

US Military Strikes, 1966

2024-09-27

To Do:

- continue cleaning up data manually
- fix other maps that dropped sites due to NA
- clean tables
- create a better bar chart by breaking down into day-by-day counts of total strikers. Have to think about how to create new dataframe of days with number of strikers per day.
- find PDF friendly way to do maps

Under “Ordnance and accessories” (military industry), the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Work Stoppage Analysis for the year 1966 counts only thirteen strikes involving 8680 workers who idled for a total of 62,500 days. The documents analyzed in this data, which were generated by the Labor Relations staff at the Detroit Tank Arsenal (DTA) in that same year, tell a very different story: almost ten times as many strikes in military industrial plants, involving over five times as many workers, who cost their employers at least 790,000 worker-days. And this is only a partial x-ray of the whole state of labor unrest in military industry in the year 1966. DTA Labor Relations staff reporting on work stoppages focused almost exclusively on contracts overseen by the staff’s parent agency, US Army Mobility Command (MOCOM). This coverage happened to include big-ticket conventional items like the M60 tank, M109 self-propelled howitzer, and M110 armored personnel carrier, as well as many smaller items like low horse power engines used as generators, but only in very rare cases do these documents have anything at all to say about labor unrest that affected contracts overseen by other Army commands, much less the other branches of the US military. All of this is to say that the picture sketched in the following tables, graphs, and maps points beyond itself to an even wider discrepancy between BLS data and the actual reality of shopfloor conflicts brought to boil by the intensification of US military involvement in the Vietnam War.

This discrepancy matters not simply for the sake of ‘accurate accounting’ but for our understanding of how the United States’ long, brutal, and industrially intense war in Southeast Asia shaped political-economic and social relations on its own soil. We know that the United States turned Southeast Asia into the most bombed region on the planet, dropping more bombs, at a faster rate, than were used during the entirety of the Second World War (in fact, so many explosives were used that National Liberation Front fighters developed reliable ways of locating dud bombs and extracting their gunpowder for use against their enemy). But we do not yet know enough about how all this materiel was made, who made it, and what particular effects its production had social reality during a disavowed war with a disavowed home front.

Summary Statistics

Table 1: Events by Type

Type	count
authorized strike	75
potential strike (averted)	7
wildcat strike	21

Type	count
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Table 2: Summary of Total Strikes, Total Strikers, and Total Work-days Lost to both Authorized and Wildcat Strikes

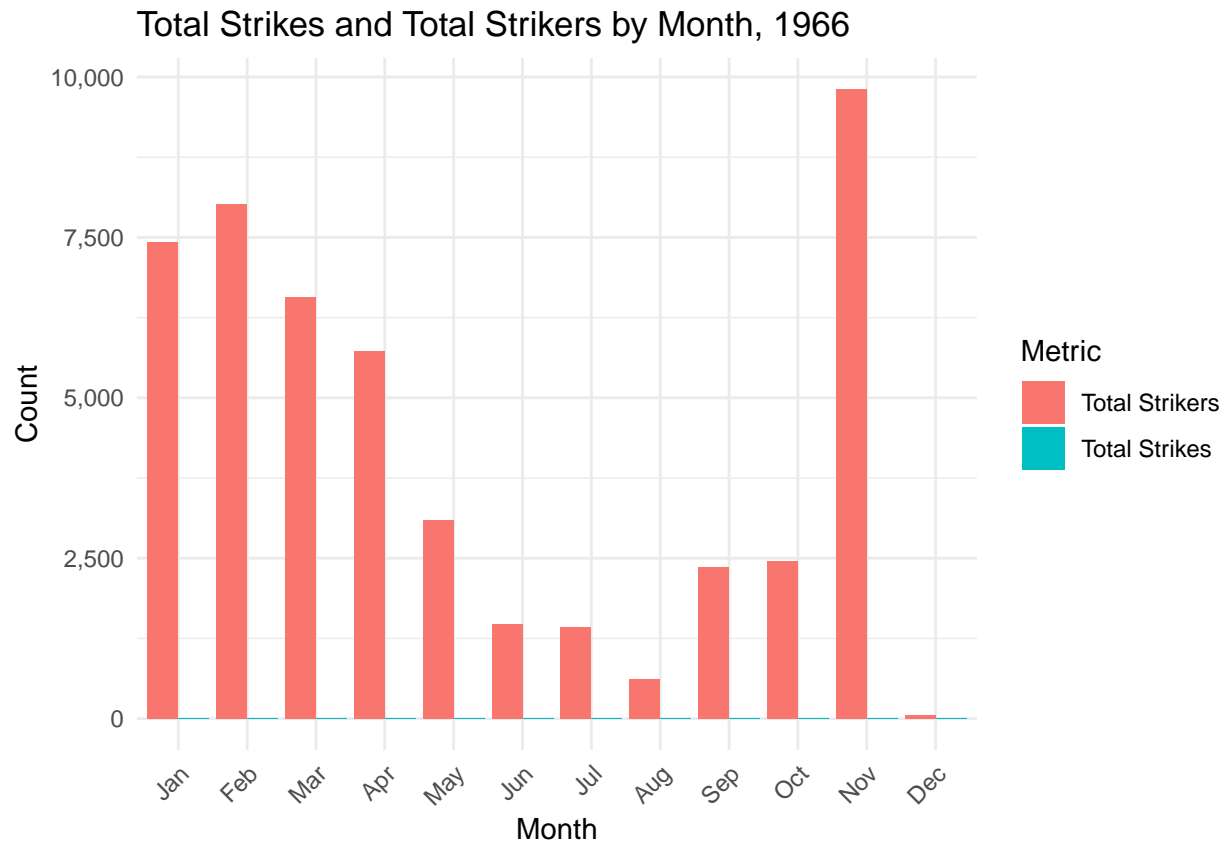
Total Strikes	Total Strikers	Worker-Days Lost
96	49,052	789,989

Table 3: More Summary

mean_strikes	median_strikes	std_strikes	min_strikes	max_strikes	mean_length	median_length	thin_length	max_length
831.3898	320	1107.972	3	5200	25.58065	13	0	183

Table 4: Total Strikes and Total Strikers by Month, 1966

Metric	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total Strikes	6	9	10	10	6	12	10	7	8	8	7	3
Total Strikers	7433	8020	6574	5732	3089	1468	1433	623	2360	2452	9808	60



Geography of Military Industry Strikes

unique_states
19

state
Alabama
California
Connecticut
Georgia
Illinois
Indiana
Kentucky
Massachusetts
Michicagn
Michigan
Minnesota
Ohio
Oklahoma
Pennsylvania
Texas
Wisconsin
Washington
Wisconsin
NA

Warning in validateCoords(lng, lat, funcName): Data contains 5 rows with either
missing or invalid lat/lon values and will be ignored

What cities are in the data?

Table 7: Number of 1-Strike Cities

num_cities_once
65

Table 8: Top 10 Cities by Number of Strikes

Location	total_strikes	total_strikers
Detroit, Michigan	5	350
Lima, Ohio	4	2029
Chicago, Illinois	3	2413
Dayton, Ohio	3	600
Milwaukee, Wisconsin	3	450
Akron, Ohio	2	1600
Buffalo, New York	2	150

Location	total_strikes	total_strikers
Elyria, Ohio	2	0
Fort Wayne, Indiana	2	1065
San Jose, California	2	1219

Table 9: Top 10 Cities by Number of Strikers

Location	total_strikes	total_strikers
Columbus, Indiana	1	5200
Stratford, Connecticut	1	4000
Newark, Ohio	1	2500
Chicago, Illinois	3	2413
Northlake, Illinois	1	2105
Lima, Ohio	4	2029
Marion, Indiana	1	1839
Akron, Ohio	2	1600
Columbus, Ohio	1	1350
Milwaukee, Wisconsin	1	1250

Table 10: Summary of Strikes and Employees on Strike by City

Location	total_strikes	total_strikers
Columbus, Indiana	1	5200
Stratford, Connecticut	1	4000
Newark, Ohio	1	2500
Chicago, Illinois	3	2413
Northlake, Illinois	1	2105
Lima, Ohio	4	2029
Marion, Indiana	1	1839
Akron, Ohio	2	1600
Columbus, Ohio	1	1350
Milwaukee, Wisconsin	1	1250
San Jose, California	2	1219
Horseheads, New York	1	1200
Kalamazoo, Michigan	1	1130
Warren, Michigan	1	1100
Fort Wayne, Indiana	2	1065
Wausau, Wisconsin	1	680
Minneapolis, Minnesota	1	675
Dayton, Ohio	3	600
Kent, Ohio	1	550
Maple Heights, Ohio	1	512
Evansville, Indiana	1	500
Lebanon, Pennsylvania	1	500
Princeton, Indiana	1	451
Milwaukee, Wisconsin	3	450
Detroit, Michigan	5	350
Manistee, Michigan	1	320
Mattoon, Illinois	1	302
Rock Falls, Illinois	1	262

Location	total_strikes	total_strikers
Coldwater, Michigan	1	217
Springfield, Ohio	1	217
Delphos, Ohio	1	210
Galion, Ohio	1	200
Jeannette, Pennsylvania	1	190
Renton, Washington	1	184
Buffalo, New York	2	150
Cincinnati, Ohio	1	135
Traverse City, Michigan	1	135
Hayward, California	1	134
Lansing, Michigan	1	120
Claremont, California	1	100
Toledo, Ohio	1	80
Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin	1	80
Anniston, Alabama	1	65
Oak Park, Michigan	1	50
Long Island, New York	1	30
Livonia, Michigan	1	22
Alameda, California	1	3
Elyria, Ohio	2	0
Tulsa, Oklahoma	2	0
Atlanta, Georgia	1	0
Bucyrus, Ohio	1	0
California	1	0
Carrollton, Texas	1	0
Charleston, West Virginia	1	0
Cleveland, Ohio	1	0
Edison, New Jersey	1	0
Elba, Alabama	1	0
Elmira, New York	1	0
Erie, Pennsylvania	1	0
Fostoria, Ohio	1	0
Fullerton, California	1	0
Highland, Illinois	1	0
LaPorte, Indiana	1	0
Louisville, Kentucky	1	0
Lynn, Massachusetts & Everett, Massachusetts	1	0
Massillon, Ohio	1	0
New Haven, Connecticut	1	0
Oshkosh, Wisconsin	1	0
Pontiac, Michigan	1	0
Port Huron, Michigan	1	0
Roseville, Michigan	1	0
South Bend, Indiana	1	0
St Marys, Ohio	1	0
St Paul, Minnesota	1	0
Troy, New York	1	0
Watertown, New York	1	0