

ARGENTINA



Population	45,773,900 inhabitants
Territorial Extension	2,780,400 km ²
GDP (in US\$)	604,260,000,000
GDP per capita (in US\$)	13,200
Armed Forces Personnel	88,090
Defence Budget (in US\$)	4,459,699,868

The Ministry of Defence was created in 1958.

Legal Framework

National Legislation

Systems and Concepts

National Defence Act (N° 23554 – 1988/05/05. Last Amendment: N° 23049 – 1984/02/09).

Domestic Security Act (N° 24059 – 1992/01/17. Last Amendment: N° 26102 – 2006/05/31).

Ministries Law (N° 22520 – 1992/03/20. Last Amendment: Decree N° 614 – 2024/07/15).

Armed Forces Reorganization Act (N° 24948 – 1998/04/08).

National Intelligence Act (N° 22520 – 2001/12/06. Last Amendment: Executive order 214/2020 – 2020/03/05).

Law limiting the application of the “2 x 1 Law” in cases of crimes against humanity, genocide or war crimes (N° 27362 – 2017/05/12).

Law approving the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime (N° 27411 – 2017/12/15).

Law for the creation of the National Defence Fund (N° 27565 – 2020/10/01).

Military Organization

Law for the creation of the General Directorate of Military Industries (N° 12709 – 1941/10/24. Last Amendment: Law N° 22119 – 1979/12/14).

Military Service Act (N° 17531 – 1967/11/16. Last Amendment: N° 23484 – 1986/10/31).

Military Personnel Law (N° 19101 – 1971/07/19. Last Amendment: N° 25744 – 2003/06/04).

Financial Assistance Institute Law for the payment of retirements and pensions (N° 22919 – 1983/09/26. Last Amendment: Executive Order N° 860/2009 – 2009/07/07).

Voluntary Military Service Act (N° 24429 – 1995/01/10).

Law on the entry of foreign troops and the deployment of national forces outside the country (N° 25880 - 2004/04/23).

Law repealing the Military Justice Code, approving amendments to the Criminal Code and National Code of Criminal Procedure, approving instructions for the civil population in times of war and other armed conflicts, the Armed Forces Code of Conduct and Discipline and the Organization of the Joint Justice Service of the Armed Forces (N° 26394 – 2008/08/26).

Law creating the National Defence University (N° 27015 – 2014/12/15).

Law creating the Special Pensions Regimen of Exceptional Nature for Former Soldiers of the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands War (N° 27329 – 2016/12/13).

The Defence System

The President may receive assistance and advice from the National Defence Council, an agency composed of the Vice-president, the Cabinet Ministers, the Secretary of Intelligence and the chairpersons of Congress Defence Committees.

The Ministry of Defence is in charge of the direction, ordering and coordination of activities belonging to national defence. The Minister is advised by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the body responsible for the joint military doctrine, planning and training.

The National Congress exercises the powers granted by the Constitution and monitors issues linked to defence through both Houses’ defence committees on a regular basis.

Source: Compilation based on the *Ley de defensa nacional* (N° 23554 – 1988/05/05) and the Regulations of the National Defence Act (Decree N° 727/2006 – 2006/06/13).

Source: Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean 2023, ECLAC (territory and population, 2023). IMF, World Economic Outlook Database (GDP, April 2024).

The Budget

Defence Budget, 2024 (in Argentine Pesos)

	Current Expenditures		Capital Expenditure	Total
	Consumption Expenditure	Other Expenditures*		
Ministry of Defence	505,691,038,240	118,221,097	34,955,502,640	540,764,761,977
Ministry of Defence	13,813,987,085	63,608,000	17,122,662,801	31,000,257,886
Chief of General Staff of the Argentine Army	240,217,603,094	11,160,816	2,499,309,000	242,728,072,910
Chief of General Staff of the Argentine Navy	133,005,619,976	28,876,725	1,013,238,454	134,047,735,155
Chief of General Staff of the Argentine Air Force	112,301,620,513	10,372,258	13,778,980,662	126,090,973,433
Joint Staff of the Armed Forces	6,352,207,572	4,203,298	541,311,723	6,897,722,593
National Geographic Institute	1,223,322,231	61,000	37,985,444	1,261,368,675
National Meteorological Service	4,076,602,850	-	333,259,943	4,409,862,793
Social Security Institutions	616,148,000	279,496,826,000	101,000,000	280,213,974,000
Total	511,607,111,321	279,615,108,097	35,427,748,027	826,649,967,445

% OF GDP

0.74%

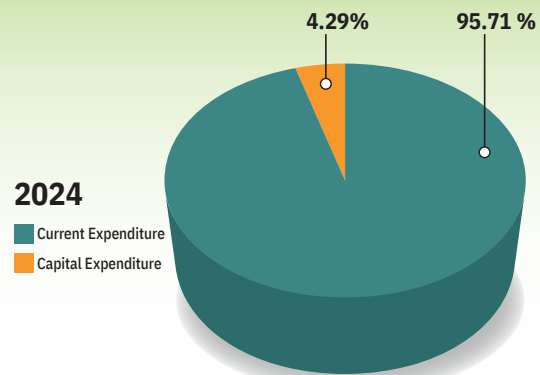
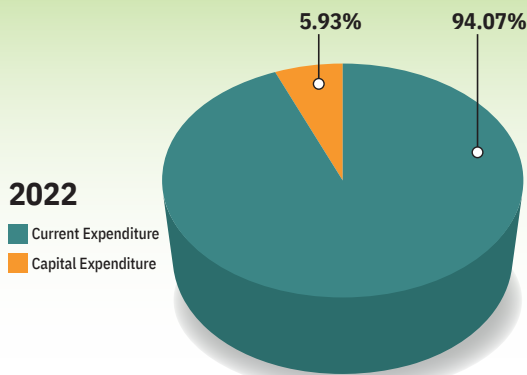
% OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE

3.70%

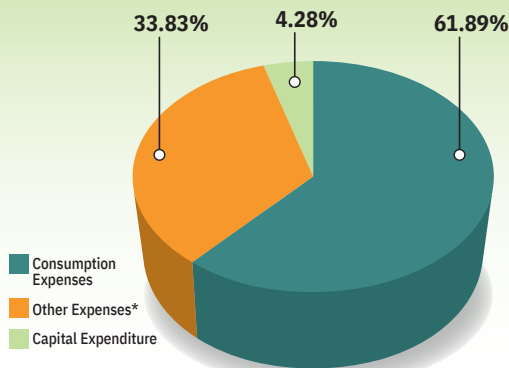
Budget 2024

*It includes property rents, payment of social security benefits, direct taxes and current transfers.

Current and Capital Expenditures

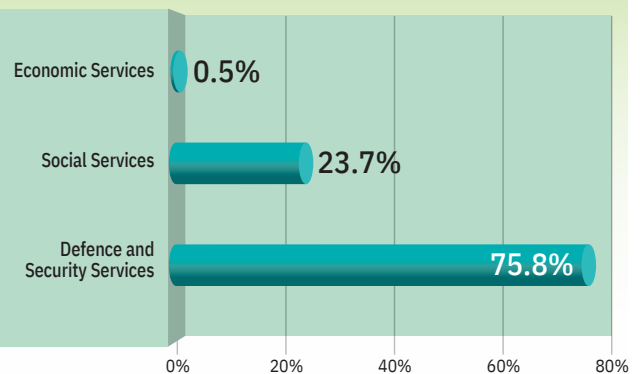


Breakdown by Expenditure Item

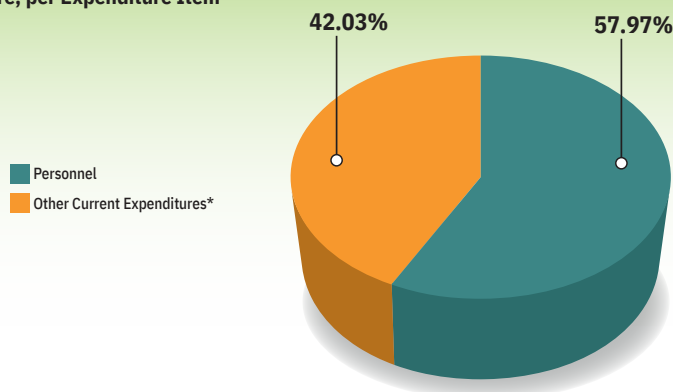


*Property rents, payment of social security benefits, direct taxes and current transfers.

Ministry of Defence, per Function



Current Expenditure, per Expenditure Item



*Property rents, payment of social security benefits, direct taxes and current transfers.

Source: Compilation based on the General Budget Act of the National Administration for the Fiscal Year 2023 (extended to 2024) and the General Budget Act of the National Administration for the Fiscal Year 2022. GDP: IMF, World Economic Outlook Database (April 2024). Central Bank of the Argentine Republic (Exchange Rate: 1 US\$ = 185.36 Argentine Pesos, January 2023).

The Ministry of Defence

YEAR OF CREATION*

1958

Average Tenure in Office for Ministers:
1 YEAR AND 2 MONTHS

MISSION

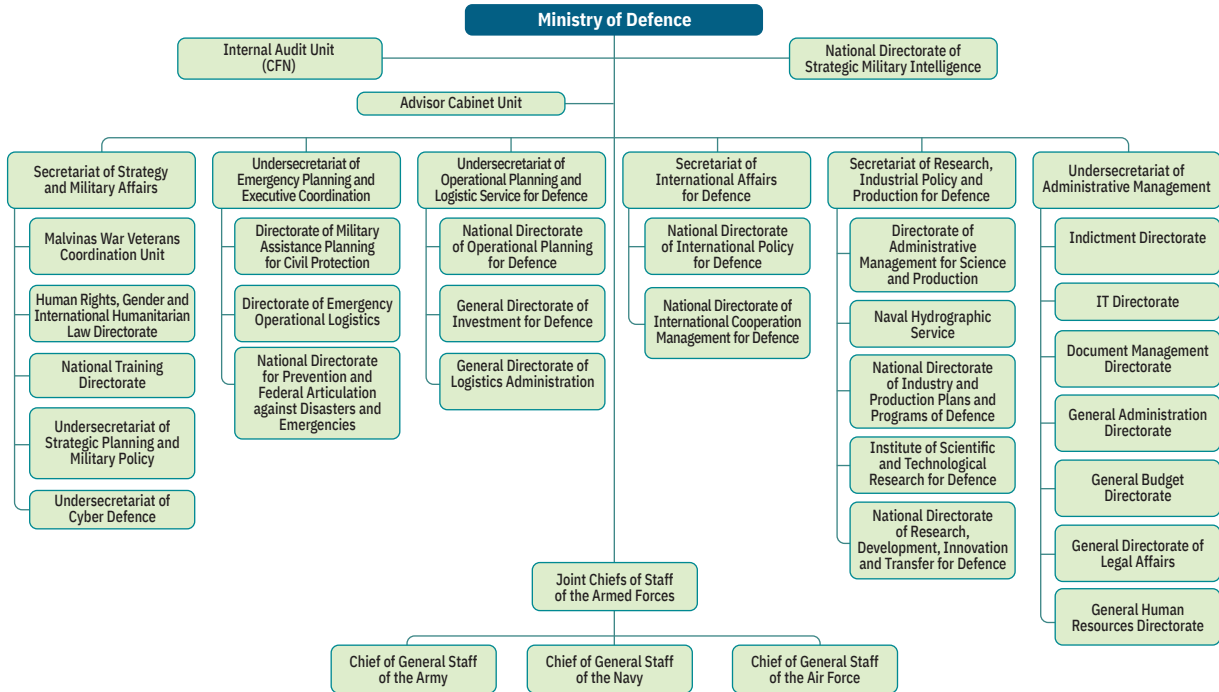
The Ministry of Defence is responsible for assisting the President of the Nation and the Head of the Cabinet of Ministers in relation to their competences, all aspects of national defence and the relation with the Armed Forces in the institutional framework in force.

MANDATES

- Determine the objectives and policies of their area of competence.
- Execute plans, programs and projects in their area of competence under the guidelines set by the National Executive Power.
- Determine national defence requirements.
- Prepare the Armed Forces budget and coordinate and distribute the respective credits.
- Coordinate the logistics of the Armed Forces in relation to sourcing, standardization, cataloging and classification of stock, and for the activities arising from joint military planning.
- Intervene in the planning, direction and execution of research and development activities of interest for national defence.
- Make and execute mobilization policies and the National Mobilization Plan in case of war.
- Be responsible for the registration, classification and distribution of staff destined to the Armed Forces reserve, and for the promotion of activities and skills of interest for defence.
- Be responsible for activities related to strategic military intelligence.
- Coordinate aspects common to the Armed Forces, particularly in the administrative, legal and logistic areas.
- Coordinate -jointly with the Ministry of Security- aspects common to the Armed Forces and Security.
- Determine the composition of groups sent abroad to be part of peacekeeping forces.
- Direct the joint bodies of the Armed Forces under their responsibility.
- Intervene in proposing appointments for senior positions in the joint bodies under their responsibility.
- Administer justice and military discipline through the courts under the Ministry.
- Propose Armed Forces troops and their distribution.
- Be involved in the planning, direction and execution of productive activities in which the participation of the State is convenient for being of interest for national defence.
- Be responsible for technical studies and works and for the formulation and execution of national policies in areas specifically related to national defence.
- Intervene in the definition of policies related to productive activities that make up the production system for defence.
- Prepare and propose plans intended to comply with national defence purposes in border regions, and be responsible for the direction and execution of such plans.
- Be responsible, together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, for the planning, direction and execution of activities in Antarctica.
- Be responsible for joint military planning, for determining its requirements and for supervising that such planning is complied with.
- Formulate and apply principles and regulations for the functioning and use of the Armed Forces.
- Be responsible for the registration, authorization, supervision and technical direction of acts and activities related to marine and aerial navigation in its jurisdiction.
- Be responsible for the coordination and deployment of the Armed Forces in situations of emergency or disaster taking place in the national territory.
- Prepare, propose and execute plans and logistical coordination intended to comply with national defence purposes in order to guarantee the territorial integrity of the Nation on a permanent basis.

*The year of creation corresponds to the date when the term "Defence" became part of the institution's name.

Organizational Chart



XVI Conference of Defence Ministers of the Americas (CMDA)

In 2024, the Argentine Ministry of Defence is Secretary Pro Tempore of the XVI Conference of Ministers. Among its activities, the preparatory meeting and the plenary meeting were held on October 13-16 in Mendoza, Argentina.



Themes

- Climatic and environmental challenges from the defence perspective.
- Responsible development, application and governance of artificial intelligence in the military environment.

Ad Hoc Working Groups

- Cooperation in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HA/DR).
- Women, peace and security.
- Cyber defence and cyberspace.
- Climatic and environmental challenges from the defence perspective.

Source: Compilation based on the *Ley de defensa nacional* (N° 23554 – 1988/05/05); Decree approving the organizational structure of the Ministry of Defence (N° 729 – 2024/08/13) and the official website of the Ministry of Defence and of the XVI Conference of Defence Ministers of the Americas.

General Mission

General Mission

The Armed Forces, a military instrument of national defence, are to be employed in case of foreign aggression perpetrated by Armed Forces from other States, notwithstanding the provisions set forth in the Domestic Security Act N° 24059 and the Armed Forces Reorganization Act N° 24948 in relation to scenarios where the use of the military is foreseen, and to provisions that define the scope of such intervention in operations intended to support interior security. (Regulations of the National Defence Act N° 23554, Decree N° 727 – 2006/06/13, Art.1).

Their primary mission is to avert and repel any external state military aggression to permanently guarantee and protect the sovereignty, independence and self-determination of the Nation, its territorial integrity, and the life and freedom of its inhabitants. Their secondary missions include engaging in multinational operations within the framework of the United Nations; taking part in domestic security operations, as established by the Domestic Security Act N° 24059; supporting the national community and friendly nations; and participating in building a subregional defence system. (Directive on the Organization and Operation of the Armed Forces, Ministry of Defence - Decree N° 1691 – 2006/11/22).

The **Joint Staff** assists and advises senior State leaders on the preparation and use of the military in order to contribute to attaining their national strategic objectives.

Specific Missions



Land Force

The Argentine Army shall serve the Motherland and contribute to its national defence to protect its vital interests: independence and sovereignty, self-determination, territorial integrity, natural resources, goods, and the life and freedom of its inhabitants.



Naval Force

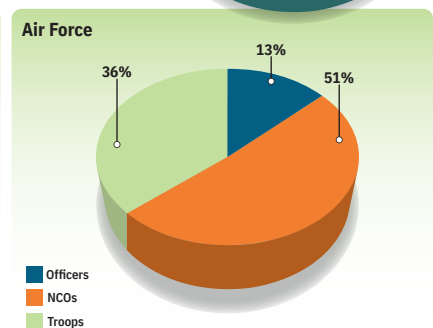
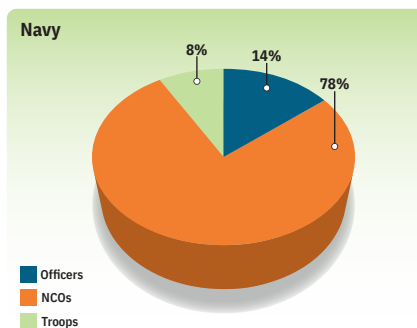
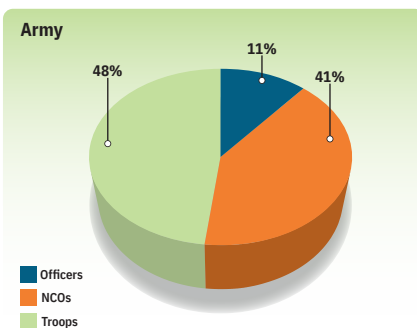
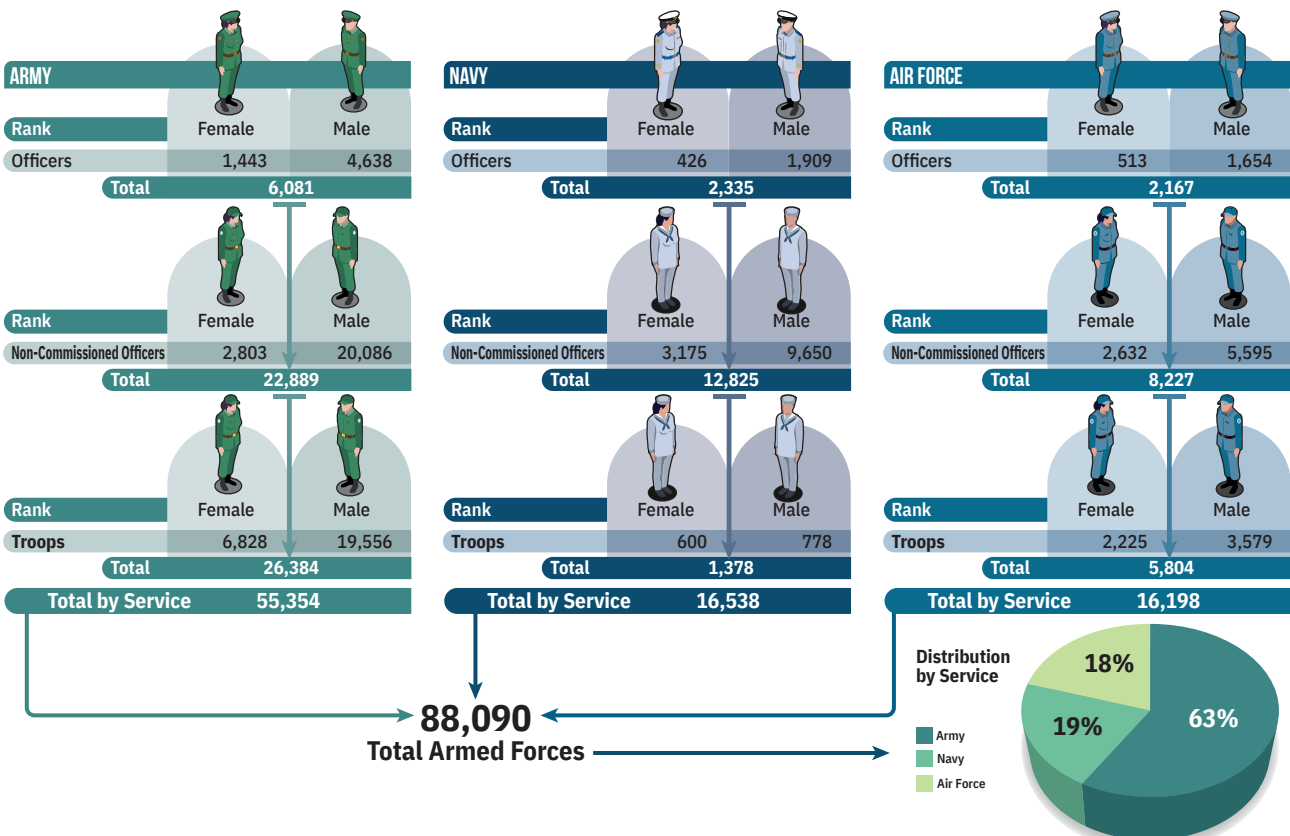
The Argentine Navy shall enlist, train and sustain the human resources of the Nation's naval power and carry out the missions and functions set forth by legal regulations applicable to maritime, fluvial and insular spaces of national jurisdiction and interest, in order to contribute to the national defence system and safeguard Argentine maritime interests.



Air Force

The Argentine Air Force shall contribute to national defence, training, enlisting and sustaining its human resources, as the backbone of air space power, to act in a deterrent and effective manner in the air space of its jurisdiction and interest, with the aim of guaranteeing and safeguarding the vital interests of the Nation.

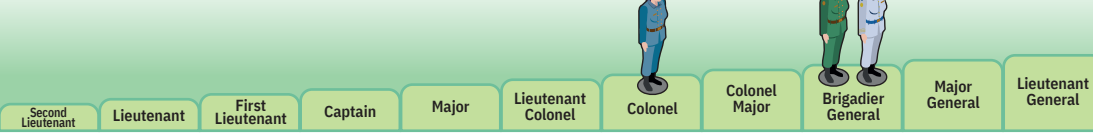
Armed Forces Personnel



Source: Compilation based on information provided by the Ministry of Defence, the aforementioned legislation and official websites of the pertinent Armed Forces.

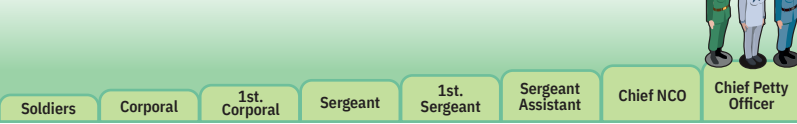
Women in the Armed Forces

Highest Rank Attained in Officer Ranks



Of the total number of officers and NCOs, **20.16 %** are women.

Highest Rank Attained in Non-Commissioned Officer Ranks



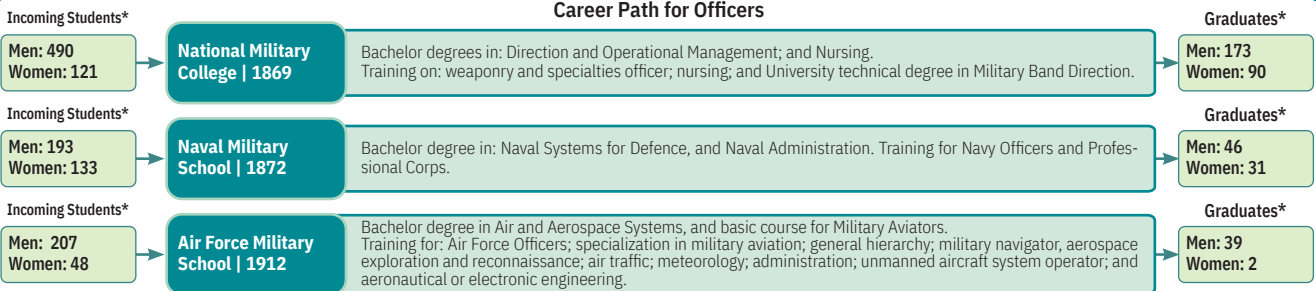
The Armed Forces have gender departments, offices and liaison officers. The Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Armed Forces have a Centralized Gender Office. Its functions include training, dissemination and update, counseling, taking care of cases of gender-based discrimination and violence, and statistics.

Note: Hierarchical scale of the Land Force for illustration purposes. In the Naval Force, a Brigadier General is equivalent to a Rear Admiral. In the Air Force, a Colonel is equivalent to a Commodore. In the case of troops, the same name applies to the three forces.

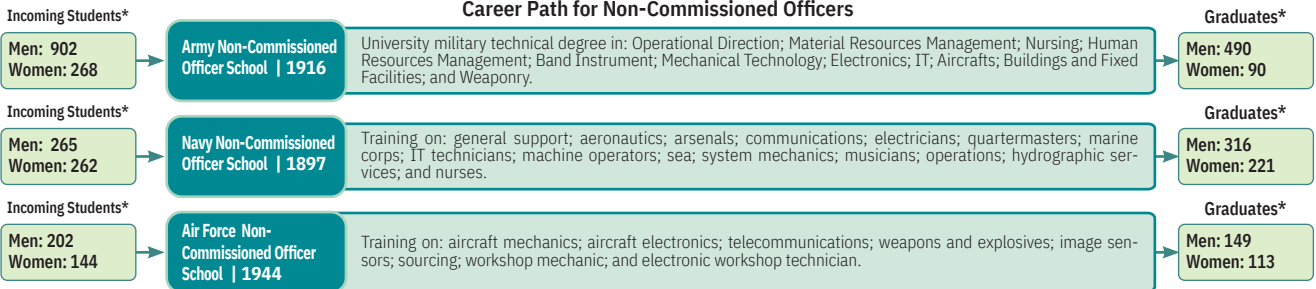
The Ministry of Defence cooperates with training and awareness seminars on the topic "Women and Peace Operations" in the training institutes of the three Armed Forces.

Military Education

Career Path for Officers



Career Path for Non-Commissioned Officers



* Number of incoming and graduate students in 2023.

NATIONAL DEFENCE UNIVERSITY

It is the University in charge of military and civil training in defence topics through undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate courses. It is composed of 6 Schools and 1 Regional Center:

SCHOOL OF DEFENCE (FADENA) 1950	Its function is to train civilians and the military in topics related to national defence.				
SCHOOL OF THE ARMY	National Military College 1869	Sergeant Cabral School of Non-Commissioned Officers 1916	Superior School of Army Warfare 1900	Superior Technical School 1930	
SCHOOL OF THE NAVY	Naval Military School 1872	Superior School of Naval Warfare 1934	School of Navy Officers 1904	School of Marine Sciences 1879	"General Manuel Belgrano" National Nautical School 1799
SCHOOL OF THE AIR FORCE	Air Force Military School 1912	Superior School of Air Warfare 1944	Air Force Non-Commissioned Officer School - Cordoba 1944	Air Force Non-Commissioned Officer School - Ezeiza 1960	National Institute of Air and Space Law 1965 Education Center for Air Crew Members and Aviation Technicians 1937
JOINT MILITARY SCHOOL	Joint Upper School of War 2006		Armed Forces Intelligence Institute 2000	Armed Forces Cyber Defence Institute 2021	
ARMY SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING	"Division General Manuel Nicolás Savio" Army School of Engineering 1930				
CORDOBA REGIONAL UNIVERSITY CENTER	Aeronautical University Institute 1947	School of Administration Sciences 1947	School of Engineering 1947		

The Army Operational Education Directorate gives courses for Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers on: weaponry basics; head of sub-unit; direction basics; specialty basics; and mid- and advanced enhancements.

The Navy also has:

- The Naval Aviation School, which teaches basic courses for Military Pilots and specialization courses for Naval Aviators.
- The Diving School, which teaches a joint basic course for Military Divers and Tactical Divers.
- The Submarine School teaches a submarine specialization course for Officers.

Military Academies

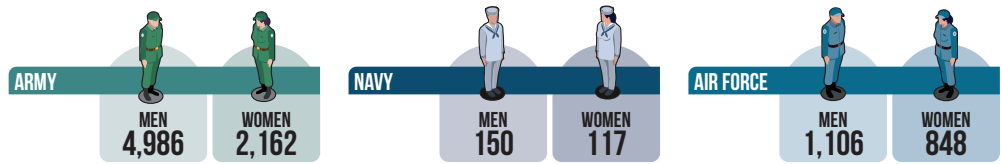
There is a long-standing network of military academies for high school education that are part of the educational system. By Ministerial Resolution 795/24, as from 2024, students from those academies will be educated on subjects related to the military character; training will incorporate topics related to current defence challenges; and graduates will become part of the Reserve Officer Corps and will obtain military status in the last two years of the course.

Source: Compilation based on information provided by the Ministry of Defence and the official websites of the National Defence University and the Argentine Government.

Military Service

The military service is voluntary and open to all male and female citizens aged 18 to 24 years at the time of enrollment, provided that they comply with all other requirements. The Voluntary Military Service has a duration of 2 years.

Voluntary Military Service Recruits, 2023



Military Exercises

During 2022 and 2023, the Armed Forces conducted different exercises in the national territory, including:

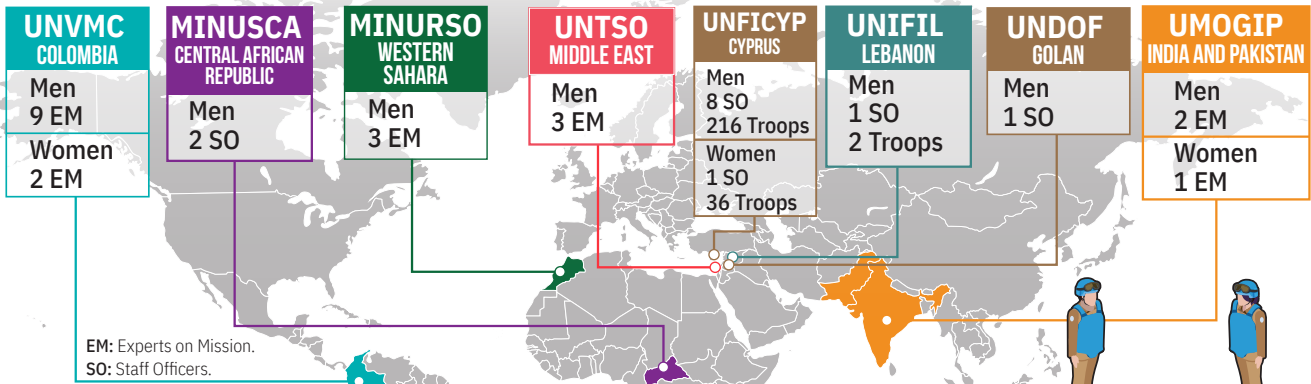
- ACUSTIS I:** joint multi-domain exercise of cyber defence and electronic warfare for the protection of critical infrastructure.
- FURIA 2022 Exercise:** air exercises of attack/support to the air component.
- SOLDADO UGALDE 2022 Exercise:** training of troops on various weapons and specialties.
- Fortaleza Joint Exercise:** multi-domain exercise in different geographical settings.
- Punta de Flecha Joint Exercise:** rapid response exercise for the defence of strategic areas.



Multinational:

- Cooperation IX Multinational Combined Exercise:** multinational drill with forces belonging to the SICOFAA.
- RESOLUTE SENTINEL 2023:** multinational, conducted annually.
- PANAMAX:** multinational, conducted annually.
- UNITAS:** multinational exercise, conducted annually.
- Operation PARANA III:** multinational exercise in the field, organized by the Conference of American Armies.

Participation in Peace Operations



Pre-deployment Course Attendees*

Course/Activity	Men	Women
Course for General Staff, Staff Officers, Battalion Leaders and Specialists, Task Forces, Sections and Companies of UN Peace Military Organizations	139	28
Training, enlisting and deployment of Joint Contingents Cyprus (UNFICYP).	719	100
United Nations Military Observer	36	2
United Nations Staff Officer	47	11

*It considers course attendees in 2022 and 2023

Argentina has the **Argentine Joint Peace Operations Training Centre (CAECOPAZ)**, created in 1995.

Argentina contributes **287** military troops to United Nations peace operations, which accounts for **14.2%** of the total provided by Latin America.

Source: Compilation based on the *Ley de servicio militar voluntario* (N° 24429 – 1995/01/10); information provided by the Ministry of Defence; official website of the Ministry of Defence; and statistics from the official website of the UN Department of Peace Operations, Contribution of Uniformed Personnel to UN by Mission and Personnel Type, in its various presentations. Data closed by April 2024.

Community Support



■ ARMY	■ NAVY	■ AIR FORCE
● Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces (President of the Nation)	● Operational Command	● Army Division Command
● Naval/Air Force Command	● Command	● Brigade
		● Air Brigade

Operation SAFE RETURN
 Operation for the repatriation of nationals in Israel, following the attack on October 7, 2023. The evacuation was carried out through an airlift using aircraft from the Armed Forces.

Socio-Health Campaign
 Conducted annually by the Armed Forces since 2013, the campaign aims to assist populations with limited access to or isolated from healthcare centers. During these operations, the following services are provided:
 - Healthcare by professionals in areas such as pediatrics, primary prevention, ophthalmology, gynecology, and general medicine.
 - Vaccination campaigns to complete vaccination schedules, provide immunization against COVID-19, and prevent dengue.
 - Provision of medications and general health screenings.
 In 2022, the campaign took place in the northwest of the country, in 2023 among isolated communities along the Paraná River, and in 2024 it will be conducted in the riverine areas of Chaco and Corrientes.

Aeromedical Evacuations and Search and Rescue Operations
 Through coordinated efforts with the health and emergency systems, aeromedical evacuations are conducted from isolated or hard-to-reach areas of the country. Additionally, search and rescue operations are carried out across the entire territory.

Bermejito Food Campaign
 The 124th edition of the campaign, aimed at providing support to the El Impenetrable Chaqueño community, was conducted. This annual initiative has taken place since 2007, distributing food packages. In 2024, the campaign successfully delivered 22,000 food, health, and potable water packages to the population.



Summer Antarctic Campaign
 These annual campaigns aim to deliver supplies and equipment to Antarctic bases, as well as support operations for construction, re-equipment, and installation. The 2023-2024 Summer Antarctic Campaign consisted of 1,253 personnel, including military and scientists. Argentina manages thirteen (13) bases in Antarctica, six (6) of which are permanent (operational year-round), while the others are temporary (operational only during the summer).

Support for the Heat Plan
 The Armed Forces assist with the loading and delivery of firewood to the population of the Neuquén province, who lack access to a natural gas network or the means to gather their own firewood.

Support for Access to Drinking Water
 The Armed Forces assist in providing access to drinking water for the population. They carry out activities such as water and potable water distribution, as well as the construction of water wells in areas in need.

Flood Relief Support
 The Armed Forces regularly carry out support tasks for the population during flood events in the national territory. In 2023:
 - Bridges were installed in Comodoro Rivadavia to restore transit and assist the 150 families isolated by the floods.
 - Troops were deployed after the floods in the province of Buenos Aires, providing humanitarian aid, setting up water purification plants, field kitchens, and distributing potable water.

Risk and Emergency Management

Protocol for Armed Forces Response in Emergencies

- The Ministry of Defence, through the Sub secretariat of Planning and Executive Coordination in Emergencies, receives requests for Armed Forces involvement and support.
- It coordinates the military deployment for prevention, immediate response, and reconstruction in emergency or disaster situations.
- The request is forwarded to the Military Emergency Assistance Directorate, which coordinates and operationalizes the military tasks involved in the assistance.



Armed Forces Supporting the National Fire Management Service in Forest Fires in the Provinces of Salta and Jujuy. Photo: Ministry of Defence.

Source: Compilation based on information provided by the Ministry of Defence, and official sites of the Ministry of Defence and the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Armed Forces.

Risk and Emergency Management

Undersecretariat of Emergency Planning and Executive Coordination

Its primary objective is to assist in emergency and disaster management, coordinating the deployment of the Armed Forces, the intervention in agreements and the participation in civil protection.

In addition, it is in charge of planning and executing response mechanisms, coordinating specialized and drill trainings, and cooperating in the formulation of disaster risk mitigation and reduction plans.

Emergency and Risk Management Training Courses

- Joint planning of civil protection.
- Courses: basic course for wildfire brigade members; fire environment; use and basic maintenance of chainsaws; squad chiefs.
- Psychosocial support course for: emergencies and disasters; search and rescue in collapsed structures; firefighters; national park workers; intervention teams belonging to governmental agencies and bodies.

MILITARY EMERGENCY RESPONSE UNITS (UMRE)

Created in 2014, these specialized units that act in case of emergencies, natural disasters and humanitarian crises are geographically distributed in the territory based on existing threats.

Its mission is to collaborate with civil authorities and other response agencies to mitigate the effects of emergencies, providing assistance and support for evacuation, medical care, distribution of supplies, and reconstruction.

Risk and emergency management activities during 2022 and 2023 included:

- Construction of temporary bridges in flooded areas.
- Firefighting campaigns for fire mitigation in: National Parks, Wetlands, Cordoba province and Parana Delta.
- Deployment of personnel and supplies to support the National Fire Management Service.
- Support in case of floods in various provinces, distribution of humanitarian help and food rations to the affected population.
- Snow removal of roads in case of heavy snowfall.
- Hydrocarbon spill containment exercises by the Navy.

Embalse Nuclear Power Plant Emergency Plan Application Exercise

As part of the Nuclear Emergency Plan, nuclear emergency drills are performed with the participation of emergency response organizations and the population in order to train personnel and practice health protection measures.

In 2024, the 42nd Embalse Nuclear Power Plant Emergency Plan Application Exercise was performed in Cordoba province.

Protection I - 2024

Drill exercise carried out to improve training and community support capabilities in case of floods due to severe storms. It included the participation of the Armed Forces, Security Forces, Civil Defence and Volunteer Firefighters.

During the exercise, demonstrations of identification of evacuees, medical care and delivery of first necessity items were performed, as well as reconnaissance flights and hydrocarbon spill containment, search and rescue- and evacuation exercises.

Protection of Borders and Sovereign Space

Joint Airspace Command (COCAES)

It is the organ of command and control of air operations, in charge of airspace surveillance and control operations. They also perform activities to support the surveillance of the Exclusive Economic Zone.

OPERATION BORDERS

It is conducted in the framework of radar installation in the Northern border of the country, integrating national airspace control policies, and it obtains information for the identification of illicit activities leading to the determination of neutral information, which is processed by the national security forces.

OPERATION GRIFON

Military operation of surveillance and control of maritime spaces coordinated by the Joint Maritime Command, the organ in charge of the command and control of naval operations. Operation Grifon is performed on a permanent basis and its goal is to help avoid illegal fishing by unauthorized vessels in the exclusive economic zone. The XVII edition of the operation was launched in January 2024.



Armed Forces Joint Cyber Defence Command

Created by Ministry of Defence Resolution 343 of 2014, its objective is to direct cyber defence operations and to provide cybernetic protection to critical defence and infrastructure computer networks.

Blessed Carlo Acutis Exercise

The first joint multi-domain exercise of cyber defence and electronic warfare was carried out by the Armed Forces in 2023. Its goal was to continue strengthening the Armed Forces capabilities to mitigate cyber defence threats.

In said framework, Google laid Firmina subsea telecommunications cable connecting the state of South Carolina, in the United States, with Las Toninas town in Argentina. It also connects Punta del Este, in Uruguay, and Sao Paulo in Brazil. It is the world's longest subsea cable and is part of the submarine cables that have been connecting different countries of the region with the rest of the world and allowing telecommunications since 2000.

The exercise was oriented to protect the docking station of such subsea cables, with the additional participation of cyber defence agencies, tactical cyber defence elements, Armed Forces electronic warfare elements, Air Force aircrafts and a Navy offshore patrol vessel.

Armed Forces Cyber Defence Institute (ICFFAA)

- It teaches courses for senior and subordinate military personnel:
 - University diploma in Defence Management.
 - Joint Basic Cyber Defence Course for senior military personnel.
 - Advanced Cyber Defence Course for Officers.
 - Joint basic Cyber Defence Course for subordinate military personnel.
 - Advanced Cyber Defence Course for NCOs

