

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 NORTH BIG HORN COUNTY AIRPORT

Findings from the study estimate the annual economic impacts for North Big Horn 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

3

State

3



ANNUAL PAYROLL (WAGES/BENEFITS)

Local

\$104,970

State

\$117,340



ANNUAL ECONOMIC OUTPUT

Local

\$318,970

State

\$389,550



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 North Big Horn County Airport and the state study can be obtained from:



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2013 WYOMING AIRPORTS Economic Impact Study



The Economic Impact of North Big Horn County Airport

Cowley, 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 North Big Horn 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

North Big Horn County Airport (U68)

ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACTS



For all study airports, including North Big Horn 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 North Big Horn County Airport supports 2 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 North Big Horn County 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 North Big Horn County Airport on the Local Economy

Total initial employment for North Big Horn County Airport was estimated at **3 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	2	1	3
Payroll	\$81,730	\$12,670	\$94,400
Output	\$215,930	\$59,670	\$275,610

Local Economic Impacts From General Aviation Visitor Spending

IMPACTS	INITIAL	MULTIPLIER	TOTAL
Jobs	<1	<1	<1
Payroll	\$8,180	\$2,390	\$10,570
Output	\$33,200	\$10,160	\$43,360

Annual State and Local Aviation Tax Impacts for North Big Horn 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 North Big Horn County Airport contribute an estimated **\$5,160 in state and local tax revenues**.

ANNUAL LOCAL AND STATE AVIATION TAX REVENUES

\$5,160



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 North Big Horn 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 North Big Horn 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 7 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: aerial applicators and the Big Horn Soaring Club.

Example Benefits From North Big Horn County Airport

Based at North Big Horn County Airport, the Big Horn Soaring Club provides unique recreational opportunities for locals, other Wyoming residents, and visitors to Wyoming. The club, founded in 2007, operates three gliders and is part of the Soaring Society of America. During summer months, the gliders take advantage of thermal activity along the Pryor and Big Horn Mountain Ranges. During the spring, fall, and winter, glider trips are supported by wave activity. This recreational activity provides an unmatched aerial perspective of the natural beauty of this area of Wyoming.

Over 55% of Wyoming is classified as farmland. While livestock is Wyoming's highest yielding commodity, crop production is also important to the state's economy. Agricultural spraying is important to the success of crop production in Wyoming. Crops are sprayed for both pest and weed control, helping to increase production per acre. Operators of planes used to treat crops in Wyoming are licensed by the Wyoming Department of Agriculture. In order to effectively treat crops, aerial sprayers must take off from an airport near the area they are treating. During growing seasons, the airport supports flights by aerial applicators on a regular basis, helping the area's farmers to increase their returns from the number of acres they have in production.

While a monetary value is difficult to place on recreational activities, some of Wyoming's smaller general aviation airports support recreational activities for the communities they serve. North Big Horn County is one such airport. According to airport management, the airport accommodates recreational flying on at least a weekly, if not a daily basis.

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

