

# Current Submarine Programs

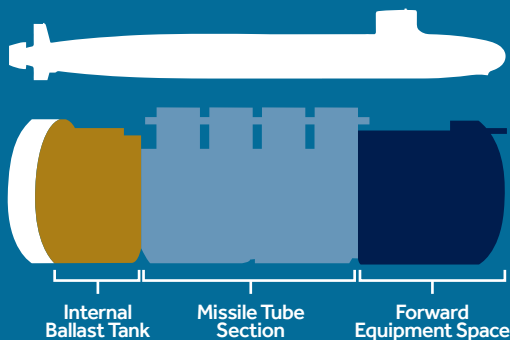


## The Virginia Class Attack Submarine Program

The Virginia Class attack submarine remains the most agile, versatile and adaptable platform within the United States undersea warfare inventory, able to evolve throughout the program to meet current and future threats. The U.S. currently has 49 fast attack submarines, including 21 Virginia Class submarines. However, the April 2022 Long Range Navy Shipbuilding Plan calls for a Future Fleet Architecture range of 58–70 fast attack submarines by 2052, which would include a composition of traditional Virginia platforms, in addition to Virginia Payload Module (VPM) and Subsea and Seabed Warfare (SSW) capable hulls. The sustained procurement of at least two 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 is the nation's next generation ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) and is the Defense Department's #1 priority. It is an every other generation investment to recapitalize the SSBN force and will deliver a minimum of 12 submarines to replace the current Ohio Class fleet and provide strategic deterrence into the 2080s. Construction of the first submarine officially began in October 2020 with the most mature submarine design in our Navy's shipbuilding history. The Columbia program has an aggressive construction and delivery schedule thus, it is critical to maintain full funding for the program to reduce risk of construction delays and prevent a gap in U.S. deterrent capabilities when the Ohio Class SSBNs begin to retire. The first Columbia Class SSBN must be delivered to the Navy in 2027 to make her first strategic deterrent patrol in 2030.



## 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 weapons, 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 thousands of 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.