

TEXAS AEROSPACE, AVIATION & DEFENSE INDUSTRY

Lockheed Martin F-35B Lightning II

Economic Development & Tourism | Office of Texas Governor Greg Abbott

Texas is a leading global player in the aerospace, aviation and defense arena. The state is an epicenter for industry activity—from aircraft and component manufacturing, to aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul; from aerospace research and flight training, to military aircraft development and space exploration. As home to the headquarters of two international airlines and two of the world's busiest airports, as well as major fixed-base operators, the state is a key location for the largest global aviation companies. Thanks to a highly trained and specialized workforce, Texas is a leader in aerospace manufacturing and continues to be selected for major relocation and expansion projects.

Texas has a long history in aerospace industry dominance and remains on the cutting edge of new developments and technologies. More than 50 years ago, NASA's Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center (JSC) was established in Houston. Since its inception, JSC has helped the U.S. and the world reach monumental breakthroughs in human space exploration. Today, Texas is home to state-of-the-art test sites for multiple commercial space firms and is leading the country towards the new frontier of aerospace and aviation innovation.



Lockheed Martin's assembly plant in Fort Worth, TX builds F-35 Joint Strike Fighters. (Photo: International Trade Administration)



A DIVERSE AND GROWING WORKFORCE:

Texas' aerospace, aviation and civilian defense labor force is one of the largest in the nation. The industry directly employs over 144,000 Texas workers at more than 1,700 establishments.



EDUCATED TALENT POOL:

Aerospace and aviation education in Texas is supported by an extensive network of higher education institutions around the state. Texas has produced more than 66,000 aerospace and aviation-related graduates in the last decade.



15 ACTIVE MILITARY BASES:

Texas is home to 15 active military bases, including six active Air Force bases and three naval air stations. These operations contributed at least \$123.6 billion to the Texas economy in 2019 and are a testament to Texas' vital role in the country's aerospace and defense initiatives.



LEADER IN AEROSPACE MANUFACTURING:

17 of the 20 largest aerospace manufacturers in the world have operations in Texas. In fact, Texas ranks #3 in the nation for aerospace product and part manufacturing firms and #4 for exports—valued at \$11.5 billion.



MAJOR AIRPORT ACTIVITY:

Texas is home to headquarters for Southwest and American Airlines, and a major hub for United Airlines. The state boasts 27 commercial airports, including two of the world's busiest (Dallas' DFW and Houston's IAH), and six of the nation's top 50.

AEROSPACE, AVIATION & DEFENSE EMPLOYMENT IN TEXAS

| Sector (Industry Code) | Establishments | Employees | Average Annual Wage |
|--|----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Aerospace product & parts manufacturing (NAICS 3364) | 234 | 49,410 | \$111,740 |
| Scheduled air transportation (NAICS 4811) | 164 | 59,466 | \$97,177 |
| Nonscheduled air transportation (NAICS 4812) | 337 | 4,771 | \$104,519 |
| Support activities for air transportation (NAICS 4881) | 814 | 26,344 | \$65,514 |
| Satellite telecommunications (NAICS 5174) | 59 | 544 | \$109,490 |
| Flight training (NAICS 611512) | 138 | 3,292 | \$78,484 |
| TOTAL | 1,746 | 143,827 | \$96,243 |
| Weighted Average | | | \$96,243 |



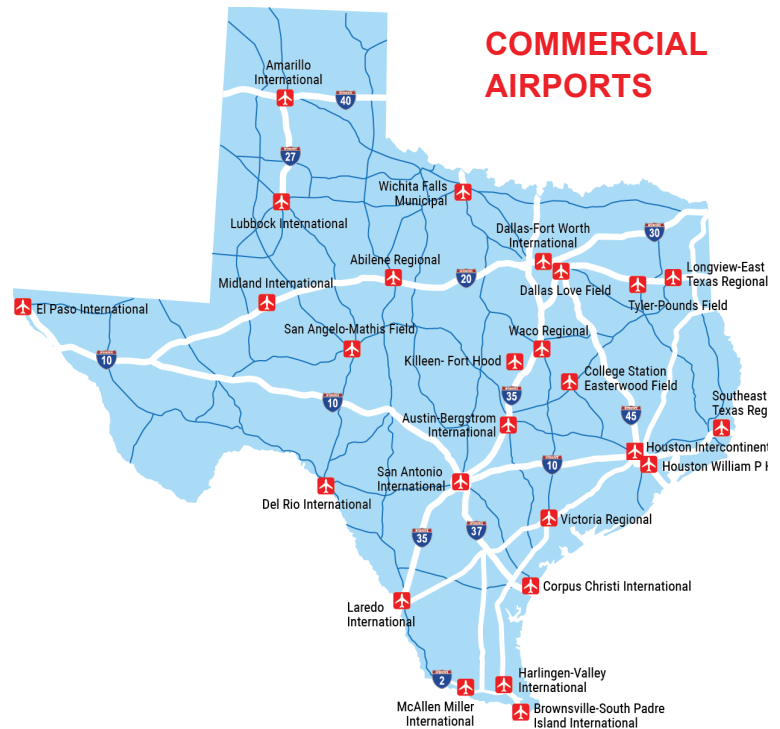
Starship at SpaceX launch facility in Cameron County, TX.

THE CUTTING EDGE OF

AEROSPACE INNOVATION: Texas is focused on aerospace technology research and development. In fact, Texas universities dedicated over \$112 million to aerospace technology research between 2015 and 2018. Texas is home to the engine test site for SpaceX's Falcon 9, the first commercial vehicle to successfully attach to the International Space Station, launched by the company in 2012.

AVIATION AND DEFENSE LEADERS CHOOSE TEXAS:

Leaders in aerospace, aviation and defense choose Texas for major operations, including Boeing, Bell Helicopter, Lockheed Martin, Raytheon, L-3 Communications and General Dynamics. And after a nationwide search, the U.S. Army selected Texas for the location of their first Army Futures Command headquarters.



CONTACT US



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

The Governor's Office of Economic Development and Tourism (EDT) serves as the state's leading economic development organization marketing Texas as the world's premier business investment destination. The division pursues business expansion and relocation prospects, with the goal of developing job creation and export opportunities for the Texas business community.

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