



AIRPORT SUMMARY

The Kansas Airport System

There is a strong relationship between Kansas' economy and aviation. The state's system of seven commercial service and 73 general aviation airports, listed in the National Plan of Integrated Airports System (NPIAS), provide the gateway to the nation's air transportation system and the world's economy. Airports support the Kansas economy by increased efficiency and productivity for all business activity, including the transportation of passengers for both recreational and business purposes. Airports are important economic catalysts, supporting thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in economic activity. Most of Kansas' largest employers - both large and small - rely on the state's aviation system to transport employees, customers, supplies, and products. Kansas' 80 NPIAS airports serve as the base of operations for a variety of businesses, including airlines, air cargo companies, flight instructors, charters, concessionaries, government entities, and many others. Kansas tourism industry also depends on the state's system of airports to accommodate thousands of visitors each year.

Study Process

The Kansas Department of Transportation, Division of Aviation, implemented this study through a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant, to quantify the economic impact and relationship between the state's system of airports and the economy. The study follows an approved methodology that has successfully quantified the value of airports and airport systems throughout the United States.

The economic contribution of each NPIAS airport in Kansas was measured in terms of employment, payroll, and output. A comprehensive survey process was used to calculate the direct economic benefits related to on-airport businesses and government agencies, including the indirect benefits associated with visitor-related expenditures. Secondary, or induced, impacts from these airport activities were calculated using economic models specific to Kansas. For example, when an airport employee purchases goods and services, those dollars circulate through the local economy which results in additional economic activity in the region. The total economic impact is the sum of all direct, indirect, and multiplier impacts.

Statewide Impacts

Based on information gathered during the study, approximately 91,000 jobs are attributed to the aviation industry, including 42,000 from Aerospace Manufacturing. These employees receive more than \$4.4 billion in total payroll, and generate more than \$20.5 billion in total economic activity. In addition, the 80 NPIAS airports in Kansas provide a number of health, welfare, and safety benefits, including aerial agricultural spraying, medical transport and evacuation, emergency response, search and rescue, flight training, law enforcement, wildlife management, military training, search and rescue operations, and education.

Kansas' Total Annual Economic Benefits from Aviation

Total Jobs	91,279
Total Payroll	\$4.4 Billion
Total Output	\$20.6 Billion

Impact Measures

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

Payroll measures the total annual wages and benefits paid to all workers whose salaries are directly attributable to airport activity.

Economic Activity (Output) measures the value of goods and services related to airports in Kansas. The output from on-airport business activity is assumed to be the sum of annual gross sales and average annual capital expenditures.

FREEMAN FIELD (3JC)

Freeman Field Airport is located in Junction City along Interstate 70 in North Central Kansas. It is owned by Junction City, the county seat and most populous city in Geary County. The airport is included in the FAA's National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS), making it eligible to receive federal monies. Additionally, its role within the Kansas Aviation System Plan is identified as a Community airport, which is intended to serve a supplemental role in the local economies, primarily serving smaller business.

The airport's primary runway is a 3,500-foot by 75-foot asphalt surface with non-precision instrument approaches to each end. Two turf runways of approximately 1,900 feet are also available for use. Kansas Air Center serves as the fixed base operator at the terminal, providing fuel service, aircraft parking, hangar storage, charters, aircraft maintenance, and aircraft parts. The airport is also home to a Civil Air Patrol base and Raven Aero, an aircraft maintenance shop. Life Star, an air ambulance service, bases their A-Star helicopter at the airport and flies approximately 30 missions per week.

Several types of activity occur at Freeman Field including corporate/business flights, flight training, law enforcement, search and rescue, and emergency medical evacuation and patient transfer. Nearby Milford Lake hosts several annual fishing tournaments including ESPN Bassmasters, an annual Walleye Tournament, and several smaller tournaments. The airport accommodates fishermen, spectators, and media associated with the large events.

The airport also participates in community outreach events such as the annual fly-in sponsored by the Experimental Aircraft Association, attracting upwards of 300 attendees. Eagle Scouts use the airport several times a year to hold meetings and give tours of the airport to children interested in the world of aviation.

