

PENNSYLVANIA Airports Economic Impact



The Pennsylvania Airport System

Pennsylvania's aviation industry continues to provide high quality jobs and spur important local spending by on-airport businesses and agencies. The commonwealth's system of 15 commercial service and 117 general aviation airports connects Pennsylvania businesses and residents to the national and global economy. This system is comprised of a network of airports, airlines, air cargo businesses, corporate flight departments, pri-

vate aircraft owners, and recreational airplane pilots. Manufacturers in the state rely on airports to access markets and to receive supplies. Businesses rely on airports to conduct face-to-face meetings with customers and business associates within the United States and abroad. Leisure travelers use airports to reach recreational and tourist sites and to visit with family and friends.

Pennsylvania's Total Annual Economic Impacts from Aviation

When all of the impacts of Pennsylvania's system airports are added together, nearly 304,500 total jobs can be traced to the aviation industry. These employees receive more than \$9.2 billion in total payroll, and generate nearly \$23.6 billion in total economic activity. In addition, Pennsylvania's airports provide a number of health, welfare, and safety benefits, the impacts of which are immeasurable. Such services include aerial agricultural spraying, medical transport and evacuation, flight training, law enforcement, wildlife management, military exercises, and search and rescue operations.

Impact Measures

Employment measures the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs related to airport activity, including on-airport

construction. A part-time employee is counted 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 Pennsylvania. The output of on-airport businesses is typically assumed to be the sum of annual gross sales and average annual capital expenditures.

Total Jobs – 304,464

Total Payroll – \$9.2 billion

Total Output – \$23.6 billion

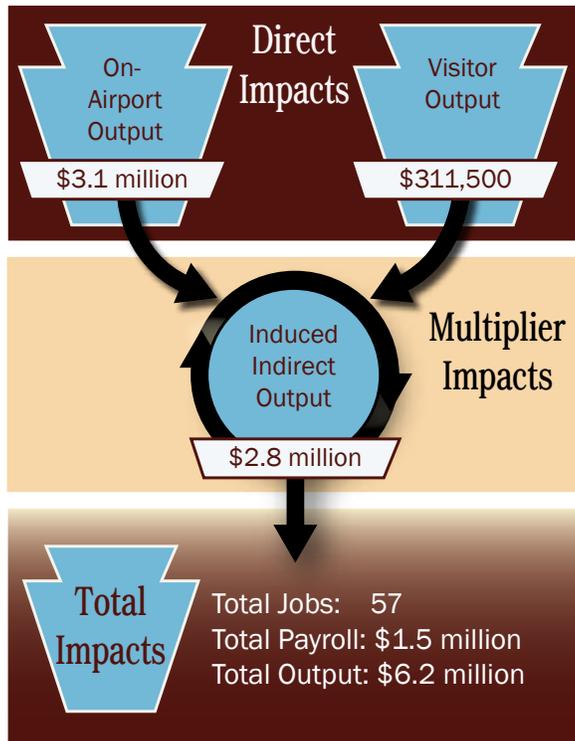
Study Process

This study, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aviation, analyzes the economic impact of Pennsylvania's aviation industry as a whole, as well as the impacts of its individual airports. The study confirms that many people—beyond the immediate environs of each airport—derive significant economic benefits from the daily operation of the airport system. The study also evaluates some of the less-quantifiable impacts linked with aviation, such as health, safety, recreation, education, and overall community strength.

A detailed modeling effort was undertaken to quantify the economic impacts of on-airport activities (airlines, fixed base operators, flight schools, corporate flight departments, government, and various other business). Also quantified were the impacts derived from the expenditures of visitors who arrive via scheduled service and general aviation aircraft. These on-airport impacts and visitor expenditures support additional economic activity throughout Pennsylvania.

As initial waves of activities associated with the airport system are released into Pennsylvania's economy, successive waves of employment, payroll, and economic benefit occur. These additional benefits are measured using sector-specific employment, payroll, and economic impact multipliers.

Economic Impact of Doylestown Airport



Source: Wilbur Smith Associates

Impact Types

Direct Impacts include both direct impacts related to on-airport businesses and government agencies, and off-airport impacts, which are usually attributable to visitor spending.

Multiplier Impacts are comprised of indirect and induced impacts. These impacts are attributed to employees spending their earnings at local businesses, and the on-airport businesses purchasing goods and services locally. This re-circulation is commonly referred to as the “multiplier effect.”

Total Impacts are the combination of all direct, indirect, and induced impacts.



Qualitative Benefits

Doylestown Airport is located just north of the Borough of Doylestown in Bucks County, approximately 30 miles north of Philadelphia. Access to the airport is available via State Routes 611 and 313.

Doylestown Airport is classified as an Intermediate airport by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Aviation. The airport has 157 based aircraft and experiences approximately 42,000 annual operations. There is one runway, Runway 05/23, which is 3,004 feet long by 60 feet wide and outfitted with medium intensity runway lighting (MIRL). The airport is supported by three non-precision approaches (RNAV RWY 23, RNAV RWY 05, and VOR RWY 23).

Doylestown Airport supports the general aviation demands of the local community and surrounding region. The airport’s one on-site business tenant is Leading Edge Aviation, a fixed base operator. The FBO provides a full range of services to local and transient pilots, including fueling, aircraft parking and storage, flight training, rentals, aerial tours and sightseeing, maintenance, charters, and aircraft parts.

Corporate flight activity is one of the most common activities at Doylestown Airport. The following businesses use the facility regularly:

- Merck
- Bimbo Bakeries
- Greater Media

In addition to corporate flights, daily activities at Doylestown Airport include personal transportation flights and flight training. Other frequent activities include aerial utility inspections, aerial photography and surveying, and operations by the Civil Air Patrol. Occasional operations include flights by local law enforcement, ad hoc air cargo flights, and emergency medical operations. The airport is adjacent to a 35-acre industrial park with 12 businesses.

The airport also promotes and runs a number of community events throughout the year. Each spring, Doylestown Airport hosts an Open House featuring rides, aviation education, remote control aircraft demonstrations, and food for attendees. In the fall, the airport hosts a picnic in honor of local community volunteer organizations. Santa arrives at the airport in a helicopter every December to give gifts to children.