



DELIVERING PROSPERITY

Aerospace, Defence, Security and Space

INDUSTRY FACTS & FIGURES 2026

Delivering value throughout the UK

Aerospace, defence, security and space sectors power future-focused advanced manufacturing, strengthen the economy, and enhance our national security.



£46.8bn

VALUE ADDED

65%

GROWTH BETWEEN
2015 AND 2025





19%
GROWTH OVER
10 YEARS

£99.9k
OUTPUT PER WORKER



£50bn
EXPORTS

MORE THAN
**TWO
THIRDS**
GROWTH IN
10 YEARS



£109.9bn
TURNOVER

62%
GROWTH IN A
DECADE

In 2025,
our sectors'
contribution to
the UK economy
included...

39%
GROWTH IN A
DECADE

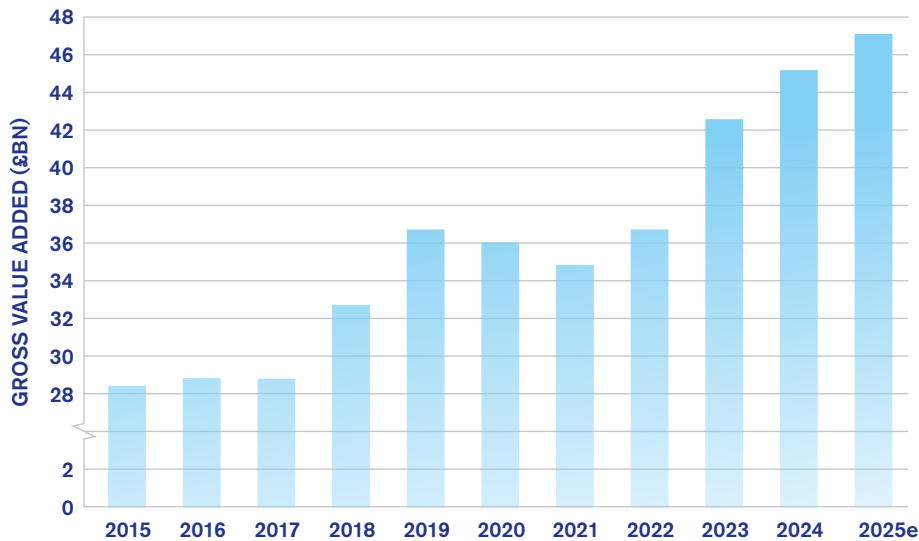


468,500
DIRECT JOBS

Delivering economic prosperity

Central to the UK's economic strength are the aerospace, defence, security and space sectors

Over the last decade, our value add has grown substantially...



£46.8bn
IN VALUE ADD

GROWTH OF
65%
OVER 10 YEARS

Increasing UK efficiency

PRODUCTIVITY REACHED

£99.9k OUTPUT
PER WORKER
IN 2025

24% HIGHER THAN
AVERAGE

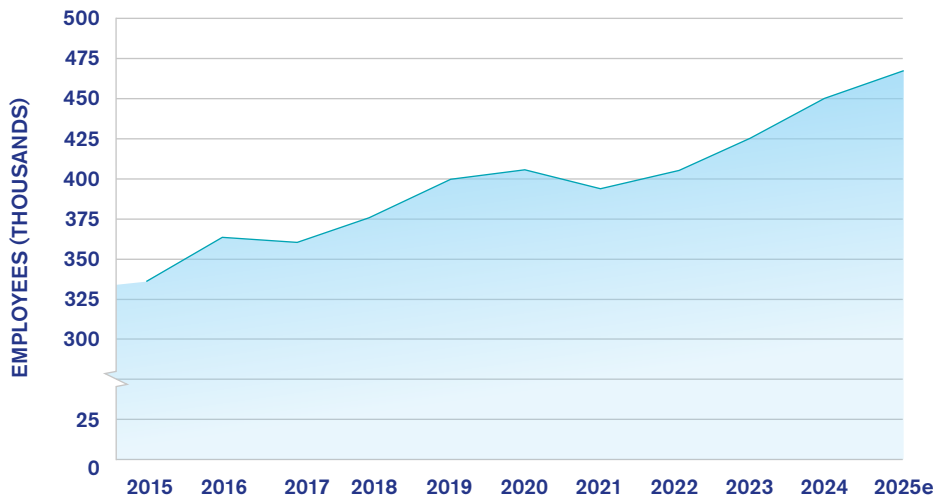
OUR
COMBINED
SECTOR
PRODUCTIVITY
HAS GROWN

19%
OVER 10 YEARS

Delivering social prosperity

Our sectors create opportunity by delivering high-quality careers

Skilled employment is on the rise...



468,500
EMPLOYEES

GROWTH OF
39%
2015 - 2025

29,000
APPRENTICES

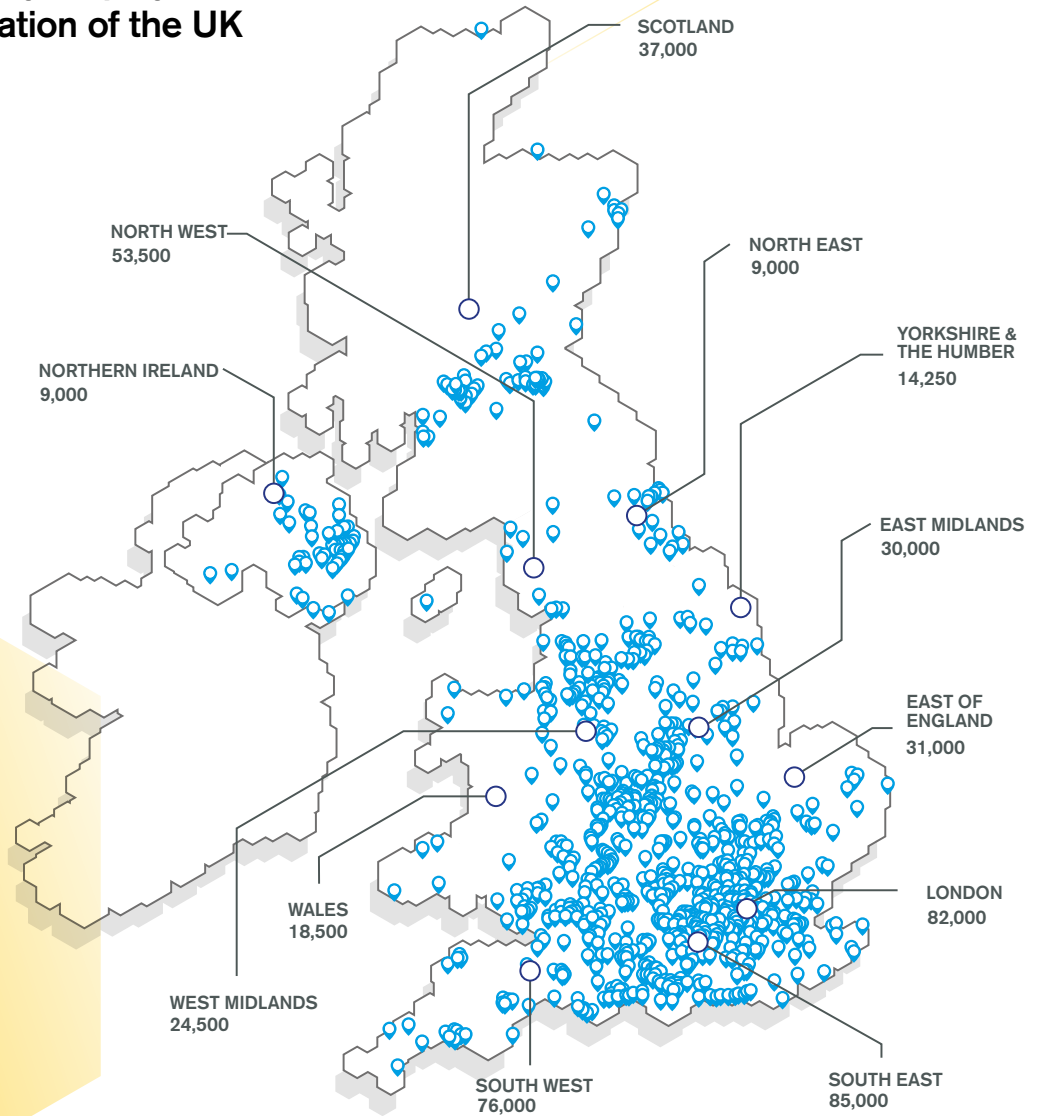


Delivering national prosperity

We provide high-quality employment in every region and nation of the UK

**TWO
THIRDS**

OF JOBS ARE
LOCATED OUTSIDE
OF LONDON AND
THE SOUTH EAST

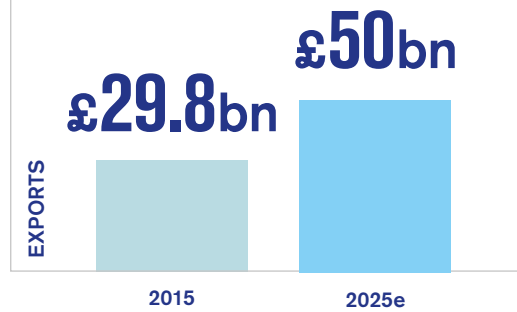


 Dots indicate the location of ADS members

Delivering internationally-fuelled prosperity



EXPORTS
ACCOUNT FOR
45%
OF TURNOVER

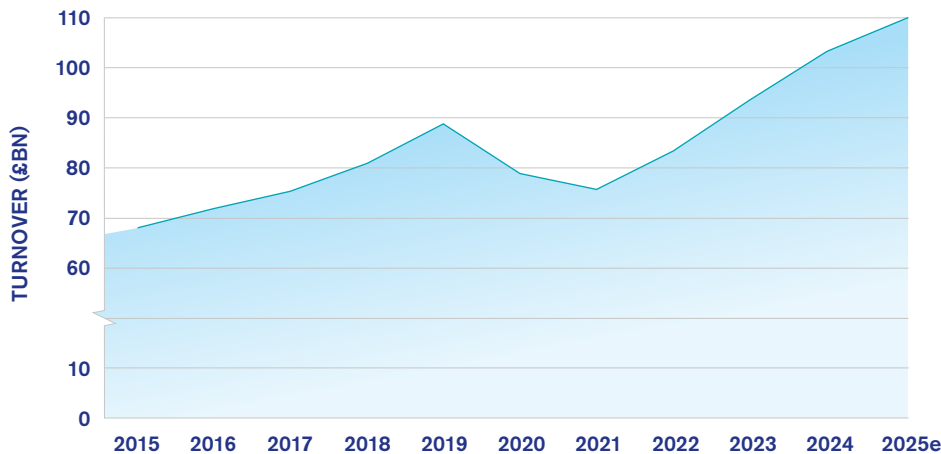


£50bn
EXPORTS

GROWTH OF
68%
2015 - 2025

Delivering commercial prosperity

Revenues reflect the success of aerospace, defence, security and space businesses



£109.9bn
TURNOVER

AEROSPACE SECTOR



£14.3bn

VALUE ADD

Growth of **46%**
between 2015 and 2025



£41.5bn

TURNOVER

Growth of **41%**
over 10 years



£30.6bn

EXPORTS

Growth of **61%**
over 10 years



£126.4k

PRODUCTIVITY

Growth of **45%**
over 10 years

UK aerospace
ramps up production,
accelerating towards
next-generation
platforms.



£2.2bn

PRIVATE R&D INVESTMENT
IN 2024



113k

EMPLOYEES



DEFENCE SECTOR



£36.5bn

TURNOVER

Growth of **66%**
over 10 years



£15.8bn

VALUE ADD

Growth of **70%**
between 2015 and 2025



£4.3bn

INVESTMENT IN R&D

Growth of **187%**
over 10 years



£83.4k

**PRODUCTIVITY
(OUTPUT PER WORKER)**

Growth of **26%**
in the last 10 years



£10.8bn

EXPORTS (5 YEAR AVERAGE)

Growth of **34%**
over 10 years



189,500

EMPLOYEES

Growth of **35%**
over 10 years

The UK defence sector
is central to delivering
resilience, readiness
and operational
advantage.



SECURITY AND RESILIENCE SECTOR



£27.6bn

TURNOVER
Growth of **168%**
over 10 years



149,500

EMPLOYEES
Growth of **70%**
over 10 years



£13.6bn

EXPORTS
Growth of **240%**
over 10 years

The UK's security and resilience sector helps organisations and communities prepare for, withstand and respond to threats and crises.



£14.5bn

VALUE ADD
Growth of **150%**
between 2015 and 2025



£1.4bn

INVESTMENT IN R&D
Growth of **136%**
over 10 years



£97.1k

**PRODUCTIVITY
(OUTPUT PER WORKER)**
Growth of **46%**
over 10 years



SPACE SECTOR



The UK space sector is at the forefront of a blossoming global space market.



£7.2bn

VALUE ADD
(2022/23)



£5.5bn

EXPORTS
(2022/23)



55.5k

EMPLOYEES
(2022/23)



£128.9k

PRODUCTIVITY
(OUTPUT PER WORKER)



£18.6bn

TURNOVER
(2022/23)



£1.1bn

INVESTMENT IN R&D
(2022/23)



ADS is the trade association for the UK's aerospace, defence, security and space sectors.

REPRESENTING
MORE THAN
2,000
BUSINESSES
THROUGHOUT
THE UK



ABOUT THIS REPORT

ADS Facts and Figures 2026 is a collation of estimates and reported data for the year 2025, compiled from a range of sources during Q1 2026. This includes official data from the Office of National Statistics, Oxford Economics, the Department for Business and Trade, the Ministry of Defence, and a number of reports including from London Economics on behalf of the UK Space Agency, as well as ADS' own estimates. Owing to the reporting cycle these figures are all first estimates for 2025, apart from data for the space sector which is on a time lag and the latest data available is for the period 2022/23. The methodology and full time series data are available on request.

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