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

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.

**Why Aerospace in Colorado?**

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

**Sources:**
- QCEW 2016, Annual Averages, Colorado
- PwC Moneytree, Historical Trend Data, https://www.pwcmoneytree.com/
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** 1st
**Labor Market** 1st
**Technology & Innovation** 3rd
**R&D Expenditure** 3rd

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