

5. Military unit: Salvadoran Army (Ejército Salvadoreño)

- **Name of BSO/A parent organization:**
Ministry of National Defense
- **Authorities:**
Commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces: Nayib Bukele
Minister of National Defence: Vice Admiral René Francis Merino Monroy
Chief of Army Staff: Colonel Mario Adalberto Figueroa Cárcamo
- **Responsibilities:**
The Salvadoran Army focuses on preventive patrolling and internal security operations to combat gang violence and drug trafficking.
- **Organizational Structure:**
The primary combat capability of the army is provided by a single cavalry regiment with two maneuver battalions and the augmented battalion-size SF Command. Its five infantry brigades field 15 combat arms battalions. A single artillery brigade operates a mix of ageing 105 mm howitzers and 20 mm anti-aircraft cannons. There is also a Special Military Security Brigade with two military police and two border guard battalions that carry out essential security missions and can act as combat units. In April 2016, the government established a rapid reaction force consisting of 600 soldiers and 400 elite policemen to fight organized crime.

Order of battle:

Unit hierarchy	Base	Type	Role
Armed Forces of El Salvador		Combat Service Support	Command and Control
Salvadoran Army		Service Support	Command and Control
1st Military Zone	San Salvador	Combat Arms	Combined Arms
1st Cavalry Regiment	La Libertad	Combat Arms	Infantry
201st Mechanised Battalion	La Libertad	Combat Arms	Infantry
202nd Mechanised Battalion	La Libertad	Combat Arms	Infantry

Combat Support and Service Battalion	La Libertad	Combat Support	Logistics
Communications Command	CATFA Barracks	Combat Support	Signal
Signal Battalion	San Salvador	Combat Support	Logistics
Engineer Command	Sitio del Niño	Combat Support	Engineer
301st Engineer Battalion	La Libertad	Combat Support	Engineer
302nd Engineer Battalion	La Libertad	Combat Support	Engineer
Special Military Security Brigade	San Salvador	Combat Arms	Security
1 Military Police Battalion	San Salvador	Combat Support	Military Police
Sumpul Command	San Salvador	Combat Arms	Special Operations
Teniente Coronel Oscar Osorio Artillery Brigade	San Juan Opico, La Libertad	Combat Arms	Combined Arms
1st Battery	San Juan Opico, La Libertad	Combat Arms	Artillery
Air Defence Battalion	San Juan Opico, La Libertad	Combat Arms	Air Defence
Combat Support Battalion	San Juan Opico, La Libertad	Combat Support	Logistics
2nd Military Zone	Santa Ana	Combat Arms	Combined Arms
2nd Infantry Brigade "General Tomás Regalado"	Santa Ana	Combat Arms	Combined Arms

21st Infantry Battalion		Combat Arms	Infantry
Military Detachment No 6		Combat Arms	Infantry
Military Detachment No 7		Combat Arms	Infantry
3rd Military Zone	San Miguel	Combat Arms	Combined Arms
3rd Infantry Brigade	San Miguel	Combat Arms	Combined Arms
31st Infantry Battalion	La Union	Combat Arms	Infantry
Combat Support Battalion	San Miguel	Combat Support	Logistics
Military Detachment No 3	La Union	Combat Arms	Infantry
Military Detachment No 4	San Francisco Gotera	Combat Arms	Infantry
6th Infantry Brigade	Usulután	Combat Arms	Combined Arms
61st Infantry Battalion	Usulután	Combat Arms	Infantry
Combat Support Battalion (6th Infantry Brigade)	Usulután	Combat Support	Logistics
4th Military Zone	El Paraiso	Combat Arms	Combined Arms
4th Infantry Brigade	El Paraiso	Combat Arms	Combined Arms
41st Infantry Battalion	El Paraiso	Combat Arms	Infantry

42nd Infantry Battalion	El Paraiso	Combat Arms	Infantry
Combat Support Battalion	El Paraiso	Combat Support	Logistics
Military Detachment No 1	El Paraiso	Combat Arms	Infantry
5th Military Zone	San Vicente	Combat Arms	Combined Arms
5th Infantry Brigade	San Vicente	Combat Arms	Combined Arms
51st Infantry Battalion		Combat Arms	Infantry
Combat Support Battalion		Combat Support	Logistics
Military Detachment No 5	Cojutepeque	Combat Arms	Infantry
Military Detachment No 9	Zacatecoluca	Combat Arms	Infantry
Presidential Security Battalion	San Salvador	Service Support	Personnel Services
Special Forces Command	Ilopango International Airport	Combat Arms	Combined Arms
Paratroop Battalion No.1	Ilopango International Airport	Combat Arms	Infantry
Special Counter-terrorism Command	Ilopango International Airport	Combat Arms	Special operations
Special Operations Group	Ilopango International Airport	Combat Arms	Special operations

- **Force Distribution:**

The Salvadoran Army is organized along territorial lines, with units being deployed in the five (5) different military zones that divide the country.

All specialized units – the Cavalry Regiment, Artillery Brigade, Special Security Military Brigade, Engineering Command, Communications Command, and SF Command – are found within the First Military Zone, which covers the center of the country and the capital, San Salvador. Five (5) infantry brigades are spread among the four remaining military zones, one per zone, except for the Fifth Military Zone, which has two. Command of military zones is assumed by brigade commanders.

A number of company-sized military detachments are also found in the different military zones and fall under the command of the latter. The specialist units found in the First Military Zone can quickly deploy to other parts of the country to support the units found in a particular military zone. The structure is unlikely to undergo significant change because it enables efficient coverage of the Salvadoran territory.

- **Law or decree granting BSO/A authorities and jurisdictions**

El Salvador Constitution of 1983, as amended-- Title VI, Chapter 8,

https://www.asamblea.gob.sv/sites/default/files/documents/decretos/171117_072857074_archivo_documento_legislativo.pdf

- **Composition and capabilities:**

- **Number of full-time staff**

- 19,000 (as of 2018, approximately 13,000 troops are deployed in support of the National Civil Police and the Ministry of Justice and Public Security)

- **Number of Manned Rotary-Wing Aircraft**

- None

- **Number of Manned Fixed-Wing Aircraft**

- None

- **Number of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs)**

- Unknown

- **Number of Maritime platforms**

- None

- **Number of Tactical Land vehicles (105)**

Make	Class	Role	In service	Year of initial delivery
VCTA2	Self-propelled	Anti-tank	4	2014
VCTA1	Self-propelled	Armoured personnel carrier	1	2011
UR-416	Self-propelled	Armoured personnel carrier	6	1975
AML 90	Self-propelled	Fire support	6	1979
VAL Cashuat	Self-propelled	Armoured personnel carrier, Tactical/light utility	16	1986
JGMS J8 BPV	Self-propelled	Patrol	4	2015
M1151	Self-propelled	Tactical/light utility	21	2009
M-240 Storm	Self-propelled	Tactical/light utility	18	unknown
M1025	Self-propelled	Tactical/light utility	25	unknown
M1165	Self-propelled	Tactical/light utility, Command/information	4	2009

- **Major intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) systems**
 - Unknown
- **Location of BSO/A headquarters (latitude/longitude data)**
Ministry of Defense (13.690725437107249, -89.23097662200817)
- **Field operations**

Army Bases

Name	Latitude	Longitude
San Jose	13.5488889	-87.8958333
Santa Ana	13.9872455	-89.5547501
Usulután	13.347705	-88.437462

Cojutepeque	13.719916	-88.925537
CATFA Barracks	13.715851	-89.195483
Ahuachapan	13.920347	-89.843101
El Paraiso	14.0991667	-89.0805556
San Juan Opico, La Libertad	13. 8401208	-89. 3605809
San Vicente	13. 6444657	-88. 7851083
San Miguel	13.4933333	-88.1905556
Sitio del Niño	13.7808333	-89.3777778
Zacatecoluca	13. 5076927	-88. 8735286
Sensuntepeque	13.8771440	- 88.627219
La Libertad	13.5094444	-89.2575
San Salvador	13.6877778	-89.2344444