U.S. MILITARY CASUALTY STATISTICS: Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Traumatic Brain Injuries, Amputations, and Other Casualties

This infographic describes U.S. military casualties in the active missions Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR, Iraq and Syria) and Operation Freedom's Sentinel (OFS, Afghanistan), as well as operations that have ended, Operation New Dawn (OND, Iraq), Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF, Iraq), and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF, Afghanistan).

Also included are statistics on post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), and amputations. Some of these statistics are publicly available at the Department of Defense's (DOD's) website and others have been obtained through contact with experts at DOD. For more information on war casualties, see CRS Report RL32492, American War and Military Operations Casualties: Lists and Statistics.

U.S. MISSIONS TIMELINE



Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF, Iraq) Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF, Afghanistan)

OVERALL CASUALTIES OF U.S. SERVICEMEMBERS IN OIR, OFS, OND, OIF, AND OEF (As of March 22, 2016)



U.S. personnel remain in both Iraq and Afghanistan on training and advisory missions. In Iraq, the mission is named Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR) and in Afghanistan the mission is named Operation Freedom's Sentinel (OFS).

POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER IN OIR, OFS, OND, OIF, AND OEF (As of March 7, 2016)

The U.S. Army Office of the Surgeon General (OSG), using the Defense Medical Surveillance System (DMSS), provided the statistics on the incidence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) cases. According to Dr. Michael Carino of the OSG, a case of PTSD is defined as an individual having at least outpatient visits or one or two more hospitalizations at which PTSD was diagnosed.

All those who have been diagnosed as having PTSD during deployment were diagnosed at least 30 days after they deployed. However, it is not possible to be certain that the PTSD resulted from an event associated with the deployment. The PTSD could have resulted from an event that occurred prior to a deployment.





Many of the statistics on traumatic brain injury are available to the public at the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center, at http://dvbic.dcoe.mil/dod-worldwide-numbers-tbi. Unlike the PTSD numbers, which are broken out by those deployed and those not previously deployed, the TBI numbers represent medical diagnoses of TBI that occurred anywhere U.S. forces are located, including the continental United States.

.

LIMB AMPUTATIONS IN OIR, OFS, OND, OIF, AND OEF (As of March 2, 2016)

Major Limb Amputations Due to Battle Injuries

....



A major limb amputation includes the loss of one or more limbs, the loss of one or more partial limbs, or the loss of one or more full or partial hand or foot. From 2003 until the first quarter of 2009, the majority of the major limb amputations due to battle injuries occurred in OIF. In the second quarter of 2009, however, the trend changed, and from 2009-2014 the majority of the major limb amputations due to battle injuries have occurred in OEF.

CRS

epared by Hannah Fischer, Information Research Specialist and nie Hutchinson, Visual Information Specialist.

Overall Casualties - Department of Defense (DOD) Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder - CRS communication with Dr. Michael Carino, Army Office of the Surgeon General, as of January 7, 2015. Data from Defense Medical Surveillance System (DMSS). Traumatic Brain Injury - CRS communication with Dr. Michael Carino, Army Office of the Surgeon General, as of December 1, 2014. Data source is Defense Medical Surveillance System (DMSS), Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center, http://www.dvbic.org/dod-worldwide-numbers-tbi. Limb Amputations - CRS communication with Dr. Michael Carino, Army Office of the Surgeon General, as of March 22, 2016.

The 2015 data are for a partial year and are not to be compared to the other bars that describe a full year.

Author Information

Hannah Fischer Information Research Specialist

Disclaimer

This document was prepared by the Congressional Research Service (CRS). CRS serves as nonpartisan shared staff to congressional committees and Members of Congress. It operates solely at the behest of and under the direction of Congress. Information in a CRS Report should not be relied upon for purposes other than public understanding of information that has been provided by CRS to Members of Congress in connection with CRS's institutional role. CRS Reports, as a work of the United States Government, are not subject to copyright protection in the United States. Any CRS Report may be reproduced and distributed in its entirety without permission from CRS. However, as a CRS Report may include copyrighted images or material from a third party, you may need to obtain the permission of the copyright holder if you wish to copy or otherwise use copyrighted material.