In 1990, state military spending was estimated at US$954 billion worldwide. Of this total, 45% was spent by the United States, followed by the Russian Federation at 6%, then Germany and the United Kingdom at 5% each. These territories individually spent more than any of the following regions: Central Africa, Southeastern Africa, Northern Africa, Southern Asia, Asia Pacific, Eastern Asia, South America, Eastern Europe and Japan.

The highest military spending per person living in a territory was in Middle Eastern territories such as Kuwait and Qatar. In Kuwait 10,000 times more was spent per person living there than in Ghana.

Territory size shows the proportion of worldwide state military spending in 1990 that was spent by that territory.

“When the rich wage war it is the poor who die.” Jean-Paul Sartre, 1951