

THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF Marion County Airport (X35)

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

Marion County Airport

Located east of Dunnellon along State Road 484, approximately 85 miles northwest of Orlando, Marion County Airport serves a variety of general aviation activities. With its two intersecting runways, the longest of which is 5,000-feet, the airport can accommodate many types of general aviation aircraft.

Marion County Airport has several on-site businesses that provide services, including aircraft maintenance, aerospace parts manufacturing, parachute research and testing, aerial photography, hangar rentals, flight instruction for sport pilots, and aircraft manufacturing. In addition, two non-aviation related tenants at the airport, Watts and ASA Manufacturing, have important roles in the airport's sustainability. Marion County Airport regularly supports flight training, sport/recreational flying, and transient traffic. 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 Marion County Airport is associated with direct impacts that come from tenants/businesses located at the airport and construction projects that are undertaken by the airport or by on-site businesses. Indirect impacts are associated with spending from visitors who arrive in the area via general aviation aircraft.

