







Golden Dome for America: Current and Future Missile Threats to the U.S. Homeland

DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY





Missile threats to the U.S. homeland will expand in scale and sophistication in the coming decade. **China** and **Russia** are developing an array of novel delivery systems to exploit gaps in current U.S. ballistic missile defenses, but traditional ballistic missiles—which are guided during powered flight and unguided during free flight—will remain the primary threat to the Homeland. **North Korea** has successfully tested ballistic missiles with sufficient range to reach the entire Homeland, and **Iran** has space launch vehicles it could use to develop a militarily-viable ICBM by 2035 should Tehran decide to pursue the capability. The majority of systems presented here have nuclear-capable variants.

Depicted are selected missile threats to the Homeland from notional launch points. Missiles from mobile platforms—aircraft, submarines and ships—can penetrate farther should the platform risk a closer approach to the United States. Numbers below are approximate inventory totals with the exception of submarine-launched ballistic missiles.

-  China
-  Russia
-  North Korea
-  Iran

Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM)

A ground-based missile with a range exceeding 5,500 km that flies on a ballistic trajectory and is typically armed with a nuclear warhead or warheads. There is no part of the Homeland which cannot be struck by existing ICBMs.

Country				
Current	400	350	10 or fewer	-
2035	700*	400*	50	60

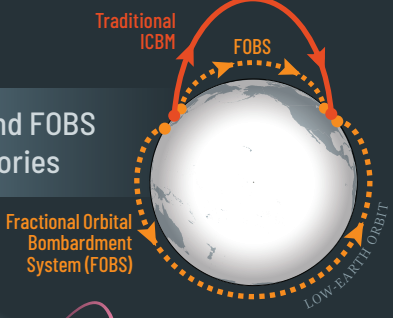
Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missile (SLBM)

A ballistic missile, typically carrying nuclear warheads, launched from a submarine. There is no part of the Homeland which cannot be struck by existing adversary SLBMs. Included below are maximum loadout numbers for current and future submarine fleets.

Country		
Current	72	192
2035	at least 132	192

*Number includes FOBS

ICBM and FOBS Trajectories



Boosted Hypersonic Weapon

A highly maneuverable system that achieves hypersonic speed (Mach 5+); includes:

Aeroballistic Missile: A type of hypersonic missile carrying nuclear or conventional warheads that can be launched from air, sea, or ground platforms and combines aerodynamic maneuvers with phases of ballistic loft to extend range. Russia can currently strike portions of the Homeland with aeroballistic missiles launched from aircraft, ships, or ground launchers, and will probably add a launch capability from submarines.

Hypersonic Glide Vehicle (HGV): A maneuverable aerodynamic body that is typically delivered by a ballistic missile, achieves sustained hypersonic glide at altitudes of 15-50 km, and glides for at least half of its flight to its target. HGVs can be armed with a nuclear warhead, but China may have deployed a conventional HGV with sufficient range to strike Alaska.

Country		
Current	600	200-300
2035	4,000	1,000

Land Attack Cruise Missile

A missile that flies through the atmosphere, potentially with reduced signatures, that can maneuver extensively in flight and be armed with a nuclear or conventional warhead; some may achieve hypersonic speeds. Russia can currently strike large portions of the Homeland with cruise missiles launched from aircraft, ground launchers, ships, or submarines, and China is beginning to field similar capabilities against Alaska, Hawaii, and the U.S. West Coast.

Country		
Current	1,000	300-600
2035	5,000	5,000

Fractional Orbital Bombardment System (FOBS)

An ICBM that enters a low-altitude orbit before reentering to strike its target, with much shorter flight times if flying the same direction as traditional ICBMs, or can travel over the South Pole to avoid early warning systems and missile defenses. It releases its payload before completing a full orbit.

Country		
Current	-	-
2035	60	fewer than 12

