

NORTH CAROLINA | AEROSPACE



# NORTH CAROLINA

HOME TO THE  
FUTURE OF FLIGHT



[...] BOOM IS  
 CONFIDENT THAT  
 [NORTH CAROLINA]  
 WILL EMERGE AS THE  
 WORLD'S SUPERSONIC  
 MANUFACTURING HUB.



Blake Scholl,  
 Founder and CEO of Boom Supersonic



# NORTH CAROLINA: WHERE BUSINESS TAKES FLIGHT

North Carolina, the birthplace of aviation and site of the first-ever successful flight in 1903, continues to innovate and propel the aerospace industry to new frontiers. Our state's renowned educational institutions produce talent well-prepared for critical aerospace roles in engineering, software development, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, electromechanics and more.

Local community colleges are investing in aviation and aerospace research and training centers, while thousands of the exiting military personnel in North Carolina with extensive training in aircraft maintenance, engineering, and logistics enter the private sector each year.

## INDUSTRY LEADERS CHOOSE NORTH CAROLINA



## NOTABLE HEADQUARTERS



## RECENT RELOCATIONS & EXPANSIONS



# BY THE NUMBERS

## # 1

### STATE FOR BUSINESS

- CNBC, 2022 & 2023

## # 3

### MOST ATTRACTIVE STATE FOR AEROSPACE MANUFACTURING

- PwC, 2022

# INDUSTRY RESOURCES

- 1. Piedmont Triad International Airport (PTI)** is home to a cluster of top aerospace companies including Honda Jet, HAECO Americas, and Boom Supersonic. PTI offers shovel-ready sites, immediate highway access, and a robust aviation workforce.
- 2. Asheville** is emerging as a strong aerospace cluster, specializing in aircraft engine and parts manufacturing, with recent expansion announcements from Pratt & Whitney and GE Aviation. Investments in Asheville Regional Airport include a new runway completed in 2020 and development opportunities with direct taxi-way service.
- 3. Fort Liberty** in Fayetteville is the largest army base in the world, the headquarters of the Army's 82nd Airborne and Special Operations Forces, and the 3-58th Airfield Operations Battalion.
- 4. Seymour Johnson Air Force Base** in Goldsboro has more than 4,500 active officers and enlisted personnel stationed at this premiere defense base that houses the 4th Fighter Wing and F-15E training units.
- 5. Charlotte - Union County** supports over 18,000 aerospace and aircraft manufacturing jobs anchored by the Charlotte Executive Regional and Charlotte Douglas International airports. The region offers an expansive network of aerospace suppliers, manufacturers, and headquarters including Collins Aerospace, DuPont USA, and ATI Specialty Materials.
- 6. North Carolina Global TransPark** is an industrial park that offers an 11,500-foot runway, onsite rail, shovel-ready sites, and the Spirit AeroSystems Composite Center of Excellence training lab.



#### Passenger-service airports:



AVL (Asheville), CLT (Charlotte), JQF (Concord), PTI (Greensboro), RDU (Raleigh), FAY (Fayetteville), ILM (Wilmington)

# TALENT PIPELINE

- Guilford Technical Community College (GTCC)** – With one of the largest aviation programs on the East Coast, GTCC partners with leading aerospace companies like Honda Jet and Boom Supersonic to supply aviation and aerospace systems talent.
- North Carolina State University (NCSU)** – NCSU graduates 100+ aerospace engineers annually and houses the Institute for Transportation Research and Education and Center for Additive Manufacturing and Logistics. Both entities conduct leading research in partnership with global aerospace companies on air transportation and cutting-edge aircraft technologies.
- Veterans and Exiting Military** – Over 18,000 skilled veterans, many with technical skills in aerospace and special flight operations, enter North Carolina's commercial workforce each year. Fort Liberty houses the Airborne Innovation Lab that trains stationed members in robotics equipment, 3D printing, and additive manufacturing.

# 280+

LEADING AEROSPACE  
COMPANIES WITH OPERATIONS  
IN NORTH CAROLINA

# 2600

AEROSPACE AND AVIATION-RELATED  
CERTIFICATES AND DEGREES  
CONFERRED ANNUALLY

# 450+

AEROSPACE  
MANUFACTURING  
SUPPLIERS

## NORTH CAROLINA'S AEROSPACE ADVANTAGE

- **Aerospace Manufacturing** – With the largest manufacturing workforce in the southeast, North Carolina is well positioned to meet the needs of the world's largest aerospace manufacturers. Global companies like Boeing, Honeywell, HondaJet, and Boom Supersonic tap into skilled talent through customized training programs at community colleges across the state.
- **Aircraft Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO)** – Leading aerospace companies including Collins Aerospace and HAECO Americas operate maintenance facilities and leverage North Carolina's expansive MRO labor pool to ensure the aircraft of leading airlines are in top shape for flight. The Navy's Fleet Readiness Center, one of just nine in the world, employs over 4,000 aircraft MRO workers at its North Carolina location.
- **Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)** – Companies in North Carolina are innovating the UAS and drone sector through technology that will enable the quick transfer of consumer goods and medicines. North Carolina is a selected participant of the Federal Aviation Administration's BEYOND program that collects data and community feedback to streamline the implementation of drone technologies.
- **Aerospace and Defense Contracting** – North Carolina's airports and infrastructure support military training and operations, refueling, and maintenance and repair services across our 8 military bases. Boeing, Lockheed Martin, and Raytheon Technologies each have operations at Fort Liberty, headquarters of the United States Army's Airborne and Special Operations Forces.

## LABOR SUPPLY

Occupation	Labor Availability	Avg. Annual Earnings	Projected Growth (by 2028)
Software Developers	60,000	\$125,300	19%
Aerospace Engineers	800	\$123,900	24%
Information Security Analysts	6,500	\$122,500	21%
Electrical Engineers	5,400	\$104,300	9%
Industrial Engineers	9,900	\$93,000	13%
Mechanical Engineers	7,800	\$91,000	10%
Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	8,900	\$64,700	5%
Machinists	10,100	\$48,000	8%
Electrical, Electronic, and Electromechanical Assemblers, Except Coil Winders, Tapers, and Finishers	8,400	\$41,000	11%
Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	53,500	\$37,300	3%



ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
PARTNERSHIP of  
NORTH CAROLINA

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