

# STATEWIDE

## Annual Economic Impacts

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

### JOB

12,268



### ANNUAL PAYROLL (WAGES/BENEFITS)

\$526.4 MILLION



### ANNUAL ECONOMIC OUTPUT

\$1.4 BILLION



### ANNUAL LOCAL AND STATE AVIATION TAX REVENUES

\$55 MILLION



### JOB WHOSE EFFICIENCY IS IMPROVED BY USING AVIATION

38,100



## Summary of Economic Impacts for FORT BRIDGER AIRPORT

Findings from the study estimate the annual economic impacts for Fort Bridger Airport as they relate to Wyoming's statewide economy and to just the economy of the local area the airport serves. Local and state impacts for the airport follow:

### JOB

Local

5

State

6



### ANNUAL PAYROLL (WAGES/BENEFITS)

Local

\$243,360

State

\$259,450



### ANNUAL ECONOMIC OUTPUT

Local

\$842,220

State

\$952,120



In addition to jobs, payroll, and output benefits, airports in Wyoming support a variety of uses that contribute to the quality of life for all Wyoming residents and businesses. Airports in Wyoming 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 Fort Bridger Airport and the state study can be obtained from:



Aeronautics Division

Wyoming Department of Transportation  
Aeronautics Division  
5300 Bishop Boulevard  
Cheyenne, WY 82009  
ph. 307.777.3952  
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[www.dot.state.wy.us/home/aeronautics.html](http://www.dot.state.wy.us/home/aeronautics.html)

Prepared by:



## 2013 WYOMING AIRPORTS Economic Impact Study



# The Economic Impact of Fort Bridger Airport

Fort Bridger, Wyoming

# WYOMING

## Annual Economic Impacts

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 Fort Bridger 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.

The study considered three primary measures to express economic impacts associated with each airport:

- » employment/jobs,
- » annual payroll, and
- » annual output or economic activity.

Airport related economic impacts include both initial and multiplier impacts. Initial economic impact activities, as discussed in this report, are impacts that start with the day-to-day operation of each airport or with spending by visitors who arrive by air. Multiplier impacts are associated with the re-circulation of initial impacts in the economy being studied. Total impacts in this report are the sum of initial and multiplier impacts. All statewide economic impacts were estimated using a state model. Economic impacts for each airport were estimated using the state model, but were also estimated using a county-based model specific to each airport to quantify each airport's local economic impact.

Study Airports



- Commercial Service Airports
- Business Airports
- Intermediate Airports
- Local Airports

# Fort Bridger Airport (FBR)

## ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACTS

For all study airports, including Fort Bridger Airport, 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 Fort Bridger Airport supports 3 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 Fort Bridger Airport supports one other job. This job is 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, any businesses that operate at the airport, and surveys of visitors using the airport.

### Annual Economic Impacts of the Fort Bridger Airport on the Local Economy

Total initial employment for Fort Bridger Airport was estimated at **4 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

IMPACTS	INITIAL	MULTIPLIER	TOTAL
<b>Jobs</b>	>3	>1	5
<b>Payroll</b>	\$187,460	\$43,670	\$231,120
<b>Output</b>	\$572,890	\$223,030	\$795,910

#### Local Economic Impacts From General Aviation Visitor Spending

IMPACTS	INITIAL	MULTIPLIER	TOTAL
<b>Jobs</b>	<1	<1	<1
<b>Payroll</b>	\$8,950	\$3,290	\$12,240
<b>Output</b>	\$34,660	\$11,810	\$46,310

### Annual State and Local Aviation Tax Impacts for Fort Bridger Airport

Airport and visitor related activities result in contributions to both local and state tax revenues. The WYDOT study estimated that on an annual basis activities supported by Fort Bridger Airport contribute an estimated **\$15,660 in state and local tax revenues**.

#### ANNUAL LOCAL AND STATE AVIATION TAX REVENUES

**\$15,660**



### 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 Fort Bridger Airport. Flight records from the airport show that businesses and individuals 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. Local businesses rely on general aviation airports for their employees and for customers and vendors who fly to Wyoming to visit them.

#### General Aviation Flights



This map provides a partial representation of GA departures and arrivals at Fort Bridger Airport. Flight records indicate that in 2013, in addition to facilitating air travel to various locations in Wyoming, the airport supported direct flights to 8 other different states.

The airport supports different types of users and businesses. This research identified some of the airport's more frequent users as follows: Union Telephone, Hughes Construction, Lone Tree Ranch, SAS Aerial Applicators, Wyoming Game and Fish, and the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services-Wildlife Services.

### Example Benefits From Fort Bridger Airport

Businesses such as Union Telephone and Hughes Construction fly into Fort Bridger via the airport on general aviation aircraft. For Union Telephone, trips are sometimes needed to Fort Bridger to check on equipment. Hughes Construction is responsible for building a new high school in Fort Bridger. The construction management team has used the airport on a regular basis to fly in to oversee the project. The airport helps to improve the efficiency of both local and visiting businesses.

Area ranchers, such as Lone Tree Ranch, occasionally use the airport; there are dozens of ranches in the area. Lone Tree Ranch uses the airport to check on the condition and/or location of their herds or to look for lost cattle. Given the size of many area ranches, these tasks can only be done efficiently by air. In addition, the airport helps to support the area's agricultural production by serving aerial sprayers such as SAS Aerial Applicators. Activities supported by the airport help area farmers treat their crops for both pests and weeds, helping them to increase the yield of their crops on a per acre basis.

Small communities such as Fort Bridger are often without advanced health care facilities. In emergency situations, patients are transported by air from the Fort Bridger Airport to larger hospitals. When time is of the essence, emergency medical transport supported by the airport is an important life-saving asset.

The airport is used by the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS) - Wildlife Services and Wyoming Game and Fish to conduct aerial inspections which help to preserve and protect important resources.

*Note: More examples of airport-specific users are included in the technical report.*

