



THE SMALL ARMS TRADE TRANSPARENCY BAROMETER 2022

The Small Arms Trade Transparency Barometer presents an annual assessment of states' reporting on their exports of small arms, light weapons, and their parts, accessories, and ammunition. The score for each exporter is based on an evaluation of information on arms transfer control systems and small arms exports made publicly available by countries via the following national and multilateral reporting instruments:

- national arms exports reports, including submissions to regional reports ;
- submissions to the UN Register of Conventional Arms (UN Register), including those shared through the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Information Exchange on Conventional Arms Transfers;
- national reports on countries' implementation of the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (PoA);
- UN Commodity Trade Statistics Database (UN Comtrade) submissions; and
- Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) initial and annual reports.

This evaluation refers to exports carried out in a specific year and reported by a specific cut-off date, which is set

to allow countries roughly 13 months to submit their data. The countries reviewed by the Barometer are those that qualified as top or major exporters at least once from 2001 until 2019; the latter is the current year of arms-exporting activities under review. Top and major exporters are countries that export—or are believed to export—at least USD 10 million worth of small arms, light weapons, their parts, accessories, and ammunition in a given year.

Exporters can attain a maximum score of 25 points in the 2022 Barometer, based on the application of standardized scoring guidelines to assess 42 criteria across 7 transparency parameters: timeliness; access and consistency; clarity; comprehensiveness; deliveries; licences granted; and licences refused.

The fact that the Barometer is based on multiple reporting instruments—international, regional, and national—works to the advantage of exporters that submit data to all of these instruments. While Barometer scores acknowledge the provision of information to any of the reporting instruments, the same information is not credited twice.

The detailed scoring guidelines can be found in Small Arms Survey (2020) or Florquin, Hainard, and Jongleux (2020, pp. 78–84). More information on the Barometer is available on the Survey's website (Small Arms Survey, 2020). ●

References

- CoEU (Council of the European Union). 2020. Twenty-second Annual Report According to Article 8(2) of Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP Defining Common Rules Governing the Control of Exports of Military Technology and Equipment. In Official Journal of the European Union, 2020/C 431/01. 11 December.
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- Small Arms Survey. 2020. 'Table A4: The Transparency Barometer Scoring Guidelines.' Excerpt from the Trade Update 2020: An Eye on Ammunition Transfers to Africa.
- . n.d. Small Arms Trade Transparency Barometer: Online Interactive Tool.
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- US CB (United States Census Bureau). n.d. '(UTO) USA Trade Online.'
- South Africa. 2002. National Conventional Arms Control Act, No. 41 of 2002. Government Gazette, Vol. 452, No. 2457. 20 February 2003.
- Taiwan, China, MoF (Ministry of Finance). n.d. 'Trade Statistics Search.'

Credits:

The 2022 Barometer was scored by Aline Shaban and validated by Irene Pavesi.

Table 1 Small Arms Trade Transparency Barometer 2022, covering top and major exporter activities in 2019

| Ranking | Exporter | Total points | National report/ Regional report** | UN Contrade** | UN Register | OSCE | ATT annual report | ATT initial report | PoA*** | Total timeliness (1.50 max.) | Total access and consist- ency (2.00 max.) | Total clarity (5.00 max.) | Total comprehensiveness (6.50 max.) | Total deliveries (4.00 max.) | Total licences granted (4.00 max.) | Total licences refused (2.00 max.) |
|---------|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|---|------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | Switzerland | 22.00 | x | x | x | x | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 5.00 | 6.25 | 3.00 | 3.50 | 1.25 |
| 2 | United Kingdom | 20.75 | x/EU | x | x | x | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 2.00 | 4.50 | 5.00 | 3.50 | 3.00 | 1.25 |
| 3 | Romania | 20.50 | x/EU | o | x | x | x | x | x(18) | 1.50 | 2.00 | 3.50 | 5.50 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 2.00 |
| 4 | Netherlands | 19.25 | x/EU | x | x | o | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 2.00 | 4.50 | 5.75 | 3.00 | 1.50 | 1.00 |
| 5 | Germany | 18.75 | x/EU | x | x | x | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 2.00 | 3.50 | 3.75 | 3.00 | 3.50 | 1.50 |
| 6 | Serbia | 18.25 | x/SEE | x | o | x | x | x | x(18) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 3.25 | 5.25 | 3.50 | 2.50 | 0.75 |
| 7 | Czech Republic | 17.25 | x/EU | x | x | x | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 3.50 | 4.25 | 3.00 | 1.50 | 2.00 |
| 8 | Poland | 16.75 | x/EU | x | x | x | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 3.50 | 3.75 | 3.00 | 1.50 | 2.00 |
| 8 | USA | 16.75 | x ^a | x | x | x | n/a | n/a | x(20) | 1.50 | 2.00 | 3.50 | 4.75 | 3.00 | 2.00 | 0.00 |
| 10 | Spain | 16.50 | x/EU | x | x | x | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 2.00 | 2.75 | 3.75 | 3.00 | 1.50 | 2.00 |
| 11 | Italy | 16.00 | x/EU | x | x | o | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 4.00 | 4.50 | 2.50 | 2.00 | 0.00 |
| 12 | Portugal | 15.75 | o/EU | x | x | x | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 3.00 | 3.75 | 3.50 | 2.50 | 0.00 |
| 13 | Belgium | 15.50 | x/EU | x | x | x | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 2.00 | 2.75 | 3.75 | 2.50 | 2.00 | 1.00 |
| 13 | Slovakia | 15.50 | x/EU | x | o | x | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 3.25 | 4.50 | 3.00 | 1.50 | 0.25 |
| 15 | Denmark | 15.25 | x/EU | x | x | x | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 3.00 | 3.75 | 3.00 | 2.50 | 0.00 |
| 15 | Hungary | 15.25 | x/EU | x | x | x | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 3.25 | 3.75 | 3.50 | 1.50 | 0.25 |
| 15 | Sweden | 15.25 | x/EU | x | x | x | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 3.50 | 4.00 | 3.00 | 1.50 | 0.25 |
| 18 | France | 14.75 | x/EU | x | x | x | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 3.00 | 4.00 | 3.00 | 1.50 | 0.25 |
| 18 | South Africa | 14.75 | x ^b | x | o | n/a | x | x | x(14) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 2.75 | 4.00 | 2.50 | 2.50 | 0.00 |
| 20 | Croatia | 14.50 | x/EU | x | o | x | x | x | x(18) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 3.25 | 3.75 | 3.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 |
| 21 | Australia | 14.25 | x | x | x | n/a | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 2.00 | 3.00 | 3.75 | 3.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 |
| 21 | Canada | 14.25 | x | x | x | x | o ^c | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 3.25 | 4.25 | 3.50 | 0.00 | 0.25 |
| 21 | Finland | 14.25 | x/EU | x | x | x | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 2.75 | 3.50 | 3.00 | 2.00 | 0.00 |
| 21 | South Korea | 14.25 | o | o | x | n/a | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 3.00 | 3.25 | 3.00 | 2.00 | 0.00 |
| 25 | Lithuania | 13.50 | o/EU | x | x | x | (x) ^d | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.00 | 2.75 | 3.75 | 3.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 |
| 26 | Austria | 13.25 | o/EU | x | x | x | x | x | x(14) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 2.75 | 2.25 | 3.00 | 2.00 | 0.25 |
| 27 | Bosnia | 13.00 | o/SEE | x | o | o | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.00 | 2.75 | 3.25 | 3.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 |
| 27 | Norway | 13.00 | x | x | o | x | x | x | x(18) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 3.50 | 3.50 | 3.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 29 | Bulgaria | 12.50 | x/EU | o | x | x | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 2.75 | 2.00 | 2.50 | 1.50 | 0.75 |
| 30 | Japan | 12.25 | o | x | x | n/a | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 2.50 | 3.75 | 3.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 31 | Cyprus | 12.00 | o/EU | x | o | x | (x) ^e | (x) ^e | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.00 | 2.50 | 3.00 | 2.50 | 1.50 | 0.00 |
| 32 | Peru | 11.50 | o | x | x | n/a | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 2.25 | 3.75 | 2.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 32 | Turkey | 11.50 | o ^f | x | x | x | n/a | n/a | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.00 | 2.25 | 3.75 | 3.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 34 | India | 11.25 | o | x | x | n/a | n/a | n/a | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.00 | 2.50 | 3.25 | 3.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 35 | Mexico | 10.25 | o | x(18) | o | n/a | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.00 | 2.50 | 2.25 | 3.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 36 | Argentina | 10.00 | o | x | x | n/a | x | x | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 2.00 | 2.50 | 2.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 36 | Philippines | 10.00 | o | x | o | n/a | n/a ^g | n/a ^g | x(20) | 1.50 | 0.50 | 2.25 | 2.75 | 3.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 36 | Singapore | 10.00 | o | x | x | n/a | n/a | n/a | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.00 | 2.00 | 3.00 | 2.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 36 | Thailand | 10.00 | o | x | o | n/a | n/a | n/a | x(20) | 1.50 | 0.00 | 2.25 | 3.25 | 3.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 40 | Pakistan | 9.00 | o | x | o | n/a | n/a | n/a | x(16) | 1.50 | 0.50 | 2.00 | 2.50 | 2.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 41 | Ukraine | 8.75 | x | o | x | x | n/a | n/a | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 1.75 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 42 | Russian Federation | 8.50 | o | x | x | x | n/a | n/a | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.00 | 1.50 | 2.00 | 2.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 43 | China | 8.25 | o | x | x | n/a | n/a ^h | (x) ⁱ | x(20) | 1.50 | 1.00 | 1.50 | 1.75 | 2.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 43 | United Arab Emirates | 8.25 | o | x | o | n/a | n/a | n/a | x(20) | 1.50 | 0.50 | 1.50 | 2.25 | 2.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 45 | Brazil | 7.75 | o | x | o | n/a | o ^j | o ^j | x(18) | 1.50 | 0.50 | 1.75 | 1.50 | 2.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 46 | Taiwan | 6.50 | x ^k | x | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | 1.50 | 1.50 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 47 | Israel | 1.50 | o | o | x | n/a | n/a | n/a | x(20) | 0.00 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 48 | Saudi Arabia | 0.50 | o | o | o | n/a | n/a | n/a | x(18) | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 49 | Iran | – | o | o | o | n/a | n/a | n/a | x(20) ^l | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 49 | North Korea | – | o | o | o | n/a | n/a | n/a | o | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

Notes:

X indicates that a report was issued or submitted by the 2022 Barometer's cut-off date of 31 January 2021—that is, 13 months after the year in which the trade activities took place. X(year) indicates that, because a report was not issued or submitted by the Barometer's cut-off date, the country was evaluated on the basis of its most recent submission, which covered activities for the year reported in brackets. o indicates that no report was submitted. n/a indicates that no report was submitted, either because the country was not party to that instrument or because the country was not due to report to this instrument in that specific time period.

- * The Barometer assesses information provided in the following regional reporting instruments published between 31 January 2021 and before the Barometer was scored in March 2022 (although the submission of this data does not receive points for timeliness): (1) the EU's 'Twenty-second Annual Report' (CoEU, 2020), which reflects exports of military equipment carried out by EU member states in 2019 and appears as 'EU' in the Barometer; and (2) the regional report compiled by SEESAC, which covers data on transfers completed in 2018 by exporters from South-eastern and Eastern Europe and appears as 'SEE' in the Barometer (SEESAC, 2021).
- ** The Barometer assesses UN Comtrade data as elaborated by the Norwegian Initiative on Small Arms Transfers (NISAT); see Marsh (2005).
- *** PoA reports are submitted on a biennial basis.
- ^a For the purposes of the Barometer, the US national report refers to the State Department report issued pursuant to Section 655 of the Foreign Assistance Act on direct commercial sales, as well as the report on foreign military sales prepared by the US Department of Defense. For the fifth time the 2022 Barometer assesses information on foreign trade provided via USA Trade Online (US CB, n.d.).
- ^b In the evaluation of South Africa's national report the term 'conveyance' is interpreted to mean transit in accordance with the definition provided in the National Conventional Arms Control Act (South Africa, 2002, art. 1(vii)).
- ^c Canada became an ATT state party on 17 September 2019. It submitted its ATT initial report in September 2020 and its first annual report was due on 31 May 2021.
- ^d Lithuania has requested that its ATT annual report be posted on the area of the website accessible only to ATT states parties.
- ^e Cyprus has requested that its ATT initial and annual reports be posted on the area of the website accessible only to ATT states parties.
- ^f The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute database on National Reports on Arms Exports indicates that the Turkish Defence Industry Manufacturers Association publishes an annual report on Turkey's arms exports (SIPRI, n.d.). The Barometer does not consider this report when assessing the country's transparency because it is not produced by a government agency and thus is not representative of national reporting practices.
- ^g The Philippines became an ATT state party on 22 June 2022. Its first ATT initial report is due on 21 June 2023 and its first annual report is due on 31 May 2024.
- ^h China became an ATT state party on October 2020. Its first annual report is due on 31 May 2022.
- ⁱ China has requested that its ATT initial report be posted on the area of the website accessible only to ATT states parties.
- ^j Brazil did not submit its ATT initial report, which was due in November 2019. It has also failed to submit its first annual report, which was due in May 2020.
- ^k Customs data provided by Taiwan, China has been categorized as a national report rather than as a submission to UN Comtrade. The data was retrieved from the Directorate General of its Customs Administration (Taiwan, China, MoF, n.d.).
- ^l Iran did submit a PoA report for 2020 but the report was completely empty.

Due to methodological adjustments made to this year's edition, we are not providing trend analysis and comparisons with previous years.