



DRONESHIELD

2025 Total Addressable Market Report

Counter-Uncrewed Systems (CUxS)

October 2025

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1. INTRODUCTION

The proliferation of uncrewed systems across air, land, and sea is transforming global security. Once limited to defence use, drones now represent a rapidly expanding threat vector across every domain — military, government, and civilian. As the barriers to entry for drone technology continue to fall, the challenge of securing airspace and perimeters grows exponentially.

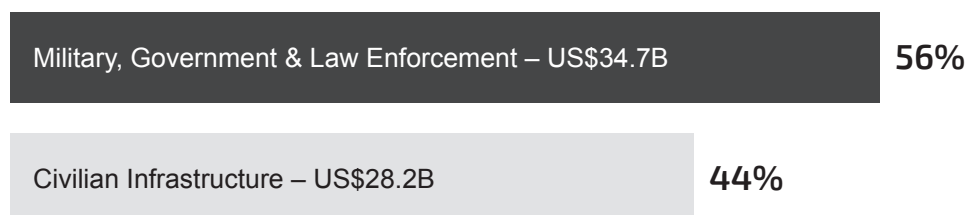
This report presents DroneShield's 2025 Total Addressable Market (TAM) model for Counter-Uncrewed Systems (CUxS), designed to quantify the economic scale of this evolving sector. Developed through a bottom-up, category-based methodology, this report provides data-driven insight into the size, structure, and growth trajectory of the global CUxS market.

DroneShield has dedicated its entire organisation to the counter-drone mission. With real-world operational data, field deployments, and customer engagement across 70+ countries, the company is uniquely positioned to deliver credible, practical intelligence on the market's current and future dimensions.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The global Counter-Uncrewed Systems (CUxS) market is entering a phase of accelerated expansion. In 2025, DroneShield estimates the TAM at US\$63 billion, highlighting the urgency of airspace security as drone threats escalate across defence, government, and civilian sectors.

The model segments the market into two primary domains:



Military demand is led by mounted and portable systems for vehicles, bases, naval vessels, and helicopters, while the civilian market is driven by the protection of airports, energy grids, ports, data centres, correctional facilities, and public venues.

The findings indicate a market rapidly transitioning from pilot programs to scaled deployment, as both defence and commercial sectors adopt multi-domain CUxS technologies. AI-enabled detection and defeat layered defence architectures, and sovereign capability will define the next era of counter-drone adoption.

3. METHODOLOGY

DroneShield's TAM model is constructed using an industry-aligned, bottom-up framework that integrates both quantitative modelling and qualitative validation.

Category-Based Modelling

The market is segmented into three primary domains:

1. Military
2. Government & Law Enforcement
3. Civilian Infrastructure

For each domain, per-installation cost values were modelled across representative asset types (e.g., military vehicles, naval vessels, correctional facilities, data centres). These were multiplied by validated infrastructure counts to determine total category value.

Data Sources

The model integrates multiple independent and proprietary data inputs, including:

- Defence procurement data from NATO, the United States, Indo-Pacific, and Middle East regions.
- Civil regulatory frameworks mandating airspace and perimeter security.
- DroneShield's proprietary market intelligence, validated through direct engagements, tenders, and deployments.
- Threat environment analyses covering FPV swarms, tethered drones, and resilient communications (4G/5G, satellite).

Validation and Model Integrity

Findings were cross-checked against:

- Historical procurement and projected modernisation programs.
- Recorded drone-related incidents across military and civil domains.
- Policy developments, security mandates, and customer feedback.

All estimates are presented in 2025 USD and represent a conservative, real-world baseline. Classified programs and internal government R&D investments are excluded to maintain model transparency.

4. MARKET ASSESSMENT

DroneShield's 2025 TAM analysis values the global CUxS market at US\$63 billion, segmented into:

Domain	TAM (US\$B)	% of Total
Military, Government & Law Enforcement	34.7	56%
Civilian Infrastructure	28.2	44%
Total	62.9	100%

4.1. Military, Government and Law Enforcement (US\$34.7B)

The defence and government domain represents the largest share of the CUxS market, driven by the operational urgency to detect, track, and defeat hostile drones across all theatres.

Military Vehicles:

Integration of mounted counter-drone systems across ~180,000 frontline-capable vehicles¹

US\$20.3B



Law Enforcement Portables:

Tactical teams and event protection⁶

US\$550M



Military Portables (Infantry Units):

Deployment of handheld and man-portable systems to ~125,000 infantry squads worldwide²

US\$4.7B



Government & Intelligence Facilities:

6,500 critical sites requiring protection⁷

US\$2.4B



Fixed Bases:

Layered protection for ~5,000 global installations³

US\$2.3B



VIP & Protective Security:

Mobile and discreet systems for executive protection⁸

US\$732M



Naval Vessels:

CUxS integration across ~470 combat ships⁴

US\$61.8M



Border Protection:

~1,200 Tier-1 fixed sites⁹

US\$2.4B



Military Helicopters:

Platform-specific protection for ~18,000 rotary aircraft⁵

US\$1.4B



¹ This is the single largest sub-segment, reflecting the widespread integration of counter-drone systems into armoured vehicles, tactical transports, and mobile command units. As drones are increasingly used for reconnaissance and attack in contested environments, mounted CUxS capabilities are becoming standard across NATO and Indo-Pacific forces.

Based on an estimated 1.2 million vehicles globally, but assuming a focused rollout to only ~15 per cent of frontline-capable platforms, ~180,000 vehicles are considered viable for CUAS integration. This results in an addressable market of \$20.3B.

² Portable counter-drone systems are essential for dismounted operations, particularly in urban and asymmetric warfare scenarios. These systems enable infantry units to detect and neutralise drones in real time, enhancing force protection and situational awareness. Rather than focusing solely on Western forces, a global model estimates that 5 per cent of ~26 million active-duty troops fall within high-readiness or infantry roles. Equipping ~125,000 squads result in a \$4.7B TAM.

³ Permanent military installations are high-value targets for drone incursions. Fixed-site CUxS systems provide layered defence for airfields, logistics hubs, and command centres, ensuring operational continuity and asset protection. Installations such as logistics hubs, FOBs, and airfields are frequent targets of surveillance and drone-enabled attack. With an estimated 5,000 global bases, this segment contributes \$2.3B to the market.

⁴ The maritime domain is increasingly vulnerable to drone threats, including aerial and surface-based systems. Naval vessels are being equipped with integrated CUxS suites to defend against reconnaissance and loitering munitions. The global naval fleet includes hundreds of combat vessels including frigates, destroyers, and corvettes. At least 470 ships are likely candidates for CUAS integration, yielding a TAM of approximately \$61.8M.

⁵ Rotary-wing platforms are particularly susceptible to drone interference during takeoff, landing, and low-altitude operations. Onboard and ground-based CUxS systems are being deployed to mitigate these risks. With ~18,000 helicopters across global militaries, and their inherent vulnerability during take-off and hover, this domain adds another \$1.4B to the addressable market.

⁶ Police forces are adopting portable counter-drone tools for use at public events, protests, and critical infrastructure sites. These systems are designed for rapid deployment and minimal disruption to civilian environments. Instead of equipping every officer, only ~1,950 units are assumed deployed to specialised tactical teams or critical response elements in high-risk jurisdictions. This aligns with a \$550M TAM.

⁷ Sensitive government buildings, including parliaments, ministries, and embassies, are increasingly protected by CUxS systems to prevent espionage and disruption. There are approximately 4,500 strategic government sites including houses of parliament, executive offices, key ministries, embassies and consular missions worldwide that are potential targets for surveillance or protest-driven drone incursions. These require fixed-site detection systems, representing a TAM of \$1.8B.

Secure Compartmented Information Facilities (SCIFs) require stringent protection against surveillance drones. CUxS systems here are tailored for stealth and precision

SCIFs and intelligence nodes are high-priority sites for drone-borne surveillance. Approximately 2,000 facilities globally could require protection, equating to \$625M in TAM.

⁸ High-profile individuals and diplomatic convoys are now routinely protected by mobile CUxS units, particularly in volatile regions or during major events. The VIP and high-net-worth individual market is small but growing. Detection-only solutions are expected to address privacy and personal security. With ~2,600 deployments, this yields \$732M.

⁹ Global land border infrastructure is extensive, but only ~1,200 Tier-1 fixed sites (ports of entry, patrol stations, checkpoints) are considered relevant for CUAS. This is based on U.S. CBP counts (~492).

4.2. Civilian Infrastructure (US\$28.2B)

Driven by regulation, risk mitigation, and public safety requirements, the civilian domain is the fastest-growing CUxS segment.

Power & Energy Infrastructure:
6,000 critical sites globally¹

US\$6.4B



Oil & Gas Infrastructure:
2,000+ refineries, pipelines, and LNG terminals⁶

US\$2.2B



Shipping & Maritime:
32,700 vessels across high-risk trade routes²

US\$4.3B



Civilian Helicopters / Heliports:
15,000 assets in emergency, VIP, and utility use⁷

US\$2.3B



Data Centres:
Tier III/IV and hyperscale facilities³

US\$3.8B



Stadium & Event Venues:
7,000 large venues⁸

US\$3.6B



Correctional Facilities:
9,000 prisons and detention centres⁴

US\$2.5B



Airports:
3,000 major airports globally⁹

US\$3.2B



Ports:
800 major international ports⁵

US\$105M



¹ Power generation and distribution infrastructure is a prime target for drone-based sabotage. CUxS systems are being deployed to secure substations, transmission lines, and control centres from aerial threats.

Rather than including every power station, the estimate now targets ~6,000 critical infrastructure nodes, including substations and nuclear facilities. This still constitutes a substantial \$6.4B opportunity.

² Commercial shipping faces growing risks from piracy and surveillance via drones. Freighters and cargo vessels are being equipped with maritime CUxS solutions to ensure safe passage through high-risk zones.

Rather than assuming universal rollout across all 109,000 ships, a realistic 30 per cent deployment (32,700 vessels) gives a still-strong TAM of \$4.3B.

³ As data becomes a strategic asset, Tier III and IV data centres are investing in drone defence to prevent espionage and service disruption. These facilities often require discreet, automated CUxS systems.

A refined estimate of 12,000 Tier III+ or hyperscale sites yields a TAM of \$3.8B.

⁴ Drones are increasingly used to smuggle contraband into prisons. Correctional institutions are deploying perimeter-based CUxS systems to detect and neutralise such threats.

With approximately 9,000 global facilities, the market here totals \$2.5B.

⁵ Approximately 800 high-volume seaports exist globally, and each may require perimeter detection and C2 integration. The TAM here is \$105M.

⁶ Refineries, pipelines, and offshore rigs are high-value targets for drone attacks. The sector is adopting ruggedised CUxS solutions capable of operating in harsh environments. This includes LNG terminals, refineries, and strategic energy sites.

With 2,025 target locations, this contributes \$2.2B to the addressable market.

⁷ Urban air mobility and emergency services rely on safe airspace. Heliports and civilian helicopters are being equipped with CUxS systems to prevent mid-air collisions and unauthorised surveillance.

Targeting emergency, law enforcement, and VIP flights, a 15,000-airframe deployment footprint produces a TAM of \$2.3B.

⁸ High-profile stadiums and event venues are increasingly seen as soft drone targets. Large public gatherings are increasingly protected by temporary or permanent CUxS installations. These systems are critical for crowd safety and incident prevention.

The 7,000 venues in this segment contribute \$3.6B to the market.

⁹ Although a smaller segment by value, airports are high-priority sites for drone defence due to the catastrophic risk posed by drone incursions. Regulatory mandates are accelerating adoption.

Only large international airports are considered viable CUAS candidates in this analysis. With 3,000 airports globally, the market here is estimated at \$3.2B.

5. GROWTH DRIVERS AND THREAT EVOLUTION

Escalating Threats

The rise of low-cost FPV swarms, tethered systems, and AI-enabled autonomous drones has fundamentally altered the threat landscape. Modern drones can now evade RF countermeasures, navigate without GPS, and execute coordinated attacks in complex environments.

Regulatory and Operational Mandates

Governments worldwide are enacting airspace security requirements at airports, ports, and public venues. Defence programs are prioritising rapid counter-drone capability fielding, with increasing emphasis on interoperability and domestic supply chains.

Domain Expansion

Threats are no longer limited to aerial platforms. Uncrewed Surface Vehicles (USVs) and Uncrewed Ground Vehicles (UGVs) introduce new vulnerabilities across maritime and land borders, prompting demand for multi-domain CUxS solutions.

Technological Convergence

AI-driven analytics, sensor fusion, and software-defined detection are becoming central to effective CUxS operations. Integration across radar, EO/IR, and RF domains is enabling faster, automated threat response — a paradigm shift DroneShield is leading through its SensorFusionAI and RFAI technologies.

6. MARKET CHALLENGES

Fragmented Regulations

Divergent national frameworks slow implementation.

Procurement Cycles

Complex and lengthy acquisition processes in defence sectors.

Awareness Gaps

Civilian markets remain reactive rather than proactive.

Technology Integration

Cross-vendor interoperability remains a challenge for multi-sensor systems.

Overcoming these constraints will define the pace and scale of CUxS market maturity through 2030.

7. FORECAST OUTLOOK 2025-2030

The Counter-Uncrewed Systems (CUxS) market is expected to experience continued growth over the next five years, driven by geopolitical tensions, regulatory evolution, and technological innovation. From defence procurement to civil infrastructure protection, the demand for counter-drone capabilities is becoming embedded in long-term planning across sectors.

Continued Defence Procurement Across NATO, US, and Indo-Pacific

Defence agencies across NATO member states, the United States, and Indo-Pacific nations are expected to maintain robust procurement cycles for CUxS technologies. Defence forces are prioritising counter-drone capabilities as part of broader force modernisation and asymmetric threat response strategies.

Procurement is likely to focus on scalable solutions that can be integrated across vehicles, bases, naval platforms, and tactical units, with increasing emphasis on technology effectiveness and interoperability.

Civil Sector Growth Driven by Regulatory Mandates

Recent events in Europe have already spurred the acceleration of CUxS technology uptake across the civilian market, aided by evolving regulatory frameworks that mandate airspace and perimeter security.

Airports, stadiums, data centres, correctional facilities, and energy infrastructure are placing increased importance on protection from drone threats, driven by both operational risk and evolving regulatory mandates. This momentum is expected to drive consistent investment in fixed-site and mobile CUxS deployments across urban and industrial environments.

Law Enforcement Adoption for Urban and Event Security

Law enforcement agencies are emerging as a key growth segment, particularly in metropolitan areas and regions hosting large-scale public events such as the Olympics. Counter-UxS technologies are being integrated into policing strategies to secure sensitive sites, manage crowd safety, and respond to drone-related incidents. The trend is supported by government funding and public safety mandates, with portable and rapidly deployable systems seeing strong uptake.

Expansion into Counter-USV and UGV Domains

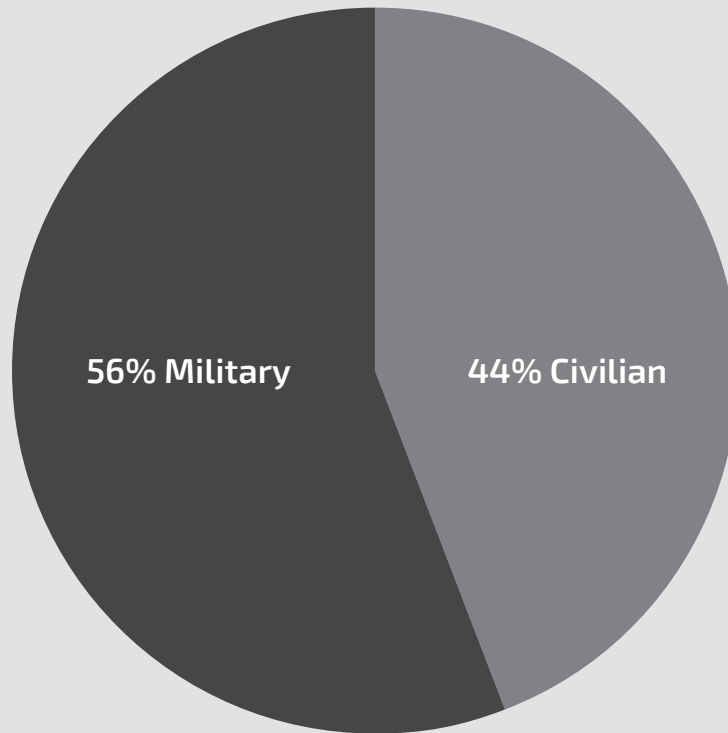
The threat landscape is expanding beyond aerial drones to include Uncrewed Surface Vehicles (USVs) and Uncrewed Ground Vehicles (UGVs). These platforms pose new risks to maritime operations, border security, and critical infrastructure.

As a result, the market is shifting toward multi-domain counter-UxS solutions that can detect, track, and neutralise threats across air, land, and sea. This expansion is expected to open new verticals and drive innovation in sensor fusion, AI-based threat classification, and integrated command-and-control systems.

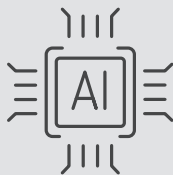
8. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

2025 Total Addressable Market (TAM): US\$63 billion

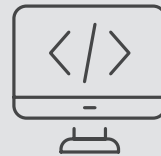
Domain Split:



Market expanding
at ~11–13% CAGR
(2025–2030)



Growth driven by
AI convergence,
regulation, and
multi-domain
threats



Market
moving toward
software-defined,
interoperable
architectures

9. APPENDIX

9.1. Key Terms

CUXS: Counter-Uncrewed Systems

CUAS: Counter-Unmanned Aerial Systems

FPV: First-Person View

RF: Radio Frequency

EO/IR: Electro-Optical / Infrared

RFAI: Radio Frequency Artificial Intelligence

9.2. Sources and References

Military Vehicles (Mounted)

15 per cent of 1.2M vehicles – Military Embedded Systems – Worldwide market for military ground combat vehicles and tanks – <https://militaryembedded.com/comms/vetronics/the-worldwide-market-for-military-ground-combat-vehicles-and-tanks>

Naval Vessels (Combat Units)

Global Firepower – Total naval combat ships by country (2025) – <https://www.globalfirepower.com/navy-ships.php>

Military Fixed Bases

Military Fixed Bases – IISS – The Military Balance 2024 (base structure data) – <https://www.iiss.org/publications/the-military-balance>

Military - Portables (Infantry Units)

Based on global 5 per cent of 26M active troops – IISS – The Military Balance 2024 – <https://www.iiss.org/publications/the-military-balance>

Military Helicopters

Military Helicopters – FlightGlobal – World Air Forces Directory 2025 – <https://www.flightglobal.com/download?ac=106507>

Government Facilities (Fixed Sites)

World Prison Brief – Country profiles (number of institutions) – <https://www.prisonstudies.org/country>

Law Enforcement - Portables

Based on global police personnel (~11.7M officers, assuming 1.5 per 1,000 global population) × a conservative 1–2 units per 10,000 officers – UNODC Police Personnel Data – <https://dataunodc.un.org/data/crime/Police%20personnel>

Protective Security / VIP

HNW/VIP Security – Business Research Insights – Private Security Market – <https://www.businessresearchinsights.com/market-reports/private-security-market-117794?utm>

Intelligence Facilities (SCIFs)

U.S. SCIF estimate – ODNI ICD-705 – SCIF Design Standards – <https://www.dni.gov/files/documents/ICD/ICD-705-SCIFs.pdf>

Border Protection

Baseline: U.S. CBP infrastructure = 328 ports of entry, 129 border patrol stations, 35 checkpoints (492 facilities) – <https://www.cbp.gov/border-security/along-us-borders/border-patrol-sectors>

Airports (Fixed Sites)

Large international airports only – Airports Council International (ACI) – <https://aci.aero/resources/lp-economic-publications-bundles/>

Stadiums / Events

Major sporting/event venues – World of Stadiums – <https://worldofstadiums.com/?utm>

Strategic Power/Grid Assets

Large-scale critical energy nodes (e.g. nuclear, grid substations) – World Resources Institute – Global Database of Power Plants – <https://www.wri.org/research/global-database-power-plants>

Oil & Gas Infrastructure

Refineries, LNG terminals, pipeline hubs – Global Energy Monitor – Global Gas Infrastructure Tracker (GGIT) – <https://globalenergymonitor.org/projects/global-gas-infrastructure-tracker/ggit-terminals-dashboard/?utm>

U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) – International refinery & energy infrastructure data – <https://www.eia.gov/international/data/world?utm>

Shipping Ports

Top 800 global sea ports by cargo volume – ShipAfreight – <https://www.shipafreight.com/knowledge-series/largest-ports-in-the-world/>

Shipping - Freighters / Cargo Ships

30 per cent of 109,000 active cargo vessels (UNCTAD 2024) – UNCTAD Review of Maritime Transport 2024 – https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/rmt2024ch2_en.pdf

Correctional Facilities

U.S. + global institutional estimate – Prison Policy Initiative – Pie Chart of U.S. Incarceration (2020) – <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/reports/pie2020.html>

Civilian Helicopters & Heliports

EMS, law enforcement, news, offshore transport – Global Growth Insights – Helicopter Market 2024–2031 – <https://www.globalgrowthinsights.com/market-reports/helicopter-market-105999>

Data Centres (Tier III/IV+)

Includes hyperscale and critical infrastructure hubs – Uptime Institute – Global Data Center Survey 2024 – <https://datacenter.uptimeinstitute.com/rs/711-RIA-145/images/2024.GlobalDataCenterSurvey.Report.pdf?version=0>

ABOUT DRONESHIELD

Founded in 2014, DroneShield (ASX:DRO) has continually focused on developing cutting-edge counter-drone technologies that protect people, assets, and infrastructure from the rapidly evolving threat of drone-based attacks. As of October 2025, the company employs over 400 specialists, including around 300 engineers.

DroneShield's technology is trusted by Tier 1 military, law enforcement, intelligence, and border security customers around the world, and has a presence through its reseller network in 70+ countries. Hundreds of DroneShield units are deployed in Ukraine, where the equipment is actively saving lives in one of the world's most challenging conflict zones.

DroneShield benefits from an annual manufacturing capacity of \$500 million, enabling continued scaling to meet the growing global demand for counter-drone technologies. The company's success is bolstered by 30,000 Australian shareholders, many of whom are small retail investors, reflecting broad community support for its work. In addition to its Sydney headquarters, the company has a growing presence in the United States, with an office in Virginia and a team of approximately 20 staff and has established an EU Centre of Excellence in the Netherlands. Teams across Latin America and the Middle East ensure DroneShield remains close to its customers and at the forefront of global security challenges.

As a company that excels in AI technology, including the continuous development of SensorFusionAI, DroneShield is committed to evolving its hardware and software systems to stay ahead of emerging drone threats. Its global footprint and advanced AI-driven solutions enable the delivery of highly adaptive and effective counter-drone capabilities to military, law enforcement, and critical infrastructure customers worldwide.