



Headline Findings

Iraqi Death Toll Survey

Report Date

29th May 2013

METHODOLOGY

Methodology Note

ComRes interviewed 2021 British adults online between 24th and 27th May 2013. Data were weighted to be representative of all GB adults aged 18+.

Guidelines for the Public Use of Survey Results

ComRes is a member of the British Polling Council and abides by its rules (www.britishpollingcouncil.org). This commits us to the highest standards of transparency.

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- The company conducting the research (ComRes)
- The client commissioning the survey
- Dates of interviewing
- Method of obtaining the interviews (e.g. in-person, post, telephone, internet)
- The universe effectively represented (all adults, voters etc.)
- The percentages upon which conclusions are based
- Size of the sample and geographic coverage.

Published references (such as a press release) should also show a web address where full data tables may be viewed, and they should also show the complete wording of questions upon which any data that has entered the public domain are based.

All press releases or other publications must be checked with ComRes before use. ComRes requires 48 hours to check a press release unless otherwise agreed.

TOPLINE FINDINGS

Objectives

- To establish public perceptions of the Iraqi death toll since the invasion of Iraq in 2003.

Summary

- Two-thirds (66%) of the public estimate that 20,000 or fewer civilians and combatants have died as a consequence of the war in Iraq since 2003.
- One in ten (10%) think that between 100,000 and 500,000 have died and one in twenty (6%) think that more than 500,000 have died.
- According to public estimates, the mean number of deaths in Iraq since the invasion is 189,530.
- Women in Britain are more likely to underestimate the number of deaths in Iraq since the invasion than men. Half (53%) of women think 5,000 or fewer deaths have occurred since the invasion compared to one-third (35%) of men.
- On average the public think half of deaths were Iraqi civilians (53%). This view is largely consistent across gender and age groups.

Results

Q1: How many Iraqis, both combatants and civilians, do you think have died as a consequence of the war that began in Iraq in 2003? Please just give your best estimate.

Numbers of deaths	2013
Up to 5,000	44%
5,001 -10,000	15%
10,001 - 20,000	7%
20,001 – 50,000	8%
50,001 – 100,000	11%
100,001 – 500,000	10%
500,001 – 1,000,000	4%

1,000,001+	2%
Mean score	189,530

- *Base: All respondents (n=2021)*
- More than two-fifths (44%) of the British population think that up to 5,000 Iraqi combatants and civilians had died as a consequence of the 2003 invasion with two-thirds (66%) estimating that up to 20,000 had died.
- On average men estimate a much higher figure for civilian and combatant deaths than women. On average, men estimate approximately 250,000 and women estimate 130,000 (almost half of this figure).
- The average estimate for the number of civilian and combatant deaths was 189,530

Q2: What percentage of Iraqi deaths as a result of the war do you think were civilian i.e. non-combatants? Please give a percentage from 1-100. Please just give your best estimate.

Percentage of deaths which are civilians	2013
0-10%	9%
11-20%	7%
21-30%	10%
31-40%	9%
41-50%	15%
51-60%	11%
61-70%	12%
71-80%	16%
81-90%	6%
91-100%	5%
Mean score	53.15

- *Base: All respondents (n=2021)*

The public believe on average that more than half of Iraqi deaths since the 2003 war were civilian (53%).



- This is a view which is shared across gender and age groups.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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The media, the public and the human cost of war



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