Foreword

This economic Impact Statement provides unclassified information about the resources and economic impact of Altus Air Force Base on the surrounding community. This document is available to senior military officials, federal, state and local officials, business leaders and visitors to the base. Information contained in this analysis is current as of 30 September 2017.

Methodology

The total economic impact of a base on its economic area is computed by summing annual base payroll, annual base expenditures and the estimated dollar value of indirect jobs created. This statement captures the result of the vital economic footprint Altus Air Force Base has on the surrounding communities.

Base History

Altus Army Airfield for Advanced Flying Training opened in the early days of World War II to train pilots on multi-engine aircraft. During the war more than 1,500 students graduated and went on to support the war effort. As the war ended, the base was placed in an inactive status until needed again. A decade later, the base activated to support the growing Cold War. Through the 1950s and 1960s, the base stood ready with the latest bombers and air refueling aircraft. As the Air Force needs changed the base took on a new mission, air mobility. While keeping the KC-135 Stratotankers on alert, the base trained aircrew for the enormous C-5 Galaxy and the versatile C-141 Starlifter. Before the 20th Century ended the base added the newest “hot rod of the heavies” the C-17 Globemaster III and transitioned from tanker alert to the sole KC-135 training schoolhouse. Over the years the base has supported a variety of missions, with aircraft and personnel, deploying to combat and humanitarian operations worldwide.

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Altus Air Force Base 2017 Economic Impact Statement

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