

Small Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Market is Forecasted to Reach a Value of US \$9.34 Billion by 2029

The Business Research Company's Small Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Global Market Report 2025 - Market Size, Trends, And Global Forecast 2025-2034

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What Is The Expected Cagr For The Small Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Market Through 2025?

[The market size for small unmanned aerial vehicles](#) has seen significant expansion in the past few years. It is projected to increase from \$5.18 billion in 2024 to \$5.84 billion in 2025, with a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 12.8%. The previous period's growth can be credited to the rise in drone-based delivery services, amplified usage in agriculture for monitoring and spraying crops, increased inspection of infrastructure, the boost in real estate marketing through aerial imaging, and the increased availability of drone-as-a-service models.

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The market size for small unmanned aerial vehicles is projected to experience a swift expansion in the coming years, reaching a value of \$9.34 billion in 2029 with a

compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 12.5%. The projected growth during this period can be connected to factors such as escalating military spending, the increasing necessity for surveillance and reconnaissance missions, an upturn in counter-terrorism operations, growing acceptance by auxiliary military units, and an influx in aerial photography and filmmaking. Key trends expected within this period encompass the downsizing of components and sensors, improved GPS and autonomous navigation systems, progression in AI-driven flight control software, incorporation of LiDAR, thermal imaging, and multispectral sensors, along with

enhancements in battery lifespan and power efficiency.

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What Are The Driving Factors Impacting The Small Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Market?

The escalating expenses in the military sector are projected to drive [the expansion of the small unmanned aerial vehicles \(UAVs\) market](#). These spendings are earmarked by the governments for sustaining and fortifying their armed forces, encompassing personnel, equipment, and military operations. The surge in such expenditure is a result of heightening geopolitical concerns prompting nations to bolster their defense and respond to evolving security challenges. Small UAVs, due to their affordability and versatility, and capability to provide real-time intelligence while lowering personnel risk, become integral in modern warfare and border surveillance. As a consequence, escalated defense budgets will be directed towards broadening and enhancing the small UAV fleets to improve situation sensing, target recognition, and flexibility in operations, thus promoting growth in this industry. For example, in April 2025, the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, a renowned institution based in Sweden, reported that in 2024, the worldwide military spending ramped up to 2,718 billion dollars, registering a 9.4% rise in real terms compared to the year prior. Hence, the increasing military spending catalyzes the expansion of the small unmanned aerial vehicles market.

Which Players Dominate The Small Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Industry Landscape?

Major players in the Small Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Global Market Report 2025 include:

- RTX Corporation
- Lockheed Martin Corporation
- Airbus SE
- Northrop Grumman Corporation
- BAE Systems plc
- Thales Group
- Textron Inc.
- Elbit Systems Ltd.
- Israel Aerospace Industries Ltd.
- Saab AB

What Are The Future Trends Of The Small Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Market?

Many key players in the small unmanned aerial vehicles market are shifting their focus on crafting innovative solutions like nano drones that provide cost savings and low maintenance requirements. Nano drones, known for their minimalistic size, lightweight design and allow for accurate, swift movement in tight spaces, have become the epitome of this trend. For instance, in September 2024, Vantage Robotics - a well-known US manufacturer of UAVs, announced the introduction of Trace, a pocket-friendly nano drone. This compact nano UAV was designed to provide reliable and affordable assistance for national security, law-critical infrastructure tasks, and law enforcement. Despite its featherweight of only 153 grams, well below the FAA's safety

limit, it still boasts flight capabilities and imaging similar to larger drones. The silent operation of this drone, along with its high-resolution visible, thermal cameras with a 24x zoom, makes it suitable for covert surveillance. Furthermore, the drone's ability to operate both indoors and outdoors increases its adaptability for different missions.

Global Small Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Market Segmentation By Type, Application, And Region
The small unmanned aerial vehicles market covered in this report is segmented –

- 1) By Type: Helicopters, Multi-Rotors, Quadcopters
- 2) By Power Source: Fuel Powered, Battery Powered
- 3) By Size: Micro, Mini, Nano
- 4) By Application: Military, Commercial, Government And Law, Border Management, Consumer

Subsegments:

- 1) By Helicopters: Single-Rotor Helicopters, Coaxial Rotor Helicopters, Tandem Rotor Helicopters, Hybrid Helicopters
- 2) By Multi-Rotors: Tricopters, Hexacopters, Octocopters, Y6 And X8 Configurations
- 3) By Quadcopters: Consumer Quadcopters, Commercial Quadcopters, Racing Quadcopters, Surveillance Quadcopters

View the full small unmanned aerial vehicles market report:

<https://www.thebusinessresearchcompany.com/report/small-unmanned-aerial-vehicles-global-market-report>

Which Region Holds The Largest Market Share In The Small Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Market?

The Small Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Global Market Report 2025 indicates that North America held the majority share in 2024, with Asia-Pacific projected as the future fastest-growing region. The report encompasses all global regions, namely Asia-Pacific, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, North America, South America, Middle East, and Africa.

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