



# Hopes Remain High as Drone Usage Grows

From critical inspection and monitoring to accurate mapping and surveying, drones are fast becoming an indispensable tool in many industries including energy, construction, agriculture, and entertainment.

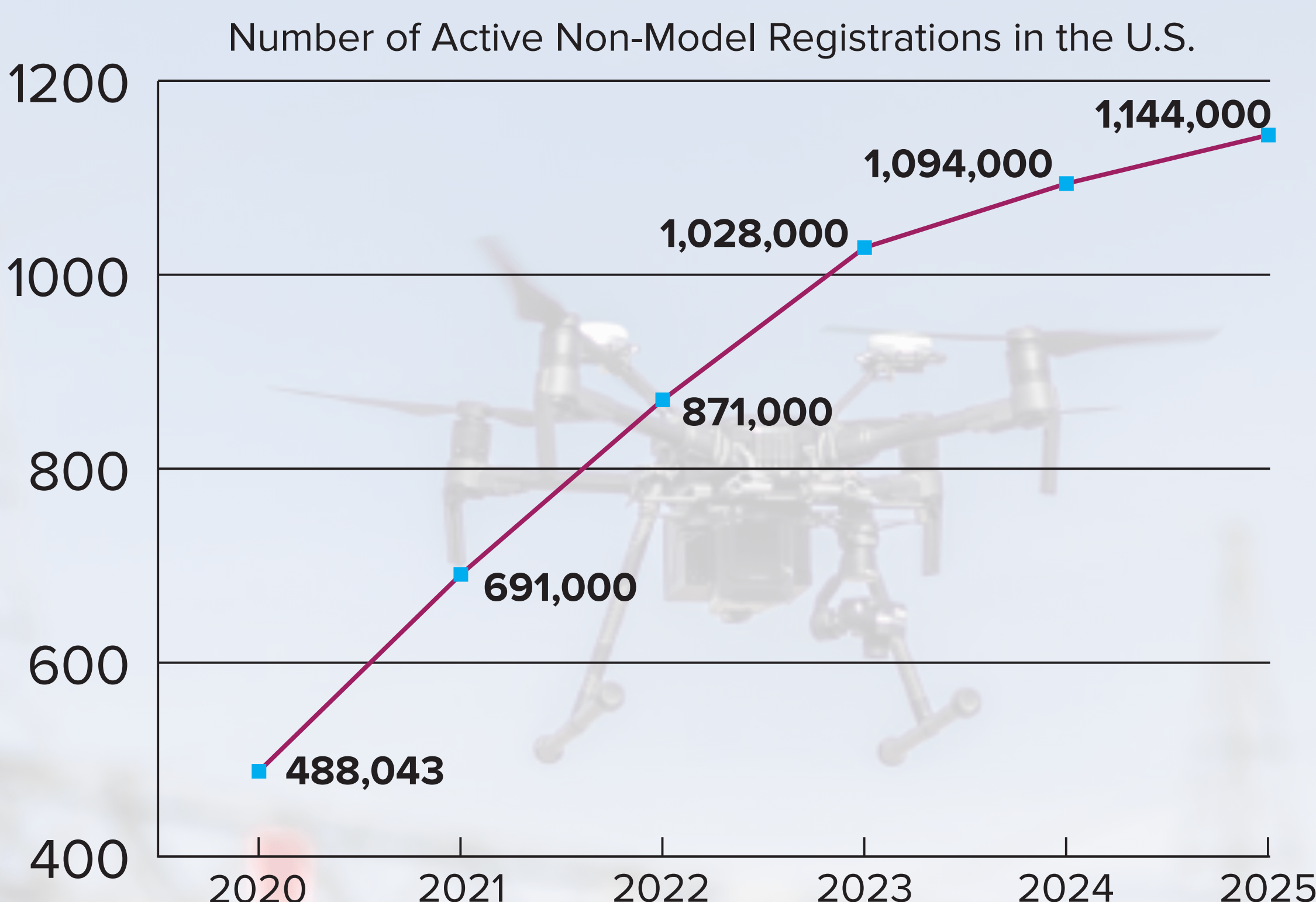
BY CATHY CECERE

From critical radiation monitoring and remediation in the nuclear sector, to working together with 3-D printers to erect complex buildings, they have quickly moved from novelty to necessity. The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) and the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) adopted the term “small, unmanned aircraft system” (sUAS) back in 2005, but everyone calls them drones.

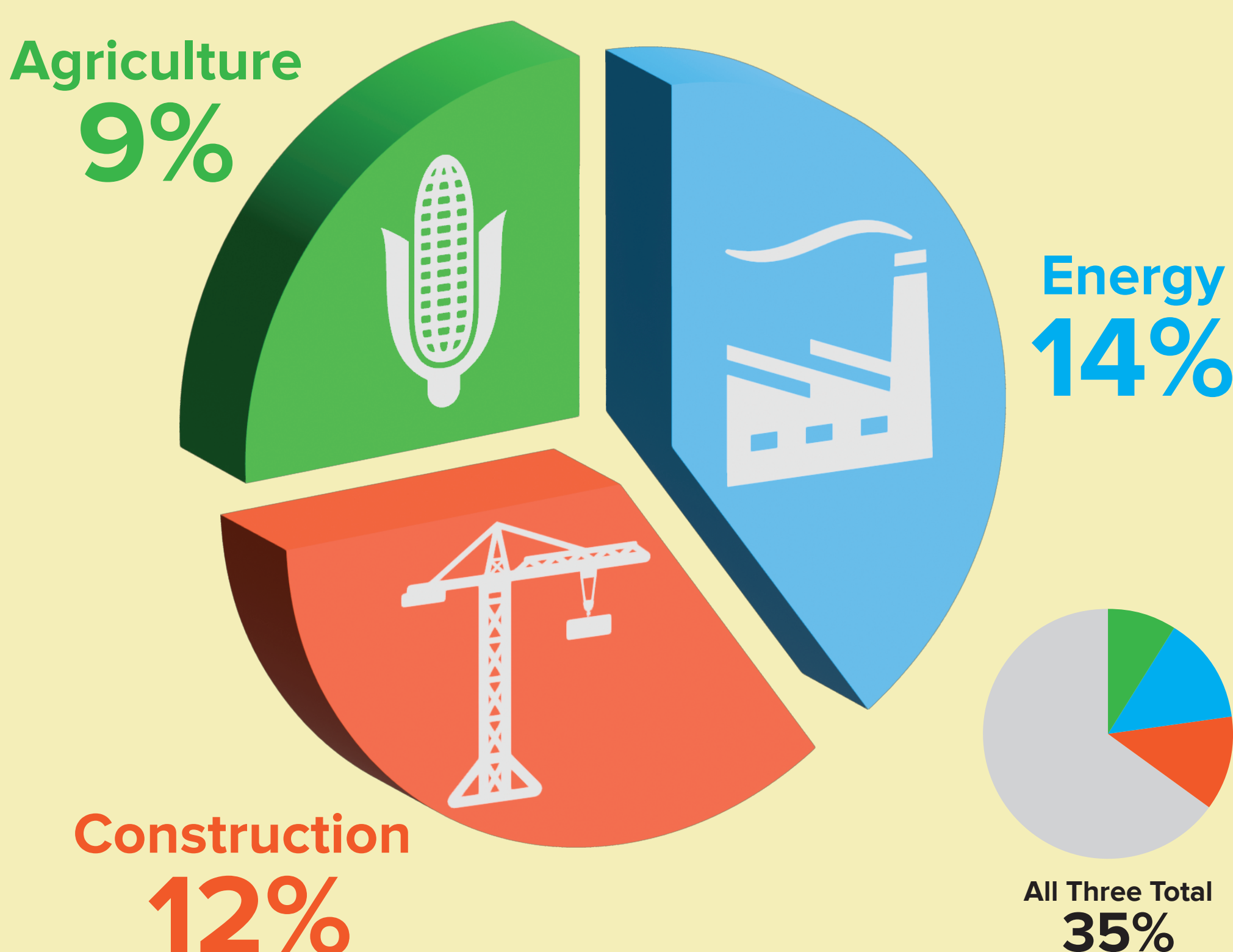
The FAA has required registration for both hobbyist and commercial-use sUASs since 2016. By the end of 2020, there were more than 488,000 commercial UASs registered. The FAA forecasts that this number could more than double by 2025.

There’s little reason to doubt that this prediction will come true as more industries find seemingly unlimited uses for this nimble, smart, and quick tool. The energy sector uses them most since they can safely fly close to inspect and document power-generating equipment and often dangerous oil and gas facilities. And when it comes to mapping and surveying—the number one application of the drones—they are accurate, capturing high-quality data in real time generating imagery that is then easily processed and analyzed.

## FAA FORECAST OF NON-MODEL REGISTRATIONS OF SUAS AIRCRAFT BY YEAR (CUMULATIVE)



## CURRENT TOP 3 DRONE INDUSTRIES PERCENTAGE OF DRONE INDUSTRY



## DRONE MARKET SIZE AND FORECAST REVENUE IN BILLIONS/U.S. DOLLARS

