COVID-19 Violence Analysis

The emergence of disease is one of the greatest threats to global security. Analysis of the COVID-19 pandemic and of all the fear it invoked is needed to predict the impact of future pandemics on civil society. Analysis will assist in determining preventative solutions that will mitigate the amount of violence, fear, and unrest. There will be another pandemic, the magnitude and severity, I do not know. Poaching and wildlife trafficking have direct influence over the emergence and spread of new and existing zoonotic diseases. COVID-19 is said to have originated in China from a wet market or I have recently heard it may have come from a wildlife farm.

This data came from the ACLED website and contains all incidences related to COVID-19.

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PROTESTS                       37107
RIOTS                           2609
STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENTS          1015
VIOLENCE AGAINST CIVILIANS       654
BATTLES                           87
EXPLOSIONS/REMOTE VIOLENCE        17
NAME: EVENT_TYPE, DTYPE: INT64
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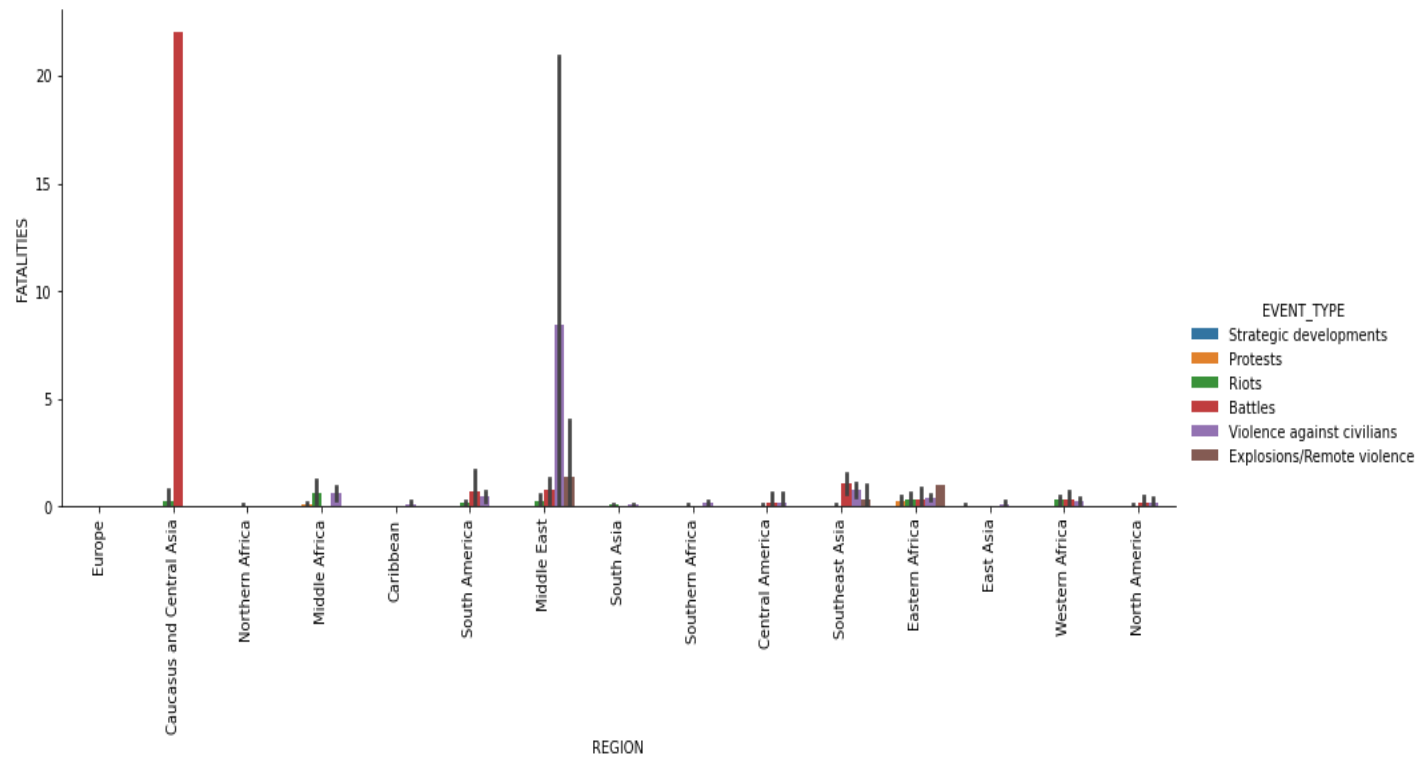
Most of the events that took place were protests. During 2020 there were a lot of protests related to the BLM movement and presidential election in the United States. All the countries are split up by regions in the data and North America is only recorded as one region while countries like Africa and Asia are comprised of multiple regions.

The table below is a count of fatalities in the data. 41,193 events out of 41,489 did not lead to a fatality. In this analysis, I decided to focus on those events that resulted in deaths although all events are important and have the potential to lead to fatalities. It would be useful to record the duration of an event and how it was stopped. The duration and the type of intervention could be factors that lead to fatalities or not.
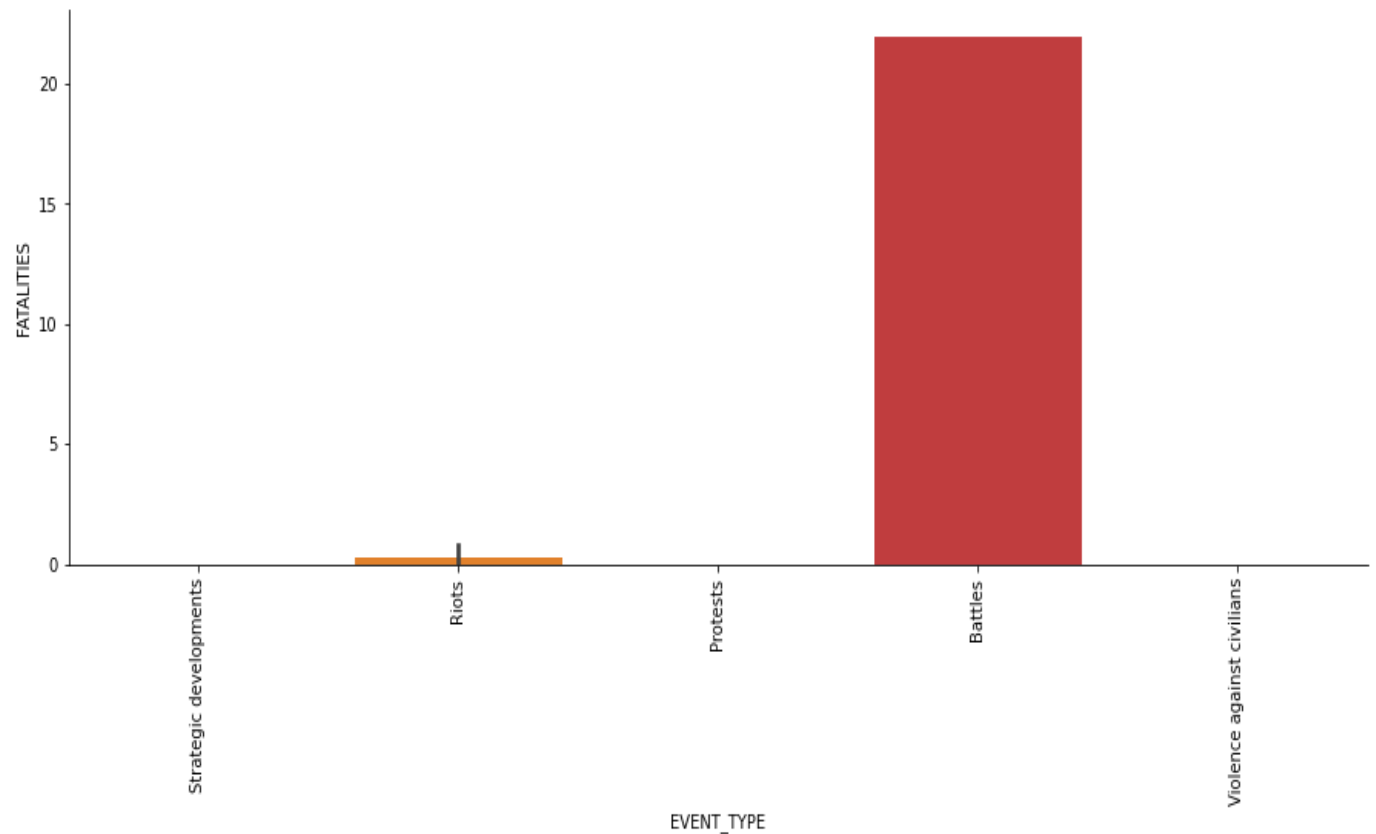
# of Deaths	# of Incidents
0	41,193
1	204
2	49
3	17
4	7
5	5
6	3
125	2
20	2
8	2
24	1
22	1
11	1
9	1
7	1

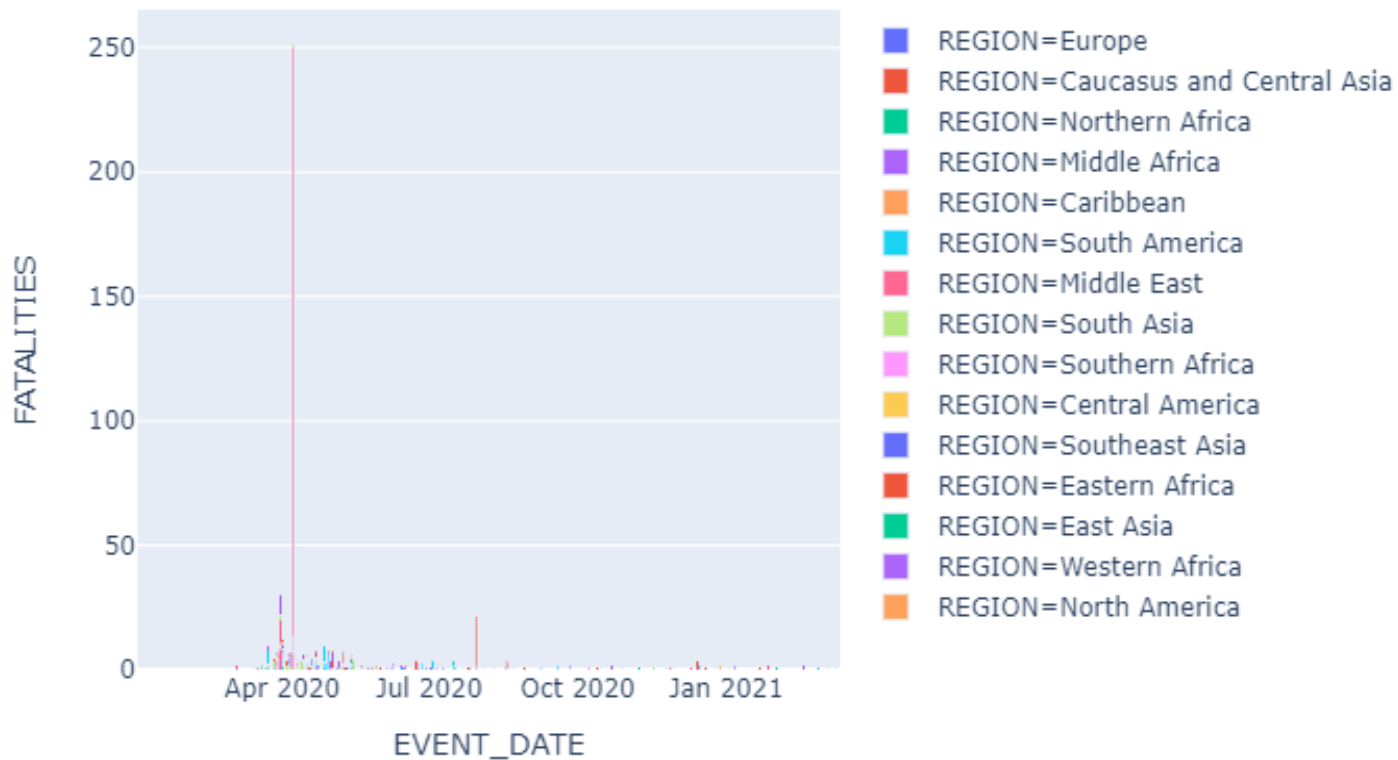|	
Count	41,489
Unique observations	417
Top observation	2020-05-01
Freq	356
First observation	2018-04-13
Last observation	2021-03-12

There are 41,489 observations, 417 out of those observations fall on the same day. May 1st of 2020 appears 356 times within the dataset. May 1st is known as International Workers Day or Labor Day in the U.S.

Out of all the events that led to fatalities, the middle east has more spread across different event types and out of the whole continent of Africa, eastern Africa has the most along with the most event types.

Battles make up many of the deaths within the dataset mainly coming from central Asia probably due to the 2020 Nagorno-Karabakh war followed by violence against civilians and explosions/remote violence.

All events that led to fatalities concentrate in late spring 2020. This analysis is meant to be a guide to aid decision-making in the future during or before the next pandemic or catastrophic event. Along with poverty, corruption, biodiversity loss, the funding of global terror, etc. Poaching and wildlife trafficking can cause the emergence of diseases that will lead to the next global pandemic.