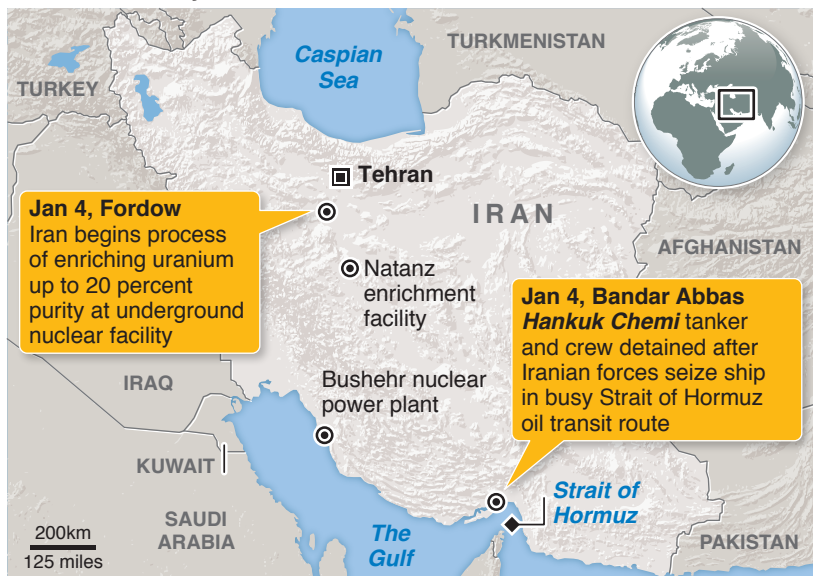
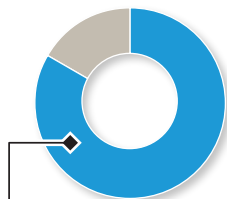


Iran raises Middle East tensions

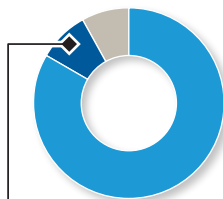
Iran has resumed enriching uranium to 20 percent purity and seized a South Korean-flagged oil tanker in the strategic Strait of Hormuz, moves likely to further escalate tensions with the United States



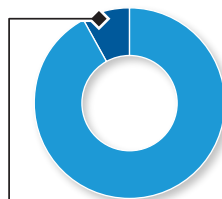
EFFORT NEEDED TO ENRICH URANIUM: Uranium can be used for nuclear fuel and weapons by boosting concentration of uranium-235 (U-235) atoms*



83.5% effort: Needed to reach 4% U-235 – approx level used for fuel in commercial nuclear power plants



8.5% more effort Needed to reach 20% U-235 – used for fuel in nuclear research reactors



Only 8% more effort Needed to reach 90% U-235 – level required to produce nuclear weapons

2015 nuclear deal with world powers limits Iran to 3.67% U-235

*Natural uranium contains 0.7% U-235