Aviation, Aerospace, and Defense Support Arizona

Arizona is home to 67 publicly owned, public-use airports that support the economic vitality and quality of life within the Grand Canyon State. Some of the world’s most cutting-edge aerospace and defense companies and numerous United States (U.S.) military installations with a significant aviation-related component are also located across the state. The 2021 Arizona Aviation Economic Impact Study (AEIS) commissioned by the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Aeronautics Group examines the impacts of these three vital aspects of aviation and aerospace in Arizona.

Together these components contribute over $121.4 billion to our economy every year—providing a foundation for Arizona’s culture of growth, innovation, and economic prosperity.

STATEWIDE ECONOMIC IMPACT

$121.4 Billion

- Aerospace Manufacturing¹ $51.5B
- Military Operations² $10.5B
- Arizona Airports³ $59.4B

Notes and Sources: (1) Impacts modeled by IHS Markit using IMPLAN [2019]. (2) Impacts obtained from the Economic Impacts of Arizona’s Principal Military Operations commissioned by the Military Affairs Commission. Prepared by The Maguire Company [2017]. (3) Impacts modeled by IHS Markit using IMPLAN for 59 study airports. Eight airports requested that their independently conducted studies be incorporated into the ADOT AEIS study results [2019]. Please see the AEIS Technical Report for further details.

For more details about the 2021 Arizona AEIS, including the full technical report, visit azdot.gov/planning/airport-development/links-and-resources-airport-development

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Tax Impacts

Airports’ direct economic impacts result in local and state tax revenues. On-airport businesses pay business and operating (B&O) taxes. Visitor spending generates taxes and fees associated with sales; hotel stays; and use of transportation services including rental cars, Transportation Network Companies (TNCs), and taxis.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2019 Tax Impacts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Airport-specific (CGZ)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Airports in Pinal County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Statewide Airport Tax Impacts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: IHS Markit using IMPLAN 2019

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Casa Grande Municipal

Casa Grande

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Statewide Economic Impact of Arizona Airports*

Arizona’s airports contributed $33.0B in value added to the state, equaling 10.2% of the total Gross State Product in 2019.

*This includes the economic impacts of Arizona’s airports but excludes aerospace manufacturing and military operations.

What Does Economic Impact Measure?
The Arizona AEIS measured how economic activity at the state’s airports stimulated the Arizona economy in 2019. Impacts are generated by airport administration and business tenant employees working on airport property, capital improvement spending, and the thousands of out-of-state and international visitors who fly to Arizona and bring new money into our economy.

In turn, airport administration and on-airport business tenants purchase goods from suppliers (indirect impacts) and airport workers spend the money they earn (induced impacts), generating successive waves of economic impacts in Arizona.

Arizona Airports are Vital to the Economy
Arizona’s diverse airports support commercial passenger service; world-class general aviation (GA) activities such as flight training, skydiving, and aerial tours; and air cargo while serving as regional job centers and economic engines in their communities.

Casa Grande Municipal (CGZ)
Casa Grande Municipal Airport (CGZ) is a GA airport located just south of the Phoenix metropolitan area, five miles north of the city of Casa Grande. CGZ has a single paved runway (05/23) that is 5,200 feet long and 100 feet wide. CGZ’s proximity to a robust highway system with easy access to both central Phoenix and the greater Tucson area makes it a key economic anchor for the region. Numerous Fortune 500 companies, local government organizations, law enforcement agencies, and local businesses utilize CGZ to transport goods and fly staff and customers to the region to conduct business. Although central Arizona is characterized by nearly year-round clear skies, the airport is a vital asset to the aviation community because it has a full instrument landing system (ILS), allowing aircraft to land in low visibility conditions. Flight schools across the state use CGZ daily to train student pilots how to safely land using an ILS. In addition to frequent flight training operations, CGZ supports a diverse range of aeronautical activities including GA corporate/business flying, skydiving, emergency air evacuation, aerial surveying, and aircraft flight testing. The airport is dedicated to generating interest in aviation careers by hosting numerous fly-in events throughout the year and regularly participating in events for various educational programs and schools.

Did You Know?
For every 100 direct jobs, CGZ supports an additional 64 jobs in Arizona.

Top Airport Activities at CGZ
- Skydiving
- Recreational Flying
- Flight Training
- Medical Transport/Evacuation
- Aircraft Flight Testing

Economic Impact of CGZ
- Jobs: 196
- Number of full- and part-time persons employed
- Earnings: $8,653,000
- Total compensation paid to workers including wages and benefits
- Economic Activity (Output): $24,221,000
- Value of sales that occur in the Arizona economy that are ultimately attributable to airport activities

Indirect/Induced
- $11,991,000

On-airport Activities
- $6,258,000
- Visitor Spending
- $5,971,000

CGZ Total Impacts
- Jobs
- 386,057
- Earnings
- $20.4B
- Economic Activity
- $59.4B

* This includes the economic impacts of Arizona’s airports but excludes aerospace manufacturing and military operations.