

The Iraqi Minister of Health made the following statement on 1 November 2004 :

“The Ministry of Health has been collecting information on civilian casualties based on hospital admissions for the last six months. Every hospital reports daily the number of civilians (which may include insurgents) who have been killed or injured in terrorist incidents or as a result of military action. All casualties are likely to be taken to hospital in these circumstances except for some insurgents (who may fear arrest) and those with minor injuries.

The figures show that between 5 April and 5 October 2004, 3853 civilians were killed and 15,517 were injured. I am satisfied that this information is the most reliable available.

This contradicts the claim that more than 100,000 civilians have been killed by military and terrorist action since the war. The claim was based on article published in the Lancet on 29 October.”

28 January 05 Statement on casualties

All public hospitals in Iraq report data on a daily basis to the Ministry of Health on the number of casualties they have seen or admitted who have been killed or injured by terrorist or military action.

The numbers for the six months to the end of December are as follows:

Terrorist incidents: 1233 killed; 4115 injured
Military action: 2041 killed; 8542 injured

Casualties of car bombs and other clearly identifiable terrorist attacks are recorded as being caused by terrorist incidents. All other casualties are recorded as military action. The casualties may include insurgents, civilians as well as Iraqi police who are treated in MOH hospitals. The casualties may have been killed or injured by terrorist or coalition forces. Coalition forces include Iraqi police, Iraqi security forces, and the Multi-National forces.

The great majority (%) of those killed or injured are male .

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Ministry of Health