

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 CONVERSE COUNTY AIRPORT

Findings from the study estimate the annual economic impacts for Converse County 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

14

State

15



ANNUAL PAYROLL (WAGES/BENEFITS)

Local

\$443,810

State

\$528,980



ANNUAL ECONOMIC OUTPUT

Local

\$1,678,290

State

\$2,271,580



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 Converse County Airport and the state study can be obtained from:



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2013 WYOMING AIRPORTS Economic Impact Study



The Economic Impact of Converse County Airport

Douglas, 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 Converse County 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



Converse County Airport (DGW)

ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACTS

For all study airports, including Converse County 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 Converse County Airport supports 7 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 Converse County 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 Converse County Airport on the Local Economy

Total initial employment for Converse County Airport was estimated at **12 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 |
|----------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| Jobs | 7 | 1 | 8 |
| Payroll | \$284,900 | \$39,310 | \$324,000 |
| Output | \$1,135,650 | \$157,940 | \$1,293,580 |

Local Economic Impacts From General Aviation Visitor Spending

| IMPACTS | INITIAL | MULTIPLIER | TOTAL |
|----------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Jobs | 5 | <1 | 5 |
| Payroll | \$100,180 | \$19,620 | \$119,800 |
| Output | \$313,010 | \$71,700 | \$384,710 |

Annual State and Local Aviation Tax Impacts for Converse County 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 Converse County Airport contribute an estimated **\$56,580 in state and local tax revenues**.

ANNUAL LOCAL AND STATE AVIATION TAX REVENUES

\$56,580



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 Converse County 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 Converse County Airport. Flight records indicate that in 2013, in addition to facilitating air travel to various locations in Wyoming, the airport supported direct flights to 21 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: Geokinetics, LaPrele Fly Fishing & Hunting Preserve, Table Mountain Outfitters, United States Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services-Wildlife Services, Wagonhound Land and Livestock, and Oregon Trail Eye Center.

Example Benefits From Converse County Airport

Wagonhound Land and Livestock is a multifaceted operation in the Douglas area that relies on the airport. This ranch covers over 200,000 acres and is famous for its American Quarter horses, cutting horses, and cow horses. The ranch has one of the largest herds of Red Angus cattle in the U.S. The ranch is also a major producer of alfalfa hay, has outfitter services, and supports hunting. The airport supports the ranch by bringing in customers for their livestock and their outfitter and hunting services. It is not uncommon for hunters traveling to Wyoming to spend over \$4,500 per person, per trip.

The oil and natural gas industry is important to Wyoming's economy. While there are many aspects of this industry, exploration is essential. Several times per month, Geokinetics, a firm based in Houston, Texas that specializes in seismic testing, uses the airport to support their travel to Wyoming. Using the airport enables Geokinetics to travel more directly to areas where exploration is underway.

The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS) - Wildlife Services operates five general aviation aircraft that are based at different airports in Wyoming. The agency uses general aviation aircraft to support its mission. Services provided by USDA APHIS are targeted at protecting agriculture and natural resources in Wyoming. The agency uses the airport to monitor the impact of weed and pest control products used in agriculture on the natural environment. The airport helps to support the area's economy by protecting the trade of Wyoming's agricultural and forest products.

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

