



Iran War Update: August 4–5, 2026

Ari Cicurel
Associate Director of Foreign Policy

Yoni Tobin
Senior Policy Analyst

Jonah Brody
Policy Analyst

Sarah Havdala
Policy Analyst

Rena Gabber
Research Associate

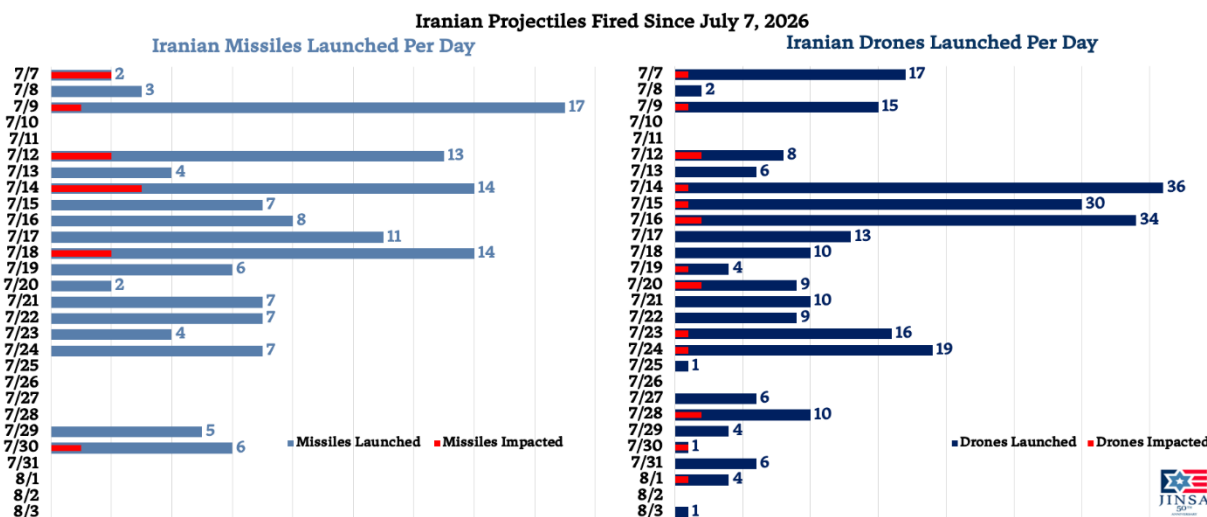
President Donald Trump and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on June 17, outlining terms to end the war and reopen the Strait of Hormuz over a 60-day period of further negotiations. However, on July 8, President Trump [declared](#) the MOU to be “over,” and 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 5 at 10:15 am ET.

Iranian missiles and drones launched since July 7: **At least 411** (3 between August 3–August 5)
Brent Crude Oil Price: [\\$78.77 a barrel](#) as of 10:15 am ET ([day range](#): \$78.11–80.95)

1. Overview

- On August 4, President Donald Trump [told](#) Fox News that the United States held “an all-day negotiation” that day with Iran, adding that “we are having very good discussions” with the Iranians. He claimed that a deal could be reached “tomorrow or the next day.”
 - » President Trump also claimed that the Strait of Hormuz “is going to be open very soon” and warned that “if they [the Iranians] back out again, they are going to get hit really hard.”
- *Axios* [reported](#) on August 4 that the United States, Iran, and Oman are nearing a deal to reopen the Strait of Hormuz, with Washington aiming for an agreement possibly to be announced on August 5, according to two regional sources and an American official.
 - » Reporting from [The New York Times](#), [Reuters](#), and [Axios](#), indicated that, in the proposed deal, inbound shipping would move through a corridor in Iranian waters and outbound shipping would transit a corridor in Omani waters. Reportedly, ships in the outbound lane, even while in Omani waters, would still need to [coordinate](#) with Iran.
- On August 4, Reuters and CNN reported that the United States has severely depleted its air defense interceptor and surface-to-surface missile stockpiles during the war with Iran.
 - » Reuters [revealed](#) that the United States used “virtually all” of its Army Tactical Missile Systems (ATACMS) and Precision Strike Missiles (PrSM) and also fired just under half of its Tomahawk missile arsenal.
 - » CNN [reported](#) that the United States has used 80 percent of its Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) air defense interceptors, according to sources familiar with the matter, with U.S. officials telling CNN that munitions stockpiles are “dangerously low.”

- On August 4, the [seventh round](#) of negotiations between Israel and Lebanon began in Rome, with the Lebanese Armed Forces releasing photos shortly before the conversations began of weapons it seized from Hezbollah.
- On August 3, President Trump [told](#) reporters that the current negotiations are Iran's "last chance to sign a good document," adding "I want to give them every last chance before decapitation."
- Recent cyberattacks took offline automated control systems at two water treatment facilities in New Jersey, the state [announced](#) on August 5.
 - » The latest cyberattacks on critical infrastructure follow similar attacks on water facilities across seven states in recent days. NBC News [reported](#) on August 4, citing two U.S. officials, that "Iran was likely behind" those cyberattacks.



2. Diplomatic Engagement

Iran

- On August 5, Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC)-affiliated *Tasnim News Agency* reported that Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi will [visit](#) Islamabad on August 7 to meet with Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Army Chief Asim Munir.
- On August 4, Qatari Foreign Ministry Spokesman Majed Al-Ansari [confirmed](#) that "efforts are ongoing" to reach a diplomatic resolution to the U.S.-Iran war, though he noted that direct talks are not currently scheduled. He also [stated](#) that draft language had been "circulated among the parties," without specifying further.
 - » Al-Ansari added, "Our focus right now is on avoiding escalation, reopening the Strait and reopening the door for diplomacy between the parties."
- In addition to President Trump's claim that the United States could reach a deal with Iran soon, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent [indicated](#) on August 4 that "we are in talks with the Iranians, and I think there is a chance we may have a deal today or tomorrow to open the strait and move towards a more normalized position in this conflict."
 - » Secretary of State Marco Rubio [stated](#) that day that "there's been progress made in those talks, but not finality yet."
- According to reporting from *The New York Times* on August 3, Iran and Oman are [nearing](#) an agreement that would reopen the Strait of Hormuz but validate Iran's control over the Strait. *Axios* [reported](#) the United States would also be a signatory to the deal.

- » In the proposed deal, ships would enter the Strait of Hormuz in a corridor near Iran's coast and controlled by Tehran and exit in a corridor near Oman.
- » Iranian officials cited by *The New York Times* claimed that ships would need to pay "service fees," with the revenue divided between itself and Oman.
- » Reuters [reported](#) on August 4 that Tehran demands control over inbound transit in the Strait of Hormuz and visibility over outbound shipping, with the capacity to intervene if needed.
- » According to [Axios reporting](#) on August 4, the deal's proposed arrangement of inbound shipping moving in Iranian waters and outbound shipping passing through Omani waters is a temporary measure for a 60-day period. No fees or tolls would be levied during this 60-day period.
 - *Axios* notes that unspecified countries would work on clearing mines from the median lane of the Strait of Hormuz within 30 days for inbound and outbound shipping. The management of the median lane would be determined in a future, permanent Iran-Oman agreement.
 - An American official and one regional source cited by *Axios* stated that Iran's leadership finished its approval process for the agreement on August 4.
- On August 3, American officials had [told](#) CBS News that no "new" U.S.-Iran negotiations were planned, besides ongoing talks through mediators, disputing President Trump's announcement that negotiations were set to resume that afternoon.

Lebanon

- On August 4, Lebanese and Israeli delegations [began](#) the seventh round of U.S.-brokered talks in Rome, which are [set](#) to last until August 6.
 - » The talks focus on expanding the pilot zones established under the June 26 framework agreement for Lebanese forces to take over areas previously under Israeli control, addressing outstanding maritime and land border issues, and advancing efforts to disarm Hezbollah and implement the ceasefire.
 - » According to Israel's *Maariv* outlet, talks currently center on who will [verify](#) that a given area is cleared of Hezbollah terror activity and suitable for transfer to Lebanese military control.
 - Since the United States is not expected to play any on-the-ground monitoring role, Lebanon wants other third-party countries to do so, *Maariv* reported on August 5.

3. U.S., Israeli, and Arab Partner Operations

- Following reporting that the United States is running critically low on munitions, including [missile interceptors](#) and [surface-to-surface missiles](#), a senior Israeli defense official told Israel's Channel 12 outlet on August 5 that this issue "does [not represent an obstacle](#) to resumed combat operations [against Iran]."

Lebanon

- On August 5, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) [issued](#) an evacuation warning for civilians in the southern Lebanese town of Mansouri, urging them to head north. Soon after, the IDF announced that it had [conducted](#) "precise strikes" against Hezbollah targets in southern Lebanon following ceasefire violations by the terror group.
- On August 5, the IDF [announced](#) that combat engineers in the Baram Regional Brigade and Yahalom unit recently blew up a Hezbollah tunnel underneath the town of Srebbine in southern Lebanon.

- » The IDF also revealed that its troops recently uncovered a Hezbollah weapons cache containing rockets and launchers.

4. Strait of Hormuz and Red Sea Shipping

- According to *Bloomberg* reporting on August 4, Tehran is [considering](#) letting European states clear mines from the Strait of Hormuz, which could form part of an agreement to reopen the Strait of Hormuz and facilitate peace talks with the United States.
- On August 3, U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) [announced](#) that U.S. forces have redirected 44 commercial vessels attempting to bypass the Strait of Hormuz blockade, disabled two ships that failed to comply with orders, and boarded two others to enforce compliance.

5. Iranian and Proxy Operations

Kuwait

- Overnight on August 3–4, *The Jerusalem Post* [reported](#), based on open-source videos, that Iran fired at least three one-way attack drones at a U.S. military base in Kuwait near the Iraqi border.
 - » Iranian state media, citing Arab sources, also announced that the attack sparked a large fire.

Maritime

- On August 5, the Houthis' military spokesman Yahya Saree [announced](#) that the group fired several ballistic missiles at the *Wafa* Saudi-flagged oil tanker in the Red Sea.
 - » Saree claimed that the *Wafa* is the eighth ship the Houthis have attacked since imposing a maritime blockade on Saudi Arabia on July 22.
- On August 4, an Indian-flagged commercial vessel [sank](#) in the Red Sea after being struck by a projectile near Yemen. All 14 crew members were rescued.
 - » Yemen's internationally recognized government attributed the attack to the Iran-backed Houthis.

Saudi Arabia

- On August 4, Houthi spokesman Saree [claimed](#) the group “successfully targeted a sensitive target” with a drone at the kingdom's Najran Airport along the Saudi-Yemeni border. Saudi authorities have not [confirmed](#) the reported attack.

6. Internal Iranian Dynamics

- On August 5, Iran's IRGC-affiliated *Fars* news reported that an Iranian state-owned lender [froze](#) the bank accounts of National Iranian Oil due to rising debt.
- On August 4, following rumors from a source close to Iranian Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei who [claimed](#) that Iran's President Pezeshkian threatened to resign several times during the war, Iranian state media aired a clip of Pezeshkian saying, “We are fully coordinated with the military forces. I will not resign, and I will stand firm.”

7. International Response

- On August 5, Saudi news outlet *Al Arabiya* reported that Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Army Chief Asim Munir will [visit](#) Saudi Arabia on August 6.
- On August 4, without directly referring to Hezbollah, Lebanese Prime Minister Nawaf Salam [wrote](#) on X that “the greatest support for Israel was provided by the one who distinguished himself by dragging Lebanon into futile war adventures, giving it pretexts to commit

aggressions against our country, trample its sovereignty, destroy its cities and villages, kill its sons, and displace them by the hundreds of thousands.”

- » He added that forces who “tie Lebanon to external calculations and axes... have no right to hand out certificates in patriotism, let alone in sovereignty.”
- » He also urged for “a state with one army that extends its authority over all its territories solely by its own forces.”

8. 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

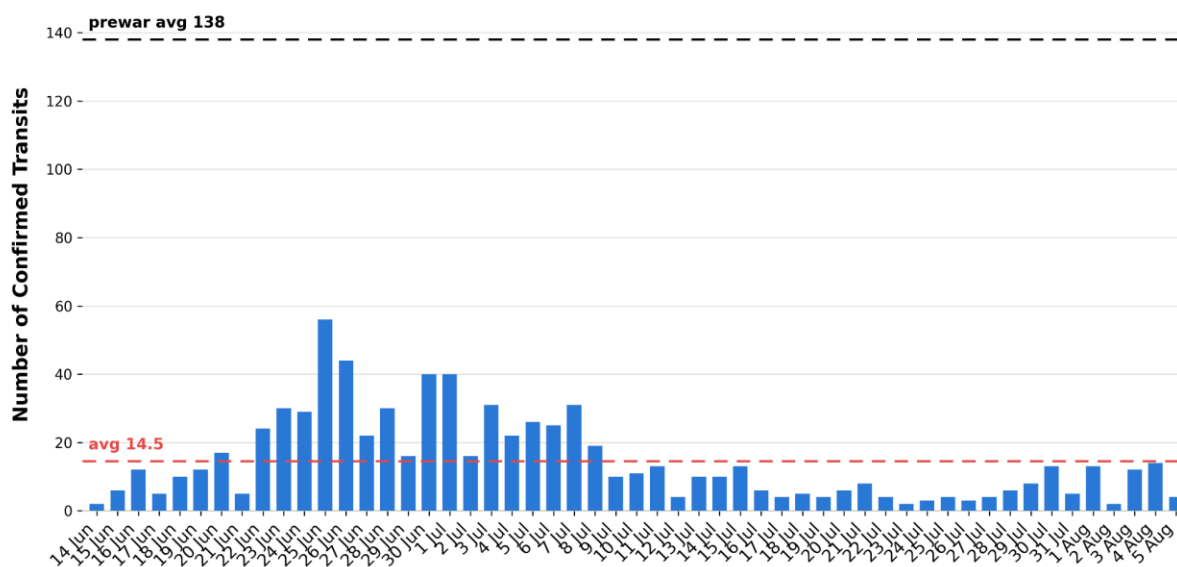
Estimated Casualties of Iran War Operations



Country	Killed	Injured	Notes
United States	18	500+	1 missing; 10 seriously wounded; 100 wounded in July; 358+ returned to duty
Israel	65+	7,795+	Killed include 26 civilians and 39 troops killed fighting Hezbollah (38 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	12,236	Figures do not distinguish Hezbollah operatives from civilians
Oman	3+	17+	
Qatar	7	23	Killed occurred in March 22 helicopter crash
Saudi Arabia	3	23	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.