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

- **Aerospace Manufacturing**
  - $51.5B

- **Military Operations**
  - $10.5B

- **Arizona Airports**
  - $59.4B

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

azdot.gov/planning/airport-development
Phone: (602) 712-8333
Yavapai County

Sitting at the convergence of the Sonoran Desert, Coconino Plateau, and Mogollon Rim, Yavapai County is an environmentally, culturally, and economically diverse region in central Arizona. Most of Yavapai County is sparsely populated due to mountainous terrain; however, the county contains Prescott and parts of the Phoenix metropolitan area. Yavapai County is home to 11 incorporated cities and towns as well as 13 unincorporated communities, two Native American Communities and 17 U.S. Census-designated places.¹ Education, health care, and social assistance services represent the largest business sectors and collectively employ more than 20,000 people.² The largest single employer in the county is the Yavapai County Government. Mining is prominent in the county, particularly near Bagdad where Freeport-McMoRan operates a large copper and molybdenum mine.

Yavapai County’s diverse geography makes the region popular for many types of tourism and recreation. Nearly three-quarters of the land in Yavapai County is under state or federal jurisdiction, providing ample space for sightseeing and outdoor recreation. Red Rock State Park, the Granite Dells, and Tuzigoot National Monument are all prominent destinations that offer scenic views of geological formations and Native American ruins. Portions of four U.S. national forests occupy large swaths of land, offering trails, lakes, and streams for hiking, biking, camping, and fishing. Other popular tourist destinations in Yavapai County include downtown Sedona, Whiskey Row in Prescott, Rock Springs, and the experimental town of Arcosanti.


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.

YAVAPAI COUNTY Economic Impacts of Airports

- **Jobs**: 1,568
- **Earnings**: $92.6M
- **Economic Activity (Output)**: $242.5M
- **Tax Impacts**: $15.5M

The five airports in Yavapai County support frequent flight training from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU). ERAU has more than 3,000 enrolled students and bases its flight training program at Prescott Regional Airport - Ernest A. Love Field (PRC).