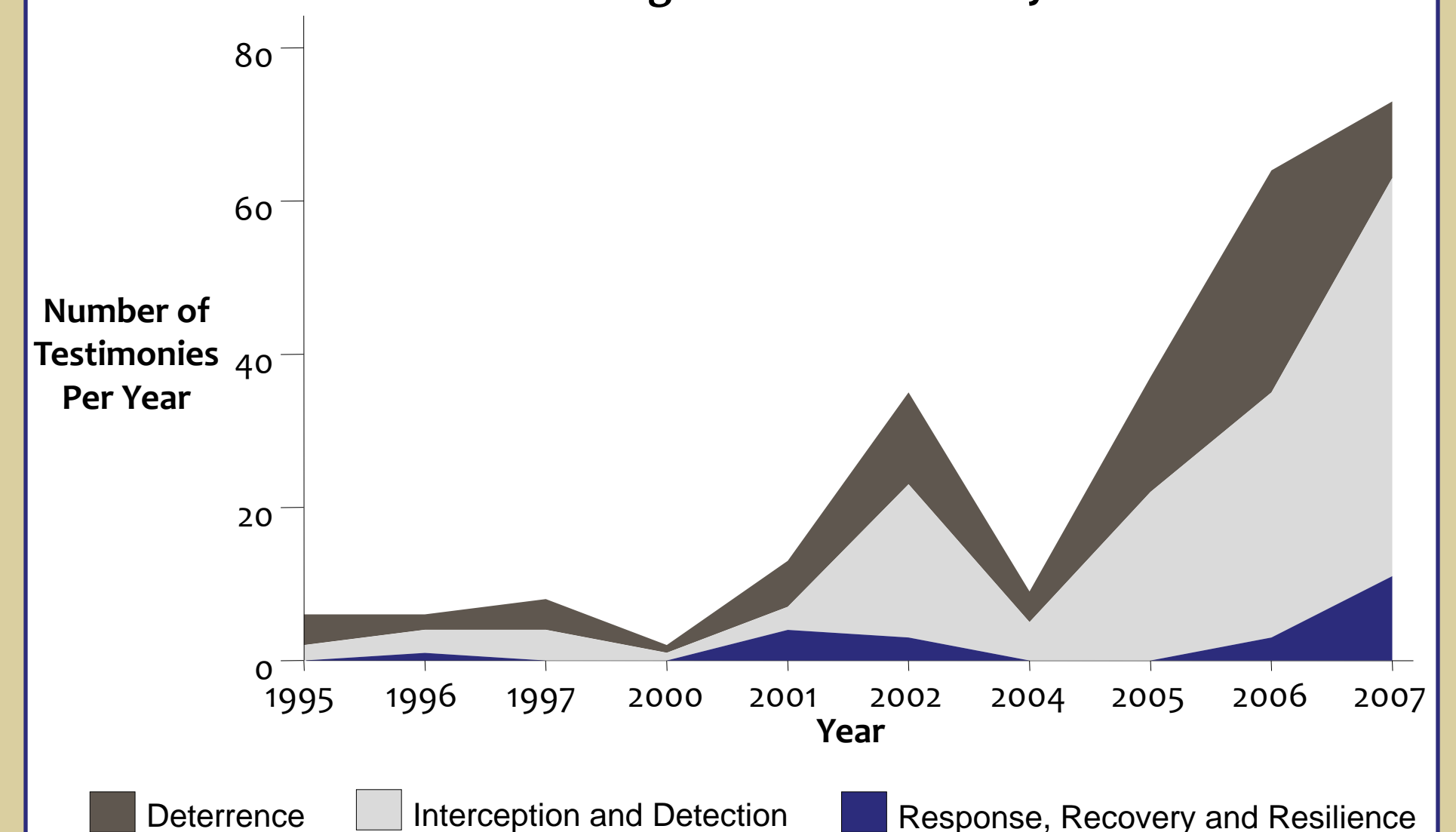
Data

- Congressional hearings (100% sample, N=38) and testimony statements (100%, N=215) on nuclear terrorism and nuclear detection

Growing Congressional Activities on Nuclear Terrorism and Nuclear Detection



Nuclear Detection and Interception Emphasized in Congressional Testimony



This research undertaken as part of Domestic Nuclear Detection Office - National Science Foundation Academic Research Initiative (ARI) project: *A Framework for Developing Novel Detection Systems Focused on Interdicting Shielded HEU* under the direction of William S. Charlton, Arnold Vedlitz, Gary M. Gaukler, and Wolfgang Bangerth

