

## 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 (E81)	\$300
All Airports in Pinal County	\$4,350,000
<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

### Superior Superior



## 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 E81

Aerial/Wildland Firefighting



Recreational Flying



## Economic Impact of E81

**\$1,000**

On-airport  
Activities

**\$4,000**

Visitor  
Spending

Indirect/Induced  
**\$5,000**

### E81 Total Impacts



**Jobs: <1**

Number of full- and part-time persons employed



**Earnings: \$4,000**

Total compensation paid to workers including wages and benefits



**Economic Activity (Output): \$10,000**

Value of sales that occur in the Arizona economy that are ultimately attributable to airport activities

## Superior (E81)

Superior Airport (E81) is a GA airport in east-central Arizona located two miles southwest of the town of Superior. E81 has a single gravel runway (04/22) that is 3,250 feet in length and 75 feet in width.

The airport serves as a gateway to scenic desert landscapes and outdoor recreational activities in eastern Arizona. The nearby town of Superior was founded as a mining town, home of the famous Silver Queen Mine (later named the Magna Mine), which produced millions of tons of precious metals until its closure in 1996. The airport is a short six-minute drive from the Boyce Thompson Arboretum, Arizona's oldest and largest botanical garden, which showcases incredible specimens of desert plants. Airport users can enjoy hiking along the Superstition Mountains, camping at Pioneer Pass, and exploring historic mining sites throughout the region.

## Did You Know?

The U.S. Forest Service uses E81 as a temporary staging area to support wildland firefighting in the region.

