



# 148TH FIGHTER WING

## DULUTH, MINNESOTA

### MISSION

PROVIDE READY AIRMEN TO DEFEAT AMERICA'S  
ENEMIES AND RAPIDLY RESPOND TO STATE  
AND COMMUNITY NEEDS.

### VISION

LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE

## WING OVERVIEW 2016

### WING COMMANDER

Colonel Jon S. Safstrom

### AIRCRAFT

F-16CM, Block 50, Fighting Falcon

### MISSION DESIGNATION

Suppression of Enemy Air Defense (SEAD)

### PERSONNEL

1,000+ (over 350 full-time)

### ECONOMIC IMPACT

\$80.7 million

### COMMUNITY SERVICE

4,730+ hours

## THE FLYING MISSION

The 148th Fighter Wing is one of only two Air National Guard wings tasked to provide Suppression of Enemy Air Defense (SEAD) support for our nation.

The 148th Fighter Wing flies the Block 50 F-16CM, Fighting Falcon, the newest and most capable F-16 in the U.S. Air Force fleet. This aircraft boasts an engine with more thrust, structural enhancements and greater computer capacity for future upgrades and improvements providing updated technologies giving the wing ready capabilities beyond 2020.





## ECONOMIC IMPACT

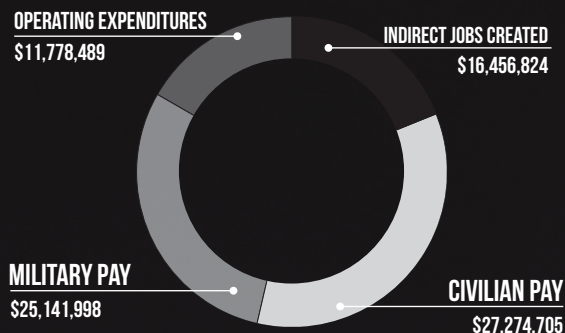
The 148th Fighter Wing is the seventh largest employer in Duluth with over 1,000 members; more than 350 are full-time employees.

In fiscal year 2016, the 148th Fighter Wing had an economic impact of nearly \$80.7 million.

With personnel wages over \$52 million and operating expenditures of nearly \$12 million, the wing created indirect jobs close to \$16.5 million.

The economic impact is also an important indicator of how the 148th Fighter Wing enhances the Duluth area.

## FISCAL YEAR 2016 \$80.7 MILLION



## OTHER MISSIONS

**148th Fire Department** provides 24-hour emergency operations support as the sole fire and rescue services for the 148th Fighter Wing, Duluth International Airport and its civilian tenants as well as the city of Duluth and surrounding townships.

**148th Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD)** flight, when approved, identifies and renders safe explosives hazards found within the local area, providing the only source with this capability in the region.

**148th Communications Squadron** operates one of two Joint Communications Platforms (JCP) in the state. The JCP is the communications hub for a command post or incident command site, mounted on a F650 4x4 Chassis.

## PERSONNEL

People represent the most vital resource to the successful completion of the 148th mission. They are a highly talented and diverse organization made up of people from all reaches of the area. They are a disciplined, civic-minded group that live and interact with the community, as evidenced by over 4,730 community support hours for the fiscal year 2016. The 148th Fighter Wing takes pride in keeping the best Airmen in the Air National Guard.

In 2016 the 148th attained 102.6% personnel end strength (16th consecutive year over 100%) and a 93.4% retention rate.

## HISTORY

The 148th Fighter Wing was established September 17, 1948 and has grown from 50 members to approximately 1,000. The unit has changed aircraft several times over the years from the F-51D Mustang (a propeller-driven aircraft flown until 1954) to the Block 50 F-16CM, Fighting Falcon.



## CONNECT WITH THE 148TH FIGHTER WING

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