

Aviation, Aerospace and Defense Support Arizona

Arizona's 15 counties are home to 67 publicly owned, public-use airports that support the economic vitality and quality of life within the Grand Canyon State. These airports host 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. In addition to Arizona's airports, cutting-edge aerospace and defense companies and numerous United States (U.S.) military installations with a significant aviation-related component are in 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 airports, aerospace manufacturing, and U.S. military installations 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**



What is Economic Impact?

The 2021 Arizona AEIS measured how economic activity at the state's commercial service and GA 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.

The economic impacts of aerospace manufacturing and 59 Arizona airports were modeled by IHS Markit using IMPLAN (2019). Eight airports requested that their independently conducted studies be incorporated into the 2021 Arizona AEIS study results (2019). The impacts of military operations were obtained from the *Economic Impacts of Arizona's Principal Military Operations* commissioned by the Military Affairs Commission and prepared by The Maguire Company (2017).

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

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ARIZONA AVIATION ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

Santa Cruz County



A largely rural area in far south-central Arizona, Santa Cruz County is home to two incorporated areas and several unincorporated communities.¹ Due to the county's proximity to the U.S./Mexico international border, Santa Cruz County is economically and culturally tied to communities in Sonora, Mexico. Manufacturing and importation of fresh produce are significant sources of employment. Residents of both Santa Cruz County and Sonora regularly cross the international border to work in both countries and produce warehousing and customs brokerages are numerous on the Arizona side. The Santa Cruz Valley Unified School District 35 is the largest single employer.

Santa Cruz County's Anglo-American culture and history date back to the era of Spanish conquistadors, although Indigenous people have lived in the area for thousands of years. Both cultures closely tie the region to the culture, religion, and economy of northern Mexico. This rich history is displayed at attractions such as the Tumacácori National Historic Park and the Tubac Presidio State Historic Park, which both contain original structures from 18th century Spanish outposts and missions. Today, the Santa Cruz River Valley is well known for its artisan shops, studios, and galleries that reflect the region's unique culture. Outdoor recreation is also popular in Santa Cruz County, as several lakes and natural areas such as the Coronado Nation Forest, Sonoita Creek State Natural Area, San Rafael State Natural Area, and Parker Canyon Lake offer hiking, biking, camping, fishing, and boating.

[1] U.S. Census Bureau (2021).

County Demographics



Population
46,500



Employment
11,432

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2019)

Top Business Sectors



Wholesale Trade



Retail Trade



Transportation & Warehousing

Congressional District

3

Legislative District

2

Did You Know?

As a Port of Entry designated by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Nogales International Airport (OLS) supports domestic and international trade with daily cargo flights to and from Phoenix.

STATEWIDE Economic Impacts of Arizona Airports



Jobs
386,058



Earnings
\$20.4B

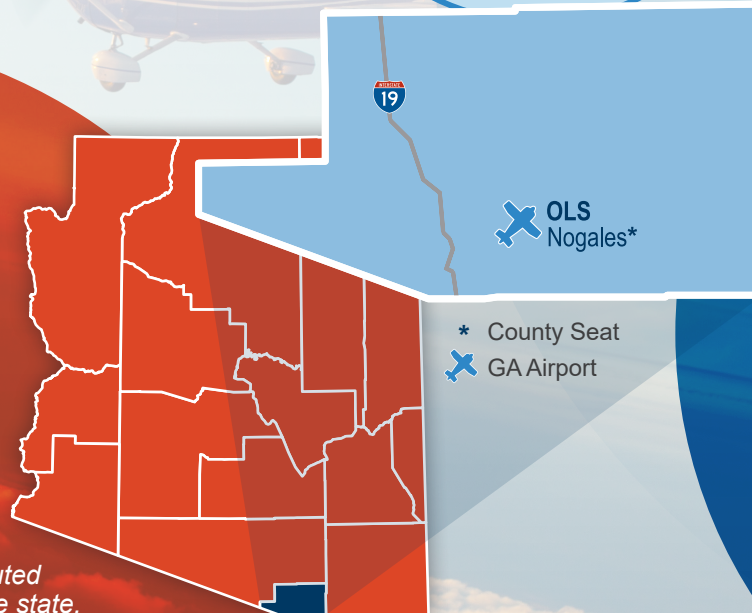


Economic Activity
\$59.4B



Tax Impacts
\$3.5B

Arizona's airports contributed **\$33.0B in value added to the state.**



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY Economic Impacts of Airport



Jobs: **57**
Number of full- and part-time persons employed



Earnings: **\$3.2M**
Total compensation paid to workers including wages and benefits



Economic Activity (Output): **\$8.6M**
Value of sales that occur in the Arizona economy that are ultimately attributable to airport activities



Tax Impacts: **\$547,939**
Airports' direct economic impacts result in local and state tax revenues.