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.

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 (DVT)</td>
<td>$28,921,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Airports in Maricopa County</td>
<td>$2,821,418,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Statewide Airport Tax Impacts</td>
<td>$3,472,766,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: IHS Markit using IMPLAN 2019

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

ADOT Aeronautics Group
1801 W. Jefferson St.
MD 426M
Phoenix, AZ 85007
https://azdot.gov/planning/airport-development
Phone: (602) 712-8333
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.

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.

Economic Impact of DVT
Phoenix-Deer Valley Airport (DVT) is a GA airport in the Phoenix metropolitan area located 15 miles north of downtown Phoenix. The airport has two paved runways, 07L/25R and 07R/25L, that are 4,500 and 8,196 feet long, respectively. DVT is an FAA-designated GA reliever facility for Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport and is utilized by hundreds of thousands of users for a wide range of purposes. DVT was the fifth-busiest airport in the world in 2020 in terms of aircraft operations (landings and takeoffs).

The high activity levels at DVT can mostly be attributed to flight training, as two large flight schools, Westwind Aviation and AeroGuard Flight Training, are located on-site. Westwind Aviation has partnered with United Airlines to establish the United Aviate Academy at DVT, a flight training program with a focus on diversity and social equity aiming to train 5,000 pilots over the next decade.

DVT also supports a high level of business/corporate activities. The airport’s fixed-base operator (FBO), Cutter Aviation, provides line services for jet aircraft including fueling and ground power, as well as passenger support services including catering and ground transportation. There are more than 20 additional businesses at DVT that offer a variety of services including aircraft maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO); charter flights; and aircraft sales.

Did You Know?
For every 100 direct jobs, DVT supports an additional 113 jobs in Arizona.