THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF

# St. George Island Airport (F47)

## 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 Office**
**www.dot.state.fl.us/aviation**

MARCH 2010

# Florida's Statewide Benefits from Aviation

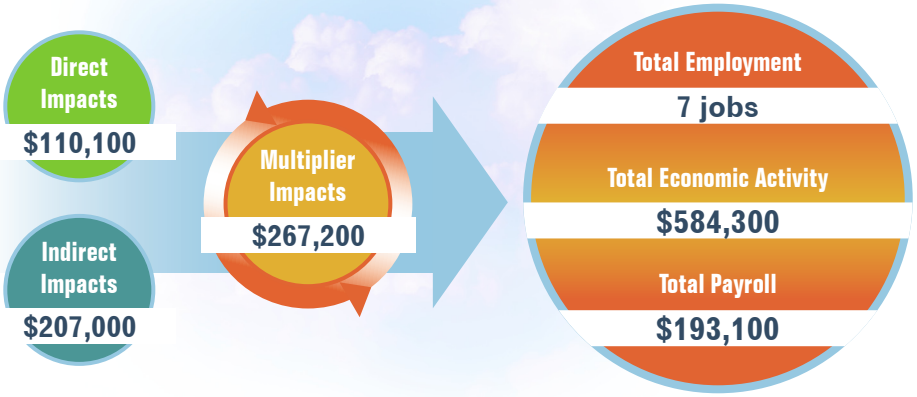
Florida realizes significant annual economic benefits from aviation. The Florida Department of Transportation completed a comprehensive economic impact analysis to measure these benefits. Benefits measured in the FDOT study considered direct and indirect economic impacts and induced impacts that result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

| Impact Category | Total Employment | Total Payroll | Total Output |
|---|---|---|---|
| Airports | 158,861 | $7,752,561,600 | $28,793,238,700 |
| Visitors Arriving by Air | 753,353 | $19,315,252,400 | $59,178,047,200 |
| Construction at Airports | 25,321 | $1,041,077,200 | $2,858,791,800 |
| Air Cargo | 69,256 | $3,054,598,800 | $6,596,812,200 |
| Aviation Education | 6,977 | $201,195,400 | $573,188,000 |
| Military Aviation | 116,860 | $5,855,976,400 | $10,797,219,600 |
| Aviation Businesses | 35,986 | $1,255,264,800 | $5,321,292,400 |
| Federal Aviation Administration | 4,545 | $318,215,600 | $617,783,700 |
| **Total Annual Economic Benefits** | **1,171,159** | **$38,794,142,200** | **$114,736,373,600** |

Total annual economic output shown above represents more than 15 percent of Florida's gross state product (GSP). Many employers in Florida also rely on aviation to support their daily activities. Use of aviation helps to improve business efficiency. The FDOT study shows that, annually, by using all facets of air transportation, the efficiency of Florida businesses is increased by an estimated $94.5 billion. This increased business efficiency is in addition to the total annual economic benefits noted above.

# St. George Island Airport

Located in Franklin County, approximately eight miles southeast of Apalachicola, St. George Island Airport primarily serves recreational general aviation activity. With its single 3,339-foot long runway, the airport can accommodate small multi-engine general aviation aircraft.

There are no tenants at the airport. Business-related activity is limited due to the small number of businesses located in the Apalachicola region. Most visitors that use the airport come to visit second homes or resort rentals on St. George Island.

The annual economic impact of St. George Island Airport is associated with direct impacts that come from operations at the airport and construction projects that are undertaken by the airport. Indirect impacts are associated with spending from visitors who arrive in the area via general aviation aircraft. The airport's total annual economic impact follows: