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Referred to as the UCDP/PRIO dataset, 2006.
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Pages 6–7
THE WORLD BY REGION

1 When States Go to War
Page 10
NUMBER AND TYPE OF STATE-BASED ARMED CONFLICTS, 1946–2005
UCDP/PRIO dataset, 2006.

Page 11
REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF STATE-BASED CONFLICTS, 2005
UCDP/HSRP dataset, 2006.
REGIONAL TRENDS, 1946–2005
UCDP/PRIO dataset, 2006.

Pages 12–13
INTERNATIONAL ARMED CONFLICTS, 1946–2005
PRIO, 2006.

THE MOST WAR-PRONE STATES
The data are similar to that in a table in the Human Security Report 2005. However, the time-span and the coding rules differ slightly.

Pages 14–15
STATE-BASED CONFLICTS ON HOME SOIL, 1946–2005
UCDP/PRIO dataset, 2006.

Pages 16–17
TIME SPENT IN CONFLICT, 1946–2005
PRIO, 2006.

2 Warlords and Killing Fields
Data for all of the graphics in this section are from the UCDP/HSRP dataset, 2006. The Political Instability Task Force data on genocides and politicides discussed in the text is compiled by Barbara Harff.
See Barbara Harff, ‘Genocide’, www.humansecurityreport.info

3 Counting the Dead
Page 28
BATTLE-DEATHS IN STATE-BASED CONFLICTS, 1946–2005
Lacina/Gleditsch dataset, 2006.

Pages 29
BATTLES-DEATHS IN NON-STATE CONFLICTS, 2002–2005
DEATHS FROM POLITICAL VIOLENCE, 2005
DEATHS FROM POLITICAL VIOLENCE IN EACH REGION, 2005
UCDP/HSRP dataset, 2006.

Pages 30–31
BATTLE-DEATHS IN STATE-BASED CONFLICTS, 1946–2005

THE MOST DEADLY CONFLICTS, 1946–2005
Lacina/Gleditsch dataset, 2006.

Pages 32–33
DEATHS FROM POLITICAL VIOLENCE, 2005
UCDP/HSRP dataset, 2006.

4 Measuring Human Rights Abuse
Page 36
DISPLACED PEOPLE, 2005
NUMBER OF REFUGEES AND IDPS WORLDWIDE, 1970–2005
Data from various sources collated by Phil Orchard, University of British Columbia, 2007.

Page 37
POLITICAL TERROR SCALE, 1980–2005
Linda Cornett and Mark Gibney, University of North Carolina Asheville. See http://www.unca.edu/politicalscience/images/colloquium/faculty-staff/gibney.html

Pages 38–39
HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE
Political Terror Scale data from Linda Cornett and Mark Gibney, University of North Carolina Asheville, 2006.

Pages 40–41
CHILD SOLDIERS

5 Causes of War, Causes of Peace
Page 44
STATE-BASED ARMED CONFLICTS AND UN PEACEKEEPING, 1946–2005
Armed conflict data from the UCDP/PRIO dataset, 2006.

THE RISE OF DEMOCRACY, 1946–2005

Page 45
CONFLICTS BEGINNING AND ENDING, 1950–2005
UCDP/HSRP dataset, 2006.

Pages 46–47
WAR AND POVERTY

Conflict data from the UCDP/HSRP dataset, 2006.

Pages 48–49
CONFLICT AND REGIME TYPE, 2005
Data on regime type from the Polity IV Project.

Conflict data from the UCDP/HSRP dataset, 2006.

Pages 50–51
PEACEKEEPING AND ARMED CONFLICT


Pages 52–59
DATA TABLE
Number of international armed conflicts and number of years in state-based armed conflict: PRIO, 2006.


Number of years in non-state armed conflict and number of conflicts: UCDP/HSRP dataset, 2006.


Political Terror Scale: Linda Cornett and Mark Gibney, University of North Carolina Asheville, 2006.

Refugees and IDPs: Various sources collated by Phil Orchard, University of British Columbia, 2007.

Child soldiers: Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers.

Regime type: Polity IV Project.

Amnesty International 36
anocracies 44, 48–49
armed conflicts
state-based 9–17, 44–45
non-state 19–20, 22–23
and income bands 46–47
and poverty 45, 46–47
and regime type 48–49
authoritarian regimes 36, 37, 39, 48–49
autocracies 38, 44, 48–49
battle-deaths 10, 19, 27–29, 32–33, 50–51
child soldiers 35, 40–41
civil war 9–10, 20, 25, 38
civilians 10, 19–21, 24–25, 27–28, 30
Cold War 9, 11, 13, 45
since end of 20, 36, 43, 44
colonial wars 10, 12–14, 16, 43–44
combatants 10, 30
deaths from political violence 10, 20, 24–25, 27–33
democracies 37, 48–49
democratization 43, 44
ethnic groups 10, 19, 20, 22
extra-state conflicts 10, 12, 44
genocide 9, 14, 19–20, 24–25, 27, 35
Gross National Income 39, 45–47, 51
guerrillas 22, 27
human rights abuse 35–41
Human Security Report 9, 19, 22, 27
internally displaced persons (IDPs) 36
international armed conflicts 9, 10
distribution of 12–13
internationalized civil wars 9
internationalized intra-state conflicts 10, 12
inter-state conflicts 9, 10, 12, 43
intra-state conflicts 10, 43, 44
militias 9–10, 19, 21–23, 27
use of child soldiers 40–41
non-state conflicts 9, 19–20, 25, 27
battle-deaths 28, 29, 32–33
distribution by income band 46–47
distribution by regime type 48–49
number of years 22–23
regional distribution and trend 20
one-sided violence 9, 19–20, 2–29
death toll 28–29, 32–33
number of years 24–25
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Notes on Terminology

Anocracy: see Democracy.

Armed conflict: political violence between two parties involving armed force, and causing at least 25 reported battle-deaths a year.

Armed group: any political group (other than a state) which employs armed force.

Autocracy: see Democracy

Battle-death: a death that is directly related to combat during an armed conflict. Can be a death of either a combatant or a civilian caught in crossfire. Does not include deaths from war-exacerbated diseases.

Child soldier: individual aged under 18 in the armed forces of the state or of an armed group, whether or not the child is armed or is used in combat.

Civil war: an intra-state conflict causing at least 1,000 reported battle-deaths in a calendar year.

Civilian: an individual not in the armed forces of the state or of a non-state group; a non-combatant.

Combatant: an active and armed participant in an armed conflict, who may or may not be in uniform.

Conflict: in this atlas, always means an armed conflict. See also War.

Democracy, autocracy, anocracy: as used in the graph on p.44 and the map-spread on pp.48–49, a democracy is a state with well-established procedures for political participation, and with a freely elected chief executive who is subject to substantial checks and balances. An autocracy suppresses or sharply restricts political participation; selects its chief executive from within the political elite; and is governed with few or no legislative or judicial checks. An anocracy is neither fully democratic nor fully autocratic, and may be in transition from one to the other.

Displaced people: see Refugee.

Ethnic cleansing: the deliberate, organized and usually violent expulsion of people from an area because of their perceived ethnicity.

Extra-state conflict: an armed conflict involving a state which takes place outside its geographical borders. Most have been colonial wars.

Genocide: acts intended to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, racial or religious group; see pp.19–20. See also Politicide.

Home soil: a state or its territorial waters.

Human rights abuse: organized or sustained breach of human rights, such as torture or imprisonment without trial.

Income-band: the World Bank divides states into four groups by average income: see pp.46–47.

Internally displaced person (IDP): See Refugee.

International conflict: an armed conflict involving more than one state.

International war: an international conflict causing 1,000 or more reported battle-deaths in a calendar year.

Internationalized intra-state conflict: a conflict inside a state in which one or more outside states have sent their own armed forces to support one side or another.

Inter-state conflict: an armed conflict between two or more states.

Intra-state conflict: an armed conflict inside a state. See Civil war.

Militia: normally refers to the armed forces of insurgents, warlords, political parties or non-state groups. Also sometimes used for some armed forces associated with the state, usually those who are non-professional, part-time or raised during an emergency.

Non-state conflict: an armed conflict, usually between warlords or political, religious or ethnic groups, which does not actively involve the state. See also State-based conflict.

One-sided violence: organized and sustained attacks on defenseless civilians, by the state or by an armed group, causing at least 25 reported deaths in a calendar year.

Peacebuilding: measures designed to reduce tension or build confidence between opposing states or political, religious or ethnic groups, in order to prevent the start or resumption of armed conflict.

Peacekeeping: activities carried out primarily by foreign military personnel, usually under the mandate of the UN or a regional security organization, intended to maintain the peace in a post-conflict environment.

Peacemaking: a range of political and diplomatic activities intended to halt ongoing conflicts.

Political Stability and Absence of Violence Index: a World Bank ranking of states by the probability that their governments will be destabilized or overthrown unconstitutionally or violently. See pp.37–39.


Political violence: organized or systematic violence whose motive is primarily political rather than criminal (though an overlap exists). “Deadly political violence” is where such violence causes death. If it causes at least 25 reported deaths a year, it becomes either an armed conflict or a campaign of one-sided violence.

Politicide: acts intended to destroy, in whole or in part, a group defined by its political views. See also Genocide.

Poor, rich: comparative terms, based on income and/or wealth. States in the lowest World Bank income-band (see Income-band) are often referred to as poor, and in the highest band as rich.

Proxy war: a civil war, and occasionally an inter-state war, in which one or both sides are covertly or openly controlled or supported, financially, militarily or diplomatically, by an outside state which is not itself directly involved in the fighting.

Refugee: someone who is outside their country of nationality and is unwilling to return because of a well-founded fear of persecution on the grounds of race, religion, nationality, social status or political opinion. An internally displaced person (IDP) is someone who has fled home for similar reasons, or because of a conflict or natural disaster, but has not crossed an international border. The term “displaced people” includes both refugees and IDPs.

Region: the six regions used in this atlas are shown on pp.6–7. They differ slightly from the regions normally used by the World Bank and the United Nations.

Reported death: the figures given in this atlas are “reported deaths”: deaths which have been documented by a reliable source, and which can be attributed to a specific armed conflict or campaign of one-sided violence. Counts of reported deaths are almost always lower, and sometimes much lower, than estimates of total deaths.

State-based conflict: an armed conflict in which one or more parties is a state. For the four main types of state-based conflict, see p.10. See also Non-state conflict.

Terrorism: the use of organized violence against civilians to create fear or terror for political or ideological goals.

Uppsala: the Uppsala Conflict Data Program, Uppsala University, Sweden, maintains many of the annual datasets on which this atlas is based.

War: an armed conflict causing 1,000 or more reported battle-deaths in a calendar year.

War-exacerbated: disease and malnutrition often increase, sometimes substantially so, during and after armed conflict. The resulting mortality is sometimes described as war-induced or (more correctly) war-exacerbated. These “indirect deaths” are often more numerous, sometimes far more so, than battle-deaths (also known as “direct deaths”).

Warlord: leader of an armed group whose power derives more from armed force than from political legitimacy.

Further information

For more information about the data included in this miniatlas, visit the Human Security Report Project website at www.hgrgroup.org or send an email to humansi@sfu.ca.

For more information about World Bank publications, visit http://www.worldbank.org/publications or email books@worldbank.org.

The miniAtlas of Human Security is also available in French and Spanish, and is available on the web at www.miniatlasofhumansecurity.info.