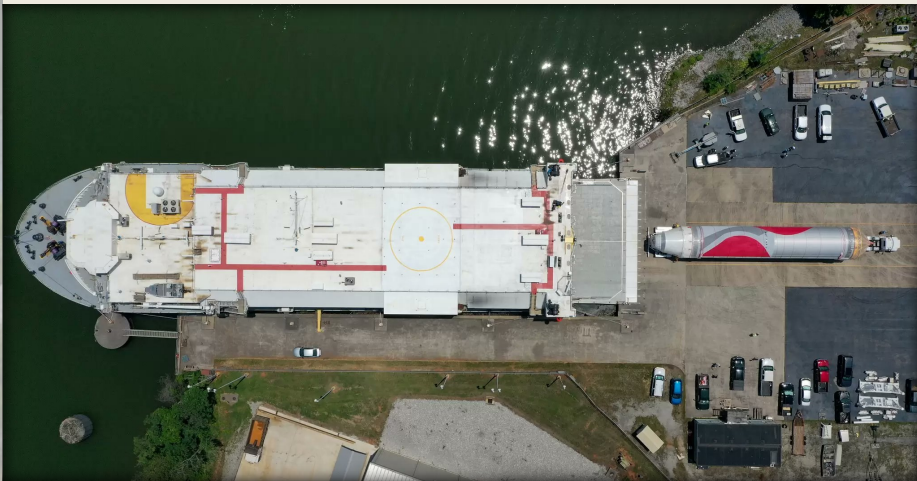


Did You Know?

ULA's cargo ship, ***RocketShip***, is a specially designed roll-on/roll-off vessel that transports rockets across rivers and oceans—traveling from ULA's factory here in Decatur, Alabama, to the launch sites in Florida and California!

The 2025 class of Economic Development Association of Alabama (EDAA) interns received an exclusive, firsthand tour of United Launch Alliance (ULA) and its transport vessel, *RocketShip*.



North Alabama
Industrial Development
Association
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For information on developments in North Alabama see the 'NEWS' section of our website and follow us on X [@NorthAlabamaUSA](https://twitter.com/NorthAlabamaUSA)



North Alabama

Q2 2025

New Investment

Cullman County

SRM Concrete—is expanding its Alabama footprint with a \$26 million investment to establish a new facility in Cullman, creating 20 new jobs.

Jackson County

Advanced Displays Inc.—is opening a 303,000 SF distribution facility in Scottsboro, strengthening their partnership with Lozier's manufacturing plant, to enhance service speed and reduce freight costs for customers.

Limestone County

Aleut (ARE) & Strata-G—are constructing a \$33 million hangar focusing on maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) operations for commercial and military aircraft at Pryor Field. The expected completion is early 2027.

Titomic USA—an Australian-based company, has opened its 59,000 SF global headquarters in Huntsville. The company specializes in industrial-scale metal additive manufacturing, coating and repairs using its patented kinetic fusion cold spray technology, Titomic Kinetic Fusion (TKF) for use in the aerospace, defense, and oil and gas industries.



Morgan County

Karman Space & Defense—announced the opening a new 30,000 SF facility in Decatur, expanding its manufacturing capabilities to support growing demand in North Alabama's aerospace and defense sectors.

Recent Developments

International Intermodal Center:

March and April marked the first consecutive months with over 4,000 lifts at the IIC since September–October 2008. April alone saw a **21% year-over-year increase**, surpassing the previous record for the month—set in April 2007—by 6%.

Media

Huntsville International Airport was named the *"Best Small Airport"* in the U.S. for the 2nd year in a row. —*Newsweek magazine*

The Huntsville Metro has been ranked the **#4 Best Mid-sized Metro** for professionals working in science, and **#4 for Metros Where Millennials Can Put Down Roots and Thrive in 2025**, according to a recent report by *CoworkingCafe*:

"In Huntsville, we find the highest share of jobs in science-driven fields. Here, more than 23% of jobs are in STEM departments... Additionally, prices are almost 6% more affordable than the national ave., making products and services more accessible."

Huntsville experienced the fastest Millennial population growth among the top 20 cities, increasing by 17.8% between 2019 and 2023. This trend highlights the city's growing appeal to younger professionals seeking practical and affordable living and career opportunities.

According to a *USA Today* reader poll, **Florence, Alabama** — home to the University of North Alabama (UNA) — **has been recognized as the top small college town in the nation** among cities with populations of 50,000 or fewer.

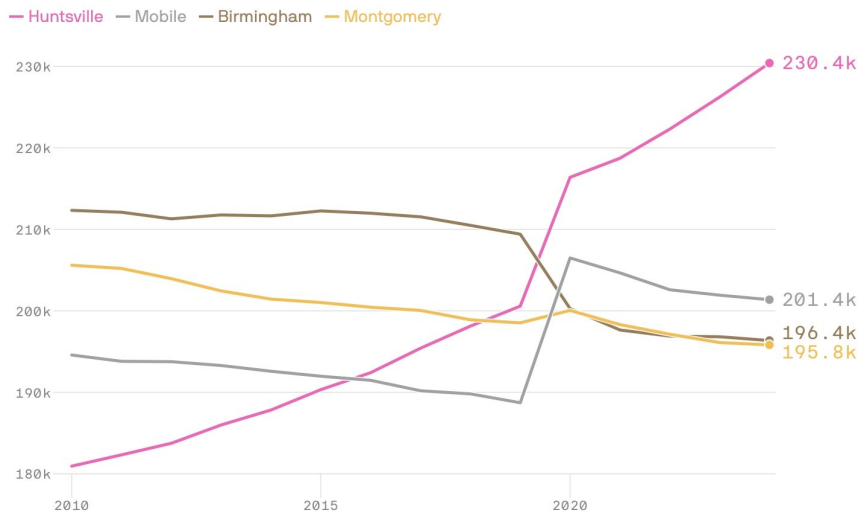
Decatur, Alabama—where the cost of living for retirees is 11% below the national average—has been recognized by *Islands* magazine as **one of the most affordable cities in the U.S. for retirement**.

Boeing's PAC-3 seeker—a critical component of the Patriot Missile System—was named the **'Coolest Thing Made in Alabama'** by *Manufacture Alabama*. The award followed a competitive field of 44 nominated products and more than 130,000 votes cast.

Workforce

*"While others are waiting for the mood to change, we're building where the facts already point to opportunity. The growth in **North Alabama** isn't speculative—it's structural."* —Derek Distenfield, Managing Director, DDB Capital

Populations of Alabama's Largest Cities



Data: [U.S. Census Bureau](#); Chart: Axios Visuals

Huntsville is the #12 most popular moving destination in **Where Are People moving to in 2025?** - [pods.com](#)

According to *BLS Labor Statistics*, each of North Alabama's 3 MSAs experienced employment growth of 1.8% and higher over the year ended 3/25.

The **Limestone County Career Tech Center** in Athens has been expanded. The \$12 million investment will enable nearly double the student enrollment this fall, including new programs in aviation and health sciences, positioning the center to better prepare students for in-demand careers.

North Alabama's **workforce participation rate** outpaced the state average of 58% during the second quarter, reflecting a robust engagement in the labor market. This result aligns closely with the national labor force participation rate, which remained slightly **above 62%** during the same period.

Industry Expansions

Jackson County

Yamaha Motor Corporation USA—is investing \$39 million and adding 7,500 SF to their testing facility in Bridgeport, creating 4 additional jobs.



Limestone County

Northrop Grumman—has opened a \$20 million, 175,500 SF facility to support high-rate production of the US Army's Integrated Battle Command System (IBCS), a next-gen air and missile defense command and control system. The Enhanced Production and Integration Center (EPIC) doubles previous integration capacity and will support hundreds of jobs.

Marshall County

ACE Aeronautics—is expanding their current Guntersville operations to refurbish and modify former US military helicopters (*primarily UH-60 Black Hawks*) for sale to foreign military customers. This \$4.25 million investment is expected to create 189 new jobs.

Metal Research Inc.—is investing over \$6 million in their Guntersville operation for automation to enhance its capabilities to continue serving the aerospace, defense, automotive, oil and gas industry sectors.

Morgan County

OCI Alabama LLC—is investing \$19.15 million to construct a new warehouse, silos, and an expanded rail yard and building, while also installing unloading equipment and a packaging system, creating 5 jobs.

xPL Offsite, LLC—(*Div. of Turner Construction*) is investing \$7.45 million to improve an existing 200,000 SF facility for an in-house steel fabrication and manufacturing machinery operation, creating 120 jobs.

The following sites have been designated recipients of Site Evaluation & Economic Development Strategy (SEEDS) funding for assessment and development activities:

