



Iran War Update: September 12–14, 2026

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President Donald Trump and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian signed a now-expired 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 release regular updates about the conflict. The update below includes information since [JINSA's last update](#) as of September 14 at 10:00 am ET.

Iranian missiles and drones launched since July 7: **At least 549** (3 on September 12–13)

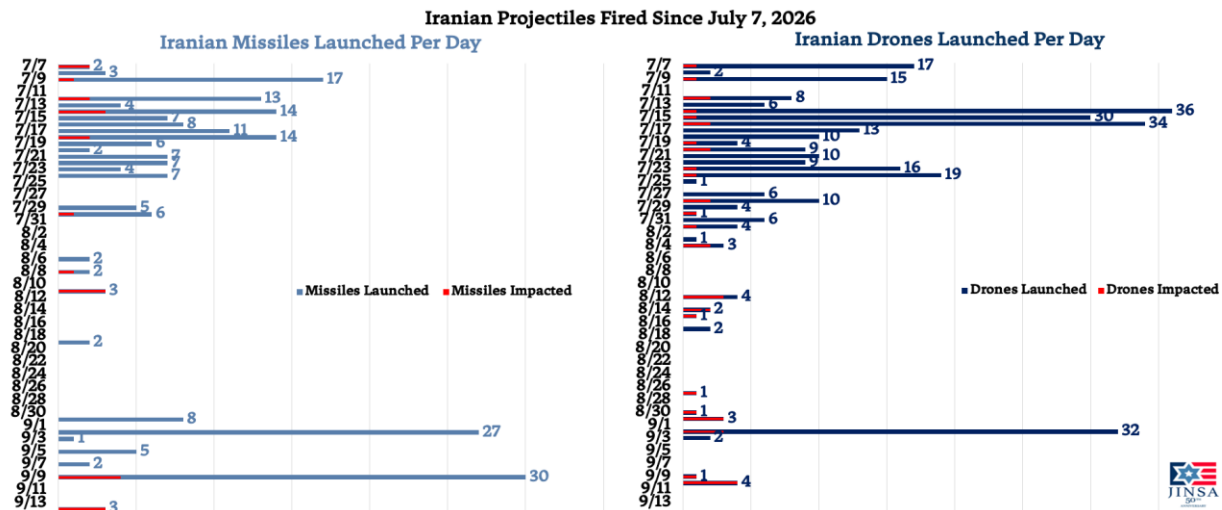
Brent Crude Oil Price: **[\\$109.04 a barrel](#)** as of **9:00 am ET** ([day range](#): \$106.11–109.80)

1. Overview

- Speaking to reporters on September 14, President Donald Trump downplayed a [report](#) that Chinese entities shared satellite imagery of a U.S. base in Jordan with Iran before an Iranian attack on the base killed three American troops. He [stated](#), “when they say that China spies on us, I say you’re right, and we spy on them too.”
- On September 14, the Associated Press [reported](#) that Saudi Arabia’s East-West Pipeline will be mostly out of service for several weeks. Saudi Arabia had shut down the pipeline after a drone it claimed came from Iraq struck it on September 11.
 - » According to Reuters reporting on September 13, if Saudi Arabia’s East-West Pipeline does not resume operations in the coming days, the country’s oil stocks for exports will be [depleted](#), causing a loss of up to 4 percent of global oil supply.
- On September 13, President Trump [reiterated](#) previous statements that the Iran war “will end right after—maybe before—but it’ll end right after the midterms.”
- In a CBS News interview on September 13, U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) Commander Admiral Brad Cooper [stated](#) that he is “not concerned at all” about an interceptor shortage, adding that “we’re well armed and ready for any contingency.”
- On September 13, *The New York Times* [reported](#) that a group of Iranian hardliners affiliated with cleric Hossein Taeb surprised Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian and the Iranian National Security Council by attacking ships in the Strait of Hormuz in July. The attacks prompted a U.S. response and the end of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) ceasefire that was agreed the previous month.
 - » Commander in Chief of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) General Ahmad Vahidi reportedly told Pezeshkian that he did not give the order for the attacks and that

the commanders in the field reportedly acted on their own based on an order allowing them to fire on any ship that violated Iran's control of the Strait of Hormuz.

- On September 12, President Trump [indicated](#) that Iran was “probably” responsible for the attack that hit Saudi Arabia's East-West oil pipeline and noted that the Iran-backed Houthis in Yemen “would much prefer not having us involved, and they're letting most ships go through. There's just one country that they're not too happy with [Saudi Arabia], and we'll get that straightened out.”
- CNN [reported](#) on September 13 that Secretary of War Pete Hegseth had pressured the two crewmen in the F-15 aircraft that was downed over Iran in April to speak in a CBS “60 Minutes” interview.



2. Diplomatic Engagement

Iran

- On September 14, Omani Foreign Minister Badr Albusaidi [announced](#) on X that the meeting between Iran and Gulf states initially scheduled to take place that day in Salalah, Oman, had been postponed “in the interests of consensus.”
 - Iran's Foreign Ministry Spokesman [claimed](#) that the meeting was postponed at the request of Saudi Arabia.
- On September 14, U.S. Energy Secretary Chris Wright [stated](#) that the United States is opposed to the head of Iran's Atomic Energy Organization, Mohammad Eslami, attending the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) annual conference, noting that, “He's a sanctioned individual and we don't want sanctioned individuals evading their sanctions. He asked for a waiver of the sanctions and it was denied.”
- On September 13, President Trump [stated](#) that “Iran wants to make a deal so bad. They are calling constantly. They want to make a deal. They've got to make the right deal. I'm not going to make a deal that's no good.”
 - When asked about a meeting between Iran and Gulf states originally scheduled for today, President Trump [replied](#), “I don't care. That's up to them.”

Lebanon

- On September 12, a U.S. State Department official [announced](#) that the diplomatic talks between Israeli and Lebanese delegations that were to be held in Rome next week will now take place in October due to scheduling conflicts.

- » The U.S. official insisted that the Israeli and Lebanese ambassadors to the United States will still attend a meeting at the State Department, but a Lebanese source told *The Times of Israel* that Lebanon feels “indiscriminate” Israeli attacks on Hezbollah are disrupting Beirut’s attempts to disarm the organization.
- » On the other hand, Israel believes that the Lebanese military is not prepared to effectively combat Hezbollah’s presence in Lebanon, according to *The Times of Israel* reporting.

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

Lebanon

- On September 13, Israeli Defense Minister Israel Katz [declared](#) that “anyone who approaches the Ali Taher Ridge will be destroyed,” adding, “The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] is operationally preparing to control the ridge and prevent any attempt by Hezbollah or any other party to return and establish itself there.”
 - » He also insisted that despite the recent demolition of the Hezbollah tunnel complex beneath the Ali Taher Ridge, the IDF will maintain a presence in southern Lebanon “until Hezbollah is disarmed throughout” the country.
- On September 13, Lebanese media [reported](#) that the IDF carried out airstrikes near the towns of Nabatieh al-Fawqa and Tel al-Dabsha in southern Lebanon.

Strait of Hormuz

- On September 13, CENTCOM [announced](#) that U.S. forces have redirected 101 vessels attempting to bypass the Strait of Hormuz blockade reimposed on July 14.
- On September 13, Iran [reported](#) that a merchant vessel was struck by an unspecified projectile in Persian Gulf near the coasts of Iran’s Hengam and Qeshm islands, resulting in one death and three injuries.
- On September 12, the *Financial Times* [published](#) that the United States had restricted military air cover for oil tankers transiting the Strait of Hormuz to two specific time slots per day, citing emails sent by the U.S. Naval Cooperation and Guidance for Shipping (NCAGS) center.
 - » Beginning in May, shipowners could apply to NCAGS for U.S. air protection, after which vessels received coordinates to follow and permission to transit during broader windows overnight.
- On September 12, when asked whether the United States could help ships travel through the Strait of Hormuz, President Trump [responded](#) that “everything will work out just fine.”

Yemen

- On September 14, Saudi state television [reported](#) that Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman met with CENTCOM Commander Adm. Cooper amid escalating Houthi attacks on Saudi Arabia.
- On September 13, Saudi Arabia [launched](#) two strikes on the Houthi-controlled city of Saada in northern Yemen, according to a Houthi media outlet, which also reported artillery fire in the Monabbih district.
- On September 12, Yemeni government forces [backed](#) by Saudi Arabia announced that they had attacked Houthi fighters in Mocha, just two days after the Iran-backed group captured the port city.
 - » According to Yemeni state media, “The armed forces destroyed vehicles and weapons and killed members of the Houthi terrorist militia backed by the Iranian regime.”

- » Yemeni government spokesperson Majed Abdullah al-Nazili also announced that their forces attacked Houthi targets along the Mocha-Dhubab road, urging civilians to stay away from the area.

4. Strait of Hormuz and Red Sea Shipping

- On September 14, Reuters [reported](#), citing Kpler data, that 14 vessels in total transited the Strait of Hormuz over the previous two days—an average of seven ships per day—below the 10-day average of 14 vessels. Of the transiting vessels, four exited the Gulf and 10 entered.

5. Iranian and Proxy Operations

Iraq

- On September 13, three Iranian missiles [targeted](#) a civilian camp belonging to the Komala Party of Iranian Kurdistan near Sulaymaniyah in Iraqi Kurdistan. No casualties were reported.

Saudi Arabia

- On September 14, the Houthis [claimed](#) they attacked Saudi Arabia's King Khalid Air Base with dozens of ballistic missiles and drones, claiming to have caused significant damage to the base.
- On September 13, Houthi military spokesman Yahya Saree [announced](#) that Houthi forces fired missiles and drones at Saudi Arabia's Sharurah military base on an unspecified date, claiming the attack targeted "weapons depots and command and control centers that are managing the aggression against our nation and people."
- On September 12, the Houthis [fired](#) a projectile at the Saudi border with Yemen, causing damage to a mosque, buildings, and cars, while also injuring two people in the kingdom.
- On September 11, Saudi Arabia [announced](#) that a drone attack originating from Iraq [targeted](#) the country's East-West pipeline in the Riyadh and Medina regions on the morning of September 10, causing injuries and prompting Riyadh to pause operations temporarily.
 - » Regional officials [assessed](#) on September 14 that operations to repair the pipeline, including a major pumping facility, may take three to five weeks.

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

- On September 14, Iran's Persian Gulf Strait Authority [released](#) an updated list of 77 vessels "violating Iranian protocols for the Strait of Hormuz," stating that these ships will face restrictions on travel through the Strait.
 - » The authority warned that "Insurance companies, P&I clubs, and classification societies are warned to refrain from providing services to these vessels to avoid consequences arising from dealing with them."
- On September 13, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian [said](#) he had "a constructive exchange" with Khaled bin Mohamed Al Nahyan, the crown prince of Abu Dhabi, adding that the two want to "turn the page, look to the future, and build it together" following the deterioration of relations brought on by the Iran war.
- On September 12, President Pezeshkian [stated](#) that "We do not need a regional policeman: the territorial integrity and security of the region can only be guaranteed by its main players and the countries that comprise it."

7. International Response

- On September 14, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun [stated](#), “We firmly oppose groundless suspicion and accusations without evidence,” in response to a recent *Wall Street Journal* article in which U.S. officials [claimed](#) that Iran acquired satellite imagery of a U.S. military base in Jordan from “Chinese entities.”
 - » In July, the Muwaffaq Salti Air Base in Jordan came under Iranian attack, resulting in the deaths of three American service members.
- After a drone attack on September 11 that Iraqi and Saudi officials claim came from Iraq hit Saudi Arabia’s East-West Pipeline, Iraq [closed](#) three border crossings with Iran as part of its effort to find the perpetrators.

8. JINSA Resources

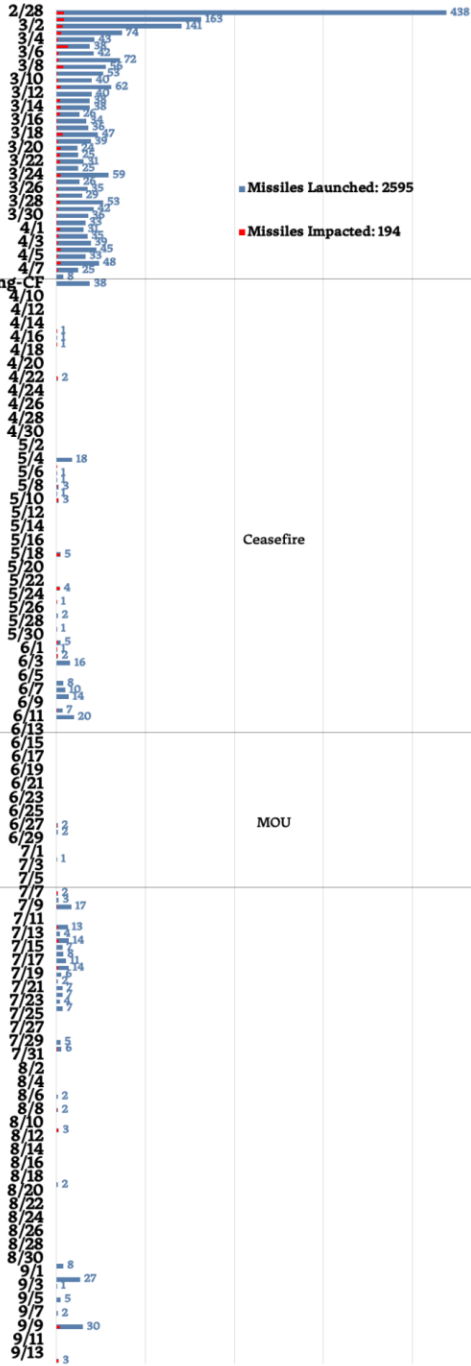
- Ari Cicurel and Jonah Brody, [All Is Not Quiet on the Houthi Front](#), September 11, 2026
- Michael Makovsky, PhD, [Why Iran Fears Israel, But Not America](#), September 9, 2026
- Michael Makovsky, PhD, and Blaise Misztal, [How to Win the Iran War](#), September 3, 2026
- Michael Makovsky, PhD, John Hannah, Blaise Misztal, and Jonathan Ruhe, [Shifting the Center of Gravity: Transforming the U.S.-Israel Security Partnership](#), August 18, 2026
- 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

Estimated Casualties of Iran War Operations			JINSA
Country	Killed	Injured	Notes
United States	18	500+	1 missing; 10 seriously wounded; 100 wounded in July; 358+ returned to duty
Israel	67+	7,800+	Killed include 26 civilians and 41 troops killed fighting Hezbollah (40 soldiers, 1 contractor)
Iran	3,724+	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	9	161+	Injured includes 90 soldiers
Lebanon	4,383	12,406	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	22	Several	

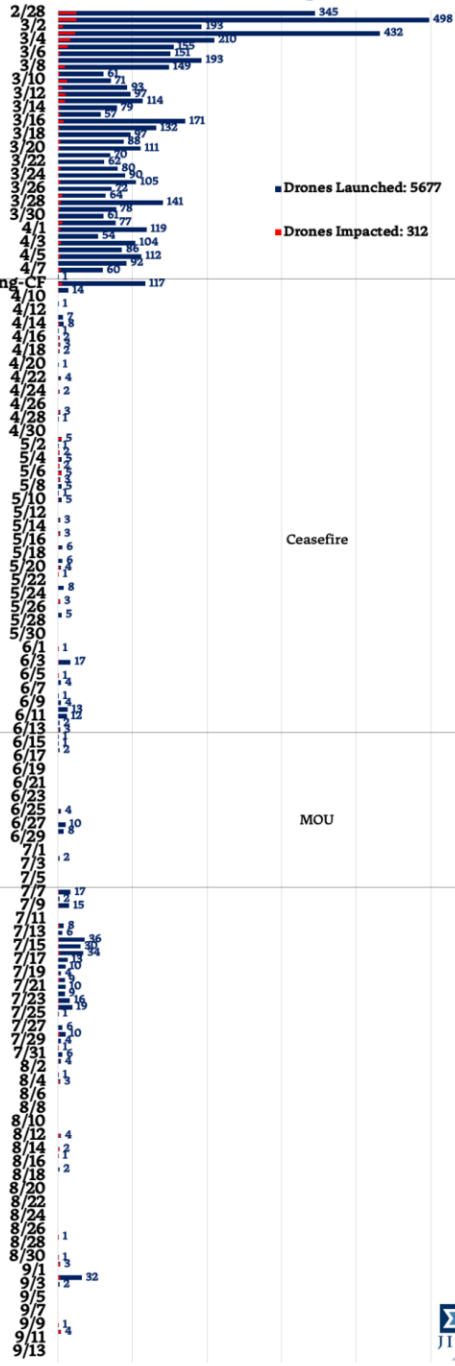
Data compiled by JINSA from various sources.

Iranian Projectiles Fired During 2026 War

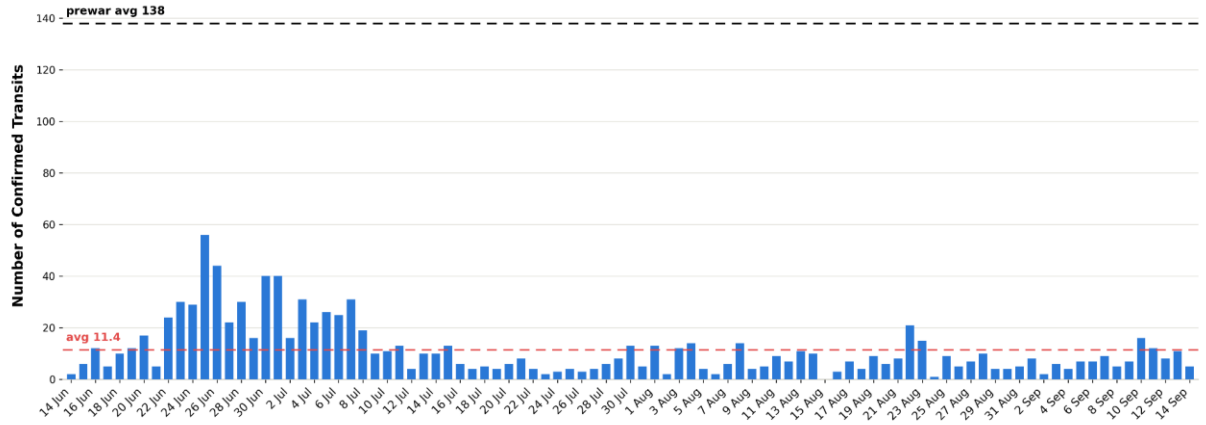
Iranian Missiles Launched Per Day



Iranian Drones Launched Per Day



Commercial Ships Transiting Strait of Hormuz Since MOU



Figures derived from Kpler shipping data reviewed by JINSA.