



North Korea's Nuclear Inventory

Despite extreme international pressure and sanctions, North Korea has pursued a nuclear weapons program for decades in a self-described attempt to protect the regime from security threats posed by adversarial countries. In 2003, North Korea withdrew from the [Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty](#) and then tested its first nuclear weapon on October 9, 2006. It continues to build its stockpile of nuclear weapons, test short- and medium-range ballistic missiles, and produce fissile material. North Korea has not conducted a nuclear or long-range missile test since 2017.

How Many?

It is estimated that North Korea has enough fissile material to build 30 to 60 nuclear warheads, with [20-30](#) possibly assembled warheads.

Air

There is no public evidence that North Korea has air-based capabilities.

Sea

The [Pukkuksong-1](#) is North Korea's only submarine-launched ballistic missile.

Land

North Korea [has](#) a number of close- and short-range Scud-type ballistic missiles and two types of medium-range ballistic missiles, the Hwasong-7 and -9. The Pukkuksong-2 is a solid fuel medium-range missile also under development. The Hwasong-7, or Nodong, is [thought](#) to be nuclear capable. North Korea has [two](#) intermediate-range ballistic missiles, the Hwasong-10 and -12. Finally, North Korea has [four](#) potential ballistic missiles thought to have intercontinental range: the Taepodong-2, the Hwasong-13, Hwasong-14 and Hwasong-15. The Hwasong-14 and -15 were both tested in 2017, with the [Hwasong-15](#) demonstrating a range estimated to be capable of hitting the United States. The Hwasong-13 has never been tested, so the range is highly speculative. Finally, the Taepodong-2 has [yet](#) to have a successful test.