

THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF Northwest Florida Regional Airport (VPS)

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



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)
AIRPORTS			
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
TOTAL ANNUAL ECONOMIC BENEFITS	4,534	\$0.4	\$0.6
	1,312,431	\$44.5	\$144.0

Northwest Florida Regional/Eglin AFB

Northwest Florida Regional Airport is located in Okaloosa County on Florida's Panhandle, approximately one mile southwest of Valparaiso. The airport has two active runways, the longest of which is 12,004 feet. Facilities at the airport are shared with Eglin Air Force Base.

The airport serves a mix of personal, leisure, and business-related travel; it also serves one of the fastest growing areas in Florida. Approximately 370,000 enplaning commercial passengers flow through Northwest Florida Regional Airport each year; more than 60 percent of these are visitors whose spending helps to contribute to the airport's economic impact. In addition, various defense contractors fly to Florida via the airport due to the presence of Eglin Air Force Base and other supporting military facilities.

Northwest Florida Regional Airport's tenants are dedicated to supporting the airlines and commercial passenger travel. The annual economic impact of the 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 commercial aircraft.

