

SOUTH AFRICA

Was the 2024 annual report submitted?	Yes – On time ¹	Was the 2024 annual report made public?	Yes		
Was data withheld for 'commercial sensitivity/national security-related' reasons?	Unspecified	What reporting template was used?	ATT reporting template 2016		
Were reports submitted in previous years in which reports were due?	2020 ☒	2021 ☒	2022 ☒	2023 ☒	2024 ☒
Were submitted reports made publicly available?	2020 ☒	2021 ☒	2022 ☒	2023 ☒	2024 ☒

REPORTING PRACTICE SUMMARY – 2024

South Africa's reporting practice changed slightly in 2024.

South Africa reported **Authorized Numbers** of major conventional arms exports, as opposed to 2023 when it reported a combination of **Authorized** and **Actual Numbers**. South Africa continued to report **Authorized Numbers** of small arms exports.

South Africa continued to report **Authorized Numbers** of small arms imports.

GOOD PRACTICES

South Africa disaggregated all transfers by weapon category, sub-category and trading partner.

South Africa provided descriptions for all reported transfers. It also provided comments for exports of major conventional arms and imports of small arms.

South Africa reported imports of small arms parts and components, thereby offering an additional layer of detail.

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

South Africa could clearly indicate there were no reported transfers in specific categories of major conventional arms.

South Africa could provide comments for all reported transfers.

South Africa did not tick any of the boxes in the 'Contents of report' section on the first page of the ATT reporting template, and did not indicate if data was withheld for 'commercial sensitivity/national security-related' reasons.

South Africa altered the ATT reporting template. It slightly changed the wording of the standardized ATT weapon categories and sub-categories, thereby making it difficult to understand which items fall under some of these headings. South Africa also appears to have utilized the exports section of the ATT reporting template for its submission on imports, resulting in some ambiguity in the information provided.

TRANSFER SUMMARY – 2024: EXPORT DATA

- South Africa reported exports to 20 countries. Of these, 12 were ATT States Parties, five were Signatories and three were non-States Parties (Kenya, Kyrgyzstan and Saudi Arabia) at the beginning of the 2024 reporting year.²
- South Africa reported the export of 65 major conventional arms, all of which were armoured combat vehicles.
- The main importers of major conventional arms exported by South Africa were Kenya (40.0 per cent), Malawi (23.1 per cent) and Ghana (15.4 per cent).
- South Africa reported the export of 1,736 small arms. These were rifles and carbines (48.3 per cent), revolvers and self-loading pistols (38.2 per cent), and shotguns and combinations reported under 'other small arms' (13.5 per cent).
- The main importers of small arms exported by South Africa were Botswana (23.7 per cent), Zimbabwe (20.7 per cent) and the United Kingdom (20.0 per cent).

TRANSFER SUMMARY – 2024: IMPORT DATA

- South Africa reported imports from 26 countries. Of these, 22 were ATT States Parties, three were Signatories and one was a non-State Party (the Russian Federation).
- South Africa did not report the import of any major conventional arms.
- South Africa reported the import of 166,526 small arms. The majority were revolvers and self-loading pistols (64.3 per cent),³ rifles and carbines (18.9 per cent), and shotguns and combinations reported under 'other small arms' (14.0 per cent).
- The largest exporters of small arms to South Africa were Australia (11.9 per cent), the Czech Republic (10.1 per cent) and Türkiye (10.0 per cent).

1 South Africa submitted its 2024 annual report before the 7 June 2025 deadline. However, in the original uploaded version of the report to the ATT Secretariat website, every second page was missing. The ATT Monitor's analysis is based on the amended complete version uploaded in February 2026.

2 Malawi is listed as a Signatory State because it became an ATT State Party on 9 October 2024.

3 South Africa reported certain imports of small arms under two separate sub-categories, labelled 'revolvers and self-loading and semi-auto pistols' and 'revolvers and semi-auto pistols'. The ATT Monitor interpreted these sub-categories to fall under the standard sub-category 'revolvers and self-loading pistols'.