

Daily chart

# Whatever happened to the water wars?

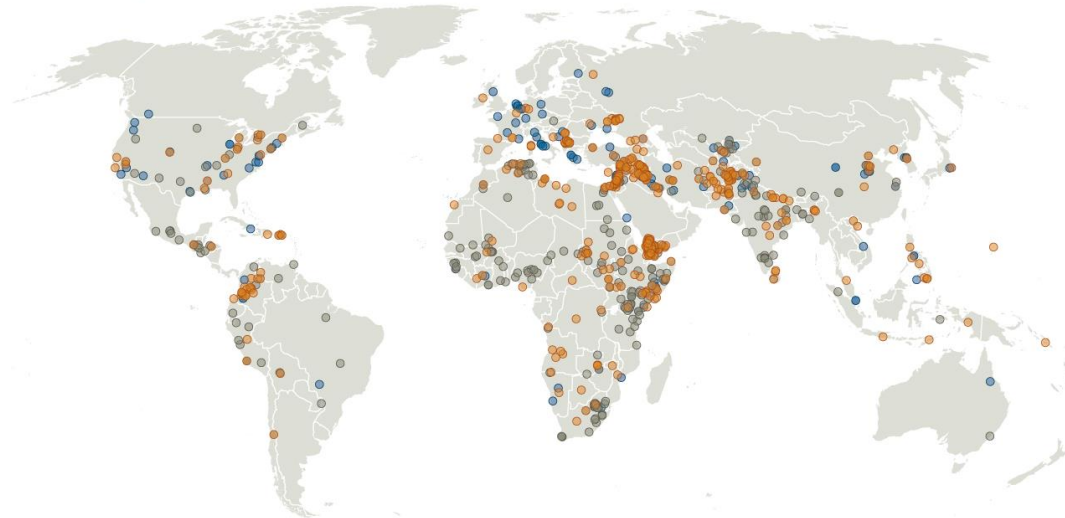
*More of them have happened than most people think*

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## Water world

Water conflict, 3000BC - 2019AD

- Water resources or water systems as a **casualty** of conflict
- Water as a trigger or root cause of conflict
- Water as a **weapon** of conflict



Source: Pacific Institute, Water Conflict Chronology

[Graphic detail](#)

Nov 18th 2019

THE FORECAST that future wars will be fought over water has been made long enough for it to become both a platitude and subject to doubt. Demand for water has surged because populations have grown and rising prosperity has enabled them to live more water-intensive lives. But supply of the wet stuff is already coming under ever greater pressure, as climate change, crudely put, makes dry places drier.

Yet the great water-based conflicts that were feared—India v Pakistan, Ethiopia v Egypt, Brazil v Paraguay, China v any of the countries downstream from the Himalayas—have not come to pass. Maybe, argue optimists, the world is better at sharing this resource than is often assumed.