

Question on notice no. 649

Portfolio question number: 168

2023-24 Additional estimates

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee, Defence Portfolio

Senator David Shoebridge: asked the Department of Defence on 23 February 2024

—

How many military export permits have been approved over the previous year broken down by country?

Answer —

See attached.

Amended answer provided 3 June 2024.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
2023-24 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES

Department/Agency: Department of Defence

Topic: Defence/Military Exports Approved by Country

Senator: David Shoebridge

Portfolio Question reference number: 168

Type of question: Written, 23 February 2024

Question:

How many military export permits have been approved over the previous year broken down by country?

Answer:

From 14 February 2023 to 14 February 2024, Defence issued 1,850 military export permits. Further information on Australia's defence export framework, including permit statistics, is available at www.defence.gov.au.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
2023-24 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES

Department/Agency: Department of Defence

Topic: Defence/Military Exports Approved by Country

Senator: David Shoebridge

Portfolio Question reference number: 168

Type of question: Written, 23 February 2024

Question:

How many military export permits have been approved over the previous year broken down by country?

Answer:

From 14 February 2023 to 14 February 2024, Defence issued 1,850 military export permits to end-users in 100 destinations. The breakdown of the approved destinations is listed in Table 1. The total number of permits in this table is higher than the actual number of permits issued, as one permit can have multiple approved destinations.

The destinations in the table below reflect permit requirements under Australian export control laws including for external Australian Territories. Under regulation 13E of the Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations 1958, the export of physical goods controlled on the Defence and Strategic Goods List from Australia to any place outside of Australia (whether or not an independent sovereign state), requires a permit.

Permit approvals should not be confused with weapons sales. Export permits are required for a wide range of goods and technology, many of which are used for civilian and commercial purposes. This includes where items must return to their original manufacturer for repairs. Permit approvals should also not be confused with completed exports, as there is no requirement to complete an export once a permit is issued.

Table 1

Destination	Total
All Countries Worldwide (Except Sanctioned Countries And Sanctioned Entities At The Time Of Export Or Supply)	2
Argentina	1
Austria	12
Azerbaijan	2
Bangladesh	1
Belgium	14
Bosnia And Herzegovina	1
Brazil	4
Brunei Darussalam	3

Bulgaria	6
Canada	88
Chile	1
China	10
Christmas Island	3
Cocos (Keeling) Islands (The)	2
Colombia	1
Congo (The Democratic Republic Of The)	1
Croatia	1
Cyprus	2
Czech Republic (The)	14
Denmark	18
Egypt	1
Estonia	2
Fiji	5
Finland	15
France	66
Germany	85
Ghana	2
Gibraltar	1
Greece	5
Guam	3
Guernsey	1
Hong Kong	1
Hungary	6
India	48
Indonesia	15
Ireland	7
Isle Of Man	1
Israel	30
Italy	28
Jamaica	1
Japan	34
Jersey	1
Jordan	2
Kazakhstan	1
Kenya	1
Korea (The Republic Of)	42
Kuwait	4
Lithuania	3
Luxembourg	6
Malaysia	20
Malta	2
Marshall Islands (The)	1
Mexico	2
Mongolia	2

Morocco	2
Namibia	1
Nauru	2
Nepal	1
Netherlands (The)	22
New Caledonia	11
New Zealand	211
Norfolk Island	11
Norway	27
Oman	1
Pakistan	1
Papua New Guinea	18
Philippines (The)	6
Poland	11
Portugal	8
Puerto Rico	1
Qatar	3
Romania	1
Saudi Arabia	1
Serbia	2
Singapore	43
Slovenia	3
Solomon Islands	9
South Africa	16
South Sudan	1
Spain	18
Sri Lanka	1
Sweden	21
Switzerland	24
Taiwan	14
Thailand	18
Timor-Leste	3
Tonga	2
Trinidad And Tobago	1
Tunisia	1
Türkiye	7
Turkmenistan	1
Ukraine	18
United Arab Emirates (The)	25
United Kingdom (The)	200
United States (The)	565
Vanuatu	1
Vietnam	6
Wallis And Futuna	1
Zambia	2