Washington Space Economy

SPACE NORTHWEST



Positioning Washington to Lead the Next Era of Space Innovation

Why the Space Industry Matters

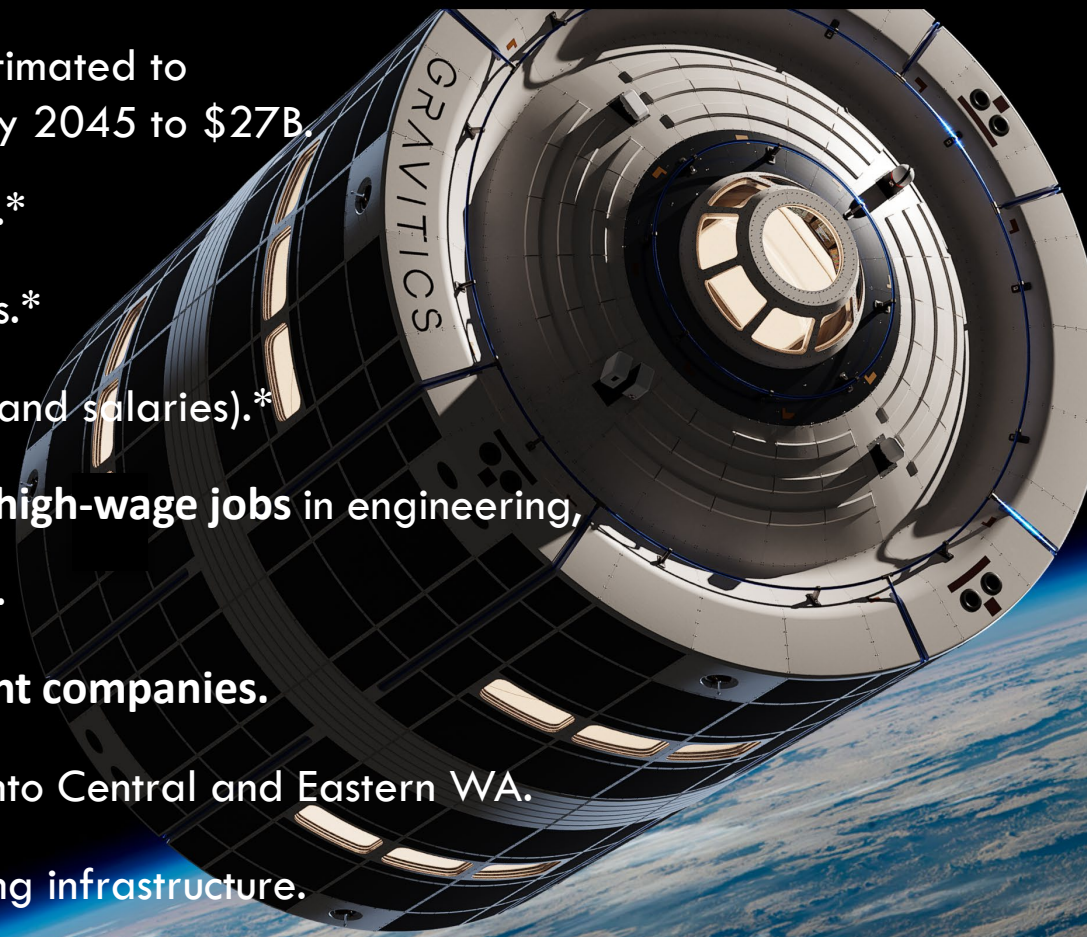
- Global space economy estimated at $630B, projected to grow to $1.8T by 2035.
- Reinforces WA's aerospace supply chain.
- Creates high-wage manufacturing and engineering opportunities in communities with the greatest economic need.
- Driving new investment across Kent Valley—the state's largest aerospace and space manufacturing corridor—as well as Redmond, Bellevue, Marysville, Moses Lake, Spokane, and communities in between.
- WA competes without the financial incentives offered by CA, CO, TX, FL, and AL.
- Opportunity: build a statewide new tech industry with local workforce, broad public benefit, and strategic reinvestment.



Image: Blue Origin

Washington Space Industry Snapshot

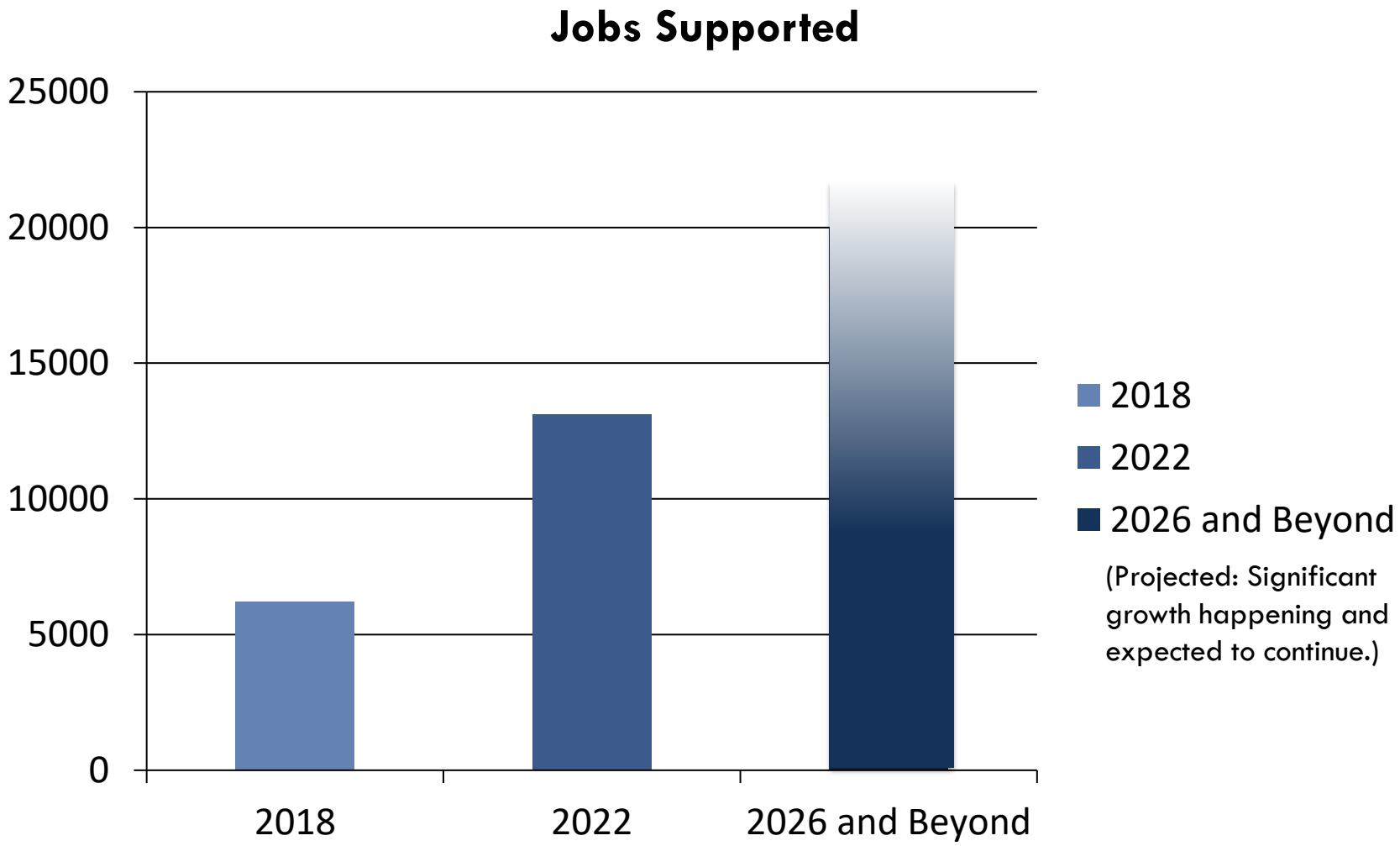
- $4.6B in economic activity,* estimated to grow by more than six times by 2045 to $27B.
- 5,810 direct space-sector jobs.*
- 13,100 direct and indirect jobs.*
- $1.6B in labor income (wages and salaries).*
- **Right now—over 1,300 open high-wage jobs** in engineering, manufacturing, and operations.
- **100+ space and space-adjacent companies.**
- Growth beyond Puget Sound into Central and Eastern WA.
- Strong supply chain and training infrastructure.



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*PSRC 2022
Image: Gravitics

Job Growth in Washington's Space Economy

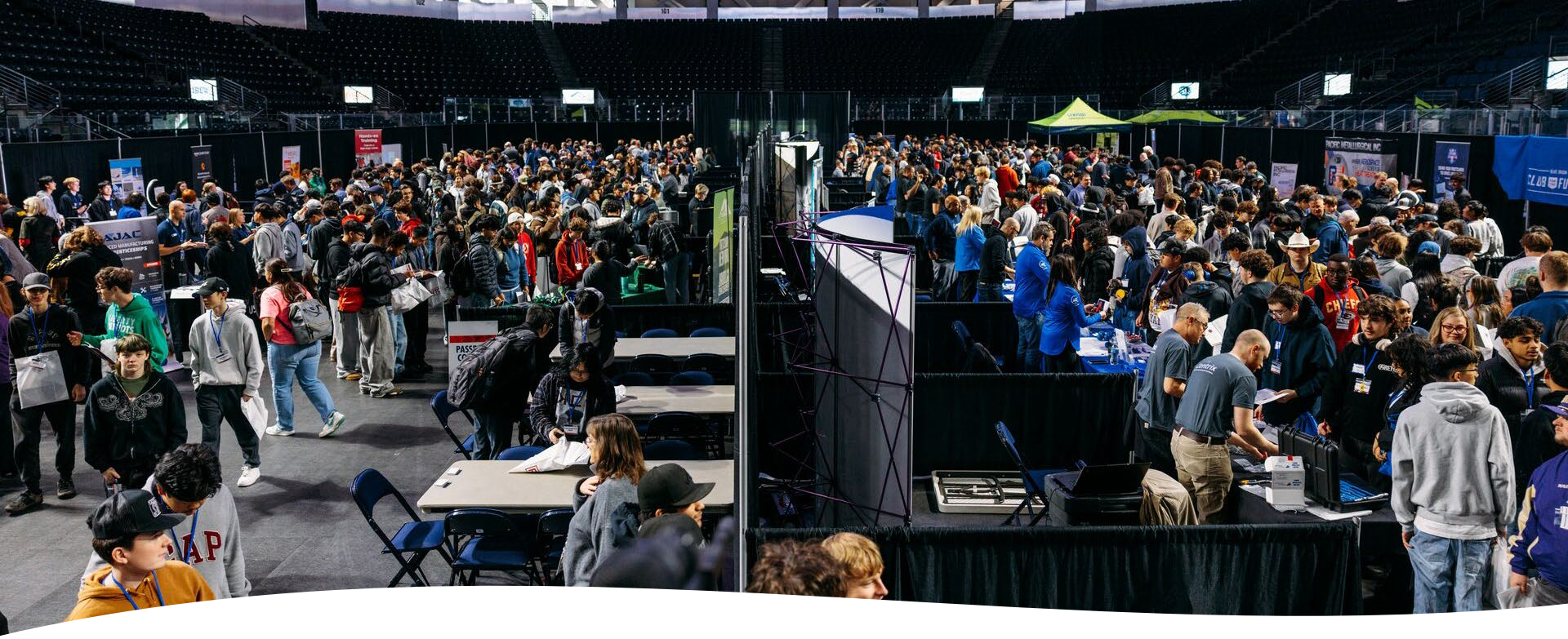


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2018/2022 numbers from PSRC space studies.

Washington's Space Ecosystem





Workforce & Educational Pathways Need Support to Sustain and Grow this Sector

- Multiple on-ramps: certificates, apprenticeships, associate and bachelor's degrees.
- Training partners include CTEs/CTCs, WATR Center, AJAC, Centers of Excellence, and Washington's colleges and universities. Many roles do not require a four-year degree.
- Benefits: companies gain talent; residents gain high-wage careers; communities see lasting economic lift.

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Image: Future in Flight Career Expo



How Two Local Communities Are Benefiting from the Space Economy

Kent and Redmond—two cities integrating space growth into their economic strategies.

Kent

- Manufacturing
- Production
- Testing
- Supply chain

Redmond

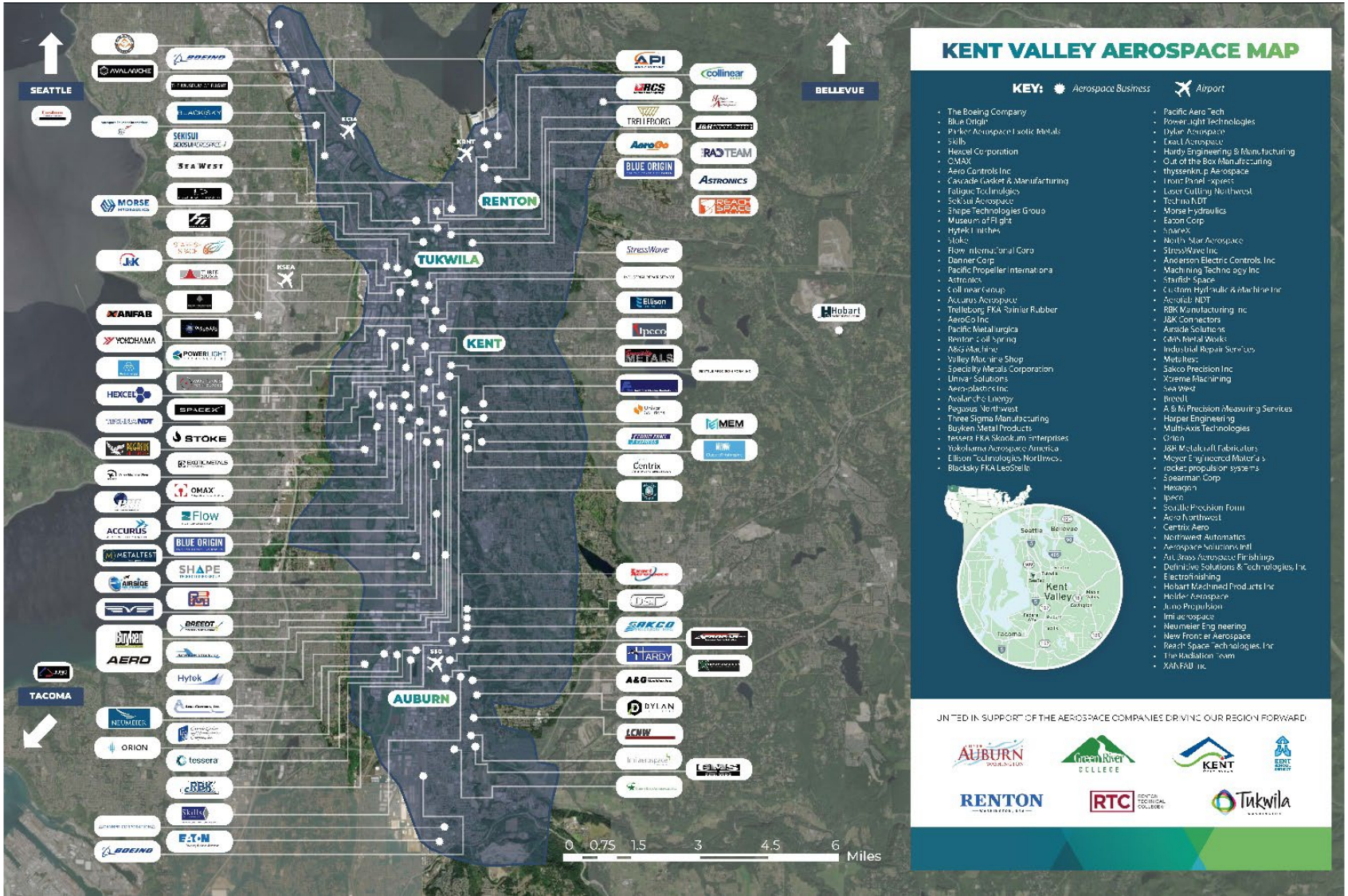
- Innovation
- R&D
- Satellites

Both illustrate how local communities can attract high-wage jobs and long-term investment.

Together, these clusters form the backbone of Washington's emerging Space Corridor.

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The Kent Valley Cluster: Washington's Aerospace and Space Manufacturing Core



Washington's Space Corridor

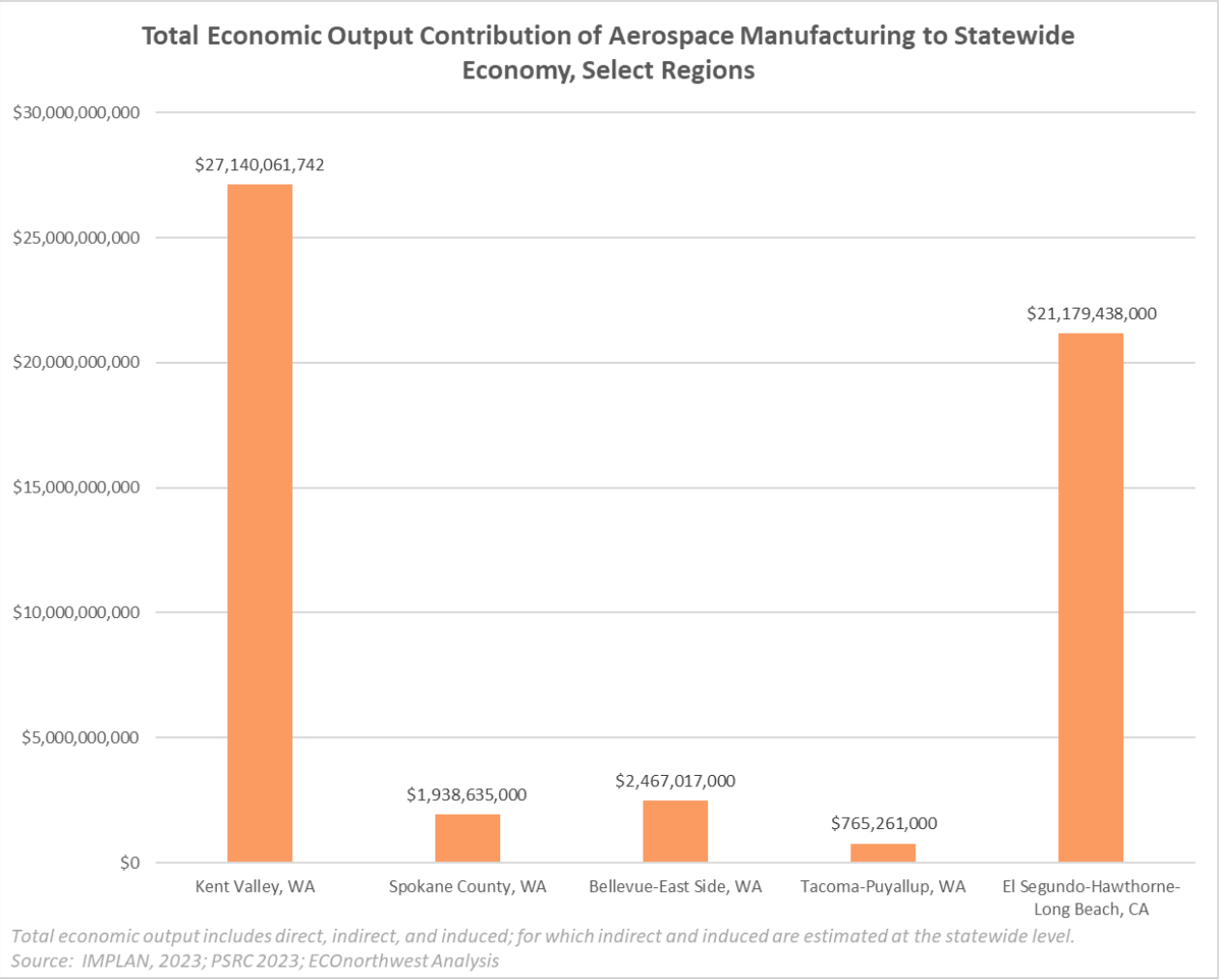
Kent Valley—WA's Aerospace & Space Manufacturing Core

Driving Washington's Space Economy and Middle-Class Prosperity

Kent Valley generates $27.1B in aerospace output—exceeding El Segundo–Hawthorne–Long Beach ($21.2B).

Represents 35% of Washington's aerospace economy, with over 13,000 direct jobs and average wages above $110K.

Powers middle-income, technical careers that anchor family-wage jobs in the region.



Total economic output includes direct, indirect, and induced; for which indirect and induced are estimated at the statewide level.
Source: IMPLAN, 2023; PSRC 2023; ECOnorthwest Analysis

Redmond Space District



Washington's Space Corridor

Redmond Leads in global satellite production

Redmond
SPACE DISTRICT

- More satellites are built in Redmond than any other city in the world.
- ~65% of all operational satellites in Earth orbit are manufactured in Redmond and surrounding areas.*
- 19 space-sector companies, including SpaceX/Starlink, Kuiper/Amazon Leo, L3Harris, and Honeywell.
- 5,260+ employees in Redmond's space sector.
- $731M+ annual economic impact to the region.

*Source: Alliance Velocity

Washington's Space Anchors: Powering a >$5B* and Growing Industry

These firms represent a fraction of the growing list of space companies. More than 100 companies across Washington now contribute to the space economy.

amazon LEO

- Kirkland - State-of-the-art production facility opened 2024
- Building Kuiper/Amazon Leo satellite constellation (150 in orbit—3,200+ planned satellites)
- 200+ employees—recruiting hundreds of engineers and technicians

BLUE ORIGIN

- Kent, WA – 3,000+ employees
- Develops reusable launch vehicles (New Glenn, New Shepard) and BE-4 engines for national and commercial missions
- Expanding Kent manufacturing and engine test facilities

STARLINK

- SpaceX/Starlink | Redmond
- Manufactures satellites for Starlink broadband constellation
- Represents $13.8B in gross economic output, $318M in indirect taxes, supports 26,000+ WA jobs, 380+ supply chain vendors in WA

STOKE

- Kent HQ and Moses Lake test site: driving innovation in low-cost, rapid-reuse launch
- Developing fully reusable launch vehicle – Nova
- 250+ employees/recently doubled in size
- Entry-Level Aerospace Technician (ELAT) program—900 applicants

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*Estimation based on 2022 PSRC Space Study and subsequent growth.

Up & Coming Start Ups (Out of Dozens)

These four space start ups are a fraction of the new space companies that are raising capital, testing their equipment successfully, creating jobs, and increasing economies in their local communities.

PORTAL

- Founded 2021 | Bothell, WA
- **Maneuverable multi-orbit spacecraft** using **solar-thermal propulsion** Raised $17.5 M seed round in 2025
- Enables on-orbit logistics, servicing, and national security applications

Starcloud

- Founded 2024 | Redmond, WA
- Orbital data centers—AI computing infrastructure deployed in space
- $10M seed round closed in 2025
- ~12 employees and growing
- Merges Washington's strength in cloud computing with space hardware innovation

GRAVITICS

- Founded 2021 | Marysville, WA
- Large pressurized space station modules
- Contracts/partnerships: NASA, Space Force, and commercial station developers
- Creating high-wage jobs in advanced manufacturing and systems integration

STARFISH SPACE

- Founded 2019 | Tukwila, WA
- On-orbit servicing and satellite life-extension (vehicle "Otter"). ~83 employees as of 2025.
- Significance: Expands Washington's space ecosystem into the satellite-services, not just manufacturing/launch.

Washington's Aerospace Supply Chain is Expanding into Space

These four suppliers are a fraction of the legacy aerospace suppliers across WA that are adding space to their portfolios, preserving and increasing jobs and adding economic vitality to their local communities.

Altek | Spokane/Liberty Lake
Precision machining and advanced manufacturing supplier expanding from aerospace into satellites, launch systems, and space hardware.

JEMCO | Kirkland
AS9100-certified machining and sheet-metal fabrication provider now producing components for commercial space and defense-space programs.

Continuous Composites | WA expansion
Pioneering continuous-fiber 3D printing (CF3D®) for next-generation space structures, lightweight components, and high-performance materials.

Senior Aerospace AMT | Arlington
Long-time aerospace structures manufacturer now building precision components for spacecraft and space systems.

Workforce Strategy

Goals

- Expand apprenticeships and technical training.
- Align curriculum with industry needs.
- Incentivize company-led training programs.
- Promote diversity and regional equity.
- Strengthen public-private partnerships and data tracking.

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Legislative Levers

Policy Recommendations

- Targeted incentives for space manufacturing/ testing facilities.
- Training grants for aligned workforce programs.
- Support regional cluster infrastructure (e.g., Spokane, Moses Lake and other areas).
- Encourage company-college training partnerships.
- Promote STEM outreach (e.g., Kherson Park).
- Require reporting on workforce outcomes.

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We look forward to working with you to secure Washington's leadership in the space economy.

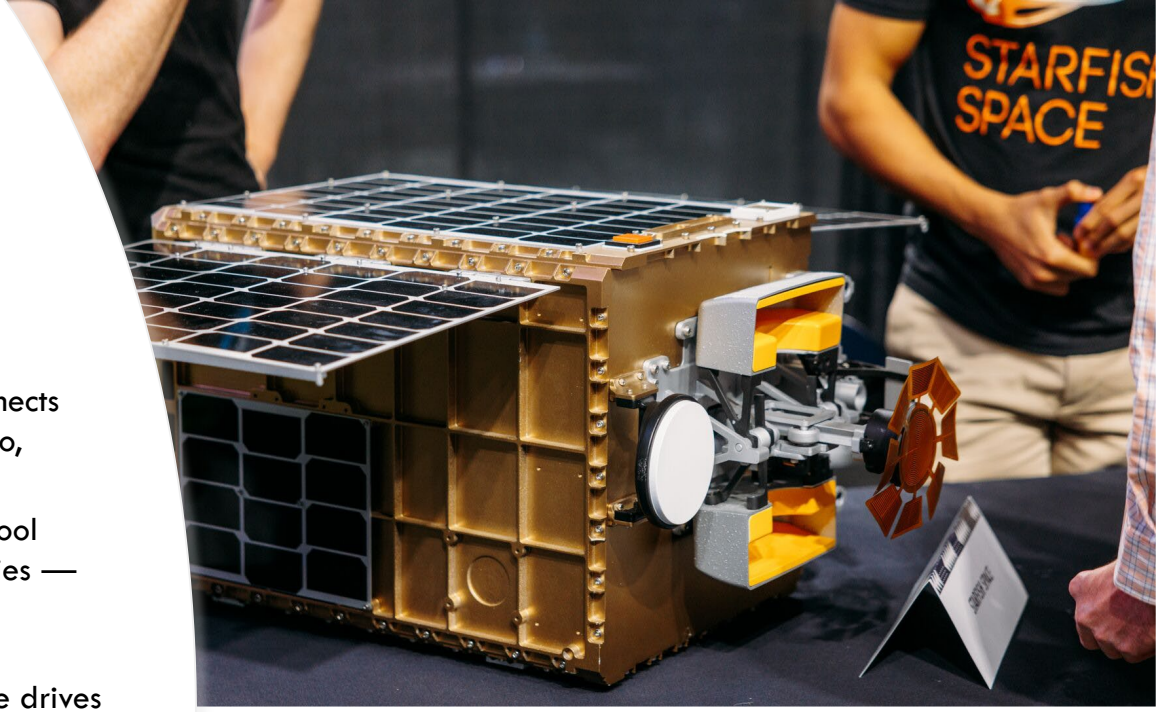
Thank you.

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Appendix

WA's Space Corridor

Kent Valley—Building the Next Generation of Space Talent



Investing in the Future Workforce

- Kent Valley Future in Flight Career Expo connects students with Blue Origin, Kuiper/Amazon Leo, Stoke, AJAC, and local manufacturers.
    - November 2025: Nearly 800 high school students and 80 teachers from 3 counties — with broad participation from CTE and Running Start.
    - Shows career pathways and how space drives community opportunity.

Investing in the Innovation Ecosystem

- Kent Valley–Eastside cities are co-investing in a Space Northwest and Space Foundation Accelerator to grow innovation and startups.
    - Focused on education, entrepreneurship, and events to build a sustainable talent pipeline.
    - Will result in companies hiring, training, and investing locally—keeping high-value jobs in Washington.



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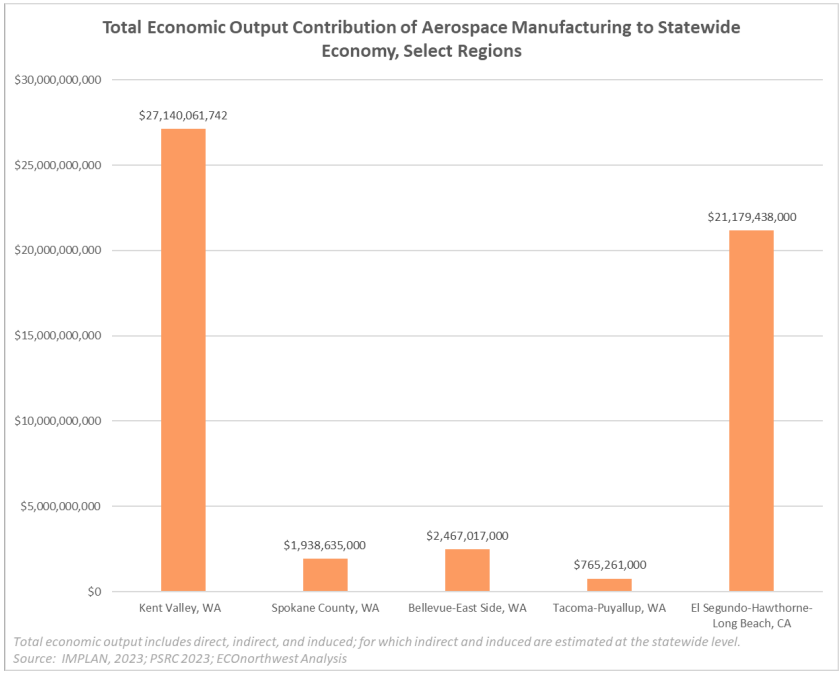
KENT WASHINGTON

Washington's Space Corridor

Kent Valley—WA's Aerospace & Space Manufacturing Core

Driving Washington's Space Economy and Middle-Class Prosperity

- Kent Valley generates $27.1B in aerospace output—exceeding El Segundo–Hawthorne–Long Beach ($21.2B). Many of these companies contract with both space and traditional aerospace firms.
- Represents 35% of Washington's aerospace economy, with over 13,000 direct jobs and average wages above $110K.
- Forms the industrial backbone of the state's "Space Corridor" from Kent through Redmond, home to Blue Origin, Stoke, Starfish, Kuiper (now Amazon Leo), and key suppliers.
- Powers middle-income, technical careers that anchor family-wage jobs in the region.
- Reinforces Washington's leadership in advanced manufacturing and the new space economy.



Redmond Space District Goals

Washington's Space Corridor

Redmond
SPACE DISTRICT

- Support the growth of the existing space cluster in Redmond.
- Recruit new companies to the area.
- Coordinate with regional partners to strengthen the industry cluster.
- Strengthen the workforce pipeline and youth attainment of STEM degrees.

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