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.

### 2019 Tax Impacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Airport-specific (P29)</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Airports in Cochise County</td>
<td>$2,310,000</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
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.

Tombstone Municipal (P29)

Tombstone Municipal Airport (P29) is a GA airport in southern Arizona located three miles southeast of the city of Tombstone. P29 has a single paved runway (06/24) that is 4,430 feet in length and 60 feet wide. Due to the airport’s proximity to the famed old west town of Tombstone, the airport primarily supports transient GA traffic and facilitates visitor travel to the area. Recreational GA users can tie-down their aircraft and take a quick 10-minute drive to the heart of the city of Tombstone. Tombstone is renowned for its exciting wild west history, offering visitors the opportunity to experience one of the most famous gunfights in history at the O.K. Corral. Tourists can meander through the historic avenues where buildings from the old west still stand, take a coach ride down the street, and enjoy horseback rides in the pristine southwest desert. Travelers can also visit the Tombstone Courthouse State Historic Park, featuring a courthouse constructed in 1881 that now serves as a museum filed with artifacts of the old west.

Top Airport Activities at P29

- Recreational Flying
- Flight Training

Economic Impact of P29

- Jobs: <1
  Number of full- and part-time persons employed
- Earnings: $12,000
  Total compensation paid to workers including wages and benefits
- Economic Activity (Output): $34,000
  Value of sales that occur in the Arizona economy that are ultimately attributable to airport activities

Indirect/Induced

- $16,000

On-airport Activities

- $0

Visitor Spending

- $17,000

P29 Total Impacts

- Jobs: <1
- Earnings: $12,000
- Economic Activity: $34,000

Did You Know?

Although most air traffic at P29 is associated with recreational visitors, the airport supports flight training from the nearby Cochise College Airport (P03).