



Institute for  
Policy Studies

REPAIRERS  
OF THE BREACH

# THE REPAIRER'S BRIEF

## Facts and Focus to Empower the Fight For a Third Reconstruction

### THE WAR ON IRAN: THE REAL COSTS

#### How much has the U.S.-Israeli war on Iran cost U.S. taxpayers?

An independent estimate found that the first four months of the war, through June 27, cost [\\$103 billion](#). That includes at least [\\$2.9 billion](#) in military aid to Israel.

Instead of the U.S.-Israeli war on Iran, that [\\$103 billion](#) could pay for a year of...

- Medicaid health care for more than [12 million people](#) or
- Head Start child care for almost [6 million new children](#) or
- SNAP food assistance to more than [45 million people](#)

For the cost of [one single Tomahawk missile](#) – the [U.S. missile that destroyed a girls' school](#) on the first day of the war, killing more than 150 people (including 120 schoolchildren) – the U.S. could have instead provided one year of

- Medicaid health care for 300 people or
- Head Start pre-school for 150 children or
- SNAP food assistance for 1,100 people.

#### How is this war affecting the U.S. and global economy and families & incomes?

The war has caused prices to skyrocket. Even after a ceasefire, it could take months for prices to come back down.

- As of June 18, higher fuel costs due to the war had cost Americans more than \$53 billion, or \$402 per household. By the end of the year, that's projected to reach \$978 per household.
- [Food prices](#) have gone up too. [Thirty percent](#) of the world's fertilizer travels through the Strait of Hormuz, which was closed for weeks. Farmers around the

world were forced to plant crops without enough fertilizer, which will keep prices higher, for longer.

- The impact on [families in the poorest nations](#) has been the most devastating, with severe food shortages, and children particularly at risk of malnutrition.

#### **How many civilians have been killed in the U.S.-Israeli war against Iran? (February 28 – June 1, 2026)**

- TOTAL: at least 7,131 civilians killed
- Iran – at least [3,375 civilians killed](#)
- Lebanon – at least [3,412 civilians killed](#)
- Gaza – at least 314 killed during Iran war (Israeli-U.S. impunity through 2½ years of Gaza genocide created conditions for the U.S.-Israel war on Iran so Israel's killings in Gaza during that time are linked to Iran war)
- West Bank – [4 women killed](#)
- Israel – [26 civilians killed](#)
- United States – no civilians reported killed.

#### **How many people have been displaced from their homes as a result of the Iran war?**

- Iran – [3.2 million displaced](#)
- Lebanon – [1 million displaced](#) (20% of Lebanon's population)
- Syria – [130,000 Syrians who had found safety in Lebanon fled back to Syria](#)
- Israel – [6,295 displaced](#)

#### **Does Iran have nuclear weapons?**

- No. Iran has never had a nuclear weapon. U.S., United Nations, and virtually every intelligence agency in the world continue to state that [Iran does not have](#), is not trying to build, and has not even decided to try to build a weapon

#### **Does anyone in the Middle East have nuclear weapons?**

- Yes. Israel has had a nuclear weapons monopoly in the region since the mid-1960s. [Israel is believed to have more than 90 nuclear weapons](#), but has never acknowledged their existence. They have never been inspected by the UN's watchdog agency, the IAEA.

#### **What do people in the U.S. think about this war?**

- As of early August 2026, [75% of people in the U.S.](#) say the war is not worth the cost.

*Research by the Institute for Policy Studies, August 8, 2026. For more information about The Repairer's Brief, see [www.breachrepairers.org](http://www.breachrepairers.org).*