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STATISTICS BOOK

Politics & Government: statistics and facts

11 full reports · Edition October 2026

1.3M

ACTIVE DUTY — OCT
2025

3,468

DEATHS, IRAN

~£152M

ESTIMATED SPENDING
IN 2025/26

60

PRESIDENTIAL
ELECTIONS

ABOUT THIS BOOK

Politics & Government: statistics and facts

Every Business Stats report on Politics & Government in one place: 11 reports, from Military (4 reports), Iran War (2 reports) and UK (2 reports).

The reports put numbers on it, for example \$360B+ (Total Aid Since 2022), 3,468 (Deaths, Iran), ~£152M (Estimated Spending in 2025/26) and 10+ (BRICS+ Members 2025).

Freshly updated: \$360B Total Aid — Western Military Aid to Ukraine Statistics 2026 and Iran War Statistics 2026: Casualties, Cost, Oil. New and updated reports appear here automatically, the last change was on Oct 18, 2026. Each report lists its sources and lets you download its charts and data.

Each chapter is a complete Business Stats report with its text, charts, tables and primary sources. The online version of every report is updated continuously; this book shows them as of Oct 19, 2026.

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STATISTICS REPORT

Armed forces of the United States — statistics and facts 2026

Updated May 7, 2026 · businessstats.com/armed-forces-of-the-united-states

1.3M ACTIVE DUTY — OCT 2025	2.1M TOTAL FORCE INCL. RESERVES	\$961.6B FY2026 BUDGET REQUEST
32% SHARE OF GLOBAL MILITARY SPEND	170K TROOPS STATIONED ABROAD	11 AIRCRAFT CARRIERS — MOST IN WORLD

Overview

Armed forces of the United States — the world's largest military budget and most globally deployed force in 2026

The United States Armed Forces are the most powerful and most expensive military in human history. Six branches, Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Space Force, combine for **1.3 million active duty service members** as of October 2025, supported by 750,000 reserve and National Guard personnel. The total DoD workforce including 701,000 civilian employees reaches **2.86 million people**, larger than the population of Chicago. The FY2026 defense budget request of **\$961.6 billion** is the largest in US history, reflecting simultaneous operational demands including Operation Epic Fury against Iran, Indo-Pacific deterrence commitments, and nuclear triad modernization. The US accounts for approximately **32 percent of all global military spending** (\$2.9 trillion total worldwide), and operates approximately **800 military installations globally**. The US financial market context driving defense investment is in our [U.S. financial markets analysis](#).

The strategic rationale for US military spending rests on three pillars: deterrence against state-level adversaries (China, Russia, North Korea, and Iran), power projection to protect global trade routes and alliance commitments, and the maintenance of the rules-based international order underwritten by US military guarantees since 1945. In 2025-2026, all three pillars are under simultaneous stress, contributing to the historic 13 percent jump in the FY2026 budget request. Operation Epic Fury, the joint US-Israel military campaign against Iran that began February 28, 2026, cost over \$11.3 billion in the first six days alone per



Pentagon testimony to Congress. Full casualty data from that conflict is in our [Iran war 2026 casualties analysis](#).

U.S. Armed Forces 2026 (BusinessStats Research · DMDC · USAFacts): Total active duty 1.3M · Army 455,824 (largest) · FY2026 budget \$961.6B (+13%) · 170,000 troops in ~80 countries · 11 aircraft carriers · US = 32% of global \$2.9T military spending · Total DoD workforce: 2.86M. Source: BusinessStats Research · DoD · DMDC · SIPRI · April 2026.

- **Active duty:** ~1.3M across six branches · Grew 1.5% March 2024-March 2025, reversing years of decline · All branches hit FY2025 recruiting goals
- **Total force:** ~2.1M uniformed personnel (active + reserve + National Guard) · 701,000 civilian DoD employees = 2.86M total workforce
- **FY2026 budget:** \$961.6B — largest in US history · 13% jump over FY2025 · \$600B total military compensation including veterans benefits (up 162% since 1980 in real terms)
- **Global presence:** ~170,000 troops in ~80 countries · ~800 military installations globally · 11 aircraft carriers · US Special Operations Command active on 6 continents
- **Nuclear deterrent:** ~5,550 total nuclear warheads · ~1,700 deployed on ICBM + SLBM + strategic bomber triad · \$1.7T modernization program over 30 years

Personnel by Branch

U.S. Military — Active Duty Personnel by Branch, October 2025

The **U.S. Army** is the largest military branch with **455,824 active duty soldiers** as of October 31, 2025, the most recent confirmed DMDC data. It accounts for 34 percent of all active duty troops and 65 percent of all reservists. The Army hit its FY2025 recruiting target of 61,000 new soldiers months ahead of schedule, a remarkable turnaround from its 2022-2023 crisis when it fell approximately 10,000 soldiers short of its annual goal. The **Navy** (341,496) and **Air Force** (318,983) follow. The **Space Force**, established December 2019 as the first new branch since the Air Force in 1947, has approximately 10,000 Guardians and has already surpassed its FY2026 recruiting goals. Its top enlisted leader has publicly called for the branch to double in size to 20,000 to meet growing national security space demands. The global company valuations context is in our [world's most valuable companies analysis](#).

Active Duty Personnel by Branch — October 31, 2025 U.S. Armed Forces — Active Duty Personnel by Branch, October 2025 Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) · DoD Personnel Report · October 31, 2025

· USMC, USCG, USSF are 2025 estimates 455,824 U.S. Army Active Duty Personnel — October 2025 Total active duty ~1.3M · Total force incl. reserves ~2.1M Source: Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) · DoD Personnel Report October 31, 2025 · Army, Navy, Air Force confirmed · USMC, USCG, USSF are 2025 estimates U.S. Military — Personnel and Budget by Branch 2025-2026 Click to sort ↑

BRANCH	ACTIVE DUTY	GUARD/RESERVE	FY2026 BUDGET	KEY NOTES 2026
U.S. Army	455,824	~510,000	\$197.4B	Largest branch · Hit 61,000 FY2025 recruits ahead of schedule
U.S. Navy	341,496	~57,000	\$292.2B	2 carrier strike groups in Middle East (Op. Epic Fury)
U.S. Air Force	318,983	~177,000	\$301.1B	Largest FY2026 appropriation · B-2 bombers struck Iran 2026
Marine Corps	~177,000	~33,000	Incl. Navy	Force Design 2030 · Anti-ship missiles · Unmanned systems
Coast Guard	~40,800	~7,000	~\$13.7B	DHS in peacetime · Caribbean counter-narcotics operations
Space Force	~10,000	—	~\$29.4B	Newest branch (2019) · Surpassed FY2026 goals · Target: 20,000
Total	~1.3M	~784,000	\$961.6B	+ 701,000 civilian employees = 2.86M total DoD workforce

Reserve and National Guard

National Guard 433,990 Members — Reserve Forces Bring Total to 2.1 Million

The reserve and National Guard components are a deployable, operational part of total US military force. The **National Guard** has 433,990 members as of September 2025, with 97 percent residing in the US. The Army National Guard contributes approximately **330,000 personnel** with a dual state-federal mission, deployable for domestic emergencies and overseas operations. From June to December 2025, the Trump administration deployed National Guard personnel to six US cities for immigration enforcement, costing an estimated \$496 million per CBO analysis. Reserve members bring specialized civilian skills, cybersecurity, AI engineering, healthcare, and logistics, that are increasingly critical in modern operations. The investment



context driving defense industry growth is in our [investment banking revenue analysis](#).

Reserve Component Ranking — Personnel 2025 U.S. Military Reserve and National Guard — Personnel by Component 2025 USAFacts September 2025 · DMDC · Garmont Tactical 2025-2026 Personnel Report

Source: USAFacts September 2025 · Defense Manpower Data Center · Garmont Tactical 2025-2026 Report

Defense Budget FY2026

FY2026 Defense Budget — \$961.6 Billion, 13% Jump, Largest in US History

The FY2026 defense budget request of **\$961.6 billion** is one of the largest single-year defense budget jumps in American history. The **Air Force receives \$301.1 billion**, the largest single branch appropriation, funding B-2 Spirit bombers used in Operation Epic Fury, F-35 fleet operations, and next-generation air dominance programs. The **Navy receives \$292.2 billion**, reflecting two simultaneously deployed carrier strike groups in the Middle East plus Indo-Pacific deterrence commitments. Shipbuilding alone: \$33.4 billion, including 2 Virginia-class attack submarines (\$8.2B) and 2 Arleigh Burke-class destroyers (\$5.4B). The **Army's \$197.4 billion**, the smallest branch budget despite having the largest active and reserve components, funds multi-domain operations modernization and Indo-Pacific readiness. Total military compensation including veterans benefits in FY2025 was **\$600 billion**, a **162 percent real increase since 1980** per CBO. The global GDP context for defense spending is in our [world GDP analysis](#).

Defense Budget by Department — FY2025 vs FY2026 (USD Billion) U.S. Defense Budget by Department — FY2025 vs FY2026 Request (USD Billion) DoD FY2026 budget request · FY2025 request \$849.8B · FY2026 request \$961.6B · 13% YoY increase \$961.6B FY2026 Total +13% YoY Increase

Largest single-year defense budget jump in modern US history Source: DoD FY2026 budget request · Army \$197.4B · Navy \$292.2B · Air Force \$301.1B · Defense-wide \$170.9B

- **Missiles and ammunition \$22.3B:** Highest priority since Ukraine war exposed the critical need for deep stockpiles · JASSM, Tomahawks, HIMARS, Javelins, air defense interceptors
- **Defense Health Program \$13B:** Provides medical care for 9.6 million beneficiaries — active duty, veterans, and their families
- **SOCOM \$8B:** US Special Operations Command — operating in approximately 80 countries simultaneously
- **Nuclear modernization ~\$56B/yr:** Columbia-class SSBN submarine, Sentinel ICBM (replacing Minuteman III), B-21 Raider bomber — total 30-year program: \$1.7 trillion

Global Spending Comparison

US Military Spending Exceeds Next 9 Countries Combined — 32% of Global Total

The United States maintains the world's largest military budget by a substantial margin. US defense spending accounts for approximately **32 percent of global military expenditure** totaling nearly **\$2.9 trillion worldwide** in 2024 per SIPRI data. When including Department of Energy nuclear programs and veterans benefits, total US defense-related spending for FY2025 reached approximately **\$916 billion**, exceeding the combined defense spending of China (\$225B), Russia (\$109B), India (\$83B), Saudi Arabia (\$75B), the UK (\$74B), Germany (\$67B), France (\$61B), South Korea (\$50B), and Japan (\$46B), totaling approximately \$790 billion. The US military's financial dominance enables 11 aircraft carriers, 67 nuclear submarines, approximately 5,500 military aircraft, and a global network of 800+ military installations. The wealth and investment context driving this capacity is in our [US wealth analysis](#).

Global Military Spending — Top 10 Countries 2024 (USD Billion) Military Expenditure — United States vs World's Largest Military Budgets 2024 (USD Billion) Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) · World Military Expenditure 2024 · Total global: ~\$2.9 trillion Key Insight US Spends More Than the Next 9 Countries Combined — and Still Plans to Grow

At **\$916 billion in total FY2025 defense-related spending**, the US outspends all nine of the world's next largest military powers combined (~\$790B) by approximately **\$126 billion**. This ratio has remained broadly stable for decades. The US military is simultaneously a conventional force, a nuclear deterrent, a global power projection capability, and a humanitarian responder, with no historical parallel in breadth or cost. The broader economic dominance sustaining this military capacity is analyzed in our [U.S. GDP analysis](#).

Troops Stationed Abroad

170,000 US Troops Abroad — Japan 53,500, Germany 36,300, South Korea 28,500

Approximately **170,000 US active duty troops** were stationed abroad as of September 2025, representing 13 percent of all active duty personnel with unclassified locations. **Japan leads at 53,500**, hosting the 7th Fleet headquarters at Yokosuka and multiple Air Force and Marine Corps installations. **Germany at 36,300** reflects reinforced NATO commitments following Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine. **South Korea at 28,500** operates under the Combined Forces Command framework, providing a deterrent against North

Korean aggression alongside approximately 600,000 South Korean active duty troops. US Special Operations Command maintains a simultaneous presence in approximately **80 countries**. In 2026, the overseas deployment picture intensified dramatically with Operation Epic Fury requiring two carrier strike groups in the Middle East and a simultaneous Caribbean naval buildup for counter-narcotics operations. The global investment banking context for sovereign defense programs is in our [global investment banking analysis](#).

U.S. Active Duty Troops Stationed Abroad — September 2025 Number of U.S. Active Duty Troops Stationed Abroad — Selected Countries, September 2025 USAFacts · Defense Manpower Data Center September 2025 · Total abroad: ~170,000 (13% of active duty)

Military Capabilities

11 Aircraft Carriers, 5,500 Aircraft, 67 Nuclear Submarines — U.S. Military Capability Overview

The United States operates a military capability portfolio unmatched in breadth and technological sophistication. The **nuclear arsenal** consists of approximately 5,550 total warheads, with approximately 1,700 deployed across the strategic triad: Minuteman III ICBMs in five US states, Trident II D5 SLBMs on 14 Ohio-class nuclear submarines, and nuclear-capable B-52H Stratofortress, B-2A Spirit, and the new B-21 Raider strategic bombers. The modernization of all three triad legs is costing approximately **\$1.7 trillion over 30 years**, the largest military program in US history. The Air Force operates approximately **5,500 aircraft** including approximately 2,000 combat aircraft, more than any other nation. The Army operates approximately **3,700 M1A2 Abrams main battle tanks** and the world's largest military helicopter fleet at approximately **4,000 rotary-wing aircraft**. The scale of US defense industry and its relationship to broader US wealth creation is analyzed in our [BlackRock and global investment analysis](#).

- **Nuclear triad:** ~5,550 total warheads · ~1,700 deployed · Minuteman III ICBMs · Trident II D5 SLBMs (14 Ohio-class SSBNs) · B-52H, B-2A, B-21 Raider bombers · \$1.7T modernization over 30 years
- **Aircraft carriers:** 11 nuclear-powered — more than all other nations combined (China: 3, UK: 2, France: 1) · Each leads a Carrier Strike Group with cruisers, destroyers, subs, ~75 aircraft per air wing
- **Submarine fleet:** ~67 nuclear attack submarines (SSNs) + 14 ballistic missile submarines (SSBNs) · World's largest and most advanced undersea force
- **Air power:** ~5,500 aircraft total · ~2,000 combat aircraft · F-22 Raptor, F-35 Lightning II, F-15E/EX, B-2A Spirit, B-21 Raider (new), B-52H Stratofortress, E-8 JSTARS



- **Army:** ~3,700 M1A2 Abrams tanks · ~28,000 Bradley IFVs and APCs · ~4,000 helicopters (Apache, Black Hawk, Chinook) · Largest rotary-wing fleet in the world
- **Global bases:** ~800 military installations outside the US · Major hubs in Japan, Germany, South Korea, Qatar, Bahrain, UK, Italy, Djibouti, Kuwait, Diego Garcia, Guam

Key Statistics

U.S. Armed Forces — Key Statistics and Facts 2025–2026

1.3M Active Duty Personnel — Oct 2025 Army 455,824 (largest) · Navy 341,496 · Air Force 318,983 · USMC ~177,000 · Coast Guard ~40,800 · Space Force ~10,000. Total grew 1.5% March 2024 to March 2025. All branches hit FY2025 recruiting goals. Source: DMDC October 2025. \$961.6B FY2026 Defense Budget Request 13% increase over FY2025 — one of the largest single-year jumps in US history. Air Force \$301.1B · Navy \$292.2B · Army \$197.4B · Defense-wide \$170.9B. Total military compensation including veterans: \$600B. Source: DoD FY2026 request. 2.86M Total DoD Workforce 1.3M active duty + ~750,000 reserve and National Guard + 701,000 civilian DoD employees. National Guard: 433,990 members, 97% residing in the US. Larger than the population of Chicago. Source: USAFacts September 2025, DMDC. 32% Share of Global Military Spending ~32% of global military expenditure totaling nearly \$2.9T worldwide in 2024. US spending exceeds the combined budgets of the next 9 countries: China, Russia, India, Saudi Arabia, UK, Germany, France, South Korea, Japan. Source: SIPRI 2024. 11 Nuclear-Powered Aircraft Carriers More than all other nations combined (China 3, UK 2, France 1). Each carrier leads a Carrier Strike Group. Nimitz-class (10) and Gerald R. Ford-class (1, more in construction). ~75 aircraft per carrier air wing. Source: US Navy 2025. ~5,550 Total Nuclear Warheads in Stockpile ~1,700 deployed on ICBM + SLBM + bomber triad. ~3,850 in reserve/inactive stockpile. Modernizing all three legs of the triad at \$1.7T over 30 years. B-21 Raider entered service 2024. Source: FAS Nuclear Notebook 2025. 170,000 Troops Stationed Abroad — Sept 2025 13% of active duty. Japan 53,500 · Germany 36,300 · South Korea ~28,500. ~800 military installations globally. Special Operations Command active in ~80 countries simultaneously. Source: USAFacts September 2025. \$11.3B Op. Epic Fury — Cost, First 6 Days Operation Epic Fury (US-Israel vs Iran, from Feb 28, 2026) cost \$11.3B+ in first 6 days per Pentagon testimony to Congress. 15 US soldiers killed. 900 strikes in first 12 hours. 2 carrier strike groups deployed. Ceasefire April 8, 2026. Source: Pentagon testimony April 2026.

Forecast 2027–2030

US Defense Budget Forecast — \$1 Trillion by FY2027, Space Force Targeting 20,000

The US defense budget is forecast to cross the historic **\$1 trillion threshold by FY2027**, according to BusinessStats Research projections based on CBO Future Years Defense Program data. CBO projects defense costs would increase by **11 percent between 2029 and 2039**. Key drivers include Space Force expansion (targeting 20,000 from current ~10,000), nuclear triad modernization at approximately \$56 billion annually, Navy shipbuilding toward the congressional 355-ship goal, and sustained post-Iran conflict Middle East operational costs. **China's military budget** is growing at approximately 7-8 percent annually and is projected to reach \$350-400 billion by 2030, still well below US spending, but the gap is narrowing. The US structural budget pressure from \$600 billion in military compensation (up 162% since 1980 in real terms) creates persistent upward cost momentum that makes budget reductions politically and strategically difficult. The wealth distribution context driving the US economic capacity for this level of defense spending is in our US wealth analysis.

Defense Budget — Historical FY2020-FY2026 and Forecast to FY2030 U.S. Department of Defense Budget — Historical and Forecast FY2020-FY2030 (USD Billion) DoD budget requests FY2020-FY2026 confirmed/requested · FY2027-FY2030 BusinessStats Research forecast · CBO Future Years Defense Program · Dashed = forecast \$1T+FY2027 Forecast

\$1 trillion threshold expected FY2027 — first time in US history Source: DoD budget requests FY2020-FY2026 · CBO Future Years Defense Program · BusinessStats Research forecast FY2027-FY2030 · Not official DoD projections U.S. Armed Forces Outlook 2026-2030 Key Forecast Metrics — U.S. Military to 2030 \$1.05TBudget FY2027E \$1.20TBudget FY2030E ~20,000Space Force Target 355Navy Ships Target \$56B/yrNuclear Mod. Cost ~1.35MActive Duty 2030E

U.S. Military Global Presence and Forecast 2026-2030 (BusinessStats Research · USAFacts · DoD · CBO): 170,000 troops in ~80 countries · Japan 53,500 · Germany 36,300 · 11 carriers · FY2026 budget \$961.6B (+13%) · US = 32% of global \$2.9T military spending · Forecast: \$1T+ by FY2027. Source: BusinessStats Research · SIPRI · DoD · CBO · April 2026.

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions — U.S. Armed Forces Statistics 2026

As of 2025-2026, approximately **1.3 million active duty service members** serve across six branches. Total force including reserves: **2.1 million uniformed personnel**. An additional 701,000 civilian DoD employees bring the total combined workforce to approximately 2.86 million. Active duty grew 1.5% between March 2024 and March 2025, reversing years of decline. Source: DMDC October 2025, USAFacts September 2025.

The FY2026 defense budget request is **\$961.6 billion**, a 13 percent increase over FY2025 enacted levels, one of the largest single-year jumps in US history. Air Force \$301.1B (largest) · Navy \$292.2B · Army \$197.4B · Defense-wide \$170.9B. Source: DoD FY2026 budget request.

The **US Army is the largest branch with 455,824 active duty soldiers** as of October 31, 2025, followed by the Navy at 341,496 and the Air Force at 318,983. The Army accounts for 34% of active duty and 65% of all reservists. It also has the largest reserve: ~330,000 Army National Guard + ~180,000 Army Reserve. Source: DMDC October 2025.

Approximately **170,000 US active duty troops were stationed abroad as of September 2025**, representing 13% of all active duty personnel. Japan leads at 53,500, followed by Germany 36,300 and South Korea approximately 28,500. Special Operations Command operates in approximately 80 countries simultaneously. Source: USAFacts September 2025.

The US accounts for approximately **32 percent of global military expenditure** totaling nearly \$2.9 trillion worldwide in 2024. US spending (~\$916B including nuclear programs and veterans benefits) exceeds the combined budgets of the next 9 countries: China (\$225B), Russia (\$109B), India (\$83B), Saudi Arabia (\$75B), UK (\$74B), Germany (\$67B), France (\$61B), South Korea (\$50B), Japan (\$46B). Source: SIPRI 2024.

Army (455,824) · Navy (341,496) · Air Force (318,983) · Marine Corps (~177,000) · Coast Guard (~40,800) · Space Force (~10,000). Space Force was established December 2019, the first new branch since the Air Force in 1947. The Coast Guard falls under the Department of Homeland Security in peacetime. Source: DMDC October 2025.

The National Guard has **433,990 members as of September 2025**, with 97% residing in the US. Reserve components: Army Reserve ~180,000 · Air Force Reserve ~70,000 · Navy Reserve ~57,000 · Marine Corps Reserve ~33,000. Army National Guard alone: ~330,000 with dual state-federal mission. Source: USAFacts September 2025.



With the FY2026 request at \$961.6 billion, BusinessStats Research forecasts the US defense budget will cross **\$1 trillion by FY2027** for the first time in history. Key drivers: Space Force expansion, nuclear triad modernization (\$56B/yr), Navy shipbuilding, and post-Iran conflict operational costs. Based on CBO Future Years Defense Program projections. Not official DoD guidance.

The United States operates **11 nuclear-powered aircraft carriers**, more than all other nations combined (China 3, UK 2, France 1). Each carrier leads a Carrier Strike Group. The newest class, Gerald R. Ford, entered service 2017 with electromagnetic catapults and advanced sensors. Nimitz-class carriers (10) are progressively being upgraded. Each air wing carries approximately 75 aircraft. Source: US Navy 2025.

The US maintains approximately **5,550 nuclear warheads in total stockpile**, of which approximately **1,700 are deployed** on the strategic nuclear triad: Minuteman III ICBMs, Trident II D5 SLBMs on 14 Ohio-class submarines, and nuclear-capable B-52H, B-2A, and B-21 Raider bombers. Total modernization program: approximately \$1.7 trillion over 30 years. Source: Federation of American Scientists Nuclear Notebook 2025.

Operation Epic Fury, the joint US-Israel campaign against Iran beginning February 28, 2026, cost over **\$11.3 billion in the first six days** alone per Pentagon testimony to Congress. The operation involved nearly 900 strikes in the first 12 hours, deployed two carrier strike groups simultaneously, and resulted in 15 US soldiers killed. A conditional ceasefire was declared April 8, 2026, with talks ongoing in Pakistan. Source: Pentagon Congressional testimony April 2026.

Yes. **All active duty branches achieved or surpassed their FY2025 recruiting goals.** The Army hit its target of 61,000 new soldiers months ahead of schedule. Total active duty grew 1.5% between March 2024 and March 2025, reversing years of declining numbers. Structural challenges remain: only ~23% of 17-24 year olds are eligible without a waiver. Source: DMDC, The World Data February 2026.

Data Sources & References

[USAFacts, State of the Union Defense Report April 2026 · 2.1M total force September 2025 · 170,000 troops abroad · National Guard 433,990 · Japan 53,500, Germany 36,300](#)

[The World Data, DoD Spending in US, October 2025 · FY2026 \\$961.6B · Navy \\$292.2B · Air Force \\$301.1B · Army \\$197.4B · US = 32% of global spending](#)

[The World Data, US Combat Operations, February 2026 · DMDC October 2025: Army 455,824; Navy 341,496; Air Force 318,983 · Total DoD workforce 2.86M · Op. Epic Fury cost data](#)



[Garment Tactical, US Military Personnel 2025-2026 · Reserve breakdown: Army Reserve 180K, AF Reserve 70K, Navy Reserve 57K, USMC Reserve 33K](#)

[CBO, Military Personnel · FY2025 compensation \\$600B incl. veterans \(+162% since 1980\) · 11% cost growth 2029-2039 · Guard city deployments \\$496M in 2025](#)

Personnel: DMDC October 31, 2025 for Army, Navy, Air Force (confirmed). USMC, Coast Guard, Space Force are 2025 estimates. Reserve and National Guard: USAFacts September 2025. Budget figures: DoD official requests — may differ from enacted appropriations. FY2027-FY2030 forecasts: BusinessStats Research based on CBO Future Years Defense Program. Nuclear data: Federation of American Scientists Nuclear Notebook 2025. Not investment or policy advice.

STATISTICS REPORT

Western Military Aid to Ukraine — Statistics & Facts 2026

 Updated Aug 23, 2026 · businessstats.com/western-military-aid-to-ukraine

\$360B+ TOTAL AID SINCE 2022	\$45B MILITARY AID 2025	€197B EU TOTAL AID
\$134B US TOTAL AID	\$60B NATO PURL 2026	41 DONOR COUNTRIES

Overview

Western Military Aid to Ukraine 2026 — Europe Steps Up as US Steps Back

The Western effort to arm and support Ukraine against Russia's full-scale invasion has become the largest international military assistance operation since the Second World War, with at least **41 countries** contributing a combined **€309 billion (\$360 billion)** in military, financial, and humanitarian aid since February 2022, according to the Kiel Institute's Ukraine Support Tracker. The year 2025 marked a critical turning point in the structure of this support: while total military aid reached a record **\$45 billion** — the highest since the invasion began — the composition shifted dramatically as the United States largely froze new military packages under the Trump administration, forcing European allies to assume a far greater share of the burden. European military aid rose **67% above the 2022-2024 average**, while non-military European aid increased by 59%, demonstrating a significant acceleration of European defence commitments that would have seemed unthinkable just three years earlier.

The EU and its 27 member states have now committed close to **€197 billion (\$216 billion)** in total assistance, encompassing financial, military, humanitarian, and refugee support — of which 65% has been provided as grants or in-kind support and 35% as highly concessional loans. This includes over **€70 billion in military assistance** ranging from ammunition and drones to Leopard tanks, IRIS-T air defence systems, and F-16 fighter jets. The United States remains the largest single donor at approximately **\$134 billion (€114 billion)**, though the trajectory of US support has shifted dramatically under the current administration. The US drawdown has created both a crisis and an opportunity: it forced European nations to accelerate their

own defence industrial capacity, unlocked unprecedented financing mechanisms including the use of frozen Russian asset revenues, and catalysed a broader European rearmament process that extends well beyond Ukraine. NATO has confirmed that aid under its Prioritized Ukraine Requirements List (PURL) will target **\$60 billion in 2026** — covering approximately half of Ukraine's projected **\$120 billion defence budget**. For context on how these massive financial flows are affecting the broader [global economy](#), see our dedicated analysis.

Western aid to Ukraine has exceeded \$360 billion since February 2022, with 41 countries contributing military, financial and humanitarian support. Military aid hit a record \$45 billion in 2025 as Europe surged 67% above average to compensate for the US freeze. NATO PURL targets \$60 billion for 2026.

Aid Timeline

Aid Timeline 2022-2025 — From Crisis Response to Sustained Support

The evolution of Western military aid to Ukraine over the four years since the full-scale invasion reflects a dramatic scaling up of support, punctuated by political debates, supply constraints, and shifting strategic calculations. In **2022**, the immediate response saw approximately **\$30 billion in military aid** committed as Western nations scrambled to provide Ukraine with the weapons needed to survive the initial Russian onslaught. The early packages focused on portable anti-tank weapons (Javelins, NLAWs), Stinger anti-aircraft missiles, and ammunition for Soviet-era equipment already in Ukraine's arsenal. The EU activated the European Peace Facility for the first time to fund lethal weapons transfers, committing an initial €1.5 billion that would eventually grow to €6.6 billion. This period was characterised by caution about providing heavier weapons, with Western leaders initially refusing tanks, long-range missiles, and fighter aircraft out of fear of escalation with Russia.

By **2023**, the support had matured significantly, with military aid reaching approximately **\$35-40 billion** as Western nations overcame their initial reluctance and began delivering main battle tanks (Leopard 2s from multiple countries, Challengers from the UK, Abrams from the US), long-range precision strike systems (HIMARS, Storm Shadow/SCALP cruise missiles), and advanced air defence systems (Patriot, NASAMS, IRIS-T). The US alone authorised over \$40 billion in security assistance packages during this period, drawing down from existing stocks and procuring new equipment. In **2024**, aid continued at robust levels despite growing political headwinds — particularly the months-long delay in US Congress approving a \$61 billion supplemental package, which created critical ammunition shortages on the frontline and demonstrated the vulnerability of Ukraine's supply lines to American domestic politics. The year also saw

the landmark NATO Washington summit commitment of at least **€40 billion (\$43 billion) in annual military support**. Then came **2025**, the record year at **\$45 billion in military aid** — but with a fundamental structural shift as the US froze new packages and European allies compensated with dramatically increased commitments. Germany emerged as the second-largest military supporter with approximately **€28 billion delivered since the invasion began**, while the UK announced its largest-ever single-year package at £600 million. For broader perspective on how the world's largest economies are navigating the fiscal implications of increased defence spending, see our [countries with the largest GDP data](#).

Annual Military Aid to Ukraine 2022–2025 — \$Billions

The bar chart below tracks the escalation of military assistance over the four years of the full-scale war, showing the steady increase from approximately \$30 billion in the crisis response year of 2022 to the record \$45 billion in 2025. Notably, the 2025 figure was achieved despite the US freeze, demonstrating the scale of European compensation — though analysts note that European equipment cannot fully replace American capabilities, particularly in air defence systems and intelligence support for precision targeting.

Military Aid to Ukraine 2022–2025
 Annual Military Aid Committed — \$Billions
 Kiel Institute / Ramstein data - BusinessStats 2026
 \$45B 2025 Record Military Aid \$B+50% from 2022 to 2025
 Sources: Kiel Institute Ukraine Support Tracker, Ramstein Contact Group

Europe vs US Aid — The Shifting Balance

The line chart below reveals the most consequential trend in Western support to Ukraine: the dramatic shift from US-dominated aid in 2022–2024 to European-led support in 2025. European countries collectively allocated **€167.4 billion (\$195 billion)** compared to the US's **€114.6 billion (\$134 billion)** — with European contributions accelerating sharply as US support plateaued and then declined under the Trump administration. This shift has profound implications not just for Ukraine but for the broader transatlantic security architecture, as it forces Europe to develop independent defence industrial capacity and strategic decision-making capabilities that had atrophied during decades of reliance on American leadership.

Europe vs US Cumulative Aid
 Cumulative Aid — Europe vs US — €Billions
 Kiel Institute data - BusinessStats 2026
 €167B Europe Total €115B US Total

Europe overtook US in total aid volume Sources: Kiel Institute Ukraine Support Tracker

Top Donors

Top Donors — US \$134B, EU €63B, Germany €21B, UK €19B

The donor landscape for Ukraine aid is characterised by significant concentration among a relatively small number of countries, with the top five donors accounting for the vast majority of total support. The **United States** leads all donors at approximately **\$134 billion (€114.6 billion)** in total bilateral aid committed between January 2022 and mid-2025, representing approximately 0.35% of 2021 US GDP. The majority of US funding has supported American defence industries that produce weapons and military equipment for Ukraine, meaning the aid functions partly as a domestic economic stimulus for the US defence sector. The **EU institutions** (Commission and Council) rank second at **€63.2 billion (\$74 billion)**, followed by **Germany at €21.3 billion (\$25 billion)** — a remarkable transformation for a country that initially hesitated to send even helmets to Ukraine in early 2022.

The **United Kingdom** has committed approximately **€18.6 billion (\$21 billion)**, positioning itself as the fourth-largest donor and a particularly active provider of advanced military capabilities including Storm Shadow cruise missiles, Challenger tanks, and recently announced £600 million air defence packages. **Japan** has emerged as a surprisingly significant contributor at **€13.6 billion (\$15 billion)**, primarily through financial rather than military assistance. Among smaller nations, the **Nordic and Baltic states** stand out for their contributions relative to GDP: Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have contributed approximately 1% of their GDP — the threshold that Ukraine has asked all allies to reach. Denmark has been a particularly innovative donor, pioneering the "Danish model" of joint financing for Ukraine's domestic defence industry, with over \$6 billion directed toward building Ukraine's own production capacity rather than simply transferring Western equipment. For context on how increased European defence spending is impacting [financial markets in France](#), see our analysis.

Top 10 Donors — Total Bilateral Aid (€ Billions)

The horizontal bar chart below ranks the ten largest bilateral donors to Ukraine by total committed aid, revealing the dramatic concentration of support among a handful of countries. The gap between the US at €114.6 billion and the second-largest bilateral donor (Germany at €21.3 billion) underscores the scale of the American contribution — and the challenge Europe faces in compensating for any reduction in US support. Notable by their relative absence from the top tier are major economies like France, Italy, and Spain, which have contributed significantly less than their GDP would suggest.

Top Donors to Ukraine — Total Aid Bilateral Aid by Donor — €Billions (Jan 2022 - Jun 2025) Kiel Institute
 Ukraine Support Tracker - BusinessStats 2026

Military Equipment

Key Military Equipment Delivered — Tanks, Air Defence, F-16s

The evolution of Western military equipment deliveries to Ukraine reflects a progressive escalation from light portable weapons in the early weeks of the invasion to increasingly sophisticated and heavy systems. The most transformative deliveries have included advanced **air defence systems** — Patriot batteries from the US and Germany, IRIS-T from Germany, NASAMS from Norway, and Gepard anti-aircraft guns — which have been critical to protecting Ukrainian cities and infrastructure from Russia's massive aerial campaign of cruise missiles, ballistic missiles, and Iranian-designed Shahed drones. By 2025, Ukraine was operating at least **20% US-supplied equipment, 25% European-supplied**, and an impressive **55% domestically produced**, reflecting the rapid growth of Ukraine's own defence industry.

The delivery of **F-16 fighter aircraft** from Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, and Belgium marked a watershed moment, giving Ukraine its first Western combat aircraft and enhancing its ability to challenge Russian air superiority. Main battle tanks including **Leopard 2s** (from Germany, Poland, Canada, Spain, Finland, and others), **Challenger 2s** (UK), and **M1 Abrams** (US) provided Ukraine with modern armoured capability, though in smaller numbers than Kyiv requested. Artillery has been a critical category, with over 1 million rounds of ammunition pledged through the EU's joint procurement initiative, though delivery timelines have often lagged behind battlefield needs. The growing role of **drones and electronic warfare** has emerged as perhaps the defining feature of the conflict, with both sides deploying hundreds of thousands of unmanned systems, and Western nations increasingly providing advanced reconnaissance and strike drones alongside electronic countermeasures. For context on how these defence expenditures relate to the broader picture of [global digital trends](#), see our analysis of how conflict-related content has shaped social media dynamics.

Ukraine Equipment Sources
Ukraine's Military Equipment by Source — 2025 % of equipment in use -
BusinessStats 2026

US Aid & Shift

US Aid Freeze — From \$14B to \$400M Under Trump

The most significant development in the Western aid landscape in 2025 was the dramatic reduction of US military assistance under the Trump administration, which took office in January 2025 with a fundamentally different approach to the Russia-Ukraine conflict. The administration **largely froze new military packages**

throughout 2025, with only previously approved deliveries continuing while no new drawdown authorisations were issued. Washington used the pause as leverage to push Kyiv toward negotiations with Moscow, culminating in high-stakes diplomatic meetings in October 2025 where President Zelenskyy unsuccessfully sought Tomahawk cruise missiles and other advanced long-range strike systems.

The scale of the US drawdown was stark: Congress included a symbolic **\$400 million for Ukraine's weapons needs** in the 2026-2027 defence budget, compared with nearly **\$14 billion discussed** under the same programme in spring 2024. The US administration under Trump made clear its intent to shift the financial burden to European allies, pressing them to increase defence spending and assume greater responsibility for Ukraine's security. This pressure, combined with the reality of reduced American support, catalysed an unprecedented European response that may ultimately prove to be the most lasting consequence of the US policy shift. NATO's decision at the 2025 Hague summit to increase the defence spending target from 2% to **5% of GDP over ten years** — a jump worth hundreds of billions of dollars annually — reflects the fundamental reassessment of European security that the Ukraine conflict has forced. Currently, 23 of 32 NATO member states have met the existing 2% target, with the alliance as a whole spending 2.61% of combined GDP on defence. For context on how these geopolitical shifts are affecting the broader landscape of [financial markets](#) globally, see our dedicated analysis.

Key Insight€210 Billion in Frozen Russian Assets — The Untapped Resource

The EU holds approximately €210 billion in immobilized Russian central bank assets, primarily at the Brussels-based Euroclear depository. While Ukraine and some allies have pushed for full confiscation, Western nations have so far limited themselves to transferring windfall profits generated by these frozen funds — approximately €3.9 billion to date. The G7 agreed to use these profits to back \$50 billion in loans to Ukraine. Full confiscation would transform Ukraine's fiscal position but raises legal precedent concerns. In March 2025, the European Commission presented a €800 billion rearmament plan (ReArm Europe), partially financed through novel EU debt instruments.

2026 Donor Pledges — Germany €11.5B Leads

The grouped bar chart below compares 2025 actual deliveries with announced 2026 pledges for the six largest donors, showing the planned continuation and in some cases acceleration of support. Germany's €11.5 billion pledge for 2026 represents the largest single-country commitment and a dramatic increase from its already substantial 2025 contributions, signalling Berlin's determination to maintain its position as Ukraine's most important European military supporter.

2025 Actual vs 2026 Pledges Military Aid — 2025 vs 2026 — Top Donors (€B) Ramstein pledges -
 BusinessStats 2026 \$45B 2025 Total \$60B 2026 PURL

Germany €11.5B — largest single-country pledge Sources: Ramstein Contact Group, national announcements

Aid by Type — Military, Financial, Humanitarian

The rank bars below show how total Western aid breaks down by type across the major donor categories. Military aid constitutes the largest single category but financial assistance — including budget support, loans, and the EU's €54 billion Ukraine Facility — is nearly as large, reflecting the fact that keeping the Ukrainian state functioning economically is as critical as arming its military. Humanitarian aid, while smaller in absolute terms, has been vital for the millions of displaced persons both within Ukraine and in host countries across Europe.

Top Donors — Complete Breakdown by Aid Type Click column to sort

DONOR	TOTAL €B	MILITARY €B	FINANCIAL €B	% OF GDP
United States	114.6	51.6	48.0	0.35%
EU Institutions	63.2	6.6	52.0	N/A
Germany	21.3	10.5	8.5	0.53%
United Kingdom	18.6	12.0	4.5	0.62%
Japan	13.6	0.5	12.0	0.28%
Denmark	8.5	6.0	2.0	2.10%
Norway	7.8	5.0	2.5	1.35%
Canada	6.5	3.5	2.5	0.30%
Netherlands	5.8	3.8	1.5	0.55%
Poland	4.5	3.5	0.8	0.65%

European allies significantly increased military aid in 2025 to compensate for the US freeze. Germany pledged €11.5 billion for 2026 — the largest single-country commitment. NATO PURL targets \$60 billion for 2026, covering half of Ukraine's \$120 billion defence budget. The EU holds €210 billion in frozen Russian assets.



Key Statistics

Western Military Aid — Key Statistics at a Glance

The stat cards below capture the most critical data points from the Western military aid effort to Ukraine, painting a picture of an unprecedented multinational support operation that has evolved from emergency crisis response to sustained, long-term military and economic backing for a country fighting the largest land war in Europe since 1945.

\$360B+ Total Aid Since Feb 2022
41 donor countries — military, financial, humanitarian
\$45B Military Aid 2025 (Record)
European aid surged 67% above 2022-2024 average
\$134B US Total Aid
Largest single donor — but new packages frozen in 2025
€197B EU & Member States Total
65% grants/in-kind, 35% concessional loans
€11.5B Germany 2026 Pledge
Largest single-country commitment for 2026
\$60B NATO PURL 2026 Target
Half of Ukraine's \$120B projected defence budget
€210B Frozen Russian Assets
Held at Euroclear — profits being used for loans
55% Ukraine Domestic Production
Share of military equipment now made in Ukraine

Forecast 2028

Aid Outlook 2026-2028 — €90B EU Package, NATO 5% Target

The outlook for Western military aid to Ukraine through 2028 is defined by the tension between expanding European commitments and the uncertainty surrounding US engagement. European leaders have endorsed a new **€90 billion package for 2026-2027**, to be provided as concessional loans backed by the EU's common budget — a measure designed to prevent Ukraine from facing a financial collapse by mid-2026. NATO's PURL initiative targets **\$60 billion in 2026**, with Germany's €11.5 billion pledge leading all countries, followed by Norway at approximately \$7 billion. The alliance's new **5% of GDP defence spending target** — to be achieved over the next decade — would generate hundreds of billions in additional defence resources annually across the alliance.

However, significant risks remain. The US administration's **\$400 million allocation for 2026-2027** is a fraction of previous levels and may not be supplemented without a change in political direction. Section 301 investigations and potential new tariffs add further strain to transatlantic relations that could complicate coordinated Ukraine support. On the positive side, the EU's December 2025 European Defence Industry Programme includes a dedicated **€300 million Ukraine support instrument** to incentivise cooperative procurement with Ukraine and strengthen Ukrainian manufacturing capacity. The broader **€800 billion**



ReArm Europe plan represents the most ambitious European defence investment programme since the Cold War. Ukraine's own defence industry is growing rapidly, now producing **55% of the equipment it uses**, reducing dependence on Western deliveries for certain categories of weapons and ammunition. For more context on how European economic conditions shape these defence commitments, see our [inflation in Europe statistics](#), and for a perspective on how UK defence spending fits within its broader fiscal picture, see our [UK politics statistics](#).

Aid Forecast 2028 Western Aid to Ukraine — Key Projections 2026-2028 \$60B NATO PURL 2026 €90B EU Package 2026-27 €11.5B Germany 2026 Pledge \$120B Ukraine Defence Budget 5% NATO Spending Target €800B ReArm Europe Plan

[FAQ](#)

Frequently Asked Questions — Western Military Aid to Ukraine

At least **€309 billion (\$360 billion)** from 41 countries since Feb 2022, per Kiel Institute. EU and members: €197B. US: \$134B. Includes military, financial, and humanitarian aid.

A record **\$45 billion** in 2025. European military aid rose 67% above the 2022-2024 average. The US largely froze new packages, forcing European allies to compensate significantly.

US at \$134B total, EU institutions €63B, Germany €21.3B, UK €18.6B, Japan €13.6B. As % of GDP, Denmark (~2.1%) and Baltic states (~1%) lead. Germany pledged €11.5B for 2026 alone.

NATO's **Prioritized Ukraine Requirements List** — a joint financing tool for purchasing weapons. PURL targets \$60B in 2026, covering half of Ukraine's \$120B defence budget. Funds air defence missiles and critical equipment.

Yes, substantially. The Trump admin froze new military packages in 2025. Congress allocated just **\$400M for 2026-27** vs \$14B discussed in spring 2024. Only pre-approved deliveries continued. European allies surged aid to compensate.

[Data Sources & References](#)

Primary: [Kiel Institute - Ukraine Support Tracker \(updated Feb 2026\)](#)

Primary: [EU/EEAS - EU Assistance to Ukraine \(updated Feb 24, 2026\)](#)

Supporting: NATO PURL/Ramstein Contact Group data · US DoD Ukraine Security Assistance packages · UK MoD Ukraine support announcements · German Bundestag military aid approvals · CEPA Wartime



Assistance Report (Jan 2026) · UK House of Commons Library CBP-10308 · Al Jazeera Ukraine Aid Tracker
· Frontliner Western Aid Analysis

Aid data primarily from Kiel Institute Ukraine Support Tracker covering 41 donor countries. EU data from EEAS official figures updated Feb 2026. Military equipment categories from Kiel Institute and national defence ministry announcements. All amounts in euros unless specified; conversions at approximate prevailing rates. "Committed" aid includes both delivered and pledged amounts. Data subject to revision as new packages are announced and delivery confirmations are received. Ukraine Military Aid 2026NATO
PURLEU DefenceUS Aid UkraineGermany Military AidEuropean Peace FacilityFrozen Russian
AssetsRamstein Contact GroupReArm EuropeUkraine Defence 2026



STATISTICS REPORT

Countries with the Highest Military Spending Worldwide in 2026

Updated Mar 3, 2026 · businessstats.com/countries-with-the-highest-military-spending

\$2.63T GLOBAL SPEND 2025	\$980B US BUDGET 2025	\$314B CHINA SPEND 2024
+12.6% EUROPE GROWTH 2025	32/32 NATO MEMBERS AT 2%	5% NATO TARGET BY 2035

Executive Summary



STATISTICS REPORT

Largest Armies in the World — Ranked by Active Military Personnel 2026

Updated May 30, 2026 · businessstats.com/largest-militaries-in-the-world

2.03M CHINA — #1 ARMY	\$2.72T GLOBAL DEFENSE SPEND	145 NATIONS TRACKED (GFP)
8 NATIONS 500K+ TROOPS	\$997B US DEFENSE BUDGET	+9.4% SPENDING GROWTH 2024

Executive Summary

The World's Armed Forces in 2026 — Rearmament, Regional Tensions, and a New Era of Military Scale

The geopolitical landscape of 2026 is defined by the most sustained global rearmament cycle since the Cold War's end. Russia's ongoing war in Ukraine, persistent tensions across the Taiwan Strait, an expanding nuclear standoff on the Korean Peninsula, and intensifying competition in the Indo-Pacific have collectively pushed governments across every world region to increase their military headcounts and budgets at a pace not seen in decades. [According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute \(SIPRI\)](#), global military expenditure reached a record **\$2.718 trillion in 2024** — a 9.4% real-terms increase from 2023 and the steepest year-on-year rise since at least the end of the Cold War. All world regions increased spending simultaneously for the first time in the modern era.

In this environment, active military personnel — soldiers serving full-time, immediately deployable — remain the most direct measure of a nation's conventional warfighting capacity. [Global Firepower's 2026 manpower data](#), cross-referenced with the [International Institute for Strategic Studies \(IISS\) Military Balance 2025](#), shows a world in which eight nations sustain active forces exceeding 500,000 troops — and three nations (China, India, and the United States) collectively maintain over 4.8 million personnel between them, representing the single largest concentration of ready military power in human history.

Understanding which countries maintain the largest standing armies — and why — is essential context for interpreting every major geopolitical development of our era.

World's Largest Armies — Ranked by Active Military Personnel 2025/2026

RANK	COUNTRY	ACTIVE PERSONNEL	RESERVE FORCES	DEFENSE BUDGET (2024)	% OF GDP
1	China (PLA)	2,035,000	510,000	\$314 Billion	1.7%
2	India	1,475,750	1,155,000	\$86 Billion	2.4%
3	United States	1,315,600	799,500	\$997 Billion	3.4%
4	North Korea	1,280,000	600,000+	~\$4 Billion	~26%
5	Russia	1,134,000	2,000,000	\$149 Billion	7.1%
6	Ukraine	730,000	1,000,000+	\$64.7 Billion	37%
7	Pakistan	660,000	500,000	\$10.4 Billion	2.7%
8	Iran	610,000	350,000	\$10 Billion	2.3%
9	South Korea	555,000	3,100,000	\$47 Billion	2.8%
10	Vietnam	482,000	5,000,000	\$7.3 Billion	1.8%
11	Egypt	438,500	479,000	\$5.5 Billion	1.2%
12	Myanmar	406,000	107,000	~\$2.8 Billion	4.2%
13	Indonesia	395,500	400,000	\$11.4 Billion	0.9%
14	Syria	350,000	—	N/A	N/A
15	Brazil	335,000	1,340,000	\$20.2 Billion	1.3%

Sources: [IISS Military Balance 2025 via DataPandas](#) · [Global Firepower 2026](#) · [SIPRI Military Expenditure Report 2025](#). Reserve and paramilitary figures excluded from active column. Ukraine figure reflects wartime mobilisation.

Active Personnel at a Glance — Top 10 Nations

China2,035,000 India1,475,750 United States1,315,600 North Korea1,280,000 Russia1,134,000
Ukraine730,000 Pakistan660,000 Iran610,000 South Korea555,000 Vietnam482,000 2.03MChina —
World's Largest 8Nations with 500K+ Troops \$2.72TGlobal Defense Spend 2024 +9.4%Year-on-Year Rise
145Nations in GFP Index 37%Ukraine GDP on Defense

Country Profiles

Top 10 Armies — Detailed Country-by-Country Analysis

Active troop counts alone do not capture the full picture of military power — doctrine, technology, training, logistics, and nuclear capability all shape real-world deterrence. But manpower scale determines which nations can sustain prolonged conventional conflicts, deter adversaries through sheer presence, and project force simultaneously across multiple theatres. The following profiles examine the world's ten largest standing armies through the lens of size, structure, and strategic context as of early 2026.

1 China — People's Liberation Army (PLA): 2,035,000 Active Personnel

The People's Liberation Army

is the world's largest standing military by active personnel — a force of over 2 million troops organised across Ground Force, Navy, Air Force, Rocket Force, and four specialised arms covering space, cyber, information support, and joint logistics. Commanded by the Central Military Commission chaired by President Xi Jinping, the PLA operates under an "active defence" doctrine with five theatre commands integrating joint operations. China's 2024 defence budget reached \$314 billion (1.7% of GDP), funding an intensive modernisation drive encompassing hypersonic missiles, blue-water carrier groups, fifth-generation fighter jets, and advanced AI-enabled surveillance systems. The PLA's strategic focus has shifted decisively from internal security toward power projection, with particular emphasis on Taiwan contingency planning and South China Sea dominance. Despite its numerical lead, China's force has not fought a major conflict since 1979 — a combat experience gap that analysts view as a structural vulnerability against the battle-hardened forces of the United States and Russia.

2 India — Indian Armed Forces: 1,475,750 Active Personnel

India's armed forces — comprising the Army, Navy, and Air Force — are the world's second-largest by active headcount, reflecting the country's vast population, complex security environment, and decades-long border disputes with both China and Pakistan.

According to the IISS Military Balance 2025

, India maintains 1,475,750 active personnel supported by 1.155 million reservists. India's 2024 defence budget reached approximately \$86 billion (2.4% of GDP) — with major procurement priorities including the Rafale fighter fleet expansion, domestically developed LCA Tejas aircraft, INS Vikrant aircraft carrier operations, and the Agni-V intercontinental ballistic missile programme. India's military doctrine balances deterrence against a potential two-front war (China and Pakistan simultaneously) with active insurgency management in Jammu & Kashmir. The Agnipath military recruitment scheme, introduced in 2022, remains

controversial — a structural reform that reduced the size of enlistment cohorts while increasing technical specialisation. 3 United States — US Armed Forces: 1,315,600 Active Personnel The United States Armed Forces — comprising the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Space Force, and Coast Guard — field approximately 1.32 million active-duty personnel

across a globally distributed posture spanning over 750 military installations in more than 80 countries. The US ranks third in raw manpower but first in every qualitative dimension: the 2024 defence budget reached \$997 billion, accounting for 37% of all global military spending. President Trump's proposed 2027 defence budget of \$1.5 trillion — if enacted — would represent the largest military appropriation in human history. US modernisation priorities centre on long-range precision fires, uncrewed systems, nuclear triad recapitalisation, and hypersonic missile defence. The expiration of the US–Russia New START nuclear treaty in February 2026 has removed quantitative limits on both nations' nuclear arsenals for the first time in over 50 years — a development with major implications for strategic stability globally. 4 North Korea — Korean People's Army (KPA): 1,280,000 Active Personnel

North Korea's Korean People's Army

is the world's fourth-largest standing force, sustained through universal conscription that drafts men for up to 10 years and women to age 23 — the longest mandatory service periods of any nation on earth. The KPA comprises five branches: Ground Force, Navy, Air and Anti-Air Force, Strategic Missile Force, and Special Operations Forces. Despite an estimated annual GDP of only \$28 billion, North Korea allocates an extraordinary ~26% of GDP to defence — approximately \$4 billion per year. The KPA offsets its qualitative disadvantages versus the US and South Korea through the world's largest special-forces corps (estimated 180,000–200,000 operatives), an extensive artillery arsenal capable of reaching Seoul, ballistic and hypersonic missile programmes, confirmed nuclear warhead capability, and alleged chemical weapons stockpiles. North Korea also dominated global headlines in 2024–2025 by reportedly deploying upward of 10,000–12,000 soldiers to support Russian operations in Ukraine — the first confirmed deployment of DPRK forces to a foreign conflict. 5 Russia — Russian Armed Forces: 1,134,000 Active Personnel Russia's armed forces,

numbering approximately 1.134 million active personnel

by IISS estimates, have undergone dramatic structural stress since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. Combat losses — estimated by Western intelligence services at over 400,000 killed and wounded through 2025 — have required aggressive recruitment, including prisoner recruitment programmes, elevated signing bonuses, and emergency conscription extensions. Russia's 2024 defence

budget reached \$149 billion (7.1% of GDP) — double the 2015 level and a 38% increase from 2023 alone, according to SIPRI. Despite operational setbacks in Ukraine, Russia retains formidable strategic capabilities: the world's largest nuclear arsenal (approximately 5,580 warheads), an extensive hypersonic missile inventory, and one of the world's largest armoured vehicle and artillery parks. Reserve mobilisation pools give Russia a theoretical wartime manpower base of 2+ million additional personnel — though training quality and equipment availability for reserves remain significant constraints. 6 **Ukraine — Armed Forces of Ukraine (AFU): ~730,000 Active Personnel** Ukraine's military represents the most dramatic wartime mobilisation in Europe since World War II. From a pre-invasion force of approximately 196,000,

Ukraine's Armed Forces have expanded to an estimated 730,000 active personnel

— making it Europe's largest military by headcount in 2026. Ukraine allocates an extraordinary 37% of GDP to defence — the highest military burden of any nation not engaged in total war. Western military aid from NATO allies has proven decisive: over \$100 billion in security assistance since 2022 has transformed the AFU from a Soviet-legacy force into a modern combined-arms military with experience in drone warfare, electronic warfare, counter-battery operations, and urban combat that few other forces in the world can match. Ukraine's military trajectory in 2026 remains entirely dependent on continued Western support and domestic industrial base development. 7 **Pakistan — Pakistan Armed Forces: 660,000 Active Personnel** Pakistan's military — the seventh-largest by active headcount at 660,000 — is shaped primarily by its decades-long strategic rivalry with India and an ongoing internal security campaign against militant groups. The Pakistan Army, Air Force, and Navy maintain a posture anchored in nuclear deterrence: Pakistan is estimated to possess 170 nuclear warheads, with continued expansion of its tactical nuclear arsenal via the Nasr short-range ballistic missile programme. Pakistan's 2024 defence budget of approximately \$10.4 billion (2.7% of GDP) is supplemented by significant US, Chinese, and Gulf security assistance. The Pakistan Army also plays an unusually prominent role in domestic politics — a civil-military dynamic that shapes defence procurement, foreign policy, and internal governance in ways that have no parallel among other major military powers. 8 **Iran — Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed Forces: 610,000 Active Personnel** Iran's armed forces — comprising the conventional Islamic Republic of Iran Army (Artesh) and the ideologically separate Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) — total approximately 610,000 active personnel. The IRGC, with its own ground, naval, aerospace, and Quds Force (external operations) branches, functions as a state-within-a-state — maintaining independent command structures, budgets, and foreign policy instruments. Iran's proxy network — Hezbollah in Lebanon, the Houthis in Yemen, Shia militias in Iraq and Syria — represents a force-multiplier that makes Iran's effective regional footprint substantially larger than its official headcount suggests. Iran's ballistic missile programme — the largest in



the Middle East, with ranges covering Israel and US bases throughout the region — is the centrepiece of its deterrence strategy in the absence of a conventional air force capable of contesting regional air superiority. 9 South Korea — Republic of Korea Armed Forces: 555,000 Active Personnel South Korea's military is among the world's most operationally ready, sustained by universal male conscription (18–21 months), a \$47 billion annual defence budget (2.8% of GDP), and the most combat-relevant threat environment on earth — a shared border with North Korea's million-plus-strong KPA.

South Korea's 3.1 million-strong reserve force

is one of the world's largest in proportional terms. South Korea is also a significant and growing defence exporter: K2 Black Panther main battle tanks, K9 Thunder self-propelled howitzers, and FA-50 light combat aircraft are now operated by NATO members including Poland — a remarkable transformation from a nation that was an aid recipient just decades ago. South Korea's military-industrial capability increasingly allows it to modernise its own forces and export at scale simultaneously. 10 Vietnam — Vietnam People's Army: 482,000 Active Personnel Vietnam's People's Army, at approximately 482,000 active troops, operates a "four no's" defence policy — no military alliances, no siding with one country against another, no foreign bases on Vietnamese soil, and no use of force in international relations — that nevertheless sustains one of Southeast Asia's most capable armed forces. Vietnam's

5 million-strong reserve force

— the world's largest in proportion to population outside the Korean Peninsula — reflects Vietnam's historical experience of sustained guerrilla and popular warfare. The primary drivers of Vietnam's military investment are maritime territorial disputes with China in the South China Sea, where Vietnam maintains island and reef positions contested by Beijing. Vietnam has significantly modernised its submarine fleet (six Kilo-class SSKs from Russia) and coastal defence systems in recent years.

Global military headcounts in 2026 reflect the most sustained rearmament cycle since the Cold War. Eight nations now maintain active forces exceeding 500,000 troops — a concentration of standing military power unprecedented in the post-Soviet era. Nuclear Context

Manpower Rankings ≠ Strategic Rankings — Nuclear Arsenals Change Everything

North Korea fields the world's fourth-largest active military despite having the world's 49th-largest economy. Russia ranks fifth in manpower but maintains the world's largest nuclear arsenal (~5,580 warheads). The United States fields "only" the third-largest active force yet spends more on defence than the next 10 nations combined and maintains the most globally capable power-projection military in history.

Raw troop counts provide essential context for conventional warfighting capacity — but nuclear deterrence, logistics, technology, and alliance structures ultimately determine which nations can shape global security outcomes.

Defense Spending

\$2.718 Trillion — Global Military Expenditure Hits a Record High in 2024

SIPRI's 2025 Military Expenditure Report documents the most significant single-year increase in global defence spending since the Cold War ended. World military expenditure reached \$2.718 trillion in 2024 — the 10th consecutive year of increases — with the top five spenders (United States, China, Russia, Germany, and India) accounting for 60% of the global total, combining for \$1.635 trillion. The United States alone spent \$997 billion, representing 37% of all global military expenditure and approximately 66% of total NATO spending. Military spending increased in every world region simultaneously — a first in the modern statistical record. European NATO members collectively spent \$454 billion — 30% of total alliance spending — as the threat from Russia drove the fastest European rearmament since World War II.

Top 10 Military Spenders — 2024 Defense Budgets

RANK	COUNTRY	DEFENSE BUDGET 2024	YOY CHANGE	% OF GDP
1	United States	\$997 Billion	+5.7%	3.4%
2	China	\$314 Billion	+7.4%	1.7%
3	Russia	\$149 Billion	+38%	7.1%
4	Germany	\$97.6 Billion	+28%	2.1%
5	India	\$86 Billion	+4.2%	2.4%
6	Saudi Arabia	\$80.3 Billion	+6.5%	6.0%
7	United Kingdom	\$74.9 Billion	+6.2%	2.3%
8	Ukraine	\$64.7 Billion	+67%	37%
9	France	\$61.3 Billion	+6.0%	2.1%
10	Japan	\$59 Billion	+21%	1.6%

Source: SIPRI Military Expenditure Report, April 2025. Russia figure is SIPRI estimate; China figure based on official announcement. Ukraine figure includes Western military aid equivalents in some estimates —

domestic budget figure was approximately \$35 billion.

Over 100 countries around the world raised their military spending in 2024. As governments increasingly prioritize military security, often at the expense of other budget areas, the economic and social trade-offs could have significant effects on societies for years to come.

— SIPRI Trends in World Military Expenditure, 2024 (Published April 2025)

Reserve & Total Forces

Beyond Active Duty — Reserve Forces, Paramilitary, and Total Military Capability

Active-duty headcounts capture only one dimension of military capacity. When reserve and paramilitary forces are included, the ranking changes dramatically — Vietnam and South Korea, in particular, emerge as nations with extraordinary total mobilisable capacity relative to their active-duty figures. Vietnam's 5 million-strong reserve force makes it the largest total-force military in Southeast Asia. South Korea's 3.1 million reservists, combined with 555,000 active troops, give it one of the highest military participation rates of any democracy on earth. North Korea, by contrast, achieves its extraordinary total military footprint — estimated at over 7 million including paramilitary forces — through an entire society organised around military readiness.

Vietnam 5,000,000 Reservists — World's Largest Reserve Vietnam's reserve force of approximately 5 million is the world's largest outside the Korean Peninsula in proportional terms. Universal service traditions from its wars with France, the US, and China create a deeply militarised society with extraordinary mobilisable depth. **South Korea 3,100,000 Reservists — 130.5 per 1,000 capita** South Korea's universal male conscription and structured reserve system produce the world's highest total-force military density among democracies. ROK reservists undergo annual training cycles and are organised for immediate integration with active units in the event of conflict. **Russia 2,000,000+ Mobilisable Reserves** Russia's reserve system — tested, strained, and partially reformed by the Ukraine conflict — represents a theoretical pool of millions of ex-conscripts with recent training. However, equipment shortfalls, training gaps, and combat losses have substantially degraded the effective quality of this reserve base relative to Soviet-era assessments. **North Korea 5,889,000+ Paramilitary Forces** North Korea's paramilitary — the world's largest — vastly exceeds its 1.28 million active force in total numbers. Including Worker-Peasant Red Guards and other formations, the DPRK's total armed mobilisation capacity approaches 7–8 million, though equipment and logistical constraints dramatically limit effective combat power at scale. **India**

1,155,000 Reservists India's reserve system — the Territorial Army, Ex-Servicemen Corps, and National Cadet Corps — provides meaningful depth for a nation confronting potential two-front conventional threats from China and Pakistan. The contested Agnipath scheme aims to expand technical specialisation but has drawn criticism for reducing career-length service experience. Brazil 1,340,000 Reservists Brazil's 335,000 active troops and 1.34 million reservists make it by far South America's largest military. Despite its size, Brazil's military has been focused primarily on internal security and disaster relief operations — with limited power-projection capability and a relatively modest \$20 billion annual defence budget despite its G20 economic standing.

Key Trends

Six Forces Reshaping Military Manpower and Global Defense in 2026

AI, Drones, and the Changing Value of Manpower

Autonomous systems — loitering munitions, surveillance drones, AI-enabled target identification, and electronic warfare platforms — are reshaping the calculus of manpower-intensive armies. The Ukraine conflict has demonstrated that a smaller, better-equipped force with drone superiority can inflict catastrophic losses on a numerically superior opponent. The major powers are investing heavily in uncrewed systems precisely because they reduce casualty exposure — but headcount remains decisive for territorial control, logistics, and sustained operations.

European Rearmament — Fastest Build-Up Since 1945

European NATO members increased collective spending by 17% in 2024 alone — pushing total European military expenditure beyond Cold War peak levels. Germany activated a €100 billion special defence fund and committed to 2%+ of GDP. Poland — now spending 4% of GDP on defence — is building what it calls "the strongest army in Europe." Sweden and Finland joined NATO, adding substantial Baltic Sea military capacity. European active headcounts are growing for the first time since the post-Cold War drawdown of the 1990s.

Nuclear Proliferation Pressure Intensifies

The expiration of the US–Russia New START treaty in February 2026 has removed limits on nuclear arsenals for the first time in over 50 years. China's nuclear stockpile has grown from 350 to 600 warheads since 2020 and is projected to reach 1,000 by 2030. North Korea continues testing longer-range delivery systems. This multipolar nuclear environment — with three major nuclear powers no longer bound by

bilateral arms control — fundamentally complicates conventional military deterrence calculations for all mid-tier armies.

Indo-Pacific Military Surge

Japan's defence budget has doubled in real terms under its 2022–2027 military build-up plan, with a target of 2% of GDP. South Korea continues expanding its defence-industrial base and active capacity. Australia is investing \$368 billion in its AUKUS nuclear-powered submarine programme. Taiwan has extended conscription service. The Indo-Pacific is experiencing the most significant simultaneous military build-up of the 21st century, driven by Chinese assertiveness across the Taiwan Strait, South China Sea, and in the broader region.

Space and Cyber as Military Domains

All major military powers now formally designate space and cyberspace as operational domains requiring dedicated military forces. The United States Space Force, China's Strategic Support Force (reorganised 2024), Russia's Aerospace Forces, and emerging space commands in France, India, and Japan all represent the institutionalisation of non-kinetic military competition. Cyber attacks on critical infrastructure, GPS-denial operations, and anti-satellite missile tests by China and Russia have demonstrated that military confrontation is no longer confined to physical battlefields.

Recruitment Crises in Volunteer Armies

The United States Army and UK Armed Forces both failed to meet recruiting targets in 2023 and 2024 — a structural challenge affecting all-volunteer military models in ageing, employment-rich democracies. The US Army missed its FY2023 recruiting goal by approximately 15,000 soldiers. The UK Regular Army now stands at its smallest headcount since the Napoleonic Wars. These recruitment shortfalls are driving accelerated investment in automation, longer service contracts, and — in some European nations — debates about reinstating conscription for the first time in decades.

Notable Militaries

Armies Worth Watching — Notable Forces Outside the Top 10

Several militaries not ranked in the top 10 by active headcount warrant close attention in 2026 due to their disproportionate regional influence, technological sophistication, or rapid expansion trajectories.

Israel — Israeli Defense Forces (IDF): ~170,000 Active, 465,000 Reserves Israel's military is among the world's most operationally experienced, having conducted sustained multi-front combat operations in Gaza

and against Hezbollah through 2024–2025.

Israel's defence spending reached \$45.6 billion in 2024 (8.8% of GDP)

— the second-highest military burden globally behind Ukraine. The IDF's reserve mobilisation system — able to field nearly half a million combat-ready reservists within 72 hours — gives Israel a total wartime capacity disproportionate to its 9 million population. Poland — Polish Armed Forces: ~197,000

ActivePoland is the most significant European military expansion story of the decade. Now spending 4% of GDP on defence — the highest share in NATO — Poland is purchasing K2 tanks from South Korea, F-35 fighters from the US, and activating new territorial defence formations. Poland's stated ambition to field the "strongest army in Central Europe" has moved from political rhetoric to procurement reality. Türkiye — Turkish Armed Forces: ~355,000 ActiveTürkiye fields NATO's second-largest military by active headcount — with a distinctive strategic posture that simultaneously maintains membership in the Western alliance while deepening military ties with Russia and pursuing independent foreign policy objectives from Libya to Azerbaijan to Syria. Türkiye's Bayraktar TB2 drone has become one of the most battle-proven unmanned systems in the world, used effectively by Ukraine, Azerbaijan, and others. Japan — Japan Self-Defense Forces: ~247,000 ActiveJapan's pacifist constitution historically limited its military spending to 1% of GDP, but a 2022 National Security Strategy explicitly committed Japan to doubling defence spending to 2% of GDP by 2027. Japan is now acquiring Tomahawk land-attack cruise missiles, developing a domestically built successor fighter, and operationalising its two Izumo-class "quasi-carriers" for F-35B operations — a quiet but dramatic transformation of one of the world's most advanced but historically constrained militaries. Ethiopia — Ethiopian National Defense Force: ~350,000 ActiveEthiopia's armed forces have undergone brutal expansion through the Tigray War (2020–2022) and subsequent conflicts, reaching an estimated 350,000 active personnel — making it the largest military in Sub-Saharan Africa by active headcount. Ethiopia's military capacity, however, is heavily constrained by equipment shortfalls, supply chain fragility, and the enormous human and economic costs of recent internal conflict.

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions

China has the world's largest army by active military personnel, with approximately **2,035,000 active-duty troops** in its People's Liberation Army (PLA). India is second with 1,475,750 active personnel, and the United States is third with 1,315,600. This ranking applies to active-duty headcount only — when total forces including reserves are considered, Vietnam and South Korea's enormous reserve bases change the

picture significantly. Data is sourced from the IISS Military Balance 2025 and Global Firepower 2026.

According to SIPRI's April 2025 Military Expenditure Report, global military spending reached a record **\$2.718 trillion in 2024** — a 9.4% real-terms increase from 2023 and the steepest year-on-year rise since at least the end of the Cold War. The United States alone accounted for \$997 billion (37% of the global total), followed by China (\$314 billion) and Russia (\$149 billion). All world regions increased military spending in 2024 simultaneously for the first time in the modern record.

Ukraine has the world's highest military burden as a share of GDP at approximately **37%** — reflecting the existential nature of its war with Russia. Israel's military spending reached 8.8% of GDP in 2024 — the second-highest globally — following the escalation of conflicts in Gaza and against Hezbollah. Russia spent 7.1% of GDP. North Korea's estimated military burden of ~26% of GDP is exceptional for a nation not engaged in active foreign conflict, reflecting the KPA's total centrality to the DPRK's political system.

North Korea dominates active military per capita, with approximately 50.4 active soldiers per 1,000 population — the highest of any nation on earth. Eritrea has the second-highest density of active troops relative to population at 33.8 per 1,000. South Korea leads among democracies, with 130.5 total military members (active + reserve) per 1,000 capita. The United States, China, and India — despite their enormous absolute headcounts — rank relatively low on a per-capita basis due to their vast populations.

The Russia-Ukraine war has fundamentally reshaped military rankings and spending patterns globally. Ukraine itself has surged from approximately 196,000 active troops pre-invasion to an estimated **730,000** — entering the top 6 largest forces globally. Russia has dramatically increased defence spending (+38% in 2024 alone) while absorbing massive personnel losses. European NATO members have collectively accelerated rearmament to the fastest pace since 1945. Poland, Finland, Sweden, Germany, and the Baltic states have all significantly increased both headcounts and budgets. North Korea has deepened military cooperation with Russia, reportedly deploying troops to the conflict — the first foreign deployment of KPA forces.

Yes — personnel headcount is one of many factors. The United States ranks first on virtually every qualitative military metric: it operates **11 nuclear-powered aircraft carrier groups** (more than the rest of the world combined), the world's most advanced air force (F-22, F-35, B-21), the largest global basing network (750+ installations in 80+ countries), the most capable special operations forces, and a \$997 billion annual budget — more than the next 10 nations combined. The 2026 Global Firepower overall ranking places the United States first, Russia second, and China third — reflecting these qualitative factors beyond raw manpower. Raw active personnel counts are an important but incomplete metric for assessing true military



power.

Data Sources & References

Primary: [SIPRI — Trends in World Military Expenditure, 2024 \(Published April 2025\)](#)

Primary: [Global Firepower — Active Military Manpower by Country 2026](#)

Primary: [DataPandas — Military Size by Country \(IISS Military Balance 2025\)](#)

Additional: [World Population Review — Military Size by Country 2026](#) · [WorldAtlas — Largest Armies in the World 2025](#) · [Visual Capitalist — World's 50 Most Powerful Militaries 2026](#) · [Wikipedia — Countries by Military and Paramilitary Personnel \(IISS\)](#) · [Global Firepower 2026 Military Strength Rankings](#)

Global Military 2026 Active Personnel Rankings China PLA US Armed Forces India Military Defense Budgets
SIPRI 2025 Global Firepower Military Spending Geopolitics 2026 NATO

STATISTICS REPORT

U.S.-Israel war with Iran statistics & facts

Updated Jul 24, 2026 · businessstats.com/us-israel-war-with-iran

3,468 DEATHS, IRAN	4,301 DEATHS, LEBANON	24-57 DEATHS, ISRAEL
-30% HORMUZ FLOW	\$100+ BRENT, 23 JUL	\$11.3B 6-DAY US COST

Overview

The U.S.-Israel war with Iran in numbers, February to July 2026

The U.S.-Israel war with Iran began on February 28, 2026, when the two countries launched coordinated strikes on Iran under the codenames Operation Roaring Lion and Operation Epic Fury. Iran reported more than 3,400 deaths by June 2026 and oil flows through the Strait of Hormuz fell by about 30 percent. Few conflicts have produced a statistical record as contradictory as this one, where the same week can be described with death tolls differing by thousands depending on which authority is doing the counting. On the reported figures, Iran recorded 3,468 deaths to June 10, Lebanon 4,301 to July 4, Israel between 24 and 35, Gulf states 28 between them and the United States between 17 and 20 service personnel.

The economic shock reached far beyond the region, with Brent crude rising from about 71 to 94 dollars a barrel in ten days. The wider market picture sits within our [financial markets](#) and [largest economies by GDP](#) coverage.

Oil Flows Through the Strait of Hormuz and Share of Global ConsumptionA 30 percent collapse.

Data:

Compiled by BusinessStats from the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the International Energy Agency, SIPRI, national health ministries and open-source conflict trackers.

Note:

This is an active conflict. Casualty figures are contested, differ between sources and change frequently. Every figure below carries its source and the date it was reported.Switch views with the toolbar.

A 30 percent collapse: oil through the Strait of Hormuz fell from about 20.7 million barrels a day in late 2025 to 14.6 million in the first quarter of 2026, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

Casualty figures remain contested. Iran, Lebanon, Israel and the Gulf states each report through different authorities, and independent trackers publish figures that differ by thousands, a gap this overview shows rather than hides.

A note on the data. This is an active conflict and the numbers move. Every figure here names the body that reported it and the date it was reported. Where sources conflict, the range appears instead of a single number. Readers should treat every casualty number on this page as provisional. Health ministries revise totals, independent trackers apply different criteria, and figures published today will not match figures published next month. The sources drawn on here are the U.S. Energy Information Administration and the International Energy Agency for energy data, SIPRI for military expenditure, national health ministries for casualties, and open-source trackers for campaign detail.

The Table

Key Reported Figures and Their Sources

Key Reported Figures, U.S.-Israel War With Iran Every figure carries its source and date

MEASURE	REPORTED	SOURCE	AS OF
Deaths reported in Iran	3,468	Iran Ministry of Health	10 Jun 2026
Deaths reported in Iran	3,636+	HRANA (rights group)	Jul 2026
Deaths reported in Lebanon	4,301	Lebanese Ministry of Health	4 Jul 2026
Deaths reported in Israel	24 to 57	Times of Israel / INSS / compilations	24 Jul 2026
Deaths reported in Gulf states	28	Al Jazeera tracker	10 Jun 2026
US service personnel killed	17 to 20	Open-source trackers	Jul 2026
Hormuz oil flow, Q1 2026	14.6m b/d	U.S. EIA	Q1 2026
Hormuz oil flow, Q4 2025	20.7m b/d	U.S. EIA	Q4 2025
Brent crude, 27 Feb 2026	\$71	Market reporting	27 Feb 2026
Brent crude, 9 Mar 2026	\$94	Market reporting	9 Mar 2026

Brent crude, 1 Jul 2026	\$71.57	Market reporting	1 Jul 2026
Brent crude, 23 Jul 2026	Above \$100	CNBC / Al Jazeera	23 Jul 2026
Economic damage to Iraq	Up to \$45bn	Iraqi government	Jul 2026
US six-day campaign cost	\$11.3bn	Pentagon to Congress	11 Mar 2026

The table sets out the main reported figures of the war alongside the source and date for each one. It shows how widely the casualty counts differ by reporting authority, and how sharply the energy figures moved after February 28. Reading down the source column shows the problem in one view, with four different bodies reporting four different totals for the same conflict over overlapping periods. Because this is a live conflict, the table is a snapshot of what had been reported by late July 2026 rather than a settled account, and it should be checked against current reporting before being cited.

Timeline

How the War Unfolded

The war opened on February 28, 2026 with coordinated strikes on Tehran, Isfahan, Qom, Karaj and Kermanshah. Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei was confirmed killed within hours, and Iran retaliated with drones and ballistic missiles across the Persian Gulf. The shape of the war matters for reading its numbers, because it has run in distinct phases separated by ceasefires rather than as one continuous campaign, and different trackers start and stop their counts at different points.

The campaign ran to April 8, 2026, when a Pakistan-mediated ceasefire took hold, before a fourteen-point memorandum of understanding was signed in Switzerland on June 19 and broke down again in July.

The war escalated again through July. By July 23 the United States reported a thirteenth consecutive night of strikes, Iran rejected an Iraqi-mediated ceasefire proposal, and the Revolutionary Guard declared the Strait of Hormuz under its control after a tanker was set ablaze. The phased structure of the war, with strikes resuming after each agreement broke down, is the main reason cumulative totals from different trackers drift apart the longer the conflict runs.

The conflict has therefore run in phases rather than continuously, which is a large part of why cumulative totals differ so much between trackers. Counts that began on February 28 and counts that restart after each ceasefire produce very different numbers for the same war.

Casualties

How Many People Have Died?

Reported deaths differ sharply by country and by source. Iran reported 3,468 deaths to June 10, 2026 through its Ministry of Health, while the rights group HRANA put the figure above 3,636 in July. Lebanon reported 4,301 deaths through its Ministry of Health on July 4. Casualty reporting in an active war is never a neutral exercise, since the figures are produced by governments and organisations with stakes in how the conflict is understood, and they should be read with that in mind. Iran 3,468 deaths reported to June 10 by its Ministry of Health, Lebanon 4,301 deaths and 12,199 wounded reported to July 4, and Israel between 24 and 35 deaths depending on the reporting body.

Israel reported far lower numbers, between 24 and about 57 deaths depending on the source and the cut-off date, alongside several thousand injuries, a contrast that reflects missile defence and shelter systems rather than any dispute about the underlying events.

Reported Deaths by Country, as Reported to July 2026 Sources and dates differ.

Data:

Compiled by BusinessStats from published conflict and energy data.

Note:

Where sources disagree the range is shown rather than a single number. Figures are as reported on the stated date and are not independently verified. Switch views with the toolbar.

Sources and dates differ: Lebanon and Iran report the highest tolls, each through their health ministries, while Israeli and Gulf figures are an order of magnitude lower.

The Iranian Ministry of Health reported that the dead ranged in age from eight months to 88 years and included seven infants, 376 children and 496 women. Gulf states reported 28 deaths between them and the United States reported between 17 and 20 service personnel killed. The demographic detail released by the Iranian Ministry of Health, covering ages from infancy to 88, is among the few pieces of granular casualty information published by any party to the conflict.

Where It Reached

Which Countries Were Hit?

The war was fought between three countries but strikes were reported on the territory of twelve. Beyond Iran, Israel and the United States, attacks were recorded in Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan, Cyprus and every member of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

The spread explains why a bilateral confrontation produced regional economic damage, with Iraq alone reporting that the war has erased up to 45 billion dollars from its economy, a scale that dwarfs the direct military cost to most of the countries involved.

Where the War Reached, February to July 2026A war between three countries in which strikes were reported across twelve. Hover a country for detail.

Three parties, twelve countries: the war was fought between Iran, Israel and the United States, but strikes were reported on the territory of nine other countries, from Lebanon and Iraq to the Gulf states and Cyprus. Bahrain, where Iranian launches targeted the US Fifth Fleet, is too small to render at this map scale.

Most launches at Gulf states were intercepted, and the 28 deaths reported across those countries are small beside the tolls in Iran and Lebanon. The geographic reach still matters, because it is what turned a regional war into a global shipping and energy problem.

Why Figures Differ

Why Do Casualty Figures Differ So Much?

The Israeli death toll is the clearest example of why war statistics diverge. The Times of Israel reported 24 civilian deaths, the Israeli Ministry of Health 27 to 28, the Institute for National Security Studies 35 including military personnel, and cross-source compilations about 57 by late July. Anyone comparing two published death tolls for this war will usually find the difference lies not in the events being counted but in the rules being used to count them. The divergence is not evidence that any one source is dishonest. It is the predictable result of different organisations answering slightly different questions with different data and different deadlines.

The gap is definitional rather than factual. Some counts include military deaths, some do not, some count only direct strike deaths, and cut-off dates differ, a problem our [data and market terminology](#) coverage touches in a different context.

Israeli Death Toll by Reporting Source and DateWhy the numbers differ.



Data:

Compiled by BusinessStats from published conflict and energy data.

Note:

Where sources disagree the range is shown rather than a single number. Figures are as reported on the stated date and are not independently verified. Switch views with the toolbar.

Why the numbers differ: four reputable sources give four different Israeli death tolls for the same war, from 24 to about 57, because each counts to a different definition and cut-off date.

Injury figures diverge even further, from about 4,292 reported by the Israeli Ministry of Health to 7,738 compiled by the Institute for National Security Studies. Anyone citing a single number for this war should say which body produced it and on what date. The practical lesson is that a single headline number for war casualties is almost always misleading, and the useful question is always which body counted, what they counted and when they stopped counting.

Hormuz

What Happened to Oil Through Hormuz?

Oil flows through the Strait of Hormuz fell to 14.6 million barrels a day in the first quarter of 2026, down almost 30 percent from 20.7 million in the previous quarter, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. Crude accounted for 10.7 million of that total. The Strait of Hormuz is the reason a regional war became a global economic event, since a passage twenty-one miles wide at its narrowest carries a fifth of the petroleum the world consumes. Hormuz flows ran at 20.3 million barrels a day in 2024 and 20.9 million in the first half of 2025, peaked around 21 million in 2018 and 2022, and fell to 14.6 million in the first quarter of 2026.

The strait normally carries about a fifth of global petroleum consumption and roughly a quarter of all seaborne oil trade, which is why a regional conflict moved global prices, as our [US financial markets](#) coverage frames.

How Hormuz Flows Fell, Q4 2025 to Q1 2026 (million b/d) Six million barrels lost.

Data:

Compiled by BusinessStats from the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the International Energy Agency, SIPRI, national health ministries and open-source conflict trackers.

Note:

This is an active conflict. Casualty figures are contested, differ between sources and change frequently. Every figure below carries its source and the date it was reported. Switch views with the toolbar.

Six million barrels lost: Hormuz flows fell by about 6.1 million barrels a day between the fourth quarter of 2025 and the first quarter of 2026.

Hormuz Flow Composition, Q1 2026 (million b/d) Mostly crude.

Data:

Compiled by BusinessStats from the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the International Energy Agency, SIPRI, national health ministries and open-source conflict trackers.

Note:

This is an active conflict. Casualty figures are contested, differ between sources and change frequently. Every figure below carries its source and the date it was reported. Switch views with the toolbar.

Mostly crude: of the 14.6 million barrels a day still transiting Hormuz in the first quarter of 2026, about 10.7 million was crude oil and 3.9 million petroleum liquids.

Iran declared the strait closed to Western-allied shipping after February 28. Tanker traffic collapsed from a historical average of about 138 vessels a day to a single commercial transit on March 7, and Lloyds List Intelligence assessed no Western-allied transits at all after May 4. The Revolutionary Guard has since operated a toll regime charging vessels up to 2 million dollars, payable in yuan or cryptocurrency. A drop from roughly 138 vessels a day to one is the kind of figure that conveys the disruption more clearly than any percentage, and it explains the speed of the price reaction.

Oil Prices

How Much Did Oil Prices Rise?

Brent crude has moved in waves with the fighting. It rose from about 71 dollars a barrel on February 27, 2026 to about 94 by March 9, fell back after the April ceasefire, and passed 100 dollars again on July 23 after settling at 71.57 dollars on July 1. Oil markets price risk before they price shortage, which is why the sharpest move came in the first ten days of the conflict rather than at the point of greatest disruption.

Energy shocks of this kind feed through to fertiliser, freight and food prices within months, a chain our [chemical industry](#) coverage traces through petrochemical feedstocks.

Brent Crude Oil Price, February to July 2026 (USD per barrel)Three spikes, not one.

Data:

Compiled by BusinessStats from published conflict and energy data.

Note:

Where sources disagree the range is shown rather than a single number. Figures are as reported on the stated date and are not independently verified.Switch views with the toolbar.

Three spikes, not one: Brent rose to about 94 dollars by 9 March, passed 100 in April and again in late May, fell to 71.57 on 1 July, then climbed back above 100 by 23 July.

The July move was the sharpest of the war, a rise of about 40 percent in three weeks. American pump prices peaked at 4.56 dollars a gallon in late May, and the United States Strategic Petroleum Reserve has fallen to its lowest level since 1983. The reduced American exposure to Gulf oil, built on a decade of domestic shale production, is the single biggest reason the price shock was absorbed more easily than comparable disruptions in the past.

Who Depends on It

Who Depends on the Strait?

Asia carries most of the exposure. About 84 percent of the crude oil and condensate shipped through the Strait of Hormuz in 2024 was bound for Asian markets, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, with Saudi Arabia supplying roughly 38 percent of the flow. Who actually depends on the strait is one of the most misunderstood parts of the story, and the answer has changed considerably over the past decade.

That concentration explains why the sharpest economic effects landed on importers thousands of miles from the fighting, a pattern our [global stock markets by country](#) coverage frames.

There is no practical alternative route for most of this volume. The Saudi East-West pipeline can carry only a fraction of it, which is why the strait is described as the most important oil chokepoint in the world. The absence of a workable alternative route is what gives the strait its strategic weight, and no pipeline capacity built to date meaningfully changes that arithmetic.

Military Spending

Who Spends the Most on Defence?

The United States spent about 954 billion dollars on its military in 2025 according to SIPRI, more than the next nine countries combined. China followed on about 336 billion, Russia on 190 billion and Germany on 114 billion. Military expenditure figures are the most reliable statistics in any conflict, since they are published annually through established methodologies rather than compiled under fire. The United States 954 billion dollars in 2025 leads SIPRI rankings ahead of China on 336 billion, Russia on 190 billion, Germany on 114 billion, India on 92.1 billion, the United Kingdom on 89 billion and Ukraine on 84.1 billion.

Military spending on this scale shapes national budgets and industrial policy, a link our [US GDP](#) coverage explores.

Military Expenditure by Country, 2025 (USD bn, SIPRI)The US leads by far.

Data:

Compiled by BusinessStats from published conflict and energy data.

Note:

Where sources disagree the range is shown rather than a single number. Figures are as reported on the stated date and are not independently verified.Switch views with the toolbar.

The US leads by far: American military expenditure of about 954 billion dollars in 2025 exceeded the next nine countries combined, according to SIPRI.

Saudi Arabia, at about 83.2 billion dollars, and Ukraine, at about 84.1 billion, both appear in the top ten, showing how heavily the regions closest to active conflict weigh in the global totals. The presence of two countries at war in the top ten global spenders is itself a comment on how much of world military expenditure is now driven by active conflict rather than deterrence.

Share of GDP

Which Country Carries the Heaviest Burden?

Measured against the size of the economy rather than in dollars, the ranking changes completely. Ukraine spent about 40 percent of GDP on its military in 2025, followed by Algeria on about 8.8 percent, Israel on 7.8 percent, Russia on 7.5 percent and Saudi Arabia on 6.5 percent. Absolute spending tells you which country can buy the most, while spending as a share of the economy tells you which country is carrying the heaviest burden, and the two rankings rarely agree.

The United States, despite the largest absolute budget in the world, spends a far smaller share of its output, a distinction our [biggest companies by market value](#) coverage frames through the scale of the American economy.

Military Spending as a Share of GDP, 2025 (%)A different ranking.

Data:

Compiled by BusinessStats from published conflict and energy data.

Note:

Where sources disagree the range is shown rather than a single number. Figures are as reported on the stated date and are not independently verified. Switch views with the toolbar.

A different ranking: measured against the economy, Ukraine, Algeria, Israel, Russia and Saudi Arabia carry the heaviest military burdens, not the largest spenders.

Israel spending nearly eight percent of national output on defence is among the highest sustained rates of any developed economy, and it rose sharply after 2023 as regional conflict widened. Sustained defence spending near eight percent of output constrains everything else a government can do, which is why the share-of-GDP measure matters more for understanding strain than the headline dollar figure.

The Asymmetry

Iran and Israel Compared

The financial gap between the two sides is wide. SIPRI recorded Israeli military spending at about 45.3 billion dollars in 2024, up from 23.2 billion in 2021, while Iranian spending fell to about 6.6 billion in 2024 from 7.4 billion the year before. The financial asymmetry between Iran and Israel is one of the defining features of this conflict, though it explains far less about the fighting than the raw figures suggest.

Iranian figures are widely treated as understated, since parts of the Revolutionary Guard budget, the nuclear programme and support for allied forces sit outside the published defence line, so the published number understates the real one by a margin nobody can pin down precisely.

Israeli and Iranian Military Spending, 2021 to 2025 (USD bn)A widening gap.

Data:

Compiled by BusinessStats from published conflict and energy data.

Note:

Where sources disagree the range is shown rather than a single number. Figures are as reported on the stated date and are not independently verified. Switch views with the toolbar.

A widening gap: Israeli military spending nearly doubled between 2021 and 2024 while Iranian spending fell, on SIPRI figures.

Analysts commonly estimate real Iranian expenditure at two to three times the official figure. Even at the upper end it remains a fraction of Israeli spending, and a rounding error against the American budget. The gap between official and estimated Iranian spending is a reminder that comparing military budgets across very different political systems is an exercise in approximation rather than measurement.

Forces

How Do the Armed Forces Compare?

Manpower runs the other way. Iran fields roughly 610,000 to 650,000 active personnel against about 170,000 to 178,000 in Israel, a ratio of close to four to one, while the United States maintains about 1.3 million. Personnel counts are the oldest way of comparing armies and among the least useful, particularly in a war conducted overwhelmingly from the air and by missile. Iran fields roughly 610,000 to 650,000 active personnel, Israel about 170,000 to 178,000 and the United States about 1.3 million, with Iran holding a numerical advantage of close to four to one over Israel.

Raw headcount is a poor guide to capability, since equipment, readiness and air power matter more in a campaign fought largely from the air, a caution our [AI and technology in finance](#) coverage echoes about relying on single metrics.

Active Military Personnel, 2026 Iran leads on numbers.

Data:

Compiled by BusinessStats from published conflict and energy data.

Note:

Where sources disagree the range is shown rather than a single number. Figures are as reported on the stated date and are not independently verified. Switch views with the toolbar.

Iran leads on numbers: Iran fields roughly four times the active personnel of Israel, though the United States maintains about 1.3 million.

On the Global Firepower index the United States ranks first, Israel around seventeenth and Iran around eighteenth, a ranking that understates Iranian capability inside its own region and overstates its ability to project force beyond it. Composite power rankings compress dozens of incommensurable measures into one number, and while useful as a rough guide they should never be the basis of a serious assessment.

War Cost

What Has the War Cost?

The Pentagon told Congress on March 11, 2026 that the first six days of Operation Epic Fury had cost about 11.3 billion dollars, or roughly 1.9 billion dollars a day. Reported American equipment losses stood at about 5.14 billion dollars. The cost of the campaign to the United States became a political question almost immediately, and the figures the Pentagon reported to Congress were considerably higher than early estimates. The reported cost of 11.3 billion dollars over six days works out at roughly 1.9 billion dollars a day, against American equipment losses reported at about 5.14 billion dollars over the campaign.

Costs at that pace reshape defence budgets quickly, and SIPRI projected American spending would cross one trillion dollars in 2026 once war supplementals were counted, a shift our investment banking revenue coverage frames through the markets that finance it.

The campaign involved about 40,000 troops, multiple carrier strike groups and B-2 bombers flying thirty-hour missions from Missouri, the largest American deployment in the region since 2003. The scale of the deployment, the largest in the region in more than two decades, is the clearest indication of how the conflict was understood by American planners at the outset.

Nuclear

The Nuclear Question

Nuclear capability sits at the centre of the conflict. Israel is assessed to hold about 90 nuclear warheads and Iran holds none, though the International Atomic Energy Agency documented Iranian enrichment to 60 percent uranium-235 in early 2026. The nuclear question is what separates this conflict from other regional wars, and it is also the area where verified public data is thinnest.

Sixty percent enrichment is short of the roughly 90 percent regarded as weapons grade but far above any civilian requirement, which is the technical fact underlying the strikes on Fordow and Natanz.

The remaining scope of the Iranian programme after the strikes is unresolved and formed a central subject of the negotiations that followed, so any figure published today should be read as provisional. Because the post-strike state of the Iranian nuclear programme is unresolved and politically contested, it is the single area of this topic where published figures should carry the heaviest caveats.

Markets

How Did Markets React?

Markets absorbed the shock unevenly. Energy prices moved first and hardest, while broader equity indices proved more resilient than in previous Middle East conflicts, helped by lower American dependence on Gulf oil. How financial markets absorbed the conflict is a useful measure of how the world economy has changed, since a comparable shock two decades ago would have moved prices far more violently.

Risk assets tend to move together in a crisis, a correlation our [crypto market](#) and [Nasdaq stock market](#) coverage tracks through periods of stress.

Equities finally reacted in late July. On July 23 the Dow fell about 550 points, the S&P 500 lost 1.4 percent and the Nasdaq Composite dropped 2.5 percent, while the ten-year Treasury yield reached its highest level since January 2025, a rotation visible in the asset mix our [asset manager allocation](#) coverage follows and the underwriting our [leading investment banks](#) coverage records. The muted equity response relative to energy markets suggests investors treated the conflict as a supply shock rather than a systemic one, at least through the first months.

Key Facts

The War in Numbers

A few figures frame the war. Iran reported more than 3,400 deaths by June 2026, Lebanon reported over 4,300 by July, oil flows through the Strait of Hormuz fell about 30 percent, and Brent crude rose roughly a third in ten days. These figures together map a war that is measurable in its economic effects and deeply contested in its human ones.

These figures matter because the conflict connects a regional war to global energy, food and freight costs, a transmission that reaches importers and households thousands of miles from the fighting.

3,468Deaths in IranIran MoH, 10 Jun. 4,301Deaths in LebanonLebanese MoH, 4 Jul. -30%Hormuz oil flowQ1 2026, EIA. \$100+Brent, 23 JulAbove 100 dollars.

Together they describe a war whose human cost is disputed and still being counted, and whose economic effects are measurable, immediate and felt well beyond the countries involved. For now, the statistical record of this war is incomplete by definition, and the most useful thing any summary can do is show its sources rather than smooth over the gaps between them.

Big Picture

Reading the Statistics of a Live War

Taken together, the statistics of the U.S.-Israel war with Iran describe an asymmetric conflict with a contested human toll and a clear economic signature, running through the single most important oil chokepoint in the world.

Every figure on this page will change. The honest way to read war statistics is to check who produced the number, when they produced it, and what they counted, which is why each figure here carries all three.

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions: The Iran War in Numbers

On February 28, 2026, with coordinated strikes codenamed Operation Roaring Lion by Israel and Operation Epic Fury by the United States.

Figures are contested. Iran reported 3,468 deaths to June 10, 2026, Lebanon 4,301 by July 4, Israel between 24 and 35, and Gulf states 28.

Because sources count differently. Some include military deaths, some only civilians, cut-off dates vary, and reporting authorities differ by country.

To 14.6 million barrels a day in the first quarter of 2026, down almost 30 percent from 20.7 million in the previous quarter, according to the EIA.

Brent crude rose from about 71 dollars a barrel on February 27, 2026 to about 94 dollars by March 9, and was reported near 90 dollars in July.

SIPRI recorded about 6.6 billion dollars in 2024 and 7.4 billion in 2025. Analysts estimate real spending is two to three times the official figure.

Iran has roughly four times the personnel, around 610,000 against 170,000, while Israel spends several times more and holds an estimated 90 nuclear warheads.

The Pentagon reported about 11.3 billion dollars for the first six days, roughly 1.9 billion a day, with equipment losses of about 5.14 billion.

No. A ceasefire held from April 8, a memorandum of understanding was signed on June 19, and both broke down, with strikes resuming in July 2026.

From the EIA, IEA, SIPRI, national health ministries, the INSS and open-source trackers. Each figure carries its source and reporting date.

Sources

U.S. Energy Information Administration and the International Energy Agency - Source for oil flows through the Strait of Hormuz, flow composition and destination shares.

SIPRI, Trends in World Military Expenditure - Source for military expenditure by country and as a share of GDP.

Iranian Ministry of Health, Lebanese Ministry of Health, HRANA, the Institute for National Security Studies and Al Jazeera - Sources for reported casualties, each cited with its own date in the text.

U.S. Energy Information Administration, World Oil Transit Chokepoints - Publishes the Strait of Hormuz transit data used throughout this page.

This page covers an active armed conflict. Casualty figures are contested, are produced by parties with an interest in how the conflict is understood, and change as new information emerges. Every figure states the body that reported it and the date it was reported, and where sources disagree the range is shown rather than a single number. Energy and military expenditure data are drawn from the U.S. Energy Information Administration and SIPRI. Figures were compiled in late July 2026 and should be checked against current reporting before being cited. This is data journalism, not a casualty verification service, and it is not investment advice.

STATISTICS REPORT

Estimated casualties during the U.S.-Israel attacks on Iran in 2026, by country

Updated May 12, 2026 · businessstats.com/number-of-casualties-during-the-us-israel-attacks-on-iran-by-country

3,636+ IRAN — KILLED (HRANA, APR 7)	2,294 LEBANON — KILLED	26,500+ IRAN — INJURED
117+ IRAQ — KILLED	26-28 ISRAEL — KILLED	15 US — SOLDIERS KILLED

Casualties by Country — Chart

Number of estimated casualties during the U.S.-Israel attacks on Iran and Iran's retaliation as of April 27, 2026, by country

The 2026 Iran war has produced casualties across multiple countries in the Middle East. Iran bears the highest death toll from U.S.-Israeli strikes, followed by Lebanon, where Israeli attacks escalated alongside the Iran conflict. Iran's retaliatory strikes caused casualties in Israel, Iraq, and across the Gulf states. The chart below shows confirmed and estimated deaths by country as of April 27, 2026. All figures remain provisional. The conflict is under a fragile ceasefire declared April 8, with talks ongoing in Pakistan. Sources include Iran's Ministry of Health, HRANA, Lebanon's Ministry of Health, and Al Jazeera's live tracker updated April 21, 2026.

Casualties by Country — 2026 Iran War as of April 27, 2026 Estimated deaths by country — U.S.-Israel attacks on Iran and Iranian retaliation, April 27, 2026 Iran Ministry of Health · HRANA (Human Rights Activists in Iran) · Lebanon Ministry of Health · Al Jazeera live tracker (April 21, 2026) · Wikipedia Casualties of the 2026 Iran war · All figures provisional and subject to revision 3,636+Iran — Highest Toll

Sources: Iran Ministry of Health (3,375 as of April 21) · HRANA documented 3,636 as of April 7 · Lebanon Ministry of Health (2,294) · Al Jazeera live tracker April 21, 2026 · Wikipedia Casualties of the 2026 Iran war · Figures are preliminary and subject to change · Data covers February 28 to April 27, 2026

Killed vs Injured by Country — 2026 Iran War Killed and injured by country — 2026 Iran war as of April 27, 2026 Al Jazeera live tracker · HRANA · Lebanon Ministry of Health · US CENTCOM · All figures provisional 26,500+Iran — Injured

Sources: Al Jazeera live tracker (April 21, 2026) · Iran Ministry of Health · HRANA · US CENTCOM · Lebanon Ministry of Health · Figures provisional and subject to revision

Full Data Table

Full Casualty Data by Country — 2026 Iran War as of April 27, 2026

The table below provides a comprehensive breakdown of confirmed and estimated casualties by country, with separate figures for killed and injured where available. Figures reflect the best available data from multiple sources as of April 27, 2026. Iran's figures represent a significant undercount of actual military casualties per HRANA. Lebanon's figures cover the 2026 Lebanon war which escalated in parallel with the Iran conflict beginning March 2. Iraqi casualties are primarily among Iran-backed forces and Kurdish fighters. The data covers the period from February 28, 2026 through April 27, 2026.

Casualties by Country — 2026 Iran War as of April 27, 2026 Click column to sort ↑

#	COUNTRY	ROLE	KILLED	INJURED	CIVILIAN KILLED	NOTES
1	Iran	Attacked by US-Israel	3,375-3,636+	26,500+	1,701+	Ministry of Health 3,375; HRANA 3,636; military casualties believed significantly higher
2	Lebanon	Attacked by Israel (Lebanon war)	2,294	Thousands	Majority civilians	Lebanon Ministry of Health; escalated from March 2; 357 killed in single day April 8
3	Iraq	Iranian proxy attacks and US strikes	117+	361+	7	85 PMF, 44 Peshmerga, 37 Kurdish coalition fighters, 7 civilians, 13 soldiers (to April ceasefire)
4	Israel	Iranian retaliatory strikes	26-28	7,693	Most	Beit Shemesh: 9 killed Mar 1; Bnei Brak cluster munition: 14 injured; 180 wounded near Dimona nuclear site



5	United States	Military — direct combat casualties	15	200+	0 (military only)	13 combat deaths; 6 KC-135 crash (March 13); 1 health-related Kuwait; all military personnel
6	Palestine / West Bank	Israeli settler violence and missile strike	14	15	14	10 killed in West Bank settler violence; 4 killed by Israeli military vehicle fire; 1 missile strike Beit Awwa
7	Bahrain	Iranian missile and drone strikes	3	Dozens	2 civilians	Asian worker killed March 2; woman killed March 10 in Manama; Moroccan contractor killed March 24
8	Kuwait	Iranian attacks and friendly fire	3	32	1 girl	Girl killed from shrapnel; 2 Kuwait Fire Force officers killed; 3 US F-15s downed by Kuwaiti friendly fire
9	Oman	Iranian strikes and drone incidents	2	5+	2	2 killed in Sohar drone downing; 4 injured on oil tanker; 1 foreign worker injured at Port of Duqm
10	UAE	Iranian attacks	1	Unknown	1 contractor	Moroccan national contractor killed; incident reported via UAE Ministry of Defence
11	Saudi Arabia	Iranian missile/drone strikes	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Strikes reported; exact casualty data not publicly confirmed as of April 27, 2026
12	Qatar	Iranian missile strikes on Al Udeid	0	16	0	2 ballistic missiles struck Al Udeid airbase; 16 injured from shrapnel/debris; most injuries minor
13	Jordan	Iranian strikes (mostly intercepted)	0	29	0	1 woman injured March 30 from falling debris; 29 total injured; no confirmed deaths

Iran — Highest Death Toll

Iran: 3,375–3,636+ Killed, 26,500+ Injured — Civilians Account for Over Half of Documented Deaths

Iran has by far the highest death toll from the 2026 conflict. Iran's Ministry of Health reported 3,375 people killed as of April 21, while HRANA, a US-based human rights NGO, documented 3,636 deaths as of April 7, including 1,701 civilians, 1,221 military personnel, and 714 unclassified. HRANA explicitly noted that military casualties are believed to be significantly higher than confirmed figures, as verification depends largely on government data obscured due to the sensitive nature of military information. More than 26,500 people were injured, including at least 4,000 women and 1,621 children. As of March 23, at least 15 percent of all casualties were under age 18. The Red Crescent reported 6,668 civilian infrastructure units targeted, including 5,535 residential units, 1,041 commercial units, 14 medical centers, 65 schools, and 13 Red Crescent centers.

Iran Casualties Breakdown — HRANA, April 7, 2026 Iran documented deaths by type — civilian, military, unclassified (HRANA, April 7, 2026) Human Rights Activists in Iran (HRANA) · US-based NGO · 3,636 documented deaths as of April 7, 2026 · Military casualties believed significantly higher · Data subject to revision 1,701Civilians Confirmed

Source: Human Rights Activists in Iran (HRANA), April 7, 2026 · 3,636 documented deaths: 1,701 civilians (47%), 1,221 military (34%), 714 unclassified (20%) · HRANA notes military count believed significantly higher due to government data restrictions

- **February 28, 2026 — Day 1 strikes:** Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei assassinated in Israeli airstrike. Defense Minister Aziz Nasirzadeh and four top intelligence officials also killed. A girls' elementary school in Minab was struck, reportedly killing more than 175 people, mostly children; the school was adjacent to a military complex. Nearly 900 US-Israeli strikes launched in the first 12 hours.
- **March 1-2 — Mass civilian casualties:** At least 20 civilians killed in Tehran's Niloofar Square. By March 3, the Red Crescent reported over 600 civilians killed. HRANA reported 1,097 civilian deaths by March 7. Double-tap airstrikes reported by Middle East Eye in which second strikes occurred after first responders arrived at the scene of the first strike, a claim the US denied.
- **March 9 — Resalat neighborhood, Tehran:** An Israeli airstrike destroyed a Basij-affiliated building and three adjacent residential buildings in the Resalat neighborhood of Tehran, killing 40 to 50 people. BBC analysis identified Mark 82 bombs used in the attack.



- **April 2 — B1 Bridge, Karaj:** Two US strikes on the B1 bridge between Tehran and Karaj, described as the highest bridge in the Middle East, killed eight people and wounded 95 others. Many Iranian families had gathered below the bridge to celebrate Sizdah Be-dar. President Trump publicly noted the strike. Experts assessed it as a possible war crime.
- **April 6 — IRGC intelligence head assassinated:** IRGC intelligence chief Major General Majid Khademi was assassinated in a joint US-Israeli airstrike. On the same day, April 8, 300+ people were killed in a single day of strikes, coinciding with the US-Iran ceasefire announcement.

Lebanon

Lebanon: 2,294 Killed — 357 in Single Day April 8, 10-Day Ceasefire Began April 17

The 2026 Lebanon war escalated in parallel with the U.S.-Israel attacks on Iran. Israeli attacks on Lebanon resumed in force on March 2 and intensified throughout the conflict. Lebanon's Ministry of Health reported 2,294 deaths as of late April 2026, with significant civilian displacement across southern Lebanon. The single deadliest day was April 8, the same day the US-Iran ceasefire was announced, when Israel launched what it described as its most powerful attacks on Lebanon, killing at least 357 people in a single day. A 10-day ceasefire between Israel and Lebanon began April 17, brokered by the Trump administration. Israel established a "Yellow Line" in southern Lebanon occupying the area from the border to the Litani River. A week later the ceasefire was extended by three weeks.

Israel — Iranian Retaliation

Israel: 26-28 Killed, 7,693 Injured — Missile Defense Largely Effective but Not Perfect

Iran launched hundreds of ballistic missiles and thousands of drones at Israel, US military bases, and Gulf states in retaliation for U.S.-Israeli strikes. Despite Israel's robust missile defense network, Iranian missiles resulted in 26-28 Israeli deaths and 7,693 injuries as of late April 2026. The largest single casualty event in Israel was a missile strike on March 1 on a residential area in Beit Shemesh, killing nine civilians sheltering in a synagogue. The strike occurred the day after Khamenei's assassination. Iranian missile attack volume dropped sharply after the first day of the war: analysts noted that US-Israeli strikes had eliminated as many as three-quarters of Iranian missile launchers, including rebuilt ones, significantly limiting Iran's sustained missile capability compared to the 2025 Twelve-Day War.

- **Beit Shemesh, March 1 — 9 killed:** The largest single Israeli casualty event. A missile struck a shelter inside a synagogue in a residential area. Despite two interceptors being launched against the missile, it achieved a direct hit, demonstrating the limits of missile defense even against reinforced shelters.
- **Bnei Brak cluster munition — 14 injured:** A cluster munition attack spread bomblets over an extensive residential neighborhood. An 11-year-old girl was critically injured and died three weeks later in intensive care, bringing the confirmed death toll to 28.
- **Dimona nuclear site area — 180 wounded:** At least 180 people were wounded in Iranian missile attacks on the city of Dimona, home to Israel's main nuclear facility, and the nearby city of Arad. Iranian state television framed the strikes as a response to an Israeli attack on Natanz earlier the same day.
- **Petah Tikva — drone factory damaged:** An Iranian ballistic missile strike damaged an Israeli drone manufacturing facility in Petah Tikva. A missile fragment struck in the vicinity of the IDF's Kirya headquarters in Tel Aviv. Debris from an Iranian missile fell on the Old City of Jerusalem, causing damage near Al-Aqsa Mosque, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and inside the Jewish Quarter.

United States

United States: 15 Soldiers Killed, 200+ Injured — 6 Died in KC-135 Tanker Crash

The US military confirmed 15 deaths related to the 2026 Iran war. Thirteen were confirmed combat-related deaths across the region. Six crew members were killed when a US KC-135 Stratotanker refueling aircraft crashed in western Iraq on March 13, 2026, CENTCOM confirmed all six crew were killed. An additional service member died of a health-related incident in Kuwait. Approximately 200 US personnel were injured. The cost of the first six days of the war exceeded \$11.3 billion, according to Pentagon officials who testified to lawmakers, a figure that does not include the cost of the massive military buildup in the Middle East ahead of the strikes. Three US F-15 jets were downed in Kuwait by friendly fire from Kuwaiti air defenses on March 2; all crews survived.

Gulf States and Other Countries

Gulf States: Bahrain 3 Killed, Kuwait 3, Oman 2 — Iran Struck All Six GCC Members

Iran launched retaliatory strikes across all six Gulf Cooperation Council members: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE. Iraq and Jordan were also struck. Iran allegedly attacked the UK's

Akrotiri military base in Cyprus with a drone. Civilian infrastructure was struck in Oman and Azerbaijan. The strikes were broadly intended to exact costs from the US presence in the Gulf region and pressure US allies. Most Iranian missiles and drones directed at Gulf states were intercepted, limiting casualties. In Jordan, no deaths were reported though 29 people were injured. In Qatar, 16 people were injured when two ballistic missiles struck Al Udeid airbase where US forces are stationed.

Injuries by Country (Excluding Iran, Lebanon, Israel) — 2026 Iran War Injured by country — countries outside Iran, Lebanon, and Israel during the 2026 Iran war Al Jazeera live tracker April 21, 2026 · Wikipedia casualties of the 2026 Iran war · All figures provisional

Key Statistics

2026 Iran War — Key Statistics as of April 27, 2026

3,636+ Iran — Killed (HRANA, April 7, 2026) HRANA documented 3,636 deaths including 1,701 civilians, 1,221 military, 714 unclassified. Iran's Ministry of Health separately reported 3,375 as of April 21. Military casualties believed significantly higher due to government data restrictions. 26,500+ injured including 4,000 women and 1,621 children. 2,294 Lebanon — Killed (2026 Lebanon War) Lebanon Ministry of Health figure as of late April 2026. Israel renewed widespread attacks on Lebanon on March 2 alongside the Iran conflict. Deadliest single day: April 8, when 357 people were killed. A 10-day ceasefire began April 17, later extended by three weeks. 26,500+ Iran — Injured (Ministry of Health) More than 26,500 people were injured in Iran, including at least 4,000 women and 1,621 children. At least 15 percent of all casualties were under age 18 as of March 23. 6,668 civilian infrastructure units were targeted including 5,535 residential units, 14 medical centers, and 65 schools. 7,693 Israel — Injured (Ministry of Health) 7,693 Israelis were wounded in Iranian retaliatory strikes. 180 wounded near Dimona nuclear site. 26-28 Israelis killed including 9 in Beit Shemesh synagogue strike (March 1) and a child killed by cluster munition debris. Iran launched hundreds of ballistic missiles and thousands of drones at Israel. 900 US-Israeli Strikes in First 12 Hours US and Israeli forces launched nearly 900 strikes in the first 12 hours on February 28, 2026, targeting Iranian nuclear sites, missile facilities, military bases, air defenses, and leadership. The first-day strikes killed Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, Iranian Defense Minister Nasirzadeh, and dozens of other senior officials. April 8 Ceasefire Declared — 40 Days of Conflict A conditional ceasefire between the US and Iran was declared on April 8, 2026, approximately 40 days after the conflict began on February 28. The ceasefire was brokered by President Trump on condition that Iran fully reopens the Strait of Hormuz. Talks are being mediated by Pakistan. Iran has accused the US of violating the ceasefire through a naval blockade of Iranian ports.

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions — 2026 Iran War Casualties

As of April 27, 2026, the 2026 Iran war has resulted in at least 6,000 confirmed deaths across all countries.

Iran: 3,375-3,636+ killed (Iran Ministry of Health and HRANA). **Lebanon: 2,294 killed**. Iraq: 117+. Israel: 26-28. US: 15 soldiers. Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, UAE, and Palestine have smaller confirmed death tolls. All figures remain provisional and subject to revision.

Iran's Ministry of Health reported **3,375 killed and 26,500+ injured** as of April 21, 2026. HRANA documented 3,636 deaths as of April 7, including 1,701 civilians, 1,221 military, and 714 unclassified. HRANA noted military casualties are believed significantly higher than confirmed. At least 15 percent of all casualties were under age 18 as of March 23, 2026.

26-28 Israelis were killed and 7,693 wounded in Iranian retaliatory missile attacks as of late April 2026. The largest single event: 9 killed in Beit Shemesh on March 1 when a missile struck a synagogue shelter. An 11-year-old girl injured in a cluster munition attack later died. 180 were wounded near the Dimona nuclear facility. Israel's missile defense system intercepted the majority of Iranian projectiles.

15 US military personnel were killed: 13 confirmed combat-related deaths, plus 6 crew killed when a KC-135 Stratotanker crashed in western Iraq on March 13, 2026. An additional service member died of a health-related incident in Kuwait. Approximately 200 US personnel were injured. All US casualties were military, no confirmed US civilian deaths.

The 2026 Iran war began on **February 28, 2026** with US and Israeli strikes on Iran (Operation Epic Fury). A conditional ceasefire was declared on **April 8, 2026**, approximately 40 days later. The ceasefire requires Iran to fully reopen the Strait of Hormuz. As of April 27, 2026, ceasefire talks are ongoing in Pakistan under Pakistani mediation. Iran has accused the US of violating the ceasefire through a naval blockade.

US and Israel directly struck **Iran**. Iran retaliated by striking: **Israel** (primary target), and all six GCC members: **Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and UAE**. Iran also struck **Iraq** (via proxies) and **Jordan**. A drone hit the UK's Akrotiri base in **Cyprus**. Missiles were shot down over **Turkey**. Infrastructure was struck in **Oman** and **Azerbaijan**. **Yemen's Houthi rebels** also attacked Israel separately.

Lebanon's Ministry of Health reported **2,294 people killed** in the 2026 Lebanon war, which escalated alongside the Iran conflict beginning March 2. The deadliest single day was **April 8, when 357 people were killed** when Israel launched its most powerful attacks on Lebanon. A 10-day ceasefire began April 17 and

was later extended by three weeks. Israel occupied the area from the Lebanese border to the Litani River.

Operation Epic Fury is the US military's code name for its joint military operations with Israel against Iran that began February 28, 2026. The operation launched nearly 900 strikes in the first 12 hours, targeting nuclear infrastructure, missile facilities, military bases, and Iranian leadership. The first-day strikes killed Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei and triggered hundreds of retaliatory Iranian missiles and thousands of drones across the Middle East.

On February 28, 2026, the first day of the war, an Israeli airstrike **assassinated Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei**, along with his daughter, son-in-law, grandchild, and daughter-in-law. Iranian **Defense Minister Aziz Nasirzadeh** and four top Ministry of Intelligence officials were also killed. A girls' elementary school in Minab was struck, reportedly killing more than 175 people. Former President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was among approximately 40 officials killed.

HRANA documented **1,701 confirmed civilian deaths in Iran** as of April 7, 2026, out of 3,636 total documented deaths. This figure is widely considered an undercount. Key civilian incidents: girls' school in Minab (175+ killed, February 28); Niloofar Square in Tehran (20+ killed); Resalat neighborhood Tehran (40-50 killed March 9); B1 Bridge Karaj (8 killed April 2). At least 15 percent of all casualties were under age 18 as of March 23.

At least **117 people were killed in Iraq** as of the April ceasefire, with 361 injured. This includes 85 Popular Mobilization Forces fighters, 44 Peshmerga fighters, 37 Coalition of Political Forces of Iranian Kurdistan fighters, 7 civilians, and 13 soldiers. Iran and its proxies launched strikes on Iraq's Kurdistan region throughout the conflict.

A two-week US-Iran ceasefire began April 8, 2026. As of April 27, the ceasefire is fragile. Iran has accused the US of violating it through a naval blockade of the Strait of Hormuz since April 13 and the capture of an Iranian container ship. Iran has declined to accept a second round of talks in Islamabad. A separate **10-day Israel-Lebanon ceasefire** began April 17 and was extended by three weeks. Talks are being mediated by Pakistan.

The cost of the **first six days of the war exceeded \$11.3 billion**, according to Pentagon officials who testified to lawmakers. This figure does not include the costs of the massive military buildup in the Middle East ahead of the strikes. The US naval blockade of the Strait of Hormuz, the Strait handling approximately 21 percent of global oil trade, has created broader economic disruption affecting global oil prices and trade routes.



Data Sources and References

[Al Jazeera live casualty tracker, updated April 21, 2026 · Iran 3,375 killed, 26,500+ injured · Israel 26 killed, 7,693 injured · US 13 combat deaths · Bahrain, Kuwait, Jordan, Qatar figures](#)

[Wikipedia, Casualties of the 2026 Iran war · HRANA 3,636 deaths \(1,701 civilian, 1,221 military, 714 unclassified\) as of April 7 · Iraq 117+ killed, 361 injured · Full country breakdown](#)

[Wikipedia, 2026 Iran war · Overview of conflict, timeline, Operation Epic Fury, ceasefire April 8 · Britannica supplementary context](#)

[Wikipedia, 2026 Iranian Strikes on Israel · Beit Shemesh 9 killed March 1 · Bnei Brak cluster munition · Dimona 180 wounded · Israeli injury figures](#)

[UK House of Commons Library briefing, April 2026 · Background, UK response, ceasefire status, Strait of Hormuz blockade](#)

All casualty figures are provisional and subject to revision. The conflict remains under ceasefire conditions as of April 27, 2026, with ongoing negotiations. Iran's military casualties are believed to be substantially higher than confirmed figures due to government information restrictions. Civilian and military casualty distinctions are contested. This article presents data from multiple sources without endorsing any party to the conflict. Not all figures are independently verified. Data covers February 28, 2026 to April 27, 2026.

STATISTICS REPORT

Government spending on religious and other community services in the UK 2010-2026

 Updated Jun 2, 2026 · businessstats.com/united-kingdom-uk-public-sector-expenditure-religious-and-other-community-services

~£152M ESTIMATED SPENDING IN 2025/26	£146M SPENDING IN 2023/24 - THE LATEST ACTUAL	£191M SPENDING IN 2022/23 - THE RECENT PEAK
£210M SPENDING IN 2010/11 - THE STARTING POINT	-24% DROP FROM 2022/23 TO 2023/24	-30% FALL FROM 2010/11 TO 2023/24

Overview

Public sector expenditure on religious and other community services in the United Kingdom from 2010/11 to 2025/26

Government spending on religious and other community services in the United Kingdom is one of the smallest and least discussed lines in the entire public accounts, yet it offers a surprisingly revealing window into the place of religion in an increasingly secular state. In 2023/24, the UK public sector spent approximately 146 million pounds on this category, down sharply from 191 million the previous year and from around 210 million back in 2010/11. The contrast across the period captures the shift in a single line of data. Measured in tens to low hundreds of millions, rather than the billions spent on health, education, or defence, this is a niche budget line that has broadly declined over the period. Its very smallness is part of what makes it interesting, since it reveals just how little the modern British state spends directly on religion compared with countries that subsidise faith heavily. The wider religious landscape is set out in our [religious population of England and Wales analysis](#).

The trend in this spending reflects, in part, the broader secularisation of British society and the steady pressure on discretionary public spending over the past decade and a half. While the figures are volatile from year to year, given the small base, the overall direction has been gently downward, with the 2023/24 figure of 146 million among the lowest in the series so far. The long-run signal is decline, even if individual years jump around. This stands in stark contrast to the much larger and growing sums spent on areas such

as housing and community amenities, which run to over 20 billion pounds a year. The sheer gulf between the two categories illustrates just how marginal direct religious spending has become in modern Britain. The attendance decline that mirrors this is in our [Church of England weekly attendance analysis](#).

This article traces UK public spending on religious and other community services from 2010/11 to 2025/26, examining the long-term decline, the sharp drop in 2023/24, the year-to-year volatility, and how this small category fits within the wider public finances. It also explores what the spending covers and the forces behind its decline in a country where religious affiliation and attendance have both fallen markedly. The ageing of the churchgoing population is covered in our [Church of England age distribution analysis](#).

UK religious community spending overview key years 2010 2023 2026 snapshot million pounds bar chart
 UK Spending on Religious & Community Services at Key Years (£M) From 210M in 2010/11 to a 191M peak in 2022/23 and down to 146M in 2023/24, with ~152M projected for 2025/26. Source: HM Treasury, Statista 2026. £Msnapshot

£146M (2023/24)Latest Spending - Down From £210M in 2010/11UK public spending on religious and other community services fell to around 146 million pounds in 2023/24. Source: HM Treasury, Statista 2026. - 24% (2023/24)The Sharp Drop From 2022/23Spending fell from 191 million in 2022/23 to 146 million in 2023/24, a drop of around a quarter in a single year. Source: HM Treasury 2026. £191M (2022/23)The Recent Peak Before the DropThe 2022/23 figure of 191 million pounds was the highest in recent years, immediately before the sharp fall the following year. Source: HM Treasury 2026. Tens of MA Tiny Slice of the Public FinancesAt around 146 million pounds, this is one of the very smallest functional spending lines in the accounts, dwarfed by the billions spent elsewhere. Source: HM Treasury 2026. Data Table

Spending by Year, 2010/11 to 2025/26

UK Public Spending on Religious & Other Community Services, 2010/11-2025/26 (£M) Click any column to sort

YEAR	SPENDING (£M)	NOTE
2010/11	£210M	Series start
2011/12	£205M	
2012/13	£198M	
2013/14	£190M	



2014/15	£185M	
2015/16	£180M	
2016/17	£178M	
2017/18	£172M	
2018/19	£175M	
2019/20	£182M	
2020/21	£168M	
2021/22	£176M	
2022/23	£191M	Recent peak
2023/24	£146M	Latest actual
2024/25	£150M	
2025/26	£152M	Estimate

The table sets out the spending series from 2010/11 to 2025/26 in millions of pounds. The broad pattern is a gentle decline from around 210 million at the start of the period to the low-to-mid hundreds of millions, punctuated by year-to-year swings typical of a small budget line. Reading down the column, the gradual erosion is plain to see despite the bumps along the way. The most notable recent movements are the rise to a peak of 191 million in 2022/23 followed by the sharp fall to 146 million in 2023/24, the largest single-year swing in the recent series. These two years alone account for much of the drama in the data. The 2024/25 and 2025/26 figures shown here are estimates extending the recent observed pattern. These figures come from HM Treasury's published statistics. The broader economic backdrop is in our [global economy analysis](#).

The 2010-2026 Trend

The Full Spending Trend, 2010/11 to 2025/26

UK government religious community services spending 2010 2026 decline million pounds trend line chart
 HM Treasury UK Spending on Religious & Other Community Services - 2010/11 to 2025/26 (£M) A gentle decline from ~210M (2010/11) to ~146M (2023/24), with a peak of 191M in 2022/23 and a sharp drop after.
 Source: HM Treasury, Statista 2026. £210M2010/11 £146M2023/24

The trend line shows a generally downward path with a notable spike near the end. From around 210 million in 2010/11, spending drifted lower through the 2010s, reaching the high 170s by the late part of the decade before edging up again towards the end. The path was bumpy but the overall slope was clearly downward. The most dramatic features are the rise to a peak of 191 million in 2022/23 and the abrupt fall to 146 million in 2023/24, a swing very characteristic of a small and inherently volatile budget line of this kind. Such a sharp reversal would be almost unthinkable in a major spending area. By 2025/26, spending is estimated to have stabilised at around 152 million, still well below the level at the start of the period in both nominal and especially real terms. The recovery from the 2023/24 low, if it can be called that, is very modest indeed. The broader population context is in our [UK population analysis](#).

The Long Decline

The Long-Term Decline in Spending

Viewed over the whole period, the dominant story is one of gradual decline. From around 210 million pounds in 2010/11, spending on religious and other community services fell to approximately 146 million by 2023/24, a reduction of roughly 30% in nominal terms over thirteen years, and considerably more once inflation is taken into account. Few areas of public spending have contracted so much in proportional terms over this period. This decline broadly tracks the era of public spending restraint that followed the financial crisis, during which many smaller and more discretionary budget lines were squeezed, as well as the longer-term secularisation of British society. Both forces pulled in the same direction, reinforcing the downward drift.

UK religious community spending long decline 2010 2023 falling million pounds 30 percent reduction bar chart Spending at Selected Years (£M) 2010/11: 210M. 2015/16: 180M. 2019/20: 182M. 2023/24: 146M. A broad decline of around 30% over the period. Source: HM Treasury, Statista 2026. -30% since 2010

The roughly 30% nominal fall understates the real decline, because inflation has substantially eroded the value of the pound over the period. Adjusted for inflation, the real-terms cut in spending on religious and other community services is far steeper, probably closer to half its 2010/11 value in today's money. The headline nominal figures therefore flatter what has actually been a substantial real squeeze. This makes the category one of the more sharply reduced areas of public spending in real terms, reflecting both its small size and discretionary nature, and the diminishing political priority attached to religious and community services in an increasingly secular age. Spending priorities tend to follow the broad shape of society over time, and Britain has secularised remarkably fast in recent decades. The German church-funding

comparison is in our [Catholic Church tax revenue in Germany](#) analysis.

The 2023/24 Drop

The Sharp Drop in 2023/24

UK religious community spending 2022 2023 sharp drop 191 146 million decline 24 percent fall bar chart
The 2023/24 Fall in Spending (£M) Spending fell from a peak of 191M in 2022/23 to 146M in 2023/24, a drop of around 45M or 24% in a single year. Source: HM Treasury, Statista 2026. -£45M in one year

The single most striking event in the recent data is the sharp fall in 2023/24, when spending dropped from 191 million pounds to 146 million, a reduction of around 45 million or 24% in just one year. Such a large single-year swing is characteristic of a small budget line, where individual grants, projects, or one-off allocations can move the total significantly. A single sizeable programme starting or ending can shift the whole category by tens of millions. The 2022/23 peak may have reflected specific time-limited spending that was not repeated, while the 2023/24 figure brought the category back closer to its longer-term declining trend. One-off pandemic-era community support or particular grant rounds could plausibly explain such a temporary bump. Whatever the precise cause, the sharp drop underlines just how volatile this small spending line can be from one year to the next, and why real caution is needed in interpreting any single figure. A 24% move would be extraordinary in a major budget but is unremarkable here.

It is worth being cautious about reading too much into any single year's movement in such a small category. Unlike the vast, stable budgets for health or pensions, a line measured in the low hundreds of millions can swing sharply on the basis of just a handful of decisions, accounting reclassifications, or the timing of particular grants. The smaller the budget, the larger the proportional impact of any single change. The 2023/24 fall is best understood within the context of the longer-term decline rather than as a dramatic policy shift in its own right, though it does reinforce the overall downward direction of travel. It is the trend, not the single drop, that carries the real significance. The broader fiscal picture is in our [world GDP growth rate](#) analysis.

Year-to-Year Volatility

A Volatile Small Budget Line

One of the defining characteristics of this spending category is its volatility from year to year. Because the totals are small, in the low hundreds of millions, individual decisions, one-off grants, and accounting changes can produce sizeable percentage swings that would be invisible in a larger budget. What looks

like a dramatic change in percentage terms may be a modest shift in absolute pounds. Over the period, the series shows several ups and downs around its declining trend, including the notable peak in 2022/23 and the sharp fall the following year, rather than a smooth, steady path downward. The jaggedness of the line is a direct consequence of how small the underlying numbers are.

UK religious community spending year on year change volatility swings percentage annual variation bar chart Year-on-Year Change in Spending (£M) Annual changes swing both ways - including the +15M rise to 2022/23 and the -45M fall to 2023/24 - reflecting the volatility of a small budget line. Source: HM Treasury, Statista 2026. volatilesmall base

This volatility means that the trend, rather than any single year, is the most reliable guide to what is happening. While individual years can rise or fall sharply, the underlying direction over the period from 2010/11 to 2025/26 has been clearly downward, with the recent figures sitting well below those at the start of the series. The signal, once the noise is stripped away, is unmistakably one of decline. Anyone analysing this category should therefore focus on the multi-year pattern rather than reacting to the latest annual figure, which may be distorted by one-off factors. A single year, taken in isolation, can be highly misleading in a budget this small. The smoothed trend tells a clearer story than the jagged year-to-year numbers. The smoothed multi-year trend tells a far clearer and more reliable story than the jagged year-to-year figures.

In Spending Context

In the Context of Public Spending

UK religious community spending vs total public spending tiny fraction comparison social protection health billions bar Religious Services vs Other Spending Lines (£bn) At ~0.15bn, religious & community services is dwarfed by social protection (384bn), health (242bn), and even housing & community amenities (22bn).

Source: HM Treasury, Statista 2026. tinyslice

To grasp just how small this spending line is, it helps to set it against the giants of the public finances. In 2024/25, the UK spent around 384 billion pounds on social protection, 242 billion on health, and 158 billion on general public services, while even housing and community amenities ran to over 20 billion. Each of these dwarfs religious services spending by a factor of hundreds or even thousands. Against these sums, the roughly 146 million pounds spent on religious and other community services is a rounding error, equivalent to less than 0.02% of total managed expenditure.

In a total managed budget now measured in the trillions of pounds, this particular spending line barely registers at all. This tiny scale is itself a telling indicator of the limited direct role the state plays in funding

religious and community activity in the UK. Unlike some European countries that levy church taxes or otherwise heavily subsidise organised religion, the British state spends remarkably little directly on it through this route. The comparison with major economies is in our [world GDP growth rate analysis](#), referenced earlier.

What It Covers

What Does This Spending Cover?

The category of religious and other community services is a specific HM Treasury functional classification, part of the wider international system used to break down public spending by purpose. Such standardised classifications allow public spending to be compared consistently across different years and even between different countries. It captures public sector support for religious organisations and certain other community services that do not fall neatly into larger categories such as education, health, or housing. As something of a residual, catch-all category, its exact contents can be harder to pin down than the big, well-defined headline budgets. In practice, this can include things like grants to faith and community groups, support for certain community facilities, and related administrative costs, though the precise composition is not always transparent in the headline figures. The published totals rarely break down exactly where each pound goes within the category.

UK religious community services spending composition what covers grants faith groups community facilities donut Illustrative Composition of the Category The category broadly covers grants to faith and community groups, support for community facilities, and related costs - an illustrative split of a small budget. Source: HM Treasury, Statista 2026. mixedcategory

It is important to note that this category does not represent the full extent of public support touching religion in the UK, much of which flows through other channels. Faith schools, for example, are funded through the education budget; the upkeep of historic churches may draw on heritage and culture funding; and the established status of the Church of England carries various indirect benefits not captured here. The true footprint of religion in public spending is therefore spread across many budget lines. The religious and other community services line is therefore a narrow, specific measure rather than a comprehensive account of all state support related to religion, and should be read with that limitation firmly in mind, as our [world religions analysis](#) helps set in context. The wider faith picture is in our [religion in Europe analysis](#).

Why It's Falling

Why Is This Spending Falling?

The broad decline in this spending category over the period reflects several reinforcing pressures. The most immediate is the long era of fiscal restraint that followed the 2008 financial crisis, during which successive governments sought to control public spending, and smaller, discretionary budget lines like this one were often among the easiest to trim. Cutting a small, low-profile category like this rarely attracts the kind of political backlash that trimming health or pensions inevitably would. With limited political constituencies defending them and modest sums involved, such categories tend to be squeezed when budgets are under pressure, contributing to the gentle downward drift seen over the period. They make for easy savings precisely because so few people notice or actively object to the cuts.

UK religious community spending decline drivers austerity secularisation discretionary squeeze factors ranking bar Drivers of the Spending Decline (Illustrative) Fiscal restraint, secularisation, the discretionary nature of the budget, and shifting priorities all push this small category down over time. Source: HM Treasury analysis 2026. 4+ factors

Beyond fiscal pressure, the broader secularisation of British society has reduced the political salience of religious spending. As religious affiliation and church attendance have fallen sharply, the constituency for state support of religious and community services has weakened, making such spending an easier target for restraint and a lower priority for new investment. Fewer voters with a stake in religious provision means less political pressure to protect it. This connects the spending trend directly to the deeper demographic and cultural shifts reshaping religion across Britain, in which both belief and active practice have declined across most measures over recent decades, much like the church decline in our [Evangelical Church members in Germany](#) analysis. The belief trends behind this are in our [belief in God in Great Britain](#) analysis.

The Outlook

The Outlook for Future Spending

Looking ahead, the single most likely path for this spending category is continued stability at a low level, or perhaps further gradual decline. A sharp rebound to the levels of the early 2010s appears improbable on current trends. The estimated figures for 2024/25 and 2025/26, at around 150 to 152 million pounds, suggest a modest stabilisation after the sharp 2023/24 drop, but well below the levels seen earlier in the period. A broadly flat path at this lower level is the most natural reading of the most recent data we have. With public finances under sustained pressure and the secular trend in society showing no sign of

reversing, there is little to suggest a substantial recovery in this kind of spending is on the horizon. If anything, the structural forces point towards continued restraint in this small category.

UK religious community spending outlook future 2024 2025 2026 estimate stabilisation low level projection bar chart Recent and Projected Spending (£M) 2022/23: 191M. 2023/24: 146M. 2024/25: ~150M (est.). 2025/26: ~152M (est.). A stabilisation at a low level after the drop. Source: HM Treasury, Statista 2026. ~£152M2025/26 est.

That said, the volatility of this small category means that future figures could surprise in either direction, with a single large grant or initiative capable of moving the total noticeably from one year to the next. Forecasting such a small and lumpy spending line with any real precision is inherently difficult. The possible "quiet revival" of religious interest among some younger Britons, if it proves durable, could in time affect the demand for and provision of community religious services, though any such effect on public spending would likely be gradual and modest. Cultural shifts of this kind tend to show up in state budgets only slowly, if at all. For now, the central expectation is for this small budget line to remain a minor and broadly declining feature of the UK public accounts for the foreseeable future. Barring some major and unexpected shift in policy or society, that is comfortably the most plausible path ahead. The wider community amenities spending is much larger, as our [world population analysis](#) context suggests.

Key Statistics

UK Religious Services Spending – Key Statistics

UK religious community spending key statistics milestones 2010 2022 2023 2026 summary comparison bar chart Spending at Key Points (£M) 2010/11: 210M. 2019/20: 182M. 2022/23: 191M. 2023/24: 146M. The decline and recent drop in one view. Source: HM Treasury, Statista 2026. -30% since 2010

£146M (2023/24) Latest Actual Spending Down from 191 million the previous year and around 210 million in 2010/11. Source: HM Treasury, Statista 2026. £191M (2022/23) The Recent Peak The highest figure in recent years, before the sharp fall the following year. Source: HM Treasury 2026. -24% The 2022/23 to 2023/24 Drop A fall of around 45 million pounds, or a quarter, in a single year. Source: HM Treasury 2026.

<0.02% Of Total Managed Expenditure This tiny category is a rounding error against the UK's total public spending. Source: HM Treasury 2026. FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions – UK Religious Services Spending

Around 146 million pounds in 2023/24, down from 191 million the previous year. It is one of the smallest lines in the public accounts, measured in tens to low hundreds of millions. Source: HM Treasury, Statista 2026.

It has broadly fallen. From around 210 million pounds in 2010/11, spending drifted down to about 146 million by 2023/24, though with year-to-year volatility including a recent peak of 191 million in 2022/23. Source: HM Treasury 2026.

An HM Treasury functional budget category. It covers public sector support for religious organisations and certain other community services, such as grants to faith and community groups. It excludes faith schools, which are funded through education. Source: HM Treasury 2026.

It fell from 191 million to 146 million, a drop of about 24%. Such large swings are typical of a small, volatile budget line, where one-off grants or accounting changes can move the total significantly. Source: HM Treasury 2026.

It is tiny by comparison. At around 146 million pounds, it is dwarfed by social protection (384 billion), health (242 billion), and even housing and community amenities (over 20 billion). It amounts to less than 0.02% of total managed expenditure, a genuine rounding error in the context of the national accounts as a whole. Source: HM Treasury 2026.

No. Much state support touching religion flows through other budgets – faith schools through education, historic church upkeep through heritage and culture. This narrow category is not a comprehensive account of all religion-related spending. Source: HM Treasury 2026.

Fiscal restraint and secularisation. Years of public spending control squeezed small discretionary lines, while falling religious affiliation reduced the political priority of religious spending. Both pushed the category gently downward. Source: HM Treasury 2026.

No, they are estimates. The 2024/25 and 2025/26 figures (~150-152 million) are projected from the trend; 2023/24 is the latest firm actual at 146 million. The figures indicate the direction rather than precise counts. Source: HM Treasury, Statista 2026.

No, the figures are nominal. In real, inflation-adjusted terms the decline is much steeper than the 30% nominal fall, probably closer to half the 2010/11 value, since inflation has eroded the pound substantially over the period. Source: HM Treasury 2026.

Possibly, but a large rise looks unlikely. With public finances under pressure and society secularising, a substantial recovery seems improbable, though the volatility of this small line means individual years could surprise in either direction. Source: HM Treasury 2026.

Sources

[Statista / HM Treasury - Religious and Other Community Services Spending](#) - Primary source for the spending series, including the confirmed 2023/24 figure of 146 million pounds and the 2022/23 figure of 191 million. Released July 2024.

[House of Commons Library - Public Spending: A Brief Introduction](#) - Source for the comparison figures: social protection 384 billion, health 242 billion, general public services 158 billion, education 119 billion in 2024/25. Published 2026.

[Statista / HM Treasury - Housing and Community Amenities Spending](#) - Source for the housing and community amenities comparison (22.3 billion in 2024/25), illustrating the contrast with the much smaller religious services line. Published 2025.

[ONS - Public Sector Finances](#) - Source for the wider public finances context, including total managed expenditure and borrowing, against which this small category is set. Published November 2025.

Figures from HM Treasury Public Expenditure Statistical Analyses, via Statista, for public sector expenditure on religious and other community services in the UK, 2010/11 to 2025/26 (in million GBP). Confirmed actuals: 2022/23 = 191M, 2023/24 = 146M. Other years are reconstructed or estimated from the published series and trend. Figures are nominal and cover the whole UK public sector. Not investment advice.

STATISTICS REPORT

UK Politics — Statistics & Facts 2026

Updated Mar 16, 2026 · businessstats.com/uk-politics

650 MPS IN COMMONS	780+ LORDS MEMBERS	21 ELECTIONS SINCE 1945
60% 2024 TURNOUT	57 PRIME MINISTERS (TOTAL)	412 LABOUR SEATS 2024

Executive Summary

UK Politics 2026 — Labour Landslide, FPTP Distortion, and a Fractured Political Landscape

The United Kingdom's political landscape transformed dramatically in 2024. After 14 years of Conservative government — the longest single-party rule since the pre-war era — Labour under **Keir Starmer won 412 seats (63% of the Commons)** on just 34% of the popular vote. The Conservatives collapsed to 121 seats, their worst result since 1906. Reform UK won 14% of votes but only 5 seats. The Liberal Democrats won 72 seats on 12% of votes. This extraordinary disproportionality is the defining feature of the UK's First Past the Post electoral system, which rewards geographic concentration of votes and punishes broad but dispersed support.

The UK political system is also under structural stress from other directions: devolution has created de facto quasi-federal governance with powerful parliaments in Edinburgh, Cardiff, and Belfast; the House of Lords — with 780+ unelected members — remains the world's second-largest legislative chamber; Brexit reshaped party alignments and created a new cross-cutting dimension in British politics; and trust in politicians and Parliament has reached record lows. For the economic backdrop to these political developments, see our [UK financial markets statistics](#).

The Palace of Westminster — home to the UK Parliament since the 13th century. The House of Commons has 650 elected MPs; the House of Lords has 780+ appointed and hereditary members. Together they form one of the world's oldest continuous democratic legislatures.

General Elections Chart

UK General Election Results — Seats Won 1945 to 2024

The chart below shows Labour (red) and Conservative (blue) seat totals in every UK general election from 1945 to 2024. The dominance of two parties is clear — in every election until 2010, Labour and Conservatives together won 90%+ of seats. The 2010–2024 period saw fragmentation: SNP surged in Scotland (winning 56 of 59 Scottish seats in 2015), UKIP/Brexit/Reform took large vote shares without proportional seats, and the Liberal Democrats oscillated dramatically. The 2024 result — Labour's 412 seats — is the third-largest majority in modern history.

UK General Election Seats 1945-2024 Labour vs Conservative — Seats Won Each Election Number of seats won · House of Commons Library · 650 total seats 412Labour 2024 21 elections · 1945 to 2024 Source: House of Commons Library · Electoral Commission · UK Parliament

Parliament Statistics

UK Parliament — 650 MPs, 780+ Lords, and the World's Most Copied Constitution

The UK Parliament at Westminster is bicameral: the elected **House of Commons** (650 MPs) and the appointed **House of Lords** (approximately 780 members). The Commons holds supreme legislative authority — the Lords can delay but not block primary legislation. The UK has no codified constitution; instead, constitutional arrangements derive from statute, convention, and common law — an approach that has been both praised for flexibility and criticised for lack of entrenchment. The 2019–2024 Parliament was among the most turbulent in modern history: three Prime Ministers, a prorogation ruled unlawful by the Supreme Court, and the first general election called under the Fixed Term Parliaments Act's successor legislation.

650House of Commons MPs 780+House of Lords Members 35%Female MPs (2024) 10%Ethnic Minority MPs 1215Magna Carta Year 90Hereditary Peers 2024 UK General Election — Full Results by Party

Click to sort

PARTY	SEATS WON	VOTE SHARE %	SEATS CHANGE	GOVERNMENT?
Labour	412	33.7%	+211	GOVERNING

Conservative	121	23.7%	-251	Opposition
Liberal Democrats	72	12.2%	+64	Opposition
SNP	9	2.5%	-38	Opposition
Sinn Fein	7	0.7%	+2	Abstentionist
Reform UK	5	14.3%	+4	Opposition
Green Party	4	6.4%	+3	Opposition
Plaid Cymru	4	0.7%	0	Opposition

Political Parties

UK Political Parties — History, Membership, and Vote Shares

British politics has been defined by two-party competition since the mid-19th century: first Liberal vs Conservative, then Labour vs Conservative from the 1920s. The two-party system has been under sustained pressure since 2010: the SNP's dominance in Scotland removed 50+ seats from both main parties' Scottish bases; UKIP/Brexit Party/Reform UK demonstrated that 3–14% vote shares are available to the right of the Conservatives; and the Liberal Democrats showed that tactical voting can translate modest vote shares into significant seat gains under FPTP.

UK PARTY MEMBERSHIP ESTIMATES 2025 Major UK Party Membership — 2025 Estimates Estimated members in thousands · Party returns, British Election Study

UK Political Parties — Key Statistics 2025

Click to sort

PARTY	FOUNDED	MEMBERS (EST.)	LEADER 2025	IDEOLOGY
Labour	1900	~400,000	Keir Starmer	Centre-left
Conservative	1834	~170,000	Kemi Badenoch	Centre-right
Liberal Democrats	1988	~90,000	Ed Davey	Centrist / Liberal
SNP	1934	~72,000	John Swinney	Scottish nationalist
Green Party	1990	~60,000	Carla Denyer	Green / Left

Reform UK	2018	~100,000	Nigel Farage	Right-wing populist
Plaid Cymru	1925	~10,000	Rhun ap Iorwerth	Welsh nationalist

Voter Turnout

UK Voter Turnout — From 84% in 1950 to 60% in 2024

UK general election turnout peaked at **84.0% in 1950** — the first election after full universal suffrage — and has been on a long-term declining trend. The nadir was **59.4% in 2001** (Blair's second landslide, when the outcome was seen as inevitable). Turnout recovered somewhat in 2017 and 2019 (69% and 67% respectively). The **2024 election saw 60% turnout** — reflecting voter fatigue after multiple elections, disillusionment with both main parties, and first-time use of photo ID requirements which disenfranchised some voters. Younger voters (18-24) consistently record turnout of only 45-50%, compared to 75%+ for over-65s — creating a democratic age gap with significant policy implications.

UK GENERAL ELECTION VOTER TURNOUT UK General Election Turnout — 1945 to 2024 % of registered voters · Electoral Commission · House of Commons Library * 2024 was first UK general election requiring photo ID. Source: Electoral Commission, House of Commons Library.

Prime Ministers

UK Prime Ministers — 57 Total, 15 Since 1945, and the 44-Day Record

The UK has had **57 Prime Ministers** since the office crystallised in the early 18th century under Robert Walpole (1721–1742). Since 1945 there have been 15 Prime Ministers — 8 Conservative and 7 Labour. The post-2016 period saw extraordinary political turbulence: five Prime Ministers in eight years (Cameron, May, Johnson, Truss, Sunak), a pace unprecedented in the post-war era. **Liz Truss** served just 44 days (September–October 2022) — the shortest-serving UK Prime Minister in history — after her mini-budget triggered a gilt market crisis. Her predecessor Boris Johnson resigned amid multiple scandals. The UK has had **three female Prime Ministers**: Margaret Thatcher (1979–1990), Theresa May (2016–2019), and Liz Truss (2022).

Prime Ministers by Length of Service — Post-1945

Historic Record 2022: Three Prime Ministers in One Year — A First in Modern British History

The year 2022 saw three serving Prime Ministers — a first in modern British history. Boris Johnson resigned in July 2022 amid the Partygate scandal and multiple ministerial resignations. Liz Truss was elected Conservative leader on 5 September and resigned on 20 October — just 44 days in office — after her unfunded tax-cutting budget caused the pound to plunge and gilt markets to crash, requiring a Bank of England emergency intervention. Rishi Sunak became Prime Minister on 25 October, becoming the first British-Asian PM and the youngest since 1812.

Devolution

UK Devolution — Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, and the English Question

The UK's devolution settlement — created under Tony Blair's government (1997–2007) — transferred significant powers to elected bodies in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland. This created an asymmetric quasi-federal system: Scotland has the most powers (including tax-varying powers and full control of NHS Scotland), Wales has intermediate powers, and Northern Ireland has a unique power-sharing executive reflecting its divided society. England — 84% of the UK population — has no equivalent devolved parliament, creating the "West Lothian Question": Scottish MPs can vote on English legislation, but English MPs cannot vote on devolved Scottish matters.

UK Devolved Parliaments & Assemblies — Key Statistics

Click to sort

BODY	MEMBERS	SYSTEM	EST.	CURRENT GOVT	KEY POWERS
Scottish Parliament	129 MSPs	AMS (PR)	1999	SNP minority	Health, Education, Tax
Senedd Cymru	96 MSs	AMS (PR)	1999	Welsh Labour	Health, Education
NI Assembly	90 MLAs	STV (PR)	1998	DUP-SF power share	Health, Education, Justice
London Assembly	25 AMs	AMS (PR)	2000	Labour (Mayor)	Transport, Planning

All three devolved legislatures use proportional representation systems — in stark contrast to Westminster's FPTP. This means the SNP at Holyrood governs as a minority while Labour governs at Westminster with a supermajority. Scotland's independence referendum (2014) voted 55%-45% to remain in the UK; the SNP has sought a second referendum ever since, arguing Brexit changed the constitutional landscape. See our [UK financial markets statistics](#) for the economic context of the Scottish independence

debate.

Brexit Impact

Brexit — 52% Leave, Party Realignment, and Lasting Political Consequences

The June 2016 EU referendum — in which 51.9% voted Leave and 48.1% Remain on a 72.2% turnout — was the most consequential single political event in modern British history. Brexit reshaped party politics along a new Leave/Remain dimension that cut across the traditional Labour/Conservative divide: working-class Labour Leave voters in the Midlands and North switched to the Conservatives in 2019; highly educated, urban Remain voters moved toward Labour, the Liberal Democrats, and the Greens.

Brexit Referendum Results by Region 2016 EU Referendum — Leave Vote % by UK Region % voting Leave · Electoral Commission · June 2016 51.9% National Leave Vote

72.2% turnout · 17.4M Leave · 16.1M Remain Source: Electoral Commission · 2016 EU Referendum official results

The political legacy of Brexit continues to define UK politics. The Conservatives spent 2017–2023 consumed by internal Brexit divisions. Labour under Starmer pivoted from a second referendum position to "make Brexit work." Reform UK — which grew from the Brexit Party — argues Brexit was betrayed and has tapped into ongoing Eurosceptic sentiment. The [UK financial markets](#) experienced significant volatility through the Brexit process, with sterling falling 15% on the referendum result night. For broader European context, see our [UK financial markets](#) and [France financial markets](#) data.

Turnout Trends

UK Election Trends — Voter Turnout by Age Group & Party Vote Share 1992–2024

The chart below tracks four key trends: voter turnout for 18–24 year olds vs 65+ voters, and Labour vs Conservative vote share across every election since 1992. The age gap is the most striking feature — over-65s vote at 75–80% while 18–24s average just 45–55%. This gap has grown every election since 1992, creating systematic policy bias toward older voters. The Conservative collapse to 24% in 2024 and Labour surge mirrors the 1997 Blair landslide in reverse. See [UK financial markets statistics](#) for economic cycles that correlate with these political swings.

UK ELECTION TRENDS 1992-2024 Turnout by Age Group vs Party Vote Share — 1992 to 2024 % turnout / % vote share · British Election Study, Electoral Commission 30ptAge Turnout Gap 2024

Age gap in turnout has widened every election since 1992 Sources: British Election Study · Ipsos MORI · Electoral Commission · House of Commons Library

Key Facts 2026

UK Politics 2026 — Key Facts & Outlook

UK Politics — Key Statistics 2026 United Kingdom Political Landscape — Key Facts 650MPs in House of Commons 412Labour Seats (2024) 60%2024 Election Turnout 44 daysShortest PM (Truss 2022) 51.9%Brexit Leave Vote 2016 3Female Prime Ministers

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions — UK Politics

650 elected MPs in the House of Commons, representing 650 constituencies. The House of Lords has 780+ appointed members including life peers, 90 hereditary peers, and 26 Church of England bishops. The Commons holds supreme legislative authority.

First Past The Post (FPTP): each constituency elects one MP — the candidate with the most votes wins. This consistently produces large seat majorities from modest vote leads. In 2024, Labour won 63% of seats with 34% of votes; Reform UK won 14% of votes but only 5 seats (0.8%). The UK rejected Alternative Vote in a 2011 referendum (68% No).

Labour won **412 seats (63%)** with 33.7% of votes. Conservatives collapsed to 121 seats — worst since 1906. Liberal Democrats surged to 72 seats. Reform UK won 14.3% of votes but only 5 seats. Keir Starmer became Prime Minister. Turnout was 60% — near historic low.

57 Prime Ministers in total. 15 since 1945 (8 Conservative, 7 Labour). Longest-serving post-war PM: Margaret Thatcher (11 years). Shortest-ever: Liz Truss (44 days, 2022). 3 female PMs: Thatcher, May, Truss. Youngest post-war PM: Tony Blair (43).

Peaked at **84% in 1950**, fell to a post-war low of 59.4% in 2001, recovered to 69% in 2017, then fell again to **60% in 2024**. Younger voters (18-24) average 45-50%; over-65s average 75%+. Northern Ireland typically records lower turnout than England in Westminster elections.

Devolution transferred powers to the Scottish Parliament (1999), Senedd Cymru (1999), and Northern Ireland Assembly (1998). Scotland has the most power (tax, health, education). All three use proportional representation — unlike Westminster FPTP. England (84% of UK population) has no devolved parliament.

51.9% Leave, 48.1% Remain on 72.2% turnout (23 June 2016). 17.4M voted Leave, 16.1M voted Remain — a margin of 1.3M votes. England voted 53.4% Leave, Scotland 62% Remain, Wales 52.5% Leave, Northern Ireland 55.8% Remain.

Data Sources & References

Primary: [Electoral Commission — Past Elections Results](#)

Primary: [House of Commons Library — UK Election Statistics](#)

Primary: [UK Parliament — Elections and Voting](#)

Additional: Hansard Society Audit of Political Engagement · British Election Study · YouGov Polling · Scottish Parliament · Senedd Cymru · Northern Ireland Assembly · ONS Regional Statistics

Party membership figures are estimates based on party returns and media reports — parties do not always disclose exact membership. Seat counts from official Electoral Commission results. Turnout figures are registered voter turnout unless stated otherwise. [UK Politics Statistics](#) [2026 UK General Election Results](#) [House of Commons Statistics](#) [UK Voter Turnout](#) [UK Prime Ministers](#) [Brexit Statistics](#) [UK Political Parties](#) [UK Devolution](#) [First Past the Post](#) [Scottish Parliament Statistics](#)



STATISTICS REPORT

History of US Presidential Elections — Statistics & Facts 2026

Updated Mar 16, 2026 · businessstats.com/history-of-us-presidential-elections

60 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS	538 ELECTORAL VOTES TOTAL	270 NEEDED TO WIN
5 EC WON / PV LOST	11 INCUMBENT LOSSES	537 CLOSEST MARGIN (2000)

Executive Summary

US Presidential Elections 1788–2024 — 236 Years of Democratic History

No institution better captures the contradictions of American democracy than the presidential election system. The United States invented modern mass democratic politics — universal white male suffrage in the 1820s, mass party conventions in the 1830s, competitive two-party elections throughout — yet also produced a system where five candidates won the presidency while losing the popular vote, where African Americans were systematically disenfranchised for nearly a century after emancipation, and where the candidate with the most votes has lost three times in the past 25 years. The Electoral College — designed by the Founders to filter popular passions through a deliberative body of electors — has become one of the most controversial features of any democracy in the world.

The 60 elections from 1788 to 2024 encompass: George Washington's unanimous 100% victories, Andrew Jackson's populist revolution, Abraham Lincoln's election that triggered secession, FDR's unprecedented four terms, the Cold War consensus elections of the 1950s–60s, the partisan realignment of the 1968–1988 period, the tight modern elections of 2000–2016, and Donald Trump's historic return to the presidency in 2024 — becoming only the second president in history to win non-consecutive terms (after Grover Cleveland in 1884/1892). Trump won with **312 Electoral Votes and 49.8% of the popular vote** — a popular vote majority that had eluded him in both 2016 and 2020. By March 2026, the Trump second term has been among the most consequential first years in modern presidential history: sweeping executive orders on immigration, tariffs, and federal workforce, the largest single-day deportation operation since Eisenhower,

and approval ratings ranging from 43–51% depending on the pollster. For economic context see our [US financial markets statistics](#).

The White House — home to 46 presidents across 60 elections since 1788. The US presidential election system, including the Electoral College and First Past The Post primaries, is among the most studied — and debated — electoral systems in the world.

Voter Turnout Chart

US Presidential Election Voter Turnout — 1828 to 2024

The bar chart below tracks US presidential election voter turnout as a percentage of the voting-eligible population (VEP) from 1828 — when mass popular voting began — to 2024. Three distinct eras are visible: the high-turnout 19th century (70–80%+, when elections were community social events and voting was public), the Progressive Era decline (1900–1940), and the modern era (1948–present, averaging 55–65%). The **2020 election recorded 66.8%** — the highest since 1900 — driven by pandemic mail-in voting expansion and intense partisan mobilisation. The **2024 election recorded 64.4%**.

US Presidential Election Turnout 1828-2024 Voter Turnout as % of Voting-Eligible Population — 1828 to 2024 % of VEP · US Election Project · McDonald (2024) 64.4% 2024 Election Voter Turnout % 2020: 66.8% — highest since 1900 · 2024: 64.4% Source: United States Election Project · Michael McDonald · FEC · US Census Bureau

Electoral College

The Electoral College — 538 Votes, 270 to Win, and 5 Popular Vote Losers

The Electoral College was designed at the Constitutional Convention of 1787 as a compromise between direct popular election and Congressional selection of the president. Each state receives electoral votes equal to its total Congressional delegation (House + Senate). The winner-take-all system used by 48 states means a candidate can win the presidency by winning key states by tiny margins while losing others by large margins — making it theoretically possible to win with only about 23% of the popular vote in the most extreme scenario.

ELECTORAL COLLEGE DISTRIBUTION Electoral Votes by State Size Category — 538 Total Number of electoral votes · 2024 apportionment · Winner-take-all in 48 states

Key Fact Five Presidents Won the Electoral College While Losing the Popular Vote

John Quincy Adams (1824, no popular majority), Rutherford Hayes (1876, +3 electoral votes), Benjamin Harrison (1888, -0.8% popular vote), George W. Bush (2000, -0.5% popular vote, decided by 537 votes in Florida), and Donald Trump (2016, -2.1% popular vote). The 2000 and 2016 cases reignited the perennial debate about Electoral College reform. A National Popular Vote Interstate Compact — committing states to award electoral votes to the national popular vote winner — has been signed by states controlling 209 electoral votes as of 2024, but needs 270 to take effect.

Largest Electoral College States — 2024 Apportionment

Click to sort

STATE	ELECTORAL VOTES	2024 WINNER	SWING STATE?
California	54	Biden/Harris (D)	Safe Dem
Texas	40	Trump (R)	Safe Rep
Florida	30	Trump (R)	Lean Rep
New York	28	Harris (D)	Safe Dem
Pennsylvania	19	Trump (R)	Swing
Illinois	19	Harris (D)	Safe Dem
Ohio	17	Trump (R)	Lean Rep
Georgia	16	Trump (R)	Swing
Michigan	15	Trump (R)	Swing
Arizona	11	Trump (R)	Swing

Modern Elections 1960–2024

US Presidential Elections 1960–2024 — Complete Results Table

The table below covers every US presidential election from 1960 to 2024 — the modern era of television politics. This period encompasses the civil rights realignment (1964–1968), the Watergate aftermath (1976), Reagan Revolution (1980–1984), third-party disruptions (1992, 1996), the contested 2000 election, the post-9/11 elections (2004), Obama's historic victories (2008, 2012), Trump's 2016 upset, Biden's 2020 victory, and Trump's 2024 comeback. For economic context behind each election see our [US financial markets](#) and [US GDP statistics](#).

US Presidential Elections 1960–2024 — Full Results

Click to sort

YEAR	WINNER	PARTY	EV WON	POP. VOTE %	TURNOUT %	INCUMBENT?
1960	John F. Kennedy	Democrat	303	49.7%	63.1%	Open
1964	Lyndon B. Johnson	Democrat	486	61.1%	61.9%	Inc. Won
1968	Richard Nixon	Republican	301	43.4%	60.8%	Open
1972	Richard Nixon	Republican	520	60.7%	55.2%	Inc. Won
1976	Jimmy Carter	Democrat	297	50.1%	53.6%	Open
1980	Ronald Reagan	Republican	489	50.7%	52.8%	Inc. Lost
1984	Ronald Reagan	Republican	525	58.8%	53.3%	Inc. Won
1988	George H.W. Bush	Republican	426	53.4%	50.3%	Open
1992	Bill Clinton	Democrat	370	43.0%	55.2%	Inc. Lost
1996	Bill Clinton	Democrat	379	49.2%	49.0%	Inc. Won
2000	George W. Bush	Republican	271	47.9%	51.2%	Open
2004	George W. Bush	Republican	286	50.7%	60.1%	Inc. Won
2008	Barack Obama	Democrat	365	52.9%	61.6%	Open
2012	Barack Obama	Democrat	332	51.1%	58.6%	Inc. Won
2016	Donald Trump	Republican	306	46.1%	59.2%	Open
2020	Joe Biden	Democrat	306	51.3%	66.8%	Inc. Lost
2024	Donald Trump	Republican	312	49.8%	64.4%	Open

Party History

US Party History — Democrats vs Republicans, and the Parties That Disappeared

The United States has been dominated by a two-party system since 1860, but the identities and coalitions of those two parties have transformed dramatically. The Republican Party — founded in 1854 specifically to

oppose the expansion of slavery — won its first presidential election in 1860 with Lincoln and dominated national politics through the Civil War and Reconstruction. The Democratic Party — the world's oldest political party, tracing roots to Andrew Jackson's 1828 campaign — controlled the South for a century after the Civil War before the parties' regional bases completely swapped during the civil rights era of the 1960s.

ELECTORAL WINS BY PARTY — 1828-2024 Presidential Election Wins by Party — 1828 to 2024 Total elections won per party · Dave Leip Atlas · FEC · American Presidency Project

Records & Extremes

Presidential Election Records — Biggest Wins, Closest Races, and Historic Firsts

523–8FDR 1936 Electoral Votes 537Closest Margin (FL 2000) 77Biden Age When Elected 43JFK Age When Elected 4FDR Terms Won 2Non-Consec. Term Winners

Biggest Landslide Victories — Winning Electoral Vote Margin

American voters at the polls — a scene repeated 60 times since 1788. US presidential elections are held every 4 years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November — a tradition dating to 1845 when Congress standardised Election Day to avoid multi-day voting that allowed early results to influence later voters.

Landslides & Closest Races

The Tightest Presidential Races in US History

CLOSEST PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS Closest US Presidential Elections — Popular Vote Margin Winning margin in popular vote percentage · Dave Leip Atlas · FEC * 2000 election: Bush won Electoral College 271–266 while losing popular vote by 543,895 votes (–0.5%). Source: FEC, Dave Leip Atlas of US Presidential Elections.

Demographic Trends

Presidential Election Demographic Trends — How America Votes Has Changed

The chart below tracks four key demographic voting trends in US presidential elections from 1972 to 2024: college graduate vote, non-college white vote, Black voter turnout, and Hispanic vote for Democrats. The most dramatic shift is the college/non-college divergence — in 1972, college and non-college whites voted nearly identically; by 2024, college-educated voters lean strongly Democratic while non-college whites are the Republican base. This educational realignment — driven by cultural and economic changes since deindustrialisation — is the defining feature of modern American politics. See our [US financial markets statistics](#) and [US GDP data](#) for economic context.

DEMOGRAPHIC VOTING TRENDS 1972-2024 Key Demographic Trends in US Presidential Elections % voting Democratic / % turnout · Exit polls · CNN, NBC, AP · 1972–2024 +30pt Education Gap 2024

Education gap has grown every election since 1992 Sources: Exit polls · CNN · NBC News · AP VoteCast · Pew Research Center · 1972–2024

2024 Election & 2025–2026

The 2024 Presidential Election & Trump Second Term — What Happened

The November 2024 presidential election was one of the most consequential in modern American history.

Donald Trump defeated Vice President Kamala Harris with 312 Electoral Votes to Harris's 226, winning 49.8% of the popular vote — his first popular vote majority across three presidential campaigns. Harris became the first woman of colour to win a major party presidential nomination but lost all seven battleground states. Trump's coalition expanded: he made significant gains among Hispanic men, young men under 30, and working-class voters of all races — while college-educated suburban voters shifted further toward Democrats. The election definitively ended Joe Biden's presidency after his dramatic July 2024 debate performance led to his withdrawal from the race.

312 Trump Electoral Votes 2024 49.8% Trump Popular Vote 2024 226 Harris Electoral Votes 48.3% Harris Popular Vote 64.4% 2024 Voter Turnout (VEP) 78 Trump Age at Inauguration 2025–2026 Context Trump Second Term — First 14 Months: Record Executive Action and Political Polarisation

Donald Trump's second term (January 20, 2025 – present) has been defined by an unprecedented pace of executive action. Within the first 100 days, Trump signed more executive orders than any president in modern history. Key actions by March 2026: **Immigration** — national emergency declaration, 170,000+

deportations in year one, Alien Enemies Act invocations; **Trade** — 145% tariffs on China, 25% on Canada and Mexico, 10% baseline tariff on all imports, triggering the largest US trade policy shift since the 1930 Smoot-Hawley Act; **Government** — DOGE (Department of Government Efficiency) federal workforce reductions of 200,000+ employees, \$150B+ in claimed spending cuts; **Foreign Policy** — withdrawal from Paris Climate Agreement and WHO, NATO spending pressure, Ukraine peace negotiations. Trump's approval rating ranged 43–51% (averaging ~47%) — higher than his first term (41% average) but polarised: 88% approval among Republicans, 7% among Democrats. The **November 2026 midterm elections** are the next major test — historically the president's party loses 27 House seats in midterms. Republicans hold 220 House seats (margin: 3) and 53 Senate seats going into 2026.

~47% Trump Approval (Mar 2026) 145% US Tariff on China 200K+ Federal Jobs Cut (DOGE) 220 Republican House Seats 53 Republican Senate Seats Nov 2026 Next Election (Midterms) 2024 Presidential Election — Results by Battleground State

Click to sort

STATE	EV	TRUMP %	HARRIS %	MARGIN	2020 WINNER
Pennsylvania	19	50.3%	48.5%	+1.8%	Biden 2020
Michigan	15	49.7%	47.7%	+2.0%	Biden 2020
Wisconsin	10	49.5%	48.8%	+0.7%	Biden 2020
Georgia	16	50.7%	48.1%	+2.6%	Biden 2020
Arizona	11	52.2%	46.5%	+5.7%	Biden 2020
Nevada	6	50.1%	47.7%	+2.4%	Biden 2020
North Carolina	16	51.0%	47.7%	+3.3%	Trump 2020

The 2024 result confirmed a long-running realignment: the Sun Belt (Arizona, Georgia, Nevada) moved toward Republicans while remaining competitive; the Blue Wall (Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin) flipped back to Trump for the second time. The **education divide deepened further** — non-college whites supported Trump by 35+ points while college-educated voters supported Harris by 25+ points. Hispanic men swung toward Trump by approximately 20 points compared to 2020, challenging the assumption of a permanent Democratic coalition among minority voters. For the economic policy context of the 2024 election, see our [US financial markets statistics](#) and [US GDP data](#).



Key Facts

US Presidential Elections — Key Facts & Numbers

US Presidential Elections — Complete Statistics 60 Elections · 1788 to 2024 — Key Facts 60Total

Presidential Elections 538Electoral Votes Total 270Needed to Win 312Trump EV Won 2024 49.8%Trump

Popular Vote 2024 537Closest Vote Margin (FL 2000)

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions — US Presidential Elections

60 elections from 1788 to 2024. Held every 4 years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. George Washington won the first two (1788, 1792) unanimously. The 2024 election saw Donald Trump win a second non-consecutive term — only the second president to do so after Grover Cleveland (1884/1892).

Each state gets electoral votes equal to its Congressional seats (House + 2 Senate). **538 total, 270 needed to win**. 48 states use winner-take-all. Five presidents won the Electoral College while losing the popular vote: Adams (1824), Hayes (1876), Harrison (1888), Bush (2000), Trump (2016).

2000 (Bush vs Gore) — decided by **537 votes in Florida** after a Supreme Court ruling stopped the recount. Gore won the popular vote by 543,895 votes but Bush won Electoral College 271-266. In popular vote terms, the closest was 1880 (Garfield beat Hancock by 0.09% — just 7,368 votes nationally).

FDR won 523-8 electoral votes in 1936 (60.8% popular vote) — largest modern landslide. Reagan 1984: 525-13 electoral votes (58.8% popular vote) — largest by a Republican. Nixon 1972: 520-17 electoral votes (60.7% popular vote). George Washington won unanimously in both 1788 and 1792.

Modern range: **49% (1996) to 66.8% (2020)**. 2024: 64.4%. 19th century elections saw 70-82% turnout. Post-WWI decline was driven by women gaining the vote (doubling the eligible population) and declining party mobilisation. The 2020 high was driven by pandemic mail-in voting and intense partisan polarisation.

11 times: J.Adams (1800), J.Q.Adams (1828), Van Buren (1840), Cleveland (1888), Harrison (1892), Taft (1912), Hoover (1932), Ford (1976), Carter (1980), G.H.W.Bush (1992), Trump (2020). Most recent: Trump lost to Biden in 2020, then won back the presidency in 2024.

Oldest elected: **Joe Biden (77)** in 2020, then Donald Trump (78) in 2024. Youngest elected: **JFK (43)** in 1960. Youngest to serve: Theodore Roosevelt (42) after McKinley assassination. Bill Clinton (46) and

Barack Obama (47) were among the younger modern presidents.

Data Sources & References

Primary: [Dave Leip Atlas of US Presidential Elections](#)

Primary: [US Election Project — Michael McDonald \(Voter Turnout Data\)](#)

Primary: [American Presidency Project — UC Santa Barbara](#)

Additional: [FEC Official Results](#) · [National Archives Electoral College Data](#) · [Miller Center Presidential History](#) · [Pew Research Center Election Analysis](#) · [Congressional Research Service](#) · [AP VoteCast Exit Polls](#)

Electoral vote totals use current 538-vote apportionment for historical comparison. Popular vote percentages exclude third-party/independent candidates in some years. Turnout calculated as % of voting-eligible population (VEP) not voting-age population (VAP). 2024 figures preliminary pending final state certifications. [US Presidential Elections History](#) [Electoral College Statistics](#) [US Election Voter Turnout](#) [Presidential Election Results](#) [Biggest Election Landslides](#) [Closest Presidential Elections](#) [Incumbent President Losses](#) [Popular Vote vs Electoral College](#) [US Two Party System History](#) [2024 Presidential Election](#)

STATISTICS REPORT

Politics & Government — Statistics & Facts 2026

 Updated Mar 16, 2026 · businessstats.com/politics-government

195 COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD	87 DEMOCRACIES (EIU 2026)	3.5B ELIGIBLE VOTERS GLOBALLY
\$50T+ GLOBAL GOVT SPENDING/YR	26% WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT	20yrs DEMOCRATIC BACKSLIDING

Executive Summary

Global Politics & Government 2026 — Democracy Under Pressure, Governments Growing

The global political landscape of 2026 is defined by two contradictory forces. On one hand, government has never been larger: global public expenditure exceeds \$50 trillion per year, governments employ more people than ever, and the scope of state intervention — from healthcare to climate policy — has expanded dramatically. On the other hand, the democratic systems that govern this spending face their most serious challenge in decades: 20 consecutive years of democratic backsliding, rising populism, declining trust in institutions, and the emergence of sophisticated authoritarianism that maintains the forms of democracy while hollowing out its substance.

The world's **195 countries** span every form of political organisation — from Scandinavian liberal democracies scoring near-perfect on governance indices to totalitarian states where elections are theatrical. The EIU Democracy Index 2026 classifies only **24 countries as full democracies** (covering just 8% of the world's population), 63 as flawed democracies, 34 as hybrid regimes, and 59 as authoritarian. Crucially, the **average democracy score has fallen every year since 2006** — the first sustained democratic recession since the post-WWII era. Understanding these trends matters for investors, policymakers, and citizens alike. For economic context, see our [global financial markets statistics](#) which are deeply intertwined with political stability.

The world's 195 countries span every political system — from full democracies to authoritarian states. In 2026, only 24 countries qualify as full democracies by EIU standards, covering just 8% of the global

population.

Democracy Trends

Number of Democracies — 1945 to 2026

The chart below tracks the number of electoral democracies in the world from 1945 to 2026. The "Third Wave of Democratization" (Samuel Huntington's term) from 1974 to 2000 saw democracies more than triple — from approximately 40 to 120 — driven by the collapse of authoritarian regimes in Southern Europe, Latin America, Eastern Europe, and Sub-Saharan Africa. The post-2006 democratic recession reversed this trend, with the count falling from a peak of ~123 in 2006 to approximately 87 by 2026 under EIU's stricter classification.

Number of Democracies by Year Electoral Democracies in the World — 1945 to 2026 Count of electoral democracies · Freedom House, EIU, V-Dem Institute 872026 · EIU Count

Electoral Democracies

Peak: 123 democracies in 2006 Sources: Freedom House · EIU Democracy Index · V-Dem Institute · Polity5 Dataset

Political Systems

Political Systems of the World — 195 Countries Classified

The world's countries operate under a diverse range of political systems. Parliamentary democracies — where the executive derives legitimacy from the legislature — remain the most common form of democratic government. Presidential systems dominate the Americas. Constitutional monarchies, where an elected government operates under a ceremonial monarch, are common in Europe, Asia, and the Commonwealth. Authoritarian systems — including one-party states, military dictatorships, and absolute monarchies — govern approximately 3.6 billion people, roughly 45% of the world's population.

POLITICAL SYSTEMS WORLDWIDE 2026 World's 195 Countries — By Political System Number of countries · EIU, Freedom House, CIA World Factbook · 2026

Classifications approximate. "Hybrid regimes" include competitive authoritarian systems. Source: EIU Democracy Index 2026, Freedom House, CIA World Factbook. Democracy Index by Region — 2026

Click to sort

REGION	COUNTRIES	FULL DEM.	FLAWED DEM.	HYBRID	AUTHORITARIAN	AVG SCORE
North America	3	2	1	0	0	8.4/10
Western Europe	21	17	4	0	0	8.3/10
Latin America	24	2	12	5	5	5.7/10
Eastern Europe	28	1	10	8	9	5.1/10
Asia-Pacific	28	2	13	7	6	5.5/10
Sub-Saharan Africa	44	0	10	10	24	4.0/10
Middle East & N. Africa	20	0	2	3	15	3.3/10

Elections & Voter Turnout

Global Elections — 70+ Countries Hold National Elections Every Year

Approximately **70+ countries hold national elections** each year, making elections the world's most practised form of political participation. Yet the quality and competitiveness of these elections varies enormously. The International IDEA Voter Turnout Database covers 1,900+ elections in 200+ countries since 1945. Global average voter turnout in national legislative elections stands at approximately **66%** — but this ranges from 20% in some low-engagement democracies to 90%+ in countries with compulsory voting. 2024 was called the "super election year" — with more than 60 countries holding elections including the US, EU Parliament, India, UK, Mexico, South Africa, Indonesia, and France — representing approximately **4 billion potential voters**.

Voter Turnout — Top Countries vs Global Average

VOTER TURNOUT — SELECTED COUNTRIES Average Voter Turnout in National Elections — Selected Countries % of registered voters · International IDEA · Most recent election data Figures represent most recent national legislative/presidential election. * = compulsory voting. Source: International IDEA Voter Turnout Database 2025. 66%Global Avg Turnout 96%Singapore (2020) 91%Australia* (2022) 67%US (2024 Presidential) 60%UK (2024 General) 67%India (2024 General)

The 2024 "super election year" produced some historically significant results: India held the world's largest election (969 million eligible voters), the US recorded its second-highest turnout since 1900 at 67.5%, and the EU Parliament elections saw turnout rise for the second consecutive time to 51% — reversing decades

of decline. However, 2024 also saw incumbents lose in most major elections globally — a pattern attributed to post-pandemic cost-of-living pressures, reflecting broader voter dissatisfaction with established parties across ideological lines. See our [US financial markets statistics](#) for how political cycles affect economic conditions.

Government Spending

Government Spending — \$50T+ Globally and the Welfare State Debate

Global government spending — the combined expenditure of all national, regional, and local governments worldwide — totals approximately **\$50 trillion per year**, representing approximately 45% of global GDP (\$110T). This extraordinary scale reflects the expansion of the modern welfare state over the 20th century: from ~10% of GDP in 1900 to 45%+ today in developed economies. The largest government spenders by absolute total are the **United States (\$7T+)**, the EU collective (\$10T+), China (\$5T+), and Japan (\$2T+). By percentage of GDP, Scandinavian and Western European welfare states lead: France (57%), Denmark (55%), Sweden (52%).

Government Spending as % of GDP — Top Countries

Key Insight Social Protection Is the World's Largest Government Expenditure — \$15T+ Annually

Social protection spending — comprising pensions, unemployment benefits, disability payments, housing support, and other welfare transfers — is the single largest category of government expenditure globally, totalling approximately \$15 trillion per year or 30% of all government spending. In OECD countries, pension spending alone averages 8% of GDP. The ageing of populations in Europe, Japan, and increasingly China is creating a structural upward pressure on social protection costs that no government has found a politically viable way to contain. By 2050, the OECD projects pension spending alone will consume 14%+ of GDP in many European countries without major reform.

Government Spending by Category — OECD Average 2025

Click to sort

CATEGORY	% OF GDP	GLOBAL \$T	LARGEST SPENDER
Social Protection	~14%	~\$15.4T	France, Italy, Germany
Healthcare	~7.5%	~\$8.2T	USA, Switzerland, Germany

Education	~5.2%	~\$5.7T	Norway, Israel, Denmark
General Services	~6.1%	~\$6.7T	USA, China, India
Defence	~2.4%	~\$2.6T	USA, China, Russia
Infrastructure & Economic	~4.1%	~\$4.5T	China, India, USA
Debt Interest	~3.2%	~\$3.5T	Italy, USA, Japan

Women in Politics

Women in Politics — 26% of Parliament Seats, 13% of Heads of Government

Women's representation in political institutions has made significant but incomplete progress. As of 2026, women hold approximately **26.5% of parliamentary seats globally** — up from 11% in 1995 but still well below the 50% that would reflect demographic parity. Progress has been uneven: Nordic countries lead (Sweden 46%, Iceland 47%, Norway 45%), while Gulf states and some South Asian countries remain near 0%. The **Inter-Parliamentary Union** tracks data for 180+ parliaments — only **9 countries** have achieved or exceeded 50% female parliamentary representation (Rwanda leads at 61%).

Women in Parliament · Global Trend Women in Parliament — Global Average % Over Time % of parliamentary seats held by women · IPU · 1995–2026 26.5%Global Average 2026

+0.6 percentage points per year average gain Sources: Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) · UN Women · 2026 estimated

Governance & Corruption

Global Governance — Corruption, Rule of Law, and State Effectiveness

The World Bank's Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI) measure six dimensions of governance across 200+ countries: voice and accountability, political stability, government effectiveness, regulatory quality, rule of law, and control of corruption. The **Transparency International Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)** is the most widely cited corruption measure — with scores from 0 (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean). In 2025, the global average CPI score is approximately **43/100** — well below the 50-point threshold that indicates more corruption than integrity. Two-thirds of countries score below 50.

The world's legislatures range from Norway's Storting (ranked #1 in democracy) to single-party rubber-stamp parliaments. Good governance — measured by transparency, rule of law, and accountability — is the

single strongest predictor of long-term economic development. Corruption Perceptions Index — Top & Bottom Countries 2025

Click to sort

COUNTRY	CPI SCORE	REGION	TREND
Denmark	90/100	Western Europe	Stable
Finland	87/100	Western Europe	Stable
New Zealand	85/100	Asia-Pacific	Stable
Norway	84/100	Western Europe	Stable
Singapore	83/100	Asia-Pacific	Improving
United States	69/100	North America	Declining
China	42/100	Asia-Pacific	Stable
India	39/100	Asia-Pacific	Stable
Russia	26/100	Eastern Europe	Declining
Somalia	11/100	Sub-Saharan Africa	Declining

Political Freedom by Region

Political Freedom — Only 20% of Humanity Lives in a Free Country

Freedom House's "Freedom in the World" report classifies countries as Free, Partly Free, or Not Free based on political rights and civil liberties. In 2026, only **84 countries (43%)** are classified as Free — but these countries contain only approximately **20% of the world's population**, because the largest countries (China, India, Russia, Indonesia) are either Not Free or Partly Free. This disconnect between the count of free countries and the population living in freedom is one of the defining features of the current global political moment. The richest countries are overwhelmingly the freest — the correlation between political freedom and per capita wealth is among the strongest in social science.

FREEDOM STATUS 2026 World Population by Political Freedom Status % of 8.2B world population living under each regime type · Freedom House 2026

The geographic distribution of political freedom is stark. Western Europe, North America, Australasia, and parts of Latin America and Asia-Pacific are predominantly Free. Eastern Europe is split between EU member states (mostly Free) and post-Soviet states (mostly Not Free). Sub-Saharan Africa is predominantly Partly Free. The Middle East and North Africa — with the exceptions of Israel and Tunisia — is predominantly Not Free. China alone accounts for 18% of world population living under authoritarian rule. For broader economic context, the [world GDP growth rate](#) data shows democratic countries consistently outperforming authoritarian ones over 20-year periods.

Key Trends 2026

Five Political Trends Reshaping Global Governance Through 2030

1. **The Populist Wave: Anti-Establishment Politics Goes Mainstream** Populist parties (both left and right) now govern or are major opposition forces in over 40 countries. Defined by anti-elite rhetoric, nativist economic policies, and hostility to international institutions, populism has moved from fringe to mainstream across Europe, the Americas, and Asia. The V-Dem Institute estimates that 35% of the world's population lives under populist governments as of 2026 — up from 4% in 2000. Populist governments in office tend to weaken institutional checks, restrict press freedom, and increase democratic backsliding risk.

2. **AI and Disinformation: The New Battlefield of Democracy** Artificial intelligence is fundamentally altering the information environment in which democratic elections occur. Deepfakes, AI-generated disinformation, and algorithmic amplification of extreme content are being deployed systematically in election campaigns. The 2024 super-election year saw AI-generated political content detected in at least 16 major election campaigns. Democracies are struggling to regulate AI in political advertising while authoritarian states increasingly use AI for surveillance, social scoring, and opinion control. This is the most significant technical threat to democratic governance since the invention of political broadcast television.

3. **Geopolitical Bifurcation: US-China Competition Splits Global Institutions** The geopolitical competition between the United States and China is increasingly bifurcating global governance institutions. The UN Security Council is effectively paralysed by US-China-Russia vetoes. Alternative institutions — BRICS+, the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, China's Belt and Road Initiative governance structures — are building parallel international governance frameworks. See our

[BRICS countries statistics](#)

for the economic scale of this emerging alternative bloc.

4. **The Fiscal Crisis of the Democratic State** Advanced democracies face an unprecedented convergence of fiscal pressures: ageing populations

(rising pension and healthcare costs), post-pandemic debt (average OECD debt-to-GDP of 112%), defence spending increases (NATO members moving toward 2-3% of GDP), and climate transition investment requirements. The IMF projects that without fiscal consolidation, debt levels in many advanced democracies will reach 200%+ of GDP by 2050. Yet the political dynamics of democracy make spending cuts extremely difficult — creating a structural tension between fiscal sustainability and democratic electoral pressures.

5. Digital Government: The State Goes Online Estonia pioneered e-government — 99% of government services online, digital voting, digital identity — and has become the global benchmark for digital public administration. The UN E-Government Survey ranks countries on digital government development: Denmark, Finland, South Korea, and Estonia consistently lead. Globally, 140+ countries now offer some form of digital government services, though quality varies enormously. Digital government reduces corruption (fewer face-to-face opportunities for bribery), improves efficiency, and can increase voter participation — but also creates new cybersecurity vulnerabilities and digital exclusion risks for older populations.

Global Politics & Government — Key Statistics 2026

World Political Landscape — Key Facts & Numbers

- 195 Countries in the World
- 87 Electoral Democracies
- \$50T+ Annual Govt Spending
- 3.5B Eligible Voters
- 43/100 Avg CPI Score (World)
- 20% Population in Free Countries

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions — Global Politics & Government

195 countries as of 2026: 193 UN member states plus Vatican City and Kosovo. The number has grown from 51 UN founding members in 1945, driven by decolonisation and the break-up of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia.

The EIU classifies **87 countries as electoral democracies** (24 full, 63 flawed). Freedom House classifies 84 countries as Free. However, these free countries contain only ~20% of world population, as the largest countries (China, Russia) are authoritarian.

Approximately **\$50 trillion per year** — ~45% of global GDP. The US spends \$7T+, EU collectively \$10T+, China \$5T+. Social protection is the largest category at ~30% of all government spending. Nordic countries spend 52-57% of GDP through government.

Approximately **13% of heads of government** are women (~26 countries). Women hold 26.5% of parliamentary seats globally — up from 11% in 1995. Rwanda leads with 61%. Only 9 countries have achieved 50%+ female parliamentary representation.

Countries with **compulsory voting** consistently lead: Australia (91%), Belgium (88%), Singapore (96%). Among voluntary systems, Sweden (87%), Denmark (85%), New Zealand (82%) lead. Global average is ~66%. The US averages 55-67% in presidential elections.

Transparency International CPI 2025 bottom-ranked: Somalia (11/100), South Sudan (13), Syria (13), Venezuela (14), Yemen (15). Denmark leads as least corrupt (90/100). Global average is 43/100 — two-thirds of countries score below 50.

Yes — **20 consecutive years of democratic backsliding** (Freedom House). More countries move toward authoritarianism each year than gain freedom. The number of democracies peaked at ~123 in 2006 and has fallen to ~87 by 2026. However, the long-term trend since 1945 still shows significant democratic gains.

Data Sources & References

Primary: [EIU Democracy Index 2025](#)

Primary: [Freedom House — Freedom in the World 2026](#)

Primary: [Transparency International — Corruption Perceptions Index 2025](#)

Additional: International IDEA Voter Turnout Database · IPU Parline (Women in Parliament) · World Bank WGI · IMF Government Finance Statistics · V-Dem Institute · UN E-Government Survey · OECD Government at a Glance 2025

Democracy classifications vary by source. EIU, Freedom House, and V-Dem use different methodologies. Spending figures in USD at current exchange rates. Voter turnout figures represent registered voter participation. All data 2025–2026 unless otherwise noted. Global Politics Statistics 2026 Democracy Index Government Spending Data Voter Turnout Statistics Women in Parliament Corruption Index 2026 Political Systems World Democratic Backsliding Freedom House Statistics Political Freedom Data

STATISTICS REPORT

BRICS+ Countries — Statistics & Facts

2025–2026

Updated Jun 13, 2026 · businessstats.com/brics-countries

10+ BRICS+ MEMBERS 2025	45% SHARE OF WORLD POPULATION	35% WORLD GDP (PPP) SHARE
\$28.5T COMBINED NOMINAL GDP 2025	44% GLOBAL OIL PRODUCTION	3.6B COMBINED POPULATION

Executive Summary

BRICS+ Countries 2025 — The Emerging World's Answer to Western Economic Dominance

The BRICS+ bloc in 2025 represents far more than an economic statistic — it is the institutional expression of a fundamental shift in global power dynamics. When Goldman Sachs analyst Jim O'Neill coined "BRIC" in 2001, he identified Brazil, Russia, India, and China as the four emerging markets most likely to reshape the global economy over the following decades. His forecast has proven broadly correct: **BRICS+ countries now account for 35% of global GDP in purchasing power parity terms**, surpassing the G7's 30% share — a milestone that would have seemed implausible when the G7 controlled 65% of world GDP in 1990. The formal expansion of BRICS in January 2024 — adding Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE — and Indonesia's accession in January 2025 transformed a four-nation economic coordination forum into a ten-nation geopolitical bloc spanning the world's most strategically critical regions: the Persian Gulf, East Africa, South Asia, South America, and East Asia.

The economic weight of BRICS+ countries is most visible in three domains. First, **demographic and labor force dominance**: BRICS+ nations hold 3.6 billion people — 45% of humanity — with the world's largest and fastest-growing working-age populations (India, Indonesia, Ethiopia, Egypt) that represent the primary source of global labor force growth through 2040. Second, **natural resource control**: BRICS+ members collectively hold approximately 44% of global oil output, 60% of proven oil reserves, 40% of natural gas production, and dominant shares of critical minerals essential for the green energy transition (lithium in

Brazil, cobalt in the DRC, rare earths in China). The broader global economy is therefore deeply dependent on BRICS+ resource exports — a leverage that member nations are increasingly using strategically. Third, **manufacturing and export capacity**: China alone accounts for approximately 14% of world merchandise exports; add India, Brazil, Russia, and the new members, and BRICS+ represents approximately 25% of global trade.

BRICS+ countries span six continents and represent the world's most dynamic emerging economies. With 45% of global population, 35% of world GDP (PPP), and control of 44% of global oil output, BRICS+ has emerged as a genuine counterweight to the G7-led Western economic order in 2025.

BRICS+ Members

BRICS+ Member Countries 2025 — Who Is In, Who Is Watching

The BRICS+ bloc as of 2025 comprises **10 full members**: the original five (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) plus Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, UAE (all joined January 2024), and Indonesia (joined January 2025). Approximately 30+ additional countries have formally applied for membership or expressed interest, including Algeria, Bolivia, Cuba, Kazakhstan, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Thailand, Turkey, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe. The expansion criteria remain informally defined — the bloc lacks the formal membership rules of the EU or WTO — but reflect a preference for nations with significant GDP, population, regional influence, or strategic resource holdings. Turkey's potential membership is particularly significant, as a NATO member considering alignment with BRICS+ would represent a major geopolitical rupture. The **BRICS+ countries statistics** collectively paint a picture of extraordinary diversity: from China's \$19.5 trillion economy to Ethiopia's \$0.2 trillion, from Russia's advanced nuclear arsenal to Ethiopia's predominantly agrarian economy, from Saudi Arabia's \$32,000 per capita income to India's \$2,750.

BRICS+ Member Countries — Key Statistics 2025

Click column to sort

COUNTRY	JOINED	GDP (NOMINAL)	GROWTH 2025	POPULATION	GDP PER CAPITA
China	2009 (founder)	\$19.5T	+4.6%	1.41B	\$13,800
India	2009 (founder)	\$4.0T	+6.5%	1.44B	\$2,750
Brazil	2009 (founder)	\$2.5T	+2.2%	215M	\$11,600
Russia	2009 (founder)	\$1.7T	+1.2%	144M	\$11,800

Saudi Arabia	Jan 2024	\$1.2T	+2.8%	36M	\$32,000
UAE	Jan 2024	\$0.55T	+4.2%	10M	\$50,000
Indonesia	Jan 2025	\$1.5T	+5.1%	278M	\$5,400
Iran	Jan 2024	\$0.4T	+3.2%	87M	\$4,600
Egypt	Jan 2024	\$0.4T	+4.0%	105M	\$3,800
South Africa	2010 (founder)	\$0.38T	+1.5%	61M	\$6,200
Ethiopia	Jan 2024	\$0.2T	+7.5%	130M	\$1,050

GDP Growth Chart

BRICS+ Combined GDP Growth — 2000 to 2030*

The bar chart below tracks the combined nominal GDP of BRICS+ nations from 2000 to 2026 (actual) and projected through 2030. The trajectory is extraordinary: BRICS+ combined GDP grew from approximately **\$3.2 trillion in 2000** to **\$28.5 trillion in 2025** — a nearly 9x increase in 25 years, far outpacing the G7's growth over the same period. The 2009 dip (Global Financial Crisis) was shallower and shorter for BRICS than for advanced economies — China's massive fiscal stimulus and India's domestic consumption resilience provided a crucial global growth buffer. The **BRICS+ countries statistics** on GDP growth since 2000 represent one of the most dramatic economic transformations in recorded history, lifting hundreds of millions out of poverty while simultaneously building the world's second-largest economy (China), fourth-largest (India), and generating vast sovereign wealth funds in the Gulf member states.

BRICS+ Combined GDP — Nominal USD BRICS+ Total GDP — 2000 to 2030* Trillions USD · IMF, World Bank · *2027–2030 projected \$28.5T2025 · Record High ActualProjected

CAGR ~9.4% Nominal · 2000–2025 Sources: IMF World Economic Outlook · World Bank WDI · *2027–2030 projected

GDP Indexed Performance

BRICS+ GDP Growth Indexed — All Members Compared (Base Year 2010 = 100)

The indexed chart below shows each BRICS+ member's GDP growth trajectory relative to its own 2010 baseline — revealing which economies have grown fastest in relative terms. **Ethiopia and India** lead all BRICS+ members in indexed growth, while **China's trajectory** represents the most consequential absolute expansion. Russia's flat-to-declining index since 2022 reflects the severe economic sanctions following its Ukraine invasion. The chart directly mirrors the Bitcoin halving design — showing divergent performance cycles across different BRICS+ economies, with each "expansion wave" beginning at different times based on structural reforms, commodity cycles, and demographic tailwinds. This comparative indexed view of **BRICS+ countries statistics** is critical for understanding which member economies will drive the bloc's growth through 2030.

GDP Performance — All BRICS+ Members · Indexed BRICS+ Member GDP Growth — Indexed (2010 = 100)
 GDP index rebased to 100 at 2010 · IMF, World Bank · 2025 estimate 2025Latest Data

India Fastest Growing Major Economy Sources: IMF World Economic Outlook · World Bank WDI · Indexed to 100 at 2010 baseline

GDP Rankings

BRICS+ vs G7 — GDP, Trade, and Population by the Numbers

The most striking comparison in global economics is the convergence between BRICS+ and G7 economic weight. In **purchasing power parity (PPP) terms** — which adjusts for the fact that a dollar buys more in India or China than in the US — BRICS+ surpassed the G7 in 2023 for the first time, a symbolic milestone confirming the structural shift of economic gravity toward the developing world. The BRICS+ countries statistics on PPP-adjusted GDP reflect that workers in emerging economies are more productive in real terms than nominal exchange rates suggest, and that the domestic purchasing power of BRICS+ consumers is far larger than nominal GDP implies. This has profound implications for multinational corporations, which increasingly prioritize BRICS+ consumer markets for growth. The relationship between BRICS+ economic rise and the broader global economy's trajectory is inseparable — BRICS+ growth is the primary driver of world GDP expansion.

35%BRICS+ World GDP (PPP) 30%G7 World GDP (PPP) \$28.5TBRICS+ Nominal GDP \$46TG7 Nominal
 GDP 45%BRICS+ World Population 10%G7 World Population

BRICS+ vs G7

BRICS+ vs G7 — A Complete Comparative Analysis

The BRICS+ vs G7 comparison is the defining geopolitical and economic rivalry of the 21st century. In nominal GDP terms, the G7 (\$46 trillion) still holds a commanding lead over BRICS+ (\$28.5 trillion) — a 62% gap that reflects the massive per-capita income advantage of advanced economies. However, **the growth gap is decisively in BRICS+ favor**: BRICS+ economies are growing at an average of approximately 4.5% annually versus G7's 1.8%, meaning the nominal GDP gap is narrowing by approximately \$1.5–2 trillion per year. On current trajectories, BRICS+ nominal GDP will approach G7 levels by approximately 2035–2038. Beyond GDP, the comparison reveals BRICS+ superiority in natural resources (oil, gas, minerals, agricultural land), population and labor force, and territorial extent — while the G7 leads in technology, financial infrastructure, military capability, institutional quality, and per-capita wealth. The **BRICS+ countries statistics** on military spending tell a nuanced story: China alone spends approximately \$225 billion annually, Russia \$85 billion, India \$85 billion, and Saudi Arabia \$75 billion — combined BRICS+ defense spending of approximately \$520 billion approaches the G7 ex-US total.

BRICS+ GDP SHARE BY MEMBER 2025 BRICS+ GDP Distribution by Member Country — 2025 Total
~\$28.5T nominal · IMF, World Bank · 2025

GDP shares at current USD nominal prices. Sources: IMF World Economic Outlook Oct 2025, World Bank.

Trade & Energy

BRICS+ Trade & Energy — Controlling the World's Resource Flows

BRICS+ countries' control over global natural resources and commodity flows represents their most powerful strategic lever in the world economy. In oil and gas — the most traded commodities on earth — BRICS+ dominance is striking: Russia (~10 mbd), Saudi Arabia (~9 mbd), UAE (~3.5 mbd), Iran (~3 mbd), and Brazil (~3.5 mbd) collectively produce approximately **44% of global crude oil output**. Combined with OPEC+ coordination (which overlaps significantly with BRICS+ membership), this gives the bloc substantial influence over global oil prices — with direct implications for inflation, economic growth, and energy security in every importing nation. The mechanics of how this oil moves from production to consumption runs through the global oil and gas transportation networks — pipelines, tankers, and LNG terminals — where BRICS+ nations are both dominant producers and rapidly growing consumers.



On merchandise trade, China (\$3.7T exports) is the world's largest exporter and the largest trading partner of approximately 130 countries globally. India's exports have grown from \$300 billion in 2015 to approximately \$780 billion in 2025, reflecting its emergence as a major manufacturing and services exporter. Brazil is the world's largest agricultural exporter (soybeans, beef, sugar, coffee), dominating food supply chains that feed Europe, China, and the Middle East. Russia, despite sanctions, continues to export approximately \$350 billion annually in energy, metals, and agricultural commodities — primarily to BRICS+ partners. The global oil refinery industry is particularly relevant to BRICS+ economics — China has the world's largest refining capacity outside the US, and Saudi Arabia's ARAMCO is investing massively in downstream refining to capture more value from its oil exports.

Top BRICS+ Countries by Oil Production — 2025

Population & Demographics

BRICS+ Population — 3.6 Billion People and the Demographic Dividend

The demographic weight of BRICS+ countries is one of the most significant structural advantages of the bloc. With **3.6 billion people — 45% of humanity** — BRICS+ nations encompass the world's two most populous countries (India at 1.44 billion, China at 1.41 billion), the world's fourth most populous (Indonesia at 278 million, now a BRICS+ member), and some of the world's fastest-growing populations (Ethiopia at 130 million and growing at 2.5% per year, Egypt at 105 million). The **BRICS+ countries statistics** on age structure reveal a crucial asymmetry: while China faces rapid aging (median age rising from 37 to 45 by 2040), India, Indonesia, Ethiopia, and Egypt have young, growing workforces that will fuel economic growth for decades. India's working-age population (15–64) will continue growing until approximately 2055 — providing a demographic dividend that China has already exhausted.

BRICS+ POPULATION BY MEMBER 2025 Population of BRICS+ Member Countries — 2025 Millions of people · UN World Population Prospects 2025 Population estimates mid-2025. Sources: UN DESA World Population Prospects 2024, World Bank.

De-Dollarization

BRICS+ De-Dollarization — The Challenge to the US Dollar's Global Reserve Status

BRICS+ nations are actively building alternatives to dollar-dominated trade settlement systems. The US dollar's share in BRICS+ bilateral trade has fallen from near-100% to approximately 60% since 2022, with renminbi, rupee, ruble, and dirham increasingly used for intra-bloc transactions.

One of the most consequential — and contested — ambitions of the BRICS+ bloc is reducing dependence on the US dollar in international trade and financial transactions. The US dollar's reserve currency status, established at Bretton Woods in 1944, gives the United States extraordinary "exorbitant privilege": the ability to run persistent trade deficits, borrow cheaply in its own currency, and impose economic sanctions by cutting off access to the dollar system (as demonstrated against Russia in 2022). BRICS+ nations — particularly those subject to US sanctions (Russia, Iran) or concerned about future vulnerability (China) — are actively building alternatives. The **New Development Bank (NDB)**, the BRICS+ multilateral development bank headquartered in Shanghai, has committed to disbursing 30% of its loans in local currencies by 2026, up from near-zero in 2020. Bilateral trade between India and Russia, China and Brazil, and intra-Gulf BRICS+ flows is increasingly settled in rupees, renminbi, reais, and dirhams rather than dollars. Energy pricing is the most symbolic frontier: Saudi Arabia's reported discussions about accepting renminbi for oil sales would represent a direct challenge to the petrodollar system that has underpinned dollar supremacy since 1973. Understanding how global gas and energy prices are denominated and settled is central to understanding the de-dollarization debate — if BRICS+ energy trade shifts to local currencies, the implications for dollar demand and US monetary policy are profound.

Key Insight The Dollar's Share in BRICS+ Trade Settlements Has Fallen from ~100% to ~60% Since 2022 — But a BRICS Currency Remains Years Away

The de-dollarization trend within BRICS+ is real but slower than headlines suggest. The US dollar still accounts for approximately 88% of all global forex transactions (BIS 2025 Triennial Survey) and 58% of global foreign exchange reserves — numbers that reflect deep structural lock-ins. However, within BRICS+ bilateral trade, dollar usage has declined sharply: India-Russia trade is now predominantly in rupees and rubles; China-Russia trade overwhelmingly in renminbi; Gulf-China oil settlement discussions continue. The NDB has issued local currency bonds in renminbi, rupees, and rand. A full BRICS currency — requiring monetary policy coordination among 10+ economies with vastly different inflation rates and fiscal positions — remains a distant prospect. The more likely near-term scenario is a fragmented "multipolar currency" system where the dollar, euro, renminbi, and rupee each handle significant but non-dominant shares of

global trade finance. This directly affects [Middle East oil industry pricing and settlement](#), as Gulf BRICS+ members navigate between dollar-denominated OPEC conventions and renminbi-denominated Chinese demand.

Key Trends

Five Structural Trends Defining BRICS+ Through 2030

1. India's Ascent — The New Growth Engine of BRICS+ and the Global Economy India is the standout BRICS+ success story of the 2020s. Growing at 6.5% in 2025 — the fastest rate among all G20 nations — India has overtaken Japan to become the world's fourth-largest economy at \$4.0 trillion and is on track to surpass Germany by 2027 and potentially Japan in nominal terms by 2028–2029. India's growth is driven by a young workforce (median age 28), digitization (700M+ internet users, world's largest digital payments market), manufacturing investment (Apple, Samsung, and dozens of multinationals shifting production from China), and infrastructure spending (\$130B+ annual government capital expenditure). India's GDP per capita remains low (\$2,750), meaning the absolute growth runway is enormous — India has decades of structural catch-up growth ahead. For BRICS+ countries statistics, India's trajectory is the most important single variable determining whether the bloc will achieve its 2030 ambitions.

2. China's Economic Slowdown — Property Crisis, Demographics, and the Technology Decoupling China, which for two decades was the engine of BRICS (and global) growth at 8–10% annually, is entering a structurally lower growth phase. GDP growth has moderated to 4.6% in 2025 and is expected to slow further to 3.5–4% by 2030. Three structural headwinds are driving this deceleration: the property sector crisis (Evergrande, Country Garden collapses wiping approximately \$18 trillion in paper wealth), demographic decline (China's population peaked in 2022 and is falling, with the working-age population shrinking annually), and technology decoupling (US export controls on advanced semiconductors, AI chips, and manufacturing equipment are constraining China's ability to compete in cutting-edge industries). China's response — massive investment in domestic chip manufacturing, EVs, renewable energy, and AI — will determine whether it can maintain competitive productivity growth despite these headwinds.

3. The Gulf BRICS+ Members — Sovereign Wealth and the Diversification Imperative Saudi Arabia (\$1.2T GDP, \$925B Public Investment Fund) and the UAE (\$550B GDP, \$1T Abu Dhabi Investment Authority) bring extraordinary financial firepower to BRICS+. Their combined sovereign wealth fund assets exceed \$2 trillion — larger than the GDP of all but four countries. Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 and UAE's Net Zero 2050 strategies represent the most ambitious economic diversification programs in history: reducing oil dependence while using oil revenues to fund technology, tourism, manufacturing, and financial services sectors. Within

BRICS+, the Gulf members serve as the primary capital providers — financing NDB projects, investing in Indian infrastructure, Chinese technology, and African development. Their membership also gives BRICS+ critical energy leverage: Saudi Arabia and the UAE together control more proven oil reserves than Russia, Brazil, and Iran combined.

4. BRICS+ and the Green Energy Transition — A Paradox of Resource Dependence and Clean Leadership

BRICS+ nations occupy a paradoxical position in the global energy transition: they are simultaneously the world's largest fossil fuel producers AND the world's largest investors in renewable energy. China manufactures 80% of the world's solar panels, 70% of wind turbines, and 70% of EV batteries — making it the indispensable supplier of green energy hardware to the entire world. India has committed to 500GW of renewable capacity by 2030. Brazil generates 85% of its electricity from renewables (primarily hydro). Yet Russia, Saudi Arabia, Iran, and UAE derive the majority of government revenues from oil and gas. This creates an internal BRICS+ tension: the fossil fuel producers need sustained oil demand to fund their economies and diversification programs, while the manufacturing members (China) and democratic members (India, Brazil) are accelerating clean energy deployment. The global energy price environment — explored in detail in analysis of global oil industry statistics

— directly determines BRICS+ internal economics.

5. BRICS+ Institutional Development — NDB, Payment Systems, and the Alternative Architecture

Beyond economic statistics, BRICS+ is building an institutional architecture designed to reduce dependence on Western-dominated financial infrastructure. The New Development Bank (NDB) has disbursed approximately \$35 billion in loans since 2015, focused on infrastructure, clean energy, and urban development in member countries — a fraction of World Bank scale but growing rapidly. The BRICS+ Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA) provides emergency balance-of-payments support, akin to a mini-IMF. A dedicated BRICS+ payment system — potentially using blockchain technology to bypass SWIFT — is under active development, with pilot transactions already occurring between Russia, China, and India. The BRICS+ countries statistics on financial flows show that intra-BRICS+ trade has grown from approximately 6% of members' total trade in 2010 to approximately 12% in 2025 — a doubling that reflects both policy intent and growing economic complementarity among members.

2030 Outlook



BRICS+ 2030 — \$40+ Trillion GDP and the New World Economic Order

By 2030, BRICS+ combined nominal GDP is projected to reach approximately **\$40–42 trillion**, representing an increase of approximately 40–47% from the 2025 level of \$28.5 trillion. This growth will be driven primarily by India (\$6T+ projected), Indonesia (\$2.2T+), China (\$23T+, though with moderated growth), and the Gulf states benefiting from energy revenues and diversification. In PPP terms, BRICS+ is projected to represent approximately 38–40% of world GDP by 2030 — a further widening of its lead over the G7's declining PPP share. The **BRICS+ countries statistics** on future growth indicate that by 2030, at least three BRICS+ nations (China, India, Indonesia) will rank among the world's five largest economies. The bloc's population will approach 3.8 billion as Indonesia's 278 million and Ethiopia's 140 million add demographic weight. The New Development Bank's loan portfolio is projected to reach \$100 billion by 2030, and the BRICS+ payment system — if successfully deployed — could handle \$2–3 trillion in annual transactions, meaningfully reducing dollar dependency in emerging market trade finance.

BRICS+ 2030 Projections
BRICS+ Bloc — Key Forecasts Through 2030
\$40–42T
BRICS+ Nominal GDP
2030 38–40%
World GDP (PPP) Share
\$6T+
India GDP by 2030
3.8B
BRICS+ Population 2030
\$100B
NDB Loan Portfolio 2030
30+
Potential BRICS+ Members

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions — BRICS+ Countries Statistics

BRICS+ in 2025 includes **10 full members**: Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa (original 5), plus Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, UAE (joined Jan 2024), and Indonesia (joined Jan 2025). 30+ nations have applied for membership or observer status.

\$28.5 trillion nominal GDP in 2025 (26% of world total). In PPP terms, approximately 35% of world GDP — surpassing the G7's 30% PPP share. Projected to reach \$40–42T by 2030.

BRICS+ leads in **PPP GDP (35% vs 30%)**, population (45% vs 10%), oil production (44% vs ~8%), and land area. G7 leads in nominal GDP (\$46T vs \$28.5T), technology, financial infrastructure, and per-capita income. BRICS+ nominal GDP may approach G7 levels by 2035–2038.

Approximately **3.6 billion people — 45% of the world's 8.2 billion population**. India (1.44B) and China (1.41B) together account for over 2.8 billion. Indonesia (278M), Ethiopia (130M), Brazil (215M), and Egypt (105M) add major demographic weight.



No common currency yet exists. However, **dollar usage in BRICS+ bilateral trade has fallen from ~100% to ~60%** since 2022. The NDB now disburses 30% of loans in local currencies. A full BRICS currency remains years away due to monetary policy coordination challenges.

Among large economies, **India leads at 6.5% GDP growth in 2025**. Ethiopia leads all BRICS+ at ~7.5% but from a small base. Indonesia (5.1%), UAE (4.2%), and China (4.6%) are also among the fastest-growing BRICS+ members.

BRICS+ produces approximately **44% of global crude oil (~44 million barrels/day)**. Russia (~10 mbd), Saudi Arabia (~9 mbd), UAE (~3.5 mbd), Iran (~3 mbd), Brazil (~3.5 mbd). BRICS+ also holds ~60% of proven global oil reserves.

Data Sources & References

Primary: [IMF — World Economic Outlook \(October 2025\)](#)

Primary: [World Bank — World Development Indicators 2025](#)

Primary: [WTO — World Trade Statistical Review 2025](#)

Additional: IEA World Energy Outlook 2025 · OPEC Annual Statistical Bulletin 2025 · UNCTAD Trade Report · UN DESA World Population Prospects 2024 · Goldman Sachs "Dreaming with BRICs" & follow-up research · Standard Chartered Global Focus · New Development Bank Annual Report 2025 · BIS Triennial Central Bank Survey 2025

Data Transparency Note:

GDP figures are in current (nominal) USD unless otherwise stated. PPP GDP uses IMF purchasing power parity conversion factors. Growth rates are real (inflation-adjusted). Population figures are mid-2025 UN estimates. Oil production figures are IEA/OPEC 2025 estimates. BRICS+ member list reflects formal membership as of March 2026. This report is for informational purposes and does not constitute investment advice. [BRICS+ Statistics 2026](#) [BRICS+ GDP Data](#) [BRICS+ vs G7 Emerging Markets 2025](#) [BRICS+ Members List](#) [De-Dollarization](#) [BRICS+ Oil Production](#) [India Economic Growth](#) [New Development Bank](#) [BRICS+ 2030 Outlook](#)



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