AEROSPACE IN COLORADO

Brookings recently stated that 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. Our world would not be the same without it.

Aerospace in Colorado generated $6.8 B in output, 1.7% of the state GDP of $390 B in 2019. Given this industry’s share of national employment, this sized GDP should result in $6.0 B in aerospace output.

**$390 B**
CO GDP 2019

**$6.0 B** Expected given national share

**$6.8 B (1.7%)** CO Aerospace GDP 2019

**SUB-SECTOR DENSITY**
Location Quotient (LQ): share of employment in Colorado vs share in US, 2019 (>1 means denser than US | =1 means equal density | <1 means less dense)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Sector</th>
<th>LQ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Geophysical Surveying and Mapping Serv</td>
<td>5.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guided Missile and Space Vehicle Manu</td>
<td>5.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other Telecommunications</td>
<td>4.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satellite Telecommunications</td>
<td>4.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optical Instrument and Lens Manu</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone Apparatus Manu</td>
<td>2.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Electronic Parts Wholesalers</td>
<td>1.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Communications Equipment Manu</td>
<td>1.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Search/Detection/Navigation Instrmnt Manu</td>
<td>1.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printed Circuit Assembly (Electronic Assembly) Manu</td>
<td>1.24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SUB-SECTOR EMPLOYMENT**
Count of workers employed in Colorado, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Sector</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Guided Missile and Space Vehicle Manu</td>
<td>6,933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Electronic Parts Wholesalers</td>
<td>4,932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Search/Detection/Navigation Instrmnt Manu</td>
<td>3,549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other Telecommunications</td>
<td>2,999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geophysical Surveying and Mapping Serv</td>
<td>1,803</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optical Instrument and Lens Manu</td>
<td>1,401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printed Circuit Assembly (Electronic Assembly) Manu</td>
<td>850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone Apparatus Manu</td>
<td>766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Aircraft Parts/Auxiliary Eqpmnt Manu</td>
<td>712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satellite Telecommunications</td>
<td>710</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The charts above show the top 10 sub-sectors* (by industry density and total employment) of the 20 used to define Colorado Aerospace. Ten of the sub-sectors that make up this industry in our state are more concentrated than the nation, and 6 employ more than 1,000 workers.

**1.3 TIMES DENSER THAN USA**

1,000
COMPANIES

27,600
EMPLOYEES

23%
JOB GROWTH 2010-2019

$12.3 B
ANNUAL SALES

**DATA SOURCES (FRONT & BACK): Emsi, BEA, CENSUS, BLS, WISERTrade, FDi Markets, OEDIT Calculations**

*Sub-sectors align with 6-digit North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes*
## MAJOR AEROSPACE COMPANIES

- **Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corporation**
  - Founded in 1956 when Ball Corporation founded a research division with the help of University of Colorado physicists.
  - Headquartered in Colorado, has made key contributions to space research, including confirming the existence of holes in the ozone layer.

- **United Launch Alliance (ULA)**
  - Formed in 2006 as a joint venture between Lockheed Martin Space Systems and Boeing Defense, Space & Security.
  - Headquartered in Denver, has successfully delivered over 100 satellites to orbit providing critical GPS and information capabilities.

- **Lockheed Martin**
  - Global defense contractor with substantial Colorado operations since 1956, building the Atlas rocket, Trident missile, and A2100 communications satellites in Littleton.
  - In January 2020, delivered the JCSAT-17 satellite to Japanese telecom giant, SJC.

- **BOOM Supersonic**
  - Denver-based startup designed supersonic passenger jets.
  - Inception in 2014, raised over $151 million in funding with customers like Japan Airlines.
  - Overture, Boom’s 55-seater jet, designed to fly from NYC to London in under 3.5 hours.

- **Altius Space Machines**
  - Space robotics and technology startup with expertise in orbital rendezvous and capture robotics.
  - In 2019, NASA awarded Altius with a Phase II contract through the Small Business Innovation Research program to develop and test a satellite servicing interface.

---

### AEROSPACE TRADE 2019

- **Total Trade:** $5.1 B
  - **Export:** $2.2 B
  - **Import:** $2.9 B
  - **24% of Total Trade**
  - **1% CAGR, 2010-19**

### TOP EXPORT PARTNERS
1. **Malaysia** (18%)
2. **Canada** (7%)
3. **China** (7%)
4. **Mexico** (6%)
5. **Philippines** (6%)

### TOP IMPORT PARTNERS
1. **Switzerland** (15%)
2. **China** (11%)
3. **Taiwan** (11%)
4. **Australia** (10%)
5. **Malaysia** (6%)

### COLORADO COMPANY PROFILES

- **Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corporation**
  - Founded in 1956 when the Ball Corporation founded a research division with the help of University of Colorado physicists.
  - Headquartered in Colorado, has made key contributions to space research, including confirming the existence of holes in the ozone layer.

- **Lockheed Martin**
  - Global defense contractor with substantial Colorado operations since 1956, building the Atlas rocket, Trident missile, and A2100 communications satellites in Littleton.
  - In January 2020, delivered the JCSAT-17 satellite to Japanese telecom giant, SJC.

- **United Launch Alliance (ULA)**
  - Formed in 2006 as a joint venture between Lockheed Martin Space Systems and Boeing Defense, Space & Security.
  - Headquartered in Denver, has successfully delivered over 100 satellites to orbit providing critical GPS and information capabilities.

- **Harris Corporation**
  - Global aerospace and defense technology company that specializes in surveillance solutions, microwave weaponry, and electronic warfare.
  - In 2019, Harris merged with L3 Technologies, forming the 6th largest defense contractor in the world.

- **BOOM Supersonic**
  - Denver-based startup designed supersonic passenger jets.
  - Inception in 2014, raised over $151 million in funding with customers like Japan Airlines.
  - Overture, Boom’s 55-seater jet, designed to fly from NYC to London in under 3.5 hours.

- **Altius Space Machines**
  - Space robotics and technology startup with expertise in orbital rendezvous and capture robotics.
  - In 2019, NASA awarded Altius with a Phase II contract through the Small Business Innovation Research program to develop and test a satellite servicing interface.

---

For More Information: [WWW.CHOOSECOLORADO.COM](http://WWW.CHOOSECOLORADO.COM)
303-892-3840
OEDIT.INFO@STATE.CO.US

**COLORADO**
Office of Economic Development & International Trade