



Iran War Update: August 8–10, 2026

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President Donald Trump and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on June 17, outlining terms to end the war and reopen the Strait of Hormuz over a 60-day period of further negotiations. However, on July 8, President Trump [declared](#) the MOU to be “over,” and both sides have resumed exchanging fire. JINSA continues to re-lease regular updates about the conflict. The update below includes information since [JINSA's last update](#) as of August 10 at 10:00 am ET.

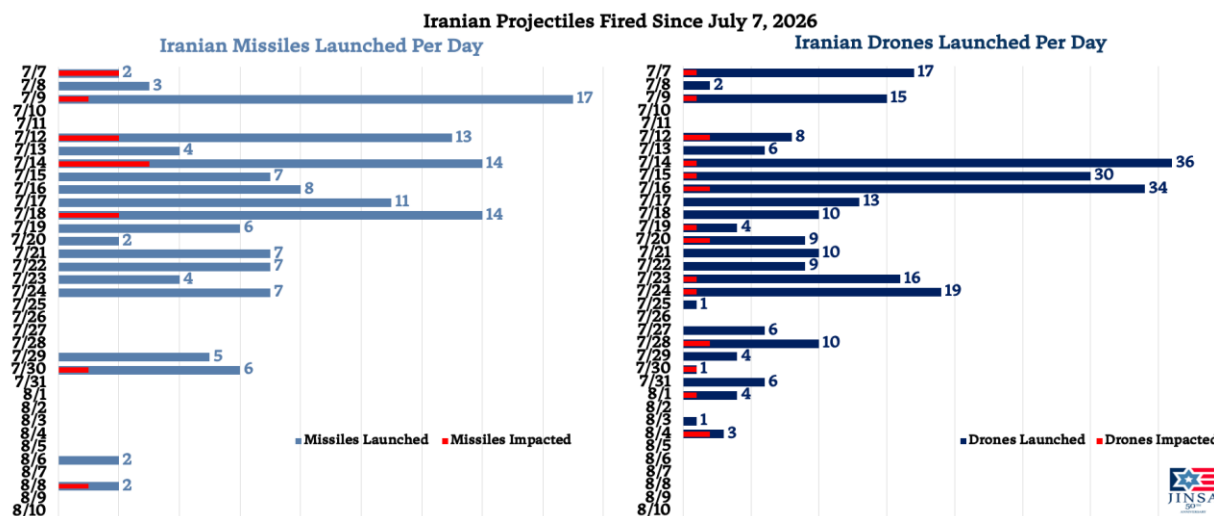
Iranian missiles and drones launched since July 7: **At least 415** (2 between August 7–10)

Brent Crude Oil Price: [\\$84.96 a barrel](#) as of **9:00 am ET** ([day range](#): \$83.33–\$85.38)

1. Overview

- On August 9, President Donald Trump [told](#) *Axios* “we are low-keying” negotiations with Iran and that “we are only semi-negotiating with them [Iran]. We are just watching Iran with its huge inflation and the fact they have no money.”
- On August 9, *The Wall Street Journal* [reported](#) that President Trump has been “laying the groundwork to declare victory” if Tehran agrees to open the Strait of Hormuz, with the president “even floating the idea privately to senior aides that he’s willing to walk away without a nuclear deal.”
- However, on August 8, Mohammad Bagher Zolghadr, who was the secretary of Iran’s Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) at the time, [expanded](#) Iranian demands to open the Strait of Hormuz to include payment for war damages, lifting of sanctions, and unfreezing of Iranian assets, which had previously only been under consideration for a larger nuclear deal.
 - » Mohsen Rezaei [replaced](#) Zolghadr on August 9 as secretary of the SNSC, but both are hardliners, so it remains unclear if Iran’s policy will change.
- On August 8, Commander of U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) Admiral Brad Cooper traveled to Israel to [meet](#) with Israel Defense Forces (IDF) Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Eyal Zamir. Admiral Cooper had previously visited Bahrain.
- On August 8, *The New York Times* [reported](#) that, ahead of the Iran war, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Dan Caine warned President Trump about the risks of further depleting already strained U.S. weapons stockpiles, but the president proceeded with the operation believing the conflict would end quickly.

- On August 8, *The Washington Post* [reported](#) that Deputy Defense Secretary Steve Feinberg sent a memo to U.S. defense companies that they had a maximum of 21 days to present plans that would “drive significantly faster, more aggressive delivery schedules and/or increased production for critical capabilities.”
 - In his memo, Feinberg reportedly claimed that, “Years-long development cycles are not acceptable,” and that, “We must dramatically accelerate our program schedules and expand our production capacity now.”
 - The Washington Post* had previously [reported](#) on August 6 that the depletion of America’s munitions stockpile had been a source of tension between President Trump and Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth, with the latter reportedly blaming Feinberg.
- On August 7, CNN [reported](#) that Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Dan Caine is looking for an “off-ramp” from the war with Iran because the military options to escalate under consideration could backfire and airpower remains unlikely to achieve President Trump’s objectives.



2. Diplomatic Engagement

Iran

- On August 9, Iran’s Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi [indicated](#) that intermediaries are sharing messages between U.S. and Iranian officials but Tehran is not conducting negotiations with Washington and would not talk until the United States stops violating the interim agreement signed in June.
- On August 8, Mohammad Bagher Zolghadr, who was the Secretary of Iran’s Supreme National Security Council at the time, indicated that Iran’s [demands](#) to open the Strait of Hormuz include:
 - Permanently halting the ongoing war;
 - Withdrawal of American forces from near Iran;
 - Removal of the naval blockade on Iranian ports;
 - Lifting of all sanctions on Iran;
 - Release of Iran’s frozen assets;
 - Cessation of all threats and insults aimed at the regime;
 - Payment to Iran of reparations for damage caused during the war; and
 - Halting all kinetic action targeting Iran’s regional proxies.

- On August 8, citing the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps' (IRGC) spokesman, Iran's *Tasnim* news [reported](#) that reopening the Strait of Hormuz is "unrelated to the negotiations between Iran and Oman," but that the United States must accept Iran's conditions to reopen the Strait.
 - » According to *The Wall Street Journal*, the Iran-Oman deal would [establish](#) new shipping lanes in the Strait of Hormuz, including a Tehran-controlled lane for inbound ships coming to the Persian Gulf and a separate lane for outbound ships close to the Omani coast.
- In an August 8 interview with Fox News, Vice President JD Vance [said](#) Iran had told the United States it had "no plans" to impose tolls on vessels transiting the Strait of Hormuz and that Washington had made progress toward an agreement in recent days.

Lebanon

- On August 10, Hezbollah-affiliated Lebanese newspaper *Al-Akhbar* [reported](#) that Israel had requested the transfer to Israel of remains from Jewish graves in Beirut and Sidon as part of negotiations with Lebanon.
 - » According to the report, Israel proposed including the transfer in a "civilian prisoner exchange deal" involving the release of some Lebanese detainees held by Israel, but excluding Hezbollah operatives.

3. U.S. and Israeli Operations

Lebanon

- On August 9, the IDF [announced](#) that its troops destroyed a tunnel shaft belonging to Hezbollah last week in southern Lebanon.
 - » During the operation, Israeli forces also discovered Hezbollah weapons, including rockets, anti-tank launchers and missiles, and assault rifles.

Yemen

- On August 8, Yemeni forces [launched](#) a retaliatory attack against the Houthis after the Iran-backed group killed over 40 government troops the day prior.

4. Strait of Hormuz and Red Sea Shipping

- On August 10, Oman [reported](#) that an oil spill from the damaged *Caroline Bezenqi* tanker had spread across approximately 390 square kilometers near Oman's Hallaniyat Islands, reaching within seven kilometers of the Omani coast.
 - » The Cameroon-flagged vessel was under sanctions and carrying Russian crude when it sustained damage.
 - » The cause of the spill remains unknown, but the vessel reported difficulties off the southern coast of Yemen on June 8 following a reported blast on board.

5. Iranian and Proxy Operations

Maritime

- The United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) Center [reported](#) on August 8 that a tanker reported being struck by an unspecified projectile, sparking a fire onboard. The event occurred 18 nautical miles east of Khasab, Oman. The crew was reported safe.
- On August 8, the United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.) [accused](#) Iran of launching a missile attack against an Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) tanker transiting the Strait of Hormuz. No casualties were reported.

Saudi Arabia

- Overnight on August 8–9, the Houthis [launched](#) a drone attack on an Aramco oil refinery in the Saudi city of Jizan, sparking a fire at the facility.

Yemen

- On August 9, the Houthis [launched](#) missile and drone attacks on the port of Mokha in Yemen, killing seven people, including four Yemeni military personnel and three civilians, while injuring 30 others.
 - » Yemen's military announced that the country's air defenses intercepted 11 Houthi drones during the attacks as the Iran-backed forces also fired at residential neighborhoods.
 - » According to Houthi military spokesman Yahya Saree, the attacks [targeted](#) Saudi troops and their equipment, but a military source claimed that no Saudi forces were injured in the attacks.
 - The same military source stated that the Houthis also fired at forces and facilities aligned with Yemen's internationally recognized government outside of the Mokha port, including facilities on islands close to the Bab el Mandeb Strait.

6. Internal Iranian Dynamics

- On August 9, the Office of the Iranian Supreme Leader [announced](#) that Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian recently met with each other amid rumors of Khamenei's physical condition and lack of public appearance since assuming office in March.
 - » According to the Supreme Leader's office, the two leaders spoke about the status of Iran's military and plans for the country moving forward.
 - » President Pezeshkian [stated](#) on August 10 that he "discussed with him [Khamenei] all of the country's issues, including people's livelihoods, the state of the market, employment, housing, sanctions, how we stand firm, the people's support, unity and cohesion," according to *Iran International*.
 - » Also on August 9, Iran's *Tasnim* news reported that the regime would [publish](#) pictures of Mojtaba Khamenei "in the future" but did not provide an exact date.
- On August 9, Iranian presidency spokesman Mehdi Tabatabaei [revealed](#) on X that, "In light of the resignation of Mohammad Bagher Zolghadr from his position as secretary of the Supreme National Security Council and his appointment to new functions, President Masoud Pezeshkian has named Mohsen Rezaei as the head of this body."
 - » Rezaei is the former commander of the IRGC and is a strong advocate for Iranian control of the Strait of Hormuz.

7. Threats, Condemnations, and Statements from Iranian and Proxy Officials

- On August 10, Iranian foreign ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei [referenced](#) the United States while addressing the recently signed defense pact between Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey, saying that, "The countries of the region have realized that security is not a commodity that can be bought from false brokers."
 - » He claimed that the deal is "a sign of a change" regarding the countries' perceptions of the United States, adding that "any plan that is based on the geopolitical and historical realities of the region, is comprehensive and inclusive, and correctly identifies the enemy and the threat, has a chance of helping to strengthen security and prevent instability and abuses by the Zionist enemy and its allies."

- On August 10, responding to President Trump’s comment in which he referred to negotiating with Iran as a game of chess, Baghaei [said](#) that, “Lights out or lights on, Iranians showed they are professional chess players.”
 - » He added that, “As long as the US naval blockade continues ... as long as other violations by the United States continue, the necessary conditions for saying that the Strait of Hormuz has become a safe waterway will not exist.”
- On August 9, Iran’s army ground forces commander Ali Jahanshahi [threatened](#) U.S. forces while visiting his troops in southeastern Iran, telling them to “be ready and defend. And If an American soldier sets foot in our country, you should cut his foot off.”

8. International Response

- During a phone conversation between the Jordanian and Bahraini foreign ministers on August 8, the two officials [spoke](#) about the importance of maintaining free navigation in the Strait of Hormuz, as well as ways to de-escalate regional tensions as both their countries have come under heavy Iranian fire in recent months.

9. JINSA Resources

- Gen Charles Wald, USAF (ret.), VADM Mark Fox, USN (ret.), and VADM John W. Miller, USN (ret.), [“U.S. Must Reopen the Strait of Hormuz,”](#) *The Washington Times*, August 3, 2026
- Yoni Tobin, [Not Bottlenecks, But Strategic Opportunities: Making Room for More U.S. Refueling Tankers in Israel](#), August 3, 2026
- Giran Ozcan, [While Washington Pauses, Tehran Targets the Kurds](#), July 31, 2026
- Jonathan Ruhe, [Taking Out Iran’s Pickaxe Nuclear Site is Key — Here’s How Trump Can Do It](#),” *The New York Post*, Friday, July 24
- Giran Ozcan, [The Iran War Through the Kurdish Lens](#), July 24, 2026
- Jonathan Ruhe and Ari Cicurel, [Arsenal of Procrastination: The United States Must Expand Munitions Production, Not Merely Replenish](#), July 21, 2026
- Jonathan Ruhe, [The Long, Dark Shadow of the Iran Nuclear Deal](#),” *The Dispatch*, July 17, 2026
- Yoni Tobin, [Oil For Tehran, Not Us: Removing Iran’s Strait Jacket on Global Energy Flows](#), July 8, 2026
- John Hannah, [How Trump Can Win Back Allies and Rejuvenate U.S. Diplomacy on Iran](#),” *The Hill*, July 5, 2026

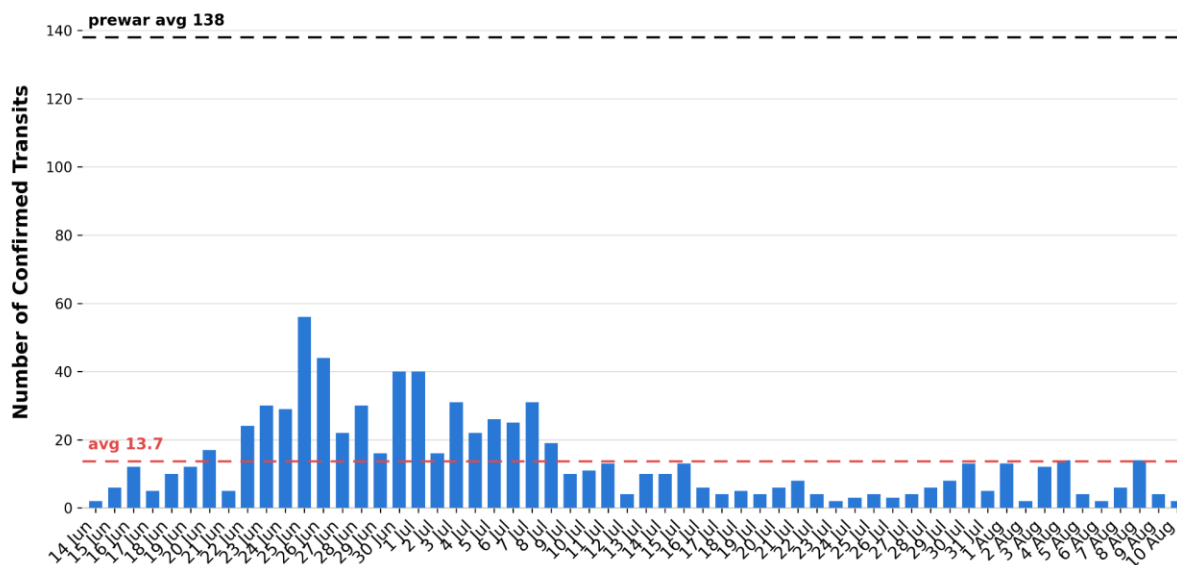
Estimated Casualties of Iran War Operations



Country	Killed	Injured	Notes
United States	18	500+	1 missing; 10 seriously wounded; 100 wounded in July; 358+ returned to duty
Israel	67+	7,795+	Killed include 26 civilians and 41 troops killed fighting Hezbollah (40 soldiers, 1 contractor)
Iran	3,720+	26,580+	Includes 1,221+ military; Iran International reports 4,700+ security personnel killed
Azerbaijan	—	4	All civilians
Bahrain	3	46	Killed include a Moroccan contractor; injured include 5 Emirati soldiers
Iraq	127	Several	Includes 28 in Iraqi Kurdistan
Jordan	—	31+	
Kuwait	8	161+	Injured includes 90 soldiers
Lebanon	4,333	12,250	Figures do not distinguish Hezbollah operatives from civilians
Oman	3+	17+	
Qatar	7	23	Killed occurred in March 22 helicopter crash
Saudi Arabia	3	34	Killed include 1 Saudi national and 2 foreign nationals
Syria	4+	Several	
United Arab Emirates	12	230	
International Waters	10	Several	

Data compiled by JINSA from various sources.

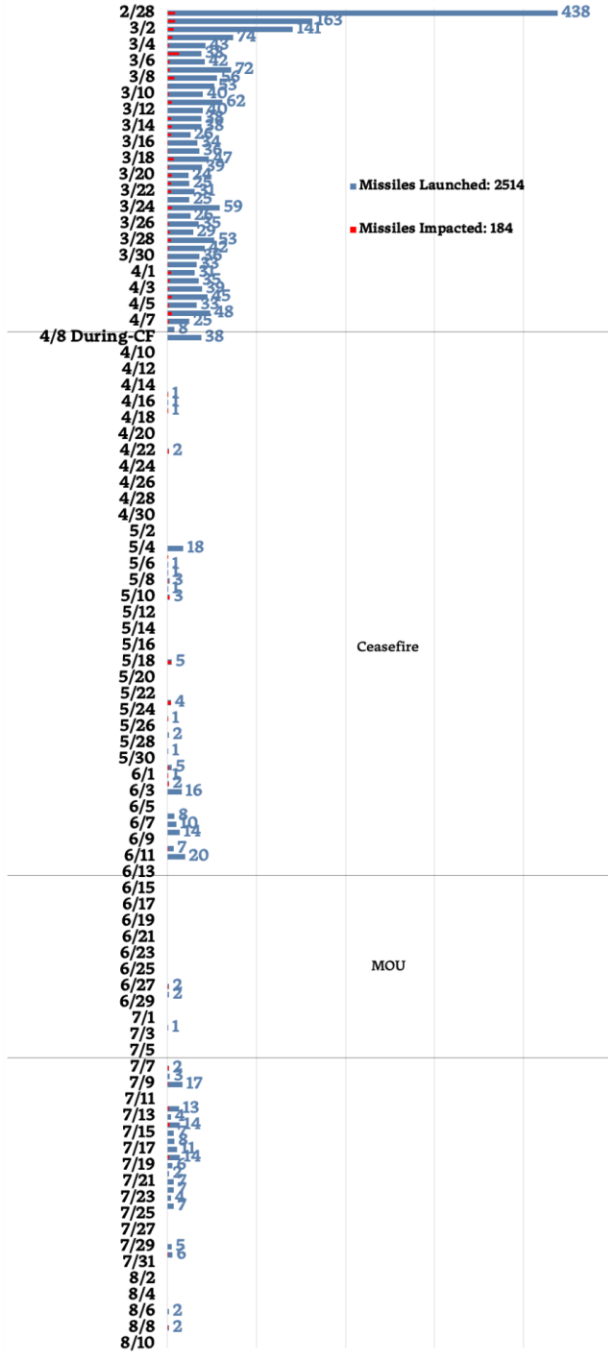
Commercial Ships Transiting Strait of Hormuz Since MOU



Figures derived from Kpler shipping data reviewed by JINSA.

Iranian Projectiles Fired During 2026 War

Iranian Missiles Launched Per Day



Iranian Drones Launched Per Day

