

Advent Not Arms

...they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Since October 7th, the United States has provided Israel with an estimated 6 billion dollars of military equipment, including precision-guided munitions, Iron Dome interceptors, advanced missiles, munitions and ammunition, and critical support technology. However, other recent estimates, such as by the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs, place this figure at around 17.9 billion dollars. These figures only constitute military aid that has been sold or given and has actually been delivered to Israel, and do not include new multi-billion dollar arms agreements signed that would provide military hardware to Israel over the next several years. Over 500 transport planes and 107 ships have delivered more than 50,000 tons of armaments, reflecting an unprecedented level of military support. The Biden administration has reportedly authorized over 100 military aid transfers. A vast majority of these transfers have not required individual Congressional review, further obscuring the total monetary value of military aid the U.S. has sent to Israel since October 7th, 2023. If every military equipment delivery to Israel from the United States were spaced out evenly in time, this would then translate to a shipment of military aid to Israel approximately every 13 hours over the past 332 days since October 7th, highlighting the scale of U.S. complicity in war crimes in Gaza.

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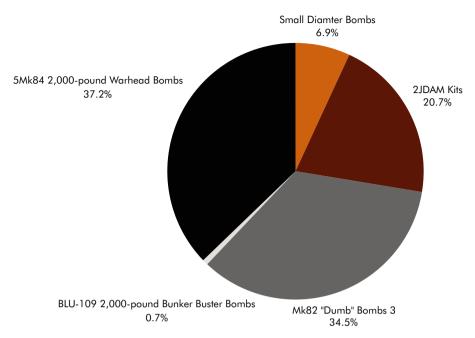


Frequently Asked Questions:

U.S. Arms Sales to Israel since October 7th, 2023¹ – That have arrived in Israel.

How many bombs has the U.S. sent Israel since October 7th, 2023?

The U.S. has sent Israel over 20,000 bombs since October 7th, including over 5,500 2000-pound bombs, which constitute over a third of all publicly disclosed bombs delivered.² This figure does not include the more than 60,000 artillery and tank shells. It also does not include the \$108 million worth of parts for guided missiles and \$50.9 million of explosives.



Have U.S. weapons been used according to International and U.S. Law?

International human rights NGOs have monitored whether U.S.-provided munitions have been used in violations of international human rights standards or U.S. or international laws. In one report, Amnesty International_found U.S.-made munitions—specifically Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAM) were used in an Israeli attack against civilians in Gaza. According to Amnesty's findings, "US-made weapons guidance system was used in two Israeli airstrikes in Gaza in October (2023) in which 43 civilians are said to have been killed. Fragments of the US-made Joint Direct Attack Munitions guidance system were found in the rubble of destroyed homes in the neighborhood of Deir al-Balah in central Gaza." Furthermore, as all of Israel's fighter jets are U.S.-produced, there is a U.S. role in every single air strike conducted by the Israeli Air Force against Gaza, regardless of whether the origin of specific bombs can be identified.

Additionally, even the Biden Administration has acknowledged U.S. bombs have likely been used in attacks against Palestinian civilians in Gaza. In December 2023 President Biden himself called Israel's bombing "indiscriminate," while in a May 2024 report, the Biden Administration admits "given Israel's significant reliance on U.S.-made defense articles, it is reasonable to assess that defense articles ...have been used by Israeli security forces since October 7 in instances inconsistent with its [International Humanitarian Law] obligations or with established best practices for mitigating civilian harm," The report went on to conclude that given the ongoing nature of Israel's military offensive against Gaza, they were not able to verify individual instances of U.S. bombs being used in strikes that killed civilians.

The Leahy Law (22 U.S.C. § 2378d and 10 U.S.C. § 362) prohibits the Department of State or Department of Defense from providing aid to any unit of foreign armed forces where there is credible information that they have committed a gross violation of human rights. In its 27-year history, no Israeli unit has been denied assistance under the Leahy Law, despite numerous credible allegations of severe human rights violations by Israeli forces. For additional information on the lack of Leahy Law oversight on Israel, see the following article by John Chappell.

¹ As of November 1, 2024.

² These numbers are a best estimate derived from a variety of open source information such as Axios, NYTimes, Wall Street Journal, CNN, Washington Post and more.



Which Countries have suspended their arms shipments to Israel?

Most recently, the <u>UK suspended 30 arms licenses</u> to Israel over the fear that these weapons were used inconsistently with international law. Similarly, <u>Italy</u> and <u>Spain</u> said they were no longer sending arms to Israel, with the former stating that they would only carry out prior existing contracts. <u>Netherlands and Belgium</u> also suspended specific arms shipments to Israel, while Canada has yet to renew any licenses since January 8th, 2024.

What is the total monetary amount of U.S. arms transfers to Israel since October 7th, 2023?

Since many military sales and aid to Israel fall below the threshold requiring congressional approval, it is difficult to determine the exact total value. This is particularly true when military supplies are delivered in smaller, separate batches, each valued under \$14 million. Conservative estimates suggest that the total value of U.S. military support to Israel since October 7th is between \$ 6 billion, with other <u>estimates going up to 17.9 billion dollars</u>. Additionally, the U.S. has lent Israel the <u>THAAD anti-missile system</u> along with 100 U.S. servicemen to operate the system. Each THAAD system <u>costs almost 1 billion dollars</u> to manufacture.

Policy recommendations

- There have been clear incidents of U.S. arms being used in violation of international humanitarian law in the Gaza Strip since October 7, 2023. Thus, we call for the Biden Administration to immediately halt the transfer of weapons, parts, and ammunition to Israel where there is the risk that they will be used to commit or facilitate serious violations of international humanitarian or human rights law.
- In addition, Congress must use its authority to block arms sales to Israel that fall under Congressional review.

Arms Shipments divided by Category*

A thank you to John Chappell and the <u>Center for Civilians in Conflict</u> (CIVIC), who provided a fact sheet containing a compilation of weapons transfers from publicly available information.

