

## 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



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.

### 2019 Tax Impacts

Airport-specific (E24)	\$327,000
All Airports in Navajo County	\$2,216,000
<b>Total Statewide Airport Tax Impacts</b>	<b>\$3,472,766,000</b>

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](https://azdot.gov/planning/airport-development/links-and-resources-airport-development)

# ADOT

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## ARIZONA AVIATION ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

### Whiteriver Whiteriver



## 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.*



**Jobs**  
386,057



**Earnings**  
\$20.4B



**Economic Activity**  
\$59.4B

## Top Airport Activities at E24



## Economic Impact of E24

**\$2,564,000**

On-airport  
Activities

**\$176,000**

Visitor  
Spending

Indirect/Induced  
**\$2,047,000**

### E24 Total Impacts



**Jobs: 31**  
Number of full- and part-time persons employed



**Earnings: \$2,553,000**  
Total compensation paid to workers including wages and benefits



**Economic Activity (Output): \$4,786,000**  
Value of sales that occur in the Arizona economy that are ultimately attributable to airport activities

## Whiteriver (E24)

Whiteriver Airport (E24) is a GA airport in eastern Arizona located one mile southwest of the town of Whiteriver. The airport is owned and operated by the White Mountain Apache Tribe. E24 has a single asphalt runway (01/19) that is 6,350 feet long by 75 feet wide. The airport supports a variety of activities and acts as a vital resource for the local community. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) operates a year-round aerial/wildland firefighting base at the airport. During the summer, the BIA stations a firefighting helicopter and support team at E24 and frequently conducts firefighting operations in the surrounding wilderness areas. The Whiteriver Airport is also utilized by air ambulance aircraft and helicopters that regularly evacuate patients from Whiteriver to Phoenix for emergency or routine treatments. During the COVID-19 pandemic, these air ambulance operations nearly doubled as medical crews worked to transport supplies into the region and to evacuate critically ill patients.

### Did You Know?

E24 is home to an Arizona Department of Game and Fish team that conducts wildlife and hunting surveys in the Fort Apache Reservation

