

The Chart Page

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Global Arms Sales, 1989–96

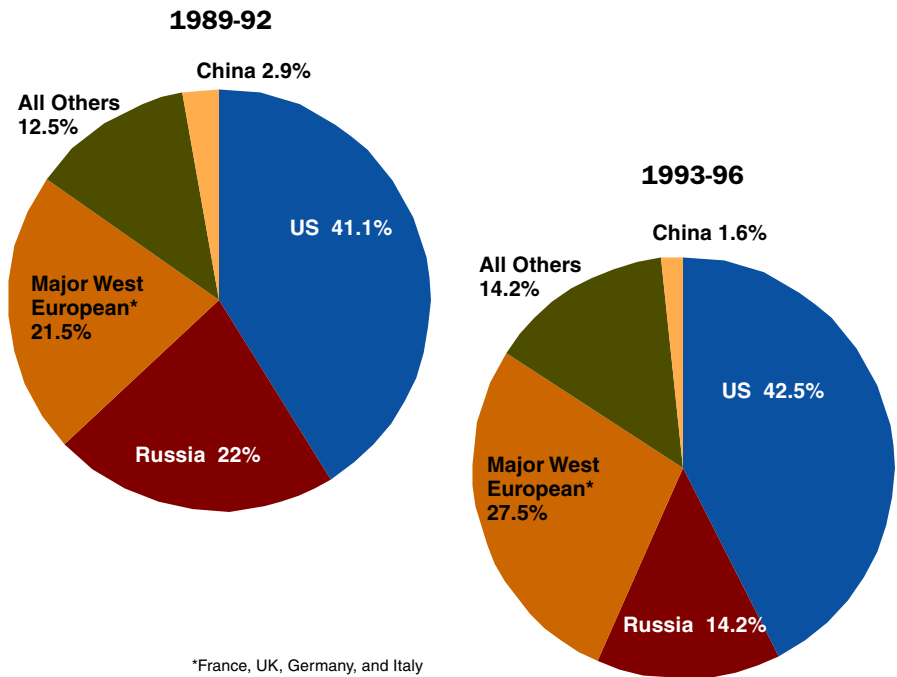
National Shares, Then and Now

Since the end of the Cold War, the United States has dominated the global arms market, in terms of the value of arms transfer agreements and in arms deliveries. In 1996, the last year for which data are available, the value of world arms agreements was \$31.8 billion. (Actual deliveries were valued at \$30.1 billion.) The US had the largest share, with agreements worth nearly \$11.3 billion, or 35.5 percent of the total. Figure 1 shows that, from 1993 through 1996, the US posted a slight increase over the 1989–92 period. In contrast, Russia suffered a drop in share of nearly eight percentage points.

This theme of US dominance and Russian decline is reflected in the table on the dollar amounts of arms deliveries by supplier. Russia led in 1989 with arms deliveries worth \$22.8 billion, but by 1996 this had plummeted to \$2.9 billion, a drop of 87 percent. By contrast, US arms deliveries rose to \$13.8 billion.

Developing world nations continued to provide the largest customer base for arms transfer agreements and arms deliveries. In 1996, 61 percent of all arms sales were to developing nations.

Source: CRS Report for Congress: "Conventional Arms Transfers to Developing Nations, 1989–96," Aug. 13, 1997.



Deliveries by Supplier (Millions of Constant 1996 Dollars)

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1989–96
US	9,036	10,603	10,715	11,732	11,872	10,371	13,072	13,791	91,192
Russia	22,837	17,606	6,951	2,749	3,417	1,565	3,579	2,900	61,604
France	2,900	6,103	2,467	1,979	1,174	1,356	2,250	2,900	21,130
UK	6,042	5,399	5,494	5,168	4,911	5,424	5,216	5,900	43,554
China	3,262	2,347	1,570	1,100	1,174	730	614	600	11,397
Germany	1,571	1,878	2,803	1,210	1,815	1,460	1,227	500	12,464
Italy	242	235	336	330	427	209	102	0	1,881
Europe	4,833	3,404	2,018	3,629	1,922	2,190	1,534	1,400	20,930
Other	4,108	2,582	2,242	1,979	2,242	2,816	2,557	2,100	20,627
TOTAL	54,831	50,157	34,597	29,876	28,955	26,122	30,151	30,091	284,780

"Europe" category comprises European nations not otherwise listed. "Other" means all non-European nations not otherwise listed. Numbers may not add due to rounding.