

# **World Military Expenditures and Arms Transfers 1999-2000**

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# Foreword

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This 28th edition of *World Military Expenditures and Arms Transfers (WMEAT)* is the second published by the Department of State following integration with the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, the previous publisher. The report covers the years 1989 through 1999—that is, the end of the Cold War and its aftermath.

The report shows that military spending worldwide reached a low point in its post-Cold War decline in 1996 and could now be moving on an upward path. The arms trade bottomed out in 1994, and is again climbing—particularly in arms imported by developed countries. The world’s armed forces have continued to contract, especially in developed countries, while those of developing countries have nearly leveled off.

Besides such overall trends, the report tracks military developments in all the countries and regions of the world. Military spending in East Asia, South America, South Asia, and Africa, for example, has been growing throughout the late 1990’s. Arms imports were rising in nine of the report’s thirteen regions.

The report combines military and economic indicators to produce relative indicators and ranks all the world’s countries by them. Taken together, these indicators and rankings provide informative comparisons among countries and a wide context for analyses.

The uncertainties of the future with respect to international security and military developments around the world behoove us to keep a weather eye on the trends, so as to better prepare for the unknown.

John R. Bolton  
*Under Secretary for Arms Control  
and International Security*

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# Preface

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The *World Military Expenditures and Arms Transfers* series of reports is designed to be a convenient reference on annual military expenditures, arms transfers, armed forces, selected economic data, and relative indicators consisting of pertinent military-economic ratios. The aim is to provide the arms control and international security community with useful, comprehensive, up-to-date, and accurate data, accompanied by analyses and highlights. This issue of *WMEAT* (pronounced "we-meet") covers 172 countries over the 1989-1999 decade. It is the 28th in the series, of which 26 were published by the former U. S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

Copies of this report may be obtained from the U.S. Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents (telephone no. 202 512-1800), whose Standing Order Service will also take orders for future editions (see last page).

This report is also available via the internet on the home page of the Bureau of Verification and Compliance: <http://www.state.gov/t/vc>. The main tables and other portions of future editions will also be placed there in advance of the complete report to expedite availability. Several earlier editions may be found on another, archive homepage: [http://www.state.gov/www/global/arms/bureau\\_vc/reports\\_vc.html](http://www.state.gov/www/global/arms/bureau_vc/reports_vc.html).

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