



Pierce County

- 6 Staff Members
- 41 Board of Directors Members
- 90+ Private and Public Investors
- \$1.4 million annual operating budget

Industry Focus

- Aerospace
- Health Services
- Logistics & International Trade
- Cybersecurity

Since 1978, the EDB has worked with job and wealth-creating companies to grow the economy of the South Sound and Washington state.

Economic Development Board for Tacoma-Pierce County

Mission: Compete every day forever. The EDB grows primary businesses by working with its partners to spur private capital investment and job creation in Tacoma-Pierce County.

Snapshot of Defense in Pierce County

Pierce County's defense landscape is centered around Joint Base Lewis-McChord, the state's largest military base. Together with Camp Murray, service contracts to the two bases are important to the county's defense contractor ecosystem, which includes several major construction contractors. **Defense contracting has an annual total economic impact of \$1.7 billion in Pierce County**, making it a valuable contributor to the county economy. The Economic Development Board for Tacoma-Pierce County supports the county's contractors by offering business assistance to new and aspiring defense contractors.



JOBS SUPPORTED BY DEFENSE CONTRACTS
8,600

2012 – 2014 average, direct and secondary



DEFENSE CONTRACTS VALUE PER CAPITA \$1,139 FY 2015



OCCUPATIONS

Top direct occupations supported by defense contracts

Office and Administration **891**

Management **640**

Construction and Extraction **529**

Business and Financial Operations **262**



DEFENSE PERSONNEL
45,200 Active Duty
7,400 Civilian Dept of Defense

Based in Pierce County



TOP PRIVATE SECTOR CONTRACTORS

1. U.S. Oil & Refining Co

2. Orion Marine Contractors

3. SAFE Boats International

4. Evergreen Fire Alarms

5. American Construction Co

6. Bradken

7. General Plastics

8. Northrop Grumman

Top contractors by recent defense contracts amount, based on companies maintaining a regional office or HQ in Pierce County



DEFENSE CONTRACTORS
217

Companies, 2015



INDUSTRIES

Top industries by defense contracts revenue, 2012 – 2014 average

Other Construction **\$387.5 M**

Aircraft Manufacturing **\$211.2 M**

Petroleum **\$116.8 M**

Administration and Employment Services **\$42.0 M**

Sources: Office of Management and Budget, 2016; Washington State Department of Revenue, 2015; Washington State Office of Financial Management, 2015, 2016; Washington State Employment Security Department, 2016; Department of Defense, 2016; Community Attributes Inc., 2016.

Economic Development Board for Tacoma-Pierce County

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Joint Base Lewis–McChord

Joint Base Lewis–McChord, located southwest of Tacoma, was formed in 2010 when Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommendations were implemented, combining McChord Air Force Base and Fort Lewis. Today, the base is a training and mobilization center for all service branches. The Air Force embarks on combat and humanitarian airlifts from Joint Base Lewis–McChord’s McChord Field with the C-17 Globemaster III. The base is a regular source of construction contracts, and recent years have seen Washington companies implementing green design practices on the base.



Photo courtesy of JBLM Public Affairs Office. Joint Base Lewis–McChord, located just southwest of Tacoma, is the largest employer in Pierce County.

Camp Murray

Home to the Washington Army National Guard, Washington State Guard, and Washington Air National Guard, Camp Murray is located adjacent to Joint Base Lewis–McChord. The camp traces its history back to 1889, when it was officially commissioned as a National Guard Base. Today, Camp Murray is the state’s headquarters for emergency responses.

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EDB Support for Defense Contractors

The Economic Development Board of Tacoma–Pierce County consolidates useful business information and links to local organizations dedicated to strengthening the region’s businesses. Defense contractors can connect with valuable workforce, financing, and business assistance programs. The EDB team leverages staff expertise to assist companies with site selection in Pierce County, aligning company needs with Pierce County’s diverse business environments.

Evergreen Fire and Security

Tacoma–Based **Evergreen Fire and Security** is a military and defense security systems and building efficiency company. Evergreen Fire and Security has experienced significant growth in recent years, and worked with the EDB to find a new building to accommodate their growing company. Together with assistance from the City of Tacoma and the Grow Tacoma Fund, the company was able to find a new site in South Tacoma. The new building will be able to accommodate Evergreen Fire and Security’s growing workforce and provide improved access to Joint Base Lewis–McChord.