

HAWAI'I DEFENSE ECONOMY LAUNCHES WEBSITE TO UNDERSTAND DEFENSE INDUSTRY'S IMPACT ON THE STATE'S ECONOMY

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every year for various projects. The range in work and products varies from information technology and cybersecurity to construction, and food and fresh produce.

The HDE website provides detailed information through interactive graphs and charts. Users can learn more about:

- Ranking of the top products and services purchased by the DoD since 2008;
- How the money flows from DoD contracting agencies to be spent on products and services;
- Ranking of the largest contracts by dollar value;
- Which products and services the DoD spends the most money on;
- Growth in special set aside categories;
- Trends in key growth areas;
- Ranking of top small business contracts;
- Which companies qualify for special business categories; and
- Which organizations and individuals are doing business with the military in Hawai'i (including a searchable database).

"Prior to this project, we knew that billions of dollars poured into Hawai'i through defense contracts, however, we did not have a great understanding of who was benefitting," said David Carey, chairman of the Hawai'i [Military Affairs Council](#). "The data analysis provided on the HDE website allows us to really see how impactful the defense industry is on our local business community, and hopefully provide opportunities for other businesses to become a contractor or subcontractor with the defense industry."

The DoD relies upon hundreds of small businesses in Hawai'i to provide critical products and services to the different branches and commands across the state. In 2016, more than 1,000 small businesses received nearly 2,000 contracts worth more than \$1 billion total.

"There could be more opportunities for local companies to partner with the DoD, and we hope that they will use this resource to see what areas there are contract opportunities," added Carey.

The HDE team is currently in the process of developing an action plan for the State. Based on the analysis, which will improve understanding of the economic impact of defense contracts and awards in Hawai'i, the action plan will include recommendations to help prepare for possible changes in the defense economy and to take advantage of interesting new opportunities.

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Individuals interested in learning more about the HDE project are encouraged to visit and register on the HDE website (www.HawaiiDefenseEconomy.org). Registered users will receive ongoing updates about military contracts and spending, trends and important developments in Hawai'i's defense community. They will also have the opportunity to add their name or company to HDE's stakeholder directory.

The project was completed by SMS Research, utilizing contract data from [USA Spending](#) where "place of performance" was listed as Hawai'i. For more information on the project, please visit www.HawaiiDefenseEconomy.com.

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About the Hawai'i Defense Economy:

The [Hawai'i Defense Economy](#) is a project undertaken by the State of Hawai'i, through the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations – Office of Community Services and is funded by the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) -- Office of Economic Adjustment. The project is focused on enhancing the understanding of the impact of DoD contracts and grants awarded in Hawai'i. For more information, please visit www.HawaiiDefenseEconomy.org.