

# ALBUQUERQUE'S Directed Energy Sector



## Overview

Albuquerque is the nucleus for directed energy in the United States, having more assets that are considered essential to the industry than any other city.



### A TRIFECTA OF SUSTAINED FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PRESENCE FOCUSED ON DIRECTED ENERGY R&D

- Air Force Research Laboratory New Mexico's Directed Energy Directorate
- Directed Energy Joint Transition Office
- Directed Energy Professional Society



### A GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE THAT PROVIDE CERTAINTY OF OPERATIONS AND AN IDEAL TESTING ENVIRONMENT

- Vast swaths of sparsely populated areas, with few trees
- Sunny and arid, with high altitude
- Low risk for natural disasters



### A ROBUST PRIVATE SECTOR ECOSYSTEM

- Companies include SAIC, Ball Aerospace & Technologies, BAE Systems, Aegis, Booz Allen Hamilton, Verus Research, General Atomics, Leidos, Lockheed Martin, Applied Technology Associates, and more.



### NATIONALLY-RENOWNED PARTNERING OPPORTUNITIES & TESTING FACILITIES

- Sandia and Los Alamos national labs, University of New Mexico, and White Sands Missile Range to the south of the city

## Albuquerque is poised to answer the U.S. military's demand for mass production of combat-ready directed energy hardware.

Local companies are making significant investments to expand or upgrade their Albuquerque facilities in preparation for the anticipated surge/demand in directed energy manufacturing.

## Directed energy business opportunities are expanding in Albuquerque due to increased military funding and directed energy manufacturing demand.

The U.S. military doubled its spending nationwide from FY17 to FY19 – the preponderance of those dollars invested in Albuquerque.

## Albuquerque was instrumental in development of one of the nation's most visible directed energy defense systems to date – the \$15 million THOR (Tactical High-power Microwave Operational Responder) system, unveiled at the Air Force Research Lab New Mexico in 2019.

THOR was developed via the collaboration, high-level talent and production capabilities of three companies with local presence: global BAE Systems, and local startups Leidos and Verus Research.

# WHY Albuquerque

The City of Albuquerque recognizes that COVID-19 is transforming the way people and companies do business. Locations that are resilient, low-risk, and healthy are essential for businesses to be successful in this uncertain and ever-changing environment. The City of Albuquerque is committed to providing existing and new businesses with the information and support necessary to thrive.

## We challenge you to find a more competitive, livable city than Albuquerque.

Albuquerque is New Mexico's urban center and offers the complete economic development package amid one of the most diverse and creative populations in the country. Albuquerque is a modern, mid-sized city that can provide a blend of contemporary urban amenities and rugged outdoor activities in a climate that's enjoyable year-round making it easy to live a balanced life.

Companies seeking to expand or move to an affordable, resilient, and business-friendly location will find a natural fit in Albuquerque. A city with 310 days of sun per year, access to the outdoors, minimal traffic, housing that is affordable, and a collaborative business community, Albuquerque offers a high return on investment and an environment that supports worklife balance.

An average 23 minute one-way commute, less traffic means people get to work on time and spend more hours with family than on the road. Offering quality, sizeable, and affordable housing, the median home price is \$230,000, and the monthly cost of living averages \$1,500 per month. The Albuquerque International Sunport is a 20-minute drive from anywhere in the city and offers direct flights to 20 major metros. No hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, or other natural disasters to disrupt life or business, and low humidity allows for optimal climate control for any products.



### AN EXCELLENT QUALITY OF LIFE

Nestled in the high desert at the base of the Sandia Mountains, along the Rio Grande Valley, lies Albuquerque. Albuquerque provides residents a refreshing blend of scenic beauty and neighborly charm with all the amenities of a big city.



### A MULTI-CULTURAL METROPOLIS

Albuquerque is a place built on its unique multi-cultural heritage. From dozens of boldly painted downtown murals, to museums and hidden art galleries, the local creative scene visibly saturates the city. Major cultural events like the International Balloon Fiesta have made Albuquerque a global destination.



### INVESTED IN BUSINESS

Albuquerque offers a supportive business environment that encourages and facilitates partnerships, innovation, and growth, as well as a natural environment that provides certainty of operations year-round. The combination makes our city a premier location for expansions and relocations.



### AN INTELLECTUAL POWERHOUSE

Albuquerque offers a flagship research university, just minutes from downtown, with nationally recognized law, engineering, and medical schools. Albuquerque also offers a community college that often partners with local businesses and industries to develop programs and curriculum specific to the needs of employers.



### A WORKFORCE WITH A GOOD WORK ETHIC

Albuquerque offers a young, diverse, affordable and educated workforce that is loyal, hard-working and has a sense of pride. Albuquerque ranks among the top metros in the nation for the percentage of workers with a college degree.

