



# AEROSPACE



According to Brookings, Colorado possesses "one of the most diversified, multidimensional, and high-potential space economies in the nation."

## WHY AEROSPACE IN COLORADO?

Colorado is a thriving aerospace hub that includes companies developing a complete spectrum of products and systems for commercial, military and civil space applications.

2ND

Colorado has the nation's 2nd largest aerospace economy.

2,000

2,000 kilometers and beyond: We're leading the nation's most notable aerospace projects. Dream Chaser®, Mars 2020, and Orion, are just a few examples of how companies in Colorado will take humans into low Earth orbit and beyond.

4

Colorado is the U.S. center for military space. Colorado's four military commands encourage industry growth through space-based research, development, acquisition, and operations activities

2ND

Colorado ranked 2nd for the 2016 Milken Institute State Technology and Science Index and No 2 for Top State for High-Tech Share of All Businesses by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation

1. Massachusetts
2. Colorado
3. Maryland
4. California
5. Washington
6. Connecticut
7. Minnesota
8. Madison



## INDUSTRY FACTS

997

NUMBER OF COMPANIES

17K

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

\$1.7B

TOTAL ANNUAL WAGES (2016)

2nd

MOST HIGHLY EDUCATED STATE IN THE U.S.

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- ◆ THE COLORADO SPACE COALITION
- ◆ THE COLORADO SPACE BUSINESS ROUND TABLE
- ◆ COLORADO SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM
- ◆ SPACEPORT COLORADO



# MAJOR FINANCIAL SERVICES COMPANIES



## COLORADO ASSETS



### ACCESS TO A LARGE, HIGHLY QUALIFIED WORKFORCE

- CO is the 2nd most highly educated state in the U.S. 39.9 percent of the population years 25+ have a Bachelor's degree or higher in CO
- Colorado ranked 7th in the number of science and engineering degree holders in 2016 (Bloomberg Business, US State Innovation Index)
- One of the highest astronaut alumni in the nation



### ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION

- Two academic institutions in Colorado offer nationally ranked aerospace programs or degrees:

The **University of Colorado Boulder's** aerospace engineering sciences graduate program ranked among the top-four programs in the nation by the National Research Council and 10th by U.S. News & World Report in 2015

The **U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs** ranked 2nd in the nation for undergraduate aerospace engineering program



### HOME TO INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

- Colorado received the **third-highest NASA prime contract awards** in the nation—more than \$1.8 billion—in 2015.
- Colorado has consistently scored among the top 10 in innovation categories among US state rankings.

Patent Activity	—————	<b>1st</b>
Labor Market	—————	<b>1st</b>
Technology & Innovation	—————	<b>3rd</b>
R&D Expenditure	—————	<b>3rd</b>



SOURCES:  
University of Colorado, 2014; Bloomberg Business, 2016; Milken Institute, 2016