

Bid to lock down nuclear material

Securing the world's stocks of highly enriched uranium (HEU) is a goal of a two-day nuclear summit hosted in Washington. Roughly 232 tonnes of HEU is in civilian use in about 140 small research reactors in 34 countries, many in academic or industrial settings with inadequate security

HEU in civilian use: Research, medical radioisotope production (kg)

216,940kg

United States 176,000*

Russia 15,000-30,000

Kazakhstan 10,590-10,940

**123,000kg to be blended down to low enriched uranium*

Weapons-grade uranium:

Processed to increase proportion of U-235 isotope to at least 90%

HEU: Processed to around 20%.

As little as

25kg needed to produce crude nuclear weapon

10,768kg

4,501kg

278kg

France	5,006
Japan	2,000
United Kingdom	1,412
Canada	1,350
China	about 1,000

Germany	about 920
Netherlands	730-810
Belgium	700-750
South Africa	610-760
Poland	441
Belarus	170-370
Ukraine	160-250
Italy	100-200

Uzbekistan	56
North Korea	42
Israel	34
Pakistan	17
Serbia	13
Mexico	12
Czech Republic	up to 40
Austria	5-20
Argentina	8
Switzerland	5-10
India	up to 10
Iran	7
Libya	5
Others	4