



Iran War Update: September 1–2, 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 2 at 10:00 am ET.

Iranian missiles and drones launched since July 7: **At least 501** (70 on August 31–September 2)

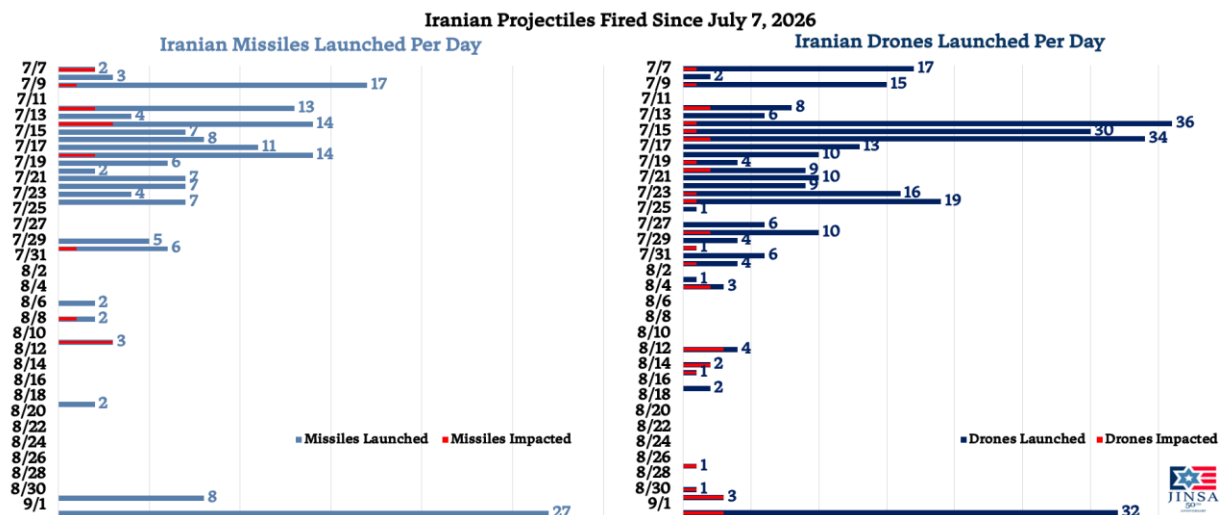
Brent Crude Oil Price: [\\$94.31 a barrel](#) as of 9:00 am ET ([day range](#): \$93.52–97.04)

1. Overview

- After U.S. strikes against Iran on September 1, Iran conducted its largest series of attacks since the April 8 ceasefire by launching at least 59 missiles and drones overnight on September 2 that targeted Jordan, Bahrain, Kuwait, and Iraq.
- On September 1, President Donald Trump [posted](#) on Truth Social that “I’m not trying to force Iran to the bargaining table,” adding that “I couldn’t care less if they sign a worthless, to them, agreement.”
 - » He added, “I like our position now much better, with almost total control of the Hormuz Strait, and their economy totally collapsing. They are just playing out the inevitable.”
 - » President Trump concluded the post by asking “When are the Iranian people going to rise up and fight?”
- On September 1, U.S. forces [conducted](#) a wave of strikes against an estimated [100 Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps \(IRGC\) targets](#), including “air defense sites, radar systems, maritime assets and facilities, mine laying capabilities, and communications sites,” according to *Axios* and a statement from U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM).
 - » [Axios](#) and Israel’s [Channel 12](#) reported that the United States for the first time attacked two tankers belonging to Iran’s state-owned oil company in response to Iran’s attacks on ships in the Strait of Hormuz.
 - This was part of a new policy of “tanker-for-tanker,” in which U.S. forces hit an Iranian tanker every time Iran attacks a tanker in the Strait of Hormuz.
 - » On September 1, President Trump [posted](#) on Truth Social that the U.S. strikes were “in retaliation for the Iranians’ failed attempt at adding sea mines to the Strait, which

currently has no mines (They have been completely removed or detonated!), and the Iranians shooting eight missiles, all successfully knocked down, at our Military Base in Jordan.”

- He added, “If the failed Nation of Iran retaliates for this very justified attack, they will be hit again at a much harder and higher level, but it will not be the biggest attack of them all, that is waiting in the wings and, when it is over, there will be very little left of the Islamic Republic of Iran!”
- » President Trump [told](#) Fox News on September 1 that Iran “tried to rebuild their radar because they can't see anything,” and “we waited until it was almost built and then we hit it.”
- Discussing U.S. strikes against Iran on August 30, CENTCOM Spokesman Navy Capt. Tim Hawkins [told](#) TWZ News that “Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps forces were observed preparing to launch rockets with sea mines into the Strait of Hormuz.”
 - » Hawkins’s statement indicated that Iran has rocket-launched naval mines, which could allow Iran to deploy mines without relying on traditional maritime platforms.
- Reuters reported on September 1 that Iran has [been unable](#) to export crude oil, or any other cargo items, to China since the United States reinstated the naval blockade against Iran on July 14.
 - » According to Reuters, which cited shipping analytics data from the Kpler, TankerTrackers, and Vortexa firms, “Iran has gone about seven weeks without shipping meaningful crude exports through the Strait of Hormuz ... cutting off one of Tehran's main sources of foreign-currency earnings.”



2. Diplomatic Engagement

Lebanon

- On September 1, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu [met](#) with the U.S. Ambassador to Israel Mike Huckabee and U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Michel Issa ahead of an anticipated eighth round of Israel-Lebanon talks in early September.

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

- On September 2, the USS *Abraham Lincoln* aircraft carrier, carrying around 5,000 U.S. sailors and Marines, [docked](#) in Thailand following a 286-day at-sea deployment, including a long stretch in the Middle East to support Operation Epic Fury.

Iran

- On September 1, U.S. CENTCOM [bombed](#) several IRGC targets in Iran, including “air defense sites, radar systems, maritime assets and facilities, mine laying capabilities, and communications sites” in retaliation for Iranian attacks on U.S. forces in the region, according to CENTCOM’s X page.
 - » According to Israel’s [Channel 12](#) and [Axios](#), U.S. forces attacked around 100 IRGC sites, including [two Iranian tankers](#) in the Strait of Hormuz.
 - According to Iranian state television, one of the sites U.S. forces [targeted](#) was Iran’s Jiroft airport in Kerman province.
 - An eyewitness also [sent](#) a video to *Iran International*, claiming that a U.S. strike destroyed a communications tower in Sirik county’s Kuhestak area.
 - According to Iranian officials, U.S. strikes resulted in the deaths of [four IRGC Aerospace Force members](#) in Kermanshah province, [three Basij paramilitary force members](#) in Lavan Island, and [seven people](#) in Khuzestan province.
 - » [Axios reported](#) that the strikes were part of a plan that President Trump and his senior aides “have been considering in recent days to prevent Iran from rebuilding the radar and missile capabilities it needs to attack ships.”
 - » Channel 12 also [noted](#) that Iran had started to relocate weapons from near Tehran toward the Strait of Hormuz, leading the U.S. military to notify President Trump that Iran was reestablishing its capabilities near the waterway.
- On August 31, when asked by a reporter whether using a nuclear weapon against Iran was off the table, President Trump [responded](#), “I would never say that but the answer is yes. There is no reason for it. ... They’re totally defeated militarily, and now I should use a nuclear weapon on them? What a stupid question.”

Lebanon

- On September 2, Lebanese media [reported](#) that Israeli forces launched a drone strike on the southern Lebanese city of Nabatieh, killing one person and injuring another, in retaliation for a Hezbollah attack on Israeli troops in Lebanon.

4. Strait of Hormuz and Red Sea Shipping

- On September 2, [Axios](#), citing a U.S. official, [stated](#) that around 40 ships carrying millions of barrels of oil transited in and out of the Strait of Hormuz that same day.
- On September 1, U.S. Energy Secretary Chris Wright [said](#) 17 million barrels of oil transited the Strait of Hormuz, the highest daily volume since the Iran war began.
- On September 1, Reuters [reported](#) that Iran has not exported crude oil, or any other cargo items, to China since the United States reinstated the naval blockade against Iran on July 14.
- On September 1, CENTCOM [reported](#) that U.S. forces have redirected 84 commercial vessels attempting to bypass the Strait of Hormuz blockade reimposed on July 14, disabled three ships that failed to comply with these orders, and boarded two others to enforce compliance.

5. Iranian and Proxy Operations

Bahrain

- On September 2, Iran’s army [said](#) it targeted American “radar installations and assembly points” at Sheikh Isa Air Base in Bahrain with suicide drones. Bahraini officials [stated](#) the

nation's air defenses were activated against the drones. No casualties or damage were immediately reported.

Iraq

- On September 2, the Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan (PDKI) [reported](#) that Iran struck two of their positions in the early morning: the Balisan mountains and the Jezhnikan camp near Erbil.

Jordan

- On September 1, Jordan's military [said](#) Iran launched 13 ballistic missiles into Jordanian airspace, of which Jordanian air defenses intercepted and destroyed 10.
 - » The remaining three missiles fell in remote areas away from population centers, and Jordan reported no casualties.

Kuwait

- Overnight on September 1–2, Kuwait came under an Iranian drone attack, which [ignited](#) a fire in the country's capital at a residential complex.
 - » According to Kuwaiti media, the fire was eventually brought under control and did not cause any injuries.

Lebanon

- Overnight on September 1–2 in the Ali Taher Ridge of southern Lebanon, Hezbollah fired two explosive drones at Israeli troops.
 - » The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) [reported](#) that Israeli troops intercepted one of the drones and that the attack did not result in any casualties.

Maritime

- On September 2, the IRGC [announced](#) that two tankers struck sea mines while transiting the Strait of Hormuz and stated that the ships had been disabled.
- On September 2, Bahri, the national shipping company of Saudi Arabia, [reported](#) that a security incident on the company's *SIDR* ship while it was traveling through the Strait of Hormuz on August 31 resulted in the deaths of two Filipino crewmembers.
 - » The United Kingdom Maritime Trade Organization (UKMTO) Center [announced](#) that authorities are currently investigating the incident.
- On September 1, the UKMTO Center [announced](#) that three projectiles attacked a tanker leaving the Strait of Hormuz near the Omani coast, but that the ship did not report any casualties.

Outside the Middle East

- On September 2, *NBC News* [reported](#), citing four informed sources, that Iranian hackers have attempted to carry out cyberattacks on U.S. energy and telecommunications systems in recent weeks.

6. Internal Iranian Dynamics

- On September 2, the value of Iran's currency [sank](#) to a historical low, with 2.2 million Iranian rials equaling 1 U.S. dollar, according to *Iran International*.

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

- On September 2, Iran's Supreme National Security Council Secretary Mohsen Rezaei [warned](#) on X that "You will soon see that Iran's new strategy on the battlefield, in diplomacy and in confronting the economic blockade, will shatter your foundations."

- On September 2, Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Esmaeil Baghaei [posted](#) on X that a U.S. strike on a house in Kuhestak, in Iran's south, that was hosting a wedding was a "war crime," stating that the attack was "part of America's desperate struggle to conceal its failure."
- » CENTCOM spokesperson Tim Hawkins [told](#) CBS News in response to Baghaei's allegations that "we're aware of the reports, which originated from Iranian state media. The U.S. military never targets civilians, unlike the IRGC."

8. International Response

- On September 2, the Qatari Ministry of Foreign Affairs [released](#) a statement condemning "the renewed attacks launched" by Iran against Bahrain, Jordan, and Kuwait as a "blatant breach of international law, the United Nations Charter, and the principles of good neighborliness."
- On September 1, International Atomic Energy Agency Director General Rafael Grossi [re-reported](#) that Iran continued to deny inspectors access to key nuclear facilities, preventing the agency from verifying the location and status of Iran's stockpile of near-weapons-grade enriched uranium.
 - » Grossi called the lack of information and access "a matter of proliferation concern" and urged Iran to provide inspectors access "with the utmost urgency."
- On September 1, the [Financial Times](#) and Israel's [i24 News](#) reported that Russia is aiding the Iranian regime with the development of supersonic cruise missiles. Russian leaders are working to provide Iran the capability to use cruise missiles to strike and neutralize U.S. aircraft carriers in the Middle East, per [i24 News](#).
 - » That day, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian [met](#) with Russian President Vladimir Putin on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan to discuss "ways to strengthen and expand cooperation in various fields," according to an Iranian readout.

9. JINSA Resources

- 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
- Giran Ozcan, [While Washington Pauses, Tehran Targets the Kurds](#), July 31, 2026
- Jonathan Ruhe, [A New Baseline to Prevent a Nuclear Iran](#), July 30, 2026
- Ari Cicurel and Sarah Havdala, [Preventing Iran's Weaponization of the Bab el-Mandeb Strait](#), July 29, 2026
- Jonathan Ruhe, ["Taking Out Iran's Pickaxe Nuclear Site is Key — Here's How Trump Can Do It,"](#) *New York Post*, Friday, July 24, 2026
- Giran Ozcan, [The Iran War Through the Kurdish Lens](#), July 24, 2026
- John Hannah, ["Trump's Hands Are Tied in Hormuz. Here's 'Plan B.'"](#) *The Washington Examiner*, July 23, 2026

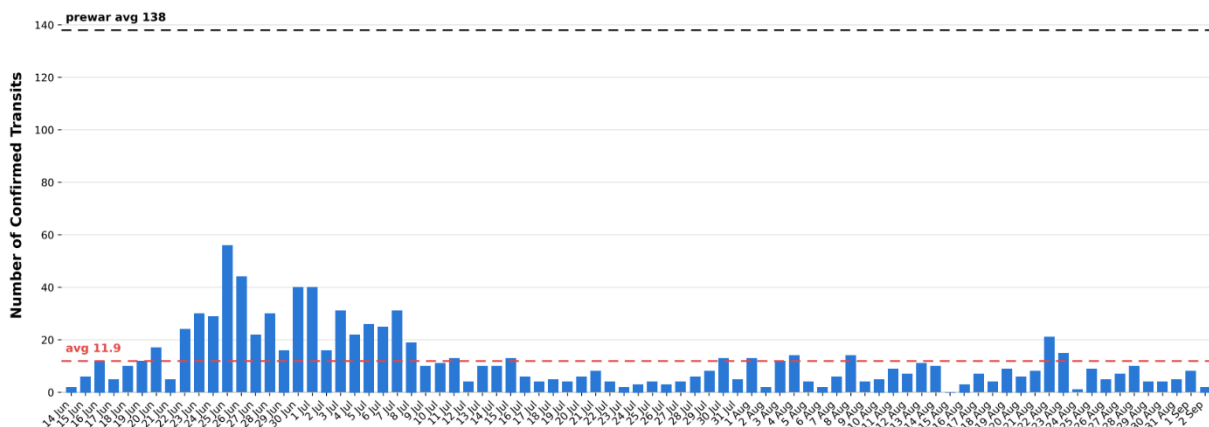
Estimated Casualties of Iran War Operations



Country	Killed	Injured	Notes
United States	18	500+	1 missing; 10 seriously wounded; 100 wounded in July; 358+ returned to duty
Israel	67+	7,798+	Killed include 26 civilians and 41 troops killed fighting Hezbollah (40 soldiers, 1 contractor)
Iran	3,724+	26,580+	Includes 1,229+ 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	4,353	12,323	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	16	Several	

Data compiled by JINSA from various sources.

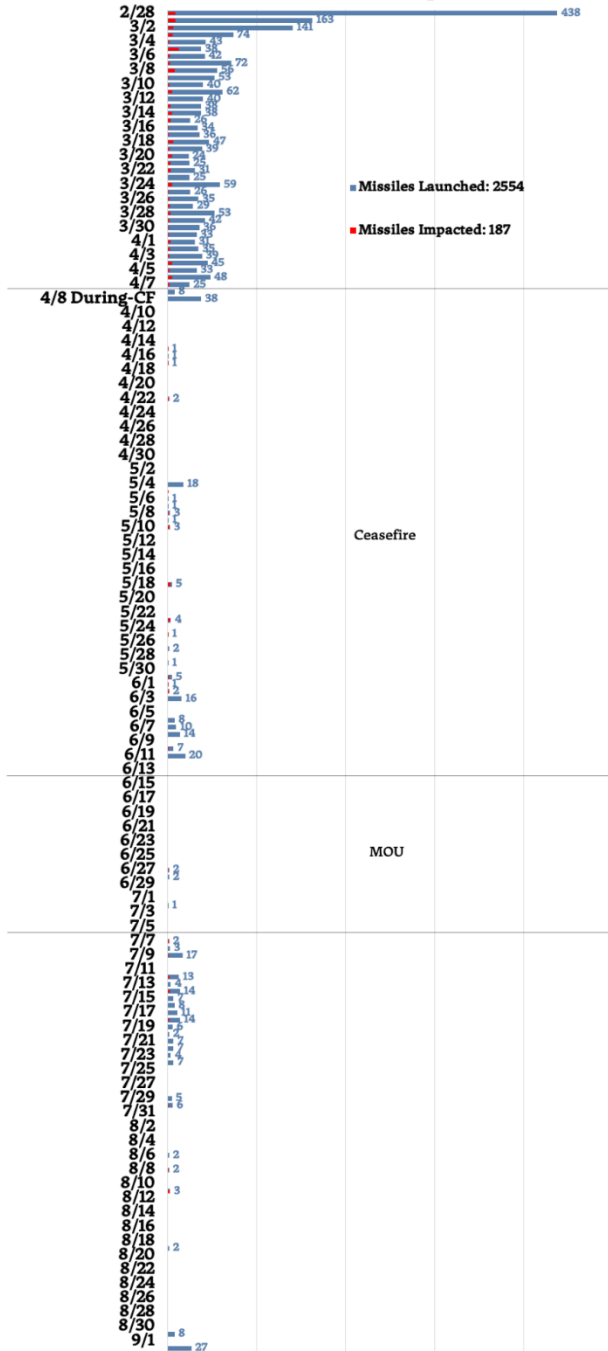
Commercial Ships Transiting Strait of Hormuz Since MOU



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

