



Alaska Defense Industry Resilience Initiative (ADIRI)

ADIRI GOALS

- ★ Identify barriers and vulnerabilities of defense sector firms in Alaska
- ★ Better understand community impacts from changes in defense activity
- ★ Identify types of assistance needed by defense firms
- ★ Identify assets, resources, and stakeholders to support resilience of defense firms

With funding from the U.S. Department of Defense Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA), the University of Alaska Center for Economic Development is leading the Alaska Defense Industry Resilience Initiative (ADIRI). This is an effort to **better understand the contributions of the U.S. military and Coast Guard to Alaska's economy and strengthen these connections**, setting the stage for future strategic economic planning.

In fiscal year 2018, the Department of Defense spent **\$3.5 billion** in Alaska, directly employing more than **27,000 individuals**. While the defense industry has long been a key part of Alaska's social and economic landscape, many gaps exist in local, state, and federal decision makers' knowledge around how the military impacts Alaska's economy and where growth opportunities and areas for improvement exist.

The ADIRI project began in 2019 and estimated completion will be in 2021. An **ADIRI Advisory Group**, comprised of over 35 military, community, and business leaders from across the state, meets periodically to inform and provide feedback to the project.

If you're interested in learning more about ADIRI, please contact **Nolan Klouda** at nfklouda@alaska.edu



U.S. Department of Defense
Office of Economic Adjustment



ADIRI PROJECT DELIVERABLES

Analysis of Supply Chains

The supply chain analysis will identify the firms and economic sectors most affected by changes in Department of Defense and Department of Homeland Security spending in Alaska over time, suggesting potential targets for diversification and helping to inform resiliency and economic adjustment strategies.

Business Survey of Defense Firms

The business survey and associated key informant interviews, conducted by the McDowell Group, will help fill knowledge gaps in Alaska's business climate, business services or assistance needed, and economic confidence levels.

Map of Economic Assets

The asset map will identify and describe the building blocks for an economic strategy around defense in Alaska, including infrastructure, workforce development, institutions, networks, and intangibles like quality of life. This will help stakeholders better understand the available inputs for a future strategic plan.

Analysis of Local Economic Impacts

The study, to be completed by the Institute for Social and Economic Research at UAA, will analyze how past changes in defense spending have affected local economies in Alaska in both the short- and long-term.

Compilation of Best Practices

The consulting firm TIP Strategies has been engaged to recommend programs and policies that can be implemented in Alaska to strengthen the businesses that serve defense markets, as well as the communities in which they are located. This report will compile best practices from across the country in economic development and defense industry resilience.

