

# Luke Air Force Base Targeted Growth Management Plan



## OBJECTIVES:

1. Identify and assess existing conditions within the targeted areas of transportation, economic development/workforce development, education, and housing.
2. Determine future needs associated with increased military population.
3. Develop short-term and long-term priorities and potential funding sources to accommodate this growth.
4. Develop planning, coordination and implementation strategies that help achieve the long-term goals of the stakeholders during this period of growth and change.
5. Identify a central point of coordination for all major stakeholders who are impacted by the expansion of Luke AFB.
6. Establish a clear set of action steps for local communities to manage future growth and demands for services.

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## Luke AFB Mission Expansion



**144**  
new F35A  
Lightning II aircraft



**2,324**  
new personnel



**4,717**  
dependents

Total Population Increase

**7,041**

**16,663**

Existing Base Population

**23,704**

Total base population by 2026.

**71%**

Schools in the  
Study Area  
considered highly  
performing or  
excellent.

- Luke AFB will be the training home of **144** new F-35A Lightning II fighter jets by 2026.
- By 2023, the defense spending in support of Luke AFB is expected to support approximately **13,900** total jobs, **\$820 million** in total compensation, and **\$1.5 billion** in value-added impacts to the Study Area's gross regional product.
- It is anticipated that by 2023, defense contracts performed in the Study Area will equate to roughly **\$220 million** annually.
- The F-35A mission at Luke Air Force Base (AFB) is projected to grow the local defense economy by **25 percent** and constitute approximately six percent of the Study Area's labor force, with **90 percent** of all Luke AFB job impacts projected to occur in the communities of Glendale, Surprise, Goodyear, and Avondale.
- The average defense-related job earns approximately **23 percent** more than the region's average – **\$64,800** versus \$52,800.
- Growth in number of personnel at the base: **2,324** new personnel, **4,717** dependents, for a total population increase of **7,041**.
- Relative to housing affordability, affordable housing for all ranks is projected to be available within the Study Area during the mission expansion. On average, **3,100 housing units per year** are projected to be available within the Study Area and considered affordable and attainable by personnel within the lowest ranks.
- The communities surrounding Luke AFB and The West Valley are well-served by a system of highways connecting them to the metro region and to the interstate highway system.
- **Seventy-one percent** of public schools in the Study Area that were rated by the Arizona Department of Education in 2019 are considered highly performing or excellent.
- **West-MEC**, the Career and Technical Education School District serving western Maricopa County, offers adult education classes in program areas such as Aviation Maintenance & Avionics, and Airframe & Power Plant Test Preparation. These courses are aligned with the mission of the base, and well-suited to build capacity within the community to better serve the base.



Photo courtesy of West-MEC