

14. QATAR

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Major Changes

- No major change has been recorded for the Qatari armed forces.
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General Data

Official Name of the State: State of Qatar

Head of State: Shaykh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani

Prime Minister: Hamad bin Jassem bin Jaber al-Thani

Minister of Defense: Shaykh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani

Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces: Shaykh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani

Chief of General Staff: Brigadier General Hamad bin Ali al-Attiyah

Commander of the Ground Forces: Colonel Saif Ali al-Hajiri

Commander of the Air Force: General Ali Saeed al-Hawal al-Marri

Commander of the Navy: Vice Adm. Ali Ahmed al-Badeed Al-Manai

Area: 11,437 sq. km.

Population: 1,600,000

Qatar

Demography

Ethnic groups		
• Arabs	640,000	40.0%
• Pakistanis	288,000	18.0%
• Indians	288,000	18.0%
• Persians	160,000	10.0%
• Others (mostly Southeast Asians)	224,000	14.0%
Religious groups		
• Sunni Muslims	1,120,000	70.3%
• Shi'ite Muslims	384,000	24.3%
• Others	960,000	5.4%

Economic Data

		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
• GDP (current prices)	\$ bn	31.73	42.46	52.73	71.05	93.2
• GDP per capita	\$					
• Real GDP growth	%	20.8	6.1	9.9	8.4	11.8
• Consumer price index	%	8.5	12.6	11.3	13.8	13.8
• External debt	\$ bn	15.0	20.4	26.2	40.6	48.9
Balance of payments						
• Exports fob	\$ bn	18.68	25.76	34.05	42.0	64.1
• Imports fob	\$ bn	-5.4	-9.1	-14.8	-19.62	-24.9
• Current account balance (including services and income)	\$ bn	7.55	7.48	9.45	11.11	24.18
Government expenditure						
• Total expenditure	\$ bn	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
• Defense expenditure	\$ bn	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
• Real change in defense expenditure	%	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
• Defense expenditure/GDP	%	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Population	m	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.6
Official exchange rate	QR: \$1	3.64	3.64	3.64	3.64	3.64

Sources: EIU Quarterly Report, EIU Country Profile, IMF International Financial Statistical Yearbook, SIPRI Yearbook.

Qatar

Foreign Military Cooperation

Type	Details
• Foreign forces	US (3,500 troops, operating two bases and 2 Patriot SAM batteries)
• Forces deployed abroad	UNIFIL (Lebanon)
• Joint maneuvers	France (2003), GCC countries (2003), India (2007), Italy (2007), NATO (2008), Pakistan (2007) UK, US (2007), Yemen
• Security agreement	France, GCC countries, Germany (2005), Italy, India (2008), Iran, NATO (2008), South Africa (2008), South Korea (2006), UK (2008), USA (2003)

Arms Trade

Arms Procurement and Security Assistance Received

Country	Type	Details
France	• Arms transfers	C ⁴ I system (2007), AD radar (2008)
	• Military training	Training of officers in Qatar (2007)
Italy	• Arms transfers	AW139 helicopters (2008)
Sweden	• Arms transfers	Tactical communication systems (2004)
UK	• Military training	Training of officers in Qatar (2008)
US	• Arms transfers	S-92 helicopters (2005) , Patriot SAMs (2007), C-17 transport aircraft (2008), C-130J aircraft (2008)
	• Military training	Advisers, instructors (2006)

Arms Sales and Security Assistance Extended

Country	Type	Details
Mexico	• Arms transfers	Milan ATGMs (2006)
US	• Facilities	Use of Air Operations Center at al-Udeid AFB and Ground Operations Center at as-Sayliyah; pre-positioning of equipment for rapid deployment forces (2006)

Qatar

Strategic Assets

NBC Capabilities

Nuclear capability

No known nuclear activity. Party to the NPT.

Chemical weapons and protective equipment

No known CW activities. Party to the CWC.

Biological weapons

No known BW activities. Party to the BWC.

Armed Forces

Order-of-Battle

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
General data					
• Personnel (regular)	11,800	11,800	11,800	11,800	11,800
Ground Forces					
• Number of brigades	2	2	2	2	2
• Total number of battalions	11	11	11	11	11
• Tanks	30 (44)*	30 (44)	30 (44)	30 (44)	30 (44)
• APCs/AFVs	280 (310)*	280 (310)	280 (310)	280 (310)	280 (310)
• Artillery (including MRLs)	56	56	56	56	56
Air Force					
• Combat aircraft	12*	12	12	12	12
• Transport aircraft	7 (8)	7 (8)	7 (8)	7 (8)	7 (8)
• Helicopters	24 (25)*	24 (25)	22*	22	22
Air Defense Forces					
• Heavy SAM batteries			2*	2	2
• Light SAM launchers	51	51	51	51	51
Navy					
• Combat vessels	7	7	7	7	7
• Patrol craft	13	17	17	14	14

* Due to change in estimate.

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Personnel

	Regular	Reserve	Total
Ground Forces	8,500		8,500
Air Force	1,500		1,500
Navy (including Marine Police)	1,800		1,800
Total	11,800		11,800
Paramilitary			
• Armed Police	8,000		8,000

Ground Forces

Formations

	Independent brigades / groups	Independent battalions	Battalions in brigades
Armored	1		1 armd., 1 mech., 1 aty.
Mechanized		4	
Royal Guard	1		3 inf.
Special forces		1	
Artillery		2	
Total	2	7	

Tanks

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
MBTs				
Medium and low quality				
• AMX-30	44	30	1978/1996	
Total	44	30		

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APCs/AFVs					
Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes	
APCs					
• VAB	134	134	1978	4 mortar carriers, 24 mounted with HOT ATGM	
• AMX-10 VCI	30	30		Versions VCA and PC used for Artillery support	
Subtotal	164	164			
IFVs					
• Piranha II	40	40	1998	36 with LAV 90mm guns, 2 CMP and 2 ARV	
• AMX-10P	40	40	1978		
• V-150 Commando	8	8	1986		
Subtotal	88	88			
Reconnaissance					
• AMX 10RC	12	12	1981		
• Engesa EE-9	20	0	1978		
Subtotal	32	12			
Light Armored Vehicles					
• VBL	16	16	1994		
• Ferret	10	0	1968		
Subtotal	26	16			
Total	310	280			

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Artillery

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
Self-propelled guns and howitzers				
• 155mm Mk F-3 (AMX)	22	22	1984	
Towed guns and howitzers				
• 155mm G-5	12	12	1991	
Mortars, under 160mm				
• 120mm Brandt	15	15	1993	
• 81mm VPM SP	4	4	1977	Mounted on VAB APCs
Subtotal	19	19		
MRLs				
• 122mm BM-21	+	+		
• Astros II	3	3	1992	127mm SS-30 or 180mm SS-40
Total	56	56		

Anti-Tank Missiles

Model	Launchers	Missiles	Since	Notes
• HOT	48	+	1978	24 are mounted on VAB

Air Force

Order-of-Battle

Category	Quantity	In service	Notes
Combat	12	12	
Transport	8	7	
Helicopters	22	22	

Combat Aircraft

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
Advanced multi-role				
• Mirage 2000	12	12	1997	

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Transport Aircraft

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
• Airbus 340	1	1	1993	
• Boeing 727	1	1	1979	
• Boeing 707	2	2	1977	
• Britten-Norman BN-2 Islander	1	1	1986	
• Mystère-Falcon 900	3	2	1991	
Total	8	7		
Future procurement				
• C-130J-30	4			Delivery in 2011
• C-17 Globemaster	2			Delivery in 2009

Training and Liaison Aircraft

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
Jet trainers				
• Alpha jet	6	6	1980	

Helicopters

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
Attack				
• SA-342 Gazelle	9	9	1983	2 employed as light helicopters with police
Medium transport				
• S-92	1	1	2006	VIP transport
• Westland Commando Mk 2/ Mk 3	4	4	1982	4 out of 12 used for VIP transport
Subtotal	5	5		
Naval combat				
• Westland Commando Mk 2/ Mk 3	8	8	1982	
Total	22	22		
Future procurement				
• AW139	18			Delivery in 2010

Miscellaneous Aircraft

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
Target drones				
• TTL BTT-3 Banshee	+	+		Unconfirmed

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Advanced Armament

Air-to-air-missiles

Mica (144), R-550 Magic II (272), R-530 (128)

Air-to-ground-missiles

AM-39 Exocet, AS-30L (128)

Note: Number in parentheses refers to the quantity of missiles purchased, not to current inventory levels.

Air Force Infrastructure

Military airfields

3

Doha, al-Ghariyeh, al-Udeid

Air Defense Forces

Surface-to-Air Missiles

Model	Batteries	Launchers	Since	Notes
Heavy batteries				
• Patriot PAC-3	2		2007	Under US control
Light missiles				
• Mistral		24	1995	
• Rapier		18	1984	
• Roland 2		9	1988	Number unconfirmed
Total		51		
Shoulder-launched missiles				
• FIM-92A Stinger		12	1989	
• Blowpipe		6	1986	
Total		18		
Radars				
• MRR-3D	1	1	2008	
Command and Control				
• GCC Ariel Early Warning system	+	+	2002	
Future procurement				
• National Security Shield C ⁴ I network				

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Navy

Combat Vessels

Type	Quantity	Length (m.)/ displacement (t.)	Notes/armament
MFPBs			
• Barzan (Vita Vosper Thornycroft)	4	56.3/376	8xMM 40 Exocet SSMs 8xMistral SAMs 1x76mm gun 1x30mm AD gun
• Damsah class (Combattante III)	3	56/345	8xMM 40 Exocet SSMs 1x76mm gun 2x40mm guns 4x30mm guns
Total	7		

Patrol Craft

Type	Quantity	Length (m.)/ displacement (t.)	Notes/armament
• Helmatic (M-160)	3	16/20	
• Damen (Polycat 1450)	3	14.5/18	1x20mm gun
• Crestitalia (MV-45)	4	14.5/17	1x20mm gun with police
• DV-15	4	15.5/12	12.7mm MG
Total	14		
Future Procurement			
• DV-15	2	15.5/12	Optional

Landing Craft

Type	Quantity	Length (m.)/ displacement (t.)	Notes/armament
• Rabha LCT	1	48.8	3 tanks, 110 troops

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Auxiliary craft

Type	Quantity	Length (m.)/ displacement (t.)	Notes/armament
• Helmatic Pilot craft	2	18m	
• Rotork craft	4	12m	

Coastal Defense

Type	Batteries	Notes
• MM-40 Exocet	3-4	

Naval Infrastructure

Naval bases	2	
Doha, Halul Island		