



Iran War Update: September 9, 2026

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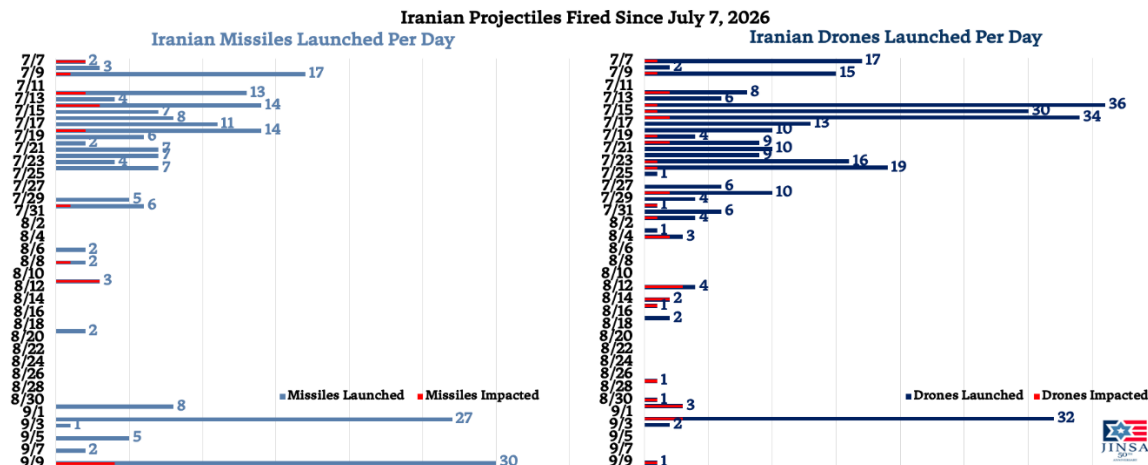
President Donald Trump and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian signed a now-expired Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on June 17, outlining terms to end the war and reopen the Strait of Hormuz over a 60-day period of further negotiations. However, on July 8, President Trump [declared](#) the MOU to be “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 9 at 10:00 am ET.

Iranian missiles and drones launched since July 7: **At least 542** (31 on September 8–9)

Brent Crude Oil Price: **\$100.62 a barrel** as of 9:00 am ET ([day range](#): \$98.80–100.95)

1. Overview

- On September 9, oil prices [rose](#) to over \$100 per barrel for the first time in nearly six weeks.
- On September 8, U.S. forces [destroyed](#) five oil tankers belonging to the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), after the IRGC fired ballistic missiles at a U.S. warship twice during the past two days, according to a statement from U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM).
- On September 8, Jordan [intercepted](#) 18 of 20 ballistic missiles fired from Iran, with the remaining two falling in remote areas away from population centers, according to Jordan’s military.
- CNN [reported](#) on September 8 that U.S. military and intelligence officials have discussed decreasing the number of American forces normally deployed to the Middle East once the war ends.



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

Iran

- On September 9, U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio [stated](#) that “Iran continues to try to hit US naval ships, and for every time they do that or try to do that, they’re going to lose tankers.”
- On September 9, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu [declared](#) that Israel’s “main task is defeating the terrorist regime in Iran. We are very close to that,” adding, “We know that the entire axis will fall once and for all. We are committed to doing it, and we will do it.”
- On September 8, in response to two attempted IRGC ballistic missile attacks on a U.S. Navy warship, U.S. forces [targeted and destroyed](#) five Iranian tankers carrying crude oil, including the M/T *Kaviz*, M/T *Charminar*, M/T *Horizon 1*, M/T *Riesco*, and M/T *Derya*.
- On September 8, the United States [sanctioned](#) 27 Iranian airlines, as well as a series of firms in Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.) for facilitating the transfer of weapons, illegal cargo, and personnel for regime activities.

Lebanon

- On September 9, Lebanese media [announced](#) that an Israeli drone strike near the southern Lebanese towns of Harouf and Zebdin resulted in the death of a motorcyclist.

Yemen

- On September 9, the Iran-backed Houthis [stated](#) that Saudi Arabia carried out 32 airstrikes on targets in Yemen’s Houthi-controlled Jawf, al-Bayda, Marib, and Taiz provinces.
- On September 8, Yemen’s internationally recognized government forces [announced](#) they captured a high-level Houthi commander, Abu Ali al-Adhari, along with several other Houthi fighters during clashes in Taiz province.

3. Strait of Hormuz and Red Sea Shipping

- On September 9, Iran’s IRGC [announced](#) that it would establish a maritime restricted zone extending from Chabahar into parts of the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea, with precise coordinates to be announced at a later time.
- On September 8, Reuters [reported](#), citing Kpler data, that six commodity vessels transited the Strait of Hormuz, down from nine the previous day and below the 10-day average of approximately 12 vessels.
 - » Five vessels entered the Persian Gulf and one exited, although this data excludes vessels that may have transited with their Automatic Identification System (AIS) transponders switched off.

4. Iranian and Proxy Operations

Jordan

- On September 8, Jordan’s military [said](#) Iran launched 20 ballistic missiles into Jordanian airspace, of which Jordanian air defenses intercepted and destroyed 18. The remaining two missiles fell in remote areas away from population centers.

Maritime

- On September 9, CENTCOM [denied](#) an IRGC claim that Iranian forces struck two U.S. Navy destroyers operating in the Middle East, stating that no U.S. warships had been hit and that all attempted Iranian attacks had failed.

- » CENTCOM also stated that U.S. forces had destroyed 10 Iranian tankers over the previous week, describing the vessels as part of a multibillion-dollar shadow network that funds the IRGC.
- » Iran had claimed on September 9 to [target](#) two U.S. vessels and eight commercial ships near the Strait of Hormuz in response to the United States striking five Iranian tankers overnight.
- On September 9, the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) Center reported two separate maritime incidents in the Persian Gulf involving tankers struck or potentially struck by projectiles fired by unspecified actors.
 - » Approximately 28 nautical miles southeast of Al-Faw, Iraq, a tanker was [struck](#) by an unidentified projectile. The crew was reported safe, and no environmental impact was reported.
 - » Approximately 24 nautical miles northwest of Port Rashid, U.A.E., a tanker master [re-reported](#) seeing a vessel listing while at anchor, possibly indicating water ingress following an attack. UKMTO said the incident was under investigation.
 - Following UKMTO's report, Peninsula charterer [announced](#) that the Gibraltar-flagged oil tanker *Hercules Star* was involved in an incident near Dubai, resulting in the death of one crewmember while another crewmember remains missing.
 - Maritime security sources assess that a drone likely struck the *Hercules Star*.
- On September 8, UKMTO [reported](#) that several merchant vessels in the northern Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman were subjected to disabling fire from unspecified actors as part of ongoing military activity.
 - » UKMTO said it could not confirm whether the incidents had caused casualties or environmental damage and that investigations were ongoing.
- On September 8, the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting service (IRIB) [claimed](#) that the Iranian Navy captured a U.S. underwater drone.
 - » CENTCOM Spokesman Captain Tim Hawkins minimized Iran's seizure of the U.S. drone, stating that the drone had malfunctioned and was "an older model that neither collected sensitive data nor carried any classified sonar or radar equipment."
- Since September 4, Iran [launched](#) missiles at multiple U.S. warships, including an aircraft carrier, at least one Marine warship, and Navy destroyers, prompting U.S. strikes on five Iranian oil tankers on September 8.
 - » The attacks all failed, but raise concerns that Iran is deploying more advanced weapons and could be receiving tracking assistance from China or Russia, according to U.S. officials speaking to *The Wall Street Journal*.

5. Internal Iranian Dynamics

- On September 9, CNN, citing Center for Strategic and International Studies analysts, [re-reported](#) that new satellite imagery depicts a significant increase in construction activity at Iran's Pickaxe Mountain.
 - » According to intelligence agencies, Pickaxe Mountain likely sits atop an undisclosed Iranian nuclear facility.

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

- On September 9, Iran's Foreign Ministry [addressed](#) yesterday's U.S. strikes on Iranian oil tankers, saying, "The aggressive actions by the United States against Iranian commercial

vessels not only increase the dangers of tensions in the region but are also considered an overt threat to regional and international peace and security.”

- On September 9, IRGC Spokesman Hossein Mohebi [insisted](#) that “If the enemy wants an end to this situation, it must, while completely stopping the war, refrain from renewed threats, withdraw the Israeli regime’s army from Lebanon, end the blockade of Yemen, release \$24 billion in Iran’s frozen assets and refrain from any interference in the country’s nuclear and missile capabilities.”

7. International Response

- On September 9, Reuters [reported](#) that South Korea had sent a team to inspect the security situation in the Strait of Hormuz but had not made a decision about deploying forces there yet.

8. JINSA Resources

- 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
- 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

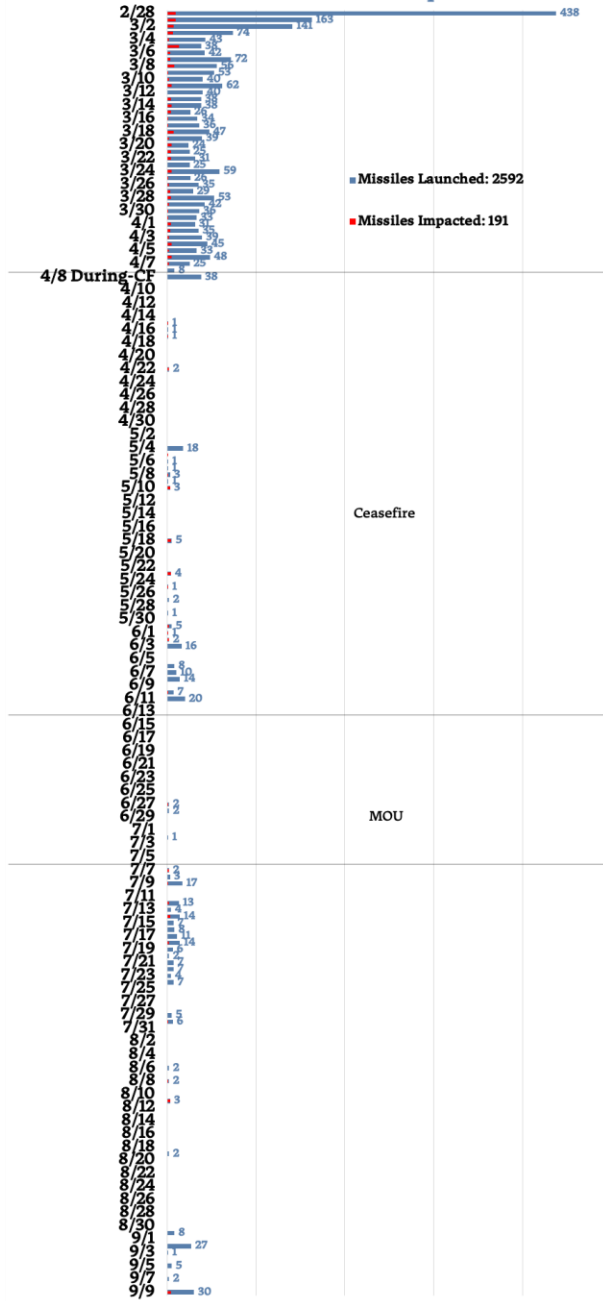


Country	Killed	Injured	Notes
United States	18	500+	1 missing; 10 seriously wounded; 100 wounded in July; 358+ returned to duty
Israel	67+	7,800+	Killed include 26 civilians and 41 troops killed fighting Hezbollah (40 soldiers, 1 contractor)
Iran	3,724+	26,580+	Includes 1,221+ military; Iran International 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	4,381	12,402	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	21	Several	

Data compiled by JINSA from various sources.

Iranian Projectiles Fired During 2026 War

Iranian Missiles Launched Per Day



Iranian Drones Launched Per Day

