

# STATEWIDE

## Annual Economic Impacts

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

### JOBS

12,268



### ANNUAL PAYROLL (WAGES/BENEFITS)

\$526.4 MILLION



### ANNUAL ECONOMIC OUTPUT

\$1.4 BILLION



### ANNUAL LOCAL AND STATE AVIATION TAX REVENUES

\$55 MILLION



### JOBS WHOSE EFFICIENCY IS IMPROVED BY USING AVIATION

38,100



## Summary of Economic Impacts for AFTON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

Findings from the study estimate the annual economic impacts for Afton Municipal 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:

### JOBS

Local

77

State

78



### ANNUAL PAYROLL (WAGES/BENEFITS)

Local

\$1,998,980

State

\$2,079,320



### ANNUAL ECONOMIC OUTPUT

Local

\$12,965,710

State

\$13,303,280



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 Afton Municipal 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  
f. 307.637.7352  
[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 Afton Municipal Airport

Afton, 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 Afton Municipal Airport, are included in this summary.

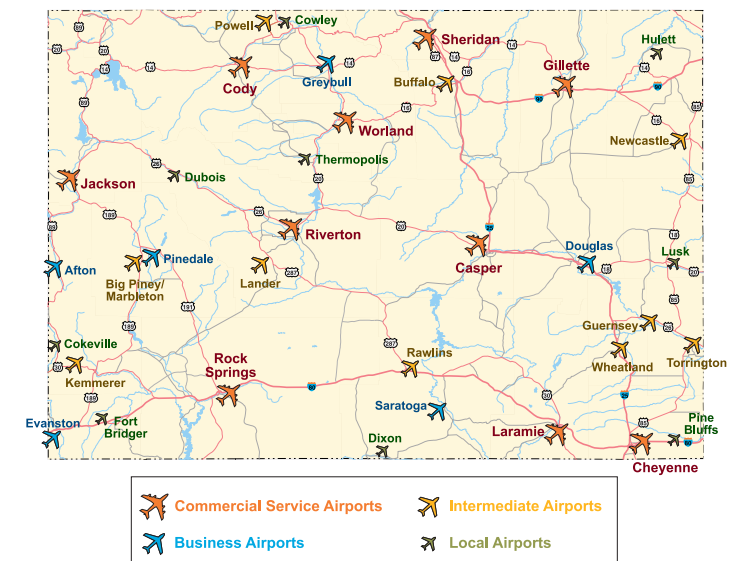
The study concluded that airports in Wyoming are important to supporting various aspects of the economy; contributing to state and local tax revenues; improving efficiency for hundreds of Wyoming businesses; and supporting many vital services which help to improve the quality of life for everyone in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



# Afton Municipal Airport (AFO)

## ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACTS

For all study airports, including Afton Municipal 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 Afton Municipal Airport supports 57 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 Afton Municipal Airport supports another 5 jobs. 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, any businesses that operate at the airport, and surveys of visitors using the airport.

### Annual Economic Impacts of the Afton Municipal Airport on the Local Economy

Total initial employment for Afton Municipal Airport was estimated at **62 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>	57	14	71
<b>Payroll</b>	\$1,455,100	\$463,770	\$1,918,870
<b>Output</b>	\$10,687,750	\$1,735,190	\$12,602,940

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

IMPACTS	INITIAL	MULTIPLIER	TOTAL
<b>Jobs</b>	5	1	6
<b>Payroll</b>	\$55,690	\$24,420	\$80,110
<b>Output</b>	\$261,800	\$100,970	\$362,770

### Annual State and Local Aviation Tax Impacts for Afton Municipal 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 Afton Municipal Airport contribute an estimated **\$473,810 in state and local tax revenues**.

#### ANNUAL LOCAL AND STATE AVIATION TAX REVENUES

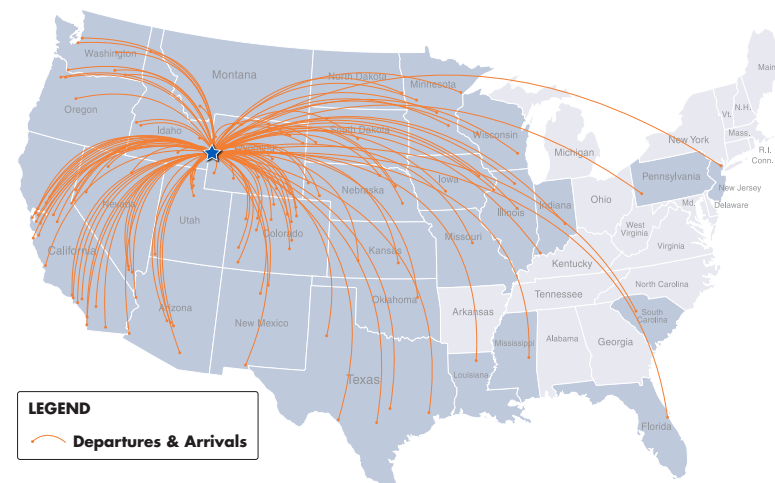
**\$473,810**



### 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 Afton Municipal 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 Afton Municipal Airport. Flight records indicate that in 2013, in addition to facilitating air travel to various locations in Wyoming, the airport supported direct flights to 28 other different states.

The airport supports many different types of users and businesses. This research identified some of the airport's more frequent users as follows: Aviat Aircraft, Inc., J.R. Simplot, Maverik Country Stores, Star Valley Trout Ranch, and Wyoming Game and Fish.

### Example Benefits From Afton Municipal Airport

Businesses in Afton benefit from using the airport. Examples of these businesses include J.R. Simplot, a large food and agri-business, and Maverik Country Stores, a retail establishment. J.R. Simplot mines phosphates and manufactures fertilizer in Wyoming, and has over 200 local employees. Maverik Country Stores' corporate offices are in Afton with about 35 local employees. These companies rely on travel connections made possible by the airport. The airport facilitates visits from branch offices of each company, and provides access for customers, suppliers, and vendors of these local companies. By supporting area business, the airport helps to contribute to the community's economy.

Aviat Aircraft, Inc. is a manufacturer of light-sport aircraft. Planes manufactured at Afton Municipal are sold throughout the U.S. and around the world. Aviat produces three aircraft models: the Pitts, the Husky, and the Eagle II aircraft kit. The company has been in business in Afton for more than 60 years. This aircraft company currently employs between 40 and 50 people in the Afton area.

According to its CEO, Star Valley Medical Center relies frequently on the airport for transporting patients—the Medical Center uses the airport twice each month. There are also instances when doctors with medical specialties not available locally use the airport to fly to the community to treat patients. As a result of the support it provides for the Star Valley Medical Center, the airport helps to improve medical care for all area residents.

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

