

Military Economic Impact Analysis for the State of Louisiana

June 2025



PREPARED BY:

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ADVISORS

ELLEN HARPEL, PHD

MARTIN ROMITTI, PHD



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS	6
STATE OF LOUISIANA	7
ACADIANA REGION	11
BAYOU REGION	14
CAPITAL REGION	17
CENTRAL REGION	20
NORTHEAST REGION	23
NORTHWEST REGION	26
SOUTHEAST REGION	29
SOUTHWEST REGION	33
STATEWIDE MILITARY CONTRACT SPENDING	36
MILITARY CONTRACT SPENDING BY REGION	41
FOCUS ON VETERANS	50
METHODOLOGY	54

Executive Summary

Business Development Advisors (BDA) is pleased to provide this report to Louisiana Economic Development (LED) to satisfy RS 29:65, which requires the Louisiana Military Advisory Council to complete a quadrennial statewide and regional military economic impact analysis. BDA prepared the previous military spending impact analyses in 2017 and 2021. BDA once again worked closely with The Roosevelt Group during this effort.

The 2025 impact analysis considers fiscal year (FY) 2024 military spending in Louisiana across four categories: military facility and command activity, defense contracting, military retiree spending, and veteran spending. The Louisiana military facilities and activities studied include Barksdale Air Force Base, Fort Polk, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base (Belle Chasse), Marine Forces Reserve, US Coast Guard 8th District, Naval Information Warfare Center (NIWC) New Orleans, the 377th Theater Sustainment Command, and the Louisiana National Guard. The defense contracting analysis incorporates FY24 Department of Defense (DOD) and US Coast Guard (USCG) contract data for Louisiana. The annual gross pay associated with military retirees and federal Veteran Affairs (VA) expenditures plus VA contracts are also accounted for. Figures for all categories were analyzed at the state level and among eight LED-defined regions. As requested, federal veteran spending was included in the impact analysis for the first time this year.

The data confirm the significant impact from military-related spending in the Louisiana economy. The economic impact analysis shows that military-related spending in all four categories accounted for over **\$17 billion in economic output in Louisiana in fiscal year 2024**. More than **117,000 employees** are associated with this output, which equates to approximately 5.4% of total state payroll employment.¹

Table 1 demonstrates that military spending affects every region in Louisiana. Louisiana's military facilities and commands are especially important in the Central and Northwest regions, home to Fort Polk and Barksdale Air Force Base respectively. Across the state, military

¹ A percentage level between 3-4% for any particular economic sector is general considered to be of significant impact.

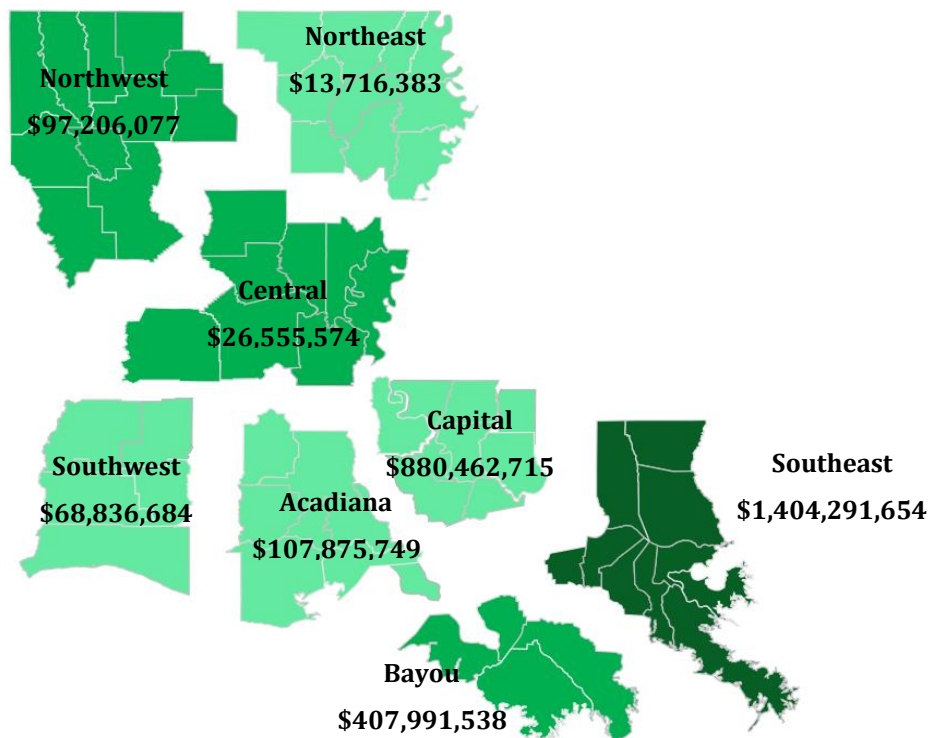
facilities, defense contracting spending, and veteran affairs expenditures are all important components of total economic impact.

Table 1. Economic Impact of Military Spending by Region and Statewide FY2024

Region	Output	Employment	State and Local Taxes	Percent of Regional GDP	Percent of Regional Payroll Employment
Acadiana	\$829,536,000	5,475	\$39,605,000	1.61%	1.98%
Bayou	\$817,538,000	4,611	\$30,682,000	2.86%	3.87%
Capital	\$1,604,700,000	9,798	\$66,837,000	1.39%	2.17%
Central	\$3,141,707,000	25,031	\$129,021,000	16.08%	20.83%
Northeast	\$482,555,000	3,214	\$22,981,000	2.64%	2.75%
Northwest	\$3,847,607,000	26,536	\$157,866,000	8.09%	10.22%
Southeast	\$5,407,117,000	35,195	\$219,504,000	3.23%	5.11%
Southwest	\$906,225,000	7,338	\$40,569,000	2.68%	5.64%
Statewide	\$17,036,986,000	117,198	\$707,064,000	3.62%	5.42%

Economic impact includes the direct, indirect and induced spending from military asset, contractor, retiree and veteran spending in Louisiana and by LED Region.

Figure 1. DOD and USCG Contract Spending with Louisiana recipients, FY24



Department of Defense and USCG contract spending is also an important component of overall military spending. In FY24, contract spending with Louisiana recipients exceeded \$3 billion. Ship building and other heavy and civil engineering construction remain the leading sectors in which defense

contracting work is performed in Louisiana. The map in Figure 1 displays total contract value per LED region.

In addition, Louisiana boasted over 26,000 retirees who received annual gross pay totaling \$748 million in FY24. This income is contributed back to the state economy through the tax base, living expenses and personal spending. These figures may understate the impact of retirees living in nearby states who visit Louisiana for tourism, healthcare and recreational activities.

Louisiana is also home to approximately 262,000 veterans. Federal spending includes veteran expenditures, primarily for compensation, pensions, and medical care. As with retirees, this income is contributed back to the state economy through the tax base, living expenses and personal spending. The impact analysis also includes US Department of Veterans Affairs contracts in Louisiana. In FY23, veteran expenditures were approximately \$4 billion with an additional \$168 in total VA contract spending.²

The remainder of this report is divided into three main sections. First, the Economic Impact Analysis section calculates the economic impact of overall military spending and the four main components of that spending for the state and each of the eight LED regions. Second, the Military Contract Spending section describes summary statistics on DOD and USCG spending in the state of Louisiana and lists the top industries and defense contracting companies for the state and each of the eight LED regions. Third, a brief Focus on Veterans summarizes the economic impact of veterans expenditures and VA contracts and provides an introduction to a set of programs and services supporting veterans in Louisiana. The report concludes with an overview of the methodology and data sources used to complete this analysis.

² This report uses FY23 data from the VA Analytics Service. FY24 parish-level information was not available in time to be incorporated into this analysis.

Economic Impact Analysis

State of Louisiana

Summary Impact of Military Spending in Louisiana

The 2025 impact analysis considers the economic impact of military spending in Louisiana across three categories: military facility and command activity, defense contracting, and military retiree spending.

Table 2. Economic Impact of Military Spending Statewide FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Taxes	Percent of State GDP	Percent of State Payroll Employment
\$17,036,986,000	117,198	\$707,064,000	3.62%	5.42%

Economic impact includes the direct, indirect and induced spending from military asset, contractor and retiree spending.

1. Economic Impact of Military Assets

Louisiana is home to several military facilities and command activities.

- Barksdale Air Force Base (BAFB) directly contributes over 9,000 jobs and nearly \$722 million in payroll to the economy. Estimated total spending (including contracts) at BAFB exceeded \$1 billion in FY24.
- Fort Polk directly contributes 13,365 jobs and over \$675 million in payroll to the economy. Estimated total spending at Fort Polk was \$1.2 billion in FY24.
- Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base (NAS JRB) New Orleans (Belle Chasse) is located in Plaquemines Parish. NAS JRB directly contributes nearly 1,700 jobs and an estimated \$190 million in spending to the economy.
- US Coast Guard, 8th District, has multiple offices and operations in the region, including the 8th District headquarters in New Orleans, the Coast Guard Air Station New Orleans, and the New Orleans sector office. Coast Guard operations directly contribute over 1,500 jobs and \$211 million in spending to the state economy, most of which occurs in the Southeast region.

- Marine Forces Reserve (MARFORRES) headquarters is located in Federal City in the Algiers district of New Orleans. MARFORRES employs an estimated 1,400 active and reserve military and civilian personnel, most of whom are in the Southeast region, with annual expenditures of approximately \$95 million.
- Naval Information Warfare Center (NIWC) New Orleans contributes nearly 240 jobs (including contractors) and \$109 million in spending to the economy.
- The 377th Theater Sustainment Command in New Orleans has nearly 900 workers (including reservists) and contributes more than \$29 million in annual spending.
- The Louisiana National Guard has facilities throughout the state with personnel numbering over 3,600 and contributes over \$497 million in annual spending to the economy.

Table 3 summarizes the total economic impact of employment and spending at these facilities, including direct, indirect and induced effects, on the state of Louisiana.

Table 3. Economic Impact of Military Asset Spending in Louisiana, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$5,662,388,000	54,343	\$223,147,000	\$3,459,845,000

Sources: IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

2. Economic Impact of Military Contract Spending

In addition to spending at military installations, the Department of Defense (DoD) contracts directly with Louisiana companies for many types of goods and services. Louisiana businesses also perform work on contracts that may or may not be managed by Louisiana-based companies.

Total direct contract spending in the state by DoD and the US Coast Guard in FY24 by place of performance was \$3.67 billion. However, it is likely that some of this contract spending overlapped with expenditures at Barksdale, Fort Polk and Belle Chasse. Given the nature of the data sources, it is not possible to know the exact extent of this overlap. In order to avoid possibly overstating the impact of military spending in the state, contracts performed in installation zip codes were subtracted from the total in order to make the economic impact

calculations below for the state. These contracts are instead counted as part of the base-specific impacts.

Table 4 summarizes the total economic impact, including direct, indirect and induced effects, of the remaining military contracts for which the place of performance was Louisiana.

Table 4: Economic Impact of DOD/USCG Contract Spending in Louisiana, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$4,999,874,000	23,211	\$155,727,000	\$1,605,309,000

Sources: USAspending.gov, IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

Military contract funds flow through many parts of the regional economy and are not limited to “defense companies.” The top 10 sectors for contract recipients in Louisiana are:

- Other heavy and civil engineering construction
- Ship building and repairing
- Facilities support services
- Petroleum refineries
- Deep sea freight transportation
- Commercial and institutional building construction
- Remediation services
- Coastal and Great Lakes freight transportation
- Research and development in the physical, engineering and life sciences
- Engineering services

These sectors accounted for over 83% of the obligated contract dollars in FY24.

3. Economic Impact of Retiree Spending

Louisiana attracts a sizeable number of military retirees who receive direct payments from the Department of Defense. Over 26,000 retirees who report their mailing address in a parish in Louisiana received annual gross pay totaling over \$748 million in FY24. This income spent in the state supports a variety of household, personal services, leisure, and hospitality activities and contributes to the tax base.

Table 5 summarizes the total economic impact, including direct, indirect and induced effects, of pay for military retirees living in Louisiana.

Table 5. Economic Impact of Military Retiree Spending, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$792,529,000	4,578	\$55,967,000	\$232,720,000

Source: Military Retired Pay File, Sept. 2024; IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

This figure may understate the impact of retiree spending since retirees who live in nearby communities in surrounding states also visit Louisiana to take advantage of shopping, recreational, tourism and healthcare resources.

4. Veterans

Louisiana is also home to many military veterans. Federal spending includes veteran expenditures and US Department of Veterans Affairs contracts. Veteran expenditures were approximately \$4 billion in FY23 for almost 262,000 veterans living in Louisiana parishes. VA contract spending contributed an additional \$304 million in output to the state economy.

Table 6. Economic Impact of Veteran Affairs Spending, FY23

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$5,582,195,000	35,066	\$272,223,000	\$2,094,648,000

Source: VA Analytics Service, USAspending.gov; IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

Acadiana Region

The Acadiana Region is one of eight Louisiana Economic Development (LED) regions. It includes Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, and Vermilion parishes.

Summary Impact of Military Spending in the Acadiana Region

The 2025 impact analysis considers the economic impact of military spending in the Acadiana Region across four categories: military facility and command activity, defense contracting, military retiree spending and veterans spending.

Table 7. Economic Impact of Military Spending in the Acadiana Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Taxes	Percent of Regional GDP	Percent of Regional Employment
\$829,536,000	5,475	\$39,605,000	1.61%	1.98%

Economic impact includes the direct, indirect and induced spending from military asset, contractor and retiree spending.

1. Economic Impact of Military Assets

The Acadiana region does not contain any of Louisiana's major military facilities, but it does have a Louisiana National Guard presence. The region also benefits indirectly from spending at other military facilities and activities around the state.

Table 8 summarizes the total economic impact of employment and spending at these facilities, including direct, indirect and induced effects, on the Acadiana region of Louisiana.

Table 8. Economic Impact of Military Asset Spending in the Acadiana Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$140,853,000	1,303	\$5,518,000	\$86,322,000

Sources: IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

2. Economic Impact of Military Contract Spending

Table 9 summarizes the total economic impact, including direct, indirect and induced effects, of military and USCG contracts for which the place of performance was the Acadiana region of Louisiana.

Table 9: Economic Impact of DOD/USCG Contract Spending in the Acadiana Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$64,170,000	297	\$1,996,000	\$20,546,000

Sources: USAspending.gov, IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

Military contract funds flow through many parts of the regional economy and are not limited to “defense companies.” The top 5 sectors for contract recipients in the Acadiana region are:

- Boat building
- Commercial and institutional building construction
- Other heavy and civil engineering construction
- Facilities support services
- Ship building and repair

These sectors accounted for over 90% of the obligated contract dollars in FY24.

3. Economic Impact of Retiree Spending

Louisiana attracts a sizeable number of military retirees who receive direct payments from the Department of Defense. Over 2,000 retirees who report their mailing address in a parish in the Acadiana region of Louisiana received annual gross pay totaling over \$54.6 million. This income spent in the region supports a variety of household, personal services, leisure, and hospitality activities and contributes to the tax base.

Table 10 summarizes the total economic impact, including direct, indirect and induced effects, of pay for military retirees living in the Acadiana region.

Table 10. Economic Impact of Military Retiree Spending in the Acadiana Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$62,610,000	362	\$4,421,000	\$18,385,000

Source: Military Retired Pay File, Sept. 2024; IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

4. Veterans

Louisiana is also home to many military veterans. Federal spending includes veteran expenditures and US Department of Veterans Affairs contracts. Veteran expenditures were approximately \$420 million in FY23 for an estimated 31,000 veterans living in the parishes

comprising the Acadiana region. Contract spending added another \$5.1 million in output to the regional economy.

Table 11. Economic Impact of Military Veteran Spending in the Acadiana Region, FY23

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$561,903,000	3,513	\$27,670,000	\$210,150,000

Source: VA Analytics Service, USAspending.gov; IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

Bayou Region

The Bayou Region is one of eight Louisiana Economic Development (LED) regions. It includes Assumption, Lafourche, St. Mary and Terrebonne parishes.

Summary Impact of Military Spending in the Bayou Region

The 2025 impact analysis considers the economic impact of military spending in the Bayou Region across four categories: military facility and command activity, defense contracting, military retiree spending and veterans spending.

Table 12. Economic Impact of Military Spending in the Bayou Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Taxes	Percent of Regional GDP	Percent of Regional Employment
\$817,538,000	4,611	\$30,682,000	2.86%	3.87%

Economic impact includes the direct, indirect and induced spending from military asset, contractor and retiree spending.

1. Economic Impact of Military Assets

The Bayou region does not contain any of Louisiana's major military facilities, but it does have a Louisiana National Guard and US Coast Guard (USCG) presence. The region also benefits indirectly from spending at other military facilities and activities around the state.

Table 13 summarizes the total economic impact of employment and spending at these facilities, including direct, indirect and induced effects, on the Bayou region of Louisiana.

Table 13. Economic Impact of Military Asset Spending in the Bayou Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$126,224,000	1,054	\$5,061,000	\$78,968,000

Sources: IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

2. Economic Impact of Military Contract Spending

In addition to spending at military installations, the Department of Defense (DoD) contracts directly with Louisiana companies for many types of goods and services. Louisiana businesses

also perform work on contracts that may or may not be managed by Louisiana-based companies.

Table 14 summarizes the total economic impact, including direct, indirect and induced effects, of military contracts for which the place of performance was the Bayou region of Louisiana.

Table 14: Economic Impact of DOD/USCG Contract Spending in the Bayou Region, FY24.

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$468,297,000	2,156	\$14,522,000	\$149,054,000

Sources: USAspending.gov, IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

Military contract funds flow through many parts of the regional economy and are not limited to “defense companies.” The top 5 sectors for contract recipients in the Bayou region are:

- Ship building and repairing
- Other heavy and civil engineering construction
- Deep sea freight transportation
- Navigational services to shipping
- Other engine equipment manufacturing

These sectors accounted for over 88% of the obligated contract dollars in FY24.

3. Economic Impact of Retiree Spending

Louisiana attracts a sizeable number of military retirees who receive direct payments from the Department of Defense. Approximate 600 retirees who report their mailing address in a parish in the Bayou region of Louisiana received annual gross pay totaling over \$13.5 million in FY24. This income spent in the region supports a variety of household, personal services, leisure, and hospitality activities and contributes to the tax base.

Table 15 summarizes the total economic impact, including direct, indirect and induced effects, of pay for military retirees living in the Bayou region.

Table 15. Economic Impact of Military Retiree Spending in the Bayou Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$17,436,000	101	\$1,231,000	\$5,120,000

Source: Military Retired Pay File, Sept. 2024; IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

4. Veterans

Louisiana is also home to many military veterans. Federal spending includes veteran expenditures and US Department of Veterans Affairs contracts. Veteran expenditures were approximately \$140 million in FY23 for an estimated 13,000 veterans living in the parishes comprising the Bayou region. Contract spending added another \$22 million in output to the regional economy.

Table 16. Economic Impact of Military Veteran Spending in the Bayou Region, FY23

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$205,582,000	1,300	\$9,867,000	\$77,553,000

Source: VA Analytics Service, USAspending.gov; IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

Capital Region

The Capital Region is one of eight Louisiana Economic Development (LED) regions. It includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena, West Baton Rouge and West Feliciana parishes.

Summary Impact of Military Spending in the Capital Region

The 2025 impact analysis considers the economic impact of military spending in the Capital Region across four categories: military facility and command activity, defense contracting, military retiree spending and veterans spending.

Table 17. Economic Impact of Military Spending in the Capital Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Taxes	Percent of Regional GDP	Percent of Regional Employment
\$1,604,700,000	9,798	\$66,837,000	1.39%	2.17%

Economic impact includes the direct, indirect and induced spending from military asset, contractor and retiree spending.

1. Economic Impact of Military Assets

The Capital region does not contain any of Louisiana’s major military facilities, but it does have a substantial Louisiana National Guard presence and a US Coast Guard unit. The Louisiana National Guard (LANG) activities encompass the State Military Department, which “provides emergency response, support and at-risk education,” and the Gillis W. Long Center, which “provides operational and training support and is home to several LANG units and elements of the Joint Staff.”

The region also benefits indirectly from spending at other military facilities and activities around the state.

Table 18 summarizes the total economic impact of employment and spending at these facilities, including direct, indirect and induced effects, on the Capital region of Louisiana.

Table 18. Economic Impact of Military Asset Spending in the Capital Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$223,328,000	2,236	\$8,779,000	\$137,035,000

Sources: IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

2. Economic Impact of Military Contract Spending

In addition to spending at military installations, the Department of Defense (DoD) contracts directly with Louisiana companies for many types of goods and services. Louisiana businesses also perform work on contracts that may or may not be managed by Louisiana-based companies.

Table 19 summarizes the total economic impact, including direct, indirect and induced effects, of military contracts for which the place of performance was the Capital region of Louisiana.

Table 19: Economic Impact of DOD/USCG Contract Spending in the Capital Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$646,434,000	3,008	\$20,158,000	\$208,040,000

Sources: USAspending.gov, IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

Military contract funds flow through many parts of the regional economy and are not limited to “defense companies.” The top 5 sectors for contract recipients in the Capital region are:

- Facilities support services
- Petroleum refineries
- Other heavy and civil engineering construction
- Remediation services
- Deep sea freight transportation

These sectors accounted for 85% of the obligated contract dollars in FY24.

3. Economic Impact of Retiree Spending

Louisiana attracts a sizeable number of military retirees who receive direct payments from the Department of Defense. The 2,550 retirees who report their mailing address in a parish in the Capital region of Louisiana received annual gross pay totaling over \$69.5 million in FY24. This

income spent in the region supports a variety of household, personal services, leisure, and hospitality activities and contributes to the tax base.

Table 20 summarizes the total economic impact, including direct, indirect and induced effects, of pay for military retirees living in the Capital region.

Table 20: Economic Impact of Military Retiree Spending in the Capital Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$77,668,000	449	\$5,485,000	\$22,807,000

Source: Military Retired Pay File, September 2024; IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

4. Veterans

Louisiana is also home to many military veterans. Federal spending includes veteran expenditures and US Department of Veterans Affairs contracts. Veteran expenditures were approximately \$505 million in FY23 for nearly 43,000 veterans living in the parishes comprising the Capital region. Contract spending added another \$11 million in output to the regional economy.

Table 21. Economic Impact of Military Veteran Spending in the Capital Region, FY23

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$657,270,000	4,106	\$32,416,000	\$245,689,000

Source: VA Analytics Service, USAspending.gov; IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

Central Region

The Central Region is one of eight Louisiana Economic Development (LED) regions. It includes Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, Grant, LaSalle, Rapides, Vernon and Winn parishes.

Summary Impact of Military Spending in the Central Region

The 2025 impact analysis considers the economic impact of military spending in the Central Region across four categories: military facility and command activity, defense contracting, military retiree spending and veterans spending.

Table 22. Economic Impact of Military Spending in the Central Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Taxes	Percent of Regional GDP	Percent of Regional Employment
\$3,141,707,000	25,031	\$129,021,000	16.08%	20.83%

Economic impact includes the direct, indirect and induced spending from military asset, contractor and retiree spending.

1. Economic Impact of Military Assets

The Central region is home to Fort Polk, which directly contributes over 13,300 jobs and \$675 million in payroll to the economy. Estimated total spending at Fort Polk was \$1.2 billion in FY24.

In addition to the military missions and tenants at Fort Polk, the Central region hosts the Louisiana National Guard and the Louisiana National Guard Training Center in Pineville. The region also benefits indirectly from spending at other military facilities and activities around the state.

Table 23 summarizes the total economic impact of employment and spending at these facilities, including direct, indirect and induced effects, in the Central region of Louisiana.

Table 23. Economic Impact of Military Asset Spending in the Central Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$1,516,053,000	16,154	\$61,077,000	\$931,386,000

Sources: Fort Polk, Louisiana National Guard, IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

2. Economic Impact of Military Contract Spending

In addition to spending at military installations, the Department of Defense (DoD) contracts directly with Louisiana companies for many types of goods and services. Louisiana businesses also perform work on contracts that may or may not be managed by Louisiana-based companies. However, it is likely that some of this contract spending overlapped with expenditures at Fort Polk. Given the nature of the data sources, it is not possible to know the exact extent of this overlap. To avoid possibly overstating the impact of military spending in the region, contracts performed in Fort Polk zip codes were subtracted from the total in order to make the economic impact calculations for the region.

Table 24 summarizes the total economic impact, including direct, indirect and induced effects, of military contracts for which the place of performance was Central Louisiana.

Table 24: Economic Impact of DOD/USCG Contract Spending in the Central Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$790,647,000	3,679	\$24,656,000	\$254,483,000

Sources: USAspending.gov, IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

Military contract funds flow through many parts of the regional economy and are not limited to “defense companies.” The top 5 sectors for contract recipients in the Central region are:

- Petroleum refineries
- Other heavy and civil engineering construction
- Highway, street, and bridge construction
- Other commercial and service industry machinery manufacturing
- Other crushed and broken stone mining and quarrying

These sectors accounted for 77% of the obligated contract dollars in FY24.

3. Economic Impact of Retiree Spending

Louisiana attracts a sizeable number of military retirees who receive direct payments from the Department of Defense. Approximately 4,300 retirees who report their mailing address in a parish in Central Louisiana received annual gross pay totaling \$116 million in FY24. This income supports a variety of household, personal services, leisure, and hospitality activities and contributes to the tax base in the region.

Table 25 summarizes the total economic impact, including direct, indirect and induced effects, of pay for military retirees living in Central Louisiana.

Table 25. Economic Impact of Military Retiree Spending in the Central Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$129,975,000	751	\$9,179,000	\$38,166,000

Source: Military Retired Pay File, Sept. 2024; IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

This figure may understate the impact of retiree spending since retirees who live in nearby communities in Texas and other regions of Louisiana visit Central Louisiana to take advantage of shopping, recreational, tourism and healthcare resources. Fort Polk estimates nearly 15,000 military retirees and their family members live within 40 miles of the base.

4. Veterans

Louisiana is also home to many military veterans. Federal spending includes veteran expenditures and US Department of Veterans Affairs contracts. Veteran expenditures were approximately \$493 million in FY23 for nearly 24,000 veterans living in the parishes comprising the Capital region. Contract spending added another \$57 million in output to the regional economy.

Table 26. Economic Impact of Military Veteran Spending in the Capital Region, FY23

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$705,032,000	4,447	\$34,109,000	\$265,264,000

Source: VA Analytics Service, USAspending.gov; IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

Northeast Region

The Northeast Region is one of eight Louisiana Economic Development (LED) regions. It includes Caldwell, East Carroll, Franklin, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union and West Carroll parishes.

Summary Impact of Military Spending in the Northeast Region

The 2025 impact analysis considers the economic impact of military spending in the Northeast Region across four categories: military facility and command activity, defense contracting, military retiree spending and veterans spending.

Table 27. Economic Impact of Military Spending in the Northeast Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Taxes	Percent of Regional GDP	Percent of Regional Employment
\$482,555,000	3,214	\$22,981,000	2.64%	2.75%

Economic impact includes the direct, indirect and induced spending from military asset, contractor and retiree spending.

1. Economic Impact of Military Assets

The Northeast region does not contain any of Louisiana's major military facilities, but it does have a Louisiana National Guard presence. The region also benefits indirectly from spending at other military facilities and activities around the state.

Table 28 summarizes the total economic impact of employment and spending at these facilities, including direct, indirect and induced effects, on the Northeast Region of Louisiana.

Table 28. Economic Impact of Military Asset Spending in Northeast Louisiana, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$101,386,000	923	\$3,929,000	\$61,785,000

Sources: IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

2. Economic Impact of Military Contract Spending

In addition to spending at military installations, the Department of Defense (DoD) contracts directly with Louisiana companies for many types of goods and services. Louisiana businesses also perform work on contracts that may or may not be managed by Louisiana-based companies.

Table 29 summarizes the total economic impact, including direct, indirect and induced effects, of military contracts for which the place of performance was Northeast Louisiana.

Table 29: Economic Impact of DOD/USCG Contract Spending in Northeast Louisiana, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$40,884,000	190	\$1,275,000	\$13,156,000

Sources: USAspending.gov, IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

Military contract funds flow through many parts of the regional economy and are not limited to “defense companies.” The top 5 sectors for contract recipients in the Northeast region are:

- Roasted nuts and peanut butter manufacturing
- Wired telecommunications carriers
- Highway, street, and bridge construction
- Perishable prepared food manufacturing
- All other miscellaneous manufacturing

These sectors accounted for 96% of the obligated contract dollars in FY24.

3. Economic Impact of Retiree Spending

Louisiana attracts a sizeable number of military retirees who receive direct payments from the Department of Defense. Over 1,400 retirees who report their mailing address in a parish in Northeast Louisiana received annual gross pay totaling nearly \$37 million in FY24. This income spent in the region supports a variety of household, personal services, leisure, and hospitality activities and contributes to the tax base.

Table 30 summarizes the total economic impact, including direct, indirect and induced effects, of pay for military retirees living in Northeast Louisiana.

Table 30. Economic Impact of Military Retiree Spending in the Northeast Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$43,589,000	252	\$3,078,000	\$12,800,000

Source: Military Retired Pay File, Sept. 2024; IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors, Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness

4. Veterans

Louisiana is also home to many military veterans. Federal spending includes veteran expenditures and US Department of Veterans Affairs contracts. Veteran expenditures were approximately \$225 million in FY23 for nearly 15,000 veterans living in the parishes comprising the Northeast region. Contract spending added nearly another \$1 million in output to the regional economy.

Table 31. Economic Impact of Military Veteran Spending in the Northeast Region, FY23

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$296,697,000	1,849	\$14,699,000	\$110,734,000

Source: VA Analytics Service, USAspending.gov; IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

Northwest Region

The Northwest Region is one of eight Louisiana Economic Development (LED) regions. It includes Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, De Soto, Jackson, Lincoln, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine and Webster parishes.

Summary Impact of Military Spending in the Northwest Region

The 2025 impact analysis considers the economic impact of military spending in the Northwest Region across four categories: military facility and command activity, defense contracting, military retiree spending and veterans spending.

Table 32. Economic Impact of Military Spending in the Northeast Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Taxes	Percent of Regional GDP	Percent of Regional Employment
\$3,847,607,000	26,536	\$157,866,000	8.09%	10.22%

Economic impact includes the direct, indirect and induced spending from military asset, contractor and retiree spending.

1. Economic Impact of Military Assets

The Northwest region is home to Barksdale Air Force Base, which directly contributes over 9,000 jobs and \$722 million in payroll to the economy. Estimated total spending at Barksdale exceeded \$1 billion in FY24.

In addition to the military missions and tenants at Barksdale, the Northwest region hosts Camp Minden, home to Louisiana National Guard units, as well as additional Guard units throughout the region. The region also benefits indirectly from spending at other military facilities and activities around the state.

Table 33 summarizes the total economic impact of employment and spending at these facilities, including direct, indirect and induced effects, on the Northwest Region of Louisiana.

Table 33. Economic Impact of Military Asset Spending in Northwest Louisiana, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$1,758,186,000	14,928	\$66,995,000	\$1,061,342,000

Sources: Barksdale AFB, IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

2. Economic Impact of Military Contract Spending

In addition to spending at military installations, the Department of Defense (DoD) contracts directly with Louisiana companies for many types of goods and services. Louisiana businesses also perform work on contracts that may or may not be managed by Louisiana-based companies. However, it is likely that some of this contract spending overlaps with expenditures at Barksdale. Given the nature of the data sources, it is not possible to know the exact extent of this overlap. To avoid possibly overstating the impact of military spending in the region, contracts performed in Barksdale zip codes were subtracted from the total in order to make the economic impact calculations for the region.

Table 34 summarizes the total economic impact, including direct, indirect and induced effects, of military contracts for which the place of performance was Northwest Louisiana.

Table 34: Economic Impact of DOD/USCG Contract Spending in Northwest Louisiana, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$870,724,000	4,052	\$27,154,000	\$280,257,000

Sources: USAspending.gov, IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

Military contract funds flow through many parts of the regional economy and are not limited to “defense companies.” The top 5 sectors for contract recipients in the Northwest region are:

- R&D in the physical, engineering and life sciences
- Other heavy and civil engineering construction
- Ship building and repair
- Explosives manufacturing
- Commercial and institutional building construction

These sectors accounted for 84% of the obligated contract dollars in FY24.

3. Economic Impact of Retiree Spending

Louisiana attracts a sizeable number of military retirees who receive direct payments from the Department of Defense. Over 6,400 retirees who report their mailing address in a parish in Northwest Louisiana received annual gross pay totaling over \$205 million in FY24. This income spent in the region supports a variety of household, personal services, leisure, and hospitality activities and contributes to the tax base.

Table 35 summarizes the total economic impact, including direct, indirect and induced effects, of pay for military retirees living in Northwest Louisiana.

Table 35. Economic Impact of Military Retiree Spending in the Northwest Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$196,547,000	1,135	\$13,880,000	\$57,715,000

Source: Military Retired Pay File, Sept. 2024; IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

This figure may understate the impact of retiree spending since retirees who live in nearby communities in Arkansas, Texas and other regions of Louisiana also visit Barksdale and Northwest Louisiana for shopping, recreational, tourism and healthcare resources.

4. Veterans

Louisiana is also home to many military veterans. Federal spending includes veteran expenditures and US Department of Veterans Affairs contracts. Veteran expenditures were over \$738 million in FY23 for nearly 41,000 veterans living in the parishes comprising the Northwest region. Contract spending added nearly another \$56 million in output to the regional economy.

Table 36. Economic Impact of Military Veteran Spending in the Northwest Region, FY23

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$1,022,150,000	6,421	\$49,838,000	\$383,571,000

Source: VA Analytics Service, USAspending.gov; IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

Southeast Region

The Southeast Region is one of eight Louisiana Economic Development (LED) regions. It includes Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, and Washington parishes.

Summary Impact of Military Spending in the Southeast Region

The 2025 impact analysis considers the economic impact of military spending in the Southeast Region across four categories: military facility and command activity, defense contracting, military retiree spending and veterans spending.

Table 37. Economic Impact of Military Spending in the Northeast Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Taxes	Percent of Regional GDP	Percent of Regional Employment
\$5,407,117,000	35,195	\$219,504,000	3.23%	5.11%

Economic impact includes the direct, indirect and induced spending from military asset, contractor and retiree spending.

1. Economic Impact of Military Assets

The Southeast region is home to several military facilities and activities.

- Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base (NAS JRB) New Orleans (Belle Chasse) is located in Plaquemines Parish. NAS JRB directly contributes nearly 1,700 naval jobs and an estimated \$190 million in spending to the economy.
- US Coast Guard, 8th District, has multiple offices and operations in the region, including the 8th District headquarters in New Orleans, the Coast Guard Air Station New Orleans, and the New Orleans sector office. Coast Guard operations directly contribute over 1,500 jobs and \$211 million in spending to the state economy, most of which occurs in the Southeast region.
- Marine Forces Reserve (MARFORRES) headquarters is located in Federal City in the Algiers district of New Orleans. MARFORRES employs an estimated 1,400 active and reserve military and civilian personnel, most of whom are in the Southeast region, with annual expenditures of approximately \$95 million.

- Naval Information Warfare Center (NIWC) New Orleans contributes nearly 240 jobs (including contractors) and \$109 million in spending to the economy.
- The 377th Theatre Sustainment Command in New Orleans has nearly 900 jobs (including reservists) and contributes over \$29 million in spending.
- The Southeast region also has a significant Louisiana National Guard presence.

Table 38 summarizes the total economic impact of employment and spending at these facilities, including direct, indirect and induced effects, on the Southeast Region of Louisiana.

Table 38. Economic Impact of Military Asset Spending in the Southeast Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$1,363,212,000	13,207	\$54,377,000	\$836,792,000

Sources: NAS JRB, USCG, NIWC, Marine Forces Reserve, 377th TSC, Louisiana National Guard. IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

2. Economic Impact of Military Contract Spending

In addition to spending at military installations, the Department of Defense (DoD) contracts directly with Louisiana companies for many types of goods and services. Louisiana businesses also perform work on contracts that may or may not be managed by Louisiana-based companies. However, it is likely that some of this contract spending overlapped with expenditures at the facilities in New Orleans. To avoid possibly overstating the impact of military spending in the region, contracts performed in the relevant zip codes were subtracted from the total in order to make the economic impact calculations for the region.

Table 39 summarizes the total economic impact, including direct, indirect and induced effects, of military contracts for which the place of performance was Southeast Louisiana.

Table 39: Economic Impact of DOD/USCG Contract Spending in the Southeast Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$2,039,833,000	9,462	\$63,507,000	\$654,391,000

Sources: USAspending.gov, IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

Military contract funds flow through many parts of the regional economy and are not limited to “defense companies.” The top 5 sectors for contract recipients in the Southeast region are:

- Other heavy and civil engineering construction
- Ship building and repairing
- Commercial and institutional building construction
- Coastal and Great Lakes freight transportation
- Engineering services

These sectors accounted for 75% of the obligated contract dollars in FY24.

3. Economic Impact of Retiree Spending

Louisiana attracts a sizeable number of military retirees who receive direct payments from the Department of Defense. Approximately 6,800 retirees who report their mailing address in a parish in Southeast Louisiana received annual gross pay totaling nearly \$203 million. This income spent in the region supports a variety of household, personal services, leisure, and hospitality activities and contributes to the tax base.

Table 40 summarizes the total economic impact, including direct, indirect and induced effects, of pay for military retirees living in Southeast Louisiana.

Table 40. Economic Impact of Military Retiree Spending in the Southeast Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$207,643,000	1,199	\$14,663,000	\$60,973,000

Source: Military Retired Pay File, Sept. 2024; IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

This figure may understate the impact of retiree spending since retirees who live in nearby communities in Mississippi, Alabama and other regions of Louisiana but visit Southeast Louisiana to take advantage of shopping, recreational, tourism and healthcare resources.

4. Veterans

Louisiana is also home to many military veterans. Federal spending includes veteran expenditures and US Department of Veterans Affairs contracts. Veteran expenditures were nearly \$1.3 billion in FY23 for approximately 76,000 veterans living in the parishes comprising the Southeast region. Contract spending added nearly another \$142 million in output to the regional economy.

Table 41. Economic Impact of Military Veteran Spending in the Southeast Region, FY23

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$1,796,429,000	11,327	\$86,957,000	\$675,773,000

Source: VA Analytics Service, USAspending.gov; IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

Southwest Region

The Southwest Region is one of eight Louisiana Economic Development (LED) regions. It includes Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron and Jefferson Davis parishes.

Summary Impact of Military Spending in the Southwest Region

The 2025 impact analysis considers the economic impact of military spending in the Southwest Region across four categories: military facility and command activity, defense contracting, military retiree spending and veterans spending.

Table 42. Economic Impact of Military Spending in the Southwest Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Taxes	Percent of Regional GDP	Percent of Regional Employment
\$906,225,000	7,338	\$40,569,000	2.68%	5.64%

Economic impact includes the direct, indirect and induced spending from military asset, contractor and retiree spending.

1. Economic Impact of Military Assets

The Southwest region does not contain any of Louisiana's major military facilities, but it is connected economically to Fort Polk in the Central Region primarily via the town of DeRidder and Beauregard Parish, which border Vernon Parish, the home of Fort Polk. The Southwest region also has a Louisiana National Guard and US Coast Guard presence. The region also benefits indirectly from spending at other military facilities and activities around the state.

Table 43 summarizes the total economic impact of employment and spending at these facilities, including direct, indirect and induced effects, on the Southwest region of Louisiana.

Table 43. Economic Impact of Military Asset Spending in the Southwest Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$433,147,000	4,538	\$17,412,000	\$266,215,000

Sources: IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

2. Economic Impact of Military Contract Spending

In addition to spending at military installations, the Department of Defense (DoD) contracts directly with Louisiana companies for many types of goods and services. Louisiana businesses also perform work on contracts that may or may not be managed by Louisiana-based companies.

Table 44 summarizes the total economic impact, including direct, indirect and induced effects, of military contracts for which the place of performance was Southwest Louisiana.

Table 44: Economic Impact of DOD/USCG Contract Spending in the Southwest Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$78,885,000	367	\$2,460,000	\$25,383,000

Sources: USAspending.gov, IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

Military contract funds flow through many parts of the regional economy and are not limited to “defense companies.” The top 5 sectors for contract recipients in the Southwest region are:

- Other heavy and civil engineering construction
- Commercial and institutional building construction
- Highway, street and bridge construction
- Petroleum refineries
- Site preparation contractors

These sectors accounted for over 95% of the obligated contract dollars in FY24.

3. Economic Impact of Retiree Spending

Louisiana attracts a sizeable number of military retirees who receive direct payments from the Department of Defense. Over 1,800 retirees who report their mailing address in a parish in Southwest Louisiana received annual gross pay totaling over \$49 million. This income spent in the region supports a variety of household, personal services, leisure, and hospitality activities and contributes to the tax base.

Table 45 summarizes the total economic impact, including direct, indirect and induced effects, of pay for military retirees living in Southwest Louisiana.

Table 45. Economic Impact of Military Retiree Spending in the Southwest Region, FY24

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$57,062,000	330	\$4,029,000	\$16,756,000

Source: Military Retired Pay File, Sept. 2024; IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

This figure may understate the impact of retiree spending since retirees who live in nearby communities in Texas and other regions of Louisiana also visit Southwest Louisiana to take advantage of shopping, recreational, tourism and healthcare resources. At the same time, retirees in the Southwest region also appear to spend portions of their income in other regions.

4. Veterans

Louisiana is also home to many military veterans. Federal spending includes veteran expenditures and US Department of Veterans Affairs contracts. Veteran expenditures were nearly \$255 million in FY23 for approximately 19,000 veterans living in the parishes comprising the Southwest region. Contract spending added nearly another \$1.7 million in output to the regional economy.

Table 46. Economic Impact of Military Veteran Spending in the Southwest Region, FY23

Output	Employment	State and Local Tax Impact	Total Labor Income
\$337,132,000	2,103	\$16,667,000	\$125,915,000

Source: VA Analytics Service, USAspending.gov; IMPLAN, Business Development Advisors

Statewide Military Contract Spending

This section profiles Louisiana defense and USCG contracts awarded to recipients in Louisiana for FY24.

Department of Defense (DOD) and US Coast Guard (USCG) contract spending in Louisiana reached just over \$3 billion in FY24 (Figure 2).

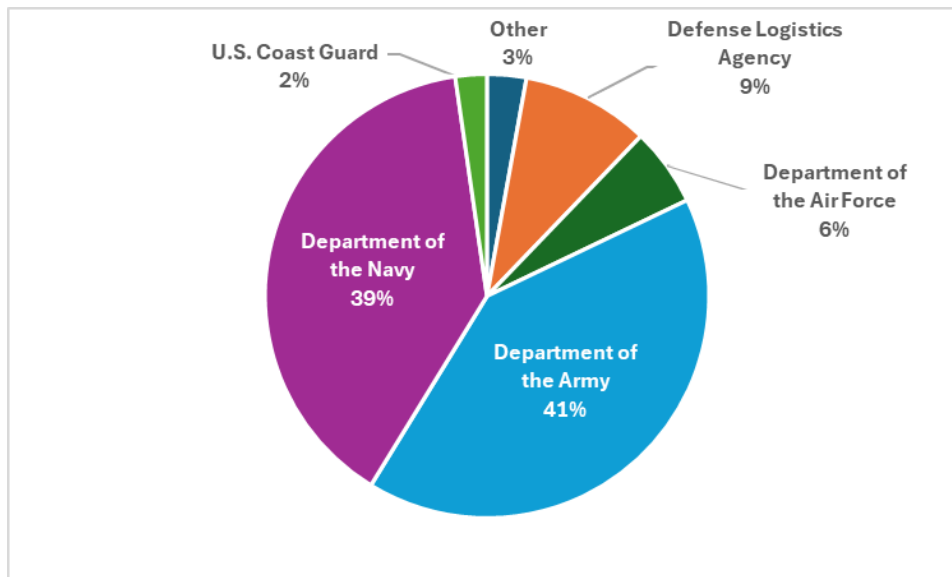
Figure 2. Total Value of DOD & USCG Contracts, Louisiana, FY 2020 - FY 2024



Source: USASpending.gov, Data extracts as of April 2025

Of the FY24 contracts, approximately 41% were awarded by the Department of the Army and 39% by the Department of the Navy (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Military Contracts Performed in Louisiana by Awarding Agency



Source: USASpending.gov, Data extracts as of April 2025.

Louisiana is also a significant “place of performance” for defense work initially awarded in other states (Figure 4 and Table 47). Virginia, Texas and Florida are the leading out-of-state sources for military contracts performed in Louisiana.

Figure 4.

Military Contracts Performed in Louisiana by Recipient State, FY 2024

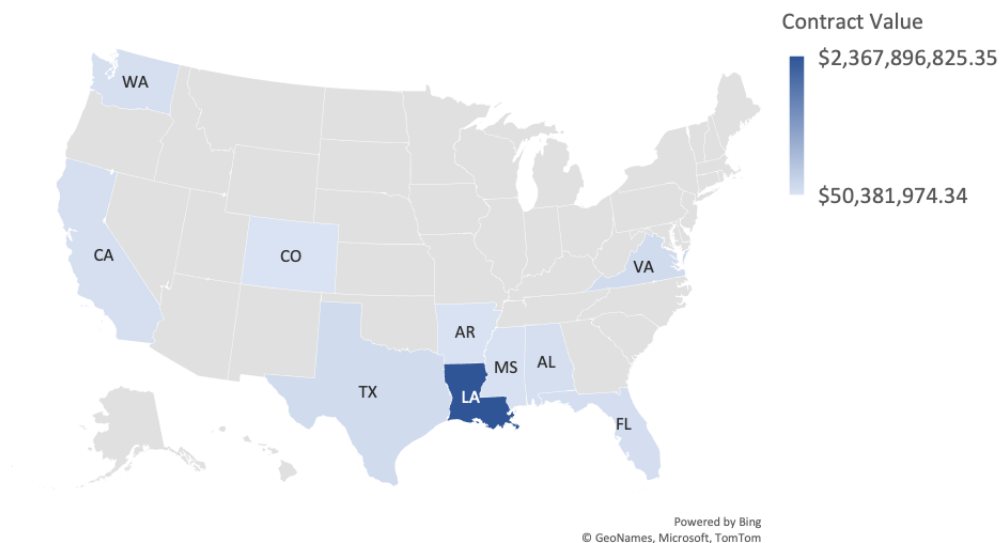


Table 47. Military Contracts Performed in Louisiana by Contract Recipient State FY24

State	Contract Value	% of Total Contracts
LA	\$2,367,896,825	66.2%
VA	\$185,819,303	5.2%
TX	\$182,434,231	5.1%
FL	\$137,911,010	3.9%
WA	\$124,375,715	3.5%
CA	\$124,158,060	3.5%
AL	\$120,877,458	3.4%
MS	\$83,002,594	2.3%
AR	\$60,953,037	1.7%
CO	\$50,381,974	1.4%
All Other States	\$321,510,022	9.0%

Source: USASpending.gov, Data extracts as of April 2025

Contracts awarded to Louisiana recipients are concentrated among a handful of industries, products, and contractors. Table 48 indicates that ten industries account for approximately 83% of Louisiana's contract dollars, led by the Other Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction industry and Ship Building and Repairing.

Table 48. Top Ten Defense Industry Categories in Louisiana (by \$ amount), FY2024

Rank	Industry	Obligated Dollar Amount	% of Total Value
1	Other Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	\$845,071,439	28.1%
2	Ship Building and Repairing	\$534,882,599	17.8%
3	Facilities Support Services	\$236,622,719	7.9%
4	Petroleum Refineries	\$215,145,174	7.2%
5	Deep Sea Freight Transportation	\$171,051,039	5.7%
6	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction	\$162,450,991	5.4%
7	Remediation Services	\$134,077,583	4.5%
8	Coastal and Great Lakes Freight Transportation	\$71,993,233	2.4%
9	Research and Development in Physical, Engineering and Life Sciences	\$69,071,068	2.3%
10	Engineering Services	\$67,908,015	2.3%
	Top Ten Industries Total	\$2,508,273,862	83.4%
	All Other	\$498,762,512	16.6%
	Total	\$3,007,036,374	100.0%

Source: USASpending.gov, Data extracts as of April 2025.

Table 49 provides more insight into the types of products purchased. Combat ships and landing vessels plus Construction of other non-building facilities lead the list, but transportation, fuels, construction and maintenance are also important product categories.

Table 49. Top Ten Defense Products or Services Provided by Louisiana Companies, FY2024

Rank	Industry	Obligated Dollar Amount	% of Total Value
1	Combat ships and landing vessels	\$330,177,835	11.0%
2	Construction of other non-building facilities	\$328,034,956	10.9%
3	Transportation/travel/relocation- transportation: marine charter	\$212,782,592	7.1%
4	Liquid propellants and fuels, petroleum base	\$207,475,195	6.9%
5	Construction of canals	\$138,138,666	4.6%
6	Other environmental services	\$118,765,206	3.9%
7	Construction of dredging facilities	\$115,006,509	3.8%
8	Maintenance of dredging facilities	\$113,030,174	3.8%
9	Maintenance of fuel supply facilities	\$112,405,493	3.7%
10	Maintenance of canals	\$93,936,455	3.1%
	<i>Top Ten Products or Services Total</i>	<i>\$1,796,753,084</i>	<i>58.9%</i>
	<i>All Other</i>	<i>\$1,002,829,412</i>	<i>33.3%</i>
	Total	\$3,007,036,373	100.0%

Source: USASpending.gov, Data extracts as of April 2025. Note:

Table 50 lists the top Louisiana-based defense contractors for FY24 based on contract value.

Table 50. Top Louisiana Defense Contractors, by Contract Value, FY2024

Rank	Industry	Obligated Dollar Amount	% of Total Value
1	Weeks Marine, Inc.	\$367,659,028	12.3%
2	Textron Systems Corp	\$311,882,43	10.6%
3	Aptim Federal Services, LLC	\$211,976,987	6.9%
4	Placid Refining Company, LLC	\$195,168,878	6.6%
5	Hornbeck Offshore Operators, LLC	\$131,218,229	4.3%
6	Omega Foundation Services, inc.	\$110,767,658	3.8%
7	US Ocean, LLC	\$97,071,935	3.3%
8	Tiya Services, LLC	\$76,733,811	2.5%
9	Alpha marine services, LLC	\$69,710,569	2.3%
10	Conrad Shipyard, LLC	\$63,941,184	2.2%
	<i>Top Ten Vendors Total</i>	<i>\$1,600,398,036</i>	<i>54.8%</i>

<i>All Other</i>	<i>\$1,370,905,660</i>	<i>45.2%</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$3,077,036,374</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

Source: USASpending.gov, Data extracts as of April 2025.

Military Contract Spending by Region

This section profiles defense and USCG contracts awarded to Louisiana recipients by region for FY24.

Acadiana Region

Table 51. Top Defense Industry Sectors (by \$ amount), Acadiana Region, FY24

Rank	Industry	Obligated Dollar Amount	% of Total Value
1	Boat Building	\$31,919,242	29.6%
2	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction	\$23,804,953	22.1%
3	Other Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	\$22,888,701	21.2%
4	Facilities Support Services	\$14,522,589	13.5%
5	Ship Building and Repairing	\$4,339,629	4.0%
6	Ambulance Services	\$1,842,698	1.7%
7	Highway, Street, and Bridge Construction	\$1,167,429	1.1%
8	Electrical Contractors and Other Wiring Installation Contractors	\$938,063	0.9%
9	Search, Detection, Navigation, Guidance, Aeronautical, and Nautical System and Instrument Manufacturing	\$875,430	0.8%
10	General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	\$761,604	0.7%
<i>Top Ten Industries Total</i>		<i>\$103,060,338</i>	<i>95.5%</i>
<i>All Other</i>		<i>\$4,815,410</i>	<i>4.5%</i>
Total		\$107,875,749	100.0%

Source: USASpending.gov. Data extracts as of April 2025.

Table 52. Top Defense Contractors by Contract Value, Acadiana Region, FY24

Rank	Vendor Name	Obligated Dollar Amount	% of Total Value
1	Gravois Aluminum Boats, LLC	\$34,003,877	31.5%
2	Frazier Investments, Inc.	\$16,607,529	15.4%
3	Lemoine Disaster Recovery, LLC	\$11,905,609	11.0%
4	Rigid Constructors, LLC	\$11,475,373	10.6%
5	Lemoine – Frazier JV, LLC	\$7,518,870	7.0%
6	Evco Development, LLC	\$5,586,291	5.2%
7	E&L Construction Group, LLC	\$2,913,924	2.7%
8	Legacy Ems, Inc.	\$2,604,303	2.4%
9	Taylors International Services	\$2,505,940	2.3%

10	Istre Engineering Services, Inc.	\$1,699,503	1.6%
	<i>Top Ten Vendors Total</i>	<i>\$96,821,220</i>	<i>89.8%</i>
	<i>All Other</i>	<i>\$11,054,528</i>	<i>10.2%</i>
	Total	\$107,875,749	100.0%

Source: USASpending.gov. Data extracts as of April 2025.

Bayou Region

Table 53. Top Defense Industry Sectors (by \$ amount), Bayou Region, FY24

Rank	Industry	Obligated Dollar Amount	% of Total Value
1	Ship Building and Repairing	\$167,875,187	41.1%
2	Other Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	\$100,302,866	24.6%
3	Deep Sea Freight Transportation	\$56,862,140	13.9%
4	Navigational Services to Shipping	\$23,755,930	5.8%
5	Other Engine Equipment Manufacturing	\$10,007,527	2.5%
6	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction	\$9,931,914	2.4%
7	Deep Sea Passenger Transportation	\$5,869,804	1.4%
8	Facilities Support Services	\$2,684,731	0.7%
9	Highway, Street and Bridge Construction	\$2,643,832	0.6%
10	Commercial Air, Rail, and Water Transportation Equipment Rental and Leasing	\$2,130,000	0.5%
	<i>Top Ten Industries Total</i>	<i>\$382,063,931</i>	<i>93.6%</i>
	<i>All Other</i>	<i>\$25,927,607</i>	<i>6.4%</i>
	Total	\$407,991,538	100.0%

Source: USASpending.gov. Data extracts as of April 2025.

Table 54. Top Defense Contractors by Contract Value, Bayou Region, FY24

Rank	Vendor Name	Obligated Dollar Amount	% of Total Value
1	Alpha Marine Services, LLC	\$69,710,569	17.1%
2	Conrad Shipyard, LLC	\$63,941,184	15.7%
3	Bollinger Shipyards Lockport, LLC	\$57,665,568	14.1%
4	Thoma-Sea Marine Constructors, LLC	\$31,007,270	7.6%
5	Phylway Construction, LLC	\$26,016,732	6.4%
6	Chand, LLC	\$25,878,667	6.3%
7	Onshore Materials, LLC	\$22,402,339	5.5%

8	Justin J. Reeves, LLC	\$22,127,236	5.4%
9	Offshore Service Vessels, LLC	\$16,777,304	4.1%
10	Sealevel Construction, Inc.	\$15,178,158	3.7%
	<i>Top Ten Vendors Total</i>	<i>\$350,705,029</i>	<i>86.0%</i>
	<i>All Other</i>	<i>\$57,286,509</i>	<i>14%</i>
	Total	\$407,991,538	100.0%

Source: USASpending.gov. Data extracts as of April 2025.

Capital Region

Table 55. Top Defense Industry Sectors (by \$ amount), Capital Region, FY24

Rank	Industry	Obligated Dollar Amount	% of Total Value
1	Facilities Support Services	\$201,357,088	22.9%
2	Petroleum Refineries	\$195,950,009	22.3%
3	Other Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction	\$157,343,769	17.9%
4	Remediation Services	\$115,376,404	13.1%
5	Deep Sea Freight Transportation	\$75,622,414	8.6%
6	Research & Development, Physical, Engineering & Life Sciences	\$37,220,467	4.2%
7	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction	\$21,594,850	2.5%
8	Oil and Gas Pipeline and Related Structures Construction	\$15,373,291	1.7%
9	Hazardous Waste Treatment and Disposal	\$14,202,807	1.6%
10	Testing Laboratories and Services	\$12,391,273	1.4%
	<i>Top Ten Industries Total</i>	<i>\$846,432,371</i>	<i>96.1%</i>
	<i>All Other</i>	<i>\$34,030,344</i>	<i>3.9%</i>
	Total	\$880,462,715	100.0%

Source: USASpending.gov. Data extracts as of April 2025.

Table 56. Top Defense Contractors by Contract value, Capital Region, FY24

Rank	Vendor Name	Obligated Dollar Amount	% of Total Value
1	Aptim Federal Services, LLC	\$211,976,987	24.1%
2	Placid Refining Company, LLC	\$195,168,878	22.2%
3	Omega Foundation Services, Inc.	\$110,767,658	12.6%
4	Tiya Services, LLC	\$76,733,811	8.7%
5	US Ocean, LLC	\$75,622,414	8.6%

6	Aptim-Amentum Alaska Decommissioning LLC	\$58,730,469	6.7%
7	Genesis 360 LLC	\$31,319,819	3.6%
8	Bascom Hunter Technologies, Inc.	\$29,395,770	3.3%
9	MB Design Consultants, LLC	\$15,887,126	1.8%
10	Dynamic Group, LLC	\$15,557,439	1.8%
	<i>Top Ten Vendors Total</i>	<i>\$821,160,370</i>	<i>93.3%</i>
	<i>All Other</i>	<i>\$59,302,345</i>	<i>6.7%</i>
	Total	\$880,462,715	100.0%

Source: USASpending.gov. Data extracts as of April 2025

Central Region

Table 57. Top Defense Industry Sectors (by \$ amount), Central Region, FY24

Rank	Industry	Obligated Dollar Amount	% of Total Value
1	Petroleum Refineries	\$7,257,413	27.2%
2	Other Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	\$4,879,129	18.3%
3	Highway, Street, and Bridge Construction	\$4,773,954	17.9%
4	Other Commercial and Service Industry Machinery Manufacturing	\$1,795,422	6.7%
5	Other Crushed and Broken Stone Mining and Quarrying	\$1,747,833	6.6%
6	Crushed and Broken Limestone Mining and Quarrying	\$1,346,092	5.0%
7	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction	\$1,341,952	5.0%
8	Truck, Utility Trailer, and RV Rental and Leasing	\$459,940	1.7%
9	Roofing Contractors	\$411,739	1.5%
10	Caterers	\$381,956	1.4%
	<i>Top Ten Industries Total</i>	<i>\$24,395,430</i>	<i>91.5%</i>
	<i>All Other</i>	<i>\$2,260,144</i>	<i>8.5%</i>
	Total	\$26,655,574	100.0%

Source: USASpending.gov. Data extracts as of April 2025.

Table 58. Top Defense Contractors by Contract Value, Central Region, FY24

Rank	Vendor Name	Obligated Dollar Amount	% of Total Value
1	Freeman Holdings of Louisiana, LLC	\$7,207,413	27.0%
2	Tarpan Construction, LLC	\$7,086,629	26.6%
3	Tanner Heavy Equipment Co., LLC	\$6,576,492	24.7%

4	Ingalls Information Security	\$1,795,422	6.7%
5	Tunica-Biloxi Services, LLC	\$749,002	2.8%
6	Turner & Turner Contracting, LLC	\$618,830	2.3%
7	American Moving and Storage of Leesville, Inc.	\$459,940	1.7%
8	Prairie Metals, Inc.	\$369,785	1.4%
9	Delta Fuel Company, LLC	\$325,000	1.2%
10	Johnson Drywall and Paint, LLC	\$250,956	0.9%
	<i>Top Ten Vendors Total</i>	<i>\$25,438,469</i>	<i>95.4%</i>
	<i>All Other</i>	<i>\$1,217,105</i>	<i>4.6%</i>
	Total	\$26,655,574	100.0%

Source: USASpending.gov. Data extracts as of April 2025.

Northeast Region

Table 59. Top Defense Industry Sectors (by \$ amount), Northeast Region, FY24

Rank	Industry	Obligated Dollar Amount	% of Total Value
1	Roasted Nuts and Peanut Butter Manufacturing	\$5,571,085	40.6%
2	Wired Telecommunications Carriers	\$4,813,559	35.1%
3	Highway, Street, and Bridge Construction	\$1,610,266	11.7%
4	Perishable Prepared Food Manufacturing	\$740,579	5.4%
5	All Other Miscellaneous Manufacturing	\$467,756	3.4%
6	Exterminating and Pest Control Services	\$129,185	0.9%
7	Food Service Contractors	\$123,723	0.9%
8	Other Computer Related Services	\$95,120	0.7%
9	Landscaping Services	\$59,438	0.4%
10	Commercial and Industrial Machinery and Equipment Repair and Maintenance	\$36,753	0.3%
	<i>Top Ten Industries Total</i>	<i>\$13,647,463</i>	<i>99.5%</i>
	<i>All Other</i>	<i>\$68,919</i>	<i>0.5%</i>
	Total	\$13,716,382	100.0%

Source: USASpending.gov. Data extracts as of April 2025.

Table 60. Top Defense Contractors by Contract value, Northeast Region, FY24

Rank	Vendor Name	Obligated Dollar Amount	% of Total Value
1	Robertson Fruit & Produce Inc.	\$6,311,664	46.0%

2	United Telephone Company of the Northwest	\$2,392,248	17.4%
3	CenturyLink Communications, LLC	\$2,264,636	16.5%
4	Fussell Company Contractors, LLC	\$1,610,266	11.7%
5	Lumen Technologies Government Solutions, Inc.	\$467,756	3.4%
6	Centurylink of Florida, Inc.	\$147,158	1.1%
7	Bayou Mosquito & Pest Management, LLC.	\$129,185	0.9%
8	Higginbotham Enterprises, Inc.	\$123,723	0.9%
9	Centurylink Sales Solutions, Inc.	\$95,120	0.7%
10	Parks Mowing Service, LLC	\$59,438	0.4%
	<i>Top Ten Vendors Total</i>	<i>\$13,601,195</i>	<i>99.2%</i>
	<i>All Other</i>	<i>\$115,188</i>	<i>0.8%</i>
	Total	\$13,716,383	100.0%

Source: USASpending.gov. Data extracts as of April 2025.

Northwest Region

Table 61. Top Defense Industry Sectors (by \$ amount), Northwest Region, FY24

Rank	Industry	Obligated Dollar Amount	% of Total Value
1	Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering and Life Sciences	\$26,044,399	26.8%
2	Other Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	\$26,586,976	26.3%
3	Ship Building and Repairing	\$13,386,148	13.8%
4	Explosives Manufacturing	\$8,617,813	8.9%
5	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction	\$8,253,352	8.5%
6	Motor Vehicle Transmission and Power Train Parts Manufacturing	\$3,521,318	3.6%
7	Janitorial Services	\$2,059,885	2.1%
8	Aircraft Manufacturing	\$1,414,797	1.5%
9	Engineering Services	\$947,654	1.0%
10	Computer and Computer Peripheral Equipment and Software Merchant Wholesalers	\$792,500	0.8%
	<i>Top Ten Industries Total</i>	<i>\$90,623,842</i>	<i>93.2%</i>
	<i>All Other</i>	<i>\$6,582,235</i>	<i>6.8%</i>
	Total	\$97,206,077	100.0%

Source: USASpending.gov. Data extracts as of April 2025.

Table 62. Top Defense Contractors by Contract value, Northwest Region, FY24

Rank	Vendor Name	Obligated Dollar Amount	% of Total Value
1	TKTMJ, Inc.	\$24,835,977	25.5%
2	Maxim Evaporators of America, LLC	\$13,428,333	13.8%
3	Stephenson Stellar Corporation	\$9,168,983	9.4%
4	Goex Industries, LLC	\$8,734,333	9.0%
5	Praeses, LLC.	\$5,281,242	5.4%
6	MTP Drivetrain Services, LLC	\$5,132,356	5.3%
7	Betaflix, Inc.	\$4,523,678	4.7%
8	Rrac Contractors, Inc.	\$4,224,751	4.3%
9	Small Business Consulting Corporation	\$3,100,826	3.2%
10	The Arc Caddo-Bossier	\$2,269,923	2.3%
<i>Top Ten Vendors Total</i>		<i>\$80,700,402</i>	<i>83.0%</i>
<i>All Other</i>		<i>\$16,505,675</i>	<i>17.0%</i>
Total		\$97,206,077	100.0%

Source: USASpending.gov. Data extracts as of April 2025.

Southeast Region

Table 63. Top Defense Industry Sectors (by \$ amount), Southeast Region, FY24

Rank	Industry	Obligated Dollar Amount	% of Total Value
1	Other Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction	\$491,389,966	35.0%
2	Ship Building and Repairing	\$348,466,755	24.8%
3	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction	\$85,318,266	6.1%
4	Coastal and Great Lakes Freight Transportation	\$71,993,233	5.1%
5	Engineering Services	\$64,041,332	4.6%
6	Deep Sea Freight Transportation	\$38,566,485	2.7%
7	All Other Support Services	\$33,936,032	2.4%
8	Water and Sewer Line and Related Structures Construction	\$24,037,100	1.7%
9	Remediation Services	\$17,630,985	1.3%
10	Facilities Support Services	\$17,557,307	1.3
<i>Top Ten Industries Total</i>		<i>\$1,192,937,461</i>	<i>84.9%</i>
<i>All Other</i>		<i>\$211,354,193</i>	<i>15.1%</i>
Total		\$1,404,291,654	100.0%

Source: USASpending.gov. Data extracts as of April 2025.

Table 64. Top Defense Contractors by Contract value, Southeast Region, FY24

Rank	Vendor Name	Obligated Dollar Amount	% of Total Value
1	Weeks Marine, Inc.	\$367,659,028	26.2%
2	Textron Systems Corp.	\$311,992,435	22.2%
3	Hornbeck Offshore Operators, LLC	\$131,218,229	9.3%
4	JGILS, LLC	\$45,776,264	3.3%
5	Healtheon, Inc.	\$38,268,121	2.7%
6	Circle, LLC	\$28,276,753	2.0%
7	Next Generation Logistics, LLC.	\$24,527,288	1.7%
8	PCCP Constructors a Joint Venture	\$24,000,000	1.7%
9	Cycle Construction Company, LLC	\$23,275,555	1.7%
10	US Ocean, LLC	\$21,449,521	1.5%
	<i>Top Ten Vendors Total</i>	<i>\$1,016,333,195</i>	<i>72.4%</i>
	<i>All Other</i>	<i>\$387,958,459</i>	<i>27.6%</i>
	Total	\$1,404,291,654	100.0%

Source: USASpending.gov. Data extracts as of April 2025.

Southwest Region

Table 65. Top Defense Industry Sectors (by \$ amount), Southwest Region, FY24

Rank	Industry	Obligated Dollar Amount	% of Total Value
1	Other Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction	\$42,681,032	62.0%
2	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction	\$12,205,705	17.7%
3	Highway, Street and Bridge Construction	\$5,082,578	7.4%
4	Petroleum Refineries	\$4,464,568	6.5%
5	Site Preparation Contractors	\$1,485,845	2.2%
6	Aircraft Manufacturing	\$810,000	1.2%
7	Ice Manufacturing	\$758,147	1.1%
8	Security Guards and Patrol Services	\$735,934	1.1%
9	Aircraft Engine and Engine Parts Manufacturing	\$557,568	0.8%
10	Other Commercial and Industrial Machinery and Equipment Rental and Leasing	\$28,450	0.0%
	<i>Top Ten Industries Total</i>	<i>\$68,809,827</i>	<i>100.0%</i>
	<i>All Other</i>	<i>\$26,857</i>	<i>0%</i>
	Total	\$68,836,684	100.0%

Source: USASpending.gov. Data extracts as of April 2025.

Table 66. Top Defense Contractors by Contract value, Southwest Region, FY24

Rank	Vendor Name	Obligated Dollar Amount	% of Total Value
1	Mike Hooks, LLC	\$42,678,532	62.0%
2	Gunco, LLC	\$10,012,438	14.5%
3	Air Conduit, LLC	\$7,700,200	11.2%
4	Freeman Holdings of Louisiana, LLC	\$4,464,568	6.5%
5	Landlocked Industries, LLC.	\$1,367,568	2.0%
6	Gulf Coast Water & Ice, LLC	\$758,147	1.1%
7	Garrison Resources, LLC	\$749,325	1.1%
8	Stratigos Dynamics, Inc.	\$735,935	1.1%
9	The Paint Lady, LLC	\$314,665	0.5%
10	Cherokee Services, LLC	\$28,450	0.0%
	<i>Top Ten Vendors Total</i>	<i>\$68,809,827</i>	<i>100.0%</i>
	<i>All Other</i>	<i>\$26,857</i>	<i>0.0%</i>
	Total	\$68,836,684	100.0%

Source: USASpending.gov. Data extracts as of April 2025.

Focus on Veterans

Louisiana is home to over 260,000 veterans. Beyond their service to the nation, they are important members of their communities and make substantial contributions to the state and regional economies. Among those contributions are federal payments and contracting activities that flow to the state. The purpose of the Military Economic Impact Analysis is to document the impact of federal military spending across Louisiana and its regions. This year, for the first time, the Military Economic Impact Analysis incorporates federal veteran expenditures and VA contracting in the state.

In FY23, veteran expenditures were approximately \$4 billion with an additional \$168 million in total VA contract spending.³ The resulting economic impacts, including direct, indirect and induced effects for the state, were:

- \$5.6 billion in output
- 35,066 jobs
- \$272.2 million in state and local taxes
- \$2 billion in labor income

This is a substantial impact, comparable to the \$5.7 billion in output associated with military facilities and \$5 billion in output connected to DOD and USCG contracts in Louisiana.

State Programs Serving Veterans

Louisiana offers several benefits for veterans and military families, such as:

- In-state tuition rates for veterans and their dependents
- Louisiana National Guard Tuition Exemption Program
- Property tax exemptions for disabled veterans
- Exemptions on military retirement pay

³ This report uses FY23 data from the VA Analytics Service. FY24 parish-level information was not available in time to be incorporated into this analysis.

Louisiana Economic Development (LED) also offers programs to support veterans and veteran-owned businesses. These include:

LED Louisiana Veterans First Business Initiative

This program provides recognition for veteran-owned businesses. It allows veterans, active-duty or reserve military, or Gold Star spouses with a 51 percent ownership in a business to apply for certification to recognize and promote their businesses.

LED Veteran Initiative

This program helps veteran-owned businesses access state-level purchasing and contracting opportunities. It makes business contact information available to state purchasing officials and prime contractors seeking subcontractors. It also encourages state agencies to get quotes from qualified and certified businesses and adds evaluation points to bids on RFPs.

LED Pathway to Assist Veteran Entrepreneurs (PAVE)

This program provides on-demand online training for veterans seeking to learn skills to start or manage a business. PAVE is offered in partnership with the Louisiana Small Business Development Center Network, Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs, and Louisiana National Guard.

The mission of the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs (LDVA) is “to provide comprehensive care and quality service to Louisiana’s Veterans and their families with regard to health care, education, disability benefits, long-term care and burial honors.” LDVA works with veterans to access US Department of Veterans Affairs funds though it does not administer those funds. Under the leadership of Secretary Charlton J. Meginley (Ret), USAF, LDVA is working to expand and improve services for Louisiana’s veterans and their families.

LDVA Veterans’ Needs Assessment

In May 2025, LDVA announced a statewide initiative to identify gaps in resources and services to guide future support efforts for the state’s veteran community. The Louisiana Center for Health Innovation at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette will work with LDVA to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment survey focused on mental health, housing, employment,

health care access and family support. Survey findings will inform LDVA strategic initiatives and help improve existing services.

LDVA Military Family Assistance Fund

LDVA supported legislation in 2025 that allows the Military Family Assistance Board to pay additional educational benefits for children of certain disabled veterans and to issue grants up to \$10,000 for organizations dedicated to helping veterans.

Purple Star Campus

Louisiana's colleges and universities can now be designated as a Purple Star Campus if they meet necessary requirements and demonstrate commitment to helping veteran and active military students.

Veteran Workforce Transitions

Other organizations are assisting veterans transition from the military to the civilian work world and encouraging them to put down roots in Louisiana. Statewide, the Louisiana State Civil Service and the Louisiana Workforce Commission can help veterans find jobs in the state. Other state agencies and private organizations are increasingly working together to implement innovative approaches to connect veterans with Louisiana employers.

The Boot

Launched in 2024, The Boot is a state-funded non-profit that partners with LED, LDVA, the Office of the Governor and others to help “military members thrive in Louisiana after their service concludes.” Specifically, the organization connects transitioning service members with job opportunities, housing support, and community integration services. It does so by collaborating with employers, local governments, and veterans organizations across the state. After 10 months of operation, The Boot had successfully placed 100 transitioning service members into a career in Louisiana. ⁴

⁴ <https://theboot.la/blogs/thebootreaches100>

NextOp Veterans

NextOp connects veterans and military members to career opportunities. Their focus is “translating military training and experiences into valued qualifications in the business community,” bridging the gap between the military and industries that need talent.⁵ Founded in Texas, the organization began operating in Louisiana in 2017. NextOp has collaborated with Greater New Orleans, Inc. to place veterans with a variety of local employers, including Ochsner Health System and Michoud Assembly Facility. They continue to build partnerships with LED, LDVA and others to serve additional cities in Louisiana. In 2024, the organization placed over 130 Louisiana-based veterans with companies, with average pay of \$62,000. Since 2015, there have been over 900 placements with total salaries exceeding \$44 million.

“Governor Landry and the LDVA team is committed to making Louisiana the most veteran-friendly state in our nation.” – LDVA Sec. Charlton Meginley, June 2025⁶

⁵ <https://nextopvets.org>

⁶ <https://vetaffairs.la.gov/ldva-continues-to-make-louisiana-more-veteran-friendly/>

Methodology

This paper describes the methodology used by Business Development Advisors to complete the Statewide Military Economic Impact Analysis for the State of Louisiana under the direction of Louisiana Economic Development (LED). Business Development Advisors would like to acknowledge and thank Dr. Martin Romitti, Allison Ulaky, and Tyler Baines for their research and analytical work to support this impact analysis.

Economic Impact Analysis

Economic impact analysis attempts to estimate the total contribution of different types of economic activities to a regional and/or state economy. An infusion of spending in one sector of the economy spurs additional economic activity in other sectors as the money is re-spent, generating a “multiplier” effect. Multipliers quantify direct industry impacts but also recognize inter-industry linkages and the successive rounds of spending that occur within the regional economy. The total economic contribution of this added spending is estimated by tracing the flow of money between industries and households until all of the initial investment eventually leaves a region through foreign or domestic trade or is collected as a tax.

The IMPLAN (IMpact analysis for PLANning) modeling system is used in this analysis to estimate the economic contribution of key state-based military assets. IMPLAN, a widely used proprietary software, is specifically tailored to reflect the expenditure patterns and industry mix of Louisiana and to make estimates of the direct, indirect, and induced effects from various economic activities.

- *Direct effects* refer to the gross expenditures and employment of the studied industry.
- *Indirect effects* are the spending and employment of suppliers and contractors to produce inputs for the industry.
- *Induced effects* include household spending on goods and services by both industry employees and the employees of contractors and suppliers (both direct and indirect employees).

Total economic impact is the sum of direct, indirect, and induced effects.

Project Approach

The economic impact analysis we have prepared for LED is built on four major components:

- Expenditures at Louisiana military facilities
- Department of Defense and US Coast Guard contracts performed in Louisiana
- Pay to military retirees in the state
- Veteran expenditures and VA contracts in Louisiana

As input for the model, data was gathered on the operations expenditures, jobs and payroll, and construction spending by each installation and asset. This data was provided by the installations themselves or through publicly available data sources. Fort Polk and Barksdale personnel also provided additional detailed data on several categories of spending – such as healthcare, education, utilities, and other types of operational spending – that enabled a more thorough modeling of economic impact than we have been able to conduct for similar projects in other states.

In the case of federal contracts, the model inputs were gathered from the USAspending.gov database recording the “place of performance” for Department of Defense and U.S. Coast Guard related work in Louisiana. The place of performance represents the geographic area where the majority of the work was done under the award or contract and is not necessarily the same as the address of the prime contractor or recipient. A summary of contracts by recipient company, rather than place of performance, in Louisiana are presented separately in the report.

Finally, we obtained data from the DoD Military Retired Pay File for 2024 on pay to military retirees in Louisiana and for VA Expenditures FY 2023 plus VA contracts in Louisiana.

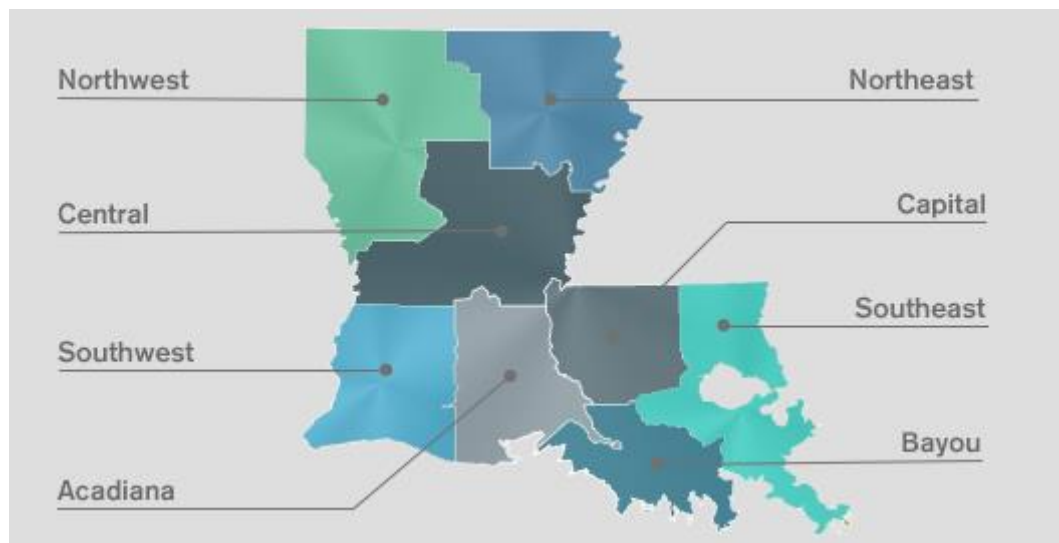
Based on this data and the results from the model, four major types of economic impacts are reported in the study:

- *Output* represents the value of industry production. In this case, this is the value generated by state-based military assets.
- *Employment* refers to all employees required to produce the outputs, including wage and salary employees; full-time and part-time employees; and the self-employed.

- *Labor Income* refers to all forms of employment income, including employee compensation (wages and benefits) and proprietor income.
- *Tax impacts* include the estimated state and local tax revenue generated from industry outputs for the following categories: dividends; employee and employer contributions to social insurance taxes; sales, property, motor vehicle, severance, and other taxes related to production and imports; corporate taxes; and taxes on households consisting of income taxes, fees, motor vehicles, property tax, and other associated personal taxes.

In addition to reporting statewide figures, estimates of the four major types of economic impacts were also generated for the eight Louisiana Economic Development (LED) regions. The map below shows LED's eight regions.

Figure 5. LED Regions



Source: www.louisianaeconomicdevelopment.com

For this task, model-building consisted of identifying the appropriate geography and selecting appropriate inputs and model assumptions based on rigorous economic standards. We constructed nine customized models for the eight LED regions plus the state of Louisiana to serve as the primary input-output analysis tools for the 2013, 2017, 2021, and 2025 studies.

To determine the regional breakouts when specific information was not available, two approaches were utilized. Either the estimation of regional benefit was based on the U.S.

Census Bureau's Local Employment Dynamics program, which tracks place of work with place of residence for those working at military bases, or IMPLAN's Multi-Region Input-Output Analysis feature was used to distribute economic impacts.

It is important to note that the economic output findings are not directly comparable across the time periods because of updates made to the IMPLAN model in the intervening years.

Additionally, careful efforts were made so as not to duplicate (double-count) or otherwise overstate the economic impact results. For instance, steps were taken to remove from the contract analysis any contracts where the place of performance covered a military base zip code, excluding from the installation analysis units stationed at military bases but already covered in other portions of the analysis, and determining typical construction amounts rather than inputting large single year sums that may be atypical. Construction expenditures are highly variable from year to year and can substantially affect overall economic impact.

While this study seeks to capture the vast majority of expenditures originating from each of the state's military assets, not all expenditures may have been captured. For example, certain economic activities could not be measured given time and resources available for this study. Spending by visitors to the installations who come from out of the area, certain supplies that are not obtained through on-site contracting, and the spending associated with employees and retirees who live in nearby states may not be fully represented by the data used for this analysis. This analysis is limited to the economic impacts to the Louisiana economy resulting from spending related to Louisiana firms and payroll spending by Louisiana residents.

Thus, the results reported in this study can be considered a conservative analysis of the overall economic contributions of each installation and asset to the state's economy and the eight LED regions.

Data Sources

Military Installations

BDA submitted data requests to each of the following Louisiana military installations and organizations.

- Barksdale Air Force Base

- Fort Polk
- Louisiana National Guard
- Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base (NAS JRB), New Orleans
- US Coast Guard, 8th District
- Marine Forces Reserve Headquarters
- Naval Information Warfare Center (NIWC) New Orleans
- 377th Theater Sustainment Command

Each installation or command provided us with data on jobs, payroll, operations spending and construction spending for FY24.⁷ We appreciate the data provided by each organization and wish to thank the many people who worked to provide these figures.

Military Contracts

The federal defense contracts data are extracted from USAspending.gov, a searchable website established by the Office of Management and Budget. The federal contracts data shown on USAspending.gov are provided directly by each federal agency. USAspending.gov receives and displays data pertaining to obligations (amounts awarded for federally sponsored projects during a given budget period), not actual cash disbursements made against each project.

The defense contract data were analyzed from two aspects for this project. First, we examined all contracts awarded by the Department of Defense and the U.S. Coast Guard in FY 2024 to companies located in Louisiana. Second, we looked at all defense contracts performed in the State of Louisiana in FY 2024, regardless of the address of the prime contractor receiving the award. In earlier reports, contracts with the Army Corps of Engineers were removed from the data set to keep the project focused on military activity, rather than civil projects. This report includes the Army Corps of Engineers to incorporate the total volume of DoD contract awards performed in Louisiana and therefore better estimate total economic impact.

⁷ Estimates were developed for Marine Forces Reserve Headquarters activities based on publicly available documents and past economic impact analyses.

Other

Inputs on pay to military retirees living in Louisiana were obtained from the Department of Defense Military Retired Pay File, September 2024.

Inputs on the number of veterans and veteran expenditures in Louisiana were obtained from the Geographic Distribution of VA Expenditures FY 2023, the National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics, Department of Veterans Affairs. Data on VA contracts awarded in Louisiana were extracted from USASpending.gov.