



THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF

# Lakeland Linder

## Regional Airport (LAL)

### 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

# Lakeland Linder Regional 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 Polk County, approximately 30 miles east of Tampa, Lakeland Linder Regional Airport serves a variety of aviation activities. With its two intersecting runways, the longest of which is 8,500 feet, the airport can accommodate everything from small general aviation aircraft to large narrowbody commercial service aircraft. The airport's terminal is ideal for accommodating local and visiting traffic.

The airport sits on over 1,700 acres and owns over 1 million square feet of facilities available for lease. Major tenants include Sun n' Fun Fly-In, Inc., Gulf Coast Avionics, Columbia Air Services (FBO) and Flight Safety International. Due to the airport's location between Orlando and Tampa, it is a reliever facility for international airports. In addition to attracting a number of transient visitors, the airport supports flight training and sport/recreational aviation activity. The airport hosts the annual Sun 'n Fun fly-in, the second largest aviation event in the U.S., drawing thousands of aviation enthusiasts from around the world.

The annual economic impact of Lakeland Linder Regional 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 general aviation aircraft. The 1,279 total jobs supported by the airport consist of 372 direct, 347 indirect, and 560 induced full-time equivalent positions. The airport's total annual economic impact follows:

