

Economic Profile

Former Kelly Air Force Base

San Antonio, Texas

BEFORE

Air force base

AFTER



Airfield



Commercial/Industrial
Park

CLEANUP OVERSEEN BY

EPA and the Texas Commission on
Environmental Quality

Kelly Air Force Base was established as Kelly Field in San Antonio, Texas, in 1917. The 4,000-acre facility trained pilots to fight in both World Wars and its graduates included renowned aviator Charles Lindbergh. From 1995 to 2001, the Department of Defense closed the base and transferred ownership to the Port Authority of San Antonio.

Military operations at the former facility contaminated soil and groundwater. Cleanup began in the 1990s and monitoring continues under the RCRA Hazardous Waste Cleanup Program (formerly the RCRA Corrective Action Program). The environmental cleanup is now more than 90% complete.

Today, half of the former Kelly Air Force Base is now part of Lackland Air Force Base, while the other half has been redeveloped as the Port San Antonio commercial/industrial center. The Port produces \$643 million in revenue per year and provides over 2,600 jobs.



ANNUAL SALES

\$643 million



EMPLOYEES

2,606



ANNUAL WAGES

\$218 million

For more information about RCRA and the economic benefits of site reuse, visit www.epa.gov/hw/learn-about-hazardous-waste-cleanups





AFTER MORE THAN 20 YEARS, PORT SAN ANTONIO HAS PROVEN TO BE ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL BASE REDEVELOPMENT EFFORTS IN THE UNITED STATES.

The San Antonio City Council created Port San Antonio as an independent authority to convert nearly 2,000 acres of land at the former base into a thriving space for jobs and businesses. Companies including Boeing and Lockheed Martin were some of the first to lease the former base's hangars and workshops. Other businesses soon followed, creating momentum that connected the Port with national and global opportunities. The Port supports thousands of personnel working for the Department of Defense, whose missions in San Antonio include an Anti-Terrorism Force Protection facility and the Air Force Cyber Command Center. The smooth transition allowed many workers at the Department of Defense to continue their careers at the former base.

Redevelopment of the former Kelly Air Force Base prioritizes inclusive economic growth, ensuring that job opportunities and contracts benefit all community members. After more than 20 years, Port San Antonio has proven to be one of the most successful base redevelopment efforts in the United States. Millions of dollars in infrastructure support more than 60 tenants in both the private and public sector. The Port is a hub for industries including aerospace, cybersecurity, global logistics and defense. In 2010, the Port was named "Base Redevelopment Community of the Year" and in 2019, the San Antonio Business Journal named the Port the region's "Business of the Year."

Ongoing stewardship efforts at the former Kelly Air Force Base focus on maintaining safety and preventing future disparities. The site now serves as an economic center three times the size of San Antonio's downtown business district. Port San Antonio stays true to its aerospace roots with a steady eye on an innovative horizon.



Port San Antonio contributes an estimated \$5 billion annually to the regional economy, representing one of the most successful base redevelopments in the country.



Several Air Force agencies are headquartered at Port San Antonio, including the Air Force Civil Engineer Center and Air Force Cyber Command Center.