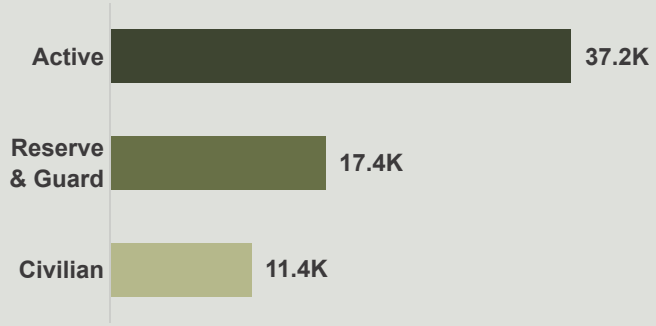
OVERVIEW

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2024, the state of South Carolina received $6.8 billion in Defense spending, which provides direct funding for the Department of War (DoW) personnel salaries, defense contracts, and construction of military facilities in the state. This spending by DoW personnel, contractors, and their families creates significant economic activity, attracts related industries and investments, and generates important state and local government tax revenues.

The Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program is a key tool used by DoW and its partners to protect the military's ability to train, test, and operate in the state. The Department created the REPI Program in response to the development of lands and loss of habitat in the vicinity of or affecting its installations, ranges, and airspace that can lead to restrictions or costly and inadequate training and testing alternatives. Through the REPI Program, DoW works with state and local governments, conservation organizations, and willing private landowners to address these challenges to the military mission and the viability of DoW installations and ranges. The REPI Program has benefited from broad bipartisan support both in the U.S. Congress and among groups representing state and local officials. From FY 2005 through FY 2025, DoW and its partners have contributed over $116.1 million supporting four REPI projects in South Carolina.

DOW IN SOUTH CAROLINA

DOW Personnel (as of 30 Sept 2024)



Total DOW Personnel: 66.0K

Federal Defense Spending and Economic Impact (in FY 2024)

$6.8 billion in Federal Defense spending

2.0% of state Gross Domestic Product

$3.3B in payroll contributed

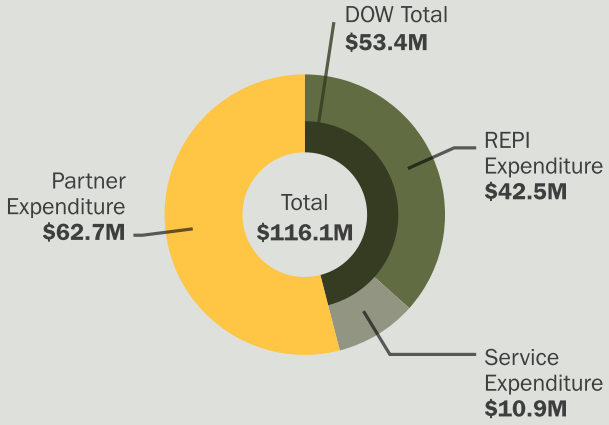
$3.5B in contracts awarded

Acres of National Defense Land (as of 30 Sept 2024)

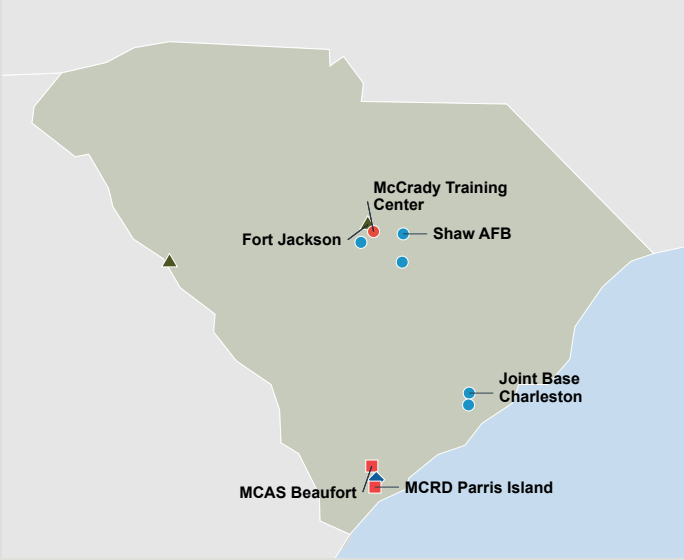
115,394 acres	533 acres	115,927 acres
DOW Managed Land	State-Owned National Guard Land	Total Defense Land

REPI PROJECTS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Funding Summary (from FY 2005 through FY 2025)



Acres Protected (FY 2005 through FY 2025): 37,070



▲ Army ◆ Navy
■ Marine Corps ● Air Force

REPI Installations and Ranges

MILITARY PRESENCE

- The military community contributes **$34.3 billion** annually to South Carolina's economy, supporting 254,095 jobs and generating $14.6 billion in labor income.
- MCAS Beaufort serves as the operational hub for **Marine Aircraft Group 31** (MAG-31), overseeing all active duty USMC F/A-18 air operations on the East Coast. MAG-31 comprises four F-18 squadrons, one F-35B Training Squadron, and other Marine Corps support units including Marine Wing Support Squadron 273, which provides vital aviation ground support both domestically and abroad.
- The 628th Air Base Wing (ABW) serves as the host unit of Joint Base Charleston and consists of two operational groups and a wing staff directorate, employing **2,600 military and civilian personnel**. The 628th ABW offers installation support to over 60 DoW and federal agencies, catering to a community of over **70,000 Airmen, Sailors, Marines, Soldiers, Coast Guardsmen, civilians, dependents, and retirees**. Additionally, it deploys expeditionary Airmen to combatant commanders in aid of joint and combined operations.
- Located on **8,095** acres in Beaufort County, including more than 4,000 acres of salt marsh and tidal streams, MCRD Parris Island is the Marine Corps' **second oldest post and one of the most visited military facilities in the world**.

REPI PROJECTS

Installation	County	Congressional District
Joint Base Charleston	Charleston	6th
MCAS Beaufort	Beaufort	1st
MCRD Parris Island	Beaufort	1st
MAJIC (MCAS)	Kershaw, Richland, Sumter	2nd, 5th, 6t

For all REPI Project Profiles visit: www.repi.mil/BufferProjects/ProjectList.aspx

Army Sgt. Maj. Peter Klundt jumps out of an Air Force C-130J Super Hercules over a designated landing zone during Bright Star in Alexandria, Egypt, Sept. 8, 2025.

Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS)

- The REPI Program supports regional partnerships such as SERPPAS to identify common issues and solutions for mutual benefit.
- SERPPAS partners work to prevent encroachment around military lands, encourage compatible resource use decisions, and improve coordination among regions, states, communities, and military services.
- South Carolina is a member of SERPPAS along with the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and North Carolina. For more information, visit https://www.serppas.org.

Key REPI Partners

- Beaufort County
- Central Midlands Council of Governments
- Charleston County
- City of Columbia
- City of Sumter
- Coastal Conservation League
- Congaree Land Trust
- Ducks Unlimited
- Governors Military Task Force
- Kershaw County
- Open Land Trust
- Richland County
- South Carolina Conservation Bank
- South Carolina Department of Natural Resources
- Sumter County
- The Conservation Fund
- The Nature Conservancy
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Data Sources

- **For Economic Impact Information:**
  - South Carolina Military Base Task Force
  - "The Economic Impact of South Carolina's Military Community: A Statewide and Regional Analysis, June 2022": https://www.scdva.sc.gov/sites/scdva/files/Documents/Economic%20Impact%20Final%20June%202022.pdf
- **For Land Information:** Office of the Assistant Secretary of War for Sustainment, Real Property, Business Systems & Information Directorate: "Base Structure Report – FY25 Baseline" (as of 30 Sept 2024)
- **For Federal Spending and Personnel Information:** Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation: "Defense Spending by State – Fiscal Year 2024": https://www.oldcc.gov/dsbs-fy2023
- **For REPI Projects Information:** "2026 REPI Report to Congress": https://www.repi.mil/Portals/44/REPI_2026_RTC_20260305.pdf