



# 148th FIGHTER WING

*Legacy of Excellence*

## Our VISION

Be the premier Wing ready to lead, employ and support **superior** air power with advancing weapons systems

## Our MISSION

Protect America's global interests and defend the homeland with exceptional people, aircraft, equipment and capabilities

## Our VALUES

Bulldog pride, development, professionalism, balance and commitment

### FEDERAL MISSION

Maintain well-trained, well-equipped units available for prompt mobilization during war and provide assistance during national emergencies (such as natural disasters or civil disturbances).

### STATE MISSION

When MN Air National Guard units are not mobilized or under federal control, they report to the governor of Minnesota, supervised by the Adjutant General. Under state law, the MN Air National Guard provides protection of life and property and preserves peace, order and public safety.



## FLYING MISSION

The 148th Fighter Wing flies the Block 50 F-16CM, the newest and most capable F-16 in the U.S. Air Force fleet. The 148th is one of two Air National Guard wings trained to provide Suppression and Destruction of Enemy Air Defense (SEAD/DEAD) support for our nation. The 148th is also a NORAD Aerospace Control Alert-trained flying wing capable of defending the air sovereignty of North America when tasked.

When called upon, we provide Airmen with diverse skills, capabilities and experience with specialized equipment to support Minnesota's domestic operations response efforts. In 2020, the 148th provided Citizen-Airmen to support pandemic relief and civil unrest missions.

#### COMMANDER

Colonel Chris Blomquist

#### AIRCRAFT

F-16CM, Block 50, Fighting Falcon

#### MISSION DESIGNATION

Suppression of Enemy Air Defense (SEAD)

#### PERSONNEL

1049 Airmen Assigned  
375 Full-time

#### HISTORY

Today's 148th Fighter Wing can trace its roots to the 393rd Fighter Squadron, initially flying P-38J's during World War II. The 393rd flew it's last mission of the war in 1945 and was deactivated.

The unit was reactivated **SEPTEMBER 17, 1948** as the 179th Fighter Squadron in the Minnesota Air National Guard at Duluth, Minn. and has grown from the original 50 members into the 148th Fighter Wing we know today. The unit has changed aircraft several times over the years from the F-51D Mustang (flown until 1954) to the current Block 50 F-16CM Fighting Falcon.

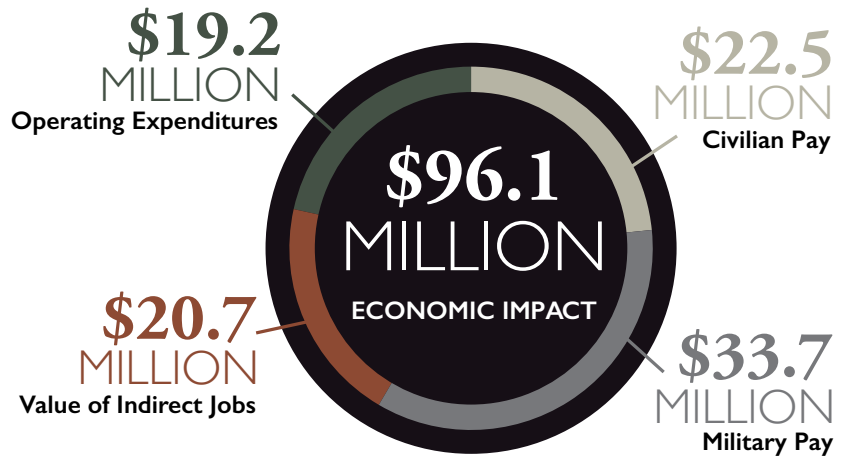


## ECONOMIC IMPACT

The 148th Fighter Wing is the eighth largest employer in Duluth with over 1,000 members.

In fiscal year 2020, the 148th had an economic impact of \$96 million.

With personnel wages over \$56 million and operating expenditures over \$19 million, the wing created indirect jobs close to \$20 million.



## PERSONNEL

People continue to be our greatest resource. They are highly talented, disciplined and committed. Our Airmen care for and interact with the community they live and serve in, as evident by the community service provided to 4,375 non-profit organizations in 2020.

**100%** END STRENGTH

**91%** RETENTION RATE

## OTHER MISSIONS

The **148TH FIRE DEPARTMENT** provides 24-hour emergency support as the sole fire and rescue service for the 148th, Duluth International Airport and its civilian tenants, the City of Duluth and surrounding townships.

**148TH EXPLOSIVE ORDINANCE DISPOSAL** identifies and renders safe explosive hazards found within the local area, providing this capability in the region when called upon to respond to Defense Support to Civil Authority calls.

**148TH COMMUNICATIONS FLIGHT** operates one of two Joint Communications Platforms (JCP) in the state. The JCP is the hub for a command post or incident command site during state or regional emergencies.

CONNECT WITH US



# 148FW

MN AIR NATIONAL GUARD

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