HISTORICAL ANALYSIS · 2006–2026

Space Launches by Country

Where launches took place: geographic country totals with unknown locations retained explicitly.

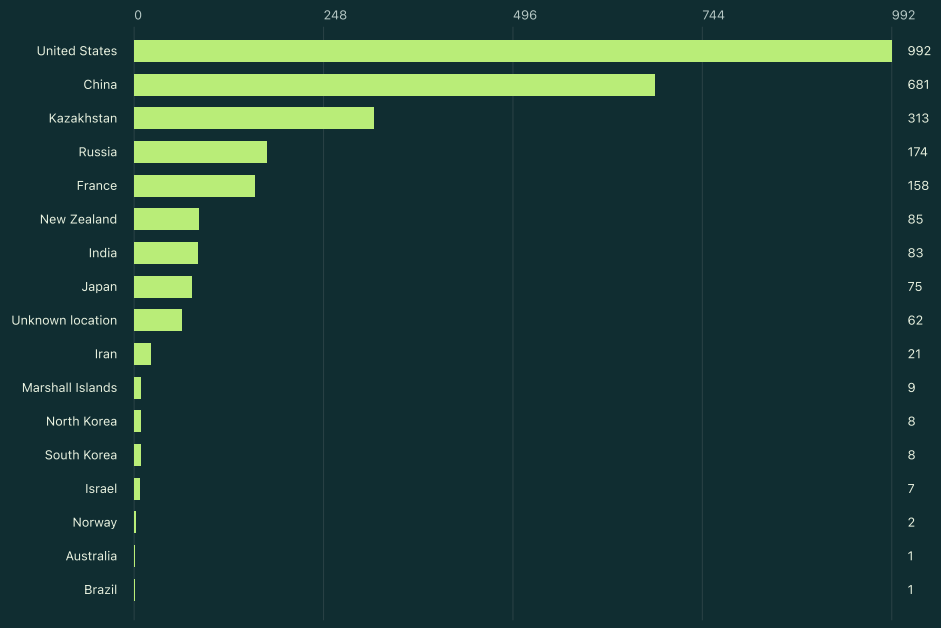
Source snapshot · 29 October 2026 GCAT / Jonathan McDowell Scope · O + D

RECORDED LAUNCHES	IDENTIFIED COUNTRIES	LEADING SHARE	UNKNOWN LOCATION
2,680	16	37.01%	62
O + D · includes incomplete latest year	Distinct source labels	United States	Included in the total denominator

Launch-location ranking

All 17 location groups

Recorded launches



Source: GCAT · Unique launch identifiers

Cumulative snapshot counts · latest year incomplete

2026 is incomplete: 254 launches are recorded in this snapshot year. No annual growth comparison with the previous full year is made.

READING THE DATA

What the record shows

01

Largest recorded group

United States accounts for 992 launches, or 37.01% of the snapshot total. This is a cumulative count, not an annual rate.

02

Coverage remains visible

2,618 launches have an identified country; 62 remain unknown. All 2,680 launches are retained in the share denominator.

THE UNDERLYING NUMBERS

Country totals

Shares use all launches, including unknown values. Counts cover unequal periods of activity.

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COUNTRY / SOURCE CODE	LAUNCHES	SHARE
United States (US)	992	37.01%
China (CN)	681	25.41%
Kazakhstan (KZ)	313	11.68%
Russia (RU)	174	6.49%
France (FR)	158	5.90%
New Zealand (NZ)	85	3.17%
India (IN)	83	3.10%
Japan (JP)	75	2.80%
Unknown location (UNKNOWN)	62	2.31%
Iran (IR)	21	0.78%
Marshall Islands (MH)	9	0.34%
North Korea (KP)	8	0.30%
South Korea (KR)	8	0.30%
Israel (IL)	7	0.26%
Norway (NO)	2	0.07%

COUNTRY / SOURCE CODE	LAUNCHES	SHARE
Australia (AU)	1	0.04%
Brazil (BR)	1	0.04%

TRANSPARENT BY DESIGN

Methodology & sources

Snapshot coverage

Data retrieved 29 October 2026. Latest recorded launch: 2026-10-27T07:25:23Z. The snapshot year remains incomplete regardless of when this report is generated.

Country means launch geography

The country is the geographic location of liftoff, not the operator's nationality or the payload owner. Baikonur is assigned to Kazakhstan, Kwajalein to the Marshall Islands and French Guiana to France. Offshore, airborne and uncertain locations retain an unknown country; we do not infer maritime jurisdiction.

Scope and limitations

Unique O (orbital) and D (deep-space) launches are included, including failures. N flights and events without liftoff are excluded. The source classification is retained. These results describe the snapshot; they do not establish causes or forecast future activity.

Attribution

Data from GCAT — Jonathan C. McDowell, CC BY 4.0. Compatisto aggregates and visualizes the records. · Field documentation.

Source SHA-256
ee70d1d8b7cb72a239f60a996c061cd1ddf4fed493686f2d8e8333a83a91d5c3