

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 ROCK SPRINGS-SWEETWATER COUNTY AIRPORT

Findings from the study estimate the annual economic impacts for Rock Springs-Sweetwater County Airport as they relate to Wyoming's statewide economy and the economy of the local area the airport serves. Local and state impacts for the airport follow:

JOBS

Local	State
261	267



ANNUAL PAYROLL (WAGES/BENEFITS)

Local	State
\$8,785,970	\$9,211,070



ANNUAL ECONOMIC OUTPUT

Local	State
\$27,115,220	\$31,244,000



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 Rock Springs-Sweetwater County Airport and the state study can be obtained from:



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2013 WYOMING AIRPORTS Economic Impact Study



The Economic Impact of Rock Springs-Sweetwater County Airport

Rock Springs, 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 Rock Springs-Sweetwater 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,



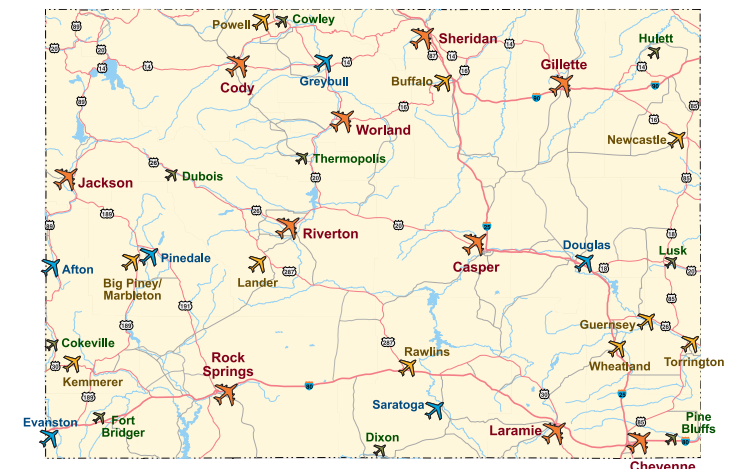
» annual payroll, and



» 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



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

Rock Springs-Sweetwater County Airport (RKS)

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 Rock Springs-Sweetwater County Airport supports 64 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 Rock Springs-Sweetwater County Airport supports another 150 jobs; 89 of these jobs are supported by the spending of visitors who arrive on commercial airlines and 61 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 Rock Springs-Sweetwater County Airport

Total initial employment for Rock Springs-Sweetwater County Airport was estimated at **214 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	64	22	86
Payroll	\$3,320,660	\$869,060	\$4,189,720
Output	\$10,830,500	\$2,907,100	\$13,737,600

Local Economic Impacts From Commercial Visitor Spending

IMPACTS	INITIAL	MULTIPLIER	TOTAL
Jobs	89	15	104
Payroll	\$2,126,570	\$601,810	\$2,728,380
Output	\$6,138,480	\$1,803,470	\$7,941,960

Local Economic Impacts From General Aviation Visitor Spending

IMPACTS	INITIAL	MULTIPLIER	TOTAL
Jobs	61	10	71
Payroll	\$1,454,250	\$413,620	\$1,867,870
Output	\$4,196,230	\$1,239,440	\$5,435,670

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

Annual State and Local Aviation Tax Impacts for Rock Springs-Sweetwater 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 Rock Springs-Sweetwater County Airport contribute an estimated **\$947,230 in state and local tax revenues**.

ANNUAL LOCAL AND STATE AVIATION TAX REVENUES

\$947,230



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 Rock Springs-Sweetwater County 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 Rock Springs-Sweetwater County 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



This map provides a partial representation of departures and arrivals at Rock Springs-Sweetwater 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 23 other different states.

Examples of businesses that use the airport include BP America, Chevron, Bridger Coal, Black Butte Coal Company, CP Masters, Church and Dwight, NL Land and Livestock, Tata Chemicals, Premier Powerplants and Pumps, OCI, and John Arambel Trucking.

Example Benefits From Rock Springs-Sweetwater County Airport

Western Wyoming Community College relies on commercial airline service available at the airport. The College has an estimated 6,500 students and an estimated 450 staff, both full- and part-time. Airline service is important to increasing the diversity of the College by attracting out-of-state students. Airline service also contributes to the ability of the College to recruit experienced faculty and to bring in guest speakers. Vendors, such as Sodexo food services, also rely on airline service. Airline service has played an important role in the growth of Western Wyoming Community College.

The Rock Springs area has many businesses engaged in the energy industry. Customers, suppliers, and vendors for these businesses travel to the Rock Springs area using commercial airline service. Examples of companies flying to Rock Springs include Baker Hughes (Houston, TX), NOV Hydra Rig (Fort Worth, TX), Emerson Process Management (Marshalltown, IA), Blackstone Instruments (Marlborough, MA), Cathedral Energy Services (Alberta, Canada), Blochowiak Drilling Fluids (Shawnee, OK), and Flexsteel Pipeline (Houston, TX). Businesses throughout the U.S. use the airport's commercial airline service.

The airport helps to protect natural resources. Two state agencies, the Wyoming Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Wyoming Game and Fish, use the airport on a regular basis. The BLM is responsible for overseeing 18.4 million acres of public land in Wyoming, and Game and Fish oversees all wildlife resources in the state. Both state agencies regularly use the airport to support their inspections.

Employment in the Rock Springs area depends on oil and gas, coal, and mineral extraction industries. Air service enables employees based in Rock Springs to travel more efficiently to other locations, saving both time and money. Employers that rely on airline service at the airport include BP America, Bridger Coal, Chevron, ExxonMobil, and Encana.

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

