THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF

Merriff Island Airport (COI)

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

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Florida's Statewide Benefits from Aviation

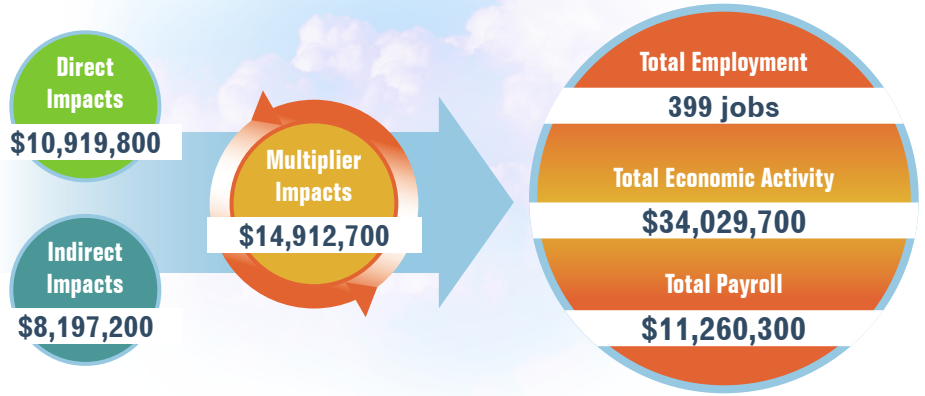
Florida realizes significant annual economic benefits from aviation. The Florida Department of Transportation completed a comprehensive economic impact analysis to measure these benefits. Benefits measured in the FDOT study considered direct and indirect economic impacts and induced impacts that result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

Merritt Island Airport

Located in Brevard County, southeast of Titusville, Merritt Island Airport serves the general aviation needs of the local area. With its single 3,601-foot runway, the airport accommodates smaller multi-engine general aviation aircraft. The airport's terminal is ideal for serving local users as well as those visiting the area.

Merritt Island Airport's two major tenants include Space Coast Aviation, the airport's fixed base operator (FBO), and Comp Air, Inc., an aircraft manufacturing business. The airport primarily supports flight training and recreational flying. All of the airport's tenants and aircraft operations are important to the airport's revenue streams and to the airport's economic impacts.

The annual economic impact of Merritt Island 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. The airport's total annual economic impact follows: