

Fact Sheet

Increasing Transparency in the U.S. Nuclear Weapons Stockpile

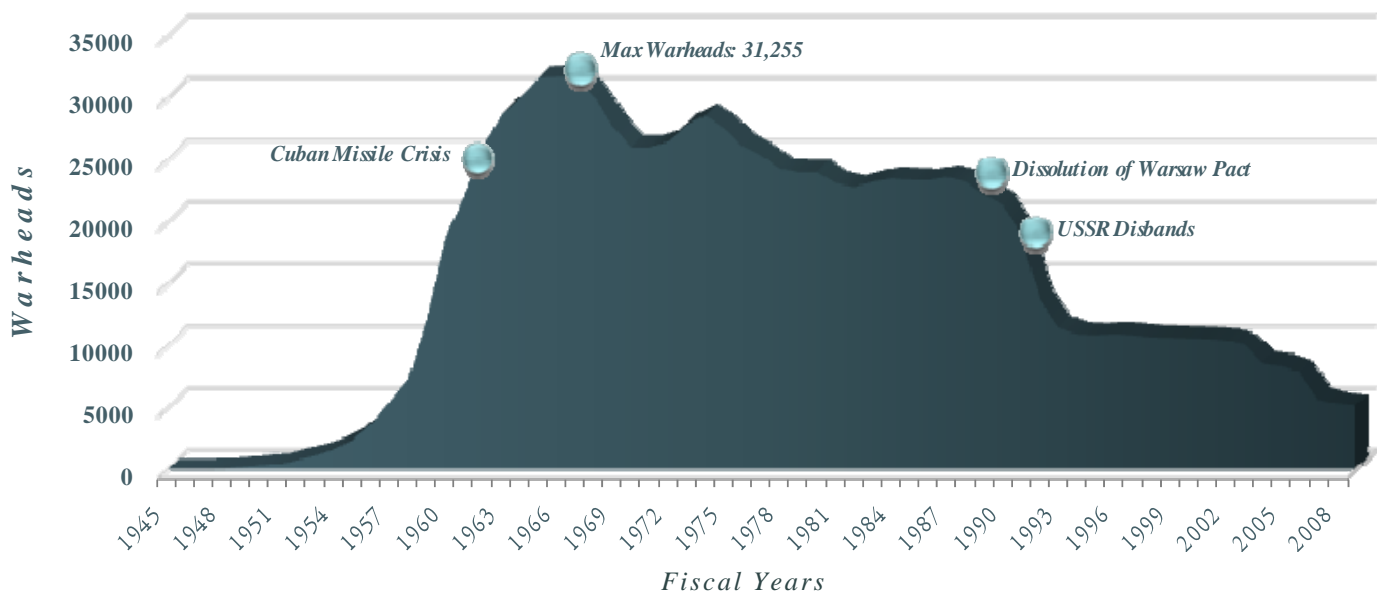
The United States is releasing newly declassified information on the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile. Increasing the transparency of global nuclear stockpiles is important to non-proliferation efforts, and to pursuing follow-on reductions after the ratification and entry into force of the New START Treaty that cover all nuclear weapons: deployed and non-deployed, strategic and non-strategic.

Stockpile. As of September 30, 2009, the U.S. stockpile of nuclear weapons consisted of 5,113 warheads. This number represents an 84 percent reduction from the stockpile's maximum (31,255) at the end of fiscal year 1967, and over a 75 percent reduction from its level (22,217) when the Berlin Wall fell in late 1989. The below figure shows the U.S. nuclear stockpile from 1945 through September 30, 2009.

Warhead Dismantlement. From fiscal years 1994 through 2009, the United States dismantled 8,748 nuclear warheads. Several thousand additional nuclear weapons are currently retired and awaiting dismantlement.

Non-Strategic Nuclear Weapons. The number of U.S. non-strategic nuclear weapons declined by approximately 90 percent from September 30, 1991 to September 30, 2009.

*U.S. Nuclear Weapons Stockpile, 1945-2009**



*Includes active and inactive warheads. Several thousand additional nuclear warheads are retired and awaiting dismantlement.

Stockpile Numbers – End of Fiscal Years 1962-2009

Data prior to 1962 released by Department of Energy in December 1993

1962	25,540		1986	23,317
1963	28,133		1987	23,575
1964	29,463		1988	23,205
1965	31,139		1989	22,217
1966	31,175		1990	21,392
1967	31,255		1991	19,008
1968	29,561		1992	13,708
1969	27,552		1993	11,511
1970	26,008		1994	10,979
1971	25,830		1995	10,904
1972	26,516		1996	11,011
1973	27,835		1997	10,903
1974	28,537		1998	10,732
1975	27,519		1999	10,685
1976	25,914		2000	10,577
1977	25,542		2001	10,526
1978	24,418		2002	10,457
1979	24,138		2003	10,027
1980	24,104		2004	8,570
1981	23,208		2005	8,360
1982	22,886		2006	7,853
1983	23,305		2007	5,709
1984	23,459		2008	5,273
1985	23,368		2009	5,113

* Does not include weapons retired and awaiting dismantlement (several thousand as of Sept. 30, 2009)

Department of Energy Warhead Dismantlements

(Fiscal Year 1994 – 2009)

1994	1,369
1995	1,393
1996	1,064
1997	498
1998	1,062
1999	206
2000	158
2001	144
2002	344
2003	222
2004	206
2005	280
2006	253
2007	545
2008	648
2009	356

Definitions

*The **nuclear stockpile** includes both active and inactive warheads. Active warheads include strategic and non-strategic weapons maintained in an operational, ready-for-use configuration, warheads that must be ready for possible deployment within a short timeframe, and logistics spares. They have tritium bottles and other Limited Life Components installed. Inactive warheads are maintained at a depot in a non-operational status, and have their tritium bottles removed.

*A **retired warhead** is removed from its delivery platform, is not functional, and is not considered part of the nuclear stockpile. It is put in the queue for dismantlement.

*A **dismantled warhead** is a warhead that has been reduced to its component parts.