

# The Chart Page

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## After USAF Leaves

### The Fate of Bases Targeted by BRAC in 1988 and 1991: Spot Check on Job Creation The Record So Far

A recent General Accounting Office study examined the status of property disposal at thirty-seven military installations identified for closure in the 1988 and 1991 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) actions. The study included the Air Force bases shown below, plus eleven Army and nine Navy installations.

The government retains about three-fifths of the property at these bases; the land is contaminated, contains

unexploded ordnance, or is needed by other US agencies. The other two-fifths of the property has become available for community reuse—civil aviation, business development, educational facilities, wildlife habitats, or other uses.

Replacement-job creation has been slow. At only three former USAF sites—England AFB, La., Pease AFB, N.H., and Chanute AFB, Ill.—have reuse efforts created enough jobs to replace or nearly replace

those lost in the closure. Overall, Air Force BRAC communities have recovered thirty percent of the lost employment, though the expectation is that recovery will take a decade or longer.

Environmental cleanup costs have ranged from \$5 million at Richards-Gebaur ARS, Mo., to \$146 million at Castle AFB, Calif.

Base	Date Closed	Jobs Lost	Jobs Created	Percent Recovered	Environmental Cleanup Cost
Castle AFB, Calif.	Sept. 1995	1,164	0	0.00	\$146,000,000
Chanute AFB, Ill.	Sept. 1993	1,035	1,002	96.81	43,500,000
Eaker AFB, Ark.	Dec. 1992	792	106	13.38	47,000,000
England AFB, La.	Dec. 1992	697	718	103.01	42,100,000
George AFB, Calif.	Dec. 1992	506	209	41.30	75,800,000
Grissom AFB, Ind.	Sept. 1994	807	28	3.47	25,600,000
Loring AFB, Maine	Sept. 1994	1,326	144	10.86	141,900,000
Lowry AFB, Colo.	Sept. 1994	2,290	104	4.54	18,800,000
Mather AFB, Calif.	Sept. 1993	1,012	241	23.81	94,000,000
Myrtle Beach AFB, S.C.	Mar. 1993	799	588	73.59	27,000,000
Norton AFB, Calif.	Mar. 1994	2,133	25	1.17	117,400,000
Pease AFB, N.H.	Mar. 1991	400	1,038	259.50	140,000,000
Richards-Gebaur ARS, Mo.	Sept. 1994	569	0	0.00	5,000,000
Rickenbacker ANGB, Ohio	Sept. 1994	1,129	8	0.71	41,700,000
Williams AFB, Ariz.	Sept. 1993	781	368	47.12	42,700,000
Wurtsmith AFB, Mich.	June 1993	705	553	78.44	70,000,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>16,145</b>	<b>5,132</b>	<b>31.79</b>	<b>\$1,078,500,000</b>

Source: GAO, "Military Bases: Case Studies on Selected Bases Closed in 1988 and 1991," August 1995.