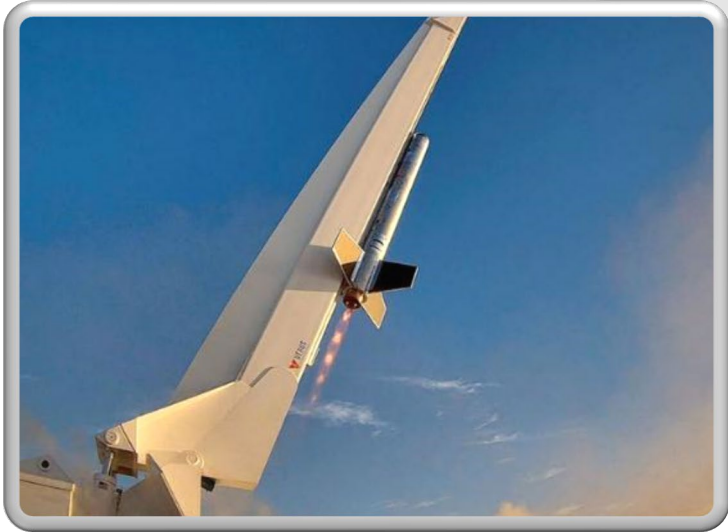


Spaceport America Overview



Scott McLaughlin
Executive Director
August 12, 2025

SPACEPORT AMERICA

THE GATEWAY TO SPACE®

OUTLINE

- BACKGROUND
- SITE ACTIVITIES
- BUDGET AND STAFFING
- CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
- NMSA OUTREACH
- SPACE ECONOMY
- SPACEPORT AMERICA GROWTH





BACKGROUND

U.S. FEDERAL AND LICENSED SPACEPORTS



MAP LEGEND

- States with Current Spaceports
- FAA-Licensed Horizontal Launch Site
- FAA-Licensed Vertical Launch Site
- FAA-Licensed Horizontal and Vertical Launch Site
- FAA-Licensed Reentry Site
- U.S. Federal Site
- Exclusive Use Site
- * Locations licensed by the FAA or currently hosting FAA-licensed activity.

- 14 FAA AST Licensed Commercial Spaceports
- Each has its own governance model and is owned by various entities, such as city, county, or state governments
- Some are on federal ranges, some are near federal ranges
- New proposed spaceports include Yuma, Utah, Las Vegas, Maine, Texas, Puerto Rico, and others

IMPORTANT SPACEPORT AMERICA DATES



- **1984 U.S. Commercial Space Launch Act** (amended 1988, 2004)
- **1990-1993 Phase I: Spaceport Startup**
 - NM has natural advantages (low population density, high ground elevation, favorable weather, low corrosion, and uncongested airspace)
 - Seed funding for the spaceport development, and started courting capsule landing and space launch
- **1994-2003 Phase II: Southwest Regional Spaceport (SRS)**
 - Continued studies and establishment of the **NM Office of Space Commercialization** and eventual selection of an area for a spaceport (along with EIS and FAA license)
 - Shift to orbital launch site instead of capsule reentry (e.g., LM VentureStar)
 - Started working with WSMR, BLM, FAA, SHPO, ranchers, counties, etc.
 - The 1996 **X-Prize** is a technology driver
- **2004-present Phase III: Spaceport America**
 - Scaled Composites wins \$10M **Ansari X-Prize** (Oct. 4, 2004)
 - Passage of the **NM Spaceport Development Act** (2005) and first contact with **Virgin Galactic**
 - The NM Legislature passed funding authorization (2006), conditional upon: 1) signing a **major customer**, 2) passage of a tax increase by at least **two counties**, and 3) securing an **FAA license**
 - **Now design and build a small city**
 - **2006** – First flight by UP Aerospace
 - **2021** – Virgin Galactic sends humans to space from NM

Entirely funded by New Mexico public resources (~\$250 million)

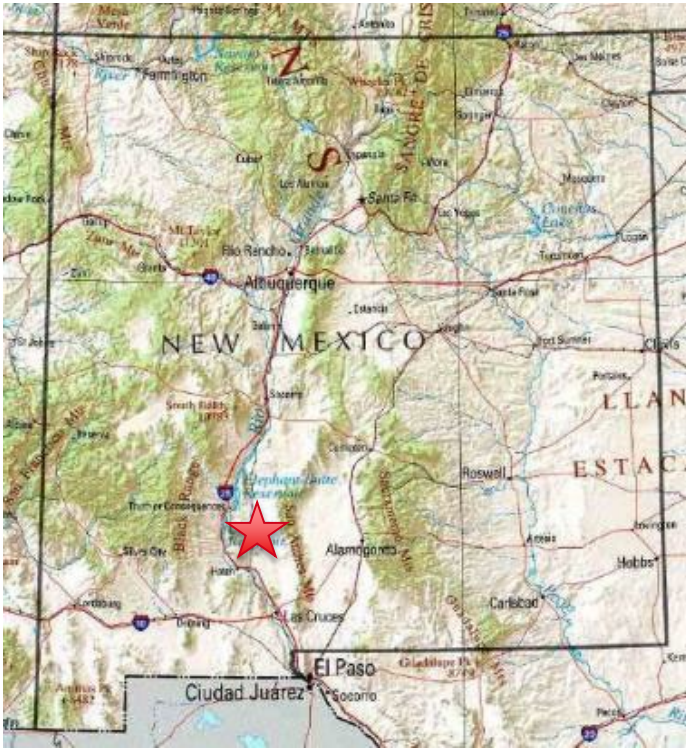
New Mexico Spaceport Development Act, 2005

The New Mexico Spaceport Authority shall:

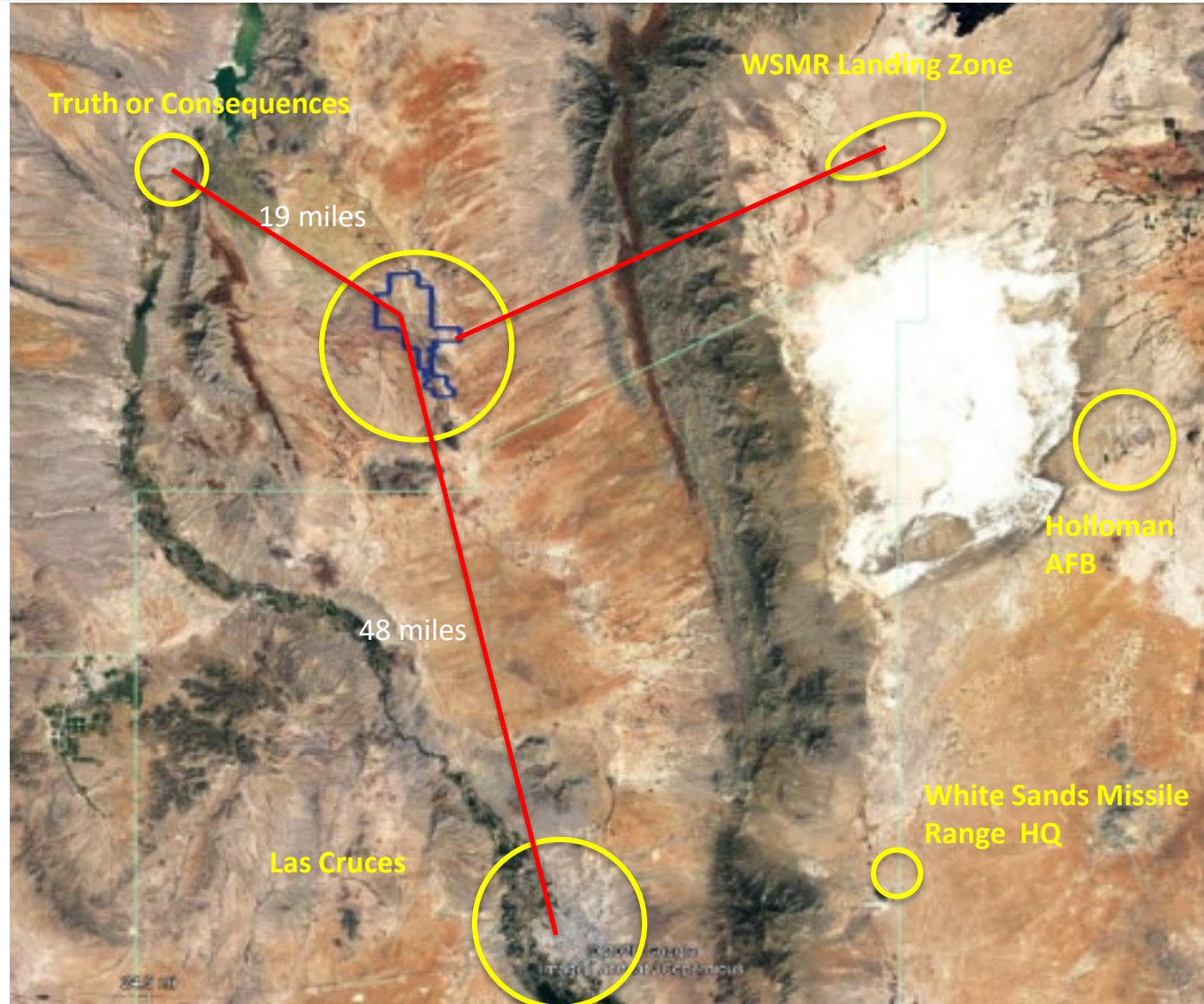
- A. Encourage and foster development of the state and its cities and counties by **developing spaceport facilities** in New Mexico;
- B. Actively promote and assist public and private sector infrastructure development to attract new industries and businesses, thereby **creating new job opportunities** in the state;
- C. **Create the statutory framework** that will enable the state to **design, finance, construct, equip and operate spaceport facilities** necessary to ensure the timely, planned and efficient development of a southwest regional spaceport; and
- D. Promote educational involvement in spaceport activities and **education and training of the workforce** to develop the skills needed for spaceport operations.

We are open to use by commercial and governmental entities,
including from other countries.

SPACEPORT AMERICA LOCATION IN NEW MEXICO



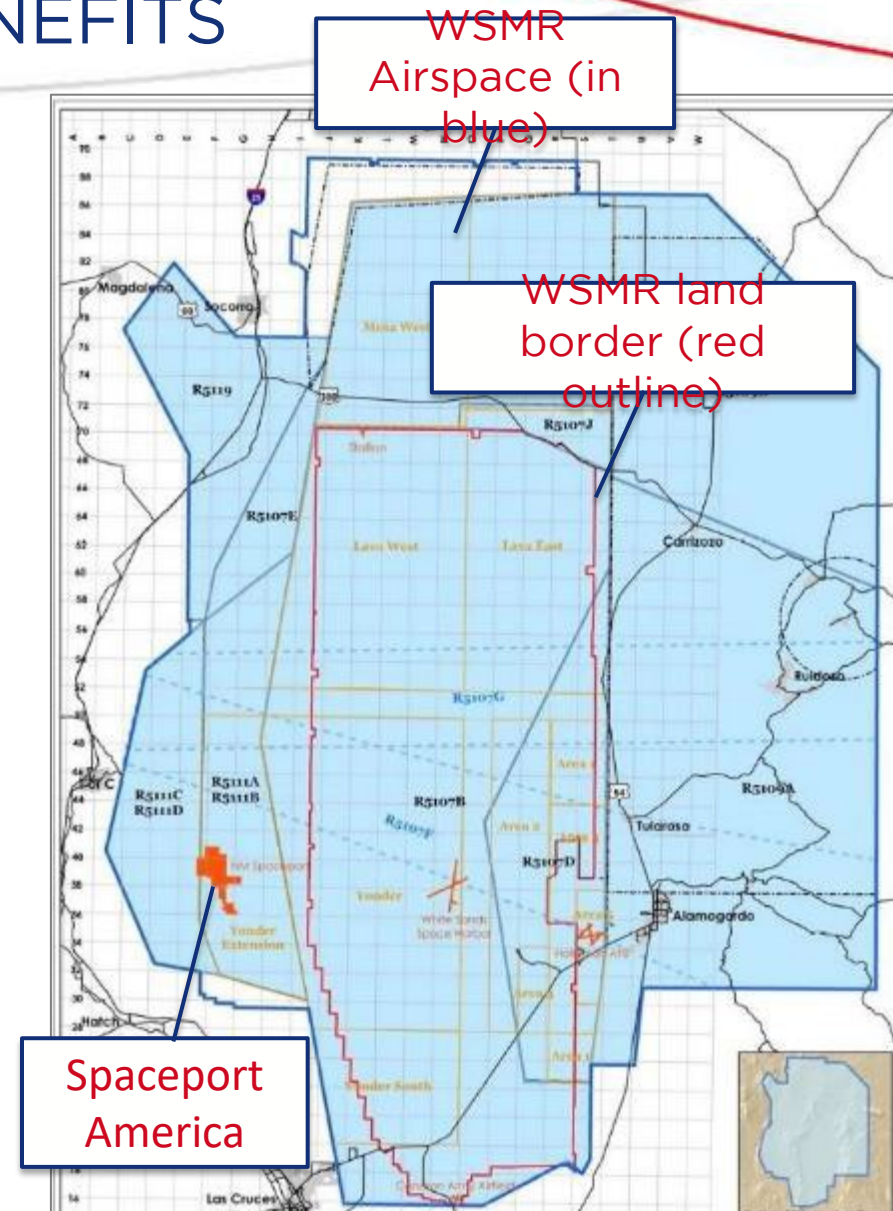
- Facilities across **18,000 acres** in Sierra County, New Mexico
- Adjacent to U.S. Army White Sands Missile Range (WSMR)
- Easy road access to I-25 and I-10
- No rerouting of air traffic



SPACEPORT AMERICA'S BENEFITS



- Good launch weather with 340+ days of sunshine
- High elevation of 4,600 ft MSL is beneficial for launch
- No salt air corrosion
- Remote location with very low population density
- 24/7 security, Fire, and EMS protection
- Access to 6,000 sq. miles of restricted airspace (R5111 and R5107), surface to unlimited
- Available assets from nearby White Sands Missile Range include Radar, Telemetry, Optics, and Meteorological Services
- For more on WSMR, see: <https://www.atcc.army.mil/wstc/g5sc.html>



EXAMPLE AIRSPACE FLIGHT PATTERN

- The 'time lapse' image of commercial air traffic shows how airlines must fly around WSMR airspace, including Spaceport America
- With WSMR's partnership, the airspace allows for considerable flexibility for different flight vehicles and usage
- Note that SpA customers must pay for scheduling of the airspace



Spaceport America

SPACEPORT AMERICA AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Horizontal Launch Area (HLA)

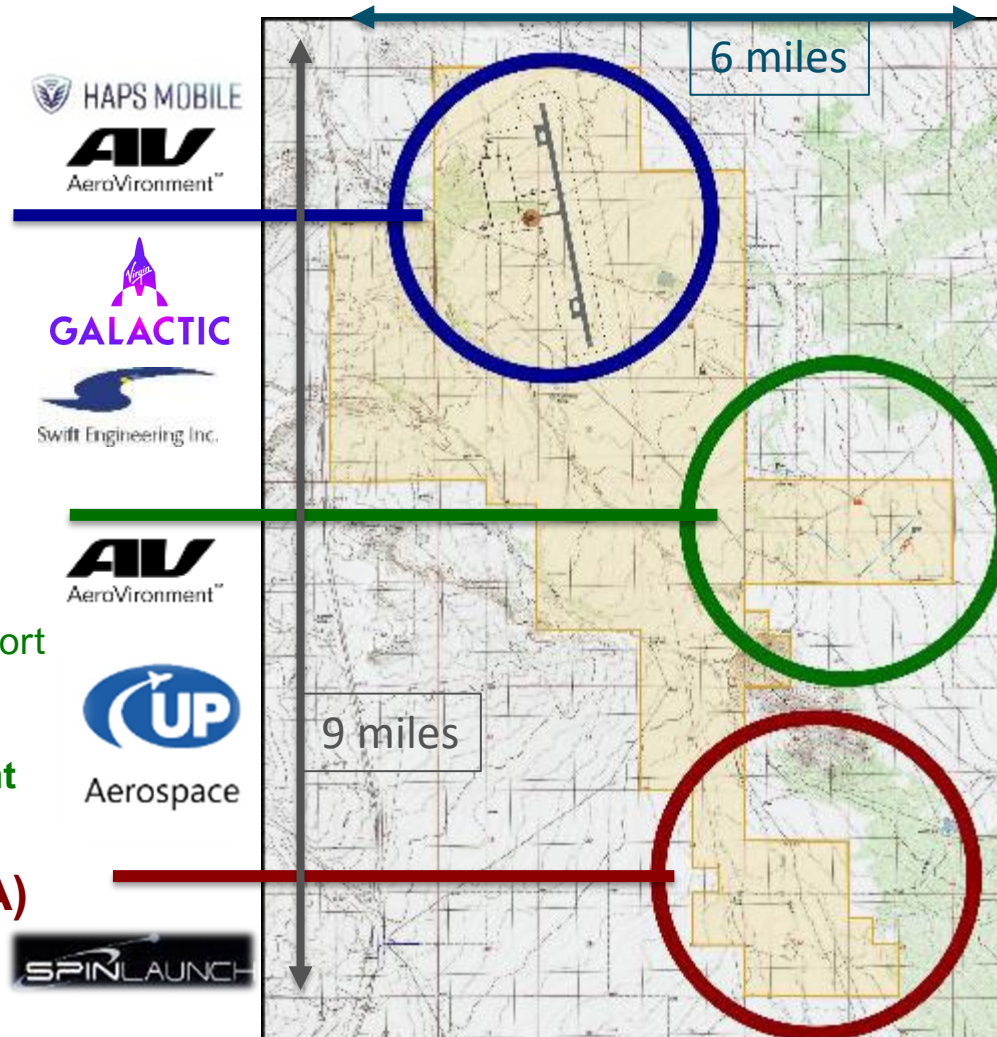
- 12,000-ft long, 200-ft wide runway
 - Horizontal and air launch operations
 - Space tourism
 - Conventional aircraft operations
 - Unmanned aircraft operations
 - High-altitude balloon operations
- **Tenants: Virgin Galactic, HAPS Mobile**

Vertical Launch Area (VLA)

- Suborbital launch vehicles & R&D
 - Solid, liquid, and hybrid propellant support
 - Rocket motor manufacturing and testing
 - Commercial and academic customer support
 - Launch from SA, land on WSMR
 - Small UAVs
- **Tenants: UP Aerospace, AeroVironment**

Advanced Technology Area (ATA)

- Emerging technology R&D
 - Isolated environment
- **Tenant: SpinLaunch**



HORIZONTAL LAUNCH AREA (HLA)

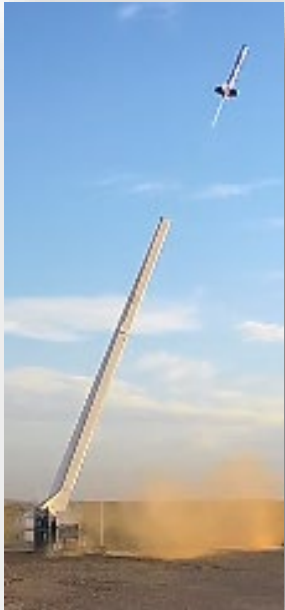
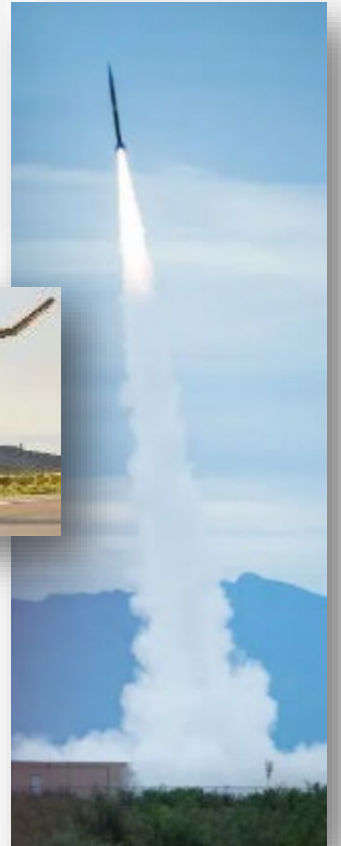
- Spaceport Operations Center (SOC)
- Spaceport Technology and Reception Center for 2026
- VG and AV operations
- 12,000' x 200' Runway
- In-ground utilities for water, wastewater, electricity, fiber
- Plenty of space for additional hangars or support facilities
- 4,000' x 500' UAS test area n





SPACEPORT AMERICA ACTIVITY

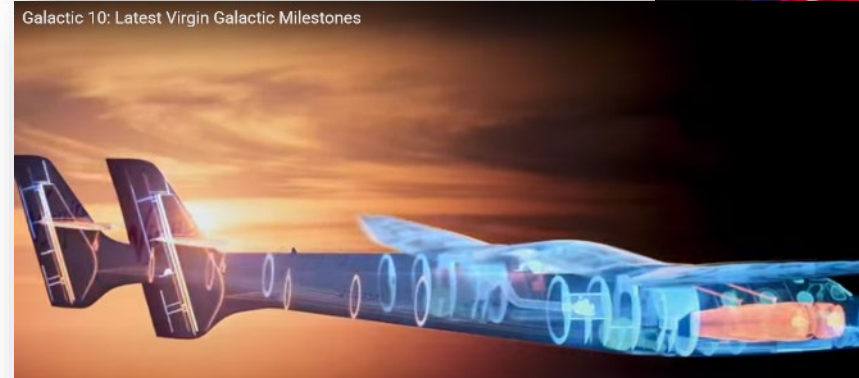
SPA HAS MANY KINDS OF CUSTOMERS



Spaceport America Status

VIRGIN GALACTIC STATUS

- Latest updates can be found here: <https://investors.virgingalactic.com/events-and-presentations>, @VirginGalactic
- Eleven spaceflights (32 private astronauts) occurred in New Mexico
- New Delta spaceship(s) will undergo tests and then operations by late 2026
- NMSA and VG are in discussions for a land lease for their new launch hangar
- Example: Two spaceships, 100 flights per year, about 600 private astronauts, about 12,000 visitors to the region, with about 60,000 room nights



UPCOMING KEY MILESTONES

2025	2026
SUMMER - FALL - WINTER Building and Testing	SPRING First Glide Test Flight
	SUMMER First Research Spaceflight
	FALL First Private Astronaut Flight

“LV-X” LAUNCH VEHICLE PROGRAM



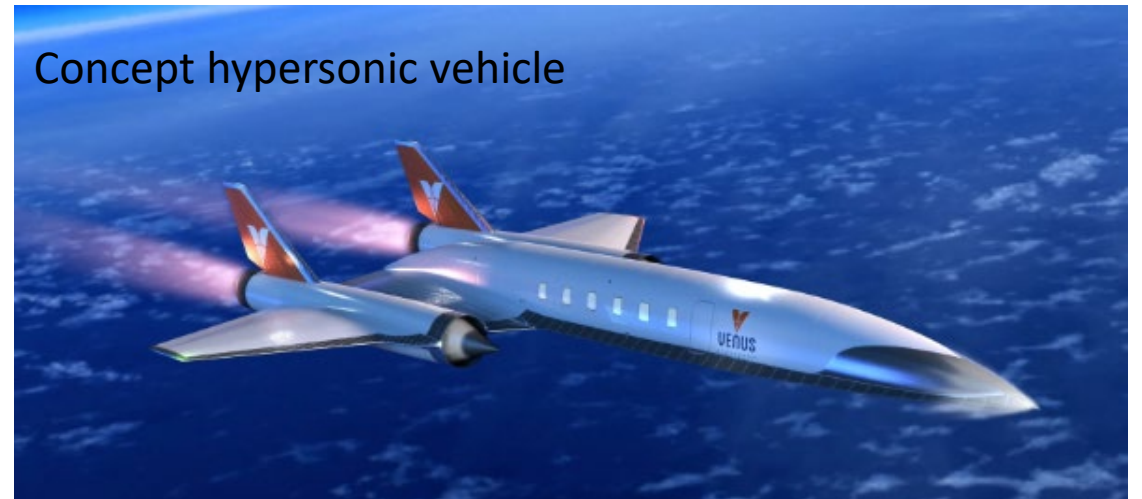
- Collaborating with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory on a feasibility study to assess opportunities for LV-X

VENUS AEROSPACE LAUNCH (MAY 14, 2025)

- First U.S. flight test of a next-generation Rotating Detonation Rocket Engine (RDRE)
- Used SpA rocket launch rail built with capital improvement funds
- Good example of “build it and they will come”
- Good press in the aerospace world
- Venus is working on a hypersonic vehicle, and we expect they will be back for further tests
- <https://www.venus aero.com>



Concept hypersonic vehicle



AEROVIRONMENT HAPS FLIGHT, JUNE 2024



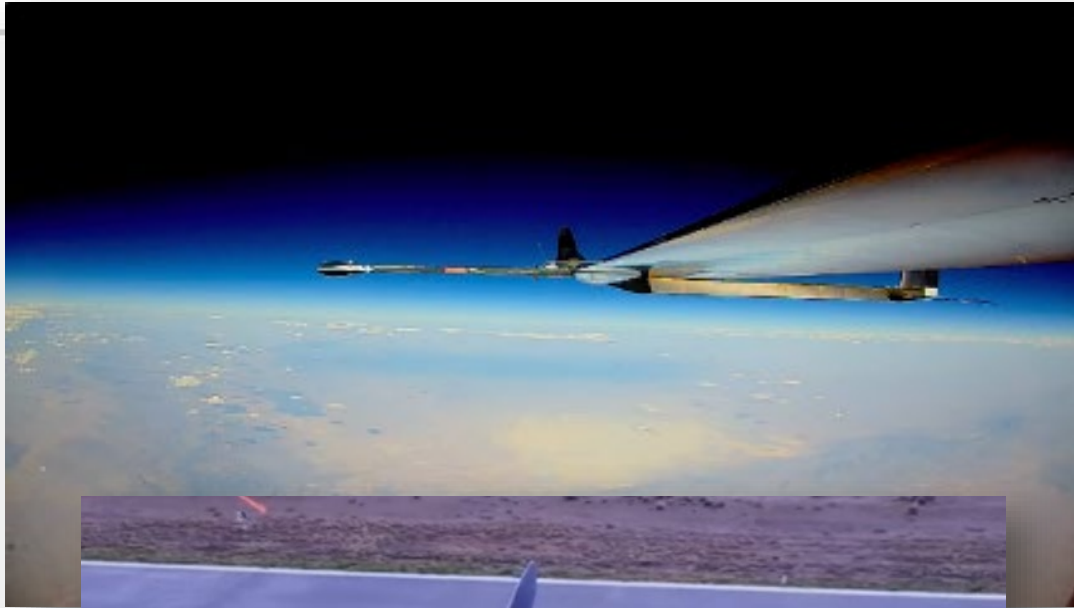
- Partnered with Softbank
- Wing is about 300' (100 m)
- Flies between 60,000 and 80,000 ft AGL
- Goal is flight time of about 6 months
- Powered by solar cells with batteries

SWIFT ENGINEERING

- The *Swift Ultra Long Endurance (SULE)* uncrewed aircraft reached an altitude of 55,904 feet during a 24-hour flight on 29-30 September 2024
- SULE has a 72-foot wingspan and a 15-pound payload capacity
- Have almost continuously rented our small (90' x 90') hangar



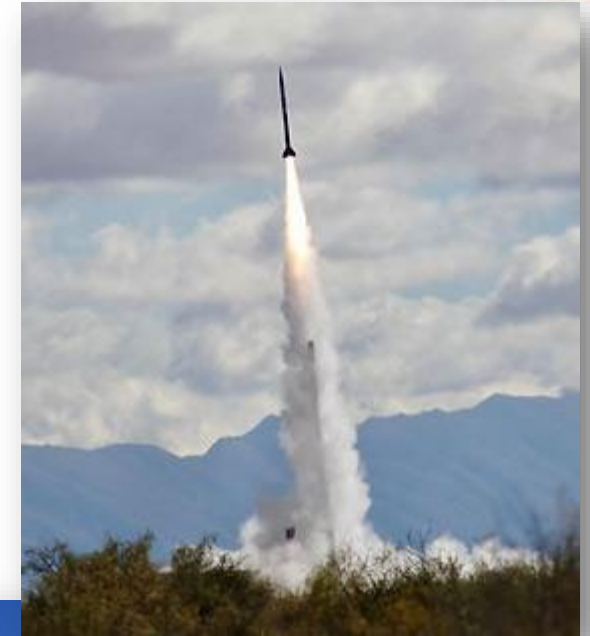
PRISMATIC/BAE SYSTEMS



- Prismatic completed a successful stratospheric test flight of their PHASA-35 HAPS/UAV glider in late June of 2023
- PHASA-35 exceeded 66,000 feet in test flight
- Potential applications in intelligence, surveillance, recon, and communication network delivery
- Successful trial is the first in a series to confirm system performance with the intent of making it available globally
- Prismatic was acquired by BAE Systems in 2019. BAE is Great Britain's largest manufacturer and is one of the six largest suppliers to the US Department of Defense

UP AEROSPACE CORP.

- Conducted 2 launches in the last half of 2024: SL-15 on Oct. 1, 2024, and SL-20 on Nov. 8, 2024
- The SL-20 payload was from Los Alamos National Laboratory
- Foundational tenant of SpA since 2006 (15+ launches, motor manufacturing and testing)
- Several suborbital launches planned for the next few years



Spaceport America Status

PRECISION AI

- Specializes in artificially intelligent drones for fully autonomous farming
- Successful testing of Stratus AirSprayer prototype at site
- <https://www.precision.ai/about>



FOURTH YEAR FOR USAF THUNDERBIRDS (2025)



NETFLIX



**AIR FORCE ELITE
THUNDERBIRDS**

Released May 23, 2025

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hl23PfgOWoY>

- Innovative Space Carrier Inc. (ISC), a space startup based in Tokyo, Japan, and its United States subsidiary, Sirius Technologies, Inc., will be tenants soon, with vertical tests of a liquid rocket engine prototype
- Development focused on reusability and stable control of the rocket engines and body





Working to sign an agreement for regular suborbital vertical rocket launches



BUDGET AND STAFFING

NMSA Budget, as of August 9, 2025



	FY24	FY25	FY26	
	Actual	Actual		
	Audited	Preliminary	Budgeted	Comments
Operating Revenue	\$8,895	\$6,102	\$7,684	From customers (fees, leases, utilities, fuel)
General Fund	4,247	4,047	4,139	GF Appropriation & salaries increase
Revenue Total	13,142	10,149	11,823	
200 Personal	3,189	3,767	3,657	
300 Contract	5,074	5,525	6,553	
400 Other Costs	2,466	2,499	2,649	
Expense Total	10,729	11,791	12,859	
Fund Transfers		1,030		
Fund Balance	0	612	1,330	
Net Result	\$2,413	\$0	\$294	
Footnotes:				

- (1) VG user fees decreased \$1,670M for FY25 & projected decrease \$1,416M FY26.
- (2) FY25 figures are preliminary since still going through closing process.
- (3) Ending Fiscal Year 2025 Fund Balance is \$4,033.047 after transfers.

Organizational Chart, Working Titles

May 2025



Executive Director

Business Operations Manager

Attorney

General Counsel

Office Administrator

Public Information Officer

Chief Financial Officer

Aerospace Operations Director

Business Development Director

Site Operations Director

Financial Officer

Chief Procurement Officer

Airspace Manager

Spaceport Aerospace Engineer

Aerospace Engineer

Information Technology Officer

Network Administrator

Senior Accountant

Senior Accountant

Airfield Manager

Spaceport Aerospace Engineer (Part-time)

Business Development Coordinator

Operations Manager

Construction Projects Manager

Protective Services Manager

Spaceport Aerospace Engineer (Part-time)

Business and Tourism Coordinator

Facilities Technician

Maintenance System Engineer Technician

Maintenance Systems Tech

Maintenance Tech/Electrician

- Currently have 31 FTEs, but will need 5 additional FTEs to match the growth of spaceport activities (noting that it can take 18 – 24 months to add personnel)
- It is vital to support Virgin Galactic's operational cadence plus the new tenants and customers
- Asking for FTE creation but will not hire until need is fully realized

STEM / Workforce Coordinator

Facilities Technician

Capital Construction Projects Leader

Contracts Manager

Deputy Director

PROJECTS UNDERWAY



Legend
Planning
RFP/Procurement
A/E
Construction
Close-Out/Closed

ACTIVE PROJECTS			FY25	FY26			
PROJECT	AMOUNT	NOTES	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
SPA Pavement Maintenance Assessment and Engineering	\$106,685	The draft maintenance plan has been reviewed, and now NMSA is pending the final report.					
HLA North/NE Road and Utility Improvements Design	\$117,828	Roadway layout Design 50%					
Fabric Hangar/Payload Facility Including Apron and Taxiway	\$9,017,196	ITB (Procurement) Bids Due August 19th					
Site Electrical (Fabric hangar/ Payload Facility)	\$527,865	Site Electrical is Underway					
Mechanical/ Plumbing (Fabric hangar/ Payload Facility)	\$1,082,853	Design is complete.					
Interior Electrical (Fabric hangar/ Payload Facility)	\$1,083,493	Interior electrical design is complete.					
Fire Suppression System(Fabric hangar/ Payload Facility)	\$937,606	Fire Suppression design is complete.					
CA Services Material Testing/QA/QC - Hangar	\$352,068	PO Complete. Awaiting Project Start Up					
HLA S. Access Road and Water Utilities Extension	\$2,414,474	Construction underway					
HLA S. Access Road Electrical Extension	\$345,642	Project is complete. Close out.					
STARC Building Design Build	\$16,000,000	Project Has been awarded					
GTS Roof Design - Architecture and Engineering	\$164,181	100% Design. Procurement Ongoing.					
ACTIVE PROJECTS TOTAL	\$32,149,896						

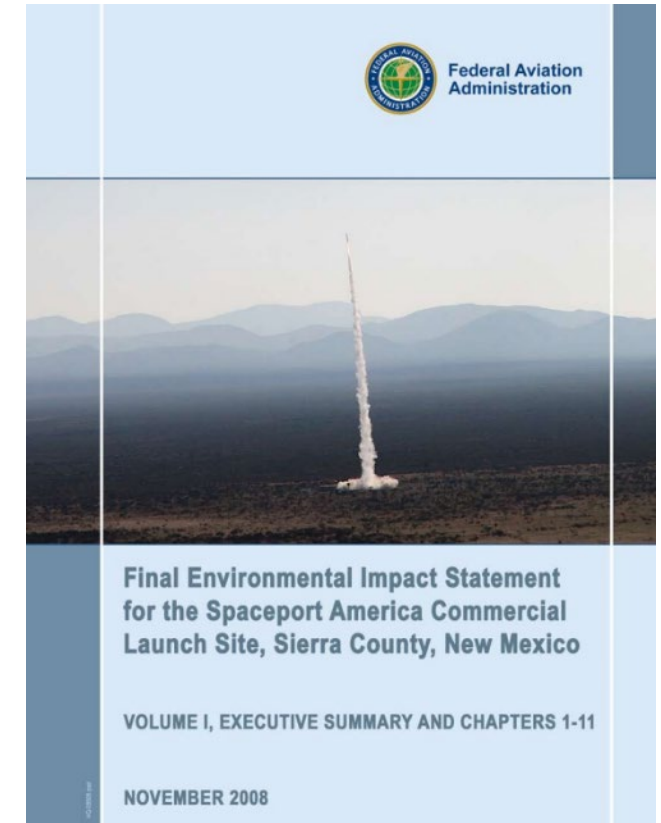
INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FY27-30



NO.	PROJECT	AMOUNT
2027	Infrastructure, Maint. & Runway Improve & Upgrade	\$ 8,000,000
2027	Hangar Pad And Apron Extension	\$ 5,000,000
2027	GTS chillers replacement	\$ 2,000,000
2027	Site Wide Water Infrastructure and Improvements	\$ 15,000,000
2027	Spaceport Taxiways and Ancillary Infrastructure	\$ 34,500,000
2028	Customer Leasable Hangar	\$ 10,000,000
2028	Rancher Mitigation and Fencing Improvements	\$ 340,000
2028	Launch Test Facilities - Vertical Launch Area	\$ 3,000,000
2028	New Fire Truck & Aircraft Rescue Veh. (ARFF)	\$ 5,000,000
2028	AMU Hangar Facility Project	\$ 40,000,000
2029	North Sanitary Sewer Extension	\$ 2,000,000
2029	HLA Access Road (VLA to HLA)	\$ 3,200,000
2029	Fenceline Rd. Re-Construction	\$ 1,800,000
2029	Leasable Facilities & Premanufactured Structures	\$ 4,500,000
2029	Main Entrance Improve Re-construction	\$ 1,600,000
2030	Aircraft & Vehicle Operations Facility	\$ 27,370,000
2030	Upham/Lewis Rd. Re-Construction	\$ 2,500,000
2030	Vertical Launch Area - LC4 Connector Road	\$ 1,000,000
2030	HLA SE Roadway and Utility Extension	\$ 4,500,000
2030	Site Fire Alarm and Comms Upgrades	\$ 1,000,000
Total Request		\$ 172,310,000

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT UPDATE

- **Existing EIS**
Evaluated the environmental impact of aerospace programs and supporting infrastructure projects at Spaceport America foreseen at the time of its development in 2007-2008.
- **Regulatory Compliance**
It was required to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act.
- **Mitigation Strategies**
Identified environmental impacts of the “major Federal action” of granting Spaceport America a Launch Site Operator License. Mitigation measures to reduce impacts in the area of cultural resource preservation and to promote long-term sustainability were agreed to in a separate Programmatic Agreement.
- **Operational Requirement**
Update of the EIS is mandatory for Spaceport America to continue development and maintain ongoing FAA AST licensed operations.





NMSA OUTREACH

STEM and other Outreach

- April 11, 2025** | Dona Ana Community College engineering class site visit
- April 18, 2025** | Middle Rio Grande Economic Development Association site visit
- April 22, 2025** | New Mexico Museum of Space History leadership site visit
- April 22, 2025** | Greater Gallup Economic Development Corporation site visit
- April 25, 2025** | American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) New Mexico State University and UTEP student chapter site visit
- April 27, 2025** | The Space Race event (inaugural 5k, 10k, and half-marathon race held at site)
- April 28, 2025** | New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs Cabinet site visit

- May 1, 2025** | 2025 Women in STEM Conference (El Paso, Texas)
- May 2, 2025** | Reyes Elementary STEM Expo (El Paso, Texas)
- May 3, 2025** | Truth or Consequences Fiesta (Truth or Consequences, N.M.)
- May 7, 2025** | Fairacres Elementary School site visit
- May 7, 2025** | La Clinica de Familia Preschool Program presentation (Las Cruces, N.M.)
- May 8, 2025** | Truth or Consequences Elementary School site visit
- May 8, 2025** | Southwest Region Economic Development Association (SWREDA) site visit
- May 8, 2025** | SWREDA Plenary Luncheon presentation (Las Cruces, N.M.)
- May 9, 2025** | Fairacres Elementary School Career Fair (Las Cruces, N.M.)
- May 9, 2025** | New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology engineering class site visit
- May 16, 2025** | Canutillo STEAM Academy Fair and Rocket Launch (Canutillo, Texas)
- May 22, 2025** | CODER Juarez site visit
- May 28, 2025** | Today's Students, Tomorrow's Workforce career event (El Paso, Texas)
- May 26, 2025** | Grottaglie Spaceport Visit (Italy)
- May 29, 2025** | Mesilla Park Community School Learning Celebration (Las Cruces, N.M.)

- June 6, 2025** | Northwest Early College High School site visit
- June 10, 2025** | Socorro High School site visit
- June 12, 2025** | Los Lunas Public Library Summer STEM Cohort site visit
- June 21, 2025** | University of New Mexico Engineering Summer Academy site visit
- June 26, 2025** | Teachers in Space site visit
- June 28, 2025** | Big Bang Festival (Alamogordo, N.M.)

OUTREACH AND STEM, EXAMPLES



Dr. Bill and classroom visits



Col. Alvin Drew Space Camp



New Mexico 4-H State Conference Site Visit



2024 Open House



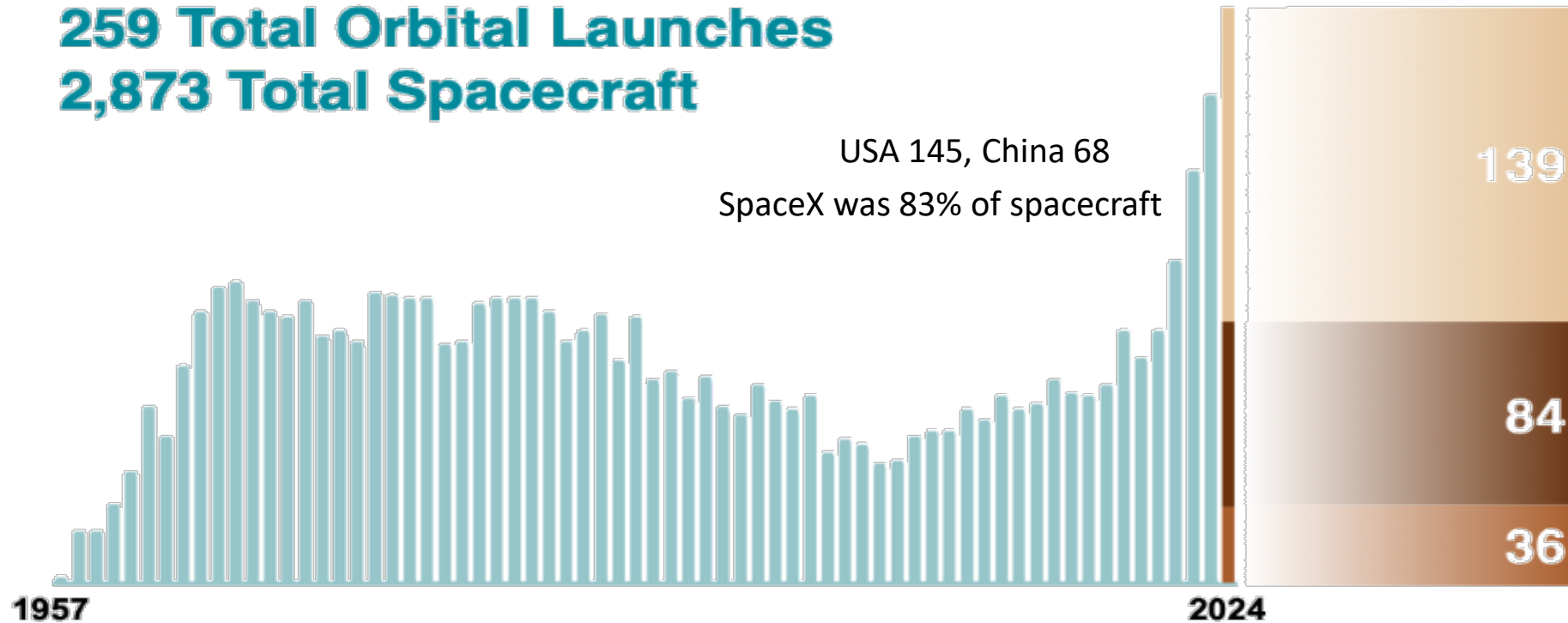
SPACE ECONOMY

WORLD ORBITAL LAUNCHES



259 Total Orbital Launches
2,873 Total Spacecraft

USA 145, China 68
 SpaceX was 83% of spacecraft



From 2024 Bryce Tech Report:
<https://brycetek.com/reports/report-documents/global-space-launch-activity-2024>

From various sources, the space economy growth is 7 to 8% annual growth

- Commercial Spacecraft/Launch Vehicle:** Primary spacecraft and launch vehicle are commercially owned/operated (including non-governmental organizations)
- Government-Operated Launch Vehicle:** Government owned/operated launch vehicle
- Government-Procured Commercial Launch Service:** Owner/operator of primary spacecraft is a government entity; government has procured launch from a commercial launch service provider

Counts include unsuccessful launches. Launches are attributed to home country of launch provider, not launch site. SpaceX Starship launches not counted here as all test flights were suborbital.

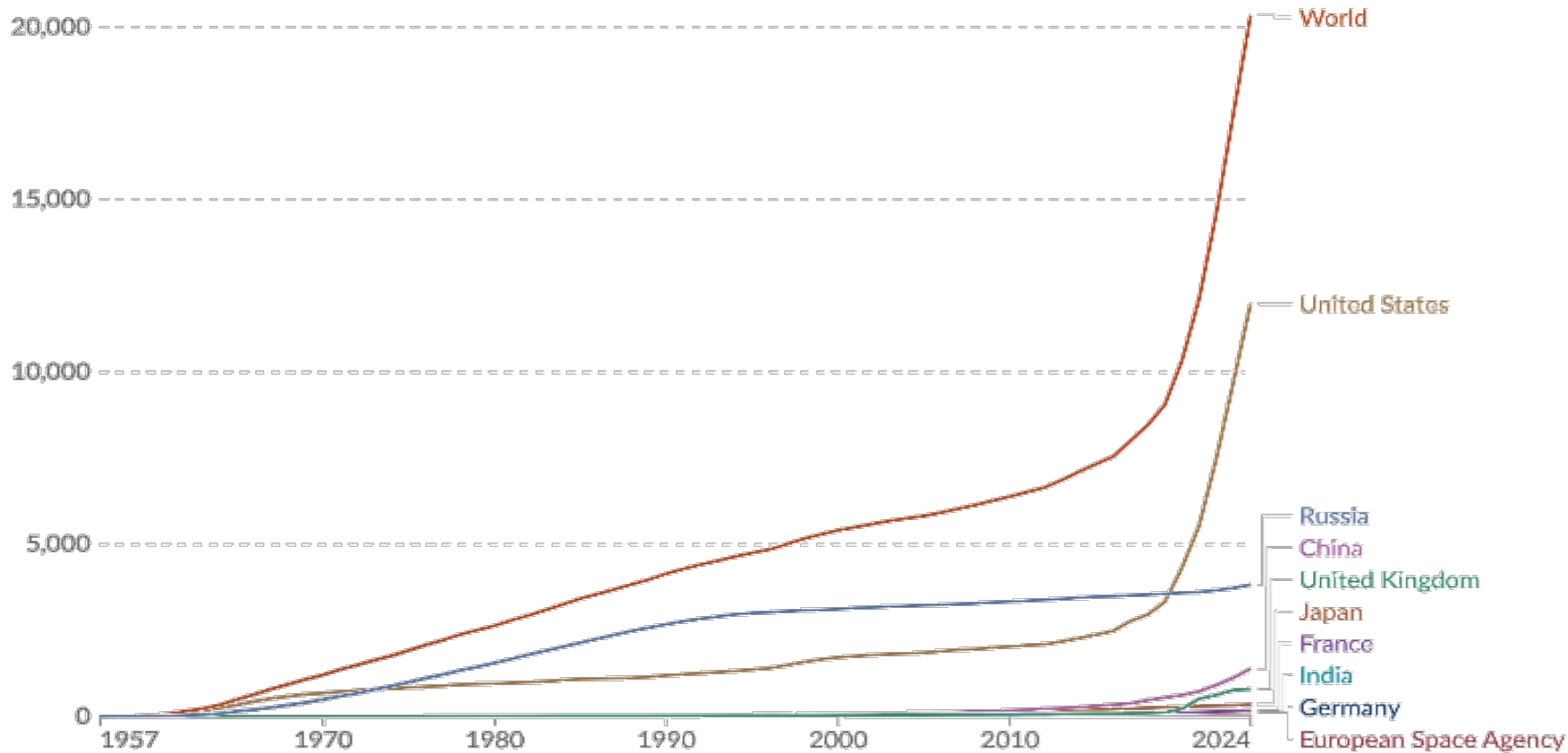


OBJECTS IN SPACE

Cumulative number of objects launched into space

This includes satellites, probes, landers, crewed spacecrafts, and space station flight elements launched into Earth orbit or beyond.

Our World
in Data



60,000 by 2030?

<https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/cumulative-number-of-objects-launched-into-outer-space>

Data source: United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (2025)

OurWorldinData.org/space-exploration-satellites | CC BY

Note: When an object is launched by a country on behalf of another one, it is attributed to the latter.

SPACE ECONOMY GROWTH



- **McKinsey & Company:** We estimate that the global space economy will be worth \$1.8 trillion by 2035 (accounting for inflation), up from \$630 billion in 2023, <https://tinyurl.com/2c6ckkq8>
- **Morgan Stanley:** Space economy will surpass \$1T by 2040, www.morganstanley.com/ideas/thoughts-on-the-market-space (2022)
- **CNBC:** The space economy grew at fastest rate in years to \$469 billion in 2021, report says (<https://tinyurl.com/23wgr8mz>)
- **CNBC:** Space economy worth \$424B in 2020, and is rapidly expanding (<https://tinyurl.com/y2px7l7x>)
- **PNAS:** Space exploration and economic growth: New issues and horizons; <https://tinyurl.com/yfjp5rop> (October 2023)
- **AP Article:** *60 years since 1st American in space: Tourists lining up*, <https://tinyurl.com/yjq9k8bf> (May 2021)
- **Brookings Institute:** *How space exploration is fueling the Fourth Industrial Revolution*, <https://tinyurl.com/47mwe8ny> (March 2023)

OPPORTUNITY AND COMPETITION



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The next space race starts at our spaceports

Bryce Kennedy and Geeg Autry May 1, 2023

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Space Force looks at options for relieving Cape Canaveral launch congestion

Jeff Foust May 19, 2023

Houston Spaceport Reaches for the Stars with Transformative Expansion Project

Published Feb 23, 2024 by Hallee Schultz

GREATER HOUSTON PARTNERSHIP

With three new cutting-edge anchor tenant facilities and its second phase of development underway, the Houston Spaceport has undergone a full transformation since the city first vowed to reshape Ellington Airport into an aerospace hub in 2015.

In 2018, the Houston City Council approved nearly \$20 million in funding for infrastructure development at the Spaceport, marking the beginning of a

abc 15 ARIZONA

3... 2...1...liftoff! Yuma looks to build Arizona's first 'spaceport'

The project would put a launchpad in the Yuma County desert for small rockets to launch satellites

By: Adam Klepp

Posted 5:55 AM, Mar 28, 2025 and last updated 10:40 AM, Mar 28, 2025

SPACENEWS

The Space Economy to Reach \$944 Billion by 2033: Novaspac Unveils Key Insight

by Novaspac May 5, 2025

KSBY CALIFORNIA'S CENTRAL COAST

By: Izzy Romero
Posted 7:25 PM, Jun 16, 2025

Paso Robles Spaceport development makes strides

Midland Reporter-Telegram

Midland wins \$5M grant for commercial vertical rocket launch site

By Luke Dias, Staff Writer
July 25, 2025

DeseretNews

Utah ready to take one giant step toward a rocket launching pad

State came up short 50 years ago, but the business of space is a whole new game

Published: July 20, 2025, 9:00 p.m. MDT

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

There's a Traffic Jam Forming at U.S. Rocket Launchpads

The nation's busiest spaceports are fielding record demand, spurring new efforts to develop launch sites in landlocked states and even at sea

By Roshan Fernando and Michael Waidenberg
Jan. 5, 2025 5:30 am ET

Sierra Vista ARIZONA

BlackStar Orbital signs letter of intent with City

Post Date: 03/20/2025 2:16 PM

BlackStar Orbital President and CEO Chris Jannette and Sierra Vista City Manager Chuck Potucek recently signed a letter of intent for the



SPACEPORT AMERICA FUTURE

PATH FORWARD – NEXT FIVE YEARS



- Continue to work with **Virgin Galactic** to maximize the economic impact of space tourism flights and their operations
- Focus on **regional ecosystem growth**, including working with economic development organizations (EDOs) throughout Space Valley
- Continue with **infrastructure improvements** to be site-ready for new customers
- Acquire FAA **orbital reentry license** and work toward **orbital launch capability**, including point-to-point tests and operations
- Watch new technologies, find new tenants, and develop other revenue streams from a **diversity of customers**

ORBITAL REENTRY

- An **FAA orbital reentry license** will enable Spaceport America to accommodate various reentry vehicles, including crewed and uncrewed (i.e., orbital manufacturing), while encouraging customers to develop onsite processing and refurbishment facilities.
- In consultation with the FAA, the license is expected in 2027 (our FAA Launch Site Operator license already supports vertical and horizontal suborbital/orbital launch – but we need an EIS Update)
- An orbital reentry can occur on the runway or other parts of the spaceport





**SPACEPORT
AMERICA®**

Thank you! Questions?

Scott McLaughlin
Executive Director
New Mexico Spaceport Authority

URL: www.spaceportamerica.com

Email: scott.mclaughlin@spaceportamerica.com

