STATEWIDE IMPACTS

Total Annual Impacts from All Study Airports

OAC’s research project estimated annual economic impacts for 109 study airports. As noted previously when total impacts (direct and indirect/induced) are considered, all airports are responsible for the following annual economic impacts:

- Total Statewide Jobs – 74,002
- Total Statewide Annual Payroll – $3.6 Billion
- Total Annual Spending – $7 Billion
- Total Statewide Economic Activity – $10.6 Billion

Total Annual State Tax Revenues from Study Airports

Airport related jobs and spending, along with visitor spending are responsible for a variety of tax revenues. On a statewide basis, the study airports and activities they support contribute the following annual tax revenues. Airport related tax revenues estimated in this study considered only direct employment, payroll, and spending.

- Total Tax Revenues: $497,789,759
- General Aviation Sales Tax Revenues: $210,721,763
- General Aviation Airport Management, Tenants, and Capital Investment Sales Tax Revenues: $12,594,179
- Visitor Sales Tax Revenues: $140,515,024
- State Income Tax Revenues: $49,094,562
- Employees Sales Taxes: $16,784,675
- Capital Investment Employment Sales Taxes: $15,384,500

Additional Economic Impacts from Off-Airport Aviation and Aerospace Companies

Aside from aviation businesses located at study airports, there are other companies involved in activities that support the aviation or aerospace industries in Oklahoma. As part of the OAC project, these businesses were identified and researched to determine additional economic impacts associated with their operations. Examples of businesses included in this category include Nordam, Boeing, L-3, and Flight Safety International.

Additional economic impacts identified in this category are as follows:

- Total Statewide Jobs – 58,958
- Total Statewide Annual Payroll – $3.4 Billion
- Total Annual Spending – $10.5 Billion
- Total Statewide Economic Activity – $13.9 Billion

Jobs in Oklahoma that Gain Efficiency from Using Aviation

Many employers in Oklahoma use aviation to transport their employees, ship and receive goods and supplies, and facilitate convenient visits from their customers and suppliers. Additional research conducted as part of the OAC study estimates that there are approximately 34,800 jobs statewide that have improved efficiency through support provided by various facets of aviation. These jobs are in addition to those supported by the airports, the military, and off-airport aviation related employers.

Total Oklahoma Economic Impacts from Aviation and Aerospace

Aviation and aerospace are significant contributors to Oklahoma’s economy. Total annual statewide economic impacts from the public airports, aviation related military activities, and off-airport aviation and aerospace employers are shown below:

- Employment: 205,608
- Annual Payroll: $11.7 Billion
- Annual Spending: $32.1 Billion
- Annual Economic Activity: $43.7 Billion

Annually, aviation and aerospace contribute $43.7 billion to the Oklahoma economy. Employers in Oklahoma use commercial and general aviation airports as important tools to improve their efficiency. Military aviation units are some of the largest single site employers in the state, and there are over 800 off-airport businesses in Oklahoma that are engaged in aviation and aerospace activities.

When all aviation and aerospace activities are considered, this study has estimated that all direct, indirect, and induced jobs represent about 14.5% of all non-farm employment in Oklahoma. Clearly, the OAC study has shown that aviation and aerospace are significant contributors to Oklahoma’s economy.

Oklahoma Aviation & Aerospace Economic Impact Study 2017

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OKLAHOMA Statewide Economic Benefits from Airports

As part of OAC’s research project, annual economic impacts for 109 study airports were estimated. Economic impacts reported in the OAC study reflect a snapshot of conditions that characterized the airports in 2016. Each airport was investigated, as applicable, to identify potential economic impacts related to:

- Airport Management
- Airport Tenants
- Investment in Capital Projects
- Spending from Visitors Arriving on General Aviation Aircraft
- Spending from Visitors Arriving on Commercial Airlines

The OAC study used four primary measures to express both statewide and airport specific annual economic impacts:

- Employment/ Jobs
- Annual Payroll
- Annual Spending
- Total Annual Economic Activity (Payroll plus Spending)

Economic impacts reported in the study reflect not only direct impacts but also indirect/induced impacts that result from a multiplier effect. Together, direct and indirect/induced impacts equal total statewide and airport specific annual economic impacts. A state model, specific to Oklahoma, was used by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce to estimate total economic impacts.

For all study airports, OAC’s statewide economic impact study estimated total annual economic impacts as shown below.
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA WESTHEIMER AIRPORT
Total Annual Economic Impact on Oklahoma’s Economy

Annual Economic Impacts from University of Oklahoma Westheimer Airport

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EMPLOYMENT</th>
<th>TOTAL PAYROLL</th>
<th>ANNUAL SPENDING</th>
<th>ANNUAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct</td>
<td>Indirect/Induced</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Direct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airport Management</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airport Tenants</td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>104.9</td>
<td>22.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Investment</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Aviation Visitor Spending</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Impacts</td>
<td>296.5</td>
<td>157.9</td>
<td>454.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Annual Economic Activity = Payroll + Spending

The Airport Helps Connect the Community

When businesses decide to relocate or expand, there are many factors they consider. Frequently, having access to a general aviation airport is a highly-rated decision-making factor. A mile of road can take you one mile, and mile of runway can take you pretty much anywhere. Limited information is available from FAA sources on originations and destinations for the airport’s flights. The map below shows a very small snapshot of the airport’s non-stop flights. Despite the small sample size, the map helps to show how the airport helps to conveniently connect the community to destinations across the United States and beyond.

Other Benefits of University of Oklahoma Westheimer Airport

The airport’s economic and tax revenue benefits have been previously reported. But these are not the only benefits the community receives from the airport. Airports such as University of Oklahoma Westheimer Airport support many unnoticed health, welfare, environmental, safety, and other business benefits. Some of the other benefits supported by the airport are discussed here.

Several state law enforcement agencies are located at Westheimer Airport. The Oklahoma Department of Public Safety bases ten aircraft and three helicopters at the airport. These aircraft are used for routine highway patrol, accident investigations, and flying search and rescue missions. Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs operates two helicopters and one fixed-wing aircraft to conduct investigations to support the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

For 75 years, Oklahoma University has provided flight training as part of its curriculum. The AABI-accredited program offers degrees in air traffic control, aviation management, and pilot training. There are 200 students enrolled in the University’s aviation programs. By supporting this University and its flight training activities, the airport plays and important role in training tomorrow’s aviation professionals. The University also uses the airport to bring in prospective faculty members and guest speakers, to recruit students from across the county, and to facilitate various segments of University travel through chartered aircraft.

Several local businesses rely on aircrafts based at the airport to support their operations. Bob Moore Auto Group, a large car dealer in Oklahoma City, frequently flies to visits its other dealerships, clients, and suppliers. R.T. Oliver Investments flies around the region to oversee its real estate and oil and gas investments. Toby Keith has a flight department located at the airport allows him to visit his restaurants and to quickly reach his concerts venues across the U.S. Arpinne Pipe and Supply, a supplier of oilfield equipment, often utilizes the airport as well to quickly get parts to their wells throughout the region.

There are many factors that draw employers to a particular community; sometimes, one of these factors is a general aviation airport. General aviation is an effective business tool. Using general aviation improves business efficiency, enabling companies to expand their market areas. When local companies use general aviation, their travel time can often be reduced from days to hours. As part of this study, businesses reporting benefits from the airport include RTO Investments, Dillard’s, Premier Communications, Lowe’s, and Noble Drilling Services.

From these sources, the study estimated that the airport contributes approximately $1,909,998 in annual state and local tax revenues.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL JOBS: 394.4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ANNUAL PAYROLL:</strong> $16.5M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAAL SPENDING:</strong> $20.8M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITY:</strong> $37.4M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This FAA data represents only a small fraction of actual operations.*