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CRS Report for Congress

Iraq: U.S. Casualties

Susan G. Chesser
 Information Research Specialist
 Knowledge Services Group

Summary

The following casualty data was compiled by the Department of Defense (DOD), as tallied from the agency’s press releases. **Table 1** provides statistics on fatalities during Operation Iraqi Freedom, which began on March 19, 2003, and is ongoing, as well as on the number of fatalities since May 1, 2003, plus statistics on those wounded, but not killed, since March 19, 2003. Statistics may be revised as circumstances are investigated and as all records are processed through the U.S. military’s casualty system. More frequent updates are available at DOD’s website at [<http://www.defenselink.mil/news/>] under “Casualty Update.”

A detailed casualty summary that includes data on deaths by cause, as well as statistics on soldiers wounded in action, is available at the following DOD website: [<http://siadapp.dmdc.osd.mil/personnel/CASUALTY/castop.htm>].

Table 1. Operation Iraqi Freedom, U.S. Fatalities and Wounded as of October 2, 2008, 10 a.m. EST

Fatalities	March 19, 2003, to the Present	May 1, 2003, to the Present	Wounded	March 19, 2003, to the Present
Hostile	3,382	3,265	In action ^a	30,680
Non-hostile	796	763	Not Returned to Duty	13,524
Total	4,178	4,028	—	—

Source: DOD press releases.

Note: The President’s statement about combat operations in Iraq having ended can be found in the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents*, May 1, 2003, p. 516.

a. Includes the “Not Returned to Duty” figure.