

Iraqi Security Forces Order of Battle
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How this Iraq Security Forces Order of Battle was created

To our knowledge, no complete Iraqi Security Forces OOB is available from official sources. This OOB was created to fill that void. To create it, a large number of individual bits of information were collected from open sources over the last 3 years. This was assembled into an OOB that is internally consistent and consistent with known military organizations.

Data collected in large numbers from open sources. This includes, for example, MNF articles, press briefings of officials, official reports and media articles. It includes reports on the creation of units, their activities and announcements on changes in status. Literally thousands of individual reports were collected over 3 years. Data collected includes

- “Bottom up data”, individual units, locations, equipment.
- “Top down data” articles identify overall size and structure of ISF including major branches and total number of subordinate units.

Over time, this data were arranged into an OOB. The criteria used was:

- Consistent with the general structure of known military organizations as a model. For example, battalions reported to brigades which reported to divisions.
- Internally consistent. For example, top down data agrees with bottom up data.

While this OOB is not perfect, we have made a strong effort to make it as accurate and complete as possible.

- The sources used are generally considered reliable. It includes a large amount of data from official reports.
- In almost all cases, multiple sources were available for each data point.
- The resulting OOB is consistent with the general structure of known military organizations.
- Top down data generally agrees with bottom up data.
- This data collected over time. Given that the OOB will change as the ISF develops, there will always be some lag and inconsistencies that can not be avoided. However, we continually collect data and update the OOB in order to keep it as up to date as possible.