

# THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF Punta Gorda Airport (PGD)

## *Aviation's Benefit for Florida*

Florida's economic well-being is intrinsically entwined with its vibrant airport system and its robust aviation industry. The aviation system in Florida allows the state to capitalize on an increasingly global marketplace. Aviation in Florida both sustains and leads economic growth and development. Airports in Florida are important economic engines, and support vital health, welfare, emergency, and safety-related services.

Florida's system of commercial service and general aviation airports are important to businesses throughout the state. Air travel is essential to tourism, Florida's number one industry. Protecting and investing in airports throughout Florida will support the aviation industry and the economic benefits described in this report. With continued support, Florida's dynamic aviation system will continue to provide a significant economic return in the years to come.

Florida Department of Transportation  
Aviation and Spaceports Office  
[www.dot.state.fl.us/aviation](http://www.dot.state.fl.us/aviation)



# Florida's Statewide Benefits from Aviation

Florida realizes significant annual economic benefits from aviation. The Florida Department of Transportation completed a comprehensive economic impact analysis to measure these benefits. Benefits measured in the FDOT study considered direct and indirect economic impacts and induced impacts that result from the multiplier effect. A summary of Florida's annual economic benefits from aviation follows:

Impact Category	 Total Employment	 Total Payroll (BILLIONS)	 Total Output (BILLIONS)
<b>AIRPORTS</b>			
VISITORS ARRIVING BY AIR	170,107	\$8.1	\$36.3
CONSTRUCTION AT AIRPORTS	765,225	\$20.7	\$67.2
MILITARY AVIATION	17,388	\$0.6	\$2.2
AIR CARGO	137,482	\$6.4	\$12.8
AVIATION EDUCATION	129,587	\$5.0	\$10.3
AVIATION BUSINESSES	11,891	\$0.5	\$1.0
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION	76,217	\$2.8	\$13.6
<b>TOTAL ANNUAL ECONOMIC BENEFITS</b>	4,534	\$0.4	\$0.6
	<b>1,312,431</b>	<b>\$44.5</b>	<b>\$144.0</b>

## Punta Gorda Airport

Located in Charlotte County in central Florida, Punta Gorda Airport serves commercial and general aviation activity. With its three intersecting runways, the longest of which is 7,193 feet, the airport can accommodate general aviation business jet aircraft as well as commercial aircraft. The airport's terminal is ideal for serving local users and those visiting the area.

Punta Gorda Airport is served by Allegiant Air, which offers service to over 20 destinations in the U.S. The airport will handle approximately 300,000 enplanements in 2014 year; more than 60 percent are visitors to Florida whose spending contributes to the airport's economic impact. Of the top 300 U.S. airports, Punta Gorda Airport has been identified as the fourth fastest growing airport. The airport's largest tenants include Air Trek, Inc., an air ambulance operator; Worldwide Flight Services, which provides ground handling services for Allegiant Air; Arcadia Aerospace, an aerospace inspection services provider; and the Transportation Security Administration. Punta Gorda Airport also has several flight schools and aircraft maintenance businesses on-site. In addition to supporting commercial airline activity, the airport regularly supports corporate/business activity, flight training, emergency medical aircraft operations, law enforcement flights, general aviation charter flights, Civil Air Patrol activity, and recreational flying. All of the airport's tenants and flight activities are critical to the airport's revenue streams and economic impact.

The annual economic impact of Punta Gorda Airport is associated with direct impacts that come from tenants/businesses located at the airport and on-airport construction projects. Indirect impacts are associated with spending from visitors who arrive in the area via general aviation and commercial aircraft.

