California has several great attributes for the aerospace industry, such as an ideal climate for flight-testing, a large restricted airspace, numerous military installations, easy access to international manufacturing, major shipping ports, a deep labor pool fed by reputable educational institutions, and an emerging start-up scene.

The California aerospace industry revenue is equivalent to the agriculture and arts & entertainment industries combined.

Jobs supported by the aerospace and defense industry in 2017 (95,090 direct)

Annual aerospace and defense exports

Average aerospace industry wages per year, among the highest paid employees in Southern California, almost twice the average paid in all other industries.

The state has played a significant role in major aerospace accomplishments, including developing the Mars landers, the Space Shuttle, the B-2 Stealth Bomber, and the Global Positioning System.

### Major Industry Employers
- Aerojet Rocketdyne
- General Atomics Aeronautical Systems
- The Aerospace Corporation
- BAE Systems
- The Boeing Company
- General Atomics
- Jacobs Technology
- Kratos Defense
- L3
- Lockheed Martin Corporation
- Magellan
- NAVAR
- Northrop Grumman Corporation
- Raytheon
- SAIC
- Scaled Composites
- SSL, a Maxar company
- SpaceX
- Trimble Navigation
- UTC Aerospace Systems
- Virgin Galactic
- Zodiac Aerospace

### Major Military Installations
- Amedee Army Airfield
- Beale Air Force Base
- Bicycle Army Airfield
- Edwards Air Force Base
- Los Alamitos Army Airfield
- Los Angeles Air Force Base
- Travis Air Force Base
- March Air Force Base
- Marine Corps Air Station Miramar
- Naval Air Station Lemoore
- Naval Air Station North Island
- Naval Air Station Point Mugu
- Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake
- Vandenberg Air Force Base

### References

* ABET accredited school and/or AIAA Student Branch
The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) comprises nearly 30,000 members that span 88 countries. They are engineers, researchers, scientists, entrepreneurs, educators, and students. They drive economic growth, discoveries, and innovations that help the aerospace community accomplish what was once thought impossible.

AIAA delivers extensive technical expertise and policy guidance to decision makers at the federal and state levels, serving as a reliable resource on a full spectrum of aerospace issues.

AIAA CAN HELP PROVIDE:

› One-on-one meetings between technical experts and lawmakers to offer background on key aerospace issues
› Informational seminars on key issues for groups
› Expert testimony before lawmakers
› White papers on specific aerospace topics

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