The Economic Impact of Casper/Natrona County International Airport
Casper, Wyoming

The Wyoming Department of Transportation’s (WYDOT) Aeronautics Division recently completed a research project to identify potential links between state and local economies and Wyoming’s 35 paved public-use commercial and general aviation airports. Statewide, as well as specific impacts for Casper/Natrona County International Airport, are included in this summary.

The study concluded that airports in Wyoming are important to supporting various aspects of the economy; contributing to state and local tax revenues; improving efficiency for hundreds of Wyoming businesses; and supporting many vital services which help to improve the quality of life for everyone in Wyoming.

Findings from this study show that statewide all 35 study airports are supporting:

- 12,268 JOBS
- $526.4 MILLION ANNUAL PAYROLL (WAGES/BENEFITS)
- $1.4 BILLION ANNUAL ECONOMIC OUTPUT
- $55 MILLION ANNUAL LOCAL AND STATE AVIATION TAX REVENUES
- 38,100 JOBS WHOSE EFFICIENCY IS IMPROVED BY USING AVIATION

In addition to jobs, payroll, and output benefits, airports support a variety of uses that contribute to the quality of life for all Wyoming residents and businesses. Airports are critical to supporting activities such as emergency response, fire fighting, insect and predator control, and doctor and patient transport. More information on the economic benefits of Casper/Natrona County International Airport and the state study can be obtained from:

Aeronautics Division
Wyoming Department of Transportation
Aeronautics Division
5300 Bishop Boulevard
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Study Airports
Commercial Service Airports
Transport Airports
Business Airports
Local Airports
Casper/Natrona County International Airport (CPR)

ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACTS

For all study airports, initial, multiplier, and total airport related economic impacts were estimated in the following categories:

ON-AIRPORT

» Airport administration, operation, and maintenance
» Airport tenants or businesses
» Capital investment to improve, maintain, or expand study airports

OFF-AIRPORT

» Spending associated with visitors who arrive by air

Study analysis shows that Casper/Natrona County International Airport supports 292 initial jobs related to on-airport activities. These jobs are associated with airport management, aviation businesses that may operate at the airport, and capital investment. When airport related capital investment is made, over the duration of the project, jobs and associated economic impacts are realized. In addition, spending by visitors who arrive in Wyoming via Casper/Natrona County International Airport supports another 472 jobs; 407 of these jobs are supported by the spending of visitors who arrive on commercial airlines and 65 of these jobs are supported by the spending of visitors who arrive on general aviation aircraft.

Data to develop estimates of economic impact for the airport came from airport administration, businesses that operate at the airport, the Aeronautics Division, and surveys of visitors using the airport.

Annual Economic Impacts for Casper/Natrona County International Airport

Total initial employment for Casper/Natrona County International Airport was estimated at 764 jobs. As these initial jobs and the payroll and annual output associated with them enter the airport’s local economy, additional multiplier jobs, payroll, and output are supported. The accompanying tables show annual economic impacts estimated using a local model for the airport’s market area.

Local Economic Impacts From Airport Administration, Airport Tenants, and Capital Investment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPACTS</th>
<th>INITIAL</th>
<th>MULTIPLIER</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jobs</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll</td>
<td>$13,528,030</td>
<td>$5,070,280</td>
<td>$18,598,310</td>
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<td>Output</td>
<td>$4,472,610</td>
<td>$15,086,860</td>
<td>$19,559,460</td>
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</table>

Local Economic Impacts From General Aviation Visitor Spending

<table>
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<th>IMPACTS</th>
<th>INITIAL</th>
<th>MULTIPLIER</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jobs</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>81</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payroll</td>
<td>$1,798,560</td>
<td>$846,450</td>
<td>$2,645,010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Output</td>
<td>$4,818,160</td>
<td>$1,996,510</td>
<td>$6,814,670</td>
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Local Economic Impacts From Commercial Visitor Spending

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPACTS</th>
<th>INITIAL</th>
<th>MULTIPLIER</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jobs</td>
<td>407</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>498</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll</td>
<td>$11,006,060</td>
<td>$4,989,700</td>
<td>$15,995,760</td>
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<tr>
<td>Output</td>
<td>$29,427,120</td>
<td>$11,739,460</td>
<td>$41,166,580</td>
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</table>

Aviation Benefits to Area Residents, Businesses, and Organizations

As part of this project, airports, airport tenants, airport visitors, and area businesses and residents were contacted to determine how they benefit from Casper/Natrona County International Airport. Flight records from the airport show that businesses and individuals from around the U.S. use the airport to support their travel.

Study interviews revealed that airports support medical related needs for Wyoming residents; airports bring medical specialist to local hospitals and enable residents to travel to more distant medical facilities for advanced treatment. Many local businesses rely on Casper/Natrona County International Airport for their employees and for customers and vendors who fly to Wyoming to visit them. Residents in the airport’s market area stay connected to family and friends by using the airport.

General Aviation and Commercial Airline Flights

Example Benefits From Casper/Natrona County International Airport

Halliburton is one of largest employers in the Casper area. The company has over 7,500 employees worldwide and offices in 80 different countries. A company representative estimates Halliburton’s employment in the Casper area to be approximately 500. Halliburton and its vendors depend on general aviation corporate aircraft and commercial airline service to improve their travel efficiency. Services provided by the airport are essential to the success of Halliburton’s Wyoming operations.

Wildfires are a particular threat to Wyoming residents, businesses, and their property. The airport houses a Single Engine Air Tanker (SEAT) base with aircraft suited to fighting wildfires in their initial stages. These planes carry up to 800 gallons of fuel retardant. For these planes to be most effective, they must be able to land and refuel repeatedly. Accommodating these firefighting aircraft makes the airport instrumental in helping to save lives and property in the Casper area. During fire seasons the airport has housed large air tankers, including DC-10 type aircraft. Additionally, the airport supports National Guard Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System (MAFFS) C-130 aircraft, as well as military and civilian fire suppression equipped helicopters.

Casper College relies on the commercial airline service available at the airport. Student enrollment at the College is estimated at close to 5,000, and these students come from 35 states and 20 foreign countries. Without scheduled airline service, the College would not be able to recruit students from such diverse geographical locations. The College is home to the Tate Geological Museum and attracts geologists from around the world. Employment at the College is estimated at approximately 350. Air service available at the airport is important to attracting students and to recruiting the best available faculty for the College. Without commercial air service, the College would not have been able to develop into the thriving educational institution that it is today.

This map provides a partial representation of departures and arrivals at Casper/Natrona County International Airport. Flight records indicate that in 2013, in addition to facilitating air travel to various locations in Wyoming, the airport supported direct flights to 41 other different states.

Examples of businesses that use the airport include Ameri-Tech Equipment Company, ConocoPhillips, Cathedral Energy Services, High Mountain Inspection, Haselden Construction, Kistler Tent and Awning, Uranium One, Halliburton, Baker Hughes, Cruz Energy, MagLab and Gyrodata.

ANNUAL LOCAL AND STATE AVIATION TAX REVENUES

$3,820,330

Note: numbers in tables may not total due to rounding.