



Iran War Update: September 26–28, 2026

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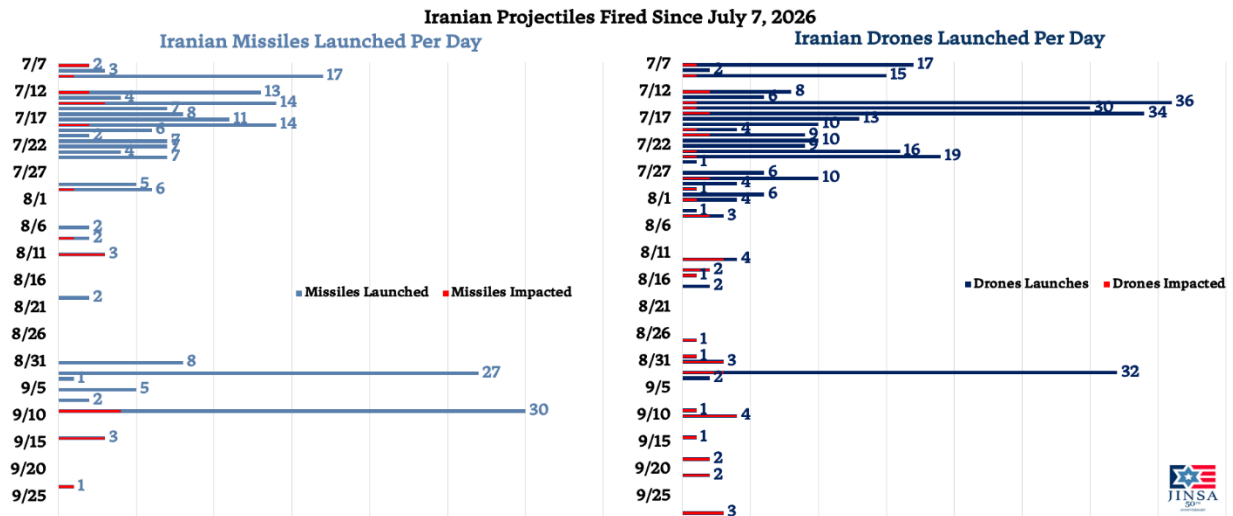
President Donald Trump and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian signed a now-expired Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on June 17, outlining terms to end the war and reopen the Strait of Hormuz over a 60-day period of further negotiations. However, on July 8, President Trump [declared](#) the MOU to be “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 28 at 10:00 am ET.

Iranian missiles and drones launched since July 7: **At least 555** (3 on September 24–25)

Brent Crude Oil Price: **\$106.50 a barrel** as of 9:00 am ET ([day range](#): \$105.06–108.83)

1. Overview

- Qatari mediators are [expected](#) to convene indirect U.S.-Iran talks in the United States on September 28 or 29, according to an official briefed on the talks speaking to Reuters.
 - » The two sides are expected to discuss a revised version of the ceasefire proposal that Iran shared with the United States last week.
 - » On September 27, President Donald Trump [told](#) *Axios*, “I expect more talks with Iran [this week]. They want to make a deal, but it is not the deal that I want to make.”
 - He added, “It is what we would have maybe agreed to a year ago. They overplayed their hand.”
- On September 27, President Trump [posted](#) a map on Truth Social showing the Strait of Hormuz, with the waterway marked as “Trump Strait.”
- On September 26, President Trump [confirmed](#) that Iran “made a proposal, but I rejected it.”
 - » Earlier that day, *The Wall Street Journal* had [reported](#) that President Trump had rejected an Iranian proposal for a seven-day ceasefire.
- *The Wall Street Journal* also [reported](#) on September 26 that President Trump shared with his staff that he doubts Iran will accept his conditions for a deal and that a resumed bombing campaign in Iran is likely after the U.S. midterm elections in November, according to U.S. officials.
 - » However, the officials noted that President Trump is hesitant to restart major combat operations, in part due to diminishing munitions stocks.



2. Diplomatic Engagement

Iran

- On September 27, the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations (UN) Mike Waltz [told](#) NBC News that Iran's ceasefire proposal was "a pretty cynical attempt to put something on the table that they knew was unacceptable."
 - » He noted that Tehran demanded "the release of the blockades, the sanctions, international sanctions and access to billions in assets just to talk when we entered into a memorandum of agreement just a few [months] ago."
- *Axios* [reported](#) on September 27 that the Trump administration is demanding nuclear concessions from Iran; however, the Iranians want negotiations to focus on the Strait of Hormuz and lifting the United States' naval blockade.
 - » Qatari mediators reportedly presented a compromise proposal based on Iran's initial proposal and have been shuttling back and forth between American and Iranian negotiators over the weekend to make revisions to the text.
- On September 26, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi [told](#) NBC News that "we heard from President Trump that he rejected this deal. But we are still waiting for an official response through the mediators."

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

Iran

- In a post on X on September 27, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent [noted](#) that as part of Operation Economic Outcast, "teams were dispatched across the globe to engage with countries and demand action against the Iranian regime."
 - » He highlighted that Turkey and Oman halted Mahan Air flights to their countries, the U.A.E. "halted all flights by Iranian airlines," and Turkey "stopped transacting with Iran."
 - » Secretary Bessent added, "Even Iran's leadership has acknowledged the economic toll of the war, as the value of the rial has fallen to record lows."

Lebanon

- On September 27, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) [carried out](#) strikes on Hezbollah targets in southern Lebanon, including sites from which the group launched drones and anti-tank missiles, after Hezbollah fired at Israeli soldiers in the Israeli-held buffer zone.

- On September 26, the IDF [bombed](#) a Hezbollah weapons storage site in the Sejoud area of southern Lebanon.

Yemen

- On September 27, the Houthis [claimed](#) that Saudi forces bombed a shopping area in a market in the Yemeni city of Taiz, killing seven people and injuring several others.
 - » That same day, a spokesperson for Yemen's armed forces announced that an attack on Taiz [resulted](#) in the deaths of four Iranian missile and drone experts.

4. Strait of Hormuz and Red Sea Shipping

- President Trump [told](#) *Axios* on September 27 that over the weekend, over 20 million barrels of oil passed through the Strait of Hormuz—the largest volume since the war in Iran commenced.

5. Iranian and Proxy Operations

Iraq

- According to a senior official in the Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iran (KDPI), the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) [fired](#) three Hadid-110 drones at the group's Azadi camp in Erbil, without causing injuries, on September 28.

Lebanon

- On September 27, Hezbollah [carried out](#) an explosive drone attack targeting Israeli troops in the Israeli-held buffer zone of southern Lebanon.
 - » According to the IDF, no troops were injured in the attack.

Maritime

- On September 27, three U.S. officials [informed](#) NBC News that the Pentagon had not previously disclosed an incident from September 14 in which an Iranian missile attacked a ship, injuring eight American Marines.
 - » According to the officials, the Marines suffered from smoke inhalation, and some might have sustained traumatic brain injuries, but the injuries were not serious, and the service members have since [returned](#) to duty.
 - » The Pentagon's tracking system also [noted](#) that 861 American service members have suffered injuries since the Iran war began.
- On September 27, Iranian state media [reported](#) that the IRGC's Navy captured an American Remus 600 autonomous underwater vehicle that was allegedly carrying out a spying mission in the Strait of Hormuz.

Outside the Middle East

- On September 28, U.K. authorities indicated they were [investigating](#) possible ties between Iran and the five men arrested near an air base in Fairfield on suspicion they were planning a terrorist attack.
 - » The Iranian embassy in London responded by [rejecting](#) any connection to the terrorist plot.

Saudi Arabia

- Overnight on September 26, Saudi-backed forces in Yemen [shot down](#) two Houthi drones targeting Riyadh.

6. Internal Iranian Dynamics

- On September 28, the value of Iran's currency [sank](#) to a historic low, with 2.4 Iranian rials equaling one U.S. dollar.

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

- On September 28, U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) [refuted](#) a senior Iranian official's claim that Tehran's navy maintains "full control" over the Strait of Hormuz, writing on X that "Iran has no navy because American forces sank it. And Iran does not control the Strait of Hormuz as evidenced by the thousands of ships that have passed through freely along with more than 1 billion barrels of oil just over the past few months."
- On September 28, according to Mojtaba Khamenei's Telegram channel, the Iranian Supreme Leader allegedly [stated](#) that Iran's military drove its opponents away from the country's southern coast to the Arabian Sea, but would soon also force them from this area as well.

8. International Response

- On September 26, the Iraqi government [announced](#) that it is in talks with the United States in an attempt to be exempted from sanctions targeting Iranian airlines due to humanitarian concerns.
 - » According to the Iraqi government, the new sanctions that prompted Iraq to halt Iranian flights have impacted travel plans for patients seeking care, as well as students and pilgrims.

9. JINSA Resources

- Ari Cicurel, [Resupply Israel to Deter Iran and Protect U.S. Forces](#), September 23, 2026
- VADM Jeff Trussler, USN (ret.) and Sarah Havdala, [The US Needs an Information-Warfare Strategy for Iran — And Beyond](#), September 21, 2026
- Jonah Brody, [The Houthis Close in on the Gulf's Oil Export Lifeline](#), September 17, 2026
- Sarah Havdala, [Iran in the Wake of Women, Life, Freedom](#), September 16, 2026
- Giran Ozcan, [The United States Cannot Afford to Abandon the Kurdistan Region](#), September 14, 2026
- 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

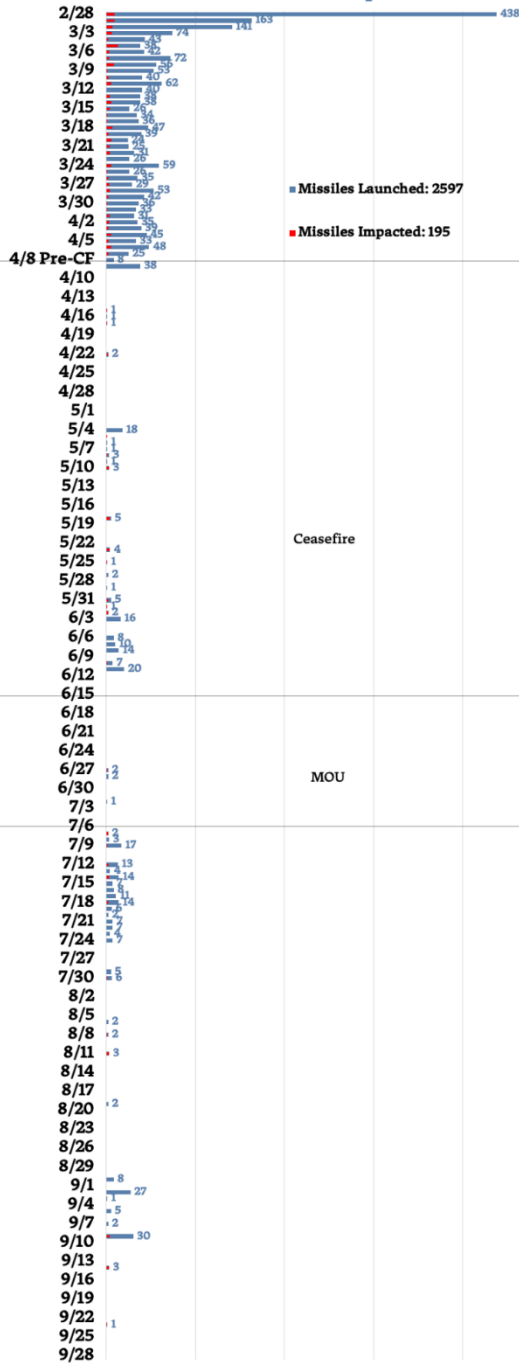


<i>Country</i>	<i>Killed</i>	<i>Injured</i>	<i>Notes</i>
United States	19	861	10 seriously wounded; 100 wounded in July; 366+ returned to duty
Israel	67+	7,800+	Killed include 26 civilians and 41 troops killed fighting Hezbollah (40 soldiers, 1 contractor)
Iran	3,724+	26,580+	Includes 1,229+ military killed; 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	160+	Injured includes 90 soldiers
Lebanon	4,386	12,407	Figures do not distinguish Hezbollah operatives from civilians
Oman	3+	17+	
Qatar	7	23	Killed occurred in March 22 helicopter crash
Saudi Arabia	3	47	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

