



# SIPRI Yearbook 2023

## Why in News?

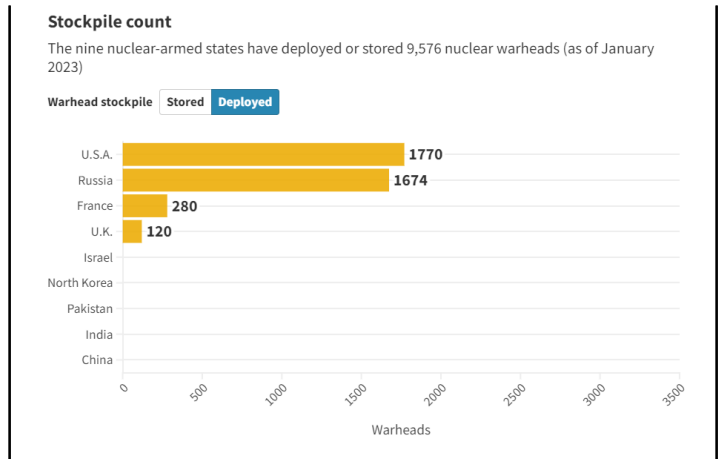
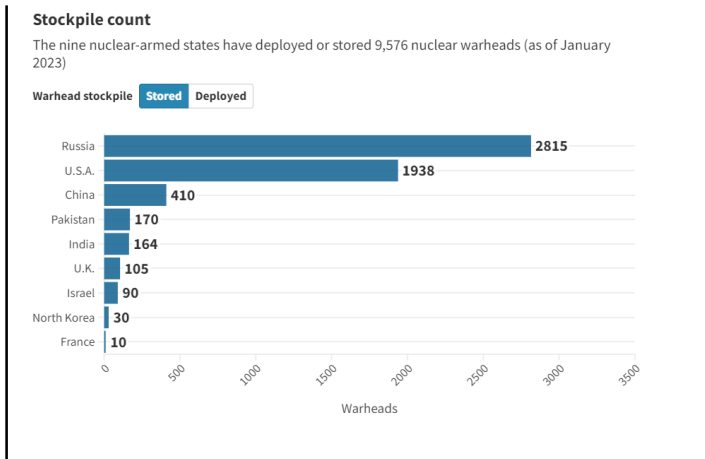
Recently, [Stockholm International Peace Research Institute \(SIPRI\)](#) Yearbook 2023 revealed that China could potentially have as many Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs) as U.S. or Russia by the end of the decade.

- **Russia has the highest number of stored nuclear arsenals** followed by US and China while the US has deployed the highest number of nuclear arsenals followed by Russia and France.

## What SIPRI Reveal About Nuclear Arsenals?

- **Global Nuclear Arsenals:**
  - **Modernization and Expansion:**
    - **The nine nuclear-armed states, including the United States, Russia, and China,** continue to modernize and expand their nuclear arsenals, deploying **new nuclear-armed or nuclear-capable weapon systems in 2022.**
    - Other nuclear-armed countries are UK, France, India, Pakistan, the North Korea and Israel
  - **Total Global Inventory:**
    - As of January 2023, the **total global inventory of warheads is estimated at 12,512,** with **approximately 9,576 warheads held in military stockpiles for potential use.**
- **Dominance of Russia and U.S.:**
  - **90% of all Nuclear Weapons:**
    - **Russia and the United States possess almost 90%** of all nuclear weapons, with **relatively stable sizes** of their respective nuclear arsenals.
  - **Arms Control Concerns:**
    - Transparency and **dialogue regarding nuclear forces declined** between Russia and the United States following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.
    - The suspension of the strategic stability dialogue and the Treaty on Measures for the **Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (New START)** has halted discussions for a follow-on treaty.
  - **New START Limits Maintained:**
    - Despite the strained relations, **both Russia and the United States remained within the limits set by New START** for their deployed strategic nuclear forces as of January 2023, according to SIPRI's assessment.

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### India's Nuclear Arsenal:

#### ◦ Growth in Arsenal:

- India's **nuclear arsenal also expanded**, increasing from **160 warheads in 2022 to 164 warheads in 2023** and that of Pakistan from 165 to 170 in the same period.

#### ◦ Focus on Longer-Range Weapons:

- India's **nuclear deterrent, while primarily focused on Pakistan**, is placing **growing emphasis on longer-range weapons capable of reaching targets across China**.

#### ◦ Upgrading Ballistic Missiles:

- India is in the process of **upgrading its ballistic missiles**, with the development of a **submarine-launched intermediate-range ballistic missile** and the imminent induction of a new generation ballistic missile called **'Agni Prime.'**

### China's Nuclear Arsenal:

#### ◦ Increased Size:

- China's nuclear arsenal **grew from 350 warheads in January 2022 to 410 warheads in January 2023**, according to the SIPRI.

#### ◦ Concerns About Expansion:

- The significant expansion of **China's nuclear arsenal raises concerns as it contradicts China's stated goal of maintaining minimum nuclear forces** for national security.

## What is SIPRI?

- The SIPRI is an independent international institute dedicated to research into conflict, armaments, arms control and disarmament.
- Established in 1966 at Stockholm, SIPRI provides data, analysis and recommendations, based on open sources, to policymakers, researchers, media and the interested public.

**Source: TH**