

COLUMBUS AIRPORT

Local Economic Impact



Annual Economic Impacts for Columbus Airport

	Employment	Payroll	Spending	Total Economic Activity
Airport Management & Business Tenants	383	\$19,577,800	\$41,506,100	\$61,083,900
Capital Investment	33	\$1,014,600	\$4,153,500	\$5,168,100
General Aviation Visitor Expenditures	88	\$2,381,600	\$3,691,800	\$6,073,400
Commercial Visitor Expenditures	207	\$5,554,300	\$16,673,700	\$22,228,000
Total	711	\$28,528,300	\$66,025,100	\$94,553,400

**TOTAL LOCAL ECONOMIC
IMPACT OVER \$94 BILLION**



Annual General Aviation
Visitors
23,169



Annual Commercial
Visitors
29,810



Employment Supported
711



Annual Payroll
\$28,528,300



Annual Spending
\$66,025,100

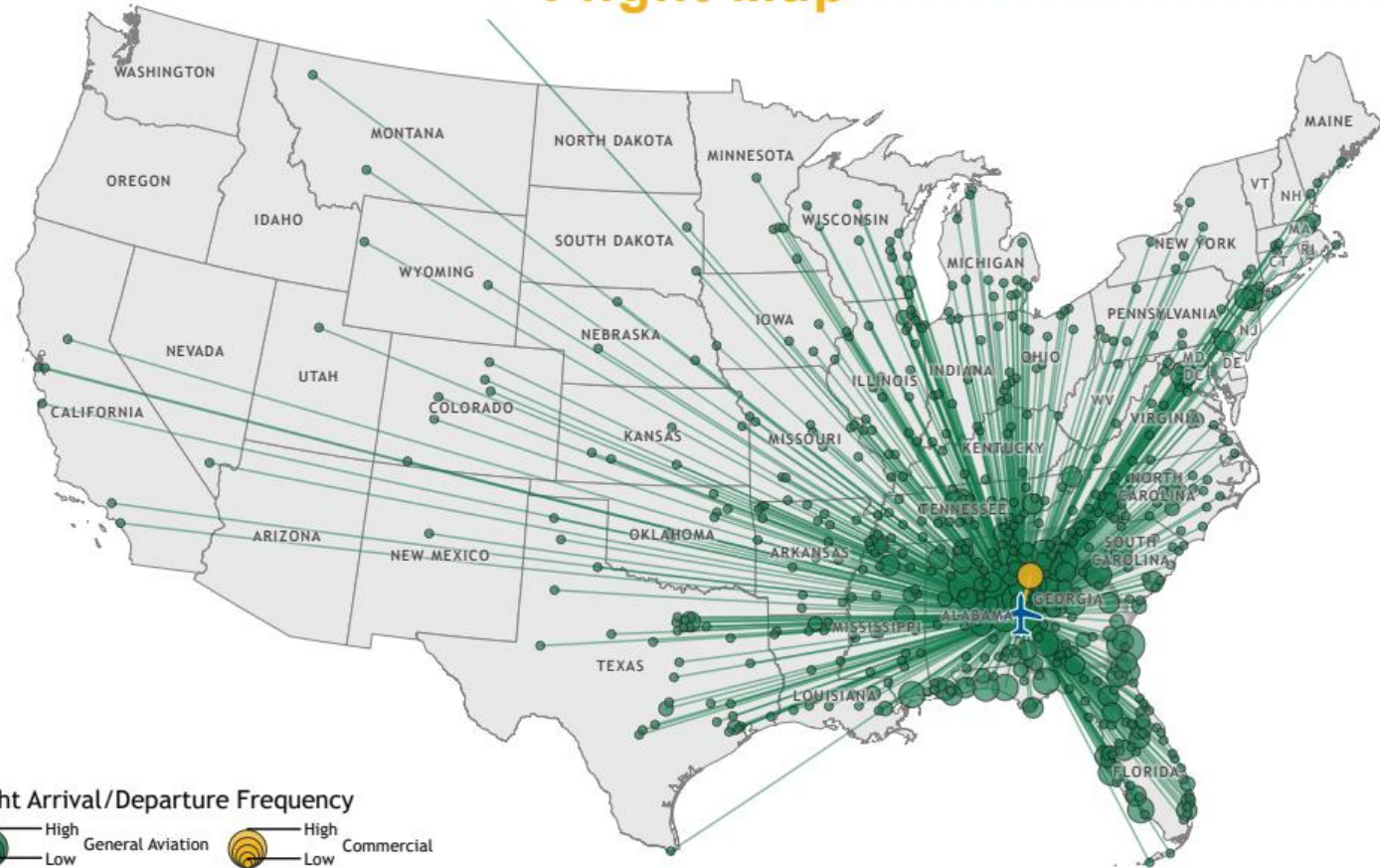


Annual Economic Impact
\$94,553,400



Airport-Supported Annual
State & Local Sales &
Income Tax Revenues
\$4,155,450

Columbus Airport Flight Map



Flight Arrival/Departure Frequency

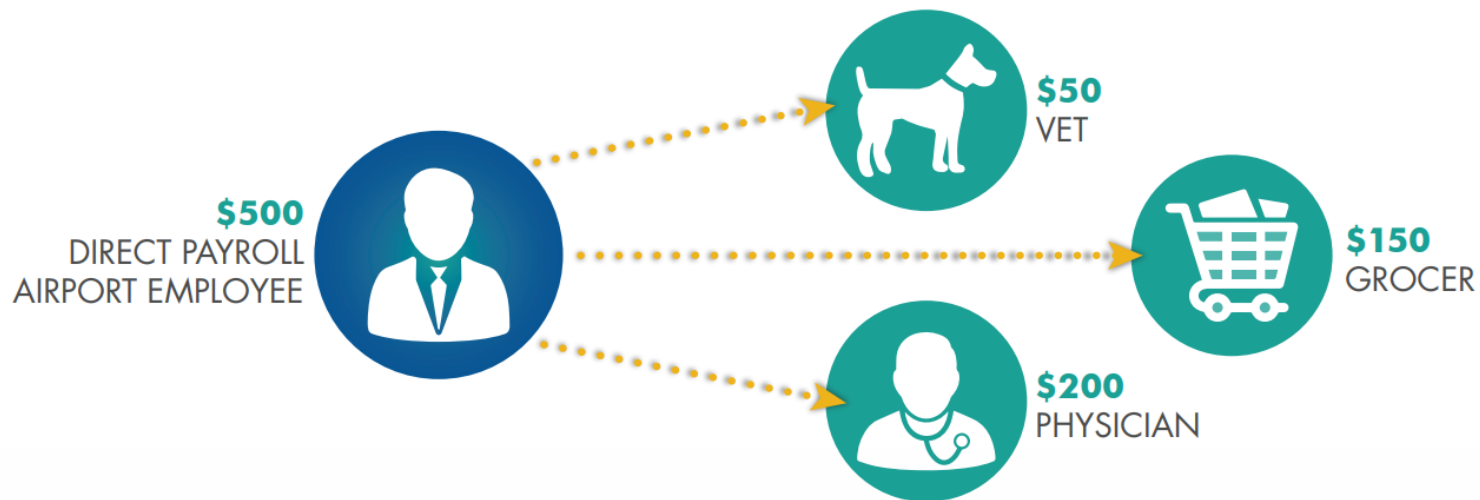
High General Aviation High Commercial
Low General Aviation Low Commercial

Data Source: FAA Traffic Flight Management System (TFMS), CY 2018



Study Methodology

Data collection and survey efforts identified **direct** economic impacts in each of the five impact categories using an approved FAA methodology. A state input/output model (**IMPLAN**) was used to estimate additional **indirect and induced** impacts, sometimes referred to as multiplier impacts. Combined, direct plus indirect/induced impacts equal total state or airport specific economic impacts.



The direct impacts that start at the airport multiply within the state economy. The \$150 of direct impact spent with the grocery results in additional payroll (induced impacts) for the grocer's employees. As the grocery buys supplies, this additional business to business spending results in indirect impacts.

-  Airport Management
-  Aviation-Related Business Tenants
-  Average Annual Capital Investment
-  Visitors Arriving on General Aviation Aircrafts
-  Visitors Arriving on Commercial Flights

Examples of How Columbus Airport Supports its Community

There is a good chance you benefit from different activities that the airport supports. Airports support healthcare and emergency services. Airports support the state's agricultural and forestry industries, and power companies rely on airports to keep electricity flowing. State and federal agencies use airports to protect the environment, and law enforcement benefits from airports. Businesses throughout Georgia rely on airports to improve their efficiency. Examples of how the airport benefits the community follow.



Business Use: Airports are tools used by a wide variety of employers to increase many aspects of their efficiency. When businesses consider where they locate or expand, proximity to an airport is often a top consideration. Airports are also a contributor to an area's economic diversification and growth. Both local and visiting businesses rely on air travel to increase their efficiency. Airports can be used to help companies expand their market areas, reduce employee travel time, provide access for customers and suppliers, and tie together offices in multiple locations. Businesses that rely on and benefit from the airport include AFLAC, Synovus, and TSYS. In addition, Fort Benning with over 120,000 active military, retired military, and family members relies on the airport. The airport assists many sectors of the local economy.



Educational Support: Local airports often support area colleges and universities. There are many ways educational institutions benefit from local airports. Institutions use airports to support their philanthropic outreach efforts. Sports teams (including visiting teams) use the local airport. Visiting professors or lecturers use local airports to decrease their travel time. Students themselves and their parents sometimes use general aviation air travel. Local airports can be used to support the travel and training needs of college staff; airports are used in student recruitment efforts to expand and diversify a college's market area. Columbus State University, with an enrollment of over 8,000, often relies on and benefits from the airport.



Medical/Healthcare Support: Local airports play a role in supporting area healthcare and medical needs. Teams of doctors from St. Francis-Emory Healthcare and Piedmont Columbus Regional hospitals often travel from the airport to procure organs for heart transplants. These doctors are operating within a defined window of time in which they can travel from Columbus to harvest organs and return to Columbus to perform a life-saving heart transplant. By supporting these teams of doctors, the airport helps to improve healthcare services.



Film Industry: Georgia's film industry is the largest among all states to produce feature films. Turner Broadcasting System, Tyler Perry, and EUE/Screen Gems all have studios in Georgia. The industry was boosted substantially by state tax incentives introduced in 2002 and strengthened in 2008. The film and TV production industries have an annual economic impact in Georgia of \$9.5 billion, while the tax subsidy cost is estimated at \$141 million. This growing industry has opened new job opportunities around the state and relies on airports and air travel. Through Columbus State University, the Georgia Film Academy is helping to fill the workforce needs of the industry. Columbus was one of the first cities that the Georgia Film Commission certified as 'Camera Ready' - a plus for production companies looking at destinations to make a movie. There have been several major movie scenes shot in Columbus over the years including "Need for Speed," "We Were Soldiers," and "The Fighting Temptations." Recently, Columbus has been garnering attention for film production. A company called Fun Academy Motion Pictures began laying the groundwork to become a major player in the animated motion-picture industry, with plans to launch an animation studio locally. Air access is important to all types of production companies.



THIS DOCUMENT WAS PREPARED BY

Jviation
900 S Broadway, Suite 350
Denver, Colorado 80209
303.524.3030
www.jviation.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

Georgia Department of Transportation Aviation Programs
600 West Peachtree Street NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30308
404.631.1990 | dot.ga.gov/IS/AirportAid
Email: aviationprograms@dot.ga.gov

Data collection and analysis for this study took place before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020. Results reflect conditions at Georgia airports prior to that time.

GDOT ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY