



Rolling Situation Report

Middle East conflict

Issued 23 April 2026, 15hr51 GMT

Summary

BAHRAIN, CYPRUS, EGYPT, GAZA STRIP, IRAN, IRAQ, ISRAEL, JORDAN, KUWAIT, LEBANON, OMAN, QATAR, SAUDI ARABIA, SYRIA, TURKEY, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, WEST BANK, YEMEN

Regional: Continue to monitor developments related to Iran-Israel-US conflict as of 23rd April while ceasefire is ongoing. Continue to monitor developments related to the Iran-Israel-US conflict as of 23rd April while the ceasefire is ongoing. Iran and the US are abiding by the ceasefire, though both continue to disrupt the passage of maritime vessels through the Strait of Hormuz. Diplomatic efforts led by Pakistan are ongoing, but new direct negotiations are not currently scheduled. The ceasefire reduces the risk of further conflict over at least the coming 24-48 hours. Continue to stay abreast of related developments.

Incident status	Local response capacity	Last Analyst update	Analyst situational confidence
Active	Some	2026-04-23 15:51 (GMT)	HIGH

Update No.	Trend rating	Themes/Tags	Incident-tempo
57	Stable	External conflict / unrest	Weekly (Thursday)

Developments

Description	Information Credibility	Source Reliability
<p>Ceasefire: US President Trump announced an indefinite extension of the ceasefire, which was set to expire on 22nd April, in a statement late on 21st April. He announced that the extension was granted following a request by Pakistani mediators and will remain in place until Iranian leaders and representatives present a “unified proposal”. The ongoing US blockade of Iranian ports will persist. Iranian officials have said that they did not agree to any extension of the ceasefire.</p>	Confirmed true	Reliable
<p>Evacuation Watch Level: As disruption persists, organisations have shifted from advising travellers to “shelter in place” toward extracting key personnel for business continuity reasons. The cost, complexity, and risk of moving individuals - especially families - outweighed the benefits of evacuation in the early stages, although as disruption persists and the absence of key personnel begins to affect operations, decisions to move or evacuate are increasingly being driven by business continuity considerations rather than immediate security concerns.</p>	Cannot be judged	Cannot be judged
<p>Healix’s Evacuation Watch Levels are as follows: EVACUATION (Level 4): Iran, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen CONSIDER EVACUATION (Level 3):</p>	Cannot be judged	Cannot be judged

<p>Bahrain, Gaza, Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE, and Israel WARNING (Level 2): Cyprus, Jordan, Oman, West Bank</p>		
<p>Explanation of Evacuation Watch Levels: For the countries that were raised to 'Consider Evacuation' on 6th March, this can be interpreted differently depending on the traveller profile and context. For business travellers, given the credible risk that the operational environment could deteriorate, we advise considering evacuation, as routes may become disrupted at short notice.</p>	<p>Cannot be judged</p>	<p>Cannot be judged</p>
<p>For residents, however, the situation is different. While the decision ultimately depends on individual and organisational risk tolerance, our current assessment is that, despite elevated external conflict risks, the overall security risk rating remains unchanged. Operational conditions largely continue to improve in the region as flight frequencies increase and some governments push for a business-as-usual posture. In this context, evacuation may not be necessary or in the best interest of residents at this time.</p>	<p>Cannot be judged</p>	<p>Cannot be judged</p>
<p>US and Iranian Rhetoric: The White House has announced that President Trump has not set a specific deadline for Iran to submit a peace proposal in line with the ceasefire extension. Trump's announcement of a ceasefire extension on 21st April followed comments that he did not want to extend the ceasefire and that the US military was "raring to go", although has since refrained from threatening further attacks.</p>	<p>Confirmed true</p>	<p>Reliable</p>
<p>Iran's Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf has denounced the ongoing US blockade of Iranian ports as a "blatant violation" of the ceasefire agreement, adding that Iran's blockade of the Strait of Hormuz would remain in place until the US blockade is lifted. Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said on 22nd April that the US's breach of commitments and blockade of Iranian ports are the primary obstacles to "genuine negotiations".</p>	<p>Confirmed true</p>	<p>Reliable</p>
<p>Negotiations: A second round of bilateral US-Iran negotiations did not materialise prior to the deadline of the initial two-week ceasefire on 22nd April. Trump said that there was "no time pressure" regarding holding a new round of negotiations or ending the ceasefire on 22nd April. Iranian rhetoric indicates that the US's blockade of Iranian ports is a key obstacle harming the prospect of further negotiations.</p>	<p>Probably true</p>	<p>Usually reliable</p>
<p>Lebanon-Israel Negotiations: A second round of ambassador-level discussions between Israel and Lebanon is scheduled to take place in Washington on 23rd April. This marks the first set of talks between the two countries since a ten-day ceasefire was announced on 16th April. Lebanese President Joseph Aoun said Lebanon would seek an extension of the ongoing ceasefire with Israel, as well as a</p>	<p>Confirmed true</p>	<p>Reliable</p>

halt to demolitions in southern villages, during scheduled discussions on 23rd April.		
Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Saar said that Israel does not have any “serious disagreements” with Lebanon, while outlining that Hezbollah remained “the obstacle to peace and normalisation”. Israeli officials have indicated that its priorities are securing the dismantlement of Hezbollah and creating conditions for a peace deal.	Confirmed true	Reliable
Lebanon-Israel Ceasefire: A ten-day temporary ceasefire went into effect on 17th April (local time) following the first direct bilateral diplomatic talks between the two countries in over 30 years on 14th April. The ceasefire provisions reserve the right of Israel to act in self-defence against any “planned, imminent, or ongoing” Hezbollah threats against Israel. Continued IDF military engagement in southern Lebanon has largely been in accordance with the ceasefire provisions, although the Lebanese army has announced that it has recorded multiple Israeli violations.	Confirmed true	Reliable
Bahrain: The Bahraini authorities have not reported any projectile activity over the past week. Flight operations continue to gradually resume at Bahrain International Airport (BAH), although disruption and sporadic cancellations persist.	Confirmed true	Reliable
Iran: There have been no reports of confirmed US-Israeli strikes targeting Iran since the ceasefire began on 8th April. Iran’s countrywide internet blackout continues.	Confirmed true	Reliable
Iranian airspace partially reopened on 18th April, according to Iran’s Civil Aviation Authority, which outlined that the airspace in eastern areas was open to transiting international flights. Western airspace remains closed, however. Six civilian airports, including Tehran’s Mehrabad International Airport (THR) and Imam Khomeini International Airport (IKA), have reportedly reopened to operations under certain restrictions, with flights limited to an eleven-hour window between 03h30 and 14h30 (all times local). These measures will reportedly remain in place through at least 25th April.	Probably true	Usually reliable
Military parades reportedly took place on the streets of Tehran on 21st April, centred around Enghelab Square and Vanak Square, where ballistic missiles were showcased. This coincided with the expected expiry of the initial two-week ceasefire on 22nd April.	Probably true	Usually reliable
Iraq: Aerial attacks targeting Kurdish groups opposed to Iran have persisted in Iraqi Kurdistan. The Kurdistan Freedom Party (PAK) announced that four drones targeted a PAK base in Erbil on 22nd April, which the group has attributed to Iran. Also on 22nd April, drone strikes targeting the Komala Party were reported near Sulaymaniyah and a fire broke out at an oil refinery near Erbil due to a suspected aerial attack.	Probably true	Fairly reliable

<p>Kuwait: The state-run Kuwait Petroleum Corporation extended its declaration of force majeure on oil exports on 18th April. Kuwait International Airport (KWI) remains closed as of 23rd April.</p>	Confirmed true	Reliable
<p>Lebanon: Israeli air and ground operations have continued in southern areas of Lebanon amid the ongoing ceasefire. The ceasefire provisions reserve the right of Israel to act in self-defence against any “planned, imminent, or ongoing” Hezbollah threats against. Continued IDF military engagement in southern Lebanon has largely been in accordance with the ceasefire provisions, although the Lebanese army has announced that it has recorded multiple Israeli violations. Israeli strikes in Tayri and Yohmor in southern Lebanon killed at least four individuals on 22nd April.</p>	Probably true	Reliable
<p>The Lebanese government has continued efforts to disarm Hezbollah; President Aoun reportedly called on the Lebanese security forces to raid locations “housing weapons depots” in a security meeting on 22nd April.</p>	Probably true	Usually reliable
<p>Saudi Arabia: Unconfirmed reports indicate that around 50% of the roughly 1000 drones targeting Saudi Arabia since the beginning of the conflict were launched from Iraqi territory. No new strikes have been reported since 16th April, however.</p>	Probably true	Usually reliable
<p>Syria: Syria’s Interior Ministry announced that the security forces arrested members of a “sabotage cell” with links to Lebanon’s Hezbollah and remnants of the al-Assad government on 19th April. The statement accused the cell of planning to launch attacks from Quneitra governorate to targets beyond Syrian territory, without specifying a particular country.</p>	Probably true	Usually reliable
<p>United Arab Emirates: The UAE Ministry of Defence has not reported any projectile activity over the past week.</p>	Confirmed true	Reliable
<p>President Trump announced on 21st April that the US was considering providing financial assistance to the UAE and that a currency swap was under consideration. Reports indicate that the governor of the UAE central bank proposed the idea of a currency swap with US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent and Federal Reserve officials in a previous meeting. The UAE Ambassador to the US said that “any suggestion that the UAE requires external financial backing misread the facts” following Trump’s statement, while also outlining that he appreciated Trump’s recognition of the UAE as an important partner.</p>	Confirmed true	Reliable
<p>Qatar: Flights operated by foreign airlines will begin to gradually resume from Hamad International Airport (DOH), according to a statement made by the Qatar Civil Aviation Authority on 20th April. Qatar Airways announced the resumption of daily flights from Doha to Dubai and Sharjah</p>	Confirmed true	Reliable

from 23rd April and a daily service to Damascus is set to resume from 1st May.		
Israel: Hezbollah claimed to have targeted an IDF position in Kfar Giladi with rockets and drones on 21st April, marking its first claimed cross-border attack since the Lebanon-Israel ceasefire was agreed on 16th April.	Probably true	Usually reliable
Strait of Hormuz: Iran announced that the Strait was open to the passage of commercial vessels on 17th April, following the announcement of the Israel-Lebanon ceasefire, although subsequently announced its closure again on 18th April, citing the US's continued blockade of Iranian ports.	Confirmed true	Reliable
The US Navy seized an Iranian tanker on 19th April, marking its first direct action of its blockade.	Confirmed true	Reliable
Iran reportedly fired on three vessels attempting to transit the Strait on 22nd April and Iranian state media later reported that the IRGC Navy had seized two of these ships and is reportedly escorting them to Bandar Abbas. This marks the first Iranian seizure of vessels in the Strait since the blockade began.	Confirmed true	Reliable

Assessment

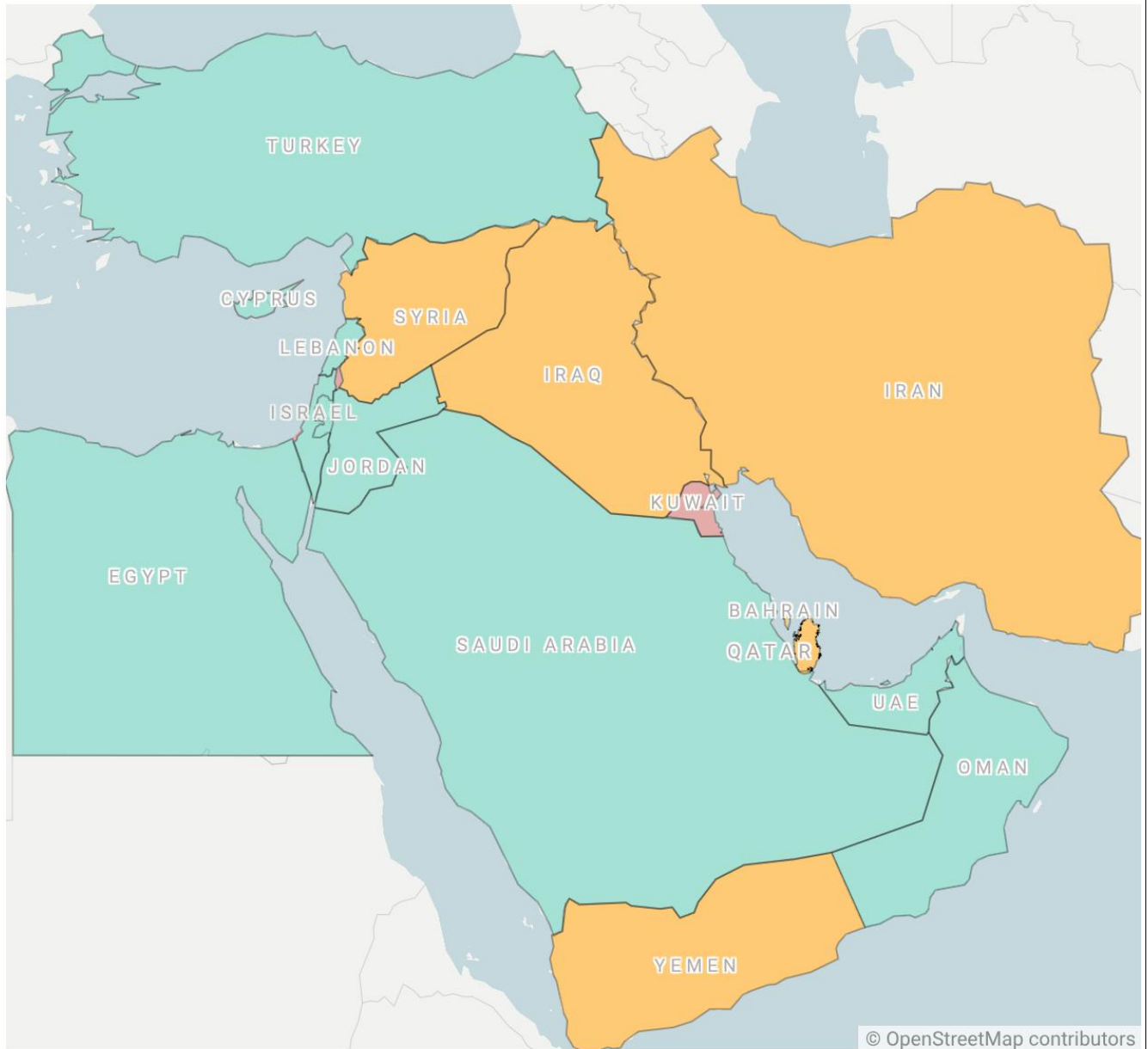
Description	Confidence
Regional: The regional security risk environment has remained largely stable since the US–Iran ceasefire came into effect on 8th April. There has been no confirmed kinetic activity directly involving Iran, Israel, and the US, nor has there been reports of attacks, likely previously launched from Iraq, targeting Gulf states over the past week. While potential renewed kinetic escalation, despite being assessed as unlikely before 26th April, remains a realistic possibility, external conflict risks across the Gulf remain elevated.	High
Conflict: Neither Iran nor the US is engaging in direct conflict against the other, but they continue to apply pressure on each other in the Persian Gulf. By blockading Iranian ports, the US likely expects Iran to relent on its firmer positions. However, the blockade is having the opposite effect, as Iran has publicly accused the US of engaging in aggressive behaviour and that negotiations for a lasting peace cannot take place while it is threatened by an adversary.	High

<p>While unverified reports suggest that the US will end the ceasefire if Iran does not reach a deal with it by 26th April, both sides in the conflict are likely to refrain from escalation while they try to reach an agreement. While the US has the military capability to militarily engage with Iran indefinitely, domestic political constraints and the pressures of a dwindling global economy prevent it from prosecuting conflict beyond two to three more weeks. Iran cannot engage the US militarily for a sustained period of time, having sustained significant damage since 28th February.</p>	<p>Moderate</p>
<p>Negotiations: The balance between escalatory and de-escalatory rhetoric from both the US and Iran means that both conflict trajectories – escalation and de-escalation - remain credible possibilities. However, mounting domestic pressures, strained regional relationships, the increasing risk of miscalculation, and the potential for damage to critical infrastructure in the Gulf provide strong incentives for both sides to prioritise de-escalation over further escalation.</p>	<p>High</p>
<p>However, differing positions on Iran's nuclear programme and the Strait of Hormuz mean that it is difficult for both parties to reach a lasting agreement. The US wants Iran to suspend its nuclear programme - including enrichment for civilian purposes - for 20 years, while Iran will reportedly only be willing to halt it for five years. Regarding the Strait of Hormuz, the US does not want to allow Iran control over it, while Iran probably wants to be able to charge tolls to ships as an additional revenue source which will help it rebuild the country after sustaining significant losses.</p>	<p>High</p>
<p>Iran may be willing to pursue an agreement that permits lower levels of uranium enrichment; however, Iranian officials are highly unlikely to view the complete halt on enrichment as an acceptable outcome. For Iran, relinquishing all enrichment capabilities would be perceived as capitulation to US demands and as exacerbating perceived existential threats from regional adversaries. Iranian leaders are more likely to favour a limited pause or acceptance of reduced enrichment levels, both of which would preserve strategic flexibility and allow Iran the option to return to enrichment activity.</p>	<p>Moderate</p>
<p>The possibility of an extension of the Israel-Lebanon ceasefire is likely to exert a notable influence on the prospect of further Iran-US talks. Iran has frequently asserted its position that a lasting peace deal with the US is dependent on the Israel-Lebanon conflict, as demonstrated by Iran's temporary reopening of the Strait of Hormuz following the announcement of the Israel-Lebanon ceasefire. If negotiations between Israel and Lebanon, scheduled for 23rd April, fail to prevent a resumption of conflict beyond 26th April, this will become a notable obstacle to renewed Iran-US negotiations.</p>	<p>Moderate</p>
<p>US rhetoric surrounding a second-round of negotiations appears to legitimate unconfirmed reports of increasing fragmentation within the Iranian power structure. Trump has demanded Iran submits a "unified" peace proposal and</p>	<p>Low</p>

<p>previously stated that any Iranian delegation must have “full authority” to finalise a deal. This follows reports of an increasing split between hardliners, mostly within the IRGC, and pragmatists regarding conditions for ending hostilities.</p>	
<p>It provides a potential explanation for the mixed Iranian rhetoric about the prospect of a delegation travelling to Islamabad on 22nd April. This reported fragmentation undoubtedly increases the difficulties surrounding bilateral negotiations and means that even if a MoU is reached in future negotiations, there is no guarantee that it will be recognised by all parties.</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p>Strait of Hormuz: Despite the ceasefire, the Strait of Hormuz is effectively closed to maritime vessels trying to leave the Persian Gulf. After the US implemented a blockade of Iranian ports, Iran responded by preventing ships from passing through the Strait. Before the US blockade came into place, Iran had been allowing ships to pass through the Strait in line with its ceasefire commitments.</p>	<p>High</p>
<p>The Strait is likely to remain a significant point of contention in any future Iran-US negotiations and is highly unlikely to reopen before a second round of negotiations takes place. President Trump has asserted that the US blockade of Iranian ports will remain in place despite the ceasefire extension and Iranian officials have repeatedly cited the US blockade as a ceasefire violation and significant barrier to further negotiations. Neither side is likely to capitulate before receiving concessions from the other.</p>	<p>High</p>

Images and Mapping

Middle East airspace through 23/04

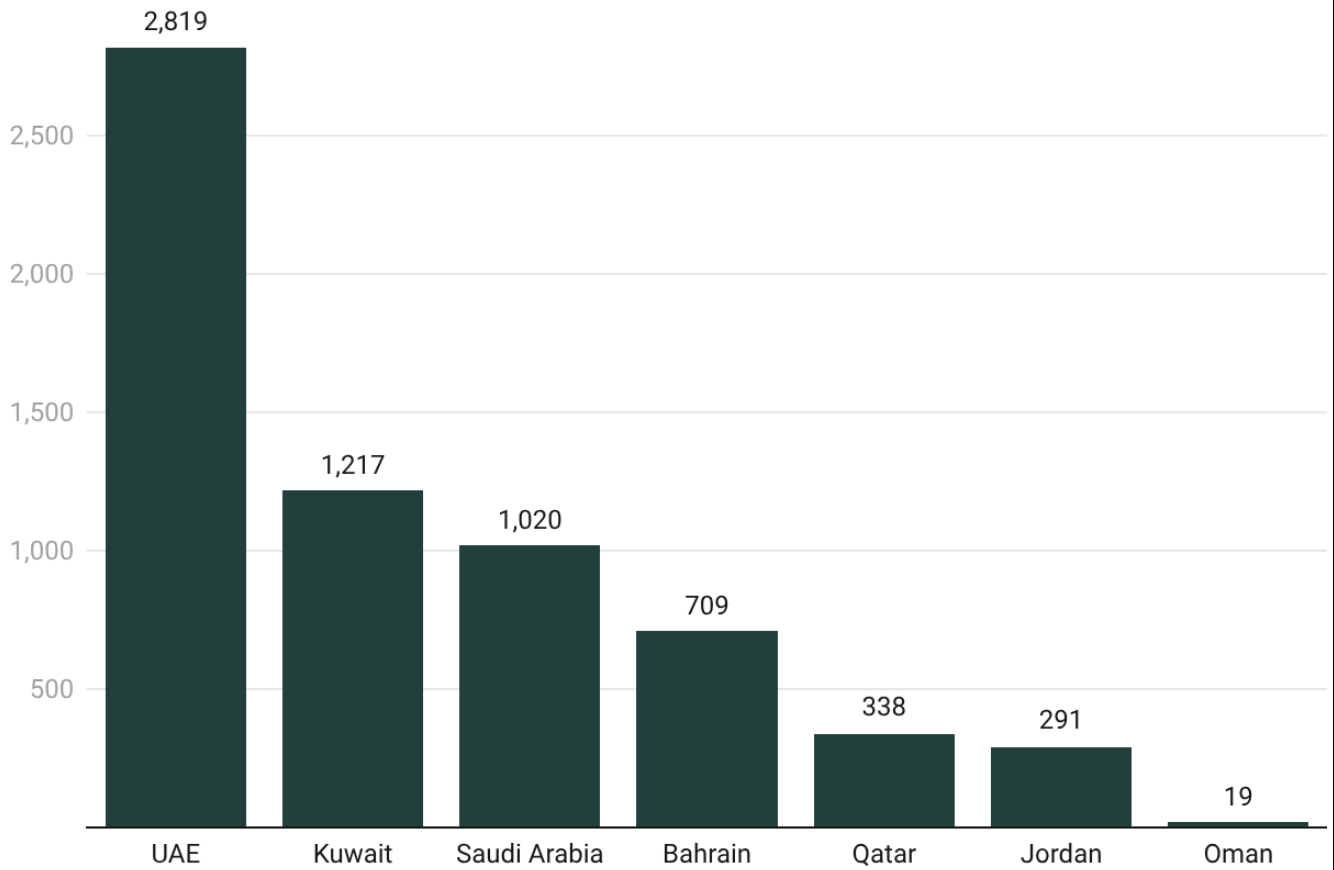


- Airspace Closed
- Partial Closures/Airspace Avoidance
- Airspace Open

Despite some airspaces reopening, airspace avoidance persists as of 23/04

Map: Healix GSOC • Created with Datawrapper

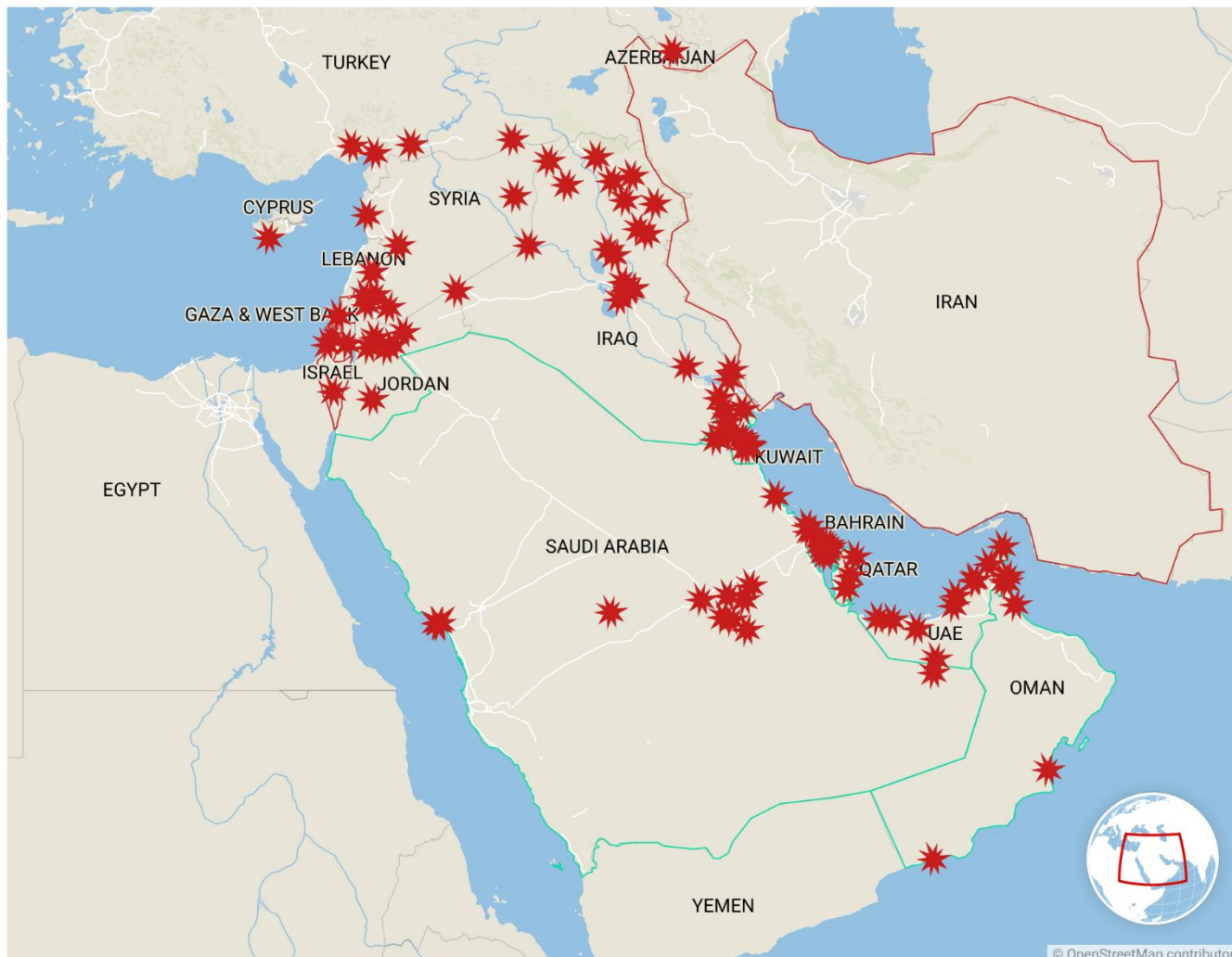
Strike quantities launched towards regional countries as of 8th April



**Data based on the most recent official reports (28/02 - 08/04). Graph excludes Israel.*

Chart: Healix GSOC • Created with Datawrapper

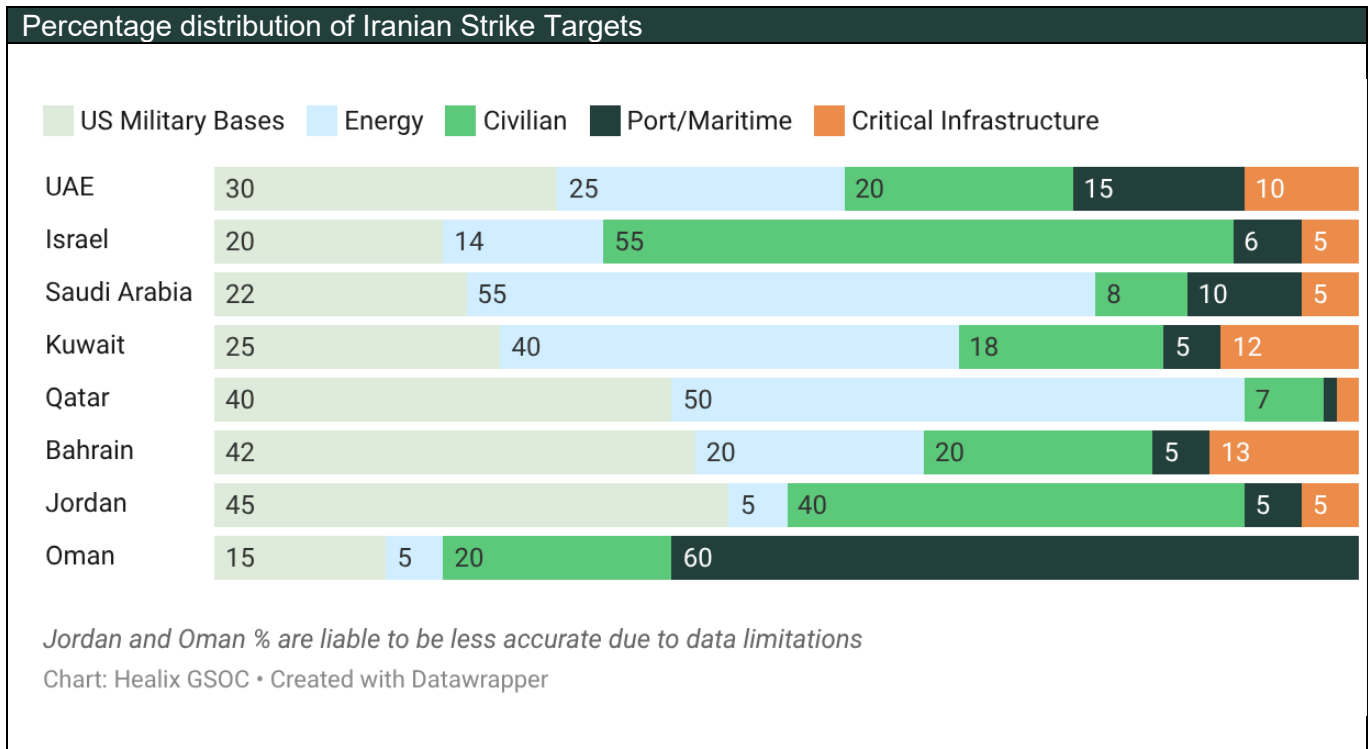
Iranian Strike Locations



© OpenStreetMap contributors

- Confirmed Strike Locations
- GCC Countries
- Iran & Israel

Non-exhaustive list of confirmed strike locations, including falling debris and direct hits// Strikes from Iran, Iranian-aligned proxies, and US-Israel coalition
Map: Healix GSOC • Created with Datawrapper



Forecasting

Description				
<p>The regional security risk environment remains largely stable. Efforts to secure a second round of negotiations between the US and Iran continue to be complicated by incompatible positions regarding Iran’s nuclear programme and control over the Strait of Hormuz. A second round of negotiations does not take place prior to 26th April. The Iranian and US blockades of the Strait remain in place, with low-level naval operations continuing to target vessels deemed to violate respective blockade criteria; kinetic escalation does not occur, however.</p>				
Scenario Likelihood	Scenario Confidence	Scenario Timeframe	Concern Level	Risk Trend
Likely (55%-75%)	Moderate	Through 26th April	Major	Stable

Original Alert

Date / Time of Publication	Time Since Publication	Tags	Alert Level
23 April 2026 15:24	27 minutes	Conflict, MENA, Military Activity, Security	3

Description
Regional: Continue to monitor developments related to Iran-Israel-US conflict as of 23rd April while ceasefire is ongoing. Continue to monitor developments related to the Iran-Israel-US conflict as of 23rd April while the ceasefire is ongoing. Iran and the US are abiding by the ceasefire, though both continue to disrupt the passage of maritime vessels through the Strait of Hormuz. Diplomatic efforts led by Pakistan are ongoing, but new direct negotiations are not currently scheduled. The ceasefire reduces the risk of further conflict over at least the coming 24-48 hours. Continue to stay abreast of related developments.

Disclaimer

Assumptions are made about traveller exposure based on technology generated data points, some of which are user driven and as such, specific location accuracy cannot be guaranteed. All risk intelligence content provided represents the best judgement of Healix International based on information available at the time of publication. The information is current and cannot anticipate future issues or address past events. © Healix International. All rights reserved. Reproduction is prohibited except with prior written consent of Healix International.

The conflict in the Middle East is evolving, and Healix is monitoring closely. As such our advice is under regular review.

For up-to-date intelligence or for on-the-ground support, please reach out to GSOC@healix.com.



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