

# Space Force by the Numbers

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Washington  
Technology

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# Budget Overview



## FY24 Annual Budget

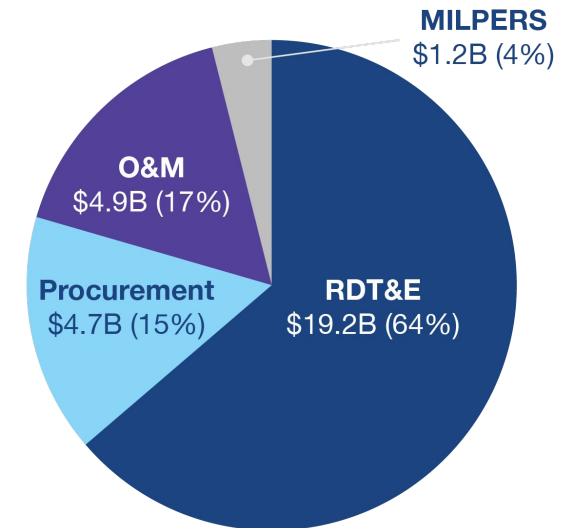
President's FY24 Budget  
Request for the USSF = \$30B

Increase of \$3.9B  
(~15%) from FY23

Will be the largest  
USSF budget yet

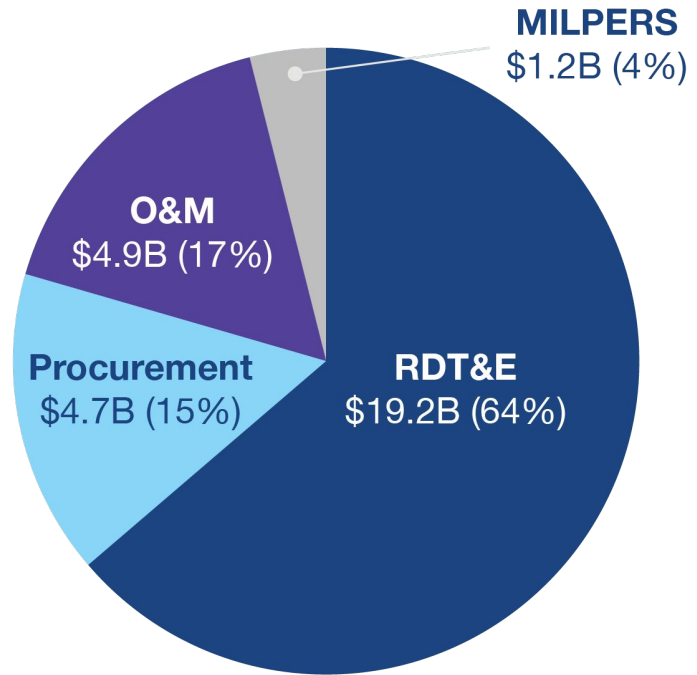


## FY24 Budget Request by Category



FY24 U.S. SPACE FORCE \$30.0B

# USSF at a Glance



**FY24 U.S. SPACE FORCE \$30.0B**

## **Research, Development, Test and Evaluation request = \$19.2B**

- \$2.6B (~16%) increase over FY23 enacted

## **Operations and Maintenance request = \$4.9B**

- \$0.9B (~23%) increase over FY23 enacted

## **Procurement request = \$4.7B**

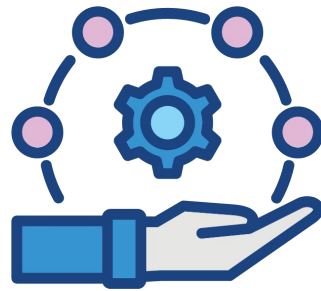
- \$0.2B (~4%) increase over FY23 enacted

## **Military Personnel request = \$1.2B**

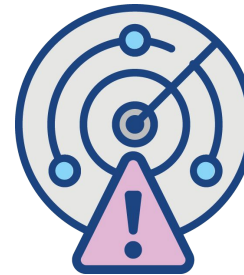
- \$0.2B (~20%) increase of FY23 enacted



# Space Force FY24 Priorities



**Resiliency Through  
Proliferation**



**Enhance Missile  
Warning/Missile  
Tracking Capabilities**



**Training  
& Education**

# USSF FY24 Priority: Resiliency Through Proliferation



USSF is focusing space-related acquisitions on resilient space missions

## IMPORTANCE:

- Resiliency through a **proliferated network** of satellites, specifically in LEO, is essential to future conflict.
- Resilience is critical for ensuring **data & communication transfer** in a contested space environment.
- Resilience is baked into the USAF #1 **Operational Imperative: Space Order of Battle**.
- Space is a frontier in the competition with Russia and China.

## STATUS:

- SDA is building a mesh network of military satellites in LEO known as the **Proliferated Warfighter Space Architecture (PWSA)**.
- A **Transport Layer** will provide resilient sensor and PNT capabilities.
  - Contracts for Tranche 0-2 have been awarded. Tranche 3 will likely launch in 2028/29.
- SSC's **National Security Space Launch (NSSL) program** is procuring launch vehicles.
  - Phase 1-2 were awarded to ULA & SpaceX. Phase 3 will expand the pool of launch vehicles.
  - NSSL is the #1 funded line item for FY24.



# USSF FY24 Priority: Enhance Missile Warning/Missile Tracking Capabilities



## USSF Strategy shows a steep increase in planned missile warning spending

### IMPORTANCE:

- **Missile tracking** is a large portion of the top line items in the FY24 budget request.
- China has modernized its space infrastructure to enable military capabilities like precision-guided missiles and **anti-satellite (ASAT) weapons**.
- USSF must maintain a technological advantage.

### STATUS:

- LEO, MEO, and GEO constellations are now in development to help defend U.S. forces from **hypersonic missile attacks** and for transmitting data in space.
- PWSA will also track moving targets from space through its **Tracking Layer**, which will be developed in Tranches similar to the Transport Layer.
  - Tranche 2 was recently awarded. Tranche 3 still to come.
- Also in development is the Next-Gen **Overhead Persistent Infrared (OPIR)** system.
  - an advanced early warning missile identification satellite system that will sense heat signatures to detect and track missiles.

# USSF FY24 Priority: Training & Education



Gen. David Thompson, USSF Vice Chief of Space Operations, identified LEO satellite networks and training systems for satellite operators as the Space Force's highest priorities in the 2024 budget.

## IMPORTANCE:

- **Readiness to deploy and fight** is Operational Imperative #7.
- USSF LOE #1 - Field **Combat-Ready Forces**

## STATUS:

- USSF plans to spend **\$340 million** on digital infrastructure for training satellite operators and testing the performance of new hardware.
- This includes funding for the **National Space Test and Training Complex (NSTTC)**.
- USSF seeks to develop sophisticated training systems that can replicate and simulate threat environments.



“We must field combat-ready forces so the Space Force has the personnel, expertise, weapon systems, and equipment required to protect U.S. interests in space,”

— Gen. B. Chance Saltzman, USSF, Chief of Space Operations



“Ukraine showed that proliferation works.  
It leads to resilient architectures,”

— Gen. David Thompson, USSF Vice Chief of Space Operations

- A **proliferated network of LEO satellites** is critical to success in Ukraine.
- Sensors pass data to decision-makers, who pass data to frontline units, who pass data to weapon systems.
- SpaceX’s Starlink, used by Ukrainian forces, is essential for maintaining communication and navigation.
- A resilient satellite network will be essential for any future conflict.

# Importance of Commercial Partners



“Commercial partners and the technologies developed there, such as advanced power and propulsion, artificial intelligence and machine learning and in-space servicing, assembly, and manufacturing, are also a focus for increased partnerships for Space Force.”

— Gen. Saltzman, USSF Chief of Space Operations



“When you think about proliferation and diversity, it’s not just the number of satellites, it’s also allies and commercial partners.”

— Gen. David Thompson, USSF Vice Chief of Space Operations

## Other Key Opportunities:

- Commercial Augmentation Space Reserve
- Digital Spaceport of the Future





# Available Resources

# Teaming Resources



- Large prime contractors receiving Federal contract awards valued over \$750,000 (\$1.5 million for construction) are required to establish plans and goals for teaming with small businesses.
- Partnerships between small businesses and primes can bring expertise and marketability to small business contracting opportunities.
- The Small Business Administration's [Sub-Net](#) and [Subcontracting Opportunities Directory](#) are both good resources for prime and subcontractors to connect.



Image source: istockphoto.com

# Resources for Small Businesses



**Key resources for small businesses include:**

## **Office for Small & Disadvantaged Business Utilization ([OSDBU](#))**

OSDBU is an advocacy and advisory office responsible for promoting small businesses in the federal acquisition process.

## **Small Business Administration (SBA) [Contracting Guide](#) & [Contracting Assistance Programs](#)**

These SBA guides and programs help small businesses find and win contracts with the federal government.

## **Space Development Agency (SDA) [Small Business Program Opportunities](#)**

In fiscal year 2023, SDA made 29 awards to small businesses valued at more than \$37M.

## **Department of the Air Force (DAF) [Office of Small Business](#)**

Directs, manages, measures, and oversees the execution of small business programs for the Department of the Air Force.

## **Small Business Innovation Research ([SBIR](#)) Programs**

Competitive programs that encourage domestic small businesses to engage in federal R&D with the potential for commercialization.

## **Small Business Technology Transfer ([STTR](#)) Programs**

Funds cooperative R&D projects with small businesses and non-profit U.S. research institutions.

# Industry Resources and Available Tools



## [GovTribe](#)

Federal Market Intelligence Tool, source of the data in this report.

## [System for Award Management \(SAM.gov\)](#)

SAM includes postings of DHS procurement opportunities over \$25,000.

## [SSC's Commercial Space Office \(COMSO\)](#)

COMSO is responsible for accelerating commercial partnerships to deliver fight tonight capabilities aligned with warfighter needs.

## [SSC Front Door](#)

A one-stop-shop for industry to engage with and learn about SSC.

## [SpaceWERX](#)

The innovation arm of the USSF, SpaceWERX teams innovative technology developers with Airmen and Guardian talent.

## [Commercial Space Marketplace for Innovation and Collaboration \(COSMIC\) center](#)

Facilitates Space Systems Command collaboration with commercial industry.





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**Questions? Please reach out to:**

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