

US Launched 251 Military Interventions Since 1991, and 469 Since 1798

The US military launched 469 foreign interventions since 1798, including 251 since the end of the first cold war in 1991, according to official Congressional Research Service data.

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The United States launched at least 251 military interventions between 1991 and 2022.

This is according to a report by the Congressional Research Service, a US government institution that compiles information on behalf of Congress.

The report documented another 218 US military interventions between 1798 and 1990.

That makes for a total of 469 US military interventions since 1798 that have been acknowledged by the Congress.

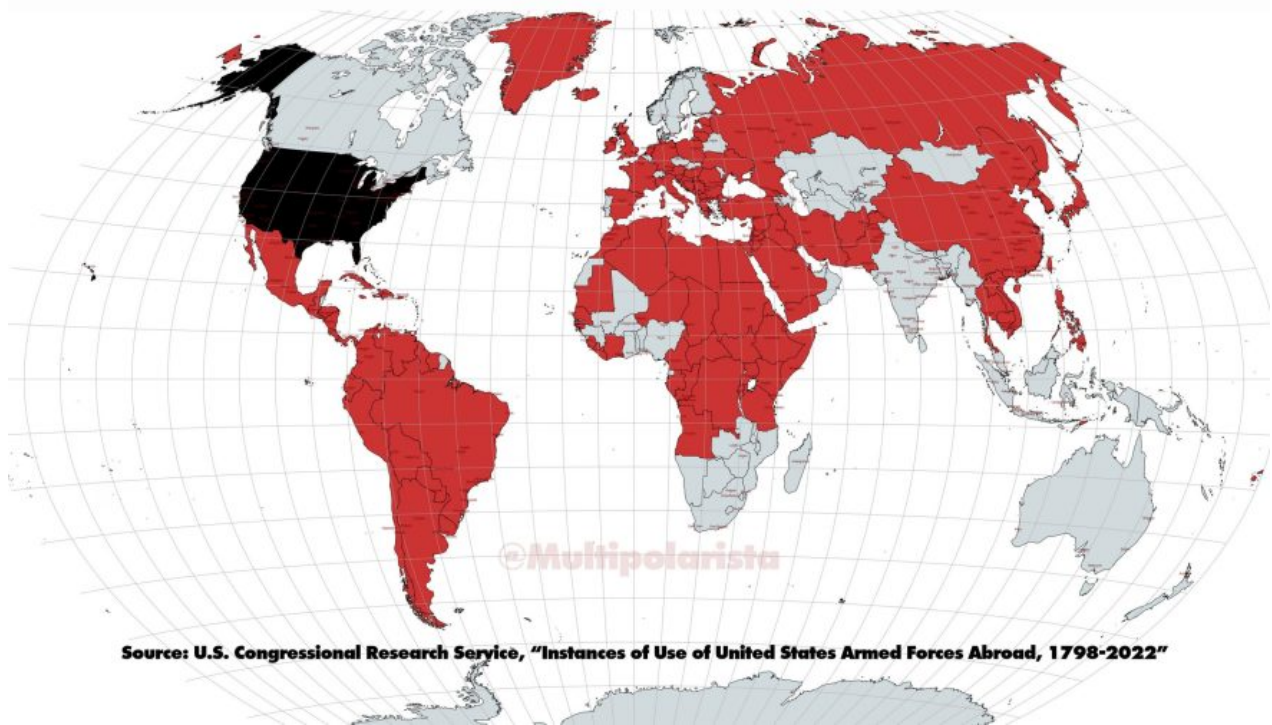
This data was published on March 8, 2022 by the Congressional Research Service (CRS), in a document titled “[Instances of Use of United States Armed Forces Abroad, 1798-2022](#).”

The list of countries targeted by the US military includes the vast majority of the nations on Earth, including almost every single country in Latin America and the Caribbean and most of the African continent.

From the beginning of 1991 to the beginning of 2004, the US military launched 100 interventions, according to CRS.

That number grew to 200 military interventions between 1991 and 2018.

Countries where the U.S. government has admitted to launching military interventions



The report shows that, since the end of the first cold war in 1991, at the moment of US unipolar hegemony, the number of Washington's military interventions abroad substantially increased.

Of the total 469 documented foreign military interventions, the Congressional Research Service noted that the US government only formally declared war 11 times, in just five separate wars.

The data exclude the independence war been US settlers and the British empire, any military deployments between 1776 and 1798, and the US Civil War.

It is important to stress that all of these numbers are conservative estimates, because they do not include US special operations, covert actions, or domestic deployments.

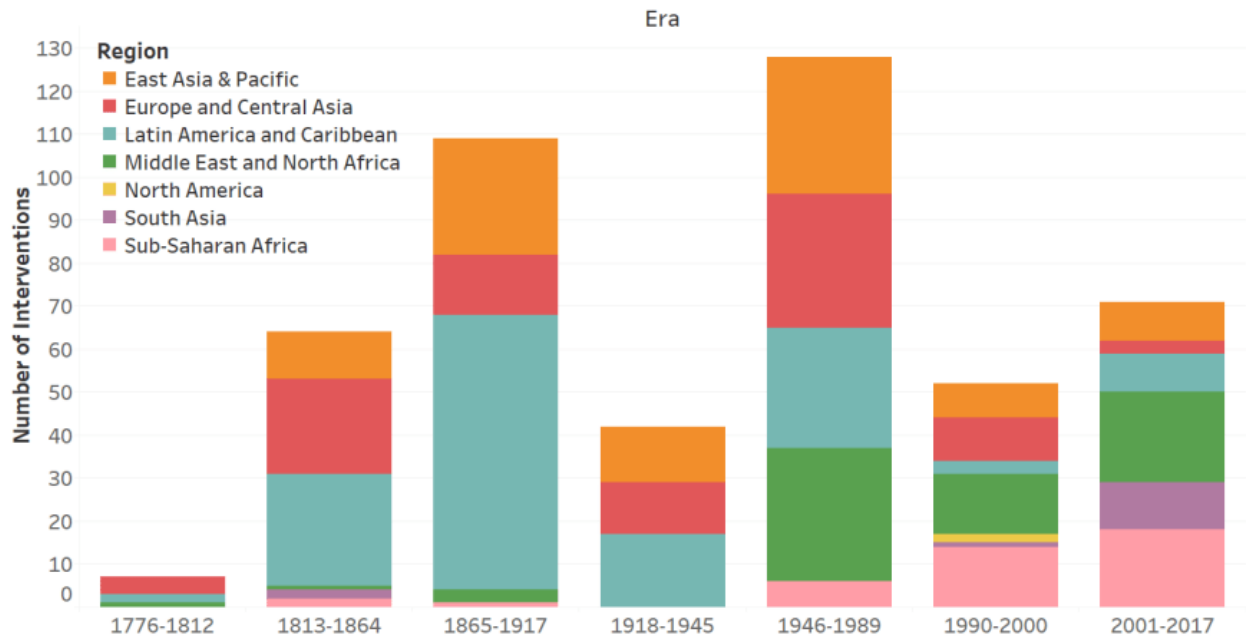
The CRS report clarified:

The list does not include covert actions or numerous occurrences in which U.S. forces have been stationed abroad since World War II in occupation forces or for participation in mutual security organizations, base agreements, or routine military assistance or training operations.

The report likewise excludes the deployment of the US military forces against Indigenous peoples, when they were systematically ethnically cleansed in the violent process of westward settler-colonial expansion.

CRS acknowledged that it left out the "continual use of U.S. military units in the exploration, settlement, and pacification of the western part of the United States."

U.S. Interventions by Era and Region, 1776 - 2017



Credit: Military Intervention Project at Tufts University

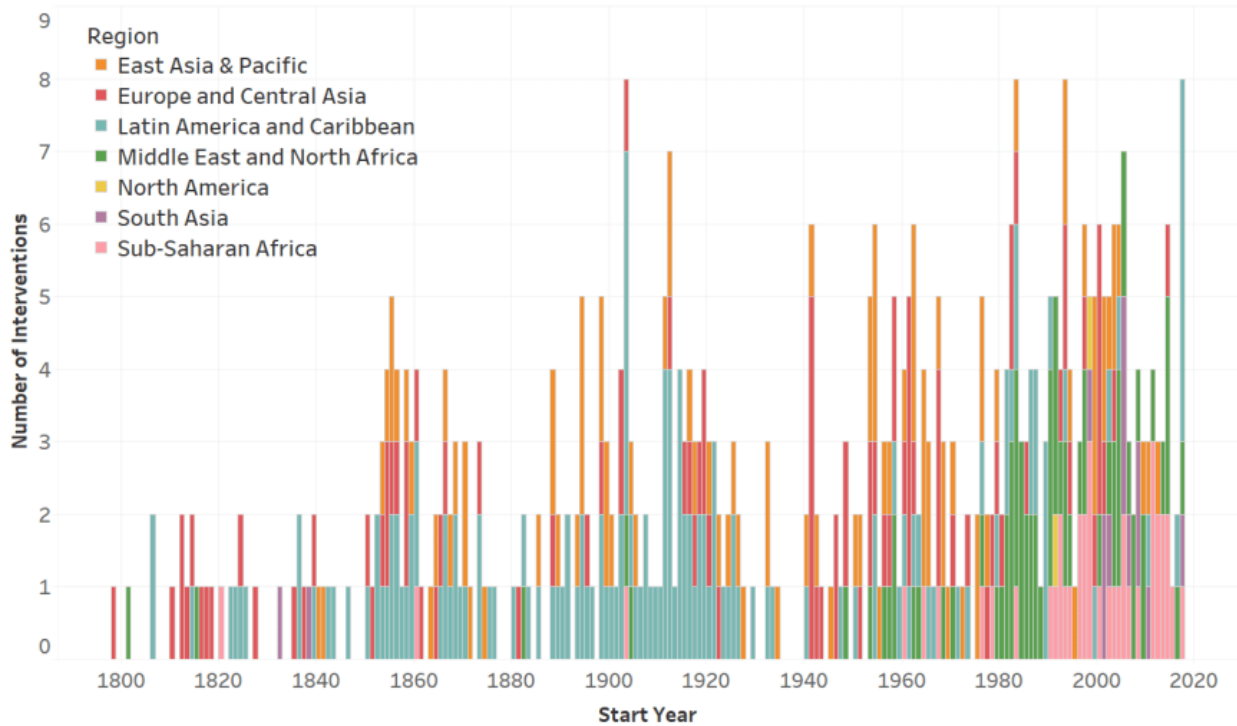
The [Military Intervention Project at Tufts University's](#) Center for Strategic Studies has documented even more foreign meddling.

“The US has undertaken over 500 international military interventions since 1776, with nearly 60% undertaken between 1950 and 2017,” the project wrote. “What’s more, over one-third of these missions occurred after 1999.”

The Military Intervention Project added:

“With the end of the Cold War era, we would expect the US to decrease its military interventions abroad, assuming lower threats and interests at stake. But these patterns reveal the opposite – the US has increased its military involvements abroad.”

U.S. Interventions by Year and Region, 1776 - 2017



Credit: Military Intervention Project at Tufts University

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Featured image: A map of countries where the United States has militarily intervened (Source: Congressional Research Service)

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