## Aviation's Economic Benefit to Louisiana

To quantify the economic impacts of Louisiana airports, a study gathering economic data from the on-airport businesses and government agencies located on each Louisiana airport was completed. Airport managers and aviation-related organizations were surveyed to collect the data necessary to estimate the direct employment, payroll, and output each airport supports. Additionally, visitors arriving by air were surveyed to estimate the benefits their visitor-related expenditures support.

The multiplier impacts of these airport activities were also calculated using data specific to Louisiana. For example, when an airport employee purchases local goods and services, that spending circulates through the local economy by supporting the jobs and payroll of other businesses and thereby generating additional economic activity in the region. The total economic impact is the sum of all direct and multiplier impacts.

| AIR CARRIER AIRPORTS | GENERAL AVIATION AIRPORTS | ALL SYSTEM AIRPORTS |
|---|---|---|
| Total Employment **49,546** | Total Employment **9,307** | Total Employment **58,853** |
| Total Payroll **$1.46 billion** | Total Payroll **$297 million** | Total Payroll **$1.76 billion** |
| Total Output **$5.78 billion** | Total Output **$967 million** | Total Output **$6.75 billion** |

Aviation LA DOTD

*LA DOTD Aviation Section would like to thank the Louisiana airports and their passengers, users and tenants, and the Louisiana Airport Managers and Associates, for their cooperation and assistance in the preparation of this study.*

*For further information about this study please go to the LA DOTD Aviation Section web site at:* ***www.dotd.la.gov/intermodal/aviation***

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ECONOMIC IMPACT OF

# LOUISIANA REGIONAL AIRPORT

# *Louisiana Airport System Plan and Economic Impact*

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DOTD
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT

# Aviation System Plan and Economic Impact

Louisiana is blessed with a robust transportation system, of which the state's airport system is a critical component. Through the power of aviation, people and goods move rapidly in, around, and out of Louisiana. The state's system of 68 airports, consisting of seven commercial service airports and 61 general aviation airports, provides reliable access to 93 percent of Louisiana residents. This system of airports accommodated 1.8 million general aviation operations and more than 200,000 commercial airline operations, which enplaned more than 5 million passengers during 2011.

DODT's Aviation Section supports the airport system with annual grants. In addition, they are working to establish a long-term needs assessment of the airport system called the Louisiana Statewide Intermodal Transportation Plan. This plan addresses this question by evaluating the Louisiana airport system, and identifying areas of improvement that can permit the system to operate more effectively. Additionally, the study quantified the economic benefits each system airport provides the state of Louisiana.

## Types of Economic Impact

**Direct Impacts** account for activities by on-airport businesses and government agencies, and the off-airport visitor spending at locations such as hotels and restaurants. Direct impacts occur at the initial point where money first starts circulating in the economy.

**Multiplier Impacts** result from the re-spending of direct impacts within the Louisiana economy. This re-spending of money can occur multiple times and is tabulated repeatedly until the money trickles out of Louisiana.

**Total Impacts** are the combination of all direct and multiplier impacts.

## Measures of Economic Impact

**Employment** measures the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs related to airport activity. A part-time employee counts as half a full-time employee.

**Payroll** measures the total annual salary, wages, and benefits paid to all workers whose livelihoods are linked to airport activity.

**Output** measures the value of goods and services related to airport activity in Louisiana. The output of on-airport businesses is typically assumed to be the sum of annual gross sales and average annual capital expenditures.

## Categories of Economic Impact

**On-Airport** – This category includes airport tenants that are businesses with employees, such as airlines, FBOs, flight schools, concessionaires, and airport restaurants. Also included in this group are governmental agencies, such as public airport sponsors, and air traffic controllers.

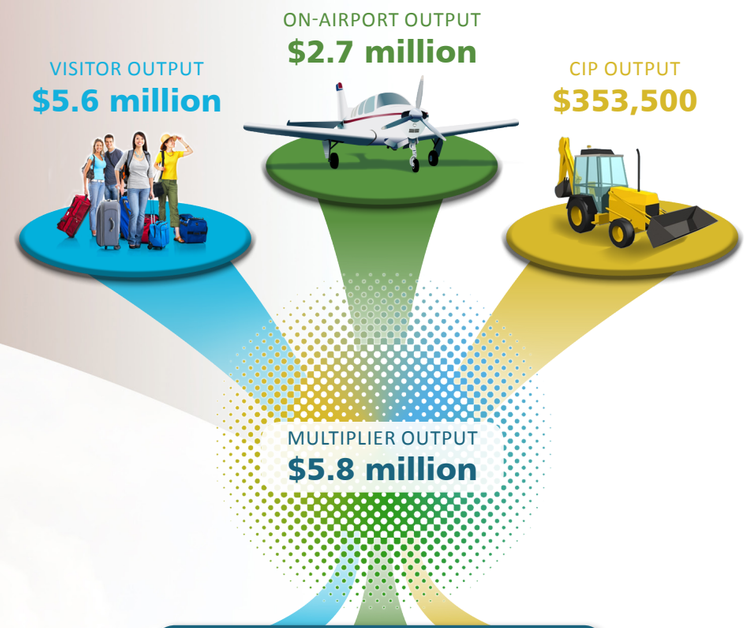
**Capital Improvement Projects (CIP)** – Each year, airports undertake capital improvement projects (CIP), such as runway rehabilitation or terminal improvements. In addition, businesses and other agencies undertake capital improvement projects. These projects employ people in jobs such as construction, architecture, engineering, and consulting.

**Visitors** – Visitors traveling through airports frequently spend money in the local economy on hospitality services. This category captures that spending from both commercial airline visitors and those using general aviation to visit parts of Louisiana.

GONZALES

# LOUISIANA REGIONAL AIRPORT

The aviation activity at the airport generates benefits in the form of jobs, payroll, and output. Those impacts are illustrated below.




TOTAL OUTPUT: **$14.5 million**

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT: **176**

TOTAL PAYROLL: **$4.8 million**

The airport also provides important facilities and services that support aviation activity in the area.

| AVIATION ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES | |
|---|---|
| Based Aircraft | 108 |
| Annual Operations | 71,500 |
| Primary Runway | Runway 17/35 |
| Dimensions (ft.) | 5,002 x 100 |
| Approach | LPV |
| Weather Reporting | AWOS III PT |

| AVIATION SERVICES |
|---|
| ✓ Jet Fuel |
| ✓ AvGas |
| ✓ Flight Instruction |
| ✓ Aircraft Rental |
| ✓ Hangar Rental |
| ✓ Tie-Downs |
| ✓ Aircraft Repair |
| ✓ Public Phone |
| ✓ Vending |
| ✓ Loaner Car |