

Al Qaeda surges back in Iraq

Al Qaeda and other Islamist insurgent groups have killed more than 6,600 people in Iraq this year, driving the civilian death toll to the highest level since the Sunni-Shia sectarian war of 2006-07

CIVILIAN DEATHS

29,287

25,679

9,929

5,137

4,109

4,147

4,574

6,615

Nov 2007: Al Qaeda's Iraqi affiliate **Islamic State of Iraq (ISI)** forced underground

Apr 2013: ISI merges with Syrian counterpart to form **Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIS)***

Jan	319
Feb	418
Mar	229
Apr	712
May	963
Jun	685
Jul	1,057
Aug	804
Sep	979
Oct (to 20th)	449
Total	6,615

2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013

*Final "S" stems from Arabic word "al-Sham" which can mean Syria

Sources: Iraq Body Count, UNAMI, October media reports Picture: Getty Images

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