

Chilling map shows areas in US most likely to be targeted by nuclear attack

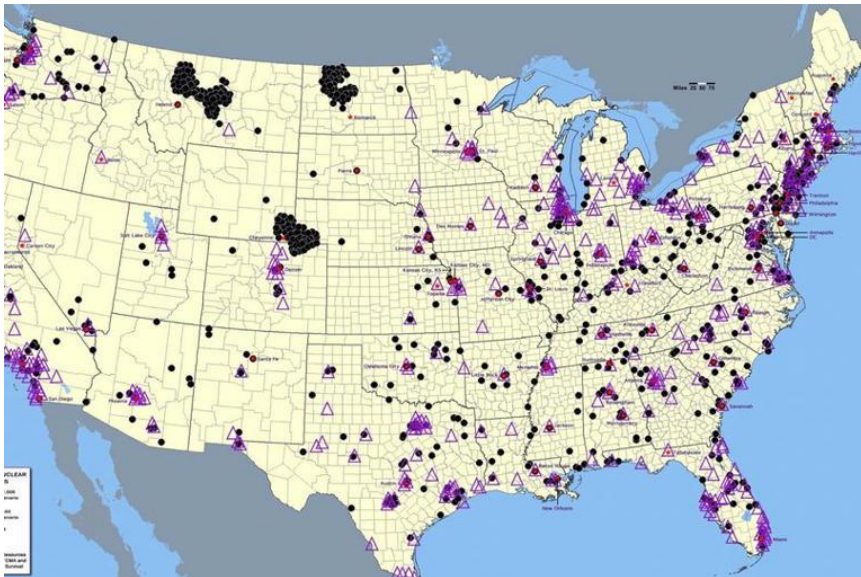
Yelena Mandenberg & Rudi Kinsella

The threat of nuclear war looms over parts of America as Russia's invasion of Ukraine and other global conflicts persist. **A map has been released showing the areas most likely to be targeted in a nuclear attack on US soil**, highlighting potential targets in every American state, **predominantly in the East but also along the California coast.**

Montana and North Dakota are suggested as key targets due to their numerous nuclear weapons and launch sites. Meanwhile, fears of World War 3 escalate as Iran launches an attack on Israel with 100 drones, and experts warn that the regime has enough uranium for 12 bombs.

Warnings have been issued to Russians that nuclear war is now 'inevitable', putting 'millions at risk'. If nuclear war breaks out in Russia or China, **'hundreds of millions will die in minutes'**.

In the west, Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, and Wyoming have many targets marked on the map, including **active nuclear power plants**. There are approximately 90 of these across the US, located in states such as Alabama, Arizona, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Tennessee, according to Mirror US. **Areas like rural Idaho, Maine, Northern California, and Oregon might be safer.** The US has strategically placed its nuclear forces in sparsely populated areas to minimise damage in the event of an attack. Intercontinental ballistic missile silos, military bases, and locations where nuclear weapons are stored are dispersed throughout the US.



Chilling map of US shows areas 'most at risk of nuclear war'© CBS

The US has around 90 active nuclear power stations located in states like Alabama, Arizona, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee, which could become strategic hits during conflicts. Additionally, high-value targets include missile storage sites, military bases, and repositories of nuclear weapons.

The contentious map surfacing initially in a 2015 CBS article - draws from FEMA, Medicine and Global Survival, and the National Resources Defense Council data. Nevertheless, a representative for

FEMA insisted: "FEMA does not, and has not, released any type of formal map of potential nuclear targets. However, FEMA provides information to the public to help them prepare for a potential hazardous or radiological event through Ready.gov."

Urban centres such as New York, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Washington, DC are typically considered prime targets due to their economic importance, dense populations, and government facilities. Other potentially at-risk cities include Dallas-Fort Worth, Miami, and Philadelphia. Despite threats, Vladimir Putin reassures that Russia won't strike NATO but cautions that Ukraine's US-supplied fighter jets remain 'legitimate targets. '. Furthermore, Putin proposes close-range executions of ISIS militants. However, areas such as Idaho, Maine, Northern California, and Oregon may face less risk.

Tensions between the US and Russia escalated last month when the US accused Russia of breaching their final nuclear arms pact, an accusation Russia denied, claiming the US was the one that was not upholding the agreement.

In a stark assertion towards the end of 2022, Russian President Vladimir Putin did not shy away from suggesting the use of nuclear weapons beyond Ukrainian borders. He targeted the West, alleging "nuclear blackmail" while signaling Russia's readiness to employ "various means of destruction" Stressing his point, he declared decisively, "*To defend Russia and our people, we doubtlessly will use all weapons resources at our disposal,*" asserting, "*This is not a bluff.*" By December, Putin seemed open to rethinking Russia's stance on employing nuclear weapons first in conflicts, contrasting with existing strategy. During a press briefing, he indicated, "*They have it in their strategy, in the documents it is spelt out - a preventive blow. We don't. We, on the other hand, have formulated a retaliatory strike in our strategy,*" referring to respective US and Russian policies reported by CNN.