Florida’s Strengths in Aviation & Aerospace

Few states can match the broad range of industry expertise available in Florida. In fact, Florida is home to one of the nation’s largest aerospace and aviation industries (2,000+ companies), and has long been the world’s premier gateway to space, the undisputed air traffic hub of the Western Hemisphere, a major hub for flight training and MRO, and home to leading manufacturers of all types of aircraft and aircraft components.

Florida Fast Facts

1. Florida is already home to more than 2,000 aerospace and aviation companies employing over 87,000 workers across the state.

Here’s why your company should be in Florida, too:

1. **Connect with the Best**
   Virtually every major defense contractor from the U.S. and abroad has significant operations in Florida, generating a robust supply chain that benefits all.

2. **Pick the Best of the Best**
   Over 61,000 military and 24,000 civilian personnel, significant numbers of veterans, as well as actual rocket scientists, machinists, pilots, and engineers are part of Florida’s flexible, “badgeable” talent pool. Florida ranks 4th in the nation in industry employment, making it easy to find qualified workers.

3. **Infrastructure to Meet your Needs**
   Florida’s valuable industry assets include 22 airports with runways of 10,000+ feet, two spaceports, and advanced space vehicle, payload processing, and launch/landing facilities — supporting a full range of industry activities, from R&D to testing to service.

4. **Benefit your Bottom Line**
   A cost competitive environment, favorable tax structure, no personal income tax, industry-specific incentives and workforce training programs, and superior quality of life make it easy to be in business in Florida.

5. **Access the World**
   Florida’s 19 commercial airports account for 10% of the nation’s total passengers and enplane about 8% of the nation’s air cargo. Florida is a convenient base for business travel and the shipment of goods.

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**Aerospace**

**Size:** 480+ companies

**Areas of Excellence:** aircraft assembly and parts, avionics, payload processing, propulsion systems, guided missiles and air defense systems, rockets and spacecraft, UAS, and intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance

**Select Companies in Florida:** Boeing, DRS Technologies, Embraer, General Dynamics, Honeywell, L-3, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, Raytheon, Rockwell Collins, Sikorsky, United Launch Alliance

**Aviation**

**Size:** 1,590+ companies

**Areas of Excellence:** MRO, flight training, logistics, global air cargo, simulation/training, passenger to freighter conversions, avionics installation and retrofit, air travel

**Select Companies in Florida:** Airbus, Commercial Jet, FedEx, Flight Safety International, LAN Cargo, LiveTV, Signature Flight Support Corporation, Spirit Airlines, UPS

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Photos above: (Left) Embraer Phenom 100 assembled in Melbourne, Florida. (Right) Northrop Grumman E-2D Advanced Hawkeye manufactured in St. Augustine, Florida.
Florida's Aviation & Aerospace Cluster

MAP KEY
- Aviation Companies select companies named
- Aerospace Companies select companies named
- Commercial Airports (19)
- Aviation-related Military Installations (12)
- Spaceports (2)
- Deepwater Seaports (15)
- Interstate Highways
- State Capital
- Florida's Largest Cities (by population)

Comparative Costs for Aerospace and Aviation Companies in Florida vs. Other Markets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FLORIDA</th>
<th>ALABAMA</th>
<th>CALIFORNIA</th>
<th>GEORGIA</th>
<th>KANSAS</th>
<th>SOUTH CAROLINA</th>
<th>TEXAS</th>
<th>WASHINGTON</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal Income Tax Rate (Highest Rate)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6.45%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate Income Tax or Gross Receipts Tax Rate</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>8.84%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4% - 7%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0.13% - 3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Business Tax Climate Ranking</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aviation Average Annual Wage</td>
<td>$55,043</td>
<td>$48,805</td>
<td>$57,669</td>
<td>$64,690</td>
<td>$49,487</td>
<td>$49,781</td>
<td>$66,476</td>
<td>$65,119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aerospace Average Annual Wage</td>
<td>$78,344</td>
<td>$78,402</td>
<td>$101,192</td>
<td>$79,647</td>
<td>$72,705</td>
<td>$76,887</td>
<td>$90,247</td>
<td>$97,040</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Why Florida is the perfect climate for business:

“Breaking ground on the newest facility at our growing aeronautical cluster in Melbourne is an important milestone for Embraer on its path to becoming a truly global company. This latest achievement is a testament to the close partnership we have with the state of Florida and economic development authorities on the Space Coast and Melbourne, without which this aviation campus would not have been possible.”
Gary Spulak, President
Embraer Aircraft Holding Inc.

“The state and county have supported our business growth, and the location provides other benefits to us including an advantageous climate for flight testing.”
John Fischetti, General Manager, Development Flight Center
Sikorsky Aircraft

“Florida has proven an ideal and welcome location to grow and develop our aerospace business. We are pleased to be located at Lakeland Linder Airport and will continue to commit our company to the economic growth of Lakeland and Central Florida area.”
Jared Isaacman, CEO
Draken International

“Florida worked closely with Chromalloy to very positively influence our decision to relocate company headquarters and expand manufacturing operations. That includes Enterprise Florida, Business Development Board of Palm Beach County, Hillsborough County, the Tampa Hillsborough Economic Development Corporation, and many other offices.

Equally influential were the many manufacturing benefits: A strong industrial infrastructure, world-class aerospace and engineering talent, and the ability to partner with top universities. Florida offers the best business friendly environment, an outstanding workforce, and communities that support and take great pride in partnering with industry.”
Carlo Luzzatto, President
Chromalloy

Ready?

Enterprise Florida stands ready to assist in every aspect of your next location project. Please don’t hesitate to contact:

Crystal Sircy
407-956-5640
csircy@eflorida.com

Circles represent approximate flight times from Florida in one-hour increments.