



FORECASTED GROWTH

**\$100
BILLION
INDUSTRY**
BY THE YEAR
2026

UAS
COMMERCIAL
FLEET
EXPECTED TO
QUADRUPLE
TO AROUND
425,000
BY 2022

UAS
PILOTS
EXPECTED TO
QUADRUPLE
TO ABOUT
301,000
BY 2022

FORECASTED
**100,000
JOBS**
NATIONWIDE

NORTH DAKOTA UAS: AMERICA'S UNMANNED PROVING GROUND

North Dakota's Northern Plains UAS Test Site is an FAA-approved UAS test site. It partners with the FAA, NASA, private industry and others on leading edge research and testing that will help integrate UAS into the national airspace system. The Northern Plains UAS Test Site supports its clients' missions anywhere in the nation.

North Dakota has invested more than \$44 million to advance UAS research and development

GRAND SKY: OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Grand Sky, the nation's first UAS business and aviation park, is your new home for flight testing, UAS operations and research and development. Grand Sky offers build-to-suit locations and temporary facilities for commercial UAS development and testing, as well as defense-related operations support. Grand Sky offers access to secure defense networks, dark fiber, a 12,351-foot runway, uncongested airspace with less than 10 operations daily and more than 330 days of flying weather annually. Testing operations are supported with electronics component distributors, metal fabrication, 3D printing and equipment support for the most demanding test requirements. Grand Sky partners like the Northern Plains UAS test site can support airspace needs. Finally, Grand Sky is home to one of the nation's first BVLOS systems allowing UAS operations within 60 nautical miles of Grand Sky.



"North Dakota is an exciting hub for UAS activity. Our Northern Plains UAS Test Site, world-class research universities and growing cluster of cutting-edge UAS businesses position North Dakota as an industry leader. I invite you to join us!"

Lieutenant Governor Brent Sanford
Chair of the Northern Plains Unmanned Systems Authority

UAS TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS



INDUSTRY CLUSTERS

The North Dakota UAS entrepreneur cluster is larger than any other accelerator, incubator or entrepreneur center in the nation.

Almost all UAS Companies operate in North Dakota and include but are not limited to:

- Northrop Grumman
- General Atomics
- Elbit Systems of America
- Field of View
- Sharper Shape
- Robot Aviation
- ISight RPV Services
- Botlink

UAS SUCCESS

- U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao selected North Dakota as one of only 10 sites nationwide to participate in the federal UAS Integration Pilot Program
- First trans-Atlantic flight of a medium-altitude, long-endurance UAS flew from Grand Sky research park near Grand Forks to England – 3,760 nautical miles in 24 hours, 2 minutes.
- Grand Sky welcomed U.S. Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson to watch the first flight of a large UAS operating BVLOS without the use of a chase plane in controlled airspace.
- NDDOT, and Northern Plains UAS Test Site and their partners successfully completed their first public mission of the UAS Integration Pilot Program with a drone flight over a tailgating event at the Fargodome.

KEY ADVANTAGES: THE PREMIER UAS TEST SITE

- Strong industry support
- Open terrain
- Proximity to robust energy and agriculture industry clusters
- Strong infrastructure including Grand Sky Business Park and Northern Plains Test Site.
- Research through UND Research Institute for Autonomous Systems
- History and culture of aviation safety.
- Uncongested airspace.
- Climate diversity

