

Learn more about the Regional Job Creation Fund Round 2.

www.nsw.gov.au/rjcf



Defence

Regional NSW is home to some of Australia's most significant military bases, which serve as the foundation for an entire ecosystem of innovative defence sector companies.



Image credit: Treasury NSW

In 2018, the defence sector in Regional NSW contributed A\$2.3 billion to the economy.

NSW has the largest number of defence bases and facilities of any state in Australia and is home to over one quarter of its military and defence civilian personnel. Defence facilities generate economic benefits, including the construction of infrastructure and the extensive utilisation of local goods and services.

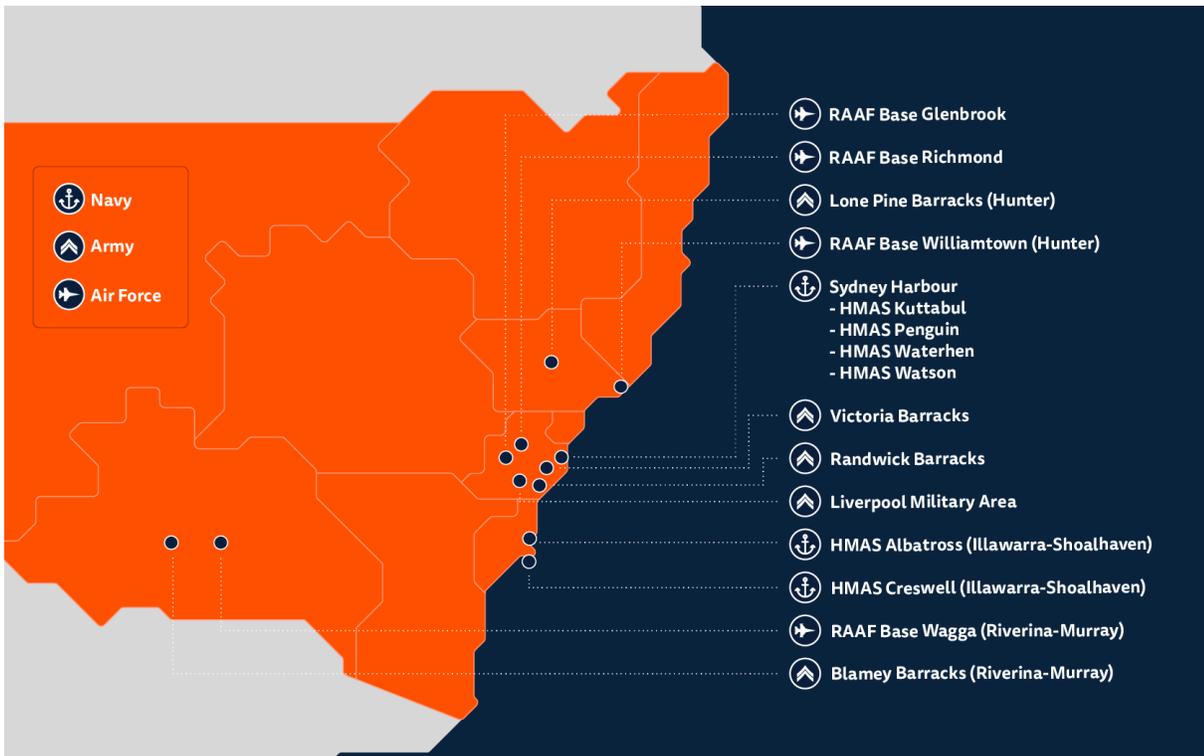
The defence industry in NSW has core strengths and expertise in the most critical capabilities. These include advanced and subsystem manufacturing, sustainment of major systems, complex project management, complex systems integration, design and production.

As a result, all the major defence primes either have their headquarters in NSW or have a substantial presence in the state.

40% of the economic contribution of the NSW defence industry occurs in Regional NSW. For example, in the Hunter and Shoalhaven regions, the economic activity attributable to defence is estimated to be around 10% of Gross Regional Product.

Defence sector companies in Regional NSW are supported by a complete ecosystem of critical industrial capabilities, a highly skilled workforce, and world class academic and research institutions.

NSW Defence Bases





Regional NSW's defence industry features clusters of large-scale international prime contractors, agile SMEs and world-class research and development institutions.

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Strengths have developed around Defence Force presence and requirements. For example:

- **Hunter region:** Air Force air combat capability, airborne surveillance, aerospace, maintenance, repair and overhaul, electronics, advanced manufacturing, infantry training, ship building and repair.
- **Illawarra-Shoalhaven region (Nowra):** Naval Aviation, defence rotary wing training, air targets, electronics and testing, maintenance, repair and overhaul, systems integration and simulation.
- **Riverina-Murray region:** Australian Defence Force training, base support, logistics, munitions and satellite communications.

- **Illawarra-Shoalhaven region (Wollongong):** Armoured steel plate, manufacturing, welding, electronics and communications.

The defence industry is supported by a network of service suppliers. The presence of substantial, technologically-advanced defence capabilities within the state presents diverse opportunities for businesses. Many major international companies have already established headquarters or operations in NSW.

Recent developments offer long-term investment opportunities, including the Australian Government's commitment of A\$200 billion to modernise Australia's defence capability, guaranteeing long-term demand for sovereign defence industry capabilities, products and services.

In 2018, the defence sector in Regional NSW contributed A\$2.3 billion to the economy. NSW has the largest number of defence bases and facilities of any state in Australia.

NSW attracts the highest annual defence investment across acquisition, sustainment and operations. For further details see the [2019 Defence Sector Capability Report](#).

Through [Defence NSW](#), the NSW Government supports investment and innovation by creating the conditions for and enabling sustainable, technologically advanced and globally competitive defence industries across the state of NSW. Defence NSW is dedicated to identifying and driving opportunities to collaborate, partner and assist the growth of the NSW defence sector.

[Defence Innovation Network](#) is a university-led initiative of the NSW Government and the Defence Science and Technology Group to enhance NSW Defence industry capability through collaboration with government and academic research institutions. It is supported by seven leading universities to:

- Increase NSW capacity for defence R&D
- Foster collaboration between NSW industry and universities
- Increase NSW defence science investment through national & international defence R&D programs
- Support Australian STEM capacity and pathways to STEM careers in defence

For more details, visit the [assistance page](#).



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