Table 1. Russian nuclear forces, 2022

Type/name	Russian designation	Launchers	Year deployed	Warheads x yield (kilotons)	Total warheads
Strategic offensive weapons					
ICBMs					
SS-18 M6 Satan	RS-20V	40	1988	10 x 500/800 (MIRV)	400[1]
SS-19 M3 Stiletto	RS-18 (UR-100NUTTH)	0	1980	6 x 400 (MIRV)	0[2]
SS-19 M4	? (Avangard)	6	2019	1 x HGV	6
SS-25 Sickle	RS-12M (Topol)	9[3]	1988	1 x 800	9
SS-27 Mod 1 (mobile)	RS-12M1 (Topol-M)	18	2006	1 x 800?	18
SS-27 Mod 1 (silo)	RS-12M2 (Topol-M)	60	1997	1 x 800	60
SS-27 Mod 2 (mobile)	RS-24 (Yars)	153	2010	4 x 100? (MIRV)	612[4]
SS-27 Mod 2 (silo)	RS-24 (Yars)	20	2014	4 x 100? (MIRV)	80
SS-X-29 (silo)	RS-28 (Sarmat)	–	(2022)	10 x 500? (MIRV)	–
Subtotal		**306**			**1,185**[5]
SLBMs					
SS-N-18 M1 Stingray	RSM-50	0/0	1978	3 x 50 (MIRV)	0[6]
SS-N-23 M2/3	RSM-54 (Sineva/Layner)[7]	5/80	2007	4 x 100 (MIRV)	320[8]
SS-N-32	RSM-56 (Bulava)	5/80	2014	6 x 100 (MIRV)	480[9]
Subtotal		**10/160**[10]			**800**[11]
Bombers/weapons					
Bear-H6/16	Tu-95MS6/MS16/MSM	55	1984/2015	6-16 x AS-15A ALCMs or 14 x AS-23B ALC	448
Blackjack	Tu-160/M	13	1987/2021	12 x AS-15B ALCMs or AS-23B ALCM, bombs	132
Subtotal		**68**[12]			**580**[13]
Subtotal strategic offensive forces		**534**[14]			**2,565**[15]
Nonstrategic and defensive weapons					
ABM/Air/Coastal defense					
S-300/S-400 (SA-20/SA-21)		~750	1992/2007	1 x low	~290
53T6 Gazelle		68	1986	1 x 10	68[16]
SSC-1B Sepal (Redut)		8[17]	1973	1 x 350	4
SSC-5 Stooge (SS-N-26) (K-300P/3M-55)		60	2015	(1 x 10)[18]	25
Land-based air					
Bombers/fighters (Tu-22M3(M3M)/Su-24M/Su-34/MiG-31K)		~300	1974-2018	ASMs, ALBM, bombs	~500
Ground-based					
SS-26 Stone SSM (9K720, Iskander-M)		144	2005	1 x 10-100	70[19]
SSC-7 Southpaw GLCM (R-500/9M728, Iskander-M)[20]					
SSC-8 Screwdriver GLCM (9M729)[21]		20[22]	2017	1 x 10-100	20
Naval					
Submarines/surface ships/air				LACM, SLCM, ASW, SAM, DB, torpedoes	~935
Subtotal nonstrategic and defensive forces					**~1,912**[23]
TOTAL					**~4,477**
Deployed					1,588
Reserve					2,889
Retired warheads awaiting dismantlement					**1,500**
Total inventory					**5,977**

ABM = antiballistic missile; ALCM = air-launched cruise missile; AS = air-to-surface; ASM = air-to-surface missile; ASW = antisubmarine weapon; DB = depth bomb; GLCM= ground-launched cruise missile; ICBM = intercontinental ballistic missile; LACM = Land-Attack Cruise Missile; MIRV = multiple independently targetable reentry vehicle; SAM = surface-to-air missile; SLBM = submarine-launched ballistic missile; SLCM = sea-launched cruise missile; SRAM = short-range attack missile; SSM = surface-to-surface missile

Table 1. (Continued)

Notes

1 It is possible that the SS-18s now carry only five warheads each to meet the New START limit for deployed strategic warheads. It is also possible that a fourth regiment at Dombarovsky is operational.

2 It is thought that all SS-19 ICBMs have been retired, although activities continue at some former regiments.

3 It is possible that one regiment at Barnaul has not yet completed an upgrade to the SS-27 Mod 1. One additional regiment at Yurya has 9 SS-25 launchers and will upgrade to the SS-27 Mod 2 in 2022; however, the regiment serves a back-up launch transmission function and is not nuclear-armed, so it is therefore not included in this table.

4 Two more road-mobile regiments are being upgraded from SS-25 to SS-27 Mod 2. It is possible that the SS-27 Mod 2s now carry only three warheads each to meet the New START limit on deployed strategic warheads.

5 Only about 812 of these warheads are believed to be deployed. The rest are in storage for potential loading.

6 The remaining Delta III-class SSBN has been converted to an attack submarine.

7 Layner appears to be the latest modification of the SS-N-23 SLBM (previous version was named Sineva) and has probably been downloaded to carry four MIRVs to meet the New START limits, even though its upload capacity is rumored to be larger. NASIC did not include the system in its 2020 report, and there is some uncertainty regarding its status and capability.

8 At any given time, only 256 of these warheads are deployed on four operational Delta IV submarines, with the fifth boat in overhaul. Often two boats are out. One Delta IV submarine has been withdrawn from service to prepare for decommissioning in 2022.

9 It is possible that Bulava SLBMs now carry only four warheads each for Russia to meet the New START limit on deployed strategic warheads.

10 The first figure is the number of operational SSBNs; the second is the total number of missiles (launchers) on the SSBNs. Note that several SSBNs may be in overhaul at any given time.

11 At any given time, one or two SSBNs are in overhaul and do not carry nuclear weapons, so not all 800 warheads are deployed—perhaps only around 576.

12 Only about 50 of the bombers are thought to be deployed.

13 The total bomber force can theoretically carry more than 800 nuclear weapons, but weapons are probably only assigned to deployed bombers. Bomber weapons are not deployed on the aircraft under normal circumstances, but we estimate a couple hundred weapons are present at the two bomber bases, with the remainder in central storage.

14 This number of total fielded strategic launchers is higher than the 527 listed in the New START aggregate data as of September 1, 2021because some bombers are not counted as deployed. This is the total number of operational launchers (ICBMs, SLBMs, and bombers) in service. Russia also has more than 250 non-deployed launchers, many of which are mothballed or in the process of being dismantled.

15 Only about 1,588 of these warheads are deployed on missiles and at bomber bases. New START counts fewer deployed warheads because it does not count weapons in storage and because at any given time, some SSBNs are not fully loaded.

16 We estimate that the warheads for the remaining Gazelle interceptors are kept in central storage under normal circumstances. All previous 32 Gorgon missiles have been retired.

17 It is assumed that all SSC-1B units, except a single silo-based version in Crimea, have been replaced by the K-300P by now.

18 The US National Air and Space Intelligence Center lists the ground-, sea-, and sub-launched 3M55 as “nuclear possible.”

19 This estimate includes warheads for both SS-26 and SSC-7.

20 The US National Air and Space Intelligence Center lists the R-500/9M728 as “Conventional, Nuclear Possible.”

21 It is possible that SSC-8 launchers are co-located with some of the Iskander brigades.

22 This figure assumes five SSC-8 battalions, each with four launchers, for a total of 80 missiles. It is assumed there is at least one reload for at least 160 missiles. Most are thought to be conventional, with 4–5 nuclear warheads per battalion for a total of about 20.

23 All nonstrategic warheads are thought to be in central storage. The 1,912 listed make up the estimated nominal load for nuclear-capable delivery platforms. Only some of these may be available for deployment by operational forces. It is possible there are more unreported nuclear-capable non-strategic systems.