



THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF

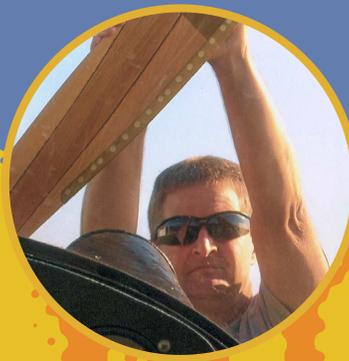
# DeFuniak Springs

## Airport (54J)

### 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](http://www.dot.state.fl.us/aviation)

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# Florida's Statewide Benefits from Aviation

# DeFuniak Springs Airport

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
<b>Total Annual Economic Benefits</b>	<b>1,171,159</b>	<b>\$38,794,142,200</b>	<b>\$114,736,373,600</b>

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.

Located in Walton County, approximately two miles west of DeFuniak, DeFuniak Springs Airport serves many types of general aviation activities. With its two runways, the longest of which is 4,146 feet, the airport can accommodate multi-engine and small general aviation business jet aircraft.

DeFuniak Springs Airport supports recreational/sport and corporate/business flight activity. Local businesses that use the airport include an industrial firm and an orthopedic brace manufacturer. The airport's three tenants include Emerald Coast Aviation, which manages the airport and provides fixed base operator (FBO) services; Monarch Aviation, which provides aircraft maintenance services; and Air Heart, which provides air ambulance services. These tenants are important to the airport's revenue streams and to the airport's economic impacts.

The annual economic impact of DeFuniak Springs Airport is associated with direct impacts that come from its tenants/businesses located at the airport and construction projects that are undertaken by the airport or by its on-site businesses. 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:

