Monthly Iran Projectile Tracker: June 2024

The Jewish Institute for National Security of America’s (JINSA) Iran Projectile Tracker presents regularly updated charts and graphs on missiles, rockets, drones, and mortars that Iran and its regional proxies have fired at U.S. personnel, partners, and interests in the Middle East, as well as data for other Iran-linked malign activity. Below is an update reflecting the major trends from the last month.

1. Iran-linked Attacks Against Israel
   - In June, Hezbollah and other terrorists in Lebanon launched roughly 1,020 rockets, missiles, and drones at Israel, the highest number since the war began and an 18 percent increase over the previous high of over 860 projectiles in May, according to JINSA’s data.

   » The attacks in June continued a substantial escalation that began in May over the previous average of 513 rockets, missiles, and drones that Hezbollah launched between November 2023 and April 2024.

   » In particular, Hezbollah launched at least 130 drones in June, roughly a 120 percent increase over the previous high of 59 it launched in December.
2. Iran-linked Projectile Attacks Against Maritime Targets

- The Iran-backed Houthis in Yemen conducted 56 acts of maritime aggression during June, surpassing the previous high of 37 attacks in March and a 33 percent increase from the 33 attacks in May.

  » During June, the Houthis were the only Iran-linked group conducting maritime aggression, and all of the group’s attacks were drone and missile strikes against ships in nearby waters, with no incidents of naval harassment.

  » In those 56 projectile attacks in June, the Houthis launched 65 unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV), unmanned surface vessels (USV), and missiles, a 66 percent increase from the total the 39 they fired during May but a 30 percent decrease from the 93 projectiles launched in March and 73 fired in February. In particular, the Houthis launched more USVs and cruise missiles, likely with the intent of complicating the ability of U.S. and partner forces to intercept the attacks.
In June, the Houthis launched 12 USVs, after having only launched five USVs since the escalation began in November.

The Houthis also launched three cruise missiles at ships, after having avoided firing these weapons since February.

The Houthis conducted eight successful attacks that struck ships, including the group’s first successful strike using a USV since the war began, which caused the MV Tutor to sink on June 18. The MV Tutor was the second ship that the Houthis sank since the escalation began.
The success rate of Houthi attacks had steadily declined from a peak of 33 percent in November to a low of seven percent in April. Since May, the Houthis success rate has increased with 18 percent of its attacks being successful in May and 14 percent in June.

U.S. and partner forces intercepted all of the projectiles during 31 and 21 attacks in May and June, respectively, more than any other month and neutralized a greater percentage of the Houthi attacks since April than they had previously.

- U.S. and partner forces intercepted roughly 55 percent of the total Houthi projectile attacks in June, 65 percent in May, and 64 percent in April, up from between 30 to 40 percent beforehand.

In May, the United States and its partners launched only 39 strikes against the Houthis.

This continues a downward trend that began in April and May, during which there were only 36 U.S. and partner strikes in each month, compared to the over 90 strikes launched in January and February each and over 70 in March.

While U.S. forces have launched over 400 strikes against the Houthis in Yemen, primarily targeting projectiles and launchers, in June, the United States also conducted strikes on at least three occasions specifically against Houthi radars, and one strike each against a Houthi ground control station and a Houthi command-and-control node.
3. Iran-linked Projectile Attacks Against U.S. Targets

- Since April 21 and 22, when they conducted the first two attacks against U.S. forces since February 4, Iran-backed groups in Iraq and Syria have not targeted U.S. personnel.
  - Iran-backed groups in Iraq and Syria have launched at least 175 attacks on U.S. personnel since October 17, 2023.
4. Iran-linked Malign Activity Against the United States

- So far in 2024, Iran and its proxies have already conducted at least 177 incidents of malign activity targeting the United States or U.S. personnel, already surpassing the 164 occurrences during the entirety of 2023. All of the malign incidents affecting the United States in June were Houthi strikes endangering U.S. naval vessels in Middle Eastern waters.

» Most of the malign activity this year affecting the United States has consisted of Houthi maritime attacks and projectile strikes by Iran-backed groups in Iraq and Syria.

» The number of Iran-linked malign activities against the United States has been unprecedentedly high throughout the Biden administration, and the rate of such activities has skyrocketed by roughly 1,400 percent since Hamas’s October 7, 2023, attack on Israel.