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How do Canada's military exports compare with those of other countries?

On an international scale, the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms shows that Canada accounts for less than one percent of the world supply of weapons systems. Canada normally exports only one significant product that is currently subject to reporting to the UN Register — a line of light armoured vehicles. Aside from those vehicles, Canadian military exports consist largely of parts, components and goods such as radar systems, communications systems and software.

One way to put trade volumes in perspective is to compare controlled Canadian military goods exports with total exports. In 1996, Canada's total exports to all countries except the United States amounted to \$48 billion. That year, Canada's controlled military goods exports to the same countries were \$459 million, or less than 1 percent of the total exports.

In 1996, over 80 percent of Canada's military goods exports went to fellow NATO countries and other countries linked by formal government-to-government defence agreements. Less than 2 percent of Canada's controlled military goods exports went to low-income countries, and these often consisted of replacement parts for older Canadian-built radios and transport aircraft.