

Industries of the Future: Aerospace & Aviation Fact Sheet

Florida has positioned itself to be a leader in the Aerospace & Aviation Industries. Florida is home to many Departments of Defense and private sector business operations. Aerospace & Aviation industries include multiple components. This cluster contains but is not limited to air traffic control, aircraft manufacturing, satellite telecommunications, aircraft engines and parts, flight training, air freight and passenger transportation, airport operations, guided missiles and space vehicles, and search, detection & navigation instrument.

Industry at a Glance in Florida:

Florida has a long history with both the aerospace and aviation industries. Florida has been in aerospace research and testing since 1946 and had the first scheduled airline service in 1914 ([Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Bureau of Workforce Statistics and Economic Research](#)). In 2020, the Aviation and Aerospace industry cluster in Florida had 2,568 establishments and an employment of 114,993 ([Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Bureau of Workforce Statistics and Economic Research](#)). Florida utilizes its strength in workforce, infrastructure, and history to continue to target growth in the Aerospace & Aviation cluster in 2023.

Key Assets in Florida:

- Large number of private and government facilities ([Enterprise FL](#) via multiple sources)
 - 400+ Aerospace Establishments
 - 2000+ Aviation Establishments
 - 3 Space Ports and 10 launch facilities
 - 130+ Public Use Airports
 - 20 Commercial Service Airports
 - 20+ Major Military Installations
- Skilled Workforce
 - #1 in High-Tech Employment in the Southeast ([Enterprise FL](#) via Comp TIA CyberStates)
 - 106,000+ Floridians work in the Aerospace & Aviation industries ([Enterprise FL](#))
 - Florida's Annual Output of Aerospace Relevant Skilled Certificate and Degree Holders totaled 13,358 ([Enterprise FL](#) via JobsEQ; Data as of the 2018-2019 academic year)

Key Challenges

Challenges facing the Aerospace & Aviation industry include workforce shortages and skills gaps, supply chain weakness and continual disruptions, cybersecurity, climate change and challenges within the sector to decarbonize, and maintaining and modernizing aircrafts.

About the Industries of the Future Initiative:

The Industries of the Future Initiative is led by the DR-4673-FL and DR-4680-FL Economic Recovery Support Function (RSF) that is mission assigned to serve Florida in the aftermath of Hurricane Ian and Hurricane Nicole. It is the result of close partnerships between federal, state, local and non-profit organizations that have missions to see Florida expand and diversify its industries to become more economically resilient.

The purpose of this event series is to help Florida stakeholders better understand some of the promising industries opportunity to learn how other states and communities are nurturing and growing these industries, as well as an opportunity to highlight some of the great work already happening in the state. In the face of future weather events, this initiative will help state and community leaders envision the potential for achieving greater economic diversification and resiliency through supporting industries of the future.

