

## Macro Roundup Article

**Headline:** [Why is the U.S. Navy Running Out of Tomahawk Cruise Missiles?](#)

**Article Link:** <https://www.aei.org/op-eds/why-is-the-u-s-navy-running-out-of-tomahawk-cruise-missiles/#:~:text=Fluctuating%20Tomahawk%20buys%20have%20led,it%20difficult%20to%20surge%20production.>

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**Tweet:** The US Navy has been depleting its Tomahawk stockpile by firing the missiles faster than it can replace them. On the first day of strikes in Yemen it used 80 missiles relative to the 55 procured in 2023. @MEaglen @AEI

**Summary:** While the Navy does have a large existing stockpile of Tomahawks to sustain its land-attack capability, it has recently been firing the missiles faster than it can replace them. According to the Navy, opening day strikes alone expended more than 80 Tomahawks to hit 30 targets within Yemen. Last year's entire Tomahawk purchase of 55 missiles accounted for 68% of the precision munitions fired at the Houthis in one day. This is an unsustainable rate of expenditure. However, this represents adherence to, rather than deviation from, the norm. Prior strikes in Syria expended fifty-nine Tomahawks in 2017 and an additional sixty-six in 2018. The Navy bought just 100 Tomahawks in 2018 and then zero Tomahawks in 2019—failing to offset the expenditure rate of the Syria strikes. Related: The West Badly Needs More Missiles—But The Wait To Buy Them Is Years Long and China's Shipyards Are Ready for a Protracted War. America's Aren't and Japan Raises Military Spending To Counter China With More Missiles and Ships

**Primary Topic:** Security

**Topics:** Investment, News article, Productivity, Security

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**Featured Image Link:** <https://www.edwardconard.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Navy-Tomahawk-Procurement.png>