invest PUERTO RICO

Aerospace & Defense

Highlights

- The industry workforce increased from 700 to nearly 6,000 employees in the past decade (2013-2023).
- In compliance with EAR, ITAR, & UTF manufacturing requirements.
- Approximately 22,000 STEM graduates yearly.
- 5 universities hold ABET accreditations.
- 50% of cluster members anticipate job growth in the coming years & are engaged in R&D activities.

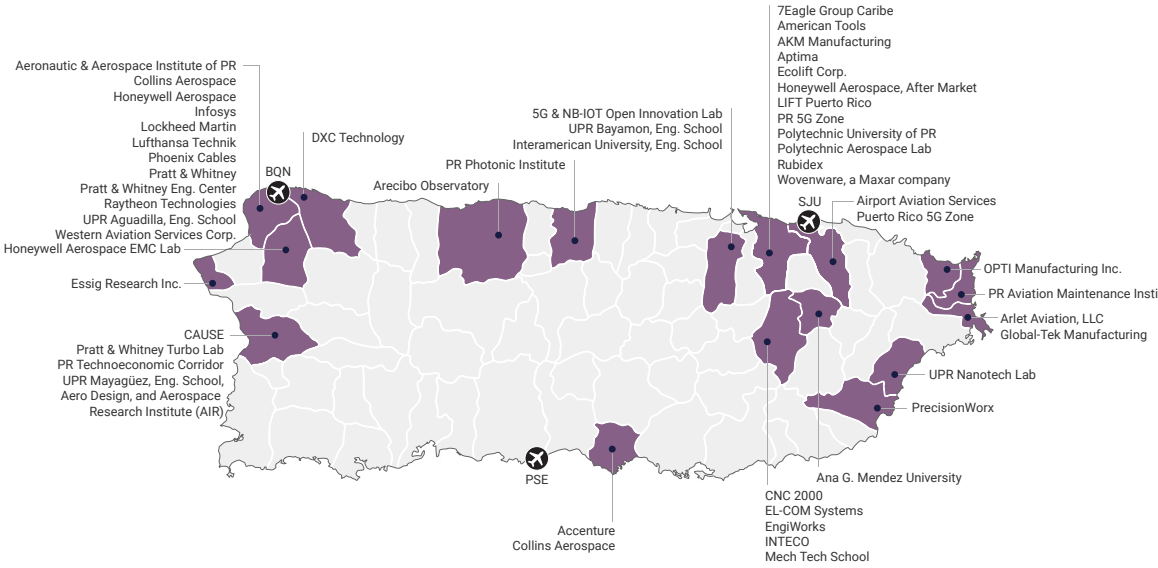
Success Stories

Wovenware, a Puerto Rican software & AI/ML development company, was acquired by Maxar Technologies in 2022. Wovenware's AI/ML & Data Production talent has supported projects ranging from UI design to full-stack delivery, producing new 3D terrain analytics tools, thousands of ML training data sets, & dozens of automated object detection models.

Honeywell Aerospace relocated their Americas Aftermarket HQ to Puerto Rico. They began operations in 2007 with 12 employees and, by 2022, reached 1,000. Recognizing as well that 70% of their interns became full-time employees by the end of the internship.

The aerospace industry in Puerto Rico has been steadily growing, attracting major players and establishing itself as a hub for aerospace technology, research, and services. The island offers a strategic location for aerospace companies, providing easy access to the United States and Latin American markets. The presence of leading companies in the aerospace sector, along with collaborations between industry, academia, and government, has fostered innovation and contributed to developing specialized expertise in defense, commercial aviation, technology-based, aerospace-specialized contractors, and other suppliers. Puerto Rico offers a highly skilled workforce with a strong emphasis on engineering and technical expertise, supported by educational institutions and training programs. The local government has implemented initiatives to promote the aerospace sector, providing incentives and support to attract investments and foster collaboration with industry leaders. Puerto Rico's aerospace industry continues to evolve, offering opportunities for company growth, job creation, and technological advancement.

Join companies like Pratt & Whitney, Honeywell, DXC Technology, & Wovenware



Average Salaries in Aerospace

Job Title	PR	AZ	CA	FL	TX
Aerospace Engineers	$87,540	$126,850	$126,650	$109,540	$121,320
Computer Hardware Engineers	$87,840	$121,900	$169,970	$114,720	$114,700
Industrial Engineers	$72,300	$100,800	$109,460	$93,320	$103,860
Mechanical Engineers	$69,800	$96,930	$113,130	$90,060	$107,310
Aerospace Engineering & Operations Technologists & Technicians	$53,700	$64,820	$82,420	$77,860	$66,160
Electrical & Electronics Engineering Technologists & Technicians	$44,440	$65,550	$73,910	$61,010	$66,210

Technology

- Puerto Rico is actively promoting blockchain-based digital assets to establish itself as a global technology hub. 700+ companies are currently engaged in developing applications, bolstering its competitiveness.
- The local government is investing $7.6M in major cybersecurity upgrades, such as establishing a security operations center & implementing protective services like endpoint detection, event logging, and firewalls.

Unique Incentives

- **4%** fixed corporate income tax rate on eligible income
- **100%** tax exemption on long-term capital gains
- **75%** exemption on property tax
- **75%** exemption on municipal license tax
- **Up to 50%** tax credit on eligible R&D activities
- **15 years** standard tax exemption grant period, subject to renegotiation for an additional 15 years

Puerto Rico Space Grant Consortium (PRSGC)

- PRSGC enhances Puerto Rico's STEM capabilities through investments in Higher Education, providing fellowships, scholarships, and internships. It also develops a network of affiliates.
- 70 out of 120 engineers at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland graduated from Puerto Rico's universities.

Puerto Rico Aerospace Technology Consortium (PRATC)

- The PRATC is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the aerospace and defense industry in the island.
- The Consortium brings together all major decision-makers in the industry, including aerospace companies, academia, research institutions, associations, supply chain, and government.

Engine Labs

- Pratt & Whitney Puerto Rico Aguadilla Engineering Center designs and supports commercial and military gas turbine engines, including the Geared Turbofan engine.
- Pratt & Whitney Turbo Labs is an educational lab that introduces students to industry vocabulary, hands-on experiences, and important concepts like gas turbines, controls, integrated aircraft systems, and computer-aided design.
- Polytechnic Aerospace Lab is home to the island's first flight simulator, training future aerospace engineering professionals for the booming specialized field.
- T-Mobile's PR and Engine-4 launched the 5G & NB-IOT Open Innovation LAB fosters collaboration among developers, enterprises, start-ups, and technology leaders to create innovative 5G-powered technologies that transform work, life, and play.
- The Puerto Rico 5G Zone established an innovation center for testing and advancing 5G technologies in various sectors like energy, manufacturing, agriculture, cybersecurity, and national security.

Research Centers

- The Center for Advanced Radio Sciences and Engineering at the UPR Mayagüez collaborates with the Arecibo Observatory to develop tools for spectrum sharing, coexistence, and improved performance in radio science. Their research spans radio astronomy, atmospheric sciences, spectrum monitoring, & interference mitigation.
- Congress allocated $7.5M for the UPR Mayagüez's Aerospace Research Institute (AIR). The facility will feature labs, auditoriums, offices, student areas, & meeting rooms within a 12,000 sq ft building.

U.S. Jurisdiction

- Governed by U.S. law, including IP protection
- Made in Puerto Rico is Made in the U.S.A.
- Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens
- ICT innovation is regulated by the FCC

Workforce & Talent

- Wages 30–40% lower than the U.S.
- Bilingual (English & Spanish)
- Highest percentage in the U.S. of its workforce in STEM careers (13%)
- 5 universities have ABET-accredited engineering programs

High Quality of Life

- Diverse outdoors activities from pristine beaches to dense rain forest, mountains, caves, and canyons
- Rich cultural experiences
- Over 50 certified historic landmarks

Organizational Support

- Robust and growing ecosystem, including the Puerto Rico Aerospace Technology Consortium, Puerto Rico Space Grant Consortium, and numerous Engine Labs

Real Estate

- Island-wide ICT infrastructure, including multiple 5G providers
- Lowest cost of Class A office space relative to comparable cities in the U.S.