

Global Terrorism

[Dataset](#)

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Summary:

The Global Terrorism Database (GTD) is an open-source database which includes information on global terrorism attacks from 1969 up to 2017. It is managed and updated annually by the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START), under the University of Maryland. Up to now, it includes 181,691 attacks with more than 100 variables on the attack, location, weapon, perpetrators, targets, and consequences. Here, I'll explore visually some key elements and trends of this massive database.

The data shows that there is an increasing trend of terrorism attacks across the years, which reached its peak in 2014. Moreover, the Middle East and North Africa Region had the highest number of attacks, specifically in Iraq, Pakistan and Afghanistan. In addition to that, explosives became the most used terrorism method followed by firearms.

Design:

- Line chart with dual axis to show the trend of attacks and casualties over the years, with a filter for the regions. The line chart fits to show the data trend across a time-series.
- Scatter plot to show the relationship between the number of killed and wounded people per attack type, where the size of the circle indicates the number of attacks for that type. This is to show the correlation between the two numbers across the attack types, while having a third dimension (number of attacks) which indicates the frequency of using this attack method (this helps to see the relationship between the method's frequency and its effects)
- A map that shows through color how many attacks per country. The map is a great visual tool to quickly see how the distribution of attacks across the countries.
- Histogram to show both the number of attacks and people killed per region, with color coding per weapon type. This is to show a nominal comparison across the different categories of weapon types regarding how often they were used and how many people were killed because of them.
- Histogram to show both the number of people killed per terrorist organization, with color coding per attack type.
- Area charts to show the annual number of terrorism victims broken down by the weapon type.

Feedback:

- The names of variables are not clear

Based on this, I changed the names of the variables in the graphs to more direct and simple names

- In the line chart, having different axes show is confusing because it gives the impression that the two charts have the annual value.

The two axes have been synchronized to show them using the same scale.

- The map doesn't show the attacks overtime.

The year have been added to the page shelf to show the attacks in each year

- The map doesn't show the how many people were killed or injured in each country.

The number of kills and injured people have been added in the tooltip.

- Better to remove unknown from the terrorist organizations and limit the number of selected organizations.

I removed the "unknown" and kept only the 10 terrorist groups which caused the highest number of casualties.

Resources:

<https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/downloads/Codebook.pdf>

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

https://onlinehelp.tableau.com/current/pro/desktop/en-us/publish_workbooks_tableaupublic.htm

https://onlinehelp.tableau.com/v2018.3/pro/desktop/en-us/extracting_data.htm