

FACT SHEET

Columbia-class nuclear submarine



The *Columbia*-class submarine (formerly known as the *Ohio* Replacement Submarine and SSBN-X Future Follow-on Submarine) is an upcoming class of nuclear submarines designed to replace the *Ohio*-class ballistic missile submarines in the United States Navy. The first submarine officially began construction on Oct. 1, 2020, and is scheduled to enter service in 2031.

On June 3, 2022, the Navy announced this first boat will be named the *USS District of Columbia* (SSBN-826), because there currently exists an attack submarine named the *USS Columbia* (SSN-771). The Navy hasn't said whether the name of the class will also be changed.

The *Columbia* class is to replace the *Ohio* class of UGM-133 *Trident II* armed ballistic missile submarines, whose remaining boats are to be decommissioned, one per year, beginning in 2027. The *Columbia* class will take over the role of submarine presence in the United States' strategic nuclear force.

Electric Boat designed the new class with help from Newport News Shipbuilding. A total of 12 submarines are planned, with construction of the lead boat that began in 2021. Each submarine will have 16 missile tubes, each carrying one *Trident II* missile. The submarines will be 560 feet long and 43 feet in diameter, as long as the *Ohio*-class design, and 1 foot larger in diameter.

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