

Understanding our **Economy**

Aerospace And Aviation Keep Our Economy Up

(NAPSA)—Civil and commercial aerospace and aviation have a major economic and employment effect in all 50 states and are a substantial force in civil, military and space manufacturing and operations in nearly half of the states—employing more than two million workers.

These statistics are revealed in an extensive national and state-by-state analysis completed by the Commission on the Future of the U.S. Aerospace Industry, a 12-member panel formed by the Congress and the President.

The study, “U.S. Aerospace and Aviation Industry: A State-by-State Analysis,” examines the industry by direct employment, wages, establishments and payroll. The report provides government officials, industry leaders, academicians and others with objective, comparative economic data about the industry in today’s national and global economy.

“A strong aerospace industry is essential to enable the United States to defend itself, compete in the global marketplace, maintain a highly skilled workforce and pro-



The aerospace and aviation industry has a major effect on the U.S. economy.

vide all Americans with the ability to travel safely and securely anywhere in the world,” says Commission Chairman Robert S. Walker.

The report shows that the air transportation segment of aerospace and aviation was the leading employer with more than 1.3 million jobs in 2001. The leading centers of aviation employment were California, Texas, Illinois, Florida and New York. The study also shows that aircraft and parts manufacturing employed some 462,200 workers. The leading centers of

aircraft and parts manufacturing were Washington, California, Kansas, Texas and Connecticut.

“The significance of our analysis,” Walker explains, “lies in the illustration of the importance of the aerospace and aviation industry to the economic health of every state.”

The statistical data in this study also includes pertinent aerospace and aviation workforce and economic data for U.S. metropolitan areas, including Seattle, Los Angeles, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Phoenix, Boston, Atlanta, New York, Wichita and Chicago. The statistics are based on the most recently available government data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The study doesn’t measure the additional jobs generated by aerospace and aviation in states and localities, including workers in food service, security and fire service jobs at airports or NASA centers.

“Those jobs, however, are a vital part of our economy and are dependent on the existence of the U.S. aerospace industry,” says Walker.