

Current Submarine Programs

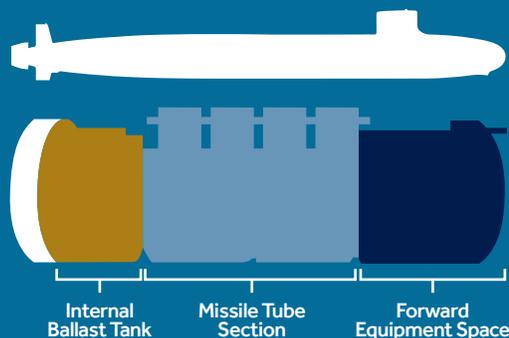


The Virginia Class Attack Submarine Program

The Virginia Class gives the submarine force the capabilities it requires to dominate the undersea domain. Already a potent platform for strike and surveillance, the Virginia Class has been designed for modularity, making it sufficiently mission-flexible to prevail against future threats. The submarine industrial base continues its efforts to improve ship capability while reducing cost and construction time. The sustained procurement of multiple Virginia Class submarines per year is essential for the Navy to maintain undersea dominance.

The Columbia Class Ballistic Missile Submarine Program

The Columbia Class Submarine program, previously known as the OHIO Replacement Program, is the nation's next generation ballistic missile submarine (SSBN). It is an every other generation investment to recapitalize the SSBN force. The Ohio Class SSBNs will start to be retired in Fiscal Year 2027 and to ensure there is no gap in the nation's most survivable strategic deterrent, the USS Columbia (SSBN 826) must start construction in Fiscal Year 2021. The United States submarine industrial base is now engaged in the development of the Columbia Class submarine, focusing on reducing design, construction and life-cycle costs. A minimum of 12 new Columbia Class SSBNs will efficiently maintain the U.S. Navy's nuclear deterrent force into the 2080s, providing a credible strategic nuclear deterrent at the lowest possible cost.



The Virginia Payload Module

Like their SSBN sister ships, Ohio Class guided missile submarines will be retired in the late 2020s leading to a significant drop off of undersea strike and payload capacity. The Navy and the submarine industrial base designed an effective and affordable solution—the Virginia Payload Module (VPM). The VPM comprises four additional large-diameter payload tubes in a new hull section inserted amidships in the existing Virginia Class submarine design. The payload tubes enable the submarine to deliver a large variety of capabilities including weapons, unmanned systems including Large Displacement Unmanned Undersea Vehicles, seabed sensors and other undersea capabilities.

About the SIBC

Established in 1992, the Submarine Industrial Base Council seeks to educate policymakers and the public about the need to preserve the strength of the U.S. submarine force and promote the value of the submarine industrial base as a vital part of our national security. SIBC membership is open to the more than 5,000 U.S. companies that provide critical materials to the U.S. submarine programs under development or in production. Member businesses range from the smallest specialty shops to manufacturers of main propulsion equipment.