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.

2019 Tax Impacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Airport-specific (FLG)</td>
<td>$7,622,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Airports in Coconino County</td>
<td>$24,615,000</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

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.

Flagstaff Pulliam
Flagstaff

ADOT Aeronautics Group
1801 W. Jefferson St.
MD 426M
Phoenix, AZ 85007

https://azdot.gov/planning/airport-development
Phone: (602) 712-8333
Statewide Economic Impact of Arizona Airports

Arizona’s airports contributed $33.0 billion 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.

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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.

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Flagstaff Pulliam (FLG)
Sitting at the foot of the San Francisco Peaks, the City of Flagstaff is the economic and cultural hub of northern Arizona. Serving as a gateway for the entire region, Flagstaff Pulliam Airport (FLG) is a commercial service airport located four miles south of downtown Flagstaff. FLG receives scheduled daily flights operated by American Eagle and United Airlines from Phoenix, Dallas/Fort Worth, and Denver. FLG serves as a commercial service destination for visitors traveling to Sedona, Grand Canyon, and other world-class attractions across northern Arizona. Flagstaff’s population and economic activity has grown significantly in recent years. Notably, multiple biomedical companies have moved their operations into community including TGen North, a pathogen and microbiome research organization, located at the airport. FLG supports a wide variety of activities, including a high frequency of medical transports and emergency evacuation flights, wildland fire patrols, and business or corporate activities. The Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) also hosts an annual airshow and open house that attracts thousands of visitors from around the region and raises money for scholarships for local students to pursue educational opportunities in aviation-related fields.

Did You Know?
For every 100 direct jobs, FLG supports an additional 65 jobs in Arizona.

Top Airport Activities at FLG

- Commercial Air Service
- Corporate/Business Activities
- Freight/Cargo
- Aerial/Wildland Firefighting
- Flight Training

Economic Impact of FLG

- Jobs: 971
- Earnings: $45,140,000
- Economic Activity: $59.4 billion

Indirect/Induced
-$59,766,000

FLG Total Impacts

- Jobs: 971
- Earnings: $45,140,000
- Economic Activity (Output): $128,520,000