



Swiss Armed Forces Unexploded Ordnance Alert Centre

Statistics 2018

The UXO Alert Centre and its partners are responsible for the disposal of unexploded ordnance, abandoned ordnance and ammunition scrap metal throughout Switzerland. The Swiss EOD Center works in cooperation with the Regional Division Commands in regularly conducted battle area clearances (BAC) on firing ranges of the Swiss Armed Forces.

The following pages provide an overview of the activities in 2018 and a comparison of the last ten years.

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Reported unexploded ordnance

Number of reports	631
Disposed UXO / AXO / Inert ordnance and FFE (in item numbers) *	2128
Performed work in hours (EOD, Infra Centre, Military Police and other partners)	4608
Kilometers driven with service vehicles (EOD, Infra Centre, Military Police and other partners)	91190
Financial Compensations (in CHF)	9650

Battle area clearance (BAC) campaigns (with support of personnel of Swiss EOD Centre)

Number of BAC campaigns	4
Disposed UXO	66
Inert munitions or FFE (in kilograms)	33'000
Number of involved persons (EOD, partners and military units)	66
Helicopter operations (in hours)	47

*

UXO	unexploded ordnance	ammunition may have been fired, dropped, launched or projected yet remains unexploded through malfunction, design or for other reason.
AXO	abandoned ordnance	ammunition may or may not have been primed, fuzed, armed or otherwise prepared for use
FFE	free from explosives	Inert ammunition parts without explosives

Centre of Excellence NBC-EOD

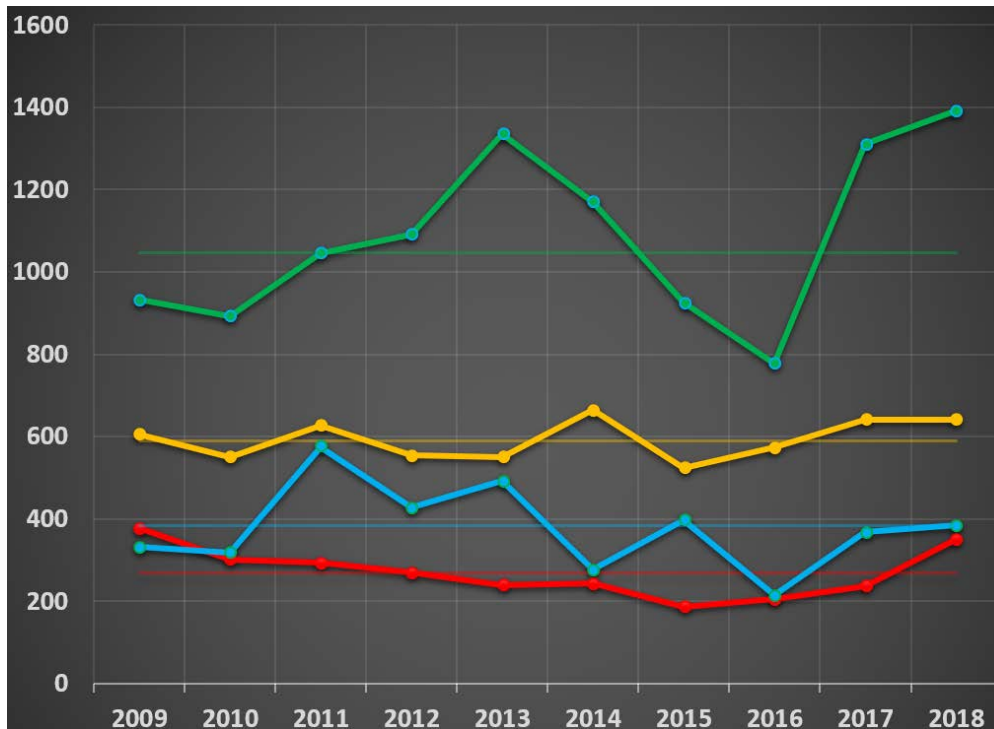
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Comparison of the last ten years of UXO reports



- Annual value
- Average over the past 10 years

UXO Reports

The amount of announcements has remained steady along the years. In some years the numbers might slightly change. This depends on a number of factors, like weather and outdoor activities.

UXO

The amount of reported UXOs is slowly sinking due to reduced training activities for the armed forces. Nevertheless in the last few years a slight increase has been registered. Possible reasons could be:

- Good weather and increased outdoor activities

Ammunition scrap

The amount of ammunition scrap is rising. Possible reasons are :

- Good weather
- Snow melting in higher mountain regions
- Construction works at former shooting ranges

Abandoned Explosive Ordnance (AXO)

The amount of AXO being reported is sinking. Possible reasons could be:

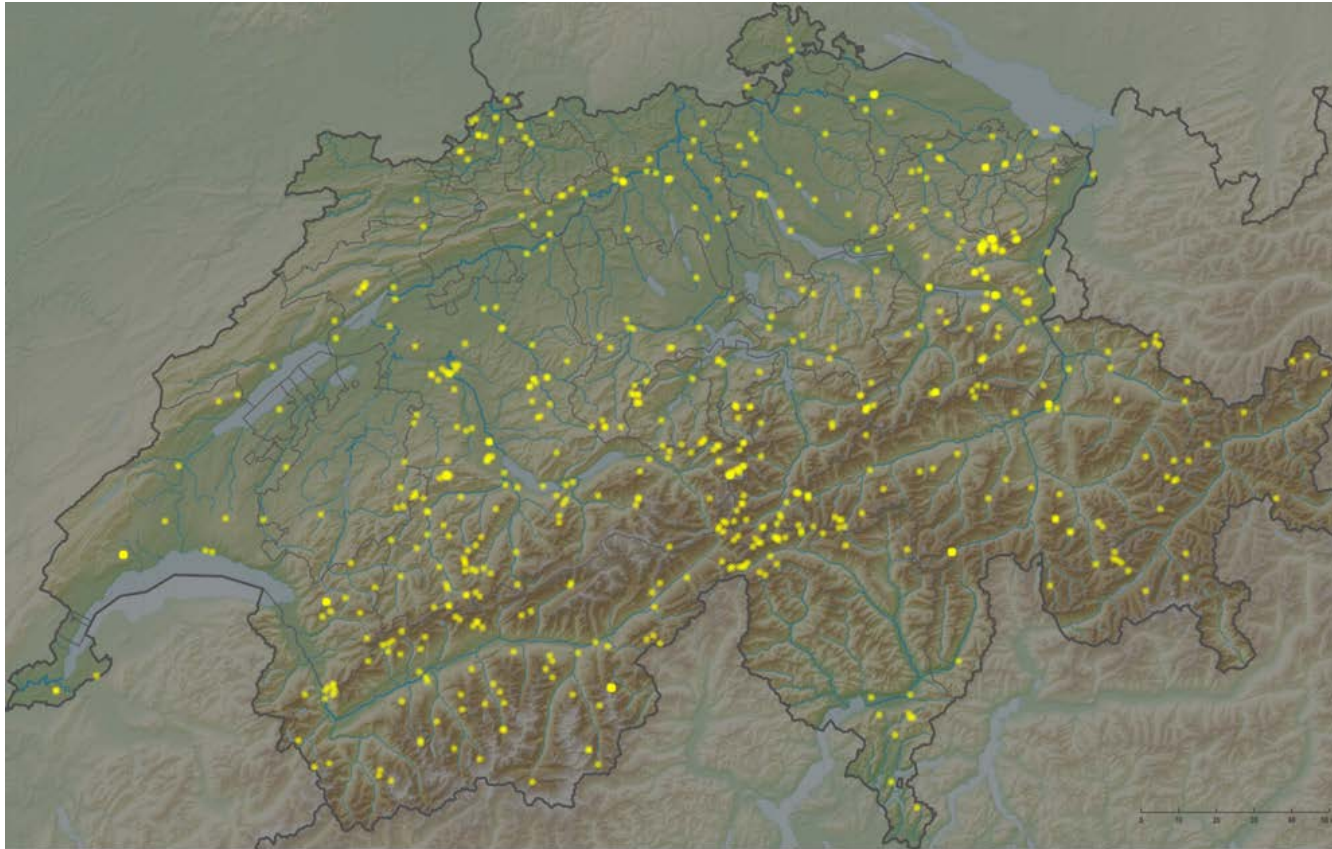
- Better control mechanisms
- Sinking turn ins/ handover by civilians



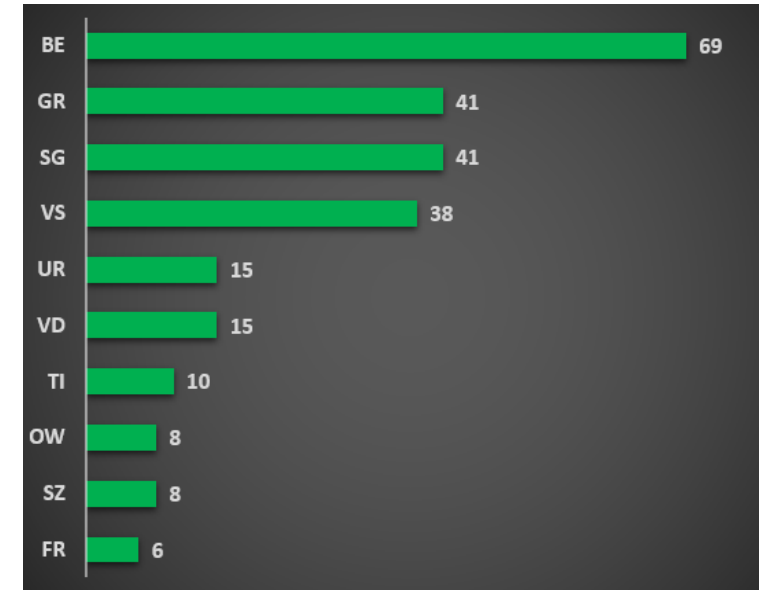
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UXO locations according reports



Top Ten among the Cantons, related to the number of reports:





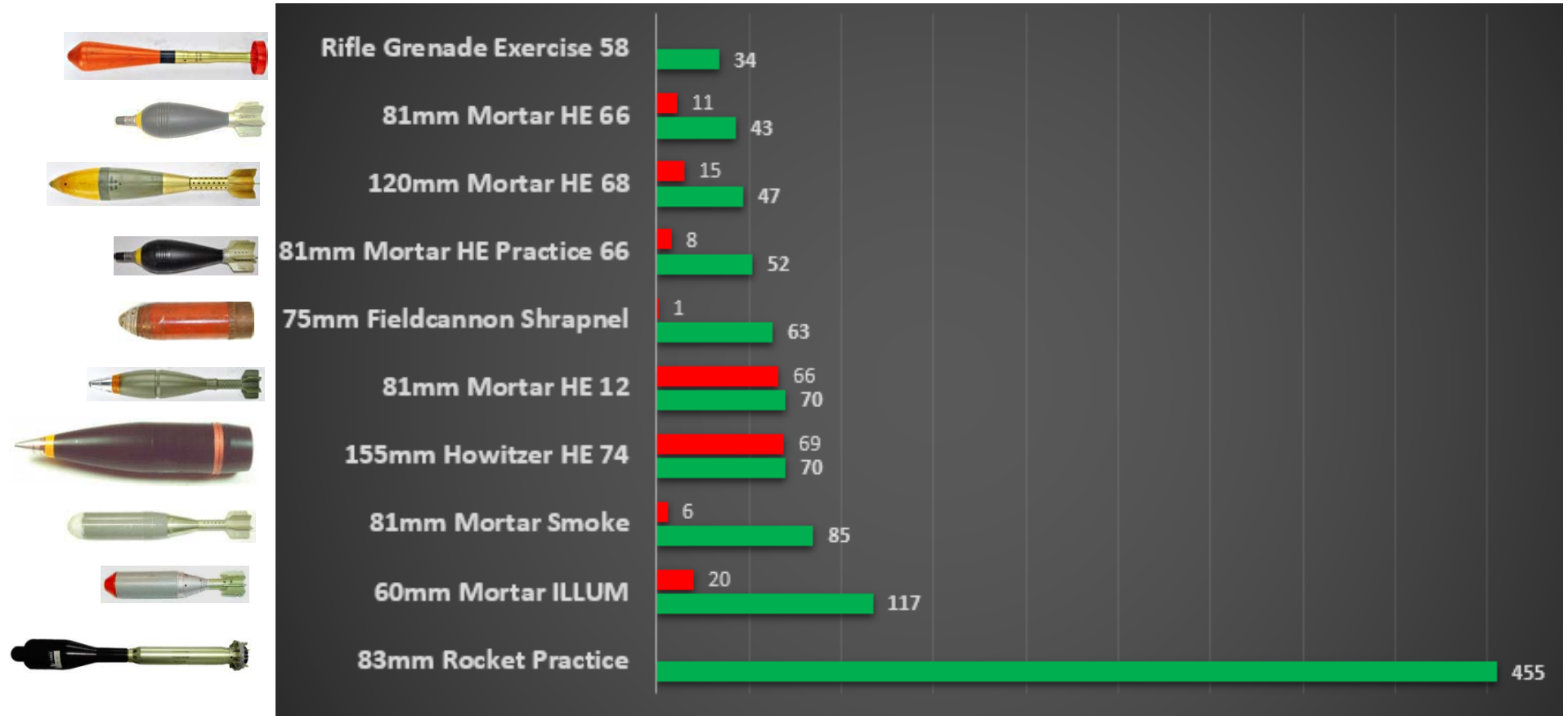


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Top 10 most found ordnance

 Total reported ordnance
 Thereof UXO



Other pictures of ammunition, click the link: [Identification chart](#)

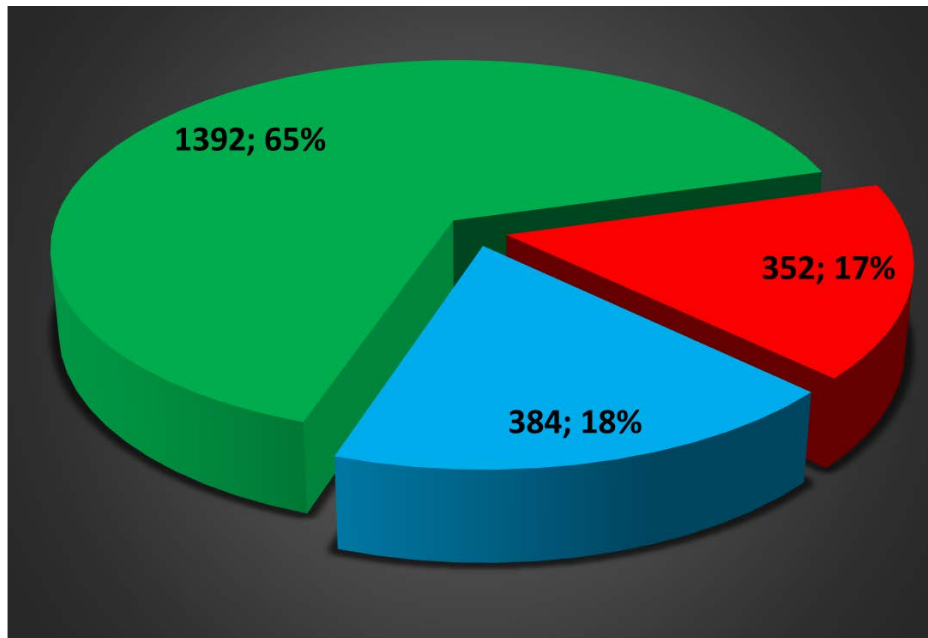


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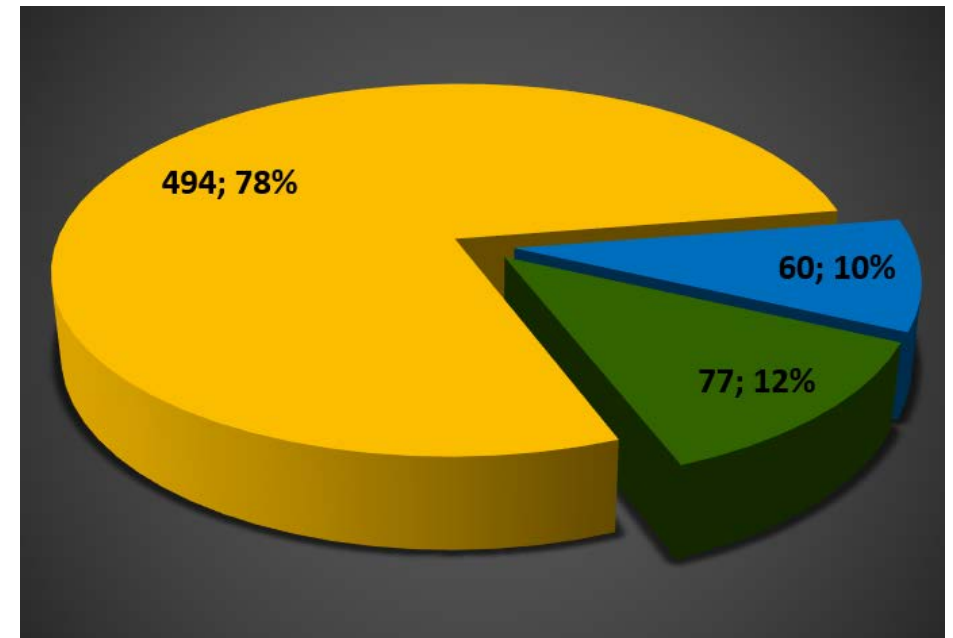
Reports according to condition of ordnance, reporting persons and locations

Condition of ordnance



- Inert ordnance or free from explosives (FFE)
- Unexploded ordnance (UXO)
- Abandoned ordnance (AXO)

Reporting persons and locations



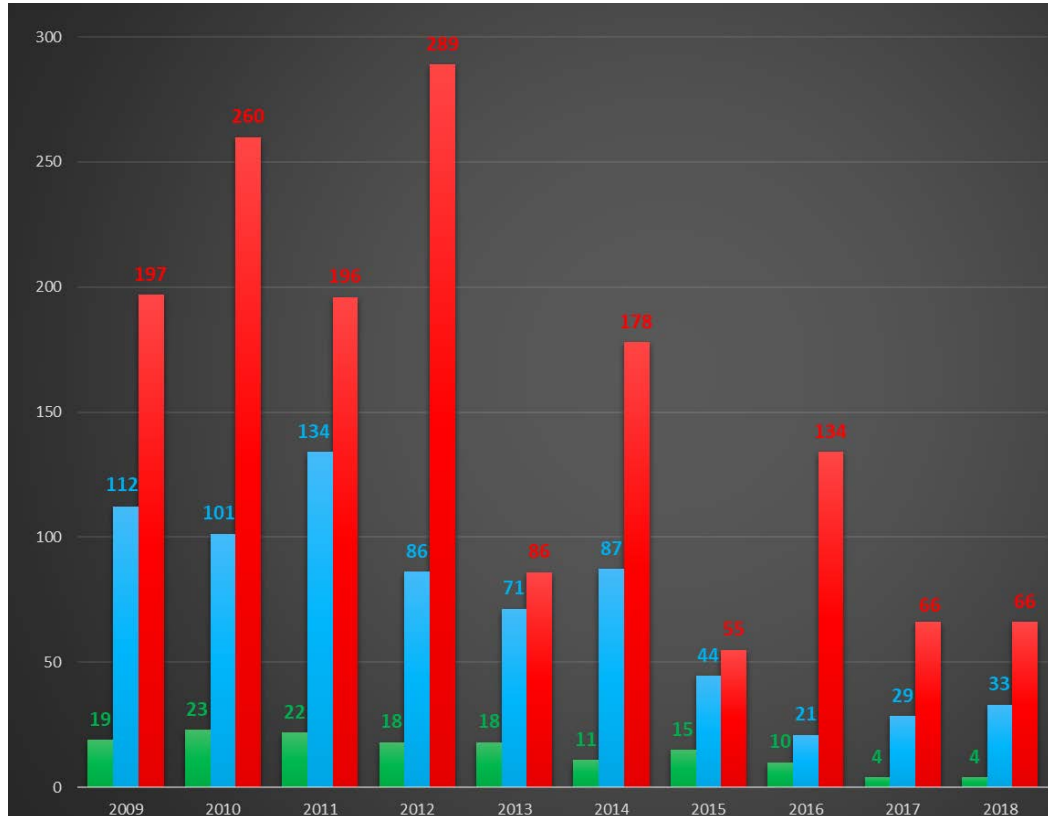
- Civilian (Shooting ranges, private buildings)
- Police (Handing over by civilians, house searches)
- Mil Units (UXO during training)



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Comparing the last ten years of battle area clearance (with support of personnel of the Swiss EOD Center)



Number of BAC

Possible reasons:

- Reduced/ insufficient resources

Number of found UXO

Possible reasons:

- Depending on type of firing range*

Number tons of scrap metal

Possible reasons:

- Depending on type of firing range*

*

The annual fluctuation of the quantity of UXOs and FFE depends on the type of firing range and weapon systems in use.



Contact details

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Do you have any questions?

The UXO Alert Centre is at your disposal

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<https://www.vtg.admin.ch/en/service/was-koennen-wir-fuer-sie-tun-/blindgaenger-melden.html>

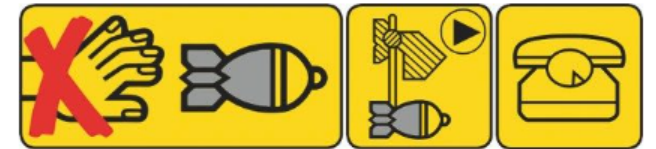
Phone Police: 117

Or download our **unexploded ordnance app** from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store by searching for the term «Blindgänger»

Reporting unexploded ordnance

Munition that has not or has only partially detonated is called unexploded ordnance; for instance because it has landed in water, snow or soft earth or been deviated by stones. Unexploded ordnance and munition remnants can frequently be found on shooting ranges, in mountain target areas, on glaciers – but also in the estate of deceased persons as military service souvenirs. Such 'souvenirs' are prohibited because unexploded ordnance is highly dangerous!

To prevent accidents, please observe the following principles:
never touch unexploded ordnance – mark – report.



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