

# Project: Data Science

*Sean E. Curl & Steven Aguilar*

*April 25, 2018*

## About

- Global Terrorism Database (GTD)
- Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START)
- University of Maryland

<https://www.kaggle.com/START-UMD/gtd>

Global Terrorism Database (GTD) is an open-source database with information about terrorist attacks worldwide from 1970 to 2016. The database is maintained by researchers at the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START), headquartered at the University of Maryland.

### Definition of terrorism:

- “The threatened or actual use of illegal force and violence by a non-state actor to attain a political, economic, religious, or social goal through fear, coercion, or intimidation.”

### Observations

- The data-set included 170,350 observations.

### Variables?

- Great than 100 variables on location, tactics, perpetrators, targets, and outcomes.

See the <http://start.umd.edu/gtd/downloads/Codebook.pdf> for important details on data collection methodology, definitions, and coding schema.

The Global Terrorism Database is funded through START, by the US Department of State and the US Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate’s Office of University Programs. The coding decisions and classifications contained in the database are determined independently by START researchers and should not be interpreted as necessarily representing the official views or policies of the United States Government.

## Load and Clean

```
## Observations: 170,350
## Variables: 18
## $ Year      <chr> "1970", "1970", "1970", "1970", "1970", "1970", "1...
## $ Month     <chr> "7", "0", "1", "1", "1", "1", "1", "1", ...
## $ Day        <chr> "2", "0", "0", "0", "1", "2", "2", "2", "3", ...
## $ Country   <chr> "Dominican Republic", "Mexico", "Philippines", "Gr...
## $ Region    <chr> "Central America & Caribbean", "North America", "S...
## $ AttackType <chr> "Assassination", "Hostage Taking (Kidnapping)", "A...
## $ Target     <chr> "Julio Guzman", "Nadine Chaval, daughter", "Employ...
## $ Killed     <dbl> 1, 0, 1, NA, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, NA, ...
## $ Wounded    <dbl> 0, 0, 0, NA, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, NA, ...
```

```

## $ Summary      <chr> NA, NA, NA, NA, NA, "1/1/1970: Unknown African Ame...
## $ Group        <chr> "MANO-D", "23rd of September Communist League", "U...
## $ Target_Type  <chr> "Private Citizens & Property", "Government (Diplom...
## $ Weapon_type  <chr> NA, NA, NA, "Unknown Explosive Type", NA, "Unknown...
## $ Motive        <chr> NA, NA, NA, NA, NA, "To protest the Cairo Illinois...
## $ City          <chr> "Santo Domingo", "Mexico city", "Unknown", "Athens...
## $ lat           <dbl> 18.45679, 19.43261, 15.47860, 37.98377, 33.58041, ...
## $ long          <dbl> -69.95116, -99.13321, 120.59974, 23.72816, 130.396...
## $ Casualties    <dbl> 1, 0, 1, NA, NA, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, NA, ...

##      Year     Month     Day   Country   Region AttackType
##      0       0       0       0       0       0       0
##      Target   Killed   Wounded  Summary  Group Target_Type
##      633     9682    15325   66138    0       0
##      Weapon_type Motive   City     lat     long Casualties
##      19426   121764   446     4606    4606   15826

```

In the interested of time and sanity, we selected from the >100 variables, the best variables we thought would lead to a ‘quick n’ easy’ interpretable user experience. As a result, we also created a variable of our own called ‘casualties.’ The variable is the summation of the Killed and Wounded variables. This variable allowed us a quick and easy way measure the impact a particular terrorist event(s) by using only a single variable.

As you can see, the terrorism database has a bunch of missing observations amongst Target, Killed, Wounded, Summary, Weapon\_type, Motive, City, lat, long, and Casualties. Many of these variables are missing simply because the researchers lacked the fidelity for an exact location, weapon, motive, etc. In the case of Killed and Wounded, missing values represent that fact that no person was either killed or wounded in that particular attack. For example, an attack could be deemed a success if the intended target was destroyed (e.g. infrastructure), but there might not have been any casualties as a result of the attack.

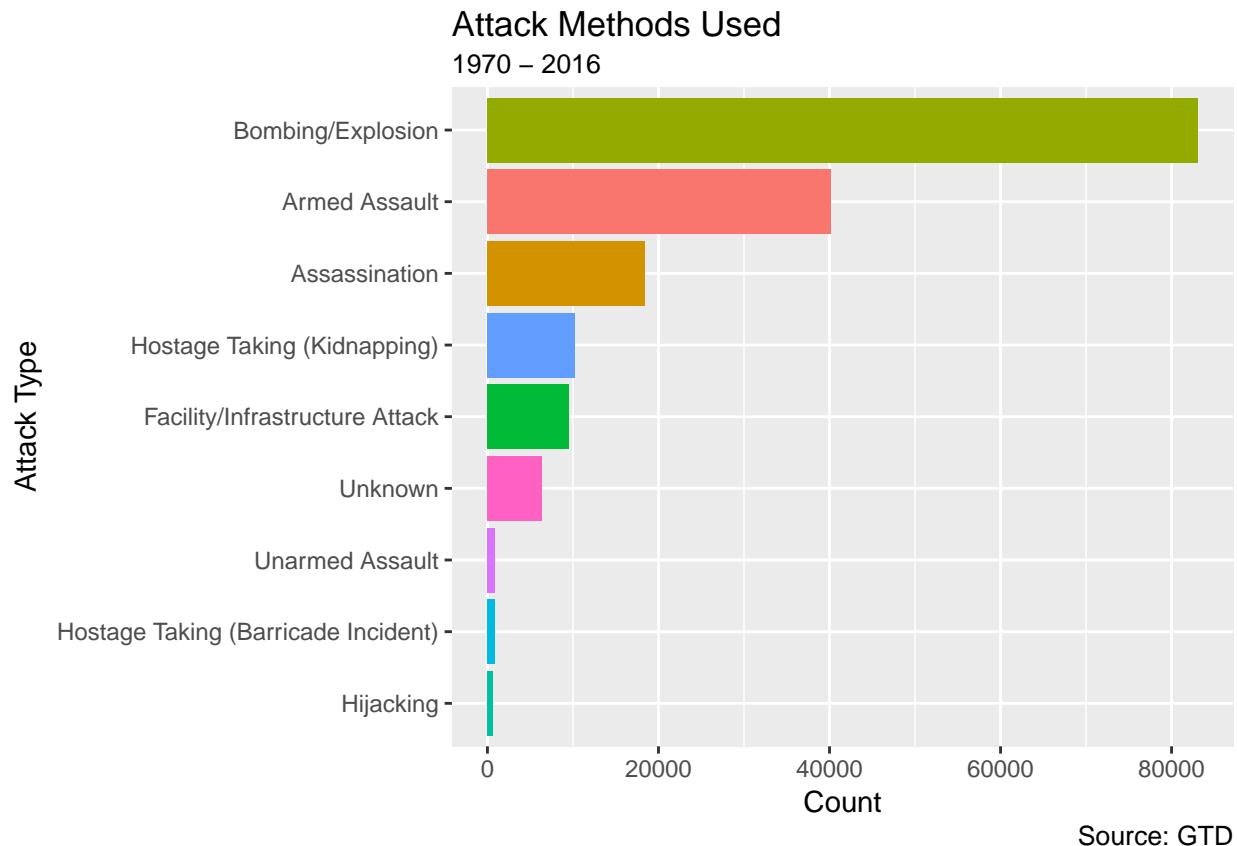
## High Impact Areas

```

## [1] "Year with Highest Terrorist Attacks: 2014"
## [1] "Month with Highest Terrorist Attacks: 5"
## [1] "Day with Highest Terrorist Attacks: 15"
## [1] "Country with Highest Terrorist Attacks: Iraq"
## [1] "Region with Highest Terrorist Attacks: Middle East & North Africa"
## [1] "AttackType with Highest Terrorist Attacks: Bombing/Explosion"
## [1] "Target with Highest Terrorist Attacks: Civilians"
## [1] "Maximum people killed in an attack are: In 2014 1500 people died in Iraq"
## [1] "Maximum people wounded in an attack are: In 2001 7366 people died in United States"
## [1] "Group with Highest Terrorist Attacks (not unk.): Taliban"

```

## Popular Attack Types



Here's a table view. . .

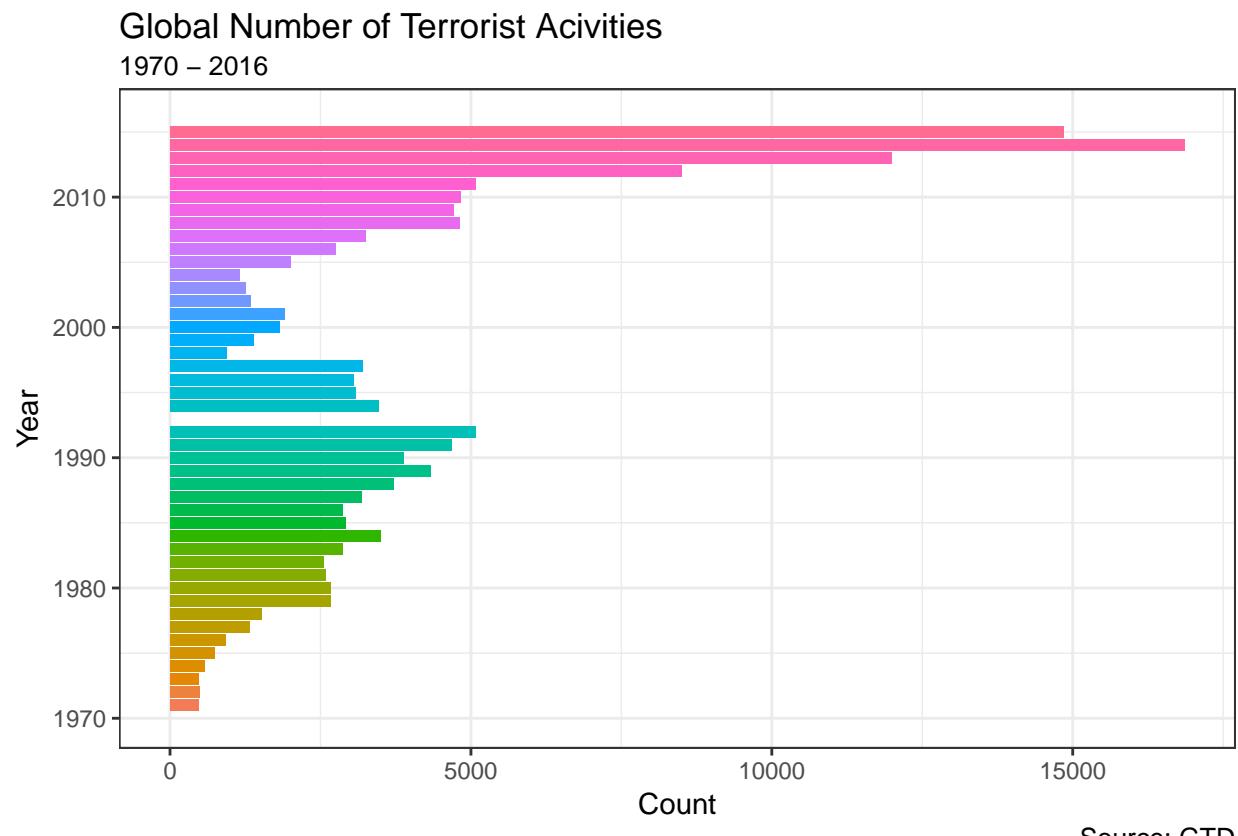
```
## # A tibble: 9 x 2
##   AttackType          n
##   <chr>              <int>
## 1 Bombing/Explosion 83073
## 2 Armed Assault     40223
## 3 Assassination     18402
## 4 Hostage Taking (Kidnapping) 10233
## 5 Facility/Infrastructure Attack 9581
## 6 Unknown            6425
## 7 Unarmed Assault    913
## 8 Hostage Taking (Barricade Incident) 902
## 9 Hijacking           598
```

Let's take a look at the top three attack types. I'll include Year, Group, and Country too.

```
## # A tibble: 3 x 5
## # Groups:   AttackType, Year, Country [?]
##   AttackType      Year Country Group          n
##   <chr>        <chr> <chr> <chr>          <int>
## 1 Bombing/Explosion 2016  Iraq   Islamic State of Iraq and the Le~ 821
## 2 Assassination     1995  Pakistan Unknown                    242
```

```
## # 3 Armed Assault      2014  Pakistan Unknown      500
```

## Number of Terrorist Activities Year



Source: GTD

We can see that the most recent years had a significant increase in violence.

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 2
##   Year     n
##   <chr> <int>
## 1 2014    16860
## 2 2015    14852
## 3 2016    13488
## 4 2013    11996
## 5 2012     8500
## 6 1992     5073
```

Let's take a look at the Year's > 2010.

```
## # A tibble: 5 x 3
## # Groups:   Year [5]
##   Year   Group          n
##   <chr> <chr> <int>
## 1 2016  Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) 1447
## 2 2015  Taliban        1249
## 3 2014  Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) 1247
```

```

## 4 2012 Taliban 800
## 5 2013 Taliban 773

```

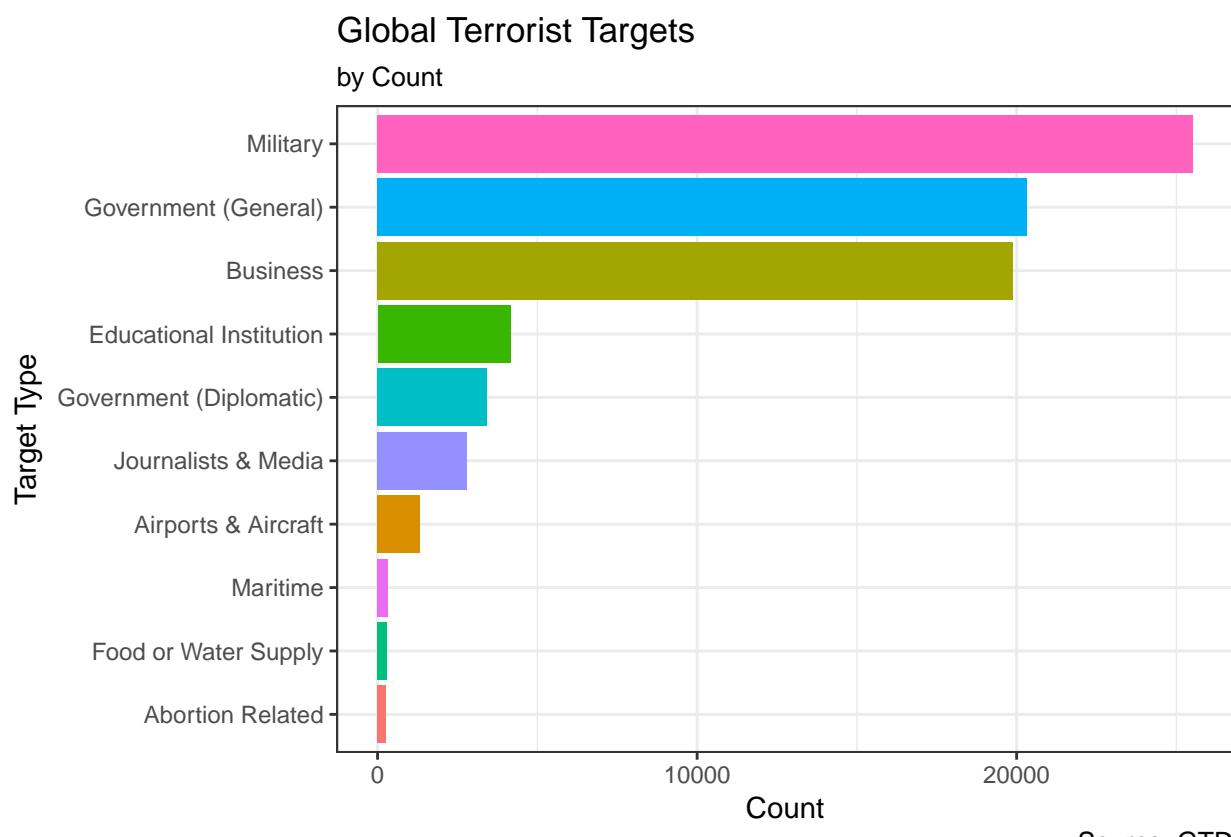
How about looking at the Year's < 2010?

```

## # A tibble: 5 x 3
## # Groups:   Year [5]
##   Year   Group          n
##   <chr> <chr>     <int>
## 1 1989  Shining Path (SL) 509
## 2 1984  Shining Path (SL) 502
## 3 1983  Shining Path (SL) 493
## 4 1991  Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) 492
## 5 1987  Shining Path (SL) 464

```

## Terrorist Targets by Count



What are the top 5 preferred targets for different groups?

```

## # A tibble: 5 x 3
## # Groups:   Target_Type [5]
##   Target_Type      Group          n
##   <chr>           <chr>     <int>
## 1 Police          Taliban 2201
## 2 Civilians       Taliban 1942
## 3 Military         Taliban 1773
## 4 Journalists     Taliban 1622
## 5 Journalists & Media Taliban 1542

```

```

## 2 Private Citizens & Property Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant ~ 1724
## 3 Military Farabundo Marti National Liberation F~ 1230
## 4 Utilities Farabundo Marti National Liberation F~ 923
## 5 Government (General) Taliban 851

```

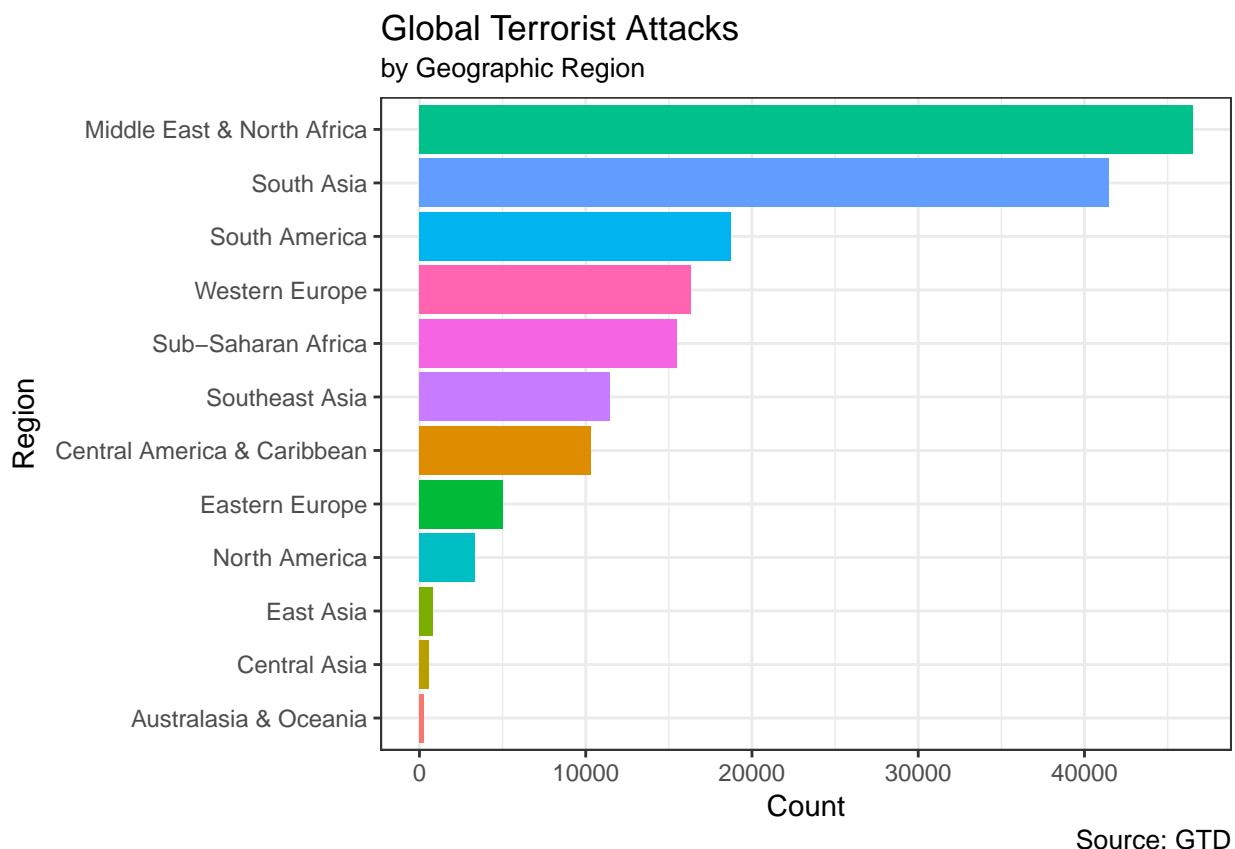
What are top 5 preferred targets within different countries?

```

## # A tibble: 5 x 3
## # Groups: Target_Type [5]
##   Target_Type      Country     n
##   <chr>          <chr>    <int>
## 1 Private Citizens & Property Iraq    7794
## 2 Police           Iraq    3502
## 3 Military          Iraq   2768
## 4 Government (General) Iraq   2142
## 5 Business          Iraq   1897

```

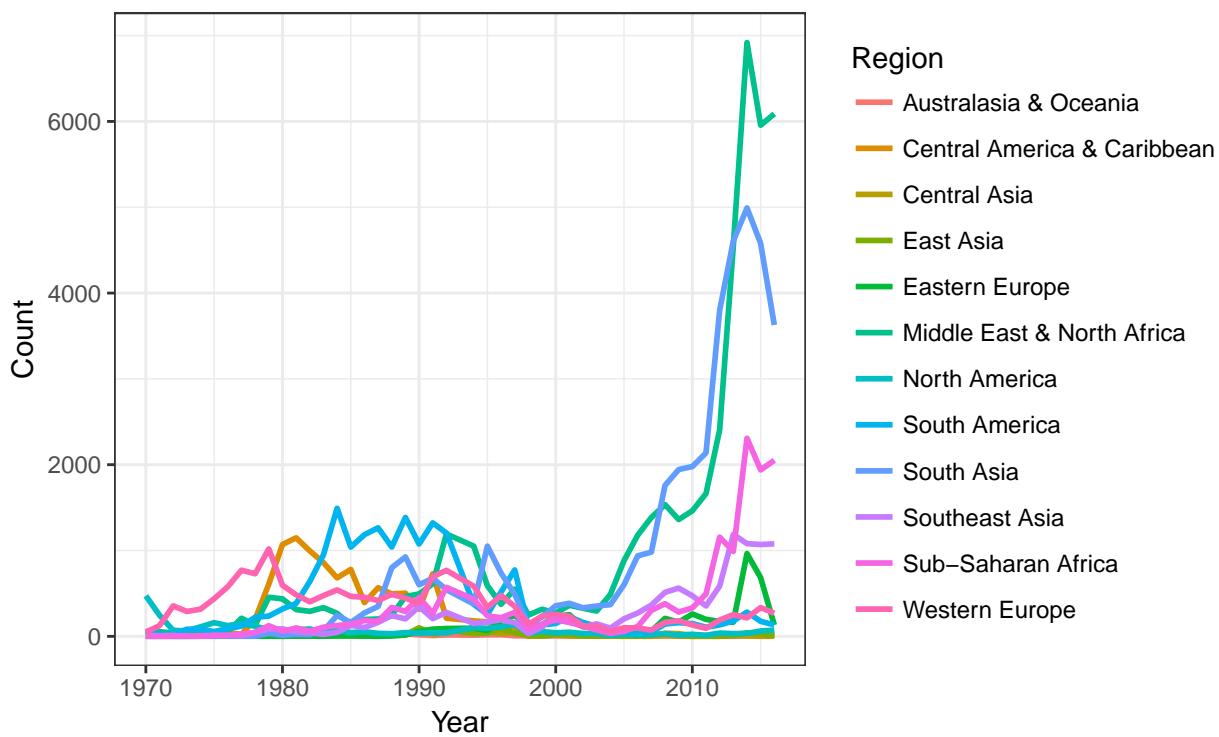
## Terrorist Attacks by Region



It's important to look across a timeframe. Let's compare Region across the years.

## Terrorist Attacks

by Region



Source: GTD

Which regions have the highest amount of terrorist events?

```
## # A tibble: 10 x 3
## # Groups:   Year [10]
##   Year   Region      n
##   <chr> <chr>     <int>
## 1 2014  Middle East & North Africa 6919
## 2 2016  Middle East & North Africa 6088
## 3 2015  Middle East & North Africa 5956
## 4 2013  South Asia    4607
## 5 2012  South Asia    3799
## 6 2011  South Asia    2137
## 7 2010  South Asia    1978
## 8 2009  South Asia    1944
## 9 2008  South Asia    1759
## 10 1984 South America 1492
```

... which regions have which groups? Here's the top 6.

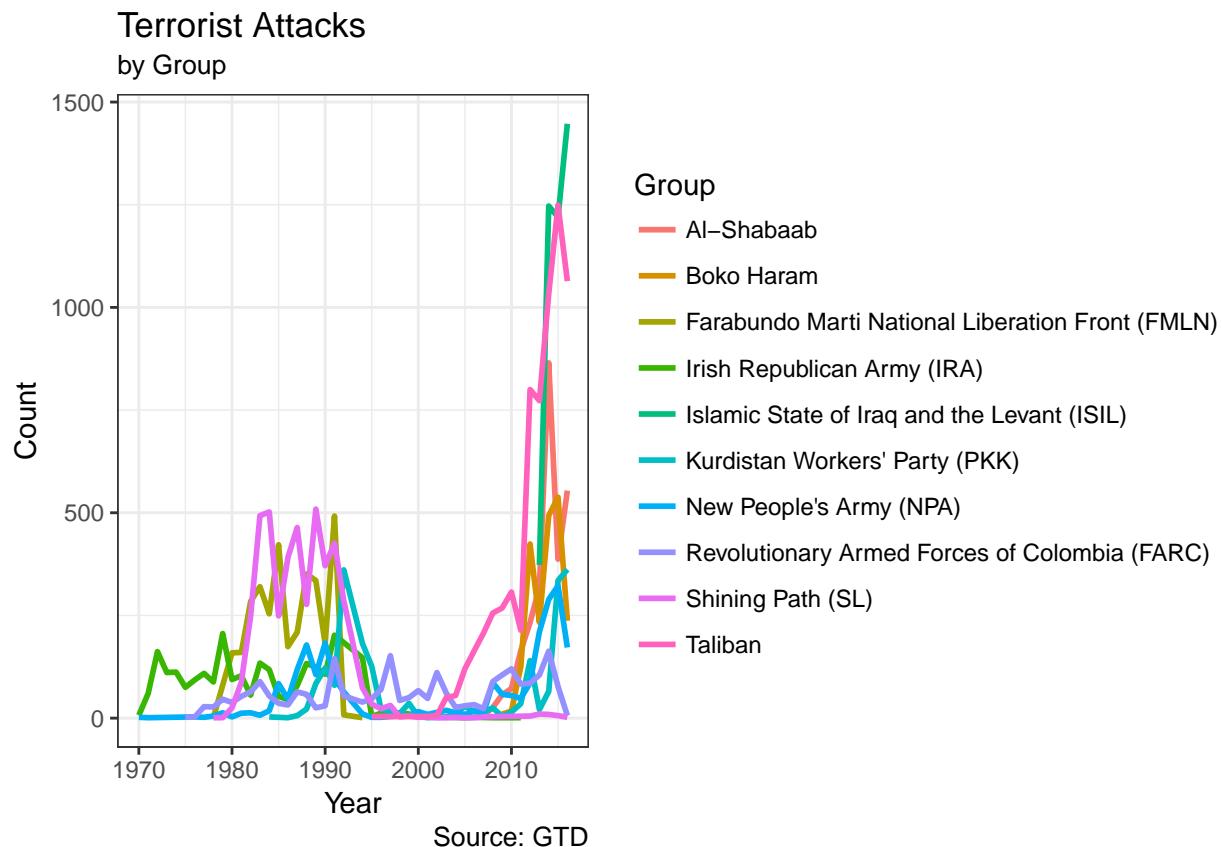
```
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
## # Groups:   Region [6]
##   Region      Group      n
##   <chr> <chr>     <int>
## 1 South Asia Taliban  6574
## 2 South America Shining Path (SL) 4550
```

```

## 3 Middle East & North Africa Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant ~ 4260
## 4 Central America & Caribbean Farabundo Marti National Liberation F~ 3351
## 5 Sub-Saharan Africa Al-Shabaab 2683
## 6 Western Europe Irish Republican Army (IRA) 2666

```

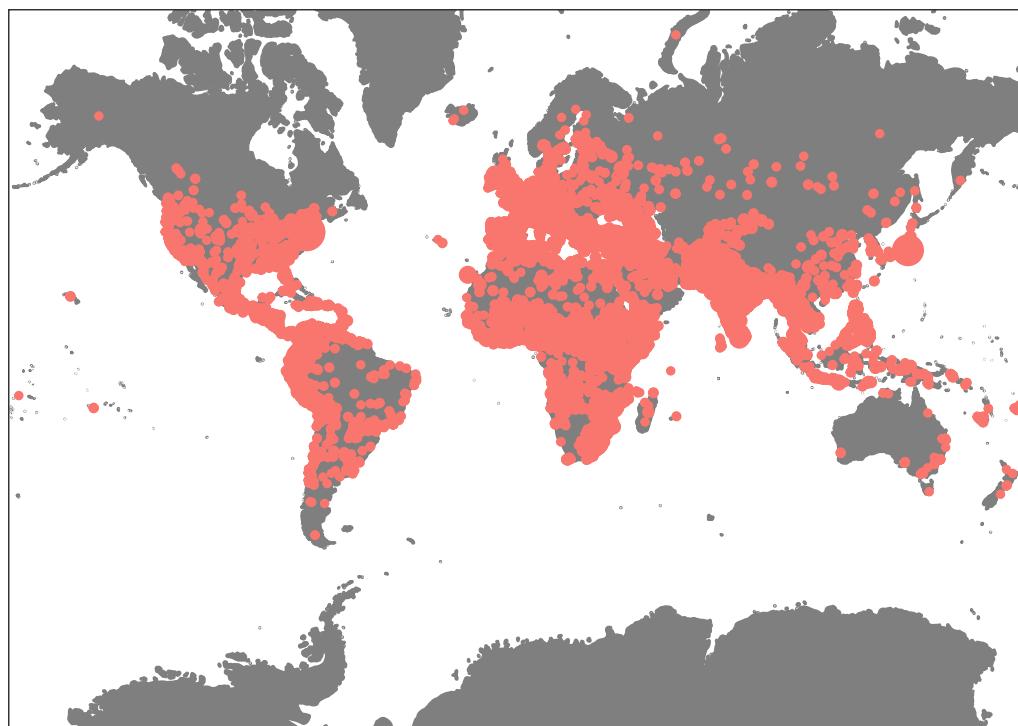
Terrorist attacks by Group. We'll show the top 10.



## Global Maps Plots: Total Terrorism Attacks from 1970 - 2016

Global Terror Attacks

1970 – 2016

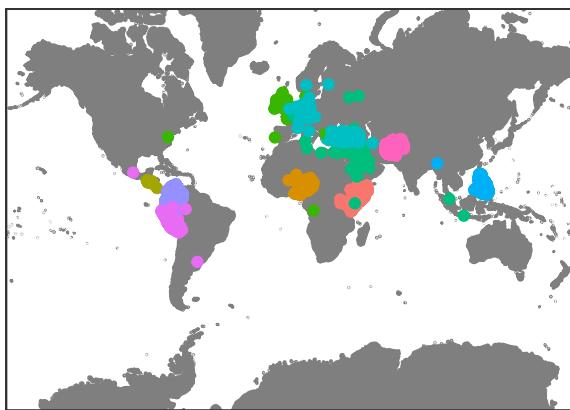


Source: GTD

## Global Maps Plots: Terrorism by Groups from 1970 - 2016

### Global Events

by the Top 10 Terrorist Organizations since 1970

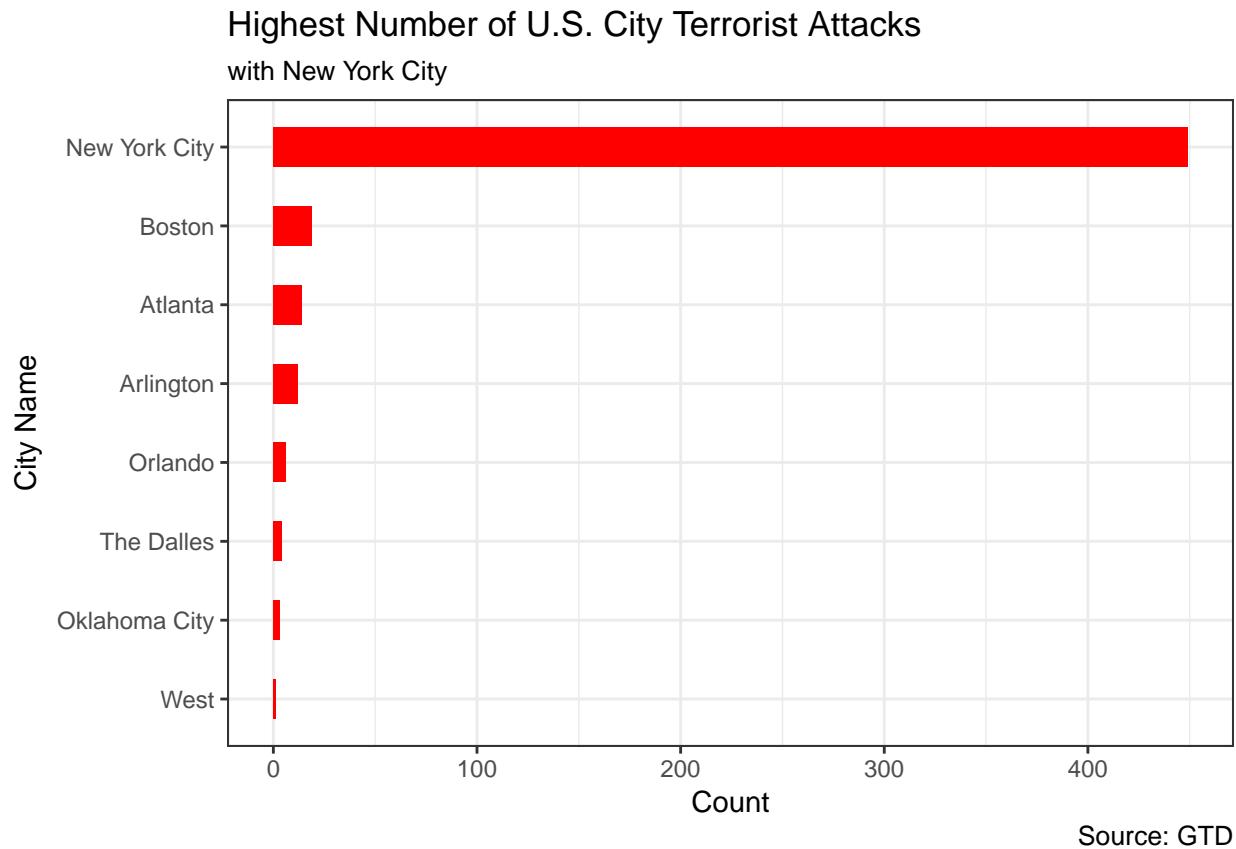


Source: GTD

#### Group

- Al-Shabaab
- Boko Haram
- Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN)
- Irish Republican Army (IRA)
- Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL)
- Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK)
- New People's Army (NPA)
- Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC)
- Shining Path (SL)
- Taliban

## Terrorist Attacks by City within USA



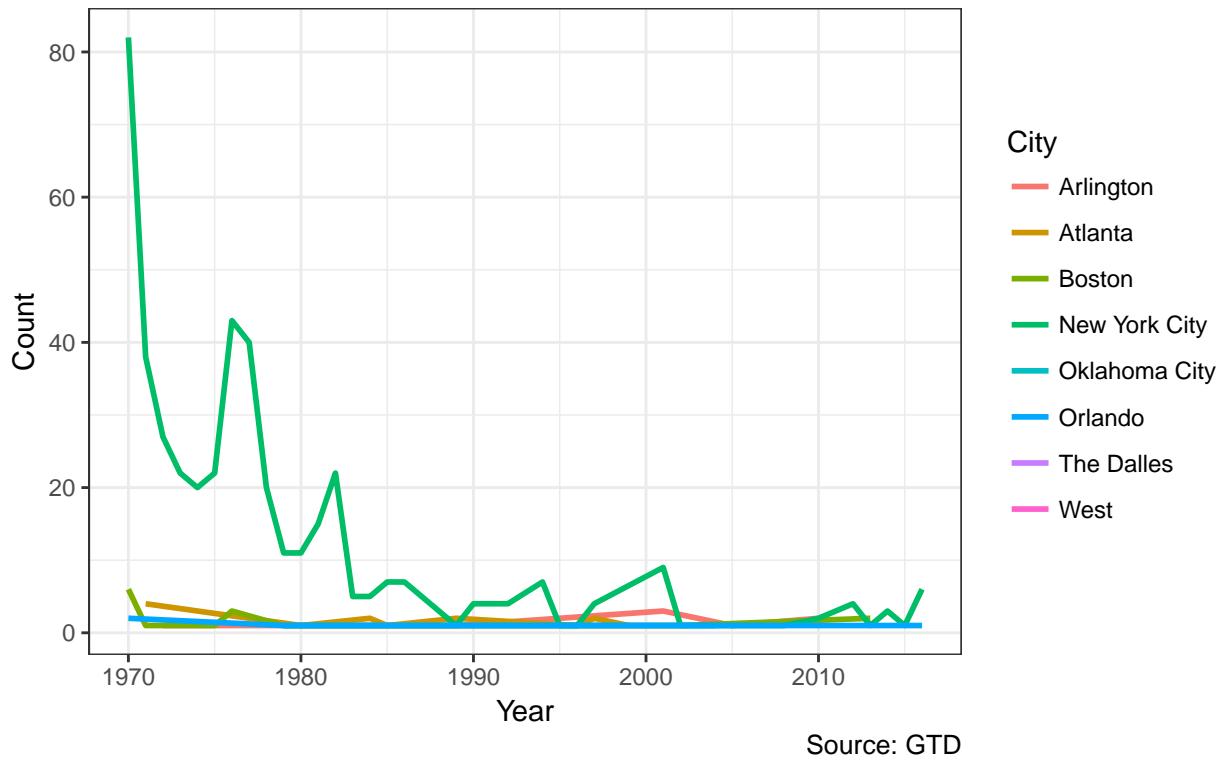
New York City has the highest number of terrorist attacks since 1970.

```
## # A tibble: 10 x 3
## # Groups:   City [1]
##   City      Year  total
##   <chr>     <chr> <int>
## 1 New York City 1970     82
## 2 New York City 1976     43
## 3 New York City 1977     40
## 4 New York City 1971     38
## 5 New York City 1972     27
## 6 New York City 1973     22
## 7 New York City 1975     22
## 8 New York City 1982     22
## 9 New York City 1974     20
## 10 New York City 1978    20
```

What do these attacks look like across time?

## U.S. City Terrorist Attacks

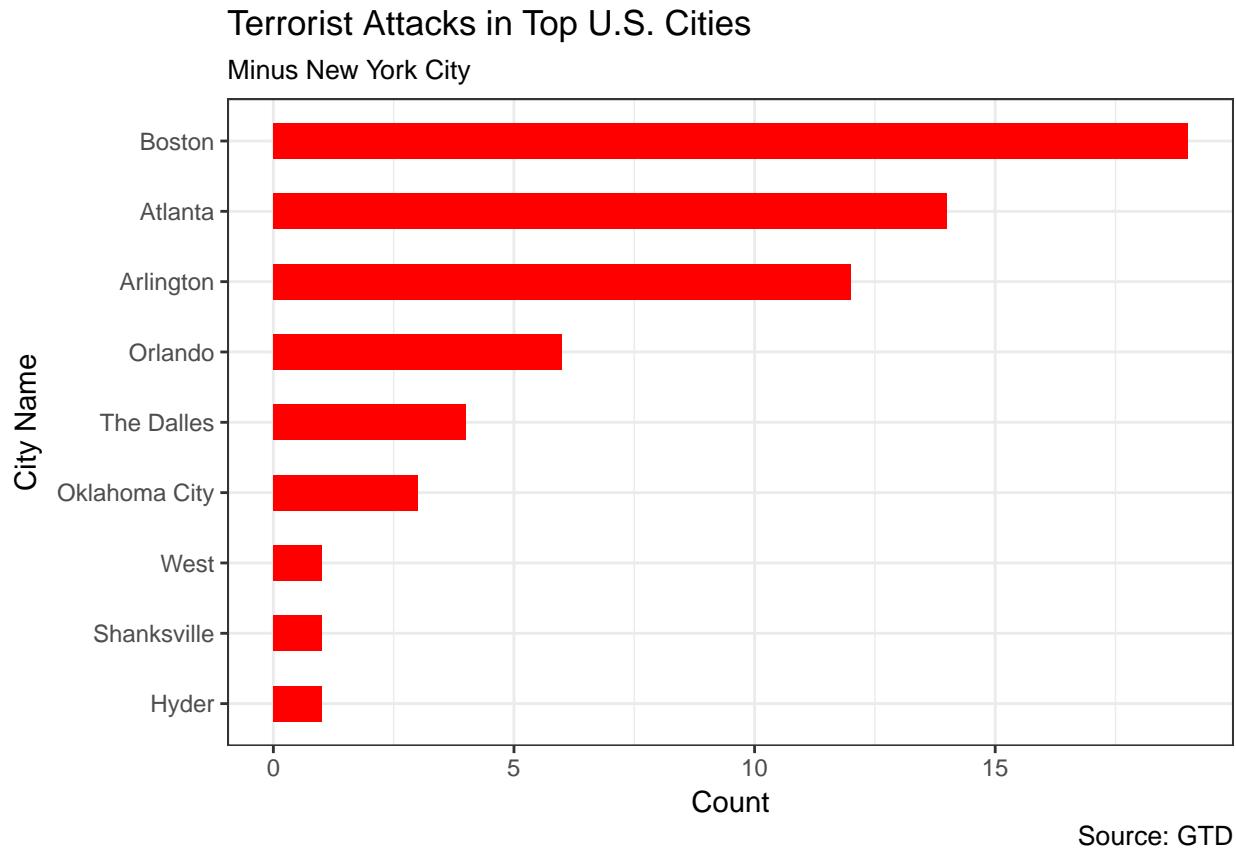
by City



Across all U.S. cities, which had the deadliest attacks?

```
## # A tibble: 10 x 4
## # Groups:   Year, City [10]
##   Year   City      Casualties total
##   <chr> <chr>     <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 2001  New York City    8749. 8749.
## 2 1995  Oklahoma City   818.  818.
## 3 1984  The Dalles      751.  751.
## 4 2001  Arlington       295.  295.
## 5 2013  West            166.  166.
## 6 2013  Boston          134.  134.
## 7 1996  Atlanta          111.  111.
## 8 2016  Orlando          103.  103.
## 9 1975  New York City    85.   85.
## 10 1995 Hyder            79.   79.
```

Let's exclude New York City.

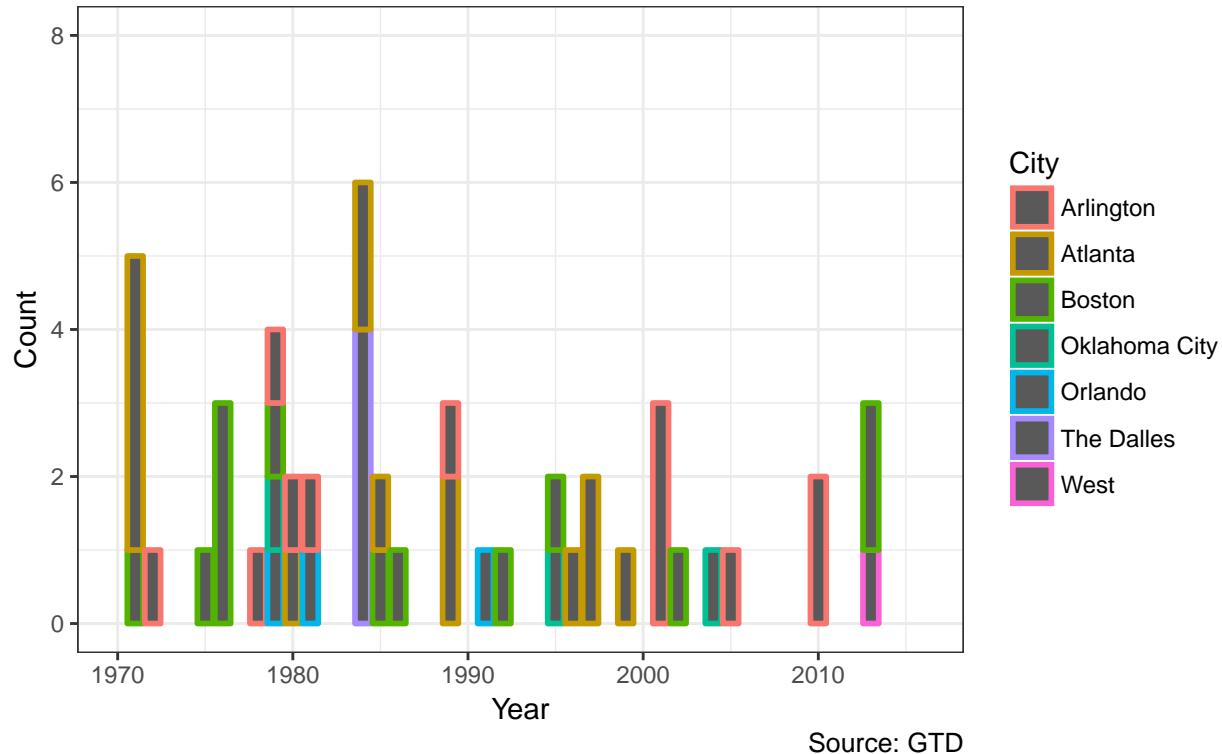


```
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
## # Groups:   City [6]
##   City      Year  total
##   <chr>     <chr> <int>
## 1 Boston    1970     6
## 2 Atlanta   1971     4
## 3 The Dalles 1984     4
## 4 Arlington 2001     3
## 5 Orlando   1970     2
## 6 Oklahoma City 1979     1
```

Again, what do these attacks look like across time?

## U.S. City Terrorist Attacks

by City (w/o New York City)



Source: GTD

Across these U.S. cities, which had the deadliest attacks?

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 4
## # Groups:   Year, City [6]
##   Year   City      Casualties total
##   <chr> <chr>     <dbl>   <dbl>
## 1 1995  Oklahoma City    818.  818.
## 2 1984  The Dalles     751.  751.
## 3 2001  Arlington     295.  295.
## 4 2013  West          166.  166.
## 5 2013  Boston         134.  134.
## 6 1996  Atlanta        111.  111.
```

Shiny App Link:

<https://s Aguilar.shinyapps.io/GTDB/>

RPubs Presentation:

<http://rpubs.com/securl/revealjspresent>

Presentation created using REVEAL.JS

- <https://revealjs.com/#/>
- [https://rmarkdown.rstudio.com/revealjs\\_presentation\\_format.html](https://rmarkdown.rstudio.com/revealjs_presentation_format.html)

**Github Repo:**

- <https://github.com/dataSeanC>

QUESTIONS?