

Mines Retained for Training (Article 3)

Article 3 of the Mine Ban Treaty allows a State Party to retain or transfer “a number of anti-personnel mines for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques.... The amount of such mines shall not exceed the minimum number absolutely necessary for the above-mentioned purposes.”

States Retaining Antipersonnel Mines

State	Last Known Declaration (for year)	Initial Declaration	Reported Consumed in 2011	Year of Last Declared Consumption	Quantity Reduced as Excess to Need
Turkey	15,100 (2011)	16,000	0	2009	--
Bangladesh	12,500 (2009)	15,000	Not available	None ever	--
Brazil	8,976 (2010)	17,000	Not available	2010	--
Australia	6,788 (2011)	10,000	139	2011	2,155
Sweden	6,594 (2011)	13,948	83	2011	--
Greece	6,158 (2011)	7,224	0	2009	--
Belarus	6,030 (2011)	7,530	0	None ever	--
Algeria	5,970 (2011)	15,030	0	2009	8,940
Croatia	5,775 (2011)	17,500	73	2011	10,500
Tunisia	4,910 (2010)	5,000	Not available	2010	--
Venezuela	4,874 (2011)	4,960	0	2010	--
Bhutan	4,491 (2006)	4,491	Not available	None ever	--
South Africa	4,355 (2010)	4,830	Not available	2010	--
France	3,941 (2011)	4,539	Some: 76 fewer	2011	--
Yemen	3,760 (2011)	4,000	0	Unclear	--
Bulgaria	3,672 (2011)	10,466	0	2007	6,446
Thailand	3,374 (2011)	15,604	Some: 92 fewer	2011	4,517
Nigeria	3,364 (2011)	3,364	0	None ever	--
Chile	3,228 (2011)	28,647	42	2011	23,694
Serbia	3,159 (2010)	5,000	Not available	2009	1,970
Belgium	3,041 (2011)	5,980	59	2011	--
Djibouti	2,996 (2004)	2,996	Not available	None ever	--
Slovenia	2,991 (2008)	7,000	Not available	2008	4,000
Afghanistan	2,618 (2009)	2,680	Not available	Unclear	--
Romania	2,500 (2010)	4,000	Not available	2003	1,500
Indonesia	2,454 (2010)	4,978	Not available	2009	2,524
Czech Rep.	2,443 (2011)	4,859	Some: 30 fewer	2011	--
Japan	2,419 (2011)	15,000	213	2011	--
BiH	Unclear	2,405	Not available	Unclear	--
Germany	2,130 (2011)	3,006	76	2011	--
Zambia	2,120 (2011)	6,691	0	2007	3,345
Peru	2,040 (2010)	9,526	Not available	2009	7,487
Sudan	1,938 (2011)	5,000	0	Unclear	--
Canada	1,921 (2011)	1,781	0	2010	--
Denmark	1,879 (2011)	4,991	14	2011	2,900
Netherlands	1,830 (2011)	4,076	Some 191 fewer	2011	--
Tanzania	1,780 (2008)	1,146	Not available	2007	--
Uganda	1,764 (2009)	2,400	0	2003	--
Spain	1,718 (2011)	10,000	Some: 9 fewer	2011	6,000
Mozambique	1,683 (2011)	1,427	--	2011	260
Namibia	1,634 (2009)	9,999	Not available	2009	--
Iraq	1,441 (2010)	1,225	0	2010	--
Angola	1,439 (2011)	1,460	Unclear	Unclear	--
Slovakia	1,372 (2010)	7,000	Not available	Unclear	5,500
Cambodia	1,118 (2011)	701	Some: 273 more	Unclear	--
Kenya	1,020 (2007)	3,000	Not available	2007	--
Ecuador	905 (2011)	170,344	5	2011	169,970
Nicaragua	963 (2010)	1,921	Not available	2009	--
Jordan	900 (2011)	1,000	0	2010	--
Honduras	815 (2006)	1,050	Not available	Unclear	--
Mauritania	728 (2011)	5,728	0	2003	5,000
Portugal	694 (2011)	3,523	0	Unclear	2,408
Italy	643 (2010)	8,000	5	2011	--
Mali	600 (2004)	2,000	Not available	Unclear	--
Colombia	586 (2011)	986	0	2006	--
Zimbabwe	500 (2011)	946	Some: 50 fewer	Unclear	--
Cyprus	500 (2010)	1,000	0	2010	494
Togo	436 (2003)	436	Not available	None ever	--
Congo, Rep.	322 (2008)	372	Not available	2008	--
UK	311 (2011)	4,437	Some: 362 fewer	2011	1,248
Ethiopia	303 (2010)	303	Not available	None ever	--
Uruguay	260 (2008)	500	Not available	Unclear	--

State	Last Known Declaration (for year)	Initial Declaration	Reported Consumed in 2011	Year of Last Declared Consumption	Quantity Reduced as Excess to Need
Eritrea	172 (2010)	214	0	Unclear	--
<i>Cape Verde</i>	120 (2008)	120	Not available	None ever	--
Gambia	100 (2009)	100	0	Unclear	--
<i>El Salvador</i>	72 (2007)	96	Not available	2007	--
<i>Ireland</i>	64 (2010)	130	Not available	2010	--
<i>Rwanda</i>	65 (2007)	101	Not available	Unclear	--
Senegal	37 (2011)	28	0	None ever	--
<i>Benin</i>	16 (2007)	16	Not available	Unclear	--
<i>Guinea Bissau</i>	9 (2010)	109	Not available	Unclear	--
Burundi	4 (2009)	4	0	Unclear	--
<i>DR Congo</i>	"Some"	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	--

Italics indicates States Parties that have not submitted a transparency report for 2011

It is not possible to determine a final figure on retained mines for 2011 yet, since 32 States Parties that previously declared retaining mines have not yet submitted transparency reports for 2011, which were due to the depositary by 30 April 2011.

States Retaining Antipersonnel Mines that have not submitted a Transparency Report for 2011

Afghanistan	Brazil	Djibouti	Indonesia	Nicaragua	Slovakia	Tunisia
Bangladesh	Cape Verde	El Salvador	Ireland	Peru	Slovenia	Uruguay
Benin	Congo, Rep	Ethiopia	Namibia	Romania	South Africa	
Bhutan	Cyprus	Guinea Bissau	Kenya	Rwanda	Tanzania	
BiH	DR Congo	Honduras	Mali	Serbia	Togo	

In 2010, 76 States Parties reported retaining antipersonnel mines for training and research purposes. Two countries retain more than 10,000 mines: **Turkey** and **Bangladesh**.

In 2011, **Luxembourg** and **Ukraine** destroyed their entire holding of retained mines. They join 24 other States Parties that once stockpiled antipersonnel mines but chose not to retain mines for research or training purposes.¹

For five States Parties, the status of retained mines is not known. Since 1999, Equatorial Guinea has never submitted an initial transparency report, so its status is uncertain. South Sudan was due to submit an initial transparency report in January 2012, but has not. The newest State Parties, Finland and Tuvalu, have also not made an official declaration. Botswana has indicated its intention to retain some mines for training, but has never made a formal declaration.

A major concern for the ICBL is the large number of States Parties that are retaining mines, but apparently not using those mines for permitted purposes. For these States Parties, the number of mines retained remains the same each year, indicating none were consumed (destroyed) during training or research activities, which is typically the case for most countries, and no other details were provided about how the mines were being used. A total of nine States Parties have never reported consuming any mines for permitted purposes since the treaty entered into force for them: **Bangladesh** (12,500), **Belarus** (6,030), **Bhutan** (4,491), **Cape Verde** (120), **Djibouti** (2,996), **Ethiopia** (303), **Nigeria** (3,364), **Senegal** (37), and **Togo** (436).

Several States Parties have reported a decrease from the previous year in the number of mines retained, but have not explained the reductions in their transparency reports. Among the states that reduced the number of mines retained without explanation for calendar year 2011 were Czech Republic (30 fewer mines), the Netherlands (191 fewer mines), Spain (9 fewer mines), and the United Kingdom (362 fewer mines). Each of these States Parties also reduced the number of mines retained without explanation in 2010, so this appears to be a recurring practice. Zimbabwe also reported possessing 50 fewer retained mines in 2011. Conversely, Cambodia reported an increase of 273 mines retained, but did not offer any explanation for this change.

Several States Parties have reported as retained antipersonnel mines devices that are fuzeless, inert, or otherwise rendered incapable of functioning as an antipersonnel mine. While laudable in terms of transparency, technically these are no longer considered antipersonnel mines as defined by the Mine Ban Treaty. For example:

- Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Cambodia, reported that all of their retained mines do not have fuzes;
- Canada reported that 86 of 1,921 mines retained do not have fuzes;
- Eritrea reported 71 of its 172 retained mines are inert;
- Senegal reported that 13 of its 37 mines are inert;
- Serbia reported that 1,045 of its mines were fuzeless;
- Australia reported it retains only 100 serviceable detonators for over 6,900 retained mines; and
- Belgium, Gambia, Iraq, Portugal, and Sweden also reported that some of the mines they retained were inert or fuzeless, or were otherwise incapable of functioning as antipersonnel mines.

Finally, the level of detail on the intended purposes and actual uses of retained mines has fallen. For transparency reports for calendar year 2011, only Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Ecuador, and Germany provided detailed and extensive information about the programs and requirements that the antipersonnel mines are intended to fulfill. Others, such as France, Sweden, Turkey, and the United Kingdom provided considerably less detail. The vast majority however, provided no voluntary information in the amended forms about the intended purposes and actual uses of retained mines.

¹ States Parties that once possessed stockpiles of antipersonnel mines but do not retain any for research and training purposes include: Albania, Austria, Cameroon, Chad, Gabon, Guinea, Hungary, Kuwait, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia FYR, Malaysia, Mauritius, Moldova, Montenegro, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Suriname, Switzerland, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan.