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23 Afghans killed in US-led airstrikes

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At least 23 people, including seven women, have been killed in two US-led airstrikes on the eastern provinces of Kunar and Laghman in Afghanistan.

Local witnesses said on Sunday that at least seven women died and several others were wounded in an overnight attack in Laghman.

The US-led military coalition has confirmed the airstrike.

Sixteen other Afghans were also killed in another airstrike carried out in Kunar on Sunday.

Many civilians have lost their lives in the US-led operations in various parts of Afghanistan over the past months, with Afghans becoming increasingly outraged at the seemingly endless number of the deadly assaults.

The US claims that its airstrikes target militants, but local sources say civilians have been the main victims of the attacks.

The issue of civilian casualties in Afghanistan is highly sensitive and has been a major source of friction between Afghan President Hamid Karzai and Washington.