

# The Defense Industrial Base: Additional Resources

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## 1. Congressional Research Service - "The U.S. Defense Industrial Base: Background and Issues for Congress" (R47751)

Link: <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/R/R47751>

This comprehensive CRS report serves as the definitive primer for congressional staff and policy professionals on DIB issues. Updated regularly, it covers everything from the structure of the defense industry to current policy challenges. The report is particularly valuable for understanding Congressional oversight mechanisms, Title III authorities for industrial base investments, and the evolution of defense acquisition policy. Essential reading for anyone working on defense authorization or appropriations issues.

## 2. Government Accountability Office - "Defense Industrial Base: DOD Should Take Actions to Strengthen Its Risk Mitigation Approach" (GAO-22-104154)

Link: <https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-22-104154>

This GAO report examines risks to the defense industrial base among more than 200,000 companies that provide supplies, parts, and manufacturing for DOD's weapon systems. The report provides critical insights into supply chain vulnerabilities, foreign dependency issues, and recommendations for risk mitigation. Particularly useful for understanding oversight challenges and the complexity of modern defense supply chains. A must-read for congressional staff working on supply chain security issues.

## 3. Department of Defense - "National Defense Industrial Strategy" (2023)

Link:

<https://www.defense.gov/News/News-Stories/Article/Article/3644527/dod-releases-first-defense-industrial-strategy/>

The National Defense Industrial Strategy lays out long-term priorities that will guide DOD actions and resource prioritization with the aim of creating a modern, resilient defense industrial base. This is DOD's first comprehensive industrial strategy, making it essential reading for understanding current Pentagon priorities. The document outlines four pillars: resilient supply chains, workforce readiness, flexible acquisition, and economic deterrence. Critical for understanding how DOD views its relationship with industry.

## 4. Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) - Defense-Industrial Initiatives Group Publications

Link: <https://www.csis.org/programs/defense-industrial-initiatives-group>

The CSIS Defense-Industrial Initiatives Group studies the critical issues at the cross-section of the Department of Defense and its industrial base, focusing on defense acquisition trends, technological innovation, security cooperation, and ongoing reform efforts. CSIS produces regular analysis including their annual "Defense Acquisition Trends" reports and studies on specific acquisition reforms. Their research is particularly valuable for understanding industry perspectives and practical implementation challenges. Recent reports include analysis of FY2024 budget impacts and acquisition reform effectiveness.

## **5. Government Accountability Office - "Defense Industrial Base: Actions Needed to Address Risks Posed by Dependence on Foreign Suppliers" (July 2025)**

**Link:** <https://news.usni.org/2025/07/30/gao-report-on-the-defense-industrial-base>

This recent GAO report addresses how the Department of Defense considers reliance on foreign sources for items it procures a national security risk. This is the most current analysis of foreign dependency issues in the defense supply chain, making it essential for understanding contemporary challenges around supply chain security, particularly vis-à-vis China. The report provides specific recommendations for reducing foreign dependencies and strengthening domestic industrial capacity.

## **6. Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition & Sustainment - Industrial Base Policy Resources**

**Link:** <https://www.businessdefense.gov/resources.html>

The official website of the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition & Sustainment provides comprehensive resources on industrial base policy. This site offers practical guidance documents, policy memoranda, and implementation guidance that show how DIB policies actually work in practice. Particularly valuable for understanding regulatory requirements, small business programs, and current policy initiatives. Essential for practitioners who need to understand the operational details of defense acquisition.