



## Project Profile: State of Ohio

### Impact Statement

Using OEA funds, the Ohio Development Services Agency developed a supply-chain map of defense contractor activity in Ohio and helped state and local officials utilize this tool. This increases the resiliency of the DoD by increasing the number of state and local policy makers aware of the defense industrial base's size in Ohio and challenges faced by the industry.

### Key Project Takeaways

The Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA) used OEA funds to develop a supply-chain mapping tool usable by state and local policy makers to identify concentrations of defense activity and respond to challenges faced by defense suppliers in these regions. Outreach events hosted by ODSA informed stakeholders on the size of the Ohio defense industrial base and how to use the mapping tool. This activity increased the resiliency of DoD operations by increasing state-wide awareness of the defense industrial base, giving state and local officials a tool to respond to the needs of this sector

### Project Description

#### Program Activities

The State of Ohio utilized OEA support to assist key policymakers in understanding the dynamics of the state's defense and aerospace sectors. The state focused on identifying small and medium-sized lower tier suppliers and better understanding how they are affected by the changing defense marketplace. The Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA) led the project and closely partners with other state agencies and economic development partners like JobsOhio and other key regional and local stakeholders. As a result of OEA funding, ODSA developed a database with information on Ohio's defense industry that policy makers can use to address pressing challenges faced by defense suppliers.

### Resiliency Impacts

#### Increasing Awareness of the Defense Industrial Base

As its key deliverable, the project developed a database with information on Ohio's defense industry. Using the database, state and local policy makers can develop strategies to address pressing concerns facing both companies and communities reliant on federal defense contracts. Some of this work is already underway via ongoing economic development efforts as well as other OEA-funded initiatives in Allen County, Montgomery County and the three-state regional Defense Manufacturing Assistance Program (DMAP), led by Ohio State University.

In its project management role, ODSA developed a request for proposal for outside firms to develop this state database. The project was ultimately led by Chmura Economics and Analytics, a consulting firm that has undertaken similar work in several other states. The final Ohio DoD Procurement Economic Impact Evaluation Model can be accessed at: [www.dod-oh.chmuraecon.com](http://www.dod-oh.chmuraecon.com).

ODSA officials shared the information from the database with key stakeholders and participated in several training and outreach sessions to help local and regional officials better understand and use



these new data tools. Continued outreach is continued over several months after the release of the tool, and ODSA responded to requests for information and support. The database ensures that future investments are targeted to areas of greatest need as opposed to those with “loud voices,” who can generate greater publicity or political interest, though the data does not identify specific companies at the lower tiers of the defense industrial base, and must still be supplemented with local data and on-site research.

This development of the database was completed to the satisfaction of ODSA and key Ohio stakeholders. Program staff then discussed with stakeholders potential next steps for how best to use and disseminate the information found in the Economic Impact Evaluation Model.