

V. The 100 largest arms-producing and military services companies, 2018

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Developments in the Top 100¹

Table 9.11 lists the SIPRI Top 100—the world’s largest arms producers and military services companies (excluding those in China)—ranked by their arms sales in 2018. The arms sales of the Top 100 totalled \$420 billion in 2018—an increase of 4.6 per cent compared with 2017 and 47 per cent higher than in 2002.

As has been the case every year since 2002, the vast majority of companies listed in the Top 100 in 2018 were based in the USA, Europe and Russia.² A total of 70 companies based in the USA and Europe are listed in 2018, accounting for \$348 billion (or 83 per cent) of total Top 100 arms sales. Their total arms sales in 2018 were 5.2 per cent higher than in 2017. Companies based in eight other countries were listed in the Top 100 in 2018: six in Japan, three each in Israel, India and South Korea, two in Turkey and one each in Australia, Canada and Singapore. Together, they accounted for \$36.2 billion of the total Top 100 arms sales in 2018, representing an 8.6 per cent share of the total.

The United States

In 2018, for the first time since 2002, the top 5 in the Top 100 consisted solely of companies based in the USA. Taken together, the arms sales of the top 5 were \$148 billion, representing 35 per cent of total Top 100 arms sales. The combined arms sales of the 43 companies based in the USA listed in the Top 100 were \$246 billion in 2018—an increase of 7.2 per cent on 2017. The USA’s share of total Top 100 arms sales was 59 per cent in 2018.

Lockheed Martin is, by far, the largest arms producer in the world: in 2018 its share of total Top 100 arms sales was 11 per cent and its arms sales grew by 5.2 per cent. It has occupied the first position in the Top 100 every year since 2009. Northrop Grumman’s arms sales grew by 14 per cent in 2018, to \$26.2 billion, making it the third-largest arms producer. The \$3.3 billion growth in its arms sales was the largest absolute increase of any company listed in the Top 100 for 2018 and was driven by its acquisition of Orbital-ATK and strong domestic and international demand for its weapons.

¹ For a more detailed analysis see Fleurant, A., ‘The SIPRI Top 100 arms-producing and military services companies, 2018’, SIPRI Fact Sheet, Dec. 2019.

² Developments relating to companies based in Russia are assessed separately from the regional discussion on Europe in this analysis.

Europe and Russia

There were 27 companies based in Europe in the Top 100 for 2018. Their combined arms sales of \$102 billion accounted for 24 per cent of total Top 100 arms sales in 2018. Eight of the companies were based in the UK, six in France, four in Germany, two in Italy and one each in Poland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Ukraine. Two of the 27 companies—Airbus Group and MBDA—are categorized as ‘trans-European’ because their ownership and control structures are located in more than one European country.

The combined arms sales of the 10 companies based in Russia listed in the Top 100 were \$36.2 billion in 2018, accounting for 8.6 per cent of the overall total. Russia’s largest arms producer, Almaz-Antey, was the only Russian company ranked in the top 10 (at 9th position) and accounted for 27 per cent of the total arms sales of Russian companies in the Top 100. Its arms sales rose by 18 per cent in 2018, to \$9.6 billion.

Methodology

Except where indicated, the information and data in this section is from the SIPRI Arms Industry Database. The data starts in 2002 because this is the first year for which SIPRI has sufficient data to include Russian companies. SIPRI estimates that several Chinese companies have large enough arms sales to rank in the Top 100. However, Chinese companies are not included in the database because of a lack of data on which to make a reasonable or consistent estimate of arms sales dating back to 2002.

The data for all years is revised annually based on new information. This section focuses on developments in 2018 (rather than 2019) because this is the latest year for which consistent data on arms sales of companies in the SIPRI Top 100 is available.

Unless otherwise specified, all changes are expressed in real terms. All changes between 2017 and 2018 are based on the list of companies ranked in 2018 (i.e. the annual comparison is between the same set of companies). Longer-term comparisons (e.g. between 2002 and 2018) are based on the sets of companies listed in the respective year (i.e. the comparison is between a different set of companies).

Definition of ‘arms sales’

Sales of arms and military services (or ‘arms sales’ for short) are defined as sales of military goods and services to military customers domestically and abroad; sales are only for those companies ranked.³

³ For a full definition and more detail on methodology see the Arms Industry Database on the SIPRI website.

Table 9.11. The SIPRI Top 100 arms-producing and military services companies in the world excluding China, 2018^a
 Figures for arms sales and total sales are in millions of US dollars.

Rank ^b	2017	Company ^c	Country ^d	Arms sales, 2018 (US\$ m.)	Arms sales, 2017 (constant 2018 US\$ m.) ^e	Change in arms sales, 2017-18 (%)	Total sales, 2018 (US\$ m.)	Arms sales as a % of total sales, 2018
1	1	Lockheed Martin Corp.	United States	47 260	44 935	5.2	53 762	88
2	2	Boeing	United States	29 150	27 577	5.7	101 126	29
3	3	Northrop Grumman Corp.	United States	26 190	22 908	14	30 095	87
4	4	Raytheon	United States	23 440	22 570	3.9	27 058	87
5	6	General Dynamics Corp.	United States	22 000	19 969	10	36 193	61
6	5	BAE Systems	United Kingdom	21 210	22 384	-5.2	22 428	95
7	7	Airbus Group	Trans-European ^f	11 650	10 691	9.0	75 195	15
8	9	Leonardo	Italy	9 820	9 403	4.4	14 447	68
9	10	Almaz-Antey	Russia	9 640	8 195	18	9 872	98
10	8	Thales	France	9 470	9 601	-1.4	18 767	50
11	11	United Technologies Corp.	United States	9 310	7 967	17	66 501	14
12	12	L3 Technologies	United States	8 250	7 936	4.0	10 244	81
13	13	Huntington Ingalls Industries	United States	7 200	6 626	8.7	8 176	88
14	16	Honeywell International	United States	5 430	4 567	19	41 802	13
15	14	United Aircraft Corp. ^g	Russia	5 420	6 168	-12	6 563	83
16	19	Leidos	United States	5 000	4 485	11	10 194	49
17	17	Harris Corp.	United States	4 970	4 557	9.1	6 801	73
18	15	United Shipbuilding Corp.	Russia	4 700	4 762	-1.3	5 565	84
19	20	Booz Allen Hamilton	United States	4 680	4 424	5.8	6 704	70

Rank ^b	2017	Company ^c	Country ^d	Arms sales, 2018 (US\$ m.)	Arms sales, 2017 (constant 2018 US\$ m.) ^e	Change in arms sales, 2017-18 (%)	Total sales, 2018 (US\$ m.)	Arms sales as a % of total sales, 2018
20	18	Rolls-Royce	United Kingdom	4 680	4 714	-0.7	20 972	22
21	21	Naval Group	France	4 220	4 404	-4.2	4 259	99
22	26	Rheinmetall	Germany	3 800	3 652	4.1	7 257	52
23	27	MBDA	Trans-Europe ^f	3 780	3 621	4.4	3 777	100
24	23	General Electric	United States	3 650	3 922	-6.9	121 615	3.0
25	25	Mitsubishi Heavy Industries ^g	Japan	3 620	3 669	-1.3	36 947	10
26	24	Tactical Missiles Corp.	Russia	3 600	3 443	4.6	3 668	98
27	22	Textron	United States	3 500	4 199	-17	13 972	25
28	29	Elbit Systems	Israel	3 500	3 263	7.3	3 684	95
29	33	CACI International	United States	3 490	3 052	14	4 986	70
30	31	Saab	Sweden	3 240	3 092	4.8	3 814	85
31	34	Safran	France	3 240	3 107	4.3	24 846	13
32	28	Babcock International Group	United Kingdom	3 180	3 445	-7.7	6 881	46
33	32	United Engine Corp.	Russia	2 950	2 926	0.8	3 904	76
34	51	Dassault Aviation Groupe	France	2 930	2 250	30	6 001	49
35	36	Science Applications International Corp.	United States	2 800	2 826	-0.9	4 659	60
36	52	AECOM	United States	2 770	2 120	31	20 156	14
37	45	General Atomics ^g	United States	2 750	2 273	21
38	38	Hindustan Aeronautics	India	2 740	2 647	3.5	2 883	95
39	40	Israel Aerospace Industries	Israel	2 650	2 500	6.0	3 682	72

40	35	High Precision Systems ^g	Russia	2 630	2 706	-2.8	2 711	97
41	42	Rockwell Collins	United States	2 630	2 355	1.2	8 665	30
42	56	KBR	United States	2 600	1 792	4.5	4 913	53
43	-	Perspecta ^h	United States	2 590	2 183	1.9	4 030	64
44	47	Rafael	Israel	2 540	2 236	1.4	2 595	98
45	43	Russian Electronics	Russia	2 330	2 171	7.3	2 668	87
46	50	Hanwha Aerospace	South Korea	2 320	2 219	4.6	4 047	57
47	48	CEA	France	2 300	2 314	-0.6	6 226	37
48	49	Kawasaki Heavy Industries ^g	Japan	2 260	2 199	2.8	14 456	16
49	30	Bechtel Corp. ^g	United States	2 000	3 226	-3.8	25 500	7.8
50	59	Fincantieri	Italy	1 900	1 759	8.0	6 461	29
51	55	Oshkosh Corp.	United States	1 850	1 884	-1.8	7 705	24
52	37	Russian Helicopters	Russia	1 810	2 601	-3.0	3 006	60
53	46	KRET	Russia	1 770	2 113	-1.6	1 931	92
54	62	ASELSAN	Turkey	1 740	1 237	4.1	1 866	93
55	58	Krauss-Maffei Wegmann ^g	Germany	1 680	1 767	-4.9	1 770	95
56	44	Indian Ordnance Factories	India	1 650	2 258	-2.7	1 682	98
57	54	ThyssenKrupp	Germany	1 650	2 046	-1.9	50 400	3.3
58	60	Cobham	United Kingdom	1 590	1 685	-5.6	2 484	64
59	63	DynCorp International	United States	1 560	1 454	7.3	2 148	73
60	100	Korea Aerospace Industries	South Korea	1 550	900	7.2	2 532	61
61	57	ST Engineering	Singapore	1 540	1 731	-1.1	4 965	31
62	66	Bharat Electronics ^g	India	1 460	1 379	5.9	1 725	85
63	67	ManTech International Corp.	United States	1 430	1 393	2.7	1 959	73

Rank ^b	2017	Company ^c	Country ^d	Arms	Arms sales, 2017	Change in	Total	Arms
				sales, 2018 (US\$ m.)	Arms sales, 2017 (constant 2018 US\$ m.) ^e	arms sales, 2017-18 (%)	sales, 2018 (US\$ m.)	sales as a % of total sales, 2018
64	68	UralVagonZavod	Russia	1 370	1 281	6.9	2 209	62
65	90	Jacobs Engineering Group	United States	1 370	922	49	14 985	9.1
66	88	Fluor Corp.	United States	1 350	952	42	19 166	7.0
67	61	LIG Nex1	South Korea	1 340	1 622	-17	1 343	100
68	74	TransDigm Group	United States	1 330	1 219	9.1	3 811	35
69	64	Melrose Industries ⁱ	United Kingdom	1 320	1 504	-12	16 329	8.1
70	53	United Launch Alliance ^g	United States	1 320	1 997	-34	1 800	73
71	83	UkrOboronProm ^g	Ukraine	1 300	1 101	18	1 378	95
72	78	Fujitsu ^g	Japan	1 270	1 151	10	35 806	3.5
73	71	Serco Group	United Kingdom	1 260	1 333	-5.5	4 283	29
74	75	PGZ	Poland	1 250	1 273	-1.8	1 385	90
75	99	Teledyne Technologies	United States	1 240	881	41	2 902	43
76	89	Navantia	Spain	1 240	975	27	1 307	95
77	76	Hensoldt	Germany	1 240	1 232	0.7	1 298	95
78	79	Vectrus	United States	1 230	1 147	7.2	1 279	96
79	73	Aerojet Rocketdyne	United States	1 220	1 249	-2.3	1 896	64
80	82	Austal	Australia	1 140	1 015	12	1 383	82
81	81	Sierra Nevada Corp. ^g	United States	1 100	1 045	5.3	1 690	65
82	80	IHI Corp. ^g	Japan	1 090	1 100	-0.9	13 439	8.1
83	85	Nexter ^g	France	1 080	1 029	5.0	1 135	95
84	72	Turkish Aerospace Industries	Turkey	1 070	1 065	0.5	1 248	86

85	70	BWX Technologies	United States	1 070	1 331	-20	1 800	59
86	69	Engility	United States	1 070	1 331	-20	1 605	67
87	102	CAE	Canada	1 010	851	19	2 546	40
88	97	MIT	United States	980	891	10	3 627	27
89	95	Meggitt	United Kingdom	970	938	3.4	2 775	35
90	94	Curtiss-Wright Corp.	United States	970	911	6.4	2 412	40
91	93	The Aerospace Corp.	United States	970	911	6.4	1 054	92
92	115	Ball Corp. ^g	United States	930	686	36	11 635	8.0
93	98	Moog	United States	920	881	4.5	2 709	34
94	104	QinetiQ	United Kingdom	910	874	4.1	1 215	75
95	96	RUAG	Switzerland	900	885	1.7	2 043	44
96	111	ViaSat	United States	860	717	20	2 068	42
97	103	Mitsubishi Electric Corp. ^g	Japan	860	853	0.8	40 947	2.1
98	128	Arconic	United States	840	533	58	14 014	6.0
99	101	NEC Corp. ^g	Japan	840	863	-2.7	26 394	3.2
100	109	Amphenol Corp.	United States	820	717	14	8 202	10

.. = data not available; Corp. = Corporation.

^a Although several Chinese arms-producing companies are large enough to rank among the SIPRI Top 100, it has not been possible to include them because of a lack of comparable and sufficiently accurate data.

^b Companies are ranked according to the value of their arms sales at the end of what SIPRI considers to be their financial year. A dash (-) indicates that the company did not rank among the SIPRI Top 100 for 2017. Company names and structures are listed as they were at the end of their financial year. Information about subsequent changes is provided in these notes. Rankings for 2017 are based on the updated arms-production figures in the 2018 company list in the SIPRI Arms Industry Database. They may differ from those published in any earlier SIPRI publication and elsewhere owing to continual revision of data, most often because of changes reported by the company itself and sometimes because of improved estimations. Major revisions are explained in these notes.

^c Holding and investment companies with no direct operational activities are not treated as arms-producing companies, and companies owned by them are listed and ranked as if they were parent companies.

^d Country refers to the country in which the ownership and control structures of the company are located.

^e To allow comparison with arms sales in 2018, figures for arms sales in 2017 are given in constant 2018 US dollars.

^f Trans-European refers to companies whose ownership and control structures are located in more than one European country.

^g The arms sales figure for this company is an estimate with a high degree of uncertainty.

^h Perspecta is the result of a merger between DXC, Vencore and Keypoint. Its arms sales figure for 2017 is 'pro forma', i.e. it is the combined 2017 arms sales of DXC and Vencore. Keypoint was not an arms company.

ⁱ Melrose Industries acquired GKN in 2018. The rank and sales for Melrose Industries for 2017 refer to those of GKN.

Source: SIPRI Arms Industry Database, Dec. 2019.