

THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF La Belle Municipal Airport (X14)

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

La Belle Municipal Airport

Located in Hendry County, approximately 30 miles northeast of Fort Myers, La Belle Municipal serves a variety of general aviation activities. With its single 5,254-foot runway, the airport can accommodate small business jet aircraft. The airport's terminal is ideal for serving local users as well as those visiting the area.

Aside from Hendry County, which manages La Belle Municipal Airport and provides fixed base operator services, Vernon Conly Air Service, an aircraft maintenance business; and Mullen Aviation, an aircraft parts distributor, are the only tenants located at La Belle Municipal Airport. Recreational/sport operations are a large component of the airport's activity, followed by flight training and corporate/business operations. Local businesses that use the airport include agriculture and fishing companies based in southwest Florida.

The annual economic impact of La Belle Municipal Airport is associated with direct impacts that come from its tenants located at the airport and construction projects that are undertaken by the airport or its tenants. Indirect impacts are associated with spending from visitors who arrive in the area via general aviation aircraft.

