

Iran Summary June 2025

Ari Cicurel Associate Director of Foreign Policy

> Sarah Havdala Policy Analyst

Chloe Zeldin Programs Associate

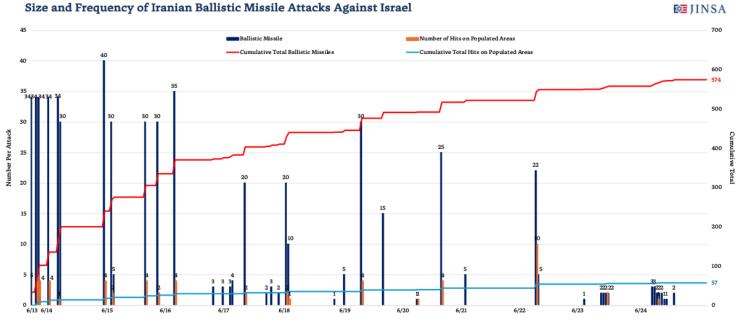
Executive Summary

June began with the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) Board of Governors voting to censure Iran after the IAEA revealed the country's noncompliance with previous nuclear agreements. During Israel's Operation Rising Lion, from June 13-24, Iran launched roughly 574 ballistic missiles and 1,100 drones at Israel, causing 28 deaths and over 3,000 injuries. On June 23, Iran launched 14 missiles at U.S. troops deployed to the Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar after the United States struck the regime's Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan nuclear sites the day before. Iranian sources confirmed that the combined U.S. and Israeli airstrikes severely damaged Iran's nuclear program. As rumors spread of U.S. and Israeli discussions surrounding the potential assassination of Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei, two Iranian Grand Ayatollahs issued fatwas declaring any threats against Khamenei as "waging war against God," which is an action punishable by death. Iran's Houthi proxies in Yemen also continued to launch missiles and drones against Israel as Iran-backed groups resumed their attacks against U.S. troops in Iraq and Syria. Within two days of the Iranian strikes, U.S. immigration officials arrested 11 Iranian citizens in the United States, including men with alleged ties to Iran's military and proxy groups. Throughout the conflict, the Iranian regime continued its gross violation of human rights by arresting hundreds of individuals the government accused of collaborating with Israel, restricting internet access nationwide, carrying out espionage operations, and executing 105 people in June alone.

U.S.-Israel-Iran Conflict

- During the U.S.-Israel-Iran conflict from June 13-24, Iran launched 574 ballistic missiles at Israel, according to JINSA's <u>Iran Projectile Tracker</u>. Iran's attacks <u>targeted</u> populated areas throughout Israel, including <u>Tel Aviv</u>, <u>Ramat Gan</u>, <u>Rishon Lezion</u>, <u>Haifa</u>, <u>Jerusalem</u>, <u>Be'er Yaakov</u>, <u>Nes Ziona</u>, and the <u>Soroka hospital</u> in Beersheba, which serves as the main medical center for the entire Negev Region. Iran also launched roughly <u>1,100 drones</u> at Israel.
 - » During Iran's Operation True Promise III from June 13-24, Iranian missiles successfully hit populated areas in Israel roughly 57 times, per JINSA's <u>Iran Projectile Tracker</u>. Iranian attacks <u>killed</u> at least 28 people, injured over 3,000 individuals, and displaced more than 13,000 in Israel, according to Israel's Health Ministry.
 - » Before the Israeli military launched preemptive strikes on Iran on June 13, Iranian Defense Minister Aziz Nasirzadeh announced during a June 11 press conference that "Some officials on the other side threaten conflict if negotiations don't come to fruition. If a conflict is imposed on us ... all U.S. bases are within our reach, and we will boldly target them in host countries."

- Following the <u>U.S. strikes</u> against Iran's Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan nuclear facilities on June 22, Iran <u>retaliated</u> on June 23 by launching 14 ballistic missiles at U.S. military forces deployed at the Al Udeid military base in Qatar. U.S. troops manning Patriot batteries at Al Udeid intercepted all of the Iranian missiles.
 - » On June 26, Khamenei <u>posted</u> to X, writing "The fact that the Islamic Republic has access to key US centers in the region and can take action whenever it deems necessary is a significant matter. Such an action can be repeated in the future too. Should any aggression occur, the enemy will definitely pay a heavy price."



 For more information on the U.S.-Israel-Iran conflict, please see JINSA's <u>daily updates</u> with analysis and charts on the exchanges of fire, <u>map of Israeli strikes</u> against Iranian targets, <u>tracker of international responses</u> to Israeli and Iranian operations, and infographic detailing the <u>impacts of U.S. and Israeli strikes</u> on Iran's nuclear program.

Nuclear

- On June 27, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi posted to X, writing, "The Parliament
 of Iran has voted for a halt to collaboration with the IAEA until the safety and security of our
 nuclear activities can be guaranteed."
 - » In the post, he accused IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi of facilitating politically-motivated actions against Iran and supporting U.S. and Israeli strikes on Iran's nuclear sites.
- On June 26, Araghchi <u>announced</u> that "there has been no agreement to resume negotiations, and not even any conversation about negotiations. At present, there is no basis for talks." He also <u>admitted</u> that the U.S. and Israeli strikes caused "excessive and serious" damage to Iran's nuclear sites.
 - » His comments came after U.S. President Donald Trump's June 25 <u>claims</u> that the U.S. and Iran would hold discussions the following week to possibly discuss signing an agreement.

- On June 12, the IAEA Board of Governors <u>voted</u> to censure Iran after concluding that the country has refused to effectively cooperate with the UN nuclear watchdog by failing to declare enrichment activity.
 - » Following the censure, Iran <u>retaliated</u> with the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran posting to X, "in response to the [IAEA] Board of Governors resolution, [the AEOI] head ordered launching of a new enrichment center at a secure location & the replacement of IR-1 machines with advanced IR-6 centrifuges at Fordow."
 - » Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian also <u>responded</u> to the vote, declaring "We will go our own way, continue enrichment, and will not back down."
- Around June 11 and 12, Trump's 60-day deadline for Iran to agree to a nuclear deal with the United States <u>passed</u>, reportedly prompting U.S. officials to consider attacking Iran.
- On June 10, Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs, Majid Takht-Ravanchi, who
 engages in the nuclear negotiations with the United States, commented on recent proposals
 for a nuclear consortium of Middle Eastern nations by <u>arguing</u> that "if there is a consortium
 where enrichment is not done in Iran, but in another country, or if the enrichment part is not
 in Iran but other parts are in Iran, this is unacceptable from our point of view."
- On June 10, the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI) <u>revealed</u> that the Iranian government is secretly testing nuclear weapons in southern Semnan Province.
 - » Dubbing the tests as the "Kavir Plan," NCRI claims the Iranian government is racing to develop a bomb as the United States and Iran seek to negotiate a nuclear deal.
- On June 9, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei <u>announced</u> that Iran would submit a counterproposal to the United States via Oman after Witkoff revealed his own plan to form a consortium and allow Iran to enrich limited uranium abroad.
- On June 3, a senior Iranian official told Axios after reviewing the U.S. consortium proposal
 that "if the consortium operates within the territory of Iran, it may warrant consideration.
 However, should it be based outside the borders of the country, it is certainly doomed to fail."

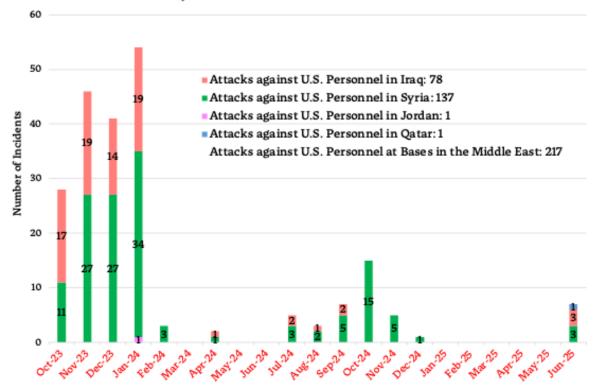
Iran-backed Proxy Aggression

- The Houthis remain Iran's only proxy that continues to conduct regular attacks against Israel. In contrast, Hezbollah did not launch any attacks against Israel during the Israel-Iran conflict.
 - » Since the Israel-Iran ceasefire went into effect, the Houthis launched ballistic missiles at Israel on June $\frac{26}{2}$ and $\frac{28}{2}$.
 - On June 24, Houthi spokesman Mohammed al-Bukhaiti told the Wall Street Journal that the Houthis are not included in the Iran-Israel ceasefire and that their forces would continue to attack Israel "until the aggression against Gaza stops and the siege is lifted."
 - On June 21, before the United States struck Iran's nuclear facilities, Houthi spokesman Yahya Saree <u>warned</u> that "if the US is involved in an attack and aggression against Iran with the Israeli enemy, the armed forces will target its ships and warships in the Red Sea."
 - » During the Israel-Iran conflict from June 13-24, the Houthis launched at least two ballistic missiles and four drones at Israel, according to JINSA's <u>Iran Projectile Tracker</u>.
 - » From June 1-12, before the Israel-Iran conflict, the Houthis launched at least six ballistic missiles and one drone at Israel, per JINSA's <u>Iran Projectile Tracker</u>.

 Shortly after the Israel-Iran conflict began, Iran-backed groups resumed their attacks against U.S. troops in the Middle East for the first time since December 2024. From June 14-16, Iranian proxies conducted at least six attacks targeting U.S. forces in Iraq and Syria (three in each country).







Russia/China Ties

- On June 27, Reuters <u>reported</u> that Iran's oil exports to China skyrocketed throughout June. According to the ship-tracking firm Vortexa, Iran exported more than 1.8 million barrels of crude per day to China from June 1-20.
 - » Kpler, a shipping analytics firm, reported that Iran exported around 1.46 million barrels per day of oil and condensates to China as of June 27, which sat at around one million barrels per day in May.
- On June 23, Araghchi met with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Moscow as the two
 countries reportedly contemplate how to respond to the U.S. attacks on Iran's nuclear facilities.
- On June 23, in response to the Iranian parliamentary <u>vote</u> to close the Strait of Hormuz, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Guo Jiakun <u>said</u>, "China calls on the international community to step up efforts to de-escalate the conflict, and prevent regional turbulence from further affecting global economic development."
- On June 14, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi contacted Araghchi, conveying that China
 would back Iran in "defending its legitimate rights and interests" as Iran retaliates against Israeli airstrikes on the country.

- On June 9, Iran's state-run media outlet *IRNA* announced that Russia had agreed to build eight nuclear power plants in Iran, four of which will be constructed in Bushehr.
- On June 5, The Wall Street Journal <u>reported</u> that Iran has requested China to ship thousands of tons of materials used for constructing ballistic missiles, including ammonium perchlorate.
 - » Individuals knowledgeable of the transaction claimed that Iran is expected to supply its regional proxies, including the Houthis, with these materials.

Domestic/Human Rights

- According to the Oslo-based Iran Human Rights (IHRNGO), the Islamic Republic <u>executed</u> at least 105 people throughout June, contributing to a cumulative 612 executions in 2025 as of June 30.
- Throughout June, Iranian authorities escalated their crack down on espionage accusations, carrying out hundreds of arbitrary arrests and several executions of alleged Israeli spies.
 - » On June 30, Hengaw, the Norway-based human rights organization, <u>reported</u> that Iranian authorities had detained over 300 Kurdish people after Israel launched Operation Rising Lion.
 - Following the ceasefire between Iran and Israel, Iranian security forces also began
 ravaging homes, seizing electronic devices belonging to, and arresting minorities
 throughout Iran, including Afghan migrants and members of the Baha'i faith.
 - » On June 29, the Iranian parliament <u>passed</u> a law that would grant the death penalty to individuals found to be collaborating with the United States or Israel.
 - » On June 28, Iran International reported that Iranian authorities summoned and interrogated at least 35 Jewish citizens in Tehran and Shiraz, merely based on their contact with relatives in Israel.
 - » On June 25, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC)-affiliated Fars news agency announced that Iranian authorities had arrested over 700 people thought to be collaborating with Israel throughout the 12-day period of the Israel-Iran War. According to Association Femme Azadi, an exiled Iranian women's organization, police detained rabbis and other religious leaders despite a lack of evidence for their alleged Israeli affiliation.
 - » On June 22, the IRGC <u>arrested</u> an *Iran International* journalist's family, pressuring her to resign following the media outlet's coverage of the Israel-Iran war.
 - » On June 16, Iran's judiciary chief Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei sternly <u>warned</u> that "if someone is arrested for having ties to and collaborating with the Zionist regime, their trial and punishment should be carried out and announced very quickly."
 - » On June 14, Iranian police in the country's Hormozgan province <u>accused</u> 14 people of "disturbing public opinion, spreading rumors, and showing support for Israel" online following Israel's successful airstrikes on Iran. According to *Iran International*, the police statement mentioned that anyone praising Israel could face 2-5 years in prison.
- On June 21, the IRGC admitted that it had <u>detained</u> German citizen Marek Kaufman over a
 year ago after he allegedly photographed and documented military and nuclear infrastructure near the Arak heavy-water reactor in Iran. The government alleged he was taking orders from "American and Jewish commanders."
- On June 17, the Iranian regime <u>restricted</u> nationwide internet access, essentially enforcing a digital blackout for millions of people.

 On June 11, amongst infighting in Pezeshkian's administration, Khamenei <u>sought</u> to bridge gaps in Iran's government, declaring that "on fundamental issues, the country must speak with one voice. Our nation and all its institutions—our political class, our management structure—must act as one hand."

Malign Activities Abroad

- According to JINSA estimates, Israeli security forces arrested at least 10 Israelis on suspicions of spying and carrying out missions for Iranian agents. According to Israeli authorities, police thwarted approximately 22 Iranian espionage plans throughout the 12-day war.
 - » In separate incidents, the alleged spies collectively <u>transferred a grenade</u>, <u>filmed the Iron Dome</u> intercepting Iranian missiles, <u>photographed civilian shopping malls and a hospital</u>, <u>placed debris</u> on a busy road in Beersheba in an attempt to target an unnamed public figure, <u>sprayed-painted graffiti</u> in Tel Aviv, and gathered intelligence on Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's <u>future daughter-in-law</u>. Many of the alleged spies had maintained contact with Iranian agents for months and were financially compensated for their actions.
- On June 29, two Grand Ayatollahs, Naser Makarem Shirazi and Hosein Noori Hamedani, <u>issued</u> separate *fatwas* which rendered anyone threatening Khamenei as "waging war against God." According to Iranian law, this action is punishable by death.
- On June 22 and 23, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) <u>detained</u> 11 Iranian nationals living in the United States, one of which has alleged ties to the IRGC.
- On June 20, Cypriot police <u>arrested</u> an Azerbaijani man and alleged member of the IRGC on suspicions of planning to carry out a terror attack on Israeli citizens in Cyprus.

Cyber

- On June 30, U.S. government cybersecurity experts <u>warned</u> Americans, particularly defense sector employees, to be vigilant of heightened risks of Iranian-backed cyberattacks following the U.S. strikes on Iranian nuclear sites.
- On June 26, The Record, citing a Tel-Aviv-based cybersecurity company, reported that APT42, an suspected Iranian state-sponsored cyber-criminal organization, is targeting Israeli journalists, cybersecurity professionals, and computer science professors through alleged Al-enhanced phishing scams.
- On June 22, Cyber Fattah, a pro-Iranian hacktivist group reportedly, <u>announced</u> on Telegram that it had leaked thousands of personal records of the athletes and visitors of the 2024 Saudi Games onto the DarkForums cybercrime space.
- On June 15, Radware, a cybersecurity firm, <u>announced</u> an increase in cyberattacks targeting Israel since Israel launched Operation Rising Lion.
 - » Radware's Vice President of Cyber Threat Intelligence Roy Meyran stated that "the 700% surge in malicious activity within just two days stems from cyber retaliation operations by Iranian state actors and pro-Iranian hacker groups, including DDoS attacks, infiltration attempts targeting critical infrastructure, data theft, and malware distribution campaigns."

JINSA Daily War Updates

- June 24: "<u>U.S.-Israel-Iran Conflict: 6/24/25 Update</u>," Ari Cicurel, Yoni Tobin, Jonah Brody, and Sarah Havdala
- June 23: "<u>U.S.-Israel-Iran Conflict: 6/23/25 Update,"</u> Ari Cicurel, Yoni Tobin, Jonah Brody, and Sarah Havdala
- June 20: "Israel's Operation Rising Lion: 6/20/25 Update," Ari Cicurel, Yoni Tobin, Jonah Brody, and Sarah Havdala
- June 19: "Israel's Operation Rising Lion: 6/19/25 Update," Ari Cicurel, Yoni Tobin, Jonah Brody, and Sarah Havdala
- June 18: "Israel's Operation Rising Lion: 6/18/25 Update," Ari Cicurel, Yoni Tobin, Jonah Brody, Sarah Havdala
- June 17, "Israel's Operation Rising Lion: 6/17/25 Update," Ari Cicurel, Yoni Tobin, Jonah Brody, and Sarah Havdala
- June 16: "Israel's Operation Rising Lion: 6/16/25 Update," Ari Cicurel, Yoni Tobin, Jonah Brody, and Sarah Havdala
- June 13: "Israel's Operation Rising Lion: 6/13/25 Update," Ari Cicurel

Recent JINSA Publications on Iran

- June 27: "Infographic: Severing Iran's Path to a Nuclear Weapon"
- June 26: "Iranian Ballistic Missile Estimates: 6/26 Update," Ari Cicurel
- June 25: "International Responses to Israel's Operation Rising Lion & Iranian Retaliation"
- June 24: "U.S. and Israeli Strikes Against Iranian Targets"
- June 23: "Why Trump Didn't Have to Ask Congress Before Striking Iran," LTC Geoffrey S. Corn, USA (ret.), Claire Finkelstein, and Orde Kittrie, Washington Post
- June 20: "Iran Projectile Tracker: Attacks Against U.S. Troops Resume," Ari Cicurel
- June 20: "<u>Does Israel Need to Strike Fordow?</u>" Blaise Misztal and Jonathan Ruhe, National Interest
- June 18: "Israel's Attack on Iran's Nuclear Weapons Program is Fully Justified Under International Law," LTC Geoffrey S. Corn, USA (ret.) and Orde Kittrie, Rule of Law Post
- June 18: "No Breathing Room for Iran," Jonathan Ruhe, The Dispatch
- June 16: "<u>Iranian Ballistic Missile Estimates</u>," Ari Cicurel
- June 13: "International Responses to Israel's Operation Rising Lion & Iranian Retaliation,"
- June 13: "<u>Trump Must Stand Firm With Israel to Slam the Door on Iran's Nukes—and Achieve Middle East Peace</u>," Michael Makovsky, PhD and John Hannah, New York Post
- June 9: "Iran Nuclear Talks Update 6/9/25," Sarah Havdala
- June 4: "Monthly Iran Projectile Tracker: May 2025," Ari Cicurel
- June 4: "Forged Under Fire: Middle East Air Defense After Iran's 2024 Attacks on Israel,"
 John Hannah and Ari Cicurel
- June 2: "Don't Let Iran Cross the Nuclear Threshold," Jonathan Ruhe, Washington Times