Russian Military Almanac

By Tamar A. Mehuron, Associate Editor, with Harriet Fast Scott, William F. Scott, and David Markov

Organization of the Russian Armed Forces

had three highlights: Consolidation of military and political power in the hands of the newly elected Russian President, Vladimir V. Putin, renewed fighting in the breakaway province of Chechnya, and the loss of the submarine Kursk and her crew.

Russian authorities blamed Chechens for the September 1999 explosions in Moscow apartment buildings and in other cities. Putin, then Prime Minister, strongly supported a military response to these "acts of terrorism." After President Boris Yeltsin resigned Dec. 31, 1999, Putin, a former KGB officer and former Director of the Federal Security Service (FSB), the domestic successor to the KGB, became acting President. He was subsequently elected President March 26, 2000.

In May 2000 Putin created seven federal districts to consolidate his political power. These districts correspond closely to the seven military districts. He appointed seven Presidential Representatives (five of whom were retired general officers) for the federal districts. These actions provided Putin with centralized top-down control throughout the 89 regions making up the Russian Federation.

Putin also designated the federal district representatives as new members of the Security Council, a body he chaired. Overall direction of Russia's military forces was provided by the Security Council. The "permanent members" of the Security Council, in addition to the President, were the Prime Minister, Secretary of the Security Council, Director of the Federal Security Service, and Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Defense. Other members included the Directors of the Foreign Intelligence Service, Federal Border Guard Service, and Ministers of Internal Affairs and Emergency Situations. The Chief of the General Staff (Gen. of the Army Anatoliy V. Kvashnin) was, for the first time, made a member of the Security Council. Putin also retained control over the power ministries (which have their own troops) and the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Justice.

The Security Council approved a new military doctrine in April 2000. It provided for the use of nuclear weapons not only in response to a nuclear attack but also in the case of a large-scale conventional weapons attack against Russia or its allies. The doctrine also highlighted terrorism within Russia as a military threat.

Armed forces under the Ministry of Defense consisted of four military services: Strategic Rocket Forces, Air Forces, Navy, and Ground Forces. In 1999, their authorized personnel strength totaled 1.2 million, although the actual figure was 1.01 million.

Russia's previous war with Chechnya had ended in 1996. In the aftermath of September's explosions in Moscow, Russia's armed forces moved on Chechnya in October. The General Staff for the first time exercised operational control in actual combat conditions in Chechnya over all Russian forces involved: troops of the Ministry of Defense, Internal Troops, Border Guards, and other power ministries. In May 2000, the First Deputy Chief of the General Staff, Gen. Valeriy Manilov, stated that there were 80,000 Russian army troops and police officers in Chechnya with "a maximum of 3,000" separatist rebels facing them. In June the Russian military leadership announced that, for all practical purposes, the war was over.

Less than a week after these assurances, Chechen forces killed more than 100 Russian soldiers. The conflict continued.

The Chechnya conflict exacerbated the poor condition of Russia's armed forces. Students at several military institutes graduated early due to a shortage of young officers. Modernization of military weapons and other equipment slowed, except for prototypes. Forty percent of the men discharged from the armed forces had no pension security. Military housing remained critical.

In August, the Security Council decided to

cut the number of Russia's nuclear warheads to 1,500 and transfer the savings to strengthen its conventional forces. Furthermore, as the land-based nuclear arsenal shrinks in the next five years, the separate status of the Strategic Rocket Forces will also be re-evaluated. The decision follows a public dispute between Minister of Defense Marshal Igor D. Sergeyev and Kvashnin concerning the future composition and size of the Russian armed forces. To gain more funding and support for the conventional forces, Kvashnin, a tank officer, argued for a sharp cut in the number of land-based ICBMs and the merger of the separate elite Strategic Rocket Forces into the Air Forces. By contrast, Sergeyev, former Strategic Rocket Forces head, advocated a separate strategic deterrence force composed of all nuclear forces.

But the decision to reform the military was quickly overshadowed by the sinking of the *Kursk*, Russia's newest and most modern attack submarine, on Aug. 12 in the Barents Sea. The nuclear-powered submarine, built in 1994, had been participating in exercises when it suffered apparent explosions and sank, and its 118 crew members perished. Rescue efforts by Russians, Norwegians, and British were hampered by severe weather and the 60-degree tilt of the submarine on the seabed. The tragedy highlighted the deterioration of Russia's military forces.

Strategic Rocket Forces (RVSN). A second regiment of the new SS-27 Topol-M missile system was placed on alert duty. The Commander, Gen. of the Army Vladimir N. Yakovlev, asserted that the new missile can be equipped "with a powerful set of means to breach antimissile defense." Weapons and supporting equipment deteriorated throughout the Strategic Rocket Forces. More than 70 percent of its missiles require extensive work to extend their operational life, as do the majority of fixed command-and-control facilities and 60 to 70 percent of battle management assets.

Air Forces (VVS). The 37th Air Army gained one Tu-160 bomber and three Tu-95Ms in 1999

US Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen (left) is greeted by Russian Federation Minister of Defense Marshal Igor D. Sergeyev on arrival at the Ministry of Defense building in Moscow in June. The visit was part of Cohen's week-long trip to meet European government and defense leaders.

from Ukraine. In early 2000, Ukraine returned an additional seven Tu-160s to Russia. One additional new Tu-160 is being completed at the Kazan plant. Russia modified its Kh-55 nuclear armed cruise missile, now designated Kh-55SM, to carry non-nuclear warheads. The Kh-55SM missiles can be launched by either the Tu-160 or Tu-95. Fighter aircraft developments included the first test flights of Sukhoi's Berkut S-37, with its swept-forward wings, and the MiG prototype Project 1-44.

The average annual flying time was 10 to 16 hours for fighter pilots, 18 to 24 hours for pilots in ground-attack aircraft, 12 to 26 hours for bomber pilots, 20 hours for long-range aircraft pilots, and 44 to 60 hours for military transport pilots. Exceptions to this were the bomber, ground-attack, and reconnaissance pilots flying missions in Chechnya.

Navy (VMF). Repairs on the missile cruiser Slava, which began in 1990, were completed in November 1999. It was re-designated the guard missile cruiser Moscow. The first in a series of nuclear surface ships, the heavy guided missile cruiser Admiral Ushakov is undergoing repairs. The Yuriy Dolgorukiy ballistic missile submarine, under construction at the Severodvinsk yard, is 47 percent completed. It is the first of the Borey (Arctic wind)—class fleet.

Ground Forces (SV). The Chechnya war exposed weaknesses in Russia's ground forces. Conscripts were poorly trained; contract troops were little better. Equipment generally was in poor condition, and most was obsolete by NATO standards. Chechen fighters, with manpower odds of 10-to-1 against them, and lacking artillery, air support, or tanks, remained in the field.

Russian helicopter gunships flew approximately 40,000 missions, striking Chechen forces, providing air cover for ground troops and transporting personnel and supplies. Five military transport helicopters were equipped with Global Positioning System satellite navigation, which significantly improved their effectiveness, especially during night operations. The new Ka-52 helicopter, Alligator, made its first flight in February.

Airborne forces currently number about 40,000 personnel and were scheduled to increase. These forces remain directly subordinate to the Supreme High Command. As Russia's only mobile forces, they are heavily involved in the Chechen war. As of June 2000, 171 airborne troops had been killed and 420 wounded. Of those killed, approximately one-third were lost in a single battle.



Russian and US Grades

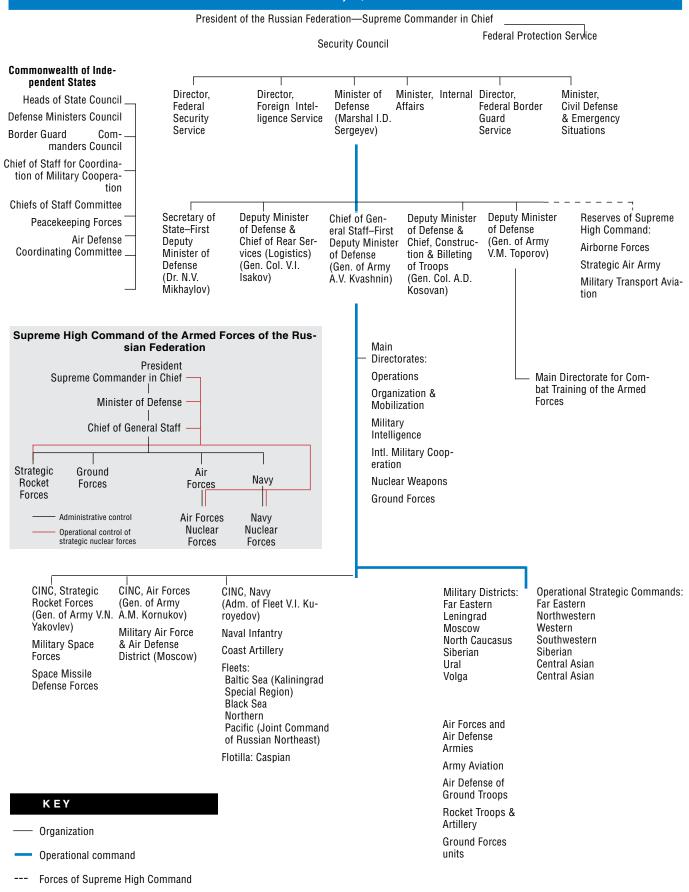
Naval grades in italics

Russia	US						
Five Stars							
Marshal of Russian Federation	General of the Army General of the Air Force Fleet Admiral						
Fou	ır Stars						
General of the Army Admiral of the Fleet.							
	ee Stars						
	Lieutenant GeneralVice Admiral						
Tw	o Stars						
	Major General Rear Admiral (Upper Half)						
Or	ne Star						
	Brigadier General Rear Admiral (Lower Half)						
	0-6						
	Colonel Captain						
	0-5						
	Lieutenant Colonel Commander						
	0-4						
Major Captain (3rd Class) .	Major Lieutenant Commander						
•	0-3						
	Captain <i>Lieutenant</i>						
	0-2						
	First LieutenantLieutenant Jr. Grade						
	0-1						
Lieutenant	Second Lieutenant						

LieutenantEnsign

Minister of Defense Sergeyev currently holds the rank of Marshal of Russian Federation. Four Marshals of Soviet Union are alive today: S.L. Sokolov, V.G. Kulikov, V.I. Petrov, and D.T. Yazov. All four are officially listed as advisors to the Russian Federation Ministry of Defense.

Structure of the Russian Armed Forces As of July 27, 2000



Lineup of Russian Aerospace Power, 1999

Strategic Forces

Includes deployable Russian and deactivated Ukrainian strategic forces.

783-Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles

SS-18 (RS-20): 180. SS-19 (RS-18): 150. SS-24 (Silo) (RS-22): 37. SS-24 (Rail) (RS-22): 36. SS-25 (RS-12M): 360. SS-27 (RS-12M2): 20.

106-Long-Range Bombers^a

Tu-95 (MS6) Bear-H6: 29. Tu-95 (MS16) Bear-H: 54. Tu-160 Blackjack: 23.

105-Medium Range Bombers

Tu-22M Backfire: 105.

20-Tanker Aircraft

II-78 Midas: 20.

308-Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missiles^b

SS-N-18 (RSM-50): 176. SS-N-20 (RSM-52): 20. SS-N-23 (RSM-54): 112.

21-Strategic Ballistic Missile Submarines^c

Delta III (Kalmar): 11. Delta IV (Delfin): 7. Typhoon (Akula): 3.

100-Strategic Anti-Ballistic Missile Launchers

ABM-3 (SH-11) Gorgon: 36. AMB-3 (SH-08) Gazelle: 64.

- ^a Ukraine sent one Tu-160 Blackjack and three Tu-95 Bear-Hs to Russia to pay off its
- energy debts.

 ^bThe SS-N-20 SLBMs decreased from 80 on four Typhoon SSBNs in 1998 to 20 on one operational Typhoon SSBN in 1999.
- ^c All Delta Is and Delta IIs have been withdrawn from active deployments and are not counted as operational strategic forces. Since 1994, operational forces of Delta IIIs and Typhoons have shrunk from 14 to 11 and six to three, respectively.

Air Forces

885-Fighter-Interceptors

MiG-29 Fulcrum: 260. MiG-31 Foxhound: 300. Su-27 Flanker: 325.

490-Ground-Attack Aircraft

Su-24 Fencer: 295. Su-25 Frogfoot: 195.

200-Reconnaissance/Electronic Countermeasures Aircraft

MiG-25 Foxbat: 40. Su-24 Fencer: 150. Tu-22MR Backfire: 10.

20-Airborne Early Warning and Control Aircraft

A-50 Mainstay: 20.

Angele (necestroping)

An-12 Cub: 45. An-22 Cock: 25. An-24 Coke: 25. An-32 Cline: 50. An-72/74/ 79: 20. An-124 Condor: 24. An-225 Cossack: 1. II-76 Candid: 220. Tu-134/154 Careless: 15.

2,400-Strategic Surface-to-Air Missile Launchers

425-Aircraft of Military Transport Aviation

SA-5 (S-200): 200. SA-10 (S-300P): 2,100. SA-12 (S-300V): 100.

Navv

1-Aircraft Carrier

Kuznetsov-class CTOL ship: 1.

60-Bombers and Strike Aircraft

Tu-22M Backfire: 60.

55-Fighter-Interceptors

Su-27 Flanker: 30. Su-33 Flanker: 25.

35-Fighter-Attack Aircraft

Su-24 Fencer: 35

42-Reconnaissance/Electronic Warfare Aircraft

An-12 Cub: 5. II-20 Coot: 8. Su-24 Fencer: 12. Tu-22MR Backfire: 5. Tu-95 Bear: 12.

270-Anti-Submarine Warfare Aircraft

Be-12 Mail: 25. Ka-25 Hormone-A: 50. Ka-27 Helix-A: 85. II-38 May: 35. Mi-14 Haze-A: 20. Tu-142 Bear-F: 55.

135-Helicopters

Ka-25 Hormone: 15. Ka-29 Helix: 30. Ka-31 Helix: 5. Mi-6 Hook: 10. Mi-8 Hip: 35. Mi-14 Haze: 40.

Russian aviation was restructured in 1998. Three commands—the Strategic Forces, Air Forces, and Air Defense Forces—were merged into two. The Strategic Forces and Air Forces survived, but the Air Defense Forces disappeared. Our table reflects the

The Strategic Forces absorbed all medium-range theater bombers and aerial tankers (formerly part of the Air Forces) and the 100-launcher Moscow ABM system (formerly part of Air Defense Forces). The Air Forces picked up all strategic SAMs, interceptors, and airborne early warning aircraft (formerly part of Air Defense Forces).

Increases in some categories in 1999's military aircraft lineup reflect equipment changes to maintain minimal readiness and force levels. In addition, new information on inventory types is also reflected in changes to individual numbers.

External Deployments and Peacekeeping Forces As of Dec. 31, 1999

100

Angola (peacekeeping)	100
Armenia (group of forces)	3,000
Bosnia (peacekeeping)	1,300
Croatia (peacekeeping)	30
Cuba	800
Georgia/Abkhazia (peacekeeping)	1,500
Georgia/South Ossetia (peacekeeping)	1,700
Georgia (group of forces)	5,000
Iraq/Kuwait (peacekeeping)	10
Kosovo (peacekeeping)	3,500
Moldova/Dniestria (peacekeeping)	2,500
Moldova/Trans-Dniestria (peacekeeping)	500
Syria	150
Tajikistan (peacekeeping)	8,000
Ukraine (naval infantry unit)	1,500
Vietnam	700
Western Sahara (peacekeeping)	25
Total3	0,315

Active Duty Military Population, 1999

Force element	. Authorized	Actual
Ground forces	440,000	350,000
Air forces	210,000	180,000
Naval forces	200,000	170,000
Strategic offensive/defensive forces.	150,000	140,000
Command and rear services	200,000	170,000
Total	1,200,000	1,010,000

Russian Defense Ministry

As of July 1, 2000

Marshal of Russian Federation Igor Dmitriyevich Sergeyev

Born 1938 in Ukraine. Russian. Russian Federation Minister of Defense since May 1997. Permanent member of the Security Council. **Service**: Transferred from coastal artillery to Strategic Rocket Troops in 1960. Chief of Staff, then Division Commander (1975). Chief of Staff and First Deputy Commander, Rocket Army (1980–83). Deputy Chief of Main Staff of Strategic Rocket Forces (1983), then First Deputy (1985). Deputy CINC, Rocket Troops, USSR, for Combat Training (1989–December 1991). Deputy Commander, Strategic Forces, Joint Armed Forces, CIS (April 1992), and Deputy Commander, Strategic Rocket Forces for Combat Training (January–August 1992). Commander in Chief, Strategic Rocket Forces, Russian Federation (August 1992). Promoted November 1997. **Training:** Black Sea Higher Naval School (1960). Dzerzhinskiy Military Engineering Academy (with distinction, 1973). Military Academy of the General Staff (1980).

Gen. of the Army Anatoliy Vasilyevich Kvashnin

Born 1946. Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation and First Deputy Minister of Defense since June 19, 1997. Member of the Security Council (June 2000). **Service**: Served in command posts in Czechoslovakia, Central Asia, and Belarus. Commander of a tank division (1978). First Deputy Commander, then Commander of an army (1989). Deputy Chief, then First Deputy Chief of the Main Directorate of Operations of the General Staff (1992–95). Commander of Military Operations in Chechnya (December 1994–February 1995). Commander of the Troops of the North Caucasus Military District (February 1995), in charge of Russian armed forces in the Chechen conflict. Acting Chief of the General Staff (May 23, 1997). Promoted November 1997. **Training**: Kurgan Engineering Institute (1969). Malinovskiy Military Academy of Armored Forces (1976). Military Academy of the General Staff (1989).

Gen. Col. Aleksandr Davydovich Kosovan

Born 1941. Deputy Minister of Defense and Chief of Construction and Billeting of Troops since April 1997. **Service:** Worked in Special Construction until 1984. Assigned to the Volga Military District, then again to the Main Directorate of Special Construction. Deputy Commander for Construction and Billeting Troops of the Transcaucasus Military District (1988). First Deputy Chief of Construction and Billeting of Troops (1992). Promoted 1996. Honorary Builder of Russia. **Training:** Novosibirsk Construction Engineering School (1996).

Dr. Nikolay Vasilyevich Mikhaylov

Born 1937. Secretary of State–First Deputy Minister of Defense (since September 1997). The only civilian in the top echelons of the Ministry of Defense. Responsible for the reform of defense industry and science. Service: Until 1986, in defense industry as Director of a leading scientific research institute working on anti-missile defense Headed the Vympel Central Research & Production Association, after 1991, the Vympel Interstate joint stock corporation. Became a Deputy Secretary of the Security Council in July 1996, responsible for the military–industrial complex, assuring technological independence, and economic section. logical safety. **Training:** Graduated from Moscow Bauman Institute of Technology (1961). Doctor of Sciences (Economics) and Grand Doctor of Philosophy. Professor. Full member of a number of national and international academies. Government prize winner (1984, 1997) for creating an early warning system, a space control system, and a system of anti-missile defense.

Gen. Col. Vladimir Il'ich Isakov

Born 1950. Deputy Minister of Defense and Chief of Rear Services (Logistics) since June 30, 1997. **Service:** Deputy Commander of an army for Rear Services. Served in Afghanistan (1984–86). Chief of Staff of Rear Services, Western Group of Forces (Germany, 1991). Deputy CINC—Chief of Rear Services, Western Group of Forces (Germany, 1992). Instructor at Academy of the General Staff (1994). Chief of Staff of Rear Services (1996). Promoted 1997. **Training:** Moscow Military School of Civil Defense, Military Academy of Rear Services and Transport, Military Academy of the General Staff.

Gen. of the Army Vladimir Mikhaylovich Toporov

Born 1946. Russian. Deputy Minister of Defense, Russian Federation, since June 1992. Plans and organizes Ground Forces combat training (December 1998). Member of Commission on the Social Affairs of Servicemen and Others Discharged from Military Service and Their Families (December 1996). Service: Twenty years in Airborne Troops. Chief of Staff and First Deputy Commander, Far Eastern Military District (1989–91). Commander of Moscow Military District (September 1991). Coordinator for sales of military equipment through Voentekh (1992–95). Under the military reform, main directorates replacing the Ground Forces were subordinated to Toporov (January 1998). Promoted 1996. Training: Odessa Artillery School (1968). Frunze Military Academy (1975). Military Academy of the General Staff (1984).

Uniformed Chiefs of the Military

As of July 1, 2000

Commanders in Chief are listed in the same order of service precedence as applied in the days of the Soviet Ministry of Defense. However, these commanders are no longer Deputy Ministers of Defense.

Gen. of the Army Vladimir Nikolayevich Yakovlev

Born 1954. Commander in Chief, Strategic Rocket Forces, since June 30, 1997. Service: Com-mander of a missile regiment (1985). Deputy Commander (1989), Commander of a missile division (1991). Chief of Staff–First Deputy Commander of a missile army (1993). Commander of a missile army (1994). Chief of the Main Staff–First Deputy CINC of the Strategic Rocket Forces (December 1996). Promoted June 2000. Training: Kharkov Higher Military Command Engineering School (1976). Dzerzhinskiy Military Academy (command faculty) (with gold medal, 1985). Military Academy of the General Staff (1999). Candidate of sciences (military).

Gen. of the Army Anatoliy Mikhaylovich Kornukov

Born 1942. CINC of the Air Forces since January 1998. **Service**: Commander of Air Forces fighter division (1980–85) and an Air Forces fighter corps (1985–87). First Deputy Commander of Air Defense Aviation (1988). First Deputy Commander of a detached Air Defense Army (1989), later Commander. Commander of the Moscow Air Defense District (September 1991). Promoted February 2000. **Training**: Chernigov Higher Aviation School for Pilots (1964). Military Command Academy of Air Defense (1980). Military Academy of the General Staff (1988).

Adm. of the Fleet Vladimir Ivanovich Kuroyedov

Born 1944. CINC of the Navy since November 1997. **Service:** Pacific Fleet (1967–76). Flotilla Commander in the Pacific Fleet (1989). Chief of Staff and First Deputy Commander of the Baltic Fleet (1993). Commander of the Pacific Fleet (February 1996). Chief of the Main Naval Staff and First Deputy CINC of the Navy (July 1997). Promoted February 2000. **Training:** Pacific Ocean Higher Naval School (1967). Naval Academy (1978). Military Academy of the General Staff (with gold medal, 1989).

Strategic Nuclear Weapons of Russia and the Other Nuclear-Armed Former Soviet Republics, 1999

	Russia	Ukraine	Kazakhstan	Belarus	Total
ICBMs	756	27	0	0	783
Warheads	3,540	0	0	0	3,540
Bombers	74	32	0	0	106
Warheads	592	0	0	0	592
SSBNs SLBMs Warheads	21 308 1,176	=	=	_ _ _	21 308 1,176
Total vehicles	1,138	59	0	0	1,197
Total warheads	5,308	0	0	0	5,308

All data are current as of Dec. 31, 1999. Adjustments in Russian strategic forces reflect START deployable delivery systems as noted in the Jan. 1, 2000, MOU on Data Notification. All Delta Is and Delta IIs, as well as three Delta IIIs and three Typhoons, have been withdrawn from active deployments and are not counted as operational strategic forces.

While there are 21 SSBNs, press reports indicate that only one Typhoon SSBN is operational with 20 SS-N-20 SLBMs.

Zero indicates that that particular nuclear weapon type was deployed in that country at one time but is not deployed there now; a dash indicates that a weapon was never deployed in that country.

Strategic Nuclear Warheads, 1991-99

	USSR								
Nation	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Russia		7,644	6,766	6,902	5,961	6,410	6,414	5,326	5,308
Ukraine		1,408	1,264	1,594	1,056	0	0	0	0
Kazakhstan		1,360	1,260	1,040	0	0	0	0	0
Belarus		54	54	36	18	0	0	0	0
Total	11,159	10,466	9,344	9,572	7,035	6,410	6,414	5,326	5,308

Moscow's Active Duty Military Forces, 1989–99: USSR and Russian Federation

Strategic Nuclear Forces, 1989–99: USSR and Russian Federation

								Ballistic miss	ile submarines
			Total forces			Subm	arine-launched	l ballistic mis- siles	
Strategic	forces—offen	sive/defensive				Long-ra			
	Command an	d rear services							
	ater forces— nd, air, naval					ICBMs			
giou	iiu, aii, iiavai								
1989	2,690,000	890,000	1,450,000	5,030,000	1989	1,378	150	954	70
1990	2,187,000	876,000	925,000	3,988,000	1990	1,373	155	924	61
1991	2,150,000	755,000	650,000	3,555,000	1991	1,393	141	912	59
1992	1,205,000	366,000	180,000	1,751,000	1992	1,031	135	864	57
1993	1,082,000	230,000	100,000	1,412,000	1993	884	74	788	52
1994	1,045,000	245,000	105,000	1,395,000	1994	773	95	732	47
1995	923,500	279,200	176,000	1,378,700	1995	671	69	524	33
1996	985,000	274,000	175,000	1,434,000	1996	747	69	440	26
1997	776,000	260,000	164,000	1,200,000	1997	756	70	424	25
1998	725,000	149,000	200,000	1,074,000	1998	756	70	368	22
1999	700,000	140,000	170,000	1,010,000	1999	756	74	308	21

The active military population of the Soviet Union peaked in 1989, the year the Berlin Wall fell and the Warsaw Pact collapsed. Moscow initiated major force reductions, which continued throughout the 1990s. In late 1991, the USSR itself collapsed, leaving Russia with a portion of Soviet forces while large numbers of troops stayed in newly independent nations. After 1991, none of the forces of Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and Belarus (or any other former Soviet republic) are counted in this table.

Russian aviation was restructured in 1998. Many of the troops of the Air Defense Forces (formerly counted in the second column, "Strategic forces—offensive/defensive") went to the theater forces or command and rear services or left the military altogether. This accounts in part for the large one-year 1997–98 changes in strength in this table.

Russia retained all of the sea-based strategic weapons. Russia also retained most of the ICBM and bomber forces, though a significant number of these weapons came under control of Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and Belarus. None of the forces of these nations are counted in this table after 1991.