

Where Does Space Junk Come From?

Every time a spacecraft is launched, the rockets used to propel it are blown off and left to float around in space.

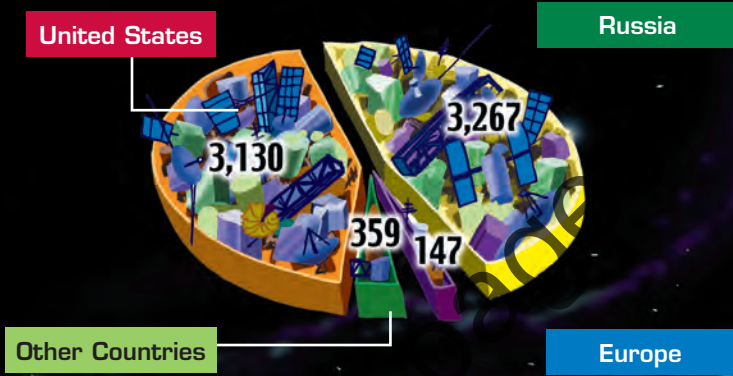
Earth's backyard is littered with thousands and thousands of pieces of space junk.

When two pieces of junk crash together, they break up into even smaller pieces, creating more and more pieces of space junk.



Where the Junk Comes From

Origins of space objects in orbit tracked by radar and telescopes.



The "tracked junk" list includes:

