



*Securing
UK advantage*

NORTHERN IRELAND FACTS & FIGURES 2024

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF OUR SECTORS

The aerospace, defence, security and space sectors make a major contribution to Northern Ireland's prosperity. From technology and exports to apprenticeships and investment, ADS sectors are vital to Northern Ireland's growth.



£2.2BN
TURNOVER



9,000
DIRECT EMPLOYEES



500+
APPRENTICES



£900M
GVA

WHAT'S NEXT FOR OUR SECTORS

Northern Ireland has an historic legacy of great innovation in aerospace and defence, which dates back more than 100 years.

Launched in 2014, the Northern Ireland Partnering for Growth Strategy held ambitions to double the size of our sectors, from a £1bn turnover to £2bn.

As a direct result of industry, government, and trade association ADS working together, this target has been exceeded.

ANNUAL REVENUE FOR OUR SECTORS IN 2023 WAS

£2.2BN

EXCEEDING THE £2BN TARGET

GROWING FROM

£1BN

SINCE 2013

To continue this growth momentum, ADS sectors require continued focus on:

1 GROWTH

Aerospace

Northern Ireland aerospace expertise is world-renowned. The challenge is to accelerate growth in areas of strength such as aerostructures, nacelles and aircraft interiors, alongside new opportunities in advanced air mobility and Net Zero aviation.

Defence

Northern Ireland develops and exports best-in-class defence capabilities. In the coming years, the defence engineering supply chain will be fortified by increased investment from MOD and others.

Security & Resilience

Northern Ireland's security and resilience sector has a very strong reputation for specialist capabilities. Working with academia, as well as support from government, there are significant growth opportunities in the cybersecurity sector.

Space

As hosts of the 2023 Space Conference, Northern Ireland's strengths in aerostructures, software and data processing position the region well to grow in both the upstream and downstream space sectors.

2

SKILLS

9,000 people are estimated to be directly employed in Northern Ireland's aerospace, defence, security and space sectors.

To secure long-term UK advantage, there must be a collaborative effort across the UK to promote the diverse, high-skill and high wage jobs available.

SUPPLY CHAIN EXCELLENCE

Companies in Northern Ireland demonstrate consistent supply chain excellence. Supply chain excellence increases global productivity, efficiency and effectiveness. It is essential for small and medium organisations to win global business.

3

70%

of SC21 Gold Awards – recognising Operational Excellence – held by companies in Northern Ireland

4

INNOVATION

Through the identification of future regulatory needs, and supporting supply chain investment in new technologies, as well as simplifying the process for SMEs to invest in R&D, Northern Ireland can be at the forefront of UK innovation.

EXPORT GROWTH

ADS works with Invest Northern Ireland and the Department for Business and Trade to promote joint participation in industry events, trade missions, and international tradeshows where organisations can promote their goods and services to an international market with export opportunities.

5



SUCCESS OF OUR SECTORS

£100K

OUTPUT PER WORKER IN
ADS' FOUR SECTORS

59%

MORE THAN WHOLE
UK PRODUCTIVITY

£100 MOD SPEND PER
PERSON LIVING IN
NORTHERN IRELAND

20% GROWTH IN
EXPENDITURE
SINCE 2021/22



Despite welcoming increased expenditure and MOD engagement, Northern Ireland continues to have the second smallest MOD expenditure of all UK regions.

NORTHERN IRELAND IS
HOME TO THE AWARD
WINNING A220 ALL
COMPOSITE WING

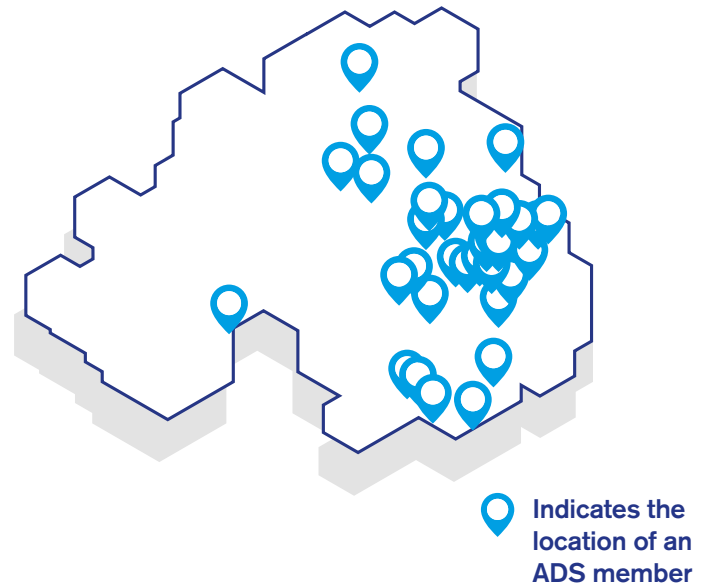


STRENGTH OF OUR SECTORS



ADS is the UK trade association advancing leadership in aerospace, defence, security and space, to enable prosperity and clean, secure growth for our nation.

	Direct employees by sector in Northern Ireland:	Business turnover by sector in Northern Ireland:
AEROSPACE 	5,500	£1.5BN
DEFENCE 	<1,000	£100M
SECURITY 	2,750	£500M
SPACE 	<500	<£100M



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ADS Northern Ireland Facts and Figures 2024 uses data estimates from ADS own sources, data from the Office of National Statistics and Government publications.

Aerospace is assumed to be 68% civil and 32% defence

Images courtesy of Spirit AeroSystems, IPC Mouldings and Artemis Technologies.