

# Estimating Law Enforcement Firearms: Source Data

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Table 1 **Estimated law enforcement firearms in 20 selected countries (in descending order by number of estimated firearms)**

Country	Sworn personnel	Estimated firearms	Firearms/officer <sup>a</sup>	Personnel sources	Firearms sources
China	2,790,000	1,950,000	0.7 (firearms/officer estimated between 0.5 and 1.3 for different agencies)	Zhong and Grabosky (2009)	Estimated
India	1,281,317	1,900,000	1.5	IAVA (forthcoming)	IAVA (forthcoming)
Russian Federation	1,200,000	1,550,000	1.3	Herszenhorn (2012)	Estimated
United States	785,000	1,150,000	1.5	FBI (2011); US GAO (2003, p. 30)	US GAO (2003, p. 3); Small Arms Survey (2006, ch. 2)
Egypt	1,300,000	900,000	0.7 (firearms/officer estimated between 0.5 and 1.3 for different agencies)	Bradley (2011); IISS (2012, p. 322)	Estimated
Brazil	687,684	803,200	1.2	Dreyfus et al. (2010, p. 127)	Dreyfus et al. (2010, p. 127)
Iraq	531,000	690,000	1.3	IISS (2012, p. 328)	Estimated
Turkey	406,000	530,000	1.3	Small Arms Survey (2011, annex 4.1); Haber Turk (2012)	Estimated
Pakistan	354,200	460,000	1.3	Abbas (2011)	Estimated
Ukraine	357,500	460,000	1.3	OSCE (2010) (personnel may include non-sworn staff)	Estimated
Italy	322,800	420,000	1.3	UNODC (2004)	Estimated
Nigeria	360,000	360,000	1.0	Bryden, N'Diaye, and Olonisakin (2008, p. 245)	Estimated
Indonesia	320,000	290,000	0.9 (police estimated at 1.0 each, Kamra <sup>b</sup> at 0.2 each)	IISS (2012, p. 251)	Estimated
Vietnam	213,000	290,000	1.4 (firearms/officer: 1.8 for PASF, 1.3 for PSF) <sup>c</sup>	PASF from Cima (1987); PSF estimated	Estimated
Thailand	213,500	280,000	1.3	UNODC (2008)	Estimated
Argentina	198,459	270,000	1.4	UNODC (2004)	Karp (2009)
Japan	246,800	250,000	1.0	Yoshida and Leishman (2006, p. 223)	Private communication from Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2002
South Africa	150,513	250,000	1.7	SAPS (2010, p. xv)	SAPS (2010, p. 65)
North Korea	189,000	245,000	1.3	Worden (2008, p. xxvi)	Estimated
Yemen	163,000	210,000	1.3	LoC (2008, pp. 24-25)	Estimated

**Note:** Data may be rounded.

<sup>a</sup> In lieu of known firearms totals, 1.3 ratio used to estimate firearms per officer, unless other ratios appear more appropriate (Small Arms Survey, 2006, p. 42).

<sup>b</sup> Military-recruited civilian auxiliary force.

<sup>c</sup> PASF: People's Armed Security Force; PSF: People's Security Force.

Table 2 **Examples of police firearms per officer in selected countries**

Country	Agency	Sworn personnel	Personnel sources	Small arms	Firearms sources	Firearms/ officer
Argentina	Provincial and Federal Police	198,459	UNODC (2004)	270,000	Karp (2009)	1.4
Brazil	Federal and state police	687,684	Dreyfus et al. (2010, pp. 125-30)	803,200	Dreyfus et al. (2010, pp. 125-30)	1.2
Bulgaria	National Police	33,800	UNODC (2008)	59,400	Rynn, Gounev, and Jackson (2005, p. 13)	1.8
Chile	Carabineros	44,712	IISS (2012, p. 381)	60,000	Karp (2009)	1.3
Colombia	Policía Nacional	159,582	Ministerio de Defensa (2010, p. 78)	258,500	Calvani, Dupuy, and Liller (2006, pp. 50-52)	1.6
Ecuador	Policía Nacional	38,629	UNODC (2008)	42,000	Karp (2009) and estimated	1.1
England & Wales	Police	134,101	Travis (2012)	35,000	Estimated*	0.3
Jamaica	Constabulary Force	8,500	Private communication from First Secretary Symone Betton, 2002	9,000	Private communication from First Secretary Symone Betton, 2002	1.1
Nicaragua	Policía Nacional	8,666	Montes (2011, p. 61)	8,590	Montes (2011, p. 61)	1.0
Papua New Guinea	Royal Constabulary	5,000	Alpers (2005, pp. 48-49)	4,800	Alpers (2005, pp. 48-49)	1.0
Peru	Policía Nacional	88,793	UNODC (2008)	170,000	Karp (2009)	1.9
Philippines	National Police	140,000	Sun Star (2012)	139,043	Sun Star (2012)	1.0
Serbia	Police	26,527	OSCE (2007)	53,100	Taylor, Phillips, and Bogosavljevic (2007, pp. 17-18)	2.0
South Africa	South African Police Service	150,513	SAPS (2010, p. xv)	250,481	SAPS (2010, p. 65)	1.7
Sudan	National Police Service	100,000	Sudan HSBA (2009, p. 8)	110,000	Sudan HSBA (2009, p. 8)	1.1
United States	Federal, state, and local police	785,000	FBI (2011); US GAO (2003, p. 30)	1,150,000	US GAO (2003, p. 3); Small Arms Survey (2006, pp. 42-43)	1.5

\* England and Wales have 6,979 'authorized firearms officers' (Herbert, 2011). Firearms numbers inferred from Suffolk Constabulary (2012). Gavin Hales, a British criminologist, confirms this inference in a personal communication, 22 May 2012. It does not include less- and non-lethal weapons.

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